

IPRA TODAY

“Thrive” at the 2011 IPRA Spring Conference April 10—13, Davenport

Davenport Parks and Recreation is looking forward to professionals and peers from across the state and the midwest joining us for the 2011 IPRA Spring Conference. The River Center site and the Radisson Hotel will offer great amenities to make your stay and experience a wonderful one.

The customary golf outing will be held at Emeis Golf Course on Sunday, April 10, beginning at 12:00 p.m. One will see and enjoy the many improvements made to this golf course over the last two years. One item that we are particularly proud of is the addition of “no mow” areas that cuts down on staffing, lowering the carbon footprint and raising the overall aesthetics of the surroundings. For attendees who wish to partake of other indulgences, we will be offering discounted tickets to the afternoon baseball game of the Quad City River Bandits.



Monday, April 11, kicks off the conference with sessions starting at 9:00 a.m., followed by the group lunch and the keynote address offered by the distinguished professor and presenter, Dr. John Crompton, of Texas A & M University. He is also scheduled to offer two other sessions during the conference: one on Monday morning at 10:15, and the other at 8:30 a.m. on Tuesday. Dr. Crompton comes to us courtesy of a grant from Landscape Structures, and we are delighted to host him.

The conference will center on the theme, “THRIVE”, and the focus will be on moving the field of parks and recreation forward in being prepared to deal with the changing demographic and tastes and requirements of the patrons. Sessions will cover topics in Adaptive and Inclusive Recreation (AIR), Planning and the Public Process, aquatics, golf and turf managements, environmental education, marketing, partnerships and sponsorships, parks, recreation, politics and agency accreditation. We are offering a very wide array of sessions which not only will stimulate, but warrant further discussion on the future viability of our field.

We are also offering a panel discussion time on Monday evening at our Junior Theatre building, where many of our distinguished presenters will be available to answer questions delegates will submit with the registration. To end that evening, we have arranged for your participation in an indoor soccer game on the first class turf at The River’s Edge recreation center. The tours will offer a diversity of scope, with one taking delegates around our many parks, facilities and amenities. The other will be a walking tour of our nature park, Sunderbruch. These tours will immediately follow the keynote address on Monday. For those who wish to be indoors during that time, sessions will be on offer, too.

Being on the riverfront makes for a chilly evening many a time, and the suggestion would be to bring appropriate clothing, even though we know it will be in the seventies when you come to Davenport!

Register online at www.iapra.org. Early bird registration deadline is March 31.

Submitted by Seve Ghose, Davenport Parks and Recreation Director, and 2011 Spring Conference Chair.



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Volume XI, Issue 9

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Check Out This Employment Opportunity

The city of Ames is seeking an enthusiastic individual for the position of **Recreation Coordinator** who specializes in youth and adult sports. This position develops, delivers and implements a variety of recreation programs for people of all ages and abilities; provides on-site supervision during recreation program operation and assists with the daily operation of various park and recreation department facilities, as assigned.

The position requires a high school diploma or GED plus one year experience in recreation facility management or recreation programming. A Bachelor's degree in recreation, sports management, fitness or related field may be substituted for the experience requirement. An Associate's degree may be substituted for six months of experience. A valid State of Iowa driver's license is required. The salary range is \$38,728 to \$54,540, with the starting salary not to exceed \$46,634.

A completed application, resume, college transcripts (if applicable), certifications and supplemental questions must be received by Friday, March 4, 2011, at 5:00 p.m. Applications may be submitted by going to www.cityofames.org/hrweb/jobops.htm. Residency requirement. EOE/AA.

Iowa Foundation for Parks and Recreation Fellowship Application



The Iowa Foundation for Parks and Recreation Fellowship will allow an applicant to attend the Spring Conference in Davenport, April 11-13, 2011. The intent of this fellowship is to provide advocacy to IPRA and quality of life in Iowa and help promote and strengthen park and recreation organizations.

The fellowship includes:

- ➔ Full registration: 3 days of educational sessions, luncheons, offsite tours, awards banquet, Monday night social, exhibit hall social and break snacks
- ➔ 2 nights' stay in hotel
- ➔ One-year professional membership to the Iowa Park and Recreation Association
- ➔ Recipients will be assigned a mentor to maximize their conference experience.

