



LEISURE NOTES

DEPARTMENT OF RECREATION AND LEISURE STUDIES ALUMNI NEWSLETTER

THE JAY AND BETTIE LEE YERKA AWARD

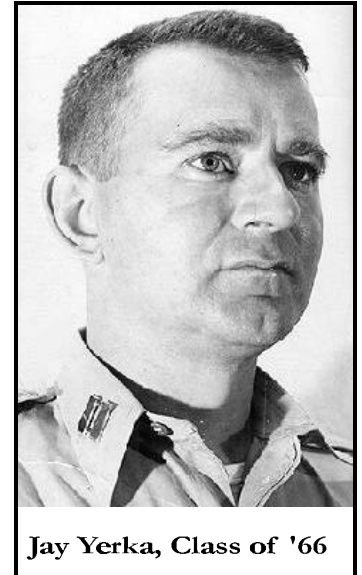
Newly established in 2002, the Jay ('66) and Bettie Lee Yerka Award for Excellence in Recreation and Leisure Studies recognizes a student who is majoring in recreation, demonstrates outstanding academic achievement and leadership, and has high moral and ethical character. In addition, the award is preferably given to a non-traditional student in therapeutic recreation. This award was established by Jay and Bettie Lee Yerka, prior to Jay's death this year.

Jay Yerka was a 1966 graduate of SUNY Cortland, majoring in recreation education/therapeutic recreation. He served as director of community recreation at Seneca Falls and as a recreational therapist at

the former psychiatric center in Ovid, NY, until his retirement in 1982. Prior to his career in recreation/therapeutic recreation, Jay served in the Pennsylvania National Guard and entered active duty in the US 2nd Army infantry division for WWII. He saw action in North Africa and the European Theater, during which he received many awards and medals, including a Purple Heart and a Bronze Star for Meritorious Service in ground operation against the enemy during the Rome-Arno campaign. He remained in the military as an officer after WWII and again saw action in the Korean Conflict. His army career took him to Japan and Germany, as well as many states in the US, finally bringing him to Cornell as

an instructor in the ROTC program, where he retired as Captain.

The first ever recipient of the Yerka Award was **Kelli Cunningham**, of Macedon, New York. Kelli received the award in 2002. The 2003 recipient is **Barb Crosby**, of Penn Yan, New York. Both of the therapeutic recreation students chosen for this award embody the qualities for which it was established. Both are active in leadership roles in the department and on campus, are excellent scholars, and serious students. By pursuing a career path in therapeutic recreation, they both will strive to improve the quality of life for all people, regardless of ability level. Jay and Bettie Lee's generosity in establishing this award,



Jay Yerka, Class of '66

as well as the generosity of numerous people who contributed to the endowment, will help therapeutic recreation students excel in their field and make a difference in the world, just as Jay Yerka did.

(More award information on p. 9)

RECREATION MAJOR RECEIVES CHANCELLOR'S AWARD

Carolyn Kelly, who graduated in December 2002, was honored in Albany, New York with the Chancellor's Award for Student Excellence. Carolyn was one of seven Cortland students to receive this award this year, out of the roughly 450,000 students of the

State University System. Carolyn is now working at the YMCA Tockwogh Camp and Conference Center, in Worton, Maryland.

Chancellor's Award nominees must have a grade point average of at least 3.77 or higher, and must

have demonstrated significant contributions to their campuses and communities.

Congratulations Carolyn! You have made SUNY Cortland and the Recreation and Leisure Studies Department very proud.

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LETTER FROM THE CHAIR

It has been another tumultuous year. The world as we know it continues to change rapidly in response to global events – war, terrorism, orange alerts, unstable international relations, a poor economy, new disease outbreaks like SARS, weapons of mass destruction . . . the list goes on. In times like these, it is hard to feel like you can make a difference in the world, or even in your own community. It is easy to feel overwhelmed, powerless, and even cynical.



In his book, *Soul of a Citizen: Living with Conviction in Cynical Times*, Paul Loeb states, “There is no greater antidote to powerlessness than joining with others in common cause. . . . Common problems can be solved through common efforts.” Next year, the theme on our campus will be “Civic Engagement.” It will be a year of focused effort on the part of students, faculty, and staff to join together to make a difference. The American Democracy Project, which is sponsoring the “Civic Engagement” project across the U.S. at numerous college campuses, defines civic engagement as, “working to make a difference in the civic life of our communities and developing the combination of knowledge, skills, values, and motivation to make that difference. It means promoting quality of life in a community, through both political and non-political processes.”

The Recreation and Leisure Studies Department has always put this philosophy into practice. It is at the heart of our mission and vision and central to the curriculum the students learn and the skills they gain. Just a look at the kinds of activities our students and faculty have been involved in just this past year shows our extensive civic engagement (see list on right). We can feel good about the work we do in our department. It matters. We do make a difference.

Next year, I am hoping the Recreation and Leisure Studies Department can do even more to promote civic engagement with the campus and community at large. We are well poised to take a leadership role in activities, to help all students feel empowered to change our world for the better and work toward common causes we care about. The faculty and students in our department will be brainstorming ideas early in the fall. As alumni, if you have any thoughts or ideas about promoting civic engagement in our department or across campus, we would welcome them. The work many of you do in your roles as recreation professionals serves as a model for civic engagement from which our students can learn. When you send us your alumni profile, please feel free to share your ideas, suggestions, and activities. We would love to hear from you.

