



November 20, 2009

Contact: Chuck Haddaway, Kentucky Recreation and Park Society
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Five added to Kentucky Recreation and Park Society Hall of Fame

Inductees honored for outstanding contributions to recreation and park progress in Kentucky

Louisville, Ky. – The Kentucky Recreation and Park Society honored five Bluegrass State residents for their lifelong commitment to excellence in supporting parks and recreation with induction into the KRPS Hall of Fame at a banquet in Louisville, Ky. on Thursday, November 19.

The inductees are:

- *Dr. William “Biff” Kummer.* Kummer, who taught at Western Kentucky University for 25 years, is a past president and board member for KRPS and nationally-recognized teacher and scholar in the field of parks and recreation.
- *Ms. JoAnn Verner (deceased).* Verner, who also taught at Western Kentucky University, also volunteered her time for the KRPS board and the Special Olympics, where she served as Director for Area 5.
- *Mrs. Sherrill Brakmeier.* Brakmeier has taught in the recreation curriculum at the University of Louisville for more than 40 years and has served on the KRPS board. At one time, there were 50 students at a KRPS Conference under her tutelage. She is also active with Metro United Way.
- *Mrs. Debbie Zielinski.* Mrs. Zielinski served as director for the Daviess County Parks and Recreation Department for 25 years. She oversaw the development of Panther Creek Park in west Daviess County, and under her leadership the department received the Outstanding Department Award in 1986. Zielinski was also named the KRPS Presidential Award Winner in 1994 and KRPS Fellow Award recipient in 2002.
- *Fred Hynson.* Mr Hynson served as a former KRPS President, Chair of the Southern Regional Council, the Presidents’ Forum and NRPA Board of Directors. But he is probably best known as the former Director of Park and Recreation in Fayette County from 1972-1989.

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Lexington's Holleran receives *Fellow Award* at annual conference
Recreation award recognizes outstanding leader in recreation field

Louisville, Ky. – Debbie Holleran of Lexington was honored with the Fellow Award by the Kentucky Recreation and Park Society at a banquet on Friday, November 20.

The Fellow Award recognizes an individual with dedicated interest in the field of parks and recreation. Holleran has served in the profession since 1983, being involved in leadership roles with the Kentucky Recreation and Park Foundation, the Kentucky Recreation and Park Society, while serving as a professional in her home town.

“Serving on committees, attending meetings, assisting presidents in various ways requires a commitment that exceeds what most people give,” the committee said. “But to be involved to the point that she also gives weekends and late nights on a yearly basis for so many years is just remarkable.”

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Boone County's Ankenbauer named KRPS Professional of the Year
Cited for 15 years of service for Boone County Parks Department

Louisville, Ky. – Paul Ankenbauer of Burlington was named Parks Professional of the Year by the Kentucky Recreation and Park Society at a banquet in Louisville November 20.

Ankenbauer, who has been with the Boone County Parks Department as a program planner for 15 years, was cited for his creative approach to local programming, which includes holiday programs, wellness classes, free movies and festivals.

Ankenbauer has also been integral in the planning and implementation of senior programming in Northern Kentucky, having served as Chairman of the Northern Kentucky Senior Games for 15 years and State Senior Games Board for 8 years.

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Lexington Mayor Newberry named outstanding city public official by KRPS

Commitment to environmental protection cited for award

Louisville, Ky. – Lexington Mayor Jim Newberry was named the Outstanding City Public Official for 2009 by the Kentucky Recreation and Park Society at a banquet in Louisville, Ky. on Friday, November 20.

In 2009, Newberry established a new Environmental Quality Department that was created to focus on environmental issues, hosted a bike summit, and enacted an executive order that includes 21 items across local government meant to improve and sustain Lexington-Fayette's landscape and public spaces.

On a personal level, Newberry and his children visited each of Lexington-Fayette's 100 parks within the first months of his administration and enrolled them in their programming on a regular basis. He spearheaded the move to make Lexington-Fayette a nationally-accredited Parks and Recreation Agency in September 2007.

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Scott County's Lusby named Outstanding County Public Official by KRPS
Cited for lifelong commitment to Georgetown-Scott County Parks

Louisville, Ky. – Scott County Judge-Executive George Lusby was named the Outstanding County Public Official for 2009 by the Kentucky Recreation and Park Society at an awards banquet in Louisville on Friday, November 20.

Lusby's involvement in the local parks and recreation system dates to 1954, when he helped create the town's Little League Park. He served on the Georgetown City Council from 1963-1990, and during his tenure the city eventually purchased land for all the city-owned parks in operation today.

He was elected in 1990 to his current position as Judge-Executive, and since in office the community has purchased an additional 260 acres for park development, and an additional 1,400 acres has also been purchased for the county's reservoir project.