This fellowship is valued at more than \$500. The application is available at www.iapra.org, and the deadline date is March 16.



Providing Softball to Park and Recreation Departments:

Founded in 1936 – Iowa ASA Serves over 1,800 Recreational Adult Teams, 7,500 Youth Players and 450 Umpires

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

Provide teams with the Official Rule Book, Scorebook, online 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 \$5 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 for more competitive teams.

Opportunity for member teams and individually registered players to purchase the best accident, medical and liability insurance in the industry. Youth registration (softball or baseball) includes accident, medical, dental and liability insurance for entire year.

Comprehensive general liability coverage in the amount of \$5 million for municipalities, 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



**Going once...
Going twice...
SOLD!!**

As spring rapidly approaches, so does the presentation of the 2011 IPRA Higher Education Scholarship winners and the annual Scholarship Auction at the conference in Davenport.

Through the generosity of our membership and our corporate friends, we are able to award three scholarships, the Kathryn Krieg Membership Scholarship (\$1,000), MUSCO/Outdoor Recreation Products Scholarship (\$750) and Iowa Amateur Softball Association Scholarship (\$750). To be eligible for these scholarships the student or practicing professional must complete an official IPRA scholarship application, have a minimum of one semester or summer term left to complete their degree and they must be a current member of the Iowa Park and Recreation Association. The Scholarship Committee is selecting the deserving students and presenting these scholarships at the Awards banquet on Tuesday, April 19.

The Scholarship Committee is also responsible for having many great donated items at the scholarship auction, but that's also where we need your help! What do you think will bring a high bid? A golf outing to your local course...A gift certificate to that new restaurant down the street...A red maple tree? Be creative! All we are asking you to do now is provide the committee with at least a list of your donation(s) for the auction; if not the actual item(s) by Tuesday, April 5. This will allow the committee members time to organize the items into packages for the auction. Remember, your donations are also tax deductible.

The Scholarship Auction is scheduled to start shortly after the Awards Banquet and will be free to anyone who wishes to attend. This year we are planning to have an auctioneer, even if we have to get one from Council Bluffs, 300 miles away. (Hubbard, are you reading this??)

The committee and I look forward to having a great time at the auction and raising money in support of the future of our field. Questions? Contact Jeff Sears, Program Supervisor, Iowa City Parks and Recreation and Scholarship Committee Chairperson at 319-351-5100 or jeff-sears@iowa-city.org.

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Hershey Track and Field Games

All you need is a pair of shoes!

This new tag line for the Hershey's Track & Field Games sums up the focus and the pure recreational aspect of the program. As the Iowa Coordinator for the Hershey's Track & Field program, I want to invite every community to host a local meet!

The 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 in Marshalltown on June 11. 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 & Field Games site. The only expense is what it may cost you to run your local meet (staff, ribbons, advertising, etc.) There is a **\$100 incentive bonus** for NEW communities offering a meet this year.

All the information needed to host a meet is accessible on-line or feel free to contact Terry Gray. Website: www.hersheystrackandfield.com.

Terry Gray, Hershey State Coordinator
641-754-5715
tgray@ci.marshalltown.ia.us

Schedule for Certified Pool Operator's Courses and CEU/Aquatic Updates

<u>CPO Dates</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>CEU/Dates</u>
March 8-9	Des Moines	March 7
March 29-30	Iowa City	March 28
April 26-27	Davenport	April 13
May 10-11	Clear Lake	April 25
June 14-15	Cedar Rapids	May 9
August 16-17	Fort Dodge	June 13
	Ames	August 15

GETTING TO KNOW...

Vicky Lautner

Vicky Lautner has been recently appointed Director of the Jefferson Parks and Recreation Department.

She grew up in Paton and graduated from Paton-Churdan High School. She attended Tarkio College in Tarkio, MO for two years with an emphasis on education and coaching. Vicky returned to Jefferson and married Wayne Lautner, and they have been married 32 years. Wayne and Vicky live on an acreage north of Jefferson and are the parents of five children. Seven grandchildren, with another expected to arrive in June, round out their family.

