

All Around News

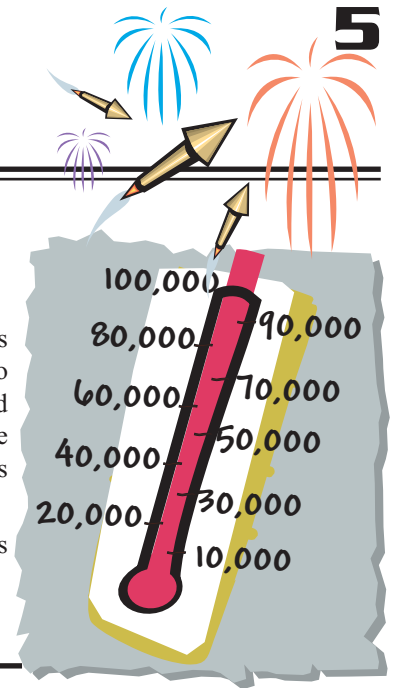
Region 8 Hurricane Update Report

Deb Kornegay, RACC

Thanks to donations from all over the country through cartwheel-a-thons, bake sales, meet profits and even a ballroom dance class, **over \$100,000.00** has been raised for gyms and individuals who sustained damage from Hurricanes in 2005. In December the Hurricane Committee dispersed \$18,400.00 to clubs and judges. Receipts for moneys spent are due back to the Hurricane Committee in January and then more funds will be dispersed. There is a donation form in this newsletter.

Anyone who had damage should contact **Debby Kornegay at DebGK@Bellsouth.net** for forms to apply for funds.

Following are some thank-you letters, a letter from a donor and a list of contributors.



November 30, 2005

Dear Region 8 Gymnastics,

I am an 8th grader from Maui, Hawaii. I belong to Maui Gymnastics and I hosted a ballroom dance in your benefit. I hope this will help with your relief fund.

I am sorry it was not as much as I would have liked.

Sincerely,

Sarah Guerrero

**\$95.00
donation**

December 30, 2005

Dear Debby,

I would like to thank you and all of the gyms in Region 8 for your incredible generosity in your donations to help me recover from Hurricane Katrina. I cannot express how much humble gratitude I feel. Your kindness could not have come at a better time. After losing everything in the Hurricane, I have been really struggling to make ends meet. This donation is really going to help me a lot.

Please know that the funds are going to go to good use. I will use most of them to pay rent on the temporary apartment that I am currently in. Furthermore, I will use it to buy household goods and to pay utilities. I feel that, despite the hardship I have had to endure, this has been the best Christmas I have ever had. The generosity of everybody has really warmed my heart and renewed my faith in the kindness and love of strangers. I know that the only way I can repay this debt is to do the same for others in their time of need.

Thank you very much for your kindness and support.

Sincerely,

Kelly Pugh, Compulsory Team Head Coach
Elmwood Gymnastics Academy
Harahan, LA

December 22, 2005

Dear Debby,

We especially want to thank the Region 8 Hurricane Committee who organized and administered this fund-raising effort; we know this must have been an enormous and difficult task.

We are so pleased and so touched by the generosity of the world-wide gymnastics community who contributed to the Region 8 Hurricane Katrina Fund.

When we first came back from our evacuation to Baton Rouge, our destruction was complete, and we wondered if we would be able to recover. But with the help of our dedicated parents, and the generous grant which we have received from Region 8, we were able to reopen in less than 3 months. In addition, we would like to recognize Linda Stephan, the owner of GC2 Gymnastics in East Syracuse, NY, who also contributed to our recovery effort. Thank you to AIM Gymnastics owners and coaches in Prairieville, for hosting our family during our displacement.

We completely re-built one out of two FX floors, we gutted and re-carpeted and replaced the floor padding in the preschool area, we replaced water-damaged office equipment and supplies, replaced and repainted the walls in the entire gym—practice areas as well as offices and parents' waiting areas.

We got some additional mats, and in the near future we plan to re-pad and re-carpet the second FX area.

We could not have accomplished this much in this short time without your help. We were energized just by knowing that the Region 8 Gymnastics Community was ready to help us in our recovery; this knowledge kept us emotionally upbeat and hopeful for a bright future.

Thank you very much from all Ivanov's students, coaches and parents who were so happy to get our gym back.

Ivanov's Gymnastics Academy
Larisa and Anatoly Ivanov
Metairie, LA

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Region 8 Hurricane Update Report (cont)

Dear Region 8,

It is with an abundance of gratitude that I write this thank you note on behalf of my daughter, Erreca M. Cato, and our entire family. My tear ducts are filled as I contemplate your thoughtfulness and generosity during these trying times. May each and everyone who contributed be blessed many times over. The gift we received will help to pay for travel expenses incurred during the current gymnastics season.