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Three honored for outstanding programs at annual conference ***Barren River State Park, Kenton, Scott counties awarded***

Louisville, Ky. – Two youth camps and a science program were awarded for their excellence by the Kentucky Recreation and Park Society at a banquet in Louisville, Ky. on Friday, November 20.

The three programs are:

- *(Almost) Every Other Thursday Science, Kenton County Parks and Recreation.* This program, open to all ages, had almost 1,200 people attend over the course of 10 weeks during 2009. Topics included dinosaurs, coral, insects and agriculture.
- *Youth Boot Camp – Barren River Lake State Resort Park.* This annual event for ages 6-12 promotes fun and physical fitness while introducing kids to the military. Veterans, retired soldiers and active duty soldiers all play a part in the day-long event.
- *Farm Camp – Come Grown With Us, Georgetown-Scott County Parks and Recreation.* This camp, open to children ages 6-12, introduces agriculture and the benefits of healthy eating and living to the youth of Scott County. The program is the culmination of a large collaborative effort among several agencies in Scott County.

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Two honored for outstanding parks and recreation support
Georgetown's Power, Audubon State Park Maintenance staff awarded

Louisville, Ky. – An individual employee and state park staff were awarded for outstanding support by the Kentucky Recreation Parks and Recreation Department at an awards banquet in Louisville on Friday, November 20.

The Support Award winners were:

- *Gary Power, Georgetown/Scott County Parks and Recreation.* Power, the parks maintenance director for the department, was cited for his desire for well-maintained parks, safe playing facilities and overall improvements. "He has always worked tirelessly by coming in early, staying late and working weekends whenever necessary," the nominating committee found.
- *Maintenance staff – John James Audubon State Resort Park.* Following the double-whammy of a September windstorm and January ice storm, Audubon staff had a massive cleanup on their hands. Within a week of both, park buildings and roads were open to the public and programs resumed. "These employees are the backbone of the park," and go beyond expectations, the according to the group's nomination.

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Boone County, Jackson parks named 'Departments of the Year'
Barren River State Park, Kenton, Scott counties awarded

Louisville, Ky. – Two municipal parks departments were awarded the “Outstanding Department” honor for their excellence by the Kentucky Recreation and Park Society at a banquet in Louisville, Ky. on Friday, November 20.

The two departments are:

- *Boone County Parks and Recreation (Class I).* Boone County was noted for their 17 outstanding parks and diversity of additional facilities and programming. The department also hosts several notable community events throughout the year.
- *Jackson Parks and Recreation (Class II).* Despite their small size, this department has “a heart bigger than the state of Kentucky,” the nominating committee found. The department offers a multitude of youth and adult sports leagues, community gatherings, wellness programs, and even rents canoes on the Kentucky River.

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General Butler, John James Audubon state parks awarded at annual conference
Named outstanding state parks by Kentucky Recreation and Park Society

Louisville, Ky. – General Butler State Resort Park in Carrollton and John James Audubon State Park were named Outstanding State Parks by the Kentucky Recreation and Park Society at an awards banquet in Louisville on Friday, November 20.

General Butler was awarded in the Class I division (more than 16-full-time employees) and Audubon, celebrating its 200th birthday, received honors in Class II (15 or less).

The KRPS awards committee cited General Butler's excellence in the maintenance of its natural beauty, programs and amenities, and Audubon's recovery from the devastating ice storm that struck the park in January 2009.

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Two cited as outstanding facilities by Kentucky Recreation and Park Society
Lexington's Brown Community School, Frankfort's Capital City Museum honored

Louisville, Ky. – The William Wells Brown Community School in Lexington and Frankfort's Capital City Museum received the Facility Award by the Kentucky Recreation and Park Society at a banquet in Louisville, Ky. on Friday, November 20.

Both were cited by the Awards Committee as offering a "unique enhancement to the quality of life in the field of recreation and leisure service within the community."

The Capital City Museum, a Class II facility, operated by the City of Frankfort and housed in two, adjacent downtown buildings, was cited for their dedication to maintaining archival records and exhibits showcasing the history of the Bluegrass State. The William Wells Brown Community School, a Class I which serves as a partnership between Lexington-Fayette Urban County government and the local public school system, was lauded for their commitment to providing tutoring, wellness programs, cultural art instruction, mentoring programs and more to youth in the area.

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Reference guide, radio program awarded for communications efforts
SOKY Happenings, "Tony Rose Morning Show," honored for increasing awareness

Louisville, Ky. – Two media outlets were awarded the Communications Award by the Kentucky Recreation and Park Society at its annual awards banquet on Friday, November 20, in Louisville.

