

# IPRA TODAY

## Fall Workshop—2011

*Educational sessions, social experiences and networking opportunities presented against a background of river city charm.*

The 2011 IPRA Fall Workshop Golf Outing was an event to be remembered. In total we had 17 teams with nearly 70 golfers who participated to include IPRA members, IPRA sponsors and even a few local friends of the IPRA. The weather was perfect, and the course was in beautiful shape for this year's event. Golfers were faced with a variety of hole challenges, including one hole that featured a "closest to the pair of stinky old football cleats" challenge. A great time was had by all, and it looked as though many golfers donated several golf balls to the course and to the ponds. I know I did! We would, again, like to thank **Boland Recreation** for their continued support of the IPRA Fall Workshop Golf Outing.

This year, over 40 local Clinton businesses contributed to make this year's golf event social a success. Many prizes were awarded at the social, including the grand prize of an 8 inch Vizio tablet, which was won by Clinton's own Bill Cotter. The Clinton Country Club at the Oaks provided a great meal at the end of the day, and we are thankful for their hospitality. The golf social was a great way to get everyone energized and ready for the Fall Workshop. We would, again, like to thank **Shade Creation by Waterloo** for their continued support of the IPRA golf outing social.

After a long day of educational sessions on Tuesday, Fall Workshop participants were treated to a wonderful sit down dinner of melt-in-your-mouth roast beef and roast pork from Corner Stop Catering and musical entertainment from the local Corn Fed Girls. IPRA members also had the opportunity to see the nostalgic river view from the Eagle Point Lodge overlooking the widest part of the Mississippi River. After dinner, our guests were treated to a tour through Eagle Point Park where many were impressed by the castle and 18 hole disc golf course featured in the park. The entertaining evening was rounded out with good old fashioned s'mores and an intense game of Left, Right, Center. We would, again, like to thank **Outdoor Recreation Products** for their continued support of the IPRA Tuesday night social.

Seventeen educational sessions were offered at the workshop beginning with a strong slate of eye opening sessions at 9:00 a.m. Tuesday highlighted by Waz' Cookin'? Chef, Bill Michelsen of Clinton tradition Rastrelli's Italian Restaurant, got everyone's minds and stomachs satisfied with his take on offering a cooking class in your community.

Other sessions of note were the two conducted by Margo Hansen, the Director of Programs at the Bickelhaupt Arboretum in Clinton, a heavily attended session on American Red Cross updates with Teresa Rees from the ARC Chicago area, a session on playground safety surfaces by Adam Alix of SofSurfaces, Inc. and a Zumba demonstration by Tiffany Harris with the Clinton Recreation Department.

(Continued on Page 3)

**Learning new cooking techniques at session "Waz' Cookin'": Katie Kramer, Betsy Tubbs and Jef Farland.**



**October 2011  
Volume XII, Issue 4**

### INSIDE THIS ISSUE

|                                       |     |
|---------------------------------------|-----|
| Fall Workshop Sponsors & Golf Outing  | 2-3 |
| Celebrate 35 Years with Hershey's     | 3   |
| President's Message                   | 4   |
| Aquatic Course & Volleyball Schedules | 5   |
| West Union Wins \$50,000!             | 6-7 |
| REAP Assembly Schedule                | 7   |

**I  
P  
R  
A  
  
T  
O  
D  
A  
Y**



**Many thanks to the  
2011 IPRA  
Fall Workshop sponsors**



outdoor **recreation** products



## Fall Workshop—2011

(Continued from Page 1)

As the Clinton area has an abundance of outdoor recreation opportunities, many sessions focused on outdoor events and activities.

*(Submitted by Josh Eggers, Recreation Activities Specialist, and Bruce Beasley, Recreation Program Supervisor, City of Clinton, and members of 2011 IPRA Fall Workshop Committee.)*



Listed below are the communities that have hosted IPRA Fall Workshops during the past eleven years and numbers of delegates that have attended:

|      |            |     |      |              |     |
|------|------------|-----|------|--------------|-----|
| 2001 | Ankeny     | 126 | 2007 | Marshalltown | 103 |
| 2002 | Mason City | 112 | 2008 | Cedar Rapids | 98  |
|      | West Des   |     |      |              |     |
| 2003 | Moines     | 109 | 2009 | Ames         | 118 |
|      |            |     |      | West Des     |     |
| 2004 | Carroll    | 95  | 2010 | Moines       | 105 |
| 2005 | Bettendorf | 119 | 2011 | Clinton      | 85  |
| 2006 | Fort Dodge | 88  |      |              |     |

