

Joel Hendrix

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RISE Above and Beyond

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RISE
 ADVENTURES

Our Mission

"To help persons with physical challenges gain independence through a learning experience in adaptive outdoor adventures and sporting programs"

RISE Above and Beyond is a monthly publication provided by RISE Adventures, Inc. This publication will be sent out on the 15th of each month. If you have any pictures, articles, events or fundraisers you would like us to publish, please submit them to [Joel Hendrix](mailto:Joel.Hendrix@riseadventures.org) by the the

RISE Adventures is proud to complete our first e-newsletter. Please forward this to a friend, family member, or associate so they can sign up online to receive this monthly publication that contains the latest information about our new outreach programs!!!

RISE Programs

RISE Program Schedule

These active RISE Programs are FREE for Members.

SIGN UP NOW!!!

RISE Handcycling

This program is open to all ages and levels of physical disabilities.

RISE Handcycling is scheduled for every other Sunday beginning July 22, 2007 at White Rock Lake in Dallas. Various locations, throughout the area, will be used through the end of the year. The activity will start at 9:00 am until you are through for the day. All levels of physical disabilities and skills are welcome. You can ride at your own pace. For more information or to sign up, click on this Handcycling link.

[Handcycling](#)

RISE Kayaking

This program is open to all ages and levels of physical disabilities.

RISE Kayaking is scheduled for each Thursday evening at White Rock Lake in Dallas. The activity begins at 6:00 pm now through November. For more information or to sign up, click on this Kayaking link.

[Kayaking](#)

RISE Sailing

This program is open to all ages and levels of physical disabilities.

10th day of the month. Any information obtained after this date will be published in the following issue.

Our Sponsors



To become a sponsor and have your logo here access the following link...

[Our Sponsors](#)

July Birthdays

Steve Carlson
Wayne Holt
Andrew Jansy

Resources

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[Spinal Cord Injury Information Network](#)
[UCO Wellness Center](#)
[Wildwood Days](#)

Coming In August

- Major Events Announcement
- New Programs
- RISE Wearing Apparel

RISE Sailing is now offering sailing every other weekend now through November. Every other Sunday, starting July 29, 2007 we will sail from 9:00-12:00 am. RISE is also looking for qualified sailors that would like to donate their time on weekdays to volunteer their services. For more information or to sign up, click on this Sailing link.

[Sailing](#)

RISE Camping for Children

This program is open to children ages 8-16 for all levels of a physical disability.

RISE Camping for Children is signing up those that want to spend a weekend camping in September, October, and November. We have recently received a commitment, from a foundation, for funding the equipment that was budgeted for these outings. Each physically challenged child is allowed one parent to accompany them. To learn more about the itinerary or to sign up, click on this Camping link.

[Camping](#)

RISE Fishing for Children

This program is open to children ages 8-16 for all levels of a physical disability.

RISE Fishing recently received a commitment, from a foundation, to fund our fishing expeditions for children. This includes equipment, transportation, and the cost of the activity. We are currently finalizing our exciting venues so sign up now by contacting Paul Gray at 469.762.5075 or pgray@riseadventure.org.

RISE Hunting for Children

This program is open to children ages 8-16 for all levels of a physical disability.

RISE Hunting recently received a commitment, from a foundation, to fund our hunting expeditions for children. This includes equipment, transportation, and the cost of the activity. We are currently finalizing our exciting venues so sign up now by contacting Paul Gray at 469.762.5075 or pgray@riseadventures.org.

RISE Photography

This program is open to all ages and levels of physical disabilities.

RISE Photography is now signing up those that would like to go on one day photography outings. We are in the final stages of scheduling a day at the Dallas Arboretum in September for "Autumn at the Arboretum." For more information or to sign up, click on this Photography link.

[Photography](#)

RISE Health and Fitness

This program is open to all ages and levels of physical disabilities.

RISE Health and Fitness is supporting workouts at the Baylor

- Special "Camp Craig Allen"

Institute for Rehabilitation every Monday and Wednesday from 4:30-7:00pm. To learn more about this program please click on this Health and Fitness Link.

