

HAWAII RECREATION & PARK ASSOCIATION NEWSLETTER



KAHUA



Congratulations Dennis Chai



HRPA member and retired UH professor won his third straight USA Open Volleyball Gold Medal held in New Orleans in May 2006.

Chai played volleyball for UH as a student then taught at UH as a Kinesiology professor.

The USA Open Volleyball Championship is a massive volleyball tournament held annually to showcase the finest volleyball talent around the world. Chai, completed in the Open with the Quick-silver Legends in the Men's 60's category. Alongside him were teammates Jack Roberly, Terry Sheward, Monty McBride, former US Olympians John Alstrom, Tom Stillo, Rich Leong and Jon Stanley.

Dennis says he is already thinking about next year which he is planning on attending in May in Austin, Texas.

The Diamond Head Arts and Craft Fair



The Diamond Head Arts and Craft Fair will be held on Sunday, November 12, 2006, at Kapiolani Community College, from 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. Over 220 vendors will be showing their handcrafts all made in Hawaii. There will be food and music throughout the day.

This Fair started in 1992 and is HRPA's annual fundraiser. About 85 HRPA members and friends volunteer each year to make this craft fair a real success. About 5,000 people attend this event to shop, eat, and buy.



The National Trails Surface Study

is primarily the result of questions that the National Center on Accessibility has, for many years and continues to receive from organizations, agencies and individuals who desire to make their trails accessible; are interested in an unobtrusive surface that

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KAHUA STAFF

KAHUA Hawaiian has several meanings that relate to the parks and recreation profession: a foundation or grounds such as a playground, campsite, or sports site and a quilt on which a pattern is appliqued.

The KAHUA is our foundation on which we will build the communication among HRPAs members.

Unsolicited articles welcome. The deadline for the next newsletter is December 15, 2006.

Colleen Casey Editor

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TREASURER'S REPORT

October 18, 2006

**Accounts**

HRPA Checking	\$ 11,163
HRPA Advanced MGT	\$11,981
HRPA State Conference	\$ 3,750
HRPA Hershey Track Meet	\$ 3,520
Diamond Head Craft Fair	\$ 7,742
HRPA—Maui County	no report
HRPA—Hawaii County	no report
HRPA—Kauai County	no report
HRPA Combined Total	\$38,156

Message From our President

Aloha HRPAs Members and Friends!

As we prepare for the holiday season and the annual HRPAs Diamond Head Arts and Crafts Fair (voted Honolulu Magazine's #1 Craft Fair in 2006), we have much to be thankful for. As of this date, we have accomplished much. This past October, we sent over 15 HRPAs members to the 2006 NRPA Congress in Seattle (I'm sure that is the largest delegation of HRPAs members attending a NRPA Congress). The Ho'omana program from the Waipahu Complex, Honolulu Parks and Recreation presented a session for over 100 delegates at this year's conference (this is another first—the first time members of the HRPAs were selected to present at a NRPA Congress).



Besides the memories of the opening session with the "World Famous" fish throwers of the Pike Street Market, gigantic vendor displays, meeting Parks and Recreation people from all parts of the country; I saw a "new" generation of Recreation Directors being exposed to how great a profession we are in and what an important function we provide in our communities throughout the nation. This was evident by observing HRPAs's two young professional awardees, Brian Koren, Hoomana Program and Maile Etherton, Hauula Community Park at the congress. A third young Recreation Director, Ms. Gayleen Balais was selected to NRPA's Mentorship program and was provided the unique experience of "shadowing" this year's NRPA President, Mr. Steven Neu throughout the congress—another first!

Our Professional Standards chair, Chris Sabolsky is working with the Neighbor Island Vice Presidents to coordinated trainings and education sessions for our neighbor island

chapters. I look forward in visiting with each neighbor island chapter during the spring of 2007 to "talk story" and meet with all the members and friends of HRPAs!

As we approach the holidays, let's remember to be safe, take care of one another and of course, let's recreate and play in the most beautiful State in the world!



Roger Watanabe, President
Hawaii Recreation and Park Association

(National Trails Study Continued from page 1)

blends and is friendly to the environment; and provides a quality trail experience for people with and without disabilities.

