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We are green!

This issue of the Alumni Newsletter will not be sent as a print version. We have strived to create a format that is dynamic, accessible, and usable for all our readers while reducing our environmental impact. If you do need a print copy, please contact the RPLS Office to request one (rppls@cortland.edu).

Leisure Notes



Dr. Sharon Todd

Greetings from the Chair!

Alumni often wonder how many students are enrolled in the Recreation, Parks and Leisure Studies (RPLS) Department these days. Here's the answer: Based on Fall 2012 data, our overall enrollment reached 174, an increase of 4% over the previous year. However, the rate of change differed significantly between undergraduate and graduate students.

Undergraduate enrollment increased by 20 students (+18%) raising our total to 133, including 57 therapeutic recreation majors, 34 outdoor recreation majors, 29 recreation majors, and 13 recreation management majors. Of particular note, undergraduate therapeutic recreation enrollment increased 30% last year and has increased 97% since 2005. On a broader note, the department gained 31 change-of-majors during the academic year, while only 7 students changed their recreation-related majors to one outside the department.

On the other hand, graduate student enrollment significantly decreased across nearly all SUNY Cortland disciplines last year. The RPLS Department was no different, where graduate enrollment decreased by 13 students (-24%), lowering our total to 41. Of these, 20 students selected the environmental and outdoor education concentration, 15 chose management of leisure services, and 9 therapeutic recreation.

Although economic factors beyond our control have certainly been affecting graduate student enrollment, we are working diligently to respond to the needs of graduate students in our field to counteract that. For example, the RPLS Department conducted a 2-day faculty planning retreat focusing on the graduate program this past fall. One of the most proactive outcomes involves a proposal highlighted on page 8: an online certificate program in therapeutic recreation. Pages 9 and 10 also spotlight other unique aspects of graduate education at SUNY Cortland.

As alumni, you can continue to make a difference in our enrollment by spreading the word about our profession. Read on page 10 how **David Ellis '09** partnered with five current students (one graduate student and four undergraduates) to educate and train over 100 Chemung County youth program staff members on the importance of our field.

Besides impacting local agencies, our students have also been making a difference abroad. As shared on page 13, **Dr. Vicki Wilkins**, nine undergraduates, and three graduate students spent Spring Break transforming the Belize Zoo into an attraction that is now accessible to all. We're also impacting new students on our own campus. **Dr. Amy Shellman** shares an overview of SUNY Cortland's brand new wilderness transition program, Adirondack Trail Blazers, on page 5.

As highlighted on pages 6 and 7, we continue to enroll outstanding students in our program. To network with students and professional colleagues alike, don't forget to mark your calendar for this fall's 63rd Annual Cortland Recreation Conference, themed ***Oh, the Places You'll Go with Recreation!*** The conference is scheduled for November 7 and 8 (see page 2).

As always, this newsletter is only able to share a slice of all the things happening in the RPLS Department. Please feel free to contact me for more details at sharon.todd@cortland.edu, or better yet, visit us! We would sincerely welcome you at any time. You can also "Like" us on Facebook (***Recreation, Parks and Leisure Studies, SUNY Cortland***) to keep in touch. See you in November!





The 63rd Annual

Cortland Recreation Conference:

“Oh, the Places You’ll Go with Recreation!”

By Sarah Powers, Junior, B.S. in Recreation Management

It's that time of year again for the 63rd Annual Cortland Recreation Conference! The Special Events Planning class has been working hard to make this conference the best one yet. The dates for the conference are **November 7 and 8, 2013**. What an exciting event to draw you home to the Cortland area!

The theme of the 63rd Annual Cortland Recreation Conference is "Oh, the Places You'll Go with Recreation!" We challenge you to think about recreation from various perspectives, ranging from the variety of career opportunities within the field to the plethora of activities one might pursue, all of which are bound to take every individual to unique and interesting places. The possibilities are endless, and it is up to each person to decide where recreation will take them.

This year's Metcalf Endowed Keynote Speaker is Dr. Lawrence R. Allen, Dean of the College of Health, Education and Human Development at Clemson University. Perfectly in tune with the conference theme, the title of his keynote is "The Journey Inward, and the Journey Outward! Oh, the Places You'll Go! All the Things You Can Be!" Dr. Allen's primary research focuses on the development of community tourism and recreation services and their impacts on the social, cultural, and economic well-being of communities. Over the past 15 years, he has been documenting these impacts in over 150 communities, especially small towns and rural areas. Most recently, Dr. Allen has been involved with the development of a benefits-based leisure service delivery system as well as guidelines and management principles for nature-based tourism companies. Prior to joining Clemson University, Dr. Allen was Head of the Department of Leisure Studies at University of Illinois, and before that, Chair of the Recreation and Leisure Studies Department at Temple University. He was the 1994-95 President of the Academy of Leisure Sciences, served as co-editor of the *Journal of Park and Recreation Administration*, and was a member of the Board of Directors of the Society of Park and Recreation Educators.



Dr. Lawrence R. Allen

Oh, the places you'll go! Oh, the places you'll see!
 All the things you can do! All the things you can be!
 It can be a lifestyle or an occupation.
 There's so much you can do with recreation!

There's outdoor, therapeutic, and the management field.
 Whichever you're interested in you sure will be filled
 With excitement and joy! Your knowledge vastly expanded
 Great speakers in the profession we have demanded.

SUNY Cortland invites you to our 63rd!
 The child in you should also be heard.
 Our theme is for rec to be fun! Let's be clear:
 We really hope you enjoy your time here!

- Magdalena Janczak

This year's conference committee has continued to work with faculty and our on-campus technology services to develop a functioning website (www.cortland.edu/reconf/) where the conference brochure, schedule, registration forms, and other important information can be readily obtained. We urge you to take advantage of our online registration service. We are also on Facebook at "Annual Cortland Recreation Conference," www.facebook.com/pages/Annual-Cortland-Recreation-Conference/308541732538526.



Come join us this year at the 63rd Annual Cortland Recreation Conference for an abundance of networking and professional development opportunities. This year's theme "Oh, the Places You'll Go with Recreation!" will not only embrace the playful spirit of the recreation field but also the many career paths it offers, including recreation management, outdoor recreation, therapeutic recreation, commercial recreation, tourism, special events planning, and much more.

63rd Annual Cortland Recreation Conference
 "Oh, the Places You'll Go with Recreation!"
 November 7 and 8, 2013

Phone: (607) 753-4904
 Email: reconf@cortland.edu
 Website Link: www.cortland.edu/reconf/

This Year's Special Events Planning Class



Left to right: Paige Cahill, Jessica Kushaney, Alexandra Ramirez, Magda Janczak, Rachel Cohen, Nick Cobb, Jessica Wyckoff, Raoul Koopman, Sarah Powers, Gregg Houck

Meet the 63rd Annual Cortland Recreation Conference Faculty Advisor: Leiko Benson, M '00

as interviewed by Sarah Powers, Junior, B.S. in Recreation Management



Editor's Note: Leiko served as the faculty advisor of the 61st, 62nd, and 63rd Annual Cortland Recreation Conferences. She was recently promoted to Director of Recreation for Onondaga County Parks. With her new responsibilities, Leiko will be stepping down as conference advisor in December. We wish Leiko well and thank her for helping the students elevate the conference to new heights under her guidance.

