

Postmaster: Dated Material, please expedite delivery



164 West Main Street
Bridgeport WV 26330

**West Virginia Recreation and Parks Association
Professional Publication**



Issue 4, 2006
August 2006



All meetings begin at 1:00 PM

September 22 Waterfront Hotel, Morgantown

November 7-9 WVRPA Conference, Waterfront Hotel, Morgantown

Officers:

President: John Cooper
President Elect: Beverly Gibb
Past President: Joe Shuttleworth
Secretary: Mark Wise
Treasurer: Don Burton

Board of Directors

First Year: Steve Catlett
Second Year: Tom Raker
Third Year: Rick Abel
NRPA/Citizen Representative:
NRPA Southern Regional Rep.: Jim McClelland
Student Liaisons: Marshall Casey Steele
WVU Jennifer Chamberlain

Committee Chairpersons

Annual Conference: Bruce Miller
Programming Exchange: Don Burton
Site Selection: Joe Shuttleworth
Workshops: Paula Martin
Legislative: Jim McClelland
Finance: Don Burton
Fund Raising: John Cooper
Newsletter: Joe Shuttleworth
Archives: John Cooper
Hershey Track&Field: Ethel Lou St. Clair
Membership: Rick Abel
Nominating: Beverly Gibb
Outreach: Rick Abel
Professional Awards: Jodie Lamm
Professional: Jodie Lamm
Certification: Owen Walker
Board Members & Commissioners:
Audit: Ralph LaRue
Constitutional Review: Beverly Gibb

President's Message

I believe we should talk to the powers that be and inquire if we can get 28 hours in a day! Maybe then I can get caught up! I am sure that all of us wish that we had just a few more hours in a day, but we must realize that this is why we make the big bucks! Take consolation that you are not alone in your endeavors and realize that new ideas and help are just a phone call away to a fellow WVRPA member.

The West Virginia was very well represented at the NRPA Southern Regional Conference in Louisville, Kentucky in April, Jim McClelland, Don Burton, Joe Shuttleworth, Steve Catlett, Barbara Brooks, Dr. Raymond Busbee, Bill Kelley and I were in attendance.

Jim McClelland was presented with the Harold D. Meyers Professional Award which has been presented annually since 1970 to a Southern Region outstanding professional for continuous dedication & service to the park and recreation field in the place where he/she works and through service to the profession at the state, regional or national level. It is one of the highest honors bestowed by the NRPA Southern Regional Council. Joe Shuttleworth and I had the honor of presenting this award to Jim.

William Robinson, State Trail Coordinator recently met with representatives of the WVRPA, State Trail Coalition and others to discuss his new position and duties.

Please complete your copy of the 2006 WVRPA Pool Survey. I have only received six surveys as of this date. Please take the time to share your information with our association.

The WVRPA Ticket Sale program is going well with Bridgeport, Clarksburg, New Martinsville and Greater Huntington participating. Should you need information on this program, contact me at: jcooper@cityofclarksburgwv.com.

Bruce Miller and the WVRPA Conference Committee are hard at work planning our Annual Conference in November in Morgantown. All of the information is included in this issue of the Review.

I would like to thank Jody Lamm for assuming the duties of Awards and Citations Chair. Please look inside for information on the 2006 WVRPA Awards.

Also, I would like to thank Rick Abel former Deputy Director of Greater Huntington Park and Recreation District for his hard work and dedication to the WVRPA.

I would like to wish all of you success, happiness and a short mowing season in the months ahead.

Yours for better parks & recreation,
John Cooper, President



EDITORS NOTE: WVRPA "In the Spotlight" will be a new feature in the Review. It will feature bio's on different members in each edition. You will be asked to include personal and professional information such as family information, hobbies, interests and other interesting items that will allow others to get to know you better. Pictures will also be needed. Either a digital headshot or a picture that I can scan. Smaller departments can include multiple staff members if they choose. Anyone wishing to submit their information, please email Joe Shuttleworth at joe.shuttleworth@bridgeportwv.com. AFFILIATE BUSINESS MEMBERS AND STUDENTS ARE ENCOURAGED TO PARTICIPATE.

Bruce Miller - Chestnut Ridge Park Manager

All I ask is that you "wade" through this biography with your hipboots on! (is hipboots one word or two?)

