

The Leisure Time News

Volume 37, Issue 1

December 20, 2011

**Dept. of Recreation
Administration**
600 Lincoln Ave.
Charleston, IL 61920
(217) 581-3018

FACULTY:

**DR. WILLIAM
HIGELMIRE, CHAIR**
whigel mire@eiu.edu

**DR. PEGGY
HOLMES-LAYMAN**
plhomes@eiu.edu

**DR. MICHAEL
MULVANEY**
mamulvaney@eiu.edu

DR. JAMES BARKLEY
jrbarkley@eiu.edu

MS. DIANE RATLIFF
dmratliff@eiu.edu

**MS. ANGELIA
BURGETT**
adburgett@eiu.edu

STAFF:

MS. ANNETTE DIEHL
ardiehl@eiu.edu

Message from our Chair

It is often said, "That a tortoise on the move can overtake even the fastest horse if that horse stands still". The essence of the change process can be captured in this saying above which is the need to move forward.

The department has made several changes over the past year including our new vision statement: The Department of Recreation Administration: Experience a difference...to make a difference! We believe that the statement reflects what our department strives to provide our students, the ability to make a difference once they graduate.

As many of you may know by now, Dr. John Pommier has left our department at the start

of the semester. He is currently Chair of Kinesiology, Recreation & Sport Management at Indiana State University. We wish him and his family well. We were fortunate to hire



William Higelmire, Chair

Dr. James Barkley for the year as we search for a tenure track faculty member. Look for his message in the following pages.

Additionally, we have begun the process for re-accreditation of our programs (generalist and TR option) through the Council on Accreditation for Recreation, Park Resources and Leisure Services. As part

(Continued on page 2)



This year, the **Distinguished Alum Award** was presented to **Bob O'Shaughnessy ('83)**

Distinguished Alum Award

This year the speaker for the EIURAA Student Forum was Bob O'Shaughnessy who served as the Director of Parks and Recreation for Munster Parks and Recreation in Munster, Ind. He was responsible for administrative functions reporting to a 5-person Parks and Recreation Board. In addition, he recommended development plans, supervised and evaluated personnel, sought out grants for development, and oversaw the maintenance and safety of all park areas.

(Continued on page 2)

Contents

<i>Messages from our Chair & Distinguished Alum Award</i>	1
<i>Alumni Receive EIU Awards</i>	2
<i>EIURAAA Student Forum & Updates</i>	3
<i>Faculty News & Department Advisory Council</i>	5
<i>Student Association for Recreation & Rho Phi Lambda Updates and Telefund Drive</i>	7
<i>Alumni News</i>	11

Message from our Chair (continued)

(Continued from page 1)

of the process specific outcomes with associated measures were established for both programs and changes to both curriculums were approved as well.

We would enjoy hearing from you. We have established a Facebook page for the department that can be found here: <http://www.facebook.com/#!/eiurecadmin> Why not take a few moments to share a picture or a few words about you? If you're not into Face-

book, just send us a note in the mail or shoot me an email at whigelmire@eiu.edu. Just send us the update, we want to hear from you.

The faculty had the opportunity to display their works in the second annual Publishing Scholars and Creative Works Recognition Reception. Dr. Michael Mulvaney had three scholarly pieces included in the reception.

As I finish this, my 25th newsletter article, I reflect back to when I first arrived on campus. No internet, Facebook, smart board, or GPS.

Change has certainly happened since that time, some that makes life simpler and some that has forced us to deliver our service in a new format. At times it feels like we are the horse standing still while the tortoise races past. It is our intent to keep our program up-to-date and meeting the expectations of our profession.



**College of Education and Professional Studies
2nd Annual Alumni Awards Ceremony**
Larry Closson '74 (front row, third from left) - Lifetime Achievement Award ; Mike Sterba '74 (top right) - Leadership & Service Award

2011 Distinguished Alum (continued)

(Continued from page 1)

Bob began his professional career in 1984 with the Morton Grove Park District where he was an Athletic Supervisor and then Superintendent of Recreation Facilities. He also held a position with northwest DuPage Special Recreation Association Center serving as the Director of marketing and Development. The then became director of Parks and Recreation for Havana Park District. His distinguished career with the Munster Park District began in 1997 when he assumed the position of superintendent of Recreation. His next position was that of Director of Parks and Recreation.

