

The Camp Abilities Newsletter

THE C*A*N
As in, yes you can!

Sunday, June 29, 2008
Volume 4, Number 1

Welcome to Camp Abilities! This is the first volume of the 2008 Camp Abilities 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, 2006. She was an active part of Camp Abilities for 7 years and we miss her very much.

Weather report: It has been rainy and muggy in Brockport. Remember to stay hydrated, and be flexible if we have to change outdoor plans to indoor plans because of the weather. It is OK to be outside if it is raining a little, but we go indoors if there is lightning or thunder. Talk to your group leaders about any weather-related changes to our activities.

Camp Staff

Lauren Lieberman is the Director of Camp Abilities. Lauren started Camp Abilities 13 years ago here at SUNY 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. She started a Camp Abilities in Guatemala this spring, and is going to Camp Abilities Alaska right after this camp. Her motto is: Believe you can achieve!

Haley Schedlin is the Camp Abilities Assistant Director. She has worked with Lauren at Camp Abilities for 3 years and goes to other Camp Abilities too. Haley is a physical education teacher in West Irondequoit, and she was the Adapted Physical Activity Council Student of the Year this year. Great job, Haley! She lives in Chili, New York.

Lauren Evans is a Camp Abilities Graduate Assistant. Lauren is a full-time graduate student in Adapted Physical Education in Adapted Physical Education at SUNY Brockport. Next year she will be an adapted physical education teacher in Marcellus, New York.

Dean Bowen is also a Camp Abilities Graduate Assistant. Dean is a full time graduate student in Adapted Physical Education at SUNY Brockport. He is from the Syracuse, New York area.

Nurse Judy Derycke is our camp nurse and has been at Camp Abilities for 9 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 first year at Camp Abilities. She has been a nurse for 8 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.

Amanda Tepfer is our Camp Photographer. Amanda was the Camp Abilities Graduate Assistant in 2001. This is her 12th year at Camp Abilities. Now she lives and works in Columbus, Ohio, and she is the director of Camp Abilities Florida.

Cathy Lyle is the Interpreter Coordinator and an interpreter. She is the DeafBlind Specialist for the Minnesota Department of Education and this is her 11th year at Camp Abilities. She lives in Woodbury, Minnesota and loves Camp Abilities.

Deb Carlson, Ann Cavallo, Vicki Houseknecht, and Caleb Shulman are the other interpreters. 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.

Lisa Hanson and Diane Briggs are the “Braille Queens.” They provide materials in Braille for anyone who uses Braille. Diane has been a Teacher of the Visually Impaired for 28 years, and Lisa has been an Orientation and Mobility Instructor for 15 years. This is their 3rd year at Camp Abilities.

Cyndie and Rich Giali are our **Meal Coordinators**. Every day the menu will be posted on the bulletin board. They work hard with area Lions Clubs to bring healthy and delicious meals to us all week. Thanks, Cyndie and Rich!

Katrina Arndt is the C*A*N Editor. She is a professor of special education at St. John Fisher College and this is her 10th year at Camp Abilities. See Katrina at breakfast, lunch or dinner to report what new activities you have tried and your accomplishments and she will put them in this newsletter. The C*A*N will be available each morning at breakfast.

Group Leaders, Assistant Leaders, Counselors in Training (CITs), and Interpreters

Campers are divided into 4 groups. Each group has a Group Leader and an Assistant Group Leader. The Group Leaders and their Assistant Group Leaders are:

Yellow group – Keenan Bloom and Jessica Schultz

Green group – Kelly Striffler and Chris Dahlem

Purple group – Kira Labugh and Jenn Bowie

Blue group - Lindsey Hegg and Leah Possco

Joann Judge is the coordinator of the first Counselor in Training (CIT) program. Joann is from Lancaster, Pennsylvania and a teacher of adapted physical education. The CITs will be learning to be coaches and how to work with young athletes.

The 4 CITs are: **Blaise Bryant, Quinn Burch, Carl Tansend, and Brandon Whaley.**

Activity Specialists

Swimming is coordinated by **Monica Lepore**. Monica coordinates all the swimming instruction. She has worked with Lauren since the first Camp Abilities, and she is the director of Camp Abilities West Chester, in Pennsylvania. Monica is a professor of adapted physical education at West Chester University.

Judo is taught by **Chad Scott**. Chad has been at Camp Abilities for 8 years. He is a graduate student in counseling at SUNY Brockport.

Gymnastics is run by **Rocco Aiello** and **Ed Laskowski**. Rocco lives in Maryland and works as a coordinator for physical education. He was the Adapted Physical Activity Council Teacher of the Year in 2008 – congratulations, Rocco! Ed teaches health and physical education in Rhode Island, and this is his 3rd year at Camp Abilities.

Tandem Biking and **Goal Ball** are run by Jocelyn Paris (call her **JP**) and **Beth Foster**. JP lives in Omaha, Nebraska and is a primary Montessori teacher. She loves Tucson, Arizona and would like to live there again. Beth is an adapted physical education teacher in Lancaster, Pennsylvania and she loves to dance when Terry Kelly comes!

Track and Field is run by **Maria Lepore-Stevens** and **Ed Lakowski**. Maria is an undergraduate student in math education at West Chester University in Pennsylvania. She has attended all Camp Abilities and is Monica's daughter.

Beep Baseball is run by **Gina Pucci** and **Dani LeRoux**. Gina and Dani both graduated from SUNY Brockport and teach physical education in Maryland. Dani teaches Adapted Physical Education and Gina teaches Health and Physical Education.

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

Believe you can achieve!