



DEPARTMENT OF RECREATION AND PARKS

Texas A&M University

College Station, Texas 77843

TEACHING - RESEARCH - EXTENSION



November and December, 1969

Jim Stribling, Editor

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RECREATION MGMT. INSTITUTE

Lon Garrison, N.P.S.

EXTENSION & PUBLIC SERVICE

DAN KAMP attended the Park and Recreation Administrators Conference in Asilomar State Park, California, from November 10 to November 14, inclusive. The conference Director, Dr. RICHARD HARRIS, was successful in his attempt to provide a provocative, highly stimulating group of speakers. The theme for the 1969 conference was Environmental Design. There were approximately 75 participants including both administrators and educators from the Recreation and Park field.

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Members of a graduate class in Recreation and Resource Development are conducting indepth studies for Brazos and Orange Counties. The 603 Policy and Administration class selected these counties for study because both had requested assistance in determining the desirability of providing County Parks and in the formulation of policy covering the acquisition, development, and administration of such parks. The preliminary reports, coordinated by DAN KAMP and sponsored by Texas Agricultural Extension Service, are expected to be completed in early 1970.

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Louisiana Extension Specialists and specialists from Texas Agricultural Extension Service co-sponsored a resource development symposium for the Toledo Bend reservoir region. This bi-state symposium, held at Hodges Gardens, Louisiana on 12 November, investigated educational needs in a region of accelerated land-use changes. State, Federal, county and parish as well as local government and private and industrial representatives outlined plans and objectives, problems, and areas of conflict in land-use from their perspective or area of responsibility. Named to a bi-state committee whose objective is the development of techniques and materials to serve land-use decision makers of the region are: Louisiana Extension Specialist Dr. WAYNE ROBICHAUX, Mr. NEIL DRY, Mr. TRUETT POWELL and Mr. FRANK MIEARS, Mr. DAN KAMP and Mr. JIM STRIBLING.

TEACHING

Mr. MARK GOSDIN, Director of Texas State Parks, visited the department briefly on Thursday, November 20, 1969. While here, Mr. Gosdin spoke to our Recreation and Parks 301 (Principles of Park Administration) class about the history of the Texas State Park System and some of the more recent state park land acquisitions.

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Other recent guest lecturers were Mr. HAL KIRBY, Director of the Dallas Museum of Natural History, who lectured the RP 307 class (Interpretive Methods) on techniques of museum display and Mr. ROBERT FRAZER, Director of the Park and Recreation Department, San Antonio, Texas. Mr. Frazer spoke to the RP 603 class (Recreation Organization and Policy) on public relations policy in municipal park and recreation departments.

STUDENT ACTIVITIES

Nine Recreation and Parks majors were selected at the annual business meeting of the Gamma Sigma Delta Honor Society in Agriculture, to be installed in the Society at the annual banquet scheduled for February 25, 1970. Based on scholastic achievement, campus activities and leadership ability, a cumulative grade point ratio of 3.5 is required for graduate students, 3.0 for seniors. Those to be initiated at the February meeting include Mr. MARION CLARKE (graduate, University of South Dakota) and seniors THOMAS ASHWORTH, FRED BLUMBERG, LOUIS BURNETT, CLAUDE CLOVER and DANIEL MUZYKA.

MICHAEL WADDLE, a sophomore Recreation and Parks major, received the Nation's third highest combat decoration for heroic actions while serving as an infantry platoon leader with the 82nd Airborne Division on Aug. 26, 1968. Lt. Waddle was leading his platoon on a reconnaissance mission when the point element became pinned down from a heavy barrage of enemy automatic weapons and rocket fire. When the firing subsided, Lt. Waddle led his unit in a counterattack against the enemy position and overran the hostile element. Searching out another suspected enemy stronghold, Lt. Waddle's platoon again came under heavy fire from the communist force. The lieutenant effectively organized his men into a defensive position and called in air strikes. He then led another ground attack, completely overrunning and routing the enemy. Following graduation from high school, Waddle attended Texas A&M for one year. He joined the Army in 1966 and received his commission through the infantry Officer Candidate School at Ft. Benning, Ga.

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Students in RP 401 (Commercial Recreation) were guests of Lakeway Land Company during November. They were fortunate to enjoy both the enlightening experiences of Mr. PIERRE CASALLE and Mr. LEE BLOCKER and the outstanding cuisine of the lodge.

FACULTY

Dr. CARLTON S. VAN DOREN was advanced from Associate Member to Full Member of the Texas A&M University Graduate Faculty at the November meeting of the Graduate Council, the fourth member of the Recreation and Parks faculty to receive this recognition. Full membership status permits a professor to chair the Ph.D. committee as well as to serve on doctoral and master's committees.