Many, many thanks,

C. J. Cato

Elmwood Booster

Harahan, LA

Deb, wanted to thank you again for all of your help. I also want to thank the committee for spending the time and effort on raising money to help all of us. I sincerely thank you all from the bottom of my heart

Thank you,

Cindy Wallace

Lanier's Head Coach

January 5, 2006

Region 8

I would like to express my sincere gratitude for the generous gift of \$650.00 I received to use toward my daughter's (Manon) gymnastics fees and living expenses. I recently went through a long custody battle, so court costs coupled with Hurricane Katrina costs have put a strain on finances. This gift will help tremendously.

Once again, thank you, thank you, thank you!

Very sincerely,

Jackson Ellisor

January 1, 2006

Dear Debby,

I wish to thank the Region 8 Hurricane Committee for the \$200.00 grant that was sent to me to help with my hurricane recovery. It lifted my spirits and gave me hope, just knowing that help was being gathered from all over the USA and the world gymnastics community. This has shown me more than anything else that we who have gymnastics in our lives really do consider ourselves a family, and I am profoundly moved by this.

I am lucky, because although my house sat under 9½ feet of water for 3 weeks, when we were finally allowed to go in, there was still something there to salvage: all my daughter's medals and trophies from USAG Level 2 through NAIGC Nationals 2005 (Syracuse); I saved my china and glassware, and my collection of coffee mugs from all our family vacations; I got 4 afghans that had been made by my grandmothers, and the quilt my mother made me. But I am lucky; I know of other gymnastics parents and judges whose homes were blown to the 4 winds, leaving nothing of their lives to salvage. So it humbles me to think of them and their grief.

My most precious find was the last photo ever taken of my husband, on July 28, 2005, standing with me and the kids; it was balanced, amazingly dry, on the edge of the upturned dining room table. (He died of his brain tumor on October 4.) The photo was in perfect condition.

For what did I use the money? I cannot point to a specific purchase, but here is a list of what I needed just to go from Texas for 3 days to make a salvage expedition:

1. Truck rental
2. Cleaning supplies to decontaminate and restore salvaged items.
3. Hazmat suits, boots, gloves, respirator masks to enter the house
4. Flashlights
5. Buckets, bins and other plastic storage containers to transport and then clean the salvaged items

As of December 15, I have cleaned almost everything and stored it all in my sister's attic in Tennessee. Now I am in New Orleans, to discover if I can find a place to live, in order to go back to work at Ivanov's Gymnastics, and make my life a little bit ordinary again. And I look forward to getting the Compulsory DVD, as I have managed to save the Level 5/6 study cards that I had made while waiting for Hurricane Katrina to arrive.

Thanks again to everyone on the Region 8 Hurricane Committee,

Patricia Thomas

Louisiana Judge

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Hurricane Fund Contributors

ACE Gymnastics
Susan Adamczyk
Jennie Adams
Kristine Aguilar
ALNAWGJ
Alabama Starz
Alabama USA Gymnastics
Arizona USAG
Arkansas USAG
Amy Arnts
Artistic Gymnastics
Atlanta Gymnastics Center
Bayou Gymnastics
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Rita Brown
Brown's Gymnastics
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Carolina Gymnastics Booster Club
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Gymnastics Group LLC
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Gymnastique
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Wynn Hernandez
Jack and Maryln Hester
Suzanne Hinkley
Mary Hoagland
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Morgan Jones
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Craig Kirby
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Upstate Gymnastics Center
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Michigan USAG
Mid-Atlantic Gymnastics
Miss Suzanne's Gymnastics
Bobbi Montanari
Mary Moore
MS US Assoc of Gymnastics
Camille Murphy
Sarah Myers
Naples Progressive Gymnastics
NC NAWGJ
René Niccollai
North Carolina USAG
North Shore Academy
North Shore Gymnastics Booster Club
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Vladimir and Joanne Novikov
Ohio USA Gymnastics
Olympia Gymnastics Academy
Susan Osoria

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Leah Parker	Starkville Gymnastics	Virginia International Gymnastics Booster Club
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Barbara Percer	Sun Country Gymnastics	Peter Walker
Lynn Perrot	Suzy Sport Center	Vicki Walker
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Pottsville Gymnastics Training Center	Swiss Turners Gymnastics Girls Booster Club	Debbie Walls
Powerhouse Gymnastics	Bonnie Synol	Sally Weaver
Precision Gymnastics	Tampa Gymnastics	West Virginia USA Gymnastics
Premier Gymnastics	Tennessee NAWGJ	Ann Williams
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Annette Rivera	Tumble Aid Participants	
John Roelhlisberger	U. S. Gold Gymnastics and Cheerleading Academy	
Grace Rokela	Ulimite Gymnastics, Cheer and Dance	
Sarasota YMCA	Ultimate Gymnastics	
Krista and Gina Schrimsher	United Gymnastix Girls Team	
Kathy Shufflin	Universal Gymnastics	
Teresa Simmons	Jan Urfer	
Peggy Simpson	USA Gymnastics	
Julie Smith		
Somerton Gymnastics		

