



THE FINISH LINE

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MT LAW ENFORCEMENT TORCH RUN NEWSLETTER

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This photo won 1st place in OK



This photo won 3rd place in OK



Keynote speaker Barry Switzer



Jodel, Ruschelle & Bob at lunch



Tawny, Ruschelle & Viv dressed up



Jason, Jeff & Jack forming a plan



Mike Pfau in China with new friends



Montana goes to Oklahoma . . .

The 2007 International Torch Run Conference was held in Oklahoma City, Oklahoma October 31 – November 3. The Montana contingent consisted of Jason & Angela Johnson – Missoula, Dave & Holly Hedley – Plains, Doug & Terri Sappington – Great Falls, Sherry & Tawny Gray – Missoula, Sheryl & Vivi Shockley – Billings, Jodel Petroni & Ruschelle Tyvand – Butte, Mike Pfau & Monique Berry – Missoula, Bob Norbie – Great Falls, Jack Allen – Great Falls, Jeff Fauque – Cutbank, Michelle O’Neil – Kalispell, Peggy Ash – Bozeman & Truman Tolson – Missoula. During the 26th annual conference, law enforcement officers & Special Olympics members from around the world celebrated the news when they learned that Torch Run had raised a record U.S. \$30 million this past year for Special Olympics. Montana LETR four international awards: **Sapphire Award** (Level of Excellence - program raising over \$250,000), 4th Highest per Capita Fundraising Program, 3rd Place International Association of Chiefs of Police Photography Contest (law enforcement in action) & 1st Place International Association of Chiefs of Police Photography Contest (law enforcement interacting with athletes). Mike Pfau was nominated for the John Carion Unsung Hero Award. Montana also presented two training sessions . . . World Tour – given by Jack Allen, Jeff Fauque and Jason Johnson. As planned, Terri Sappington was to be in the room acting as though she was frantically searching for them. It wasn’t a stretch part for her and apparently the audience bought it and really thought the speakers were no-shows. The 3 – J’s showed up late wearing tourist clothing and appeared a bit “lost.” After the silliness, they talked about the World Tour and how it has grown our program. State Council Structure – given by Bob Norbie, Gene Stokes (TR Director from Florida) and Jack Allen. They discussed the LETR Executive Council, the roles and members. It was tied all together with Lessons from Geese. They had 50 goose calls and had the crowd honking! The 2008 conference will be held in Dallas, Texas October 29 – November 1, 2008.



MPPA – Premier Sponsor of MT Torch Run

Thank you Carquest

It was announced during the International Conference that Carquest is no longer the Premier International Sponsor of the Torch Run. They dedicated nine years and millions of dollars to the program . . . we are truly grateful for their support. We will no longer have Carquest on the LETR logo. Carquest has graciously agreed to continue shipping our items, when possible, on their trucks.

Passion is everything!

Without passion there is no drive to succeed. It is the fuel of the will and everything you do as a leader must express your passion. Passion is contagious and is easily shared. Passion will bridge moments of weakness and will drive you past your failures while reaching for your goals. Passion radiates from you and is detected by others. Assess your passion. Does it make a real difference in your life? Go back to the roots of your passion and find out what really drives you. Feed your passion regularly. Spend time with people with the same passion. Share your passion with others. Passion, combined with initiative, is a winner every time. Initiative is being willing to take risks. Don’t wait for opportunity to knock. Take time to assess your opportunities. Look for people who are dying for what you have to offer. Take an idea and run with it, even if you fail, you will have accomplished something. Don’t talk yourself out of doing something you know needs to be done. Don’t let lack of time be an excuse to do something tomorrow. Make time for getting things done. Does this sound like a winning combination to fuel you for Torch Run?

Let us not forget

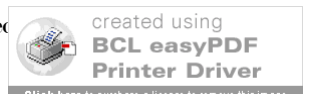
Dan Norton was a Good Sam member who passed away this year. He supported Special Olympics since 1994. He and his wife Fae donated many hours to Special Olympics and provided their motor coach for the runners and athletes. Dan and Fae were two of the biggest Torch Run supporters that could be counted on each year.

John Wulf was a Torch Runner in Butte, MT who passed away this year. As the holidays approach, keep these fellas in your thoughts and prayers.

Mark these dates in your calendar book

<u>Date</u>	<u>Event</u>	<u>Location</u>
Dec. 1	Great Falls Polar Bear Plunge	Great Falls
Dec. 5	Stillwater Polar Bare Plunge	Columbus
Dec. 8	Billings Polar Bare Plunge	Billings
Feb. 2	Super Grizzly Dip	Missoula
Feb. 2	10 th Anniversary Penguin Plunge	Whitefish
Feb. 9	Sweetheart Passion Plunge	Helena
Feb. 18	President’s Plunge	Bozeman
Feb. 22 – 23	10 th Anniversary Kick-Off Conference	Whitefish (Grouse Mountain Lodge)
Feb. 24 – 26	State Winter Games	Whitefish (Big Mountain)

Visit www.somt.org for more information regarding the Torch Run and Special Olympics



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