His accomplishments include over a million dol-

lars in grants for building of a bike/pedestrian path and riverwalk construction. He supervised the development of a 200 acre park, oversaw the construction of the 2.6 million dollar Munster Community pool, and was the founder of the Munster Parks and Recreation Car Show.

Mr. O'Shaughnessy received his B.S. in Recreation Administration in 1983 and received the William G. Riordan award in 1983. Bob has been actively involved in both Indian and Illinois Park and Recreation Associations, has been an active board member of the Rotary Club, and is a Junior Achievement Instructor.

Alumni Receive EIU Awards

Two alumni were recognized at the College of Education & Professional Studies 2nd Annual Alumni Awards Ceremony in March 2011. Michael Sterba ('74) received the Leadership & Service Award. The recipients of this award are recognized as creating significant impact in their chosen field, community, or society. Larry Closson ('74) received the Lifetime Achievement Award. This award recognizes alumni who have attained distinguished professional success and prominence and are a living role model in the discipline represented by the College of Education and Professional Studies. In October 2011, Larry also received one of Eastern Illinois University's most prestigious awards, the Distinguished Alumni Award. Established in 1973, this award recognizes alumni who have "distinguished themselves in either academic or literary fields, business, public service and/or service to the University and who, through their accomplishments and service, have brought prestige to their alma mater." Congratulations Michael and Larry!

EIURAAA Student Forum



Students, alumni, community leaders, family, and friends gathered for the dedication ceremony of the Ewen "Lefty" Bryden Pavilion on October 21, 2011 in Kiwanis Park.

The 13th Annual EIURAA Student Forum was held on Friday, October 21st. The opening session, was given by Bob O'Shaughnessy. Candice Holbrook (08), recreation Program Manager, Oregon Park District, Mike Dial (10), Recreation Associate, City of Bloomington Parks, Recreation and Cultural Arts Department, Annette Klinzling (80), Central Region Supervisor, Special Olympics Illinois, Jill Presutti (09), CTRS, Heritage Health, Activities Director Following the forum all attendees were treated to a free lunch at the Panther Paw. Once again special thanks go out to Chris Clayton (92) owner of the Panther Paw, who donated the lunch to the attendees. In addition, hearty thanks go to the EIURAA Board of Directors for their fine work on this annual event. (Ryan Jastrzab, President, Kelly LaMore, Past President, Jamie Davis, Secretary, CJ Applegate,

Treasurer, R. Scott Smith, Todd Ranum, Jamie Gower, and Dave Haring) For more information or to volunteer to work on next year's forum, feel free to contact Mr. Ryan Jastrzab at Ryan-Jastrzab@lemontparkdistrict.org or call him at (630) 257-6787 x3003.

EIURAAA Update — Ryan Jastrzab, Director

Over the past couple of years the Eastern Illinois University Recreation Administration Alumni Association (EIURAAA) has been sponsoring a Student Symposium on the Friday of Homecoming. EIURAAA has been running under the leadership of several individuals to make this Alumni Association a success. The goal of EIURAAA is to help raise scholarships, trips to conferences and to give back and help the Recreation Administration students by giving teaching them practical and useful information which will help them become leaders in their profession.

It's easy to get involved on the committee which we encourage all Alumni to do so. But it's easier to become a member. Our Membership rate per year is \$25 which goes to support the current Recreation Administration students. If you're interested in becoming a member please contact C.J. Applegate at 217-345-6897. He would be happy to assist you in renewing your membership or becoming a member.

