

## President's Report

Dale Larsen, CPRP



“A good judge remembers what it was like to be a lawyer.  
A good editor remembers what it was like to be a reporter.  
A good parent remembers what it was like to be a child.”  
Anna Quindlen, Columnist

As I write my final column, I am reminded of my roots in parks and recreation and what the Academy has done to re-ignite that pilot light which is often compromised by the administrative busy-ness of our daily routines.

With approval from Ms. Quindlen, I could add a fourth line which states, “A good parks and recreation administrator remembers what it was like to play.” My term as Academy President has been a genuine learning experience. I depended a lot on the skills and experience of many responsible people, starting with the ultimate behind the scenes leader of our organization – Andee Chestnut. I must confess and apologize that I did not accomplish all that I set out to do this past year, but it is important to point out that the Academy is in such fabulous hands with John Potts in the engine room, Andee making sure all the members are taken care of, the likes of Michelle Parks and Jane Adams who always graciously offer advice and support and a team of outstanding Board members and committee chairs who are willing to do what is necessary to ensure the Academy's standard of excellence as an organization.

I am pleased to report on some Academy news that will be further acknowledged at the NRPA Congress in Seattle. First, congratulations to our newest members recently approved by the Board: Daniel Dustin and Regina Glover (educators) and Janice Geden, Elisabeth Kessler and Judy Weiss

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(practitioners). Thank you to Tony Cisneros and his Membership Committee for putting together such a fine slate of committed new members to the Academy. You will hear more about these folks in Seattle.

Second, Michelle Park as Past-President and Nominating Chair was able to put together an exceptional slate of members running for Academy Offices: Chuck Wilt and Bob Rossman for President-Elect; Bill Nelson and Bill Scalzo for Secretary; Chris Dropinski and Jim Garges for Treasurer and Lowell Caneday, Tony Cisneros, Bertha Cato and Becky Benna for two Board of Director openings. I wish to congratulate and commend all of the members who have agreed to run for office. Your commitment and genuine interest in the Academy is extraordinary.



*Montlake Park – Seattle*

Third, Chris Jarvi, Chair of the Gold Medal committee has announced that MUSCO Lighting has agreed to become the major financial sponsor for the Gold Medals. This is great news and will lock in support for the prestigious awards for some time.

Academy committees are all finishing up their annual business and will be preparing their end of the year reports soon. A summary report of committee accomplishments will be prepared for the Annual Business Meeting, slated for Thursday, October 12 at 11:00 AM. A full schedule of Academy meetings and the annual banquet appears in the newsletter. I do sincerely hope you are all able to make the Seattle meeting and look forward to our shared messages, humor and communications.

Charlie Hartsoe is completing the publication of a magnificent history of the 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the National Recreation Association. This one-of-a-kind publication documents the contributions of the recreation and park movement in America. It needs to belong in the library of every Academy member, student and teacher. We will unveil the book at the annual banquet along with the celebration and recognition of the Pugsley Awards and announcing four new Academy Legends recipients. The banquet promises to be special with Jane Boubel and Michael Blazey reserving the renowned Boeing Museum of Flight as our dinner facility.

Before I sign off on this final newsletter column, I want to especially thank our editor and chief of the Academy Newsletter – Lowell Caneday. Lowell went out of his way this year to commit one more year of his time and talents in producing the Academy newsletter. Lowell and I both thank all of the members who have contributed to the 4 editions. Lowell is a special member who deserves our shared thanks and appreciation.

See you all in Seattle on Thursday, October 12!

P.S. – Get ready Joe.....it's coming!



*Seattle Arboretum*

## 2006 Academy Externships

The Academy Externship Committee is pleased to announce its 2006 Externs. The Committee had a difficult decision with so many outstanding candidates. The following individuals were selected:

1. Adriane Clutter – Recreation Specialist – MNCPPC – Hyattsville, Maryland
2. Mike Phillips – Facilities Superintendent – Westerville, Ohio
3. Clinton Edward Jones – Recreation Programmer – Cobb County, Georgia
4. Antonio Lopez – Recreation Operations Manager – Miami Lakes, Florida

Congratulations to our externs. You will have the opportunity to meet these awesome young professionals at our October 12 annual meeting in Seattle.



*Ballard Locks Sandy Beach – Seattle*

## Academy Meetings in Seattle

Andee Chestnut has provided the room assignments for the Academy meetings in Seattle. All of our meetings are on the first floor of the Hyatt, which is across the street from the Convention Center. The meeting schedule follows:

Thursday, October 12

- 7:00 – 9:00 AM > AAPRA Board Meeting, Chatham
- 9:30 – 10:30 AM > AAPRA New Member Orientation, Chatham
- 11 AM – 1 PM > AAPRA General Membership Meeting - Leonesa I
- Thursday evening > annual Academy banquet

Friday, October 13

- 8:00 – 9:30 AM > JPra Associate Editors Meeting, Chatham



*Madrona Park – Seattle*

## Academy Banquet

The nationally recognized Boeing Museum of Flight is the location for the Academy's annual banquet. This one-of-a-kind opportunity is not to be missed. Academy members and their guests are invited to arrive early at the Museum and enjoy over 150 air and space craft on display. Additional exhibits document the history of aviation and the aerospace industry.

