

Otter Newsletter for Week of July 6, 2008

**Congratulations, Otters, on your victory over Latshmere on Saturday.** And thank you to all the parents who set up (on July 4!), tore down, and worked the meet. We couldn't do it without you!

The All-Star Meet is only two weeks away. Watch for volunteer postings at the pool. **As discussed at the parent meeting, every parent volunteer will be given a free volunteer shirt to wear at the meet. To insure we get you the correct size, we need you to initial your name on the volunteer boards and list a t-shirt size by Wednesday so we can compile our order.** Otherwise, you are at the mercy of the grab bag shirt bin! If you still haven't signed up to work, you can control your own destiny by doing so NOW! Our greatest need at this meet is in the concessions area, which is slated on the white sign up board. If we are unable to staff this area, we will be requesting a financial contribution from nonworking families so that we can "hire" some area teenagers to help. Concession donation sign ups are also available at practice. Please be generous and sign up to donate.

Speaking of t-shirts and the All-Star meet, **the absolute deadline for pre-meet ordering the 2008 All-Star t-shirt and sweatshirt is Wednesday at practice.** The shirts are "Carolina blue" with an American flag. The t's are \$15; the hoodies are \$25. The absolute deadline for pre-meet orders is July 9, and you MUST PREPAY (by checks only please, made out to LVST). The proceeds benefit our team. You can view the design on the home page and All-Star page of our website.

This week is a busy week. Our coaches and swimmers will be swimming in three meets and the coaches will be preparing not only for this Saturday's dual meet, but for A Division Championships (held at Hershey July 19—the qualifier for the All-Star Meet) as well.

As to the administrative details...

1) **We need the parents of all graduating senior swimmers to send me (Kathy Wingert) the particulars on your senior swimmer by Wednesday** so that we can recognize them (and you) before our meet on Saturday. We need parent names, where they graduated from, where they are going this fall, how long they've been swimming, and anything cute related to swimming you'd like us to know. Send the info to [dkwingert@comcast.net](mailto:dkwingert@comcast.net) so that our announcer can prepare for the recognition ceremony.

2) **We need all swimmers who want to swim at divisional championships on Saturday, July 19, to sign up with Jim by this Wednesday.** You may only swim three events at this meet, and you are eligible to participate if you swam in three dual meets this season. **An important note: As per league rules, Divisionals is a qualifying meet for All-Stars (July 20<sup>th</sup>), which in turn is a qualifying event for the Mid-Cap Meet on July 26<sup>th</sup> at Cumberland Valley. League rules state that, if you are not available on July 26<sup>th</sup> for the Mid-Cap Meet, you are not permitted to swim in the All-Star Meet. So, when you sign up for Divisionals, you MUST LET JIM KNOW if you will not be available to swim at the All-Star Meet and/or the Mid-Cap Meet. Your compliance with this proviso affects our standing within the league and the fate of relay**

swimmers on our own team. **Please be certain when you sign up for the July 19 meet with Jim that you are also committing to swimming on the 20<sup>th</sup> and 26<sup>th</sup>, unless you tell him otherwise when you sign up for Divisionals.**

Meet Details for this Week:

**1) The 10 and under Middletown Invitational is this Tuesday for those that signed up to swim. The meet begins at 6, but warm-ups may begin as early as 4:30.** We have not yet been assigned a time. Stay tuned at practice. To get to the Middletown **Pool**, take 422/322 to Hummelstown/Middletown exit of 322. Bear left at end of ramp onto Waltonville Rd to stop light. Turn right and follow to next stop light near Indian Echo Caverns. Turn left at light and follow Middletown Road/Vine St. to intersection of Route 283 (just beyond next stop light/Exxon station). Turn left taking Route 283 West one exit to the 441/Union Street exit. Turn left at the end of the exit ramp. Follow Union Street approx. one mile to a stop sign. At stop sign bear left onto Route 441 for approx. 100 yards turn left into Swim Club (directly across from Middletown Area High School). The fees for participating are \$2.50 an event. Kris Fox will be collecting fees that evening.