If you're interested in becoming involved on the EIURAAA committee please contact Ryan Jastrzab, Deputy Director, Lemont Park District at 630-257-6787 X 3003 or ryan-jastrzab@lemontparkdistrict.org

EIURAAA now has a Facebook Page where you will be able to communicate with friends, share ideas and network with other recreation professionals. Please use this page as a great tool for rekindling friendships, sharing ideas, or looking for new innovative ways to do something new in your area of expertise. So please become of friend of the Eastern Illinois Recreation Alumni Association on Facebook.

If you would like more information, please contact me.

EASTERN ILLINOIS UNIVERSITY
RECREATION ADMINISTRATION
ALUMNI ASSOCIATION (EIURAAA)

2012 MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

Check One: *New Membership* *Membership Renewal*

Name _____ Year Graduated from EIU _____

Agency _____ E-mail _____

Business Address _____ Phone _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Home Address _____ Phone _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

_____ Yes, I want to be a member of the EIU Rec. Adm. Alumni Association \$10.00

_____ Yes, I will contribute to help fund student travel/registration/lodging and \$20.00
Annual EIURAAA Student Symposium luncheon.

_____ No, I'm not interested at this time but keep me on the mailing list -----

TOTAL AMOUNT ENCLOSED \$ _____

Please make your check payable to **EIU Recreation Administration Alumni Association**
and return to:

EIU Recreation Administration Alumni Association
c/o CJ Applegate, Treasurer
Charleston Parks and Recreation Department
520 Jackson Avenue
Charleston, IL 61920

If you are interested in serving on a committee or the Alumni Board of Directors, please call
CJ Applegate (217) 345-6897

THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT!

Do you have any comments or suggestion for future EIURAAA activities?

Faculty News



Peggy Holmes Layman

What a busy 2011 fall semester it has been! In the summer the faculty began looking at the tasks related to the upcoming accreditation process for the department. The new standards give us many aspects to track and measure related to student outcomes in the various courses we provide. Then, in summer, I also revised the entire Therapeutic Recreation curriculum based on both the standards from the American Therapeutic Recreation Association (ATRA) and the newly formed Council on Therapeutic Recreation Education (CARTE). Students now need to complete 5 TR content courses and still many Recreation courses. I feel strongly committed to the idea that Therapeutic Recreation/ Recreation Therapy must be based in Recreation

and Leisure Behavior theory and paradigms. Our TR students will be busy and will need to complete 124 hours in order to graduate. The courses and curriculum changes went through the various levels of the university approval process throughout the fall and are now official! We will have the changes up on the department website fairly soon.

We have also been seeing an increase in the number of TR majors- and have had students who have visited from Kentucky and Indiana- we hope they will join the department and welcome all of our newcomers. And, congratulations to one of our TR students, Victoria Trebels. She won, along with 5 oth-

er students, a scholarship to attend the ILRTA Fall Conference. She had a great learning experience and met many new practitioners and other students at the Chicago 3 day meeting.

I have also been busy in many roles tied to our professional organizations: ILRTA Board Member, ATRA Research Foundation Member, and Book Co-editor for the Therapeutic Recreation Journal. These obligations have had me going to several conferences this semester. They have been stimulating and are the best avenues to hear the discussions about the many variables affecting Higher Education, therapeutic recreation and the general recreation field in

(Continued on page 6)

Department of Recreation Administration Advisory Council

The department wishes to recognize and thank our **Department of Recreation Administration Advisory Council** for their excellent service!

- **Ken Baker**-Eastern Illinois University, Charleston, IL kjbaker@eiu.edu
- **Lefty Bryden**-Charleston, IL unmebryden@hotmail.com
- **Mike Dial**—City of Bloomington Parks, Rec., & Cultural Arts Dept., Bloomington, IL—mdial@cityblm.org
- **Corky Emberson** (Chair) Urbana Park District, Urbana, IL—cremberson@urbanaparks.org
- **Jamie Gower**--Decatur Park District, Decatur, IL – jamiieg@decparcs.com
- **Ryan Jastrzab** - Itasca Park District, Itasca, IL—Ryan@itascaparkdistrict.com
- **Kelly LaMoore**- (Past Chair) Bourbonnais Twp. Prk District, Bourbonnais, IL—KellyL@btpd.org
- **Ron Oestreich**-Bolingbrook Park District, Bolingbrook, IL roestreich@bolingbrookparks.org
- **Todd Ranum**– Palatine Park District, Palatine, IL—tranum@palatineparks.org
- **Diane Ratliff**– Charleston Recreation Department, Charleston, IL - tourismdirector@co.coles.il.us
- **John Schmeink**– St. Louis VAMC, St. Louis, MO—John.Schmeink@Va.Gov
- **Mike Sterba**- Coloma TWSHP Park District, Rock Falls, IL ctpd4fun@essex1.com
- **Norma Stumbo**– Retired ISU, Normal, IL

