

2010 Winter Season Message

I hope everyone enjoyed the Holiday season. I know the athletes are ready for a busy winter sport season of basketball, bowling, speed & figure skating, cross country & alpine skiing, gymnastics and cheerleading.

As 2010 begins, we welcome three new global messengers: Brendan Hammeke, Khang Le, and Kirsten Stone. They are ready, willing and able to promote our program by sharing their perspectives on the world of Special Olympics. We have 36 full-court basketball teams competing this season: the largest group we can remember. This includes new teams at the Davis Center, Oakton High School, and juniors and masters teams practicing at White Oaks Elementary School in Burke. Plus, in mid-February, seven Area 26 tri-athletes will represent us at the Latin American Games.. We'll be cheering for ironmen and women Catie Cunningham, Michael England, Khang Le, Bruce McGiboney, Jennifer Mitchell, Katy Sanchez, and Tony Ward as they go for the gold in Puerto Rico.

We are midway through the sports year and I want to thank all the dedicated volunteers and sponsors who have supported our athletes in Northern Virginia. The Area 26 Council is focused on meeting its goals for the 2009/2010 season and welcomes your suggestions. We want to have a successful year of fundraising, developing strategic partnerships, and recruiting new volunteers and athletes.

The Area 26 Council members for the 2009/2010 year are:

Bill Ammann	Asst. Secretary	bammann@cox.net
Bob Britton	Medical Coordinator/Travel Requests	medicals@novasova.org
Debra Dill	Council Treasurer	kermitdill@cox.net
Mary Donovan	Fundraising	jcdonovan@aol.com;
Ashley Counts	Athlete Representative	ashleypcounts@hotmail.com
Pat Hammeke	Community Outreach/Training	coachpath@aol.com
Tim Hartle	Council Secretary	timhartle@gmail.com
Jay Hoffmeier	Gymnastics/Cheerleading	jhoffmeier@cox.net
Kristin Hughes	Member at Large	kristin.hughes@gmail.com
Tom Ingoldsby	School Outreach	tingoldsby@schiffhardin.com
Nancy Julia	Spring/Fall Sports	dogsthree@aol.com
Jeff McGiboney	Track & Field	jmcgiboney1@verizon.net
Terry Mitchell	Member at Large	terry.mitchell@mac.com
Bill Ogletree	Council Chair	ogletreefamily@cox.net
Donna Parfitt	Referee Coordinator	chparfitt@verizon.net
Rich Strzelecki	Member at Large	deeb1519@yahoo.com
Bernie Woolfley	Volunteer Recruiting	volunteer@novasova.org

The operating committees and chairs are:

Fundraising	Mary Donovan
Grant Writing	Vacant
Athlete Recruitment	Tom Ingoldsby
Strategic Partnerships	Pat Hammeke
Volunteers	Bernie Woolfley
Communications	Tim Hartle
Athlete/Volunteer Recognition	Terry Mitchell
Thank You Letters	Ashley Counts
Dances	Pat Savage

We have set up a new committee to coordinate the dances that are held during the season at different venues. It will be chaired by Pat Savage. Several committees need volunteers so we can maintain and further develop our support for the athletes. The quality of our programs depends on the support of our sponsors and volunteers. You really can make a difference in the lives of our Special Olympics' athletes. Please contact one or more of the following sport coordinators for more information on how you can contribute to the success of each program, including suggestions for who might be interested in filling any vacant positions. (We have another new volunteer orientation session scheduled February 22nd (7pm) at Tysons Pimmit library.)

Alpine Skiing	Alicia Troncoso	lisha13@mindspring.com
Aquatics	Vacant	bfrank@specialolympicsva.org
Basketball	Nancy Julia	basketball@novasova.org
Bowling	Eileen Oviatt	bowl@novasova.org
Cheerleading	Jay Hoffmeier	jhoffmeier@cox.net
Cycling	Nancy Julia	dogsthree@aol.com
Golf	Mark Emery	mjemery1@gmail.com
Gymnastics	Jay Hoffmeier	jhoffmeier@cox.net
Nordic Skiing	Allan Phillips	allan.phillips@fairfaxcounty.gov
Powerlifting	Bob Britton	powerlifting@novasova.org
Sailing	Allen Flanigan	aflanigan@comcast.net
Speed Skating	Heather Jeffries	hjeffr@cox.net
Figure Skating	Ellie Stone	ejstone1@cox.net
Soccer	Vacant	bfrank@specialolympicsva.org
Softball	Paul Cole	ppcofamily@aol.com
Track & Field	Jeff McGiboney	jmcgiboney1@verizon.net

As a result of the efforts made by the Council and the fundraising committee, we continue to raise funds in a very challenging economic environment. We would appreciate your assistance with donations and especially business contacts for future fundraising opportunities. We are still striving to achieve our goal of having a sponsor and/or fundraising event for every sport program.

Again, it's a privilege to work with this dedicated team of volunteers and serve Special Olympics athletes by making all of our sports programs available. As always I appreciate your suggestions and comments.

Bill Ogletree
Chairman & Parent