## Celebrate the 35th Birthday of HERSHEY'S Track and Field Games

2012 Introduction & Planning Webinar -Thursday, October 20, 2011 from 1:30-2:15 pm. Register at: <http://www.nrpa.org/Content.aspx?id=577066>

We invite you to take part in the 35th birthday celebration of HERSHEY'S Track and Field Games. The Games offer an entry point to sport and recreation as part of living a balanced lifestyle for youth ages 9-14. The turn-key program celebrates a legacy of Hershey Company's commitment to volunteerism, stewardship, and health. Join the National Recreation Park Association (NRPA) and National Association for Sport and Physical Education (NASPE) for an informative webinar that will help you to plan an event and be part of a national network of volunteers promoting physical activity for youth.

### Nike Reuse-A-Shoe

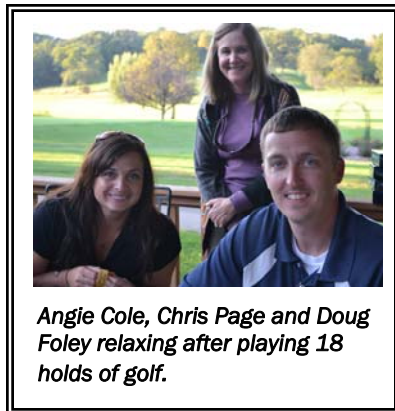
Thousands of worn-out sneakers have been collected to make sport and recreation surfaces! The Hershey track program collected 4,025 pairs of shoes at participating pilot locations. The Iowa State Hershey Track meet in Marshalltown was one of the locations.



## Results of IPRA Fall Workshop Golf Outing

### Flight No. 1

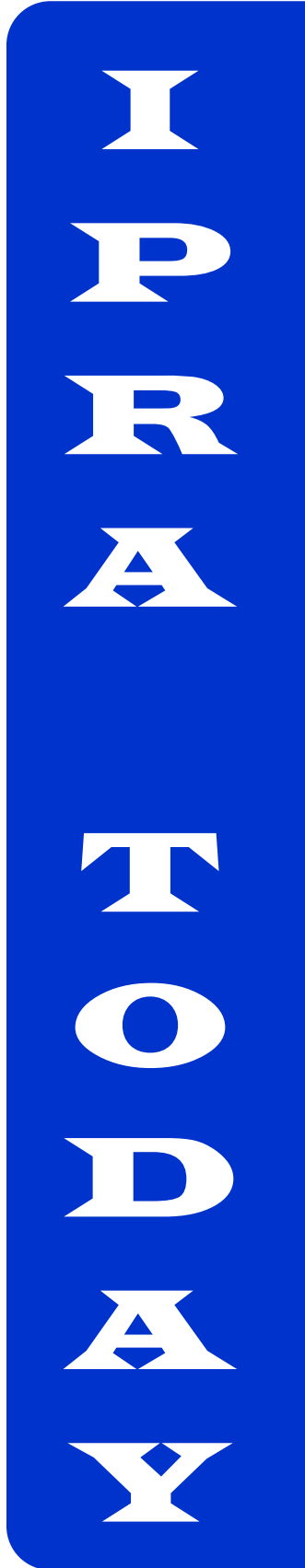
- ◇ First place team with a score of 62: Barry Dodd, Brad Weuve, Chad Weir
- ◇ Second place team with a score of 62: Ward Stubbs, Mark Ripplinger, Pete Downs, Cody Downs
- ◇ Third place team with a score of 64: Doug Harris, Matt Jermier, Josh Vande Kamp, Tony Elskamp



*Angie Cole, Chris Page and Doug Foley relaxing after playing 18 holds of golf.*

### Flight No. 2

- ◇ First place team with a score of 70: Ken Asta, Seve Ghose, Troy Evans
- ◇ Second place team with a score of 70: Rick Ertz, Terry Hoffman, Mike Moran, Scott Hock
- ◇ Third place team with a score of 70: Doug Foley, Angie Cole, Geoff Hubbard, Mandi Parker



## President's Message



Greetings...It is great to be back! A big thank you to Sherri Proud for her leadership in my absence. Yes, Sherri - I owe you!