Please consider serving on this vital Council!

Faculty News (continued)

(Continued from page 5)

today's climate. And most importantly I have been able to bring back the latest news and developments to the students in the classroom. "Evidence Based Practice in Therapeutic Recreation"; "Recreation Programming in the 10 Most Violent American Cities"; "Making Power Point Presentations Accessible"; and "Social Media ROI: Making the Case for Social Media" are some of the sessions I attended. We have had some great discussions in the classroom based

on this new information!

We are about to head into finals week which, along with the regular rush of things to do will include interviewing candidates for our open faculty position. We hope to have news about a new faculty member who will be joining us by the beginning of Spring semester, so stay tuned! And I look forward to seeing many of you at the IRPA Conference in Chicago in January. Stay Warm!



Annual Scholarship Recipients

- Ewen "Lefty" Bryden Alumni Scholarship – Patrick Balleto
- Dorothe L. Johnson Memorial Scholarship – Anthony Pritchard
- William A. Smith Scholarship – Anthony Pritchard

Recreation Administration GRADUATES

GRADUATES FALL 2010

Mindy Allen
 Nick Bellamy
 Taylor Dunne
 Adam Kesler
 Martha Rauch
 Kim Runde
 Brad Schnizlein
 Adam Watson

SPRING 2011

William Morrison
 Nathan Kinsinger

SUMMER 2011

Kevin Karlowicz
 Robert Pierobon
 Tyler Puetz
 Justin Rhodes
 Alysha Walter
 Joshua Wetzel

Thank you! Alumni and friends of the Recreation Administration Department are providing vital resources to our students. Gifts to our Annual Fund are allowing us to:

- Endow the William A. Smith Scholarship
- Support the newly created Undergraduate Research Fair held in conjunction with our annual Awards Banquet
- Provide for travel expenses so students can attend the IPRA/IAPD State Conference
- Host the annual Student Symposium that brings well known professionals to campus to interact with students.

Please, give a gift and help the next generation of Recreation Administration majors at Eastern achieve their dreams!

<http://www.eiu.edu/~develop/gift.php>



Anthony Pritchard discusses his research project at the EIU Showcase Event in April 2011

Student Association for Recreation & Rho Phi Lambda Updates

Student Association for Recreation

“Rec Club” engaged in a variety of activities with efforts focused on connecting and fostering student-to-student, student-to-faculty/staff, and student-to-professional relationships. The year started with an ice cream social where current Rec Club members welcomed new students to the major (with free ice cream!) and concluded with a “Senior Send Off” Progressive Dinner hosted by students Layn Newman, Kelly Doane, and Professor Higelmire. Sandwiched between these events, students were active in several social, networking, and fundraising opportunities, including a trip to a local haunted house tour (Ashmore, IL), “rec” nights at the Student Recreation Center, study nights, a t-shirt design contest, paintball, and the Dr. Barkley Bowling Challenge, just to name a few! Rec Club looks forward to attending the IPRA/IAPD Conference in January as well as many other exciting activities for the spring semester!

