

2018 ORPS ANNUAL CONFERENCE

**2018 ORPS Annual Conference
SPEAKER BIOS**

NORMAN, OK

Baker, Jennifer

(Sooner Theatre Executive Director) was born and raised in Norman, returning to raise a family after living in NYC and traveling as a professional actress and choreographer. She has performed in, directed and choreographed numerous musicals, commercials and live events across the country and has choreographed nearly 100 musicals for various theatres, theme parks, high schools and colleges. Under Jennifer's leadership, The Sooner Theatre has grown from primarily a community rental venue to producing a full season of live theatrical productions, concerts and establishing a performing arts educational program with almost 1000 students enrolled each year. She is a member of Norman Rotary and a past Board Member for The Norman Chamber of Commerce.

Baker, Jody

Jody Baker is a recreation profession with 15+ years in the industry. He has earned a Bachelor of Science and a Master of Science from Oklahoma State University. He is a member of the Oklahoma Recreation and Park Society and National Recreation and Park Association. His work experience includes Georgia State Parks, Tulsa Parks, Oklahoma State University, Tulsa County Parks and is currently the Director of Parks and Recreation for the City of Sapulpa, OK.

Bell, Mike

Mike Bell is a Landscape Architect and Partner with RDG Planning & Design. Mike is a native of Spencer, Iowa, graduating from Iowa State University with a Bachelor's Degree in Landscape Architecture. He started his career as a planner for the Des Moines Park and Recreation Department. In 1995, he joined RDG and has worked in the Omaha, Coralville and Des Moines offices. In 2001, Mike started the Park and Recreation focus market at RDG and has since worked on a wide variety of projects throughout the Midwest.

Briggs, James

James Briggs, MLA, LLA, ASLA-- is the lead Park Planner for the City of Norman Parks and Recreation Department, where he has overseen the planning and construction of millions of dollars' worth of publicly funded projects, ranging from total park design/build projects to historical facility renovation to trail, lake, playground, landscape, sports field and support facility development and construction over the course of his 18 years with Norman. James received both a Bachelor's Degree in Environmental Design and a Master's Degree in Landscape Architecture from the University of Oklahoma, and is a licensed Landscape Architect (Ok Lic. No. 275; since 2005). He has twice served as ORPS Parks VP; and was awarded "Young Professional of the Year" (2003) and a President's Citation Award for his service from past ORPS Boards. He has also been found on stage in recent years, landing roles in several musical theatre productions (Annie, Peter Pan, Scrooge!-The Musical, Catch Me If You Can, A Christmas Story and others) and also has written and directed a dozen Musical Murder Mystery Dinner Theatre shows as a fundraiser for The Sooner Theatre. He is married with two children; and will gladly walk away from all of this to start his own BBQ restaurant if he ever wins the lottery.

Canada, Bob

Bob Canada has been the program director for the Recreation/Leisure program at ORU for more than 20 years. He also worked in the private recreation industry prior to moving to ORU.

Caneday, Lowell

Lowell Caneday is a Regents Professor Emeritus of Leisure Studies at Oklahoma State University. He has served in a variety of positions including Coordinator of the Leisure Studies program, Director of the former School of Health, Physical Education, and Leisure and Associate Dean of the College of Education. From 1996 to 2000, Lowell served as the chair of the Council on Accreditation for Parks, Recreation, Tourism and Allied Professions. Lowell has served as a member of the Board of Trustees of the National Recreation and Park Association, as President of the Society of Park and Recreation Educators, and as President of the Oklahoma Recreation and Park Society (ORPS). He was also appointed by two Governors of Oklahoma to the Board of Trustees for Quartz Mountain Arts and Conference Center and Nature Park, and elected to serve as Chair of that Board for six consecutive years. Prior to arriving at Oklahoma State University, Lowell worked with the Minnesota Division of State Parks in park management for six years. Following that time he worked with the departments of Parks and Recreation in Longview (TX), New Brighton (MN), Mounds View (MN) and Spring Lake Park (MN). He also served nine years as Dean of Student Services at his undergraduate alma mater. Lowell completed his bachelor's degree in mathematics (LeTourneau University), a master's degree in Recreation and Park Administration (University of Wyoming), and the Ph.D. in Leisure Studies from the University of Minnesota. He has conducted research for the National Park Service, the U.S. Forest Service, the Army Corps of Engineers, the State of Oklahoma, numerous cities and other agencies in parks and recreation. Lowell has been named as a Fellow of the Academy of Leisure Sciences, the American Academy of Park and Recreation Administrators, the American Leisure Academy, and the National Recreation and Park Association. He has also received the J.B. Nash Scholar award, the Distinguished Colleague award from the Society of Park and Recreation Educators, the Distinguished Service Award from the Society of Outdoor Recreation Professionals, the Robert W. Crawford Lectureship, and the Regents Distinguished Teacher and Regents Distinguished Research awards. During his time at Oklahoma State University, Lowell has prepared more than 140 publications, managed more than six million dollars in grants and contracts, and chaired committees for more than 90 Masters of Science and 45 doctoral students.

