

# IPRA Today

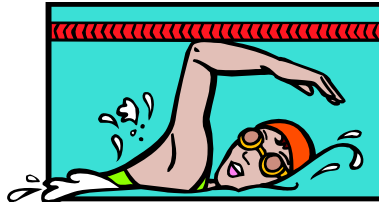
April 2010  
Volume X, Issue 10



## Pool Managers Workshop

If you have a pool, then you know having a good management team can make or break a pool season and staff. So help “make” your managers ready for the summer by inviting them to the Annual Pool Managers Workshop. This one-day event offers managers, head lifeguards, directors and supervisors opportunities to network with other pool management, ask questions as well as seek similarities and differences in our summer encounters.

- WHO:** Pool managers, head lifeguards, supervisors—any “management in aquatics”
- WHAT:** NEW format including break-out sessions, team building ideas, preparing for the unexpected (including larger-than-normal bather loads), viewing some of the newest video training and planning for the 2010 Lifeguard Competition for Iowa.
- WHEN:** Friday, May 21, 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.
- WHERE:** Clive Aquatic Center’s Special Events Building
- WHY:** Prepare experienced and new managers
- HOW:** Contact the IPRA state office: 641.236.3917 or e-mail: [cshutts@pcpartner.net](mailto:cshutts@pcpartner.net) no later than Monday, May 17.



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

[www.iapra.org](http://www.iapra.org)

### INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

Employment	2
Familiar Faces in New Places	3
Hershey’s Track & Field Games	4
State Spot Shot	5
APRS Mentoring Fellowship Program	6
Special Training & Seminars Committee	7
IPRA Calendar of Events	8



## Playground Supervision Is it necessary?

A recent study of legal cases (approximately 80 percent) against park and recreation agencies involving programmatic situations allege lack of supervision or improper supervision. Learn how to lessen the possibility of legal action by attending this one-day workshop hosted by IPRA. This workshop,

conducted by training staff from the National Program for Playground Safety, is designed to review the ABC’s of direct supervision for program personnel. Specific topics to cover include:

- A = anticipation, how to examine the physical environment for potential hazards and risks;
- B = behavior, understanding the behavior of participants, the roles and responsibilities of the supervisor; and finally,
- C=context, how to develop a supervision plan specific to the participants as well as the program of activities being offered.

(Continued on Page 5)

# Employment Opportunities

## Recreation Supervisor City of Davenport



Under direction, the Recreation Supervisor performs work of considerable difficulty planning, organizing and administering recreation programs and activities for various ages for a large recreation center offering ice and turf-related sports. Performs work of considerable difficulty supervising and organizing the maintenance, environment and security of city buildings, grounds and facility and performs related work as required.

The position supervises, coordinates, directs and monitors staff activities to ensure prompt, courteous and accurate responses are provided to customers; selects and trains assigned staff, ensuring equal employment opportunity in hiring; monitors efficiency and quality efforts of personnel and provides training and coaching support; ensures adherence to departmental policies, procedures and practices; creates and maintains a positive, respectful work environment for staff; interacts with diverse levels of internal and external personnel to develop and maintain effective communication to resolve issues and inquiries; performs special projects and miscellaneous duties as assigned; supervises, assigns, directs and assists personnel in performing mechanical, plumbing, electrical, environmental and structural preventive maintenance checks/services and/or repairs to buildings, grounds, structures and associated equipment; provides training on procedures and equipment used; monitors quality and progress of work; orders supplies and parts as needed; conducts performance evaluations; conducts inspections of facilities, grounds, structures and associated equipment; supervises the implementation of security procedures to ensure protection of facilities and property; supervises the care of grounds, parking areas and sidewalks; makes recommendations for, prepares plans for, and supervises repair or modification work done by internal personnel and outside contractors; monitors quality and progress of work; leverage marketing and sales opportunities in the immediate area and the region postulating the myriad programs and amenities on offer through the department; track attendances at the events, and generate demographic profiles to accentuate the efforts stated above; document the success/failure through all means necessary and remedy the problems. Make presentations for the department across the city and general area; work closely with all staff, attending meetings, seeking input on policies and guidelines prior to implementation and being cognizant of deadlines and budgetary constraints; plans organizes, develops, administers and evaluates ice and turf programs and activities; and any other duty as assigned by the supervisor, within the scope of the position.