- Lynn Anderson, Chair

CIVIC ENGAGEMENT

- Students provided services at the following community agencies that serve people with disabilities: JM Murray Center; Horizon House; McEvoy BOCES; Franciska Racker Center; Exceptional Family Resources; Northwoods Rehabilitation; Edgecourt Farm; and Patchwork Therapeutic Riding Center.
- Students provided services at the following youth serving agencies: Boys and Girls Club of Syracuse; Cortland College Child Care Center; Cortland County Child Development Center; Cortland Youth Bureau; Dewitt After-School Program; Dryden School-Age Program; Ithaca Youth Bureau; George Junior Republic; Boy Scouts; Girl Scouts; YMCA; and the YWCA.
- Students provided services to several outdoor and environmental agencies or causes such as the Lime Hollow Center for Environment and Culture.
- Students provided services at the following agencies serving older adults: Area Agency on Aging; Heritage House; Cortland Care Center; Cortland County Office on Aging; Elizabeth Brewster House; Groton Residential Facility; Kendal at Ithaca; and Walden Place.
- Students continue to assess the accessibility of the SUNY Cortland campus to develop a web page for visitors with disabilities.
- Students completed needed research for agencies such as the YWCA; Tioughnioga River Trail Project; SUNY Cortland Recreational Sports; and St. Mary's School.

A NEW SCHOOL

In July, the Recreation and Leisure Studies Department will become part of a new School of Professional Studies as a part of restructuring. All the departments related to education, which have been a part of Professional Studies, have been re-configured into the School of Education. The School of Professional Studies will comprise the following five departments: Exercise Science and Sport Studies; Health; Physical Education; Recreation and Leisure Studies; and Speech Pathology and Audiology. Dr. Chris Malone will continue as Dean of the School of Professional Studies, and a search is underway for a new associate dean. The five departments share much in common, and we are excited about upcoming collaborations that can occur under a shared mission for a new and improved school.

2003 CONFERENCE NEWS

It's that time of the year again. When we all start getting excited about the SUNY Cortland Recreation Conference. 53 years and we are still going strong. This year our theme is "Learning today...Leading tomorrow." The conference will be held November 6th and 7th in Fay Corey Union.

It has been very important to us as a class to offer a wide variety of educational sessions on all aspects of recreation and leisure Services. Focusing on outdoor education, programming, management, and therapeutic recrea-

tion, our sessions will be diverse, educational, and meaningful for all who attend. We are also offering an Internship Agency Fair, An All-Conference Social, and the Metcalf Lecture Luncheon.

For more information on the 53rd SUNY Cortland Recreation Conference, please call (607) 753-4939, email reconf@cortland.edu, or visit our website at http://www.cortland.edu/rec/2003_conference.pdf. Hope to see you all there!

- Rebecca Lee, Program Coordinator



Be sure to fill out our Conference Registration form on Page 11 of the Alumni Newsletter!

KEYNOTE ADDRESS: "CONSCIOUS LEADERSHIP: A MARK OF EXCELLENCE"

We are pleased to announce that Dr. Deb Jordan will be the Metcalf Endowment keynote speaker at the 53rd Annual Cortland Recreation Conference. Dr. Jordan is a professor and Graduate Coordinator in the Leisure Studies program at Oklahoma State University. She received her degrees from Slippery Rock State College in Pennsylvania, Western Illinois University, and Indiana University. Outside of higher education Dr. Jordan has worked as the director of university outdoor programs, as a recreation programmer with adjudicated youth, as a recreation leader for several small communities in the Midwest, as an outdoor leader on several extended outdoor trips, and at camps serving in roles as trip leader, counselor, program director, and director.

In addition to Oklahoma State University, Dr. Jordan has taught at the University of Northern Iowa, Southwest Texas State University, Indiana

University, and Iowa State University. Now at OSU for six years, Dr. Jordan teaches at the undergraduate, masters' and doctoral levels.

Dr. Jordan is active in professional societies and associations. She serves at the state, national, and international levels on boards such as the Stillwater Parks, Events, and Recreation Board; Oklahoma Recreation and Parks Society; the Society for Parks and Recreation Educators in NRPA; and the World Leisure and Recreation Association. Dr. Jordan is an active accreditation visitor for NRPA/AALR, having visited nine different universities. In addition, she provides workshops and staff trainings in several topic areas across the country. Dr. Jordan has made over 100 presentations and workshops at the state, regional, national, and international levels in the areas of leadership, diversity, legal issues, and programming.

In addition to presenting, Dr. Jordan is an active writer. She has written over 30 articles and book chapters, over 25 technical reports, and is the sole author of a text titled, *Leadership in Leisure Services: Making a Difference*. Dr. Jordan has also co-authored two other textbooks: *Programming in Leisure Services: A Servant Leadership Approach* and *Leisure and Life Satisfaction: A Foundational Approach*.

