

# OTTERGRAM

VILLAGEOTTERS.COM

March 26, 2010

## Welcome Otters!!!!

Welcome to the first OtterGram of the 2010 season. The OtterGram is published weekly to keep everyone informed of the team happenings. If you have any questions or would like to have something published in this newsletter, just email the webmaster at [webmaster@villageotters.com](mailto:webmaster@villageotters.com). Please invite your friends and neighbors to join us for a fun filled summer!!!

### COACHES, COACHES

We are pleased and excited to have back 4 longtime Otter coaches and swimmers. We are also welcoming a new coach.

**Kim O'Connor** will be Head Coach this year and is returning for her 5<sup>th</sup> year as an Otter Coach. She has a 6 month old baby. Kim has many new and exiting ideas for this season.

**Samantha Johannsen** will be the Assistant Coach this year and is returning for her 3<sup>rd</sup> year as an Otter Coach. She is looking forward to seeing all of the kids.

**Marty Purcell** is a former Otter Coach who is excited to return. She has 4 children and is a teacher at Kingwood Middle School.

**Kathleen Jackson** a former Otter swimmer as well as former Otter Coach ready to hit the pool. She has 3 children.

**Chelsie Kidd** will be a 1<sup>st</sup> year Otter Coach. She has swam for ESA, and Blue Tide. She currently swims for Florida International University.

Our coaching staff is very focused on being in the pools with the swimmers and teaching and/or correcting stroke technique. They are ready to make this year a positive experience for all of our swimmers.

### REGISTRATION DATES

Friday, March 26<sup>th</sup> @ Bear Branch  
Park  
After school

Saturday, March 27<sup>th</sup> @ Elm  
Grove Pool 10am-12pm

Sunday, April 11<sup>th</sup> @ Hunters  
Ridge Pool 12pm-2pm

Late registration after May 1<sup>st</sup>  
\$20.00 Fee

**SWIM TEAM HOTLINE**  
**281-319-1300**

**Webmaster**  
[webmaster@villageotters.com](mailto:webmaster@villageotters.com)

## ROOKIE CAMP APRIL 19<sup>TH</sup>-APRIL 23<sup>TH</sup>

Rookie camp is a chance for first time competitive swimmers to learn the basics of the various swim strokes. Rookie camp will be held at the Elm Grove Pool. The schedule is as follows:

6 & under	4:30-5:15
7 & 8	5:15-6:00
9 & up	6:00-6:45

For our young swimmers, the determination will be made at the end of rookie camp whether they will remain on the team. The coaches base their decision on the following things: 1.) Are they water safe? 2.) Can they kick on the front and back? 3.) Can they jump in and swim? 4.) Can they swim 25 yds? Safety must come first for ALL swimmers!  
**ONLY NEW MEMBERS AT ROOKIE CAMP!**

### Swim Suits

This year our swimsuits will be the TYR Thor the same as last year. This was a 2 year suit. For the new swimmers and those in need of a new suit a representative from D&J Swim Shops will be at Elm Grove Pool on April 26th and Hunter's Ridge Pool on April 27th. Girls' suits are \$44.00 and boys' jammers are \$29.00

## REGULAR AFTER SCHOOL PRACTICE BEGINS APRIL 26<sup>TH</sup>

### PRACTICE SCHEDULE APRIL 26<sup>TH</sup>-JUNE 2<sup>ND</sup>

#### Elm Grove Pool

11 & 12	4:30-5:45
13 & up	5:45-7:00

#### Hunters Ridge Pool

6 & under	4:30-5:15
7 & 8	5:15-6:00
9 & 10	6:00-7:00

There will be **NO SWIMMING UP** this year!

### **IMPORTANT!! IMPORTANT!!**

Volunteers! Volunteers! Volunteers!  
Please do not forget to sign up for volunteer positions at registration. We require **ALL** families to volunteer **6** times this year (3 gold and 3 blue). We have 2 home meets plus time trials. Please refer to the Otter handbook for information on volunteering.  
**Questions?? Contact Kristen Reep @ 281-354-6281.** Remember volunteers are what make the meets run smoothly.

### Parent Orientation

Thursday, April 22nd @ Elm Grove Pool, 7pm

### VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

We are in need of a Head desk parent at Elm Grove pool, and a person interested in training for the volunteer coordinator position to replace Kristen Reep, who has said sadly that this will be her last year as volunteer coordinator.

# **BLAST OFF PARTY!!!!**

**SATURDAY, MAY 1ST**

**4PM - 7PM**

**AT ELM GROVE POOL**

**PIZZA, COOKIE, DRINK**

**\$ 3.00**

**BRING SWIMSUITS, CHAIRS, AND ENTHUSIASM FOR THE SEASON!**

## **2009 Village Otters Board of Directors**

<b>President</b>	<b>Jennifer Knouse</b>	<b>832-233-1644</b>
<b>Vice President</b>	<b>Jenny Valcarce</b>	<b>832-748-7870</b>
<b>Secretary</b>	<b>Karen Pickard</b>	
<b>Treasurer</b>	<b>Jeff Smith</b>	
<b>Registrar</b>	<b>Krystin Meyer</b>	
<b>Clerk of Course/Coaches Liaison</b>	<b>Amy Meek</b>	
<b>Volunteer Coordinator</b>	<b>Kristen Reep</b>	
<b>Social</b>	<b>Carlyn Pruitt</b>	
<b>Concessions</b>	<b>Janelle Hunt</b>	
<b>Equipment</b>	<b>Jeff Jackson</b>	

Please let any of us know if we can be of any help to you this year.

## **SPONSORS! SPONSORS! SPONSORS!**

We are in need of sponsors for the team.

Any family that brings in a new sponsor for the team at \$250/sponsor will get a FREE SWIMMER! Each sponsor gets a full page advertisement in home heat sheets, your company information in our divisional heat sheet, (seen by six different teams and hundreds of parents) numerous announcements during the meet, placement in the weekly Ottergram and a thank-you plaque at the end of the season. If you have any questions or would like to pick up the sponsor letter please ask a Board Member.