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An Invitation to Support the Iowa
Foundation for Parks & Recreation

Dear IPRA Member:

Soon, 2011 will come to an end. This is a great time to think about your year-end giving and to reflect on what is important to you as a park and recreation professional. As members of IPRA, you share a common passion for furthering parks and recreation in Iowa with the Board of Directors of the Iowa Foundation for Parks and Recreation.

With generous contributors, the Foundation has been able to award the Trueblood Fellowship so that qualifying individuals had the opportunity to attend the IPRA Fall Workshop and IPRA Spring Conference. We also joined with IPRA in fund sharing towards the NRPA Congress Fellowship and for a booth at the annual Iowa League of Cities Conference.

Our budget allocates support for the IPRA Young/New Professionals Forum scheduled for December 7 and for a special issues forum to be announced. We continue to work alongside the IPRA board and staff in assessing needs of the profession and raising funds to meet those needs.

You can be proud of all that has been accomplished in 2011. At this time, we would like to thank our 2011 contributors, foundation event sponsors and the foundation board of directors for their generosity. We also appreciate the generosity of those of you who have already made a donation and invite those of you who have not yet contributed to do so.

Good works will continue with financial contributions. We ask that you consider making a tax-deductible donation by December 31, 2011 to the Iowa Foundation for Parks and Recreation. Your gift is fully deductible as allowed by Iowa law for a 501 (c) (3) organization.

To assist you in making a contribution, please note the donor form on Page 3.

Thank you for considering the Iowa Foundation for Parks and Recreation.

Sincerely,

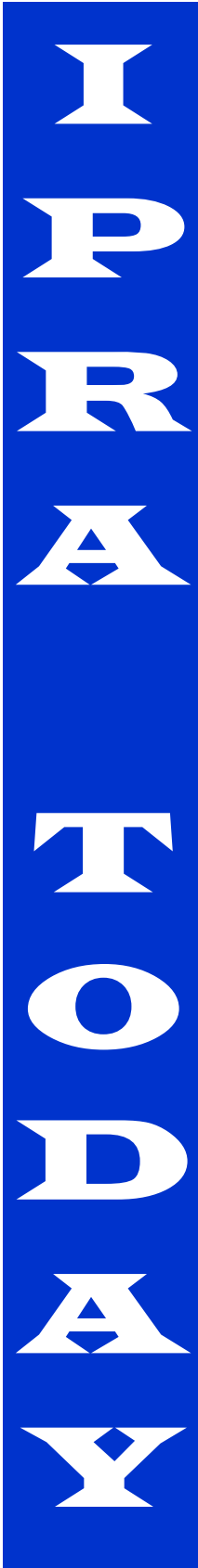
Christine Page
President, Iowa Foundation for Parks and Recreation
Board members Bruce Beasley, Doug Bylund, Angie Cole, Pete Downs, Terry Gray, Steve Grimes, Terry Hoffman, Jennifer Pospichal, Pat Prevenas, Sherri Proud, Duane Randall, Gil Spence, Ward Stubbs, Todd Stych



**December 2011
Volume XII, Issue 6**

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ASSOCIATION ACTION PLAN

November 2011 to December 2012
Presented to the Board of Directors
October 27, 2011



Work Plan Top Priorities (1-9)

1. Reach out to 20 non-IPRA member communities who have departments and/or park boards; speak with them directly about the benefits of belonging to IPRA.
Due: July 2012 *Goal: Advocacy*
2. Seek out similar not-for-profit operations – look for, evaluate, and report on potential partnership or enhanced partnership opportunities; examples include: Iowa ASA, Ahrens Foundation, Turf Grass Association, Association of County Conservation Boards, etc.
Due: November 2012 *Goal: Resources*
3. Development of IPRA message/branding and associated mass media communications to promote the IPRA message and brand; explore partnership with Iowa Foundation for Parks & Recreation in this area.
Due: December 2012 *Goal: Advocacy*
4. Strengthen relationship and programming with Iowa Foundation for Parks & Recreation. Develop action plan of potential activities and joint ventures.
Due: February 2012 *Goal: Resources*
5. Seek grant programs and/or partners to assist financially in needed repairs to the IPRA State Office.
Due: February 2012 *Goal: Operations*
6. Develop structure of outreach to all new hires that can begin implementation by March 2012.
Due: March 2012 and ongoing *Goal: Resources*
7. Create a list of inactive members and agencies, identify opportunities for involvement and set a contact goal.
Due: November 2012 *Goal: Operations*
8. Develop questions and format for periodic trends and issues surveys.
Due: Yearly *Goal: Education*
9. Evaluate board and committee structure. Look for efficiencies and if deemed appropriate, restructure board and committee organization for simplification.
Due: June 2012 *Goal: Operations*

Work Plan – Secondary Priorities

(these priorities may move up as top priorities 1 to 9 are completed)

- Enhanced legislative presence through better education of membership. Create legislative hotline tool.
- Explore costs and opportunities for hiring a lobbyist in collaboration with similar-mission organizations such as the Iowa Association of County Conservation Boards.
- Increase number of CPRP's by 25 percent by 2016.
- Develop program to keep retired professionals involved.
- Evaluate job descriptions of staff; develop internship program for IPRA; associated job description for interns, and means for having interns within the State Office.
- Re-establish IPRA "Student Chair" position as a non-voting board member to enhance IPRA's connection to student majors.
- Complete external operational review in 2013.

