

# SPECIAL OLYMPICS THE MEDALLION



Newsletter for  
Clackamas County

Winter 2004

## Greetings from Gary...

*Your Local Program Coordinator*

It is hard to believe that I have been your Local Program Coordinator for over a year now. I have really enjoyed the experience and have learned a lot about operating a program. It has been a great opportunity for me to meet and work with many wonderful athletes, parents and volunteers.

I would like to take the time to share with you some important information about our local program, some of our successes, and where we would like to go from here.



## Special Olympics Oregon-Clackamas County Annual Report Quick Facts

- We are a volunteer driven program...no paid staff.
- Programs are provided free of charge to all athletes.
- We are responsible for generating all the funds necessary to:
  - Provide transportation, meals and lodging to State Games when necessary,
  - Pay for practice facilities,
  - Purchase quality sports equipment,
  - Provide new uniforms and replacement uniforms as needed.
- All the funds generated by our program directly serve the athletes in Clackamas County.
- During the three seasons we have 235 athletes participating in a variety of sports.

## Volunteers-The Key to Success

Special Olympics would not exist without the dedication and commitment of our volunteers! As our programs grow and expand, so does our need for volunteers.



*Chad Rodriguez is all smiles!*

Volunteers serve in a wide variety of ways:

- Coaches and assistant coaches,
- Unified partners,
- One day events, fundraisers and competitions,
- Recruit and train other volunteers,
- Make presentations.

One reason my first year has been such a positive experience has been the wonderful support I have received from the members of the Area Management Team. A special thanks to our managers:

- Terri Gilreath: Fund Raising
- Dena Whitley: Communication
- Natalie Stewart: Finance
- Anne Tileston: Athlete Medicals

A good team is made up of members who step up and take on the important "little" projects which help to make a successful program. I would like to thank all the volunteers and coaches who put in the extra time and energy to support our athletes!

## Some of Our Successes:

- At the Dan Loomis Memorial Golf Tournament we raised \$15,600.00! Congratulations to Terri Gilreath and her committee!
- We were able to get new uniforms for our athletes who participate in track and field, softball, soccer, volleyball, powerlifting, bowling, and golf.
- The Area Management Team developed 3 comprehensive goals to help guide our program for 2004.
- Our "Support a Winner" program brought in over \$9,000.00.
- We are seeing a slight increase in the number of younger athletes joining our program.
- We received \$3,000.00 from Rotary. Thanks Lynne Larson for writing this grant!
- We developed a partnership with Lake Oswego Tennis Club so we could offer this as a club sport.
- Lands End donated \$3,000.00 worth of shirts for our bowlers and golfers through the grant writing efforts of Dena Whitley. Great job!
- Business and individual donations raised over \$9,000.00.

## What's Next?

As we look to the future I see two areas that Clackamas County will need to continue to work on:

1. The recruitment of younger athletes is going to be important for the growth of our program. Did you know that the average age of an athlete in Clackamas County is 34 years old?
2. The recruitment and training of volunteers to serve these athletes. As the Local Program Coordinator I worry about my Team Managers, the core group of volunteers and coaches becoming overworked and leaving the program.

Whatever your skills, background and interest, there is a volunteer position available that will allow you to join the team and make a difference!

I am excited about the accomplishments our program has made. We continue to face many challenges but through individual and community involvement we will become the best Special Olympics program in the State of Oregon!

Sincerely,  
Gary Paxton

## Christmas Cards are Available!

Get your cards now and help support Special Olympics in Clackamas County! Twelve individual athletes are portrayed by a local artist and coach, Dena Whitley. The set of twelve cards and envelopes sell for \$10.00 with proceeds going to the athletes of Clackamas County. Call Special Olympics Clackamas County at 503-635-3550 to place your order!



