

**Virginia  
Recreation  
and Park Society**  
www.VRPS.com

# Virginia Recreation and Park Society NSA Northern Service Area Winter 2012/2013 Newsletter

## Notes from the desk of our Chair

Winter 2012/2013

Northern Service Area 2012 Officers and Subcommittee Members	
Blythe Russian	Chair
Karen Lussier	Chair Elect
Laura McCarty, CPRP	Past Chair
Kim Baldini	Treasurer
Jenny Paxton	Secretary
Lesley Stuler	At-Large Member
Kim Baldini	Awards & Citations
Laura Kowalski	Membership
Brandy Wyatt	Newsletter

What an exciting Fall for Northern Service Area! The Annual Conference at Wintergreen was a great place to showcase Northern Service Area- great sessions were hosted by NSA professionals, lots of awards went to Northern Service Area programs and facilities, too! It was also a great time to network and unwind, too!

The NSA Meeting in October was held at Temple Hall Farm Park. After the meeting, participants got to stick around to play! We rode the cow train shot the pumpkin blaster, and had a lot of fun! It has been great to continue to see new faces at each meeting!



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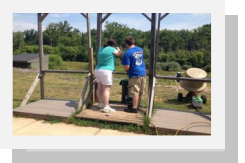
street from GMU in University Mall). Join us in this SPACIOUS place for a delicious lunch buffet including salad bar, hot bar, made to order sandwiches and pasta, and don't forget the dessert bar! The Social is always a great time to connect with other professionals, meet new people, and get involved with NSA. We hope to see you there! (see the last page of the newsletter!)

Unfortunately, Events 101 has been cancelled for 2012. We will pursue rescheduling it for 2013.

Thank you for your participation with NSA this year. I have enjoyed being the Chair of NSA and hope to continue to participate with this dynamic group. Don't forget, its never to late to get involved with VRPS and your service area. We are always looking for people to get involved with our workshops and activities. We have had a lot of fun this year – kayak tours, learn to shoot programs, informative workshops, cow trains.... Need I say more?

Sincerely,

Blythe Russian



NSA member practicing her shot at Bull Run Shooting Center!

On October 24<sup>th</sup>, Project Management Workshop was held at Frying Pan Farm Park with over 20 participants. The presenters, Todd Hafner, NVRPA Planning and Development Director, and Mike Dingman, Attorney, spoke to the group about projects and procurement laws. It was an interesting and informative session.

Mark your calendars now and register on line for the NSA Holiday Social! Wednesday, December 12<sup>th</sup> at Brion's Grill in Fairfax Station (across the



Peacock at Temple Hills Farm Park, ready for the NSA meeting!

## Notes from the desk of our Chair – Elect

As 2013 approaches, I am looking forward to working with Kim Baldini again and new members Sam Roberts and Ryan Brookes on the NSA Board. Unfortunately, Tawny Hammond has changed jobs and had to step down off the board this year. We are very happy to announce that Lesley Stuler was appointed to the 2013 NSA Board as Chair Elect.

This past year, the Northern Service Area was able to run two successful workshops, including topics on Alternative Funding and Project Management and hold a fun summer social kayaking at Fountainhead

Regional Park. We had meetings in new locations like the McLean Community Center, Sherwood Community Center in Fairfax, Bull Run Shooting Center and Temple Hill Regional Park. It's not every day that people get to attend a business meeting where they can shoot a gun and pumpkins or ride around in cows pulled by a tractor!

I am looking forward to having meetings at more new locations this upcoming year. If you would like to host a meeting at your location, please contact me or let me know at the first meeting in January when

we put the schedule together. I will also be looking for ideas or speaker suggestions for workshops in 2013.

Join us on Wed. Jan 9 at 10:00am at the Sherwood Center in the City of Fairfax for the first meeting of 2013! I am looking forward to another great year and hopefully getting more people to join NSA. Thank you to Blythe Russian for doing a wonderful job as the Chair in 2012.

**Karen Lussier CPRP—Chair  
Elect 2013**

# Meeting Dates

DATE	LOCATION/EVENT	TIME
December 12	Holiday Social Brions Grille (see flyer)	12:00 p.m. - 2:00 p.m.
January 9	NSA meeting Stacy Sherwood Center Fairfax, VA	10:00 a.m.



## Project Management Workshop

The Project Management Workshop on October 24th was a big success! With over 20 participants, Todd Hafner and Mike Dingman led an informative session on Virginia Procurement Law and project management at Frying Pan Farm Park.

## MANAGEMENT CONFERENCE 2013

### Unique Management Practices & Principles

February 25 & 26, 2013      Fredericksburg Hospitality House Hotel & Conference Center

Presentations include:

- ***The Institute for Crisis Management***, Louisville, KY: how to prepare and audit plans, handle, and debrief on a shoestring budget
- ***GreenPlay Research, education, and Development (GPRED)***, Lafayette, CO: succession planning in the public sector
- ***Mary Washington Healthcare***: forming relationships with local hospital systems
- ***Eldon James, George Washington Regional Commission***: embarking on, planning, and managing controversial projects
- ***U.S. Department of Agriculture***: managing a social media presence, how-to's of LinkedIn and Twitter
- ***Office of Internships, University of Mary Washington***: how to establish and maintain a strong internship program
- ***Mika Cross, U.S. Department of Agriculture***: balancing work/life, benefits/risks of telecommuting
- ***Megan Rhyne, Virginia Coalition for Open Government***: FOIA tips and pitfalls

Featured Speakers:

- **John Hennessey**: Chief Historian, National Park Service
- **Donna Tyson**: nationally acclaimed motivational speaker
- **Robert Vogle**: co-founder and CEO, Peak Democracy
- **Greg Hiebert**: owner and managing partner, Leadership Forward

Register online at VRPS.com: early registration deadline is January 28, 2013!