[Health & Fitness](#)

RISE Programs Coming Soon

RISE Horseback Riding- Spring, 2008
 RISE Scuba Diving- Spring, 2008
 RISE Tandem Jumping- Spring, 2008
 RISE Parasailing- Summer, 2008
 RISE Water Skiing- Summer, 2008

RISE Programs under Consideration for 2008

RISE Airplane Flight Excursions
 RISE Archery
 RISE Quad Rugby
 RISE Trap Shooting
 RISE Bowling

Letter from the CEO

July 15, 2007



What a great start. This is only the beginning of many exciting things to come!!! We have accomplished so much since forming RISE Adventures in March of this year. In our first four months we have exceeded all expectations. RISE was formed to create outreach programs for every level and age of the physically challenged community in North Texas. Our main focus is on children but every RISE Program will be accessible for all levels of disabilities.

The road hasn't been easy but the business plan is now experiencing the fruit of our labors. We have four full time volunteer staff members. No member of our staff is paid for their efforts. We are building RISE with zero dollars allocated for administrative purposes. Our plan called for us to prove ourselves first and others would see our progress and come aboard which is now becoming a reality. 100% of all donated funds received in 2007 will be spent on programs.

Another feature of the business plan is to collaborate with other highly regarded organizations to reduce the cost of accomplishing this very important mission by the sharing of equipment, venues, and resources. That is happening and we are now blessed with many more great opportunities.

"TEAM RISE" was formed to accentuate the fact that every physically challenged member, volunteer, sponsor, donor, associate, and family member is a valuable and equal part of our team. We have built the organization with the principle that each individual is a part of the decision making process that will help form our direction and accomplish our very important mission. We

value all of the support we have received and appreciate all of those that have helped in this exciting endeavor, thank you.

RISE has established four weekly and bi-weekly programs that are active now. The excessively rainy weather has affected some of the activities, during the last couple of months, but now that summer has finally arrived in North Texas these will prosper. Two more will begin in August and an additional two will begin in September.

We are building the program foundations slowly so they will continue for years to come. We completed our first major event in June, "Sailing in Style". There are additional major events being planned and will be announced on August 15, 2007.

In closing I would like to thank all of you for helping RISE Adventures accomplish our mission. We are off to a great start and the future looks very bright. Without all of you this would not be possible

Paul Gray/CEO/RISE Adventures, Inc.

Outreach Director

Steve Carlson
RISE Outreach Director



Paul Gray and I partnered to form RISE Adventures in March of 2007. I am the Treasurer of RISE Adventures, Inc. and also hold a position as the RISE Outreach Director.

After being paralyzed in an auto accident on Thanksgiving Day, 1987, I developed juvenile diabetes a year later. I have dedicated my life to serving the physically challenged community. While going through rehabilitation I observed a lot of areas that needed improvement that would have helped me with an easier path through the rehabilitation process.

I have spent the last 15 years accumulating over 10,000 hours of volunteer time for Presbyterian Hospital, Our Children's House at Baylor, Lakepointe Medical Center, and Baylor Institute for Rehabilitation. I have received numerous awards for my service including the prestigious DMC Star Award given by the Dallas Mayor's Committee for the Employment of People with Disabilities.

In continuing my efforts to be involved in outreach programs, I currently sit on the board of R.E.A.C.H., an organization dedicated to reintroduce disabled individuals back into society. I also serve on a number of other committees, including Baylor S.C.I. (Support, Challenge, Inspire), which provides outreach for their constituency.

Website Update



RISE Publications
By Joel Hendrix

RISE Adventures is very proud of our website and is dedicated to providing useful information in all areas that concern the physically challenged community. I am a full time TEAM RISE Volunteer that updates the website bi-weekly and publishes our e-newsletter each month. I am also the RISE Program Director.

Our website contains information regarding everything you need to know about RISE. From sponsors to board information; we have covered it all. It contains updated information about all of our programs and activities. It also contains pictures and stories about future and past events.

We continue to form new relationships with other organizations and have received written permission to add their links to our site. These include outreach programs, scholarships, guardian resources, health and fitness, as well as many other valuable information links regarding disabilities. We have also been approved and listed on "The National Center on Physical Activity & Disability" website as an outstanding outreach organization.

As a part of the RISE Volunteer & Collaboration Program, I am currently designing and constructing a website for the Lone Star Paralyzed Veterans Association and instructing the staff on updating their information. I have also played a vital role in helping with the new Camp Craig Allen website. All of this work is donated, free of charge, on behalf of RISE in our continuing efforts to support our vital partners in helping us accomplish our mission.

