

FINAL LEG



LAW ENFORCEMENT

TORCH RUN[®]

FOR SPECIAL OLYMPICS



Nebraska

2010

TEAM PROFILE

Law Enforcement Torch Run® for Special Olympics Fact Sheet

WHAT IS THE LAW ENFORCEMENT TORCH RUN?

Over the past 29 years, the Law Enforcement Torch Run has evolved from a symbolic awareness run to one of the most unique annual fund raising efforts by the law enforcement community, raising over \$300 million since its inception and over \$34 million in 2009. From Torch Run t-shirt sales and "Adopt-A-Cop" runner sponsorships to Polar Plunge® and Cops on Doughnut Shops® fundraisers, the Torch Run raises funds so that Special Olympics athletes can continue to benefit from training and competing in Special Olympics sports.

More than 85,000 law enforcement officers from 43 nations contribute to the Torch Run efforts annually as Guardians of the Flame® ensuring the delivery of the Special Olympics Flame of Hope™ to the Opening Ceremonies of local Special Olympics competitions, state/provincial Games, and National Summer or Winter Games.

Every two years, law enforcement officers from around the world gather to carry the Flame of Hope in a Law Enforcement Torch Run Final Leg in honor of the Special Olympics World Summer or World Winter Games. The last World Games Final Leg took place in 2009 when an international team of law enforcement officers and Special Olympics athletes conducted runs and ceremonies in many communities throughout Idaho to heighten awareness of Special Olympics and the World Games. The most recent USA National Games took place in Iowa in 2006, and the Final Leg Team started their journey at historic Soldier Field in Chicago, the site of the first International Special Olympics Games in 1968, and ran throughout the state of Iowa before safely delivering the Flame of Hope to the 2006 USA National Games Opening Ceremonies in Ames, Iowa.

The Law Enforcement Torch Run began in 1981 when Wichita, Kansas (USA), Police Chief Richard LaMunyon saw an urgent need to raise funds for and increase awareness of Special Olympics. The Torch Run was quickly adopted by the International Association of Chiefs of Police (IACP), now recognized as the founding law enforcement organization of the Law Enforcement Torch Run for Special Olympics.

The International Association of Chiefs of Police is the Founding Law Enforcement Organization of the Law Enforcement Torch Run® for Special Olympics

For more information about the Law Enforcement Torch Run® for Special Olympics, please visit www.specialolympics.org



The Law Enforcement Torch Run® for Special Olympics Final Leg for the 2010 USA National Games

Event Overview

The Final Leg tradition is for law enforcement officers and Special Olympics athletes, representing their state and Torch Run/Special Olympics Program, to act as Guardians of the Flame® and carry the Special Olympics Torch and Flame of Hope™ to the Opening Ceremonies of the Special Olympics USA National Games. This Torch Run event is called the Final Leg because it represents the culmination of Law Enforcement Torch Run® (LETR) events that have occurred previously throughout the United States in 2010. The LETR Final Leg is not only a salute to the athletes from around the United States who will participate in the Final Leg and compete in the Special Olympics USA National Games, but also an honor for the participating law enforcement officers who comprise the Torch Run Final Leg Team.

The Olympic flame symbolizes the light of spirit, knowledge and life. With identical power and majesty, the Special Olympics Flame of Hope™, in the entrusted care of the law enforcement community, symbolizes the courage and celebration of diversity that the Special Olympics movement represents.

Final Leg Mission

- Create awareness and excitement for Special Olympics and USA National Games
- Encourage support and attendance of the USA National Games
- Proudly represent Law Enforcement and Torch Run Programs in the United States as a symbol of our deep commitment to the athletes of Special Olympics as we serve as ambassadors for Law Enforcement, Special Olympics, and the National Games
- Make athlete involvement a vital part of the Final Leg—in addition to having Special Olympics athletes as a part of the Final Leg Team, our goal is to highlight local athletes at ceremonies
- Fulfill our role as Guardians of the Flame® by maintaining the flame until the lighting of the cauldron at the USA National Games Opening Ceremonies
- Be a part of the development of a media relations strategy to publicize and promote the Final Leg and USA National Games to the fullest extent
- Place emphasis on creating and planning the best ceremony possible in every community to help fulfill the mission of the Final Leg
- Involve, inspire, and motivate runners to increase their level of commitment to Special Olympics when they return to their local programs

When and Where

The 2010 Law Enforcement Torch Run Final Leg will precede the Special Olympics USA National Games held in Lincoln, Nebraska. The flame lighting ceremony to begin the Final Leg is scheduled for Sunday, July 11th at Iowa State University in Ames, Iowa, the site of the last USA National Games in 2006. The Flame of Hope™ will enter Nebraska on the evening of July 11th and then travel throughout the state for one week. The Final Leg Team will conduct runs and ceremonies at over 70 cities and towns throughout Nebraska before arriving at the USA National Games Opening Ceremonies in Lincoln on July 18, 2010.

Who

The Final Leg Team (110 members strong) will be comprised of law enforcement runners, Special Olympics athletes, and Support Team members. Law enforcement officers will be chosen from Torch Run Programs in the United States. Nine Special Olympics athletes will also be selected to be a part of the Final Leg Team in 2010.

For more information on the Law Enforcement Torch Run Final Leg for the 2010 Special Olympics USA National Games, please contact Final Leg Committee Chairman and Team Captain Michael Teem at mртеem@hotmail.com.



2010 Special Olympics USA National Games Fact Sheet

Dates: July 18-23, 2010

Participants: 3,000 athletes
 1,000 coaches
 8,000 volunteers
 15,000 family & friends
 30,000 fans

Location: Lincoln, Nebraska

Sports: Special Olympics athletes of all ability levels will compete in 13 different sports

<i>Sport</i>	<i>Venue</i>
Aquatics	Devaney Sports Center, UNL Campus
Basketball	Lincoln Southeast High School
Bocce	Cook Pavilion, UNL Campus
Bowling	Sun Valley Lanes
Flag Football	Mabel Lee Hall Fields, UNL Campus
Golf	Mahoney Golf Course & Highlands Golf Course
Gymnastics	Coliseum, UNL Campus
Power Lifting	Kimball Hall, UNL Campus
Soccer	Abbott Sports Complex
Softball	Fleming Fields
Tennis	Abbott Sports Complex
Track & Field	Ed Weir Track Stadium, UNL Campus
Volleyball	Abbott Sports Complex



Schedule for the Law Enforcement Torch Run Final Leg for the 2010 USA Special Olympics National Games

Saturday, July 10, 2010

Final Leg Team members arrive in Des Moines, Iowa

Sunday, July 11, 2010

- Flame lighting at Hilton Coliseum in Ames, IA
- Runs and ceremonies in Iowa
- Bridge crossing from Iowa to Nebraska at Omaha
- Nebraska arrival ceremony

Monday, July 12, 2010

For the next 6 days, the Final Leg Team will conduct Torch Runs and ceremonies in the listed cities and towns

- Route 1- Madison, Norfolk, Neligh, Wayne, S. Sioux City
- Route 2- West Point, Fremont, Blair
- Route 3- Plattsmouth, Papillion, Bellevue, Omaha

Tuesday, July 13, 2010

- Route 1- Hartington, O'Neill, Atkinson, Ainsworth, Valentine
- Route 2 - Schuyler, Columbus, Ord
- Route 3- David City, Central City, St. Paul, Broken Bow, North Platte

Wednesday, July 14, 2010

- Route 1- Gordon, Chadron, Alliance
- Route 2- Imperial, McCook, Curtis
- Route 3 - Scottsbluff/Gering, Kimball, Sidney, Ogallala, North Platte

Thursday, July 15, 2010

- Route 1 - Cozad, Kearney, Grand Island, Aurora
- Route 2- Lexington, Kearney, Hastings, York
- Route 3- Gothenburg, Kearney, Holdrege, Minden

Friday, July 16, 2010

- Route 1 - Nebraska City, Syracuse, Lincoln
- Route 2 - Falls City, Auburn, Techumseh, Lincoln
- Route 3 - Wymore, Fairbury, Beatrice, Lincoln

Saturday, July 17, 2010

- Route 1- Cessna Air Lift, Gretna, Waverly
- Route 2- Cessna Air Lift, Wahoo, Seward
- Route 3- Cessna Air Lift, Milford, Crete

Sunday, July 18, 2010

Run from State Capitol to Bob Devaney Sports Center
USA National Games Opening Ceremonies at the Bob Devaney Sports Center

Monday, July 19, 2010

Team Departs

FINAL LEG TEAM

LEO RUNNERS

Charles Sutherlin
Kris Sell
Charley Armendariz
Trey Dupuy
Terry Bartholomew
Gary Beecher
Patrick Fleming
Tom Madera
Charles Simpson
Joe Whitson
Jeff Vaughn
Antonio Williams
Terisa Howell
Amy Williams
Tony Gatto
Jana Rooker
John Cosgrove
Walter Littleton, Jr.
Marc Robitaille
Pete Landon
Shawn Rowley
Katie Lynch
Joe Saxon
Bernadette Bond

PROGRAM

Alabama
Alaska
Arizona
Arkansas
California, Northern
California, Southern
Colorado
Connecticut
Delaware
Florida
Georgia
Hawaii
Idaho
Illinois
Indiana
Iowa
Kansas
Louisiana
Maine
Maryland
Michigan
Minnesota
Mississippi
Missouri

LEO RUNNERS

Gordon Schmill
Chris Weber
Douglas McCulloch
Michael Murray
William Zika
Amanda Valencia
Walter Sanders III
Karen Morrow
Dale Plessas
Anne Ralston
Paul Fox
Dustin Newman
Donald McMonagle
Dan O'Neil
David Spivey
Ron Schauer
Eric Guerrero
Kerry Cole
John Frechette
Pat Thomas
Ted Rutt
Mark Mauthe
Jason Niemi

PROGRAM

Montana
Nebraska
Nevada
New Hampshire
New Jersey
New Mexico
New York
North Carolina
North Dakota
Ohio
Oklahoma
Oregon
Pennsylvania
Rhode Island
South Carolina
South Dakota
Texas
Utah
Vermont
Virginia
Washington
Wisconsin
Wyoming



FINAL LEG TEAM

Special Olympics Athletes

Ben Beavers	New York
James Chalmers	Minnesota
Evan Davis	Nebraska
Roxanne Johnson	Arizona
Ronnie Lowe	Missouri
David Ritchie	Idaho
Robbie Strickland	Rhode Island
Michael Warren	Iowa
Nate Webb	New Hampshire

Running Team Leaders

Bill Buford	Arkansas
Shawn Byrne	Oklahoma
Roy Forrest	North Carolina
Jack Harris	Vermont
John Newnan	Maryland
Joe Pellicci	South Carolina
Mike Peretti	Northern California
Luis Rosa	Connecticut
Kevin Stary	Nebraska

Council Support Team Members

Rich Banahan	Missouri
Julie Buedding	Wisconsin
Christy Collum	SOI
Rich Fernandez	Southern California
Sal Gerbino	New York
Jim Kerns	Idaho
Russ Laine	Illinois
Jimmy Meier	Illinois
Steve Palmer	Iowa
Tina Perkins	Idaho
Terri Sappington	Montana
Jeanette Steinfeldt	Iowa
Paul Zarnetske	Connecticut

Team Captain

Michael Teem

Nebraska Support Team Members

Beth Bauer	Nebraska
Jeff Boston	Nebraska
Carol Case	Nebraska
Katie Bowser	Nebraska
Char Estes	Nebraska
Kelsey Messerschmidt	Nebraska
Aaron Moore	Nebraska
Sean Morgan	Nebraska
Jeri Roeder	Nebraska
Lynette Russell	Nebraska
Kevin Weise	Nebraska

RV Drivers

Bob Clinkenbeard	Nebraska
Jeff Franzen	Iowa
Jake Johnson	Idaho
Larry Mays	New Jersey
John Mertz	Iowa
Rod Rhiner	Iowa

Escorts

Jason Bauer	Nebraska
Mitchell Blum	Nebraska
Nicholas Goodwin	Nebraska
John Lukesh	Nebraska
Bob Veal	Nebraska
Ryan Young	Nebraska

Documentation Team

Herb Gelb	Pennsylvania
Andrea Kramer	Idaho
Dave Kramer	Idaho

North Carolina

FINAL LEG TEAM CAPTAIN



*Major Michael Teem and Chinese Special Olympics athlete, "Alice"
on the Great Wall of China during the 2007 Final Leg in China*

Major Michael Teem (retired) Raleigh Police Department North Carolina

Michael Teem retired May 1, 2010 at the rank of Major following 28 years of service on the Raleigh, NC Police Department. Michael has been committed to the Law Enforcement Torch Run® (LETR) for Special Olympics for 22 years. He is currently in his sixth year of service as the Chairman of the International LETR Run Executive Council. The 2009 Final Leg marks Teem's 11th Final Leg. He has served as the Final Leg Committee Chairman and Team Captain since May 3, 1996, overseeing the last seven LETR Final Leg events for Special Olympics World Games as well as the 2006 USA National Games. Under his leadership, successful Final Legs have been held in Ontario; Washington DC to North Carolina; Alaska; Athens, Greece to Dublin, Ireland; Japan; Soldier Field in Chicago to Ames, Iowa; China; and most recently Idaho in 2009.

