

UPCOMING EVENTS:

- Busy weekend coming up - well, at least Saturday! (Practice, movie and bowling.)
- Next board meeting is February 10 at 6:00 p.m. - Case High School. All welcome!
- Team swim caps are now available. Get yours today! \$12 per cap from either Mike or Neil. Team car decals available too!

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SERPENT TIMES



EST. 1984

FEBRUARY 6, 2014

Neil's Kickboard

Swim-a-Thon update ...

I believe I have received all pledges and although we feel short of our goal, this event continues to trend well as we fundraised \$5,971.85 (last year we came in at \$6,020 and the year prior to that we brought in \$1,215).

As the two groups that submitted the most pledges, this Saturday the Lions and Greens (and 1-2 friends they would like to invite) are encouraged to attend a private movie at the Sturtevant theater complex. Doors open at 9:00 a.m. and the movie *Rise of the Guardians* (from the creators of *How to Train Your Dragon*) will begin at 9:30 a.m. Free popcorn and drinks for children. Parents are welcome to watch the movie too (or drop children off and pick them up later). **At the end of the movie (97 minutes long), the exciting 2008 Olympic Mens 4x100 Meter Freestyle will be shown on the BIG SCREEN - don't miss out!**

Here's the list of the individual winners from our Swim-a-Thon:

1) Megan Torres (\$456) - \$100 American Eagle gift card

2) Sammie Spanske (\$400) - \$100 Toys 'R Us gift card

3) Taylor Knaus (\$350) - \$100 Best Buy gift card

4) Sebastian Redig (\$310) - \$100

7) Hannah Kehl (\$250) - \$25 iTunes gift card

8) Bailey Bleser (\$240) - \$25 iTunes gift card

9) Carter Johnson (\$235) - Speedo Backpack

10) Katie Pogodzinski (\$200) - Limousine ride to Friday's dual meet

11) Stephanie Strange won the \$200 swim credit raffle - thanks to Natalia Badillo for helping draw



Our 6th Annual Groundhog Grand Prix was a fast event and a great success. Our distance swimming looked good as many swimmers dropped significant seconds from their previous best. Good job swimmers!

Dick's Sporting Goods gift card

5) Jack Scharff (\$275) - \$50 iTunes gift card

6) Ali Scharff (\$270) - Speedo Backpack

We are hosting our final dual meet of the season this Friday at Case. Parents able and willing to help with timing are encouraged to meet with Rich Bleser next to the pool office at 6:05 p.m.

This Saturday we'll be bowling at Castle Lanes from 1:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m. Join the fun!

Change in practice location on February 14th - instead of Park, we will be at Case.

Please call or email me if you ever have any questions or concerns. 262.898.4766 and at south.eastern.aquatics@gmail.com.

*** Completely fantastic ***

SEA vs. OZ Dual Information

We will be hosting a team from Mequon (OZ) this Friday at Case.

The great thing about dual meets is they encompass the three 'Fs' of swim meet action ... free, fast, and fun!

We try to schedule a dual meet once a month during our seasons.

Warm-ups will begin at 5:30 p.m. Please understand this is not the time

to arrive. :) 5:30 p.m. is the time we will be using our three-point entry into the water to begin warm-ups.

Competition will begin at 6:15 p.m. and will finish up at 8:00 p.m.

As usual, parent volunteers are needed to serve in the capacity of timers, officials and a runner. Please meet on deck at 6:05 p.m. next to the pool office if you are able to assist.

In addition, Neil would like to begin training 2-3 parents to run the Colorado Timing computer. It's relatively easy and if you would like to learn how to use the hardware that times our meets, please speak with Neil.

Please be on time for warm-ups.

Drive safe, swim fast, have fun!

GO SEA!

Team Bowling the Saturday



Join your teammates for some bowling? Don't strike out - attend this event and test your skills!

Our annual bowling outing is right around the corner. This year we will bowl from 1:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m. at Castle Lanes here in Racine off of Green Bay Road on the east side of the street (about halfway between HWY 11 and HWY 20).

The date for this fun event is Saturday, February 8th.

This outing is open to all swimmers and their families (bring along a friend if you would like too).

The cost is \$12 and will cover shoes, ball and two hours of

bowling (this does not include food and drink so bring money if you think you'll get thirsty or hungry).

Those swimmers and families who would like to attend should forward \$12 per person (exact change or check made payable to SEA please) to Neil by February 3.

Many of the coaches will be in attendance so here's your chance to take them on in a friendly game to see who can win.

Sounds like the perfect day to me ... morning practice,

weight training and then some fun times bowling.