Dr. Jordan loves to learn and travel and has opportunities to do both in such places as Honduras, China, the Netherlands, Germany, England, Wales, Mexico, and Hong Kong. Reading, riding her motorcycle, and playing with her two cats are favorite leisure activities.

The 2003 Conference Planning Class is honored to have Dr. Deb Jordan speaking at our conference this fall.

- Heather Howland, Special Speakers Committee

OUT AND ABOUT BY DALE ANDERSON

The 2002-2003 school year was ambitious in a variety of outdoor recreation pursuits related to the Recreation & Leisure Studies courses, student organizations, and the Cortland Outdoor Opportunities Program. Key players in the accomplishment of this year's goals were **Graduate Assistants Patrick Mercer and Rob Andrejewski**, as well as a bunch of motivated students who became regulars.

Goals accomplished this year:

- Grant support for outdoor opportunities.
- Kayak Camp at Raquette Lake.
- More outdoor pursuits courses for credit.
- Wilderness First Responder certification course offered as the standard first aid preparation for outdoor leaders.
- NY State Guide Licensing options available to, and promoted for, student participation.
- Outdoor Adventure Club reorganized to provide additional outdoor opportunities for students.
- Improved quality of outdoor courses and programs.
- Inclusion of more community members participating in on campus programs.

A **grant** from the Auxillary Services Corporation provided financial support for the first offering of the Wilderness First Responder certification course at Camp Huntington during spring break. The grant also provided some much-needed outdoor gear. Thank you, ASC!

A **kayak camp** was organized at the "last minute" during the four day October break last fall (originally scheduled at camp as a first aid workshop, which didn't fill). Corey Ryon and Dale coordinated a crew of sea kayakers learning and traveling the Raquette Lake area. The number of kayakers on campus has been steadily growing. We anticipate doing the kayak camp again in October '03. So dust off the old boat, or use one of ours, brush-up on those skills, and join in.

New courses added to the curriculum of the RLS department were as follows:

1. Advanced Rock Climbing, 1 credit, taught fall semester by Pat Mercer.
2. Downhill skiing, 1 credit, taught spring semester by the Greek Peak Mountain Resort instructional staff, coordinated by Pat Mercer.
3. Snowboarding, 1 credit, taught spring semester by the Greek Peak Mountain Resort instructional staff, coordinated by Dale Anderson and Rob Andrejewski.
4. Wilderness First Responder, 3 credits, taught during spring break by Wilderness Medical Associates, coordinated by Pat Mercer and Dale Anderson, at Camp Huntington.

Of course, we also continued with the other activity courses such as Rock Climbing, Backpacking, and Team Building taught by Pat, with Windsurfing and Kayaking taught by Dale. Recreational Crafts was taught by **Rhonda Jacobs** – the "Craft Queen." Demand for more activity courses continues to grow. Equipment and storage space continues to be a bigger problem as activities increase.

The New York Department of Environmental Conservation manages the **Guide Licensing** process. It is the intent of the RLS department to promote and encourage the outdoor students to pursue the guide licensing options as part of their professional preparation. This spring several students began raft guide training thanks to the joint efforts of the Outdoor Adventure Club, the CO-OP, Jeff Dickinson (a Cortland Alum who works as a guide), and Whitewater Challengers on the Hudson River Gorge (who train raft guides). We intend to develop the guide license process as a useful option for our students, not only rafting, but backpacking, climbing, camping, fishing, and others. It is another standard of achievement, or credential beyond an academic degree, major, or minor.

The Outdoor Adventure Club is one of the oldest clubs coordinated through the Sports Club Advisory Committee of Recreational Sports. The club lost key officers to graduation last year and the club virtually disappeared. A small, but dedicated group of students sprung into action, updated the constitution, and are on the way to restoring the vigor of what was, at one time on campus, a most popular student organization. Many thanks to alumnus and former OAC president Steve for lending his expertise.

Quality continues to be a focus of the outdoor programs. Outdoor experiences are viewed as being very powerful tools for developing leadership, character, skills, and a host of desirable personal characteristics. There is a concern for striking a balance of hard skills, soft skills, stewardship, and caring within all programs. We have continued to develop better methods of accountability toward program goals and constituents.

Inclusion of community members and persons with disabilities in outdoor programs is occurring, though at a less than desirable rate. We intend to promote programs and courses more effectively to a broader spectrum of people as time goes on.

In conclusion it has been another busy year with more outdoor opportunities to enrich the educational experiences available on the Cortland campus. For further information about what's happening outdoors, please call Dale Anderson at 607-753-4957.

We hope to see you Out & About!

CORTLAND COLLEGE RECREATION ASSOCIATION UPDATE

CCRA had quite an eventful year! Hiking, backpacking, caving, winter camping, and the occasional game of ultimate Frisbee. . .we did it all!

Here are a few events hosted by CCRA this year:

- Backpacking trip to Haderondah Wilderness Area
- Caving trip to Clarkstown
- Apple Festival
- Night hikes at Lime Hollow Center for Environmental and Cultural Interpretation
- Weekend winter camping trip to Raquette Lake.
- In conjunction with the Outdoor Adventure Club, students participated in a raft-guide training.
- Weekly meetings that have in-

cluded soccer, Frisbee, and archery.