Michael was inducted into the International Torch Run Hall of Fame in 1995 and graduated from the FBI National Academy in 1996. The North Carolina Torch Run raised more than \$8,000,000 under his leadership as the NC Torch Run Director from 1993 to 2003, and the Raleigh PD has raised more than \$1,100,000 for Special Olympics. Michael served on the Board of Directors for SONC for six years and also served on the Board for the 1999 Special Olympics World Summer Games in North Carolina. Unforgettable athletes, officers, team members and too-many-to-count memories from every Final Leg continue to fuel his passion and desire to grow the cause of Special Olympics at every opportunity! Michael is very dedicated to his family and greatly enjoys time with his wife Gail, daughter Rachel (23), and son Ryne (19). Michael's other major passions include playing as much golf as possible; travel; pulling hard for his Chicago Cubs, Bears, and Blackhawks; the music of U2 (official band of the LETR and Final Leg); and of course all things DUKE, especially DUKE basketball—2010 NCAA National Champions and Michael and Rachel were at the Final Four to see it happen! Way to go BLUE DEVILS!!!!

SPECIAL OLYMPICS ATHLETES - FINAL LEG RUNNERS

ARIZONA



Roxanne Johnson

Roxanne works in the Paradise Valley Unified School District as a crossing guard. She has been working in the school district since 2002 and loves her job, making sure the kids are safe when they cross the street. Roxanne has been a Special Olympics athlete for 22 years. She participates in athletics, aquatics, figure skating, cycling, unified bowling, kayaking and down hill skiing. When she first started participating in Special Olympics she was really shy and because of Special Olympics, her life has changed. Roxanne is a Global Messenger for Special Olympics Arizona. Roxanne is proud of her family, her mom, dad, brother, dog, turtle and a lot of family members who love her. Roxanne has run the Final Leg at her State Games the past two years. She knows how important the Torch Run is to Special Olympics and is honored to have been chosen to be a part of this Final Leg team.

IDAHO



David Ritchie

David Ritchie has been involved with Special Olympics for several years and has had the opportunity to be on the Rigby Wranglers team. David plays basketball, floor hockey and soccer. While on the Rigby Wranglers team he has seen it grow from eight athletes to thirty. Because of Special Olympics, David has had the opportunity to do things that he hadn't been able to do before. In November of 2009 David had the opportunity to travel to China and participate in the Sunshine Games. His team won 3rd place in the world and he came back with a bronze medal and a lot of stories to share. He will never forget that opportunity. David enjoys the support of his family and friends at competitions and is thankful for all the help that his coach gives him.

SPECIAL OLYMPICS ATHLETES - FINAL LEG RUNNERS

IOWA



Michael Warren

Michael Warren has been a Special Olympics athlete for 12 years. He competes in track and field. His favorite event is the 1500M and he also participates in 5K and 10K runs. His most memorable Special Olympics memory was attending the 2003 World Games in Ireland and receiving a bronze medal in the 5K and a gold medal in the 3K. Michael enjoys spending time with family and friends. He looks forward to running with all the law enforcement officers.

MINNESOTA

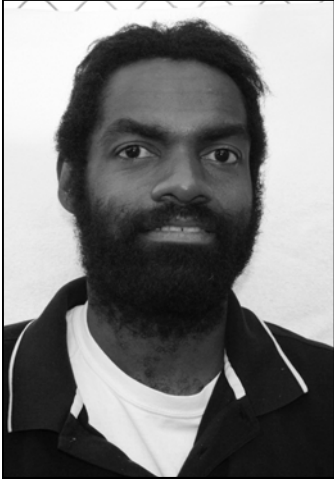


James Chalmers

James Chalmers has been involved with Special Olympics for over 25 years as a participant, coach, and Global Messenger. He has participated in cross-country and alpine skiing. He has been a volunteer coach since 1992, coaching swimming, bowling, and track & field. As a Global Messenger, he speaks to businesses, schools, and community groups. James is an active fundraiser for Special Olympics. Using his running skills to participate in four marathons, James raised nearly five thousand dollars for Special Olympics. His best time in a marathon was 3 hrs. 19 minutes. He achieved this time twice. One of his marathons was participating as a member of a Torch Run Team. James gives Special Olympics much of the credit for his success as a volunteer, runner, and as an employee for the Red Wing Shoe Company.

SPECIAL OLYMPICS ATHLETES - FINAL LEG RUNNERS

MISSOURI



Ronnie Lowe

Ronnie Lowe has participated in Special Olympics for 24 years. He lives independently in Columbia, Missouri. Ronnie enjoys participating in softball, basketball and track. His favorite sport is track. Ronnie has met a number of people from all across the state at his competitions. He enjoys the opportunities for socialization and challenging himself during competitions. Ronnie is most proud of the gold medal won at the 2009 State Basketball Championships. This medal was won because of his hard work and dedication. In Columbia, Ronnie has had the opportunity to meet many of the police officers through a variety of events. He is most fond of Zim Schwartz, of the Columbia PD, whom he sees around town and has very friendly conversations with her. He appreciates her dedication to Special Olympics and the athletes.

NEBRASKA



Evan Davis

Evan has been involved in Special Olympics since he was 12 years old. He has participated in basketball, as well as track and field. Evan's favorite events are the running long jump and long distance running. His favorite place to run is on the "Cowboy Trail," through northern Nebraska because "tracks are boring." Over 14 years of running, Evan's most memorable event in track and field was at State Games 2009 when he lost his shoe soon after the race started. He didn't miss a step—just kept running to the finish and a silver medal! Evan is the youngest in his family and the proud uncle of three, one nephew and two nieces. His favorite pastimes are watching NASCAR, especially Jimmie Johnson!

SPECIAL OLYMPICS ATHLETES - FINAL LEG RUNNERS

NEW HAMPSHIRE



Nate Webb

Nate Webb has been a Special Olympics New Hampshire athlete for 13 years. He is involved in a variety of sports and his favorites are basketball, alpine skiing and cycling. Through Special Olympics, Nate has made many new friends and feels he has gained independence. Nate loves being able to run the Final Leg in the Torch Run in New Hampshire for their Summer Games. He feels proud to stand and run with law enforcement officers as they are very encouraging. Nate hopes to one day run a marathon. When Nate isn't competing, he loves reading, photography and watching movies.

NEW YORK



Ben Beavers

Ben has been involved in Special Olympics for 16 years. He participates in athletics, basketball, and floor hockey. In 2006, Ben participated in the first ever Special Olympics USA National Games and was also selected to participate in the 2007 Special Olympics World Summer Games in Shanghai, China. "Special Olympics has been family to me. I met my girlfriend and best friend through Special Olympics," said Ben. Ben is excited to be a part of the Final Leg team and helping to spread the word about Special Olympics.

SPECIAL OLYMPICS ATHLETES - FINAL LEG RUNNERS

RHODE ISLAND



Robbie Strickland

Robbie began his Special Olympics involvement on the Bristol, Rhode Island team. He competes in basketball, bowling and track & field. In 2003, Robbie was chosen to participate in the World Games in Dublin, Ireland competing in track & field events. Robbie also participated in the first ever USA National Games in Ames, Iowa in 2006 as a member of the basketball team. In 2007, Robbie was honored by being inducted into the Warren Athletic Hall of Fame in Rhode Island. Robbie enjoys the camaraderie of Special Olympics and meeting and talking with new people. Robbie states, "Special Olympics has made a huge difference in my life and I am very grateful for the opportunities that come my way. I intend on doing my best no matter what obstacles I come in contact with. I look forward to meeting all of the members of the Torch Run."



Special Olympics

Be a fan™

FINAL LEG RUNNERS

ALABAMA



Charles Sutherlin

**Corporal
Foley Police Department**

Charles began his 15 year law enforcement career when he joined the US Army in 1994, serving in the Military Police Corps for seven years and now serves as a Patrol Corporal with the Foley Police Department. His involvement with Special Olympics began in 2008 when he was asked to sit in on a Torch Run meeting for his Chief who was unable to attend. That year, Cpl. Sutherlin participated in Torch Run events at the local and state Games. In 2009, Cpl. Sutherlin was chosen as his county's Torch Run coordinator and also coordinated the county's first Cops on Top® roof sit fund-raiser. His efforts have led to doubled levels of participation in local Torch Runs and increased fundraising throughout southern counties of Alabama. Charles is married, has three sons, and enjoys cycling and tactical operations.

ALASKA



Kris Sell

**Police Officer
Anchorage Police Department**

Kris Sell has worked for the Juneau, Alaska Police Department for 12 years. She has worked patrol, investigations, and been on the SWAT team. Kris is someone who shows up for meetings for lots of good causes and volunteers to help. This trait has involved her with personally fulfilling activities like ten years of Torch Runs, police department triathlons, and Alaska Peace Officers Association activities including statewide crime conferences. It is difficult to determine who first said, "The world is run by those who show up." Kris would say, "The world is enjoyed by those who show up... and dive in." Kris has encouraged others to help with Special Olympics because law enforcement often exposes officers to the worst of human nature. Involvement with Special Olympics athletes is the antidote. Special Olympics show us the best of human nature.

FINAL LEG RUNNERS

ARIZONA



Charley Armendariz

Detective

Maricopa County Sheriff's Office

Detective Charley Armendariz began his law enforcement career in 1996 and is currently employed by the Maricopa County Sheriff's Office in Phoenix, Arizona, where he has proudly served since 2005. Since joining the Maricopa County Sheriff's Office, Detective Armendariz has been an active and a positive role model for Special Olympics by participating in the Tip-a-Cop® and local functions. Detective Armendariz is supported by his fiancé, family, and friends. It is Detective Armendariz' great honor and privilege to be a part of the Law Enforcement Torch Run which means so much, not only to the volunteers, but the athletes who participate.

