Ranger Rendezvous XXXVIII – Tentative Schedule (subject to change)

Tuesday, October 20th

8:00am-12:00pm – Training Session

Instructional Methods for NPS Operational Leadership (Heaton 5)

Mark Herberger – NPS Operational Leadership Program Manager

This training is for NPS Operational Leadership facilitators. It is designed to increase facilitator effectiveness and overall performance in collateral-duty instruction through knowledge of adult learning principles, delivery techniques, student participation methods, and PowerPoint modifications. If you are interested in this course, contact Mark Herberger at *mark_e_herberger@nps.gov*

1:00pm-5:00pm – Training Session

Instructional Methods for NPS Operational Leadership (Heaton 5)

(See description above.)

Wednesday, October 21st

8:00am-12:00pm – Meetings/Training Sessions

World Ranger Congress Planning Meeting (Heaton 1)

ANPR Board Meeting (Heaton 2)

All are welcome.

Introduction to Use of Force for Non-Law Enforcement Personnel (Heaton 3)

Dan Coleman – NPS-SLET Coordinator/Instructor, Southwestern Community College

With all the stories in the media regarding police use of force, what are the legal and practical parameters for using force? We will look at the constitutional standard for use of force as well as relevant US Supreme Court decisions. Participants will be exposed to several scenarios on a use of force simulator to allow them to make decisions in a "tense, uncertain and rapidly evolving" situation. **(Limited to 16 participants)**

Instructional Methods for NPS Operational Leadership (Heaton 5)

(See description above.)

1:00pm-5:00pm – Meetings/Training Sessions

World Ranger Congress Planning Meeting (Heaton 1)

ANPR Board Meeting (Heaton 2)
All are welcome.

Environmental Emergencies, Traumatic Injuries: Everyday EMS in the NPS (Heaton 3)
Scott Owens, MD, MPH Resident Physician, UCSF-Fresno MEP
Covering topics such as exposure injuries, altitude medicine, patient packaging, new developments in EMS, and more, this will be a mixture of lectures, case based learning, and hands on practice. **(Limited to 30 participants, $40)**

Instructional Methods for NPS Operational Leadership (Heaton 5)
(See description above.)

Podcasting Workshop (Heaton 6)
Jody Maberry – Host, Park Leaders Show
Podcasting is on the rise. With smart phones, nearly everyone carries a podcast listening device in their pocket. Podcasting has been featured in several popular publications, including Entrepreneur Magazine. The recent popularity on the new podcast, Serial, has introduced millions of people to podcasting. The host of the Park Leaders Show will discuss how a park-specific podcast can benefit your park. A podcast is a way for a park to deliver personal educational content to an audience willing to listen. Audio content can be consumed on-site at the park, at home while planning a trip, or in a vehicle on the way to a park. Podcasts can serve visitors in a way no other platform can. In this presentation, we will cover why a park should consider podcasting. We will discuss ideas for audio content and cover the basic technology and equipment needed to start producing audio content. **(Limited to 35 participants, $25)**

6:00pm- 8:00pm – President's Reception (Eureka Hall)

Join us for drinks, light appetizers, and a full dinner in Eureka Hall. If you are staying at the YMCA and have purchased the meal plan, the reception and dinner is included. If you are not staying at the YMCA or have not purchased the meal plan, the reception and dinner cost $15. Please pay at the registration desk.

8:00pm-12:00am – Hospitality Suite Open

8:30pm- 10:30pm NPS Trivia (Hospitality Suite)
How well do you know the National Park Service? Come share your knowledge in a fun and relaxing atmosphere during Trivia Night. There will be lots of laughs and some new

facts learned along the way. Don't want to play? That's okay. Spectators are welcome to cheer on the teams.

