

## **President's Corner**

Another successful year is completed, and over seventy of us gathered on March 31<sup>st</sup> at Morningside College to celebrate the end of the 2005-2006 short course season. Over pizza and pop, a fun time was had by all! Special thanks go out to Alyssa Guelcher and Mark Polle, who together brought the banquet to a memorable close with their unique Paper Plate Awards!

As most of you are probably aware, the Sioux City Mariners Swim Club is looking for a new head coach for the 2006-2007 short course season. Mariners coaches serve seasonal contracts that expire after the Midwestern Division I Championships around mid-March. We will be placing ads in the *Sioux City Journal* and similar publications shortly. However, if you know of a suitable candidate, please let us know.

Also, there WILL be a summer long course program offered by the Mariners. We expect to have a new head coach hired by then. Frank Grijalva, our Vice-President, has graciously offered to serve as an assistant coach this summer. In the event we have not secured a head coach by then, Frank will oversee the summer program himself. We would be using both the North High Pool and Leif Erikson.

No one welcomes a coaching change. The decision to let the contracts of Dave and Jeanne lapse and open a new search was taken only after long and careful deliberation. After two years, the Board concluded that we could not easily reconcile our interests as a parent-run club with the coach-run club that Dave desired. We thank Dave and Jeanne for their efforts, and wish them well in the future.

Have a great summer, and keep on swimming!

Greg Guelcher, Sioux City Mariners Swim Club President for 2005-2006

## **Duck Contest Winners**

First place winners:

**Tori Bishop & Carter Gerritson**

Runners-up:

**Valerie Wisco, Alex Guelcher & Skyler Gerritson**

## **Midwest Division II Short Course Championship in Council Bluffs March 3-5, 2006**

The Sioux City Mariners were represented by the following swimmers at the Division II Championship Meet: **Jordan Baker, Cole & Will Bruening, Nate Burger, Robbie Carter, Brennan Gill, Francesca and Talon Grijalva, Alex & Alyssa Guelcher, Laura Langlois, Larry & Miranda LeClair, Quincy Markham, Katherine Merritt, Maggie Oberg, Mark Polle, Amy Samuelson, Abbey Speck, and Isadora Tello.** Our newest members, **Danielle & Rillia Green**, swam with us in an Unattached capacity. Mariners did well, placing 7<sup>th</sup> out of 18 teams, and earning some 66 medals for top six place finishes! Special congratulations go out to **Alex Guelcher** (1<sup>st</sup> Place in the 100 Breaststroke) and **Quincy Markham** (1<sup>st</sup> Place in the 25 Backstroke).

Mariners would like to thank Dean Burger, Greg Guelcher, and the indefatigable Bob Polle for helping officiate this meet, as well as all the parents who took turns with timing duty.

## **Midwest Division I Short Course Championship in Omaha March 10-12, 2006**

The Sioux City Mariners qualified the following eleven swimmers for the highly competitive Division I Championship Meet in Omaha, Nebraska: **Nate Burger, Robbie Carter, Brennan Gill, Rillia Green, Alex Guelcher, Quincy Markham, Maggie Oberg, Mark Polle, Amy Samuelson, Alizah Wink, and Valerie Wisco.** At the Division I Championship meet, “Twelve” is the magic number! You must finish in the top twelve in an event to score points for the team, which is no easy task given the high quality of swimmers present. Nevertheless, **Nate Burger, Robbie Carter, Rillia Green, Alex Guelcher, Quincy Markham, Mark Polle, Amy Samuelson, and Alizah Wink** together scored 113 total points for the Mariners. Special recognition goes to **Alizah Wink**, who finished an impressive 5<sup>th</sup> overall in the 8 & Under Girls group, and accomplished the rare feat of placing FIRST in a Division I Championship event (the 25 Yard Backstroke)! **Alex Guelcher** had the 2<sup>nd</sup> best showing, finishing 18<sup>th</sup> overall in the 11-12 Boys group.

Mariners would also like to thank Dean Burger and Greg Guelcher for volunteering to officiate at the Division I Championship meet.

