

THE CHANNEL CAT CHAT



Official Newsletter of the
Tri-City Channel Cats Swim Team
P.O. Box 1668, Richland, Washington 99352
www.tricitychannelcats.org



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Your contributions are welcome (photos, too)! The deadline for submitting items for the next newsletter is **October 30**.

Welcome back TCCC families and "hello" and welcome all new TCCC families and swimmers.

I hope this newsletter finds you settling in and preparing for another exciting and successful swim season.

Board of Directors: Welcome to the new Board of Directors:

Mary Blanchard, President cmblanchard4@msn.com
Marilee Roberts, VP robertsswim@gmail.com
Katt Thompson, Secretary Kathy_A_Thompson@RL.gov
Todd Schaef, Treasurer hschaef@verizon.net
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Chris Musick, IES Rep musicks1@msn.com
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Randy Willis – Member at Large – Community RWillis@my-cbrc.com

Please feel free to contact any Board member with any questions or concerns you may have. We appreciate the chance to hear from you. Remember Board meetings are open to all parents and are held on the second Tuesday of each month at 7:00 at CBRC. The Board is currently working on the team hand book. Each family should be receiving their copy in the next month or so.

Parent Meeting: Thank you to all the parents who turned out for the parent meeting on September 20, 2008. The 2008-09 budget and dues increase were approved as presented.

Meets: Our first meet is coming up quickly on October 10-12 (Trick or Treat Invite) in Moscow.

Team Forms: We hope all your forms have been turned in to the Treasurer by now. The forms are required for team membership and contain important medical information that our coaches need, acknowledgement of member requirements, and your anticipated dues payment plan. As a reminder our agreements with the three athletic clubs we practice at require your family to be members or there will be a monthly "non-member" fee assessed to use those facilities. If your status changes as a club member during the year please notify the Club Treasurer so he can make the appropriate change.

Thank you for your continued support of the Channel Cat organization. We look forward to working with all of you to ensure a safe, exciting, and successful swim season. See you on deck!

Mary Blanchard, President

From the President





"Ally"

Allyson Fuller

*(My dad calls me "Nutty,"
can you guess why?)*

Kennewick, WA

Age 12, Blue at TCCC

2 years as a Channel Cat

Favorite strokes: Breast & Fly

Favorite events: 50 Breast, 50 Fly

Favorite meet: Tri-City Invite
because I got my first long course
"A" time.

Favorite swim meet snacks:

Beef jerky, peanut butter &
banana on toast, and apples
dipped in peanut butter.

Proudest swimming moment:

Getting my first "A" time.

2008 swimming goal:

To get my first Zone time.

Best advice from our coaches:

"Get your fanny up!" --Coach Jen
while working on my fly.

When I'm not swimming, I like to:

Play on my computer, play my
violin, hang with friends, read.

Favorite book:

Diary of Anne Frank

Favorite movie: "Juno"

Favorite Olympic Swimmer:

Michael Phelps because he is one
of the world's fastest swimmers and
he works hard and has a good,
positive attitude.

Tri-City Channel Cats Go to Western Zones

Channel Cats were awesome at the 2008 Western Zones at Gresham, Oregon! Sixteen Channel Cats made the trip – far more swimmers than any other Inland Empire Team! Six of our Channel Cats won top 8 finishes, most in more than 1 event.

Inland Empire proudly brought home the Spirit Award once again, and our swimmers were a BIG part of Inland Empire Spirit!

Congratulate our swimmers on a job well done ---

10 & under – **Alyssa Musick**

11-12 – **Max Timm-Ballard**

13-14 - **Nicole Weinman, Nick Connors, Mackenzie Ruby, Andrew Blanchard**

15-16 – **Kristen Bennett** (6th Place 400 Free, 6th Place 800 Free); **Nathaniel Weinman** (6th place 1500 Free, 3rd place 800 Free; **Tyler Pickett** (3rd place 200 Breast, 6th place 100 Breast); **Christine Tixier** (3rd place 100 Breast); **Eric Blanchard** (3rd place 200 free, 7th place 400 Free, 4th place 800 free); **Danny Tixier, Meghan Pickett**

17-18 – **Lucas Hill** (5th place 1500 Free, 8th place 200 free, 3rd place 400 free, 2nd place 800 free), **Miles Phillips, Jeff Grindel**

Please join us in welcoming the following new swimmers and their families:

Katie Bair (Kirk & Debbie)

Ben Barton (Brad & Karen)

Rilee Castilla (Ben & Jamie)

Tanner Collins (Nathan & Kristin)

Micah Cruz (Stephen & Corinne)

Ethan Dodd (Chip & Heather)

McKenna Elliott (Lore'K)

Lauren Elmore (Zach & Shari)

Esteli Garcia (Jose & Janette)

Olivia Gillett (Jim & Marjorie)

Dayla Hathaway (Jerry & Maxine)

Shaylee Kieffer (Bill & Joanie)

Nick Kinsey (Mark & Tamara)

Matt Lanzara (Edward & Cathy)

Kaylyn Lesser (John & Kiane)

John Markillie (Jeff & Meng)

April Mercer (Will & Leslie)

Tallie Mortensen (Christy)

Madelyn Noble (John & Lisa)

Mylie Oberg (Brian & Ashley)

Emma Pope (Jack & Carol)

Hailey and Hanna Rankin

(Tim & Pam)

Cheyenne Rollins (Andrea)

Alisha Sanchez (Javiar & Lorie)

Trevor Sharp (Reed & Darla)

Hailey Smithson

(Andrew & Stephanie)

Amanda and Dante Vega

(Armando & Diana)

Gabby Villareal (Audra)

Alden Welsch (Kline & Brenda)

Skyler Younkin

(Chance & Katarina)

Jordan Ziemba

(Steve & Stephanie)



Get to know...