- The Annual Spring Banquet

In addition, Karina Murphy graciously offered the back room of the newly opened Blue Frog Coffee Shop in downtown Cortland to CCRA members for weekly boardgame nights.

As in other years, CCRA raised money for many of our trips and programs through the sale of T-shirts. If you are interested in purchasing a t-shirt, please e-mail Heather Howland at ccra0203@yahoo.com for more information. T-shirts are \$10 and designs include the following:

- ♦ “Recreators do it naturally” (person lying in a hammock between two trees)
Navy blue ink on light blue shirt.
- ♦ “Recreation...naturally” (Mountain scene with naturally inscribed into trees)
White ink on forest green shirt.
- ♦ “Let’s Park and Recreate” (couple in a car in a park)
Navy blue ink on gray shirt.

As the semester wraps up, we look forward to planning more events for the coming year!

- Heather Howland, President

GRADUATE STUDENTS AND FACULTY COMPLETE RESEARCH FOR THE TIOUGHNIOGA RIVER TRAIL PROJECT

BY LYNN ANDERSON

Under the guidance of Dr. Sharon Todd and Dr. Lynn Anderson, the graduate students in REC 601/602: *Recreation Research and Evaluation I & II* are again completing a large scale research project for a community agency. In Cortland County, the Tioughnioga Waterfront Development Commission is spearheading an exciting project to revitalize the Tioughnioga River along its 30-mile corridor in the county. An important part of the revitalization effort is the development of the Tioughnioga River Trail, a land- and water-based trail that will run 26 miles, and accommodate hiking, biking, fishing, skiing, canoeing, kayaking, and other outdoor activities. RLS graduate students are helping in this effort at the planning stages of the trail. They are completing a county-wide study to assess the preferences and intended use of the Tioughnioga River Trail by the public. The study is comprehensive, and includes a random sample of county residents who completed a phone survey, a door-to-door survey administered to systematic sample of residents who live along the river corridor, and two focus groups with recreation professionals and educators.



Ken Teter, Tioughnioga River Trail project director, will use the results of this research to ensure that the trail is designed not only to safely accommodate residents' intended uses, but to

include their preferences in design and amenities along the trail.

The graduate students began their research in the fall semester, working to design the study. In the spring semester, they completed the data collection,

analyzed the results, and provided their findings to the campus community at Scholars' Day and to the Waterfront Development Commission and other interested public members in May. A written report is available to anyone interested in the results. Through this hands-on research project, graduate students gained valuable skills in research, analysis, community relations, teamwork, and communication. The community agency gained data that it will put to use to best meet community needs in its work.

GRADUATE RESEARCH IN THE RECREATION AND LEISURE STUDIES DEPARTMENT

Research is a hallmark of graduate education. The best indicator of a quality graduate program is one where students can conduct original research and creative activity under the mentorship of a faculty advisor. In the Recreation and Leisure Studies Department, there is ample evidence of this quality indicator in action. Several students are in the process of beginning, doing, or completing theses or projects for their culminating activity. Following is just a sampling of the exciting and timely research being pursued across the different areas of the recreation field by our master's students.

Lisbeth Berbary just completed data collection for her master's thesis that is examining the extent to which best practices for including people with disabilities are being used in public and nonprofit recreation agencies across New York State. In a related area, **Teresa Tucker** has developed a staff-training curriculum for summer camp staff on inclusion of children with disabilities in regular summer camp programs. **Jenn Standish** completed a master plan for an accessible nature trail for the Lime Hollow Center for Environment and Culture. Her plan included the physical trail layout, a survey of the flora, fauna and ecology of the area, and the interpretive signs for the trail.

Outdoor and environmental education has received much attention from many of the RLS master's students. **Stacey Smith** just defended her thesis in which she investigated both the theory of "sense of place" as well as a practical needs assessment for the development of a new nature center in the Trenton Greenbelt area of New York. **Kristy Sullivan** has been working over the last year with the Tug Hill Land Trust. After completing an extensive needs assessment, surveying over 1,600 educators on the Tug Hill, she has developed an outdoor education curriculum that focuses on the wildlife of the Tug Hill. Kristy tested the curriculum with numerous students, from school groups to participants in zoo education programs. Another master's student, **Jessica Snavlin**, has completed all the original artwork in the book and wrote the educational story for a children's book that teaches environmental education concepts. **Jason Schrage** is at the midpoint of his master's

project. Jason is developing an integrated curriculum in social studies based on outdoor/environmental education concepts and principles.

Two students have studied environmental attitudes and their relation to past exposure to outdoor activities and experiences. **Christy Moore** studied the environmental attitudes of older adults. **Tinelle Bustam** is investigating how experiences in the outdoors as children affect one's attitudes and environmental behavior as adults.

Several students are studying some aspect of recreation behavior. **Pat Catterfeld** is investigating how parental involvement in recreation with their children affects recreation participation and self-esteem in youth in grades 3-11. **Walter Mann**, with support from a grant from New York Sea Grant Project written by Dr. Sharon Todd, investigated constraints to recreation and what causes people to discontinue in an activity, using a very large sample of scuba divers in New York state. **Heather Duke** is investigating how therapeutic recreation impacts prisoners during their incarceration and rehabilitation and how it changes their recreation behavior to a more positive lifestyle.

