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2014 MRPA Conference & Trade Show

Presented by



Awards Banquet

Presented by the Michigan Recreation and Park Association



January 23, 2014 | Grand Traverse Resort & Spa

Sponsored by





2014 MRPA Conference & Trade Show

2014 MRPA Awards Committee

Wendy Wilmers-Longpre

Awards Committee Chair City of East Lansing Parks, Recreation & Arts

Sal DiCaro, CPRP

Macomb Township Parks and Recreation

Darrin Duistermars

Holland Township Parks and Recreation

Kae Eidson, CPRP

Grand Blanc Parks and Recreation

Terry Fields

Oakland County Parks and Recreation

Portia Fields-Anderson, CPRP, CTRS

City of Pontiac

Brett Kaschinske, CPRP

Lansing Parks and Recreation

Kyle Langlois, CPRP

Sterling Heights Parks and Recreation

Carla Scruggs

Saline Parks and Recreation

Linda Walter, CPRP

Clinton Township Parks and Recreation



Welcome and Opening Remarks

Derek Smith MRPA President Presented by



Invocation

Jason Mangum MRPA Public Policy Committee Chair

DINNER

Grand Award Presentation

Derek Smith MRPA President

Award Presentations -

New Professional / Recreation Leadership Park Resource Leadership / Fellowship

Wendy Wilmers-Longpre MRPA Awards Committee Chair

Closing Remarks

Derek Smith MRPA President

Live Entertainment at Conclusion of Awards Presentation

Grand Award

The Grand Award is presented annually to an organization that provides outstanding leadership, service, education, and support to public recreation in Michigan. The award is named after inaugural recipient Grand Hotel in honor of the organization's longstanding partnership and support of MRPA and its membership.

Thank you to Awards Banquet sponsor Grand Hotel



New **Professional**

The New Professional Award recognizes a MRPA member who has been in the field for less than five years and has already exhibited outstanding service and promise to their agency and the Association.

Ken Grybel II

SELCRA



Ken Grybel began his career as Recreation Supervisor for the Village of Palmetto Bay, Florida where he was responsible for the operation of Coral Reef Park and was quickly promoted to supervisor of Palmetto Bay Park. After his successful tenure of two years, Ken moved back to his home state of Michigan. He was hired by Southeastern Livingston County Recreation Authority (SELCRA) as Community Events Manager, and within nine months Ken increased SELCRA's special events participation by over 40% and increased rentals of the Brighton Community Center by 20%. He also initiated several new community events by establishing partnerships with over 50 local businesses. By creating these partnerships, Ken raised over \$30,000 in sponsorship donations. After nine months Ken was promoted to Recreation Superintendent. Ken is also very involved with MRPA. He has been an active member of the MRPA Athletic Committee and Programming Committee and was elected Vice-Chairperson of the MRPA Youth and Teens Initiative Committee for 2012-2013.

Ken displays great creativity, enthusiasm, and flexibility. He is highly respected by his co-workers for his willingness to support a "team first' atmosphere and has had an array of recreational programming successes in his short but productive recreational career. Ken is an individual with a continual quest for knowledge, efficiency, and one who always strives to present himself in a professional and courteous manner.

Ken graduated from Central Michigan University with a double major in Community Leisure Services Administration and Commercial Recreation & Facility Management, with a minor in Hospitality Services Administration.

Recreation Leadership

The Recreation Leadership Award is presented to a member who has consistently made beneficial contributions and exhibited outstanding leadership n the area of recreation programming for a minimum of 10 years.







Haslett Community Education

Angela Dove is the Director of Enrichment and Recreation at Haslett Community Education. She is currently the President of the Southern Michigan Recreation and Park Association and has also served as President Elect and Secretary over the past six years. She has presented at both the MRPA Conference and the Programming Our World Conference on several occasions.