Hopefully everyone is putting the final touches on summer and into fall activities, projects and programs. Maybe you all have had a chance to catch your breath a little too after a busy summer. Don't you love when people say, "So what do you do now that summer is over"? That comment drives me nuts, and I always respond that we just transition programs from outdoors to indoors, and that parks and facilities keep going at break-neck pace. But it does cause me to think, "How many people really understand all that we do"? As times become more and more challenging from a budget standpoint, it is really important that we effectively communicate with our park boards, councils, city manager's/mayor's, and most critically our citizens as to everything we do on a daily basis - 365 days a year. Today it is common for park/recreation departments to manage snow removal operations, building contracts, cemeteries, riverfronts, stormwater projects, mosquito spraying, ponds/waterways, and a variety of other "non-typical" parks and recreation functions - in addition to all the "typical" things we do. But how many of our citizens know all this other "stuff" that we do? Let's all take the initiative to make sure we are educating our residents, elected officials and bosses on today's version of a parks and recreation agency. We are an essential service - so make sure to make that argument!

A few quick updates for your information...

- 1) The article exchange program will renew in November. Look for an article at least once every two weeks as part of Steve's **Wednesday Words**. Your board of directors will be asking you to participate in this program - profiling a project, program or even some that "non-typical" stuff your department does.
- 2) Mike Miner with our training/seminar committee is finalizing our young professional's forum. More information coming soon.
- 3) The Board of Directors will meet Thursday, October 27, to finalize our Strategic Action Plan.
- 4) Governor Terry Branstad has announced his "Healthiest State Initiative". This represents his desire to move Iowa to #1 in the nation for healthy living. The kick-off to this new initiative occurs this Friday, October 7, with 1K walks in communities all over Iowa. This program is sponsored corporately by Hy-Vee Stores. If you are participating as a department in this program, please write up a brief synopsis of your involvement and send to me at [tredenius@ankenyiowa.gov](mailto:tredenius@ankenyiowa.gov). It is important that the Governor's office know how local park and recreation agencies play a major role in community health and betterment.

Thanks to Clinton Parks and Recreation, IPRA staff and the fall workshop committee for their work in the recent workshop. Great job to all!

Look forward to more communication from the IPRA Board of Directors in the weeks to come on a variety of other initiatives. Please feel free to contact me, any board member or staff if you have ideas on ways IPRA can be of service to you and/or your agency. Thank you for your hard work in improving the quality of life in Iowa through parks and recreation!

*(Submitted by Todd Redenius, IPRA President, Director of Parks & Recreation, City of Ankeny)*



Membership renewal letters and forms were mailed in August to all current members. Please complete these forms and return them with the renewal fees to the IPRA state office by Friday, October 14, 2011 to ensure that your name will be included in the 2012 edition of the IPRA Membership Directory and Buyers Guide.

Each agency director has been asked to update the information which appears in the municipal section of the directory. Please make sure the state office receives this information by October 14.

## 2011-2012 CEU/Aquatic Update and Certified Pool Operator's Course Schedule



### 2011-2012 Adult Volleyball Tournament Schedule

**CEU**

**Aquatic Update**

October 17  
 November 14  
 January 23  
 February 6  
 March 5  
 March 19  
 April 3  
 April 16  
 May 7  
 June 11  
 August 13

**Location**

Cedar Rapids  
 Burlington  
 Cedar Falls  
 Sioux City  
 Des Moines  
 Iowa City  
 Waterloo (Spring Conference)  
 Clear Lake  
 Cedar Rapids  
 Fort Dodge  
 Ames

**CPO**

October 18-19  
 November 15-16  
 January 24-25  
 February 7-8  
 March 6-7  
 March 20-21  
 April 17-18  
 May 8-9  
 June 12-13  
 August 14-15

**Co-ed**            **November 19, 2011**

**Men/**

**Women**        **January 14, 2012**

**Co-ed**            **February 11, 2012**

**Co-ed**            **March 3, 2012**

**All tournaments played at the Grinnell Athletic & Recreation Center**



**ANNUAL CONFERENCE & EXHIBIT**  
 September 21-23, 2011 | Des Moines, Polk County Convention Complex



The Iowa Park and Recreation Association and the Iowa Foundation for Parks and Recreation joined in partnership as exhibitors at the Iowa League of Cities Annual Conference and Exhibit in Des Moines on September 21-23, 2011.

The primary purpose for our participation was to promote the benefits of leisure services and amenities in Iowa and to expand IPRA membership. This year's theme was "Score a homerun with parks and recreation hometown heroes". Photos were featured of hometown heroes like Patti Mott, who has over 64 years of volunteer service to the theatre arts in Iowa City Parks and Recreation and Matt Mooney, who raised \$100,000 for the Bettendorf Parks Foundation.