Vicky has worked for Jefferson Park and Recreation for 12 years as Administrative Assistant. "I started as the Greene County Community Center was nearing completion in June of 1998. The Community Center opened in November of 1998, so I have grown with the building!", Vicky commented. She has also coached in the Jefferson-Scranton school system as assistant girl's basketball coach (22 yrs), assistant girls track coach (14 yrs) and head softball coach (9 yrs). Vicky offers this comment: "Sports have been a part of my life since I was in junior high. I enjoy working with children and seeing them improve at whatever they are learning. I have worked for Paul Fokken and Jeff Lamoureux, both of whom were helpful to my education in the park and recreation field." Vicky shares that she enjoys spending time with her grandchildren, and the favorite activity at grandma's house is baking chocolate chip cookies.



Vicky's e-mail address: pakrecvl@netins.net.

Sarah Albertson

Sarah graduated from the University of Iowa in 2010, with a degree in recreation management with minors in studio art and social work. After graduation, she returned to her hometown of Mt. Pleasant, Iowa, and took a position as the Park and Recreation Supervisor for the city of Mt. Pleasant.

"After exploring several other career paths at the University of Iowa, I decide upon the recreation management track after taking several classes that sparked my interest. I had served on the aquatics staff for both Iowa City and Mt. Pleasant while in college and was interested in the recreation aspect of those jobs," said Sarah.



Sarah admits that she is an avid outdoor sport enthusiast. She enjoys snowboarding, backpacking, hiking, rock climbing and bicycling and that it was her passion for outdoor recreation and leisure activity that ultimately shaped her education and current career path. Sarah said, "My current position as the Park and Recreation

Supervisor for the city of Mt. Pleasant allows me to be creative in providing recreational opportunities in the community. I have enjoyed developing new programming and working to expand the programs currently in place."

Sarah can be contacted at salderson@iowatelecom.net.

Katie Linde

Katie Linde has accepted a position with the Ames park and Recreation as their Aquatics Coordinator.

Katie grew up in Wells, Minnesota being active in her community and church, and striving to do her best in school. She graduated from United South Central High School with honors in June 2006 and then attended college at Minnesota State University in Mankato, Minnesota. "While in college, I stayed very busy helping, volunteering and directing recreation and educational programs. In addition to those things I also was involved with campus ministries and striving to do my best in school," Katie said. When not busy with all those things, Katie admits she loved enjoying all activities, especially those in the great outdoors. Katie shares that she has always had a passion for helping and serving people and recreation is a great way to do that. She stated, "I also love being active myself in all areas of recreation so I decided I wanted to do what I loved! I graduated in May 2010 with honors with my Bachelor's degree in recreation, parks and leisure services. I have now joined Ames Park and Recreation as the Aquatics Coordinator and am excited for what lies ahead!"



Contact Katie at klinde@city.ames.ia.us.

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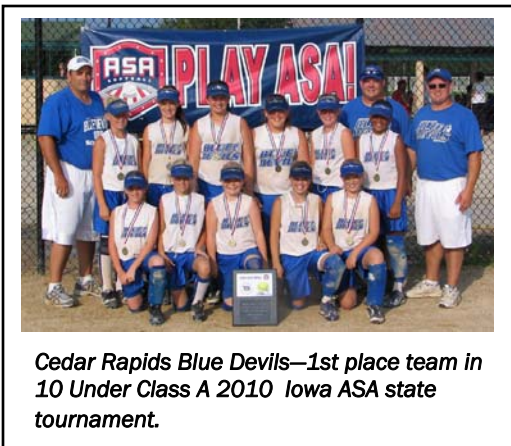
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Iowa ASA Softball is Making the Pitch for Another Great Season!



Welcome to Iowa ASA Softball in 2011! We are looking forward to another great year of amateur softball and have many new things to share with you. We look forward to your adult and youth teams playing ASA Softball, and if you are currently not registering your teams with ASA, that your department will consider doing so to take advantage of the many membership benefits offered. 90 percent of our membership is league based through recreation department and local softball association member teams, as we provide and service teams, cities and recreation league administrators with the many benefits the ASA program provides.

