



News wire

APPL NEWS

*Supporting Education
and*

Stewardship

2401 Blueridge Avenue

Suite 303

Wheaton, MD 20902

Phone: 301 946 9475

Fax 301 946 9478

E-mail: appl@appl.org

Web site: www.appl.org

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News wire is a monthly publication designed to provide news and information on issues important to the public lands community. Deadline for submissions is the third Thursday of each month. Items may be submitted for review and publication to appl@appl.org.

Thank you for subscribing to *News wire*. E-mail us at appl@appl.org with any comments or suggestions for updates or improvements to this publication.

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Support APPL through the Combined Federal Campaign. Use identification #12051 on your CFC designation form.

A Plateau-Palooza, Hike in the Smokies High Country, or the Solitude of Zion can be yours this fall when bidding begins for APPL's *Special Times In Special Places* online auction items. Explore the incomparable Colorado Plateau on a spectacular driving tour with lodging and outdoor recreation coordinated by APPL members of the Peaks, Plateaus and Canyons Association. Enjoy two nights at Le Conte Lodge, accessible only by hiking trail at an elevation of 6,500 feet and three nights at the comfortable and beautiful Buckhorn Inn renowned for its excellent food and breathtaking mountain views as you explore the trails of Great Smokey Mountains National Park. Or, experience the solitude of Zion during the slowest months when the crowds are thin and you really do have the chance to have the park "all to yourself" with cabin lodging at Zion Lodge and a day with a Zion Canyon Field Institute naturalist.

To date APPL members, vendors, and park partners have submitted more than fifteen special travel experiences and gift baskets full of guidebooks, gear and special surprises for the auction, which will be posted in September and open for bidding October 1. If you've not yet submitted your items, please do so using the application form on APPL's Web site. This promises to be an exciting event that highlights the great programs and products made available on our nation's public lands by APPL members.

Help APPL build the next generation of nonprofit public land leaders within your organization. Do you employ staff in their twenties who are showing signs as emerging leaders in your organization? Do you have young staff that would benefit from learning about the bigger picture of the nonprofit public lands community? Leadership growth and succession is important to all of our organizations as we plan for the future. The emerging leaders within our organizations are helping build organizational capacity now and for the future by contributing their skills, perspectives and capabilities in reaching out to younger more diverse audiences in new ways.

APPL is sponsoring a special pre-convention Sunday workshop in San Diego for young professionals from within APPL member organizations to come together and build a network with their peers from across the country. This is a unique opportunity available for up to two staff/volunteers from each APPL member organization that are 30 years old or younger and registered for the full convention. We'd like to survey the young professionals in September to get their feedback so we may develop an agenda that responds their needs and interests. Please forward the names and e-mails of those interested to Amy Matthews by September 9th. Questions? Contact Amy Matthews at amatthews@appl.org.

Our 2008 Annual Report is now available online. Visit www.appl.org to download the report which highlights our accomplishments during the past year and recognizes all those organizations and individuals who supported APPL and its mission in 2008.

APPL bylaws have been updated. Members may download a copy from the Members' area of our Web site.

Training Corps News

Learn how the APPL Training Corps can assist your organization at www.appl.org/Training_Conventions/training_corps.htm.

In this second of a two-part article (visit APPL's Web Site now for the full article at www.appl.org), Savannah Boiano, Education Director, Sequoia Field Institute shares some of the successes of the Institute's EdVenture (Educational Adventure) courses. Boiano gives full credit to one dinky sentence in their employee handbook. The sentence reads, "SNHA's best chance for future success and growth is not in thinking outside the box, but in getting out of the box." They decided to take the challenge and so can you.

1. Offer a series of two-hour courses with stated kid and family friendly topics. Structure fees to be family friendly: \$5 per person or \$20 for a family. These courses attract LOTS of families and NPS folks because they did not require a long time commitment, they were inexpensive, and the subjects were very interesting: bats and tarantulas. They even had a hairy leg contest for the tarantula course! They price tiered a two-day course this year to see if people would rather pay for and attend one day or both days of a course. Participants paid for both, and for the first time in some years, the course completely sold out.
2. SNHA partnered with their local US Army Corps of Engineers at the local reservoir to give some special floating interpretive tours on special days: Mother's Day, Father's Day, and two astronomy tours on the lake at night. These are very popular. The price structure, again, is very pocketbook friendly.
3. People are looking for the unusual. People really ARE still interested in the same topics as the traditional walks (flora, fauna, etc.) but how they learn about it is different than the traditional outlet. A nature walk about trees will attract 10 people, but if you give a walk under a full moon when Jupiter is at it's closest to the Earth you'll have to turn people away.
4. Consider trying a multi-sport course to entice thrill seekers.
5. A good marketing team and editor are very important. Right behind them is your honest co-worker who will tell you if a course really won't sell, no matter how attached you are to it.
6. Partner, partner, partner. Consider partnering with local lodgings or other businesses to provide fun courses or events that will meet visitors where they are, literally and figuratively. The most important partnership is with your local land steward, in their case, the National Park Service.