SP: Why is the 63rd Cortland Recreation Conference going to be great?

LB: I happen to think the conference is great every year, but I have to admit, I am a bit biased. For me it is all about the planning process and how the students who make up the committee reinvent it every year and make it their own. This year's theme is creative and fun, and I hope the speakers and participants bring it to life by showing off their diverse personal and professional recreation-based abilities and skills.

SP: Can you list one reason why everyone should go to this year's conference?

LB: The conference provides each participant with an opportunity to network, learn something new, and have a little fun. The students are working really hard to make this conference something truly special and unique. They have a lot of work left to do, but they are well on their way to completing their goal.

SP: What did you like best about being a recreation major?

LB: What I like best about the field and what originally drew me to it is that it has so many varying impacts on not just the participants, but the communities we provide for. Parks and recreation services are an important part of the fabric of every community. As a student, I learned so much from the faculty at SUNY Cortland. They inspired me, and I attribute a significant part of my success as a professional to their tutelage and continued support.

SP: What do you like best about the conference planning class?

LB: What I enjoy most about advising the students in the special events planning class is watching the progression of the students as they turn into young professionals. Each class is different, but ultimately in my experience as advisor, the result has been the same - the students work hard, gain valuable skills and abilities, and form an event that they can be proud to have been a part of its creation.

RPLS Department Mission

Through learning, teaching, scholarship, and service, we promote the value of play, leisure, recreation, and parks for individuals, society, and the environment, enabling and inspiring students to become engaged citizens and effective professionals.



Values

- FREEDOM and self-determination, striving for balance and quality of life
- POSITIVE HUMANISM, celebrating diversity and equity for all people
- RESPECT for the field of recreation, parks and leisure studies
- GROWTH, quality and excellence in our work; this is a calling
- Love of and appreciation for LEARNING
- GLOBAL perspective
- CARING for each other and the environment; social and environmental responsibility
- INTEGRITY and authenticity
- We are, and we educate students to be, AGENTS OF CHANGE

Vision

We make a difference in the world. Our alumni continue to be outstanding leaders in the field of parks, recreation and leisure services. We have bright, passionate, and diverse students who think critically and are motivated to join our alumni ranks and contribute to the field and to their communities. We are a model at the national, state, and local level for excellence in teaching, research, and service in the recreation, parks and leisure studies field, and we are leaders in effecting positive social change and sustainable living. We are essential to the future of the profession and the mission of the college.



Antlers Passes to Cortland College Foundation



By Rob Rubendall, Director of the Center for Environmental and Outdoor Education, with portions from a SUNY Cortland press release

At the Annual Cortland Recreation Conference last November, I presented a workshop outlining the plans to transfer the Antlers property, acquired by the Auxiliary Services Corporation (ASC) in 1965, to the Cortland College Foundation. A letter of intent to that end was signed by ASC, the Foundation, and the College late last fall.

Part of the agreement required the College to sign a 30-year lease with the Foundation accepting full financial and oversight responsibility for operating Antlers. The lease traveled from the Attorney General's office to the Office of the State Comptroller for approval. A complex transfer agreement, it had the full support of every party involved, but took time to meet all the legal requirements.

On May 13, SUNY Cortland's plan to place more students and alumni in the living laboratory of the Adirondack wilderness took a giant step forward. Officials from the College, ASC, and Cortland College Foundation gathered in Brockway Hall to sign the change-of-ownership agreement, which gives the 2.7-acre camp complex, valued at more than \$1 million, to the Foundation. In conjunction with the transfer, SUNY Cortland enters into a 30-year lease agreement with the Foundation for the right to operate the former 19th-century hotel and summer resort. The transfer solidifies the College's commitment to Antlers and the improvements needed to help SUNY Cortland's Raquette Lake facilities reach their full potential,

SUNY Cortland President Erik J. Bitterbaum, standing, presided over the historic change of ownership for the Antlers property.



"We are very pleased that Auxiliary Services Corporation is making this important transfer of Antlers," said President Erik Bitterbaum. "This will enable the College to further develop its vision for students to gain a greater appreciation of the Adirondacks. We hope that all SUNY Cortland students take advantage of the opportunities they have to experience first-hand the rich life lessons the Antlers experience has to offer."



A student examines a specimen found near Antlers during class in the Casino.

Antlers currently accommodates up to 45 overnight guests, serves meals, and offers unique classroom and meeting space. For decades, alumni have used Antlers to reunite with their classmates in an informal setting. Many feel a very strong connection to the camp.

"I'm very pleased the Foundation is taking over Antlers, and I can see only positive outcomes in the future," said **John Silsby '69 M '70**. "I've been there many times, and as an alumnus, I am glad of the opportunities I've had. It's such a tremendous resource for the College and for alumni."

Silsby currently chairs the Harlan Gold Metcalf Endowment Fund, which benefits the Recreation, Parks and Leisure Studies Department. The Endowment Board sponsors an annual Hearts of Gold Reunion at Antlers for alumni who studied with the late, revered SUNY Cortland emeritus professor Harlan "Gold" Metcalf, as well as selected current recreation majors.



Antlers

With the property acquisition, the Cortland College Foundation ends the silent phase of a \$1.5 million campaign for a Program and Access Endowment for Raquette Lake. The proceeds from this endowment will support new programs and help defray transportation costs for groups using both Antlers and Camp Huntington in the future.

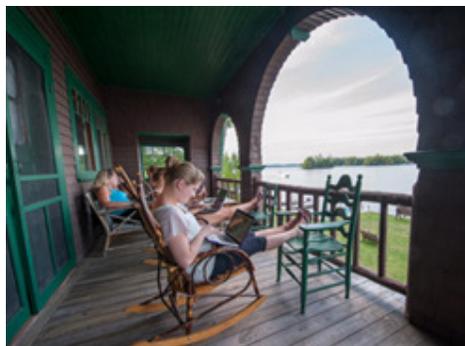
The transfer of the Antlers property to the College will increase efficiency in operating both sides of the Raquette Lake Outdoor Education Center as one. Limitations on fundraising, use of state money on facility projects, and state personnel in operations and maintenance will no longer be an impediment to ongoing improvements and program development.

For instance, at the conference presentation last fall, I shared that a business plan for renovating Antlers and expanding spring and fall programs was part of the transfer agreement. SUNY Cortland has pledged \$1 million for future upgrades to Antler's infrastructure which will enable us to expand the operation at Antlers to three seasons. This will include the introduction of both weekend retreats and practicum courses that would involve students in environmental education working with middle school students in a residential program.

"The Raquette Lake center is something that makes us special and very different from other college campuses," said Kimberly Pietro, vice president for institutional advancement and executive director of the Cortland College Foundation. "It's a place we're quite proud of because we are among only a very few SUNY institutions that can offer this kind of unique, historical wilderness learning opportunity."

