

IAPD / IPRA BUYERS' GUIDE



The yellow pages for Illinois park districts, forest preserves, conservation, recreation and special recreation agencies.



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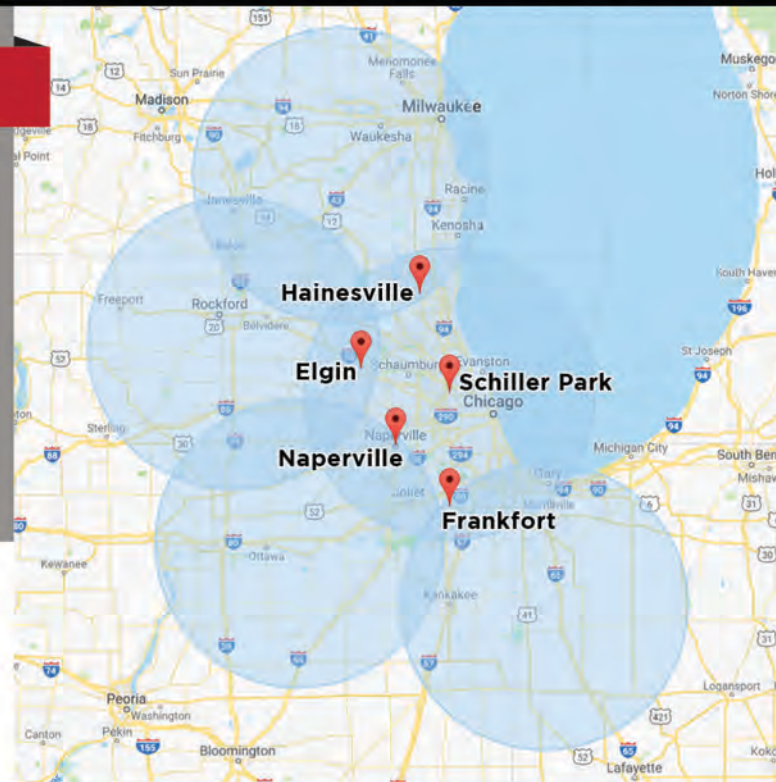
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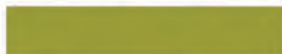
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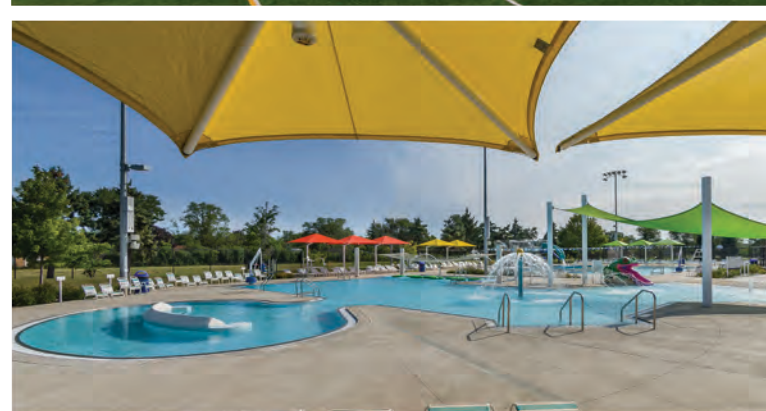
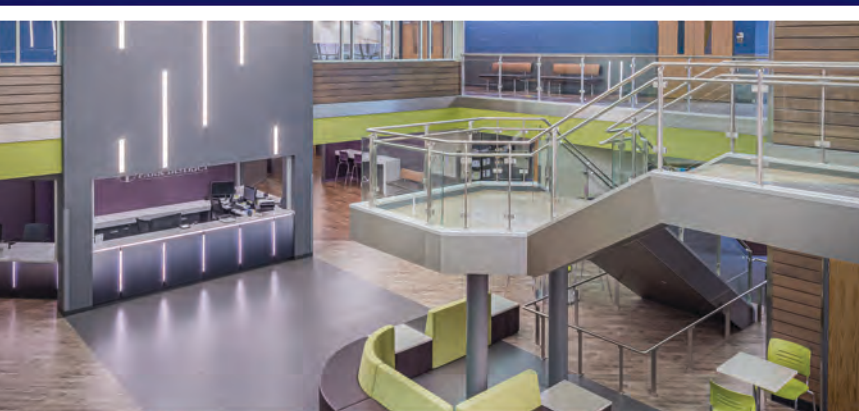
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Looking for Contact Information for Your IPRA Peers?