Adventure recreation is another area of interest. **Penny James**, completing a true experimental study, is investigating how two different forms of leading a challenge ropes experience changes perceptions of empowerment in women, in comparison to a control group. **Patrick Mercer** is completing an extensive electronic database of team-building and adventure activities. **Tom Mauro** is completing a needs assessment and developing a program proposal to develop a wilderness orientation program for incoming students at SUNY Cortland, a much needed addition to the experiences we offer our new students.

For this sampling, it is evident that research and creative scholarship is alive and well in the RLS Graduate Program. Through this kind of individualized, mentored work, students gain knowledge, skills, and confidence in themselves as lifelong learners who have a responsibility to add to our body of knowledge in the discipline. A true hallmark of graduate education!

FACULTY MEMBER PUBLISHES BOOK

Venture Publishing has released the book, *Inclusion: Including People with Disabilities in Parks and Recreation Opportunities*, written by Dr. Lynn Anderson, Chair of the SUNY Cortland Department of Recreation & Leisure Studies, and Carla Brown-Kress. The book became available in May.

NEW STADIUM COMPLEX OPENS

To much fanfare, SUNY Cortland's impressive \$18 million Stadium Complex opened this August. The complex features two turf fields that can accommodate sports such as football, lacrosse, soccer, and field hockey. On the main field a two-tiered grandstand seats 5,000 spectators. Around the auxiliary field is an eight-lane track with Fast-Track surfacing.

DR. MARGARET ARNOLD RESIGNS

Dr. Margie Arnold will be resigning her position at SUNY Cortland at the end of this academic year. Dr. Arnold, an associate professor teaching primarily in the area of recreation management, has accepted a position at Ithaca College. Dr. Arnold has been an integral part of the thriving faculty and department at Cortland, and will be greatly missed. On the bright side, she

will only be 20 miles away, allowing for continued collaboration on research and other projects. On behalf of the faculty, students and staff at Cortland, we wish Margie the best of luck in her future position. Thank you, Margie for all you have contributed during your seven years at Cortland. We'll miss you!

DR. JUDSON TAYLOR RETIRES

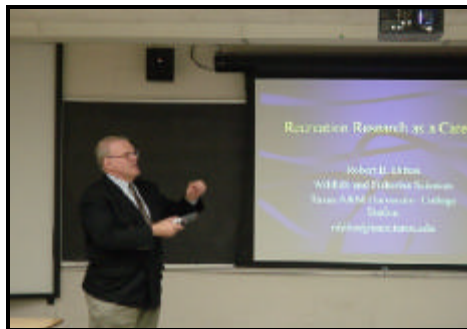
President Taylor will say his final goodbyes in July to the SUNY Cortland campus community. Under Dr. Taylor's leadership, the college has grown significantly and prospered in

many areas. Dr. Taylor has been a strong supporter of the RLS Department and will be missed by faculty and students alike. Dr. Taylor and his wife, Elise, plan to retire to the Rhode

Island area and take up sailing and traveling, among other things. We wish them many happy years of leisure fulfillment!

DR. ROBERT DITTON '64, DISTINGUISHED ALUM, VISITS THE RLS DEPARTMENT

In April, Dr. Bob Ditton, a professor at Texas A & M University, and a distinguished alumnus of SUNY Cortland and the RLS Department, spent time lecturing in classes and meeting with students. Dr. Ditton presented lectures on understanding participant diversity in the human dimensions of recreational fisheries and other outdoor resource-based activities. Students learned of national trends in fishing participation and how different racial and ethnic groups approach fishing as a leisure pursuit. Dr. Ditton also spent time discussing research and teaching ideas with graduate students and faculty. Dr. Ditton's visit to campus was highly appreciated by students and faculty, and a



wonderful example of how alumni can contribute to the students and the department by sharing their time and expertise. A sincere thank you to Dr. Ditton, as well as an open invitation for other alumni to visit!

ALUMNI ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Richard Brown, '74
Commonwealth Place Chemical
Dependency Treatment Services

Robert Ditton, '64
Department of Fisheries and
Wildlife Sciences
Texas A&M University

Geoffrey Godbey, '64
Department of Leisure Studies,
Recreation, & Park Management
Penn State University

Kristin Greene
Blythesdale Children's Hospital

Gary Lopez, '95
Onandaga County Parks

Tim O'Connell, '90
School of Outdoor Recreation,
Parks, & Tourism
Lakehead University

Elaine O'Mara-Hulbert, '84
Broome Developmental Services

John Silsby, '69
Groton Parks & Recreation Dept.

Gordon Wilson, '77
National Park Service

Carol Zimmerman, '95

William Zimmerman, '76
City of New Rochelle Recreation

Representing the Metcalf Endowment Board

Lucinda Hurley, '80
Nassau County BOCES
Outdoor Education Department

WISH LIST FOR THE RECREATION AND LEISURE STUDIES DEPARTMENT

The RLS Department is in need of the following items. If you would like to make a donation to the department, please contact Dr. Lynn Anderson, Department Chair, to make arrangements. Your generosity would be greatly appreciated and would make an immediate impact on the students and their learning.

