

The HORN

February 2014

Greetings from Aaron Reidmiller, Central Service Area Chair

Letter from the Chair

As we begin to prepare for the busy schedules and long days of the spring and summer, please take a moment to learn more about the Virginia Recreation and Park Society. The Society has many resources that benefit the recreation and parks professional, and beyond. The Society's success hinges on the involvement of its members and their extraordinary efforts.

If you are interested in getting involved with VRPS but don't know where to start, the best step is to attend a service area meeting. These meetings provide detailed information on upcoming events and current happenings within the society. You can also learn more about special events like the annual conference, the Virginia Senior Games, and more. Members of the Central Service Area are busy planning fundraising and educational events that will ultimately benefit recreation professionals across the state.

Please take a look at the website and familiarize yourself with some of the great things that are available to you as a recreation professional in the state of Virginia. www.vrps.com

As always, if you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,

Aaron Reidmiller



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Member News

News from Fredericksburg...

Motts Run Reservoir Gets Funding for Play Space

The Ann Page Garden Club of Fredericksburg has made a generous donation to fund a new Nature Play Space at Motts Run Reservoir. On Monday, January 27th, they contributed \$1,100 to build a non-traditional play space next to the Motts Run Nature Center. The project is sponsored by the City of Fredericksburg Department of Parks, Recreation, and Public Facilities.

The Nature Play Space will be designed to promote physical and creative play, helping children make connections with nature in a less structured setting. Some of the features will include a stick-shelter building area, mud pie factory (aka sandbox), play cooking fire, canoe, hide tanning station, log table and chairs, and more!

Two Eagle Scout candidates, Connor Benhase, and Philip Wiltenmuth, have signed on to lead the majority of the play space construction. A ribbon cutting ceremony is scheduled to coincide with the 10th Anniversary of the opening of the Motts Run Nature Center, on Saturday, April 26th at 1pm. The public is encouraged to attend. For more information, contact: Linda Bailey, Nature Education Coordinator, at 540-372-1086 x213.

Outdoor and Adventure Programming Workshop

The Western Service Area is hosting an Outdoor and Adventure Programming Workshop. This 3 hour session will cover the basics of designing and implementing a comprehensive outdoor and adventure program. The workshop will be led by three of the area's most experienced outdoor recreation professionals. \$35 for VRPS member / \$40 for non-members. Register through www.vrps.com, for additional details contact Dan Fudala at 540-433-2474 or Daniel.Fudala@harrisonburgva.gov.

Next Meeting

April 24, 2014. 10:00 a.m.
Hopewell Community Center.

CSA News

Athletic Fields Workshop

VRPS has partnered with Toro to offer a fun and educational workshop for your department's athletic field, irrigation, and turf maintenance personnel. The course encompasses new material from years past, including equipment shortcuts, field priorities, and turf selection. Invest in your hard-working staff by sending them to this inexpensive yet informative seminar at a choice of from four locations:

Salem, 3/24/2014

Chesapeake, 3/25/2014

Henrico, 3/26/2014

City of Fairfax, 3/27/2014

Register at www.vrps.com

Virginia Senior Games

The Virginia Senior Games will be held May 14-17 in the city of Newport News. Athletes, ages 50 and above, travel from all across the state and beyond to compete in more than 20 different events. Please share this information with your local senior athletes and direct them to the VSG website. Registration booklets have been printed and are available upon request.



VRPS Annual Conference: Navigate for Success

The VRPS Annual Conference will be held at the Homestead Resort December 6-9, 2014. This conference committee is working hard to schedule educational sessions, social events, and much more. This is sure to be a very special event that you won't want to miss! For more information on the annual conference, please visit www.vrps.com/EducationEvents/AnnualConference.aspx.

*Interested in presenting at the 2014 VRPS Annual Conference, December 6-9, 2014 at the Omni Homestead in Hot Springs, Virginia? Session Proposals are due March 14, 2014.