

center point

A Publication of THE CENTER for Individuals with Physical Challenges

June 2011



see "Regatta" on page 5

2011 Bartlett Regatta & Launch Party a Huge Success



YOU could win a 2011 Mercedes C300 Sport Sedan or one of 3 other great prizes

Tickets are \$100 each and only 750 tickets will be sold . . . **BONUS** - for each 5 tickets you purchase, you get the 6th one free! Win the car or one of 3 other great prizes, valued at \$750 minimum

see "Feeling Lucky?" cont'd on page 3



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MERCEDES
Raffle Ticket
Info & Form

Special
Request
for Tie Dye Project

Spotlight On:
Blaine Adams

From our Leaders . . .

At our recent Bartlett Regatta Launch Party, one of our Center Members, Charles Owens, opened his testimony by asking our guests, "How do you define a bad day?" Rhetorically he asked, "Is it locking your keys in the car? Or spilling coffee on your favorite suit?" Charles then went on to share that for him, a bad day was two years ago when he was injured in a rodeo accident, resulting in a C5/C6 spinal cord injury.

Charles moved people not only to tears that evening, but to a standing ovation for him and his courage to get up in front of almost 400 people to share his story. Charles is a true example that "it's what you do with what you have left" that really counts. Charles, a married father of two twin boys, has redefined his life. He actively works out at The Center two times a week through our Transition Services Program. He has become an active member socially and is often found encouraging others to forge ahead. He works



hard on his rehabilitation and his family is very involved in his efforts. His positive attitude is infectious, as is his smile. He is a great success story and one that we were proud to have represent our 950+ Center Members.

Charles is just one of many success stories; but since we cannot share each and every one of them with you right now, we urge you to take some time one morning or afternoon and come visit The Center. Let us know in advance that you are coming and we will take you on a guided tour and introduce you to some of the success stories – others who embody the attitude




of making their lives count. We promise, you will leave here truly touched and inspired.


Oh, my friend, it's not what they take away from you that counts. It's what you do with what you have left.

~ Hubert Humphrey

Thank YOU for your continued support of The Center, our mission and programs. For it is because of YOU, we are given the privilege of working with the "Charles" each and every day and having our lives bettered because of it.

Yours in Center service –


Gerald Roulet, President
Board of Directors


Lori A. Long
Executive Director

The Center Staff:

- Lori A. Long, Executive Director
- Vickie Holler, Director of Member Services
- Sherry Setters, Director of Community Relations
- Margie Crossno, Program & Volunteer Coordinator
- Burt McLachlan, Program Coordinator
- Bradley Forbes, JWCS & Fitness Instructor
- David Armstrong, Fitness Instructor
- Darlene McGrail, Recreation Therapist
- Haylee McDorman, Transition Services Coordinator
- Janice Bawden, Art Instructor
- Angielyn Hughes, Administrative Assistant
- Donna Bridenstine, Receptionist

Feeling Lucky? You could be the winner of a 2011 Mercedes C300 Sport Sedan

Tickets \$100 ea — only 750 tickets to be sold . . . **Buy 5 tickets, get 6th free!**

GET YOUR TICKETS TODAY . . . THEN

> See your Mercedes Benz C300 Sport Sedan on July 25th during Channel 8's "Good Day Tulsa" live broadcast at The Center, 815 S Utica Ave. between 9:00a - 10:00a!

> On August 1st three preliminary names will be drawn on Channel 8's "Good Day Tulsa" studio broadcast.

> Tickets will remain on sale until Noon on August 4th. At 5:00p that day, a fourth preliminary name will be drawn at The Center. Join us for the drawing and stick around for The Center's "Summer Splash" event, complete with food, beverages and live music.

> On August 5th at the end of the Drillers game, and before the Fireworks Show, in reverse raffle format, the 3rd, 2nd, 1st and Grand Prize winners will be announced. Runner up prizes include airline tickets (coach) for 2 to the contiguous 48 states, Canada or Mexico, donated by American Airlines; a \$1,000 gift certificate from Nielsens Gifts; and a \$750 gift certificate from Moody's Jewelry.

> A cash amount of \$25,000 is available in lieu of taking ownership of the grand prize vehicle.