I was born on October 13, 1962 (yes, I'm almost as old as Bev Gibb). I grew up, so to speak, in Ashland, New Jersey. I know New Jersey gets a lot of flack, but the state really does have a some beautiful and diverse scenery. For example, the northwestern side of the state is mountainous (ok - hilly), The Pine Barrens (PB's) and farm fields cover much of the south central part of the state, and the shore and wet lands boundary most of the east cost. I suggest you get of the highway and visit the PB's sometime, they are truly unique.

Back to me. I came to West Virginia on a scholarship to run at the University (Harvard turned me down). In addition to the cross country and track teams, I was a member of the Outings Club, Recreation Club, and the Sunny Side Club. After 5 and 1/2 years and hundreds of trips up "goat hill", I finally received my Bachelors Degree in Recreation and Parks. My greatest memories about attending WVU were my trips to the Annual WVRPA Conference (this is a plug), backpacking and caving trips around the state and running thousands and thousands of miles around Morgantown.

This paragraph is a little boring so please feel free to skip over and go to the next paragraph. Right out of college, I took a job in New Jersey as a Park Ranger. I lasted about 5 months. I was on my way to visit Mark Fortney, my college roommate, who resided in North Carolina. I had with me all my belongings, which included my pick-up truck, duffle bag of clothes and \$400 bucks. On my way to NC I got side tracked to Morgantown and ended up getting married. The marriage thing came after the losing the \$400, but before my pickup truck being stolen. Anyway, I reside in Morgantown at this point of my life and all is good! I took a job as the Recreation Specialist at the Bell Mountain School in Elkins, WV. Truly a rewarding job - helping kids that rarely smile, smile again. After a year or so, I was offered the Assistant Manger's position at Chestnut Ridge Park. I worked as the Assistant from 1988 to 1990, during which time I only got to frisk one person. I moved to Annapolis, Maryland with my third wife, just kidding, my wife in 1990. I was employed by Anne Arundel County Recreation and Parks as a Park Ranger. I was fortunate to worked at three different parks in Anne Arundel, the Baltimore and Annapolis Trail, Waterford Park and Quiet Waters Park. Each park was very different and each taught me a great deal about people, programming and management (unfortunately my writing skills still *->#&*&*). In October of 1999, two days after my birthday (remember, October 13, 1962), I returned home to West Virginia. I was now the Park Manager for Chestnut Ridge Park. I have been at Chestnut Ridge Park ever since and I am very fortunate for the opportunity. The park staff and I have been able to bring many new recreational opportunities and upgrades to the park visitors. The most recent is the summer concert series that is now attracting 400 people, from the ages of 2 to 82. Unfortunately I am longer married, but very happy. I have three great kids, Riley (13), Rebecca (10) and Collin (8). Although my kids live with their mother in Maryland, they get to spend the summer at the park. My ex and I get along great - now! She recently married and had a baby boy, who I am told looks just like me!

ps. For more details about my life, please visit my bar stool at the West Virginia Brewing Company on Wednesday evenings. For information about the Chestnut Ridge Park visit the park web site (chestnutridgepark.com) or call me at 594-1773.



WVRPA Review Deadlines

Mark your calendars!

Deadline

December 1, 2006

Publication

Early January 2007

Please submit your articles to joe.shuttleworth@bridgeportwv.com. Please include digital pictures if possible. Articles are open to any WVRPA Members for announcements, news or anything else you wish to share with the organization. Regular pictures can be scanned - mail them to 164 West Main Street, Bridgeport WV 26330. Should you have any questions, call Joe Shuttleworth at 304-842-8240.

New Martinsville Pond Receives a Face Lift

With aid from a Land and Water Conservation Grant, the Lewis Wetzel Park Pond in New Martinsville has seen some big improvements. Last spring the pond was drained down and the badly eroded banks were dug out and rip rap was put into place. Brush and trees were removed and a handicap accessible walking path was added around 3/4's of the pond. Three bench swings have also been purchased. A large fountain was added to the middle of the pond in May. The fountain is dedicated in memory of Herman Wade. Herman was an employee of the New Martinsville Electric Department when he was killed on the job in 1999. The plaque for the fountain was purchased through a scholarship program that was set up by his fellow city employees. The remaining section of the pond and path will be completed this summer. The addition of paddle boats will follow in July or August. Everyone who has visited the pond has been very pleased with the changes that have occurred. But, as you all know, just like your own home, once you begin fixing one thing in one park...so begins the never ending process.



