



MISSISSIPPI RECREATION AND PARK ASSOCIATION  
**2007 ANNUAL CONFERENCE**

September 10 - 13, 2007  
 BancorpSouth Conference Center  
 Tupelo, MS

**Schedule at a Glance**

**MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 10, 2007**

|                |                                     |
|----------------|-------------------------------------|
| 7:30A-Noon     | REGISTRATION                        |
| Noon-5P        | Exhibit Hall Setup (Sweet Gum)      |
| 10:00 - 11:30A | Concurrent Sessions                 |
| Noon - 1P      | Lunch - Big Oaks Golf Course        |
| 1P-6P          | Golf Tournament                     |
| 1:30P-4:30P    | Disc Golf On Your Own/Veterans Park |
| 7P-9P          | Conference Social/Automobile Museum |

**TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 11, 2007**

|             |                                   |
|-------------|-----------------------------------|
| 7A-Noon     | REGISTRATION                      |
| 7:30-10A    | Trade Show Setup                  |
| 8:30A-10A   | Membership Meeting                |
| 10-10:30A   | BREAK in Exhibit Hall (Sweet Gum) |
| 10:30A-Noon | Concurrent Sessions               |
| 1:30-3P     | Concurrent Sessions               |
| 3P-30P      | BREAK in Exhibit Hall (Sweet Gum) |
| 3:30P-5P    | Concurrent Sessions               |
| 5P-7P       | Vendor Social                     |

**WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 12, 2007**

|             |                                   |
|-------------|-----------------------------------|
| 7:30-8:30A  | REGISTRATION                      |
| 8:30-10A    | Concurrent Sessions               |
| 10-10:30A   | BREAK in Exhibit Hall (Sweet Gum) |
| 10:30A-Noon | Concurrent Sessions               |
| 1:30-3P     | Concurrent Sessions               |
| 3P-30P      | BREAK in Exhibit Hall (Sweet Gum) |
| 4:30-5:30P  | District Meetings                 |
| 5:30-6:30P  | Social/Silent Auction             |
| 6:30-9:00P  | MRPA Awards Banquet               |

**THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 13, 2007**

|             |                                   |
|-------------|-----------------------------------|
| 7:30-8:30A  | REGISTRATION                      |
| 8:30-10A    | Concurrent Sessions               |
| 9 - 11:00A  | Board Meeting                     |
| 10-10:30A   | BREAK in Exhibit Hall (Sweet Gum) |
| 10:30A-Noon | Concurrent Sessions               |

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# Schedule of Events

## Monday, September 10

- 7:30 am - Noon Conference Registration
- Noon - 5:00 pm Exhibit Hall Setup
- 10:00 - 11:30 am Concurrent Educational Sessions

- A1. Infant Swimming Resource, Certified Instructor**  
*Regina Cooke, Certified Instructor*  
**Poplar/.15 CEUs**  
 Infant Swimming Resource is the product of over 40 years of research and development in the areas of drowning prevention and aquatic survival instruction.
- A2. Sports Medicine - Are you Prepared?**  
*Walt Wilkins, North Mississippi Medical Center*  
**Elm/.15 CEUs**  
 Participants will learn the components and steps to implement an effective emergency action plan. Participants will also understand basic principals of injury care.

- Noon - 1:00 pm Lunch - Big Oaks Golf Course
- 1:00 - 6:00 pm Golf Tournament
- 1:30 - 4:30 pm Disc Golf On your Own/Veterans Park
- 7:00 - 9:00 pm **Conference Social at Automobile Museum**  
 Featured are a replica of the 1907 Thomas Flyer (used in the film *The Great Race*), and a 1982 Barrister Corvette once owned by Liberace, among others.  
*Sponsored by Tupelo Sports Council*



## Tuesday, September 11

- 7:00 am - Noon Conference Registration
- 7:30 - 10:00 am Trade Show Set-up
- 8:30 - 10:00 am **Keynote Speaker & Annual Membership Meeting**  
*Presentation of Colors- Tupelo Fire Department*  
*National Anthem - Larry Montgomery*  
*Invocation - Chris Chance*  
*Welcome - Mayor Ed Neelly*
- B1. Laugh, Love, and Leave a Legacy -- Three Prescriptions for Daily Living**  
*Deborah Tierce, BS, MS*  
**Magnolia/.1 CEUs**  
 Deborah Tierce is in great demand by business and industry, civic organizations and church groups for speeches, workshops and retreats. Deborah, a leadership skills specialist, will provide an exciting keynote address. Deborah is an educator who teaches oral communication at the community college level, also conducts leadership training for business, industry and other institutions. Deborah is an expert in goal setting, team building, motivation, and every kind of success strategy.