The booth was staffed by Steve Jordison, Executive Director, IPRA; Christine Page, President, Iowa Foundation for Parks and Recreation; Jennifer Pospichal, Board of Directors, Iowa Foundation for Parks and Recreation; and Terry Hoffman, Board of Directors, Iowa Foundation for Parks and Recreation.

We achieved reaching out to small and medium sized communities. During interpersonal discussions we shared what services IPRA can provide in professional development in addition to fellowship grant opportunities to conferences and workshops funded by IFPR. It was a fun time for all. The Conference moves to Sioux City in 2012.

*(Submitted by Chris Page, President, Iowa Foundation for Parks and Recreation)*

I  
P  
R  
A  
  
T  
O  
D  
A  
Y

## West Union Wins \$50,000!



When I started as the parks and recreation director in West Union four years ago, I made it one of my goals to improve the condition of Clark Park. It is the only city park on the south side of Hwy. 18, a roadway which divides our community. All the other city parks, aquatic center and ball fields are located north of the highway. The search began for funding for such a big project.

While searching for grants, I found the Pepsi Refresh Project. Last year's submission process did not work well so Pepsi revamped their grant submission process for 2011. I submitted our grant in May for June voting. We finished in 22<sup>nd</sup> place in the June voting, but we learned a lot during that month. I kept saving the Pepsi caps which have a code inside the cap that needs to be entered for your favorite project.

I resubmitted the grant in July for August voting. We did not receive the email stating we had been randomly selected for August voting so when I received the email on August 2 stating voting had started I was shocked. I called Pepsi to verify that we were indeed up for voting. At that time, I had 7,200 caps to get to people so they could start entering votes. Within a couple of hours, I had 24 people set up with enough caps to enter 10 codes a day for one email address for a month. From there I kept adding people and gathering caps. I visited nearby towns and asked them to collect the caps for us. The communities of Decorah, Cresco, New Hampton, Sumner, Independence, Evansdale, Fayette, West Union, Postville and Winthrop all either let us pull the caps off the bottles or pulled them for us.



When the first standings came out on August 2, we were in ninth place. Over the next week we moved up to fourth, then second; and we finally moved to first place on August 10<sup>th</sup>. We were in first place until the school's first football game on August 26. During the game, we dropped to third place. Many people didn't get their caps entered that day. On Saturday, we moved up to second place and then Hurricane Irene went up the East coast and caused problems with how the votes were registered on the website. Monday, August 29, at 7:38 a.m., we were notified we were in first place nationally.

The biggest problem I had was keeping everyone in caps. Once people started entering caps online and saw how easy it was, they started adding friends and family email addresses. People I thought were entering one address would call and tell me they were entering caps for eight addresses. When the voting was over, I went over my lists and I was supplying over 105 addresses. That's just what I know about. There were many people who entered that I didn't know. We had coverage every week in our local newspaper. On the last day of voting, I sat at the high school and asked students to enter caps under their email addresses. KWWL-TV gave us coverage in June and again in August and have offered to come when we do ground breaking and complete the project. I also set up a display in a local window with the question, "How many Pepsi caps does it take to build a playground?" People were asked to bring in their entered Pepsi caps. I'm estimating there are 12,000 caps in the display. Again, not everyone helped fill the buckets. They just threw their caps away after they were entered.

All the voting really did was allow us to submit our grant proposal to Pepsi. They had the opportunity to say "no" once it was officially presented to them. However, I received an email notification on Friday,

(Continued on Page 7)