ARKANSAS



Trey Dupuy

Officer

Jonesboro Police Department

Trey Dupuy has been a member of the Jonesboro Police Department since April 2005. He has worked in the patrol division as well as a D.A.R.E. instructor and public relations officer. He is currently assigned to the PROWL UNIT working narcotics and gangs. During his off time he enjoys fishing in bass tournaments, playing golf and watching baseball. Trey has been involved with Special Olympics since 2006 carrying the Flame of Hope™ and participating in various fundraisers. Some of his favorite fundraiser includes Cops-on-Top® of Wal-Mart and Tip-a-Cop® at Colton's Steakhouse. Trey became hooked on Special Olympics after the first medal he ever awarded at the area Games. Trey is most proud of starting new fundraisers at his department to help raise awareness for Special Olympics.

FINAL LEG RUNNERS

CALIFORNIA-NORTHERN



Terry Bartholomew
Sergeant (retired)
Alameda County Sheriff's Department

After 30 years with the Alameda County Sheriff's Department Terry recently retired and now devotes more time than ever to law enforcement fundraising efforts with Special Olympics Northern California. An active participant with the Law Enforcement Torch Run® for 13 years, Terry is also the Assistant Director of the Executive Committee for the Special Olympics Northern California Torch Run. There is not much Terry won't do to promote the Torch Run fundraising efforts. From Tip-a-Cops® to Polar Plunges®, Terry runs the gambit on events. Terry first got involved in the Torch Run when he was assigned as the law enforcement liaison by his Assistant Sheriff. But once Terry caught the spirit of Special Olympics, there was no stopping him. One of Terry's favorite memories with Special Olympics was when he attended his first Summer Games where he presented awards to the athletes. Watching the smiles and excitement of the athletes touched his heart like no other experience and hooked Terry for life.

CALIFORNIA-SOUTHERN



Gary Beecher
Police Officer
Los Angeles Police Department

Gary Beecher's tenure as a police officer for the Los Angeles Police Department began in the summer of 1994. Since then he has worked numerous assignments such as gangs, narcotics and community relations. Gary first became involved with Special Olympics as a college student and has been an active volunteer since then. His enthusiasm in working with children has fueled his desire to take part in such a giving organization. His ability to teach and engage children coupled with his unending enthusiasm and energy has led to his involvement with Special Olympics activities such as the Torch Run. His favorite Torch Run moment was watching two Special Olympics athletes out run two of LAPD's best runners! Gary is a baseball enthusiast and loves to teach others in the intricacies of the sport in a safe, encouraging but most importantly fun environment. Gary has been happily married for 12 years and has a daughter and a son.

FINAL LEG RUNNERS

COLORADO



Patrick Fleming **School Resource Officer** **Pueblo Police Department**

Patrick Fleming has been in law enforcement for the past 21 years and is currently with the Pueblo Police Department in Pueblo, Colorado. In his career he has been in patrol, SWAT, the Community Policing Unit, Honor Guard, and has been a Field Training Officer, and a mounted horse patrol officer. Patrick's current assignment is a School Resource Officer. For the last fifteen years he has been involved with Special Olympics Colorado in several capacities. He has been a runner, organizer and area manager for Southern Colorado and sits on the LETR Management Team. Over the years, Patrick has met so many outstanding individuals that are involved in the Special Olympics program. When he attends Colorado Regional and State Games, he sees a very large group of people from all walks of life coming together and engaging for a common cause, which is to spread the word and educate the general public about what Special Olympics is all about!

CONNECTICUT



Tom Madera **Officer** **Southern Connecticut** **University Police**

Tom started his law enforcement career in 1992 and has been an active member of the Southern Connecticut State University Police Department for 13 years. Tom first became involved with Special Olympics in 1995 when New Haven, Connecticut hosted the World Games. Tom has been the team captain for his department for over ten years. Tom started the first Jail N' Bail event for Special Olympics in Connecticut on his campus which raised over \$17,000 the first year and has now become an annual event not only at SCSU but on campuses across the state. Tom is also a unified partner, participating in softball and floor hockey. Tom is the Final Leg coordinator for the Summer Games that take place annually at SCSU. Tom has stated "we not only touch the lives of the athletes, but they touch ours as well."

FINAL LEG RUNNERS

DELAWARE



Charles J. Simpson

**Captain
Delaware State Police**

Charles “Chip” Simpson has been a member of the Delaware State Police for 30 years. He is currently the Commander of Troop 4 in Georgetown, Delaware. Chip is a member of the Delaware Law Enforcement for Special Olympics Executive Committee acting as the Volunteers Chairperson. For the past 15 years Chip and his family have participated in the Special Olympics Polar Bear Plunge. Chip and his family and friends plunge into the icy waters of the Atlantic Ocean with the “Chipper’s Dippers” team, a group of 30-35 enthusiastic polar bears helping to raise funds for a most worthy cause. Chip is married and has four children. He resides in Lewes, Delaware.

FLORIDA



Joe Whitson

**Deputy Sheriff
Osceola County Sheriff’s Office**

Joe began his law enforcement career in 1989. He is currently a Deputy Sheriff with the Osceola County Sheriff’s Office assigned to the Crime Prevention Unit. Joe has participated throughout the state of Florida in the Law Enforcement Torch Run® for the past 21 years. He is proudly involved in fundraising for Special Olympics, including coordinating Tip-A-Cop® events, PUBLIX Super Market Door Greeter events, and Torch Run merchandise sales. Joe’s most memorable involvement with Special Olympics was participating in the 2009 Global Torch Run in Miami, Florida. Joe has been married to his wife Shawna since 1997 and has two children, Ethan and Tori. In his free time he enjoys surfing, fishing, canoeing and camping with his family.

FINAL LEG RUNNERS

GEORGIA



Jeff Vaughn
School Resource Officer
Carrollton Police Department

Jeff Vaughn has been with the Carrollton Police Department for ten years. He is currently the School Resource Officer for the Carrollton City School System, which he considers the most proud achievement in his law enforcement career. Jeff has been an active volunteer with Special Olympics since 2003. He is an Assistant Coach for the Special Olympics Soccer Team, who in 2009 won a Bronze Medal. One of the Special Olympic athletes nicknamed him "Officer Torch." He is so enthusiastic about his involvement with Special Olympics that he has involved his children for the past two years. Jeff was also instrumental in the development and implementation of the Special Forces Camp, a special needs day camp hosted by the Carrollton Police Department each summer. While not on duty, Jeff enjoys running, cycling, reading, and watching movies.

HAWAII



Antonio Williams
Deputy Chief
U.S. Army Garrison

Antonio has been in law enforcement for 25 years, first as a military police officer with the U.S. Army and, now, as the Deputy Chief of Police for U.S. Army Garrison Hawaii. He became an MP because he knew he wanted to help people. It is that same sense of service that drives him to participate in Special Olympics. Antonio became involved with Special Olympics by participating in the Law Enforcement Torch Run®. Now he's a softball and bocce coach, an avid fundraiser through annual Cop on Top®, Tip-a-Cop®, Fueling Dreams, and Polar Plunge® events, and is a member of the Special Olympics Hawaii Executive Committee. While he's a dedicated and successful fundraiser, Antonio's greatest contribution to Special Olympics is his ability to raise awareness by encouraging volunteerism and leading others to see the important value of the organization's mission.

FINAL LEG RUNNERS

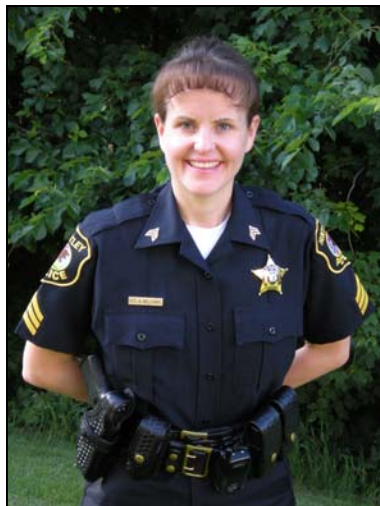
IDAHO



Terisa Howell
Deputy Sheriff
Ada County Sheriff's Office

One of Terisa Howell's first jobs out of high school was as an educational assistant in a resource room at an elementary school. She started college with the intent of becoming a teacher for special children. Somewhere along the way she became a Deputy Sheriff with Ada County in Boise, Idaho. While she loves her current job she has never forgotten the children that touched her heart and her life. She has participated in many Tip-a-Cop® fundraisers and enjoys being involved in the Torch Run. She was honored last summer with being selected to light the cauldron along with one of Idaho's athletes to kick off the Idaho Summer Games. She is honored to be involved in the Special Olympics.

ILLINOIS



Amy Williams
Sergeant
Huntley Police Department

Amy began her career with the Huntley Police Department in 1999. She has been involved with the Torch Run for the past ten years. Amy has coordinated and participated in a variety of fundraising events. She has taken to the roof top of Dunkin Donuts and partnered with Tom Peck Ford for an annual Classic Car Show to raise funds and awareness for Special Olympics. Amy worked with Culver's to develop an annual Tip-a-Cop® event and has spoken about program development at the annual Torch Run kick off conference and has also assisted other Departments in becoming involved with Culver's event. Amy participates in the Final Leg of the Illinois Torch Run and volunteers at the Summer Games. Amy's life has been forever changed through the magical moments she has experienced with Special Olympics.

FINAL LEG RUNNERS

INDIANA



Tony Gatto

Lieutenant

Indianapolis Metropolitan Police Department

Lieutenant Tony Gatto is a 33 year member of the Indianapolis Metropolitan Police Department. Tony has been involved with the Torch Run program for eight years, running the torch for Summer Games and participating in Cop on a Rooftop, Polar Plunges®, and Tip-A-Cop® fundraising events. He enjoys running and bicycling and in his spare time and enjoys family get togethers. He has been married for 32 years and has three grown boys.

IOWA



Jana Rooker

Deputy

Polk County Sheriff's Office

Deputy Jana Rooker has been employed by the Polk County Sheriff's Office for 12 years. She is currently the agency's public information officer. The Polk County Sheriff's Office encourages her involvement with Special Olympics fund raisers as well as promotion of their events through press releases and interviews. She also enjoys spending a lot of time outside, whether it's in her kayak, running, or coaching her daughter's soccer team. Jana has participated in the Torch Run in Iowa for three years and attended the torch lighting ceremony last year in Ames. After this experience, she felt it was more important than ever to be committed to Special Olympics. Officers who were already in the Torch Run group and those who are newcomers have continued to bond with each other as members of Special Olympics Iowa.

FINAL LEG RUNNERS

KANSAS



John Cosgrove
Captain
Kansas City Police Department

Soon after John Cosgrove joined the Kansas City Police Department 26 years ago, he was asked by a co-worker to participate in the Law Enforcement Torch Run® for Special Olympics. His involvement with the Torch Run program appeared destined when his first daughter, Kathleen, was born with Williams Syndrome. John commented, "It seemed like God was always preparing me to have a "special" child." Kathleen is now a Special Olympics athlete and John coaches both of his daughter's athletic teams. John has also been a Top 10 Fundraiser in Kansas and the Wyandotte County Coordinator for the last three years. In addition to coaching, he enjoys spending time with his wife, boxing and running. Involvement with Torch Run inspired John to begin running on his own in April 2009, and he completed the Kansas City Marathon the following October.

