

PENNSYLVANIA RECREATION AND PARK SOCIETY, INC.
NOMINEE BACKGROUND INFORMATION
2015 GENERAL ELECTION

Please use this format to report your qualifications for the PRPS office for which you have been nominated. Be thorough but brief in your response. If you so desire, you may include a half-page "platform" statement on your views and positions related to the office you are seeking.

Office being sought: **President-Elect**

Name: **John N. Spencer**

Title: *N/A (between positions)*

Agency: *N/A (between positions)*

Address: 134 Village Drive, Boyertown, PA (home)

Phone: 484-529-4626 (home)

Education and Training:

- Master of Education in Leisure Studies (1998) from the Pennsylvania State University
- Bachelor of Science in Recreation & Park Management (1996) from the Pennsylvania State University
- National Recreation & Park Association's (NRPA) Park Maintenance & Management School (2009)

Experience: (include relevant volunteer work)

National Recreation & Park Association Certified Parks and Recreation Professional with over eighteen-years' experience in park management. Former supervisory park ranger in a County-based regional park system managing 20+ miles of regional bike trails and six park sites with close to 1,000 acres of open space and park land.

Expert in educational program management; special event planning and facilitation; park security and emergency services; incident management; park ranger training; prescribed fire planning and implementation; and board, committee, and association experience. Prescribed Fire & Wildland firefighter since 2002 and served as Prescribed Burn Boss 2 – RXB2 for the Chester County Prescribed Burn Crew. Session speaker at the Pennsylvania Recreation & Park Society and the Ohio Parks & Recreation Association annual conferences. Additional experience from positions outside of Chester County Parks include: park management, recreational programming, outdoor education, serving on several board of directors, and association management.

Honors, Certification:

- CPRP since 1998 and candidate for CPRE exam (2015)
- Superintendent's Choice Award for Achievements of High Value, Chester County Parks & Recreation Department, (June 2008)
- Presidential Citation for Outstanding Service, PRPS (March 2007)
- Excellence in Programming Award – 2002 Jr. Ranger program, PRPS (March 2002)
- Excellence in Programming Award – 2001 Chester County Earth Day Celebration, PRPS (March 2001)
- Student Honor Award, PRPS (March 1998)
- Board of Directors Recognition, PRPS (March 1998)
- Eagle Scout, Boy Scouts of America, (1989)

Professional accomplishments, organizations: (Membership, committees, offices held, affiliations, presentations, etc.)

- Life Member of the Penn State Alumni Association
- Member of both the Pennsylvania Recreation & Park Society and the National Recreation & Park Association
- Session speaker at the Pennsylvania Recreation & Park Society and the Ohio Parks & Recreation Association annual conferences
- Board Member, Park Resource Branch Executive Committee, PRPS, (March 2009 – present)
- Steering Committee member, Pennsylvania Prescribed Fire Council (January – present)

- President, Board of Directors, Indian Springs Community Association (September 2011 – 2012)
- Secretary, Board of Directors, Indian Springs Community Association (September 2010 – 2011)
- Deacon & Board Secretary, Morning Star Fellowship (February 2006 – March 2010)
- President, Shaver's Creek Environmental Center Alumni Interest Group, Penn State Alumni Association, (2005 – 2009)
- Past-President, Park Resource Branch Executive Committee, PRPS, (March 2007 – March 2009)
- President, Park Resource Branch Executive Committee, PRPS, (March 2005 – March 2007)
- President-Elect Park Resource Branch Executive Committee, PRPS, (March 2003 – March 2005)
- Student Director, Board of Directors, PRPS (March 1997 – 1998)
- More information available @ <http://tinyurl.com/JohnSpencerLinkedin>

PRPS: (Member, committees, institutes, conferences, workshops, etc.)

- Board Member, Park Resource Branch Executive Committee, PRPS, (March 2009 – present)
- Past-President, Park Resource Branch Executive Committee, PRPS, (March 2007 – March 2009)
- President, Park Resource Branch Executive Committee, PRPS, (March 2005 – March 2007)
- President-Elect Park Resource Branch Executive Committee, PRPS, (March 2003 – March 2005)
- Student Director, Board of Directors, PRPS (March 1997 – 1998)
- More information available @ <http://tinyurl.com/JohnSpencerLinkedin>

Hobbies and other interests:

- Family: wife Susan, 4-year old twins Patrick & Cora, and a 3-year old daughter Molly
- Operation Christmas Child church coordinator
- Volunteer at my church: audio technician/media team, overseas and stateside mission trips



 Signature

February 4, 2015

 Date

Platform statement attached (must include: why you want to serve, your goals and objectives, you may elaborate further.)

I am running for the President-Elect position because I want to tangibly give back to PRPS through using my experience, skills, and administrative abilities to help lead the society in supporting the parks and recreation profession. The goals I have during my tenure include: (1) acting on and improving the objectives of the society's Strategic Plan, (2) enhancing and promoting parks and recreation leadership and professionalism, (3) increasing overall PRPS membership, and (4) increasing PRPS revenue (through new membership, branch & districts, and new revenue opportunities or partnerships).

Photo attached

Please return to:

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