



BORP WINTER 2010





BORP's new Development Director, **Lela DaVia** (M.A., M.S.), is a veteran fundraiser who has served as Executive Director, Development Director and Board member for various nonprofits over the past 27 years, including many local disability rights and independent living programs. In addition to serving as a mentor and coach to emerging non-profit professionals, she served on the committee for the 2006 and 2008 Grassroots Fund Raising Journal's Raising Change Conference and is a founding member of the California Alliance for Women. Lela is also a yoga instructor and enjoys swimming and hiking.

Reba Knickerbocker, our new Fitness Coordinator, comes to BORP with over 10 years of experience in the fitness world. In 2003, while working as the Program Director and Head Coach of Northampton Youth and Community Rowing, she attended Smith College and earned her M.S. in Exercise and Sport Studies. She most recently worked as a personal trainer for Western Athletic Clubs and for the Downtown Oakland YMCA. In addition, she has consulted with Barbary Lane Senior Communities on a resident fitness facility, and enjoyed running her own private practice as a Fitness Consultant and Personal Trainer.



Michael Cross, BORP's new Development Associate, earned a B.A. in English from Southern Oregon University, an M.F.A. in writing from Mills College, and an M.A. and PH.D. in literature from the State University of New York at Buffalo. He joins BORP with a range of nonprofit experience, most recently as a Corporate Project Leader at Hands On Bay Area. Michael and his wife Katja act as advocates for disabled animals, including their paraplegic dachshund, Greta Van Winkle. He is excited to help make 2010's Revolution Ride a resounding success!



Our new Office Assistant, **Jesse Whittle-Utter**, joins BORP from Fenton Communications, a public relations firm in San Francisco specializing in nonprofit progressive, social advocacy and environmental campaigns. Before that, Jesse worked in the nonprofit and public sectors for five years, including stints at the New Conservatory Theatre Center as a Development Officer and at the Mayor's Office of Los Angeles as a Contracts Specialist. He holds a Bachelor's Degree from UC Berkeley in Psychology and Art Practice, and is currently enrolled in a Master's Program in Clinical Psychology.



BORP'S NEW STAFF

BEST IN THE WEST!

BORP was pleased to host this year's West Coast Conference Junior Wheelchair Basketball Tournament on February 6th and 7th at Berkeley High School. The event determined which of the Junior Conference teams would advance to nationals in Denver this spring, and *all* of the athletes played their hearts out!

The Conference has grown considerably in the last few years and accounts for approximately 150 athletes and 13 teams at the Prep and Varsity levels. Teams hail from cities across the west coast, including programs in Mesa, Arizona; Berkeley, California; Los Angeles, California; San Diego, California; Denver, Colorado; Sandy, Utah; Seattle, Washington and Spokane, Washington. Two teams from California, The San Diego Hammer and The BORP Bay Cruisers, have recently won the National Championship at the Varsity level.

This year's tournament saw 80 athletes playing in 20 consecutive contests, representing teams including Denver's Rolling Nuggets. Seattle's Sonics, the Banner Wheelchair Suns, the Rancho Renegades, and Team St. Luke's.

While we are incredibly proud of our Cruisers, who played both aggressively and honorably, we would like to congratulate Varsity champions the Rancho Renegades and Team St. Luke's, Prep level champions, for some stiff competition!

We'd like to thank all of our parents and volunteers who made this event possible, and special thanks are due to the ATT Pioneer program, Madison Street Press (for printing the beautiful tournament brochures), Nancy O'Malley, Scot Goodman, Keith Stephenson, and Dr. Neufeld at Children's Hospital.

Here's to another tournament in Berkeley in 2011...



BORP is pleased to announce the newest addition to our cutting-edge year round sports and recreation programs! And for those of you overly accustomed to the Bay Area's preternatural climate, this one may come as a surprise! Through collaboration with the city of Oakland, the Oakland Ice Center, the National Hockey League's "Hockey Is for Everyone" Program, and the San Jose Sharks, BORP is currently developing a sled hockey program for both youth and adults!

Sled hockey (also known as "sledge" hockey) was designed in the 1960s by Swedish hockey players with lower limb mobility impairments. The sled is designed for skating in a recumbent position, placing the skater on two long metal blades so the puck can pass below. The sport has seen a major increase in popularity primarily due to interest in the Paralympic Winter Games.

In order to test youth enthusiasm for the program, we took our kids out on the ice in mid-January with the San Jose Sharks and hockey legend Willie O'Ree, and if pictures are in fact worth a thousand words, their gleeful expressions speak for themselves!

If you are interested in getting involved in this pilot program, please contact Trooper Johnson at trooper@borp.org.





Trooper Johnson,
BORP's Youth Sports
Program Coordinator



Marcus Oden,
Former BORP youth participant,
Golden State Road Warrior



Chuck Gill,
Captain, Golden State Road Warriors



If you happened to tune in to the 2010 NWBA/NBA All-Star Weekend February 11-14, there's a good chance you caught three of BORP's own representing the Bay Area on the courts in Dallas, Texas. The 12th Annual NWBA All-Star Wheelchair Classic brought together the nation's top wheelchair basketball athletes, and we are pleased to announce that all three athletes representing Northern California have deeply engrained BORP ties.