> Complete rules and guidelines are also available at www.tulsacenter.org

Good Luck and Thank You for Your Support!



2011 Mercedes C300 Sport Sedan Ticket Reservation Form

*Proceeds benefit The Center for Individuals
with Physical Challenges*

Enclosed is my payment of \$ _____
for _____ ticket(s) at \$100 each.

I am unable to purchase a ticket, but would like to make a
donation of \$ _____

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ St _____ Zip _____

Contact # _____

Email _____

Method of Payment:

Check enclosed [see below]. Check # _____

Cash

Charge my:

VISA MasterCard Discover AmEx

Name on Card [print] _____

Card # _____

Exp Date _____ CVC: _____

Signature _____

Please make check payable to The Center and mail to:
The Center for Individuals with Physical Challenges

Attn: Mercedes
815 South Utica Avenue
Tulsa, OK 74104

JACKIE COOPER
IMPORTS.com
CELEBRATING 20 YEARS

Good Day
Tulsa

Tulsa Drillers

**American
Airlines**

Nielsens

MOODY'S

SPECIAL THANKS TO ALL WHO PURCHASED A TICKET

3



As is typical for this time of year, The Center's Art Studio, as well as the Craft Studio, have been buzzing with lots of activity. Member Artists created about 30 plates that are each individually designed for the Bartlett Regatta. In addition to this project, they also create items that are always hot sellers in the Silent Auctions for the Bartlett Regatta.

Adding to the busy month of May were preparations for the **The Center Gallery at Mayfest** . . . sponsored again by T.D. WILLIAMSON, INC. Many thanks to the 16 Center Member Artists who displayed their works; a total of 39 items were available for viewing and purchase. Eight pieces sold, and the artists donated

20% of their sales profits to The Center to help offset costs of materials used in the Art Studio. Those with sales are noted with an asterisk; some artists sold more than one piece.

Barbara Dehn-Wittke	Melita Jones
Blanche Pittmon	Mike McGee*
Carmel McKinney	Norma Applegate
George Park	Stephanie Smith
Heather Keithline	Stephen Choate*
James Guss	Susan Schaefer
Marjory Murry	Suzie Woody
Mary Terwelp	Center Group Projects*
*Melissa Dickerson	

The Artists continue to stay very busy and are now thinking of the Center Holiday Mart in November, as well as holiday card designs. Plus, they keep The Center's hallways full of wonderful pieces of artwork, many of which are for sale . . . drop by and view our "gallery."

Kudos and applause to all the Members who work so hard for The Center in the Art and Craft Studios!



SPECIAL REQUEST

The Center is needing white or light colored T-shirts for a tie-dying project. On July 14th, the Presbyterian Youth Group from Texas will again be at The Center for their "Day of Service" and will help Members with the tie-dying project. All T-shirt donations will be greatly appreciated!!

Giving Life to Insurance

A gift of a life insurance policy can benefit both The Center and you. The Center, of course, benefits from a donation that can help to further its mission. As the donor, you may receive tax benefits along with the satisfaction that comes with making the gift. The ways in which gifts can be made to The Center vary and can be tailored to achieve specific planning objectives.

Charitable Giving

You can transfer an asset directly to The Center during your lifetime or name The Center as beneficiary at death and at the same time, reduce your taxable estate.

Naming as policy beneficiary

The Center can be named as a partial or full beneficiary of a new or existing life insurance policy, but no charitable income tax deduction is allowed since you retain full ownership rights, primarily the right to change the beneficiary designation in the future. This is a great way to begin charitable giving.

Ownership of an existing policy

Naming The Center as the owner and beneficiary of an existing policy or a new policy and you may receive an income tax deduction equal to the premium payment or the cash value if no more premiums are due.

Charitable Income Tax Deduction

The availability of a charitable income tax deduction is based on how the life insurance is owned and funded. For more information on this and other charitable giving opportunities, please contact The Center's Executive Director, Lori Long at 918-794-4509.



