

The Honorable Cornelius Amory Pugsley 2022 Awards



**The American Academy for Park and
Recreation Administration**

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A description of the Pugsley Award and biographies of past medal recipients are available at <http://www.aapra.org>

Sponsors of the Pugsley Award

American Academy for Park and Recreation Administration

The Academy was created in 1980 to advance knowledge related to the administration of recreation and parks; to encourage scholarly efforts by both practitioners and educators that would enhance the practice of park and recreation administration; to promote broader public understanding of the importance of parks and recreation to the public good; and to conduct research, publish scholarly papers, and to conduct research, publish scholarly papers and sponsor seminars related to the advancement of park and recreation administration.

Membership in the Academy is limited to 125 practicing professionals, of whom no more than 20% may be educators and 12 as politically appointed directors of communities of 500,000 population or more. Membership in the Academy is by member nomination. The Academy Board of Directors approves the nominations as recommended by the Membership Committee who carefully review each nomination. Once elected into the Academy as a Fellow, members may transition to Emeritus Fellow status after they retire. Membership qualifications include serving not less than 15 years in a high level of administration in a park and recreation agency and/or an institution of higher education. Members must demonstrate leadership and a desire to contribute to the advancement of parks and recreation through participation in the affairs of the Academy.

Prominent among its projects is the Academy's sponsorship of the *Journal of Park and Recreation Administration*, which is designed to bridge the gap between research and practice for administrators, educators, consultants, and researchers. The *Journal* provides a forum for the analysis of management and organization of the delivery of park, recreation, and leisure services. The Academy has established a videotape library of interviews with top professionals in the field. In addition to being of historical value, the tapes in the Legends of Parks and Recreation Library offer insight into the field from its recognized leaders. The Academy was instrumental in developing and launching an accreditation program for park and recreation agencies, which is now being administered in cooperation with the National Recreation and Park Association. The Academy is the sponsor of the National Gold Medal Award program given annually to the outstanding park and recreation agencies (local and state) and armed forces recreation.



The American Academy for Park and Recreation Administration gratefully acknowledges The Davey Tree Expert Company for its continued support of the Cornelius A. Pugsley Award.

The Davey Tree Expert Company's more than 11,000 employees provide tree care, grounds maintenance, and environmental consulting services for the residential, utility, commercial, and government markets throughout the U.S. and Canada. Davey has provided Proven Solutions for a Growing World since 1880 and has been employee-owned since 1979. For more information, visit www.davey.com or call 866-459-7356.

Sponsors of the Pugsley Award



For more than 50 years, the National Park Foundation has worked to protect wildlife and park lands; preserve history and culture; educate; engage youth; and connect people everywhere to the wonder of parks. We do it in collaboration with the National Park Service, the park partner community, and with the generous support of donors, without whom our work would not be possible.

Chartered by Congress in 1967 as the official nonprofit partner of the National Park Service, the National Park Foundation generates private support and builds strategic partnerships to protect and enhance America's national parks for present and future generations.

The Foundation raises private funds to help protect and preserve over 85 million acres of national parks by promoting programs and projects that protect precious landscapes and wilderness, historical sites, and places of cultural significance.

In concert with the American Scenic and Historic Preservation Society, the National Park Foundation has proudly supported the Pugsley Award since 1985. Today, the award remains an excellent example of a partnership for the betterment of parks and recreation across America.

The National Park Foundation continues a legacy of support that began more than a century ago when private citizens took action to establish and protect our national parks. Today, that work continues with the generous support and contributions of individuals, corporations, and foundations, protecting America's treasures in perpetuity, and captivating the minds and imaginations of generations to come. Learn more about the National Park Foundation and how you can get involved at www.NationalParks.org.

Will Shafroth
President and CEO, National Park Foundation

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Will Shafroth", with a long, sweeping underline.

Throughout its history, the National Park Foundation (NPF) has played a leadership role in raising philanthropic support for priority projects and programs of the National Park Service. This model of public-private partnership underscores our belief that we all share in the responsibility to protect our parks as a living inheritance for future generations.

The Honorable Cornelius Amory Pugsley



Cornelius Amory Pugsley was born in 1850 on a farm in Peekskill, Westchester County, New York. He attended public schools in Peekskill and lived his whole life in that community. He had an undergraduate degree from Harvard University and also attended Harvard Law School. From 1867 to 1870, he was a clerk and then assistant postmaster in Peekskill. In 1870, he started work at Westchester County National Bank.

At the bank, he was promoted to teller, cashier, vice-president, and in fall 1897, he was appointed president; a position which he held for the next 46 years. During his tenure as president, Westchester County National Bank became “one of the foremost in the United States in earning power and standing.” According to the *New York Times*, “he accumulated several millions, only to be wiped out in 1933 by the Depression. This forced his bank to close its doors temporarily, pending reorganization.”