*Julie Nuding shows off her medal from regional.*



# Special Olympics Oregon-Clackamas County **HEROES**

A new addition to our newsletter will be a section entitled "Heroes." Special Olympic heroes are athletes, coaches/ volunteers and sponsors who inspire others by example and reflect the Special Olympics spirit of skill, courage, sharing and joy.

### Selection Process:

- To be eligible, an athlete must have participated in the last completed season. In this case it would be any athlete who participated in a winter sport.
- One athlete will be selected by his/her coach and his/her name will be put into a lottery drawing.
- A member of the AMT (Area Management Team) will draw out one name from all those names submitted by the head coach per team
- Sponsors and volunteers can be nominated by athletes, parents, coaches, and volunteers. The final selection will be made by and voted on by the members of the Area Management Team.


### Criteria for Selection:


The Area Management Team developed the following guidelines and criteria that will be used to select an athlete, a volunteer and a sponsor.

<b>Athlete</b>	<b>Volunteer</b>	<b>*Sponsor</b>
Sportsmanship Improvement Attendance Effort	Positive Leadership Motivating Role Model Level of involvement Supportive	Level of contribution (resources/time) Level of involvement


\* A "Sponsor" is defined as a business, organization or individual.

Hall of Heros





**Terri Gilreth,**  
*Sponsor,*  
East Side West  
Side Athletic Club



**Matt Kenny**  
*Athlete,*  
Winter Season

**Hall of Heros--Watch this space as each season we will add more Heros to continue honoring them through out the year!**



## Special Olympics Oregon-Clackamas County **HEROES** Nomination Form

I nominate \_\_\_\_\_

for  Sponsor **HERO**       Volunteer **HERO**

because \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
(if needed, attach an additional sheet)

Submitted by: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_



## Summer Sports Heroes

### LENNY ERWIN~Athlete Hero

His coach Dena Whitley has this to say about Lenny. "He has a fantastic attitude in that he always sees the positive in every thing and goes the extra mile—literally.

He is supportive of his fellow athletes, encouraging them in practices and the competition. He is there cheering them on at the fence at State and the first one to let me know if they are having difficulties or have done something that warrants praise. He is always upbeat and smiling.

Lenny has played softball, basketball and bowling in the past but couldn't due to his health. However, that didn't stop him—he wanted to participate in Special Olympics and often cited the oath to other athletes and myself when we voiced our concerns—"Let me win but if I cannot win, let me be brave in the attempt".

Although Lenny had his challenges, he is always concerned for other athletes and helping them along to be their best.



### Dena Whitley~Volunteer Hero

Volunteers are truly the background of our organization and a person who has worked hard to make Clackamas County a strong, successful program is Dena Whitley. She has served as a volunteer in a variety of ways some of which are:

- She assumed the many responsibilities of the Co-Local Program Coordinator when our Special Olympics program was in a difficult transition time;
- She became the Communications Manager on the Area Management Team which included putting together a volunteer brochure, designing the newsletter, and putting together our web site;
- She has been the Head Coach for track and field and bowling which are the two sports which have the most participation and has also been an assistant coach for basketball;
- As an artist Dena designed Christmas cards that featured Clackamas County athletes, the sale of these cards being a great funding source for our program;
- She has helped coordinate and participated in special events and athlete recognition programs.

Dena brings to the Clackamas County Special Olympics program lots of initiative, strong organizational skills, and a creative talent that has greatly enriched our program. She also brings compassion, excitement and a deep sense of caring for the athletes with whom she works. Dena truly inspires greatness in us all!



### Tim Wandell~Sponsor Hero

Picture a perfect day in the sun with 144 golfers enjoying friends, mulligans, and good cheer. They are participating in the first annual Special Olympics Dan Loomis Memorial Golf Tourney.

Tim Wandell was the supervisor of Dan Loomis, father of Special Olympics athlete Leslie Loomis. Dan was a 20 year veteran of PGE and died in a hunting accident. Tim spoke at his funeral and talked about how much Dan loved his kids and loved golf. When our Fundraising Manager, Terri Gilreath, proposed having a golf tournament to help raise money for the Special Olympics-Clackamas County program and use Dan's good name, Tim jumped in with both feet.