If you have a hunch about a course or a direction for your field institute, the APPL's Field Institute affinity group is wonderfully dynamic and full of help. Common topics include budgeting, choosing courses, risk management, outreach and publicity, instructors (how to get them and keep them), and much more. Contact appl@appl.org to learn how to subscribe to the Field Institute group's list serv.

So, for the sake of all those smiles, praise, and life-changing experiences you are creating in our public lands, your success lies in not just thinking outside the box, but getting outside the box and hosting a great experience from another perspective.

APPL Travel Program

Book your travel with us and help support the work of APPL. 60% of the travel commissions you generate will be given to APPL. Visit www.appl.org for details.

Now is the time to start planning your fall conference travel and APPL can help you with all the details from booking your flight to arranging for your rental car. Just visit www.ytbtravel.com/appl and start planning your trip. While you are there, plan your holiday travel and choose from fabulous vacation packages and cruises. And remember, every travel dollar you spend on the site benefits APPL.

NEWSBITS

The National Park Foundation's Board of Directors has selected Neil J. Mulholland to serve as President and CEO. Mulholland will be based out of the Foundation's Washington, D.C. offices beginning August 10. Details on Mulholland's appointment may be found at www.nationalparks.org/news/.

The National Park Foundation is challenging national park visitors to capture videos of their adventures and share them with the world. Visitors can upload their park videos to www.YourParks.com and explain what America's national parks mean to them. The video that showcases the most inspiring, meaningful and thoughtful story and/or experience will win.

A flyer to share information about the *Your Parks* video challenge may be downloaded at www.nationalparks.org/files/your-parks-flyer.pdf. The NPS Partnership Office has reviewed and approved distribution of this flyer.

Park visitors are invited to submit videos, up to two minutes in length, between now and September 14th. An online audience will then vote for their favorite until

September 22nd. One winning video and ten runners-up will be announced at the end of September. For more information and complete contest rules visit www.YourParks.com.

The Museum Store Association, with its partners the U.S. Cultural & Heritage Tourism Marketing Council and the Shop America Alliance, is accepting space reservations in *The Cultural Traveler*, a tourism-focused guidebook featuring the leading museum stores in North America. This second edition of *The Cultural Traveler* which will be distributed to more than 40,000 consumers, tour operators, travel agents and travel media interested in museum store shopping. For details on how you can participate, please visit www.Museum-Store.travel. Deadline for space reservations is September 4th.

Sixteen groups and individuals were recently honored as national winners of the Take Pride in America® awards for outstanding accomplishments by volunteers. In addition to the traditional categories for the awards, this year the National Park Service presented a special *Spirit of Take Pride* Award posthumously to Brian O'Neill, superintendent of Golden Gate National Recreation Area in San Francisco for many years until his death in May 2009. O'Neill, who was at Golden Gate for almost three decades, built the park's volunteer program to its present level of 22,000 volunteers and was a nationally noted park leader. The award was accepted by O'Neill's son, Brent O'Neill, an NPS Environmental Protection Specialist at the George Washington Memorial Parkway.

Terry Kreidler, volunteer program manager of GGNRA, received the Federal Land Manager award for the National Park Service. **The Golden Gate National Parks Conservancy** received the top federal event/program award.

More information about the Take Pride In America initiative including a full list of this year's honorees may be found at www.takepride.gov.

The Outdoor Resources Review Group (ORRG) has released its final report. A private, bipartisan group of leaders the ORRG was tasked with undertaking a review of land conservation, outdoor recreation, and related issues to assess the needs and preferences of the American public and the resources available to meet those needs. To learn more about ORRG and to view the report visit www.orrgroup.org.

AGENCY NEWS

Dr. Marcia McNutt has been nominated as Director of the U.S. Geological Survey (USGS) and Science Advisor to the Secretary of the Interior. She would be the first woman director of the agency since its establishment in 1879. The nomination is subject to Senate confirmation. Dr. McNutt currently serves as President and Chief Executive Officer of the Monterey Bay Aquarium Research Institute in California. She worked for USGS, the agency that she would direct, at the start of her career.