The endowment initiative is part of "Educating Champions: The Campaign for Cortland," which has made steady and significant progress in raising a total of \$25 million to support the College's major priorities. Although the overall campaign ended June 30, the Raquette Lake campaign will continue until all needs are met. The Foundation has numerous building- and room-naming opportunities on site at Raquette Lake along with special giving societies that will offer permanent recognition to leadership donors.

For more information about the Campaign for Raquette Lake, contact the Cortland College Foundation, Inc. at SUNY Cortland, Brockway Hall Room 313, P.O. Box 2000, Cortland, NY 13045; or call 607-753-5744; or email cortlandcollegefoundation@cortland.edu; or visit the Center for Environmental and Outdoor Education website at cortland.edu/raquette.



Students unwind from a long day of learning on the upstairs porch in the Casino building at Antlers.

Adirondack Trail Blazers: SUNY Cortland's First Outdoor Orientation Program Launches August 2013



By Dr. Amy Shellman, Assistant Professor

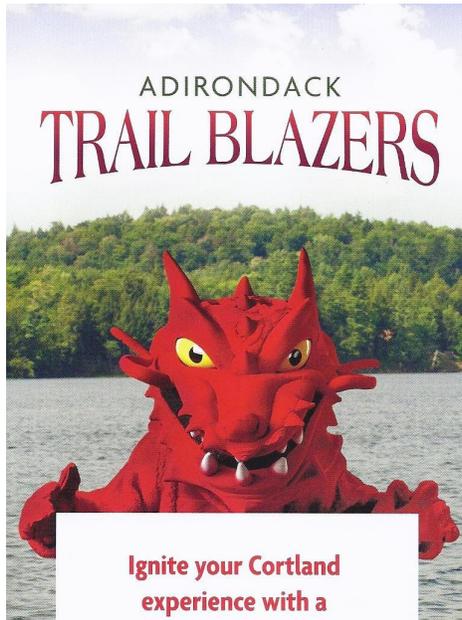
Thanks to a joint effort between SUNY Cortland's Center for Outdoor Education and the Recreation, Parks and Leisure Studies Department, incoming first-year students at SUNY Cortland will have the opportunity to begin their college experience this August as an Adirondack Trail Blazer!

Along with a small group of their peers, students will embark on an exciting and challenging weeklong adventure in the Adirondacks. While outdoor/wilderness orientation programs have been operating at colleges around the United States for many years, this will be the first time SUNY Cortland has embarked on such an adventure.

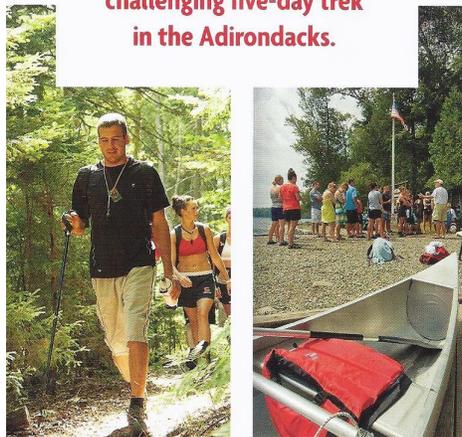
The inaugural session of Adirondack Trail Blazers will take place August 18-23. After moving into their residence hall, first-year students will travel to Raquette Lake to begin their outdoor orientation experience.

Once at Camp Huntington, they will participate in team building activities and outdoor skill development before paddling away for two nights of camping under the stars. Upon returning to camp, students will be able to challenge themselves on the high ropes course and participate in a celebration of their new beginning before returning to campus to join all first-year students for welcome weekend.

*SUNY Cortland's
Mascot, Blaze*



**Ignite your Cortland
experience with a
challenging five-day trek
in the Adirondacks.**



cortland.edu/trailblazers

**SUNY
Cortland**

Be an Adirondack Trail Blazer, and

- make friends that will last a lifetime.
- build confidence in yourself to take on new challenges.
- explore the Adirondack Mountains by canoe and trail.
- experience SUNY Cortland's National Historic Landmark Huntington Memorial Camp.
- meet faculty and upper-class students in a casual, relaxed environment.

Adirondack Trail Blazers uses the outdoors as a medium through which to assist students in adjusting to college life and improving their chances of success. The program is open to all new students, regardless of major or economic background.

Research has shown that such programs have the potential to increase student retention and grade point averages (Gass, 1990). In addition, wilderness orientation programs contribute to personal growth (e.g., self-confidence, resilience) and social support, including both peer and faculty relations (Bell, 2005).

Inherent physical challenges, like route finding, setting up camp, paddling or hiking in unfamiliar territory, preparing meals, dealing with unpredictable weather, and using the ropes course, will provide rich content for reflective discussions about how life at SUNY Cortland may challenge students. The program will also equip students with knowledge of campus resources available to them to help make sure their first year is a success.

References cited:

Bell, B. J. (2005). Social support development and wilderness pre-orientation experiences. *Journal of Experiential Education*, 28 (3), 248-249.

Gass, M. A. (1990). The longitudinal effects of an adventure orientation program. *Journal of College Student Development*, 31 (1), 33-38.

2012-2013 Award and Scholarship Winners in the RPLS Department

The Alumni OEP Award, established by a generous alumna of 2001, is used to support the fee for the Outdoor Education Practicum at Raquette Lake. Preference is given to non-traditional students with financial need. This year's recipient is **Magdalena Janczak** from Brooklyn, NY.

The Marcia K. Carlson Award, in honor of professor emeritus Dr. Marcia Carlson, longtime faculty member at SUNY Cortland, recognizes a student who has made a significant contribution to the areas of outdoor education. This year's recipients are **Melanie Canna** from Farmington, NY, and **Matthew Wryk** from East Aurora, NY.

The NYS Federation of Home Bureaus Phyllis Doe Scholarship is awarded to a student in therapeutic recreation for high academic achievement and leadership. This year's recipient is **Caralie Fennessey** from Fairport, NY.

The Robert Ditton '64 OEP Award, established in honor of Distinguished Alumnus Dr. Bob Ditton, '64 is given to a student with high academic achievement and promise in the field to help offset costs of attending OEP at Raquette Lake. This year's recipient is **Molly Decker** from Syracuse, NY.

The Joyce A. Gaus '60 Scholarship is given to an admitted freshman who demonstrates high academic achievement and leadership ability. **Clara Pittleman** of Derwood, MD, returns as this year's recipient.



The Thomas L. Goodale '61 Community Service Scholarship, established by Distinguished Alumnus Tom Goodale '61, is awarded to a recreation student who has demonstrated a strong record of community or school service activities and high academic achievement. This year's recipient is **Melanie Canna** from Farmington, NY, and next year's will be **Klarisa Prikazsky** of Endicott, NY.

The John B. Knox Memorial Scholarship is awarded to Hamilton County residents with an interest in outdoor education who demonstrate high academic achievement and leadership qualities outside the classroom. This year's recipient is **Hunter Aldridge** of Tupper Lake, NY.

The Ralph S. Mauro Award honors Ralph Mauro, who was a student in the RPLS Department in the 1970s. Ralph demonstrated a high degree of enthusiasm and dedication to helping others with disabilities and was an individual with a physical disability himself. When he died in 1978, Ralph was actively involved in several community organizations that support individuals with disabilities. This year's recipient is **Robyn Perez** from Eastchester, NY.

