2015 Hall of Fame Banquet and Induction Ceremony

Presented by
mParks | Michigan Recreation and Park Association

Thursday, October 1, 2015
Summit on the Park
Canton, Michigan
2015 Hall of Fame Banquet and Induction Ceremony

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WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS
mParks President, Sean Fletcher

OPENING REMARKS
Reverend Hurley Coleman, Master of Ceremonies

INVOCATION
Reverend Hurley Coleman, mParks Past President,
Hall of Fame Inductee (Class of 2011)

DINNER

INDUCTION CEREMONY
John T. Dufour* introduced by Ron Reinke
Malcolm “Mal” Elliott* introduced by R. Eric Reickel
Linda Jane Myers* introduced by Geri Jackson
Representative Kathy Crawford
introduced by Jeff Muck, Carla Scruggs, and Marilyn Troshak
Portia Fields-Anderson introduced by Bruce Ross
Pecky D. Lewis introduced by Gerald Fisher
William “Bill” Waterhouse introduced by Traci Sincock
Mary Winegar introduced by Brett Kaschinske

* indicates that the inductee is deceased

Presentation of Awards, Sean Fletcher, mParks President

TOUR OF mPARKS HALL OF FAME

DESSERT IN LOBBY

Special Thanks To Our Host
Canton Leisure Services Department
The mParks Hall of Fame

Class of 2005
Jim Bristor
Harry Burns
Arch Flannery
Herb Jennings
Hubert Johnson
David Laidlaw
Lawrence Moser
Virginia Munger
Karla V. Parker
R. Eric Reickel
Jesse Rutherford
Joe Seavey
Benjamin Yack

Class of 2006
Jim Beers
Jim Bruce
John Considine
Jack Golden
William Kreger
Harold Myron
Jim Perry
James Reid
Henry Schubert
Lew Wint

Class of 2007
Tom Chappelle
David Ewalt
Anthony Filippis, Sr.
Kerry Kammer
Chuck Oxley
William Sherman
Kenneth Smithee
Tomas Washington

Class of 2009
Chase Hammond
Roger Kowalski
Chuck Lewis
Betty Lloyd
Olga Madar
Curt Shaneour
Susan Wedley
Margaret Whitehead

Class of 2011
David “Bud” Brown
Hurley Coleman, Jr.
Michael Engan
Larry Fitch
Peter Harlow
Luther T. Holt
R. Dan Musser & R. Dan Musser III
Ralph Richard
Donald Sparpana

Class of 2013
Mel Bailey
Jeffery Coupie
Trudy Cross
Ted D’Pulos
Geri Jackson
Jon Kipke
Ron Reinke
Bill Rhodes
Lou Twardzik
John Dufour’s career spanned more than 40 years of service to the cities of Dearborn and Livonia. After serving in World War II, he returned to begin his career with the City of Dearborn where he worked in various supervisory roles. In 1963, John became Superintendent of Parks and Recreation in the fast growing community of Livonia, and began his 16-year journey to build a strong parks and recreation department.

Under John’s guidance and partnership with various community leaders, Livonia’s recreation department grew from a relative handful of amenities to a system comprised of 60 parks by 1979. This incredible growth was aided by the passage of a $4.4 million bond issue in 1964.

The bond funding, coupled with John’s vision and success in securing state and federal grants, led to the purchase and creation of various amenities, including the Eddie Edgar and Decon-Aire arenas; Whispering Willows and Idyl Wyld golf courses; Clement Circle, Botsford, and Shelden Park pools; and the Greenmead Historical Site. More than 40 tennis courts were constructed during John’s tenure, and he oversaw the development of many of the parks that residents enjoy today, including Rotary and Bicentennial Park – which remain some of the busiest parks in the community.

Recreation programming also grew under John’s leadership. From 1960 to 1970, Livonia’s population doubled to more than 105,000 residents. Dufour was a strong advocate for building community alliances in order to serve the fast-growing community. In the early 70’s more than 25,000 youth and adults were involved in athletic programs sponsored or cosponsored by the department, and clubs were formed for all age groups.

John also found time to be an active member of mParks (formerly known as MRPA), serving on numerous committees, the Board of Directors, and as President. On the local level, he was a member of the Optimist Club and the Livonia Anniversary Committee, and was also a founding member of the Sandlotter Club of Michigan, sponsors of the Sandlot Benefit Game in cooperation with the Detroit Tigers.

