

IPRA Today

January 2010
Volume X, Issue 7



Awards Program Changes It Up

Entering a new decade provides a perfect sag way into re-focusing our Awards Program. The committee put much thought and discussion into altering the criteria and number of recipients per category.

Plan to be in Sioux City on Tuesday, April 13, 2010 for the presentation of this year's professional and lay award recipients. Nomination(s) deadline is Wednesday, February 24, 2010 to committee chair Steve Grimes. In our expanded effort to go green pigtailed with fiscal management, nomination materials are encouraged to be sent electronically. Scanned copies of items as well as digital photographs are acceptable. Hard copy submittals must have six (6) copies.

There are only two awards which require IPRA membership: Slattery/Trueblood Professional Award and the Dr. Carole Hanson Outstanding New Professional Award. There will be only one recipient for each of these awards. A new requirement for the Slattery/Trueblood is the nominee must have been a member of IPRA for a minimum of 10 years. Prior to submitting nomination materials which require membership status, please contact IPRA Administrative Assistant Cathy Shutts at 641-236-3917 or via email cshutts@pcpartner.net.

Remaining award categories do not require IPRA membership. Fresh for this upcoming cycle each award category will have only one recipient. Additionally, selected nominees may be offered to showcase their nomination materials during the 2010 Spring Conference. Selected non-recipients may also be acknowledged during local community presentations.

Awards committee members and Board of Directors encourage each agency to reflect upon their own staff and volunteer groups for potential nominees. This will provide a unique and public way to say "great job", "thank you", or "we appreciate your efforts". Look not only internally but venture outside your community. Are there individual(s) or group(s) in other smaller agencies who should be recognized for their efforts in improving the quality of life for fellow Iowans?



2008 recipient of the Richard J. Slattery Award, Don McLaughlin, presented award to Duane Randall, 2009 recipient, at the 2009 Awards Banquet in Coralville.

Award recipients will receive complimentary Awards Banquet admission. Nominators will be notified so that arrangements can be made to have recipients in attendance.

A welcome informational letter, nomination brochure, and nomination form can be found on the IPRA web site at www.iapra.org. Should you have specific questions, please contact Awards chair Steve Grimes at 563-344-4113 or by email sgrimes@bettendorf.org.

Submitted by Steven Jordison, Executive Director, Iowa Park and Recreation Association

Our Mission ...
"To support the advancement of park, recreation and environmental conservation opportunities through education, resource tools and advocacy."

www.iapra.org

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

Job Postings	2
2010 IPRA Spring Conference	3
Support of Colleague	4
Iowa ASA 2010 Tournament Bids	5
Iowa's Water and Land Legacy	6
Winter S.A.F.E. Workshop	7
IPRA Calendar of Events	8

Job Postings

Assistant Director for Parks City of Urbandale

This full-time position, under the general direction of the Director of Parks and Recreation/Community Education, performs administrative functions including budget development, grants, bid specifications, etc. and supervisory work in the maintenance and repair of parks areas and recreational facilities; directs the planning landscape design, construction and maintenance of city parks, trails, playgrounds, green spaces and related recreational facilities. The selected candidate must possess a Bachelor's Degree in one of the following: Park and Recreation Management, Leisure Services, Natural Resources Management, Horticulture, Turf Management or a related field. Four years experience in parks maintenance activities including turf, horticulture, construction, facility maintenance or other related maintenance activities, two years of which must be in a supervisory capacity. Additional years of the stated work experience may be interchanged for up to two years of the required education. Position requires a valid Iowa driver's license or ability to obtain such license within one month of employment. Salary range: \$52,389 to \$78,583 annually with an excellent benefits package offered.

Application deadline is Friday, January 29, 2010, 5:00 p.m. Qualified applicants with a disability who need assistance in completing the online application and/or reasonable accommodation in order to interview must request assistance and/or accommodations to Human Resources prior to the application date and/or interview.

Contact City of Urbandale Human Resources, 3600 86th Street, Urbandale, IA, 50322-4057. Phone: 515.278.3900; FAX 515.331.6755. Web site: www.urbandale.org.

