

# 2008 Award Recipients

The Benton H. Box Award - Joseph W. Roggenbuck

The William C. Everhart Award - Tim Merriman

The Dwight A. Holder Award - not awarded this year

The Walter T. Cox Award - Mary A. Bomar

The Fran P. Mainella Award - award is given in alternate years

The Robert G. Stanton Award - Ernest "Ernie" Quintana

## **The Benton H. Box Award**

The Award is named in appreciation of Dr. Box's distinguished career as an educator/administrator, especially as Dean of the College of Forest and Recreation Resources at Clemson University, which he led to national and international recognition for academic excellence and for leadership in fostering private innovation in resource management. The Award recognizes the teacher who by precept and example inspires in students the quest for knowledge; or the administrator who fosters a learning environment and encourages curriculum innovation to inculcate an "environmental ethic" as the rule of conduct involving resource management, development and utilization; or the private practitioner whose management over a sustained period demonstrates leadership in preserving, enhancing, renewing and restoring a livable environment.

**The Benton H. Box Award was presented to Joseph W. Roggenbuck for recognition as a teacher who by precept and example inspires in students the quest for knowledge and encourages curriculum innovation to inculcate an "environmental ethic" as the rule of conduct.**

**Joseph W. Roggenbuck** is Professor Emeritus of Natural Resource Recreation in the Department of Forestry at Virginia Tech. He has served on the faculty at Virginia Tech since 1977, teaching and conducting research on outdoor recreation and park management. He has taught undergraduate and graduate courses in outdoor recreation management, wilderness management, outdoor recreation field studies, environmental interpretation, outdoor recreation theory, and Nature and American values. His research foci have been on wilderness recreation and management, and on the use and effectiveness of environmental interpretation in enhancing leisure experiences and reducing park management problems.



Joseph W. Roggenbuck, Helen Hartzog, and Dr. Lawrence Allen, Dean of the College of Health, Education, and Human Development

Born in Michigan, Roggenbuck earned B.S. and M.S. degrees at the University of Michigan on the Naturalist Curriculum and in Forest Recreation in 1968 and 1969. He then spent three years with the Illinois Department of Conservation and with the federal Bureau of Outdoor Recreation. In 1976, he received his Doctorate Degree in Forest Recreation at Utah State University. In 1976 and 1977 he was a faculty member in Forest Recreation at the University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point.

Roggenbuck has been a major player in the field of wildland recreation and wilderness management. He is author and/or co-author of approximately 100 papers and articles in books, professional journals, and in trade journals. He is past associate editor of the Journal of Leisure Research, Leisure Sciences, Society and Natural Resources, and the Journal of Interpretive Research. He has been a leader in the Southeastern Recreation Research conference, chairing the annual meeting five times. On annual multi-week field trips through the southeastern and western states, he has introduced

students to recreation resource management practices and opportunities at federal, state, and nonprofit agencies and organizations. Today, graduates of his program hold positions of responsibility with the National Park Service, the USDA Forest Service, the Bureau of Land Management, and many state Natural Resources Departments. His Ph.D. graduates hold faculty positions at the University of Montana, Virginia Tech, Humboldt State University, and research positions with the USDA Forest Service.

In 2000, Roggenbuck was elected to the Academy of Leisure Sciences. He retired in 2006, and in 2008 received the Chief of the Forest Service's Award for Contribution to Wilderness Education and Research.

## **The William C. Everhart Award**

The Award is named in appreciation of the distinguished career of Bill Everhart as field interpreter, researcher, administrator, author, and creator of the National Park Service's Harpers Ferry Center for creative design and communication, which has received national and international recognition for excellence. The Award recognizes sustained achievements during a career or in a specific episode that illuminate, provide creative insights to, and that foster an appreciation of our natural and cultural heritage.