Two outstanding golfers representing the WVRPA tied for first place at the recent NRPA

Southern Regional Conference Golf Tournament in Louisville, Kentucky in April.



Joe Shuttleworth, Deputy Director of Bridgeport Parks and Recreation and John Cooper, Superintendent of Parks & Recreation of Clarksburg teamed with Roger Riberio of Florida and Bob, the Governor of Georgia to complete the tournament at 9 under par.

In accepting his award, John "Tiger" Cooper stated "This championship almost means as much to me as the three consecutive WVRPA Golf Titles I have been a part of along with Rick, Paco & Joe, if Jeff Berryman played, it would have meant just a much."

Joe "Shark" Shuttleworth commented, "It felt great beating someone besides just Jeff Berryman."

Congratulation go out to these fine athletes who have represented the WVRPA well!

taken from "The Exponent Telegram" Tuesday, August 1, 2006

Additions Planned for Veteran's Memorial Park **By Elizabeth Grey Morrison**

Clarksburg officials have made plans for new developments at Veteran's Memorial Park. John Cooper, Superintendent of Parks and Recreation for the Clarksburg Board of Park Commissioners, said that preliminary plans have been made with the Clarksburg Water Board for the construction of a boat ramp open to the public. "We haven't really come up with a cost estimate at this point," Cooper said. Clarksburg Water Board Manager Dick Welch said that plans still are in the beginning stages. "We haven't officially been asked to do it, but I understand that it's forthcoming," Welch said. Welch said that if the agreement is made, the water board will be doing the excavation for the ramp. "We've always worked together on different projects, and I'm sure this project will be no different," he said. Plans also have been made to turn the road on WV 98 leading up to the old VA Bridge into additional parking for the park. Cooper said that the additional parking will help with the overflow of cars during the summer months. Officials anticipate that work will probably begin in September after the old bridge has been completely removed. Also, a site analysis and some preliminary drawings have been completed on plans for a new \$3.7 million aquatic center at the park, according to Cooper. "It's kind of a slow process, but we're hoping to be in construction by next August if everything falls into place." The new park would include an activity pool, waterslides, six lane lap pool, splash ground with various water toys for kids and a "lazy river," which floats patrons around a loop. Other potential plans include the construction of an amphitheater. Cooper said that the new facility will replace the existing Big Oak Shelter at the park. Cooper said that officials have submitted a request for a grant for the West Virginia Division of Culture and History that could potentially fund half of the new facility. If the grant is approved, then construction can begin soon. "We would start construction as soon as we could this fall," he said. A new walking path also is in the works for the Clarksburg City Park. The path is being funded by the town of Nutter Fort, the Harrison County Commission, the Women's Club of Nutter, Clarksburg Park Board and a West Virginia Department of Transportation Recreational Trails Grant. Cooper said that the dedication ceremony is scheduled for September 7.

Gator caught at Clarksburg City Park

City Parks of Clarksburg staff apprehended a 3 foot alligator at Clarksburg City Park on July 21. It seems that the critter has escaped from its owner and found refuge along Elk Creek which winds behind the park. Reports of a strange looking creature began a few days before the capture. The alligator was turned over to Harrison County Animal Control.



West Virginia Recreation and Park Association Awards

The Awards Committee of the WVRPA is now accepting nominations for the following awards offered by our association:

John G. Scherlacher Fellow Award:

Qualifications: Professional members of the WVRPA with at least 10 years experience in the leisure service delivery system with at least 5 years of service with the WVRPA. Nominee must have demonstrated willingness to assume a leadership within our organization. This is the highest award that can be given to a professional in the state of West Virginia by the WVRPA.

Austin C. Palmer Outstanding Facility Award

Qualifications: Outstanding facilities serving a large segment of a geographic area that are aesthetically pleasing, evidence of sound design, programmed to maximum potential and in operation for at least one year.