The three award recipients are:

- *SOKY Happenings*. More than 10,000 residents of South Central Kentucky read this publication each month, which was cited by the Barren River State Resort Park as instrumental in getting the word out about their programs. The owners, Carrie and David Francis, are “great supporters” of the state park and assist in any way they can, the nominating committee said.
- *“Tony Rose Morning Show – SAM 100.7 FM, Bowling Green,”* The nominating committee cited the host for not only promoting athletic programs in Bowling Green on his program, but participating in them and talking about them regularly on his show. Under Rose’s encouragement, membership in softball and dodge ball leagues increased greatly.

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Tracy McClain named Outstanding College Senior at annual conference
Lindsey Wilson student noted for excellence in the classroom, leadership and citizenship

Louisville, Ky. -- Ms. Tracy McClain of Harrodsburg was awarded the Outstanding College Senior majoring in the field of recreation by the Kentucky Recreation and Park Society at a banquet on Friday, November 20.

McClain, who carries a 4.0 grade point average and will graduate from Lindsey Wilson College in May, is a past president of the Recreation Club, an event planner for the Student Government Association and recently served an internship for the city of Noblesville, IN.

“She sets the standards very high for others who follow in her footsteps,” said Dr. Tricia M. Day of Lindsey Wilson College, who nominated McClain. “She is an outstanding student and individual and will be an asset to any program she is involved with.”

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Audubon Music Festival, Civil War Days event awarded by KRPS
Receive Dorothy Mullen Award for outstanding arts and humanities programming

Louisville, Ky. – Two events held at Kentucky state parks were honored with the Dorothy Mullen Awards by the Kentucky Recreation and Park Society at an awards banquet in Louisville on Friday, November 20.

The two award recipients are:

- *Civil War Days, Columbus-Belmont State Park.* This three-day event attracted 12,000 visitors, who saw cannons roaring off the banks of the Mississippi River, guest speakers such as Mark Twain and Abe Lincoln and a Saturday night ball where beautiful belles and handsome gents graced the dance floor. Residents from the four nearby states attended this event, which was planned by the Civil War Days Committee.
- *Audubon Arts and Music Festival, John James Audubon State Park.* For 13 years, this festival has brought arts, music and entertainment to more than 500 area students with disabilities. The state park began the festival as a way for these disabled students to come together and celebrate the arts by hands-on learning experiences. While the state park puts on hundreds of recreational programs each year, this is the only one that caters specifically to disabled children.

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Dan and Flo Grey of Fort Thomas receive Special Citation at annual conference
Recognized for outstanding private support of parks and recreation

Louisville, Ky. – Dan and Flo Grey of Ft. Thomas were awarded a Special Citation by the Kentucky Recreation and Park Society at a banquet in Louisville, Ky. on Friday, November 20.

The Greys, along with the Ft. Thomas Recreation Department, spearheaded a movement to not only raise money for the creation and construction of a community amphitheater, but also founded a popular community festival on the 4th of July. Called “4th at the Fort,” the festival has grown to include music, food, crafts, rides, fireworks and many other activities.

“Through the vision of Dan and Flo Grey and the entire 4th at the Fort committee, the amphitheater project would not have been possible,” said David Buerger, director of the Ft. Thomas Recreation Department. “Through their hard work and dedication, the group has worked to provide a quality experience for the residents of the city.”

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Marshall County's Cathey receives Special Citation at annual conference

Recognized for outstanding private support of parks and recreation

Louisville, Ky. – Paul Cathey of Benton was awarded a Special Citation by the Kentucky Recreation and Parks Society at a banquet in Louisville, Ky. on Friday, November 20.

Cathey started a Christmas light display more than 10 years ago at his home to raise money who are in need during the holiday season. Over the years, it grew so much that it was moved to Mike Miller County Park. During the first season, visitors donated more than 11,000 cans and \$15,000 to help feed the poor. Last year, more than 29,000 cans were collected as well as \$41,000 to help the poor in Marshall County.

The program has netted more than \$250,000 for needy families, as well as 150,000 canned goods.

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Middletown's Holloway receives Special Citation at annual conference

Dr. Robert L. Holloway recognized for outstanding private support of parks and recreation

Louisville, Ky. – Dr. Robert L. Holloway was awarded a Special Citation by the Kentucky Recreation and Park Society at a banquet in Louisville, Ky. on Friday, November 20.

Holloway, who has served as the Chairman of the Board of Trustees at Lindsey Wilson College for the past 10 years, has overseen the support of the brand-new Holloway Health and Wellness Center, which will open at the school in December. According to the nominating committee, Holloway saw a need for a new center at the school, whose currently facility is a 3,500-square foot converted garage.

The school is “striving to replace poor habits and inactivity with a life of wellness, strength, vitality and good habits. Bob’s compassion for our students and willingness to fulfill their needs is unparalleled,” the nominating committee said.

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