**2) The Willowood Invitational is Wednesday, July 9,** for those that signed up last week. Be there at 4:05. The meet begins at 5. There is construction on the road the pool is on, West Bainbridge Street. For directions in light of the construction, go to [www.swimwillowood.org](http://www.swimwillowood.org) and click on the drop-down menu under the 2008 Willowood Invitational. There is a PDF directions file that will help guide your trip. Fees are \$2.50 per event, which will be collected at the meet.

**3) This week's dual meet is at home against Hummelstown. Here are the particulars:**

**First, the swimming.** If you signed up to swim (or not to swim) and your plans have changed, you should let Jim know **immediately**. Call 867-4918 or email him at [maryjimgardner@verizon.net](mailto:maryjimgardner@verizon.net). Swimmers should arrive at 7 a.m.

**Next, the food donations.** Thank you to those that signed up to donate food items for this Saturday's meet. We still have a lot of blank spaces. The "Donations" sign up will be at practice each morning. If you are unable to bring something, we ask that you donate \$5-\$10 so that items can be purchased. If you are unable to stop in at practice, please e-mail Barb Bohn ([barb@shining-light.com](mailto:barb@shining-light.com)) so that she can let you know what needs to be donated yet.

**Now, the volunteering. Set up for the meet is at 7:30 p.m. on July 11<sup>th</sup>. The help last week was OUTSTANDING! Thank you!** (Men should wear bathing suits.)

Here are the meet volunteers assigned based on sign ups with registrations. If your child is swimming in the meet, you should see your name listed somewhere below. If it's not, it's time to volunteer!

--**Bake Sale:** Tina Hain, Carolyn Harris, Lynn Gryboski, Deb O'Connor, Carol Wolford, Susan Loncar, Tom & Beth Lehman, Tracie Kerkessner, Lori Yaw. (Some of these people are doing double duty because of our high need for volunteers at our home meets.) **We need more help here.** Please sign up at practice or email Barb Bohn at

[barb@shining-light.com](mailto:barb@shining-light.com) and let her know you are willing to serve and in which shift. There are 2 shifts: 7:15 to 9:30 and 9:30 to 12 noon. Everyone can take time to watch their swimmers.

--Meet Management:

Referee: **Kathy Wingert**

Announcers: **Dave Wingert, Keith Harmon**

Starters: 1st half - **Fred Hain**, 2nd Half – **Maureen Rudy**

1st half Timers: **Rosemary Jones, Kathy Shaheen, Tom Shaheen, Terrence Mosby, Tom Swavely, Nicole Enigk, Mark Schug, Back up – Pete Pityk**

2nd half Timers: **Nancy Pityk, Bob Tobias, Deb Horst, Tracy Cooper, Gerri Brennan, Kevin Mowery, Deb Schug, Pam Long, back up – Jess Dreibelbis**

1st half S & T: **Gary Peters, Lisa Gehenio** 2nd half S & T: **Gil Weik, Sandy Neidlinger**

1st half finish judge: **Keith Harmon** 2nd half finish judge: **Pete Pityk**

1st half Runner - **Jen Swavely** 2nd half Runner - **Grechen Mosby**

1st half Line-Up: **Jen Morgan, Beth Lehman, Mary Fair** 2nd half Line-Up: **Terri McDade, Lynn Gryboski, Dawn Connelly**

1st half ribbons: **Megan Mowery** 2nd half ribbons: **Kelly Wynn**

Computers: **Carl Gehenio, Julie Kaylor, Kris Fox, Jess Dreibelbis**

**On to the All – Star meet, which is scheduled for Sunday, July 20 at our pool.** Thank you to all those who volunteered in their registration materials and at Saturday's meet. Please initial your name on the boards to confirm your willingness to serve and list your t-shirt size after your name. If you haven't signed up to work yet, NOW is the time. Our greatest need at this meet is in the concessions area, which is slated on the white sign up board. We need all the help we can get in this area. If we are unable to staff this area, we will be requesting a financial contribution from nonworking families so that we can "hire" some area teenagers to help. All meet day volunteers will receive a free volunteer t-shirt.

**If you did not yet pay the \$5 per swimmer fee for the Hummelstown Relays, please do so this week.** There will be an envelope at practice. Cross off your name when you insert your check, which should be made out to LVST.

**Mark your calendars now for the team awards banquet on Wednesday evening, July 23.** More info will be forthcoming about this fun event.

Thank you!

Kathy Wingert, Secretary