As the national governing body for rules of softball in the United States, you are providing your teams with uniform rules that are designed to promote a safe and structured environment for teams to have an enjoyable experience playing the great game of softball. ASA softball provides the highest equipment standards



Cedar Rapids Blue Devils—1st place team in 10 Under Class A 2010 Iowa ASA state tournament.

through equipment testing and certification of bats and balls to promote a competitive balance and preserve the integrity of the sport of amateur softball. ASA is the largest softball organization in the United States, but prides itself on being able to provide local service through assistance with proper sporting behavior through legal and liability support and protection. The ASA umpire program provides your leagues with the best trained softball officials that teams demand and expect in the leagues they participate in.

The following is a list of some of the benefits that your ASA membership provides you and the customers you serve:

- ✦ Copy of the Official Rules of Softball – National Governing Body for Rules of Softball in the United States
- ✦ ASA Scorebook
- ✦ "Balls and Strikes" softball publications
- ✦ The best amateur umpire program in the U.S. with state and local training clinics. Umpires are insured with their ASA umpire registration with medical, dental and liability insurance if teams are ASA registered.
- ✦ The best individual youth insurance on the market for players, coaches and associations .
- ✦ Comprehensive general liability coverage at no cost in the amount of \$5 million for league officers if 100percent of the teams are registered with ASA.
- ✦ Comprehensive general liability coverage in the amount of \$5 million for the local umpire association if 100 percent of the umpires are registered with the ASA.
- ✦ ASA National Coaching Certification Program - ACE (Achieve, Certify, Educate) is available to train youth coaches giving them basic knowledge and training with liability insurance and background checks.
- ✦ Youth Associations have the opportunity to background check their coaches for as little as \$7 per coach.
- ✦ Coaching DVD's available to coaches and players for training from the national team players and coaches.
- ✦ Leagues may play and use whatever league playing rules and modifications they deem necessary.
- ✦ The ASA provides insurance for every softball game through very affordable liability coverage for field owners saving your city or private complex substantial insurance costs.
- ✦ Opportunity for adult member teams to purchase accident insurance at very low group rates.
- ✦ ASA maintains an office with a local commissioner, youth coordinator, athlete representative and umpire-in-chief in every state and major metropolitan area in United States.
- ✦ All ASA state offices use district commissioners to ensure a direct local contact at every level to communicate directly with leagues and park/recreation departments.

(Continued on Page 7)



Golden Corral, 1st place team in the 2010 IPRA-Iowa ASA Men's Major 14 Inch State Tournament.

Iowa ASA

(Continued from Page 6)

✦ The ASA has approximately 250 voting members ensuring that a democratic process is followed and the best interests of softball player's' tournament organizers and league directors are met.

✦ Structured and enforced player and team classification system allowing for fair competitions among local leagues and travel teams.

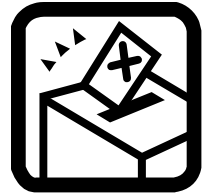
✦ Tournament opportunities for each recognized classification of play.

✦ Opportunity to host state and national events that generate thousands of dollars for the local community.

On behalf of the entire Iowa ASA Staff across the state, we want to welcome you to the 2011 season and look forward to working with you to provide you with the best softball program possible to meet the needs of your league teams. If we can help in any way or answer any questions you may have, please feel free to contact us at 641-236-5766 or for more information at our website at www.softball.org/iowa.

Contributed by Tom Topping, Iowa ASA Executive Director and State Commissioner.

Membership Elects New Directors



Each two years, the membership elects a new group of leaders to guide and direct the association's vision and mission. A new vice president, treasurer, and three directors-at-large were elected. Officers will take the oath during the Spring Conference in Davenport. Following installation their work begins along with staff.