Richard P. Sebastian Leadership Award

Qualifications: Active membership in the WVRPA, nominees must be under 30 years of age or younger by January 1, 2000 and nominees should exhibit qualities of ambition, creativity, dedication to the recreation profession and be cooperative, hardworking and loyal in nature.

Special Citation to a Citizen/Board Member

Qualifications: Nominee should have made significant contributions to the parks, recreation or leisure service field, exhibit a firm understanding of and commitment towards providing quality leisure services and exhibit a significant contribution to the leisure service delivery at the regional or state-wide level.

Eugene M. Fuller Program Award

Qualifications: Nominees must provide evidence of outstanding programming of superior quality in promoting activities that are traditionally associated with park, recreation and leisure services or in developing innovative programming ideas.

Legislative Award

Qualifications: Any member of the Senate or House of Delegates in the State of West Virginia or from the State of West Virginia with a firm understanding of the need of, and commitment toward, providing quality leisure services.

Presidential Citation

Qualifications: Presented by the President of the WVRPA to anyone making an outstanding contribution to the field of parks and recreation above and beyond the normal duties of their profession, involvement on the national or statewide level in improving the overall park and recreation services.

James L. McClelland Public Parks and Recreation Facility Award

Qualifications: Exceptional park and recreation areas, spaces or facilities, with emphasis placed on design, creativity, environmental adaptability, function, usage, and community and where applicable, inter-agency involvement in planning.

All nominations are due by September 30, 2006. For a description of the awards, to make a nomination or for more information contact:

Jodie Lamm, Awards Chair
c/o New Martinsville Parks & Recreation
197 Main Street
New Martinsville, WV 26155
Phone: 304-455-9130 FAX: 304-455-9123 e-mail: jlamm@newmartinsville.com

A Monster of A Project!

Milton, West Virginia, a town of approximately 2,200 people in eastern Cabell County, has a dragon that dispenses water instead of fire on youngsters and adults who visit its April Dawn Park playground. "It's monster isn't as ferocious as he looks," observes Jim McClelland, Director/Secretary of the Greater Huntington Park and Recreation District, the agency which owns and operates the park, "although he can be a pretty slippery guy!"

April Dawn Park has been a one-acre site that has been under planning and development for a decade. It's three-section playground was to be the finishing touch. However, due to fiscal constraints which have prevented the park district from constructing one section and due to citizen input to expand the park on its northern end, the project will extend into the foreseeable future. The two existing playground pods are like nothing else currently in West Virginia.

One section, located nearest the corner of Smith and Mason Streets, which is only a half block from City Hall, contains a sprayground. All water jets from beneath the surface. "We borrowed the idea from a much larger sprayground in Chattanooga's Coolidge Park," explains Jim. "While their project cost about \$1 million dollars five or so years ago, our sprayground totaled about \$275,000. Add to that the dragon pod and we have about \$450,000 in the total project. Fifty percent of the funding was provided by the Land and Water Conservation Fund. The state of West Virginia contributed \$25,000 to assist the park district in matching the grant. The park district funded the balance. The next phase will run at least \$150,000, maybe more, depending on the final design." The design, engineering, and supply of the water elements was done by Crystal Fountains of Concord, Ontario, Canada, one of the World's leading fountain companies.

The other existing section, which is the middle section of the three-section playground, sports the monster. It is about 26 feet long and seven feet high to its platform on top of the slide. The slide runs down the monster's spine. The feature accommodates climbing, sliding, sitting, hiding, and when more elements arrive, interactive participation that will allow for special lighting and spray effects. The original concept of a dragon was formulated in the park's master plan by Floyd Browne Group of Charleston, West Virginia. Floyd-Brown also provided the project engineering, the detail site design, the project coordination, and worked closely with the park district to conceive interactive play elements. Final design and sculpture of the dragon was done by Cherry Lion Studios of Atlanta, Georgia, and the casting was accommodated by Georgia Precast, also of Atlanta. The program for the playground was chiefly developed by the park district. From initial planning to Congressman Nick Joe Rahall's officially turning on the jets this past June 3 the project took five years.