"Kenzie" Mackenzie Gant

Prosser, WA

Age 15, Silver at TCCC

5 years as a Channel Cat

Favorite stroke: Backstroke

Favorite events: 100 Back,
200 IM, and 500 Free

Favorite meet: AG Sectionals
because there are so many
people there and I love the pool.

Favorite swim meet snacks:
Bagel & cream cheese

Proudest swimming moment:
Making State finals as a freshman
in the 100 back and 500 free.

2008 swimming goal: Zone time

Best advice from our coaches:
"Go hard or go home!" --Todd.

When I'm not swimming, I like to:
Hang out with friends and play or
watch other sports.

Favorite book: Twilight

Favorite movie:
"Remember the Titans"

Favorite Olympic Swimmer:
Natalie Coughlin because she has
an amazing backstroke but still
can excel at every other stroke.

OUTREACH PROGRAM

Tri-City Channel Cats sponsors an Outreach Program to give qualified athletes the opportunity to swim at a reduced rate. We are accepting applications for the Outreach Program now through November 1st!

If you would like more information about program eligibility or an application for submission you may contact either Marilee Roberts (Outreach Chairperson) at 509-628-1905 or Todd Schaeff (Treasurer) at 509-628-8190. **Remember the deadline for applying is November 1st!**

Families wishing to support our Outreach Program can do so by donating to Benton/Franklin County United Way and designating their donation go to the Tri-City Channel Cats. For more information on donating through United Way, contact Chris Musick.

FROM THE TREASURER

Invoices went out by email in late September. Each family should have received two different emails from the Treasurer. The first email contained the October INVOICE which details swim related charges for the month of October. The second email, account STATEMENT, summarizes and documents account activity including payments, credits, invoices, and any past due amounts. This is the document that will show the amount you owe. Please open and review both messages before contacting the Treasurer. If you made a payment to the Treasurer during September, receipt of the payment will be documented on the statement.

If you have questions, please email the Treasurer at hschaeff@verizon.net.

Get to know...



"Nikki" Nicole Christenson

Benton City, WA

Age 14, Bronze at TCCC

5 years as a Channel Cat

Favorite stroke: Freestyle

Favorite event: 100 free

Favorite meet: Pasco meet in the summer
-- I got my first A time there.

Favorite swim meet snack: Dried mangos

Proudest swimming moment: Making the
High School Varsity Swim Team at
Hanford High School!

2008 swimming goal:
Improving stroke techniques.

Best advice from our coaches:
"What doesn't kill you makes you
stronger." --Coach Jen.

When I'm not swimming, I like to: Read,
sing, and hang out with friends.

Favorite book: Twilight

Favorite movie: "The Notebook"

Favorite Olympic Swimmer:
Michael Phelps because he holds the
world record in Olympic medals but he is
very humble about it.



NEXT BOARD MEETING

Tuesday, October 7th

7:00 p.m.

CBRC Conference Room

BOARD MEETINGS
ARE OPEN TO ALL
CHANNEL CAT MEMBERS!
These meetings are usually
held on the 2nd Tuesday of
each month.

Come join us!

Get to know...



"Scooter" Scott Francis

Richland, WA

Age 10, Blue at CBRC

2 years as a Channel Cat

Favorite strokes: Free and back

Favorite events:

50 free, 50 back and 50 fly

Favorite meet: Go for the Gold
because I got High Point.

Favorite swim meet snack: Bagel

Proudest swimming moment:

When I was High Point winner at
Go for the Gold.

2008 swimming goal:

Age Group Sectional time(s)

When I'm not swimming, I like to:

Play other sports, piano, and steel
drums and play with my friends.

For Your Calendar

- Oct. 7** TCCC Board Meeting, 7:00 p.m.
- Oct. 10-12** Trick or Treat Invitational; Moscow, ID
- Oct. 20** October Scrip orders and payment due
- Nov. 3** Poinsettia orders due to Joan Wertz
- Nov. 11** TCCC Board Meeting, 7:00 p.m.
- Nov. 21-23** Turkey Trot Invitational; Cheney, WA
- Dec. 5-7** Christmas Invitational; East Wenatchee, WA
- Dec. 9** TCCC Board Meeting, 7:00 p.m.
- Dec. 18-21** State Senior Championships; Federal Way, WA

POINSETTIA FUNDRAISER



If you have not received the poinsettia fundraiser information, please visit the website Forms page.

This is a popular program so please take advantage of this opportunity to fulfill your dues offset obligation and generally support the Channel Cats! The exact day for delivery is not yet set, but what we usually find is that the grower has the flowers ready the first week in December.

The due date for orders (November 3) is relatively early. This is because the grower (located in Sunnyside) has quite a few orders and we need to place ours on time so that we get the quantities that we need.

All orders should be submitted to Joan Wertz, either hard copy by mail, or at the pool, or, you can email your orders to dougwertz@charter.net. Full payment is due when you pick up your order.

2008 U.S. Olympic Trials, pictured from left: Former Channel Cat Carl Jones (placed 36th in the 1500 free), SAS Assistant Coach Vicki Marsh, Channel Cats Tori, Tabitha, and Tyler Jones, 3-Time Olympic Medalist Katie Hoff, and our own Coach Todd!