Rho Phi Lambda

Students who have a major GPA above 3.20, completed at least 45 semester hours, and demonstrate a

record of scholarship, leadership and service are invited to join this national honorary society for recreation, park and leisure services students. As of the Fall 2011, nineteen students are active members of Rho Phi and have volunteered and assisted with many campus and community events, including the 2011 2.5K Homecoming Race, Habitat for Humanity, Fall Family Festival, and many more! A new program Rho Phi Lambda is coordinating is a mentor program for students and professionals in recreation administration. Specifically, Rho Phi members will serve as peer mentors for students within one of our intro courses, REC 1320 “Leadership in Recreation”. Rho Phi members will help orientate these freshman/sophomore-level students into the department and recreation field by providing support, guidance, volunteer opportunities, and leadership. As the Rho Phi faculty advisor, I would also like to connect each Rho Phi member with a professional mentor who could provide these same mentorship experiences to them as they prepare for their professional careers. If you are interested in serving as a mentor, please contact me (Mike Mulvaney) at

mamulvaney@eiu.edu or (217) 581-6589.



Annual Telefund Drive

The generous contributions of the many donors listed below provide funds that support students through scholarships and awards and enhance what is otherwise a limited budget in providing for faculty development, technology acquisition and other enhancements to our program. Our sincere thanks to all of you who donated to the Annual Telefund Drive this year. As of November 30, 2011 these are the names of individuals that contributed to the drive:

- Dennis H. Alldridge
- Ameren Corp Charitable Trust
- Gary F. Balling
- Charles T. Balling
- Steve P. Barr
- Teri E. Becker
- Bob E. Bland
- Karen V. Bollman
- Barbara S. Boon
- Robert L. Carlen
- Christine Cothorn
- Lynne L. Dougherty
- John H. Egan
- Thomas H. Elliott
- Rita K. Fletcher
- Jon A. Freedlund
- Susan B. Friend
- Katie T. Gauthier
- Ronald N. Gbur
- Jody L. Goetting
- Shelby D. Greene
- Paula K. Greider
- Robert E. Hale
- Vicki A. Hampton
- William F. Higelmire
- Lori A. Hohenstein
- Steven B. Hudson
- Richard P. Johnson
- Janey Jolley
- Annie Lee Jones
- Diane D. Kessler
- Kraft Foods Inc
- Panther Paw Bar and Grill
- Scott Pilkerton
- Dawn M. Pollina
- Joseph M. Pollina
- John H Pommier
- David E. Poremba
- Douglas M. Raffel
- Mary M. Rebert
- Amy L. Rivas
- Jill S. Rohr
- Michael A. Rylko
- Katie Salo
- Angela L. Setzer
- Theresa M. Shields
- Edmee Sienkowski
- Scott Smith
- Karen E. Smith
- Doug R. Steeves
- Michael P. Sterba
- Jennifer L. Sterenberg
- David W. Volkers
- William C. Voorhees
- Lori R. Willson
- Bernie M. Young

Faculty News (continued)



Michael Mulvaney

Hello! I hope all is well with each of you. This fall I am teaching Financial Practices for Leisure Service Agencies, Research & Evaluation in Leisure Studies, Pre-Internship, and Operations of Leisure Facilities. Embracing the University's strategic priority to promote integrative learning environments for students and my desire to enhance learning and retention through high impact experiences, students were actively engaged in many projects. In the Finance course, students were giv-

en the opportunity to develop business plans and budgets for a new product, business, or program. Many of these plans required extensive networking with professionals in the field and have the potential for immediate implementation during their internship or first full-time job. In addition, the Finance course took the lead on budgeting, organizing, implementing, and evaluating the Annual Homecoming Race. In Research &

Evaluation, the students partnered with the Findlay Long-Term Improvement Program (Findlay, Illinois) in conducting two needs assessment studies. The first project was a community-wide recreation needs assessment for the residents of Findlay and the second project evaluated the needs of the permanent campground residents and Lake Shelbyville tourists. From the beginning, students were able to see first

(Continued on page 9)

Annette 's Perspective



Happy Holidays! It looks as though it is that time that I reflect on the past year and all the changes, good and bad,

that have happened in my life. I mentioned last time that there was a prognosis that I may never walk again. Well, I guess I proved them wrong! I'm getting around and am still able to come here every day. Though at times it is difficult, I just keep pushing myself every day. So, I am very thankful that I proved them wrong about not being able to walk again! My husband, Everett, traded places with me, it seems as this was his year to have downs. Everett had surgery and had to spend a few days in The Hilltop Convalescent Center for rehab therapy.

