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Subject: Wounded Warriors Amputee Softball Team Newsletter June 2017
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DW

Wounded Warrior Amputee Softball Team

June 2017



WWAST Players and Kids at U.S. Capitol during the WWAST Kids Camp in Fairfax, VA - June 12-18, 2017

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Dear Friends,

Just last week, the WWAST hosted our fifth annual Kids Camp on the campus of George Mason University in Fairfax, VA from June 12-18. This year's Kids Camp brought together 20 children with an amputation or who are missing a limb with all expenses paid, including travel, meals, and lodging, for the child and an adult. The event kicked-off on Monday with a welcome dinner at the American Legion Post 177 where the players got a chance to meet all the kids and parents. From Tuesday to Friday, the kids honed their softball skills while being mentored by the players of the WWAST. In addition, everyone got the chance to do some additional fun things in the area including a tour of Washington D.C. and a visit to the National Air and Space Museum Udvar-Hazy Center. The week culminated on Saturday evening with the "big game" where 10 kids from the "Red Dragons" played against 10 kids from the "Blue Strikers". Both sides were evenly matched with the game ending in a 14-14 tie! Afterwards, the WWAST showed their talent against a team of local celebrities including Washington Redskins, local newscasters, First



Upcoming Games and Events

June 23
Clem Kelley Softball Complex
517 W. Arbor Ave,
Bismarck, ND
6:00 PM - vs. Local First Responders

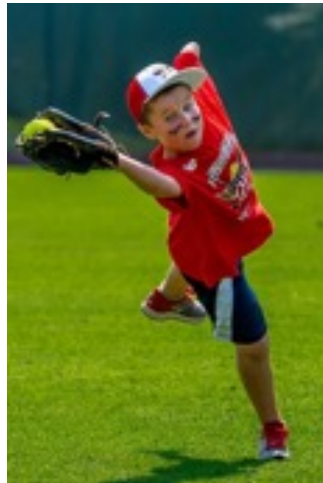
June 24-25
Clem Kelley Softball Complex
517 W. Arbor Ave,
Bismarck, ND
Sam McQuade
Tournament
Game times TBD

July 7
Mills Field
1700 Mills Ave, Brainerd,
MN
6:00 PM - vs. Local
Celebrities

July 8-9
Memorial Park
1619 NE Washington St,
Brainerd, MN
For Hopper Tournament
Game times TBD

celebrities including Washington Redskins, local newscasters, First Responders, and Veterans such as Congressional Medal of Honor Recipient, Flo Groberg. The WWAST came out victorious by a score of 15-10 capping the night with a bang.

In the end, everyone was truly a winner as each player ended the week a better softball player and a true Warrior. The WWAST would like to thank George Mason University, all our sponsors and donors, everyone who volunteered countless hours, and most importantly all the parents who let us work with their incredible children for the week!



Game times TBD

July 15

Canal Park

300 S Main St, Akron, OH

5:00 PM - vs. Local

Celebrities

7:00 PM - vs. Team RWB

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Our Mission

To inspire and educate others while enhancing the health and welfare of Wounded Warrior Amputees.



Additional pictures from the WWAST Kids Camp

We are full of excitement as we head toward our next Kids Camp held in Manchester, New Hampshire from June 11-17, 2018, but we need your help to make it a reality! If this year's event inspired or motivated you, please consider making a tax deductible donation. No amount is too small and your generous donations will help send a young amputee child to this life changing camp. As a reminder, the WWAST is not affiliated with other Wounded Warrior charities (e.g. Wounded Warrior Project, etc.) and, since our inception, over 85% of our donations have supported programs helping Wounded Warrior Amputees, amputee children, and medical research. Please make your contribution to WWAST at:

<http://woundedwarrioramputeesoftballteam.org/wwast-donors-sponsors-overview/>.

In addition to the Kids Camp, The Wounded Warrior Amputee Softball Team participated in three other softball events in the last month. From May 19-21, the WWAST visited our friends and fans in Long Island. The first game played was in Jamaica, Queens on Saturday against the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, and Firearms (ATF) and a game on Sunday in Medford, Long Island against the Long Island All-Stars. The second event had us revisiting Cooperstown and Oneonta, New York on May 25-28. On Saturday, the WWAST played a game at Damaschke Field in Oneonta followed by a doubleheader on Sunday at Doubleday Field in Cooperstown. While there, the WWAST visited the Major League Baseball Hall of Fame, and attended receptions at the Oneonta Veterans Club and the Cooperstown Veterans Club where the team got to meet many of the local veterans. On June 2-4, the WWAST traveled to Cranston, Rhode Island for a game on Friday against local celebrities and a doubleheader on Saturday against the Rhode Island National Guard and a local team of veterans. With this event, Rhode Island became the 41st state that the WWAST has visited!