Since the year 2000, Angela has worked hard developing partnerships within the Haslett Community and throughout the state. Angela's skillful development and implementation of all of her programs is highly commendable. The unique touches she puts on programs make them events that participants don't want to miss. She is always willing to help out volunteering for other departments programs as well, such as Meridian Township Parks and Recreation, Lansing Parks and Recreation and Dewitt Area Recreation Authority to name a few. She has also volunteered with the Hershey Track & Field State Competitions.

The community has embraced her programs such as Summer Sports Camps, Daddy-Daughter/Mom-Son programs, family field trips, teen field trip programs and Bubblefest. As administrator of the student council at Haslett High School, she mentors many students, allowing the kids to grow but adding touches behind the scenes for the kids and the council to be successful. She has positively influenced and motivated others with her creativity, leadership, energy and hard work. She has played a major role in the success of the Haslett Community Education Department, the Haslett Community, and many departments around the state whom have benefited from her kindness, thoughtfulness, creativity and dedication.



Park Resource Leadership

Recipients of the Park Resource Leadership Award exhibit outstanding contributions in the area of maintenance practice, equipment management, resource development and environmental stewardship.

Jennifer Tucker

Springfield Township Parks and Recreation



Jennifer Tucker has held the position of Director of Parks and Recreation for Springfield Township since 1998. Prior to her work there she was also employed by Ford Motor Company, Washtenaw County and Huron Clinton Metropolitan Authority in various park and recreation capacities. In her current position with Springfield Township, Jennifer is responsible for over 600 acres of high quality parkland that supports many endangered species and a rare pristine fen complex. Among other responsibilities, Jennifer manages a progressive steward management plan funded almost entirely by grand funds, as well as a community center, a swimming beach, rental properties and personnel. She also oversees all programs and events that the township's Park and Recreation provides.

She has secured over 1.5 million dollars of conservation funds and has been a leader and advocate throughout the State of Michigan for the eradication of invasive species. She has led many prescribed burns to manage natural areas. Springfield Township Parks and Recreation has flourished under her direction, recently passing a millage and developing parks and open spaces that are among the nicest in the area. She has also helped start a successful Friends of the Park group and established the Township's first Heritage Festival.

In addition, she has led the MRPA Park Resources Committee to a new level. She has re-energized the group and in doing so has increased the awareness to area MRPA members of conservation and preservation. Her belief in the committee has had a lasting effect on all that are involved.

Fellowship

The MRPA Fellowship Award is presented to a member who consistently demonstrates significant investment, support and guidance to fellow professionals. Honorees exemplify the highest level of professionalism in his or her own organization, within the membership and within all aspects of the parks and recreation profession.







Saline Parks and Recreation

Carla Scruggs began working at the Saline Parks and Recreation Department in 1991. Shortly thereafter, she was promoted to Director, a position she still holds today. As her department grew over the years, Carla mentored many staff members who have gone on to very successful careers in Saline and other MRPA agencies. Carla is extremely respected in Saline and surrounding areas and was awarded the prestigious George A. Anderson Award, given for significant contributions to the Saline community and for going above and beyond with clear and consistent vision.

Carla is a tireless advocate for Parks and Recreation and how it plays a critical role in a healthy community. As an exemplary MRPA member since 1988, Carla has served our organization for numerous years in many different capacities. She was a long time member of MDASA, serving as president in 1995. She was a member of the scholarship committee and is presently a member of the awards committee. She has presented at many MRPA conference functions and has volunteered many years for the state championship for the Punt, Pass and Kick competition.

Always innovative and on the cutting edge, Carla was awarded the MRPA Leadership Award in 2002. As a colleague, Carla is a dynamic leader in our field, always willing to lend a hand or give advice to anyone who needs it. Carla is a consummate team player who makes every member of the team better. She gives her all in everything she does and has led by example for many years.



Thank you Grand Hotel for sponsoring the MRPA Awards Banquet and hosting the annual Spring Fling, Late Summer Holiday, Jazzy Walk Weekend and Grand Experience Trips.

Learn more by visiting www.mrpaonline.org/Travel.



Congratulations Angela on the Recreation Leadership Award from your SMRPA Family!



Angela Dove
Recreation Leadership
Haslett Community Education