In 1895, Pugsley was the first resident from New York State to be elected as a member of the Executive Council of the American Bankers Association. He was elected to three, three-year terms on the Council, and in 1913 was elected president of the New York State Bankers Association.

Pugsley was a commanding figure in the Democratic Party in Westchester County and New York State in the early years of the twentieth century. In 1901, he served a two-year term in the 57th Congress, where he was characterized by the Republican Speaker of the House as a “vigorous talker and thinker ... perhaps the ablest Democrat in the House.” Indeed, the Republicans seemed so impressed by Pugsley’s talents that they devoted extensive resources to orchestrating his defeat after his first term. He was prominently mentioned as a candidate for the vice-presidency of the United States in the campaign of 1908 and as a candidate for New York State Governor in 1918, but declined to run for either office. In 1925, a historian reviewing Pugsley’s career, commented:

Few men of any community hold a higher place of honor and distinction in the regard of the people generally than does Cornelius Amory Pugsley of Peekskill, New York, whose life-long prominence in public affairs, as well as in professional circles, has made his utterances on many subjects of more than passing significance to the people.

Pugsley was a genuinely likeable and generous individual. His popularity in the community was exemplified by a widely reported incident in 1926 when he returned from a European trip. He was greeted with a bouquet thrown onto the deck of his ship from an airplane as the vessel steamed into New York Harbor. The plane bore a banner proclaiming in large letters “Greater Peekskill welcomes you home, 20,000 strong.”

Pugsley was active in a large number of non-profit and charitable organizations. For example, in 1906, he was elected national president-general of the Sons of the American Revolution. His interest in parks was stimulated by his involvement as vice-president of the Westchester County Park Commission. The Commission was formed in 1923, making it one of the earliest local park systems in the U.S. Its early focus was on the development of parkways and it was a pioneer in this area. Pugsley was a member of the inaugural Commission and remained on it for a 10-year period. In the 1920s, he made several donations to the Peekskill community, including Pugsley Park and buildings for the YMCA, YWCA, and associated charities.

Evolution of the Pugsley Award

Cornelius Amory Pugsley's interest in parks was perpetuated by a medals program endowed with \$7,000 by his son, Chester D. Pugsley in 1929. Chester Pugsley was a graduate of Harvard Law School, and like his father, was active in politics, seeking the Democratic nomination for governor of New York State in 1936 and 1938. The purpose of the medals was described by Chester Pugsley in his directions governing the Pugsley Medal Fund Indenture:

The income of this fund shall be applied annually for the maintenance of a gold medal award by the American Scenic and Historic Preservation Society for the most eminent public park service in the United States, a silver medal award for noteworthy public park work in the nation, and a bronze medal for a worthy contribution to public parks in the country, during the previous calendar year.

These awards shall be known as the "Honorable Cornelius Amory Pugsley Medals," in recognition of the interest of my father in public parks as evidenced by his service since its organization as a member of the Westchester County Park Commission and his gift of a public park to the municipality of Peekskill.

In witness Whereof, I have hereto set my hand and seal this 14th day of February 1929.

Chester Pugsley's purpose statement indicated that the gold, silver, and bronze medals would reflect different magnitudes of contributions, analogous to finishing first, second, and third in a competitive event. The medals appear to have reflected this interpretation for the first 35 years or so in which they were made, and during this time period, honorees were almost all associated with National or State Parks. Indeed, in the early years, the medals were awarded at the annual meeting of the National Conference on State Parks. The indenture specified the medal should reflect contributions made "during the previous calendar year," but this appears never to have been interpreted literally. Rather, the criterion has been "lifetime" contributions.

In 1967, the following criteria were suggested to guide the selection of medal recipients:

1. They have preserved, enhanced, or created park values, which significantly enriched the lives of people.
2. They reflect originality, intelligent selectivity, courageous decisions and actions, dedication to the public weal, sensitivity to the feelings and interests of all concerned, and a sound philosophy of public service.
3. They significantly developed or refined techniques, which will advance the effectiveness of park programs.
4. Their recognition by conferring the award will give encouragement and inspiration to others.

In the 1940s, the George McAneny Historic Preservation Medal was introduced by the American Scenic and Historic Preservation Society to recognize contributions in the historic preservation area, so the Pugsley Medals became more narrowly focused on park and conservation contributions.

In 1953, a new pattern appeared to emerge of recognizing one individual at the national, state/regional, and local levels, who was awarded the gold, silver, and bronze medals, respectively. With a few exceptions, this general pattern has been retained since that time. Thus, the medal designations no longer attempt to recognize different magnitudes of contributions. Rather they recognize equally excellent contributions often at different levels of government. For this reason, all three medals are now gold.

The medals were awarded by the American Scenic and Historic Preservation Society, which was formed in 1895 by an act of the legislature of the State of New York. The Society was established for the protection of national scenery and the preservation of historic landmarks. Its office was in the historically notable Federal Hall in New York City and in the 1940s, '50s, '60s the annual luncheon at which recipients were presented with their medals was traditionally held in the great "Dome Room" of Federal Hall. In 1985, the National Park Foundation accepted responsibility for administering the awards on behalf of the Society, and in 1990 the entire resources of the Society were transferred to the Foundation, which is the official nonprofit partner of the National Park Service.