National Park Service

Jonathan Jarvis is President Obama's nominee to be director of the National Park Service. Jarvis, a 30-year veteran of the Park Service, currently is the regional director of the agency's Pacific West Region. In addition, he is currently the co-leader of the Children in Nature taskforce with the National Association of State Park Directors.

The NPS has announced the following staffing news:

- Nancy Woods has been selected as Northeast Region's chief of partnership development. She succeeds Tom Dyer, who was previously named chief of the region's cultural resource programs.
- Peter Samuel has been selected as national heritage area programs coordinator for Northeast Region. In his position, he will provide information and assistance to 21 of the 49 national heritage areas in the nation.
- David Luchsinger has been selected as the new superintendent of the Statue of Liberty National Monument. Luchsinger will be responsible for both the Statue of Liberty and for Ellis Island. He succeeds Cynthia Garrett, who retired.
- Randy Wester has been appointed as the superintendent of Fort Pulaski National Monument. The appointment was effective May 10th.
- Brad Bennett has been named the superintendent of Andersonville National Historic Site. He began his new assignment on July 5th. Bennett has served in multiple management posts during his 18-year National Park Service career.
- Cameron (Cam) Sholly has been selected as the new superintendent of the Natchez Trace Parkway. Sholly has more than 20 years of federal and state experience.
- Terry Savage, superintendent of Boston National Historical Park and Boston African American National Historic Site since November, 2000, retired on August 1st. Savage served in the National Park Service for 42 years.

The Government Accountability Office has released GAO-09-386, its report on a study of National Park Service donations. The report is available at www.gao.gov/Products/GAO-09-386

The rich frontier and American Indian history of Pierre and Fort Pierre, South Dakota is featured in the newest National Park Service Discover Our Shared Heritage travel itinerary. The online itinerary, which can be printed as a guide, is available at www.nps.gov/history/nr/travel/pierre_fortpierre/

The spring, 2009, issue of Park Science is now available online. Included in this issue are articles on:

- Conservation-based research in the national parks
- An opportunity for monitoring climate change impacts
- A seascape approach to designing marine protected areas

Download your copy at www.nature.nps.gov/ParkScience/.

The html version of the NPS Management Policies 2006 posted on the policy Web site has been enhanced to improve its functionality and ease of access. The enhanced edition includes many more links to the internal and external references cited in the document. It also includes a hyperlinked index to enable faster access to the policy contents. The document is online at www.nps.gov/policy/mp/policies.html.

In addition, a hyperlinked index to the most relevant sections of Title 16 of the United States Code (which is where most NPS legislation is codified) is being added to the policy Web site. The index contains an alphabetical listing of the parks and many NPS program activities, and these are in turn hyperlinked to the relevant enabling legislation. The index is online at www.nps.gov/policy/title16.htm.

The Intermountain Region Partnership Office is sponsoring a Partner's Professional Development Grant. The grant is an exclusive opportunity for leaders of Friends Groups and Cooperating Associations and the superintendent of their park. The award helps to offset costs for an executive director and a superintendent to attend a conference that will enhance their partnership skills and build capacity for the organization and the park they serve. This program will match recipients to an experience designed to help them meet the day-to-day challenges they face as non-profit professionals and park leaders, while enhancing their ability to achieve higher levels of collaboration and performance. Those higher standards of performance should benefit both the organization's stakeholders as well as those of the park.

Each executive director and superintendent will receive a total award of \$1000.00 to support conference registration fees and/or travel expenses. A total of four recipients, two executive directors and two superintendents, will be selected in this first year of the program.

Please contact Krista Muddle, IMR Partnership Coordinator at 303-969-2356 or by e-mail at Krista_Muddle@nps.gov for additional information.

The National Parks: Index 2009-2011, known more commonly as "the Red Book," is now at the printer. Copies should arrive in about a week.

This index is a complete administrative listing of the National Park System's areas and related areas. It is revised biennially to reflect congressional actions. The entries, grouped by state, include administrative addresses and phone numbers, dates of authorization and establishment, boundary change dates, acreages, and brief statements explaining the areas' national significance. This book is not intended as a guide for park visitors. There is no information regarding campgrounds, trails, visitor services, hours, etc.

The index is also available on the web in PDF (www.nps.gov/history/history/online_books/nps/index2009_11.pdf) and HTML (www.nps.gov/history/history/online_books/nps/nps/index.htm) formats.