Thursday, October 22nd

7:00am- 8:00am – Breakfast (Dining Hall)

8:00am- 6:00pm – Field Trip to Great Smoky Mountains National Park (Meet outside Blue Ridge Center)

This ranger-led bus tour will include opportunities to learn about resource management issues, to view the stunning scenery of the Great Smoky Mountains, and to take several short hikes. Trip includes visiting Laurel Falls, stopping at Clingman's Dome, the highest point in the park, and learning about cultural resources at the Mountain Farm Museum. **What to wear/bring:** hiking boots, cold weather gear, sunglasses, camera, sunscreen, lunch, and water. Purchase your bag lunch as part of meal registration with Y. Tour starts and ends at the YMCA. **(Limited to 57 participants, $40)**

8:00am- 12:00pm – Training Sessions

Learning by Listening: Conducting Effective Oral History Interviews (Heaton 1)
LuAnn Jones, Ph.D – Historian, Park History Program
This workshop is a great opportunity to learn about all aspects of oral history. Participants will be introduced to oral history project planning; legal and ethical issues; recording technologies (audio and video); what to do before, during, and after the interview; processing and preserving interviews; and using oral history in website and publications. Participants will conduct and critique a short interview during the workshop. Workshop leader Dr. LuAnn Jones has taught week long oral history workshops for the National Park Service and is an adviser for the ANPR Oral History Project. **(Limited to 20 participants, $20)**

Facilities Preservation Workshop (Heaton 2)
Debbie Rehn – Regional Project Manager, Southeast Region
This seminar will focus on facilities management and historic preservation and then delve into how they are implemented in the NPS as we manage our resources. This would include our many computer program systems and processes, and where they come together- or not. In addition, the importance of PEPC, as a tool including consideration of natural resources for more holistic approach, will be discussed. The session will also include resources and case studies discussions. **(Limited to 35 participants, $20)**

Environmental Emergencies, Traumatic Injuries: Everyday EMS in the NPS (Heaton 3)
Scott Owens, MD, MPH Resident Physician, UCSF-Fresno MEP
(See description above.)**(Limited to 30 participants, $40)**

12:00pm-1:00pm – Lunch (Dining Hall)

1:00pm- 5:00pm – Training Session/Field Trip

Wilderness Writing Workshop (Heaton 2)
Sabrina Diaz – Supervisory Park Ranger, Everglades
Bryan Palacio – Student
The Everglades Wilderness Writing Expedition is a six-week, immersion program that blends the art of writing with resource learning and wilderness exploration. The program targets journalism/writing students, ages 18-35 years old, enrolled in local universities/colleges, with goals of inspiring them to be the next generation of environmentally conscious writers.

During this session, an Everglades National Park facilitator and one of the expedition students will demonstrate the success of the autumn 2014 program and highlight: unique partnerships, maximizing and leveraging support, communicating in the digital world, reaching new audiences, growing future stewards as well as the success of incorporating facilitated dialogue into interpretive programs. The second half of the session will be hands-on and the facilitators will put the Program Model "to work" in hopes of revealing how similar programs can be done anywhere with any target audience! In the end, participants will be provoked to critically think about working with nontraditional partners, to discover ways to expand current partnerships, and how to leverage new support based on existing support! **(Limited to 35 participants, $15)**

Downtown Asheville Walking Tour (Meet outside Blue Ridge Center)
Kevan Frazier, Ph.D. Owner, Asheville by Foot; Author of Legendary Locals of Asheville
This is Asheville's definitive tour, walking or otherwise. Have an amazing experience becoming an Asheville insider with native Kevan Frazier, Ph.D., as he guides you on an exciting expedition exploring the city's rich history, stunning architecture, and unique culture. Enjoy an insider's access to a number of hidden gems reachable only by foot as you learn about the women and men who made Asheville one of the country's most unique cities.