I almost forgot I did have one unpleasant experience about three months ago, I had an emergency appendicitis operation and I thought these were to give you problems when one is a teenager. Along with those downs, my family has had plenty of ups. We celebrated the birth of the first great grandson, born to my granddaughter, Heather. Anders was born in April and joined sister Jillian. We also celebrated the addition of a new granddaughter (Beth), who married my grandson Ryan in October in Bloomington, IL. His brother, Branden, is planning to get married to Melodee on January 7, 2012 in Bloomington, IL. Another one of my grandsons, Michael, and his wife Satina moved to Champaign from Branson and started his entertainment company. He is starting to get booked all around the area for special events, etc. doing magic, juggling, hooping, etc.

I would like to wish each and every one of you a Very Merry Christmas and a wonderful New Year. May you be healthy and have all your wishes come true. I have enjoyed getting to know each of you during your time at EIU and wish you a successful and loving life beyond that. I do miss it when you do not keep in contact with the department because I'm still interested in what you are doing as well as your family life. Please feel free to contact me at ardiehl@eiu.edu, give me a call at 217- 581-3018 or contact me on FB (Annette Cutright-Diehl)— just send me a message and I'll be glad to be your friend. Please keep me updated—if you do not send me the latest up-date about yourself and family I can't keep the other alumni informed about you in the news letter—and I believe everyone likes to hear about each other. Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

Faculty News (continued)

-hand the role and impact of research in a “real-life” setting that culminated with students presenting the results of the two studies to Findlay Long-Term Improvement Program board members. A practicum experience was developed within the Operations course through partnerships with the Mattoon YMCA (Tony Sparks & Blake Fairchild), Campus Recreation (Ken Baker), and Charleston Parks & Recreation (Brian Jones, Diane Ratliff, and C.J. Applegate). In particular, each student selected one of the three agencies and spent 12 hours with the agency where the professionals provided application-based experiences that were directly aligned with the content discussed within the Operations course. The intent of this experience was to further connect the classroom discussions with the actual field setting. This was an exciting and, at times, “eye-opening” experience for students with some even securing future internships with their agency as a result of their efforts!

In addition to teaching, I have authored two articles – one for the *Journal of Park & Recreation Administration* (“The role of family-friendly benefits on job self-efficacy and organizational commitment of public park and recreation professionals”) and one for the *Illinois Park & Recreation* magazine (“Family-friendly employee benefits programs in Illinois park districts”). The textbook I co-authored with a colleague (Ryan Gower, University of Illinois), “Making the most of your internship: A strategic approach”, is scheduled for distribution in the spring (2012) through Sagamore Publishing. I am also working with Amy Hurd (Illinois State University) on the 4th edition of the “*Official study guide for the certified park and recreation professional examination*”

book that is scheduled for distribution in the summer (2012). Finally, I presented two sessions at the 2011 NRPA Congress (Atlanta, GA) and one at the 2011 Indiana Parks and Recreation Association Conference (Indianapolis, IN).

I continue to work on creating additional application-based activities for my courses as well as my research and service lines. If you or your agency has any ideas, I would love to hear from you. Have a happy winter and spring season!



James Barkley

My first semester here at Eastern

has been really fun! It has been fantastic getting to know the students, faculty, and various other members of the University community. This semester I taught Introduction to Leisure Service Agencies, World Leisure, Outdoor Living Skills, and Planning and Design of Leisure Facilities. We had some neat experiences and

projects, both in and out of the classroom this semester.

The highlights of the semester included a case study in planning and design in which the students developed concept plans for a boathouse at Lake Charleston. Part of the process included having important stakeholders to such a project come and visit the classroom and share their expertise. Guests to the classroom this semester included Scott Smith [City Manager, City of Charleston], Neils Svendsen [Agricultural Engineer, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers], Brian Jones [Director of Charleston Parks and Recreation], and Curt DeVore [Superintendent of Parks and Facilities Maintenance].