Contact information for IPRA members can be found online in the Membership section of the IPRA website at ILipra.org.

For instructions on how to update your contact information, visit ILipra.org.



Looking for Agency Contact Information?

You can find contact information for IAPD member agencies by visiting our website at ILparks.org, clicking on 'About Us', hovering over 'Membership' and clicking 'IAPD Agency Members'. You can also look for information using the 'Member Search' button. To update your agency's information, please do so by emailing changes to iapd@ILparks.org.



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IAPD member agencies receive one copy for each commissioner and attorney, as a benefit of membership. IPRA members each receive one copy. IAPD corporate members and IPRA commercial members receive one copy. Display advertisers receive one copy. Libraries, colleges, universities and not-for-profit agencies may purchase the Buyer's Guide for \$25 each.

Disclaimer

Considerable effort has been made to verify listing accuracy; however, we can assume no liability for error or omission.

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The Value of Adding a Dedicated Business Operations Manager to Your Parks and Rec Department

By Jessica Marabella, CivicPlus communications and media manager

Parks and recreation departments enable community members to get out, get active, learn new skills, and find a sense of community within their hometown. Also, importantly, they operate and maintain community assets through a combination of revenue generation and tax support. To achieve optimal programming and engagement success and business efficiency, park and recreation leaders need dedicated staff with skillsets that uniquely enable them to focus on communications, programming, execution, and financial optimization.

If your department doesn't already have a full-time position dedicated to managing your business operations, adding such a staff member could 10-X your ability to make data-informed decisions about pricing, programming, and membership strategies.

The Benefits of Maintaining a Dedicated Operational Analyst in Your Parks and Recreation Department and Insights from The Data Guy

Matt Hickey, MSM, is known as "The Data Guy." Today, he is a parks and recreation cost recovery and recreation software expert. Before his current position, he worked as a senior operations analyst at the City of Boulder, Colorado. The City recognized the need for a parks and recreation department team member to lead its ongoing backend operations and the management of its parks and recreation software. Hickey was asked to leverage his facility management background and technical and analytical skills to identify operational and business efficiency opportunities. "We realized our recreation management software was the plane that would get us where we needed to go, but we needed a pilot to fly us," recalls Hickey.



Matt Hickey, MSM, is known as "The Data Guy."

A dedicated business operations team member with parks and recreation software expertise brings the following benefits to your team:

- A program and user-focused approach to setting up activities, leagues, memberships, facilities, and point-of-sale transactions in your system
- Intimate knowledge of pricing variations and contingencies to optimize payment setup
- Setting up registration and sign-up options to make it easy to market and sell engagement opportunities
- A dedicated point of contact to collaborate integrations and data sharing with fellow department leaders such as accounting and finance teams
- An internal expert to help troubleshoot questions and concerns from community members, instructors, and volunteers
- Regular financial analysis to help inform future program and pricing decisions

In Boulder, Hickey successfully leveraged the City's system to align the front-desk community member registration experience with the backend system setup and administration, resulting in optimal opportunities to engage community members, earn repeat participation, and grow revenue-generating channels.

What Your Data Might Reveal

Hickey's experience in Boulder and as a parks and recreation cost recovery consultant have taught him that a critical data element a valuable parks and recreation management system might reveal is the average price per hour per person, particularly for sports leagues, fitness areas, memberships, facility rentals, and aquatics. He advises that there are inherent challenges in benchmarking any community's revenue against a set industry standard; however, continual analysis of your data should

reveal trends and opportunities to maximize revenue recovery based on registration type.