A third section, yet to be built, will accommodate pre-schoolers and early age elementary children. It is to consist of a baby dragon whose body parts (head, middle body, and tail) will arise from the base plane somewhat similar to a Lock Ness Monster. It is to act as a climber, a crawl-under piece, a seat, and include on the tail an interactive sound device, such as chimes, to be rung by the users. Because the sprayground has been exceedingly popular the delay in constructing the third section may prove to be advantageous. Consideration is now being given to redesigning it to include spray elements.

The sprayground operates on timers set by Crystal Fountains in Canada by remote control. During summer months the water dances between 9:00 a.m. and 9:00 p.m. six days per week. On Sundays it operates 12:30 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.. The water is recirculated and treated just as in done in a traditional pool.

No guards or custodians are required. The facility is checked several times each day. It is free of fencing and open to the public free of charge.

This indeed has been a monster of a project. When the baby arrives it will become even a bigger family affair!



Jim McClelland Honored

James McClelland, Director of the Greater Huntington Park and Recreation District was honored at the NRPA Southern Regional Conference with the Harold D. Meyer Professional Excellence Award in Louisville, Kentucky.

I am sure that you would agree, as did the Southern Regional Council Awards Committee that Jim has met all of the criteria for this award including:

- A. The individual must be a member of both his state affiliate and NRPA.
- B. The individual should have been in the field for at least five (5) years.
- C. Contributions should have been made over a period of time; it is not the intent of this award to honor an individual for a single contribution.
- D. Participation and contributions should have been demonstrated at the local, state, and regional levels.
- E. The determining factor of selection of award shall be:

- 1.) The degree of proficiency attained by the nominee; and
- 2) The level of achievement or contribution made by the nominee.

A nominee must have made recurring and valuable contributions to the recreation and park field in one or more of the following fields of accomplishment:

- 1) Leadership—active and exceptional participation as an officer or committee member of the Regional Council or other organizations closely related to the park and recreation field.
- 2) Research—initiation or conduct of studies or analyses which advance new ideas, techniques or procedures stimulating the profession or extending its philosophy or methods of practice.
- 3) Job Performance—consistently outstanding performance of all aspects of assigned responsibilities and professional endeavors in the park and recreation field.
- 4) Education—initiation or conduct of training programs or development of training methods or materials for professional personnel resulting in raised professional standards or achieving exceptional results.
- 5) Public Relations—outstanding contribution in furthering the aims and public image of effective park and recreation boards or committee function and the profession through public speeches, participation of forum or panel groups; appearance before radio or television audiences; writing of articles, manuals or books in the park and recreation discipline; or building its acceptance by the public.
- 6) Other Areas—exceptional service of any kind that has not been expressed in the above statements.

Please find excerpts from his nomination below;

Jim McClelland is also a lifelong recreator who has helped many throughout his career and still is moving forward today. His level of commitment can serve as a model for us all. He truly has the citizenry of his community, state and region at heart. His leadership is above reproach. He continues to show his leadership style and passion as he serves on various local, state and national boards and councils. He continues to share that knowledge on a daily basis to students where he serves as an adjunct professor at Marshall University. Contact and follow up are nothing new to this man. Letters, phone calls, and faxes to representatives at the national, state and local level are all staples of his passion to serve others and make the world a better place. Size of the city or organization are barriers for this individual to get involved and roll up his sleeves to find dollars and convince the powers to be that his project is worth while. A recent example of such was when he helped secure funding for a new playground for a community of less than 900 people. That is this man's style. Everyone he comes into contact with is greeted by his warm smile and outstretched hand.

He has shared his knowledge and foresight with his local Legislative Committee, State and Region and worked tirelessly for over forty years throughout two different states. He has also served on the NRPA Southern Regional Council for well over 15 years as a member and served as chairman. Facilities and local Awards have been named in his honor to recognize the contributions that he has made and continues to make in his home state. Budget preparation and facility design which focuses on landscaping issues and architectural planning are some of his areas of expertise. Volunteering, consulting in paid and volunteer capacities are nothing new to him either. Teaching new professionals, existing recreation providers and students continue to be a driving force for this individual.

