

Northville Swim Club

May 2011 Newsletter



Membership Update

Northville Swim Club welcomes 54 new member families for the 2011 season. If you see a new face around the club be sure to say hi and make them feel welcome. There are just over 200 families currently on the waitlist. About 125 families were contacted to fill the 54 openings. The club currently has 385 member families and 150 senior members.

Thank You Spring Work Day Helpers

Northville Swim Club is looking great thanks to the many families who pitched in and worked hard during the April 30 and May 7 Spring Work Days.

There was definitely pride in ownership as countless trees, yards of mulch, bushels of leaves and debris, seemingly acres of weeds, months of dust and grime, many square

CLUB OPENS FRIDAY, MAY 27, 3-8 PM!

Kick off your Memorial Day weekend by joining in the Northville Swim Club opening day, Friday, May 27, from 3-8 p.m. Yes, the club will open an hour early on opening day, so pick up the kids from school and head to the pool. The club also will be open 11 a.m. to 8 p.m. on Saturday, May 28; Sunday, May 29; and Monday, May 30 (Memorial Day).

For the complete **2011 Northville Swim Club calendar** of hours and events, check out the [summer calendar](#). A link to the calendar also is available on the Northville Swim Club Home Page.

Important Calendar Note: The club also will open at 3 p.m. on the last day of school for Northville students, Thursday, June 16.

MEET THE MANAGEMENT TEAM

Be sure to say hi and introduce yourself to the 2011 Northville Swim Club management team the next time you're at the club.

Ron Gavel is the new head manager this season. Ron moved to Northville six years ago after living in Farmington for 32 years. He is retired from Chrysler where he worked for 42 years as a design engineer. Ron is married and has two grown daughters and four grandchildren, with a fifth due in August. He volunteers at Providence Park Hospital where he also serves on the board. Ron is excited to be joining the management team and is looking forward to working with the staff to create a fun and welcoming club for members. In addition to overseeing the club's staff of lifeguards and desk workers, Ron will be responsible for overall club operations and payroll.

Other members of the management staff include:

- Longtime swim club member, employee and all around fun guy **Paul Young** who will step in as an assistant manager supervising staff and overseeing pool operations.
- **Tristan Nelson**, returning for his second year as an assistant manager. In addition to supervising staff, Tristan will be responsible for the Snack Shack operations.
- **Mike Scott** is also returning for his second year as an assistant manager. In addition to supervising staff, Mike will be responsible for staff work schedules.

SWIM TEAM NEWS

Join your fellow Penguin swimmers for a **Swim Team Barbeque** on Sunday, June 5, from 2-5 p.m. Meet the new swim team coaches and get the lowdown on the season.

The **first Swim Team practice** is Saturday, June 11...that's right a week earlier than usual. A **Parent Meeting and Swim Suit Fitting** will follow the first practice. Evening swim practices also will take place Monday,

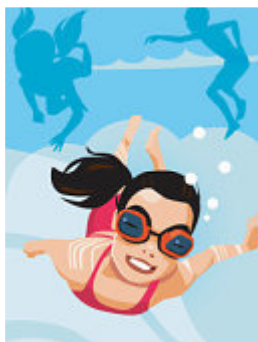
yards of sidewalk, numerous planters, stacks of chairs and signs were trimmed, spread, raked, pulled, wiped, swept, scrubbed, moved, cleaned, mopped, stained, picked up and put away. There also was time to enjoy coffee, donuts, pizza and good company.

Congratulations on a successful couple of days. Enjoy your club this summer!

Swim Lesson News

Sign up for the first session of Swim Lessons begins Monday, June 13.

Session I starts Monday, June 20, with lessons taking place Monday through Friday for two weeks. The cost for each two-week lesson is \$20 per swimmer. For more information about the swim lessons program and schedule, visit the [Swim Lesson Page](#) on the website. Also check the club website for information about [Diving Lessons](#).



June 13, through Friday, June 17, from 6:30-7:30 p.m. for those who can make it.