The selected candidate must possess a Bachelors degree in Parks and Recreation, Sports Management or Facility Management or closely related field and five years increasingly responsible experience; or an equivalent combination of training and experience, with a multi-sport, revenue making indoor facility. Must be available to work a flexible work schedule including nights and weekends.

Salary: \$3,789.59 to \$4,971.72 monthly; full-time position with excellent benefits package.

Application deadline: April 18, 2010. Contact <http://agency.governmentjobs.com/davenport> to apply for this position and obtain additional information.



## Parks Supervisor City of Urbandale

Under the general direction of the Assistant Director for Parks, this position provides oversight, coordination, direction and supervision of parks staff involved in the upkeep of city parks, green space, park playgrounds, shelters and other parks facilities and related equipment.

Requirements for the position include the following:

- Associates degree in Commercial Horticulture, Turf Grass Management, Construction Management, Building Maintenance Technology or a related field.
- Five years of supervisory experience in parks maintenance, horticulture, turf grass management, construction management or a related field demonstrating increased responsibility for work assignments, project management and employee oversight.
- Most possess a Class B commercial driver's license with air brakes endorsement or ability to obtain within one month of employment.

Salary: \$42,544 to \$63,812 annually. Hours of employment: Monday through Friday 7:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m., with occasional nights and weekend work as required.

Anticipated job opening date for applications is mid-April, 2010. More information is available on the city of Urbandale web site: [www.urbandale.org](http://www.urbandale.org).



# FAMILIAR FACES IN NEW PLACES!

## *Marie Ware Accepts Position in Dubuque*

Dubuque City Manager Michael Van Milligen has appointed Marie Ware as Dubuque's new leisure services manager. She will begin in early May and replaces Gil Spence who retired in December 2009 after 35 years with the City.

"I believe Marie has the skills, abilities, and creativity to build on the fine traditions of our leisure services department," said Van Milligen.

As leisure services manager, Ware is responsible for overseeing the management of the City's parks, recreation and civic center divisions and the Multicultural Family Center. More specifically, she will manage a flexible program of activities for all segments, social groups and age and interest levels within the community as well as direct the development and maintenance of park and playground areas, structures and facilities to serve the interests of the community.

"I am very excited to begin my tenure with the City of Dubuque. It is an honor for me to follow and build upon the great work of Gil Spence," said Ware. "I look forward to working with the great staff and meeting the many partners of Dubuque's Leisure Services Department."

Ware has nearly 25 years of professional experience in parks and recreation and non-profit management. She was most recently interim executive director of the Mahaska County YMCA in Oskaloosa, Iowa. For the past three years, she was the owner/facilitator of Future Endeavors, which provided customized services for non-profits, churches, government, and businesses. From 1999 to 2006, Ware served as the executive director of the Mahaska Community Recreation Foundation in Oskaloosa. She spent nine years as a member of the Coralville, Iowa, Parks and Recreation Department including five years as recreation director and four as parks and recreation director. Previously, Ware served as the recreation superintendent for the Indianola, Iowa, Parks and Recreation Department, after one year as summer recreation coordinator there.

She earned a master's degree in public administration and bachelor's degree in leisure studies from Iowa State University and is a certified park and recreation professional (CPRP) by the National Recreation and Park Association (NRPA). Ware is an active member of the NRPA and has held leadership positions, including president, with the Iowa Parks and Recreation Association (IPRA) and the Iowa Foundation for Parks and Recreation. She received the NRPA American Park and Recreation Society's Young Professional Award and the IPRA's Richard J. Slattery Award and Young Professional Award.

Congratulations to you, Marie, and best wishes for continued success as you assume your new duties in Dubuque!

## *Scott Hock New Assistant Director of Parks for the City of Urbandale*

Urbandale Director of Parks and Recreation Jan Herke has announced that Scott Hock has accepted the position of Assistant Director of Parks for the city of Urbandale. Scott replaces Jim Fazio, who has served the City of Urbandale for 34 years.



**Scott Hock, Assistant Director of Parks,  
City of Urbandale**

Jan stated, "We are thrilled to have Scott join our parks and recreation 'team' and know he will do a great job for us."