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers

LTG Van Antwerp, Commanding General, has signed a MOU which formalizes a national partnership with Leave No Trace Center for Outdoor Ethics, the USDA Forest Service, Bureau of Land Management, US Fish and Wildlife Service and the National Park Service. This MOU will help develop and expand a framework of cooperation at the national, regional, and local levels for planning and implementing mutually beneficial programs, projects, education, training and other activities regarding responsible recreational use of federal lands and waters by visitors primarily engaging in non-motorized recreation.

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers will be waiving all day use fees normally charged at their recreation areas during the week of August 1-9. This waiver encompasses only day use fees for swimming beaches and boat ramps.

Fees for camping, specialized facilities such as picnic shelters and for other special use/events will not be waived. Waiving day use fees presents an incentive for the public to visit Corps lakes. Visitors provide significant economic benefits and any increase in visitation helps stimulate local economies. Free day use may also attract

new visitors and offset any small losses in revenues during a traditionally low-use time period. This waiver of day use fees for swimming beaches and boat ramps does not apply to recreation areas managed by third parties.

The Army Corps has announced their 2009 Natural Resources Management Award winners. They are:

- Natural Resources Management Project of the Year - Libby Dam, Seattle District
- Natural Resources Management Stewardship Employee of the Year - James Gracey, Wappapello Lake, St. Louis District
- Natural Resources Management Recreation Employee of the Year - Kevin Brown, Summersville Lake, Huntington District
- Natural Resources Management Environmental Compliance Employee of the Year - Charles Schrodt, Tulsa District
- Hiram M. Chittenden Award for Interpretive Excellence - Robin C. Norris, Bonneville Lock and Dam, Portland District

USDA Forest Service

Tom Tidwell will serve as the new Chief for the U.S. Forest Service. Tidwell has spent 32 years with the Forest Service in a variety of positions. Visit www.usda.gov/wps/portal/lut/p/s.7.0.A/7.0.1OB/.cmd/ad/.ar/sa.retrievecontent/c/6.2.1UH/.ce/7.2.5JM/.p/5.2.4TQ/d/8/th/J.2.9D/s.7.0.A/7.0.1OB?PC.7.2.5JM_contentid=2009/06/0214.xml&PC.7.2.5JM_parentnav=LATEST_RELEASES&PC.7.2.5JM_navid=NEWS_RELEASE

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

The U.S. Senate has confirmed Sam D. Hamilton to be the new Director of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. Learn more about Hamilton at www.doi.gov/news/09_News_Releases/073109.html.

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service' National Conservation Training Center is offering the following courses:

- OUT8106: Powerful Presentation Tools and Techniques
- OUT8181: Working with the News Media
- OUT8114: Volunteer Recruitment and Management
- OUT8120: Advanced Volunteer Management
- OUT8160: Environmental Education Methods
- OUT8194: Trail Management: Plans, Projects and People
- OUT8164: Creating a Schoolyard Habitat/Outdoor Classroom
- OUT8116: Grant Writing for Conservation
- OUT8184: Media and Outreach Academy (FWS Only)

- OUT8115: Balancing Nature and Commerce in Communities that Neighbor Public Lands
- OUT8127: Public Participation and Informed Consent – Part I
- OUT8163: Education Programs for Youth: School's Out
To view the course announcements visit <http://training.fws.gov/DEO/trng/CoursesOUT.html>. To register online at <https://doilearn.doi.gov/>.

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service has joined with Fisheries Friends Groups in the official establishment of a National Fisheries Friends Partnership (NFFP). The NFFP will provide a citizen voice and volunteer assistance with the protection and conservation of national aquatic resources for the benefit of present and future generations at Fisheries Program field stations. For more information about the Fisheries Program and Fisheries Friends Groups, visit www.fws.gov/fisheries.

CONVENTION NEWS

Engagement - A Call To Action, 2010 APPL Convention & Trade Show, February 7-10, 2010. Details will be available soon at www.appl.org.

Engagement - A Call to Action is the theme for the 2010 APPL Partnership Convention & Trade Show. As visitor demographics change, conservation needs grow, and budgets remain strained, lands agencies are relying on nonprofit partners to help them provide a much higher level of service than would be possible with only government funding. And it is through partnerships and public engagement that nonprofits and lands agencies will find success in helping to secure the future of our natural world and collective heritage. The program committee is currently seeking innovative and interactive sessions, workshops, and field trips that will enable participants to take action in their partnership efforts to educate and engage others about the value of our nation's treasured public lands. Within the context of the convention theme, sessions that fit into one of the following five educational tracks and incorporate engagement strategies, technology, sustainability, and the concept of striving to thrive will be given preference:

- Partnerships
- Management & Governance
- Sales & Service
- Membership & Fundraising
- Education & Outreach

Proposals should be submitted online at www.appl.org by August 14. Contact Amy Matthews at amatthews@appl.org if you have questions or would like additional information.