Serving others is truly important as is evident by his service on the West Virginia Recreation and Park Association, the WV Resource Conservation and Development Office Executive Committee. The awards and achievements he has made across our country are too numerous to name individually. Work with his Chamber of Commerce, LWCF Campaigns, Urban Park and Recreation Recovery Programs are also vital areas which have been positively impacted by his service and dedication. Technical Assistance and Outreach Committee involvement to provide free resources and developmental assistance to his state continue to be one of his driving forces. He is a wealth of knowledge and what runs over his cup he is willing to share with those who will listen and use that knowledge for their continued growth and development. Some say that he is a continuing reminder of his selfless contributions to his community whether it be local, state or national issues.

On behalf of the WVRPA, we wish to extend our congratulations to this year's recipient of the Harold D. Meyers Professional of the Year Award, Mr. Jim McClelland.



Jim McClelland receives the 2006 Harold D. Myers Professional of the Year Award from John Cooper, WVRPA President; Joe Shuttleworth, WVRPA Past President and Mark Thompson - NRPA Southern Region Chairperson.

REVENUE SCHOOL CELEBRATES 41ST CONSECUTIVE YEAR

Respectfully submitted by the 2006 Board of Regents of the Revenue Development and Management School, North Carolina State University Department of Parks, Recreation and Tourism Management and Oglebay Park.

The first and original Revenue School celebrated 41 years of continuous service to the recreation and park profession when it convened at Oglebay Resort Park March 12-17, 2006.

This school was founded by Professor Thomas I. Hines of North Carolina State University and other top Parks and Recreation Administrators from across the nation in 1965. It not only set new standards for the professional development of park and recreation professionals, but also proved to be a new training model that has been duplicated by NRPA and other professional organizations on numerous other topics around the United States. Currently, NRPA offers a variety of "schools" on topics ranging from maintenance management and community leadership to executive training and resource management. In addition, the school concept has also been adopted by other professional organizations including the National Golf Foundation, the International Association of Assembly Managers, the National Association of RV Parks and Campgrounds, our state associations, and the American Zoological Association. Since its inception in 1965, over 6,400 park and recreation professionals from 48 states and four foreign countries have attended the Oglebay Revenue School.

Five years ago many professional development schools began to experience challenges. Ours was no exception. NRPA was in the process of closing their regional offices and chose not to continue to sponsor the school, our national identity had eroded, our market niche was being challenged, and we had become financially marginal. The Regents of the School, North Carolina State University, and Oglebay addressed these challenges by forging a new union to re-establish the school's presence in our profession.

By applying our own teachings we studied our market and our student evaluations; conducted a SWOT analysis with the help of Mike Kane; investigated the formats, fees and curriculum of other schools; and analyzed our financials and potential revenue sources. From this we built a business plan and reinvented our school. Marketing efforts were also intensified through the efforts of Mike McCarty and the Oglebay Staff. On line marketing and registration capabilities were also enhanced by Mary Beth Thaman and her staff.

Three new features were added that included the addition of two Regent Externs that assisted in the operation of the school and instruction. This year, Michael Kalvort, Recreation Superintendent from Cape Coral, Florida and Mary Henderson, Director of Parks and Recreation from Cary, North Carolina served in that capacity. A second addition included tuition scholarships for special "best of the best" young practitioners to participate in the school from all over the United States. These were provided by Beta Data from Virginia, Wood & Partners from South Carolina, Athco (Landscape Structures) from Missouri and Front Row Marketing from Arizona. The final feature added to the school was the Premier Partnerships. Two industry leaders stepped forward to provide support for the school—MUSCO Lighting and Active Network. This step alone insured our ability to maintain reasonable registration fees and bring in additional instructors. Their participation is no surprise. They are not only leaders in their respective markets but are also known for their contributions to the development of our profession.

Through these efforts the Revenue School has regained its position as **THE REVENUE SCHOOL**. The largest group of first and second year students we have had in the last several years attended (93). We have not only covered all of the school's expenses but generated revenue in excess of those expenses which will be used to enhance the values of the schools to its participants through improved instructional materials, additional class offerings and overall value added amenities. These funds will also be used to protect the school from any future shortfalls in the form of a special reserve fund.