In the late 1980s, the president of the National Park Foundation, at the suggestion of former Director of the National Park Service, Conrad Wirth, requested assistance from the American Academy for Park and Recreation Administration in identifying nominees for the medal. It was agreed that the Academy would identify worthy nominees and the National Park Foundation would make the final selection. In 1996, the Foundation invited the Academy to also make the final selections. The Foundation's role is now limited to producing the medals for the Academy with funds from the original Pugsley endowment. Out of respect for the impressive history of the Pugsley Medals, they are still cast from the original mold. They feature Mr. Pugsley's facial profile on one side, and the crest and name of the American Scenic and Historic Preservation Society together with the name of the recipient on the other.

2021-2022 Pugsley Awards Committee

John Potts – Chair, Illinois

Richard Ash, Missouri

Rene Bahl, California

Anita Gorman, Missouri



William Mitchell

William Mitchell, better known as Bill, was born in the Wilmington, Delaware area, and later moved to upstate New York. Bill's parents, both Cornell graduates, raised Bill and his two brothers on their dairy farm in New York. Bill was a high school athlete excelling in basketball.

After high school graduation, Bill joined the United States Air Force and travelled extensively while touring with the Air Force basketball team. He was also trained and became an air traffic controller. After his military service, Bill attended the University of Maryland and obtained his BA degree in Parks and Recreation.

Bill's professional career began as the Aquatics Director at the Prince George County Recreation Department, Maryland. Bill then served at the City of Bethlehem, Pennsylvania, as Recreation Administrator prior to becoming the Director of Parks and Recreation for Howard County, Maryland. During Bill's 15 years of service in Howard County, he was responsible for adding extensive open space and park development. He also was involved in implementing the county's initial master plan, which included large land acquisitions. Much of the current Howard County Park system was developed during his 15-year tenure. During Bill's tenure, he was responsible for the construction of 18 parks, ranging in size from 1 acre to 325 acres; 13 miles of bike paths; three community gardens; two historic sites, and the review of over 3,000 subdivision plans for open space, floor plain and steep slope dedication.

In 1989, Bill, a Certified Parks and Recreation Professional, became the Executive Director of the Bucks County, Pennsylvania, Department of Parks and Recreation. Bill held that position until his retirement in May 2021. Upon retiring, the county named the department's headquarters in his honor.

Bill spent his entire career in Howard and Bucks County pursuing land conservation and acquisition. Before his departure from Bucks County, he had acquired over 3,000 acres of new park land, ensuring open space for generations to come. In Howard County, the major emphasis was acquiring and developing land for county community and stream valley parks.

In Bucks County, land acquisition included protecting the banks of the Delaware River, banks of the Lehigh and Delaware canal preserving a portion of the last undistributed coastal plain forest, swamp and unglaciated bog in the southeastern Pennsylvania, steep slope, floor plain, and meadow parcels within existing and proposed parks. He was responsible in large parts for saving historic properties including the Moravian Pottery and the historic Tile Works and a working water mill.

Bill Mitchell was also affiliated with several important organizations and groups during his career. Bill was appointed by Secretary of Interior Babbitt as a Commissioner on the Delaware and Lehigh National Heritage Corridor and continues to serve on that group. He was a member of the Commission for Accreditation of Park and Recreation Agencies from 1991 to 1999. He was a member of the Board of Directors of the National Association of County Parks and Recreation Officials from 1982 to present and served as President 1990-1991. Bill was also Chair of the Maryland State Department of Education Advisory Committee for Adults and Community Services. He was Chair of the NRPA Mid Atlantic Regional Council from 1995 to 1996 and President of the Maryland Recreation and Parks Association from 1982 to 1983.

Mitchell became a member of the Academy for Parks and Recreation Administration 15 years ago and served as Chair of the Membership Committee and as President of the AIPE/ Academy Foundation. Bill is a Certified Leisure Professional and member of the Pennsylvania Recreation and Park Society and a variety of other local organizations.

During his career, Bill always made himself available, especially for any congregational or legislative meetings. Whenever Bill received a call from Barry Tindall, the National Recreation and Park Association's Director of Public Policy, he was ready to respond and assist our professional organization. Bill is indeed a professional's professional, always striving to give back more to his community.

Bill spent his entire career in Howard and Bucks County pursuing land conservation and acquisition.

