

NO BARRIERS

A Publication of the Florida Disabled Outdoors Association



Special points of interest:

- SportsAbility 2008
- FGCU Adaptive Sports EXPO

Recreation Assistive Services and Technologies Alliance

The Florida Disabled Outdoors Association (FDOA), with the support and collaboration of the Florida Alliance of Assistive Services and Technology and the Department of Health, Brain and Spinal Cord Injury program, is happy to announce the launch of the Recreation Assistive Services and Technologies Alliance (RASTA). This program is intended to facilitate and promote participation in recreation and physical activity for people with disabilities through the use of assistive services and technologies.

improve the quality of life for people with disabilities by encouraging participation and providing information on accessible recreation and leisure”, stated Laurie LoRe – Gussak, Executive Director at Florida Disabled Outdoors Association.

The program is designed to capture information on accessible products, events, destinations, services and programs. Staff will be able to assist those interested in finding information about recreation and physical activities in their local community or in the State of Florida.

In order for the RASTA program to grow rapidly it is essential to gain support from everyone. Therefore, FDOA is requesting information related to accessible recreation in the state of Florida. The following categories will be included in the database: products, events, programs/services and accessible destinations. Accessible recreation information in Florida may be sent to recreation@fdoa.org.

For more information, contact Laurie LoRe-Gussak at (850) 201-2944 or info@fdoa.org.



“The goal of the program is to

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SportsAbility Tallahassee 2008!!

SportsAbility is the premier event of the (FDOA). SportsAbility provides first hand access to resources and demonstrations of activities designed to encourage participation regardless of age or ability level with no charge to participants.

Dates and Events:

SportsAbility Active Leisure for Life Banquet

Thursday, April 17, 2008

The event opens with the Active Leisure for Life fundraising banquet celebrating the efforts of those who have contributed to the disability

community. Past winners of the Active Leisure for Life Award include Tallahassee Community College, Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission, and the Department of Health Brain and Spinal Cord Injury Program.

Resource Expo / Indoor Activities

Friday, April 18, 2008

Tallahassee Community College

Attendees are encouraged and welcome to learn about new products and try exciting indoor recreation.

OUTDOORS DAY Saturday, April 19, 2008 -

Ochlochonee River State Park

Attendees are provided the opportunity to try everything from sit-waterskiing to

horseback riding or just socialize with new and old friends.

Power Soccer Tournament - Sunday, April 20, 2008

Join in the excitement of all that power soccer offers!! The day includes a free Power Soccer Clinic that is open to Everyone, Power Soccer Games, and interactive play between the audience and power soccer teams

For more info, maps, etc. visit www.fdoa.org/sportsability.htm If you like to get involved with SportsAbility 2008, please contact Laurie LoRe - Gussak at info@fdoa.org or at 850-201-2944.



Florida Spinal Cord Injury Awareness Week—Nov. 12–18

The Darrell Gwynn Foundation (DGF) is gearing up for its 2nd Annual Florida Spinal Cord Injury Awareness Week (FSCIAW), November 12-18, 2007. The campaign is designed to educate Florida residents on simple things they can do to help prevent a spinal cord injury, as well as increase awareness for what life is like after an injury.

Events planned for FSCIAW this year include television PSAs featuring Gwynn, a former NHRA champion,

and NASCAR driver Tony Stewart that will be aired hundreds of times. Gwynn, a quadriplegic due to a devastating car racing accident, and others suffering from spinal cord injuries, will visit high schools across Florida to share their personal stories and offer prevention tips. Thousands of spinal cord injury prevention tips sheets will be distributed statewide at hospitals, rehab centers, retail locations, schools, and sporting event, with tips from sporting to automobile safety.

DGF will also hold its 6th Annual Hot Rods and Reels NASCAR Drivers Charity Fishing Tournament at Homestead-Miami Speedway during the campaign. NASCAR greets including Stewart, Carl Edwards, Bobby Labonte, and Darrell Waltrip fish to raise awareness and money for spinal cord injuries.

New to this year's FSCIAW is the incorporation of DGF's Wheelchair Donation Program. DGF donates power wheelchairs to children who otherwise

cannot afford one or receive one through insurance. This year seven children across Florida will receive brand new, customized, power wheelchairs.

To learn more about FSCIAW and the Hot Rods and Reels NASCAR Drivers Charity Fishing Tournament, please contact the Darrell Gwynn Foundation at 954-792-7223 ext. 105 or visit www.darrellgwynnfoundation.org.



3rd Annual Kudzu Hill Cookout and Silent Auction

On December 7, the Kudzu Hill Hunting Club will host a Cookout to benefit the Florida Disabled Outdoors Association. The cookout will follow the Annual Invitational FDOA Kudzu Hill Deer Hunt at their hunt camp in Waukeenah, FL.



The event provides an opportunity to support the Florida Disabled Outdoors Association's accessible inclusive recreation efforts and advocacy for disability issues while enjoying a true outdoorsman's dinner and the fellowship of old and new friends. The evening will

also include a silent auction, raffles, door prizes and music.

For more information, contact David Jones at 850-668-7323 or info@fdoa.org.