LOUISIANA

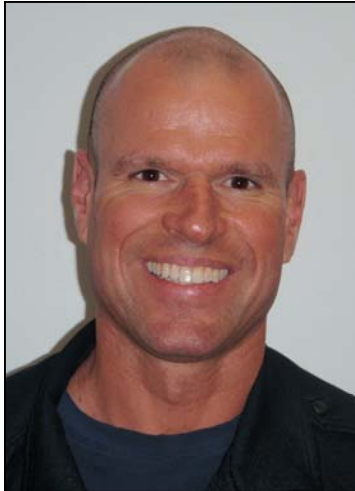


Walter Littleton, Jr.
Deputy Sheriff
Rapides Parish Sheriff's Office

Walter "Bubba" Littleton has been a member of the Rapides Parish Sheriff Office for the past 11 years. He is currently in the Transportation Department. Bubba is an active volunteer with Special Olympics Louisiana, volunteering at the state Summer Games and Truck Convoy®. He has also started his own fundraiser, Bowl-A-Rama, to raise money for the Cenla area athletes of Special Olympics Louisiana. Bubba is very involved with the Torch Run, having the honor of being named Top Runner in Law Enforcement for the last five years. Bubba is married and has three daughters. In his free time, he is a avid hunter and fisherman.

FINAL LEG RUNNERS

MAINE



Marc Robitaille
Sergeant
Lewiston Police Department

Marc has been involved with the Law Enforcement Torch Run® in Maine for 19 years. He was introduced to the run through a Senior Officer at his department and was instantly hooked. Since 1991, he has participated at Special Olympics Maine state and area competitions presenting awards and competing as a Unified Partner. Marc's most famous fundraising event is an annual doughnut eating competition. He is well liked by the Special Olympics athletes who enjoy running with him each year. Marc's favorite Special Olympics memory is marching in to Opening Ceremonies, guarding the Flame of Hope™, as the athletes cheer on the officers. When he isn't working on the Torch Run, Marc enjoys running, triathlons, and time with his family. In 2006 he was Inducted in to the Maine LETR Hall Of Fame.

MARYLAND



W.F. "Pete" Landon
Major
Maryland State Police

Pete has been a member of the Maryland State Police for over 25 years. He is currently the Assistant Bureau Chief of the Field Operations Bureau, Special Operations and Transportation Safety Command. Pete's involvement with Special Olympics began as a road Trooper with his running in the Law Enforcement Torch Run®, evolving into his participation in the Maryland State Police Polar Bear Plunge. Pete is now a member of the elite Super Plunge Team, Polar Bear plunging in the water 24 times in 24 hours around the clock accompanied by his two sons. Pete has encouraged departmental participation in the Law Enforcement Torch Run® and other Torch Run events like the Maryland State Police Polar Bear Plunge by soliciting volunteers whether Trooper candidates or seasoned Troopers or Commanders. Pete is married, has two sons, enjoys volunteering for Special Olympics Maryland and offshore fishing.

FINAL LEG RUNNERS

MICHIGAN



Shawn Rowley
Deputy Chief
Southfield Police Department

Shawn has been a police officer for 27 years. He volunteered to work with Special Olympics while he was at Michigan State. He was touched so deeply that when the Torch Run started in Michigan he jumped at the chance to participate. He has been involved with the Torch Run for 23 years, has participated in Miles for Medals, several Polar Plunges®, and been a Guardian of the Flame™ at the state Summer Games. Shawn remembers an athlete who did not want to participate in an event and asked if he could help. The athlete took his hand and held it, letting go only when it was his turn to participate. Being able to make that athlete feel safe has left a lasting impression on him. Shawn is married, has one daughter, two sons and enjoys coaching hockey, and collecting pins.

MINNESOTA



Katie Lynch
Police Officer
Maplewood Police Department

Katie currently works as a patrol officer for the Maplewood Police Department. She has been a police officer for four years and enjoys running, mountain biking and spending time with her family and two golden retrievers on her days off. Three years ago one of her supervisors asked her to attend a Torch Run kick-off conference because the Department had not participated in the Torch Run before. At the conference an athlete spoke about how his participation in Special Olympics affected him. Katie was very inspired by this athlete for two reasons. First, he was able to speak in front of a large group of people with very little trouble which is a task she finds daunting. Second, he spoke about some of his personal running records and according to Katie, “they were times I could only dream of!”

FINAL LEG RUNNERS

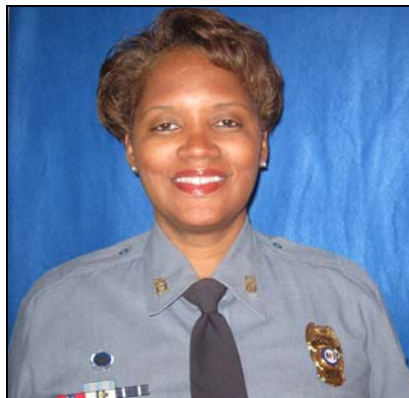
MISSISSIPPI



Joe Saxon
Warrants Officer
Madison Police Department

Joe Saxon has been a member of the Madison Police Department for over 18 years. He has served as a Sergeant on patrol since 1996 until he became a Warrants Officer in 2000. Joe loves to stay active. His hobbies include, working out, running, fishing, and riding four wheelers. He is a true southern boy. Joe has stayed active with the Special Olympics by running the city of Madison Torch Run every year. Joe is married to Gay Saxon.

MISSOURI

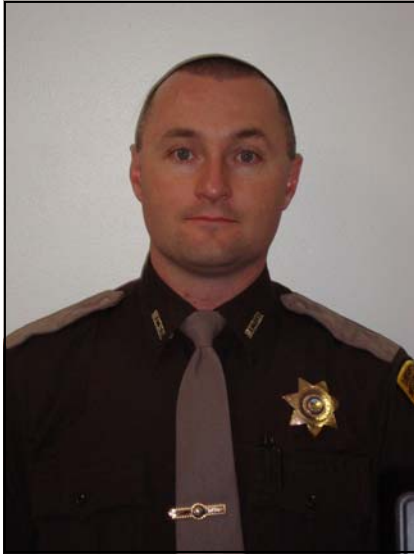


Bernadette Bond
Robbery Unit Supervisor
Kansas City Police Department

Bernadette began her career with the Kansas City Police Department in 1995. She is currently assigned as the supervisor in the Robbery Unit. She enjoys traveling and spending time with her family especially her five granddaughters. Bernadette began her volunteerism with Special Olympics in 2004 when she attended the Winter Games at Snow Creek. There she met a blind young lady from St. Louis. Even though this young girl was blind she had more courage than most people with sight. It was then Bernadette's eyes were opened and she decided she needed to step outside of her comfort zone and help Special Olympics. She has spent countless hours assisting wherever needed in events such as the Broadway Bridge Run, Tip a Cop®, heading up the LETR t-shirt drive and presenting medals to the athletes at the competitions.

FINAL LEG RUNNERS

MONTANA



Gordon Schmill
Sheriff's Deputy
Missoula County Sheriff's Office

Gordon Schmill has been with the Missoula County Sheriff's Department since 2007 and has been in law enforcement for 10 years. He became involved with Special Olympics the summer of 2001 when he attended the Circle of Honor. Since then he has regularly participated at the Special Olympics Montana Summer Games and continues his involvement as a Torch Run leg leader for Missoula County. "Special Olympics has touched a part of my heart that I didn't know existed," states Gordon. "There is something about the atmosphere, athletes, and being with colleges that I can't explain. You have to experience it by being there." Gordon has been married to his lovely wife, Sarah, for twelve years and has two outstanding boys. He likes to hunt, fish, and hike on his time off but most of all, be involved with family activities.

NEBRASKA



Chris Weber
School Resource Officer
Lincoln Police Department

Chris Weber has been a police officer for the City of Lincoln for ten years. He currently works as a School Resource Officer for three middle schools and during the summer, as a dayshift patrol officer. Chris is also a member of the department's Honor Guard and Pistol Team. Chris first got involved with Special Olympics by participating in Lincoln's first Polar Plunge® in 2005. He had so much fun "Freezin' for a Reason" that he has continued to jump in a lake every year for this event and has even won prizes for best costume a couple of times. Chris is on the planning committee for the Polar Plunge® and when not in the water, helps run the event. Chris has participated in many street races, including seven half-marathons and looks forward to running with the Flame of Hope™.

FINAL LEG RUNNERS

NEVADA



Douglas McCulloch

**Marshal
City of Henderson**

Douglas McCulloch is a Marshal for the City of Henderson, Nevada. He has been a Marshal for two years and has been a Special Olympics volunteer since 2008. Douglas began his law enforcement career in 1997 in Massachusetts and moved to Las Vegas in 2003. He has always had a desire to do work with a worthwhile charitable organization such as Special Olympics. In addition to regular duties, he also works with a program the City of Henderson runs called, Henderson Life of Crime. The program helps at risk youth avoid making bad decisions. Douglas is an advocate for Special Olympics in Nevada.

NEW HAMPSHIRE



Michael Murray **School Resource Officer** **Merrimack Police Department**

Michael Murray has been a member of the Merrimack Police Department and an active volunteer with Special Olympics for 22 years. He was awarded the New Hampshire Law Enforcement Volunteer of the Year in 2008 and was also a Final Leg Runner in 2007. He is currently a School Resource Officer and has been instrumental in the youth's involvement in New Hampshire's LETR. Mike recruited 70 students to run nine miles in his leg last year and looks forward to increased youth participation in this year's run! Mike is a proud father and grandfather and in his time off enjoys playing hockey and watching Nascar. His favorite Special Olympics activity is handing out medals and he fondly remembers bumping heads with an excited athlete during a medal presentation at the Winter Games!

FINAL LEG RUNNERS

NEW JERSEY



William Zika
Lieutenant
NY/NJ Port Authority Police

Lieutenant William Zika has been employed with the Port Authority of New York & New Jersey Police Department since 1985. His involvement with the Torch Run started in 1985 at the Special Olympics Summer Games. He has been on the New Jersey Torch Run committee for over 20 years and has assisted in starting three New Jersey Torch Run legs. He is a planning committee member in the annual Motorcycle Ride & Uniformed Officer's Skills Competition, the New York Giants Flag Football Tournament, the LETR Golf Classic, and takes photographs at Special Olympic Torch Run events. He has been a speaker at regional and international torch run conferences, is an awards presenter at area and state Special Olympics Games, participated in the New York City Global Torch Run in January 2009, and is a bowling unified team member. Bill's wife and two sons also volunteer at Special Olympic events.

NEW MEXICO



Amanda Valencia
Accreditation Manager / Instructor
New Mexico Corrections Department

Amanda Valencia began her career with the New Mexico Corrections Department in August 2002. She is currently the Accreditation Manager and an Instructor for the NMCD Training Academy. Amanda became the Regional Law Enforcement Torch Run Coordinator for her area after her first year of involvement. Amanda felt that LETR/SONM deserved more attention, support, time, dedication and heart-felt sincerity from her area. Since becoming Regional Coordinator Amanda led the effort of bringing Applebee's Tip-A-Cop® events to the Santa area and hosted a successful 1st Annual LETR Golf Tournament. The addition of these events tripled the amount of money raised by the local Santa Fe LETR program. These events have also increased community awareness and collaborations between all local law enforcement agencies. Amanda is also an active volunteer with the local Special Olympics program, attending area Games and practices.

FINAL LEG RUNNERS

NEW YORK



Walter Sanders III
School Resource Officer
Rochester Police Department

Walter Sanders has been a member of the Rochester Police Department for 22 years. He is currently a School Resource Officer at Edison Technical High School in Rochester, New York. Walt has volunteered and assisted in running the torch for more than 15 years. He has also participated in the Polar Plunge® for the last seven years. Walt leads the effort in the “Law and Order” event at Applebee’s, which collects donations for Special Olympics. He also volunteers his time in uniform to present Special Olympics athletes with medals at local Special Olympics Games. Walt also enjoys playing softball and spending time with his family. He has two sons and three daughters.