Past Recipients

- 1928 **Gold Medal**—Stephen T. Mather, Director and Founder of the National Park Service
Silver Medal—Duncan McDuffie, San Francisco, California member of the California State Parks Commission
Bronze Medal—Beatrice Ward Nelson, Charlottesville, Virginia, Secretary of the National Conference on State Parks
- 1929 **Gold Medal**—Mary Averell Harriman, Philanthropist
Silver Medal—Nathaniel Lord Britton, New York Botanical Garden
Bronze Medal—Thomas W. Hardison, Morrystown, Arkansas
- 1930 **Gold Medal**—Horace M. Albright, Director, National Park Service
Silver Medal—Theodore Wirth, General Superintendent of the Park Commissioners of Minneapolis, Minnesota
Bronze Medal—Charles G. Sauers, Indiana Department of Conservation, Division of Lands and Waters and General Superintendent, Cook County Forest Preserve, Illinois
- 1931 **Gold Medal**—Richard Leiber, Director of the Indiana Conservation Department
Silver Medal—Albert M. Turner, Connecticut State Park and Forest Commission
Bronze Medal—Stella M. Leviston, San Francisco, California
- 1932 **Gold Medal**—Chauncey J. Hamlin, President of the Buffalo Society of Natural Sciences
Silver Medal—Peter Norbeck, United States Senator from South Dakota
Bronze Medal—Margo K. Frankel, Chair, Iowa Board of Conservation
- 1933 **Gold Medal**—William W. Niles, Chair, Taconic State Park Commission, New York
Silver Medal—Tom Wallace, Kentucky State Park Commission, Editor of the *Louisville Times*
Bronze Medal—David E. Colp, Chair, Texas State Parks Board
- 1934 **Gold Medal**—William A. Welch, General Manager and Chief Engineer, Palisades Interstate Park, New York and New Jersey
Silver Medal—William E. Carson, Riverside, Virginia, Director of the Virginia Department of Conservation
Bronze Medal—Philip W. Ayres, Chief Forester of the Society for the Protection of New Hampshire Forests
- 1935 **Gold Medal**—Howard B. Bloomer, Chair, Michigan Conservation Department
Silver Medal—John McLaren, Park Superintendent, San Francisco
Bronze Medal—Will O. Doolittle, Superintendent of Parks, Tulsa, Oklahoma
- 1936 **Gold Medal**—Robert Moses, Commissioner of Parks for the City of New York
Silver Medal—Roger W. Toll, Superintendent of Yellowstone Park
Bronze Medal—George M. Wright, Founder and Chief of the Wildlife Division of the National Park Service
- 1937 **Gold Medal**—J. Horace McFarland, Harrisburg, Pennsylvania, President of the American Civic Association
Silver Medal—Charles P. Wilber, State Forester and Director of Department of Conservation and Development of New Jersey
Bronze Medal—William H. Carr, Director of the Trailside Museums at Bear Mountain

- 1938 **Gold Medal**—Arno B. Cammerer, Director National Park Service, Washington, D.C.
Silver Medal—Raymond H. Torrey, Journalist and Secretary of the American Scenic and Historic Preservation Society
Bronze Medal—Alvin E. Reeves, Director of Division of State Parks, Oklahoma
- 1939 **Gold Medal**—Robert Fechner, Director of the Civilian Conservation Corps
Silver Medal—Charles C. Deam, Indiana State Parks
Bronze Medal—William P. Alexander, Buffalo, New York
- 1940 **Gold Medal**—Hermon C. Bumpus, President of Tufts University; Chair NPS Advisory Board
Silver Medal—Newton B. Drury, Secretary, Save the Redwoods League of California
Bronze Medal—William A. Stinchcomb, Director, Cleveland Metropolitan Park District
- 1941 **No medals were awarded**
- 1942 **Gold Medal**—Harold L. Ickes, Secretary of the Interior
Silver Medal—Arthur E. Demaray, Assistant Director, National Park Service
Bronze Medal—Harlean James, Executive Secretary of the American Planning and Civic Association
- 1943-1946 **Medal awards discontinued during World War II**
- 1947 **Gold Medal**—Conrad L. Wirth, National Park Service, Washington, D.C.
Silver Medal—Thomas J. Allen, Regional Director, National Park Service, Richmond, Virginia
Bronze Medal—Samuel H. Boardman, Oregon State Highway Commission, Salem, Oregon
- 1948 **Gold Medal**—Percival P. Baxter, Portland, Maine
Silver Medal—Minor R. Tillotson, Regional Director, National Park Service, Santa Fe, New Mexico
Bronze Medal—Ellwood B. Chapman, President, Pennsylvania Parks Assn., Philadelphia, Pennsylvania
- 1949 **Gold Medal**—Waldo G. Leland, National Park Service Advisory Board
Silver Medal—Hillory A. Tolson, Assistant Director, National Park Service
Bronze Medal—Jay Downer, Chief Engineer, Westchester County, New York
- 1950 **Gold Medal**—Newton B. Drury, Director, National Park Service
Silver Medal—Frank A. Kittredge, Chief Engineer, National Park Service, Washington, D.C.
Bronze Medal—William N. G. Haynes, Stonington, Connecticut
- 1951 **Gold Medal**—Arthur E. Demaray, Director, National Park Service, Washington, D.C.
Silver Medal—Victor W. Flickinger, Chief, Division of Parks, Department of Natural Resources, Columbus, Ohio
Bronze Medal—Frank D. Quinn, Chairman, Parks and Recreation Advisory Board, Austin, Texas
- 1952 **Gold Medal**—Harlean James, Executive Secretary, American Planning and Civic Association and the National Conference on State Parks, Washington, D.C.
Silver Medal—Ronald F. Lee, Assistant Director, National Park Service and Secretary of the National Trust for Historic Preservation, Washington, D.C.
Bronze Medal—Jerome C. Dretzka, Milwaukee County Commission, Milwaukee, Wisconsin
- 1953 **Gold Medal**—Frederick L. Olmsted Jr., Palo Alto, California
Silver Medal—Edward J. Burns, Washington, D.C.
Bronze Medal—Olaus J. Murie, President, Wilderness Society, Moose, Wyoming

