



Ballroom

Regional Conference Reports

2015



By Beth Clark
ERAPPA President
Pennsylvania State University

More than 625 participants representing 124 educational institutions attended the 2015 ERAPPA Annual Meeting in **Providence, Rhode Island** from October 4 through October 7. The conference theme was “Lighting Our Future.” Keynote speaker Bob Kelleher’s presentation on employee engagement, workforce trends, and leadership was well received and quite timely. Plenary speaker Dr. Ned Hallowell encouraged the audience to slow down, disconnect from technology, and reconnect with each other during his “Crazy Busy” talk.

The 2015 conference was hosted by the Southern New England Chapter of APPA (SNEAPPA) under the leadership of John Cannon (College of the Holy Cross). The host committee delivered an engaging, thought-provoking, and thoroughly enjoyable program that included a five-track professional development program, APPA’s Supervisor’s Toolkit, a Hall of Resources featuring a variety of business partners, and an evening of autumnal splendor at the Roger Williams Park Zoo’s Jack-O-Lantern Spectacular.

Four board members were elected at the Annual Business Meeting on Tuesday afternoon. Steve Peary (University of Vermont) was elected president-elect, Pete Buchheit (University of Pittsburgh–Bradford) was reelected vice president for chapter affairs, Paul Martin (University of Western Ontario) was elected vice president for technology & communications, and Arthur Walsh (University of New Brunswick–Fredericton) was reelected treasurer. Also at the Annual Business Meeting, the entire allotment of ERAPPA professional development scholarships was awarded—six educational scholarships, three credentialing scholarships, and ten ambassador scholarships.

At the Awards Banquet, Certificates of Appreciation were awarded to outgoing



Beth Clark



Above: A bird’s-eye view of the ERAPPA 2015 Hall of Resources—110-plus business-partner booths and plenty of space for networking.

Left: This year’s Annual Meeting included a Habitat for Humanity service project as a way of giving back to the host city of Providence.



Photos by H&J Photography.

chapter presidents, ERAPPA committee members, and host committee members. Merit Awards were given to the host committee chair, outgoing ERAPPA liaisons to APPA committees, and outgoing board members. Rick Phillips (Penn State University), Todd Miller (Centenary College), and Chuck Bagley (University of Maryland) were recognized with ERAPPA’s Rising Star Award. John Cannon and Penn State University were awarded ERAPPA’s Chapter Champion Award for SNEAPPA and the Keystone Chapter of APPA (KAPPA) respectively. ERAPPA President Dale DeBlois bestowed President’s Awards upon Pete Buchheit, Steve Peary, Keith Woodward (Quinnipiac University), and Dan Gearan (New England College).

Beth Clark assumed the role of ERAPPA president at the end of the Annual Meeting. Clark spoke of her motto for the coming year—“Think Differently”—and encouraged her ERAPPA colleagues to do the same as it relates to the ERAPPA organization, recruiting and retaining engaged employees, and our profession as a whole.

THE 2015-2016 ERAPPA OFFICERS

- President—**Beth Clark**, Penn State University
President-Elect—**Steve Peary**, University of Vermont
Secretary—**Andrew Christ**, New Jersey Institute of Technology
Treasurer—**Arthur Walsh**, University of New Brunswick–Fredericton
APPA Senior Representative—**Dale DeBlois**, Colby College
APPA Junior Representative—**Beth Clark**, Penn State University
APPA Liaison—**John Bernhards**

To view ERAPPA’s website and find a complete listing of the board of directors, please go to <http://www.appa.org/regions/erappa.cfm>.

2016 CONFERENCE: October 16-19, 2016 • Niagara Falls, Ontario, Canada

Southeastern Region

SRAPPA



By the SRAPPA Board

Red, Hot, & Rouge, SRAPPA's 64th annual conference, convened from October 10-13 in **Baton Rouge, Louisiana**. The educational program "Facility Professionals Advancing the Education Mission" gave over 180 participants representing 58 institutions along with 197 business partners the opportunity to attend 34 awesome educational sessions. Louisiana State University hosted SRAPPA 2015 and included an Exhibit Hall of 80 booths providing solutions to the issues facing our institutions.