Scott Hock comes to the city of Urbandale after 12 years as Recreation Supervisor with the city of Ames overseeing facilities. Prior to his time in Ames, Scott worked with the city of Kansas City, Kansas as a Recreation Supervisor and was with the city of Shenandoah as Director of Parks and Recreation.

"I am very excited about this new opportunity in Urbandale," said Scott. "There are great things happening in the city, and I am very pleased to be a part of it." Scott began his new position March 25. Congratulations and best wishes to you, Scott!



**Marie Ware, Manager,  
Dubuque Leisure Services**

# *Hello to all Hershey's Track and Field Games Potential Coordinators*

As the Iowa Coordinator for the Hershey's Track and Field program, I want to invite every community to host a local meet!

This Hershey program is all about the kids (ages 9-14)...a recreational program that requires no special equipment, no special skills. This is a great event to provide to kids in your community—a chance to get out, get active, compete in a track meet and have fun. All first-place winners advance to the state meet, and a few lucky kids from Iowa will get to travel to Hershey and compete in the North American Finals.

If you haven't offered a Hershey's meet in your community, now is the time! Talk to track coaches, PE teachers, athletic directors, service clubs and interested parents in your community now, and get a date on your calendar. Some communities have talked about joining forces and combining their efforts to create one meet. Be creative and explore ideas.



There is no cost to register to become a local Hershey's Track and Field Games site. The only expense you incur is what it may cost you to run your local meet (staff, ribbons, advertising, etc.) Plus there is a **\$100 incentive bonus** for NEW communities offering a meet this year!

All the information needed to host a meet will be accessible on-line, and local coordinators will report on-line. Go to [www.hersheystrackandfield.com](http://www.hersheystrackandfield.com).

Hershey time-line:

- Register your local meet as soon as possible.
- All local meets must report their results and the state attendees by June 4, 2010.
- The state meet will be held in Marshalltown Saturday, June 12. (All first-place winners at local meets advance to the state meet.)

Call or e-mail if you have questions: 641.754.5715 or [tgray@ci.marshalltown.ia.us](mailto:tgray@ci.marshalltown.ia.us). We'll help you in any way we can.

*Submitted by Terry Gray, Director, Marshalltown Parks and Recreation, and Hershey State Coordinator.*



*Past competitors at the State Hershey Track and Field event.*

## Playground Supervision Workshop

(Continued from Page 1)

Registration fee is just \$99 which includes instruction, hand-outs, snacks, beverages, and lunch.

**Wednesday, May 5**  
**8:30 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.**  
**Hiawatha City Offices**

To register, go online at [www.iapra.org](http://www.iapra.org) or call 641-236-3917.

# State Spot Shot

Approximately 130 boys and girls from the ages of 8 to 13 years participated in the IPRA State Spot Shot finals held at the Grinnell Athletic and Recreation Center Saturday, March 27. The top two finishing participants in each age and gender advanced from local competitions hosted in 26 communities across the state of Iowa to qualify for this state competition.

Participants have 60 seconds to dribble from half-court to shoot from seven locations in any sequence. Players can only receive a maximum of two scores for lay-ups. All other shots must be made from any other of the six spots marked on the floor. Bonus points are given if shots are attempted from each location. If a player attempts two shots from each of the six locations, additional bonus points are granted. Players must rebound their own shots and dribble to their next location. Two rounds are shot with the total of both rounds used as the grand total for the contest. If a tie exists in one of the top three positions, an additional round shall be shot until a winner is determined. Plaques were awarded to the top four places at the state finals. Each participant received a certificate.

Special thanks is extended to the members of the Grinnell High School softball team, Coach Jill Hulsing and parents for assisting on the courts and in the concession stand. Many thanks, also, to Matt Fielder, Youth Programs Supervisor, and Jason Egly, Administrative Assistant, both employed by the North Liberty Parks and Recreation Department, and Paul Swofford for their assistance.



A complete listing of competitors and their finish is available on the IPRA Web site: [www.iapra.org](http://www.iapra.org).