The tour is an easy, 90-minute stroll through downtown Asheville, mostly flat with only two hills and one set of steps. A bathroom break is included. Not only will you get an in-depth understanding of Asheville, but you'll walk 1.9 miles and burn off 375 calories, easing the guilt of grabbing a drink or a bite afterwards at any of Asheville's great establishments. **(Limited to 24 participants, $20)**

6:00pm- 7:30pm – Regional Dinners (Dining Hall)

7:30pm- 12:00am – Hospitality Suite Open (Eureka Hall)

Friday, October 23rd

7:00am- 8:00am – First Timers' Breakfast (Dining Hall)

Join ANPR Board Members for breakfast in the Blue Ridge Dining Room. Several tables will be set aside for this special event.

8:00am-9:00am – Morning Announcement and Welcome (Heaton 3)

9:00am- 10:00am – Keynote: Speaker TBD (Heaton 3)

10:00am-10:30am – Coffee Break (Eureka Hall)

10:30am-11:00am – Presentation of Mather Award (Heaton 3)

11:00am-12:00pm – Keynote (Heaton 3)

"Challenges and Successes in the Southeast Region"

Don Barger – Senior Regional Director, NPCA Southeast Region
Cassius Cash- Superintendent, Great Smoky Mountains
Mark Woods – Superintendent, Blue Ridge Parkway

Join a panel discussion between the Superintendents of the Blue Ridge Parkway and Great Smoky Mountain National Park and the Southeast Regional Director for the NPCA. Panelists will focus on partnerships, challenges, and successes in the region.

12:00pm-1:00pm – Lunch (Dining Hall)

1:00pm- 2:00pm – Breakout Sessions

Breakout A: Urban Parks as Catalysts for Change (Heaton 1)

Alan Spears – Cultural Resources Director, NPCA
Dwight Mullen, Ph.D. – Professor of Political Science, UNC Asheville

"Urban Parks" have become all-powerful buzzwords among those seeking to expand public awareness and support for national parks. For some planners, they constitute the best way to reach new audiences, especially people from diverse racial and ethnic backgrounds, who might never make it to parks like Yosemite or North Cascades. This panel will examine the potential of urban parks to serve as true game-changers in the

effort to create and sustain more diverse audiences of park-users and lovers. We'll also examine some of the assumptions about urban parks and the populations they're meant to attract and serve that might hinder progress towards the goal of enhancing NPS diversity.

Breakout B: Centennial Profiles of Landscape and People in National Parks (Heaton 2)

Daniel Howe – Assistant Professor, NC State University; City Planner
Simon Griffiths – Award-Winning Photographer

Dan Howe and Simon Griffiths will present a book and video project aimed at framing the unique relationship between NPS Rangers and the landscapes of the National Parks that they inhabit and care for. Going into the second century of "America's Best Idea," this book and series of videos is intended to introduce to a new generation the reasons why the National Park System was founded, and the close marriage between the inspiring American landscapes protected by the NPS, and the rangers whose lives are formed by these places, and who form, for the rest of us, our experience of them. This project is intended to present an artistic image, in both written word and visual imagery, of the intimate relationship between rangers and the landscapes they inhabit.

Breakout C: Renewable Energy in the Parks (Heaton 5)

Erik Rabinowitz, Ph.D. – Associate Professor of Recreation Management, Appalachian State University

The purpose of this presentation is to discuss what we might be able to do to increase renewable energy in our parks. Because the National Park System includes especially remote areas, fragile ecosystems, and historic buildings and landscapes, these technologies are important and viable. The awareness of programs and sustainability efforts that have already been made by the NPS, employees' understanding of renewable energy systems, and perceived constraints for future renewable energy development will be discussed. Topics include, but are not limited to, LEED, Environmental Achievement Awards, Climate Change Response Strategy (2010) Climate Friendly Parks Program, NPS Energy and Water Management Program, Energy Independence and Security Act of 2007 (EISA), Green Parks Program (GPP), Energy SmartPARKs program, Executive Order 13423 (Strengthening Federal Environmental, Energy, and Transportation Management), Executive Order 13514 (Federal Leadership in Environmental, Energy, and Economic Performance). In addition, a facilitated discussion on what our parks are doing to: reduce energy and resource consumption, increase environmental stewardship through renewable energy system usage, reduce their overall carbon footprint, and collaborate ideas with concessioners/partners/local community to increase sustainability efforts, will be included in the session.