Crompton, John

Dr. John L. Crompton holds the rank of University Distinguished Professor and is both a Regents Professor and a Presidential Professor for Teaching Excellence at Texas A&M University. He received his basic training in England. His undergraduate work was in physical education and geography at Loughborough College. After teaching high school for a year, he attended the University of Illinois where he completed a M.S. degree in Recreation and Park Administration in 1968. In 1970, he was awarded another M.S. degree from Loughborough University majoring in Business Administration. Dr. Crompton is a past recipient of the National Park Foundation's Cornelius Amory Pugsley award for outstanding national contributions to parks and conservation; the US Department of Agriculture's Agricultural Colleges National Teacher of the Year Award; the National Recreation and Park Association's (NRPA) Distinguished Professional award; the NRPA National Literary award; the NRPA Roosevelt award for outstanding research; the Distinguished Colleague and the Distinguished Teaching awards of the Society of Park and Recreation Educators; the Travel and Tourism Research Association's Travel Research award, Senior Fellow of the World Leisure Academy; Elected Fellow of the International Academy for the Study of Tourism and, Minnie Stevens Piper Professor for excellent teaching in the state of Texas.

Edwards, Jeff

Jeff Edwards is a Certified Parks and Recreation Professional with more than 15 years experience in the industry. He currently works for the City of Sand Springs as the Director of Parks & Recreation.

Jeff started his career in Recreation at the University of Oklahoma, where he graduated in 2003 with a Bachelor of Arts in Broadcasting and Electronic Media. Upon graduation, Jeff accepted a professional position at the University's Huston Huffman; a 150,000 square foot fitness and recreation facility.

In 2005, Jeff accepted a position in his hometown of Sand Springs, OK as the Superintendent of Parks where he managed 20 park properties consisting of 1,600 acres. During his time as Superintendent, Jeff re-structured the maintenance division and designed, managed, and constructed multiple projects including playgrounds, concessions, the Case Community Center, and a new Parks Maintenance Building. In 2008, Jeff transitioned to the Projects/Facilities Manager position for Sand Springs Parks to manage the day-to-day operations of the Case Community Center and offer oversight on large scale construction projects. Jeff's primary responsibilities included managing the multi-purpose facility, which offers flexible space utilization for hosting business and civic gatherings, sports events, banquets and more. Jeff also served as the division head of construction, where he designed, managed, and constructed several park projects. He also focused on utilizing household resources to construct several improvements around town, and in doing so has saved the City of Sand Springs over \$1M to date.

Jeff was promoted to Director of Parks & Recreation in 2017, and has focused on increased community events and the completion of the largest Sand Springs park project to date.

Jeff has held a certification for Certified Playground Safety Inspector from the National Recreation and Park Association and National Playground Safety Institute. He was awarded Outstanding Service Recognition from the City of Sand Springs in 2006, 2007, 2009, 2011, 2013, and in 2017 was selected as the City of Sand Springs Employee of the Year. Jeff has received the Young Professional Award from the Oklahoma Recreation and Park Society, and he was selected and graduated from Leadership Sand Springs. Jeff served on the Oklahoma Recreation and Park Society Board for 10 years in the capacities of Parks Vice President, President Elect/Conference Coordinator, President, Past President, and Trustee.

Elder, Douglas Shaw

Douglas is a working artist, primarily producing drawings and sculpture, who has exhibited nationally and internationally, and has been the Executive Director of the Firehouse Art Center in Norman, Oklahoma since 2007. Elder, a U.S. Army veteran who received his MFA from Boston University, is also an arts educator and visual arts advocate.