The Harlan "Gold" Metcalf Award honors the founder of the RPLS Department, Harlan "Gold" Metcalf, and recognizes a student who exemplifies Dr. Metcalf's qualities of good scholarship, interest in many activities, high moral and ethical character, and dedication to serving people. This year's recipient is **Devon Keir** from Delmar, NY.

The John MacPhee Scholarship is given each semester to a recreation major who shows academic achievement, professional promise, and clear educational goals. It honors John A. MacPhee, one of the founding faculty members of the RPLS Department. This year's recipients are **Melanie Canna** from Farmington, NY, and **Ariene Balbach** from Pine Bush, NY.

The John "Jack" MacPhee Award is given each year to a recreation major who shows academic achievement and is a scholar/athlete. This year's recipient is **Brittan Kuhlman** from Elkhorn, NE.

The Jay '66 and Bettie Lee Yerka Award for Excellence in Recreation and Leisure Studies recognizes a student who is majoring in recreation, demonstrates outstanding academic achievement and leadership, and has high moral and ethical character. In addition, the award is preferably given to a non-traditional student in therapeutic recreation. This year's recipient is **Renee Brodeur** of Syracuse, NY.

The Outstanding Senior Recreation Major Award was given to **Robyn Perez** from Eastchester, NY, who was selected by her peers.



Additional Awards

New York State Recreation and Parks Society Friends Foundation Scholarships are awarded to NYS residents majoring in the recreation, parks and leisure services field at accredited colleges in the state. Applicants are judged on their academic records, leadership, activities, resourcefulness, personal philosophy, professional affiliations, and involvement. Three SUNY Cortland students received these prestigious scholarships this year: **Jessica Andrianos '13**, a senior therapeutic recreation major from Camillus, NY, **Erin Carrino**, senior with a double major in recreation and fitness development from Baldwinsville, NY, and **Nicholas Prechel**, a graduate student from Getzville, NY, majoring in recreation with a concentration in management of leisure services.



Erin Carrino (above), Nick Prechel (top left), and Jessica Andrianos '13(right)

- **The Central New York Recreation and Parks Society "Fran Tokar" Scholarship** honors one of the founders of CNYRPS, Francis Tokar. This region-wide award recognizes a recreation student who has excelled in leadership, volunteerism, or participation in his/her community/school or intern assignment. **Jessica Andrianos '13**, senior with a major in therapeutic recreation from Camillus, NY, was this year's recipient.

Rho Phi Lambda

Rho Phi Lambda is the national honorary society for Recreation, Parks, and Leisure Services (see www.rhophilambda.org/). SUNY Cortland's Chapter is **Alpha Eta** with Dr. Brooke Burk currently serving as advisor.

To achieve the honor of membership in Rho Phi Lambda, a student must show evidence of academic excellence in scholarship, leadership, and service to campus or community. Undergraduate students must have completed 45 credit hours (at least 9 in the major) and be in the upper 15% of their class or have a minimum GPA of 3.2 in professional courses. Graduate students must have a minimum grade point average of 3.5 and completed 9 credit hours of professional courses.

Listed below are this year's inductees to Rho Phi Lambda. These 12 students join the 93 other members that have been inducted into SUNY Cortland's Alpha Eta Chapter since its inception in 2004. These students embody the significance and spirit of excellence in scholarship, leadership, and service.

2013 Rho Phi Lambda Inductees

<u>Undergraduates:</u>	<u>Graduate Students:</u>
Jessica Andrianos '13	Alexandra Dubin
Jenna Carson '13	Heather Hill
Melissa Case	Steven Schaap '06
Emily Hunt	
Neal Nelson	
Sarah Powers	
Alexandra Ramirez	
Erinn Rodman	
Brian Skeats	



In the Rho Phi Lambda emblem, the 18 chain links represent 18 existing charter chapters. The triangle's two base corners represent scholarship and leadership, while the apex represents service. The Greek letters PΦΛ in the triangle represent recreation, park, and leisure. The olive branches half circling the letters represent honor and success.

Two Awards Created to Recognize Graduate Students

The Outstanding Graduate Student in RPLS Award, a new award created by the RPLS faculty this year, is given to a graduate student who demonstrates scholastic achievement at the highest level, creative contributions beyond degree or departmental requirements, commitment to diversity, and exceptional service to SUNY Cortland. The first recipient of this award is **Sarah Olear** from LeRoy, NY.



The Kevin S. Pieluszczak Memorial Award was a one-time monetary award given by a thoughtful former graduate student who wanted to honor the memory of **Kevin Pieluszczak**, who passed away on October 3, 2011, following a four-year battle with sarcoma. Kevin had been pursuing a Master's degree in Recreation with a concentration in Environmental and Outdoor Education. "Kevin was passionate about life and did not let cancer define what he did or who he was. Having someone honor his memory is an outstanding tribute to Kevin and how he lived life to the fullest," wrote John Pieluszczak, Kevin's father, upon learning about the department's plans to commemorate his son. The recipient of this award, **Nicholas Prechel** from Getzville, NY, closely exemplifies the characteristics and talents of Kevin, which include high moral character, exemplary writing skills, love of the outdoors, and extraordinary service to the community.

Alumni Advisory Committee

Raul 'Rocci' Aguirre '95 Director of Conservation, Adirondack Council
Celeste Bernardo-Dunn '85 Superintendent, Lowell National Historic Park, National Park Service
Karen Caccese Matson '99 Special Events Planner, Manhattan, NY
Jessica Hatfield Daily '01 Activities Director, Walden Place
Ike Kuzio '00 Recreation Specialist, Westchester County Department of Parks
Gary Lopez '96 Recreation Supervisor, Onondaga County Parks
Timothy O'Connell '90 Professor & Chair, Recreation and Leisure Studies, Brock University
Ellen Lupia O'Sullivan '70 Professor Emeritus, Southern State Connecticut University
Laureen Penney McGee '99 Executive Director, Booker T. Washington Community Center
David Peppel '97 Director of Operations, Mohawk Valley and Hutchings Psychiatric Centers
Robyn Perez President, SUNY Cortland Recreation Association
John Silsby '69, M '70 (Chair) Retired Director of Parks and Recreation, Groton, CT
Carol Zimmerman '95 Adventure Education Specialist, St. Lawrence County Health Initiative
William Zimmerman '76 Recreation Director, City of New Rochelle Recreation
<u>Emeritus Members:</u>
Dr. Tom Goodale '61
Dr. Geoffrey Godbey '64

Spotlight on Graduate Education

New Online Certificate in Therapeutic Recreation under Development

By Dr. Lynn Anderson, Distinguished Service Professor, CTRS, CPRP

Scenario One: Janet has been working for the state in a job classification of recreation therapist. When she was hired years ago, her college degree in physical education was sufficient to meet the job qualifications. With a state licensure bill on the horizon in therapeutic recreation in New York, Janet wants to pursue national certification as a Certified Therapeutic Recreation Specialist with NCTRC so she will be prepared for the licensure law in the future. Janet has well over five years of experience in the field, but lacks the academic courses to pursue certification.

