

# IPRA Today

February 2010  
Volume X, Issue 8



## MIKE MORAN NAMED DIRECTOR OF IOWA CITY PARKS AND RECREATION

Michael E. Moran, Recreation Superintendent for the city of Iowa City since 1986, has been named Director of Parks and Recreation for that city, effective January 18, 2010. He succeeds the late Terry Trueblood who held the Director position from 1986 until his death in July, 2009.

The Director of Parks and Recreation oversees all department operations which includes the Recreation Division and the Parks and Forestry Division, as well as maintenance support for the central business district and city hall and operation of the city-owned Oakland Cemetery.

Mr. Moran holds a Masters Degree in Recreation Administration from the University of Northern Colorado. He began his tenure with the city in 1983 as a Recreation Program Supervisor and was named Recreation Superintendent in 1986. He is a past president of the American Parks and Recreation Society and has served twice as president of the Iowa Parks and Recreation Association. Locally, he serves on the Board of Directors of Iowa Valley Habitat for Humanity as well as on the Chatham Oaks Board of Directors. He is currently president of both of those boards.



"I feel very fortunate to have come out in front of an outstanding pool of people that the city interviewed for this position," commented Mike. "The city has embarked on numerous projects in the past several years, and I am happy to take the lead in getting them done and continuing with the tradition of great, high quality facilities, parks and the numerous activities and events for the public. Our Master Plan will keep me very busy over the next couple of years. This project was great to help us set priorities and continue with what the public has indicated they would like us to do."



Mike resides in Iowa City with his wife, Pam. They have four grown children.

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

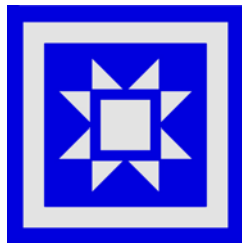
[www.iapra.org](http://www.iapra.org)

### INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

Employment Opportunities	2
IPRA Conference	3
2010 Scholarship Committee Update	4
NBA Clinic in Huxley	6
REAP Update	6
IPRA Activities	7
IPRA Calendar of Events	8

# Employment Opportunities

## Parks and Recreation Superintendent City of Kalona



The City of Kalona is currently accepting applications for the position of Parks and Recreation Superintendent. The position is responsible for the administration, management and planning of the parks, pool and recreation programs. Work includes developing long-range plans and special projects for recreation programs and facilities according to anticipated growth, current needs and future interests with input from local officials and the general public. This position supervises all part-time employees for the pool and recreation center. Work requires extensive public contact and excellent computer and organizational skills. This position works under the supervision of the City Administrator.

Job requirements/salary: Graduation from an accredited college/university with major course work in recreation and park administration or related field. This is a salaried 12-month position with a salary range of \$30,00 to \$35,00 DOQ. Applications will be accepted till February 15, 2010. Please submit your resume to City of Kalona, Box 1213, Kalona, IA, 52247 or electronically at [citkal2@kctc.net](mailto:citkal2@kctc.net). Questions should be directed to Ryan Schlabaugh, City Administrator, at 319-656-2310.

## Executive Director Mahaska County Conservation Board

This full-time position acts as an advisor to the Mahaska County Conservation Board. The selected candidate will be responsible to carry out board policy, be spokesman for the board, manage county areas, supervise employees and enforce rules and regulations in accordance with the laws of Iowa.

Job requirements: Graduation from a four-year college or university majoring in environmental sciences, geology, natural sciences, outdoor recreation or related field. Executive Director will be responsible for developing, directing and evaluating all facets of the Mahaska CCB programs and objectives. Applicant should be familiar with land acquisition, development, operation and maintenance of parks, recreation areas, environmental education and natural resources. Skills and experience needed, but not

limited, to administration, personnel management, developing and operating within a budget, developing and implementing goals, grant writing and public relations. Construction experience and good communication skill are important. Selected candidate must have or be able to acquire burn certification, CDL, first aid and chemical applicator certification; must be able to lift, push or pull 75 pounds; and must have three or more years of experience in the Natural Resource Field.

The salary range is \$38,000 to \$47,000 with standard county benefits including health care and uniform allowance.