A Shift in Criteria for the Medals

By 1954, park facilities and services offered by local and state agencies were expanding dramatically. For many Americans, the most important parks were now those closest to their homes because they used those most frequently. Hence, the Pugsley Medals were reoriented to recognize their important role. The gold, silver, and bronze medals indicating different levels of meritorious contributions were replaced by recognition of outstanding service at the local, regional/state, and national levels. These contributions were recognized as being of equal merit. This interpretation was confirmed in a 1959 letter written by Conrad Wirth, Director of the National Park Service, in which he stated, “The gold medal is usually awarded to someone in the national field of park development; the silver is someone in the state field of park development; the bronze is someone in the metropolitan or city field of park development. While they are in gold, silver, and bronze, they all have equal value in their respective spheres of influence.” While this general framework has been retained, in many cases, Pugsley Medal recipients made contributions at multiple levels, so the practice of formally associating them with a single level was abandoned.

- 1954 **Adrian D. Barnes**, Dade County Park Department, Miami, Florida
Russell Reid, Superintendent, State Historical Society of North Dakota, Bismark, North Dakota
Harold C. Bryant, Assistant Director, National Park Service, Ovinda, California
- 1955 **Loring McMellan**, Vice-President Statten Island Historical Society, New York
Ruth E. Peeler, Vice Chair, State Parks and Research Commission, Des Moines, Washington
Thomas C. Vint, Chief Design and Construction, National Park Service, Washington, D.C.
- 1956 **Harold S. Wagner**, Metropolitan Park System, Akron, Ohio
James F. Evans, Director New York State Park System, Albany, New York
Gilbert H. Grosvenor, Chairman, National Geographic Society, Washington, D.C.
- 1957 **Charles E. Doell**, Superintendent, Board of Park Commissioners, Minneapolis, Minnesota
Kenneth R. Cougill, Division of State Parks, Anderson, Indiana
Ben H. Thompson Division of Recreation Resource Planning, NPS, Glen Echo, Maryland
- 1958 **Walter W. Wirth**, Salem Parks and Recreation Department, Oregon
Thomas W. Morse, Superintendent, State Parks, Raleigh, North Carolina
Eivind T. Scoyen, Associate Director, NPS, Washington, D.C.
- 1959 **Homer W. Fish**, Superintendent of Parks, Wheeling, West Virginia
George L. Collins, Regional Chief of Recreation Resource Planning, National Park Service, San Anselmo, California
Alfred A. Knopf, Publisher, Federal Advisory Board on National Parks, Historic Sites, Buildings and Monuments, New York, New York
- 1960 **Louis B. Houston**, Director, Dallas Parks and Recreation Department, Texas
Harold W. Lathrop, Director of Colorado State Parks and Recreation, Denver, Colorado
Edmund B. Rogers, Superintendent of Rocky Mountain National Park and of Yellowstone National Park, Denver, Colorado
- 1961 **Frank G. McInnis**, Director, Detroit Zoological Park, Royal Oak, Michigan
Charles A. De Turk, Director, Department of Parks and Recreation, Sacramento, California
Allen T. Edmunds, Recreation Resource Planning, Regional Chief, National Park Service, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