John T. Dufour believed in building a strong parks and recreation department with a foundation based on quality amenities and programs. Those elements – and his numerous contributions – are still evident in Livonia today.
Mal Elliott served as a playground leader in Grand Rapids, a Recreational Director for the State Boys Vocational School in Lansing, and an Assistant Professor of Recreation at Central Michigan University, but he is perhaps best known professionally for his numerous accomplishments during his 18-year tenure as the first Director of Recreation with the City of Saginaw.

Mal assumed his position in Saginaw with an office, a stenographer, and a budget hardly worth mentioning. With formidable obstacles in his path, he partnered with the City, School Board, YMCA, YWCA, and parent-teacher associations to build a coalition and leverage partnerships.

As Joseph Prendergast (Executive Director for the National Recreation Association) once said, “We might call [Mal] a recreation educator, for through him taxpayers, municipal officials, school officials, and many others have gained a broader view of public recreation and its…significance in the lives of [residents].” Mal was also a mentor and promoter of the parks and recreation profession, participating in recruiting projects to attract young men and women to the field.

Through Mal’s efforts, the Saginaw Department of Recreation grew to include 15 full-time and 100 part-time employees. The budget increased to $500,000 by 1961, and the City’s amenities grew to include 22 playgrounds; 24 tennis courts; five swimming pools; seven skating rinks; three athletic fields; a fish pond; day camp program; eight recreation centers; a craft shop; and orchestra, band, and chorus programs. Thousands of residents participated in city-wide programs that began under his leadership.

Mal was an involved member of mParks (formerly known as MRPA). He served on the Board of Directors as Secretary, First Vice President, and President; and also served as a Representative of the East Central District of the American Recreation Society.

A professional held in high esteem, Mal was one of only 50 people in the United States invited to participate in the National Conference on Intramurals. He served on committees with the American Recreation Society, consulted for the Michigan Municipal League, and helped establish an institute on “Recreation Problems” at the University of Michigan, among many other endeavors.

He was cited by the Michigan Recreation Association for his “unselfish service and contributions to promote the cause of recreation.” Mal left the City of Saginaw in 1966 to become an Assistant Professor of Recreation at CMU; he passed away in 1980.

Mal built Saginaw Parks and Recreation into a department that was recognized as one of the finest in Michigan. He made countless contributions to his community, to mParks, and to the profession. His passion for parks and recreation touched thousands of lives.
Linda Jane Myers began her career as a Play Leader on playgrounds and in schools, and worked her way up the ranks to become the Assistant Specialized Services Coordinator with Detroit Recreation, where she oversaw the department’s therapeutic recreation offerings and programs for seniors.

Under Linda’s guidance and leadership, the department excelled in the recreation programs it offered to Detroit’s senior citizens and residents with disabilities.

In addition to her efforts in Detroit, Linda organized Michigan’s Cerebral Palsy Games. At the first event in 1976 at Detroit’s Lennox Center, 56 individuals competed in 26 events. The event became so popular that it was eventually moved to Eastern Michigan University. Linda served as Regional Chair for the program until her retirement, overseeing a membership that encompassed seven states. The games continue today and are now known as the Victory Games, and the program’s popularity still requires a university facility each year.

Linda served on the Board of Directors for mParks (formerly known as MRPA) for a number of years and was member of the National Recreation & Park Association. She partnered with mParks members and fellow Hall of Famers Margaret Whitehead and Jon Kipke to organize senior trips to Mackinac Island – now known as the Grand Experience. Linda’s group eventually required separate trip dates; her program was so well attended that the Detroit travelers filled the entire Grand Hotel.

The opportunity for safe, fun, and organized travel was so popular with the City’s older residents that Linda founded the Detroit Senior Funsters. Thousands of metro Detroiters traveled throughout the U.S. and abroad; participants even experienced the great outdoors through a week-long event at Camp Brighton. Linda led the group for 20 years.

Linda continued to be an active volunteer well after her retirement, lending her time to various senior groups and facilities. She was honored by the Detroit City Council with the Spirit of Detroit Award, which recognizes exceptional achievement, outstanding leadership, and dedication to improving quality of life.

**Linda Myers used her knowledge, skills, and enthusiasm for recreation to not only make a difference in the lives of Detroit residents, but to impact the quality of life of seniors and individuals with disabilities across the state and region.**
Representative Kathy Crawford has served as a parks and recreation professional in the field of seniors and aging for more than 30 years. Her career began in Oakland County, where she directed programming for more than 30 senior centers through the Oakland Livingston Human Service Agency, an organization that also employed Crawford to manage and train staff to provide a variety of programs for low-income families in Oakland County.

