

# ARPA NEWS YOU CAN USE...



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## **2009 ARPA CONFERNECE A COMPLETE SUCCESS**

The 2009 State Conference was held last week at the Renaissance Hotel & Spa at the Convention Center in downtown Montgomery. ARPA would like to thank all delegates for attending this wonderful conference. The education session line-up was above par and the local host, Montgomery Parks and Recreation Department, really stepped up and provided excellent behind the scenes work, including registration and great social events each evening!



We would also like to take a moment to thank those that took the time to exhibit in the annual Trade Show. The trade show is held in conjunction with conference and has become a very important part of the success of conference. I hope each of you took the time to visit in the exhibit hall this year to see the newest and latest products and trends in the parks and recreation field.

Lastly, ARPA is proud to recognize and send our sincerest thanks to all who sponsored events at this year's conference!

Academy Sports and Outdoors  
ARPA District 5  
F and E Sportswear, Inc.  
"In the Grove" – DJ Musical Entertainment, Steve Hayes, Prattville, AL  
Montgomery Area Chamber of Commerce Convention & Visitors Bureau  
Musco Sports Lighting

## **2008 ARPA AWARD WINNERS ANNOUNCED**

The 2008 ARPA Award Winners were announced during conference at the 2009 Awards Banquet at the Renaissance Hotel & Spa on Tuesday evening, January 27<sup>th</sup>. The following were recognized for achieving excellence during 2008:

Innovative Program/Special Event of the Year  
Population Under 15,000  
City of Sylacauga Parks and Recreation Department, Marble City BMX

Innovative Program/Special Event of the Year  
Population Over 15,000  
Enterprise Parks and Recreation Department, Children's Festival in the Park

Outstanding New Professional  
Jim Armstrong, Sylacauga Parks and Recreation Department

Outstanding Facility of the Year – Specific Use  
Dothan Department of Leisure Services Rotary Miracle Field

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Outstanding Facility of the Year – Multi-Use  
Montgomery Parks and Recreation Department, Gateway Park

Agency of the Year  
City of Cullman Parks and Recreation Department

Merit in Parks  
Bruce Lackey, Morgan County Parks and Recreation Department

Merit in Recreation  
E.R. Brown, Boaz Parks and Recreation Department

Jim Spain Professional of the Year Award  
Barbara Kent, Opelika Parks and Recreation Department

## DON'T FORGET TO RENEW YOUR MEMBERSHIP

Membership Renewals are due, don't forget to renew your investment in ARPA! If you have not renewed yet, this could be one of your last editions of "ARPA News You Can Use" and you may miss out on the next issue of the *Alabamian*. If you need another copy of your renewal statement, please contact the state office via phone or e-mail – 334-279-9160 or [arpa@knology.net](mailto:arpa@knology.net).



## NEWS FROM AROUND THE STATE - JOB OPENINGS IN OPELIKA (complete details on ARPA website)

With the addition of the Opelika Sportsplex and Aquatics Center in Opelika, the Recreation Department is opening four professional level recreation jobs. All these positions will start on June 1, 2009 with the anticipated opening of the Sportsplex in July. Resumes can be sent to the following addresses:

1. Lisa McLeod, Human Resources Director  
P.O. Box 390  
Opelika, AL 36803
2. Bill Harrelson, Director of Parks and Recreation  
P.O. Box 1026  
Opelika, AL 36803

- A. Parks and Recreation Aquatics Director  
(Salary Range - \$32,807.28 - \$45,680.70)
- B. Parks and Recreation Fitness Director  
(Salary Range - \$32,807.28 - \$45,680.70)
- C. Parks and Recreation Senior Adult Coordinator  
(Salary Range - \$32,807.28 - \$45,680.70)
- D. Parks and Recreation Youth Athletics/Soccer Coordinator  
(Salary Range - \$32,807.28 - \$45,680.70)

\*\*\*\*Complete descriptions, qualifications and experience listed on ARPA website, [www.arpaonline.org](http://www.arpaonline.org)\*\*\*\*

## SYLACAUGA PARKS AND RECREATION DEPARTMENT WILL NOT HOST “JUST SAY NO” BASKETBALL TOURNAMENT

Economic reasons have forced the City of Sylacauga Parks and Recreation Department to cancel it's “Just Say No” Basketball Tournament for 2009. Please make a note of this!

### **NRPA LEGISLATIVE FORUM WILL BE HELD IN MARCH**

The National Legislative Forum will be held March 17-20, 2009 in Washington D.C. This Forum provides a unique opportunity to inform our nation's leaders about the essential services provided by park and recreation agencies within local communities. With a new administration and a new Congress promising to address everything from energy to climate change to the surface transportation reauthorization and healthcare reform, the opportunities to advance our legislative agenda are immense! For more details please visit [www.nrpa.org](http://www.nrpa.org) or call the state office at 334-279-9160.



### **INSPIRATION AT WORK**

Thoughts lead on to purposes; purposes go forth in action; actions form habits; habits decide character; and character fixes our destiny.

~ Tyron Edwards