The 2010 Convention Program Committee is pleased to announce Shelton Johnson, NPS Interpretive Park Ranger, featured prominently in the Ken Burns film *The National Parks, America's Best Idea*, has accepted an invitation as a keynote speaker for the 2010 APPL Partnership Convention. Stay tuned for more updates on keynote speakers and the convention schedule.

Planning your budget for 2010? Here are the convention and hotel rates for San Diego to help you budget for your organization's participation in the APPL Partnership Convention & Trade Show. Registration will open in October.

Early Registration (by December 18, 2009)*

APPL Member/Government	\$450
Non-Member	\$550
One Day Pass	\$225
Companion Registration	\$235

* Registration rates increase after December 18, 2009.

Town and Country Resort & Convention Center

500 Hotel Circle North, San Diego, CA 92108

Phone: 1-888-231-4352 / Group Code: APPL

\$154/night + applicable taxes**

**Lots of great networking incentives for those who stay in the hotel block a minimum of three nights including a free \$55 closing banquet ticket. More details will follow in the registration materials.

Plan ahead and mark your calendars now for APPL's 2011 Convention and Trade Show in Dallas, Texas. The convention will be held February 20-23, 2011 at the four-diamond Hyatt Regency Dallas where attendees can experience all the convention has to offer under one roof, with a convenient downtown location adjacent to the city's historic district. Dallas has the advantage of a nearby hub airport, pleasant climate and excellent facilities that meet the needs of our convention participants and exhibitors. See you there!

FEDERAL UPDATES

On July 28th, the Governor of California signed the state budget containing an additional \$6M cut to state parks, bringing the total General Fund cut for this budget year to \$14.2M. It is expected that this will result in the closure of perhaps more than 100 state parks. A list of facilities to be closed is due after Labor Day. Visit www.calparks.org to learn more about the status of California State Parks as the State works to close their budget shortfall.

Twenty-six Members of Congress have sent key House leaders a letter supporting continuation of the Recreational Trails Program (RTP) in the upcoming Surface Transportation Act of 2009 and requesting an increase in funding for this highly successful and popular program. Without reauthorization, the current program, funded by federal tax paid on fuel used in off-highway recreation, would expire when the Safe, Accountable, Flexible, Efficient Transportation Equity Act: A Legacy for Users (SAFETEA-LU) concludes at the end of September 2009.

Led by Congressmen Michael Michaud (D-ME) and Thomas Petri (R-WI), a diverse group of Members – including several serving on the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure – representing districts across the nation, thanked the committee leadership for continuing the RTP in recently introduced transportation legislation and called for some needed changes to the current program, especially increased funding. The requested funding increase would total \$690 million over six years – \$90 million in 2010, \$100 million in 2011, \$110 million in 2012, \$120 million in 2013, \$130 million in 2014, and \$140 million in 2015. The group also requested \$2.5 million for a study of off-highway vehicle use to ensure that RTP funding accurately reflects federal off-highway recreation tax receipts, and an adjustment of the funding allocated to the Federal Highway Administration for program administration.

To read the full story and view the Congressional letter, please visit www.funoutdoors.com.

The IRS recently conducted a series of two-hour training sessions on governance and tax-exempt organizations. Materials from the training have been posted to the IRS Web site at www.irs.gov/charities/article/0,,id=208454,00.html.

MEMBER NEWS

Big Bend National Park has recently completed the first phase of a grant-funded partnership project called *Best Lighting Practices to improve exterior lighting throughout the park*. The first phase includes dramatic improvements to the exterior lighting at the visitor center and service station in Panther Junction.

The work has been accomplished through grants from the National Parks Foundation, the Friends of Big Bend National Park, Forever Resorts, Inc., and park staff. These grants intend to improve Best Lighting Practices throughout the National Park Service, and Big Bend National Park is the first park to receive the benefits of this grant. The goals of the project include reducing night

sky light pollution, reducing electrical energy consumption, and providing adequate lighting.

The newly installed night sky-friendly lighting at the Panther Junction's visitor center entrance has reduced lighting from 480 watts to less than 14 watts. At the same time, the new lighting allows the visitor to easily access the after-hours maps and information available at the visitor center entrance. The next phase of the project will be the Chisos Basin developed area, including the lodge and restaurant facilities.

Big Bend National Park has among the darkest and most dramatic night sky vistas in the lower 48 states, and is an excellent place for astronomers of all experience levels to enjoy the night sky. In addition, many visitors to the park enjoy the increased visibility of the night sky as a resource and experience in and of itself. With the newly installed lighting this important resource will remain available and more accessible for years to follow.