Send letter, resume and references to Chairperson of the Board, 2254 200th Street, New Sharon, IA, 50207. Deadline is February 15, 2010 or until position is filled. EOE

## Benefit Auction

Many of you remember Troy Anderson, formerly employed with the Coralville Parks and Recreation Department. He is presently with the Special Olympics of Wisconsin, serving as a regional director. Just over a year ago, Troy was diagnosed with cancer. To help with medical bills, friends are organizing a benefit auction.



*Troy posed for this shot at the 2006 IPRA Spring Conference.*

Angie Cole, Director of the Hiawatha Parks and Recreation, is coordinating from the Iowa end. If you would like to assist with auction items, please contact Angie directly at [parkdirect@hiawatha-iowa.com](mailto:parkdirect@hiawatha-iowa.com). Here are some details Angie would like to pass along:

**Big Country's Kicking Cancer Benefit**  
**Saturday, March 20, 2010**  
**1900 Country Club Drive**  
**Coralville, Iowa**  
**6:30 p.m.**  
**\$25 per person**

The event will feature music from "Fingers and Sticks", a classic rock and country band, dinner, silent auction and lots of fun.

# IPRA CONFERENCE IN SIOUX CITY

## IT'S A CIRCUS

We've all experienced those days at the office when "it's a circus around here". When you come to Sioux City for the 2010 IPRA Conference we will give you a totally different type of "circus" experience. Geoff Hubbard is on the Planning Committee so we already have a clown. It's been five years since IPRA was last here for a conference, and Sioux City just keeps getting better. As a "Great Place" community we have many new things to show you on the tours.

We're thrilled to be hosting the conference again. The 2010 delegates will be treated to an outstanding conference filled with educational sessions that are topical for the current trends and conditions along with some great socials. Coralville started a trend with entertainment, and we are going to do our best to match that.

The conference will be held under the "Big Top" at the Sioux City Convention Center with the convenient skywalk connection to our hotel, the Clarion. Both facilities are within a three-block walking distance of the Historic 4<sup>th</sup> Street entertainment district.



The planning committee has worked hard to assemble a quality list of educational sessions that will get you re-charged for the coming summer. Being on the west coast of Iowa we know it is a long drive to get here, but you won't be disappointed. The conference dates are April 12-14. With the conference a week later than usual, the outdoor activities should be warmer. We have a golf outing planned for Sunday, April 11.

Everyone will have an opportunity to try out our indoor climbing wall at the Long Lines Family Rec Center. Geoff "Spider Monkey" Hubbard will take on all challengers in a race to the top. We also have something special planned for the Monday night social. I'll tease the Monday social in future electronic postcards promoting the conference.

The conference brochure has gone "green". It will be posted on the IPRA website around Feb. 15. Everyone wants to join the circus so come see us in Sioux City as Steve Jordison plays the role of "Ring Master", Mandi Parker and Angie Cole will be wearing big red noses and yours truly will be cleaning up after the animals.

*Submitted by Terry Hoffman, Parks and Recreation Manager, City of Sioux City, and IPRA Spring Conference Committee Chair.*

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What a great way to begin the new year by playing your favorite indoor sport, volleyball. Fifteen teams from eastern to central Iowa converged on Grinnell for the annual IPRA Sports committee volleyball tournaments. Men B, Women A, and Women B divisions featured five teams each. Round robin pool play started off the day with each match playing two sets to 25 points. Following pool play, teams were then seeded for a single elimination tournament. Tournament play consisted of best two out of three sets to 19 points.

Men's B, Gus' from Coralville was the number two seed advancing from pool play whereas Team Hollywood was the number one seed. Number four seed, Feed the Chicken (Cedar Falls), defeated Gus' in the championship match with scores of 10-19, 20-18, 15-10. Unlike Men's B, Women's A featured the top two seeds advancing to the championship match. Decker, Belle Plaine, (seed #2) defeated Pejsa, North Liberty, (seed #1), in two sets with scores 21-18, 21-14. Women's B paralleled Women's A with the top two seeds from pool play advancing to the championship match. Seed #2, Stihl Monster (Fairfield) defeated number one seed Six Pack (Morning Sun) in three sets with scores 41-25, 25-23, 15-9.