Scenario Two: John just graduated with his bachelor's degree in psychology. He is interested in working in the field of therapeutic recreation, which he discovered and fell in love with while working in his first job at a human services agency. The therapeutic recreation specialist at the agency is willing to provide a year of mentored supervision needed to pursue national certification as a CTRS, but John lacks the academic coursework he will also need to pursue certification.

Scenario Three: Lisa is a graduate student at a college in the Midwest. Because she needed to miss a semester due to a family crisis, she was unable to complete all her required coursework in therapeutic recreation. In order to graduate in a timely manner, she needs to find a few therapeutic recreation courses online in order to complete her degree requirements.

Scenario Four: Samantha needs to earn continuing education for her recertification in therapeutic recreation. She does not have the time or money to attend several conferences or workshops, so wants to take a college class to earn her CEUs. However, she needs to continue her full-time job and cannot travel to take a class since the nearest university with therapeutic recreation courses is over two hours away. She is looking for an online course to help her with her continued professional development.

These scenarios highlight the need for an online certificate program in therapeutic recreation, which is under development here at SUNY Cortland. Therapeutic recreation is one of the fastest growing health/human services professions (US Bureau of Labor Statistics) and is listed as one of the top 10 "best jobs to save the world" by CNN Money. AllHealthCare named therapeutic recreation the best paying health care job with a bachelor's degree. Healthcare Pathways named therapeutic recreation among its top ten fields of study, and Kiplinger named it one of the most lucrative fields with only a bachelor's degree. At SUNY Cortland, the therapeutic recreation major continues to grow in popularity.

As a growing field, many have entered the therapeutic recreation profession with a related degree. However, due to a growing trend to require at minimum national certification and at most state licensure, many of these existing professionals now need to get the education needed to become either certified or licensed. As well, many new graduates with more broad related undergraduate degrees (psychology, sociology, family/human development, and other similar degrees) would be able to enter the profession by gaining

the requirements for certification and/or licensure. Lastly, therapeutic recreation specialists who are currently certified must maintain certification through continuing education and may also pursue specialty certification. College credit is the most expedient method of achieving this continuing education and advanced certification.



An online graduate certificate program in therapeutic recreation would fulfill the varying needs of a large group of entering and practicing professionals in therapeutic recreation. As a certificate program available only to those with bachelor's degrees, the set of courses would lead to a "Certificate in Therapeutic Recreation" (not a degree) and would fulfill *academic* requirements in therapeutic recreation to enable graduates to sit for the national certification exam (which is typically used to meet state licensure requirements). Graduating from the certificate program (and meeting the GPA and other listed criteria) could also provide a pathway into the master's in therapeutic recreation at SUNY Cortland. Additionally, professionals could take just one or a few courses to maintain certification, not the entire certificate program. *[Continued on page 9.]*

A Graduate Student's Perspective



*By Eric Bacon,
Graduate Student in
Recreation with a
Concentration in
Management of
Leisure Services*

For sixteen years I have been a municipal parks and recreation director and presently serve as the Parks and Recreation Director for the Town of Camillus. Just over two years ago, I decided that it was time to expand my horizons, and I decided to enroll in graduate school at SUNY Cortland in the Masters of Science degree program with a concentration in Management of Leisure Services. I have thoroughly enjoyed my time at Cortland working towards my degree and have gained a great deal of knowledge that I have been able to apply to my everyday duties as a professional working in the field.

This semester I was fortunate to take the Site and Facilities Planning Course that is offered to both graduate and undergraduate students (REC 441/541). This class

was instructed by adjunct faculty member Mr. Kenneth Teter '77, a licensed engineer who operates his own business. The course included ten students who had the chance to learn about topics such as site design, State Environmental Quality Review Act (SEQR), master planning, needs assessment, grant funding, construction management, "green" infrastructure, Requests for Proposals (RFPs), and consultant selection.



The Site Facilities Planning Class at Lime Hollow

The topics of the semester were reinforced with excellent off-site visits and guest speakers. During the course our class had the opportunity to visit Lime Hollow Center for Environment and Culture, the J.M. McDonald Sports Complex, and the new SUNY Cortland Student Life Center con-

struction site. We had guest speakers: Ms. Ann Deveny Hotchkin '75 from Thoma Development Consultants and Ms. Nasrin Parvizi, the SUNY Cortland Associate Vice President of Facilities Management. Each of these visits and speakers helped to connect material from the classroom to real-world examples in the field.

During my time at Cortland, I have found the graduate program to be excellent and applicable to my position in the profession. I feel that the site and facilities planning course was one of the more valuable courses that I have taken to date. Many of the topics that we discussed during the semester were topics that I have had to deal with throughout my career. Often times, as with many things in life, I "learned as I went" and attempted to "self-teach" the best that I possibly could. This semester, I had the chance to gain a formal education in areas that I wished I had the opportunity to learn about years ago. Had I done so earlier, my life would have been much easier.

I would like to give kudos to the Recreation, Parks and Leisure Studies Department and Mr. Ken Teter '77 for providing the site and facilities planning course this semester. It was an excellent opportunity for me and the students of our degree program to gain valuable knowledge.

CTRS [Continued from page 8.]

The online graduate certificate program will be comprised of six 3-credit graduate courses. This set of courses will include one general recreation theory/philosophy course and five therapeutic recreation content courses structured around the requirements of national certification. A student may complete all six courses and earn the certificate, as well as be considered for admission to a full master's degree if desired, or a student may take just one or two courses. In addition, resident TR graduate students at SUNY Cortland may take courses from the online offerings if desired. This may lessen the acute demand that currently exists for our residential courses in therapeutic recreation.

The certificate will meet the therapeutic recreation academic requirements that a candidate needs to sit for the national exam. It will not provide the support courses or the practical experience (mentored practice for one year or five years of experience in the field). However, these requirements will often be met through re-

lated undergraduate degrees, community college courses, and even other online courses at SUNY Cortland as well as through one's job. The curriculum proposal for the online Certificate in Therapeutic Recreation will be developed over fall semester 2013, with the plan to implement the first set of courses fall semester 2014. Dr. Lynn Anderson will be the primary instructor of the courses, but it is hoped that adjunct faculty with nationally recognized expertise will teach a few of the courses as well.

The graduate Certificate in Therapeutic Recreation will help extend the online learning options at SUNY Cortland, will meet a need in the therapeutic recreation profession, and will hopefully lead to more professionals pursuing national certification as an indicator of higher quality therapeutic recreation services to consumers. If you have any ideas about the Certificate in TR, or have data to show the need for such a program, please contact Lynn at lynn.anderson@cortland.edu.



Graduate Research Methods Class Assists NYSRPS with Membership Survey

By *Alexandra Dubin, Graduate Student in Recreation with a Concentration in Environmental and Outdoor Education*

The New York State Recreation and Park Society (NYSRPS) is the main statewide organization that works to advance and enrich the field of parks, recreation and leisure services by connecting members from across the state and promoting professional development within the field. The society consists of professionals from a variety of sectors, faculty, students, and others with an investment in parks, recreation and leisure.