**The William C. Everhart Award was presented to Tim Merriman for sustained achievements in interpretation that have illuminated, created insights to, and fostered an appreciation of our cultural and historic heritage.**

**Tim Merriman** has a B.S. in zoology with a secondary teaching certificate, M.A. in botany (aquatic ecology) and a Ph.D. in speech communications from Southern Illinois University (SIU). He has been an environmental educator at SIU, a park ranger/interpreter at Giant City State Park in Illinois, Executive Director of the Greenway and Nature Center of Pueblo, Colorado, Science Director at Bat Conservation International in Texas, and Research and Innovations Manager for Land Between the Lakes NRA in Kentucky. He has

served as Executive Director of the National Association for Interpretation (NAI) since 1995.

During his 39-year career, Merriman has made seven trips to China, three to Korea, and two to Japan to work on interpretive projects with World Heritage Site managers. He and Lisa Brochu developed the interpretive plan for Wolong Panda Reserve in China.

They have also worked extensively in Latin America, Europe and Canada as interpretive planners and trainers.

During his 34 years as a member of NAI, he has served as Vice-president, Regional Director, and President before becoming Executive Director. He and Lisa Brochu co-designed NAI's certification programs, which have certified 6,000 individuals. He and Lisa also co-authored *Personal Interpretation: Connecting Your Audience to Heritage Resources* (2002, 2007), *Management of Interpretive Sites* (2005), and *History of Heritage Interpretation in the United States* (2006).

## **The Dwight A. Holder Award**

The Award is named in honor of Mr. Holder's illustrious career as an entrepreneur and public servant. As Chairman of the South Carolina Parks, Recreation and Tourism Commission he led South Carolina's parks into a new era of service to the people of South Carolina and the nation. The Award recognizes outstanding work by doctoral candidates in the Department of Parks, Recreation and Tourism Management; a member of the Department faculty for original research, scholarly writing, and innovative and inspired teaching; the faculty adviser and graduate student as a team, for initiatives that foster understanding of and provide new insights into the promotion, management, wise use and enjoyment of South Carolina's natural and



Tim Merriman, Helen Hartzog, and Dr. Lawrence Allen, Dean of the College of Health, Education, and Human Development

cultural heritage in perpetuity; and distinguished academic leadership by a member of the Department faculty. (Mr. Holder passed away in Spring 2006).

**The Dwight A. Holder Award is awarded for outstanding work as a doctoral student in PRTM and sustained achievement after graduation, management, wise use, and conservation of natural and cultural resources.**

This was not awarded this year.

### **The Walter T. Cox Award**

The Award is so named in appreciation of Dr. Cox's distinguished career in education and public service, especially his tenure as President of Clemson University and as the Director of the Santee-Cooper Authority. The Award recognizes sustained achievement in public service on the firing line, where the public interest meets the private interest in public policy formulation and administration; distinguished leadership and support of innovation in conflict resolution of policy initiatives that enhance the quality of life; personal achievements during a career or in a specific episode that provides inspiration and leadership to others in serving the above purposes.

**The Walter T. Cox Award was presented to Mary A. Bomar for sustained achievement in public service providing leadership in administration of public lands and for policy formation affecting our natural and cultural resources.**

**Mary A. Bomar** became the 17th Director of the National Park Service on Oct. 17, 2006. She leads a team of 20,000 employees and 140,000 volunteers in administering 391 national park units and related cultural and natural heritage programs. The parks welcomed more than 275 million visitors in 2007.

As the first naturalized citizen to hold the position, Director Bomar was born and raised in England, and calls Leicestershire home. As a young girl, she traveled with her family and lived for a time in the United States, where her family visited many national parks, including the Grand Canyon, Petrified Forest and the Statue of Liberty. "One of my earliest memories is sailing into the New York Harbor and watching the Statue of Liberty seem to rise from the water, little knowing I would one day have a role in her stewardship."