Vice President - **Sherri Proud**, CPRP, Coralville (term expires 2013, then becomes president 2013 to 2015)

Treasurer - **Doug Bylund**, Indianola (term expires 2013)

Director-at-Large - **Scott Hock**, Urbandale (term expires 2014)

Director-at-Large - **Michael Moran**, CPRP, Iowa City (term expires 2014)

Director-at-Large - **Chad Weir**, Marshalltown (term expires 2014)

New officers will join the following returning board members:

President - **Todd Redenius**, Ankeny (term expires 2013)

Director-at-Large - **Matt Beatty**, CPRP, Muscatine (term expires 2012)

Director-at-Large - **Janet Ellerbrock**, Lyton (term expires 2012)

Director-at-Large - **Doug Foley**, Manchester (term expires 2012)

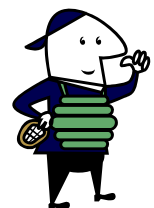
We would like to take this opportunity to share the associations appreciation for those candidates who were not elected; Matt Salvatore, Amy Faulkner, Ryan Penning, Ron Ward, McKenzie Kiger. Gratitude and sincere thanks are extended to outgoing board members President Ben Page, Treasurer Angie Cole, Directors-at-Large Matt Salvatore, Faron VanNostrand, and Doug Foley. Leadership, enthusiasm, passion, in addition to dedication is well represented by all of the aforementioned individuals. Three new directors-at-large will be elected in Spring 2012. If you are interest in serving the membership and association, please feel free to contact incoming Nominations Chair Sherri Proud.

2011 Iowa ASA State Umpire Clinics

- ✦ Saturday, March 12—Iowa Central Community College, Room 110, Career Education Building, One Triton Circle, Ft. Dodge, IA 50501.
- ✦ Sunday, March 13—Ambroze Recreation Center, 2000 Mt. Vernon Rd., SE, Cedar Rapids, IA 52403.
- ✦ Saturday, March 19—Mt. Pleasant High School, 2104 S. Grand Avenue, Mt. Pleasant, IA, 52641.
- ✦ Sunday, March 20—Clive Aquatic Center Special Events Building, 1801 NW 114th Street, Clive, IA, 50325.

All clinics will be held from 12:00 noon to 4:00 p.m. These clinics are geared toward new and veteran softball umpires alike. Each Iowa ASA State Umpire Clinic is run by a team featuring Iowa ASA umpire staff members. The clinic will feature rule changes and interpretations, umpire mechanics of both fast pitch and slow pitch, signals, game management and more. Umpire dress is casual.

Fee is \$45 which includes the 2011 ASA umpire packet. Registration forms are available at www.softball.org/iowa.





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Spotlight on Sarah Worthen

The new Aquatic Coordinator at the Pella Aquatic Center is Sarah Worthen. Originally from Edwardsville, Illinois, a suburb of St. Louis, Missouri, she moved to Pella when her fiancé took a job with KNIA/KRLS radio. Sarah has been involved in aquatics for as long as she can remember and teaching the sport of swimming has long been a passion of hers. Throughout high school and college, she taught swim lessons to children with developmental disabilities.

Sarah attended Lewis and Clark Community College for two years and played goalkeeper for the women's soccer team before transferring to Southern Illinois University at Edwardsville to pursue a degree in special education. "When I moved to Pella, I knew that I wanted to be involved in aquatics and was very happy to have found the Pella Aquatics Center," Sarah stated.

In her free time, Sarah enjoys going to dinner, watching movies, reading and taking her puppy for walks. Sarah is getting married March 8, 2011 in Grand Cayman. "My finance and I cannot wait to continue our new lives here in beautiful Pella, Iowa," Sarah exclaimed.

IPRA Calendar of Events

(March Madness—IPRA
Style)



March

- 2 REAP Day—State Capitol
- 5 Coed Volleyball Tournament—Grinnell
- 7 CEU/Aquatic Update—Des Moines
- 8-9 Certified Pool Operator's Course—Des Moines
- 9 Iowa Foundation for Parks & Recreation mtg.—Grinnell
- 13 Daylight Savings Time begins
- 14 Awards Committee mtg.
- 16-19 NRPA Mid-Year meeting—Washington, D.C.
- 25 Aquatics committee mtg.—Ames
- 26 State Spot Shot competition—Grinnell
- 28 CEU/Aquatic Update—Iowa City
- 29-30 Certified Pool Operator's Course—Iowa City