Breakout D: Time Lapse Photography (Heaton 6)

Peter Hamel – Ridge District Interpreter, Blue Ridge Parkway

This session will showcase examples of programs that combine time lapse photography, common computer software programs, and various viewing mediums (iPad, TV monitor, print media) to illustrate long-term natural processes like the succession of the seasons and cavity bird nesting. These programs can be used to engage more visitors with things they may only observe a few times per year or even once in their lifetime. This time-lapse video is a great way to "speed up" the advance of the seasons, engage visitors with phenology, and open the door to interpreting climate change on the Blue Ridge Parkway. These images visually compare "green up" and brown down" events across multiple years, showing various weather events and many other slow-moving seasonal events. After this session, attendees will have the basis to set up their own time-lapse photography projects.

2:00pm-2:30pm – Coffee Break (Eureka Hall)

2:30pm-3:30pm – Breakout Sessions

Breakout A: Hiking MYLES of Science- A Grant-Funded Partnership for HS Students (Heaton 1)

Susan Sachs – Appalachian Highlands Science Learning Center Education Coordinator, Great Smoky Mountains

Dottie Shuman, Ph.D. Professor of Outdoor and Environmental Education, Montreat College

The Hiking MYLES of Science Program (MYLES) is an environmental science training and research program for 9th – 12th grade students that operates in Great Smoky Mountains National Park. This workshop will focus on describing the logistics of working with three partners to develop a program that serves high school students with the goal of growing their interest, knowledge, and commitment to science as a career. You will learn how three partners worked together to write the grant and, once awarded, to develop the program. The National Park Service provides the scientific expertise and connection to the research scientists that are working in the field, the Millennial Youth-Led Expedition (MYLE) project brings the opportunity to reach underserved students and Montreat College brings the expertise of working with students "on-trail" in field settings. Without these partners cooperating as one, Hiking MYLES of Science would not be able to reach high school students and improve science awareness. We recommend this workshop if you are interested in developing similar, field-based STEM programs for high school students.

Breakout B: Hiring Process (Heaton 2)

Ken Bigley – Chief of Administration, Manassas National Battlefield & Prince William Forest

Marianne Mills – Public Affairs Specialist, Southeast Region

NPS employees, or potential employees, will learn procedures for applying for federal positions, job application tips, how to write a strong résumé, prospects for getting hired during these challenging times, and then once hired, mastering a personal career path.

Breakout C: The New Coalition (Heaton 5)

Maureen Finnerty – Chair of the Coalition

Phil Francis – Vice-Chair of the Coalition

Once called the Coalition of NPS Retirees, we have renamed ourselves and broadened our activities, our membership, and our outreach. The Coalition of National Park Service Retirees was founded in 2003 and immediately sprang into action at a news conference in Washington, D.C., to protect the National Park Service from proposed changes to policy that would have damaged NPS resources and its mission. With that victory, the Coalition continues to work on critical issues that affect the NPS and its parks.

With more than 1,000 members and an active Board, the Coalition decided that while the name "retirees" represented the years of experience of the Coalition, it did not fully describe the strength of the commitment nor the true membership since membership is open to anyone who has held a salaried position with the NPS—career, term, seasonal, etc. for a short time or many years.

We will tell you about the issues we are pursuing, our Centennial Employee Biographies, and our short- and long-term goals!

Breakout D: Open Parks Network: Its Evolution, Its Capabilities (Heaton 6)

Brett Wright, Ph.D. – Interim Dean College of Health, Education, & Human Development, Clemson University

The concept of the Open Parks Network was conceived in a discussion between former NPS Director George Hartzog and Clemson University Provost Doris Helms, at a meeting held in Washington, DC, on April 17, 2007. The idea was to use cyber-resources to connect a seamless system of parks – from local to international – by developing an open knowledge platform dedicated solely to park and protected area management. In partnership with the Southeast Region, the Open Parks Network has continued to evolve and now has four primary suites of tools to serve park professionals.