Mary A. Bomar, 17th Director of the National Park Service, Helen Hartzog, and Dr. Lawrence Allen, Dean of the College of Health, Education, and Human Development

Throughout her career, Director Bomar has held varied leadership positions. She joined the National Park Service in 1990 after spending over 12 years as a senior manager with the United States Air Force. Selected as Regional Director of the NPS Northeast Region in July 2005, Director Bomar led the strategic planning, management and operation for more than 100 parks and areas of national significance plus numerous technical assistance and partnership programs in the 13-state region, including Independence National Historical Park, the Statue of Liberty, Gettysburg, Shenandoah and Acadia National Parks. The area is one of the most heavily-visited of the seven NPS regions with more than 50 million visitors each year and an annual economic impact of over \$2.6 billion. The region contains 17 of the country's 37 National Heritage Areas.

Director Bomar served as superintendent of Independence National Historical Park in Philadelphia from 2003-2005. There she presided over what was termed the "largest urban redevelopment project in America," a \$314 million reconstruction of Independence Mall. The project included the relocation of the Liberty Bell to its new home in the Liberty Bell Center. She strengthened partnerships with the Independence Visitor Center and

National Constitution Center which are also housed in new facilities within the park. She also successfully launched the Independence Park Institute, a program meeting the needs of schoolchildren who visit the “Cradle of Liberty.” During her tenure, visitation at the park soared over 33 percent to 4 million annual visitors.

In 2000, Director Bomar was Superintendent of Oklahoma City National Memorial during start-up operations. There, she worked with a 350-member task force of family members, survivors, rescue workers and the public to plan and open an outdoor memorial. She was also named the first NPS State Coordinator for Oklahoma. In that role, Director Bomar coordinated activities at Oklahoma City, Washita Battlefield National Historic Site, Chickasaw National Recreation Area, Historic Route 66 and the Trail of Tears National Historic Trail with other federal, state, city and local partners and the Cherokee Nation. In July 2001, Director Bomar’s responsibilities increased when she assumed managerial responsibility for Washita Battlefield National Historic Site in Cheyenne, Oklahoma.

Director Bomar’s National Park Service career began in the financial arena at Amistad National Recreation Area, Texas, where she became chief of administration. During her four-year tenure at Amistad, the NPS took advantage of her management expertise, assigning her a portfolio as a management circuit rider, assisting many national park sites in the Southwest.

In January 1994, Director Bomar accepted a management position at San Antonio Missions National Historical Park—home to the largest collection of Spanish Colonial resources in the United States—and was promoted to the position of Assistant Superintendent. Before her move to Oklahoma, she completed a detail as the Acting Superintendent of Rocky Mountain National Park in Colorado.

Prior to her National Park Service career, Director Bomar worked for the United States Air Force in the Morale Welfare and Recreation Program at

various bases in the United States and Europe, and as a member of the Inspector General team. She was recognized for her efforts as the Air Force MWR Female Manager of the Year (1986) and Air Force Worldwide Recreation Manager of the Year (1987).

Director Bomar's awards include the Superior and Meritorious Service Awards; the NPS Intermountain Region Charismatic Leadership Award and the Philadelphia Hospitality "Good Scout" Award presented by the Cradle of Liberty Council, Boy Scouts of America. In 2008, she was named by President Bush to lead the U.S. delegation to the state funeral of Sir Edmund Hillary, the New Zealander who was the first man to reach the summit of Mount Everest.

Director Bomar serves on numerous boards as part of her official duties, including the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation; American Folklife Center; Committee for the Preservation of the White House (Chair, with First Lady Laura Bush as Honorary Chair); Ford's Theatre Society; John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts; National Park Foundation (Secretary); White House Historical Association; Wolf Trap Foundation for the Performing Arts and the National Trust for Historic Preservation.

The proud spouse, mother and mother-in-law of career military members, Director Bomar and her husband Milton make their home in northern Virginia. Their two sons and daughter along with their spouses, and seven grandchildren, all reside in the Great State of Texas.

## **The Fran P. Mainella Award**

The Award is named in appreciation of the dynamic career of Fran Mainella as the first woman Director of the National Park Service. As Director, she focused some of her many efforts on creating systems of connected parks and developing innovative partnerships to expand services. Director Mainella was previously the Director of the Florida State Park Service and the Executive Director of the Florida Recreation and Park Association. The Award



recognized sustained and innovative achievement by a woman in the management of North America's natural, historic or cultural heritage.