Admission to the museum is included and entrance wrist bands will be available at the general meeting of the Academy on Thursday morning, as well as on the buses departing from the Sheraton Hotel that evening. For those interested the Museum is a 15 minute drive from the Convention Center and could easily keep one occupied for 3-4 hours.

Buses will depart the Sheraton Hotel at 4:30 and 5:30 PM; social hour is 6:00-7:00 PM, with dinner at 7:00 PM, followed immediately by program and presentation of awards. Because of the Museum policies, beverages must be consumed in the "Side Gallery", the location of our dinner, and can not be carried into the exhibits. If you desire more time at the Museum you are advised to arrive early via personal car or an easy public bus ride. (Directions will also be available at the general meeting.) While dining on northwest cuisine guests will observe vintage and historic aircraft overhead and on the floor of the main gallery. Prepare yourself for a great evening with your peers.

Registration forms for the Banquet will be emailed by Andee in early September and must be returned no later the October 1 so final details can be confirmed.

**EXTRA! EXTRA! ... READ ALL ABOUT IT!**  
We have just received word that a special Leonardo DaVinci exhibit including his sketches and early works of art will be at the Museum of Flight during our time in Seattle. A special ticket at a cost of \$10 is required to enter this exhibit and may be secured via the Museum of Flight website [www.museumofflight.org](http://www.museumofflight.org) after September 1.

If you have any questions or special concerns or requests please contact Jane Boubel, 541-593-2641 or [jboubel@cmc.net](mailto:jboubel@cmc.net). Retirement is good to Jane and she and her husband will be traveling until September 19, so be patient while awaiting her response, or...call Andee.

See you at the Museum of Flight, October 12.

## Ask the Expert Program Updated For Seattle

Max Ramsey

The Academy and NRPA are again planning to set up opportunities for attendees at this year's NRPA Congress in Seattle, to bring questions to experts in various related fields, for brief consultations at prescribed times and location. The expertise is being supplied by the Academy to Meredith Bridgers, new NRPA Information Resources Manager, who is organizing and administering this year's program. The kick-off of this joint project was last year in San Antonio, but on a more limited scale. This was the first activity under the umbrella of the long awaited Consulting Services Program between the two organizations. The Academy's Agency Services and Resources Committee had been seeking to finalize that program for 12 years, and, as many of you will remember, it was approved by both boards in 2005. Final contract work is in progress.

The Ask the Expert sessions will be held in very convenient space (East Lobby, Second Floor, next to session rooms) from Tuesday through Friday, at times when no exclusive NRPA activities (Exhibit Hall hours or party times) or Academy Membership activities are scheduled. We have had good response to the request for participants from the e-mail sent to Academy members, but several time slots remain open for new topics. We encourage those going to Seattle to contact Andee with times of your availability and topics you could address. Response to this program provides you a chance to share your knowledge, give back to your profession, influence the quality of recreation and park services nationally, and raise the banner of the Academy in the profession. Where can you get a more rewarding experience for a little bit of your time?



*Myrtle Edwards Park – Seattle*

## Membership Committee

Marco A. Cisneros, Chair, Membership Committee

The AAPRA Board of Directors at its last Board Meeting has accepted the Membership Committee's recommendations for membership in the 2006 AAPRA Class to include the following individuals:

Dr. Dan Dustin  
Professor and Chair, Educator  
University of Utah, Salt Lake City, Utah

Ms. Janice Geden  
PARD Director, Practitioner  
Boulder, CO

Dr. Regina B. Glover  
Professor, Educator  
Southern Illinois University, Carbondale, IL

Ms. Elisabeth S. Kessler  
Executive Director, Practitioner  
McHenry County Conservation District,  
Woodstock, IL

Ms. Judy Weiss  
PARD Director, Practitioner  
Scottsdale, AZ

These individuals will be inducted into the Academy at the Academy General Membership Meeting in Seattle, Washington on October 12th at 11:00 a.m. at the Hyatt Regency Hotel in the Leonesa I Meeting Room. All AAPRA members are encouraged to attend this meeting to welcome these new members to the Academy.

All AAPRA members are encouraged to attend this meeting in order to properly welcome the new members to the Academy. For those of you that nominated someone for membership consideration thank you for your help in this very important recruitment effort. For those of you that did not nominate someone, please start recruiting candidates for next year. It is never too early to start the process.

