

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

Sunday, June 27, 2010
Volume 6, Number 1

Welcome to Camp Abilities Brockport! This is the first volume of the 2010 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 15 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 7 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.

Kira Labagh is one of this year's Camp Abilities Graduate Assistants. She has completed her Master's Degree in Adapted Physical Education from the College at Brockport, and graduated with a Bachelor's Degree in Health and Physical Education from West Chester University of Pennsylvania. In addition to working at Camp Abilities Brockport, Kira was a founding member of Camp Abilities Pennsylvania. This year Kira will be our **Gymnastics specialist**.

Rhonda Morse is one of the Graduate Assistants for Camp Abilities this

year. She is currently pursuing a Master's degree in Adapted Physical Education at Ithaca College.

Nurse Judy Derycke is our camp nurse and has been at Camp Abilities Brockport for 11 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 10 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 13th year at Camp Abilities Brockport. She lives in Woodbury, Minnesota and loves Camp Abilities Brockport. .

Lisa Hanson has taught Orientation and Mobility in Texas for 17 years. This is her 5th year to be on staff at Camp Abilities Brockport. She provides Braille materials to athletes and coaches, as well as, helps with pre-camp orientation. This year she will also be a Track and Field Specialist.

Diane Briggs aka Braille Queen, has been a teacher of students with visual impairments for 30 years and is excited to return for her fourth year at Camp Abilities Brockport. Her primary job is working with Lisa Hanson, our other Braille Queen, for all of the Braille production needed to provide accessible materials to our campers. She also will be helping Beth and JP at the tandem biking venue. Back home in Denton, Texas she has two terrific daughters in college and is looking forward to a trip to Paris to celebrate her 30th anniversary with her husband, Gordon.

Michele Myers is our transportation guru and the newsletter editor. She teaches physical education at School #23 in Rochester, NY. This is her 7th year working with Camp! She is also APE section President for NY State AHPERD!

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!

Group Leaders, Assistant Leaders, Counselors in Training (CITs), 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 – Kelly Striefler

Green group – Jeff Yellen

Purple group – Tiffany Mitrakos

Blue group – Carey Glover

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 Cavalo.

In our CIT program, the CITs will learn to be coaches and how to work with young athletes. This year our **CITs are David Briggs, Katie Laris, Zeb Parks, and Blaise Bryant.**

Activity Specialists

Kate Herd teaches Bilingual and Early Childhood Education in Texas. This is her 2nd year at Camp Abilities Brockport, and 1st year to be on staff. She will focus primarily on teaching and assisting athletes with proper running techniques as a **Track and Field Specialist**, as well as a **Gymnastics Specialist**.

Brian Mucino graduated from SUNY Brockport with a certification in Physical Education PreK-12. He currently attends SUNY Brockport part time in the Adapted Physical Education Master's degree program with a minor in Pedagogy. This is his first year at Camp Abilities Brockport and is very excited! He will be instructing **shot put** and **swimming**.

Donna Dollard is a Health and Physical Education teacher in West Chester, Pennsylvania. She has been a coach at Camp Abilities across the United States since 2005, and Camp Abilities Brockport will be her 12th camp experience. Donna has coached Adventure Based Activities at Camp

Abilities PA, has attended Camp Abilities in Alaska, Florida, and Long Island. Donna looks forward to another great Camp Abilities experience! Donna will be a **Beep Baseball** and **Aquatics specialist**.

Amanda Tepfer is our Aquatics 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 14 years and Camp Abilities Tucson for 4 years. Amanda is teaching Adapted PE for Franklin County Board of Developmental Disabilities in Columbus, OH.

Beth Foster is an adapted physical education teacher in Lancaster, Pennsylvania. She has been to camps in Alaska and Arizona, and is the Athletics Director at Camp Abilities PA. Beth is our **Tandem Biking** and **Goal Ball specialist**.

Dani Leroux just completed her 7th year as an APE teacher in Maryland, traveling to 20 schools where she does direct service as well as consulting. Dani coaches Girls Varsity Basketball, Lacrosse, Allied basketball and bowling. This is Dani's 14th year at Camp Abilities Brockport, and will be the **Beep Baseball specialist** and **Aquatics** coach. Dani has attended Camp Abilities in Florida and loves Camp Abilities, the kids and the staff, and says it's a wonderful place to be!!!

Jocelyn Paris (JP) has taught Montessori (Elementary level) for the last three years and has also worked at Camp Abilities Tucson since its conception. This week, JP is coaching **Tandem Biking** and **Goalball**.

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

Believe you can achieve!