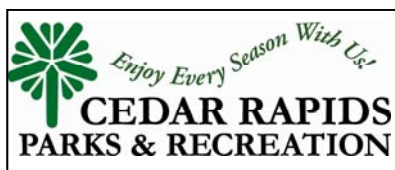


Parks and Recreation Maintenance Supervisor City of Cedar Rapids

The city of Cedar Rapids is currently recruiting for a Parks and Recreation Maintenance Supervisor. This position directs and supervises the work of maintenance crews in the Parks, Recreation and Aquatics Operations. The work schedule for this position is 7:00 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. Monday through Friday. The annual salary range for this position is \$45,219.20 to \$62,067.20 with an excellent benefits package offered. Specific qualifications include: Certified Pool Operator Certification within six months of appointment; valid Iowa Driver's License; CDL with Hazmat endorsement within six months of appointment; and considerable experience in maintenance of modern public aquatics facilities with multiple site experience preferred and some supervisory experience.

The position requires a thorough knowledge of the maintenance and repair of parks and recreation buildings and related facilities; knowledge of the operation and maintenance of specialized facilities and swimming pools; ability to manage, coordinate and evaluate the work of others, ability to operate a personal computer using standard business applications and the ability to quickly learn and put to use new skills and knowledge brought about by rapidly changing information and/or technology. Additional requirements and job duties are described at the following web site: www.cedar-rapids.org/hr/jobs_main.asp.

Graduation from high school or GED, supplemented by additional course work in parks and recreation management or any equivalent combination of experience and training which provides the knowledge and abilities necessary to perform the work.

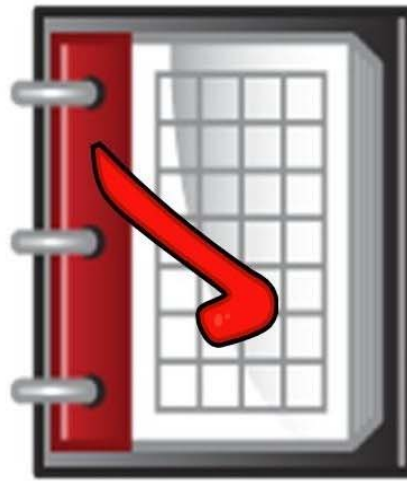


Applications accepted until 4:00 p.m. on January 15, 2010. Download and submit an application to: hr@cedar-rapids.org or Iowa Workforce Development Center, 800 7th Street, SE, Cedar Rapids, IA, 52401.

2010 IPRA SPRING CONFERENCE

SIoux CITY IA—APRIL 12-14, 2010

Save the date and mark your calendars!
You won't want to miss the spring conference
in Sioux City this year.



**Successful
Surprising
Sioux City**
April 12-14, 2010

- Top 10** reason to come to Sioux City in 2010.....
- #10**—You can use phrases with the word SUX and not get into trouble.
- #9**—See the historical renovated Bandshell & Rose Garden

Look for future email blasts with topics & speakers, networking events, registration information,*and the rest of the Top 10!*

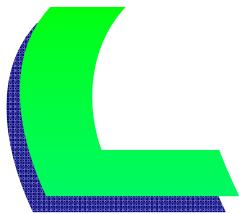


SUPPORT OF COLLEAGUE WITH EQUIPMENT PURCHASE PROGRAM

Mr. Mark Boland, owner of Boland Recreation, Inc., Marshalltown, Iowa, presented the following offer at the 2009 Leadership Institute (Li5) held in January: "In appreciation for your park and recreation department giving you time off to attend this exciting and educational forum, I am giving you, or any other person in your park and recreation department, a chance to support a colleague while getting equipment that meets your needs. I will donate 5 percent of the profits on any equipment purchase you, or any other person in your park and recreation department, make with Boland Recreation in 2009 to the Terry Trueblood medical need fund. This donation will help cover expenses associated with Terry's extended stay in Rochester, Minnesota following surgery this past December (2008) or any other expenses Terry and his family may incur during his recovery."