- 10:00 - 10:30 am BREAK in Exhibit Hall
- 10:30 am - Noon Concurrent Educational Sessions
- B2. NRPA Operation TLC2**  
*Michael Pfahl, DMP Consulting, Inc.*  
**Oak/.15 CEUs**  
 Citizen volunteers have been the lifeblood of the park and recreation movement since its inception in the late 1800's. Given the number of volunteers working in the profession, there is no one standard of practice used to screen, train and identify them. Operation TLC2 Making Communities Safe provides national recommendations for your volunteer program.
- B3. Partnerships With Your CVB (Poplar)**  
*Neal McCoy, Tupelo CVB*  
**Poplar/.15 CEUs**  
 In this session attendees will get a better understanding of the role city tourism organizations play within their community. CVBs sometimes have different goals than the Park and Recreation Departments, in this session we will talk about ways the two entities can work together to positively impact the city's economy and quality of life for its citizens and guests alike.

## Tuesday, September 11 (Contd.)

1:30 - 3:00 pm Concurrent Educational Sessions

- B4. Communicating Like a Pro! Part I**  
*Deborah Tierce, BS, MS*  
**Poplar/.3 CEUs**  
You'll learn about national programs that help promote healthy lifestyles that can improve the quality of life of the people you serve.  
*\*Must attend both parts to receive any credit.*
- B5. Linking Health and Fitness to Parks and Recreation**  
*Michelle Burrell, Claiborne Co. Parks & Rec*  
**Elm/.15 CEUs**  
You'll learn about national programs that help promote healthy lifestyles that can improve the quality of life of the people you serve.
- B6. IRA (Inclusion, Recreation, & Advocacy) What are you investing your life with?**  
*Katrina Coots, BREC & Marc Palmer, CPRP BREC*  
**Oak/.15 CEUs**  
In this training, you will learn how a parks and recreation department should invest in community organizations. We should invest in the lives of individuals with disabilities and their family members by partnering with other community leaders to obtain an inclusive environment.

3:00 - 3:30 pm Break in Exhibit Hall

3:30 - 5:00 pm Concurrent Educational Sessions

- B4. (cont'd) Communicating Like a Pro! II**  
*Deborah Tierce, BS, MS*  
**Poplar/.3 CEUs**  
*\*Must attend both parts to receive any credit.*
- B7. MRPA State Athletic Committee Update**  
*Lee Pickett, Athletic Coordinator, Brandon Parks & Recreation*  
**Elm/.15 CEUs**  
Get an update on the status of the SAC and the MRPA Recreational State Tournament Series. Find out how your community can participate as well as host future tournaments.
- B8. Advocating for People with Disabilities in Community Recreation**  
*Charity Drummond, The Arc of Mississippi*  
*Dr. Rick Green, The Univ. of Southern Mississippi*  
**Oak/.15 CEUs**  
Get a report on the status of community recreation inclusion in Mississippi, and discuss in greater depth the role and functions of

## Tuesday, September 11 (Contd.)

advocates and self advocates in the inclusion process. You will be presented a series of problems and issues related to community recreation participation, explore available community resources, and see a demonstration by a trained and informed self advocate.

- 5:00 - 7:00 pm **Vendor Social in the EXHIBIT HALL**  
Join our sponsors, as well as other vendors, while they display the latest in park and recreation equipment and technology. Each booth is hosted by a friendly and helpful representative, ready to answer your questions. Bring your spouse or guests to enjoy hors d'Ouevres as you peruse.

## Wednesday, September 12

7:30 - 8:30 am Conference Registration

8:30 - 10:00 am Concurrent Educational Sessions

- C1. Game for All Kids, Mississippi Soccer Association**  
*Brent Clements, Executive Director*  
**Poplar/.15 CEUs**  
Explore the benefits of the Mississippi Soccer Association and its relationship to your local soccer association. MSA is the governing body for the US Youth and Adult Soccer Associations in Mississippi.
- C2. Eat Right! Exercise! Have Fun and Live!**  
*Judith Ward, Mississippi State University Extension Service; & Brent Fountain, Ph.D., RD, LD, Mississippi State University*  
**Elm/.15 CEUs**  
Children can benefit from learning how to make healthy nutrition and physical activity choices. MyPyramid for kids is an educational tool to help guide children to adopt these healthy behaviors. Programs and partnerships focusing on healthy behaviors will help children set goals to maintain a healthy lifestyle for a lifetime.
- C3. Initiatives on a Shoestring, Pt. I**  
*Dr. Gregor Kay,*  
*The University of Southern Mississippi*  
**Oak/.3 CEUs**  
In this day and age, many facilities experience budget cuts and reduced financing for equipment related needs. This session will introduce participants to initiative games that can be offered with very little or no monetary expense to them, yet are still very effective for

*Continued on Next Page...*

## Wednesday, September 12 (Contd.)

helping clients accomplish treatment related goals.