Hope to SEA you on the lanes and not in them. :)

Jordan and Ella Pier, Scott Palmer, Rachel Zenisek, Luchien-Ledvina Family, Sara Bollendorf, Tiffany Steffes, Pagie Betthausen, Quinn and Neil Wright, Hannah Kehl, Marlee and Mackenzie Reischl, Emily and Erin Cain, Stratman Family, Kayla Rose, Sara Bollendorf, Liz and Rachel Christensen, Jason Lewis and Caitlin Mertins is attending.

In regards to our vision to building our own training facility, the YMCA Board of Directors kicked off their Strategic Planning meetings last May (the meetings will conclude at the end October). The Board will discuss the future plans for the Sealed Air Y and a handful of other projects. We will anxiously await their findings.

SCRIP - The Easiest Way to Fundraise

Here are the current order by/delivery on dates for SCRIP: order by order by order by order by February 3, delivery on February 6; order by February 17, delivery on February 20; order by March 3, delivery on March 6; order by March 17, delivery on March 20. Deadline to order is 8 AM. All deliveries will be in the balcony from 5:30 p.m to 6:00 p.m. Individual arrangements can also be made.

Your order can be placed at www.shopwithscrip.com by using

the SEA enrollment code of 173DF3A917711 and registering for PrestoPay a minimum of two days before placing your first order. DO NOT place your first order until the PrestoPay registration process is complete. PrestoPay is safe, simple and the only payment method accepted by SEA. Happy Shopping!

SCRIP Quick Facts

- 1) www.shopwithscrip.com
- 2) SEA enrollment code =

173DF3A917711

- 3) Payment method = PrestoPay
- 4) Deliveries are scheduled 1-2 times per month during practice. Other options include ScripNow (print at home) and Re-load

Questions? Please contact Brenda Rose at brose7@wi.rr.com or Kim Wergin at kimwergin@aol.com. Thanks!

Aging up, it happens to everyone.



January & February Birthdays

Sebastian B. & Sofia B.

Halina C. & Jake E.

Scott P. & Kaite P.

Abby P. & Vincent P.

Sebastian R. & Marlee R.

Ali S. & Tiffany S.

Drew E. & Adara J.

Jason L. & Alyssa S.

James T. & Cassie B.

Joey D. & Lindsey F.

Abby K. & Sam M.

Zachary P. & Cameron P.

Brett E. & Megan G.

Hannah M. & Aysia P.

Cole S. & Lauren Z.

Snow & Cold is here, when/how is practice canceled?



Frosty says, "If RUSD cancels school or after school activities, no swim practice."

With the arrival of freezing temperatures and our first dumping of snow, it's time to remind the membership of the practice cancellation policy here at SEA ... it's really easy.

If RUSD cancels schools or after-school

activities, swim practice is canceled.

Ways to find out whether or not practice is canceled are numerous.

1) Listen to local radio stations and watch local TV stations. If it is announced RUSD has canceled school or after-school activities, practice is canceled.

2) Read the "NEWS" section

of the website.

3) Check your email.

4) Check facebook - SEA SWIM TEAM

5) Check Twitter - @SEAWISCONSIN

As always, you know best as to whether it is safe or not to attend practice. If practice is not canceled, and you don't feel it's safe to attend, by all means, stay home. :)

A+ Recap

This year's A+ meet was amazingly fast. The youngest swimmer to ever go Pro (Michael Andrew, 14) was in attendance and broke three NAG records during the 3-day meet. Fun to watch for sure.

But some of our own athletes were firing on all cylinders too.

Bailey Bleser dropped 8.10 in the 500Fr to punch his State ticket - 5:22.69.

Emily Bollendorf re-qualified for YMCA Nationals picking up the 1Bf (58.21) and 2Bf (2:11.17 - Speedo Sectional cut too) cuts (both team records) and achieved 100%

best times. She also broke the team record in the 1Br touching the wall at 1:10.83 (broke Leann Lousier's 1988 mark of 1:10.87) and posted some of the fastest times in team history - 5th 500Fr, 8th 2Br, 2nd 2IM, and 4th 4IM.

Sara Bollendorf picked up the 1Br State cut posting the 6th quickest time in our history and touching in 100% best times.

Maren Hoferitza-Palermo notched a season best effort and the 10th fastest time in team history for the 4IM.

Jacob MacKenzie achieved a State cut in the

50Fr when he swam a 23.83.

Jake Trask faced some stiff competition in the 11-12 Boys age-group, but managed to post a best time in the 50Fr.

This meet is harder to qualify for than our State meet and drew 1,200 athletes/67 teams throughout America.

Next year, those swimmers closing in on qualifying times for this meet should plan on attending as it is a premier meet in our neck of the woods and offers a lot of great competition. What are you training for?



2nd Annual Wine Tasting, Raffle & Silent Auction

This is a reminder that our awesome UNCORKT fundraiser is March 28. Look for more information about this event in the upcoming weeks.