In this session, participants will learn the history of the evolution of the Open Parks Network and the roles it is designed to fill, learn the capabilities of the OPN and explore how to use them in their normal, everyday duties and explore the OPN's capabilities, including searchable open repository of park information, secure and open communications and collaboration tools, conservation mapping and planning tools, and training resources.

3:30am-4:00pm – Coffee Break (Eureka Hall)

4:00pm-5:00pm – Keynote: Speaker TBD (Heaton 3)

5:00pm-5:30pm – Announcements and Raffle (Heaton 3)

6:00pm-8:00pm – Exhibitor's Reception (Eureka Hall)

Join us for drinks, light appetizers, and a full dinner in Eureka Hall. If you are staying at the YMCA and have purchased the meal plan, the reception and dinner is included. If you are not staying at the YMCA or have not purchased the meal plan, the reception and dinner cost $15. Please pay at the registration desk.

8:00pm- 12:00am – Hospitality Suite Open (Eureka Hall)

Saturday October 24th

7:00am- 8:00am – Past Presidents' Breakfast (Dining Hall)

8:00am-9:00am – Morning Announcements and Welcome (Heaton 3)

9:00am-12:00pm – Service Project at Blue Ridge Parkway (Meet outside Blue Ridge Center)

Participants will carpool from the Y to the Blue Ridge Parkway about 15 minutes away. After a short orientation, you will help with general clean-up and clearing of limbs or cleaning leaves out of the gutters on the Parkway. No specialized skills are necessary. Participants will work until noon, and then will be transported back to the Y.

In the event of inclement weather, the service project will be moved indoors. There participants may help with organizing the sign shop, storage bays, or exhibit areas.

12:00pm-1:00pm Lunch (Dining Hall)

1:00pm- 2:00pm – Breakout Sessions

Breakout A: Promoting Park Partnerships through Youth Programs (Heaton 1)
Karen Ballentine – Education Specialist, Great Smoky Mountains
Joy Absher – Park Ranger, Great Smoky Mountains
Great Smoky Mountains National Park has been in an educational partnership with Pi Beta Phi Elementary School for 24 years. The project includes producing and sharing curriculum, special events, and stewardship opportunities that utilize the cultural and natural resources of the park. The project empowers and inspires the academic and emotional growth of students and parallels with the educational goals of both the park and Pi Beta Phi. The project creates learning experiences for K-8 grade students. Programs are designed to be multi-disciplinary, hands-on lessons that empower students to become effective stewards of the Park. Students also participate in service learning activities that allow them to put their knowledge of the critical issues facing the Park into constructive socially and ethically responsible actions. These programs are a combination of teacher led and ranger led curriculum based programs, and are now shared with 15,000 students throughout the North Carolina and Tennessee, also known as Parks as Classrooms. Come learn more about this special partnership and the difference it has made in the park and in the lives of the students.

Breakout B: Recruiting, Training, and Retaining Volunteers in your Park (Heaton 2)
Jenn Kays – Volunteer Program Manager, National Mall & Memorial Parks
The Volunteers in the Parks (VIP) was authorized in 1970, and since then, hundreds of thousands of people have contributed millions of hours of time to service the parks. Secretary Jewell has recently made a commitment to increase to 1 million volunteers by 2017. This session will look at the history of the program, ways to engage and retain volunteers, training methods, conducting needs assessments, working with partners, and recognizing volunteers.

After participating in this session, park personnel will be able to articulate the basic principles of working effectively with volunteers, differentiate how volunteer management diverges from managing paid workers, incorporate best practices of volunteer management within daily activities, identify what parts of volunteer management need to be done centrally for the whole organization versus can best be done by those on the front line in each division, and recognize that the potential benefits are worth the effort of supporting volunteers.