*\*Must attend both parts to receive any credit.*

10:00 - 10:30 am Break in Exhibit Hall

10:30 am - Noon Concurrent Educational Sessions

**C3. (cont'd) Initiatives on a Shoestring, Pt. II**

*Dr. Gregor Kay*

**Oak/.3 CEUs**

*\*Must attend both parts to receive any credit.*

**C4. ASA/USA Softball - National Governing Body**

*E. T. Colvin, State Commissioner, Mississippi ASA*

**Elm/.15CEUs**

Learn the benefits of affiliation with a national governing body and learn also how your department can piggyback on those benefits

**C5. Fantasy Sports**

*Dr. Kim Beason, The University of Mississippi*

**Poplar/.15CEUs**

An overview of the fantasy sport industry based on the most current research available and the relationships and implications for innovative recreation programming.

1:30 - 3:00 pm Concurrent Educational Sessions

**C6. How to Hire a Professional Staff**

*Allen Jones, Jackson Parks and Recreation and Harvey Faust, CPRP, Retired*

**Poplar/.15 CEUs**

This session will address the hiring of professional staff members and will include recruitment, selection, and hiring procedures. You'll also learn a few tips for hiring the right people for the right jobs.

**C7. Tennis for Your Community**

*Russell Dendy, Junior Programs Director*

*Jenny Markow, Marketing Director*

*Sandra Irby, Dir. of Community Development Mississippi Tennis Association*

**Elm/.15 CEUs**

Find ways to get adults out of their recliners and into fun-filled aerobic exercise with "Cardio Tennis." You'll also see a first-hand demonstration of Kids Team Tennis, a modified version of tennis that makes the sport easier to learn.

## Wednesday, September 12 (Contd.)

**C8. Professional Issues in Therapeutic Recreation – Personal Values and Multicultural Diversity**

*Dr. Rick Green, Professor of Therapeutic Recreation, The University of Southern Mississippi*

**Oak/.15 CEUs**

In this session, the speaker will lead a discussion on the roles and responsibilities of therapeutic recreation specialists working with diverse clientele. The speakers will present several sources of the formation of personal values, and lead a discussion on the role of personal values in a therapeutic relationship.

3:00 - 3:30 pm Break in Exhibit Hall

4:30 - 5:30 pm District Meetings

5:30 - 6:30 pm Social/Silent Auction

6:30 - 9:00 pm MRPA Awards Banquet

*Sponsored by MS Senior Olympics*

**Dress: Professional Business Attire**

Join us for dinner in Magnolia and Mimosa, as we announce and recognize the recipients of the following awards:

*Recreation Professional of the Year*

*Howard "Bo" Phillips Design Award of Merit*

*Special Event Award of Merit*

*Arts, Humanities, and Programming Award*

*Recreation Therapist of the Year*

*Therapeutic Recreation Award of Merit*

*Therapeutic Agency or Special Event Award*

## Thursday, September 13

7:30 - 8:30 am Conference Registration

8:30 - 10:00 am Concurrent Educational Sessions

**D1. Utilizing Volunteers at Your Park**

*Ernie Lentz, Arkabutla Lake, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers*

**Poplar/.15 CEUs**

Volunteers can be an untapped resource for staffing and managing your park. A park can benefit from volunteers by utilizing their skills to perform a wide range of daily needs and special projects. Volunteers benefit from the satisfaction of serving their community.

## Thursday, September 13 (Contd.)

**D2. Innovative Methods of Teaching Boat and Water Safety**

*Artie Hoff, Grenada Lake, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers*

**Elm/.15 CEUs**

You'll get hands-on demonstration techniques for teaching children boat and water safety along with the Mississippi Boating Course.

**D3. My First Job: Transitioning from Student to Professional**

*Sarah Martin, CTRS, University of Mississippi Medical Center*

**Oak/.15 CEUs**

This session is geared toward students and new professionals. The topics covered will assist students in making the transition from student to professional. Topics are progress notes, the Leisure Ability Model, and planning for groups. These points will be highlighted by anecdotal experiences of the speaker.