The Project is being conducted by the National Center on Accessibility at Indiana University. The National Center on Accessibility is a global leader promoting the full inclusion of people with disabilities in parks, recreation and tourism. Since 1992, NCA has conducted training, provided technical assistance and conducted research to increase awareness and promote inclusion of people with disabilities in all aspects of recreation.

Island & Section Reports



Big Island

Big Island Vice President is Dennis Matsuda. He can be contacted at 887-3014 or by E-Mail at kohbik4@yahoo.com. Dennis reports: Not much happening on the Big Island except cleaning up after the Earth Quake. I guess we all get caught up in the it never happens to us, but it really did happen to us, as many of our Rec. Centers and Parks facilities were hit with major damages. Our gym in Kohala will likely be closed for maybe a year or so, and the our gyms in Honoukaa and Paauilo suffered substantial damages too.

Now that we have experienced this humbling event at the hands of Mother Nature, we might be feeling a little like the people of Kauai felt after their Hurricane experiences. A lesson is to not take the powers of Mother Nature for granted, and I think we all need to be prepared to face the events of natural disaster.

In planning for new facilities, don't put in drop ceilings. I guess the reason they are called drop ceilings is because the drop in time of earthquakes.

Hope that all our facilities on the other islands fared better than some of ours did, but I also hope that we revisit with our emergency plans and check our facilities and make them as safe as possible.

Not much department news, except that we need to publicise and show our communities that we make a difference, and that we need their support.

Maui

Maui's Vice President is Billy Amoral. He can be contacted at 573-6550 or by E-Mail at Billy.Amoral@co.maui.hi.us. Billy reports: Three of our members - Bob Straub, John Buck, and myself attended the National Rec. & Park Assoc Congress and Exposition in Seattle, Washington. We, also, got to go on the NACRO tour of Seattle on our last day there.

Our current membership stands at 30 individuals.

Mr. Dennis Higashiguchi - "Who Moved My Cheese" - will be coming to Maui on December 13. He is giving a presentation to our recreation staff.

We are hoping, that AugieT will be able to give presentations at our PALS sites.

Kauai

Kauai's Vice President is Melanie Okamoto. She can be reached at 241-4462 or by E-Mail at mokamoto@kauai.gov.

Oahu

Oahu's Vice President is Todd Hiranaga and he can be contacted at 973-7253 or by E-Mail at thiranaga@honolulu.gov. Todd reports: Just a short update from Oahu - just prior (and during for some) to the state of Hawaii experiencing its 6.6(?) earthquake episode, several Oahu delegates (along with our Maui members) were attending the NRPA Congress in Seattle, WA. The delegates included: Dana Takahara-Diaz, DPR Deputy Director, Craig Mayeda, PMRS Administrator, Jerome Fukuda, Maint. Support Svcs., and an excellent turnout of Recreation staff - Arthur Wong, Roger Watanabe, Joyce Spoehr, Charmille Abe, Jason Chun, Gayleen Balais, Brian Koren, Maile Etherton and myself. The conference was very enlightening and a very refreshing and energetic experience for all!

Congratulations to the Ho'omana staff for putting on an excellent presentation at the conference!

HTRS

Colleen Casey represents HTRS and she can be contacted at 692-5750 or by E-Mail at ccasey@honolulu.gov.



Web Sites

www.hawaiiparks.org

Other websites to check out:

www.kidnetic.com

www.bam.gov/index.html

www.4girls.gov/

www.cdc.gov/youthcampaign/

www.nichd.nih.gov/msy/

www.collab4youth.org/ncynewsandresources.html

www.zerotothree.org/tips/play-series.html

www.edu-cyber.pg.com

www.susan-boyd.com





CRPA invites you join a brand new email list!

This listserv will give you quick and easy access to a network of professionals across the county and beyond.

For those of you that remember the old NRPANet, this list will be similar, with one major difference: the list will be moderated. This means that CRPA will approve each email before it goes out, virtually eliminating "spam" and other inappropriate email from filling your email box.

For more information, or to subscribe, visit: <http://www.crpa.com/membership/email.html> .

Connecticut Recreation and Parks Association

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HHS Secretary Announces Development of Physical Activity Guidelines at National Prevention Summit

HHS Secretary Mike Leavitt today announced that the Department will develop comprehensive guidelines, drawn from science, to help Americans fit physical activity into their lives.

The announcement was made during his keynote address on the state of the nation's health, during the Innovation in Prevention Awards Ceremony at the National Prevention Summit, an annual HHS-supported event that highlights successful initiatives in disease prevention and health promotion.