NORTH CAROLINA



Karen Morrow
Special Agent
North Carolina State Bureau of Investigation

Karen began her career with North Carolina State Bureau of Investigations in 2000. Karen began her involvement with Special Olympics in high school volunteering in the local Games and watched her Dad carry the torch numerous times as a law enforcement officer. Karen continues the tradition by carrying the torch in NC. Over the past 10 years, she has started a statewide movement called Cops on Top® with Chick-fil-A, pulled a plane, hosted golf tournaments, etc. She met her husband, Israel, during a Special Olympics meeting and he proposed while attending the LETR International Conference. The Morrow Family continues the tradition with their daughter who also runs and volunteers in the Torch Run. Karen’s dedication to the LETR is a life-long commitment and the athletes will always have a place in her heart.

FINAL LEG RUNNERS

NORTH DAKOTA



Dale Plessas

**Senior Officer
Minot Police Department**

Dale Plessas has been a member of the Minot Police Department since 2001. He has spent the majority of that time as a patrol officer and has recently been assigned to the Crime Prevention Unit. Along with this new assignment came the opportunity to develop important ties in the community. Dale believes it is crucial in any law enforcement agency to show the community the officers of their department are a representation of them and their values. This effort cannot be better served than involvement with Special Olympics. Dale began his participation in the Law Enforcement Torch Run® in May of 2007 running alongside fellow law enforcement officers for the full 16 mile leg. This event has become an annual priority in his life. Dale commented “There is nothing more rewarding in this line of work than participating in an event that provides so much pride and joy.”

OHIO



Anne Ralston

**Sergeant
Ohio State Highway Patrol**

Anne Ralston has been a member of the Ohio State Highway Patrol for 12 years. She is currently assigned to the Office of Professional Standards. Her previous assignments include Assistant Post Commander at the Marietta Patrol Post from 2004-2010, and Trooper at the Cambridge and Fremont Posts from 1998-2004. Anne enjoys running, golfing, and boating. She has been involved with the Torch Run for 11 years, and her first Torch Run experience was as a cadet in the training academy. “Running in to the Horseshoe on the Ohio State University Campus for the Ohio Summer Games Opening Ceremony almost 12 years ago was a moment I will never forget.” Anne participates annually in the Marietta to Columbus leg of the Ohio Torch Run which spans three days and approximately 150 miles.

FINAL LEG RUNNERS

OKLAHOMA



Paul Fox
Deputy
Payne County Sheriff's Department

Paul Fox has been a member of the Payne County Sheriff Department for 13 years and is currently a night shift supervisor, Deputy/K9. Paul's involvement with Special Olympics began with being lured in to helping with a fishing tournament and he got hooked. Over the past seven years Paul has been involved in organizing new statewide Tip-a-Cops®, Polar Plunges®, and also being a part of the state Summer Games Committee. Paul is married and has 3 children and enjoys fishing and volunteering.

OREGON



Dustin Newman
Patrol Sergeant
Polk County Sheriff's Office

Dustin has been a member of the Polk County Sheriff's Office for ten years. When Dustin is not at work, he enjoys hunting, fishing, sports and spending time with friends and family. Dustin has a four year old boy named Trenton that everyone calls "Bean" and a two year old girl named Ida Jean. Dustin has been married for almost eight years to his beautiful wife, Katie. Dustin's involvement in Special Olympics began four years ago. Dustin has run two marathons (26.2 miles) and been the captain of a Hood to Coast relay team (197 miles) all for the purpose of raising money for the Special Olympics. Dustin has also participated in his local leg of the Law Enforcement Torch Run® and Tip-a-Cop® fundraiser at Red Robin.

FINAL LEG RUNNERS

PENNSYLVANIA



Donald McMonagle

Parole Agent II

Pennsylvania Board of Probation & Parole

Donald McMonagle has been with the Pennsylvania Board of Probation & Parole for a little over seven years. Before that he worked as a Corrections Officer II at SCI Graterford beginning in 1996. During his down time he enjoys a variety of different activities including travel and trail runs. Donald has been involved with Special Olympics for a little over a year and raises money through running events like trail runs and marathons. Although he is a newcomer to the Torch Run he looks forward to further involvement and being able to contribute more! Donald is married to his lovely wife Michelle and has a son, Roman, and a daughter, Amanda.

RHODE ISLAND



Dan O'Neil

Trooper

Rhode Island State Police

Dan O'Neil has been a Trooper with the Rhode Island State Police for the past six years. He has been involved in the Torch Run/Special Olympics since 2009. His first experience with Special Olympics was the Connecticut Torch Run Conference in 2009 and since then he has been inspired to assist with any aspect of the Special Olympics. Daniel enjoys playing golf, playing with his one year old son, and going to the beach with his whole family. Daniel is very excited to be picked to run in the Final Leg and is looking forward to his future involvement with the Special Olympics.

FINAL LEG RUNNERS

SOUTH CAROLINA



David Spivey
Lance Corporal
South Carolina Bureau of
Protective Services

Lance Corporal David Spivey has been with the South Carolina Bureau of Protective Services for eight years. Three years ago his Chief asked if he would represent the agency by running the Final Leg to the Summer Games. "I enjoyed selling buttons and bracelets and telling everyone I met about Special Olympics, but, when I ran the seven miles from the State House to the Games and was met by 1,000 cheering athletes, I was really hooked. Special Olympics means so much to the athletes and family members in our state that when I train, I carry a Special Olympics flag. It gives me wonderful opportunities to tell people about Special Olympics." David and his wife, Nicole, live in Elgin, South Carolina with their son Jaxson.

SOUTH DAKOTA



Ron Schauer
South Dakota Game, Fish & Parks
Sioux Falls, South Dakota

Ron has been a member of the South Dakota Torch Run for fifteen years. He has played a role in many of their fundraising efforts including Polar Plunges®, Truck Convoys®, Harley raffles, fire truck pulls and many Tip-a-Cop® events. He also helps organize the Torch Run across the State of South Dakota every year. Supported by his wife Paula and their three children, Ron has always been inspired by the athlete's love of life, their longing for competition and being able to meet and form new friendships with the people they meet. Ron believes being a part of the Torch Run has given him a greater appreciation for life and strives to bring a sense of normality to the lives of all the athletes.

FINAL LEG RUNNERS

TEXAS



Eric Guerrero

Senior Warden

Texas Department of Criminal Justice

Eric began October 1997 fundraising for Special Olympics. In January 2009, he served on the Executive Board of Law Enforcement Torch Run as the Texas Prison Director of Special Olympics. Eric continued fundraising for Special Olympics participating in Cops and Lobsters, panhandling, and volunteering at the Spring and Summer Games. Currently a Senior Warden, Guerrero oversees the Segovia/Lopez Prison in Edinburg, TX. Warden Guerrero recalls his first run where he ran a total of 47 miles to the Summer Games in Austin, Texas. "Not knowing why I was doing it until I attended my first ceremony and seeing the tremendous joy in our athletes, the smiles, hugs, and thanks touched a special place in my heart and memory that will never go away."

UTAH



Kerry Cole

Sergeant

Saratoga Springs Police Department

Sergeant Kerry Cole works for the Saratoga Springs Police Department in Utah. Kerry has been involved with the Special Olympics Torch Run since 1992, running with his disabled son many of those years. He feels it a privilege to be involved with fostering a relationship between the newly formed Saratoga Springs City Police Department and the Law Enforcement Torch Run® by introducing several fund raising events to the community.

FINAL LEG RUNNERS

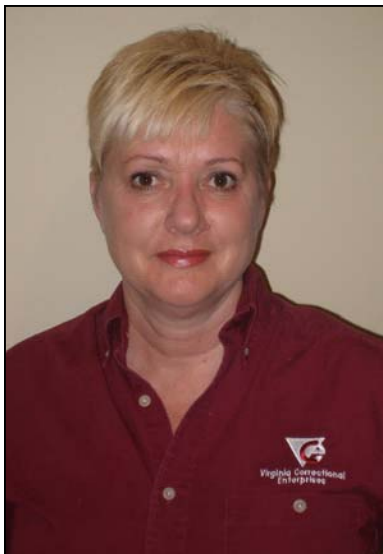
VERMONT



John Frechette
Patrol Officer
Brattleboro Police Department

John Frechette has been a member of the Brattleboro Police Department for 22 years. He is currently a patrol officer on the day shift and is a sniper for the Special Reaction Team. John's involvement with the Torch Run began in 1986 carrying the torch in southern Vermont. John has completed 14 marathons and hopes to finish hiking the Long Trail this year.

VIRGINIA



Pat Thomas
Manager, VA Correctional Enterprises
Virginia Department of Corrections

Pat has been with the Department of Corrections for 11 years. She serves as the manager of the Virginia Correctional Enterprises operation at Buckingham Correctional Center. She enjoys training and competing as a marathon race walker. She also enjoys martial arts. Pat has been involved with the Virginia LETR for five years. She began when her agency asked for a volunteer to be a LETR representative. She volunteered because her daughter is a Special Olympics athlete. She wanted to create the same experiences her daughter enjoyed for other athletes. Pat has said "The first time I ran into the stadium for the Opening Ceremony, the athletes cheered us like we were superheroes. I cried as I knew they were the heroes." Pat is a proud mom to four daughters and five grandchildren.

FINAL LEG RUNNERS

WASHINGTON



Ted Rutt

MPO 1

Tukwila Police Department

Special Olympics is not just a charity that Ted supports, it is and has been, a part of his life for as long as he can remember. Growing up his Mom ran a daycare out of their home where she would take in special needs children who Ted proudly calls family. Being in law enforcement has given Ted the opportunity to be a part of Special Olympics for the past 23 years. Ted is a veteran Final Leg runner having been a member of the 2003 Athens To Ireland Final Leg. Ted met many wonderful people and has fond memories of this Final Leg. Carrying the Flame of Hope™ in Nebraska will be special as well where he will have the opportunity to spread the Special Olympics message in the state where he was born.

WISCONSIN



Mark Mauthe

Investigator

City of Menasha Police Department

Investigator Mark Mauthe has been on the City of Menasha Police Department for 23 years. His involvement with Special Olympics Wisconsin began in 1988 when he participated in a local Final Leg. One of Mark's favorite Torch Run memories was from the 2009 Torch Run. "Students from area schools were out cheering runners on. At one point we stopped at a business that employs Special Olympics athletes. There were lots of high fives and smiling faces," he says. Mark presents medals to athletes at his local Games and participates in events like Lock-up-a-Cop, Cops and Lobsters and the Polar Plunge®, and is on the Torch Run State Committee. He received the 2005 Menasha Police Department Teamwork Award, and the 2009 Special Olympics Wisconsin Volunteer of the Year Award. Mark is married with two daughters and in his spare time he enjoys biking and camping.

