

Camp Abilities Newsletter!
THE C*A*N, as in, yes you can!

Monday June 25, 2012

Welcome to Camp Abilities Brockport! This is the first volume of the 2012 Camp Abilities Brockport Newsletter, the C*A*N.

The C*A*N is dedicated to the memory of Dr. Janet Joseph, the C*A*N founder and Lauren Lieberman's mother. She died suddenly in December of 2006. She was an active part of Camp Abilities Brockport for 7 years and we miss her very much.

Camp Staff

Lauren Lieberman is the **Director of Camp Abilities Brockport**. Lauren started Camp Abilities Brockport 17 years ago here at The College at Brockport. She teaches undergraduate and graduate students about adapted physical education and has written numerous books and articles about physical activity for youth with visual impairments. Her motto is: Believe you can achieve!

Haley Schedlin has been the **Assistant Director for Camp Abilities Brockport** for the last 8 years. She was the director of Camp Abilities Alaska in 2007 and worked at Camp Abilities Arizona as the track and field specialist and research collector. She also was the Tandem Biking and Goalball Specialist for Camp Abilities Long Island and helped out at Camp Abilities Maryland. Haley is the outreach coordinator for helping start new camp abilities through out the world co-authoring the Camp Abilities Start-Up manual with Dr. Lauren Lieberman.

Jeff Yellen is one of the Camp Abilities Graduate Assistants. Jeff earned his Bachelor's degree in Physical Education from The College at Brockport, State University of New York. Jeff completed his Master's degree in Adapted Physical Education at The College at Brockport this past spring. Jeff has been involved in Camp Abilities in NY, MD and CT.

Tiffany Mitrakos is the second Camp Abilities Graduate Assistant. Tiffany earned her Bachelors from Brockport in 2010, and will be finishing up her Masters Degree next year! This is Tiffany's 4th Camp Abilities Brockport!!

Specialists and Other Staff!

Nurse Judy Derycke is our camp nurse and has been at Camp Abilities Brockport for 12 years – and she has been a nurse since 1963! She has 3 grown daughters and 10 grandchildren. Nurse Judy says wear your sunscreen and drink lots of water.

Nurse Sheila Parks is our camp nurse and this is her second year at Camp Abilities Brockport. She has been a nurse for 11 years and she lives in central New York. She is camper Zeb's mom and she says remember to wear closed toe shoes for sports.

Cathy Lyle is the Interpreter Coordinator and an interpreter. She is the DeafBlind Specialist for the Minnesota Department of Education and this is her 14th year at Camp Abilities Brockport. She lives in Woodbury, Minnesota and loves Camp Abilities Brockport. .

Lisa Hanson is a proud mom to the 2 best children in the whole world!!! This fall she will begin her 20th year teaching Orientation and Mobility in the great state of Texas. This summer will be her 7th year on staff at Camp Abilities Brockport!

Amanda Tepfer is our Aquatics and Boating Director. She received her Bachelor degree from Wright State University in PE and Health and Master's from The College at Brockport, in Adapted Physical Education. She has been involved with Camp Abilities Brockport for the past 13 years and Camp Abilities Tucson for 4 years. Amanda is teaching Adapted PE for Franklin County Board of Developmental Disabilities in Columbus, OH.

Don Johnson has been involved with Judo for over 40 years and has been a part of Camp Abilities Brockport for the past 5 years. He is always stunned on how much he learns from the campers and how much he takes away to use in the College course. Don is our judo specialist who has a 3rd degree black belt in Kodokan Judo, which he started under Olympic coach, Dr. Sachio Ashida. Here in Brockport he continues to study with Olympians Inaki Sanz and Nagaysu Ogasawara. For the last 4 years Don has taught judo classes here at the College at Brockport.

Jennie Duff is currently working towards her Master's degree in Orientation and Mobility at North Carolina Central University. She participated in gymnastics in her hometown of Wilmington, NC for 10 years and grew up volunteering with her Dad's beep-baseball team. Jennie currently lives in Morehead City, NC with her husband.

Gina Pucci is one of the Tandem Bike Specialists as well as swim Instructor. Gina teaches high school PE and Health in Maryland. She has been with Camp Abilities for 12 years with both Brockport and Florida. Gina was our 2004 Graduate Assistant with Camp Abilities.

Andrew DeGiacomo will be coaching Beep Baseball and Gymnastics at his first Camp Abilities here in Brockport, NY. Andrew is an elementary teacher in the School District of Philadelphia and a volunteer coach at Camp Abilities PA @ WCU. He is looking forward to getting to know all of the athletes in New York and having a fun week teaching and learning.

Donna DeGiacomo is a 2004 graduate of West Chester University of PA, where she has continued on to pursue her Master's Degree in Health Education. Donna is in her fourth year as a teacher at the PA Leadership Charter School in West Chester where she teaches Middle School Health and PE. In addition to the Brockport Camp, Donna has volunteered at Camp Abilities in PA, Long Island, Florida, and Alaska. This year's camp will be Donna's 15th Camp Abilities experience. Donna will be a Beep Baseball and Goal Ball Specialist.

Charles Roselle is one of our track and field and aquatic specialists. He completed his Bachelors in Physical Education from Brockport in 2012.

David Briggs is one of our track and field specialists.

Kyle Sochia is an aquatics and track and field specialist. He completed his Masters Degree from Brockport in 2011.

Beth Foster is an adapted physical education teacher in Lancaster, PA. She has been to camps in Alaska and Arizona, and is the Athletics Director at Camp Abilities PA. Beth is one of our Tandem Bike and Goal Ball Specialist.

Dani LeRoux is in her 14th year at the most amazing camp EVER, Camp Abilities Brockport!!! This year I am the "Nike Newsletter Girl"!!! I also am a specialist for track and Field and Aquatics. I have taught Adapted PE for 8 years and Middle School PE for this last school year. If anyone has anything they want to share with me about there day here at camp please come find me so I can put it in the news letter. You can have your group come up with a positive saying you want to share, what goals you accomplish on a daily basis, did you meet any new friends, or anything else that is appropriate that you want in the newsletter.

Terry Kelly is a Canadian singer/songwriter who is blind.

Sharon Pagel is the archery Specialist and is blind.

**Group Leaders, Assistant Leaders,
and Interpreters**

Campers are divided into four groups. Each group has a Group Leader and an Assistant Group Leader. The Group Leaders and their Assistant Group Leaders are:

Yellow group - Mary

Green group - Melissa

Purple group - Stacey

Blue group - Kelly

Some campers, counselors, and group leaders use sign language to communicate because they are deaf or hard of hearing. The interpreters provide sign language services to help people who use sign language and people who do not know sign language communicate easily. Our interpreters this year are: Cathy Lyle, Deb Carlson and Ann Cavallo.

The C*A*N is your newsletter. It is interesting because of YOUR contributions. See Dani at breakfast, lunch, or dinner with your accomplishments.

Believe you can achieve!