Golden Gate National Parks Conservancy reports the following news:

The Crissy Field Center is moving to temporary facilities due to construction on a major roadway leading to the southern end of the Golden Gate Bridge. To learn more about the Center and its impending relocation, visit www.crissyfield.org.

The Parks Conservancy is ramping up its publicity and outreach efforts in advance of the September 27 to October 2 broadcast of Ken Burns' newest documentary film, *The National Parks: America's Best Idea*. As a major underwriter of the Northern California PBS broadcast, the Parks Conservancy is leveraging the visibility of this landmark series by developing a special Web site, www.ForOurParks.org. The site, due to launch in mid-August, gathers resources and opportunities for visitors to explore, support, and engage with the Golden Gate National Parks.

Later in August, major San Francisco streets around national park sites will be lined with street banners raising awareness of "America's best ideas" closer to home and encouraging the community to get involved in their stewardship through the Conservancy.

With construction of trail realignment wrapping up in July, the newest improved trail in the Golden Gate National Parks - along breathtaking Dias Ridge in the Marin Headlands - is nearly ready for its debut. The new alignment replaces an eroded "social" trail that was depositing sediment into the Redwood Creek watershed below - home to the threatened steelhead trout and endangered Coho salmon. The new segment, which forms a key connector in the grand Bay Area Ridge Trail, is scheduled to open to the public in spring 2010 after revegetation work finishes over the winter.

The Grand Canyon Association is sponsoring the first Grand Canyon Celebration of Art, which will take place September 14-19. The show will be open through November 1. All art will be available for viewing and sale. The event includes the Grand Canyon Modern Masters Invitational, a juried art competition and show, as well as Plein Air on the Rim and a Quick Draw event.

The proceeds will be dedicated toward the goal of funding an art museum on the South Rim that will preserve and showcase the collection of historic and contemporary paintings owned by Grand Canyon National Park and the Grand Canyon Association, creating a permanent art venue at the South Rim and will help to ensure that future generations of Park visitors will be able to experience Grand Canyon art.

A complete schedule of events and list of all the participating artists is available at www.grandcanyon.org/celebration.asp.

Hawaii Natural History Association (HNHA) recently engaged APPL to review its operations and conduct a full-day board training session. Team reviewers included APPL Training Corps members Charley Money of **Alaska Geographic**, Kimberlee Riley of **Jefferson National Parks Association**, and APPL executive director Donna Asbury. The review included interviews with thirteen NPS partners, fifteen HNHA staff, and seven HNHA board members; visits to seven HNHA sites within five Hawaii parks; and a review of the association's strategic plans, organizational documents, and finances. The full-day board training focused on best practices, board roles and responsibilities, and an overview of organizational findings.

APPL commends HNHA for taking this pro-active step in assessing its strengths and areas for improvement. The association will receive a full report within the month, along with potential action steps and resources, templates and tools for taking these steps. For information on conducting a review of your association or friends group through APPL, please contact Nancy Kotz at nkotz@appl.org.

The 2009 NAI National Workshop will be held November 17-21 in Hartford, Connecticut. The professional development and networking opportunities include inspiring and informative keynote speakers, concurrent sessions and preworkshop training in 13 different tracks, special events, and offsite sessions that allow you to learn about a unique corner of the country. This year's keynote speakers are Sam Ham, author of *Environmental Interpretation*, and Karolyn Smardz Frost, author of *I've Got a Home in Glory Land: A Lost Tale of the Underground Railroad*.

The workshop slogan, *Navigating Change, Revolutionizing Interpretation* is an apt one, as our world, our audiences and our economy change at an ever-quickening pace. The NAI workshop will provide you with the tools needed to adjust and adapt to these changes. Join interpreters from around the world to share your experience, interests and ideas. Visit the workshop Web site at www.interpnet.com/workshop for information.

On July 7th, the NPS and Student Conservation Association (SCA) signed a new five-year cooperative agreement that will continue their long-standing efforts to provide public service opportunities to youth.

Please contact the NPS Youth Programs WASO office at 202-513-7146 or george_mcdonald@nps.gov for more information regarding this agreement.

The Yellowstone Association has recently created a page on Facebook. By signing up as a fan, members and students can keep up with field sightings and post pictures from courses. They can also talk about their Yellowstone Association experiences. View their page at www.facebook.com/YellowstoneAssociation.

The Yosemite Association has hired John Friedrich as their new Membership and Development Director.