If your parks and recreation department already has the internal talent and team members needed for operational analysis but lacks the software and required insightful reporting for optimal strategic action, contact the solution experts at CivicRec®. We'll work to understand your functional and system challenges and help you configure a scalable solution. **Learn more at civicrec.com.**



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- ✓ Insightful reporting



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*Additional cost applies

ABOUT THE

IAPD

Illinois Association of Park Districts

The Illinois Association of Park Districts, headquartered in Springfield, has been serving park districts, forest preserves, conservation, recreation and special recreation agencies since 1928.

IAPD represents more than 2,100 elected and appointed board members and is composed of nearly 400 park districts, forest preserves, conservation, recreation and special recreation agencies, as well as corporate members.

The Illinois Association of Park Districts offers exclusive programs designed to maximize our members' resources and advance their mission, goals and objectives. IAPD's core service areas include:

- Grassroots Legislative Advocacy
- Board Training and Development
- Legal Services
- Education
- Research
- Technical Assistance
- Public Awareness
- Affinity Programs

The Illinois Association of Park Districts is the oldest and most successful statewide association of its kind. As a grassroots organization, IAPD's voice for parks, recreation and conservation is strong and respected throughout Illinois and the United States. Since 1980, legislation endorsed by IAPD has passed 92 percent of the time. Thanks in large part to the work of IAPD, Illinois citizens enjoy more than 560,000 acres for recreation and parks.

IAPD Mission

IAPD is a non-profit service, research and education organization that serves park districts, forest preserves, conservation, recreation and special recreation agencies. The association advances these agencies, their citizen board members and professional staff in their ability to provide outstanding park and recreation opportunities, preserve natural resources and improve the quality of life for all people in Illinois.

IAPD Vision

As a national leader, IAPD will provide superb association services to its members.

We will achieve our vision by:

- Strengthening our alliances with environmental, economic and human service agencies throughout Illinois and the nation
- Maintaining a strong relationship with state and national government leaders
- Establishing grants and other new revenue streams for our members
- Addressing the problem of decreasing open spaces and natural areas in Illinois
- Assisting our members in the promotion of healthy lifestyles for all ages and abilities
- Assisting our members in their ability to meet community challenges, such as youth at risk, obesity and the demands of increasingly senior and diverse populations
- Helping our member agencies thrive in spite of a shortage of tax-based revenues

- Educating elected and appointed officials to work in cooperation with fellow board members to promote a stronger community through public parks, recreation and conservation

IAPD organizational strengths include, but are not limited to:

- Orientation and training programs for citizen board members
- Citizen advocacy initiatives that direct and draw on the power of individuals to educate policymakers on issues of vital importance to the mission of park, recreation and conservation agencies
- Educational materials such as *Illinois Parks & Recreation* magazine, books and newsletters, a dynamic website, in-depth and challenging educational seminars and an annual conference
- Technical assistance that helps member agencies increase their efficiency, meet their goals or acquire more funding
- More opportunities for member agencies to save costs on such budget items as utilities, insurance and other operational expenses

The IAPD will continue to achieve these results in a fiscally responsible manner that ensures the association's viability and makes membership a cost-effective necessity.

Contact the Illinois Association of Park Districts

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2022 IAPD Calendar of Events

April-May, 2022
Flying 4 Kids Months
Statewide Kite Fly

Thursday, April 7, 2022
**Leadership Institute
Ignite the Process**
In-Person Event
6 p.m. - 9 p.m.

Thursday, May 12, 2022
**Leadership Institute
Agent of Change**
Virtual Event
6:30 p.m. - 8 p.m.

Thursday, June 9, 2022
**Leadership Institute
Pro-Active, Big Picture,
Holistic, System Thinking**
Virtual Event
6:30 p.m. - 8 p.m.

Monday, June 13, 2022
**Summer Golf Tour Outing
#1**
Heritage Oaks Golf Club
Northbrook Park District
Northbrook, IL

Thursday, July 14, 2022
**Leadership Institute
Catalyst for Responsibility**
Virtual Event
6:30 p.m. - 8 p.m.

