

PPR Swim Meets and Lifeguard Competition

By Lisa Whittle, Program Coordinator, Aquatics and Ice Rinks

Little Quaker Swim Meet

The Philadelphia Parks & Recreation Little Quaker Swim Meet was held on August 7 at the Awbury Pool, located in PPR District 4. It was a beautiful sunny day where 100 swimmers,



ages 5 through 8, competed against one another. The swimmers participated in races consisting of freestyle, backstroke and the flutter kick with a kickboard. The children had fun and so did the many staff that helped out with the event. Special thanks to retiree Eileen Sheridan for assisting us at the swim meet and enjoying the festivities along with the following staff: Katie Wimsey, Andy McLaughlin, John Brady,

Jerry Gaul, John McBride, James Bell, Brian Kitchell, Beth Perkowski, Les Quill, Katie McGurk, Alberta Gibson, Kathi Muller and Anne Marie Dunne.

Youth Swim Meet

PPR held the culminating championship for youth ages 9-16 at the Lee Pool, located in District 8. The winners from the seven district swim meets moved on to attend and compete in this championship meet. Each district was able to send three youth for both male and female in freestyle, backstroke, butterfly and breaststroke in four age categories. We also had freestyle relays at the meet, a favorite event for District 6. There were approximately 157 swimmers at this meet with over 250 people on the deck to cheer on the swimmers. Special thanks again to retiree Eileen Sheridan and the many PPR staff who came to assist that day. To name a few: Larry Brown, Thelma Nesbitt, Doris Swarn, Herb Brown, Beth Perkowski, Jen Cole, Steve Smith, Andy McLaughlin, Brian Sell, Todd Colistro, Bob



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Hosephros, John Bromley, Oktavia Cherry, Cameron Walker, John McBride, Jerry Gaul and a special shout out to Paulette Copeland Bolton and the entire staff of the Lee Pool who worked hard to prepare for the meet, especially after a very big rain storm which brought many leaves into the pool. Thank you, thank you to everyone.

Lifeguard Competition

The annual Lifeguard Competition was held at the Vogt Pool, located in District 2. This



event was open to all of our seasonal pool staff, and the staff came to participate in swimming events and rescues, dancing and music courtesy of PPR's Patty-Pat Kozlowski, door prizes and food for all of the

participants. All staff who attended received a raffle ticket and a t-shirt for the end of summer celebration. In all, 250 staff members who worked at the swimming pools attended this event. Spectators and family members cheered on their favorite swimmers, and many PPR staff members assisted with the evening. The night was a lot of fun for all and pulled off just in time before an approaching storm soaked the area. Many thanks to all of the staff who helped time the event, register people at the door, help with the food, and do whatever was necessary to make the night a huge success. Thank you staff-- without your help, the event would not be so successful. Special thanks to John Brady and his pool staff for going above and beyond to prepare and clean up for the event.

We also recognized four staff members for their bravery and quick action from an event that took place at the O'Connor Pool on August 8. The Aquatics Office presented an award to Leigha Coates, Isak Sindler, Jacoby Montague and Donna DeShazo.



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North Wildwood Ocean Challenge



It was a cold and stormy day on Saturday, August 9 when Larry Brown, Water Safety Instructor at the Sayre Pool; along with his two grandsons, Sa'ood and Salih Gibson; two lifeguards from the Lee Pool, Jacobo Morazon and Elijah Luckey; and three others, Marquis Holden, Sultan Brown and Lazaria Luckey--all soon to be lifeguards working

for Parks and Recreation; participated in and completed the North Wildwood Ocean Challenge.

The challenge was to swim one mile along the beach of North Wildwood, and for Larry's two grandsons, their challenge was to swim $\frac{1}{2}$ mile. We are proud to say that everyone finished the challenge and represented the City of Philadelphia with smiles on their faces. I would like to congratulate all of the participants, but especially our own staff and family. Great job, everyone!



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