To download the [Swim Team Registration Form](#) or for more information about Swim Team practice times and the 2011 meet schedule visit the [Swim Team Page](#) on the website.

Meet the Coaches

Dave Rembiesa (Head Coach) - Coach Dave is "Fired Up" for the upcoming Penguin Swim Team season. Coach Dave brings with him more than 15 years experience coaching and instructing competitive young swimmers. A former high school all-state swimmer, Coach Dave has previously been a swim coach at the Bloomfield Open Hunt Club and the Farmington Family YMCA Stringrays. A Northville resident, Coach Dave is married to Sarah. The couple is expecting their first baby in July. When not coaching, Coach Dave is a full-time Media Arts instructor at Mott Community College in Flint and enjoys snowboarding, mountain biking and watching his alma mater Michigan State Spartans.

Stacia Gulkewicz (Assistant Coach) - Coach Stacia has been coaching competitive swimming since she was 16. Most recently she has been the head coach for the Hillside Middle School Raiders Swim Team. Coach Stacia is an English and Spanish teacher during the school year at Cambridge High School in Garden City, an alternative education program. Coach Stacia loves coaching and summer, so this job is the perfect combination for her.

Nora Naughton (Assistant Coach) - A member of the Penguin Swim Team from age 10 to 18, Coach Nora is beyond excited to be helping coach the team this season. Coach Nora swam competitively throughout middle and high school for the Hillside Raiders, the Northville High School Mustangs and the Bulldog Aquatic Club. She also served as a volunteer assistant swim coach for Hillside under Coach Stacia while in high school. Coach Nora's family has been members of NSC for 13 summers and she has worked for the club as a lifeguard for the past six years. Go Penguins!

Swim Team Volunteer Opportunities

Swim Team parents are needed to help with key duties including preparing meet ribbons for the season, computer data entry, weekly awards for swimmers, and overseeing team social activities. This is your opportunity to support your Penguin Swim Team and earn up to 30 free guest passes. The Swim Team season takes place from mid-June through the end of July. For more information or to volunteer, contact [Swim Team Director Mary Jensen](#).

2011 CLUB IMPROVEMENTS

Members will notice a few updates and upgrades around the club for the 2011 season. Some of these include new shrubs and landscaping along the parking lot near the club entrance, 48 new and replacement lounge and regular chairs, new sand for the volleyball court, grading of the parking lot, a shed to store the pool covers, and a new ice machine for the Snack Shack (the old one gave out last year).

The Board also will be working over the summer to implement a web-based membership management and check-in system that will launch

Take Advantage of the Snack Shack

Convenience Card When you purchase a Snack Shack

Convenience Card you don't have to worry about having money with you at the club. Simply purchase a card and we'll keep it at the Snack Shack so it doesn't get lost. It is a \$10.00 debit card with 40 smiley faces, each worth \$0.25. It doesn't get easier than that!

Guest Passes

Guest passes will remain at the same \$5 fee as the last several years. There are lots of opportunities to volunteer to earn free guest passes, including working at a Coney Float Night or Teen Party or helping at a Spring or Fall Work Day, to name just a few. You can earn five free passes per hour of work up to a maximum of 30 passes. Check out the [Volunteer Page](#) on the web site for special volunteer opportunities. You also can talk to a board member with any ideas you may have for volunteer projects.

Swim Club Party Policy

Are you thinking about hosting a party at the Swim Club? Here's what you need to know.

officially with the 2012 swim club season. The new system will ensure the security of the club's membership records, allow members to easily update family information and photos, and ease member check-in and other services at the front desk. Look for more information to come on this throughout the summer.

Many thanks to all the members who offered suggestions and ideas for improvements through the membership survey that was included with the dues notice sent in February.

CONEY NIGHTS, TEEN PARTIES & OTHER SOCIAL NEWS

Nothing says summer like **Coney Float Night** at the Northville Swim Club. The first Coney Night of the season is Wednesday, June 29, 6-8 p.m. Food is served until 7:30 p.m.

If you love music and performing please come share your talents at the **Coney Open Mic Nights**. This is a great opportunity for you to showcase your band or solo act to a very enthusiastic crowd. Performers are needed on Wednesdays from June 29th through August 10th.