Dr. Barkley's REC 4600 (Planning & Design) students engaging in a park planning site visit at Lake Charleston

(Continued on page 10)

Faculty News (continued)

(Continued from page 9)

nance, Charleston]. To compliment this depth of institutional knowledge, as a class we became regulars in the Gregg Technology Lab classroom as we worked through multiple programs and exercises to produce quality concept plans and become more acquainted with facility-related demands in today's technology-rich workplace.

In Outdoor Living Skills, we played whirly-boat [an original watercraft navigation game] on the campus pond, hiked, canoed and kayaked at Lake Charleston, and built fires and hiked at Fox Ridge State Park. Probably the most memorable experience was a bicycle tour to Walnut Point



REC 3560 (Outdoor Living Skills) students in the early stages of their bike tour and camping trip to Walnut Point State Park (Oakland, IL)

State Park, where the class camped for the evening. Riding twenty-six miles from McAfee Gymnasium to the campground at Walnut Point was an adventure to be sure, as was the return trip.

Through this experience the students learned a lot about each other, themselves, their interests and abilities related to outdoor recreation along with the importance of preventative decision-making in outdoor adventure and recreation.

Like my courses, my service activities have focused on the administration and provision of leisure services. My University service activities have included serving as chair of the CEPS social committee and co-advising the Recreation Majors Club along with Dr. Mulvaney. The social committee put on a nice holiday social and the Recreation Club had several great outings that included paintball, wally-ball, bowling night, and a progressive dinner [special thanks to Dr. Higelmire for the main course].

As a researcher and author it was nice to see two chapters published in Stewart, W., D. Williams, and L. Kruger (Eds.). *Place-based Conservation: Perspectives from the Social Sciences*. These chapters include, "Place meanings as lived experi-

ence," (Barkley, 2011) and, "Sharing stories of place to foster social learning," (Stewart, Glover, and Barkley, 2011). Through my teaching and service activities here at Eastern I have begun to build the relationships necessary to continue with my research interests related to park planning and constraints to leisure time physical activity participation. Collaborating with Brian Jones, Curt DeVore, and Scott Smith in the classroom has been a great way to learn more about the history and current situation(s) related to park and recreation development in and around Charleston. In particular, I look forward to continued research that focuses on stakeholders place meanings related to park planning and exploring the collaborative administration of after school youth sports programming. The semester has gone extremely quickly and I look forward to more fun and learning again next semester.

The Department of Recreation Administration would like to thank you for your continued support and wish you the best for the holidays and new year!

Alumni News

The Annual EIURAAA Student Symposium would like to have you present for the Department's students next Fall.



What the alums are doing!!! Please let me know what you

are doing—always need new names to add to the alum info list—send to me either by way of Face Book (Annette Cutright-Diehl) or email—ardiehl@eiu.edu.

C.J. Applegate –SU ‘03—Lives in Charleston, IL—Athletic Supervisor for the Charleston Park and Recreation Department and current treasurer of EIURAAA and encourages you to visit: <http://www.facebook.com/pages/EIU-Recreation-Administration-Alumni-Association/139573442810891> **EIU Recreation Administration Alumni Association** This page will allow all alumni to stay connected. Not just with each other but also the undergraduates.

Myra Bax –FA ‘01—Lives in Cape Girardeau, MO. Myra_bax16@hotmail.com

Chelsey Byers –SU ‘99—Professional Education Coordinator for Alzheimer's Association in St. Louis, MO. Chelsey.byers@alzstl.org

Teri Dietzen Becker –FA ‘90—Lives in Champaign, IL. tebccslp@comcast.net

Jessica Brutti –SU ‘10—Works at Champaign-Urbana Special Recreation (CURS) as the Program Coordinator. Jessica.brutti@cparkdistrict.com

Shannon Rose Fair –SU ‘09—Living in Atascadero, CA working at Atascadero State Hospital as a Recreation/Rehabilitation Therapist. Still working on the same treatment unit with a 40 person caseload. She has now become a Big Sister in the Big Brother Big Sister program which she says is the only thing new in her life. Says she is also a CTRS.