- 1962 **Elo J. Urbanovsky**, Texas Technological College, Department of Park Management, Lubbock, Texas
Sidney S. Kennedy, Division Cooperative Services, Bureau of Outdoor Recreation, NPS, Washington, D.C.
Freeman Tilden, Author, Warner, New Hampshire
- 1963 **Thomas S. Jett**, Regional Director, National Capital Parks, Washington, D.C.
Edward J. Meeman, Conservation Editor, Scripps-Howard Newspapers
Conrad L. Wirth, Director National Park Service, Washington, D.C.
- 1964 **Daniel L. Flaherty**, General Superintendent of Chicago Park District, Chicago, Illinois
U.W. Hella, Director, Division of State Parks, Department of Conservation, St. Paul, Minnesota
Harold P. Fabian, Attorney for Jackson Hole Preserve, Salt Lake City, Utah
- 1965 **Frank C. Vaydik**, Superintendent, Board of Park Commissioners, Kansas City, Missouri
Russell B. Tobey, Director, Division of Parks, Concord, New Hampshire
Elbert Cox, Regional Director, National Park Service, Richmond, Virginia
- 1966 **Norman S. Johnson**, Superintendent of Parks, Los Angeles, California
Kermit McKeever, Chief, Division of Parks and Recreation, Charleston, West Virginia
James H. Evans, Chairman, National Recreation and Park Association, New York City
- 1967 **John P. Hewitt**, Director, The Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning Commission, Silver Spring, Maryland
Earl P. Hanson, Chief, California Division of Beaches and Parks, Sacramento, California
George B. Hartzog, Jr. Director, National Park Service, Washington, D.C.
- 1968 **Theodore Kazimiroff**, Historian, Bronx Borough, Bronx, New York
William M. Gosdin, Director, Department of Park Services, Texas Parks and Wildlife Department, Austin, Texas
Lemuel A. Garrison, Director, Region V, National Park Service, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania
- 1969 **Nash Castro**, Regional Director, National Capital Parks, Washington, D.C.
Joseph J. Truncer, Director, Department of Conservation and Economics, Division of Parks, Trenton, New Jersey
Lawrence N. Stevens, Associate Director, Bureau of Outdoor Recreation, Washington, D.C.
- 1970 **Robert W. Ruhe**, Superintendent, Board of Park Commission, Minneapolis, Minnesota
Ben H. Bolen, Commissioner, Virginia Division of Parks, Richmond, Virginia
Harthon L. Bill, Deputy Director, National Park Service, Washington, D.C.
- 1971 **Earl E. Gaylor**, General Manager, Oglebay Park, Wheeling, West Virginia
Joseph W. Sousa, Director, Hawaii State Parks, Hawaii
Melvin M. Payne, Chairman, National Geographic Society
- 1972 **Howard W. Gregg**, General Manager, Milwaukee County, Park and Recreation Department, Wisconsin
William P. Mott, Director, California Department of Parks and Recreation, Sacramento, California
Nathaniel P. Reed, Assistant Secretary, Department of Interior, Washington, D.C.
- 1973 **Horace Caldwell**, Executive Director, Jekyll Island Authority, Georgia
William A. Par, Superintendent, Maryland State Parks
Elbert Cox, Regional Director, National Park Service, Richmond, Virginia
- 1974 **Rhodell E. Owens**, Director, Peoria Park District, Illinois
Lawrence Stuart, Director, Maine State Parks
Russell Dickenson, Director, National Park Service, Washington, D.C.

1975-1978 No medals were awarded.

1979 Max D. Ramsey, Director, Cultural Resources and Recreation for Tennessee Valley Authority
Nash Castro, Executive Director, Palisades Interstate Park Commission, New York-New Jersey
Daniel J. Tobin, Deputy Director, National Park Service, Washington, D.C.

1980 No medals were awarded.

1981 Frank Vaydik, Director, Kansas City Parks, Recreation, and Conservation, Missouri

1982 Graham A. Skea, Director, Parks, Recreation and Conservation, Orange County, New York
William P. Mott, Director, California Parks Foundation
John A. Townsely, Superintendent, Yellowstone National Park, Wyoming

1983 David O. Laidlaw, Director, Huron-Clinton Metroparks, Ohio
Charles Odegaard, Director, Washington State Parks and Recreation Commission
Manus J. Fish, Director, National Capital Region, National Park Service, Washington, D.C.

1984-1986 No medals were awarded.

1987 Robert F. Toalson, Director, Champaign Park District, Illinois
William C. Forrey, Director, Pennsylvania State Parks
Marc Sagan, Chief, Harpers Ferry Center, National Park Service

1988 William R. Bird, Director, Metropolitan Dade County Parks and Recreation Department, Florida
William C. Walters, Director, Indiana State Parks
William P. Mott Jr., Director, National Park Service, Washington, D.C.

1989 H. C. Johnson, Director, DuPage County Forest Preserve, Illinois
Orin Lehman, Commissioner, New York State Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation
Philip O. Stewart, Assistant Director, Land Acquisition, National Park Service
Willis P. Kriz, Chief, Land Resources Division, National Park Service

1990 Richard Trudeau, Director, East Bay Regional Park District, California
William J. Hopkins, Director, Delaware State Parks
David G. Talbot, Director, Oregon State Parks
Gary Everhardt, Director, National Park Service, Washington, D.C.

1991 Ronald H. Dodd, Director, Chicago Park District, Illinois
Ford W. Hughes, Director, St. James Foundation
Dennis P. Galvin, Deputy Director, National Park Service, Washington, D.C.

1992 Ralph S. Cryder, Director, Los Angeles County Parks, California
Boyd Evison, Regional Director, National Park Service
Ray Murray, National Park Service, San Francisco, California

1993 James A. Colley, Director, Phoenix Parks, Recreation and Library Department, Arizona
Andrew Sansom, Director, Texas Parks and Wildlife Department
William J. Briggie, Superintendent, Mt. Ranier National Park
James M. Ridenour, Director, National Park Service, Washington, D.C.