Contact [Social Co-Chair Dawn Carson](#) to get more information and to secure a date.

The first of two **Teen Parties** scheduled for this summer will take place Wednesday, June 22, 7-10 p.m. The Teen Parties are open to kids in middle and high school including those entering sixth grade in the fall. Also, remember you don't need to be a member of Northville Swim Club to attend the Teen Parties, so encourage your friends and neighbors to come and join in the food, dance and fun. The cost is \$7 per teen (members and non-members) and includes dancing with a D.J., pizza and pop.

For more information about the fun activities planned for the Northville Swim Club this summer - including family movie nights and more - visit the [Social Activities Page](#) on the website.

WELCOME NEW & RE-ELECTED BOARD MEMBERS THANK YOU OUTGOING MEMBERS

Dawn Carson (Social) - New to the Northville Swim Club Board this year, Dawn Carson and her family have been members since 2008. Dawn and her husband, Jim, have three sons, Alex (15), Michael (15) and Evan (11). Dawn and her family have lived in Novi for 19 years where Jim works at Ford Motor Company and Dawn stays home with the boys and dog, Lucy! Dawn is enjoying serving on the Board of the Northville Swim Club as Social co-chair overseeing the Snack Shack and Coney Nights. With her background of heading various school and church committees, she brings both experience and new ideas to the position.

Jeremy Pecora (Building and Grounds) - Also new to the board this year, Jeremy Pecora and his family have been members since 2007. Jeremy and his wife, Julie, have four children, daughters, Jensen (14) and Jaylen (3) and sons, Jaxon (10) and Justin (8). Jeremy and his family have lived in Novi for nine years. Jeremy is employed by Towers Watson in Southfield as an actuary and Julie is CEO of the Pecora

Only swim club members can host parties, such as birthday parties, during regular pool hours and all such parties are subject to manager approval and are limited to 20 guests. Requests for larger parties during regular pool hours must have board approval. There is no deposit or charge for member hosted parties of 20 or less, although the member is required to use any free guest passes for non-members in attendance or pay the \$5 guest fee.

"Private" Parties, defined as taking place outside normal pool operating hours, but during the scheduled season (such as end of the school year class parties held during school hours), can be booked by swim club members as well as non-members and outside organizations. For more information about cost and availability contact [Social Co-Chair Amy Knoth](#).

household and manager of its day-to-day operations. The Pecora children take swim lessons and participate on the swim team every summer. The family also enjoys attending Coney Nights and the many social events the club offers. Jeremy is serving on the board as co-chair of Building and Grounds. As a former college swimmer, Jeremy is excited to share his love of the pool and swimming by giving back to the club as a member of the board.

Rebecca Fielden (Membership) - Rebecca Fielden was recently elected to her second three-year term as Membership Chairperson on the Northville Swim Club Board of Directors. Rebecca and her family have been members of the Northville Swim Club for seven years. The Fielden family spends most of their summers hanging out with friends and meeting new friends at the swim club and Rebecca has enjoyed watching her sons grow and learn to swim as very active members of the swim team.

Jennie Patterson (Communications) - Jennie Patterson also is serving her second three-year term on the board. During her first term, Jennie served as Communications Director and Co-Chair of the 2010 Summer Independent Swim League Championship Meet. Jennie and her husband, Tom, have been members of the club for seven swim seasons. Both their children, TJ and Maggie, have learned to swim at the club and have enjoyed swimming on the swim team.

LAST BUT CERTAINLY NOT LEAST - Thank You Bill and Michele!!! Not enough thank yous can go to Swim Club members Bill Young and Michele Carmona who finished their board terms this past fall. Bill served as Building and Grounds Chair for two years and then as Club President last year. Michele was Social Chair in charge of Coney Nights and the Snack Shack in her three years on the board. Be sure to let them know how much you appreciate all their hard work next time you see them lounging on the hill!



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Northville Swim Club | P.O. Box 151 | Northville | MI | 48167