# News From Local Agencies



## McLean Community Center Volunteer Craig McKenzie Wins Award from the Virginia Recreation and Park Society

Longtime McLean Community Center volunteer Craig McKenzie won a Virginia Recreation and Park Society Award at the organization's annual conference, which was held Sept. 8 - 11, at the Wintergreen Resort. The center is located at 1234 Ingleside Avenue.

McKenzie, a recipient of the Center's Gordon H. Randall Outstanding Volunteer Service Award for 2008, was nominated by the staff of the Old Firehouse Teen Center. An active member of OFTC, McKenzie has worked on numerous events over the years and currently serves as a member of the OFTC Teen Council. McKenzie was recognized at the September 26 meeting of the MCC Governing Board.

For more information, call the Center at 703-790-0123, TTY: 711, or visit: [www.mcleancenter.org](http://www.mcleancenter.org).

## Town of Herndon Deputy Director Selected to NRPA Congress Committee

Ann Marie Heiser, CPRP, Deputy Director for Herndon Parks and Recreation Department, was selected to serve on the 2014 NRPA Congress Program Committee. This will be a valuable opportunity for the state to help influence the quality and diversity of the educational sessions offered. The deadline for proposals is November 16, 2012. The Congress Program Committee has been in existence for over 30 years to assist with reviewing and selecting the Congress education sessions to ensure a high-quality, balanced education program. The NRPA Congress is scheduled for October 8-10, 2013 in Houston, Texas. Congratulations Ann Marie!

## Employment Opportunity at Arlington County

*Therapeutic Recreation Programmer II, Arlington County Therapeutic Recreation Office, Arlington, VA*

Looking for a fun environment with other CTRS's in community recreation? We are seeking a Certified Therapeutic Recreation Specialist to fill permanent, full time position with benefits. Typical hours are between 9:00-6:00pm Monday-Friday, but can include some evening and weekend hours. This candidate will provide a variety of specialized recreational services for individuals with disabilities of all ages (children, teens, adults, senior adults) in a variety of settings with a high emphasis on camps, classes, and family programming. Salary starts at \$45,593 per year. Come join our team!

### Qualification Requirements

Must have experience working with individuals with disabilities including: intellectual and developmental disabilities, sensory processing, physical, emotional or learning disabilities, neurological impairments, and mental illness.

BS in TR or a related field, plus two year's experience in recreation service provision.

CTRS certification is required, or ability to obtain within 1 year of hire.

For questions about the position call 703-228-4741 or email [bsuttell@arlingtonva.us](mailto:bsuttell@arlingtonva.us).

To apply online go to [www.arlingtonva.us/pers](http://www.arlingtonva.us/pers), click on CURRENT JOB OPENINGS, scroll down the alphabetical list of job titles and click on the one titled "Therapeutic Recreation Programmer II". Position closes on November 8, 2012.

Any questions, just contact Becky Suttell, info below! Check us out, see what we do here: <http://www.arlingtonva.us/departments/parksrecreation/scripts/assistance/page79701.aspx>

Becky Suttell, MS, CTRS Unit Manager, Arlington Department of Parks and Recreation, Therapeutic Recreation Office  
2121 N Culpeper Street, Arlington, VA 22207, (703)228-4741, [bsuttell@arlingtonva.us](mailto:bsuttell@arlingtonva.us)

*Visit Meadowlark's Winter Walk of Lights from November 16-January 6th to experience over 500,000 LED lights and displays that bring Meadowlark Botanical Gardens to life! Imagine the beauty of Meadowlark's renowned gardens transformed into a winter wonderland, including a flowing stream of softly glowing lights.*

*Use this coupon code: HOLIDAY12 and receive*



**\$3  
OFF\***

*the regular admission price*

## **Meadowlark's Winter Walk of Lights**

*\*Valid November 16 to 25th. Monday through Friday, non-holidays including Thanksgiving.*

*Visit [www.winterwalkoflights.com](http://www.winterwalkoflights.com)  
to purchase tickets*

*Meadowlark Botanical Gardens is located at 9750 Meadowlark Gardens  
Court, Vienna, VA 22182 • T: 703-255-3631*



# Holiday Social Lunch

December 12, 2012

*12 to 2 pm at Brion's Grill in Fairfax*

Join the Virginia Recreation and Park Society Northern Service Area for a Holiday Social Lunch Buffet at Brion's Grill, located at University Mall in Fairfax, across from George Mason University.



**\$20 VRPS Members**  
**\$25 Non-Members**

Please register by  
December 10  
[www.vrps.com](http://www.vrps.com)

Questions? Please contact Karen Lussier at  
[Karen.Lussier@fairfaxva.gov](mailto:Karen.Lussier@fairfaxva.gov).