9 - 11:00 am Board of Directors Meeting

10- 10:30 am BREAK in the foyer

10:30 am - Noon Concurrent Educational Sessions

**D4. Cooperative Education Program**

*George Harris, Park Ranger, Sardis Lake, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers*

**Poplar/.15 CEUs**

This session will explain the importance of having student employment in your organization.

**D5. Trail Grant Solves Safety Issue and Provides Multiple Benefits**

*Michael Robinson, Supervisory Ranger, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Enid Lake*

**Elm/.15 CEUs**

Attend this session to learn more about trail grants, but also to see a creative way to resolve a safety issue in a popular campground and recreation area. You'll leave this session with detailed information from beginning to end on a trail partnership project.

**D6. Fiestas, Mardi Gras and Tailgating: Planning Therapeutic Theme Events**

*Allie Pearson, CTRS, North Mississippi Medical Center - Rehab Institute*

**Oak/.15 CEUs**

This session will present the process utilized at NMMC's Rehab Institute for planning and implementing specifically themed therapeutic events. It will explain and demonstrate the

## Thursday, September 13 (Contd.)

process from initial concept (including populations served, examples of therapeutic activities, and necessary adaptations) to event evaluation.

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### ***Recreation Professional of the Year Recipients***

*Governor Bill Waller, 1972-73*

*Wayne Hudson, 1973-74*

*Hugh Tatum, 1974-75*

*George DeCoux, 1975-76*

*Demery Grubbs, 1976-77*

*Harvey Faust, 1977-78*

*Harvey Faust, 1978-79*

*Charles Burchell, 1979-80*

*Ed Goodman, 1980-81*

*Wally Beach, 1981-82*

*Harvey Faust, 1982-83*

*Allen Jones, 1983-84*

*Calvin Ishee, 1984-85*

*Chip Petersen, 1985-86*

*Greg Little, 1986-87*

*Allen Ellard, 1987-88*

*Paul Ferrell, 1988-89*

*Clif Marshall, 1989-90*

*Van Lowry, 1990-91*

*Bo Phillips, 1991-92*

*Leigh Brown, 1992-93*

*Calvin Ishee, 1993-94*

*Kim Beason, 1994-95*

*David D'Aquilla, 1995-96*

*Buddy Graves, 1996-97*

*Eddie Tanner, 1997-98*

*Ramie Ford, 1998-99*

*Jim Gilbert, 1999-00*

*Bubba Robinson, 2000-01*

*Larry Davis, 2001-02*

*Lamar Evans, 2002-03*

*Kleb Johnson, 2003-04*

*Chris Chance, 2004-05*

*Vern Boothe, 2005-06*

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*MRPA Awards Banquet Sponsors*  
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*Special thanks to Mid-South  
 Recreation for donating bags and  
 JBHM Architects for donating  
 lanyards.*

## MRPA Presidents

*Frank Cochran, 1967-68*  
*Bob Foster, 1968-69*  
*Lloyd King, 1969-70*  
*Hugh Tatum, 1970-71*  
*John King, 1971-72*  
*John King/Wayne Hudson, 1972-73*  
*Wayne Hudson, 1973-74*  
*George DeCoux, 1974-75*  
*Demery Grubbs, 1975-76*  
*Dot Cooper Kelly, 1976-77*  
*Harvey Faust, 1977-78*  
*Bill Lott, 1978-79*  
*Charles Burchell, 1979-80*  
*Monroe Williams, 1980-81*  
*Eddie Williams, 1981-82*  
*Bebo Howell, 1982-83*  
*Allen Jones, 1982-85*  
*Bob Sheffield, 1985-86*  
*Greg Little, 1986-87*  
*Calvin Ishee, 1987-88*  
*Allen Ellard, 1988-89*  
*Paul Ferrell, 1989-90*  
*Susan Hubble, 1990-91*  
*Sonny Janssen/Bo Phillips, 1991-92*  
*Bo Phillips, 1992-93*  
*Leigh Brown, 1993-94*  
*Cheryl Bell, 1994-95*  
*David D'Aquilla, 1995-96*  
*John North, 1996-97*  
*Eddie Tanner, 1997-98*  
*Charles Burchell, 1998-99*  
*Will McNeer, 1999-00*  
*Wendy Bourdin, 2000-01*  
*Bubba Robinson, 2001-02*  
*Darcie Shortt, 2002-03*  
*Kleb Johnson, 2003-04*  
*Ramie Ford, 2004-05*  
*Michelle Burrell, 2005-06*  
*Michael Taggart, 2006-07*

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## 2008 MRPA Convention



**Vicksburg, MS**  
**September 15 - 18**