Entry fee per team was \$80. Tournament champions received t-shirts with second place awarded a runner-up trophy.

Special thanks to Sport committee chair, Matt Fielder, for assisting staff in running the day of competition.

Up next is another adult coed volleyball tournament. It will be held on Saturday, March 6, at the GARC in Grinnell. Please be sure to let your local teams know of the event. More information, in addition to online registration, is located at [www.iapra.org](http://www.iapra.org)



**The Women's Class A Champions—  
Decker of Belle Plaine**

## 2010 Scholarship Committee Update

The IPRA scholarship committee has been working hard on preparing for the 2010 Spring Conference in Sioux City. I just wanted to highlight our scholarships that IPRA will be providing in 2010.

### **Musco Lighting/Outdoor Recreation Products Scholarship - \$750.00**

We will be jointly partnering with Musco Lighting and Outdoor Recreation Products to provide this scholarship that is open to both full-time students and/or practitioner for the pursuance of under-graduate study in the field of parks and recreation. Todd Stych of Musco Lighting and Bill and Jennifer Pospichal of Outdoor Recreation Products contribute funds for this scholarship.

### **Iowa Amateur Softball Association (ASA) Scholarship - \$750.00**

Presented by the Iowa ASA this scholarship is available to students not employed as full-time parks and recreation practitioners. It is made possible through the contribution of the Iowa ASA under the direction of State Commissioner Tom Topping.

### **Kathryn Krieg Membership Scholarship - \$1000.00**

Also this year we will again offer this scholarship named in honor of Kathryn Krieg. Ms. Krieg was instrumental in shaping the model of what parks and recreation looks like in Iowa today. Her pioneering work in recreation focused on the total human needs of the people in her local community at the time. Ms. Krieg served as the IPRA president in 1947. The National Recreation and Parks Association inducted her into their Hall of Fame at the 2005 National Congress. This scholarship is available to students not employed as full-time parks and recreation practitioners. The Scholarship Committee of the IPRA annually conducts fund drives and solicits donations from sponsors. Special activities are held to generate monies for the scholarship fund. A portion of the interest earned from the scholarship fund is included in the IPRA Kathryn Krieg Membership Scholarship. In order to receive the scholarship, the recipient is asked to attend the IPRA awards Banquet held in conjunction with the Spring Conference.

The Scholarship Committee would like to remind all IPRA members that the Kathryn Krieg membership fund drive has begun and we hope that everyone will contribute what they can to this great scholarship. For information on how to give please go to the IPRA website to locate a pledge form. Please remember that contributions are tax deductible to the extent the law allows and 100 percent of contributions are placed in the IPRA scholarships set aside fund. The Kathryn Krieg scholarship is our largest amount awarded to a student to help them with the rising cost of college tuition and to continue their pursuit into the field of Parks and Recreation.



**2009 IPRA Scholarship Recipients**

Applications and scholarship information has gone out to colleges in Iowa. Students can apply by filling out the official IPRA scholarship form. They must have a minimum of one semester or summer term left to complete when the scholarships are awarded. They must also be a current member of the Iowa Park and Recreation Association. Preference given to applicants who did not win a scholarship from IPRA the previous year. Students wishing to apply can also find the applications and scholarship information at the IPRA website [www.iapra.org](http://www.iapra.org).

Applications are due by February 26, 2010 and recipients will be notified by March 17, 2010. Scholarships will then be presented at the Spring Conference Awards Banquet on April 13, 2010. If you know anyone that may be interested in applying for any of these scholarships, please direct them to this information.

The Scholarship Committee will continue to work hard to raise money to support the future of our field. Questions? Contact Andy Lueth, Scholarship Committee Chairperson at Sheldon Parks and Recreation, 712-324-2769 or [alueth@cityofsheldon.com](mailto:alueth@cityofsheldon.com).