- ◆ Passenger van (2000 or newer)
- ◆ GPS units

- ◆ Kayaks or canoes in good condition
- ◆ Adaptive recreation equipment
- ◆ Items from countries around the world related to play, recreation, leisure, or culture (toys, games, visuals, etc.)
- ◆ Wetsuits in good condition
- ◆ Cross-country skis or snowshoes in good condition
- ◆ Laminator
- ◆ Automated External Defibrillator (AED) for Raquette Lake

SUNY CORTLAND SELECTS NEW PRESIDENT

Erik Bitterbaum, President of West Virginia University at Parkersburg, was appointed tenth president of SUNY Cortland. He will succeed retiring President Judson Taylor, who has served since July of 1995.

The new president will begin his tenure at SUNY Cortland in July. Bitterbaum began teaching in the Department of Zoology at the University of Florida in 1977, then worked from

1981 to 1990 at the University of Nebraska at Wesleyan, first as an assistant professor and later as assistant provost. In 1990 Bitterbaum served as a professor of biology and Vice President for Academic Affairs at Methodist College in North Carolina. From 1994 to 2000, he acted as Vice President for Academic Affairs at Missouri Southern State College, where he continued to teach biology. In July of 2000 he ac-

cepted his current position as President of WVU-Parkersburg.

Bitterbaum is originally from New York City. He is looking forward to bringing his wife, Ellen, and his two children, David, 14, and Anna, 11, to Cortland. Bitterbaum has expressed a great deal of interest in working with the leaders of Cortland County to try to integrate the goals of the college with those of the community.

NEW DEAN OF THE SCHOOL OF PROFESSIONAL STUDIES

Christopher J. Malone, a SUNY Cortland faculty member since 1982, was recently named Dean of the School of Professional Studies. Malone had served as interim dean since January 2002.

A native of Bay Village, Ohio, Malone earned four degrees from the University of Virginia—a bachelor of arts in history, a master's in administration and supervision, a master's in sport psychology, and a Ph.D. in sport psychology. He joined the SUNY Cortland Physical Education Department in Fall 1982 as an assistant professor, associate athletic director, and head women's soccer coach. He was promoted to associate professor in 1987 and chaired

the SUNY Cortland Faculty Senate in 1988-1989 and 1999-2000. From 1999-2001, Malone directed SUNY Cortland's Center for International Education. He also directed the ARETE Program at SUNY Cortland that sends physical education students abroad to study in a variety of countries.

When the College created the Department of Exercise Science and Sport Studies from its Physical Education Department in 2000, Malone served as its inaugural chair for two years. He has served on numerous SUNY Cortland committees during his tenure. He has written many professional articles and abstracts in areas such as sport psychology, physical performance, team disci-

pline, soccer skills, coaching, and media coverage of women's sports. Malone has presented papers on sport psychology issues at national professional conferences. He has served on committees with both the National Association of Physical Education in Higher Education and with the National Soccer Coaches Association of America

Malone was one of the NCAA's most successful women's soccer coaches. In his 13 years as Cortland's head coach, he took Cortland to an amazing 13 consecutive NCAA Tournaments—a feat equaled only by national Division I soccer powers University of North Carolina and University of Connecticut during that span.

NEWS FROM THE RLS ALUMNI

Dolores Anne Logan Conner '55
Retired
Springfield, OR

Robert Lawrence Carroll '56
Superintendent of Recreation
City of Long Beach

Louis Kahn '58
Retired

Jo-Ann Paul '66
Travel Consultant

John P. Silsby '69 (B.S.E.), '70 (M.S.E.)
Director of Parks & Recreation
Town of Groton, CT

Jack Drury '72
Vice President
Leading Edge, LLC

John (Jack) Vendi '73
Psychologist
Private practice

Fred von Mechow '77
Program Coordinator
Rogers Environmental Education Center

Gayle Rappaport-Weiland '77
Artist/Art Teacher
California

Donna Chambers DuBreuil '79
Res. Hab. Coordinator
Hudson Valley DDSO

Pat Guiffre '79
Executive Director
Positive Turning Points for Youth

Maureen Baringer '80
Owner, Baringer & Associates Event
Planning Agency
Cortland, NY

Gail Setlock '83
Professional Ski Instructor
Vail, CO; Gore, NY

AWARD AND SCHOLARSHIP WINNERS IN THE RLS DEPARTMENT

The Thomas L. Goodale '61 Community Service Scholarship: In 1999, colleagues across the United States established a scholarship at SUNY Cortland to honor Dr. Thomas Goodale ('61) on the occasion of his retirement as a professor at George Mason University. The Thomas L. Goodale Scholarship recognizes an incoming freshman or transfer student who shows an exemplary commitment to the field of recreation, has outstanding scholarship, and has a record of and commitment to community service. This year's recipient was incoming freshman, **Cody Cooper**, from Dansville, New York.

The Marcia Carlson Award: This 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 recipient is **Kelly Christensen**, from Jamestown, New York.

The Ralph S. Mauro Award: This award honors Ralph Mauro, who was a student in the RLS 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. Ralph was actively involved in several community organizations that support individuals with disabilities when he died in 1978. This year's recipient is **Kelli Cunningham**, from Macedon, New York.