Like last year I am looking to have each swim group put together a basket to raffle off at the event. This was very successful and we were able to raise quite a bit on money. Last year we had some wonderful parents volunteer for some of the groups and this year I am hoping for 100% participation from

parents in all of the groups. If you would like to be the parent volunteer for your child's group please let me know! Once we have the volunteers for each group I will send out more information.

In addition, if there are any parents who would like to assist me in obtaining silent auction donations I would love it. I am trying to have a small group put together for this (a committee of sorts). If you don't have the time, but know businesses we can contact please let me know.

Also, if you have anything you would like to donate you can let me know.

Last year was very successful and was a fantastic time. Let's make this year even better! Thank you parents for all of your help and support of this swim team! Rebecca Scharff - 414.807.4353.



The Raffle & Silent Auction portion of our Wine Tasting event was well received last year. This a call for help to develop our raffle baskets. Your help is needed!

12&U State Hotel Information



We have secured rooms at the same hotel we stayed at last year.

"It's amazing how much can be accomplished if no one cares who gets the credit." ~ John Wooden

A block of ten rooms have been reserved under South Eastern Aquatics at the Madison Marriott West.

The address of the hotel is 1313 John Q Hammons Drive in Middleton.

The block of rooms will be held until February 14. Call 608.831.2000 to pull a room from the reserved block.

Each room has two beds and run \$115 per night plus taxes.

The meet this year will be held at the UW-Madison Natatorium. If

you have not heard, the Natatorium is in a fight for its life.

The powers that be want to bring baseball to the UW-Madison campus and will need to eliminate a men's sport ... swimming is its sites. A sad state of affairs to say the least.

Anyone with time and an interest can join in the letter writing campaign in an attempt to save the pool and the men's swimming program.

A link to the Save the Nat facebook page can be found in the SEA SWIM TEAM facebook page.

The 12&U State meet has a rich tradition in Madison and is always a fun experience for the 700+ swimmers throughout Wisconsin that attend the meet annually.

In addition, with the current structure of the WIAA State meet, the UW-Madison Natatorium is the only facility capable of hosting that meet (because of the number of spectators). If the pool is demolished, the WIAA State meet (both girls and boys) will look significantly different in the coming years than it does today.

6th Annual Groundhog Grand Prix Recap

We have finished hosting "big" meets for the season ... feels good right?

Congratulations to the Badillo sisters, Natalia and Sofia on their State qualifying efforts in the 50Fr and 50Bf respectively.

Posting 100% best times included Josh Bote, Drew Esson, Merdith Freidheim, Hannah Kehl, Megan Mills, Yasho Patil, Madilynn Peterson, and Helena Pudzisz.

Dropping more than five seconds

in a single event were Sofia Badillo -19.64 1Ba, Lizzy Behling -6.86 2Fr, Paige Betthausen -61.50 500Fr, Josh Bote -34.76 2IM, Emily Cain -13.45 500Fr, Erin Cain -21.77 500Fr, Payton Church -6.84 50Bf, Drew Esson -6.69 50Bf, Lauren Flynn -7.84 1IM, Maya Frodl -21.95 500Fr, Adara Johnson -11.04 1Ba, Alexandra Johnson -9.67 1Ba, Cayla Julius -9.45 1IM, Austin Lentz -11.46 500Fr, Janavi Munagavalasa -5.29 50Bf, Madilynn Peterson -11.28 1IM, Jordan Pier -

5.24 50Bf, Vincent Pradfke -9.21 1Fr, Alex Pudzisz -9.99 1Ba, Chris Pudzisz -14.60 1Fr, Helena Pudzisz -8.14 50Ba, Ali Scharff -16.67 500Fr, Emelia Selky -9.24 500Fr, Sammie Spanske -9.32 25Br, Tiffanny Steffes -30.69 500Fr, Grady Trask -14.38 50Bf, and Ali Verwey -9.62 1Bf.

Maintain regular practice attendance we head into the final two months of the season and don't forget to sign-up for YMCA Sectionals!

Bird Bath Open ... this summer



Last summer we attended the Bird Bath Open in Appleton at the outdoor 50-meter pool (Erb Park) after not attending this event for many years.

Similar to the Green Bay meet, this travel meet offers our families an opportunity to bond in a

fun and relaxed atmosphere.

The park where the pool is located is surrounded by acres and acres of green grass and trees along with playgrounds and other recreational fields.

Families who attended last year brought their shade tents and folding chairs and relaxed in the shade enjoying each others com-

pany while they waited for their swimmers to compete.

This summer we'll be heading back to the Bird Bath Open and the dates are set ... July 11-13.

Mark your calendars and join us won't you? Good times (both in and out of the pool) are guaranteed to be had by all.

