



2016 Update

JANUARY 7TH, 2016

Success is in the Details—Director’s Message

- **Community Events**

- **Sponsored by the GRD**

- **Concert On The Green**
- **Great Granville Picnic**
- **Senior Dinner**
- **Games For All Ages**
- **Covered In Color 5k**
- **Easter Egg Hunt**
- **International Walk To School Day**
- **Gingerbread Festival**

Much of 2015 was consumed by transition. For the first time since the GRD’s creation, we have no “founding father” serving in the role of Trustee. We launched an internal maintenance division which included purchasing equipment and hiring a Maintenance Director. The GRD hired a new Youth Sport Supervisor to continue the growth of our robust youth sport curriculum. New leadership, new staff and new programs all take time to integrate. While the process can be slow and cumbersome, it certainly forces you examine what you do and how you do it. I feel strongly that this kind of turnover is healthy for an organization such as the GRD. From a maintenance perspective the net result has been extremely posi-

tive. We are experiencing a better product and receiving a savings from past years. I believe we will experience similar positive outcomes from our youth sports transition in 2016.

As we begin to plan for 2016, and emerge from a year of transition, we need to consider the small things that separate a good public parks department and a great public parks department. With an emphasis on small logistical items such as increased communication standards, strong volunteer guidelines, clear and consistent policies and procedures, efficient acquisition and distribution of program supplies and comprehensive parent meetings. Those improvements will allow more time for major initiatives such as a promotional campaign on sportsmanship, the develop-



Andrew Wildman
Executive Director

ment of organizational values and principals and some critical strategic planning, which will raise the trajectory of this award winning organization. With greater attention to the finer points and Granville’s commitment to community, the sky is the limit!

Great Granville Picnic & Turn Off Your Screen

This coming year the GRD is again challenging you to turn off your screen and turn on life. In 2016, there are two unique community events that offer opportunities to read, play, go outside, and socialize with other members of your community. These programs are for participants of all ages.

Turn Off Your Screen Week

- May 1st thru May 7th

Great Granville Picnic (Country Western Theme)

- August 13th, 2016
- Entrainment provided by Phillip Fox Band

For more information contact lesamiller@granvillerec.org



Granville Recreation District

Board of Trustees

Hugh Masterson, Chairperson
Fred Wolf, Vice-Chairperson
Brian Goss, Trustee
John Klaus, Trustee
Todd Naïlle, Trustee

Staff

Andrew Wildman, Executive Director
Lesa Miller, Program Director
Mike Dutton, Youth Sports Supervisor
Bobby Vahalik, Maintenance Director
Janet Gordon, Administrative Assistant
Liz Miller, Youth Sports Program Assistant

2016 Goals and Initiatives

- Identify a strategy to solve Granville’s lack of active indoor recreational facilities
- Continue to seek opportunities to augment programming, specifically targeting new programs and underserved demographics
- Improve execution of operations around youth sports
- Develop organizational values and principals
- Launch a community initiative promoting sportsmanship and high behavioral standards surrounding youth sports
- Develop a youth sports curriculum guide in coordination with the Granville Schools Athletic Department
- Create a strategy to develop an ongoing 5 year strategic plan
- Work with strategic partners to examine the usage of existing community facilities to maximize program opportunities



GRD Wins Ohio Parks Award for Rotary Bridge Project

This new, and only, pedestrian access to Raccoon Valley Park created the missing link to providing alternative transportation, from vehicular travel, to one of Granville’s prime recreational areas. The Rotary Bridge Project constitutes the second phase to providing a critical loop which will link the regional pathway system in the Granville community. The Granville Rotary Bridge, costing 1.15 million dollars, connects Raccoon Valley Park and the TJ Evans Bike Path. The bridge is 273 feet long, weighs 767 tons and rises 15 feet from the park to the bike path. “The Rotary Bridge simply improves the quality of life in our community,” said Andy Wildman, Executive Director of the Granville Recreation District. Granville Rotary Club Past President Dr. John Weigand

said “It’s exceeded my expectations. I think it opens up the park to people who will utilize it. That usage will allow the Granville Recreation District to continue to improve park amenities.”

Funding for the bridge was provided by generous grants from both the Ohio Department of Transportation and the Ohio Department of Natural Resources. In addition, other sponsors included: the Granville Rotary Club, Granville Recreation District, Village of Granville, Denison University, TJ Evans Foundation, Granville Township, Granville Foundation, Licking Memorial Health Foundation, Newark/Heath Rotary Club, as well as private donations.

