



B O R P  
SUMMER  
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# JUNIOR ADVENTURES PROGRAM

## DAY OF DISCOVERY: MONTEREY BAY AQUARIUM

On Wednesday, August 12, BORP's Junior Adventures Program traveled to the Monterey Bay Aquarium to attend "Day of Discovery," a scuba diving experience for youth with special needs. Coordinated by volunteer diver Marv Tuttle and sponsored by Valley Medical Center, Day of Discovery allows youth with physical or cognitive disabilities and their families to opportunity to explore Monterey Bay's rich marine life with the help of experienced divers.

Thanks to volunteers from The National Instructors Association for Divers with Disabilities (NIADD) and Monterey Bay Aquarium's dive office, BORP's youth participants spent the day exploring the Aquarium's Great Tide Pool, only to join family members later in the afternoon for a day of adventure! One participant even brought home a special abalone shell as a memento of her day in the sun! Thank you to everyone at the Monterey Bay Aquarium for making this special event happen!



# ADVENTURES AND OUTINGS AT LAKE DEL VALLE



BORP's Adventures and Outings Program enjoyed its third annual camping trip to Lake Del Valle this August, thanks to a collaboration with East Bay Regional Parks and Recreation Director Joe Stacks. This program helps to educate participants with disabilities about how to camp using adaptive equipment. Over 80 participants enjoyed two full days of hiking, swimming, and pontoon boat rides while learning necessary skills that will allow adults and children with physical disabilities to camp independently in the not so distant future!



# ADAPTIVE CYCLING CENTER GRAND OPENING



On Saturday, July 17th BORP celebrated the beginning of Revolution season with the grand opening of our new and improved Adaptive Cycling Center! Thanks to freinds and supporters including the Stewardship Council, ReBuilding Together, Dome Construction, and McGuire & Hester, we were able to increase space in the Center from 950 square feet to 3,750 square feet while adding security features and over 5,000 square feet of fresh concrete.

Morning revelers enjoyed our new digs while BORP cyclists toured the East Bay to build up an appetite! By midafternoon, the grill was piping hot and the barbeque and raffle began. Thank you to all the volunteers who helped make this event a success, especially Randy Jones, Anne Hirose, Linda Gardner, Beth Smith, Pip Marks, Anne Klein, Jackie Perkins, Kathryn Black, Belinda Stradley, and Katja Geldhof!



# The 8<sup>TH</sup> Annual Revolution Ride, Festival & Auction



## Get involved!

This year's Revolution Ride takes place on Saturday, October 16th, and we need your help to make sure it's a resounding success! The Revolution is BORP's major annual fund raiser, generating crucial revenue to support our sports, fitness, and recreation programs for people with physical disabilities. However, while it is a fund raiser, **it is also a lot of fun!** This fall, nearly three hundred cyclists will converge on Trentadue Winery in Sonoma County for food, music, and some of the most majestic cycling landscapes in the country! Together, BORP riders will cover over 10,000 miles of terrain in support of the Bay Area's disabled athletes, and there are a number of ways to get involved!

1) Register as an individual cyclist or start a team! We're always looking for a few good cyclists to ride one of the 10, 25, 50, 65, or 100 mile courses. But you don't have to ride alone! Put together a team of family and friends and fund raise for BORP together!

2) Not a cyclist? Consider registering as a volunteer and participate by sharing resources. We are always looking for volunteers to join us behind the scenes to make sure that this year's Revolution goes off without a hitch! While some volunteers ride on tandem bikes with visually impaired cyclists, others drive SAG vehicles to provide water and snacks for exhausted riders. By working at a rest stop or helping to serve food and drink at the Festival, you are supporting our work by donating your time and energy!

3) Family and friends often join their loved ones the day of the event to show their support. By registering for the Festival, family and friends can join their loved ones for dinner, drinks, dancing and music after the ride!

4) Going on vacation in October? No problem! You can still help to support our programs by sponsoring a youth participant! BORP's youth participants work hard all year long playing wheelchair basketball or sled hockey while keeping up their grades and serving as BORP ambassadors. Show them how proud you are of their achievements by sponsoring a youth ride!

# OPENING DAY!



Please join us Saturday, September 11<sup>th</sup> for BORP's "Opening Day," an annual "in-the-gym" celebration of our sports and recreation programs. Friends, family, community members, and potential new participants are all invited to get in a chair, ride an adapted cycle, or strap on an eyeshade to try out programs including wheelchair basketball, power soccer, adapted cycling, and goalball.

Most notably, this particular Opening Day celebration marks our first as a Paralympic Sports Club! BORP and the US Paralympics Association welcome this opportunity to share resources while introducing Paralympic sports to persons of all ages and mobility levels.

Here's the schedule:

- 10:15 – Welcome and introduction
- 10:35 – Goalball
- 11:30 – Wheelchair Basketball
- 12:15 – Power Soccer
- 12:55 – Wheelchair Basketball
- 1:45 – Wrap up

We'd love to have you join us, and to further whet your appetite, refreshments will be provided!



# BORP FOCUS



## SAM CRAVEN



Sam Craven is no stranger to BORP's programs. At age 5, he was already strapped to a ball-chair rolling with the big dogs, and he hasn't stopped since! Today Sam rolls with the BORP All Stars, but his participation in sports for disabled athletes doesn't stop there.

Craven and his family "Sam's Team" have participated in the Revolution since its inception in 2003. He writes, "My whole family comes and stays at the Fountain Grove Inn and makes a weekend of it. My mom, cousin, and uncle usually ride the 25 mile with me. My dad, grandmother and aunt follow in our car, stopping up ahead and getting out to cheer. The Revolution is uplifting for all of us." But while Sam excels at both basketball and cycling, his heart belongs to Track and Field. He writes, "Because of BORP, I have a 'can do' attitude about sports and life in general. BORP introduced me to Track and Field, and as a result, I went to Australia with Team USA in 2005 and won a bronze in Shot Put in New Jersey as part of the team in 2008." Sam recently traveled to Florida for the US Paralympic track and field team trials, and we were ecstatic to receive the following missive from his father, Ron:

"This morning Sam threw a personal best of 10.64 meters. The World Record in Sam's F-34 Classification is around 11.2 meters. The World Record holder is also a US Paralympian, but he only threw 10.4 meters this morning, so Sam beat him as well. We'll find out in September if he has made the US Paralympic 'World Team' which goes to New Zealand in January of 2011. He still has a couple years to increase his distance before the 2012 Paralympic Games in London, but he is now definitely in the hunt."

We are incredibly proud of Sam's career and his participation in our programs! We wish him the best of luck in New Zealand in January, and we look forward to sharing the basketball court with him this fall!