Special thanks to Chris Miller
at the Advancement Group

the
Advancement
group
www.tagpg.org



2011 Bartlett Regatta & Launch Party

All of the positive thinking and efforts of the 2011 Bartlett Regatta Steering Committee paid off big time . . . over \$250,000 has been raised, greatly exceeding the original goal of \$200,000! This could not have been achieved without the continued support of Patrons and Sponsors.



As you can see by this sampling of photos, everyone had a good time at the Launch Party as well as at the Regatta on Race Day aboard the Cherokee Queen and Arrowhead Yacht Club!



Much thanks goes to Sarah Graves and Judy Kishner who co-chaired the 2011 Bartlett Regatta Steering Committee, and those who served on the Committee: Nate Waters - Patron Chair; Val Fimbres and Stacy Nix - Auction Co-Chairs; Kris Robinson - Launch Party Chair; and Charles "IV" McNamara - Race Chairman.



Others volunteering for the Committees include: Kristin Dickerson, Eric Ellsworth, Jennifer Ferguson, Beth Fisher, Debby Hughes, Martha King-Clark, Samantha Marshall, Ann McKellar, JoAnn Schaub, Lance Taylor, Beth Terrill, and Allison Warning.



Approximately 400 guests attended the Launch Party on June 1st and enjoyed the two silent auction areas, a great dinner, a very lively Live Auction, the auction of the boats and general good fun. Center Member Charles Owens impacted the audience with his message on what brought him to The Center and how it continues to help him and his family.



The fun and festivities continued on June 4th at Grand Lake as Members and guests boarded the Cherokee Queen II to watch the Regatta/Race action. Arrowhead Yacht Club hosted the Skippers and their crews at a breakfast, and again for the awards ceremony.



The Center Board and Staff are most grateful for the support from those donating to the silent and live auctions, the generosity of the Patrons and Sponsors, those who attended and made purchases in the auctions, and the numerous volunteers giving of their time.



VOLUNTEER CORNER

by Margie Crossno

WOW! What an active schedule we've had with numerous activities and events through Spring and early Summer. Many thanks to our special event volunteers who assisted with the Center Gallery at Mayfest, sponsored by T.D. Williamson, Inc., and, of course, our Bartlett Regatta Launch Party.

Another HUGE Thanks to our programming volunteers who assist with our daily and weekly activities in Adaptive Recreation, Rehabilitative Fitness and Community Reintegration.

Even though we officially celebrate and recognize our volunteers in April during National Volunteer Recognition Week, gratitude cannot be expressed enough for the involvement of all of our

volunteers who assist with special events, instruct classes or assist with administrative or building tasks.

During the Volunteer Recognition Breakfast in April, 19 volunteers received the 2010 Presidential Service Award. The volunteer group that teaches leisure craft classes and assists with art received the **Kate Kaiser Memorial Volunteer Award**. Pictured below [L to R] are Linda VanHooser, Mary Terwelp, Mrs. Ruth Nelson (Kate's daughter,) Melita Jones, Melissa Dickerson, Jim Steinsick and Floyd Birkenfeld. Carole Medina could not be present for the photo.



Tulsa JWCS Winners at Endeavor Games

The Center's Junior Wheelchair Sports [JWCS] team had a great showing at the 2011 Endeavor Games in early June. Listed below are our athletes and their victories:

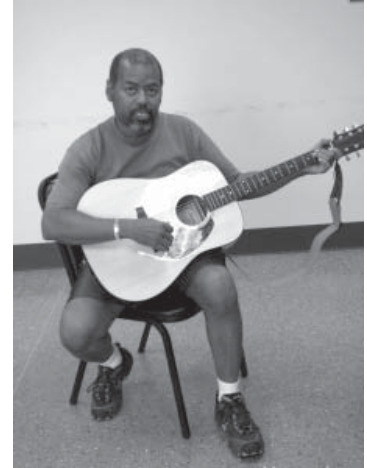
- ★ Kelli Odle won gold in hand cycling and the 5000 meters
- ★ Karina Keck won gold in discus, javelin, shot put and 3-on-3 basketball
- ★ Kyle Hutchinson won gold in discus, javelin, shot put and 3-on-3 basketball

- ★ Kirstie VanBecelaere won four golds in 100 meters, 3-on-3 basketball, swimming 50 meters free style and 50 meters backstroke. She also won four silver in the discus, javelin, shot put and swimming 50 meters breaststroke
- ★ Logan Shaw won four gold in discus, javelin, shot put and 3-on-3 basketball
- ★ The Tulsa Jammers 3-on-3 wheelchair basketball team of Logan, Karina, Kyle and Kirstie defeated the Mavs in the finals 12-4 to win gold.