Wednesday, July 27, 2022
**Summer Golf Tour Outing
#2**
Pinecrest Golf Club
Huntley Park District
Huntley, IL

Saturday, Aug. 20, 2022
**Park District Conservation
Day**
State Fairgrounds, Springfield

Monday, August 29, 2022
**Summer Golf Tour Outing
#3**
Foss Park Golf Course
Foss Park District
North Chicago, IL

Friday, Oct. 14, 2022
**Best of the Best Awards
Gala**
Chevy Chase Country Club
Wheeling Park District
Wheeling, IL

Thursday, Nov. 3, 2022
Legal Symposium
Hyatt Lodge/Conference Center
Oak Brook, IL

Jan. 26-28, 2023
**2023 IAPD/IPRA Soaring to
New Heights Conference**
Hyatt Regency, Chicago

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IAPD
Illinois Association of Park Districts

IAPD Past Presidents/Chairs

1928 Joseph C. Blair, Urbana	1978 Gerald Wernick, Rockford
1929 Fred J. Bohn, Chicago	1979 Barbara Williams, Olympia Fields
1930 Frank Wilkins, Chicago	1980 Robert L. Cole, Decatur
1931 C.A. Wilard, Oak Park	1981 Peter J. Koukos, Highland Park
1932-37 James B. Kenny, Joliet	1982 Morgan C. Powell, Champaign
1937 Fred Heggie, Joliet	1983 Don G. Prindle, DuPage Co.
1938 Charles Demeter, Freeport	1984 Bonnie W. Noble, Peoria
1939 A.E. Miller, Lombard	1985 Roger Toohey, Wheaton
1940 Archie Aimen, Peoria	1986 Ralph Cianchetti, Highland Park
1941-45 Dr. C.W. Milligan, Springfield	1987-88 Sandra Fernstrom, Arlington Heights
1945-47 Ferdinand C. Arndt, Des Plaines	1989 Kenneth VanNattan, Morton
1947 C.W. Hulit, Canton	1990 Bernadine Rechner, River Trails
1948 Stanley McBroom, Kankakee	1991 Michael Curtis, Carbondale
1949 J.V. Kammer, Lombard	1992 Ronald Lehman, Channahon
1950 Leo Donovan, Peoria	1993 Donald Jessen, Addison
1951 William A. Jackson, Park Ridge	1994 Judy Beck, Glenview
1952 Thomas E. Paulett, Granite City	1995 Phyllis Cossarek, Wilmette
1953 Tom J. Montgomery, Des Plaines	1996 Bruce Larson, Urbana
1954 Arthur E. Kelly, Joliet	1997 Fred Hohnke, Woodridge
1955 Frederick P. Schlitt, Springfield	1998 Michael Gilfillan, Arlington Heights
1956 W.W. Berg, Kewanee	1999 Oscar L. Dahl, Northbrook
1957 Hon. Marvin F. Burt, Freeport	2000 Judith Locke, Decatur
1958 Robert H. Wiegman, Morton Grove	2001 Roger Florey, Rolling Meadows
1959 Henry O. Gleiss, Skokie	2002 Mary Garrison, Winnetka
1960 L. Mike Kraus, East St. Louis	2003 Dennis Flanagan, Lan-Oak
1961 Prof. Fred F. Weinard, Urbana	2004 Clint Hull, St. Charles
1962 John E. Cassidy, Jr., Peoria	2005 Pamela O. Newton, Lake County
1963 W. Milton Worthen, Granite City	2006 David Mason, DeKalb
1964 Thomas J. Olivia, Memorial	2007 Scott Triphahn, Hoffman Estates
1965 Robert E. Pilcher, Joliet	2008 Mike Krost, Chillicothe
1966 W.L. McCullough, Fox Valley	2009 Colette Kubiesa, Elmhurst
1967 Louis A. Gietl, Springfield	2010 George Longmeyer, Schaumburg
1968 Robert O. Pohl, Glenview	2011 Wally Frasier, Mundelein
1969 Donald F. Bresnan, Champaign	2012 Linda Johnson, Crete
1970 Eugene C. Pomerance, Elmhurst	2013 Don Andersen, Oak Lawn
1971 Betty C. Irons, Homewood-Flossmoor	2014 Joe Petry, Champaign
1972 Michael J. Cassidy, Freeport	2015 Diane Main, Westmont
1973 Allan A. Weissburg, Skokie	2016 Ken Collin, Freeport
1974 Webster D. Wiley, Kewanee	2017 Tom Barz, Frankfort
1975 Henry C. Deihl, Salt Creek Rural	2018 John Hoscheit, Kane County
1976 Tim G. Soldwedel, Pekin	2019 Kevin Dolan, Mundelein
1977 Peter T. Trenchard, Deerfield	2020 Adriane Johnson, Buffalo Grove
	2021 Mike Vogl, Bloomingdale Park District