FGCU 7th Annual Adaptive Sports Expo

The FGCU Division of Student Affairs, Office of Adaptive Services would be hosting the FGCU 7th Annual Adaptive Sports Expo to be held at Florida Gulf Coast University on Friday, October 5th & Saturday, October 6th. The event will kick off Friday night with a pool party to be followed with a day of sports and recreation on Saturday. Professionally trained facilitators and athletes with disabilities

will provide demonstrations and instruct participants in a variety of recreational and sporting activities. Attendees will be exposed to a variety of local service agencies, vendors and recreational opportunities via a vendor / information fair that will take place in conjunction with the sports expo on Saturday. Interested individuals can register online <http://studentservices.fgcu.edu/Adaptive/events.html>

Sports offered:

- Water-skiing
- Sailing
- Kayaking
- Aquatics
- Adaptive Golf
- Baseball
- Cheerleading/dance
- Wheelchair tennis
- Wheelchair Basketball
- Quad Rugby and other
- Recreational Resources

Registration is free!

For more info:
Office of Adaptive Services
Florida Gulf Coast University
10501 FGCU Blvd. South
Ft. Myers, FL 33965-6565
Phone: 239-590-7958
Fax: 239-590-7975



Mobility Impaired Hunt Program

Most of the mobility impaired hunt permits from Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission have now been issued. They were all claimed in the first few minutes of the third phase drawing.

There may be a few Three

Lakes permits available on-line at www.myfwc.com. There is still a big problem with the system in that a few Internet saavy applicants get most of the available permits in this first come / first serve phase. These permits are still transferable, so it is possible to get a permit transferred from another hunter by mutual

agreement. Please remember that it is illegal to sell permits. Also, several of the mobility impaired hunts are buddy hunts, so you may be able to go as a permit holder's buddy.

There is still one additional hunt available—the Eglin Air Force Base Hunt on February

2-3, 2008. Contact Jackson Guard at (850) 882-4165 or (850) 882-4166. Return the application before January 1, 2008. This is the premier mobility impaired hunt in Florida, so it has become more difficult to receive a permit due to high demand. It is a wonderful hunt if you are selected!

New / Renewing Members

Trustee

Florida ARF
Kudzu Hill Hunt Club
Tallahassee Orthopedic Clinic

Business (con'd)

Rick Watson Heating and Air Conditioning
Talquin Electric Cooperative

Supporting Member / Family

Laurie & Glenn Borden
Rick Farren
Michelle & Mike Vasilinda

Individual

Paul Greene
Margaret Hardy
Chris Harrington
Stanley Harris
Tommy Lake
Daniel McLaughlin

Individual (con'd)

Harry Newell
Des O'Neill
Betty Preece
James Pullen
Ernesto Witte

Business

Carroll and Company CPAs
Life Solutions, P. A.
PBS&J

Not-for Profit

Meridian Meadows

Membership Application

How can YOU support the efforts of the Florida Disabled Outdoors Association? **Become a member of the FDOA!**

Your assistance is valued and truly appreciated!! When you become a member of the FDOA, you not only support the programs mentioned in this newsletter, but you **ensure their continued success and growth.**

Yes, I want to ensure that FDOA's programs continue! Please accept my support at the following annual dues membership level:

- \$20.00 Individual
- \$50.00 Family
- \$100.00 Not-for-Profit
- \$200.00 Business
- \$1,000.00 Patron
- \$2,500.00 Trustee
- Please accept my additional donation of \$_____.

FDOA is a 501 (c)(3) nonprofit organization and gratefully accepts donations and in-kind gifts. All contributions are tax deductible.

Name _____
 Organization _____
 Address 1 _____
 Address 2 _____
 City _____
 State _____ Zip _____
 Home Phone _____
 Work Phone _____
 Cell Phone _____
 E-mail _____

Please indicate any areas in which you would be willing to help.

- Marketing / Promotion
- Fund Raising
- Event Planning
- Finance / Accounting
- Computer Applications / Web Development
- Musician
- On-site assistance at functions
- Other _____

Please mail your membership application to:

FDOA
2213 Tallahassee Drive
Tallahassee, FL 32309



Non-Profit
U.S. Postage
PAID
Tallahassee FL
Permit #834

Active Leisure for Life!

2475 Apalachee Parkway, Suite 205
Tallahassee, FL 32309

Phone: 850-201-2944
Fax: 850-201-2945
Email: info@fdoa.org

WE'RE ON THE WEB!

WWW.FDOA.ORG

President's Report



David Jones
FDOA President

This morning I really noticed a hint of Fall in the air. It stirs a feeling of excitement and anticipation. These are the same emotions that I am currently sensing with FDOA. Excitement abounds with our successful programs and new projects! Our team is getting stronger with Kristy Carter joining the staff full-time as our Inclusion Specialist. She is a long time volunteer and a loyal supporter. She will also bring us the professional services of a Certified Therapeutic Recreation Specialist (CTRS). I am proud to welcome her as our new employee.

We have also benefited from the efforts of Gin Adamoli Kalbli who

has provided her research experience and administrative support. She has enabled us to move forward on a number of projects — especially the RASTA database. She has been a real asset to FDOA.

I anticipate great things for the immediate future. Our FDOA Advisory Board continues to strengthen with several new community members. We are making things happen like never before!

I can feel it in the air.



The FDOA Cookbook is now available compiled by the Tallahassee Orthopedic Clinic Business Office!

Copies are on sale for \$10.00 + \$3.50 S&H. Contact Judi Collins at judi.collins@tlhoc.com for info.