## 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](http://www.softball.org/iowa)**



# 2010 Young Professional Mentoring Fellowship Program

Sponsored by the

## American Parks and Recreation Society (APRS)



**APRS Purpose, Mission and Involvement:** The American Parks and Recreation Society (APRS) is the largest professional branch of the National Recreation and Park Association with over 8,500 members. APRS is primarily comprised of professionals who work in the local delivery of park, recreation and leisure services. APRS members represent diversified park and/or recreation interests in government, private agencies and commercial organizations. The APRS mission is to strengthen the park and recreation profession and to enhance quality of life. APRS is dedicated to: advocating for parks and recreation in the United States and Canada; fostering professional growth and development; improving the delivery of leisure services; providing input on NRPA organizational goals; and gathering and circulating information on parks and recreation issues.

**Program Goal:** The Young Professional Mentoring Fellowship Program enables outstanding young professionals 35 years of age and under in the park and recreation field to interact with and learn from members of the American Parks and Recreation Society and other individuals who attend the annual NRPA Congress and its associated meetings. A professional mentoring fellow (i.e. a mentee) is a professional in the field.

**Program Content:** The selected participant will be paired with a member of the APRS board of directors (eg: president, president elect, etc.) who will serve as his/her mentor during the 2010 NRPA Congress being held in Minneapolis in October 2010. An orientation session involving the APRS mentor will be held on the first day of the Congress. The selected program participant will attend APRS meetings, socials, and educational sessions with their mentor, with the opportunity also provided for activities on their own depending on their interests. Mentor(s) are responsible for introducing the mentee to their networking contacts, other members of the APRS board of directors and widening the young professional's networks. At the conclusion of the NRPA Congress, the selected mentee will be asked to write an evaluation report including 1) an overview of the activities they were involved in during the NRPA Congress; 2) what they have gained from the program; and 3) strengths and weaknesses of the program, along with suggestions for future improvement.

**Extern Support:** The selected participant will receive 1) a \$1,000 scholarship to help cover conference expenses and travel, and 2) tickets to any APRS socials and functions, if held. The selected participant will pay all up front costs associated with attending the 2010 NRPA Congress and will file for reimbursement after the conclusion of the conference.

**Application Procedures:** Applications must be submitted with a letter of recommendation by their department head and a letter of recommendation from a 2009-2010 APRS board member.

**Eligibility:** Applicants must meet the following *minimum* criteria:

- Age 35 or under (age as of October 1, 2010);
- Degree in the field of parks & recreation or a related field;
- At least three years of full-time experience in the parks and recreation field or in a related field;
- Current position of at least the specialist or coordinator level with responsibility for program planning, administration, or supervision;
- Involvement with state, regional and/or national park and recreation associations/societies, and related field organizations;
- Be a current member in good standing of the APRS branch within NRPA;
- Be a Certified Parks and Recreation Professional (CPRP) with NRPA; and
- Be able to arrive in Minneapolis for the 2010 NRPA Congress by 6:00 p.m. on Monday, October 25 and stay until 3:00 p.m., on Friday, October 29.

**Deadline:** To be eligible for consideration, application and support materials must be received no later than Friday, June 4, 2010.

For questions, please contact Dirk Richwine at [apsawards@cityofhenderson.com](mailto:apsawards@cityofhenderson.com) or 702-267-4007.

# Special Training and Seminars Committee Events Update

The Special Training & Seminars Committee recently completed their schedule of events for the year with the Parks Forum on March 4 in Marshalltown and the Community Trends Forum on March 18 in Coralville after many forums were postponed and eventually cancelled due to the extreme winter weather.

The Parks Forum, held at the Community Building at Riverview Park in Marshalltown, featured 12 attendees as well as presenters Mark Boland (Boland Recreation), John Hunter (American Ramp Company), and Kathy Guyer (West Union Director of Parks & Recreation). Topics included an overview of community park foundations and a case study of a dedicated group in West Union who have spearheaded major community improvements for parks and recreation, discussion on trends, design factors and key components of developing a skate park in your community and finally trends in dog parks and other playground and splash pad industry trends for communities. Attendees also collaborated on a roundtable session discussing various parks maintenance topics and were then treated to a barbeque lunch courtesy of the Iowa Foundation for Parks & Recreation which sponsored the forum for the second consecutive year.