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ABOUT THE



The first attempt to form a statewide association dedicated to bringing park and recreation professionals together for purposes of information sharing and education was in 1944. World War II was winding down on two fronts. Back home, a conference of Illinois recreation workers was convened at the University of Illinois for the purpose of resurrecting a group dedicated to park and recreation management.

Though only 35 people attended, groundwork was established for the Illinois Recreation Association (IRA). Organizers vowed to tackle the weighty issues of taxes and legal matters plus post-war planning at a state conference scheduled for the following year.

While the group took shape, individuals added their expertise. Russell Perry, former director of recreation for the Aurora Park District, developed IRA's first constitution and helped the group establish its sliding membership fee scale. Small districts paid as little as \$2 per year to affiliate while larger ones were assessed up to \$25 per annum. In 1946, a determination was made to revise membership fees, assessing individuals rather than agencies. Professionals paid \$1 to join, while agencies paid \$5.

As most organizations are aware, communication drives progress, so Howard Copp, former Wilmette Superintendent of Recreation, edited the association's first newsletter in 1947. Editorial content included everything from youth programming to the recreational use of school facilities

and included pertinent legislative concerns. A year later, IRA chose to affiliate with the American Recreation Society.

Perhaps the most dynamic growth period of Illinois' IRA/ARS came during the 1950s, when such issues as sports for women, regional diversity and professional certification appeared on agendas. This diversification led to the establishment of a division of IRA dedicated to hospital professionals, as well as the group's first invitation to meet with the Illinois Association of Park Districts in Joliet.

The 1960s and 1970s were witness to the organization's expansion, which included yet another name change to IPRS (Illinois Parks and Recreation Society), a growth spurt in committee activity (30 standing committees existed in 1965), the organization's first joint meeting in St. Louis with IAPD, and the launch of *Illinois Parks & Recreation*, the magazine currently serving both associations.

In 1976, a final name change recommendation made at Joliet resulted in the one we currently use: the Illinois Park & Recreation Association (IPRA). The group's 30 committees became seven special interest groups representing various career tracks and areas of expertise. They are the Administration and Finance, Communications and Marketing, Diversity, Facility Management, Park and Natural Resource Management, Recreation, and Therapeutic Recreation.

As the 1990s dawned, more than 1,700 parks and recreation professionals filled the IPRA roster.

That figure has jumped to nearly 3,000 members who are park, recreation and conservation professionals, as well as associates, citizens and students who are committed to serving a changing society as advocates for the lifetime benefits of parks, recreation and conservation.

It's a history filled with milestones and a mission that has sustained itself through more than 75 years of growth and expansion: to be an advocate in providing quality park, recreation and conservation education, resources and services to professionals and citizens throughout the state of Illinois.

As we continue to do what we do best - representing our members to the best of our collective abilities - IPRA can count among its landmarks a number of unforgettable moments. But in the end, our success is all about the relationships we've struck with every person who has signed on to avail themselves of our services.

We're proudest of the friends we've made, the careers we've helped grow and the personal triumphs we've witnessed.

