

Olympians Newspage



The Northern California Olympians offer fellowship to members of past and current Olympic teams; coordinate member appearances at youth, community, and corporate events; and support the creation of an active, visible, nationwide (and eventually worldwide) Olympian organization.

Kim's Thoughts On Asia

Time passes. The rains come and go. Water slowly recedes. We return to our lives. Yet the number of souls who left our planet when Mother Nature unleashed her aqueous fury in the Indian Ocean on December 26 increases every day.

As one who has spent a lot of her life in and around water, I contemplate the symbology and magnitude of this occurrence. I wonder about water's ability to nourish and sustain, then suddenly and irrevocably destroy. I observe how oceans separate us and yet connect us. I feel fascination and then fear, as those on the beaches surely did. I grieve for the little ones who lost their family and I hurt for the families who lost their little ones. I notice few countries in the world left off the list of those who lost citizens. I see water drowning without discrimination of race, class, gender, age or religious belief. Most importantly, I pray once more that out of this devastation will arise the perspective that will inspire us to finally lay down arms, put aside disputes, care for each other and remember our humanity.

The world's assistance will be needed in Southeast Asia for years to come. Perhaps you've already determined how you will help. Here's an Olympic option: the bid committee of NYC2012 is inviting its circle of Paralympians and

Olympians to donate to any one of four agencies – UNICEF-USA, American Red Cross International Response Fund, Save the Children-Asian Earthquake/Tsunami Relief Fund and the Special Olympics Rebuild Hope.

All monies collected by March 11 will be matched by NYC2012. Checks should be made directly to the charity or charities you choose from the list and be mailed directly to Erica Nelson at NYC2012, 1 Liberty Plaza, 33rd floor, New York NY, 10006. Pledges can be made by email to enelson@nyc2012.com. "Circle of Olympians Relief Fund" should be mentioned on the e-mail or on the memo portion of the check.

Newly-elected U.S. Olympians president Willie Banks is organizing a campaign among Olympic alumni to rebuild a Sri Lankan school. We will pass along details as we receive them.

Event Report Olympians Welcomed Home

More than four hundred people, including 100 members of past and present Olympic teams gathered on Wednesday, November 3 at the Ritz-Carlton in San Francisco to salute the newest class of Northern California Olympians – members of the 2004 Athens and 2002 Salt Lake City Olympic teams. And while we were celebrating, we made \$25,000!, record proceeds for the NCO Grant Program which directly benefits future Olympians through travel and training grants made in pre-Olympic years.

Among the Olympians in attendance were 1936 gold-medal-winning water polo player *Alex Tarics* of Hungary, 1968 Gold Medalist figure skater *Peggy*

Fleming, 1960 Olympic champion *Bill Toomey*, 1992 Silver Medalist rower *Ted Murphy*, 1998 Gold Medal skier *Jonny Moseley*, 2004 Silver Medalist pole vaulter *Toby Stevenson*, 2004 swimming star *Natalie Coughlin*, and beloved Paralympic Basketball Player *Trooper Johnson*.

Guests were treated to a silent auction of Olympic memorabilia, a delicious meal, a surprise visit by former San Francisco mayor Willie Brown, a lively Q&A session between NBC-TV 11's Raj Mathai and a panel of current Olympians, and a powerful highlight film of the Games produced by 1984 Olympian *Barbra Higgins*.

The proceeds of the dinner fund the NCO Grant Program which will award grants to future Olympians later this year in anticipation of the 2006 Winter Games in Torino, Italy. For more information, visit our website, ncolympians.org.

In the week following the Welcome Home Dinner, Olympians were honored on both sides of the Bay. On November 5 at the Oakland Arena, the Golden State Warriors saluted 2002 and 2004 Olympians at halftime. A few days later, ceremonies created by the brilliant Michael Olmstead celebrated Northern California Olympians past and present during the 49ers game at 3Com Park.