Douglas has served as a leader in arts education in Oklahoma, has taught as a professor at multiple universities, and has given talks on creativity and innovation at the University of Sydney at the invitation of Dr. Dan Lovallo, the University of Oklahoma, and the Sarkey's Southwest Regional Leadership Conference. Elder has also facilitated large-scale installations and visual arts projects at the Oklahoma Creativity Forum and the Oklahoma Arts Conference.

Most recently, Elder was selected as an artist for the Norman Arts Council's Cultural Connections program, during which he served as both a practicing visual artist and a representative of Norman's arts leadership when he traveled to Arezzo, Italy. While in Arezzo, Elder gave an artist talk about his SCAPES body of work and the importance of community and the visual arts.

Floyd, Terry

Terry Floyd began work as the Development Coordinator for the City of Norman on in March 2012. Prior to working in Norman, Floyd had worked 4 ½ years for the City of El Reno as a Department Head for the Community Services Department.

As the Development Coordinator for the City of Norman, he assists in all forms of retail, residential and industrial development. Floyd serves as a point-of-contact to facilitate new and existing businesses, commercial property owners, developers, contractors and others as they navigate the municipal permitting and construction process. He also assists in coordination of City requirements and acts as an ombudsman for private sector projects that may encounter difficulties during project development.

Floyd also is involved in the implementation of the NORMAN FORWARD Quality of Life initiative for the City of Norman. Floyd is the direct project manager for the construction of the new Central Library and East Branch Library that are part of the program.

Floyd earned a B.S. in Mass Communications from Northwestern Oklahoma State University and a Masters of Public Administration from the University of Oklahoma.

Foster, Jud

Jud Foster is the Director of Parks and Recreation for the City of Norman. Jud became Director in 1985, oversees more than 70 parks, over 40 full-time staffers and 4 million + budget long with a 120 million quality of life tax initiative (NORMAN FORWARD).

Hachmeister, Bill

Bill Hachmeister is the Director of Business Development for Aquatix by Landscape Structures. Bill has been in the water park industry for 20 years working with national aquatic consultants, landscape architects, park & recreation departments and general architects designing spray parks, aquatic centers, water parks and resorts. Bill is AFO (Aquatic Facility Operator) Certificated and is a voting member of the ASTM F-24 aquatic safety committee & is a voting member of the Council of Model Aquatic Health Code. He is also on the NRPA Splash Pad Advisory Panel. Bill is a recipient of the World Water Park Leadership Award.

Bill has presented various aquatic subjects at the following national conferences: NRPA Conference, National Aquatics Conference, World Water Park Conference, Association of Aquatic Professionals, International Association of Amusement Parks and Attractions as well as numerous regional and state conferences.

Bill is a published author for several park and recreation, and water park, publications on the subjects of safety, design, maintenance, budgeting and construction.

Hansen, Grant

Former Professional Baseball Player, Former Oklahoma City Police Officer, Current athletics coordinator for OKC Parks. Using resources from playing professional baseball i contacted the president of the dodgers to discuss a partnership to form a youth baseball league.

Horton, Dick

Dick Horton is a management consultant with a national practice in the field of parks and recreation. He is a former certified park and recreation professional (CPRP), a current certified planner through the American Planning Association (AICP), and a Fellow in the Academy of Park and Recreation Professionals (AAPRA).

Dick is involved on a daily basis with clients who have needs in the areas of: strategic planning, park system master planning, recreation program analysis, feasibility studies, fees & charges policies, park maintenance management plans, visioning and goal setting workshops.

Dick previously served the National Recreation and Park Association as Director of its Western Region located in Colorado Springs, Colorado. Prior to that, he served the communities/county of Hannibal, Missouri; Pittsburg, Kansas; and Los Alamos, New Mexico as Director of Parks and Recreation.

Knowles, David

David Knowles serves as a senior landscape architect and planner at Crafton Tull Oklahoma City Infrastructure department. After earning a Bachelor of Science in Landscape Architecture from Purdue University in 1992, he became a registered landscape architect in numerous states, including Oklahoma. David is a member of the American Society of Landscape Architects (ASLA). In addition to extensive private development planning, David has worked on comprehensive development plans and parks master plans, including the Moore Parks Master Plan, Collin County, Texas Parks and Open Space Master Plan, and Trinity River Redevelopment Plan. In addition, David has worked on planning projects with Federal Government agencies, including the Air Force Special Operations Facilities Excellence Guide and US Navy Installation Appearance Guide.