CONFERENCES

The TEXAS RECREATION AND PARK SOCIETY held its annual meeting in Houston, December 4, 5, and 6th. Workshop sessions included Activity Demonstration and Program Exchange-Therapeutic Recreation; Techniques of Swimming Pool Operation and Maintenance; Organizing, Operating and Promoting a Community Recreation Program; Military Recreation; Opportunities in the Parks and Recreation Profession; Innovative Recreation Programming-The Key to Success; Ballfield Preparation, Maintenance, and Operation; Recreation and Psychodrama; Planning, Park Design as Related to a Master Plan; Establishing a Children's Zoo; and Recreation and Community Involvement. DAN KAMP was a panelist during a session on Student Intern Programs in Parks and Recreation.

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The FIRST ANNUAL REMOTE SENSING CONFERENCE for Recreation and Resource Administrators was held December 9-10, at the Ramada Inn in College Station. Jointly sponsored by the Department of Recreation and Parks and the Remote Sensing Center of Texas A&M University, the conference exposed recreation and resource administrators to the field of remote sensing. The meeting identified areas of concern to recreation and resource administrators where remote sensing techniques might be advantageously utilized. Conference Coordinator was GEORGE R. HARKER, Remote Sensing Center, Texas A&M University. Dr. JOHN ROUSE is Director of the Remote Sensing Center.

COMING EVENTS

The Parks and Recreation Department is sponsoring a TOURISM-RECREATION DESIGN AND DEVELOPMENT WORKSHOP in Corpus Christi, January 22, 23, 1970. Approximately 40 specialists from science, engineering, industry, planning, design, tourism and recreation development will meet to document the assets, liabilities, and opportunities for development. They will make recommendations for research and education for Texas coastal growth of tourism and recreation. Mr. JACK JONES is assisting Dr. CLARE GUNN as coordinator of the workshop, supported by Texas Parks and Wildlife, Texas Tourist Development Agency, the Governor's Office of Planning Coordination and Texas A&M Sea Grant Program.

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ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY will be the theme for the 15th annual SOUTHWEST PARK AND RECREATION TRAINING INSTITUTE to be held at Lake Texhoma Lodge, Kingsland, Oklahoma, February 1, 2, 3, and 4, 1970. Workshop subjects include ecological considerations, planning and design, research, standards, development and management, recreation certification for the professional.

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The NATIONAL PARK SERVICE and TEXAS A&M's RECREATION AND PARKS DEPARTMENT will co-sponsor the third RECREATION MANAGEMENT INSTITUTE 16-26 February, 1970. Representing municipal, county, state and federal recreation and park agencies as well as private enterprise and regional authorities, participants from middle/upper-level planning and management responsibilities will explore the broad sweep of rapidly changing concepts, impacts and events in the field of recreation. Theme of this third Institute is RELEVANCE-of planning to people, leisure and the environment.

POTPOURRI

The Certification Committee of the Texas Recreation and Park Society met in November at the Recreation and Parks Department on the Texas A&M University campus. Those in attendance were: Dr. LESLIE M. REID of College Station, Mr. WARREN LEDDICK of Austin, Mr. BILL KEELING of Dallas, Mr. DON MADDOX of San Antonio, and Mr. A. J. MERCER of Temple.

MID-YEAR GRADUATES NAMED

The Registrar's Office has certified the rolls of students who are candidates for a Bachelor of Science degree at the January, 1970 graduation. R&P graduates will be:



RAY
RAYMOND L. ARMOUR, JR.
Houston, Texas
Company Commander, Corps of Cadets; Agriculture Council; President, R&P Club; Distinguished Student; Distinguished Military Student.
Career plans: U.S. Army; Graduate study.



STEPHEN C. BEACHY
Palmer Lake, Colorado
Corps of Cadets; R&P Club.
Career plans: U.S. Army



LOUIS A. BRUNETT
Whitney, Texas
Recreation and Parks Club; Distinguished Student.
Career plans: Municipal Recreation.



FRED M. BLUMBERG
Sequin, Texas
Commanding Officer, 1st Brigade, Corps of Cadets; Agricultural Council Representative; President R&P Club; recipient of Jesse Jones Agriculture Scholarship 66-69.
Career plans: U.S. Army and Graduate study.



WALTER D. DABNEY
Dallas, Texas
Company Commander, Corps of Cadets; R&P Vice-President; Distinguished Military Student; Outstanding Platoon Cadet; R.O.T.C. Summer Camp.
Career plans: National Park Service; U.S. Army; Graduate study.



DARRELL W. JOHNSON
Gatesville, Texas
R&P Club. Career plans: Municipal and County Department.



WILLIAM L. NEILL
Tornill, Texas
Corps of Cadets; R&P Club; Vice-President Hometown Club; Rodeo Club.
Career plans: Municipal Park System; Graduate study.