Trooper Johnson, Chuck Gill, and Marcus Oden, all members of the Golden State Road Warriors traveling team and teammates on BORP's All Star team, helped the West defeat the East for the third consecutive year. Trooper, BORP's Youth Sports Program Coordinator and coach of BORP's Bay Cruisers wheelchair basketball team, made his 8th appearance in the All-Star event, and Chuck, captain of the Golden State Road Warriors, made his 11th appearance. And while both Trooper and Chuck are All-Star veterans, BORP was incredibly excited to see Marcus, one of our former youth participants, compete for the first time in this year's event.

In addition to helping the West clinch this year's title, the All-Stars hosted a wheelchair basketball clinic for youth with disabilities in the Dallas area.

Congratulations to all three players! To learn more about the All-Star game or the Golden State Road Warriors click here: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=KXQsSZNcPdw>

BORP's 7th Annual POKER SLAM

BORP hosted its 7th Annual Poker Slam Tournament February 6th at Scott's Seafood Restaurant in Jack London Square, and by all accounts the event was a huge success! The tournament featured delectable morsels, a silent auction, a raffle, and some white-knuckled card play, and at the end of the day BORP supporters raised over \$6,000 for our three power soccer teams!

Coach Chris Finn and BORP's Adult Sports Programs Coordinator Jonathan Newman hosted the festivities, but the event's success is due almost wholly to the incredible efforts of our volunteers. Additional thanks are due to Nakashima Fine Arts for donating keepsake poker chips, those who donated items to the raffle and silent auction, Scott's Seafood Restaurant in Oakland, and all 42 players for making the event another fun and exciting night of No Limit Texas Hold 'Em.

We saw many new faces playing next to bonafide veterans, and due to their support we can purchase new equipment and cover travel expenses for the upcoming regional and national power soccer tournaments. Make sure to bring a friend next year and look for information about our Mini-Poker Slam coming soon!

This year's big winners include:

First place: Kenny Kaos

Second Place: Cameron Fuller

Third Place: Susie McBride

Fourth Place: Joshua Steinfeld



BORP & CREATIVE GIVING

BORP depends on the generosity of our supporters to ensure that our sports and recreation programs can continue. While some donate their time and resources to help us realize our mission to improve the health, independence and social integration of people with disabilities, others prefer different options in order to give. That's why we're making it easier for you to find a way to help!

In addition to a cash or credit card donation, there are many other ways to support our work:

1. Did you know you can double or even triple each gift you make to BORP? Many companies encourage charitable giving among their employees by offering a matching gifts program. Check with your employer to see if you can support our programs together.
2. What do you get the person who has everything? Ask family and friends to commemorate your birthday, wedding, or other milestone with a contribution to BORP in your honor. For example, this April BORP supporter Lee Briggs will celebrate his 30th birthday by cycling for 30 consecutive hours to raise money for our programs (learn more here). While accomplishing such a feat might seem out of reach for some, the possibilities for commemorative fundraising are endless.
3. By including BORP in your will or estate as a planned gift, you can rest assured that your support of our programs will continue well into the future.
4. Consider making an in-kind contribution to our wish list. We are currently in need of your gently used computers and printers for our low-income youth participants.
5. Finally, BORP is on EBAY! Through the "EBAY Gives" program, you can use EBAY to make Pay Pal donations to BORP or to donate a percentage of your EBAY sales to our cause. In fact, you can even sell items on our behalf through the BORP marketplace!

These are only a few of the creative ways you can support BORP in the future. For more information on these or other options, call our Development Director, Lela DaVia, at 510-849-4663 ext. 318, or email at lela@borp.org.

KRISTI YAMAGUCHI'S

Always Dream Playpark



At the turn of the new year, BORP's youth participants traveled to Fremont to help the Kristi Yamaguchi Foundation finish their Always Dream Playpark, "a place where all children...can play together and learn from each other."

The park, designed by renowned architectural firm Moore, Iacofano, & Goltsman, was designed "to create a play area for children of all abilities that allows for physical as well as mental development through a diversity of play experiences..." BORP's youth participants gathered with their families to support the Yamaguchi Foundation's mission, and as always, our kids didn't mind getting a little dirty! After transporting hundreds of heavy buckets of sand, often on the footrests of their chairs, the kids had a chance to try out some of the equipment as a reward for their hard work!

We feel privileged to support the important work of our sister organization and proud to watch our kids volunteer for such a worthy cause!

2010

REVOLUTION

Ride

SAVE THE DATE & MARK YOUR CALENDAR!

BORP's 8th Annual Rev Ride

~~Saturday, September 25, 2010~~

New
Date!

Saturday, October 16, 2010

www.borp.org