FINAL LEG RUNNERS

WYOMING



Jason Niemi

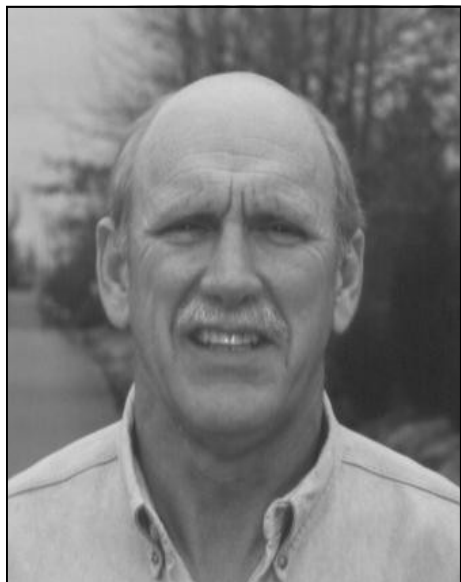
**Sergeant
Wheatland Police Department**

Jason Niemi has been a member of the Wheatland Police Department for eight years. He is currently assigned to the Patrol Division as a Sergeant. In his off time, Jason enjoys hunting, hiking and fishing. Jason has been the Wheatland Leg Leader for the Wyoming Law Enforcement Torch Run for the past seven years and he has enjoyed each and every year. Jason feels greatly honored for being chosen to represent Wyoming in the 2010 Law Enforcement Torch Run Final Leg for the USA National Games in Lincoln, Nebraska



FINAL LEG RUNNING TEAM LEADERS

ARKANSAS



Bill Buford
Bomb Squad Commander
Arkansas State Police

Bill began his association with the Torch Run in 1987 when Arkansas had its first run. Since then he has been the State Director for 15 years, a Regional Director, and currently is a member of the Torch Run Executive Council. Bill is retired from the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco & Firearms after 31 years of service and started with the Arkansas State Police a three years ago as the Bomb Squad Commander. Bill remains hooked on the Law Enforcement Torch Run® for Special Olympics because of the smiles and laughter of the athletes and the camaraderie of the law enforcement officers that participate. He recently assisted in planning and participating in the first Torch Runs that took place in Latin America and considers it a great honor to be able to expand the message of Special Olympics throughout Latin America and the world.

OKLAHOMA



Shawn Byrne
Sergeant
Oklahoma City Police Department

Shawn began his law enforcement career in 2002 with OCPD. Shawn's involvement in Special Olympics and LETR began at a young age in 1992 when his father (Capt. Patrick Byrne) started their departments LETR golf tournament. Once he joined OCPD he became heavily involved in his department's fundraising efforts for Special Olympics and now serves on the Oklahoma LETR Executive Board as Treasurer. Shawn helped plan and chair several events during the 2007 International LETR Conference in Oklahoma City. Participating in the 2009 Final Leg in Boise, Idaho as a runner was a life changing event for Shawn and believes that this Final Leg will be the same for everyone involved. Shawn's roommate for the 2009 Final Leg was Aaron Aarseth, a Special Olympics athlete from Oregon. Living with and interacting with Aaron not only created a lifelong friendship but also gave a new found understanding of the impact of Special Olympics and LETR on the athletes and their families. Shawn is truly honored to be chosen as a running team leader and believes in the Final Leg phrase, "If you can explain it, you haven't experienced it."

FINAL LEG RUNNING TEAM LEADERS

NORTH CAROLINA

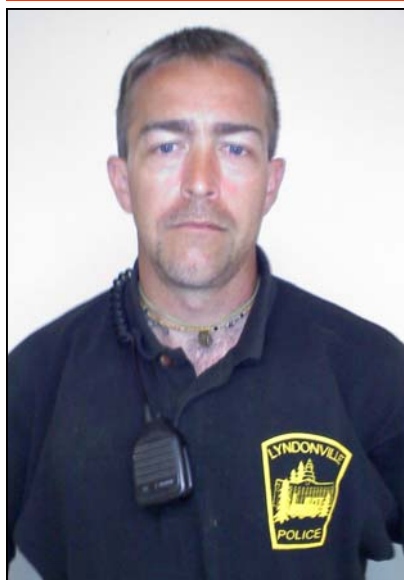


Roy Forrest

**Vice President for Development LETR
Special Olympics North Carolina**

Roy was a law enforcement officer for thirty years before his retirement as a Captain in the Guilford County Sheriff's Office in 2004. Roy is now employed with Special Olympics North Carolina as the Vice President of Development for the LETR. Roy has been involved in the Torch Run for over twenty-one years and during that time served as his department's coordinator. During that time the Guilford County Sheriff's Office raised more than \$500,000 for Special Olympics. Roy has served on his state Torch Run Committee, and is currently a member of the International Law Enforcement Torch Run Council. In 2000, Roy was inducted into the International Torch Run Hall of Fame, and in 2004 he was inducted into the North Carolina Torch Run Hall of Fame. His greatest Torch Run memory is carrying the torch into the stadium for the 1999 World Summer Games in North Carolina. Roy has served as a Running Team Leader in Alaska, Ireland, Japan, China and Idaho.

VERMONT



Jack Harris

**Chief
Lyndonville Police Department**

Jack Harris has been the Chief of Police in Lyndonville Vermont for seven years. Prior to that he was with the Middletown Police Department for 14 years. Jack has been involved in special Olympics since High School and became active in the Torch Run in 1989. Since 1989, Jack has been a runner, department coordinator, and leg coordinator in two different states, and is currently a member of the Vermont Special Olympics Torch Run Board. Jack has been a part of the Torch Run with the National Games in Iowa and the World Winter Games in Idaho. Jack's favorite Special Olympics memory is a most recent play and dance production put on by Special Olympics athletes and local high school students stemming from an idea that he presented to both, that ended in a standing ovation for the production.

FINAL LEG RUNNING TEAM LEADERS

MARYLAND



John Newnan

Captain

Howard County Police Department

John has been involved in the Torch Run since the inaugural Torch Run in Maryland in 1986. He has served as his agency coordinator, county coordinator, and has been the MD LETR Director since 1999. He is a Final Leg veteran and serves on the Torch Run Executive Council as the Region II Coordinator. John was honored in 2005 to be inducted into the Richard LaMunyon International LETR Hall of Fame. He is especially proud that his Torch Run efforts involve his entire family, his wife Kathy, son Ryan, and daughter Jessica. John's son Ryan, helped introduce the Torch Run and Polar Plunging in the Middle East while serving a tour of duty in Mosul, Iraq as an Infantry LT/Platoon leader in the U.S. Army. While in Iraq, Ryan put together a Polar Plunge® (with 700 bags of ice!) in a combat zone raising over \$6000 to benefit Special Olympics back home. John's daughter Jessica, is a 3rd grade Special Education teacher and an avid supporter of Special Olympics and recently received the honor of 1st Year Teacher of the Year for her entire County. John and Kathy are excited to be expecting their 1st grandchild in August!

SOUTH CAROLINA



Joe Pellicci

Captain

Richland County Sheriff's Office

Joseph Pellicci has been involved with LETR and Special Olympics for over 15 years as a runner, a fundraiser, and a volunteer at Special Olympics Games. He currently serves on the LETR Executive Council as the Region III Coordinator, is the chairman of the LETR Affiliates Committee, and is a member of the South Carolina LETR Executive Committee. A 22-year law enforcement veteran, he is currently a Captain with the Richland County Sheriff's Department, overseeing the department's School Resource Officer program, along with other community policing initiatives. Joseph's fondness for Special Olympics can be found in Luke 12:48 – "From everyone who has been given much, much more will be demanded: and from the one who has been entrusted with much, much more will be asked." Joseph has been blessed with a wonderful wife and two children.

FINAL LEG RUNNING TEAM LEADERS

NORTHERN CALIFORNIA



Mike Peretti

**Lieutenant
Livermore Police Department**

Mike has been in law enforcement for more than twenty-nine years, spending the last twenty-six with the Livermore Police Department where he is currently a Patrol Lieutenant, Watch Commander. A Torch Runner for 12 years, Mike has served on the California State Executive Committee and has been a member of the LETR International Executive Council since 2003 where he Chairs the LETR International Conference Planning Committee. Mike's first Final Leg experience was in 2003, Athens to Ireland as a running team member. Mike has led many other running teams since then as a Running Team Leader and recognizes that each Final Leg is unique and special. Mike believes in the Final Leg phrase, "If you can explain it, you haven't experienced it", and encourages all runners to experience the dream!

CONNECTICUT



Luis Rosa

**Sergeant
Connecticut State Police**

Luis began his career with the Connecticut State Police in 1989, along with his involvement with Special Olympics where he started as a Torch Runner, and in 1998 became a Leg Coordinator. In 2003, Luis was selected for the Torch Run Executive Committee as the State Police Coordinator. He also participated as a 2003 Final Leg runner in the historic Athens to Ireland Final Leg Torch Run. Luis was appointed as the Executive Torch Run Director in 2005, and by 2009 had the honor of hosting the LETR International Conference in Connecticut, which was beyond his expectations. In February 2010, San Juan, Puerto Rico hosted their 2nd Special Olympics Latin American Games where Luis assisted with training as well as participating in their LETR Final Leg. His proudest experience thus far is being a unified partner participating directly with his heroes, the athletes. Keep inspiring...keep believing...keep running!

FINAL LEG RUNNING TEAM LEADERS

NEBRASKA



Kevin Stary
Trooper
Nebraska State Patrol

Kevin Stary has been with the Nebraska State Patrol for ten years and has been involved with Special Olympics for seven years. Kevin has participated in Polar Plunges®, volunteered at the State Games and most recently helped coach the local team. Being involved with Special Olympics is the most enjoyable aspect of Kevin's job. Kevin enjoys the interaction with the athletes and has been very honored to be a part of Special Olympics.



USA NATIONAL GAMES • NEBRASKA



Special Olympics

FINAL LEG SUPPORT TEAM MEMBERS

MISSOURI



Rich Banahan

**Chief of Police
St. Louis Community College**

Rich Banahan has been the Chief of Police at St. Louis Community College for the past nine years and is a retired twenty-three year sergeant with the St. Louis Metropolitan Police Department. Rich has been involved in the LETR for 21 years as a runner, state board member, state director and past Region IV coordinator on the Torch Run Executive Council. On the state level he has assisted in the department trivia night for the past 15 years and is a member of the Special Olympics Missouri Resource Development Team. Rich has been a member of six Final Leg Teams.

WISCONSIN



Julie Buedding

**Director of Development, LETR
Special Olympics Wisconsin**

Julie began her career at Special Olympics in 1989 and has been involved in the Law Enforcement Torch Run since 1995, having served on the 20th and 25th Anniversary Committees for the International LETR. She loves that no two days are the same at work and her favorite events are the Polar Plunge® and World's Largest Truck Convoy®. Julie was inducted into The Richard LaMunyon Hall of Fame in 2008 and brings experience to the Final Leg in Nebraska after serving on the Final Leg Support teams for the USA National Games in Iowa in 2006, China in 2007 and Idaho in 2009.

FINAL LEG SUPPORT TEAM MEMBERS

SOI



Christy Collum

**LETR Specialist
Special Olympics, Inc.**

Christy joined the Special Olympics / Law Enforcement Torch Run® team in April of this year and is excited about the opportunity to be a part of the Final Leg Team. She brings years of project management experience to her position, as well as experience as a small business owner. Christy hails from North Carolina, and has two sons in college.

SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA



Rich Fernandez

**Asst. Vice President—LETR/Development
Special Olympics Southern California**

Richard Fernandez started as a Special Olympics volunteer and turned that rewarding experience into a full-time job overseeing the Law Enforcement Torch Run® program for Southern California. Rich has been inspired by the interaction, passion, dedication and commitment that Law Enforcement has shown to benefit the 13,000 Special Olympics Southern California athletes. One of his proudest moments was carrying the torch into Niagara Falls to celebrate 25 years of the Law Enforcement Torch Run. Rich has been with Special Olympics Southern California since 2005 and prior to that was employed in the private sector and collegiate athletics with specialty in marketing, development, and fiscal management and client relations.

FINAL LEG SUPPORT TEAM MEMBERS

NEW YORK



Sal Gerbino

**Deputy Sheriff
Monroe County Sheriff's Office**

Sal was a Sergeant with the Gates Police Department who retired after 31 years of service. He then joined the Monroe County Sheriff's Department, currently working at the Rochester Airport. His involvement with the Torch Run and Special Olympics began over 23 years ago as a runner and volunteer. He is the local run coordinator and has served on the State Committee for the past 12 years with involvement in all aspects of the LETR and Special Olympics. His proudest moments include representing New York in the 2003 Final Leg, Athens to Ireland while chaperoning New York athlete Kevin Brown who Sal says actually chaperoned him, as well as his induction into the Richard LaMunyon International Torch Run Hall of Fame. His wife of 36 years, Debi, and his children can be seen volunteering at every event that Sal is involved with.