Koranda, Steven

Koranda is Principal, Sr. Consultant at Back To You Marketing, a digital marketing agency in Norman, OK. With more than 25 years of marketing experience, Koranda regularly presents marketing and customer service seminars.

Kulakowski, Betsey

Betsey Kulakowski is the Training and Development Manager for the Oklahoma Safety Council. Betsey spent 28 years at the Oklahoma Department of Labor where she served in the OSHA Consultation Division, conducting over 1,000 on-site safety consultations in a variety of industries, including recordkeeping assessments. In 2012, she assumed the role of Assistant Director for the Public Employees Occupational Safety & Health Division (PEOSH). Betsey has been providing training on OSHA and PEOSH Recordkeeping Requirements since 2000.

Betsey transitioned to the Oklahoma Safety Council in September of 2016, bringing her vast experience in training and workplace safety to the OSC Team.

She holds a number of professional certifications, a Certified Safety & Health Official (CSHO) in general industry and a CSHO in construction, Certified Occupational Safety Specialist (COSS) and certification in Industrial Hygiene Management from Columbia Southern University and is only one of five people in the State of Oklahoma to have completed the Office of Emergency Management's Emergency Management Academy, and she has received an advanced certification in Emergency Management from Rose State College.

Betsey has also served as an instructor at the OSHA National Training Institute, teaching evaluation of Safety & Health Management Systems and recently completed her degree and advanced certification at Rose State College in Midwest City.

Mayo, Guy

Guy is the Technical Sales Manager at Sunbelt Pool and has been in the aquatics industry for 13 years. Guy's experience in the industry includes Project Management of large, high profile construction projects, Technical Sales/Service of mechanical room equipment, and is an AFO Instructor along with CPO Instructor. Much of his career has been associated with bringing new technology to ageing aquatic venues.

Mitra, Anadra

Ananda Mitra (PhD, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign) is the lead author of *Research Methods in Park, Recreation and Leisure Services* (Sagamore Publishing, 1999) and the author of *Collecting Citizen Input* (Sagamore Publishing, 2018). He is the inventor of the concept of narbs and has presented papers and sessions of data collection at nearly 60 conferences nationally and internationally. He conducted over 150 citizen data collection studies. Mitra has conducted nearly 700 recreation-related focus group meetings and developed about 130 recreation studies with data collection from nearly 400,000 people nationwide.

Meinke, Jason

Jason recognized the importance of play and quality recreation early on in life as he played football for the University of Minnesota Golden Gophers and majored in Civil Engineering as a college student. He credits this experience for shaping much of who he is today. Jason's passion is in "shaping lives through play" and in his role with Landscape Structures advocates for making playgrounds inclusive so that everyone can have a positive play experience. If you can catch a session with Jason, expect a fresh perspective on creating unique and memorable playground spaces for the children and families in your community.

Newall, Eric

I have an undergraduate and graduate degree in Recreation Management. I have spent the last 12 years programming and developing programs. My passion is getting people involved in our amazing programs.

Olsen, Jason

Jason Olsen is the Recreation Superintendent for the City of Norman Parks and Recreation Department. The recreation division in Norman has 5 recreation centers, tennis center along with the Westwood Family Aquatic Center. Jason has nearly 20 years experience in the recreation field.

Palles, Roberta

Growing up in central Arizona, surrounded by national and state parks, her goal as a child was to be either an archaeologist or a park ranger. While she does have a degree in archaeology from Arizona State University, she never quite succeeded in becoming a “real” park ranger. Roberta worked at the Sam Noble Oklahoma Museum of Natural History for 25 years giving classes in archeology, world cultures, natural history, paleontology and geology...all of the fun topics. She has taught summer classes for 13 years that involved field experiences for children in local natural areas, including the South Canadian River, Bishop Creek and, of course, Sutton Urban Wilderness. Roberta became a part of the Sutton Urban Wilderness Advisory Committee while serving on the Board of Park Commissioners. The park had been recently acquired and the committee was largely composed of citizens that had been instrumental in securing the state legislation that created the park and outlined its uses and objectives. The park is dedicated to providing urban citizens with experience of native landscapes and outdoor activities in a natural setting...hiking, photography, observation of small urban wildlife, especially birds. It is intended for re-creation and respite, rather than structured activities. Of course, like all parks, it requires a management plan and expenditures of time and resources like all the Parks and Recreation endeavors. George Sutton said it best at the park dedication... The area is not “a wilderness, but rather a place of a kind of wildness.”