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BASOC News

Senior Games Awarded to Stanford

The Bay Area Sports Organizing Committee continues its winning ways in drawing Olympic sports to Northern California, the most recent a feat that tops the Olympic Games themselves in participation. At a press conference in December, BASOC and Stanford University announced the awarding of 2009 National Senior Games to the Bay Area, the largest event in the USOC family with 18 sports and nearly 15,000 athletes.

"This announcement would not be taking place, were it not for the many personal contributions and public support provided to BASOC during its "silver medal" quest to be the U.S. Candidate City for the 2012 Olympic Games," says BASOC CEO *Anne Warner Cribbs* (1960 Swimming). "We remain convinced that the San Francisco Bay Area is the best place for sports and athletes."

The event is scheduled for summer 2009 at Stanford and other Bay Area venues.

Olympic News

USO Elects New President

Track-and-field great Willie Banks was elected president of the U.S. Olympians in nationwide elections held last November. He succeeds two-time gold medalist swimmer John Naber.

Topping Banks agenda for his two-year term is a fundraising campaign among Olympians to rebuild a school in Sri Lanka devastated by the December 26 earthquake and tsunami. Banks is working with various organizations to establish a giving process; more details will be forthcoming.

Here at home in February, the USOC staff will host a conference in Colorado Springs with representatives from potential market cities and training centers/sites with the goal of coordinating relevant themes and existing community events to co-promote projects like the Road to Beijing and the 25th Anniversary of the 1980 Olympic boycott. We expect the Olympic Alumni to be included and involved.

NCO News

NCO Seeks New Leadership

Okay, she co-founded a professional women's basketball league, masterminded a near-upset of New York in the bid race to host the 2012 Games and now guides the Bay Area Sports Organizing Committee as it continues to build on the momentum of the bid effort to draw major international athletic events to the Bay Area. In the past decade *Anne Warner Cribbs* (1960 Swimming) has done all this while leading the Northern California Olympians and running her own communications consulting firm. Anne says, firmly now, it's time for her to move on and make room for new leadership of the NCO.

We're serious! Anne has said this for years, but this year it will happen. If we don't get to it, come May we'll be without a Chairman. Many of our current Board members will continue on in their roles, but it's time to generate new energy, vision and experience in our ranks.

Thus we call forth Olympians of recent or not-so-recent years, in sports conducted in all venues (we are a little heavy on the water...), men and women from around Northern California. We meet alternate months at different locations in the Bay Area, each taking specific tasks on the following committees – grant, web site, parties and a new project: the Oakland Initiative (more to come). We have much fun, do good work and run a streamlined operation. Please contact *Marilyn King*, (510) 568-7417, if you'd like to discuss this opportunity further.

NCO Partners with 24-Hour Fitness

The Northern California Olympians and USOC Sponsor 24-Hour Fitness are pleased to announce a first-of-its-kind collaboration with 24-Hour Fitness in 2005, a pilot program offered only in California to us and to the Southern California Olympians.

Here's how the program works: All dues paying members of the NCO have been mailed a certificate for a year's membership at 24-Hour Fitness and a letter outlining the program. If you are not currently an NCO member, and want

Mark Your Calendar!

March 21: Board Meeting

May 14: Annual Meeting, Kim Carlisle's garden, Menlo Park, 5 p.m.

May 16: Board Meeting

July 18: Board Meeting

September 12: BASOC Celebrity Golf Tournament, CordeValle

September 19: Board Meeting

November 21: Board Meeting

TBA: Holiday Party

Board meetings are hosted at 7 p.m. on the dates indicated by directors on a rotating schedule, except where noted differently. For location and directions, e-mail cribbsaw@pacbell.net.

to join to receive this benefit, contact *Anne Cribbs*, cribbsaw@pacbell.net.