John has 20 years experience in non-profit organizational leadership and related endeavors, the majority of which has been in the environmental field. Before joining the Yosemite Association, John worked most recently in the Sierra Nevada Alliance Land Use program and served as Program Director for the League to Save Lake Tahoe.

VENDOR SUPPORT NEWS

The following companies have made donations to the Vendor Support Program for 2010:

Benefactors:

Global Interprint
KC Publications
L.W. Bristol
Sierra Press

Contributors:

Blakeway Worldwide Panoramas, Inc.
ECO Wear & Publishing
Folkmanis, Inc
Green Bottle™ (New)
Historic Urban Plans, Inc.
Hogeye Inc.
iZone (Returning)
Mountain Press Publishing Company
Mountaineers Books

Pomegranate Communications, Inc.
Questar, Inc.
Rosen Publishing Group, Inc.
Schleich North America, Inc. (New)

Is your company missing from this list? Contact Nancy Kotz at 301-946-9457, extension 224 or e-mail nkotz@appl.org to learn more about VSP and its benefits.

FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES

The Norcross Wildlife Foundation provides support to local grassroots organizations throughout the United States that work to protect wild land. Priority is given to organizations that have difficulty raising the modest funds they need to do their critical work in the trenches of environmental conservation. Grants averaging \$5,000 are primarily provided for program-related office and field equipment, and public education and outreach materials. The Foundation also provides no-interest loans to local organizations to help them acquire land they have prioritized for conservation. Applications for both grants and loans may be submitted at any time. Visit www.norcrossws.org/Foundmain.html to review the application guidelines.

The National Wildlife Refuge Friends Group Grant Program, an initiative of the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation, supports creative projects that help organizations to be effective co-stewards of our nation's important natural resources within the Refuge System. This program provides competitive grants of \$1,500 to \$5,000 to nonprofit organizations or organizations that have applied for nonprofit status, including Refuge Friends organizations, Audubon Chapters, and other citizen support organizations interested in assisting a Wildlife Refuge. Start-up grants, capacity building grants, and project specific grants are available. The next application deadline is September 4. Visit www.nfwf.org/AM/Template.cfm?Section=Browse_All_Programs&TEMPLATE=/CM/HTMLDisplay.cfm&CONTENTID=13081 to review the Request for Proposals and submit an online application.

EVENTS AND OPPORTUNITIES

September 2009

Breaking the Color Barrier in the Great American Outdoors, September 23-26, Atlanta, GA. For information on the conference and how to participate, visit www.breakingthecolorbarrier.com.

National Public Lands Day, September 26. Visit www.publiclandsday.org to register your event, volunteer or to learn more about this annual day of service to America's public lands.

5th Annual National Conference of the Alliance of Natural Resource Outreach & Service Programs: Master Naturalist Programs and More, September 28 - October 2, US Fish and Wildlife Service National Conservation Training Center, Shepherdstown, WV. Visit www.anrosp.org for details.

October 2009

North American Association for Environmental Education Conference, Creative Leadership in Environmental Education, October 7-10, Portland, OR. More information may be found at www.naaee.org.

National Trust for Historic Preservation Conference, October 13-17, Nashville, TN. Log onto www.preservationnation.org for details.

Wilderness Risk Management Conference, Durham Marriott Convention Center, Durham, NC, October 14-16. Learn more about this conference on the National Outdoor Leadership Schools Web site at www.nols.edu/wrmc.

November 2009

World Ranger Congress, November 1-7, Santa Cruz, Bolivia. The International Ranger Federation hosts this Congress every three years. Registration and more information at: www.worldrangercongress.org.

2009 National Publishing Conference and Book Industry Trade Show, November 11-14, Doubletree Hotel - Reid Park, Tucson, AZ.. Visit www.pubwest.org/index.php?page_id=222 for additional information.

NAI National Workshop, November 17-21, Hartford, CT. Learn more at www.interpnet.com/workshop.

December 2009

America's History: Protecting the Past, Informing the Future, Ranger Rendezvous XXIII, Association of National Park Rangers, Wyndham Hotel, Gettysburg, PA. December 6 -10. Additional details will be available at www.anpr.org/anprrr.htm.

February 2010

Engagement - A Call To Action, 2010 APPL Convention & Trade Show, San Diego, CA, February 7-10, 2010.

MARKETPLACE

Featuring contributors to APPL's Vendor Support Program (VSP). View a directory of all our VSP contributors at www.appl.org/Vendors/vsp_directory.htm.