SRAPPA is all about family and giving back to our communities. SRAPPA volunteers made 1,000 sandwiches and packed 500 lunches for St. Vincent de Paul's Bags of Hope program to be distributed to local homeless people, and also made a \$375 donation.

Peter Strazdas, APPA President, and Lander Medlin, APPA Executive Vice President, conducted the general session, emphasizing engagement among educational institutions as well as sister organizations and stressing what each of us can do to make APPA even better.

Keynote speaker Lieutenant General (ret.) Russel L. Honoré, Joint Task Force-Katrina Commander, discussed



Mardi Gras Indians at President's Banquet.

operating in the "new normal," and that to be effective, one must "See First, Understand First, Act First." The Monday night "Get Your Game On" tailgate was a combination of fun, BBQ, dancing, and friendly competition of both cornhole and MashBall, as teams threw against each other for supremacy. Plenary speaker Ira Blumenthal's presentation, "Change Is Mandatory, Growth Is Optional," illustrated how people and institutions need to change in order to remain relevant and be successful.

On the final night, conference goers danced from the "Celebrating Red Hot Success" reception to the President's Banquet, led by a trumpeter and Mardi Gras Indians.

The President's Banquet provided a fitting end to an exciting conference, as the outgoing president, Jodie Sweat, recapped the



Jodie Sweat passes gavel to incoming president, Dave Maharrey.

region's successful year and awarded the SRAPPA President's Awards to Andy Maddox and Mark Cutlip. She also recognized board members who received awards for their service to the board: Dan Young, Chris Ziolkowski, and Andy Maddox. David Gray received the SRAPPA Emeritus Award, and recognition was given to SRAPPA members who received APPA awards in July at the Annual APPA Conference in Chicago, Illinois.

APPA President Peter Strazdas installed the 2015-16 SRAPPA board, and the night and conference concluded with fabulous music, and as always, more dancing.

THE 2015-2016 SRAPPA OFFICERS

- President—**Dave Maharrey**, Louisiana State University
- President-Elect—**Dan Wooten**, Tennessee State University
- Vice President for Communications—**Kelly Ostergrant**, Middle Tennessee State University
- Treasurer—**Becky Griffith**, Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University
- APPA Senior Representative—**Wayne Goodwin**, Jackson State University
- APPA Junior Representative—**Jay Williams**, Virginia Military Institute
- APPA Liaison—**Steve Glazner**

To view SRAPPA's website and find a complete listing of the board of directors, please visit www.srappa.org.



Photos by Judy Maharrey

SRAPPA 2015-2016 Board.

2016 CONFERENCE: July 12-14, 2016 - Nashville, Tennessee (co-located with APPA)

Midwest Region

MAPPA



By Becky Guelig
MAPPA Communications
Coordinator
Wisconsin School of Business

Embracing the emphasis on change from last year's conference, Greg Adams, Dawn Aguilera, and Rick Koehler of the University of Wisconsin–Milwaukee, hosted a lively 2015 MAPPA Conference. Held September 20-24 in Milwaukee, Wisconsin, the conference was nothing short of consequential.

Keynote speaker Kevin Brown initiated the conference with an enthusiastic and humorous talk on how we can be daily heroes. Supporting the facility services ideal to provide outstanding customer service, Brown shared about how everyday experiences can become opportunities to create the best possible outcomes.

Participants attended trainings on “Creating a People-Centered Organization” and “Achieving Institutional Goals through Facilities,” which emphasized the importance of customer service—both internal and external—to facility operations. The Big Ten Trainers Network, which tackles topics on training facility professionals, again joined MAPPA along with the Big Ten and Friends Conference, which facilitates idea sharing and networking for regional custodial professionals.

APPA President Peter Strazdas (Western Michigan University) and APPA Executive Vice President Lander Medlin joined the MAPPA fun this year with updates from APPA. Strazdas focused on the importance of member engagement and collaboration.

MAPPA transitioned 10 leadership positions at this year's conference. Most notable were the musical transitions of MAPPA President Mike Hamilton (Iowa State University) and Professional



2015-16 MAPPA Officers.



MAPPA President Greg Adams.

Development Chair Dana Gillon (University of Illinois at Urbana–Champaign). Hamilton spectacularly executed an a capella rendition of “My Way” by Frank Sinatra, and Gillon's team celebrated via flash

mob—which included MAPPA leadership—after Tuesday's president's speech.