NYSRPS is looking to grow its membership base and improve the services offered, and thus requires an analysis of its current members before implementing a strategic planning initiative. The society enlisted SUNY Cortland's Recreation, Parks and Leisure Services Department to compile a profile of its members which could help guide decisions for the future. The goal was to

give NYSRPS greater insight about their current members, their satisfaction with the resources provided, and the professional interests and needs of the members. It was critical to study the numerous methods of communicating with members to determine their efficacy and to determine which are indeed utilized by members.

Under the guidance of Dr. Sharon Todd, the graduate research methods class (REC 601 and 602) used both surveys and focus groups to gain information and feedback for NYSRPS. The survey was created and piloted by the class, and a focus group outline was formulated to maintain consistency between the student-led focus group sessions. Data were both quantitative, from the surveys, and qualitative, from the focus groups and opened-ended survey questions. Much of

the data were gathered at the annual NYSRPS Conference, which was held March 17-19, 2013, in Rochester, NY. Surveys were distributed to conference attendees in their registration packets, while focus groups were held during certain sessions of the conference. The next step for the graduate research class was to compile and transcribe the data so it could be analyzed. By the end of the summer, the results will be ready for submission to the society.

This endeavor has been a great undertaking, but also an invaluable learning experience. These results will guide NYSRPS as it grows through the implementation of a new strategic plan aimed at improving its services, recruiting new members, and increasing member satisfaction.

A SUCCESSFUL ALUMNI-STUDENT PARTNERSHIP

By *Dr. Sharon Todd, Associate Professor and Chair*

Last January I received a phone call from **David Ellis '09**, Parks and Recreation Director for the Town of Southport, with an exciting request. The Chemung County Summer Cohesion Orientation and Training Committee was seeking dynamic presenters to facilitate an employee workshop this summer, and David wondered if I could recommend some current students from our program to deliver the keynote session. What a wonderful opportunity to explore how current SUNY Cortland students and alumni can partner in the field!

Summer Cohesion is a recreational, educational, and cultural enrichment program delivered to over 800 youth ages 4 to 12 years old in Chemung County. 2013 marked the program's 39th successful year of providing safe, well-structured programming for youth throughout the summer months.

Each June, over 125 Summer Cohesion employees, along with employees from several other recreation programs in the area such as the Town Of Southport's Summer Parks Program, the Youth Bureau's Summer Youth Employment Program, and the Youth Bureau's Summer Recreation Program for Teens (SPOT), attend a comprehensive 3-day training prior to program start. This training is comprised of workshops that focus on health and safety, supervision, youth development, team building, indoor/outdoor games, arts and crafts, field trips, and more.

The committee wished to focus on the importance of play and leisure time activities as the theme of this year's training. "Their jobs are MORE than just summer jobs; they are playing a major role in the lives of so many youth!" exclaimed David. He also noted that the committee wanted their staff to understand that their jobs are part of an important professional field for which they could receive further education and experience a rewarding career.

On June 25, graduate assistant **Tyler Merriam** headed an impressive group of undergraduates – **Ariene Balbach, Olivia Joseph, Corey Samot, and Kim Zehr** – to provide approximately 40 minutes of interactive training with Chemung County staff using examples of play and how it relates to youth development. They also fully demonstrated what the staff role should look like as they interact with the children in their care.

"Having the SUNY Cortland students demonstrate that a job can be fun was great for our employees to see. I know one 14-year-old Summer Youth Employment Program employee raised his hand and said, 'I just want to say all of you are AWESOME!!' It was cool to see that the presentation had such a quick impact on the staff," noted David. "I cannot say enough good things about the presentation and having Tyler, Kim, Ariene, Corey, and Olivia there. They truly did an awesome job. They all represented Cortland very well, and I was proud to show off to everyone that I, too, was a Cortland student and alum!"



- ☑ Passenger van (2009 or newer)
- ☑ Trailer for transporting gear and equipment (boats, windsurfers, etc.)
- ☑ GPS units
- ☑ Kayaks, canoes, and windsurfers in good condition
- ☑ Adaptive recreation equipment and sport wheelchairs
- ☑ Bicycles for the Community Bike Project
- ☑ Items from countries around the world related to play, recreation, leisure, or culture (toys, games, etc.)
- ☑ Outdoor education supplies



In order to implement our many service learning opportunities, the RPLS Department continues to be in dire need of a 12-passenger van. We also need van(s) to transport students and equipment for our outdoor recreation courses, activity courses, and Outdoor Education Practicum, as well as to transport members of our active student club, SUNY Cortland Recreation Association (SCRA), and other students to service projects, events, and professional development experiences such as state conferences. If you or a group of alumni would like to work to procure a large van for the department, we would be extremely grateful!

We are also in need of many other items. If you would like to make a donation to the department, please contact Dr. Sharon Todd, Department Chair, to make arrangements. Your generosity would be greatly appreciated and would make an immediate impact on the students and their learning.



Spring Break Adventure: Destination, Florida!

*By Jennifer Miller '08, M '12,
Adjunct Instructor*



This past spring break the SUNY Cortland Outdoor Opportunities Program (COOP) offered a new program, and it was a hit! I mean, what's not to like about paddling and camping in sunny, 75-80 degree weather in the middle of winter? The COOP headed for some fun in the sun on an alternative spring break trip to Florida. Forget the regular spring break hotspots... the COOP group went on an adventurous sea kayaking expedition through several of the majestic waterways of Florida.

We encountered manatees on the Weeki Wachee, evaded alligators on the Myakka, and encountered dolphins and loads of other wildlife throughout the 10,000 Islands in and out of the Everglades National Park.

On the first day, we were sized and fitted for our kayaks at Sweetwater, a sea kayak outfitter in St. Petersburg. The guides from Cross Currents were very helpful in getting us prepared with the appropriate gear. The group then headed to the Weeki Wachee with kayaks in tow.

After we set up camp, there was no hesitation to get onto the water. Geared up, the students meandered down the Weeki Wachee only to quickly run into a family of manatees. The curiosity of the baby manatees created quite the stir. The paddlers were first astonished by the size of these sea creatures, only to realize just how gentle they truly are.

After a wonderful day on the Weeki Wachee, we headed to the Myakka State Park, where the kayaking adventure led to several alligator sightings. Some nerves were on edge, but with the expertise of our guides, we came to realize that the alligators were more afraid of us than we were of them. Because of the low water levels of the Myakka, it was then a great opportunity to check out the Myakka Canopy Walkway.

The next morning, we drove to the ranger station, packed our kayaks, and off we went for a 4-day, 3-night kayak expedition through the

10,000 Islands just off the southwest tip of Florida. As we came close to the sandy beach of our first island, we intersected a pod of dolphins. Several oooohs and aaaahs hummed through the warm air as the dolphins swam under our kayaks to surface only a few feet away from our paddles.

The days were spent paddling, navigating, exploring, and camping in the 10,000 Islands. We saw many dolphins, several ospreys, and loads of other wildlife... possibly even sharks that were not much smaller than our kayaks! On the fourth day, our return trip to the ranger station was slow going, because for most of us, we didn't want the trip to end.