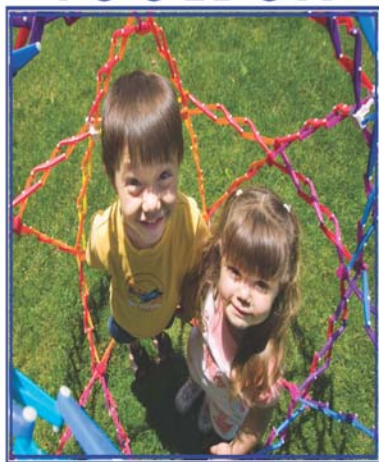
**Submitted by Andy Lueth, Recreation Director, Sheldon Parks and Recreation and IPRA Scholarship Committee Chairperson.**

# NRPA Fellowship Grant

Are you Interested in attending the National Recreation and Park Association National Congress, but never could find the funds? A joint effort between the Iowa Foundation for Parks and Recreation and IPRA will provide funding up to \$1,500 to help cover the costs of transportation, hotel, registration fees, and food. The Congress will be held in Minneapolis, Minnesota from October 26-29, 2010. Criteria and application can be found at [www.iapra.org](http://www.iapra.org).



## A Character Builder's TOOLBOX



Get the tools you need to be a great character builder in your before and after school program for K-6 grade students. Receive hands-on training plus a Program Guide with more than 100 activities designed to bring learning and growth through action learning, children's literature and artistic expression.

**March 3, 2010 9am - 3pm**  
 Central IA Power Coop Board Room  
 2600 Grand Avenue, Ste. 410 • Des Moines, IA  
 \$75 registration fee\*

\*Scholarships are available from Variety - The Children's Charity for all registrants who work with an "at-risk" population. Apply for the scholarship when you register online.



Register at  
**CharacterCountsInIowa.org**

(click on Resources/Training & Workshops)



*Everywhere, all of the time.*

CHARACTER COUNTS! In Iowa is a project of the Institute for Character Development at Drake University. CHARACTER COUNTS! is a trademark of the Josephson Institute of Ethics.



## 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)**

# NBA Family Fit Clinic in Huxley

The Huxley Parks and Recreation Department hosted a NBA Family Fit Clinic in which over 50 participants took part in energetic drills conducted by NBA clinicians and staff. The event was in partnership with the NBA Cares program through the NBA league office. Director of Parks and Recreation, Joshua Larsen, learned of the program through membership with the National Recreation and Park Association and thought his youth basketball program could benefit from such an event



Participants all received t-shirts and had the opportunity to rate their skills in a range of basketball skill contests and drills. Iowa Energy Assistant Coach, Nate Bjorkgren, also spoke to the participants and their families regarding the importance of health and wellness and eating right. At the conclusion of the family clinic, a regional competition for the NBA Fit Challenge took place for qualifiers from the local competition held in Huxley on November 5, 2009.



Submitted by Josh Larsen, Recreation Director, City of Huxley

# More Help Sought for Conservation Education

Among actions taken by this year's Resources Enhancement and Protection (REAP) Congress is a request to the Iowa Legislature to increase funding for conservation education.

REAP provides funding to cities, counties and state conservation efforts, as well as to landowners and conservation organizations and individuals. It is currently funded at \$18 million in appropriations from state gaming revenues and about \$1 million from natural resource license plates. Two new license plates were unveiled at the Congress by Lt. Gov. Patty Judge. The funding is distributed among eight program areas; conservation education is one of those.



"These delegates were elected by 650 Iowans from every corner of the state. They represent the people's voice on how Iowans

want REAP to function," explained Ross Harrison, DNR REAP coordinator. "They saw the need to increase the annual allotment to education from \$350,000 to \$500,000, then to keep the formula for the rest of the funding exactly as it has been since 1989 when REAP became law."



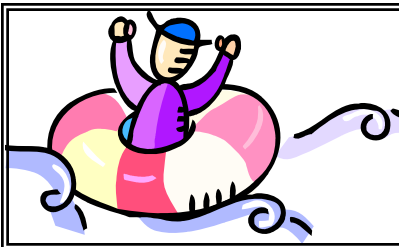
Harrison added that the delegates recommended full funding of REAP at \$20 million per year, continued emphasis on acquisition of public conservation lands, and endorsed the Iowa Water and Land Legacy (IWill) constitutional amendment that would further increase conservation funding, if approved by voters in November.