The Board of Regents included Chair Tom Lovell, Administrator of the Lee's Summit, Missouri Parks and Recreation Department; Chair-Elect Carrie Hauptert, Superintendent of Special Facilities, Wheaton, Illinois Park District; Past Chair Michael McCarty, Director of the Longmeadow, Massachusetts Parks and Recreation Department; Michael Kane, Director of the Fairfax County Park Authority; Gary Fenton, Director of Professional Services, National Recreation and Park Association; Bill Scalzo, Assistant County Manager and Chief Officer of the Maricopa County Arizona Parks and Recreation Department; Mary Beth Thaman, Director, Kettering Ohio Parks and Recreation Cultural Affairs. Representatives from Oglebay and North Carolina State University, respectively, included Kurt Metcalf and Dr. Phil Rea. Dave Noble, Director of the Lake County Ohio Parks system served as a special guest instructor.

To get more information on the school go to our website at www.oglebay-resort.com or contact Carrie Hauptert (2007 Chair) at (630) 690-4880 or by e-mail at chauptert@wheatonparks.org, or call Oglebay (the National Training Center for Public Facility Managers) at (304) 243-4019.

34th Annual West Virginia Recreation and Parks Association Conference

And the winner is.....Morgantown! After much debate, discussion and lobbying, Morgantown won the rights to host the 34th Annual West Virginia Recreation and Parks Association Conference. The conference will be held in the Waterfront Place Hotel, formerly known as the Radisson Hotel. The Waterfront Place Hotel is located along the Monongahela River in the Warf District. To make your hotel reservation, call (304)296-1700 and please ask for the WVRPA rate.

In addition to WVRPA, the conference will be co-sponsored by the West Virginia Planning Association, West Virginia Landscape Architect Society and the West Virginia Center for Excellence in Disabilities. The additional associations will not only increase the number of participants and exhibitors, but more importantly, allow for a much more diverse and interesting lecture series.

The conference will begin on Tuesday, November 7th with the Annual Golf Workshop and Tour Morgantown Parks Workshop. The golf workshop will take place at Lakeview Resort and Spa. The Tour Morgantown Parks Workshop will give participants a chance to see and examine several unique parks and facilities, including Miracle Field, WVU Rec. Center and Sky Rock. Both workshops will finish at Dorsey Knob Lodge for a good old fashion cookout, sponsored by Terradon Corp. The Wednesday Welcome and Keynote Speaker Breakfast will kick off the main segment of the conference, which includes the educational sessions, exhibit hall luncheon and hillbilly auction. Thursday, the last day of the conference, begins with several more new and unique educational sessions and ends with the afternoon Awards Banquet.

Remember to register early, attend as many sessions as possible and stay for all three days. For more information about the conference, keep checking the WVRPA website or contact Bruce Miller, Conference Chair, at (304)594-1773 for new information.



Tour Morgantown! Visit Unique Recreational Attractions

Miracle Field
and Mylan Park

Dorsey Knob Park
and Sky Rock



Star City
Park

WVU's Incredible
Student Recreation Center
 **West Virginia University**
where Greatness is Learned



Ruby McQuain
Ampitheater in the
Wharf District

Tuesday, November 7, 2006

\$25 per person - 10:00 am - Meet in the lobby of the Hotel

The trip will conclude with a BBQ at Dorsey Knob at 3:00 pm. Bring appropriate clothing and comfortable shoes.
Free Snacks and beverages will be available during the trip.



34th Annual Conference
West Virginia Recreation and Parks Association
Waterfront Place Hotel, Morgantown
November 7-9, 2006



Name _____

Agency/Organization/School _____

Mailing Address _____

Work # _____ Cell # _____

Fax# _____ E-mail Address _____

Conference Registration Options

Professional Full Package (Includes Educational Sessions, Welcome Breakfast, Exhibit Hall Luncheon, Social, Evening Entertainment, Awards Banquet and more.)