Additional pictures from events in Long Island, Cooperstown, and Rhode Island

The WWAST has three events over the next thirty days. Our first event will be playing in the Sam McQuade Sr./Budweiser Charity Softball Tournament on June 23-25 in Bismarck, North Dakota. This is the USA's Largest non-profit, single weekend slowpitch softball tournament that brings together players, families and fans from all over the United States and Canada, and last year the WWAST placed fifth in our division! On Friday night, the WWAST will be playing in an exhibition game against local First Responders. On Saturday and Sunday, the WWAST will play in the tournament. The WWAST then heads to Brainerd, Minnesota on July 7-9 for an exhibition game on Friday night followed by participation in the "For Hopper" tournament on Saturday and Sunday. The WWAST will travel to Akron, Ohio on July 14-16 for a doubleheader on Saturday night against a local celebrity team and against Team Red, White, and Blue. We hope to see as many of our fans as possible at these events!

WWAST Schedules for 2017 and 2018

Be sure to check out our schedule for 2017 at the following link:

http://woundedwarrioramputeesoftballteam.org/?post_type=tribe_events.

Keep checking back as additional information about events is added frequently.

If your community is interested in hosting the WWAST for an event in 2018, please contact our Executive Director, Dennis Wince, for details (dennis@thewwast.org).

WWAST Alumni Kids Camps

Planning for our Alumni Kids Camp on September 28-October, 2017 is well underway. The first ever Alumni Kids Camp will take place at Ballparks of America (<http://www.ballparksofamerica.com/>) in Branson, MO. This event is for Kids that participated in one of the first three Kids Camps in Orlando, Louisville, or Mission Viejo. These life-changing events are only made possible by donations from people like you! If you would like to donate to our Alumni Kids Camp, you can do so at this link: <https://www.gofundme.com/WWASTalumni>.

Support the WWAST Online Store

Check out our online store! Summer is here and you NEED to have the latest WWAST gear to stay and look cool. Your purchases will be helping to promote America's favorite team as well. Click on the link

to check it out: <https://www.cagear.com/wounded-warriors-amputee-softball/>. Also, be sure to look for our online store vendor, CA Gear, at upcoming WWAST events.

Messages from Our Fans

"There is no such word as can't! - Those are the words my father taught my siblings and myself growing up. Those are the words my husband and I taught our children long before our daughter, born with limb difference, came into our lives.

This past week as our 9 year old, Annie Kate, spent a week at the Wounded Warrior softball Camp. The two common threads, of the 20 kids from around the country? They were "normal" children and they each had varied limb differences. They were surrounded by scores of U.S. Veteran amputees who not only taught them the game of softball, no, that was the byproduct of the week but they lead by example, proving there really is no such word as can't.

I witnessed the individual [metamorphosis](#) as each child gained skills, confidence, friendship and the power of being a part of a team. No detail was over looked including meals, uniforms, outings, transportation plus the abundance of fun and positive attitude. Thank you to our Veterans who continue to give so much.

I could not have ever imagined a more empowering week for my daughter or myself. I witnessed the commitment and dedication of each person, involved in the planning and implementation, on or off the field (and there are so many) to make sure each child had the experience of a life time.

The children were told they would leave camp as Warriors...Mission accomplished!"

-Kim Myers
Mother of 2017 WWAST Kids Camper, Annie Kate

"It's not just a camp, it's an experience. - On a Monday, 20 families from the East Coast, West Coast, North, South and even those of us from the middle met as strangers. Seven days later, we left as family. While the camp is designed to teach amputee children the game of softball, these true warriors teach so much more. Empathy, determination, inspiration, humor, respect, hard work, camaraderie and respect.

The Wounded Warrior Amputee Softball Team Kids Camp is truly an experience that will last a lifetime. It is difficult to find the words to describe the amount of gratitude for the volunteers and staff. My son, Jack, has now created a circle of friends just like him and I have created a circle of parents just like me. After all, a Life without a Limb is Limitless"

-Stephanie Finney
Mother of 2017 WWAST Kids Camper, Jack

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