

**Joel Hendrix**

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**From:** Joel Hendrix [jhendrix@riseadventures.org]  
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# RISE Above and Beyond

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## HAPPY HALLOWEEN

In this issue, RISE completed two major events and started three new programs in September/October 2007. An online auction with sports memorabilia also starts today. We also have our first annual "Haunted House Halloween Party" for children as well as the start of our RISE Photography program with our first outing at the Dallas Arboretum.

### RISE Fundraising

RISE is holding a silent auction online with autographed sports memorabilia. The auction begins Monday, October 15th and ends the 31st. Please check out these awesome items and make your bid for a tax deductible donation to help fund our numerous programs. To view these items please [click here](#).

### RISE Events

RISE Dinner/Sunset Cruise Fundraiser - September 18, 2007

RISE held its first fundraiser on the largest sailing yacht in Texas, the Chamonix II. Emerald City, voted the hottest dance band in Dallas, kept the guests dancing the night away. There was an excellent dinner served as the patrons glided with the wind on this gorgeous evening. There was a back drop of a half moon and lighting in the distance that lit up the night. Thanks for all of you that joined in to support RISE. To view pictures of this evening please [click here](#).

RISE End of Summer Bash 2007 - September 29, 2007

RISE ended the summer of 2007 on a beautiful day of fun in the sun, partnering with the Baylor Institute for Rehabilitation, Lone



### 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](#) by the 10th day of the month. Any information obtained after this date will be published in the following issue.

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## Our Sponsors



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

[Our Sponsors](#)

## October Birthdays

Rick Brauer  
Rob Barcus  
Cayden Dunlap  
Rodney Thompson  
Mickie Duncan

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## Resources

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[Adaptive Adventures](#)  
[Adaptive Information Resource](#)  
[Allumed](#)  
[Big D Cats](#)  
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[Camp Craig Allen](#)  
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Star Paralyzed Veterans Association and Allumed Medical. The event was a huge success with 127 physically challenged individuals in attendance.

They experienced Sailing, Kayaking, Remote Control Sail Boats, Skiing, Jet Skiing, Fishing, Power Boating, Pontoon Boating, Face Painting, Magic Show, and Hand Cycling. The day ended on an awesome ride aboard the Chamonix II Sailing Yacht.

There were numerous displays on hand that included, medical equipment, wheelchairs, numerous mobility vehicles, a variety of disabled golf carts, and other industry showcases. A free barbecue lunch was served as the guests collected under the camouflaged tent furnished by the Denton National Guard. Pun the DJ kept the music flowing throughout the day.

Thank you to the 66 Volunteers, 27 Vendor Personnel, all of the sponsors, and the other 21 folks that showed up just to enjoy in the fun that made this day a huge success!

To view photos from this event please [click here](#).

## RISE Programs/NEW!

**RISE Hunting for Children** - September 14-16

RISE took 5 children and their parents on an exciting hunt at the YO Ranch. Steve Carlson, RISE Outreach Director, accompanied the group with the experienced guides at the ranch. Each child was successful and has memories for a lifetime.

CAUTION: The link below redirects to a page that contains graphic images. If you are comfortable with this, please [click here](#) to view more photos from the kids hunt.

RISE is planning additional hunts and will send the schedule out by the end of October.

### RISE Advocacy

"Walk in my Shoes", PepsiCo Corporate Headquarters, Plano, TX

Wednesday, October 10, 2007

For the month of October, PepsiCo is advocating all levels of persons with disabilities. RISE is celebrating with them by providing disability sports equipment in their lobby for the month. Numerous activities are planned for their employees to experience disabilities. This will be a fun day for all of their employees to learn more about persons with disabilities and our advocacy for their employment.

Pictures will be available on our website later today by accessing this page - [PepsiCo Advocacy](#).

For the RISE Advocacy schedule please visit our [home page](#).

[Network  
POWER  
Special Care & Career  
Services  
Spinal Cord Injury  
Information Network  
UCO Wellness Center  
Wildwood Days  
Y.O.Ranch](#)

## **Coming In November**

- Major Announcements

### **RISE Photography**

RISE Photography is having a fun day at the Dallas Arboretum Saturday, October 27, 2007 at 11:00 am. Bring your camera and join us for a relaxing day at their Fall Festival. Admission is free for physically challenged individuals with reservations. To learn more or to sign up please [click here](#).