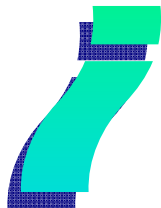


Recently Mark released the following information to the membership: "As you might remember, I set up this program at the Leadership Institute in January with a goal of helping with the Terry Trueblood medical expenses. I am happy to announce that I will be sending a check for \$800 to Gil Spence today, December 1, 2009, that will go towards the Terry Trueblood fund that is being set up in his name. Thank you first of all for your efforts in the different jobs that you do on a daily basis, and, secondly, for your trust in allowing Boland Recreation to assist you with your projects in 2009."



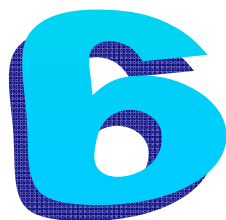
IPRA Leadership Institute

We are excited for you to become a part of IPRA's Leadership Institute (Li6). IPRA is committed to develop and encourage leadership in our young professionals across the state. This Institute connects seasoned professionals with numerous years of experience with young professionals. The Institute will share skills and knowledge, personal stories and more. The Institute is based upon open conversation and dialogue on a variety of topics. Camaraderie and networking are keystones of the Institute. Participants of Li1 through Li5 all agree attending was one of the best moves of their career.



IPRA is committed to investing in its young professionals. This Institute will be an open forum for attendees to network with fellow professionals. This intimate small group setting will allow the opportunity for interaction and discussion as well as team building. Attendees are to bring a sleeping bag and inflatable mattress as well as personal items for this overnight training in a camp-style setting. Shower facilities are available at the Grinnell Athletic and Recreation Center. Dress will be casual. Come prepared to participate.

Seven sessions will be presented by male and female professionals from across the state of Iowa with years of experience in a variety of communities and positions.



Thanks to our sponsor, Boland Recreation, this program is offered free of charge. Terry Hoffman, CPRP, and Marie Ware, CPRP, facilitate the Institute. Each has served as IPRA's President in addition to leadership roles on various committees and board positions. They are also active in leadership in their communities.

Registration forms, along with a schedule of activities and additional information, are available on the IPRA web site: www.iapra.org.

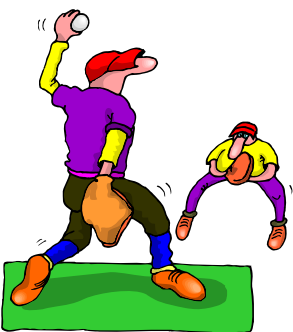
Iowa ASA 2010 Tournament Bid Information

Tom Topping, Iowa ASA State Commissioner and Executive Director, would like to extend an invitation to your organization or local convention and visitor's bureau to bid on one or more of the many Iowa ASA state or ASA Softball Mid-America Regional/National Qualifier Tournaments to be held in Iowa during the 2010 season. Organizations that have held these tournaments in the past have been able to bring a tremendous amount of business to their softball facility and tourism dollars to their community. Please review the economic impact information we have enclosed to see what an impact hosting a tournament can be to your facility and community!

The Iowa ASA Tournament Bid information is available online at www.softball.org/iowa/tournamentbidhome.htm. The following materials can be found at that web site:

1. Tournament Host Responsibilities information.
2. Tournaments available for bidding, bid amounts, bid deposits and participation history.
3. Iowa ASA Tournament Bid Form. (This form may be saved, printed and resent directly from your computer.)
4. Economic Impact Information

PLEASE NOTE THAT ALL TOURNAMENT BIDS THIS YEAR ARE BASED ON A PER TEAM (PARTICIPATION) BASIS FEE BASED ON THE AVERAGE BID AND TEAMS OVER THE PAST SIX YEARS. THIS SHOULD HELP BIDDERS WITH A TRUER REFLECTION OF THE ECONOMIC IMPACT OF THE TOURNAMENT BASED ON THE ACTUAL SIZE OF THE TOURNAMENT. THIS SHOULD ALSO HELP FACILITATE THE SITE SELECTION COMMITTEE WITH THEIR DECISIONS BY PLACING A GREATER EMPHASIS ON THE FACILITY AND HOST ORGANIZATION ALONG WITH ROTATING TOURNAMENTS WHEN NECESSARY FROM YEAR-TO-YEAR.