Saying thank you for your loyalty, trust and friendship seems an understatement, so allow us to show our gratitude in the future by gifting you with a stronger, more professional association - one you'll be proud to say you belong to.

Contact the Illinois Park and Recreation Association

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IPRA LEADERSHIP

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Chicago Metro Region Representative

Matthew Fairbanks, CPRP
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Palos Heights Parks & Recreation

Membership Council Representative

Erika Strojinc, CPRP
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Buffalo Grove Park District

At Large Representative

Keith Wallace, CPRP
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IPRA Sections

IPRA's eight special interest groups – or Sections – are a great way for members to meet and collaborate with their colleagues who have similar roles and responsibilities. These sections, and their sub-committees, allow for unlimited educational, networking and problem-solving opportunities. All sections are free and open for members to join and become involved. Join as many as you like!

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Director: Marlon Rodas, Wilmette Park District

Diversity

Director: Manuel Aguilar, CTRS, CPRP, NWSRA

Facility Management

Director: Joe Zimmerman, Buffalo Grove Park District

Forest Preserve & Conservation

Director: Elizabeth Kessler, CPRE, McHenry County
Conservation District

Parks & Natural Resource Management

Director: Shane Hamilton, Carol Stream Park District

Recreation

Director: Mary Liz Jayne, Lisle Park District

Therapeutic Recreation

Director: Lauren Jevaney, CTRS, NWSRA



2022 IPRA Upcoming Events

15th Annual Park Pursuit

May 5, 2022
South Elgin

Emerging Technologies for Integrating Nature and Health

May 11 or 19, 2022
Webinar

Micro-Aggressions and Unconscious Bias

June 8 or 16, 2022
Webinar

4th Annual Unplug Illinois Day

July 9, 2022
Locations throughout Illinois

Tools of Impact - Beyond Programs and Surveys

July 13 or 21, 2022
Webinar

Delegating Effectively

August 10 or 18, 2022
Webinar

Diversity Education Institute

September 9, 2022
Location TBD

Sponsorship Development - Partners in Promotion

September 14 or 15, 2022
Webinar

Facility Management Workshop

September 30, 2022
Wheeling

TR Leadership Summit

October 7, 2022
Location TBD

Time Waits for No One

October 12 or 20, 2022
Webinar

Professional Development School (PDS)

November 6-9, 2022
Galena

The Flexible Professional

November 9 or 17, 2022
Webinar

The Connected Leader

December 14 or 15, 2022
Webinar

For details and registration, please visit the IPRA event calendar at [ILipra.org](https://ilipra.org)

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- Tools of Impact - Beyond Programs and Surveys
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Vernon Hernlund	1950-51	Robin Hall	1981	Tracey Crawford	2008
Allen Sapora	1952	Dave Phillips	1982	Ron Salski	2009
Harold Bean	1953	Patti Roth	1983	Carrie Hauptert	2010
Bevier Butts	1954	Tom Richardson	1984	LoriKay Paden	2011
Russell Perry	1955-59	George Whitehead	1985	John Curran	2012
Alan Domer	1960-61	Robert Dunsmuir	1986	Allison Niemela	2013
Francis Heinlen	1962-63	Connie Newport	1987-88	Jan Hincapie	2014
Ralph Birks	1963-64	Tom Kruse	1989	Rick Hanetho	2015
Dr. E. H. Storey	1964	Jerry Handlon	1990	Mary Jeanne Hutchison	2016
Ronald Johnson	1965	Keith Frankland	1991	Rita Fletcher	2017
Robert Toalson	1966	Terry Schwartz	1992	Matt Corso	2018
Richard Johns	1967	Steve Persinger	1993	Jeff Fougerousse	2019
Rhodell Owens	1968	Steve Pohlman	1994	Erin Folk	2020
Charles Pezoldt	1969	Debbie Carlson	1995	Doug Damery	2021
John Lindberg	1970	Ray Morrill	1996		
Ted Kavadas	1971	Mike Rylko	1997		
Ernest Nance	1972	Mark Badasch	1998		
Michael Pope	1973	Don Van Arsdale	1999		
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