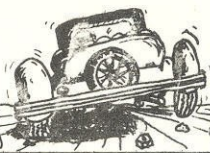


JAMES T. REYNOLDS
Texas City, Texas
R&P Club; T-Association; Football Scholarship; Member of 67 SWC Champs.
Career plans: Employed by the National Park Service.



EDWIN J. SHEEK, JR.
Pecos, Texas
Corps of Cadets; R&P Club; recipient of Jesse Jones Agriculture Scholarship 66-69; Alpha Zeta.
Career plans: U.S. Army and National Park Service.

REID'S



RUMBLE SEAT

It was a personal privilege to participate last month in several meetings in California. These included the annual meeting of the Recreation Educators of California, a group representing branches of the State University, the state College System, and as well as community and junior colleges. Fortunately, there are enough colleges and universities granting recreation and park degrees in California to bring together a sizable group that can profitably spend several days discussing courses, students, careers, and so on. I thoroughly enjoyed the stimulation of the excellent meeting arranged by R.E.C. Pres. DONALD SINN and V.P. EVELYN SPRING.

Another meeting was the Park Administrators' Institute sponsored by the University of California/Davis by Dr. RICHARD HARRIS' Department of Environmental Horticulture. This was the tenth annual session of this week-long conference. Participants were largely directors of municipal park and recreation departments, enrolled for an intensive course dealing with the PLANNING AND DESIGN OF THE RECREATION ENVIRONMENT. Institute Director Dr. SY GOLD cracked the whip to keep the conferees on target and on schedule.

Unfortunately, my itinerary was limited to the vicinity of Los Angeles and the Monterey Peninsula, so I did not have the opportunity to take in the current sights and sounds of the San Francisco area. The Monterey Peninsula, of course, must certainly rank as one of the loveliest places to hold a recreation conference. The combination of towering pines, white sand beaches, serpentine-colored surf, and dazzling blue sky evoked a mood conducive to consideration of recreation concerns.

A stopover in Los Angeles permitted me to visit briefly with Mr. WILLIAM FREDERICKSON and the Board of Recreation and Parks Commissioners for the City of Los Angeles at a weekly Commission meeting. This also was the opportunity to revisit L.A. after a 10-year absence--since a reconnaissance as part of one of the O.R.R.R.C. studies. Even though I expected it, I was amazed at the proliferation of freeways and the concentration of traffic carried during all periods of the day. The Downtown-City Hall area is undergoing radical change, with new buildings making bold statements on the skyline. Los Angeles today exhibits much of the best, and the worst, that is a concomitant of urban "progress"--action, excitement, vitality, accompanied by a certain frenetic absorption with what is yet to be.

I suppose one of the most memorable experiences associated with this visit was a late evening horseback ride arranged by Commissioner PATRICIA DELANEY in Griffith Park. Los Angeles has grown and sprawled inland until the hills comprising this 4,000-acre park are completely entangled in an encircling cordon of freeways and urban development. Beginning at a livery outside the park proper, our party first had to negotiate two tunnels under a freeway to gain the open parkland. But from that point the trails climbed up, through, and between quiet canyons, leaving all sound of the city behind.

By sheer good fortune, this turned out to be one of a handful of nights this entire year when an easterly breeze pushed L.A.'s infamous smog out over the Pacific, so that what clouds there were broke up and drifted away, and the moon made the trail bright, even light enough to stop to watch an owl sitting in a trail-side tree. Our objective was Mt. Hollywood Lookout. As the horses crested the last slope, they swung into a rolling gallop that carried the party right to the brink of the hill overlooking the entire complex of 7 million people--second largest in the U.S.A. Beyond the dark quietness of the park below, the intersecting patterns of freeway traffic and building lights stretched to the horizon in every direction.

From that remote elevation, there was a definite feeling of being divorced from the city--no connection at all by sound, so that the beauty of the light patterns was the only evidence of the urban complex. The basic anomaly of such quietness and peacefulness in the absolute heart of the living space of six million people had a dramatic impact to each of us as we stood by our horse's heads gazing like visitors from another world at the gargantuan scene below.

But the ultimate climax to the experience came when one of the wranglers said to another, "Why don't you see if you can call up your friends tonight?" Spurs jingling, wrangler Don walked to the very edge of the precipitous slope, threw back his head and gave a series of short, sharp yips--and from the darkness below--from the wild brushlands of the park's canyons--came back a chorus of answering yelps... from wild coyotes successfully co-existing in the midst of a restless ocean of people with all the attendant exhaust fumes, backyard barbeques, and concrete-mixers.

FACULTY



FORUM

In this issue only, the entire R&P Faculty in a unique demonstration of consensus (8-7) agreed to relinquish the right to individual expression traditionally available in this column, and in unanimity TO



Merry Christmas, ya'll!