Greg Adams (Marquette University) is now MAPPA president; Mike is MAPPA past-president; Dana is MAPPA treasurer; and Tim Thimmesch (Grand Valley State University) was welcomed as president-elect.

MAPPA facilitated the donation of almost \$1,000 for the Sojourner Family Peace Center during the conference. President's Awards were received by Kristie Kowall (Illinois State University), Dana Gillon, and Jim Bogan (University of Wisconsin). Outgoing board member awards went to Brandon Baswell (Michigan State University), Ruthann Manlet (University of Minnesota), and Dana Gillon.

The president's reception and dinner ended with an inspiring speech from newly elected President Greg Adams. MAPPA's goal, to “steadfastly promote diversity in our leadership and membership,” was the highlight of his talk. Adams related his experience



MAPPA certified trainers for Supervisor's Toolkit (Karen Walker, Mario Barcena, Ruthann Manlet, Shoko Miyagi).

Photos by Margaret Hamilton.

from facilities departments in multiple universities to MAPPA's and APPA's rich resources for developing people and their careers within the profession of educational facilities management.

THE 2015-2016 MAPPA OFFICERS

President—**Greg Adams**, Marquette University

President-Elect—**Tim Thimmesch**, Grand Valley State University

Secretary—**Bob Currie**, Iowa State University

Treasurer—**Dana Gillon**, University of Illinois at Urbana–Champaign

APPA Senior Representative—**Kristie Kowall**, Illinois State University

APPA Junior Representative—**Lowell Bromander**, Hamline University

APPA Liaison—**Suzanne Healy**

To view MAPPA's website and find a complete listing of the board of directors, please go to <http://www.appa.org/regions/mapa.cfm>.

2016 CONFERENCE: October 1-5, 2016 - Des Moines, Iowa



By Ed Heptig
CAPPA President
Kansas State University

Kansas State University (K-State) hosted the CAPPA 2015 Annual Conference

October 9-14 in **Manhattan, Kansas**, with the theme of “The Future? It’s Now.” A total of 279 attendees representing both higher education and business partners took part in the event.

K-State President Dr. Kirk Schulz delivered the keynote address and spoke about the institution’s achievements, opportunities, and challenges. Day two was launched by the

dine at the Flint Hills Discovery Center, a museum showcasing the tallgrass prairie and the Flint Hills of Kansas.

CAPPA 2015 offered sessions in tracks ranging from facilities administration to maintenance, project management, and utilities. The educational sessions allowed attendees to see benchmarks and new innovations from other institutions so they could gain insights into facility improvements at their own campuses. A walking tour of the K-State campus highlighted recent and current renovations, including those at



Outgoing CAPPA President Glen Haubold passes gavel to 2015 President Ed Heptig.

sponsor prizes, meals, and refreshments in the exhibit hall, and provide other networking opportunities throughout the conference.

The closing banquet was held Tuesday evening. Norm Young, APPA Vice President for Information and Research, assisted in recognizing CAPPA award winners: Newsletter Award, Ana Thiemer and Sterling Miller; Certificate of Meritorious Service, Julio Cisneros and Mike Miller; Distinguished Member Award, Miles Abernathy and Shelton Riley; and the President’s Award, Sue-Anna Miller and Bob Eckels. The KC Improv Company provided entertainment at the awards banquet. The professional comedy troupe persuaded the crowd to relax with laughter and skits that included CAPPA’s President and Third Vice President participating as “volunteers.”

The conference concluded with the annual business meeting, passing of the gavel, and induction of executive committee members for 2015-16.



Photos by Miles Abernathy

2015 CAPPA Officer Team.

mascot of the Kansas City Chiefs, “KC Wolf” Dan Meers. Meers spoke inspiringly of injuries he suffered in a zip-line accident that changed his outlook on life. He also was available to autograph his book, *Wolves Can’t Fly: Faith, Family, and Fur*.