The REAP Congress is comprised of five delegates elected this past fall from each of 17 meetings around the state. Sixty-three of the 85 delegates attended, braving the coldest day of the year with many roads still in bad shape, to voice their directions on REAP to Gov. Culver, the legislature and Natural Resources Commission as required by the REAP Act.

The Congress also accepted a series of recommendations from a young adult group to improve the level of activity among young Iowans in natural resources policy.

# Are you tired of winter?

## So are we! Come join us for some of IPRA's activities:



**CEU/Aquatic Workshop Schedule**


February 8—Sioux City  
 March 15—Ames  
 March 29—Iowa City  
 April 13—Sioux City (in conjunction with IPRA Spring Conference)  
 April 19 - Clear Lake

**Certified Pool Operator's Course Schedule**

February 9- & 10—Sioux City  
 March 16 & 17—Ames  
 March 30 & 31—Iowa City  
 April 20 & 21—Clear Lake

**IPRA Spot Shot Basketball Competition**



Offer a local competition to youth ages 8 through 13 years of age. Top two winners in each age and gender division advance to state competition in Grinnell on March 27. Details and forms available at the IPRA web site: [www.iapra.org](http://www.iapra.org).



Attend a forum! The Special Training & Seminars Committee offers these informative, networking events at no charge to participants.

**Schedule of Forums**

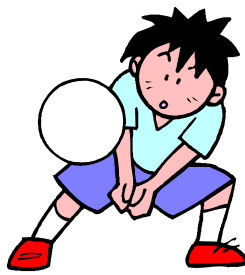
**Director's**—February 11, Grinnell  
**Community Trends**—February 18, Coralville  
**Parks**—March 4, location TBD  
**Community Trends**—March 18, location TBD  
**Community Trends**—March 27, Dyersville

The National Program for Playground Safety will sponsor a **Playground Supervision Workshop** May 6 in Hiawatha. Cost is \$60. Be watching for further details and registration information.

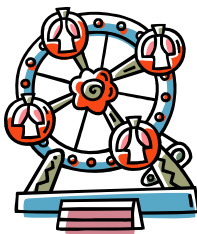
**CO-ED VOLLEYBALL TOURNAMENT**

Offering 2 levels of competition  
**WHEN:** Saturday, March 6  
**WHERE:** Grinnell Area Recreation Center  
**COST:** \$80 per team  
 Registration forms available on the web site. Encourage league teams to participate.



**Consignment Ticket Program**

Participate in this program and make a little extra cash for your department. We offer reduced gate-priced tickets to 8 theme parks, as well as Blank Park Zoo tickets. Departments can charge no more than \$1 extra per ticket as a convenience fee. There is no "up front fee" or initial cost to departments, and payment is based on the number of tickets sold. Ticket order forms are available on the IPRA web site. Place your order prior to March 1. Tickets will be distributed after May 1.



**DEADLINES! DEADLINES! DEADLINES!**

Awards nominations—February 24

IPRA Scholarships Applications—February 26



**NRPA Legislative Forum**—March 16–19, Washington, DC

**IPRA Spring Conference**—April 11–14, Sioux City, Iowa

**IPRA Fall Workshop**—September 14–16, Clive, Iowa



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## IPRA Calendar of Events



### February

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

### March

- 4 Parks Forum—Location TBD
- 6 Co-ed Volleyball Tournament—Grinnell
- 15 CEU/Aquatic Workshop—Ames
- 16-17 Certified Pool Operator's Course—Ames
- 18 Community Trends Forum—Location TBD

## IPRA Community Trends Forum

Thursday, February 18<sup>th</sup>, 2010  
9:00 a.m.-11:30 a.m.  
Northridge Pavillion at  
Northridge Park  
2244 Holiday Road  
Coralville, Iowa 52241  
Cost: FREE, Breakfast rolls, juice and  
coffee will be served  
Lunch: On your own afterwards