Tim secured the major sponsor dollars from PGE, insured we had over 1/3 of the tournament field filled with PGE team members, donated golf towels, leatherman tools, and more for the gift bags. He organized the gift bag "put it all together" event including supplying pizza for the volunteers. Tim was instrumental in the recruitment of over 20 volunteers to help on the day of the event. He was the Master of Ceremonies for part of the event and was a true leader in making the event so successful. Prior to the tournament, the organizing committee thought it would be a successful event if they brought in \$10,000.00. Through the efforts of this committee and the leadership from Tim, the event brought in over \$15,000.00!

Tim's help and involvement with Special Olympics is greatly appreciated!

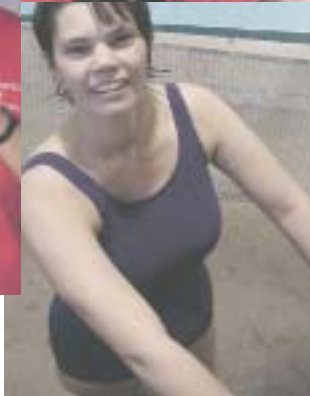


Portland General Electric

***Congratulations to Lenny Erwin, Dena Whitley, and Tim Wandell for being selected as our "Heroes" for the summer season.***



**Special Olympics**  
Oregon



# Fall Sports Season



# I N S P I R E G R E A T N E S S<sup>®</sup>



**Special Olympics**  
*Oregon*  
Clackamas County



**This is a wonderful opportunity for you to help your community...  
share with others...get back as much as you give!**

**If you have a lot of initiative  
...you're creative  
...you like to work with  
people-  
you can:**

- Recruit & train volunteers
- Make presentations
- Recruit athletes
- Produce our website
- Manage local program communications
- Help raise funds
- Coordinate programs and services for athletes

**If you like sports...  
Like to connect with  
Athletes and families-  
you can:**

- Coach
- Assistant Coach
- Chaperone
- Be a Team Manager

**If you want to work on  
your own schedule  
...mostly from home  
...you are detail oriented-you can:**

- Write thank you letters
- Track info in our database
- Help with one time projects
- Send letters for sponsorships
- Organize seasonal registrations

**If you want to help for a few  
hours and want to learn  
about Special Olympics-you  
can:**





- Help at a competition
- (present awards,keep score, etc.)
- Help at a special event
- (set-up, volunteer check-in, help at a booth, etc.)

Clackamas County  
P.O. Box 592 | Gladstone, OR 97027  
PHONE: 503-675-3550 | E-MAIL: GPAXTON6@COMCAST.NET | WWW.SOOR.ORG

State Office: 5901 SW Macadam Ave., Suite 100 | Portland, OR 97239 | Phone: 800.452.6079