A trailblazer in the field of aging, Kathy planned and implemented the first senior center in the City of Novi and was responsible for the development of the first city-sponsored, affordable housing for seniors. She served as Novi’s first Senior Citizen Director, creating an inclusive, comprehensive program for older adults that included transportation, social services, fitness opportunities, special events, performing groups, and more. She was one of the first Senior Directors to become certified in Michigan.

A dynamic professional and a programming master, Kathy planned park and recreation programming on local, state, and national levels. A champion for seniors and services for the aging, she has served on numerous community organizations and committees; was involved in the Senior Committee of mParks (formerly MRPA); was a frequent guest speaker at workshops and conferences; and was appointed to attend a Whitehouse Conference on Aging.

Kathy retired from the City of Novi in 2004 to start her own business. She authored several resources for senior center directors, and released a travel memoir, Two Broads Abroad. She began serving on the Novi City Council in 2007, and in 2010 was elected to the Oakland County Commission, where she served until her 2014 election to the Michigan House of Representatives.

As a legislator, Kathy continues to advocate for parks, recreation, and senior services. She serves on numerous committees, including Health Policy and Families, Children and Seniors. Representative Crawford has continued to be a friend to mParks and the recreation profession. In 2015, she co-hosted a luncheon that connected P&R professionals with legislators, designed to inform senators and representatives of the benefits of parks and recreation.

An honorary lifetime member of Optimist International, Kathy has been honored with the City of Novi’s Outstanding Citizen and Distinguished Service Awards; the State of Michigan Minutemen Award; the Michigan Governor’s Award; Rotary Foundation’s Paul Harris Fellow Award, the Optimist Club’s Honor Club Citation Award; the mParks Program Leadership and Innovative Programming Awards; was named Business and Professional Woman of the Year; and is an honoree on the City of Novi’s Walk of Fame. The Novi Parks and Recreation Foundation’s Volunteer Award was named after Kathy and her husband Hugh – it became an annual award in 2006.

Kathy Crawford is a joyful, caring, and passionate public servant. A compelling advocate, she has continued her advocacy on behalf of the field while serving her state and community in the Michigan legislature. Michigan seniors, mParks, and the parks and recreation profession are lucky to have a friend like Representative Kathy Crawford.
In a career spanning more than 40 years, Portia Fields-Anderson served as Director of Community and Human Services for the City of Pontiac, an Assistant Superintendent with the Huron-Clinton Metroparks, and as a Therapeutic Recreation Program Supervisor for Oakland County Parks and Recreation.

Innovative, selfless, energetic, and passionate, Portia was (and continues to be) an instrumental force behind the advancement of parks and recreation services throughout the state. She has had a tremendous impact on the quality of life for countless residents of all ages and abilities.

Portia is a member of numerous parks and recreation organizations on the regional, state, and international level. An active and energetic member of mParks (formerly known as MRPA) for more than 40 years, she has served on the mParks Board of Directors, as chair and member of the Awards, Diverse Cultures, and Therapeutic Recreation Committees, and has donated her time as a member the Scholarship Committee, a guest speaker, and event volunteer as well.

A leader in connecting health and wellness to parks and recreation, Portia was instrumental in jumpstarting and ensuring the success of the mParks Walk Michigan program; she continues to be active with its successor, the Jazzy Walk Weekend.

Passionate about dance and the arts, Portia put her love for dancing into action for therapeutic intervention for individuals with mental and physical challenges, and those recovering from addiction. She teaches dance within the Pontiac Public Schools, Oakland Community College, and the Pontiac Creative Arts Center; she also directs the POCO Dance Company. A longtime host of Wayne State University dance performances for children, the Portia Fields-Anderson Endowed Scholarship was established by the University in her honor. The award is sometimes referred to as the Freida Frump Scholarship – named after the beloved character Portia brought to life as an event host.

While she officially retired in 2006, Portia continues to be involved in mParks events and programs, and also assists with programs through Oakland County Parks and Recreation. She also serves as a director of both Murphy Day Camp and Galaxy Recreation, and is a devoted mentor, volunteer, and advocate. For more than 25 years she has been involved in the Michigan Victory Games, for which she serves as an energetic coach, advocate, and volunteer.

In addition to her focus on parks and recreation services, health and wellness, therapeutic recreation, and the art of dance, Portia has championed inclusion for all in the profession by fostering enthusiasm for ensuring diversity in parks and recreation.

Portia is the recipient of the highest honors presented by mParks, including the Commitment to Excellence Award, Fellowship Award, and Karen Linn Medve Outstanding Achievement Award. She is also the recipient of the Arts Achievement Award from WSU.

