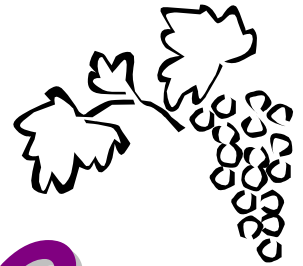




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P.O. Box 152 • Valhalla, New York 10595

February  
2010



# the Grapevine

## **PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE**

~ by Dana Mayclim

We can now add 2009 into the record books and welcome not only a new year but a new decade! I wish all of you a great year ahead (both personally and professionally) and an even better decade! For many of us, January 1<sup>st</sup> also brought new bosses (County Executive, Town Supervisors and/or new Board members). I truly hope that our new leaders continue to see and appreciate the hard work and dedication our WRAPS members put into their jobs and our profession. I hope that these new leaders choose to continue to support all our efforts on behalf of the communities we serve and our profession.

As we start to move into our "busy" season within our own municipalities we also move into our busy season for our organizations. There is truly a lot going on in the next couple of months so please mark your calendars:

- **SUMMER AUDITIONS** – Tuesday, February 9, 2010 in Rye. For more information please contact Matt Nordt at New Castle Recreation 238-3909.
- **VENDORS LUNCHEON** – Wednesday, February 10, 2010 at the Westchester County Center. Please come out and support our commercial members.
- **NYSRPS 70<sup>th</sup> ANNUAL CONFERENCE AND BUSINESS EXPO** - will be taking place from March 21<sup>st</sup> – 24<sup>th</sup>, 2010 in beautiful Saratoga Springs. I urge you to take advantage of this wonderful professional and educational opportunity. If you have not already signed up, you can find the information on the NYSRPS website at [www.nysrps.org](http://www.nysrps.org). WRAPS is the

host affiliate chairing this year's conference under the skillful leadership of Chairwoman Jennifer Fava. Please show your support for all of those working hard to put together this wonderful experience by participating in the conference. I look forward to seeing you in Saratoga.

- **THE MANDATORY HEALTH DEPARTMENT CAMP WORKSHOP** will be held on Wednesday, April 14, 2010. More details will be provided as the date approaches.

On a final note, I would like to thank all of you who have been so supportive of WRAPS and its executive board this past year during our struggles with the tough economy. Moving our monthly WRAPS meetings to various locations throughout the county got off to a rocky start but we continue to see increase in numbers for our luncheons. So again, thank you for your support of this latest endeavor.



*Pictured Above from Left to Right: Erin Reidel, Katherine Sclafani, Karen O'Donnell, Sally Veltidi & Beth Bricker. Lying across the front is Allison Lemischak. All working hard at the 61<sup>st</sup> Annual Cheerleading Competition at the County Center!*

*NYSRPS 70<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference and  
Business Expo  
Parks & Recreation...Expanding  
Horizons*

The NYSRPS Annual Conference and Business expo will be taking place in Saratoga Springs, NY March 21-24. You should have received your program brochure in the mail but if you have not, log on to [www.nysrps.org](http://www.nysrps.org) for complete conference information and registration forms.

The 2010 NYSRPS Conference Committee, made up mostly of WRAPS professionals, has worked very hard to put together an exciting program filled with opportunities for educational sessions, networking, facility tours, legislative advocacy, and a little bit of fun as well.

The difficult economy and new constraints placed on Parks and Recreation professionals makes conference participation more important now than ever before. While some of you may have lost funding, I urge you to think about attending since the knowledge you will gain will help you to grow professionally.

Please note that there were a few typos in the brochure that was mailed out. The room rates for the hotel are per room per night (not per room per person as stated in the printed version). Also, the CPO course was left off of the registration form. If you wish to attend, simply write it in under "Part III: Other" on the registration form. Lastly, the Tuesday, March 23<sup>rd</sup> social will be taking place at the hotel, not at Gaffney's as printed. These corrections have been made on the online version.

As Conference Chair I urge you to review the brochure, whether in hard copy or online and check out the extensive and exciting offerings. All of us on the committee look forward to seeing you in Saratoga Springs, March 21-24. If you have any questions regarding the conference, contact the NYSRPS office at 518-584-0321 or Jennifer Fava at Yorktown Parks and Recreation Department.

See you there!!

Jennifer Fava  
2010 NYSRPS Conference Chair

*A New York NHL Showdown...  
Rangers vs. Islanders  
Win 2 tickets to the Garden!  
Wed. March 24, 2010 7:00 PM*

Here's your chance to win 2 tickets for mid-level, mid-ice seats (sec. 333 – Row J – Seats 1 & 2) and support the New York State Recreation and Park Society at the same time through this fundraiser being sponsored by the 2010 NYSRPS Conference Committee.

Raffle ticket prices are \$5.00 each or 5 for \$20.00. The winning ticket will be drawn at the February 10<sup>th</sup> WRAPS Vendor Luncheon. Payment must be received by 3 PM on February 8<sup>th</sup>; however "last chance" ticket sales will be available at the Feb. 10<sup>th</sup> luncheon. For purchasing details log on to [www.nysrps.org](http://www.nysrps.org) or contact Henry Jamin at Briarcliff Recreation.