(Continued on Page 3)

Association Action Plan

(Continued from Page 2)

Annual Work Plan – items to be done on a continual yearly basis

- IPRA visits to colleges/universities with parks and recreation majors; discuss scholarship, Association membership, and internship opportunities.
- Keep Mentoring Program active; regularly reaching out to new members and assigning them to experienced professionals.
- Continue conducting at least four (4) community forums/one-day workshops that can qualify for CEU credit.
- Regular surveys to membership regarding: aquatics, part-time wages, salary studies, etc.
- Promote IPRA Member attendance at REAP Alliance Day at Capitol.
- Continue outreach to membership regarding professionalism at conferences and workshops.
- Keep updating website, promote existing means and new ways to keep members engaged and informed (Google Forums, Article Exchange, etc.)
- Regular review and if necessary, updates of by-laws and manual of procedures.



Be on the lookout for 2012 awards program information. It will be available via the IPRA website, www.iapra.org by mid-December.

New category designed specifically for agencies....”best in agency brochure!” There will be at least three population categories for this award.

All awards will be presented during the Spring Conference in Waterloo from April 2-4, 2012



Iowa Foundation for Parks and Recreation

A 501 (c)(3) organization providing resources to deliver the benefits of parks and recreation to all of Iowa.

Donor Information (please print)

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip Code _____

Telephone (H) _____ Telephone (W) _____

Fax _____ E-mail _____

Contribution Amount: _____ In the form of: _____ cash _____ check

Please make checks, corporate matches or other gifts payable to:

Iowa Foundation for Parks and Recreation

Mail to: Iowa Foundation for Parks and Recreation

c/o Gil Spence, Treasurer—975 Grover Terrace—Dubuque, IA 52001



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The Iowa Amateur Softball Association would like to take this opportunity to thank the park and recreation departments that registered adult teams for the 2011 softball season as shown below. Many thanks to these departments/communities that hosted ASA state and national tournaments this year: Burlington, Carroll, Cedar Rapids, Coralville, Des Moines, Fort Dodge, Muscatine, Nevada, Urbandale and West Des Moines. In addition, several local departments purchased softballs from the Iowa ASA and registered league umpires. As a result of the support provided by the various park and recreation departments, both organizations benefit from the partnership of the Iowa Park and Recreation Association and the Iowa Amateur Softball Association. Listed by each community is the total number of registered adult teams.

Ames	81	Des Moines	234
Bettendorf	70	Fairfield	24
Boone	7	Fort Dodge	27
Burlington	57	Grinnell	12
Carroll	24	Iowa City	158
Cedar Falls	120	Marshalltown	93
Cedar Rapids	171	Mason City	42
Chariton	1	Nevada	8
Clinton	92	Sioux City	64
Clive	63	Urbandale	10
Coralville	124	West Des Moines	131



C J's Bar and Grill, Cedar Rapids, the 2011 Men's Major 16 Inch Iowa ASA State Tournament Team

NC STATE UNIVERSITY PRESENTS

Park & Recreation Maintenance Management School

Co-sponsored by:
North Carolina State University Department of Parks, Recreation and Tourism Management and The National Recreation and Park Association

Hosted by:
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January 29 - February 3, 2012



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National Recreation and Park Association



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Layout design by Cathy Shutts,
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Due to the Christmas and New Year's holidays and staff vacations, distribution of the next issue of IPRA Today will be delayed until January 5, 2012.



*Steve Jordison and Cathy Shutts wish each of you a very blessed and safe Christmas holiday.
Happy New Year!!*

IPRA Calendar of Events



December

- 7 Young/New Professionals Forum—Hiawatha
- 8 IPRA board meeting—Grinnell
- 9 Aquatics Committee meeting—Pella
- 23-26 State Office closed—Christmas Observance

January

- 2 State Office closed—New Year's Observance
- 14 Men's & Women's Volleyball Tournament—Grinnell
- 23 CEU/Aquatic Update—Cedar Falls
- 24-25 Certified Pool Operator's Course—Cedar Falls
- 31 Leadership Institute—State Office