

OtterGram



www.villageotters.com

May 1, 2006

Blast Off Party!

Come join us for an evening of togetherness and team spirit to kick off the swim season!

Friday, May 12th @ 7 pm Elm Grove Pool

Don't forget the chairs, bug spray, and swimsuits. Pool will be opened for swimming after we eat.

Dinner will be sold for a minimal price.

Welcome Back Otters! What a great week of rookie camp we all had last week. Please welcome our "New" swimmers to our otter family. Remember that they are just learning our four strokes, so please be encouraging! We have some very large groups that we are working with so please observe the following rules for practice:

1. Please be quiet and attentive when any coach is talking!
2. No horseplay of any kind during practice. No running!
3. No spitting!
4. Always be supportive of all swimmers on the team. No putdowns or bad sportsmanship!
5. Always try your best in practice!

Also, Don't forget your goggles and swim caps for every practice.... these are necessary items in the sport of swimming and cannot be omitted! Let's show our new coaches Barby and Kim what an Otterific group of swimmers we have on this team by having a great first week of practice.

Coach Mark

IMPORTANT DATES

- Pep Rally & Poster Contest at Elm Grove Pool May 19th and May 27th after practices.
- Swim-A-Long Fundraiser May 31st during practice.
- Photos & SplashTown- Monday, June 5th
- Divisional Meet- June 24th at Newport.
- Awards Banquet- June 29th



TIME TRIALS – SATURDAY, MAY 13th
7:00 am at Elm Grove Pool
Warm-ups are at 7:00 am for all swimmers.

The purpose of time trials is to establish a seed time for swimmers in **all** events. **ALL SWIMMERS MUST CHECK-IN UPON ARRIVAL AT THE POOL.** There will be a table with a list of all the swimmers. Please circle your name to indicate that you are at the meet. After you check in, find the team parent for your age group and get your heat assignments. It is not the responsibility of the team parent to keep up with your child during the meet. Their responsibility is getting them to the ready bench at the appropriate time.



Practice Schedule

The **AFTER SCHOOL** schedule is in effect from **May 1st - May 24th**
NO PRACTICE ON THE LAST DAY OF SCHOOL OR MEMORIAL DAY.
AFTER SCHOOL SCHEDULE:

Hunter's Ridge Pool
Age Group
Time

6 & Under
 4:30-5:15 pm

7/8
 5:15-6:00 pm

9/10
 6:00-7:00 pm

Elm Grove Pool

Age Group	Time
11/12	4:30-5:45 pm
13 & up	5:45-7:00 pm

SUMMER MORNING PRACTICE

May 29- June 24, 2006

Hunter's Ridge Pool		Elm Grove Pool	
week of May 29th		week of May 29th	
6 & under	7:30-8:15	11 & 12	7:30-9:00
7 & 8	8:15-9:15		
9 & 10	9:15-10:30	13 & up	9:00-10:30



The following volunteer positions have yet to be filled: **TEAM PARENTS FOR 6 & UNDER, 7 & 8, 9 & 10 BOTH BOYS AND GIRLS, 13 & 14, 15 & UP**

All of the above positions will fulfill your **TOTAL** volunteer requirement.

WE ALSO NEED A HEAD SCRIBE, HEAD READY BENCH, AND ASST. ANNOUNCER

Contact Lara Leigh Bergoon to jump on board!
 281-359-4410

PHOTOS & SPLASHTOWN- June 5th

After the photos are taken, we all head up to SplashTown for a fun filled day with the team.
 Stay tuned to future OtterGrams for more information. We will be publishing prices and all pertinent info as it becomes available.



May 13..... Time Trials
 May 20 vs Walden
 May 27 vs Newport
 June 3 at Oaks of Atascosita
 June 10 at Atascosita Forest
 June 17 ... vs Mills Branch/Woodstream
 June 24 Divisional Meet @ Newport
 July 1 & 2 Invitational Meets

HOME MEETS ARE IN BOLD TYPE

JDRF Swim-A-Long May 31st

During the Swim season we will hold, as our **only** official fundraiser for the season, the Juvenile Diabetes Swim-A-Long. The Otters swim laps during a practice to raise money for this worthy cause. Not only do the kids get to practice their swim strokes but they can also win fabulous prizes in the process.
Should you choose not to participate in the Swim-A-Long, you must pay the \$25 (per family) opt out fee.

Swimsuits will be on sale during the following practices:

Wednesday, May 3rd @ Elm Grove during practice
 Tuesday, May 9th @ Hunter's Ridge during practice
 Friday, May 12 @ Elm Grove @ the Blast Off Party

The suit is the TYR "Soundwave" and the Swim Shops of the Southwest will be selling them. The girls suits cost around \$40-50 and the boys \$20-25. This is just an approximate. The suit is not a requirement for team participation.

**WE HAVE A NEW COACH!!!
 PLEASE WELCOME COACH KIM TO OUR OTTERIFIC COACHING STAFF! KIM O'CONNOR IS A FORMER OTTER AND A GREAT ADDITION. WELCOME ABOARD!**

Coach Kathleen had to step aside for medical reasons. We wish her well.