Before the exhibit hall opened Sunday evening, attendees selected different outings, depending on their interests. They could join a golf tournament at the scenic Colbert Hills, tour a brewery and the Sunset Zoo, or head for the Prairie Band Casino. A football watching party and tour of the Bill Snyder Family Stadium was available on Sunday evening for football enthusiasts. In the exhibit hall, baseball fans watched the Kansas City Royals win a Major League playoff game. Monday evening allowed participants to tour and

Hale Library, the College of Business Administration, and the College of Engineering complex, as well as the chilled water plant and utility line improvements. The tour concluded at the newly renovated West Memorial Stadium, where attendees enjoyed Call Hall ice cream and posed for a group photo.

Collaboration was clearly evident in the exhibit hall, where business partners staffed exhibits geared to the needs and interests of CAPPA members. Higher education attendees could discuss issues with vendors and develop relationships they could build on when returning to their own facility. CAPPA is honored to have so many business partners

THE 2015-2016 CAPPA OFFICERS

- President—**Edward Heptig**, Kansas State University
- First Vice President—**Ian Hadden**, University of Arkansas at Little Rock
- Secretary—**Sheila Awalt**, University of Texas at El Paso
- Treasurer—**Tim Stiger**, Oklahoma City Public Schools
- APPA Senior Representative—**Shelton Riley**, Texas Christian University
- APPA Junior Representative—**David Handwork**, Arkansas State University
- APPA Liaison—**Christina Hills**

To view CAPPA’s website and find a complete listing of the board of directors, visit <http://www.cappaedu.org>.

2016 CONFERENCE: October 8-12, 2016 • Little Rock, Arkansas

Rocky Mountain Region

RMA



By Victoria Drummond
2015 Host Committee Chair
Montana State University

RMA's 2015 Annual Meeting was held September 9-11 at the Big Sky Resort in **Big Sky, Montana**. Preconference activities included the RMA board's fall meeting, fishing, golf, and tours of Montana State University's campus. The golf tournament hosted 62 golfers sponsored by McKinstry. Fishing included 35 anglers on the Madison and Gallatin Rivers, sponsored by Nalco Company and Armstrong International.

At the opening reception, RMA members reconnected under the big sky and late sunset with guitar music played by Kevin Fabozzi and enjoyed Montana wild-meats appetizers featuring elk, venison, and trout hosted by OpTerra.

Attendees were captivated by Chad Pregracke's keynote talk about his crusade to clean America's rivers and a gift copy of his book, *From the Bottom Up*, sponsored by Republic Services and MSU Facilities Services. Friday's keynote speaker, Jim Evanoff, presented Yellowstone National Park's historical management approaches to recreation or conservation.

The session tracks were "Institutional & Organizational Leadership," "Technology & Methods," "Maintaining a Culture of Service Excellence," and "Sustainability & Stewardship," and are available at <http://rma.appa.org/History-events.html>.

Mobile sessions (new this year) featured behind-the-scenes operational maintenance of a tram, including a trip up Lone Peak's summit (11,166 feet), and service excellence at Yellowstone Club, a private residential development. Other give-back opportunities included a Real Colors workshop sponsored by GLHN.

The AZ Sponsor Group hosted Business Partner Bingo, encouraging booth interactions with a chance to win either a fly fishing rod, gourmet chocolate, or a



APPA President Peter Strazdas and keynote speaker Chad Pregracke after speaking on cleaning America's rivers.



Attendees at the top of Big Sky's Lone Peak (11,166 feet elevation) for the tram expedition mobile session.



Twenty-five RMA Conference first timers attended a special welcoming session to meet the RMA Board and have a chance to win RMA and APPA scholarships.

Photos by Gary Gramer.

check to a charity of choice.

The theme dinner along the banks of the Gallatin River at the historic 320 Guest Ranch featured a barbecue with make-your-own s'mores around a campfire and dancing to the lively Bottom of the Barrel band.

The closing ceremony and Awards Banquet began with appetizers in Chet's Bar and background music by the MSU Jazz Band (students) and ended with dancing to Little Jane and the Pistol Whips. During dinner, RMA President Emmet Boyle presented the following awards:

- **H. Val Peterson Award:** Lisa Potter
- **Lee Newman Award:** INVISTA
- **RMA President's Award:** Chris Kopach
- **APPA's Unsung Hero Award:** Steve Hoskins
- **APPA's Effective and Innovative Practices Award:** The University of Colorado Boulder
- **APPA's Award for Excellence:** Weber State University
- **Host Committee Award:** Victoria Drummond and MSU's Host Committee

Boyle also recognized RMA leading APPA with EFP/CEFP credentials. The ceremony culminated with APPA President Peter Strazdas swearing in the 2015-16 RMA board officers.

