

OPAF Select Accomplishments for 2008

The Orthotic & Prosthetic Assistance Fund, Inc. (OPAF), serving with distinction as the Official Philanthropy of the U.S. Orthotic & Prosthetic community, works to provide programs, clinics and events which promote health and fitness for those served within the O & P field. From our founding to support the 1996 Paralympic Games to today's First Clinics, we are reaching out to the physically challenged and working with them in areas of adaptive recreational sport. To that end, we offer the OPAF Select Accomplishments for 2008.

- Hosted 34 First Clinics, including First Volley Adaptive Tennis Clinics, First Swim clinics, First Swing/Learn to Golf Clinics and First Dive Intro to Scuba Clinics. In 2008 these clinics have served well over 600 participants and over 300 volunteers
- First Volley recognized as the United States Tennis Association's National Community Service Award Winner for Adaptive Tennis program
- Two more First Clinics in development for introduction in 2009, to include First Dance and McKeever's First Ride. The inaugural McKeever's First Ride has already been underwritten by a Friend of OPAF.
- Strengthened relationships with other like minded organizations across the country, working in adaptive recreational sports. These groups include Upper Extremity National Outreach Coalition, the Amputee Coalition of America, the National Amputee Golf Assn, the Rehab Institute of Chicago, the University of Utah Rehab Center/TRAILS., University of North Carolina-Wilmington Recreational Therapy Dept., Shreveport Parks & Recreation Dept, multiple amputee kid camps and USTA National Wheelchair and Adaptive Tennis.
- OPAF's Newsletter, "Opportunities, Possibilities And Fun" has grown from a modest subscription number of 175 to over 800 subscribers
- OPAF Executive Director given a special award by the USTA/Middle States Division for work with First Volley and adaptive tennis
- Awarded an OPAF Grant to Adventure Amputee Camp in Bryson City, NC, which provided funding for one camper to attend for the week
- Created the OPAF Blog to keep internet subscribers and browsers up to date on OPAF events.
- Hosted two successful Thranhardt Golf Classics in conjunction with the national meetings.
- Awarded the Dale Yasukawa Memorial Scholarship to Seth "Eric" McLarty, a NUPOC student pursuing O & P as his career choice
- Hosted the New Foot Technology Showcase for the 2008 AOPA National Assembly. Provided one location where meeting attendees and practitioners may do a side by side comparison of the latest in prosthetic foot technology.
- Working to make the First Clinics self sustaining with facility sponsored clinic that will benefit both the practice, the patient and the community
- Recruited top level director nominations to our Board from both inside and outside the O & P industry to help ensure a healthy future for the organization.

OPAF day-to-day business is conducted by a staff of one and a very active Board of Directors and Advisory Board as well as paid instructors for First Clinics.