Bryan Hughes –FA ‘94—Lives in Scottsdale, AZ with his fiancé Patty and their furry family of four dogs and two cats. He works for the Town of Fountain Hills Community Services in Arizona as Supervisor of Recreation. Bryan was elected Pres-

ident of the Arizona Parks and Recreation Association for 2012. Congratulations! bhughes@fh.az.gov

Ryan Jastrzab –SU ‘99—Superintendent of Recreation at Itasca Park District in Itasca, IL. ryan@itascaparkdistrict.com

Susie Kaspar –FA ‘04—Living in Pennsylvania and works for the National Park Service (Lackawaxen, PA) as a Park Ranger on the Upper Delaware Scenic & Recreational River. She is working on her Masters.

Patrice (Murphy) Leeson –SP ‘84—Lives in Tinley Park, IL
Keith Malone –FA ‘05—Living in Houston, TX—He has just gotten back into professional sports while working for Houston Dynamo of the MSL “Major League Soccer”. This will be his 1st season and the team will be playing MLS cup in LA on Nov.20th. He says “I love what I do and I love the doors my EIU degree has opened for me. I hope all my former classmates are doing well.” Keith can be found on Face Book.

Becca Minkwitz –SU ‘07—Working for Freeport Park District as a Recreation Supervisor in Freeport, IL. rminkwitz@freeportparkdistrict.org

Jeff Nelson –FA ‘86—Lives in Elmhurst, IL

Zach Norman –SU ‘08 -- Lives in Carlinville, IL. He is the Marketing & Program Development Manager for Lake Williamson & Midwest Christian Retreats, a network of 6 Christian Conference Centers in IL, IN, MI, MO, and Iowa. He works with their properties developing new services, ensuring quality guest experiences and works with the growing number of guests attending events at their locations. He was selected by Rejuvenate Magazine as one of the top 40 individuals under 40 in the religious travel/meetings industry. Zach has

been traveling to and from Bolivia for mission trips several times per year. Contact information is: 217-854-4820(O), zahn@midwestchristianretreats.org, or on Facebook.

Jill Presutti –SU ‘09—Lives in Bloomington, IL—Working at Heritage Health Nursing Home in Bloomington, IL as the Activity Director, been a CTRS since 2010. jpresutti@heritiageofcare.com

Steve Scharf –FA ‘08---He has finished his 16 month program at The Golf Academy of America in Myrtle Beach, SC....It was a program that focused completely on golf operations and has plenty of PGA Professionals to network with in order to obtain employment. By his next update he hopes to be employed in some area nice and warm.

John Schmeink –SU ‘99—Lives in Waterloo, IL--Recreation Therapist for St.Louis VAMC; jschmeink@yahoo.com

Kevin Yates –SP ‘00—Lives in Chillicothe, IL with wife Jennifer and children Cole and Ashley. He is the Director of the Chillicothe Park District in Chillicothe. yatesk22@gmail.com



Larry Closson (‘74) receiving Eastern Illinois University’s Distinguished Alumni Award in October 2011 (see page 2 for complete story).

Call for Alumni Award Nomination

A big part of our department are the alumni and we want to recognize them for the leadership, service, and dedication they provide for the field of recreation! We need your help! We are currently seeking nominations for the **2012 Distinguished Alumni Award**. Self-nominations are accepted and encouraged!

The following criteria will be assessed when determining the award:

1. Must have graduated from the Department of Recreation Administration (or Leisure Studies).
2. Must have made significant contribution to the profession at large in which they work.
3. Must show evidence of successful accomplishment in their job/agency profession.
4. Must show evidence of civic and professional leadership in the community in which they live.

Please forward nominations to whigelmire@eiu.edu

2011 Distinguished Alum Award: Bob O'Shaughnessy (class of 1983)
(see the story on page 1)