Breakout C: Common Learning Portal (Heaton 5)

Demmy Vigil – Training Manager for Visitor & Resource Protection, Mather Training Center

NPS Learning and Development is developing a comprehensive website to link employees to three components: Learning Opportunities (face to face classes, on-line learning, etc), Resource Catalog specific to your discipline, and Connections to colleagues and experts in the field. This project is called the Common Learning Portal. This session will look at the Common Learning Portal or CLP and how it works for NPS employees and partners. There are many learning opportunities available in the NPS but finding these can be confusing for employees. After this session, participants will have a better idea of these resources and how to best take advantage of them.

Breakout D: How Accessible Are We? (Heaton 6)

David John Goldstein, Ph.D. – Chief of Interpretation & Education, Buck Island Reef NM, Christiansted NHS, & Salt River Bay NHP and Ecological Preserve

Since the passage of the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990, the National Park Service has improved facilities to meet the needs of all Americans. Programming in the parks, however, has neither followed suit nor have agency funding sources adapted to allow for access. Some NPS units have developed programs to accommodate specific access needs groups, e.g., sight impaired, mobility challenged, etc. Even with the statement on Accessibility that came from the Directorate on Interpretation Education and Volunteers in 2014 there is no clear link established between the need to offer accessible programming for everyone and the realities of how programming and funding is organized at the park level. Many of the parks have creatively engineered programs to accommodate people with and without needs at the same time, all-access programming. This breakout session will highlight some of these creative solutions and discuss ways that they have been funded through ONPS and program (PMIS, Grants, Friends Initiatives) means.

2:00pm-2:30pm – Coffee Break (Eureka Hall)

2:30pm-3:30pm – Breakout Sessions

Breakout A: 21st Century Conservation Corps (Heaton 1)

Mark Spond Ph.D. – Research Assistant, Professor of Geography and Planning & Liaison to Blue Ridge Parkway, Appalachian State University

Dr. Neva Specht – Senior Associate Dean, Appalachian State University

ASU recently established the Appalachian State Conservation Corps (ASCC), which is a charter member of NPS Youth Programs "21st Century Conservation Service Corps." The ASCC is a continuation of an education, training, and employment program for ASU students working in cooperation with NPS units in the southeastern United States. The program (established during 2008) has been particularly effective at facilitating cooperative agreements between Blue Ridge Parkway staff and ASU students. These

projects have addressed resources along the entire 469-mile parkway, in dozens of communities across the mountains of North Carolina and Virginia.

The ASCC also serves to complement ongoing research projects by ASU faculty and students at NPS units across the region. This session will cover the history of the University's partnership with the NPS and discuss goals for the emergent 21st Century Conservation Service Corps.

Breakout B: Using Volunteers on Search and Rescue Teams (Heaton 2)
Scott Warner – Volunteer, Acadia National Park; retired interpretive ranger
Acadia National Park uses volunteer search & rescue teams extensively for things like manpower on long carry-outs along with sophisticated high angle rescue work. In the peak summer months, they may have as many as three rescues running simultaneously. MDI SAR does a lot of training itself. This session will outline what they do and how they are organized covering both the pros and cons of using volunteer programs.

Breakout C: Seeking Paths in Nature (Heaton 5)
Jessica Metz-Bugg – Education Project Coordinator, SPiN
Beth Wright – Park Ranger, Great Smoky Mountains National Park
Seeking Paths in Nature, a partnership between Great Smoky Mountains National Park and Cherokee Central Schools, shares how this new program is successfully weaving together Cherokee culture and park resources to enrich students' knowledge of the science and history of the land of their ancestors. This project aims to connect students to natural and cultural park resources in a hands-on way and instill stewardship for those resources while fostering emotional and intellectual connections to the park.