As we approached the ranger station, we witnessed a pod of dolphins herding fish. It was amazing to watch the fins as they swam in fast, small circles, corralling the fish. It took us off guard at first, because several of us thought, "Shark!" But, the more we ob-

served the disturbance in the water, the more we realized what was happening. What a brilliant opportunity to see such wildlife behavior up-close and personal and a fantastic way to top off an amazing adventure.

After our return, we hemmed and hawed and shared the many stories of the trip as we cleaned our kayaks out and washed the saltwater off. All in all, the trip was highly refreshing and adventurous. Several of the students walked away from the trip stating they had a wonderful time. These types of experiences create long-lasting memories. Not only did we have a wonderful time in the sunny weather of Florida, we gained extensive experience in sea kayaking and enjoyed the bonding and camaraderie of the sea kayak expedition team.

The feedback from the students indicated that alternative spring break trips like this were something they would like to see in the future.

An Update on the Inclusive Recreation Resource Center at SUNY Cortland

By Dr. Lynn Anderson, Center Director



The Inclusive Recreation Resource Center (IRRC) (www.InclusiveRec.org) has as its mission helping *ALL* people play wherever they choose. The IRRC has developed several tools to put that mission into practice:

- **The Inclusivity Assessment Tool (IAT)**, a tool that gathers information and describes the usability of recreation amenities for people with disabilities and their families and friends. The IAT assesses both the physical and social aspects of inclusivity at a recreation site, including administrative and program practices.
- **Inclusion U**, a day-long training that teaches participants about inclusion and how to measure and describe it using the Inclusivity Assessment Tool. Inclusion U has been delivered to over 2,500 participants, who become “Certified Inclusivity Assessors” (CIAs) at the end of the training. CIAs include professionals in parks and recreation, therapeutic recreation, disability and human services, tourism, people with disabilities, and more. A large number of CIAs are college students studying to become parks and recreation professionals, as Inclusion U has become part of the curriculum at over ten universities in New York.
- **The Online Recreation Database**, a resource that provides all the information about inclusivity at a recreation site. The information is collected by CIAs using the Inclusivity Assessment Tool. The information is organized by tourism regions in New York and beyond, and provides people with disabilities and their families and friends accurate and specific information about recreation amenities so they can plan meaningful leisure, recreation, and travel experiences.
- **Inclusive Recreation Resource Center Website**, featuring not only the online recreation database, but a wealth of information and technical assistance on accessible and inclusive recreation. The website has been visited by people all over the world, and the resources available on the website continue to grow.
- **Partnerships** with New York State Office of Parks, Recreation, and Historic Preservation, New York State Department of Environmental Conservation, I Love NY Tourism, state professional and advocacy groups, and several universities to work collaboratively to improve recreation inclusion in the state of New York. We have also formed partnerships with other agencies, even outside New York. The Belize Zoo is a good example of a partnership that was strengthened this year under the leadership of Dr. Vicki Wilkins.

The Center is again working with NYS Developmental Disabilities Planning Council (DDPC) over the next two years to make its services even more available. The initiatives include:

- A strengthened partnership with the NYS Office Parks, Recreation, and Historic Preservation (OPRHP) and the Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC). Through the partnership, over 400 state-operated recreation amenities will be assessed and entered into the online database, as the staff at those sites are mentored in the inclusion and accessibility process. Feedback on how to improve the usability of state recreation sites will be provided by Certified Inclusivity Assessors. Training will be provided at DEC and OPRHP meetings as well.
- Inclusion U, the well-researched and well-regarded training that prepares Certified Inclusivity Assessors, will be made available in an online format so that anyone interested the training can participate from the comfort of their home or their state park!
- The development of a responsive and mobile website and database, and more recreation sites assessed and entered into the database.
- The development of an app to allow the online recreation database to be used while out traveling on a smartphone or tablet and to allow CIAs to enter assessment data real time in the field.



In addition to work with the DDPC, OPRHP, and DEC, the Center will be working closely over the next two years with the Adirondack North Country Association, increasing accessibility and information sharing along the three scenic byways in the ten counties that make up the Adirondacks.

The evaluation completed to date by the IRRC supports the high impact the Center is having on helping all people play wherever they choose! We will continue to evaluate new initiatives and share best practices with the recreation field. Visit us at www.InclusiveRec.org!

The Belize Zoo Transformation Project

By Sarah Olear, Graduate Student in Recreation with a concentration in Therapeutic Recreation



For Spring Break 2013, the REC 429/529 special topics class, *The Belize Zoo Accessibility Project*, traveled to Belize. They did not go to party, they did not go for the sun or the sand; instead they went for service learning. Twelve students and their fearless leader, Dr. Vicki Wilkins, collaborated with The Belize Zoo for an experience of a lifetime.



A partnership between the Inclusive Recreation Resource Center and The Belize Zoo is what sparked the idea of making the zoo accessible. Starting at the end of the Fall '12 semester, REC 429/529 students rose to the challenge and started fundraising, with a goal of reaching \$4,000. This money would be used to purchase materials needed to make The Belize

Zoo accessible to all through accessible pathways, restrooms, and a parking lot.

Through the support of the Cortland commu-

nity, the SUNY Cortland Campus, and the hard work of the students, \$4,430 was raised for the materials to make the zoo accessible! With their goal surpassed, the students boarded cars, planes, and buses and made the trip to Belize.

On March 9, the 12 students and their fearless leader landed in Belize, and the zoo employees met them at the airport. Allowing one day of acclimatization, which they spent at Xunantunich Mayan ruins, and one day of play, spent snorkeling off Caye Caulker island, the students spent



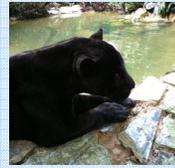
the majority of their time building an accessible pathway and parking lot.

This work-intensive process involved digging deep holes through packed pebbles and stones; setting rebar; mixing, hauling, and packing cement; painting signs; and completing a variety of other labor-intensive jobs. After four exhaustive days of physical labor, the task was finally complete. Eighty feet of pathway was laid from an accessible parking lot to the entrance of the zoo. An accessible restroom was also designated and painted.



While putting the finishing touches on the project, the REC 429/529 class got to meet with Jerome Flores, the man who inspired the zoo's transformation, as well as the founder of the zoo, Sharon Matola, in celebration of all their hard work.

After many farewells and hugs goodbye, the REC 429/529 class returned to New York. For many of them, this was their first time traveling out of the country. For many of them, it was one of the greatest experiences of their life so far. In one week, they influenced a country and helped to spread inclusion for all.



Stay tuned! Future phases of the project include renovating the zoo's playground so it is accessible to all, building an accessible restroom and path inside the park, and participating in accessibility awareness bike rides!



Where Are They Now?

John Morgan '63 is the supervisor of the Snow Sports School at Windham Mountain in Windham, NY.

Dr. Geoffrey Godbey '64 recently published a book of his poems titled *Finding Home* through Finishing Line Press.



Harry Stephens '74 has been working in the hospitality industry since 1978. "I have learned over the years that many of the skills learned in the classrooms of Jack MacPhee, Marcia Carlson, and others translate to all walks of life."