Tom would like to point out that the deadline for submitting bids for 2010 tournaments is Friday, January 8, 2010.

Tom would like to thank you for your past support of the Iowa ASA program and hope that you will continue to support the program by bidding on one or more of these tournaments. It is only through your support that

we can keep tournament costs low to teams and provide the level of service that we are able. Questions concerning the bid information or the bidding process can be directed to Tom at 319.330.7030.



Providing Softball to Park and Recreation Departments:

Founded in 1936 – Iowa ASA Serves 2,000 Recreational Adult Teams, 9,000 Youth Players and 400 Umpires

Provide Standardized Softball Playing Rules and Regulations for your softball league teams.

Provide teams with the Official Rule Book, Scorebook, Softball Magazine and membership publications to add to the educational and benefits for league teams. ASA is the National Governing Body of Softball in the United States

Provide the best league and tournament umpires. ASA offers local and state-wide umpire training clinics/schools.

Iowa ASA supports your local league with sportsmanship in establishing principles for ethical behavior, rule interpretations and protest rulings, player hearings and suspensions.

Risk Management with ASA \$2 million dollar Field Owners Policy.

ASA is the Leader in Bat Certification and Equipment Testing to set and adhere to standards of safety for bats, balls and playing equipment.

85% of all teams registered are local recreational teams. Over 35 Championship Play tournaments are offered for all age groups, levels and divisions of play.

Opportunity for member teams and individually registered players to purchase accident insurance at low group rates.

Comprehensive general liability coverage in the amount of \$2 million for league officers and organizations if 100% of the teams are registered with ASA.

Education and Instruction of the proper skills and rules of the game by promoting and developing coaching clinics, seminars and training materials.

For more information on the Iowa Amateur Softball Association and its programs, contact us at 641.236.5766 or visit our website at

www.softball.org/iowa

Iowa's Water and Land Legacy Amendment – For Iowa, Forever

Iowa voters will have a historic opportunity on November 2, 2010 to vote in support of the Iowa's Water and Land Legacy constitutional amendment. The amendment would establish the Natural Resources and Outdoor Recreation Trust Fund which will provide, for the first time in Iowa's history, a permanent, reliable and accountable revenue source to improve water quality and natural areas in the state, including fish and wildlife habitat and parks and trails, in addition to aiding in conservation of agricultural soils.

Over the next year, Iowa's Water and Land Legacy campaign will work hard to organize supporters and educate voters on the importance of passing this amendment. The campaign is made up of a diverse coalition of agencies, organizations and individuals and needs your help!

In 2008 and 2009, more than 90 percent of Iowa's state legislators overwhelmingly approved legislation that would establish the constitutionally protected Natural Resources and Outdoor Recreation Trust Fund. Why? Because Republicans and Democrats alike understand the need to protect our natural resources. Recent data from the Iowa Department of Natural Resources shows that 53 percent of Iowa's water sources rate "poor," and Iowa currently loses an average of five tons of soil per acre each year due to erosion. As of today, Iowa ranks 47th out of 50 states in funding for conservation, despite the fact that more than 27,000 Iowa jobs are supported by outdoor recreation.

Simply put, the stakes for Iowa's natural resources on November 2, 2010 are incredibly high, and future generations of Iowans are counting on passage of Iowa's Water and Land Legacy Amendment.

A vote for Iowa's Water and Land Legacy Amendment is a vote for the creation of the Trust Fund – not a vote for a tax in-



crease. Revenue for the Trust Fund will come from allocating 3/8^{ths} of one cent from sales tax revenue the next time the Iowa legislature raises the state sales tax – providing the Trust Fund an estimate of \$150 million per year. This funding recommendation was based on over three years of research and study conducted by a legislative advisory committee. The advisory committee concluded that those funds, in addition to annual state budget allocations, would meet current needs. The impact on the average taxpayer in Iowa would be about 8 cents a day, with nearly half of the revenue coming from business and travelers.