The Harlan "Gold" Metcalf Award: This award honors the founder of the RLS 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 **Bill James**, of Homer, New York.

The John A. MacPhee Scholarship: This award is given each year 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 RLS Department. This year's recipients were **Kristin Newberry**, from Vestal, New York, and **Veronica Salmon**, from Hempstead, New York.

Continuing Scholarship Recipients include **Heather Howland**, recipient of the **Joyce A. Gaus '60 Scholarship** and **Jesse Arno**, recipient of the **John B. Knox Memorial Scholarship**. **Outstanding Seniors**, selected by their peers, were **Deidre Sullivan**, of Binghamton, New York and **Stephanie Cotsifas**, of Holbrook, New York. The **Federation of Home Bureau's Phyllis Doe Award** was awarded to **Kristi Thomas**, of Great Bend, New York.

Rho Phi Lambda Inducts New Members

Rho Phi Lambda is the national honorary fraternity for Recreation, Parks, and Leisure Services. The SUNY Cortland Chapter is Alpha Eta. 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. They must be in the upper 15% of their class and have a minimum GPA of 3.2 in professional courses. This year's inductees are: **Robert Andrejewski, Jennifer Fitzgerald, Heather Howland, Bill James, Jose Lopez, James Norris, David Sampson, and Mark Turnbull.**

NEWS FROM THE RLS ALUMNI

Sue Behme '93
Coach and Skills Instructor
Nazareth College

Heath Emmons '96
Outdoor Recreation Planner
Bureau of Land Management

Christopher E. Hendershot '97
Naturalist
Greenkill OEEC

Mark Silverman '97
Outdoor Education Teacher
The Bridge Academy

Kevin Belanger '99
Sales Manager
Tradeshow

Karen Caccese '99
Account Executive
Clear Channel Entertainment

Beth Bentz '00
Recreation Therapist
Liverpool, NY

Jennifer Ann Glaab '00 (B.S.), '01 (M.S.)
Coordinator
Dryden Recreation
Dryden, NY

Kristin Greene '00
Recreation Therapist
Blythesdale Children's Hospital
Valhalla, NY

Alison Hansen '00
Recreation Specialist
U.S. Navy

Kristen Machan '00
National Park Service
Everglades, Florida

Eliza (Grandusky) Ordway '00
Mental Health Therapist
Pathways to Learning

Patricia Triffo '00
Recreation Therapist
St. Camillus Health & Rehabilitation
Center

Tim Bonner '01
Outdoor Recreation Coordinator
LaSalle School for Boys

Jessica (Hatfield) Daily '01
Recreation Specialist
Loretto, Syracuse

Wendy (Krostich) Mlodzinski '01
Teacher
YMCA Bayside, NY

BACK IN ACTION BY DR. SHARON L. TODD

Many of you know that I was granted a leave of absence for the 2001-2002 academic school year, with the spring semester funded through the *Dr. Nuala McGann Drescher Affirmative Action/ Diversity Leave Program Award*. What many of you don't know is I still spent most of that time in my office, believe it or not, having an absolute blast focusing on research-related activity! Of course, an additional benefit was having more opportunities to pursue personal and family interests, resulting in much needed "balance" and "perspective" in my life.

During that time, I happily maintained steady progress toward research-related goals. Highlights included compiling and editing a 457-page, 71-paper *Proceedings of the 2001 Northeastern Recreation Research (NERR) Symposium*; preparing 7 abstracts for calls for papers and presentations at various international, national, and regional research symposia; delivering those presentations; writing abstracts, conference proceedings, and manuscript drafts; and collecting data for other projects. What I most enjoyed was the opportunity to focus my attention so exclusively on one thing: a line of research. Because of that, I was able to establish important theoretical connections and un-

cover common strands among seemingly diverse studies of quiltmakers, SCUBA divers, and adventure recreationists.

To disseminate my results, I literally traveled the world, from Lake George to Colorado, Indiana, Florida, and Italy. Due to September 11, the trip to Italy was actually postponed to Fall 2002, but was well worth the wait. I found Italy incredibly beautiful, starting with a 4-day visit with friends in Milan and ending with a 6-day stay on a tiny island called La Maddalena off the coast of Sardinia, in the jewel-colored Mediterranean Sea. I even survived the language barrier, despite knowing only a few words in Italian: how to count to 10, *toilette* and *banyo* for "bathroom," and *grazia* for "thank you!" The conference I attended, called *Global Challenges of Parks and Protected Area Management Symposium*, immediately immersed attendees in local culture by using charming meeting spots throughout La Maddalena: the town library, town theatre, town hall, and officer's club. I met people from all over the world, evidenced on my last evening as I looked around the restaurant table at my new-found friends: eight of us represented seven different countries!

Despite being on leave last year, I also chose to remain active in several areas of service to the College. For instance, I stayed involved as the assistant coach for the College's intercollegiate field hockey team, but significantly cut back on my hours at practice and away games. A gratifying reward was helping the team earn its third Division III National Championship Title!