Physical activity is vital to promote and maintain health, but it's easy for many of us to overlook, Secretary Leavitt said. The physical activity guidelines will underscore the importance of physical activity to America's health and assist on the journey to a healthier life. Good health -- wellness -- doesn't just happen. Wellness has to be a habit.

The Physical Activity Guidelines for Americans will be issued in late 2008. The Physical Activity Guidelines will summarize the latest knowledge about activity and health, with depth and flexibility targeting specific population subgroups, such as seniors and children. This is inspired by the President's personal dedication to physical fitness and his desire that

every American have access to science based guidelines.

Secretary Leavitt underscored the importance of shifting from a treatment-focused society to one that values prevention-based care. Treatment for chronic diseases accounts for 75 percent of what America spends on health care each year, and overweight and obesity affects an estimated 66 million individuals. Emphasis on the four pillars of the HealthierUS initiative -- physical activity, good diet, healthy choices and preventive screening -- is crucial for the nation's health.

Changing the culture from one of treating sickness to staying healthy calls for small steps and good choices to be made each and every day, Secretary Leavitt said. These physical activity guidelines will encourage the creation of a culture of wellness across America.

The President's proposed FY 2007 budget for the federal health department calls for \$640 million on obesity-related efforts, which will fund a range of activities from research into obesity to regulating the labeling of trans fats.

Questions? Please contact NRPA National Partnerships at programs@nrpa.org

Thank You Note From Gino

I want to **Thank** HRP A very much for giving me the opportunity to attend the CPRS Conference in Ontario. For me, it was an eye opening experience because I saw recreation from the California point of view, which is different from Hawaii's. I learned a whole lot from the educational sessions that I attended, especially for a young RD like me. It is unfortunate that more of the younger RD's did not take advantage of this. The experience of being at a large scale event pertaining to recreation was very beneficial to me. There were a lot of sessions that I missed because I attended others that I thought would be more beneficial for me. Thanks again for giving me the chance to better myself in the field of recreation.

Eugene Onato "Gi no"
Recreation Director I
Project Ho'omana
676-7855

Early Childhood Play Research

A GameTime research study conducted by Professor Emeritus Joe L Frost, and C.H.I.L.D - Seunghwa Jwa Kim, Candra D. Thornton and James A. Therrell



Background

Outdoor play experiences provide young children with opportunities to discover, develop and grow. There are many choices of outdoor play equipment for pre-school children, but very little has been subjected to field analysis, to examine play value and safety prior to installation and use. This study examines the nature of preschool age play, as well as the equipment components that this age group selects. It also researches safety issues associated with the use of the equipment.

Objective

Children's early social and cognitive development is dependent on play activities. Studies show that children deprived of these opportunities may suffer biological regression of brain development. Playgrounds are also positive settings for enhancing social interaction, dramatic play and allowing activities that are messy and loud. The outdoor play environment for this age group should enhance every aspect of child development – motor, social, emotional, as well as creativity, problem solving and just plain fun.

Findings

There are a very different set of skills between crawlers, toddlers and walkers. Children under 18 months need simple, clean play environments, filled with sensory opportunities. Equipment should encourage pulling oneself to a standing position and walking up slight inclines. At this age, a child's growing mental abilities emerge into activities of pretend play, in addition to exploratory and motor, or exercise play. Studies show that children develop understanding of arithmetic concepts better when presented within a play context.

Toddlers understand their world in a very physical way. They are active explorers, and interested in the world around them, and what it can do. Motor skills are rapidly developing, as a child learns to climb and run, and overcomes their battle with gravity and balance. An appropriate play structure should en-

courage the three sets of motor skills developing during this stage: locomotor (walking, running, hopping) manipulative (throwing catching and kicking) and stability (related to balance and gravity.) A successful play environment will offer a wide range of movement, stimulate the senses, while offering novelty and variety.

Three to five year olds are at an accelerated time of development in all learning domains. These, in turn, are linked too cultural development. More than ever, play at this stage of life reveals how well children are developing. Providing play opportunities that fosters this development is necessary at this age group to produce healthy well-balanced children as they transition to their elementary years.