1994 James A. Truncer, Director, Monmouth County Park System, New Jersey
Cordie O. Hudkins, Director, West Virginia State Parks
John Cook, Regional Director, National Park Service, Santa Fe, New Mexico

1995 Charles R. Jordan, Director, Portland Parks and Recreation, Oregon
Edward J. Koenenmann, Director, Vermont State Parks

- 1996 No medals were awarded.
- 1997 Ernest W. Nance, Director, Oaklawn Park District, Illinois
Ira J. Hutchison, Assistant Director, National Park Service, Washington, D.C.
- 1998 Ken Winslade, Director, Department of Parks and Recreation, New Westminster, BC, Canada
Fran P. Mainella, Director, Florida State Parks
- 1999 Joseph Caverly, Director, Westchester County Parks Commission, New York
John L. Crompton, Distinguished Professor, Texas A&M University, College Station, Texas
- 2000 Christopher K. Jarvi, Director, City of Anaheim, California
Carol M. Severin, Chair, East Bay Regional Park District, California
Bruce Babbitt, Secretary, Department of Interior, Washington, D.C.
- 2001 Anne S. Close, Fort Mill, South Carolina
Andrea S. Moore, State Representative, Illinois
Joseph J. Bannon, Professor Emeritus, University of Illinois, Champaign, Illinois
- 2002 Eugene Young, Superintendent of the Recreation and Park Commission for East Baton Rouge Parish (BREC), Louisiana
Bernadette Castro, Commissioner, New York State Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation
Dean R. Tice, Executive Director, National Recreation and Park Association, Ashburn, Virginia
- 2003 Terry Hershey, Conservationist, Houston, Texas
Pat O'Brien, General Manager, East Bay Regional Park District, California
Robert G. Stanton, Director, National Park Service, Washington, D.C.
- 2004 Victor Ashe, Mayor of Knoxville, Tennessee
Brian O'Neill, Superintendent, Golden Gate National Recreation Area, National Park Service, California
Laurance S. Rockefeller, Conservationist and Philanthropist, Pocantico, New York
- 2005 Mrs. Lyndon B. Johnson, Conservationist, Austin, Texas
Clifton E. French, Superintendent, Hennepin County Minnesota Park Preserve District
Patrick F. Noonan, Chairman, Conservation Fund, Washington, D.C.
- 2006 Tony A. Mobley, Dean Emeritus, Indiana University, Bloomington, Indiana
L.W. "Bill" Lane Jr., Retired Publisher of *Sunset*, Menlo Park, California
- 2007 Fran P. Mainella, Director, National Park Service, Washington, D.C.
Elizabeth Barlow Rogers, President, Central Park Conservancy, New York City
Stuart L. Udall, Secretary of Interior, Washington, D.C.
- 2008 Henry L. Diamond, Environmental Lawyer, Washington D.C.
Vern J. Hartenburg, Executive Director, Cleveland Metroparks, Ohio
Elizabeth Cushman Titus Putnam, Founding President, Student Conservation Association, New Hampshire
- 2009 George L. Bristol, President, Texas Coalition for Conservation
Huey D. Johnson, President, Resource Renewal Institute
Eunice Kennedy Shriver, Executive Vice-President, Joseph P. Kennedy Jr. Foundation
Anne M. Burke, Justice, Illinois Supreme Court