### **Halloween Party for Children**

RISE is holding a Halloween Party for Children between the ages of 9-17. The party begins Thursday, October 30, at 7:30 pm at the Dallas Scare Grounds, 2001 Irving Blvd., Dallas. A link to their website is [www.dallasscaregrounds.com](http://www.dallasscaregrounds.com). Enjoy food, games, live entertainment while dying to get into the haunted houses. Admission is free with reservations by contacting Joel Hendrix at 469.762.5075 or [jhendrix@riseadventures.org](mailto:jhendrix@riseadventures.org). The haunted houses are ADA accessible.

### **Letter from the CEO**

RISE continues to surpass my greatest expectations. We continually add new faces to our growing list of participating members and volunteers. Our existing programs are active, we added three new ones, and held two successful events in the last thirty days.



Through this fast paced growth process we have been blessed with new folks wanting to be involved with RISE at a higher level. Joel Hendrix, RISE Program Director, has a very busy schedule. I am working with some very proven and experienced persons that will soon manage a few of our programs as volunteers. I am also working with an experienced NARHA member on developing the RISE Horse Riding Program. We are inundated with new opportunities that will further our mission each day.

I have been given the opportunity to create a new speaking and advocacy program. We have been invited to speak at seven venues in the next forty five days. This program allows us to put RISE before persons within the disabled community as well as corporate America and to extend our mission by advocating employment for physically challenged individuals.

After six months I am now focused on raising needed funds for our programs to grow. We have accepted two of our member/parent employee donation programs with AT&T and Halliburton. Two major corporations have asked to be involved as potential sponsors for 2008. I am in the process of writing new grants. My focus is now on scheduling dates for our events and completing our programs for 2008.

Abu Yilla and I are still processing our board structure and invitations to potential board members. We hope to have our founding board in place by December.

We are having an online silent auction with donated sports memorabilia that begins, Monday, October 15 and ends on October 30, 2007. This is just another way of funding our programs.

Our TEAM RISE associates and members have provided new opportunities for raising funds. If you would like to get involved in this process please let me know.

Paul Gray/CEO/RISE Adventures, Inc.

## Letter from the Program Director

This last six months has been a great learning experience for me. With the growth of all of the programs and adding new ones each month it also has been a very trying experience. I would not have been able to accomplish this huge task without the support of so many TEAM RISE members and volunteers.



Along with scheduling and attending all of the programs the last six months, I also spent a lot of time working on our major events. I spend time every day updating our website as well as putting together our "RISE Above and Beyond" newsletter.

I have had the pleasure of getting acquainted with new members that are very experienced in specific fields that want to get involved in running certain programs. This is our operating plan and now that we are adding new programs I will be assigning new program directors to the existing programs so I can continue to develop the new ones.

As the RISE Program Director I will assign specific titles to these volunteers. In the next month I will assign a RISE Sailing Director, RISE Hand Cycling Director, RISE Kayaking Director and a RISE Hunting/Camping/Fishing for Children Director.

These are very exciting times for RISE. I have so many very nice folks to work with. I now need to work with each one of them on a different level to assure these programs continue to grow with the necessary venues, equipment and operating revenue it takes to help us accomplish our mission.

If you are interested in a higher level of involvement with RISE, please let me know. Please direct all correspondence to [jhendrix@riseadventures.org](mailto:jhendrix@riseadventures.org).

Joel Hendrix/RISE Program Director

## Lone Star Paralyzed Veterans of America

A TEAM RISE member that has attended numerous RISE programs was in need of



a motorized wheelchair. Aaron Nowland, a Terrell resident, was serving as the Captain of a Special Forces Unit in Iraq when an IAD caused him to become paralyzed in 2004. He was losing another battle with the Veterans Administration for the last few years. He was not classified properly and was unable to get a motorized chair giving him great mobility issues. Seeing this first hand, Paul Gray contacted Glen Bentley with the LSPVA. Together we worked on setting Aaron up as a new member of their organization which provides numerous programs and help for disabled war veterans in North Texas. Glen Bentley offered a new motorized chair for Aaron. Joel Hendrix, RISE Program Director, picked up the chair and took it to Aaron and he now has great mobility and his classification has changed so he's now receiving well deserved new benefits. RISE would like to thank Glen Bentley and everyone at the LSPVA for taking the extra step in helping one of their own.



### **TEAM RISE Volunteers**

As RISE Adventures continues to grow we continue to need quality volunteers. We are adding new volunteers daily but with all of the programs and activities we can always use more. If you are interested in volunteering please go to our website and [Join Us](#).

### **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 10/11/07](#)

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