*Past Presidents Luncheon*



*Pictured above at the annual Past Presidents luncheon held at Traveler's Rest from left to right: sitting is Past Presidents Joe Curtis, Kathy O' Connor and Jen Fava. Second Row is Past President Jim Arles, Darryl Sudlow, President Dana Mayclim, Past Presidents Henry Jamin, Mary Zimmerman, Bill Zimmerman and Bill Rodriquez. Third Row: Past President Bernie Guagnini, Kevin Donnelly, Past President Fran Brunelle, Past President James Hogan, Kevin Cook, Ike Kuzio, Fran Croughan, Joe Lemischak and Past President Joe Stout.*

## *WRAPS Summer Entertainment Auditions 2010*



Midland Elementary School  
Rye, NY  
February 9, 2010  
9:00 am – 3:00 pm  
Lunch to be served (free of charge!!)  
RSVP to Matt Nordt  
NC Recreation by February 5<sup>th</sup>  
[mnordt@town.new-castle.ny.us](mailto:mnordt@town.new-castle.ny.us) or 914-238-728

## *Employee of the Month* ~ By Arne Abramowitz

Frank Magaletta has been a hard working dedicated staff member of the White Plains Recreation and Parks Department for over 20 years. His responsibilities in the Department have involved almost all the programs that the Department offers. There is no assignment too big or too small that Frank does not perform in a cheerful and thoroughly professional manner. He is a 'go to' staff member for our Rec Trac system and complicated scheduling programs with hundreds of teams and thousands of players. He has been a leader, team player and a mentor to new staff members. He is greatly respected by his colleagues and clients.

Throughout his career in Recreation and Parks, Frank has worked diligently to create the best youth and adult sports programs and leagues. Our youth soccer program has expanded under his direction to include weekday and Sunday instructional classes,

and a Special Needs programs. His youth instructional and camp golf programs are always over subscribed and the parents as well as the kids appreciate his diligence.

Frank oversees our summer day camp which provides a full season of recreational and educational programs for preschoolers to teens with over 1,400 participants in three camp sessions. During his tenure a teen camp was created that explores educational and fun venues throughout the region.

Our men's and women's softball program has 93 teams and recently we implemented what has become a very successful co-ed softball league with over 24 teams. Our softball leagues are considered the best in the County and attract residents and corporate teams from the area and are a selling point for corporations looking to relocate to White Plains.

The adult men and women's basketball program has also become one of the most competitive programs in the region. Four nights a week our leagues play hotly contested challenging games under the strict supervision of patched officials and recreation staff. Frank's fair but strict enforcement of the leagues rules and regulations is appreciated by most.

Frank has worked with our adult soccer teams to create safe and sustainable facilities in different areas of the City. Our adult soccer program has become a model for other communities seeking to accommodate changing demographic and recreational needs.

Frank is responsible for issuing and coordinating all field usage permits and overseeing the Field Marshal program to ensure that all of the City and School district's fields are being utilized by the appropriate permit holder.

As a recreational professional Frank always does his thorough due diligence and follow through and has earned the respect and appreciation of his colleagues, clients and many parents. His contribution to the recreational life of our residents has been tremendous.

**"BATTLE of the HAS-BEENS" A SUCCESS!**

~By Henry

Jamin



*Pictured Above: "Has Beens" All-stars Matt Arone, Superintendent of Recreation for Dobbs Ferry, and Karen Kuzio, Recreation Supervisor for Briarcliff Manor.*

WRAPS and the NYSRPS 2010 Conference Committee joined forces on December 4<sup>th</sup> to stage the first ever "Battle of the Has-Beens" event at the Mt. Pleasant Community Center in Valhalla. This unique fundraiser provided participants with an evening of fun & camaraderie centered around a sports skills competition featuring 12 different events. Over 50 professionals and friends convened for the Battle and an outstanding time was had by all in attendance! A HUGE thank you goes out to WRAPS commercial members Raymond Michael (Playworld Systems), John Iorio (FunTime Amusements) and Anaconda Sports for their extremely generous contributions as our major sponsors, and of course Harry Canniff, Kellie Rizzi and the Town of Mt. Pleasant for hosting us at their beautiful facility! In addition to the sport activities, the night also featured numerous raffle opportunities as well as a rousing session of BINGO-based giveaways led by Donna Esperito, number caller extraordinaire! Special thanks are also extended to all of our prize donors for the fabulous raffle prizes that were handed out and to all of the WRAPS and Conference committee members who volunteered their time to help make the event a memorable one for all!

The event, in combination with the special raffle of a round of golf for four at Trump National Golf

Club, raised in excess of \$3,500, which will be used by the conference committee to help defray some of the costs associated with conducting the upcoming NYSRPS Annual Conference in Saratoga Springs this March. Peter Miench was the lucky winner of the Trump Golf package, and Karen Kuzio and Matt Arone were respectively crowned 2009 QUEEN and KING of the HAS-BEENS! Sally Rogol and Fran Brunelle were very close runner-ups, and anyone who missed the event can only be considered a NEVER-WAS!