Diving - How to be Certified to Dive off Blocks



USA Swimming has strict guidelines in how to teach athletes the proper (safe) way to dive off blocks.

The water depth is one of the

USA Swimming rules are strict in terms of diving off blocks.

rules that must be followed in allowing athletes to try diving off blocks. Once a swimmer has progressed through the diving progressions, even to attempt to dive off the block the water must be at least six feet deep.

At our local high schools, the water depth is five feet, six inches deep so we are not allowed to teach our swimmers how to dive off the blocks - we do teach them

the progresses up to diving off the blocks though.

Swimmers needing to be certified to dive off blocks can meet with a SEA coach on Saturdays from 8:00 a.m. to 9:30 a.m. at the Downtown Y. This practice is drop in and parents can bring their children in at any time.

This Saturday Coach Rebekah will be looking for swimmers to work with ... come on out and learn the finer points of diving off blocks - it's all about the streamlining. :)

“Tentatively, this year’s 13&O Training Trip will take place June 22-29. We will be heading back to Laguna Beach, FL.”

13&Over Training Trip Information

Every two years we offer a 13&O Training Trip and if you have attended any SEA Banquet and heard the graduating seniors speak, almost everyone shares memories about their training trip and that if you (other swimmers) get a chance to go ... go.

Tentatively, this year’s trip will take place June 22-29. We will be staying in the same location as the past two trips (Laguna Beach, FL) and be training at the same facility as the last two trips (the Panama City Beach Aquatic Center).

Two year’s ago the cost for transportation

(via van), lodging and pool rental was \$678 per swimmer.

Swimmers will need additional funds to cover meals and incidentals.

As this is a training-trip, there’s no side excursions really planned except for dinner at the Red Bar in Grayton Beach and an afternoon trip to the quaint town of Seaside (where the movie *The Truman Show* was filmed).

At this time, please forward your name to Neil if you are planning on attending and if you are willing to chaperone (first come

first served).

To date, Erin Cain, Rachel Zenisek, Kayla Rose, Emily Bollendorf, Josh Bote, Ivar Iverson, Caitlin Mertins, Jason Lewis, Maren Hoferitza-Palermo, Will Buhler, Bailey Bleser, Tiffany Steffes, Claire Holewinski, Paige Betthausen, Jacob MacKenzie and Marlee Reischl is planning on attending. A minimum of 12 swimmers are needed for this trip to happen.

More information will be available towards the end of the Fall & Winter Season.

Please contact Neil if you have questions.

Not your Normal Popcorn Fundraiser has Starter

Hello Families!

We are having a new fundraiser that stars ASAP! We are having a popcorn sale through Jane’s Simply Delicious based out of Cudahy, WI. The parent board had the opportunity to try ten of the flavors at our last meeting and they are awesome! Here are the details:

1) Sale begins ASAP with order forms due Wednesday, February 19th. You can pick up forms from

the coaches beginning tonight.

- 2) Please make checks payable to SEA. Money must be included with your order forms.
- 3) Pick-up will be Wednesday, March 5th - details TBD.
- 4) 50% of all sales will go towards your fundraising. Already reached your \$150? Don’t forget that 1/2 of all money raised above this amount goes right back into your

family account.

- 5) Once again, this popcorn is amazing! With the prizes being fairly low we hope this is a success for everyone.
- 6) Please contact me via email at rebeccascharff@yahoo.com or via phone at 414.807.4353 with any questions.

Thanks and good luck!





**South Eastern Aquatics
The Racine Family YMCA Swim Team**

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**Parent Motto:
Love, Support, Transport.**

SEA's Mission:

To empower the youth of Southeastern Wisconsin to be champions in life through excellence in swimming.

SEA's Vision:

As a swim team without a true home, it's SEA's vision to one day build a pool to call home.

Established in 1984, we are set to celebrate our 30th anniversary this year!

On the Starting Blocks

February 2014

7, SEA vs. OZ
8, Bowling Party
8, Swim-a-Thon private movie for Lions and Green kids
14, Practice changed to Case
15-16, NBSC Open
21-23, Regional Championships
28-2, 12&U State

March 2014

4, Team Picture
6-9, 13&O State
15-16, YMCA Sectionals
21, End of SEASON Time Trials
21-23, YMCA State
28, Wine Tasting, Silent Auction, Raffle

April 2014

1-4, YMCA Nationals

May 2014

3-4, 6th Annual SEA Early Bird

June 2014

20-21, 5th Annual SEA Summer Sizzler
22-29, 13&O Training Trip (tentative dates)

July 2014

11-13, Bird Bath Open

31-3, 13&O State (SEA hosted)

August 2014

4-26, OST (off-season training)

September 2014

2-18, OST
22, First day of practice



**Take a look at the months ahead
and stay up-to-date.**