Suzette Wethje Pace '92 earned her Doctor of Audiology degree from Salus University in 2007. She has her own audiology and hearing aid practice in Cortland, NY. Prior to this, Suzette worked as a Recreation Director at an assisted living program in Syracuse from 1991-1999. She lives in Cortland with her husband Keith and their four children.

Raul "Rocci" Aguirre '95 recently earned an MS in Resource Management and Conservation at Antioch University New England while working with the Mo-

nadnock Conservancy in Keene, NH. In January he accepted a position as Director of Conservation with the Adirondack Council.

Kristine Fallon Zingaro '95 was the 2013 recipient of Central New York Recreation & Park Society's *David M. Guokas Memorial Award* for making a significant contribution to the advancement of the field and actively participating in community service. Kristine is the Recreation Supervisor for the Town of Manlius Recreation Department in Fayetteville, NY.



Margery Storey '04 moved to Utica, NY, last December and works as a Recreation Therapist at The House of the Good Shepherd. Prior to that, she had been working in outdoor recreation at The Children's Village in Dobbs Ferry, NY. She and **Emily Rau '04**, who teaches at a private preschool in New York City, still visit Raquette Lake and participate in alumni volunteer work weekends at Antlers.

Jessica Anderson-Ruiz '07 is working in New York State's Park System, but as of last spring, in a new

position. Congratulations to Jess on her promotion to Assistant Park Manager at Connetquot River State Park Preserve.

Kara Carrino '08 recently accepted a position for the City of Charleston, SC, as a Recreation Specialist at Bees Landing Recreation Center. When we saw her in May 2013, she was attending her **sister Erin's** commencement ceremony and was recently engaged!



Breeelan Ward Nash '08 is the Recreation and Volunteer Coordinator at Longview, a residential senior retirement community in Ithaca, NY, and acts as liaison to the Ithaca College/Longview partnership. Last spring she was inducted into Sigma Phi Omega, the national academic honor and professional society in gerontology.

Brendan Rafferty '11 passed his CTRS exam last fall and is gainfully employed at KidsPeace in Allentown, PA. KidsPeace is a private charity dedicated to serving the behavioral and mental health needs of children, pre-adolescents and teens.

An Alumna's Story of Her Harlan "Gold" Metcalf Bow

By Kristi Kistler Drake '68

How I knew Gold. The first member of our family to meet "Dr. Metcalf" was my 9-year-old sister, Heidi, who graduated from SUNY Cortland in 1965. She was enrolled in summer school at the campus school, and Gold was her swimming instructor. My mother was also in summer school pursuing her elementary teaching credential; she had graduated from Cortland Normal School. She learned of a two-week Outdoor Education course she could take at Raquette Lake. Her daughters were welcome to participate. It ended up that we drove Gold to camp, having met his wonderful wife Peg and their son Jim. "The rest is history," as they say. The Metcalfs were our life-time friends. It was only as an adult that I appreciated our truly special relationship with this remarkable man.

The bow. Gold made things for Heidi and me. Heidi still has her canoe paddle and her bow that Gold made her. I was about 10 or so when Gold presented me with a beautiful handmade Osage orange bow. One can learn of the making of such a bow (made as the American Indians would) from Gold's book, *Whittlin', whistles, and thingamajigs: The pioneer book of nature crafts and recreation arts* (see page 118). I shot that bow until I was a teenager when Gold (of course) helped me purchase a compound bow. After years as an active participant in the sport of archery (many, many wonderful years at the Teela-Wooket Archery Camp "TWAC"), life took a turn and I no longer was shooting. My archery/TWAC friends are in my life to this day. I shall always be grateful for the role of archery in my life.

A sacred object. As an adult living in New Hampshire, my dear friend Erich Sylvester visited me, and I decided Erich, who is an active archer and also knew Gold, should have the bow. He, after being the guardian of the bow for many years, has now brought the bow to its proper "home" with the American Indian tribe, the Ohlone. This honors Gold and I am so touched by Erich's thoughtfulness.



The Metcalf Display in the RPLS Department—note one of Gold's bows on the right.

From: Erich Sylvester
Date: August 5, 2013 12:37:53 AM EDT
To: Kristi Kistler Drake '68
Subject: The Metcalf bow you gave me

Editor's note: I am so sad to report that Kristi Kistler Drake '68 passed away unexpectedly on August 25, 2013, just two weeks after sharing the above story. As you can tell, she was a very special person and will be sorely missed by her dear friends.

Dear Kristi:

Anna and I have been introduced to the local tribe of indigenous people, the Ohlone. They have been here all weekend in the Presidio camping area for a tribal gathering. Yesterday, we visited them for dinner around the campfire. I decided to give them your old bow as a gift. I presented it to their chief Tony Cerda, who said they would use it as a ceremonial object. So your old bow has become a tribal totem, and I hope it remains in their hands after both of us are gone.

Erich Sylvester

SUNY Cortland Recreation, Parks & Leisure Studies Alumni Profile

Please take a minute to complete the "Alumni Profile" form. Mail or email it back to us with a photo (if possible). We love hearing from you!

Name:			Year Graduated:	
Degree:	<input type="checkbox"/> B.S.	<input type="checkbox"/> B.S. Ed.	<input type="checkbox"/> M.S.	<input type="checkbox"/> M.S. Ed.
Other Degrees Earned:				
Date:	Degree:	Field:	Institution:	
Certifications: (check all that apply)	<input type="checkbox"/> CPRP	<input type="checkbox"/> CTRS	Others:	
Present/Most Recent Position (job title):				
<input type="checkbox"/> Full-time <input type="checkbox"/> Part-time				
Brief description of duties:				
Agency and Address:			Type of Agency (e.g., therapeutic recreation, outdoor recreation, recreation management, etc.):	
First position after graduating from Cortland:				
Title:	Agency:		Location:	
Other Positions:				
Title:	Agency:		Location:	

Fondest memory of Cortland:
What the Cortland degree did for me:
A word of advice to current Cortland Recreation majors:
Topics on which you would be willing to be contacted by students:

Note: The department assumes that, by completing this form, you are authorizing this information to be shared with current and prospective students and with others interested in our department and programs.

If you are also willing to have your name in a database of alumni and/or internship sites, which present students may contact, please provide as much of the following additional information you are willing to share.

Phone: (Work) (____) _____ (Home) (____) _____

Fax: (____) _____ E-Mail: _____

Mailing Address: _____

Preferred means for students to contact you: _____

I am interested in mentoring an intern. Please have Dr. Vicki Wilkins contact me about the possibility of being part of the Internship Database.

Your responses and contributions to this newsletter are welcome. If you have news you'd like included in next year's newsletter, please include a hard copy of the information you'd like to share with this Profile.

Please return to: *(with a photo, if possible) (or email the form and photo to rpls@kortland.edu)*

**Department of Recreation, Parks and Leisure Studies
 SUNY Cortland, P.O. Box 2000, Cortland, NY 13045.
 Fax: 607/753-5982; Voice: 607/753-4941. Thank you!**