Investing in clean water and Iowa's other natural resources provides quality of life opportunities close to home where Iowans can enjoy and appreciate healthy activities, natural areas and Iowa's beauty. Enhancing and developing more competitive outdoor "destinations" will attract visitors and businesses to the state and create jobs here at home.

In 2008, voters in Minnesota passed a similar Amendment with 56 percent of the vote. More than 30 years ago, Missouri provided constitutionally protected funding for its conservation programs and later reauthorized this funding after 20 years of progress.

It is time to start investing now. Several states and communities across the country are taking proactive measures to preserve their natural surroundings. The quality and condition of our natural resources is the responsibility of all Iowans – we must act and invest now to preserve and enhance our natural resources so they are available to future generations. For more information or to get involved with the campaign, contact Rosalyn Lehman, campaign coordinator for Iowa's Water and Land Legacy, rllehman@tnc.org; 515-202-7720.

Chelsea Bengford was recently named Director of the Sac Community Recreation Center. Her e-mail address is chelby_04@hotmail.com.



Check the IPRA web site to find information and necessary forms regarding the annual Spot Shot competition. If your organization is interested in sponsoring a local event, please contact the IPRA office at 641.236.3917 or e-mail cshtts@pcpartner.net to let Cathy know the date of your competition. Ribbons will be mailed to you for awarding at your local competition.



The state competition will be held Saturday, March 27, in Grinnell. Approximately 170 boys and girls from across the state of Iowa participated in the IPRA state Spot Shot competition last year.

Thank you for supporting the IPRA by hosting a local competition.



PLANNING S.A.F.E. PLAY AREA WORKSHOP

Sponsored by Rainbow Playsystems, Inc.

What You Will Learn:

1. Learn how to design S.A.F.E. and fun play environments
2. Learn how to match equipment to children's needs
3. Learn how to select surfacing and maintain outdoor play areas



LOW COST WORKSHOP!

Just \$99 per person!

Thursday, January 21

9:00 AM - 3:00 PM {classroom}
8:30 AM {registration}

Location

Training Room
City Hall
110 N. 1st Street
Indianola, Iowa

What You Get

Receive \$65 worth of course materials/handouts!
Lunch, snacks and beverages will be provided!
National Accredited Instructors from NPPS!

How to Register

- Online: www.iapra.org
- Fax: 641-236-6779
- Mail: IPRA, 1534 Penrose St., Grinnell, IA 50112

This workshop is coordinated by the IPRA Special Training & Seminars Committee

Yes, I want to attend the S.A.F.E. Play Area Workshop

\$99 IPRA Member

\$90 for each additional (3 or more) participant

Please, complete a separate form for each participant

Name: _____

Agency: _____

Address: _____

City, State, Zip: _____

E-mail: _____

Telephone: () _____

Fax: () _____

Payment method

Check Invoice

Credit Card Visa MasterCard Discover

Card # _____

Expiration Date ____ / ____ 3 Digit Code _____

Name on Card _____



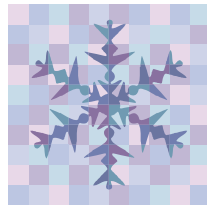
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IPRA Calendar of Events



January

- 11 CEU/Aquatic Workshop—Cedar Falls
- 12-13 Certified Pool Operator's Course—Cedar Falls
- 16 Men's & Women's Adult Volleyball
Tournament - Grinnell
- 19-21 76th Iowa Turfgrass Conference & Trade Show
- 21 Winter S.A.F.E. Workshop—Indianola
- 29 Aquatics Committee meeting—Marshalltown

February

- 2-3 Li 6—Grinnell
- 8 CEU/Aquatic Workshop—Sioux City
- 9-10 Certified Pool Operator's Course—Sioux City
- 15 State Office Closed—President's Day
- 18 Community Trends Forum—Coralville
- 24 Awards Nominations Deadline

76th Iowa Turfgrass Conference and Trade Show

January 19-21, 2010

**Polk County Convention Complex &
Downtown Marriott Hotel
Des Moines, Iowa**

**Improve Sustainability, Protect your
Employment, Improve Efficiency,
Networking and Management**

**Registration information available at
www.iowaturfgrass.org**