The NCO Board is very excited about this opportunity. Once the program is established as a success in California, 24-Hour Fitness may extend the program to Olympian chapters nationwide. *Anne Cribbs*, who is leading the fitness initiative, in her role as VP of the US Olympian Alumni Association, is convinced that extending 24-Hour Fitness membership to NCO members will support the goal of Lifelong Fitness and be a great benefit of NCO membership.

In Memory

In late 2004, we said good-bye to long-time NCO member *Russell Irwin*. The Irwin family, per Russell's son, Mike, asks that contributions in honor of Russell be directed to the Northern California Olympian's Training and Travel Grant Fund (send to *Jan Corwin* as outlined in "Dues"). Russell's grandson, Bryan Irwin, will continue to receive this newsletter. Welcome, Bryan!....

Memberabilia

Palo Alto native *Brian Martin* (1998, 2002 Luge) is still sliding downhill on his back, but in his case that's good news as he's a luger, far from a loser. Brian was featured

in the January 19 edition of the *San Francisco Chronicle*, as he and his long-time luge doubles partner Mark Grimmette are aiming for gold in Torino in early 2006, less than 13 months away. They won bronze in Nagano in 1998 and silver in Salt Lake in 2002 and have claimed 49 more international medals, most recently a World Cup victory in December in Calgary. Brian says he likes the lifestyle of being an elite world-class athlete, has no idea what he'll do after retiring from the ice, and lives life one run, one day at a time...From ice to sand: volleyball ace *Kerri Walsh* (2000 & 2004 Indoor & Beach Volleyball) and her partner, Misty May, gold medalist on the beach in Athens, were named USOC Athletes of the Month and the Women's Sports Federation's Sportswoman Team of the Year last October after winning the AVP Pro Beach Volleyball tour and becoming the winningest team in the history of their sport...Honors continued as Paralympian *Jennifer Hewitt* (2004 Wheelchair Basketball) returned after winning gold in Athens to Georgetown, where she's a senior, and was named a Rhodes Scholar...Finally, a few tidbits from me, *Kim Carlisle* (1980 Swimming): Last fall I launched The Carlisle Enterprise, an integration of all I've been doing on the planet for 44 years and hope to do for the next 44, or more. We offer art and creative services in photography, film, publishing, and music, all of which explore and express identity. Our gallery and studio are located at the historic, recently reopened Allied Arts Guild in Menlo Park. The process has been a leap from the 10-meter tower, an immersion in business education, and an exercise in faith. As I told a fellow Olympian recently, "I've forgotten the focus, intensity and tiny little steps every day required to manifest a vision. It feels like chipping marble with a toothpick." One of our projects, a highlight film – *From Menlo Park to China* – about a group of local middle school students who traveled to China in 2004 to paint a mural with Chinese children in Beijing, is playing at Zeum (Yerba Buena Gardens) in San Francisco until April 15. The film contains the seeds of a larger documentary about art as self-expression in China which I will begin fundraising for this year with the goal of producing and showing the film at the Olympic Arts Festival in China in 2008. Our website is live and evolving daily: www.thecarlisleenterprise.com.

Pay Your Dues! (if you haven't already)

Wondering if you've paid your dues this year? Check this list. If you're on it, you're golden, if not, send your annual dues of \$40 for the year (fiscal year is May to April) to *Jan Corwin*, 501 Tahos Road, Orinda, CA 94563-2918. Make checks payable to the Northern California Olympians. All 2004 Olympians are free for one year. Your membership ensures you of a year's worth of news, collegiality and invitations to special events and now a year's membership at 24-Hour Fitness, plus the opportunity to share your Olympic spirit with our community through speaking engagements and appearances at businesses and schools. If you'd like to join for life, it's \$1000 (25 years at today's membership rate) regardless of when you join, so join young!