BE ON THE LOOKOUT FOR THE CONFERENCE COMMITTEE'S NEXT BIG RAFFLE OPPORTUNITY SOON . . . A MOUNTED, FRAMED AND AUTOGRAPHED JERSEY FROM HALL OF FAME BOUND, YANKEE GREAT, MARIANO RIVERA!

Thanks to everyone for their continued support & we hope to see you all in Saratoga Springs March 21-24!

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## Just for Fun!!

### Rack Your Brain!

1. Which NFL team has the most Super Bowl victories:
  - A. Indianapolis Colts
  - B. Pittsburgh Steelers
  - C. Dallas Cowboys
  - D. San Francisco 49ers
2. Known as the first linear park in the country, the Bronx River Parkway opened in:
  - A. 1931
  - B. 1925
  - C. 1912
  - D. Last Tuesday
3. The Bronx River Parkway took 20 years to complete. The total cost of the project was:
  - A. \$1 million
  - B. \$ 22.5 million
  - C. \$ 16.5 million
  - D. The cause of the Great Depression

*\*\*Answers found on back page*

## The Legend Grows!!

It all started on that fateful day back in December of 2004 at the annual WRAPS Holiday Party, the raffle winners walking through the crowd, proudly displaying the bottle of wine they had just won. One by one, the bottles disappeared from the table, until there was only one. Like the last kid picked in dodge ball, there it was.....the Lancers bottle. The “lucky” holder of that final ticket pulled, was none other than Superintendent of Recreation for Dobbs Ferry, Matt Arone.

When asked to reflect back on that fateful day, this is what Mr. Arone had to say:

*“Instead of turning my misfortune into a negative, I decided that the Lancers bottle should be a symbol for perseverance in our Society. Much like the NHL’s Stanley Cup, the names engraved (and by engraved, he means written on with white out) on this trophy will be remembered forever.”*

For the past 5 years the Lancers bottle has been passed on each December at the holiday luncheon. Each of the past winners are listed in this article, with a quote on how much it meant to them to receive the Lancers bottle.

The proud recipients are:

2004 Matt Arone      2007 Sally Rogol  
2005 Joe Lemischak    2008 Ken Sherman  
2006 Brian Gray      2009 Robert Snyder

Here is what they had to say about becoming a member of the Lancer Club!

**Joe Lemischak, Westchester County PRC:** “My initial thought was not many WRAPS members knew who Matt was, so when he was standing in front of the crowd, the people at the tables were saying, “ssssh, the waiter wants to make an announcement!”

**Brian Gray, Yorktown Recreation:** “Wow, thanks for bringing back such a memorable moment in my Recreation Career! My parents were so proud!”

**Sally Rogol, Rye Recreation:** “As the only woman recipient, I was honored to receive the Lancer bottle from my friend and colleague, Brian Gray.”

**Ken Sherman, Cortlandt Recreation:** “It doesn’t hit you until you get back to the office and see all the names on the bottle, and you wonder; How am I going to write my name on that bottle in white out!?”

**Robert Snyder, New Castle Recreation:** “At this point, I’m not sure if being associated with this group is a good thing.”

And there you have it folks, the legend of the Lancer bottle. From zero to hero, the Lancer bottle will forever be a part of the WRAPS family!



## ***BITS & PIECES!***

The stork is making a return trip to some of our WRAPS members this year! Congratulations to **Matt Nordt of New Castle Recreation** and his wife Pattianne, **Brian Gray of Yorktown Recreation** and his wife Melissa, and **Christine Grey** and her husband Mike, as they will all be expecting their second child this summer!

Best wishes to Christine Grey who has left the Town of Lewisboro to spend more time at home with her growing family!

## ***TO REACH THE EXECUTIVE BOARD***

Term  
Expires

2010 Dana Mayclim, President	232-6162
2010 Joe Lemischak, Vice President	864-7036
2010 Daryl Sudlow, Secretary	666-7004
2010 Kevin Cook, Treasurer	864-7064
2010 Jen Fava, Past President	245-4650

### MEMBERS-AT-LARGE

2012 Brian Gray	245-4650
2012 Kevin Donnelly	864-7056
2010 Fran Croughan	422-1336
2010 Sally Rogol	967-2535
2011 Ike Kuzio	328-1542
2011 Christine Grey	

## ***JUST FOR FUN ANSWERS***

### **Rack Your Brain!**

1) B 2) B 3) C

**Quick Story:** A boy frustrated with the rules he had to follow, asked his father, "Dad, how soon will I be old enough to do as I please?"

The father answered immediately, "I don't know. Nobody has lived that long yet."

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## ***CALL FOR GRAPEVINE ARTICLES!***

The next issue of the Grapevine is scheduled to be printed in June 2010.

Anyone interested in submitting materials must do so by Monday, May 14, 2010.

Mail, Fax or E-mail Information to:  
Ike Kuzio - Westchester County PRC  
1 Bronx River Parkway  
Valhalla, NY 10595  
Fax: 864-7129

E-mail: [iak2@westchestergov.com](mailto:iak2@westchestergov.com)

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