**The Fran P. Mainella Award is awarded for sustained and innovative achievement by a woman in the management of North America's natural, historical, or cultural heritage.**

This was not awarded this year.

## **The Robert G. Stanton Award**

The Award is named in appreciation of the remarkable career of Robert Stanton as the first African-American Director of the National Park Service. Among the many accomplishments of Director Stanton was expansion of the interpretation of diverse cultural meanings inherent in National Parks and increased participation by racial and ethnic minorities as both visitors and employees. The Award recognized sustained and innovative achievement by a member of a racial or ethnic minority in the management of North America's natural, historic and cultural heritage.

**The Bob Stanton Award was awarded to Ernest "Ernie" Quintana for sustained and innovative achievement in management of North America's natural, historic and cultural heritage.**

**Ernest "Ernie" Quintana** was appointed National Park Service (NPS) Midwest Regional Director effective July 13, 2003. He is the Service's first Hispanic Regional Director, and is an experienced park manager with more than 36 years with the NPS, including work in Resource and Visitor Protection, Interpretation and



Robert Stanton, NPS Director 1997-2001, Ernest Quintana, Helen Hartzog, and Dr.

Education, Facilities Maintenance, and  
Park Management.

Lawrence Allen, Dean of the College of  
Health, Education, and Human Development

For the previous 9 years, Quintana was Superintendent of Joshua Tree National Park, California, where he began his NPS career in 1971 as a Park Laborer. In 1972, he progressed to Seasonal Park Technician, and in 1974, he became the first permanent Park Technician at Joshua Tree. In 1983, he moved to Saguaro National Monument, Arizona as a Supervisory Park Ranger/Unit Manager and later became Chief Ranger. In 1988, he was selected as Chief Ranger at Santa Monica Mountains National Recreation Area, California, before returning to Joshua Tree in 1994.

In late 2002, Quintana served as Acting Associate Director, Resource and Visitor Protection, in Washington, D.C. He provided program oversight for Servicewide initiatives involving Wildland and Structural Fire, Law Enforcement and Emergency Services, Wilderness Management, Aviation Management, Wireless Telecommunications, the Federal Law Enforcement Training Center, Public Health Service, and Risk Management.

Quintana was born in Miami (Gila County), Arizona, and raised in the California desert community of Twentynine Palms. He is a decorated veteran of the Vietnam Conflict, having served in the U.S. Army from 1969-1971. He was awarded the Purple Heart for wounds received in action and the Bronze Star with "V" device for valor. Following his military service, he wed Myra Lynn Carter of Twentynine Palms. The Quintanas have raised three boys, Daniel, Andrew, and Benjamin, and now delight in spoiling their two grandchildren.

Quintana graduated from Northern Arizona University with a Bachelor of Science degree, and more recently completed the Department of the Interior University, Senior Executive Service Candidate Development Program. He is the recipient of the 1997 Stephen Tyng Mather Award for Conservation, the 1999 recipient of the Director's Wilderness Management and Stewardship Award, as well as the 2005 Office of Civil Rights Manuel Lujan, Jr.

## Champion's Award.

The Midwest Region encompasses 56 park areas in Nebraska, Kansas, Iowa, Missouri, Minnesota, Wisconsin, Michigan, Illinois, Indiana, Ohio, Arkansas, and North and South Dakota. The region's headquarters has been located in Omaha since 1937 and provides professional, technical, and administrative support for park operations in 13 States as well as technical service to local governments through the Rivers and Trails Conservation Assistance Program and the Heritage Areas Program. The office also supports 21 States in the Land and Water Conservation Fund and Urban Park and Recreation Recovery grant programs. Quintana oversees approximately 1,900 full-time equivalents (FTE) and a Fiscal Year 2008 ONPS base budget of approximately \$135 million.

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