## Bill Briggie Cornelius Amory Pugsley National Medal Award, 1993



**William J. "Bill" Briggie** (1925- ) received the national level Pugsley Medal in 1993. He was born in Fort Worth, Texas, but at the age of ten, he moved to California and lived there until his induction into the Army in 1944. He had attended El

Camino Junior College in California and after his discharge from the Army in 1946, Briggie returned to school at the University of Idaho graduating with a BS in Forestry.

Briggie began his NPS career as a seasonal park ranger at Sequoia and Kings Canyon National Parks in 1947 and 1948. After completing his degree, he took a full-time position as a park ranger at Theodore Roosevelt National Memorial Park in 1949 and transferred to Yellowstone in 1951. After these short stays, he was promoted to supervisory ranger at Sequoia and Kings Canyon National Parks in 1953 and remained there until 1961. One of his notable achievements in this position was coauthoring a back country management plan for these two parks.

In 1961, he spent a year as a recreation planner in the southeast regional office, before transferring to Washington D.C. as special assistant to the assistant director of the new Bureau of Outdoor Recreation (BOR) from 1962 to 1965 and then for much of 1965 became special assistant to the NPS director. These early 1960s years in Washington D.C., immediately after the publication of the Outdoor Recreation Resources Review Commission, were heady times for conservationists. Briggie helped draft legislation establishing both the Land and Water Conservation Fund and the Wilderness Act. His BOR responsibilities involved work on special study areas of the Allagash River in Maine, the proposed North Cascades National Park in

Washington, and Sawtooth National Recreation Area in Idaho. He was staff director for Vice-president Hubert Humphrey's program "See the U.S.A." As assistant to the NPS director, Briggie drafted legislation for proposed new NPS areas at Sleeping Bear Dunes and the Pictured Rocks National Lakeshore, both in Michigan.

In 1965, Briggie returned to the field as assistant superintendent at Lake Mead and in 1967 became superintendent of Glen Canyon NRA. In 1967, he was the resource study team leader for a 3-man team charged with assessing the potential of parks in Ethiopia. This project was undertaken at the request of Emperor Haile Selassie. He did similar work in Venezuela, Bulgaria and Romania. In 1969 he was appointed superintendent at Glacier while at the same time serving as director of the National Parks Centennial, marking the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the founding of Yellowstone. After four years, he returned to Lake Mead as superintendent in 1973.

Briggie was a protégé of NPS director George Hartzog and taskmaster. One author characterized him in the following terms:

William J. Briggie was a man tough enough to eat new rangers for breakfast...he would lecture a seasonal ranger on how to tie a tie and was always "Mr. Briggie," never just plain Bill...whenever he headed from park headquarters to the visitor complex the word preceded him. "The ghost is walking. Make sure everything's clean" was the warning phone message. Or "Straighten your hats. Polish your shoes. The ghost walks"...

Briggie was moody. In some ways he was like his mentor, George B. Hartzog. They were scramblers via hurry to succeed, measuring success by the authority they acquired. Both cited to push buttons, even when the buttons were people. They respected pauses and demanded loyalty.



When Gary Everhardt was appointed NPS director in 1976 he recruited Briggie to be deputy director noting: “Bill has worked in many different park situations and has solid Washington experience, too. He has taken on some very different assignments over the years and has never ducked the challenge. It’s good to have him in Washington.”

His stay in Washington was short because in 1977 he moved back west to become superintendent of Mount Rainier NP remaining there until 1984, and subsequently returning for a second tour as superintendent in 1991. Mount Rainier is one of a handful of national parks in which the superintendency is funded at a GS 16 grade level which explains why it attracted people like Briggie, who had a high standing in the NPS.

**Sources:**

Donna Rahier – Superintendent’s Office, Mount Rainier National Park.

Michael Frome (1992) *Regreening the national parks*. Tucson, Arizona: University of Arizona Press.



*Seward Park – Seattle*



## Nominating Committee Report

Michelle Park, Chair

As indicated in President Larsen’s column, the Nominating Committee presents the list of candidates for the 2006 Academy Elections.

**President-Elect**

- Chuck Wilt – IN
- Bob Rossman – AZ

**Secretary**

- Bill Nelson – IL
- Bill Scalzo – AZ

**Treasurer**

- Chris Dropinski – CO
- Jim Garges – OH

**Board of Directors (vote for two)**

- Lowell Caneday – OK
- Tony Cisneros – TX
- Bertha Cato – FL
- Becky Benna – AZ

Remaining on the Board are the following:

**Past-President**

- Dale Larsen – AZ

**Board of Directors**

- Bob Stanton – TX – term expires 2007
- Phil Rea – NC – term expires 2007
- Jane Hodgkinson – IL – term expires 2008
- Marvin Billups – GA – term expires 2008

Ballots will be mailed to Academy members during the first week of September. Completed ballots must be postmarked by September 9.