Park rangers collaborate with Cherokee Middle School teachers, the Museum of the Cherokee Indian, Cherokee Choices, and other relevant tribal programs in the community. The curriculum developed for Cherokee Middle School through Seeking Paths in Nature will be made available to other schools served by the Great Smoky Mountains National Park education division, reaching as many as 18,000 students throughout the school year. Come learn how this unique program uses folklore, crafts, science, and history to help students understand Cherokee culture and its connections to the area through hands-on, in-park programs in Great Smoky Mountains National Park.

Breakout D: Achieving the NPS Mission Through a New Interpretive Pedagogy (Heaton 6)

Brian Forist – Associate Instructor for Recreation, Park, & Tourism Studies, Indiana University

Presented here will be a primer on the new interpretive pedagogy and results of a study of visitor-centered formal, informal, and climate change-related interpretation through dialogue conducted in six units of the National Park System.

3:30pm-4:00pm – Coffee Break (Eureka Hall)

4:00pm-5:00pm – Keynote (Heaton 3)

"A Fairy Dream on a Goat Hill: East Tennessee and Western North Carolina Communities and the Establishment, and Perpetuation, of the Great Smoky Mountains National Park"

Dan Pierce, Ph.D. – Professor of History and Department Chair, UNC Asheville

The talk will focus on the ways that community action in the region created the impetus for the establishment of the Great Smoky Mountains National Park, popularized the issue in the region, raised money to purchase the land, and then helped with the land acquisition process. The talk will then pick up the story in the 1990s to explore how, in an era of tight budgets for the NPS, the Great Smoky Mountains Association and the Friends of the Smokies have partnered with the NPS to create a truly cooperative relationship and more closely tie the surrounding communities to the park.

5:00pm-5:30pm – State of ANPR (Heaton 3)

5:30pm-6:00pm – Announcements and Raffle

6:00pm-7:30pm – Dinner (Dining Hall)

7:30pm-9:00pm – Movie Night (Heaton Auditorium)

Want to learn what's new with NPS sites across the country? Would you like to see the most recent movies created by the Harpers Ferry Center? Join us for a night of insightful information and lots of laughs.

9:00pm-12:00am – Hospitality Suite Open (Eureka Hall)

Sunday October 25th

7:00am- 8:00am – Breakfast (Dining Hall)

8:00am- 8:30am – Morning Announcements (Heaton 3)

8:30am-9:30am – ANPR Business Meeting (Heaton 3)

9:30am-10:30am – Keynote (Heaton 3)

Russell Townsend – Tribal Historic Preservation Officer

Tyler B. Howe – Tribal Historic Preservation Specialist

This talk will include Tribal perspectives of the National Historic Preservation Act as well as short comings, challenges, and triumphs in federal nation-to-nation consultations with the NPS. It will also cover challenges in NPS interpretations of Cherokee culture and history and times in which there were real partnerships in development of programs or interpretation.

10:30am-11:30pm – Keynote (Heaton 3)

Deke Arndt – Chief of the Climate Monitoring Branch, National Centers for Environmental Information

Managing natural resources requires knowledge about climate, natural climate variability, and long-term climate change. The Asheville office of the National Centers for Environmental Information (NCEI-Asheville) is the nation's repository for observed climate information, upon which much of our climate understanding and analysis is built. NCEI-Asheville contributed data, analyses, and scientific leadership to the recent National Climate Assessment (NCA), which characterizes the observed and expected changes to the climate system, the resultant impacts, and adaptation strategies for coping with these changes. NCEI-Asheville and the NPS also have a long-standing operational relationship, as more than 20 NPS units host U.S. Climate Reference Network (USCRN) climate observing stations. The USCRN provides same-day climate information from the field for use in any local applications and serves as the national-scale climate reference of record, against which many other climate observing systems are evaluated. This presentation will focus on the basics of climate and climate change science, review the major findings of the National Climate Assessment, illustrate recent and important regional or seasonal trends, and provide an overview of the USCRN, with an emphasis on helping attendees find real-time climate data from these sources.

11:30am-12:00pm – Closing