Congratulations to Our Region 8 Elite Gymnasts

Deb Kornegay, RACC



Jana Bieger

The U.S. women captured the **gold at the 2005 Pan American Games** in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil in October. **Jana Bieger**, Boca Twisters, placed 2nd on Vault (9.400) and third on Floor (9.100) in the individual finals. Jana also competed in the World Gymnastics Championships in Melbourne, Australia in November and finished with the 5th highest score (9.412) on Uneven Bars at Worlds.



Kassi Price

USA Region 8 Gymnastics had 3 gymnasts from Orlando Metro competing in the **Massilia Gym Cup in Marseilles, France** in October, 2005 where the USA teamed finished second..

Kassi Price won the All Around with a

36.700. She placed second on Vault (9.231), first Uneven Bars (9.560) and first on Floor (9.550). **Shayla Worley** placed second on the Uneven Bars with a 9.500. Unfortunately **Melanie Sinclair** injured her knee and was unable to compete.



Shayla Worley

Karlyann Santiago, a member of the Puerto Rican National team as a Junior Elite, competed in the qualifying meet in San Juan, Puerto Rico in June where she was selected to compete in the following meets:

Bulgaria - placed third in Balance Beam Finals
Jr. Pan Am Games, Cancun, Mex. - finals on Floor

Karlyann, from Coast Elite Gymnastics, also qualified to compete in the Central American games as an Elite Junior International in July of 2006.

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Jon Aardema
Samantha Abad
Ace Gymnastics Inc- MA
Aiken Gymnastics SC
Airborne Gymnastics
Fran Akins
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Diane Berry
Boca Twisters
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Tisha & Emily Briggs
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Central MS Foot Specialists, PLLC
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MGF/Octaviano's Sunrays
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Dan and Beth Miller

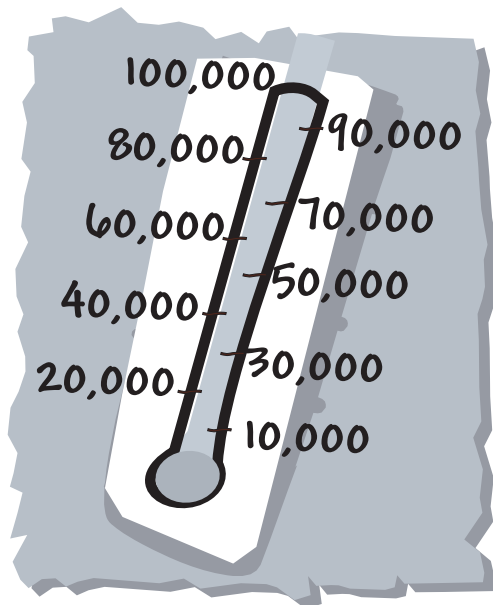
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Rose's Gymnastics, NC
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Stacy Stith
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Grace Taylor
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Linda Thorberg
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Mary Lee Tracy
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Tumble Bee Gym, Inc - Hamburg, NY
Tumblebees Ultimate Gym of
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USA Competitions
USA Sports Management
USAG Florida
USAG Men's Senior National Team
VA NAWGJ
Jerry & Pattie Walkabout
Rick & Melanie Walker
Alison Weinstein
Alison & Mollie Weinstein
Westside Dance & Gymnastics
Academy - Oregon
Jill Wierzba
Amanda & Emily Wright
Terri & Caitlin Wright
Elaine Wulf
Michele Zapple

Please donate to the Hurricane Gymnastics Relief Fund



Thanks to the wonderful response from individuals and clubs throughout the USA, our \$50,000 goal was met in three weeks. The goal of \$100,000 was reached in December. The need is still great. Please donate today.

Name of Club / Business: _____

Name of Individual: _____

Mailing Address: _____

Phone #: _____

Email Address: _____

Name that you want to appear on donation list:

Please make out your check to **Region 8 Hurricane Fund** and return this form with your donation to:

Debby Kornegay
394 Stonebridge Road
Birmingham, AL 35210-1000

All mail-in donations will be posted daily to the Region 8 web site
www.region8gymnastics.org