THE 2015-2016 RMA OFFICERS

President—**David Turnquist**, University of Colorado
President-Elect—**Lisa Potter**, University of Colorado Boulder
Secretary—**Mike Millsapps**, Aims Community College
Treasurer—**Steve Hoskins**, University of Utah
APPA Senior Representative—**Brian Johnson**, University of Idaho
APPA Junior Representative—**Emmet Boyle**, University of Regina
APPA Liaison—**Kristin Witters**

To view RMA's website and find a complete listing of the board of directors, visit <http://www.appa.org/regions/rma.cfm>.

2016 CONFERENCE: September 25-28, 2016 • Flagstaff, Arizona

Pacific Coast Region

PCAPPA



By Tony Ichsan
PCAPPA President
Sonoma County Junior College
District—Santa Rosa Junior College

A good time was had by all at our 2015 annual meeting, held October 11-13 in **Portland, Oregon** and graciously hosted by Oregon State University. This amazing host team was visible throughout all the program areas and provided assistance to our 233 institutional member attendees. Success would not have been possible without the support of our 5 sponsors, 37 exhibiting companies, and 96 business partners. A big Pacific Coast welcome to our many first-time attendees, and kudos to the 33 Supervisor's Toolkit participants. With a focus on "Renew, Rebuild, Redefine," attendees were encouraged to capture best practices to bring back to their institutions.

The adventure began with three tour choices of Portland State University, including one solely on sustainable features and initiatives. Our keynote speaker was Jeff Harvey, CEO of Burgerville. Although Burgerville did not set out to be a sustainable company, its core value of "Commitment to the Community" meant doing the right things to provide the best service to its customers. Accordingly, Burgerville became a sustainable company and an inspirational topic for our attendees.

Washington APPA (WAPPA) chapter has been renamed "Northwest APPA" (NWAPPA) to better reflect the growth in participation from Oregon, Idaho, and British Columbia. And please join us in welcoming another new chapter, Bay Area APPA (BAYAPPA).

We were pleased to have APPA's incoming president, Chuck Scott (Illinois State University), and his wife Vicky attend



PCAPPA President,
Tony Ichsan.



PCAPPA Board at awards dinner.



PCAPPA attendees at the exhibit hall.

Photo by Jason Toth

their first PCAPPA conference. Chuck's participation in our board meetings provided insight and collaborative opportunities with APPA and other regions. During the business meeting, Chuck shared updates on APPA International. At our Award Dinner, 2014-15 President Chuck Davis provided a thoughtful and poignant speech to encourage all members to stand up and do the right thing. This was followed by Chuck Scott installing the new 2015-16 officers.

President Tony Ichsan encouraged members to take advantage of all available APPA tools and to participate in local PCAPPA opportunities during this "Year of Engagement." In preparation for PCAPPA 2016 (September 18-20), hosted by the California Institute of Technology in Pasadena, California, Ichsan is ensuring that the issues keeping our members awake at night will be addressed through the conference's "Resource, Ready, Renew and Reengage" theme.

Finally, a big note of thanks to Jason Wang, Master of Ceremonies extraordinaire, who kept the entire conference moving along and entertained,

particularly during the Awards Dinner. Come and see him first hand in Pasadena next year and learn how to make cricket sounds for your next meeting!

THE 2015-2016 PCAPPA OFFICERS

President—**Tony Ichsan**, Sonoma County Junior College District—Santa Rosa Junior College

President-Elect—**John Ferris**, San Diego State University

Secretary—**Chuck Davis**, Seattle Central College

Treasurer—**Tony Guerrero**, University of Washington Bothell and Cascadia Community College

APPA Senior Representative—**David Woodson**, University of British Columbia

APPA Junior Representative—**Chuck Davis**, Seattle Central College

APPA Liaison—**Kristin Witters**

To view PCAPPA's website and find a complete listing of the board of directors, visit <http://www.appa.org/regions/pcappa.cfm>.

2016 CONFERENCE: September 18-20, 2016 • Pasadena, California