# 2011 REAP Assembly Schedule

**Open House with Displays at 5:30—6:30 p.m.; 6:30—8:00 Assembly**

| City            | Date   | Location   | Region/Counties  |
|-----------------|--------|--|--|
| Correctionville | 4-Oct  | Correctionville Community Center<br>312 Driftwood (Hwy 30)             | Region 4: Cherokee, Ida, Monona,<br>Plymouth, Woodbury                                       |
| Spencer         | 5-Oct  | Clay County Regional Events Center<br>800 W. 18th                      | Region 3: Buena Vista, Clay,<br>Dickinson, Emmet, Lyon, O'Brien<br>Osceola, Palo Alto, Sioux |
| Fort Dodge      | 6-Oct  | Bob Heuen Shelter at Kennedy Park<br>1415 Nelson Avenue                | Region 5: Calhoun, Hamilton, Humboldt,<br>Pocahontas, Webster, Wright                        |
| Muscatine       | 10-Oct | Environmental Learning Center<br>3300 Cedar Street                     | Region 9: Muscatine, Scott   |
| Burlington      | 11-Oct | City Auditorium - Banquet Room<br>200 North Front Street               | Region 16: Des Moines, Henry, Lee, Louisa  |
| Fairfield       | 12-Oct | Fairfield Library<br>104 West Adams Avenue                             | Region 15: Davis, Jefferson, Keokuk,<br>Mahaska, Van Buren, Wapello                          |
| Shenandoah      | 18-Oct | Shenandoah Chamber and Industrial Assoc.<br>100 S. Maple               | Region 13: Fremont, Mills, Montgomery,<br>Page   |
| Council Bluffs  | 19-Oct | Council Bluffs Public Library<br>400 Willow Avenue                     | Region 17: Pottawattamie, Harrison,<br>Shelby, Cass  |
| Carroll         | 20-Jan | Conservation Center at Swan Lake State<br>Park<br>Southeast of Carroll | Region 12: Audubon, Carroll, Crawford,<br>Greene, Guthrie, Sac                               |
| Moravia         | 24-Oct | Honey Creek Resort State Park<br>12194 Honey Creek Place               | Region 18: Appanoose, Lucas, Monroe,<br>Wayne  |
| Creston         | 25-Oct | Southwestern Community College<br>1201 W. Townline Street              | Region 14: Adair, Adams, Clarke,<br>Decatur, Madison, Ringgold, Taylor, Union                |
| West Des Moines | 27-Oct | Raccoon River Park Lodge<br>2500 Grand Avenue                          | Region 11: Boone, Dallas, Jasper, Marion,<br>Polk, Story, Warren                             |

## West Union Wins \$50,000!

(Continued from Page 6)

September 15, at 1:29 p.m. informing us we were now grant recipients. I had it announced at half time of the home football game that night. Up to that point, the grant was a secret except for about five people having any knowledge of it. It was very exciting to hear the roar of the crowd. We invited anyone who entered a vote to come down for a group photo. There were about 40 people that came down, but many people also told me they voted. They just didn't want their picture taken.

The \$50,000 will be used to purchase and install new playground equipment for Clark Park. The current equipment is over 35 years old. We are in the process of negotiating with playground equipment companies and companies that provide surfacing. Our goal is to have the new equipment installed by June 15, 2012 at the latest.

*(Submitted by Kathleen Guyer, Director, West Union Parks and Recreation)*



1534 Penrose Street  
Grinnell, IA 50112

Phone: 641.236.3917  
FAX: 641.236.6779  
www.iapra.org

Layout design by Cathy Shutts,  
cshutts@pcpartner.net

## CEU's Granted

The following park and recreation professionals achieved the indicated CEU's at the recent IPRA Fall Workshop hosted in Clinton:

|                 |      |                |     |
|-----------------|------|----------------|-----|
| Bruce Beasley   | .7   | Michael Moran  | .3  |
| Matt Beatty     | .3   | Gregg Obren    | .3  |
| Mark Brewick    | .3   | Chris Page     | .5  |
| Cindy Coffin    | 1.00 | Sherri Proud   | .6  |
| Glen Cowan      | .5   | Duane Randall  | .3  |
| Chad Dyson      | .7   | Eugene Rathje  | .7  |
| Matt Eidahl     | .3   | Tab Ray        | .8  |
| Anthony Elskamp | .3   | Terry Robinson | .4  |
| Jef Farland     | .5   | Jeff Sears     | .6  |
| Julie Hoffman   | .3   | Juli Sina      | .4  |
| Sven Leff       | .6   | Betsy Tubbs    | .75 |
| Nick Lenox      | .3   | Rob Wagner     | .4  |

## IPRA Calendar of Events



### October

|       |   |
|-------|---|
| 14    | Aquatics Committee meeting—Clive              |
| 17    | CEU/Aquatic Update—Cedar Rapids               |
| 18-19 | Certified Pool Operator's Course—Cedar Rapids |
| 27    | Board of Directors meeting—Grinnell           |

### November

|       |   |
|-------|---|
| 1-3   | NRPA Congress—Atlanta, Georgia              |
| 11    | State Office closed—Veterans Day Observance |
| 14    | CEU/Aquatic Update—Burlington               |
| 15-16 | Certified Pool Operator's Course—Burlington |
| 19    | Adult Co-ed Volleyball Tournament—Grinnell  |
| 24-25 | State Office closed—Thanksgiving Observance |