Prior to 10/10/06	\$125.00	_____
After 10/11/06	\$150.00	_____

Student/New Member* (Includes Educational Sessions, Exhibit Hall Luncheon, Social, Evening Entertainment, Awards Banquet) (*New member is someone who has never attended before)

Prior to 10/10/06	\$40.00	_____
After 10/11/06	\$50.00	_____

Daily

Wednesday (includes sessions Breakfast, luncheon)	\$100.00	_____
Thursday (includes banquet)	\$75.00	_____

Extra Charge Items (Note: ALL WVRPA Memberships Expire November 1 each year)

Tour Morgantown Parks workshop	\$25.00	_____	Professional Membership	\$35.00	_____
Golf Workshop/BBQ Dinner	\$50.00	_____	BD/Commission Mem.	\$50.00	_____
Adrenaline Workshop	\$25.00	_____	Student Membership	\$10.00	_____
CEU Credit	\$15.00	_____	Agency Membership	\$250.00	_____
Extra Banquet Ticket	\$30.00	_____			

Make checks payable to: **WVRPA** c/o Chestnut Ridge Park
 Rt 1 Box 267 Bruceton Mills WV 26525

Conference Options: \$ _____ + Workshops: \$ _____ + Membership: \$ _____ = **Total Amount Enclosed \$ _____**

Check # _____ Date Received _____

Cancellation Policy: Registration fee, minus \$25.00 will be refunded if cancellation notice received prior to October 31, 2006. No refunds after November 1, 2006.

WVRPA 2006 Conference Lodging

Room Rates are as follows: Single: \$89 (add \$10 per person for double, triple or quad)

Student Lodging: Contact Bruce Miller at 304-594-1773

To reserve your room, call Waterfront Place at 304-296-1700 and request **WVRPA room rates**.

National Alliance For Youth Sports selected to participate in National Center for Missing and Exploited Children/FBI Child Safety Pilot Program

Announcement comes on heels of recently passed Adam Walsh Child Protection and Safety Act of 2006

July 28, 2006 - In its latest effort to improve youth sports and ensure safe and positive experiences for young athletes everywhere, the National Alliance For Youth Sports (NAYS) - America's leading advocate for positive, safe youth sports - will take part in a program from the National Center For Missing and Exploited Children (NCMEC) and the FBI aimed at making background checks more accessible and prevalent among youth organizations. To ensure success, NAYS will target a select group of member organizations to begin participation in the program - which provides low-cost FBI fingerprint checks to youth-serving volunteers with a greatly reduced turnaround time - and plans on extending it to additional members within months.

The Child Safety Pilot Program was originally created as part of the Protect Act passed by Congress in 2003 as a way to make national criminal history background checks more accessible to youth-serving nonprofit organizations wishing to screen volunteers. The program was extended in January to further evaluate its effectiveness, and open up participation for more organizations. NAYS founder and CEO Fred Engh said recent developments such as the Pilot Program, the creation of the AMBER Alert system and, most recently, the passage of the Adam Walsh Protection and Safety Act of 2006 are underscoring something that has always been important.

"I don't think anyone would argue the absolute importance of background checks as part of the youth-serving volunteer screening process. Think about it: When parents drop their kids off at school, they expect their child's teacher to have been properly screened. Your child's coach - anyone supervising children in any capacity, for that matter - should be treated the same," Engh said. "The one great challenge many nonprofit and volunteer organizations face is the cost and time required to perform background checks on every volunteer," he continued. "It is our hope that one day, all youth sports coaches and other volunteers will undergo mandated FBI checks for free - but the Pilot Program is certainly a step in the right direction, and we are thrilled to be a part of it."

Earlier this year, NAYS released a document outlining guidelines and recommended disqualifiers pertaining to background checks as a result of a special session held during NAYS' fourth annual International Youth Sports Congress in Denver in September focusing on the subject of background screening. During the session, attendees heard from several panelists with experience in the fields of background screening, youth sports and law enforcement, and then gathered together to discuss options and disqualifiers in background checks among youth sports volunteers. That information, along with the input of several industry experts, was used to compose the NAYS "Background Checks In Youth Sports: Guidelines For Your Organization" document, which can be found at www.nays.org/Intmain.cfm?Page=136&Cat=22. Visit www.nays.org for more information.



WVRPA
Call for Nominations



President Elect Beverly Gibb is now accepting nominations
 for the following Board of Director positions:

President Elect, Treasurer, Board Member

Contact Beverly by September 15 at 304-455-9130 or gibb4@hotmail.com

WVRPA Golf Tournament

Lakeview Country Club

Tuesday, November 7, 2006

10 AM Shotgun Start \$50 per player

Prizes & Great Food - Compliments of Terradon

For more information contact

John Cooper 304-624-1655

jcooper@cityofclarksburgwv.com