My leaves of absence also enabled me to pursue various personal and family interests. For instance, I read fiction novels, consistently ran to stay in shape, kept house plants alive and bird feeders filled, and purchased thoughtful Christmas gifts instead of last-minute-frantically-bought ones! I also competed with my husband (and watched my 4-year-old daughter compete with her dad) in several canoe races in the fall. As a family, we were able to escape to the Adirondacks for a 4-day canoe camping trip, flew to Florida so I could compete in the National Field Hockey Festival, and took a wonderful 3-week trek by car to Utah, skiing and visiting many national and state parks and monuments on the way. As a result, I felt greatly rejuvenated to return to the classroom this Fall!

53RD ANNUAL CORTLAND RECREATION CONFERENCE PROGRAM SCHEDULE

Thursday

8:00	Registration
8:30 – 9:45	Session I
9:00 – 12:15	Long Session
10:00 – 11:15	Session II
11:30 – 12:15	Session III
12:30 – 1:30	Lunch
1:45 – 3:00	Session IV
3:15 – 4:30	Session V
4:30 – 6:30	All-Conference Social

Friday

7:00 – 8:30	Alumni Advisory Meeting
8:00	Registration
8:30 – 9:45	Session I
9:00 – 12:15	Long Session
10:00 – 11:15	Session II
11:30 – 12:15	Session III
12:30 – 1:30	Lunch
1:30 – 2:30	Keynote
2:45 – 4:00	Session V
4:00	See you next year!



**PLEASE BE OUR GUEST AT
THE 53RD ANNUAL CORTLAND RECREATION CONFERENCE
LEARNING TODAY, LEADING TOMORROW**



Registration Form

Name: _____ **Title:** _____

Agency/School: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ **State/Province:** _____

Phone: _____ **Fax:** _____ **E-Mail:** _____

Badge Information: _____

**NEW THIS YEAR— Registration INCLUDES luncheons and All-Conference Social
First 150 paid registrants receive a free gift**

Thursday only:

<input type="checkbox"/> Students \$10	<input type="checkbox"/> After October 10, 2003 \$20
<input type="checkbox"/> Professionals \$45	<input type="checkbox"/> After October 10, 2003 \$55

Friday only:

<input type="checkbox"/> Students \$10	<input type="checkbox"/> After October 10, 2003 \$20
<input type="checkbox"/> Professionals \$50	<input type="checkbox"/> After October 10, 2003 \$60

Both Days:

<input type="checkbox"/> Students \$15	<input type="checkbox"/> After October 10, 2003 \$25
<input type="checkbox"/> Professionals \$60	<input type="checkbox"/> After October 10, 2003 \$70

Internship
Agency Fair
Thursday, 11/6
at 2:15

Please return to:
Recreation & Leisure Studies Department
Conference Planning Class
SUNY Cortland
PO Box 2000
Cortland, NY, 13045

Don't miss
the All-
Conference
Social on
Thursday 11/6
at 4:30!

Total Amount Enclosed \$ _____

- ◆ *Please make checks out to Department of Recreation and Leisure Studies*
- ◆ *Registration includes entertainment, educational sessions, and luncheons.*
- ◆ *There is an additional fee of \$8 for CEU (form will be available at registration)*



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ADVENTURE F.I.G. BY DR. SUSAN WILSON

For many of us recreation and leisure studies was a great discovery. We may have come to college with a career in mind or drifted around for a few semesters before we found out that there was such a thing as a recreation major. Trying to get information about the potential in the field has always been a challenge. This year the Department of Recreation and Leisure Studies developed their own Freshman Interest Group (FIG) in an effort to reach individuals who may have an interest in the field.

The FIG is part of several learning communities that are designed to focus the first year student on a particular subject matter or career path. First-year students who had not identified a major were sent a packet that contained descriptions of the various learning communities offered during the fall of 2002. These students and first-year students who identified Recreation and Leisure Studies as their major and took two classes together:

Foundations of Recreation, and *the Cortland Experience* and live together in Cheney Hall. These twenty-four students became the first members of the **Adventure FIG**.

During the fall semester this cadre of students engaged in a variety of activities designed to get them thinking about careers in parks, recreation and leisure services. Students traveled to the Raquette Lake Outdoor Education Center at historic Camp Huntington in the Adirondacks. With the assistance of Cindy Thomas, an RLS alumna and Cheney Hall Residential Director, Heather Howland, an RLS student and Adventure FIG teaching assistant, and Dale Anderson, an RLS faculty member, and Susan Wilson, the instructor of the Adventure FIG, the students participated in a variety of team-building activities on the low ropes course, did a campfire program in Metcalf Hall, were able to utilize the climbing wall and canoes, climb Bald Mountain, as well as explore Camp Huntington.

Through a grant from the Admissions Department students were able to attend the 52nd Annual Cortland Recreation Conference. Programs within Cheney Hall highlighted the Department of Recreation and Leisure Studies and career opportunities within the field.

Overall the program has been deemed a success. First-year students who have identified themselves as majors are active in the Department of Recreation and Leisure Studies in a variety of roles. Many have joined the Outing Club or the Cortland College Recreation Association, become frequent participants in CO-OP offerings and volunteered to assist with the incoming Adventure FIG. Other members of the group continue to evaluate the choice of recreation and leisure studies as a potential major or minor. The new class rolls into Cortland in Fall 2003 and we hope that this opportunity continues for many years to come.