IDAHO



Jim Kerns

**Deputy Chief
Boise Police Department**

Deputy Chief Jim Kerns is a 27 year veteran of the Boise Police Department. During this time Jim has immersed himself into many community wide events. However, no event or activity has captured his heart like that of the Special Olympics. Jim's involvement in the Law Enforcement Torch Run® began seven years ago when he did a Tip-a-Cop® event at Red Lobster. Jim really got hooked when he helped at the Idaho Summer and Winter Special Olympics Games. Jim has made many new friends that are Special Olympic athletes and he holds them in highest regard. Deputy Chief Kerns proudest moment was leading the 2009 Final Leg planning team for the 2009 Special Olympics World Winter Games.

FINAL LEG SUPPORT TEAM MEMBERS

ILLINOIS



Russ Laine

Chief

Algonquin Police Department

Chief of Police Russell B. Laine has served as Police Chief for the Algonquin, Illinois Police Department since 1985. Laine was honored to serve as President of the International Association of Chiefs of Police. Of all his leadership activities, Laine is most proud that he was instrumental in introducing the Law Enforcement Torch Run® for Special Olympics in Algonquin and McHenry County, Illinois. From that introduction years ago to the present day, Laine has enjoyed a close involvement with the Torch Run. In recent years, he traveled with the Illinois delegation to the 2007 Special Olympics World Summer Games in China, and participated in the Torch Lighting Ceremony at the White House with President Bush. In 2010, Chief Laine serves on the Board of Directors for Special Olympics Illinois. His greatest privilege, however, has always been working for our athletes.

Illinois



Jimmy Meier

Retired

Cook County Sheriff's Police

Jimmy retired in 2003 after 32 years with the Cook County Sheriff's Police. His involvement with Special Olympics began in 1998 and he is still an active member of his state committee. During this time, Jim has sat on a billboard for four days and nights, volunteered at their Airplane Pull, Polar Plunge®, Dunkin Donuts Cop on Top® and any other event he was available for to raise money for Special Olympics. Jim has received his department's Humanitarian Service Award and was selected to represent Illinois at the 1999 Special Olympics World Games in North Carolina. To this day, it is still an emotional high at every state Summer Games when with the stadium lights are out and the crowd's cheering and the officers run the Flame of Hope™ into the stadium and pass the torch to a Special Olympics athlete to light the cauldron to signify the start of the Games.

FINAL LEG SUPPORT TEAM MEMBERS

IOWA



Steve Palmer

Investigator

Polk County Attorney's Office

Steve Palmer has been involved with the Torch Run for over 14 years. Steve currently serves as the Region V Coordinator on the International Torch Run Executive Council. Steve's favorite Torch Run memory was meeting the Special Olympics athletes for the first time at the very first state Games he attended. This was the catalyst for Steve's deep rooted involvement with the Torch Run. Steve was very involved in the planning and execution of the 2006 USA National Games Final Leg where he was a part of the support team and was a member of the support team for the 2007 China Final Leg. Steve also currently serves as a member of the Board of Directors for Special Olympics Iowa.

IDAHO



Tina Perkins

Victim Witness Coordinator

Boise Police Department

Tina Perkins has worked with Boise City for 14 years. She currently supervises the Victim Services Unit for the Boise Police Department. In her off time Tina races motocross, runs marathons, and enjoys traveling. Tina is an active volunteer with the Torch Run. She currently sits on the Idaho LETR Council and serves as the Assistant Director for the Council. Tina served on the Support Team when Idaho had the great honor of hosting the 2009 Special Olympics Winter World Games. She is honored and humbled by the athletes and officers she works with.

FINAL LEG SUPPORT TEAM MEMBERS

MONTANA



Terri Sappington

**Law Enforcement Torch Run Coordinator
Special Olympics Montana**

Terri became a part of the Special Olympics Montana staff in November of 2000 after serving four years as a corporate volunteer for state Summer Games. Those early volunteer experiences, overflowing with athlete hugs, high fives and medal celebrations, helped shape Terri's passion for Special Olympics. In 2003, Terri became the Torch Run Coordinator for Special Olympics Montana where she has provided service and support to the fine men and women of law enforcement. Terri spends her free time with her husband Doug and children, Taylor, Joshua and Addison.

IOWA



Jeanette Steinfeldt

**Director of Development
Special Olympics Iowa**

For over 20 years Jeanette has been on staff with Special Olympics Iowa as Director of Development. She has witnessed the true meaning of Special Olympics for our athletes and their families. "The smiles, laughs and high fives say it all. Special Olympics has also provided my family with volunteer opportunities to make a positive difference, while at the same time, giving our family time together in this fast paced lifestyle. The athletes remind us to be thankful for every day and to approach every situation with a smile on our face!" Jeanette served on the 2005 Final Leg support team in Japan, the 2007 Final Leg support team in China, the 2009 support team in Idaho, as well as being instrumental in planning and implementing the 2006 USA National Games Final Leg.

FINAL LEG SUPPORT TEAM MEMBERS

CONNECTICUT



Paul Zarnetske
Detective Sergeant
West Haven Police Department

Paul Zarnetske is currently a Detective Sergeant with the West Haven Police Department and a member of Connecticut's LETR Executive Board as well as a member of the International LETR Executive Council. Paul is the Region I Coordinator which encompasses the six New England States. He was introduced to Special Olympics back in 1968 when his mother would bring her students to their house for a picnic every June before they left school for the summer. What Paul didn't know was that 20 years later he would be reintroduced to Special Olympics in the Torch Run. Paul has been an active member of the Torch Run ever since and he's still amazed every year when he enters the Opening Ceremonies to the screams of 5,000 athletes waiting for the torch to arrive.

FINAL LEG DOCUMENTATION TEAM

PENNSYLVANIA



Herb Gelb

Herb has been involved with Special Olympics since 1990. In 1995 Herb was asked to be the official photographer for the Final Leg in Connecticut and has been the official photographer on every Final Leg since except for 1997. Herb's family includes daughters Amy and Nancy and grandson Adam. One of Herb's favorite Torch Run memories was on the Final Leg in Alaska in 2001 when Team Captain, Mike Teem asked Herb to run with the team as they delivered the Fame of Hope in Anchorage.

FINAL LEG DOCUMENTATION TEAM

IDAHO



Andrea Kramer **Professional Photographer**

Andrea started her law enforcement career as a dispatcher for the Boundary County Sheriffs Office and went on to become a Sheriff's Deputy and Narcotics Officer for the Bonner County Sheriff's Office. She served in the law enforcement field for 11 years. She was also a State Dispatch Instructor and EMT Instructor for ten years. Andrea also participated in numerous Law Enforcement Torch Runs®. Andrea left law enforcement and worked in the medical field before opening Stampede Lake Photography Studio – Kramer Photography with her husband David. Andrea was a photographer for the 2009 Final Leg LETR for the Special Olympics World Winter Games in Idaho. Andrea has received two international photography awards and one national photography award. The LETR Final Leg is her passion as well.

IDAHO



Dave Kramer **Law Enforcement Coordinator** **North Idaho Police Academy**

Dave retired in 2008 as Chief of Police for Bonners Ferry, Idaho where he served for over 30 years, the last 20 as Police Chief. Dave is a graduate of the 199th session of the FBI National Academy and has served as President of the Montana/Idaho FBINAA Chapter and President of the Idaho Chiefs of Police. He is currently working at North Idaho College as the Law Enforcement Coordinator for the North Idaho Police Academy. He has been active in Special Olympics for over 20 years as a coach and law enforcement runner, including the Final Leg in Austria, and as a Running Team Leader at the 2009 Final Leg World Winter Games in Idaho. Dave and his wife, Andrea are both professional photographers and own and operate Stampede Lake Studio-Kramer Photography.

FINAL LEG SUPPORT TEAM MEMBERS NEBRASKA



Beth Bauer
Trooper
Nebraska State Patrol

Beth has been involved with the LETR since 1995 when she first participated as a dispatcher in the local county Torch Run. She continued to participate over the years as a Deputy Sheriff, and since 2005 as a State Trooper. Beth has not only changed hats as a law enforcement officer, but also within the Nebraska Torch Run program. For the last several years she has assisted as the co-director of the Nebraska Torch Run. In 2005 Beth traveled to Japan to run in the Final Leg of the World Games.



Jeff Boston
Trooper, Traffic Services Division
Nebraska State Patrol

Jeff started his career with the Nebraska State Patrol in 1988 and started participating in the Nebraska Law Enforcement Torch Run® as a runner in 1992. Jeff spent 5 years on the main support team that traveled across the state. Jeff has participated in and helped with the Cop on Top®, Truck Convoy® and the Polar Bear Plunge, he also had a chance to coach a Special Olympics team for a few years. Jeff's favorite memories are from the Opening Ceremonies, it's the only time he gets a chance to see all the athletes from across the state and spend time with them. In 2010, Jeff took over as the co-director of the Nebraska LETR.

FINAL LEG SUPPORT TEAM MEMBERS NEBRASKA



Katie Bowser
Director of Development
Special Olympics Nebraska

Katie Bowser is the Director of Development for Special Olympics Nebraska. She has been with the organization for five years and has served as Nebraska's LETR Liaison for over three years. Katie's attention, with regards to the LETR, has mainly been focused on revamping the state's annual Torch Run event, continuing to grow existing LETR fundraisers and engaging new law enforcement agencies in local LETR activities. Katie serves on both 2010 National Final Committee and Nebraska Final Leg Committee. Katie has enjoyed working the LETR and bringing officers together with Special Olympics athletes. Her favorite part about being involved with the LETR is seeing the bond between the law enforcement officers and athletes and witnessing how they inspire each other.



Carol Case
Case Worker
Nebraska Health & Human Services

Carol has been a caseworker for Nebraska Health & Human Services for 26 years working in the child support unit. Carol is the mother of three grown children, and a 12 year old black lab, grandmother to four grandsons, three grand-dogs and one grand-kitty. She became involved with Special Olympics first because of her nephew who was an athlete and second when her son began dating his fiancé Beth who was involved with Special Olympics with the Nebraska State Patrol.

FINAL LEG SUPPORT TEAM MEMBERS NEBRASKA



Char Estes
Crime Analyst
Lincoln Police Department

Char is a Crime Analyst with the Lincoln Police Department where she began her career 28 years ago. She enjoys spending time with her grandson, Benjamin, gardening, running, reading, and traveling. Char had a brief involvement with the Special Olympics in 1974 when Auburn, Nebraska held their local Games. She has since helped with fundraisers, Cop on Top®, Cops & Lobsters, and the LETR.



Kelsey Messerschmidt
Student
Wayne State College

Kelsey Messerschmidt is a student at Wayne State College in Nebraska and is an intern for Special Olympics Nebraska. This is her first experience with Special Olympics Nebraska, but she has been an active volunteer with Special Olympics Iowa for over 10 years. Through Kelsey's internship she primarily works with Special Olympics Nebraska's Development Department and over the summer her main responsibilities will be working with the LETR and the Final Leg. Her favorite part of volunteering with Special Olympics is getting to see the excitement of the athletes as they participate in their events. She loves seeing the enjoyment the athletes get from interacting with the officers and the inspiration that the Flame of Hope™ gives all the athletes.