Passionate, dedicated, and creative, Portia Fields-Anderson has worked tirelessly as an advocate, professional, and volunteer to promote the benefits of parks and recreation, and to ensure that the benefits of parks and recreation services are available for all.
As a driving force behind numerous acquisitions, enhancements and improvements, Pecky Lewis has made a lasting impact on access to parks, recreation, and leisure services in Oakland County.

President of Liberty Special Tool Co. for more than 50 years, Pecky also served as Mayor and Planning Commissioner for the City of Royal Oak; an ex-officio member of the Royal Oak Parks and Recreation Advisory Board; and Secretary, Chairman, and finally Chairperson Emeritus for the Oakland County Parks and Recreation Commission.

Pecky’s leadership – referred to by peers as a “herculean contribution” – saw the opening of Catalpa Oaks, Highland Oaks, Lyon Oaks, and Rose Oaks County Parks, a golf course, three nature centers, and three dog parks. He oversaw the creation of Red Oaks Waterpark; Michigan’s first refrigerated toboggan run; greenhouses; renovations to campgrounds; and the expansion of several parks.

During his tenure, Oakland County Parks not only expanded amenities, but also increased recreation opportunities for visitors of all abilities. Enhancements under Pecky’s leadership include programs tailored for individuals with mental and physical challenges and veterans with disabilities, including creation of the Paradise Peninsula Playscape – an award-winning universally accessible playground located at Waterford Oaks County Park.

Additionally, Pecky was instrumental in the development and implementation of the department’s 10-Year Strategic Master Plan, which focuses on sustainability; customer service; marketing; trail connectivity; business decision-making; the re-establishment of a parks foundation; and enhancing quality of life.

An involved member of the community, Pecky served as officer, director, and Scholarship Committee chair of the Royal Oak Lions Club, on the Board of Management for the YMCA South Oakland Branch; and Advisory Board Director for the Boys Club of Royal Oak.

Pecky was presented with the Special Award from mParks (formerly MRPA) and is a two-time recipient of the National Association of County Park and Recreation Professionals’ Outstanding Public Official Award.

Pecky D. Lewis is a leader, civil servant, and a tireless contributor to resident quality of life. His accomplishments, unwavering support, and steadfast dedication to parks and recreation has made an immeasurable impact on Oakland County.
Bill Waterhouse began his career with positions in Troy, Oak Park, and Sterling Heights before heading to Southfield, where he would spend 30 years serving the community before retiring as the Parks & Recreation Director in 2011.

During his time in Southfield, Bill oversaw a staff of 44 full-time and nearly 300 part-time/seasonal employees, and was responsible for managing more than 150,000 square feet of facilities and 774 acres of parkland at 33 sites throughout the city. Other amenities under his purview included an ice arena; two golf courses; a senior adult center; wellness center; indoor arena; historic site, outdoor swimming pool; and a general parks and recreation building.

A trendsetter in the industry and a champion of the importance of partnerships, Bill introduced concepts and ideas well before their time. He partnered with the Miracle League of Michigan to install the first baseball field in the state for children with disabilities. The facility serves more than 400 patrons each summer, and has impacted the lives of thousands since its installation 12 years ago.

An active and engaged member of mParks (formerly known as MRPA) for more than 40 years, Bill has been involved in just about every committee, either as a chairman, member, or volunteer.

While planning the 2002 Conference, Bill also led the charge in developing what would become the Michigan Youth Symposium. The event joins youth and teen councils from across the state, and continues to impact the lives of many Michigan youth today.

In addition to mParks, Bill was an active member in the Northwest Parks and Recreation Association and the National Recreation and Park Association; his dedication also extended to the Metro Detroit Amateur Softball Association. His efforts in developing the MDASA Softball shows positioned the organization as a leader and introduced thousands to the sport, and his leadership and involvement helped ensure the organization’s success.

A recipient of the mParks Fellowship Award, Bill also led Southfield Parks and Recreation to a variety of awards. His easygoing demeanor, engaging nature, and outgoing personality are part of Bill’s legacy. A dynamic presence at mParks events, his energy, enthusiasm, and passion for the profession have inspired countless mParks members over the years.

An accomplished professional, Bill’s love of parks and recreation benefitted not only his community, but also his colleagues, the mParks organization, and the many professionals he has mentored over the years.
A consummate parks and recreation professional, Mary Winegar has dedicated her life to the community she served, as well as to the advancement of the profession, her fellow professionals, and the mParks organization (formerly known as MRPA).