- 2010 **Martin J. Rosen**, Founding Member, Board Chairman, and retired President, The Trust for Public Land
Harry (Hal) G. Haskell, Jr., Life trustee, National Recreation and Park Association, citizen advocate, Chadds Ford, Pennsylvania
Charles E. Hartsoe, Professor Emeritus, Virginia Commonwealth University, Richmond, Virginia
- 2011 **Roderick Frazier Nash**, Author and Professor, Santa Barbara, California
James Reed Ellis, Citizen Activist and Conservationist, Bellevue, Washington
John L. Nau III, Historic Preservationist, Houston, Texas
- 2012 **Pete Dangermond**, Previous Director of California State Department of Parks and Recreation, and President of Save-the-Redwood League, California
Roger K. Brown, Previous Parks and Recreation Director for seven different departments over 50 years, Former President of both NRPA and IFPPA, First Southeast Regional Director of NRPA; Greensboro, NC
Joe Crookham, Citizen Advocate for Youth, Family, and Community, President, Musco Lighting, Oskaloosa, Iowa
- 2013 **Beverly D. (Brandes) Chrisman**, Chairman of NRPA (1991–1995); Chairman of Irmo Chapin Recreation Commission (1987–2002) in Irmo, SC; Lexington, SC
John H. Davis, Executive Director of NRPA (1976–1986); Director of Dalton, Georgia Recreation Department (1957–1963); Culpepper, Virginia
Barry Sanford Tindall, NRPA Director of Public Policy (1967–2005) including assistance to The Nature Conservancy, NPS, and President’s Commission on Americans Outdoors; Falls Church, Virginia
- 2014 **Eric W. O’Brien**, Chairman of M.E. O’Brien & Sons; Chair of NRPA (1995–1999); Chair of Foundation for Sustainable Parks and Recreation (2014)
James A. Peterson, Professor Emeritus, Indiana University Department of Recreation and Park Administration; President of NRPA (1987–1988); Inducted into Indiana Football Hall of Fame (1993)
Kathryn A. Porter, Chair of NRPA (1989–1991); Past President of National Recreation Foundation
- 2015 **Lamar Alexander**, three-term U.S. Senator for Tennessee; former U.S. Education Secretary; former University of Tennessee president
John C. Potts, Illinois parks leader; 12-year Academy Executive Secretary/Treasurer; NRPA Directors School faculty charter member
M. Kathleen Perales, research biologist with U.S. Army Corps of Engineers; leader in creation of Natural Resource Management Gateway
- 2016 **Richard L. Ash, Jr.**, former Director of St. Charles, MO Parks & Recreation, leader in formation of Great Rivers Greenway District, former President of Conservation Federation of Missouri
John Sutter, 20-year member of East Bay Regional Park District Board, three-term Board President, founding member of Greenbelt Alliance, California
- 2017 **Anita B. Gorman**, Kansas City, Missouri, longtime Park & Recreation Board Commissioner; driving force behind City of Fountains Foundation
Lewis Ledford, North Carolina State Park Director; executive director of National Association of State Park Directors
Peter G. Sortino, force behind City ArchRiver Initiative, St. Louis, Missouri
- 2018 **Robert E. Doyle**, General Manager, East Bay Regional Park District, Oakland, California; founding board member Save Mount Diablo, East Bay Conservation Corps, and Bay Area Ridge Trail Council
William C. Scalzo, (retired) Director, Maricopa County Parks & Recreation Department, Arizona; Chair Arizona State Parks Board

- 2019 **Renée E. Bahl**, former director San Diego County Park Department, California; former executive director Arizona State Parks Board; former Santa Barbara County's Assistant County Executive Officer, California
Richard J. Dolesh, former vice president conservation and parks and former vice president of strategic initiatives, National Recreation and Park Association
Dr. Phillip Rea, (retired) Professor, North Carolina State University; author
- 2020 **Dr. Daniel L. Dustin**, co-author *Stewards of Access, Custodians of Change* and author *The Wilderness Within: Reflections on Leisure and Life*; tenured faculty at San Diego State University, Florida International University, and University of Utah; environmentalist; advocate for the healing power of nature
- 2021 **Elizabeth S. Kessler**, executive director, McHenry County Conservation District, Illinois; Chair, Chicago Wilderness Alliance
Arnold Randall, general superintendent, Forest Preserves of Cook County; Chair, Chicago Wilderness; chair, The Chicago Plan Commission and Chicago Building Commission, Illinois
John J. Reynolds, superintendent, North Cascades National Park, Washington; manager, Denver Service Center, Colorado; director, Mid-Atlantic Region and Pacific Region, National Park Service, Virginia

American Academy for Park and Recreation Administration

Class of 2022

Raymond Bivens, Parks and Recreation Director, Delaware State Parks, Dover, Delaware
Kimberly Garrett, Parks and Recreation Director, Georgetown, Texas
Philip A. Ginsburg, General Manager, Department of Parks & Recreation, San Francisco, California
William (Bill) McAdam, Executive Director, Downers Grove Park District, Downers Grove, Illinois
Reginald Moore, Executive Director, Department of Parks & Recreation, Baltimore, Maryland

Board of Directors 2021-2022

Bill Foelsch, CPRP, CPSI, President, Township of Morris, New Jersey
Janet Bartnik, CPRP, President-elect, Mountain Recreation District, Colorado
Michael McCarty, CPRP, Past President, Glenview Park District, Illinois
Robert Armistead, CPRP, Treasurer, Travis County Parks, Texas
Cory Styron, CPRP, Secretary, County of Los Alamos, New Mexico

Director (Term Expires 2022)

Susan Trautman, CPRP, Great Rivers Greenway District, St. Louis, Missouri
Steve Wolter, CPRP, CPP-I, Eppley Institute for Parks & Public Lands, Bloomington, Indiana

Director (Term Expires 2023)

Carrie Fullerton, CPRE, Arlington Heights Park District, Illinois
Mary Beth O'Dell, CPRP, City of Kettering, Ohio

Director (Term Expires 2024)

Roslyn Johnson, CPRP, Baltimore County, Maryland
Michael Klitzing, CPRE, City of Carmel Clay, Indiana

AAPRA Staff

Jane H. Adams, Executive Director, California
Brit Kramer, Executive Secretary/Treasurer, Washington