FINAL LEG SUPPORT TEAM MEMBERS NEBRASKA



Aaron Moore
Investigator
Lincoln Police Department

Aaron has been with the Lincoln Police Department for 23 years. He is assigned as an Investigator with the Criminal Investigations Unit. He has been involved with Nebraska's Torch Run Program since 1989 and has been a Final Leg Team member in North Carolina in 1999, Alaska in 2001 and Ireland in 2003. Aaron enjoys motorcycles, hiking, backpacking, working out and home-improvement projects. He is married to Dawn, also an LPD Officer and he has two step-sons ages 12 and 14.



Sean Morgan
Corrections Officer
Douglas County Department of Corrections

Sean Morgan is a 13 year veteran of Douglas County Department of Corrections. Sean is the older brother of a Special Olympics athlete, Erin Morgan. Sean has been involved in Special Olympics for 15 years and has four children that also volunteer. He has been involved with the LETR for the past four years through the Polar Bear Plunge and support efforts of the Torch Run. Sean competes as a unified athlete in bowling and golf. The Morgan Family was presented with the 2008 Family Pride Award from the Nebraska Special Olympics.

FINAL LEG SUPPORT TEAM MEMBERS NEBRASKA



Jeri Roeder
Sergeant
Lincoln Police Department

Jeri has been a member of the Lincoln Police Department for 26 years. She is currently responsible for recruiting and hiring new officers. She has been involved in the Nebraska Torch Run for 16 years and has been a Torch Run Director for ten years. In 1991, Jeri watched her brother's foster daughter compete at the Special Olympics State Games and has been hooked for life. Her involvement with LETR and Special Olympics has been the highlight of her law enforcement career. Jeri served on the support team for the 2009 World Winter Games in Idaho. During her free time, she enjoys scrapbooking. She is married, has an 11 year old son and eight year old twin girls.



Lynette Russell
Investigator
Lincoln Police Department

Lynette Russell has been a member of the Lincoln Police Department for twelve years and she is currently an investigator in the Family Crimes Unit. She has been involved in the Law Enforcement Torch Run® for eleven years including assisting with Cop on Top®, the Truck Convoy®, being on the committee for Polar Plunges, coordinating Cops and Lobsters, and being involved in the Torch Runs. She is also a member of the Crime Scene Investigation Team, Honor Guard, and is an Internal Resource Officer. Lynette is married and has a beautiful six month old daughter. She loves being with her family and friends.

FINAL LEG SUPPORT TEAM MEMBERS NEBRASKA



Kevin Wiese
Officer
Omaha Police Department

Kevin Wiese has been an officer for the Omaha Police Department for three years. He is currently a uniform patrol officer and bike patrol officer in the Northeast Precinct in Omaha and enjoys running, paintball, hunting, and playing music in his off time. Kevin began his involvement with the Special Olympics through a Torch Run across the entire state of Nebraska. The friendship, smiles, compassion, and ability to help people inspired Kevin to become actively involved with Special Olympics. Over the past two years, Kevin has helped coordinate numerous Torch Runs across the state and is very excited to be a part of the 2010 National Games.

NEBRASKA ESCORTS

Jason Bauer

Mitchell Blum

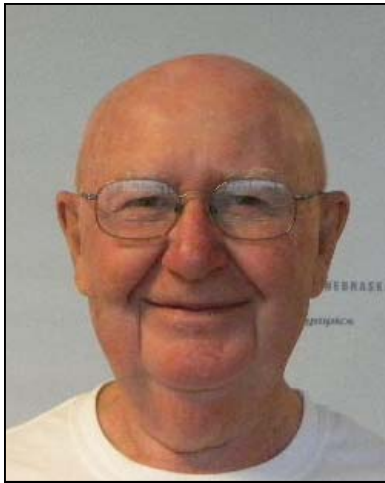
Nicholas Goodwin

John Lukesh

Bob Veal

Ryan Young

FINAL LEG SUPPORT TEAM MEMBERS RV DRIVERS



Bob Clinkenbeard—Nebraska

Bob Clinkenbeard joined the U.S. Navy starting with his service during the Korean conflict and was honorably discharged in 1976. Bob then joined the Nebraska State Patrol and spent 10 years as a road trooper. Subsequently, he was assigned to the newly formed Drug Control Division as an Investigator and later as Lieutenant in charge of that Division. Bob attended and graduated from the 107th Session of the FBI National Academy. He was later transferred to the newly formed Intelligence Section and supervised that until his retirement in 1987. Bob started his next career the Mid-States Organized Crime Information Center as a field representative for the states of Nebraska and Kansas, a position he held for five years.



Jeff Franzen—Iowa **Motor Carrier Investigator** **Iowa Department of Transportation**

Jeff Franzen is a Motor Vehicle Investigator with the Iowa Motor Vehicle Enforcement—DOT. He has been involved in the Torch Run for the past 16 years and veteran billboard and roof sitter! Jeff's favorite Torch Run memory is when he was asked to run the torch into the Opening Ceremonies of the Iowa State Games.



Jake Johnson—Idaho **Patrol Deputy** **Bingham County Sheriff's Office**

Jake has been in law enforcement for 13 years, the past six years of that being with the Bingham County Sheriffs Office. He is currently in the patrol division and is respected by fellow officers in his, and surrounding agencies and by the city and county officials and the community in which he serves. In his off time he enjoys fishing with his kids and hunting. Jake started with Special Olympic events a few years ago when he was a patrol officer with the Blackfoot Police Department doing Cops and Lobsters in Pocatello. In 2009, Jake was selected to help plan, and organize the Final Leg for the Special Olympics World Winter Games that were held in Idaho. He has been hooked ever since and enjoys working for the athletes and with other law enforcement agencies around the world.

FINAL LEG SUPPORT TEAM MEMBERS RV DRIVERS



Larry Mays—New Jersey Detective

NY/NJ Port Authority Police Department

Larry Mays has been a member of the Port Authority of New York & New Jersey Police for 17 years and is currently a Detective at Newark Liberty International Airport. He has served on the New Jersey State Committee for LETR for 15 years. Larry is married and has six children and the whole family is active Special Olympics volunteers. In 1994 he became involved in the Lincoln Tunnel Fun Run when there were 300 participants. And took over as Race Director in 2000 building it into the \$194,000+ fundraiser for LETR today. Larry is a Final Leg veteran of the 2009 Special Olympics World Winter Games in Idaho. When not working or volunteering Larry pitches for the PAPD softball team and can often be found fishing on the beach near his Jersey shore home.



John Mertz—Iowa

Game Warden (retired)

Iowa Department of Natural Resources

John retired in December from the Iowa DNR after 30yrs as a Game Warden protecting Iowa's natural resources. In 2001, John was a runner for the Final Leg of the Special Olympics World Winter Games in Alaska. John was also an RV driver for the National Games in 2006 held in Ames, Iowa. During that adventure he and his team were forced to abandon their motor home at Navy Pier in Chicago due to mechanical problems. He hopes history does not repeat itself.



Rod Rhiner—Iowa

Sergeant

Iowa Department of Transportation

Rod began his career with the Iowa DOT in 1993. Rod's involvement with Special Olympics began in 1994 when he was asked to run in the Torch Run. After that he was hooked! Since then Rod has camped out on roof tops for Cop on Top®, waited tables for Tip-a-Cop®, taken the plunge for the Super Plunge and help get Iowa's Truck Convoy® on the road. Rod was honored when he had the chance to carry the torch for the Opening Ceremonies for the Special Olympics Iowa Summer Games. In 2006, he was honored to be on the support team for the USA National Games Final Leg from Chicago Illinois to Ames Iowa. Rod also had one of his most humbling experiences when he was picked to represent Iowa to go to China to help carry the torch for the 2007 China Final Leg. Rod is married and has a son and a daughter who also help out with the fundraising for Special Olympics.

TORCH RUN

CADENCES

*Every where we go,
People want to know,
Who we are,
So we tell them,
We are the Torch Run,
Mighty, mighty Torch Run,
Special Olympics Torch Run,
Law Enforcement Torch Run®,
Final Leg Torch Run,
World-wide Torch Run,
Torch Run,
Torch Run,
Torch Run.*

*Torch Run Torch Run where you been,
All around the world and we're going again,
Torch Run Torch Run where you been,
All around the U.S. and going again,
Torch Run Torch Run where you been,*

Repeat using different states, cities, & towns when repeating

*Torch Run, Torch Run running proud,
Torch Run Torch Run say it loud,
Torch Run Torch Run full of Pride,
Running with the athletes by our side.
Torch Run Torch Run running hard,
We are flame's honor guard,
Torch Run, Torch Run know our name,
We are the Guardians of the Flame™.*



Torch Run, Torch Run, Torch Run!!!

*Up in the morning to the Torch Run sun,
We're going to run all day until the running is done,
The Flame of Hope™ we carry in hand,
We're going to run this flame across the land,
Together we run side by side,
Led by an athlete who gives us pride,
Across this land we're going to carry this flame,
All the way to Lincoln to the World Games.*



Be a Fan of Determination

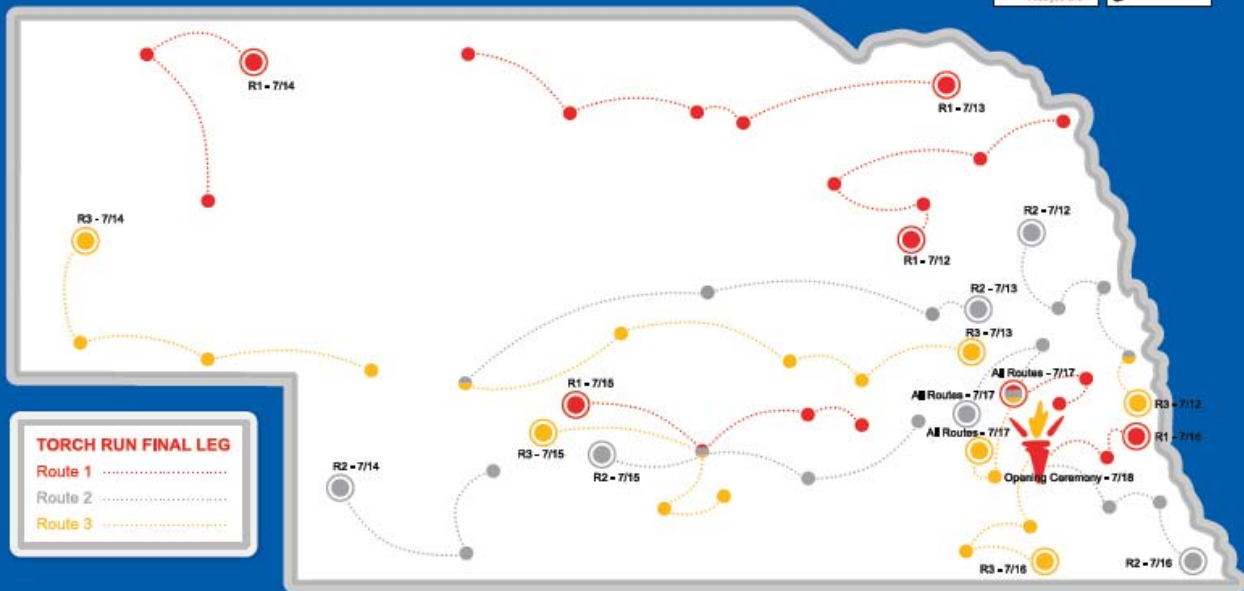


LAW ENFORCEMENT TORCH RUN® FINAL LEG



See the "Flame of Hope"
Make Its Way to Lincoln for the
2010 Special Olympics USA National Games
July 18 - 23, 2010 in Lincoln, NE
www.2010specialolympics.org

The torch travels throughout Nebraska Sunday, July 11 - Saturday, July 17



**Torch Run, Torch Run, where have you been....
All around Nebraska and we're going again!**