### **Sioux City Mariners 2005-2006 Short Course Awards:**

	<b>Travel Trophy</b>	<b>Runner-up</b>
<b>Most Improved First Year Mariner Boy:</b>	Dylan Stalheim	Quincy Markham
<b>Most Improved First Year Mariner Girl:</b>	Maggie Oberg	Isadora Tello
<b>Most Improved Mariner Boy:</b>	Carter Gerritson	Dylan Stalheim
<b>Most Improved Mariner Girl:</b>	Kendra Kaneversky	Abbey Speck
<b>Harriet Younglove Award--</b>		
Outstanding 10 and under Girl:	Alizah Wink	Lindsey Stalheim
<b>George Barrett Award--</b>		
Outstanding 10 and under Boy:	Robbie Carter	Talon Grijalva
<b>Allie Montagne Award--</b>		
Outstanding 11 and older Boy:	Mark Polle	Alex Guelcher
Outstanding 11 and older Girl:	Amy Samuelson	Katherine Merritt
<b>Jeff Kelly Memorial Award--</b>		
Most dedicated Boy and Girl:	Mark Polle	Katherine Merritt
<b>Edgar Pechacek Sportsmanship Award:</b>	Miranda LeClair	Mark Polle

## **The 2006 Paper Plate Awards**

Alyssa Guelcher & Mark Polle revived an old Mariners' tradition and presented each Mariner who attended the Awards Banquet with a special Paper Plate Award:

Smiley Award: **Clara MacFarlane**

I Lost My Goggles Award: **Paige Rose**

High on Life Award: **Nate Burger**

Fun Relay Team Member Award: **Izzy Tello**

Best Truth or Dare Player: **Valerie Wisco**

Best Hair: **Alex Guelcher**

The First Annual Alex Guelcher "Biggest Flirt" Award: **Maggie Oberg**

Where's Waldo Award: **Steffanie Gerkin**

Hugs and Kisses Award: **Frankie Grijalva**

Best Lap Counter: **Carter Gerritson**

Best Storyteller Award: **Jordan Baker**

"Wo-o-o-o" Award: **Brennan Gill**

American Idol Award: **Abbey Speck**

"Hey Guys" Award: **Laura Langlois**

Napoleon Dynamite Award: **Duncan Palmer**

Graffiti Award: **Katherine Merritt**

Puppy Eyes Award: **Robby Carter**

Sweetie Pie Award: **Kendra Kaneversky**

Most Loveable: **Amy Samuelson**

Too Powerful Award: **Skyler Gerritson**

"I'm Too Full" to Stretch Award: **Larry LeClair**

Energizer Bunny Award: **Miranda LeClair**

Future Olympian Award: **Quincy Markham**

Next Kylie Piper Award: **Rillia Green**

Team Unity-"Prozac" Award: **Danielle Green**

Mini Nate Burger Award: **Talon Grijalva**

Team Mascot Award: **Alizah Wink**

Favorite Little Brother Award: **Mark Polle**

Reckless Driver Award: **Alyssa Guelcher**

I Love "Head-Up" Drills Award: **Daniel Poston**

## **Summer Swim Program:**

As noted above, Mariners will sponsor a summer long course swim program, which will run from approximately mid-May through August 4<sup>th</sup> (depending on pool availability). Cost will depend in part on the number of swimmers interested, so please email Greg Guelcher at [guelcher@yahoo.com](mailto:guelcher@yahoo.com) (or call 255-5453) if you might be interested (of course, there's no obligation to commit until after we've quoted a price). Hopefully, it should run about \$160 per swimmer like last year.

## **Swim-a-Thon Results:**

This fund raiser was a great success thanks to the hard work of three of our dedicated moms and our enthusiastic swimmers who earned \$1500.00 for the Mariners' Swim Club. Thank you Donna Samuelson, Julie Grijalva & Amy Speck for putting together a great swimming event. Our top fund raisers were: **Kendra Kaneversky, Duncan Palmer & Alizah Wink!!!** Thank you to everyone who participated!!!!

## **Treasure's Report**

We started the year, 8/31/05, with a balance of \$11,500. Our ending/available balance, as of 4/22/06 is \$6,000, demonstrating a net loss of \$5,500 over the course of the season. The available balance accounts for the employment taxes that will be due later.

While Mariners enjoyed a number of new swimmers this season, overall we suffered an overwhelming decline in membership of nearly 50%. With the loss of swimmers came the loss of revenue, particularly from our fundraisers which we have heavily relied on to support our revenue to cover expenses. Meanwhile, expenses increased, in part, because we covered additional days of meet coaching this year.

I have about \$200 in A/R to collect (miscellaneous splash fees); our escrow account has a balance of about \$40; we have inventory of 20 of the \$13 (\$260) silicone swim caps and another 30 of the \$5 (\$150) latex swim caps.

Julie Grijalva