Citation of Merit Awarded to Arthur Wong in the Professional Category



Congratulations to Arthur Wong recipient of the Professional Citation of Merit award. Nominated by Wayne Sasaki, Arthur Wong is the first person from Hawaii to serve on the NRPA Board of Trustees, and was instrumental in obtaining the Sports Illustrated 50th Anniversary

Sportstown Award for 2003. Serving the state and national associations, Arthur was the first certified professional in Hawaii. Congratulations Art, on many dedicated years of service to your community and your profession.

Upcoming Professional Opportunities

Pacific Southwest Maintenance Management School, November 12—17, 2006, UCLA Conference Center, Lake Arrow Head, CA, Contact NRPA for more information

Maintenance Management School, February 3—7, Stanley Hotel, Estes Park, CO, Contact NRPA
National Executive Development School, November 29—December 2, Albuquerque, NM, Contact NRPA

Edith Upchurch Innovative Programming Forum, February 21—23, Rock Eagle 4H Conference Center, Eaton, GA.

Pacific North west Resource Management School, February 25—March 2, Port Townsend WA.

National Aquatic Conference & Exposition, February 27—March 4, Atlanta GA, Contact NRPA

Hawaii Recreation and Parks Association

2006-2007 Young Professional Scholarship

Name: _____ Age: _____

Occupation Title or

Position: _____

Employer or

Organization: _____

Mailing

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone (Office): _____ (Home): _____ (Fax) _____

E-mail: _____

Purpose: The scholarship will be awarded to a parks and recreation professionals 18-35 years of age.

Award: The scholarship recipient receives up to \$500 to offset expenses for attendance to a professional training conference or school not reimbursed by an employer, organization or other source.

Criteria: The scholarship nominee must:

? Be a professional member of the Hawaii Recreation and Park Association;

? Be between the ages of 18 – 35 at the time of application.

Selection: Hawaii Recreation and Park Association Professional Standards Committee.

Deadline: Submit application form at least three (3) months prior to date of conference. Scholarship awards are dependant on availability of funds.

Deadline: Submit application form at least three (3) months prior to date of conference. Scholarship awards are dependant on availability of funds.

Send Application To: Toni Robinson, Professional Standards Chair Hawaii Recreation and Park Association P.O. Box 235616 Honolulu, Hawaii 96823-3510 FAX: (808) 973-7274 E-MAIL: trobinson@honolulu.gov

Hawaii Recreation and Park Association
Membership Application

Receipt No. _____ () New () Renewal

Name: _____

Mailing Address: _____

City/State/Zip: _____

Occupation Title: _____

Employer: _____

Business Address: _____

City/State/Zip: _____

Business Phone: _____ Home Phone: _____

Email: _____

MEMBERSHIP CATEGORIES: (Check one)

- () Contributing Organization Member
(\$40 Annual Fee)
- () Professional Member
(\$25 Annual Fee)
- () Associate Member
(\$15 Annual Fee)
- () Student Member
(\$10 Annual Fee)

- Check the special interest area below:
- [] Hawaii Therapeutic Recreation Society
 - [] Hui Hoonanea (UHM Students)
 - [] Military Recreation
 - [] Willing to volunteer for HRPAC Committee
- Interested in _____

Enclosed is my check for \$ _____

Signature _____

Make Check Payable to HRPAC and mail to:
HRPAC
P.O. Box 235616
Honolulu, Hawaii 96823-3510

Date: _____

Referred by: _____

If you have any questions regarding membership,

Email Address: hrpac@co.honolulu.hi.us

Phone: (808) 973-7250

Hawaii Recreation and Park Association



Our Purpose

A non-profit professional and public interest organization since 1969, HRP A members are vitally concerned with elevating standards and promoting high criteria of professionalism in recreation and park activities. The scope of the Association's membership includes professionals, interested citizens, students, and organizations in recreation and park field at all levels and areas of service.

HRPA is dedicated to advancing the recreation and park field in the State of Hawaii by expanding professional and educational opportunities for its members and supporting programs that provide improved leisure services in Hawaii. The Association acts as an independent voice for the recreation, park and leisure movement at federal, state, and local levels, and is an affiliate of the National Recreation and Park Association.

H R P A



Hawaii Recreation and Park Association
P.O. Box 235616
Honolulu, Hawaii 96823-3510

RENEW TODAY

Is your membership current?

Check your address label for expiration date.

For your convenience a membership application is available on page 7.