Please visit the RISE website at www.riseadventures.org and give me your feedback. Call me at 469.762.5075 or email, jhendrix@riseadventures.org. You can also add comments in the "View and Sign our Guestbook" section by clicking on the link. Please send me any stories, pictures, or events you would like published by the 10th of the month and I will try to get them into our monthly publication.

I would like to offer a special thanks to Billy Riggs for teaching me website techniques and for always being there to help support me in this growth process. Billy has given his valuable time in helping with the RISE website and newsletter. THANK YOU!!

"Sailing in Style"



RISE held its first major event of the year on Lewisville Lake in Denton County, Texas. There was huge turnout and everyone was treated to an awesome day of sailing. With all of the rain we had been experiencing, for months in the area, the weather was perfect on this day. The skies were overcast and the temperature was in the mid to upper 80's. Unexpectedly, the wind was steady and strong making it a very exciting day of sailing. Due to the large number of folks registering, we divided the event into two cruises. The first trip had a large turnout but the yacht was full on the second one. A lot of folks waited on the weather and then showed up all at once for the noon debarkation. Michael McMahon's crew of the Chamonix II was well prepared for the children. They made balloon animals, mugs, and hats as well as playing with the hand puppet chicken. All of the children got a great experience behind the huge steering wheel sailing the yacht. This event was used to kick off the start of the RISE Sailing program that is underway.

To view more photos please access the following link:

[Sailing in Style Photos](#)



Henrik Goes Sailing

On Sunday, July 8th, Henrik Kool, a local fourth grader with spina bifida, joined us on one of the four J24 sail boats we use in the RISE Sailing Program. He was joined by his father



Henk and TEAM RISE volunteers. This was the final test to check accessibility issues of the boats. The US Disabled Sailing Team advised us that there was little, if any, modifications for accessibility. We were fortunate to have a very steady wind. Henrik is really Kool, excuse the pun, and will become a great sailor by the end of the year. His willingness to learn as well as his physical ability were both valuable assets. After a few short instructions he was actually sailing the boat with supervision from Tod Roberson, a TEAM RISE Volunteer sailing instructor. The small cabins on the boats allow privacy to cath. The day went extremely well and we are now up and sailing every other weekend through the rest of the year. Please access the website to sign up and join the RISE Sailing Program.



Ms. Wheelchair Texas 2007

Jackie Bartels was crowned Ms. Wheelchair Texas 2007 and is now traveling to Washington D.C. to compete for Ms. Wheelchair America on July 22. Her mission is to promote positive images for people with disabilities and break down architectural and attitudinal barriers. With an emphasis on education, Ms. Wheelchair Texas' advocacy work includes radio, print, and television interviews, attendance at events in the mainstreamed and disabled communities, and meetings with public officials, both at the local and state level, to discuss the needs of people with disabilities. This is a big year for the Ms. Wheelchair Texas Foundation as we have received non-profit status (501c3) and are now envisioning growth.



Jackie is on the operating board of directors as well as the marketing director for RISE Adventures.

SBANT Bowl-A-Thon, August 4, 2007

Please sign up now for the Spina Bifida Association bowling fundraiser. This year's event is being held at the USA Bowl in Dallas. This is their major fundraiser of the year and a fun thing to do with a group of friends for a very worthy cause. TEAM RISE will field at least one team and if you are interested in helping us field additional teams or wish to make a pledge please contact Paul Gray at 469.762.5075 or pgray@riseadventures.org. For more information on the event please click on the following link.

[SBANT Bowl-A-Thon](#)

TEAM RISE Volunteers

Thank you to the many volunteers that have taken time out of their very busy lives to help with RISE programs. Without you we could not accomplish our very important mission. Your dedication is unequalled. TEAM RISE



also volunteered to load and unload the Scottish Rite Hospitals buses for their children to attend Camp John Mark last month. It was hot and humid outside and there was a lot of heavy lifting. The children made it all worth while, the smiles, the laughter, and their happiness inspired us all. To view pictures of TEAM RISE in action please go to the volunteer section of our website.

RISE has added numerous volunteers to our team over the last few months. If you are interested in volunteering please go to our website and join. We will follow up with everyone that has joined recently and the new additions this month to see which programs and/or activities you are available for.

Thanks again from the TEAM RISE Staff...

To visit the volunteer page please [click here](#).

Texas Parks & Wildlife Department News

Below are news release(s) from Texas Parks & Wildlife.

Please access the link(s) below to view the news or go to [TP&W News](#) for more information.

[TPWD News July 9, 2007](#)

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