NCO Members

Tom Abdenour
 Lee Allen
 Tommy Angell (Life Member)
 Peter Arnautoff
 Rink Babka
 Carlos Bea
 David Blanchard
 Stacey Blumer-Evans
 Michael Bottom
 Don Bowden
 Karen Brems
 Michael Bruner
 Kelly Bryson
 Andy Burke
 James Burke
 Ed Burke, Jr.
 Willy Cahill
 Chris Cavanaugh
 Jan Corwin
 Juno Stover Irwin Cox
 Derrick Crass
 Anne Warner Cribbs
 Ann Curtis Cuneo
 James Curry
 Debbie De Angelis
 Jim Delaney
 Chris & MaryBeth Linzmeier Dorst
 Edith McGuire DuVall
 Timothy Evans
 Catriona Fallon
 Ken Flax
 Jeff Float
 Lynn Gautschi
 Ross Gerry
 Rudy Guevara

Paul Hait
 Mark Henderson
 Barbra Higgins
 Pat Elsener Homan
 Bill Hudson
 Starr Walton Hurley
 Brian Ivie
 Robert Scott Jackson
 Robert Jeangerard
 Trooper Johnson
 Hartwell Jordan
 Barbara Stark Jordan
 Don Kane
 Marilyn King
 Dave Langon
 Ruben Leni
 Lou Lindsey
 Peter Lippett
 Pat Lovell
 Gregory Massialas
 Valerie McClain
 Debbie Meyer
 Billy Mills
 Ken Min
 Karen Moe-Humphreys (Life Member)
 Robert Morey, Jr.
 Keith Mowen
 Julian Munoz
 Ted Murphy
 Sean Nolan
 Ray Ocampo, Jr.
 Chris Von Salza Olmsted
 Nathan Perkins
 Matt Petri
 Sherry Posthumus
 Sandra Poulsen
 Susan Heon Preston
 Katrina Radke
 Jerome Reitenbach
 Gail Roper
 Molly Botkin Rossiter
 Susan Jones Roy
 Jim Schmitz
 Cherrie Sherrard
 Russ Silvestri
 Tom Simons
 Michael Stamm
 Michael Still
 Terri Stickles Strunck
 Jane Swagerty-Hill
 Alex Tarics
 Nort Thornton
 Bill Toomey
 Andy Toro
 Ian Turner
 Yosh Uchida
 Mary Wayte-Bradburne
 Candi Clark Wozniak

2004 Olympians – Guest Members

Alejandro Albor
Tony Azevedo
Mark Barr
Alison Bartosik
Stephanie Brown
Caroline Bruce
Kristin Caverly
Paul Cayard
Haley Cope
Kelly Crowley
Megan Dirkmaat
Jackie Edwards
Rolandas Gimbutis
Jernej Godec
Barbara Grassmyer
Kristen Heaston
Lindsay James
Becky JastonekTomsic
Trooper Johnson
Dana Kirk
Tara Kirk
Anna Kozlova
Lauren Lappin
Alex Lim

Wayne Lo
Marlon Lopez
Sarah Lowe
Samantha Magee
Lauren McFall
Teri McKeever
Jessica Mendoza
Miguel Molina
Jonny Moseley
Khoa Nguyen
Diane Ninemire
Ogonna Nnanami
Victor Plata
Jonathon Riley
John Rittman
Jamie Schroeder
Mladen Stegic
Toby Stevenson
Raul Tamayo
Nicole Teter
Grace Upshaw
Andre Ward
Mary Whipple
Ellen Wilson
Kendra Zanotto

This newsletter is published by the Northern California Olympians on the 15th of March, June, September and December.
Copy submissions are due by the 1st of each month. Send your news (not your dues!—send those to Dr. Jan Corwin, address on this page) to
Kim Carlisle, 262 Arbor Road, CA 94025, or kim@kimcarlisle.com. Editor: Anne Warner Cribbs. Design: Annette Shelby Todd.



Northern
California
Olympians

c/o Anne Cribbs & Company
2450 Agnes Way
Palo Alto, CA 94303
www.NCOlympians.org

Get Involved!

Serve on the NCO Board

Details inside...