*Dr. Ken Mobily of the University of Iowa presented an overview of the opportunities for active older adults in our communities.*

The Community Trends Forum, held at Northridge Pavilion at Northridge Park in Coralville, featured 11 attendees as well as presenter Dr. Ken Mobily from the University of Iowa. Dr. Mobily provided an overview of the opportunity in our communities for programming for active older adults and presented various research he has been part of pertaining to these trends as well as all data. As our population ages, more and more older adults will be using our community facilities and working towards remaining independent throughout their later years of life. 150 minutes of activity over 5 days in 10 minute bouts is the current CDC recommendation as is two days of weight training with low weight, high repetition movements of most major muscle groups. Dr. Mobily

will be presenting additional information at the Spring Conference in Sioux City on Tuesday, April 13, from 3:30-5:00 p.m. for those interested.

The attendees then took part in a roundtable discussion regarding community recreation centers in Iowa and the recent trend of an increase in such facilities. The group noted how three major habitats of recreation in our communities include pools, playgrounds/parks and recreation centers and that recreation centers unlike pools (CPO) and playgrounds (CPSI) have no regulations for operation and no certifications for operators. The group further discussed various aspects of recreation center management such as age requirements, staffing, custodial, fees, vending and others. The group envisions starting a possible recreation center group similar to the aquatics arm of IPRA to share information and collaborate at various times throughout the year and be a resource for other communities interested in building a recreation center.

Special thanks, again, to the Iowa Foundation for Parks & Recreation and their continued financial support of special training and seminar events that are provided free of charge. Thanks also go out to committee members Shelly Simpson (North Liberty), Kathy Guyer (West Union), Jeff Lamoureux (Jefferson), Joel Formanek (Belle Plaine), Mike Miner (Garner) and Scott Berends (Spencer) for their input and assistance this past year.

The committee will be meeting later this spring to wrap up the year and begin planning for next year's special training and seminar events. A survey will be distributed by IPRA, and we encourage everyone to provide us their feedback on specific topics that are desired as we look at several new ideas for next year including at least one webinar and other "regional" forums to encourage shorter commute distances. A call for interested host sites will come over the summer.

*Submitted by Joshua Larsen, Director of Parks & Recreation, City of Huxley and Special Training and Seminars Committee Chair*



To Matt and Katie Jermier on the birth of their son, Kale Matthew, on February 6, 2010. Kale weighed 6 pounds, 14.8 ounces and was 18.5 inches long. New daddy Matt is the Park and Recreation Director for the City of Waukee.





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*IPRA Today* is produced by the I.P.R.A.  
Publications Committee Chair, Mindi O'Hern,  
rechbt@ci.humboldt.ia.us.

Layout design by  
Cathy Shutts,  
cshutts@pcpartner.net



## IPRA Calendar of Events

### April

- 12-14 IPRA Spring Conference—Sioux City
- 13 CEU/Aquatic Workshop—Sioux City
- 19 CEU/Aquatic Workshop—Clear Lake
- 20-21 Certified Pool Operator's Course—Clear Lake

### May

- 5 Playground Supervision Workshop—Hiawatha
- 10 CEU/Aquatic Workshop—Cedar Rapids
- 11-12 Certified Pool Operator's Course—  
Cedar Rapids
- 21 Pool Manager's Workshop—Clive
- 31 State Office Closed—Memorial Day

My name is Caleb Recker and I was recently appointed as the Park and Recreation Director for the city of Kalona. I was born and raised in Iowa City and graduated from Iowa City High School. I have always enjoyed playing sports and being involved in a wide range of other recreational activities.



I earned my bachelors degree in Finance from the University of Iowa Tippie College of Business. After completing my undergraduate education, I moved to Los Altos, California and worked as the summer camp director. I came back to the University of Iowa to earn my masters degree in recreational sport management and will be working part time in Kalona until my graduation in early May. During my undergraduate and graduate schooling, I worked for the University of Iowa Recreational Services and the Iowa City Recreation Division. I thoroughly enjoyed working for both of these organizations and attribute my interest in the field of recreation to these experiences.

I am excited about my appointment as Park and Recreation Director. Kalona is a great community, and the city is in the process of undergoing many improvements. Renovations are being done to the park, pool, campgrounds, city hall, and the town square. I look forward to offering more programs and ensuring that the department is serving the needs of the Kalona community.