

# Snow Tracks

The GPAS Adaptive Snowsports Newsletter  
Volume 3, Issue 3 – Mid to Late Winter 2009



## Mission of Greek Peak Adaptive Snowsports

To provide snowsports experiences and skill development for people with disabilities utilizing the safest and most effective adaptive equipment and qualified/trained volunteer staff in a supportive and positive learning atmosphere

## Go on the GPAS website today and do the survey!

### What's Your Vision for GPAS? Tell us On-Line!

This year, the Board of Directors for GPAS is in the midst of developing a strategic plan for the future of GPAS. As a part of the planning process, we conducted two focus groups in December. Thank you to those who participated. Your ideas and feedback is very helpful as we develop the goals for GPAS for the next ten years. You can view the notes from the focus groups on the GPAS website.



## NOW!

We would again like to reach out to volunteers and participants to get more input into the process. You may have received an email giving you a link to an **online survey**. You can also go to the GPAS website and click on the survey there:

[www.gpadaptive.org](http://www.gpadaptive.org)

Please go to the survey today and provide us with your ideas. It is an easy way for you to be involved in shaping the future of GPAS. We appreciate your involvement!



## Winter Challenge Week 2010 a Great Success

The Winter Challenge Week was a great success. Thank you to all the volunteers who helped teach and coach new snowsports enthusiasts! We had great success with more participants returning in subsequent weeks for continues learning and enjoyment A huge thank you to Robyn King and John Solowiej for another great Winter Challenge Week.

## From the Mono/Equipment Room

Please any tools or other equipment exactly where you found them in the equipment room! Thanks for helping.

## Returning GPAS Uniform Jackets at the End of the Season

GPAS jackets should be returned by 3:00 pm on March 14th. Be sure Rosemary or someone in the office checks off your name. Be sure all pockets are empty and that we are aware of any damage.

**Something new!** Do not launder you jacket before handing it in. Michael Schapiro, one of our volunteers, and owner of Wedding Gown Preservation Co. in Endicott, has offered to have his company clean and repair our jackets. This offer is greatly appreciated. Thanks, Mike.



## Donate Your Old GPSD Jackets

Remember those old jackets we wore for GPAS, before we got our new spiffy jackets pictured above? Many of us donated our old GPSD jackets to Special Olympics. For those who still have an old jacket, Jeanne Johnson could still use a couple for the Special Olympians. If any of the membership wants to part with an old coat, it would be appreciated.

## End of Season Picnic Coming Sooner than You Think!

Believe it or not, spring is around the corner. The last day of the GPAS program is March 14. We will again celebrate a successful season with our end-of-year picnic. Watch the website and the next Snow Tracks for details!

## Emergencies on the Mountain

In the case of an injury on the mountain, if it is one of our students, the lead volunteer should stay with him/her through the evaluation process by the Ski Patrol until such time that the responsibility of that participant is given over to a caretaker or parent. If one of us comes upon an injured skier or rider who is alone, we should stay with him/her until help arrives, but if we have one of our students, we must keep him/her with us. Once the Ski Patrol is on hand, they will want us to stay out of the way and move on. So, **STAY OUT OF THE WAY AND MOVE ON.**

If we witnessed what happened, we should return to the Adaptive Center and fill out an Incident Report in as much detail as possible. This should be given to a GPAS administrator or to Pat Crowley.



## Want to be Inspired?

Aimee Mullins, who has had a disability since birth, delivers an inspiring talk about people's abilities. Watch her awesome presentation at this link:

[http://www.ted.com/talks/aimee\\_mullins\\_the\\_opportunity\\_of\\_adversity.html](http://www.ted.com/talks/aimee_mullins_the_opportunity_of_adversity.html).

You can also watch it from the "Links" page on the GPAS website ([www.gpadaptive.org](http://www.gpadaptive.org)). You will see why we changed the name of our organization to person-first language after you listen to Aimee's inspiring talk.

## Congratulations to our Skiers and Riders!

### Special Olympics

- The New York State Special Olympics Winter Games were held in upstate New York on Saturday, February 6, 2010. Many of our GPAS athletes competed. The Alpine racing was held at Toggenberg Ski Area, and the cross country skiing and snowshoeing competitions were held at Highland Forest. Special Olympics divides its athletes by gender, age, and skill level.
- The GPAS athletes won 15 Gold Medals, 10 Silver Medals, and 9 Bronze Medals in Alpine; they captured 1 Gold, 2 Silver, and 1 Bronze in cross country skiing and 1 Bronze in snowshoeing. Well done!
- Gold Medal winners are:
  - Dominic Calleo (1), David Crane (2), Eloise Fraszquez (2), Tim Hertel (2), Jeff Krizek (1), Tommy Mack (2), Patrick Miller (2), James Millus (2), Jordan Sheilman (2).
- Silver Medal Winners are:
  - Johanna Baker (2), Cliff Conger (2), Dominic Calleo (1), Jeff Krizek(1), Austin Peak (2), Joe Pedro (1), Liz Trotman (2), Jessica Tunison (1).
- Bronze Medal winners are:
  - Jimmy Aneshansley (1), Jerry Crosby (2), Joe Krebbeks (2), Megan Mahon (2), Jacob Maxwell (2), Joe Pedro (1),

### Empire State Games

The Empire State Games were held at Whiteface Mountain February 20-21 at Whiteface Mountain near Lake Placid, NY. Congratulations to our GPAS athlete, Amy Burke, who took the Gold Medal in Adaptive Giant Slalom! Well done!



### Diane Golden Race

Congratulations to the GPAS mono-skiers who made an impressive showing at Camelback in the slalom! Brian Kaplun, Gold, John Solowiej, Third Place, Mike Olsen, Fourth Place, and Charles Laws, Fifth Place. GPAS was well represented!

### Your GPAS Board:

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