VSP Benefactors

FalconGuides is pleased to add the following new titles to an extensive list of guidebooks and field guides designed to inform visitors to public lands:

- *Arches and Canyonlands National Parks Pocket Guide*
- *Yellowstone National Park Pocket Guide*
- *Yosemite National Park Pocket Guide*
- *Zion and Bryce Canyon National Parks Pocket Guide*
- *Everglades National Park Pocket Guide*
- *Joshua Tree National Park Pocket Guide*
- *Gulf Islands National Seashore Pocket Guide*
- *Sequoia and Kings Canyon National Parks Pocket Guide*
- *Paddling Everglades National Park*

For more information visit www.globepequot.com or call FalconGuides at 800-843-0495.

VSP Sponsors

As kids travel around the United States this summer, Gallopade International has the perfect books to help them learn about where they are going and where they have been. Our *Big, Cool USA* series includes six books: an *Activity Book*, *Coloring Book*, *Jeopardy Book*, *Biographies Book*, *Project Book* and *My First Book*. And this popular series also includes a 34" x 22" USA poster map with many of the national landmarks and state symbols.

Our Big, Cool USA Activity Book is 160 pages filled with tons of educational facts and fun activities of all 50 states and U.S. territories. Kids will learn about the many trails, lakes, mountains, caves, and volcanoes throughout the United States. Kids will love completing the Sudoku puzzles, word searches, bubble grams, and crossword puzzles all about America. For more information, please contact Gallopade International at 800-536-2438 or visit www.gallopade.com.

POSITIONS AVAILABLE

Additional position listings may be found at www.appl.org.

The Ogden and Logan Ranger Districts, Uinta-Wasatch-Cache National Forest, are planning to fill a GS-301-09 Zone Liaison Specialist position. This is a permanent position, full time, with a duty station in Ogden, Utah. The position would work with natural

resource program managers coordinating and developing outside partnerships, provide supervision and direction to the Union Station Visitor Information Center located in downtown Ogden, develop and conduct interpretive and conservation education programs, and organize volunteer opportunities for youth and adults through short and long-term volunteer agreements. If you are interested in applying for this position or have questions, please contact Acting District Ranger Rick Hopson at 801-625-5112, or at rhopson@fs.fed.us.

RESOURCES

Additional resources are available at www.appl.org/Links/links.html. Suggest a resource by e-mailing appl@appl.org.

The Museum Store Association is taking pre-orders for the 2009 MSA Retail Industry Report. Available this fall, the 2009 MSA Retail Industry Report will provide benchmarks, give insight and enable you to make smart business decisions. Visit www.MuseumStoreOrganization.org and order your copy today.

If you would like to learn more about Twitter and how it can help the publishing and bookselling industry then Tweet Camp is for you. Tweet Camp is an online workshop designed to help you get up to speed quickly and have you tweeting like a pro in no time. The program is designed specifically for authors and publishing industry professionals, including agents, editors, publishers, publicists, and booksellers. Learn more about Tweet Camp at <http://booksquareuniversity.com/>.

Do you want to educate, inspire, and engage students, scouts, park, zoo or museum visitors, or even your neighbors and family members to do something about climate change and how it may affect wildlife and their habitats? Educators from six federal agencies have developed the new *Climate Change, Wildlife, and Wildlands Toolkit for Formal and Informal Educators* to help the educator in each of us spread the word on what is at stake and what we can do about it. Please go to the inter-agency U.S. Global Change Research Program site at www.globalchange.gov/resources/educators/toolkit where the toolkit is being hosted.

Effective leadership is the strongest predictor of nonprofit sustainability, followed by fundraising/financial management and program staffing and management according to *The Sustainability Formula: How Nonprofit Organizations Can Thrive in the Emerging Economy*.

Other key characteristics of nonprofit sustainability included clearly articulated and effectively communicated mission and vision statements, strong financial management systems, the development and active maintenance of long-term relationships with funders, and a willingness to revise strategic plans and upgrade programs and services. The report also found that 28 percent of the responding non-profits considered themselves to be financially sustainable, while 30 percent considered themselves to be challenged in terms of sustainability and fewer than 25 percent displayed the qualities recommended in the report. To access the report, visit <http://tccgrp.com/pdfs/SustainabilityFormula.pdf>.

The privately developed site, Recovery.org, tracks American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) spending by federal, state, and local agencies. Its home page features an interactive map that allows you to view all active recovery projects by state, as well as by each county within a state. Visit www.recovery.org to learn more.



Association of Partners for
Public Lands
2401 Blueridge Avenue
Suite 303
Wheaton, MD 20902
Phone: 301-946-9475
Fax: 301-946-9478
www.appl.org