During her 25-year career with Lansing Parks and Recreation, Mary rose from Assistant Community Centers Supervisor to Manager of Leisure Services. Throughout her time in Lansing, she coordinated a variety of community events and programs that added numerous recreational opportunities for residents. A talented leader with a “can-do” attitude, no job was too big or too small for Mary, who excelled at envisioning, planning, and implementing parks and recreation events and programming.

In addition to local events and opportunities for residents, Mary made sure that the City of Lansing was also involved in the statewide programs offered by mParks, including youth athletic events and state tournaments – she often volunteered her time at the events, to ensure program success. Mary was also involved with the mParks Conference & Trade Show, ensuring the event’s success by serving as Conference Committee Chair, as well as the Program Chair on multiple occasions.

Her involvement in mParks’ Walk Michigan program brought opportunities to utilize parks and recreation for health and wellness not only to Lansing residents, but to thousands across the state. Her dedication to the Grand Experience – which led to her position as the mParks Travel Coordinator – provided the opportunity for thousands of Michigan’s senior citizens to visit Grand Hotel on Mackinac Island. The discount travel excursion made a trip of a lifetime possible for thousands of participants. The partnerships she facilitated and the sponsorships she secured provided financial stability for mParks during some of its most challenging times.

A leader in both the profession and within mParks, Mary mentored fellow professionals, providing knowledge and encouraging colleagues’ involvement in the state organization. She served on a variety of mParks committees and the organization’s Board of Directors, and was active in the National Recreation & Park Association and the Southern Michigan Recreation & Park Association as well. Her commitment to parks and recreation has continued well after her retirement through her service on the DeWitt Area Recreation Authority Board of Directors.

Mary is a recipient of the mParks Commitment to Excellence and Fellowship Awards – the organization’s most prestigious honors.

A dedicated and talented recreation professional, Mary Winegar impacted thousands of lives in the Lansing region and throughout the state. The community of Lansing, the mParks organization, and residents statewide have benefitted greatly from Mary’s enthusiasm and devotion.
Thank you 2015 Hall of Fame Sponsors:

**GOLD**
mparks Foundation
Northwest Parks & Recreation Association (NWPRA)

**SILVER**
Carlisle Wortman Associates
Southern Michigan Recreation & Park Association (SMRPA)

**Bronze**
TMP Architecture, Inc.
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The mparks Hall of Fame Committee:

Ann Adams
Larry Fitch
Geri Jackson
Kyle Langlois
R. Eric Reickel
Traci Sincock
Derek Smith
Chuck Yakemonis

Thank you to the mparks Foundation for continued support of the mparks Hall of Fame.
Congratulations Mary!
We are so proud of and inspired by you.
From your friends at

MRPA
SOUTHERN MICHIGAN RECREATION
AND PARK ASSOCIATION

Congratulations on your induction into MParks’ Hall of Fame!

Portia Fields-Anderson

Representative Kathy Crawford

Pecky D. Lewis

William “Bill” Waterhouse
About mParks

The Michigan Recreation and Park Association unveiled a new brand and marketing campaign in 2015. As part of these efforts, the organization also changed its name to mParks.

With nearly 2,000 members from state, county and community parks and recreation centers throughout the state, mParks provides a unified voice for those who care most about public spaces and their benefits to the community.

Learn more at www.mParks.org. More information about the new brand and marketing campaign can be found at www.mparks.org/mparks.

About the mParks Foundation

Established in 2002, the mParks Foundation (formerly the Michigan Recreation and Park Association Foundation) provides financial support to people and programs that work to enrich the health and well-being of all Michigan citizens through increased access to recreation and outdoor experiences. In addition, the Foundation supports ongoing professional development opportunities and recognition of parks and recreation practitioners. Learn more at www.mrpafoundation.org.

About the Hall of Fame

The mParks Hall of Fame provides recognition for professionals and special individuals who have made outstanding, unique, lasting, and extraordinary contributions though recreation and park services in Michigan. The Hall of Fame is on permanent display at the Summit on the Park in Canton, Michigan.
The mParks Foundation congratulates the 2015 Class of the mParks Hall of Fame!

The mParks Foundation provides financial support to people and programs that work to enrich the health and well-being of all Michigan citizens through increased access to recreation and outdoor experiences.

In addition, the Foundation supports ongoing professional development opportunities and recognition of parks and recreation practitioners, including the mParks Hall of Fame.

Learn more at www.mrpafoundation.org.
Thank you

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