Salmond, Jeff

Jeff Salmond CSFM is the Director of Athletic Field Management at the University of Oklahoma and oversees the personnel and the management for all the athletic fields for OU Athletics. Since his arrival in 2007, he also works with many various athletic facility construction projects and improvements for OU Athletics. Jeff has been a Sports Turf Managers Association (STMA) member since 1995. He became a Certified Sports Field Manager (CSFM) in 2003 and received a STMA Student Scholarship in 1997. Jeff served as STMA President in 2016. He has been a past member of the Iowa and Illinois STMA Chapters. Jeff started the Oklahoma Chapter of STMA in 2012 and currently serving as its President. He also is an Advisory Board member for the Oklahoma State Oklahoma City University Turf Management Program. Jeff is also on the City of Norman, OK Board of Park Commissioners. Jeff received a BS in Plant Science at the University of Missouri in 1996 and an MS in Horticulture at Iowa State University in 1998. His Master's work was researching the use of crumb rubber in high traffic areas on sports fields. He also assisted with the construction of the ISU Sports Turf Research area including sand stabilization, heating and air exchange, irrigation and drainage. His prior career experiences include working as the agronomist at Northwestern University and the athletic turf manager for the University of New Mexico. He was also an assistant field maintenance manager for the Baltimore Ravens in the NFL from 1998-2000. He has written articles and contributed to columns for the sports turf industry. He has also presented at regional and national conferences. He was instrumental in the starting of the STMA Student Challenge and college student involvement. He has served as the STMA CSFM Committee Chairman and has been on the Finance & Audit and Membership Committees as well as the Technology Team. He continues to serve on the International Committee. Jeff is married to his wife Loida of 15 years and has 4 children, Taylor, Tyson, Tinley and Troy.

Sier, Derrick

BS in Kinesiology; Recreation Management

MA in Theological Studies

15+ Years of Team Building, Group & Social Dynamics, Program
Development

CEO/Founder of OMOS Team Building (5 Years)

Educational & Corporate Consultant for Paradigm Shift

Author, Soft Skills Trainer, Community Events Facilitator/Coordinator,
Board Member (4)

Shannon, Terry

Terry Shannon has his Ph.D. in Leisure Studies from OSU. He currently is in charge of the Sport Management program at ORU. He spent 16 years in charge of the Recreation program at East Central University.

Tramel, Berry

Berry Tramel, a lifelong Oklahoman, sports fan and newspaper reader, joined The Oklahoman in 1991 and has served as beat writer, assistant sports editor, sports editor and columnist. Tramel, 57, grew up reading four daily newspapers — The Oklahoman, the Oklahoma City Times, the Norman Transcript and the Oklahoma Journal and entered the newspaper business at the age of 17, with the Transcript in 1978. His first game assignment was the Lexington-Elmore City high school football game, and he has enjoyed the journey ever since, from high school wrestling duals and regional track meets to Rose Bowls and the NBA playoffs. Tramel is a six-time winner of Oklahoma's Sportswriter of the Year. He has won five Katie Awards presented by the Press Club of Dallas and is part of a staff that four times in the last six years has won the Grand Slam presented by the Associated Press Sports Editors for excellence in newspaper sports coverage, in daily, Sunday and special sections, plus internet content. In 2018, Tramel was inducted into the Oklahoma Journalism Hall of Fame. Tramel has become one of the major chroniclers of state sports history, noted by his 2007 series during the Oklahoma centennial celebration of statehood, when he produced a series on the 100 greatest athletes, 100 greatest venues, 100 greatest games/events, 100 greatest coaches/ contributors and 100 greatest teams in state sports history. Tramel also is part of The Sports Animal's daily Total Dominance Hour on WWLS Radio.

Trenary, Marie

Marie Trenary has worked with seniors for many years and has operated the Ponca City Center since its inception. She is passionate about connecting seniors with each other and the community.