# 2004-2005 Sports Calendar

SEASON	SPORTS	RECRUIT-REGISTER-TRAIN	REGIONAL COMPETITION	STATE COMPETITION
FALL 2004 	Aquatics Bowling Soccer Volleyball Long Distance Running/Walking	<b>Coach Education</b> Bowling-Grants Pass- 8/28 Bowling-Wilsonvill- 8/28 Aquatics-Roseburg 9/18 Aquatics-Salem-9/19 Soccer-Salem-9/12 Volleyball-Salem-9/19  <b>Athlete training-All sports:</b> Sept.4-Nov. 13	<b>Bowling:</b> Beaverton-10/23  <b>Aquatics-Volleyball- Soccer:</b> Corvallis-Oct. 16	<b>All sports:</b> Beaverton & Portland Nov. 20-21  <b>Long Distance Run/ Walk</b> Portland Marathon 10/3
WINTER 2005 	Alpine Skiing Cross Country Skiing Snowboarding Snowshoeing Basketball Powerlifting	<b>Coach Education</b> (December-January)  <b>Snow sports practices:</b> Jan-Feb Basketball- Powerlifting practices: Jan-Mar	<b>Snow Sports:</b> Wilamette Pass- 2/20 Cooper Spur- 2/20  <b>Basketball:</b> Beaverton-THPRD- 2/13  <b>Powerlifting</b> Roseburg High School 2/5	<b>Snow Sports:</b> Mt Bachelor March 5-7  <b>Basketball &amp; Powerlifting</b> Salem (Eug/Spr?) Mar 12-13
SUMMER 2005 	Track & Field Bocce Golf Gymnastics Softball	<b>Coach Education</b> (April)  <b>Practices -all sports:</b> May-June	<b>Track &amp; Field:</b> Mt Hood CC-5/22  <b>Softball-Golf- Bocce</b> Eugene- 6/4  <b>Gymnastics:</b> June	<b>All sports:</b> Corvallis July 9-10
FALL 2005 	Aquatics Bowling Soccer Volleyball Long Distance Run- ning/Walking	<b>Coach Education</b> (August)  <b>Practices-All sports:</b> Sept-Nov	<b>Bowling:</b> October  <b>Aquatics-Volleyball- Soccer:</b> October	<b>All sports:</b> late November



# Special Olympics Oregon – Clackamas County

## REGISTRATION FOR WINTER SPORTS



Please register for participation in Winter Sports by mail only.

Athlete Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: (day) \_\_\_\_\_ (emergency) \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_ Parent/Guardian Name \_\_\_\_\_

Sport (choose ONLY one):

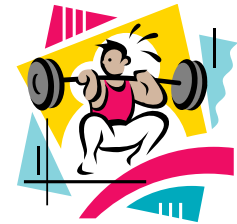
Alpine skiing \_\_\_\_\_ Cross country \_\_\_\_\_ Snowboarding \_\_\_\_\_ Basketball \_\_\_\_\_ Powerlifting \_\_\_\_\_

**Tennis Club:** During the winter season we will be offering athletes a chance to join the tennis club in addition to participating in one of the five sports listed above. The club meets for 6 weeks starting January 8 for a one hour practice session at the Lake Oswego Indoor Tennis Center. If you have questions please call 503-675-3550.

Tennis Club: Yes, I would like to join \_\_\_\_\_

**Return this form by December 11, 2004 to:**

**SOOR-Clackamas County**  
P.O. Box 592  
Gladstone, OR. 97027  
or Call: 503-675-3550



SPORT	PRACTICE SITE	DAYS	DATES	TIME
Alpine Skiing Cross Country Skiing Snowboarding	Mt. Hood Meadows	Sunday	January 8 to March 7, 2005	Coach will call with the meet- ing time/location
Basketball	Waldrof School 2300 SE Harrison, Milwaukie	Saturday	January 8 to March 13, 2005	Coach will call with practice times
Powerlifting	East Side Athletic Club 4606 SE Boardman Ave. Milwaukie	Saturday	January 8 to March 13, 2005	1:00-3:00

## ALBERTSON'S COMMUNITY PARTNER CARD

The partnership with Albertson's is a way to raise funds to support Clackamas County Special Olympics.

### How does it work?

You present your card to the cashier any-time before the order is tendered. The amount of your purchase is automatically recorded and credited to Clackamas County Special Olympics. At the end of each quarter Albertson's calculates the percentage that will be awarded and sends us a check.

### How do you get a card?

You can call our message center at 503-675-3550 or write to:  
SOOR-Clackamas County  
P.O. Box 592  
Gladstone, OR. 97027



*Clackamas athletes shine at the Bowling Regional in Beaverton.*



**ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED**

SPECIAL OLYMPICS-CLACKAMAS COUNTY  
PO BOX 592  
GLADSTONE, OR 97027-0592

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