Spotlight on: **Blaine Adams**



Blaine Adams does not let his hearing impairment impede his love for playing guitar and piano. Blaine tells his story in his own words, and tries to inspire others facing physical challenges.

I started at The Center in the Fall of 2010. The thing that inspired me the most is a challenge to make a difference in my own life.

I recently read a newsletter story that helped me look at life changes in a different way. The classes I take show me that a person's challenges don't have to take the best of them.

The physical part of us will always be there, but it doesn't have to take over us. It starts in the mind, so the challenge can be changed. There are people at The Center to help you with these challenges so that you can be a better person.

One of my instructors said something that got me thinking . . . you can't keep making excuses about a challenge, you have to work on it! I always tell others that nothing changes unless YOU change it, and this takes a lot of self-determination.

My challenge is deafness - a silence on the inside - to noise, talking, sounds of birds, wind rushing, airplanes, water running, TV and so on. Although deafness is an inside silence, it does not have to be on the outside of a person.

One of the things I have learned from past circumstances is that no one with life challenges is alone. Nowadays there are so many places you can attend to overcome your challenge. So, no more holding back; no more "doesn't anyone care?"

Some challenges you can see, some you can't see. Let's help a challenged individual learn how to deal with his/her challenge in a way that they feel is best for them.

Reminders
and
To Do's
from
The Center



**Member
Activities
Committee**
first Tuesday
at Noon in
Classroom 3

Bowling for \$\$\$
July 13 - get sponsors!

**Buy Mercedes
car raffle tickets
BEFORE Aug 4th**

**Join the Center group
on Fri, Aug 5th at the
Tulsa Drillers game
for the Mercedes Car
Raffle Drawing**

**SUMMER
SPLASH**
Thu, Aug 4th
at The Center
5:30p - 7p
Fun, food,
beverages
and live
music!



The Center For Individuals
With Physical Challenges

815 South Utica Avenue, Tulsa, OK 74104-3633
Phone: 918-584-8607 www.tulsacenter.org

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printing of this newsletter courtesy of



Partner Agency

The Center for Individuals with Physical Challenges was founded in 1957. Its mission is to provide opportunities for persons with physical disabilities to enhance the quality of their lives. The Center is dedicated to providing rehabilitative, recreational and community reintegration programs for people with a wide range of mobility, dexterity and sensory disabilities to increase their independence, have fun and accept challenges.

The Center for Individuals with Physical Challenges is pleased to host several support groups that offer additional opportunities to Center Members, their families and the general community for education, discussion and development of a social network for individuals with a similar life event. Please give your support and help spread the word.



ALS – Amyotrophic Lateral Sclerosis or Lou Gehrig’s

Disease: Meets the second Thursday of each month at 6:30p in Classroom One.

Aphasia Support Group: Meets the second Wednesday of each month at 9:30a in Classroom Three.

Family/Caregivers Support Group: Meets the first Thursday of each month, 2:45p in Classroom Three.

Living Well Support Group: This group focuses on discussing affective issues that arise due to a physical challenge. The group meets the first Thursday of each month, 2:45p in Classroom Two.

MDA – Muscular Dystrophy Association: Meets the fourth Monday of March, June and September at 6:30p in Classroom One.

Stroke Support Group: Meets the second Thursday of each month at 3:30p in Classroom One for discussion, education and socialization to caregivers and stroke survivors.

TAGS – Tulsa Amputee Support Group: Meets the first Monday of each month at 6:30p. in Classroom One to discuss various topics of interests, provide support, education and socialization.

VISTA – Visually Impaired Seeking Technique Alternatives: Meets each Wednesday at 1:00p in Classroom Two. Meetings feature dialogue concerning community resources, adaptive equipment, social activities and supportive interactions.

