



March 7th, 2008

WELCOME TO SPLORE'S MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

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LETTER FROM THE DIRECTOR

The Quantum Magic of SPLORE

Dear Friends of SPLORE,

After spending time with SPLORE one inevitably hears about the "Magic of SPLORE."

Our website reads: *The activities we offer are only a small portion of what SPLORE provides; there is a deeper, more magical essence within the SPLORE experience.*

While I experienced this "*deeper, more magical essence*" on my first SPLORE trip, as SPLORE's new Executive Director I wanted to further understand the Magic of SPLORE.

Magic resides in two realms; the realm of illusion and the realm of the supernatural. In the supernatural realm magic is regarded as real, verifiable and part of the laws of nature.

My quest to better understand the Magic of SPLORE paralleled my quest to understand quantum physics. Quantum physics is regarded by physicists as the most fundamental framework for understanding and describing laws of nature. Niels Bohr the father of orthodox quantum physics stated, "Anyone who is not shocked by quantum theory has not understood it." Indeed, quantum physics

is the study of incredible possibility.

To date, my journey to further understand the Magic of SPLORE has led me to the laws of nature and the realm of possibility.

In 1977 Martha Ham had a vision to connect people with disabilities with the naturalistic wonder of the river - Ken Sleight was one of a few who believed in the possible.

After scrolling through our newsletter I hope you leave wondering how you can create your own *SPLORE Magic - transforming the impossible into the realm of possibility.*

Enjoy,

John Librett

John Librett, Ph.D., M.P.H.
Executive Director



NEW PARTNERS - GREATER IMPACT



To further the awareness and impact of outdoor recreation for all; SPLORE recently developed a partnership with the U.S. Forest Service in Ogden, Utah.

In today's world, there is a growing gap between children and nature; however, the Forest Service is creating programs to bridge that gap by working with partners around the country to get urban, underserved and at risk children away from the TV and computers and back into the outdoors. A recent effort of the Forest Service is called "More Kids in the Woods," a program that teaches kids ways to enjoy the outdoors. The Forest Service recently asked SPLORE to provide staff and equipment to support the Ogden Youth Impact program. Through this partnership about 30 kids enjoyed a day learning about and experiencing cross-country skiing and snowshoeing activities.

To learn more about the Forest Service and their efforts to get "More Kids in the Woods," please visit: [The Wasatch-Cache National Forest](#)



Viewed by millions of people around the world, [Expert Village](#) is a website of "How To" videos. Last month SPLORE worked with a local production company (ProCreative) to produce three videos on accessible and adaptable recreation for people with disabilities. The videos show how SPLORE sets-up and provides rock climbing, canoeing, and winter programs for people with disabilities. Stay Tuned - the SPLORE videos are currently in the editing process and will be on Expert Village by the end of March.

PROGRAM ANNOUNCEMENTS

V.A. MEDICAL CENTER NORDIC SKI PROGRAM

Veterans with disabilities and special needs are receiving life-enhancing outdoor recreation experiences thanks to a partnership with the V.A. Health Care System, Rossignol, and SPLORE.



The V.A. has a growing concern of overweight and obese veterans. Besides this health concern, veterans may also have physical, emotional, and cognitive challenges. To address this and to honor our veterans, SPLORE and the V.A. created a 10-week Nordic skiing program that provides veterans with physical activity opportunities. Bringing together the V.A.'s therapeutic recreation program with SPLORE's experienced Nordic skiing staff and volunteers, veterans gain access to the health benefits of Nordic skiing and the outdoors.

Critical to the success of the V.A. Nordic skiing program is the generous support from Rossignol Ski Company, Kennecott Charitable Foundation, and our venue partners - Alta Ski Resort, Solitude Nordic Center, Soilder Hollow, and The Utah Nordic Alliance. Through these generous sponsors, veterans can have high quality equipment with affordable access.

Next month, learn about a veterans in the V.A. Nordic skiing program who has been positively impacted through this program.

[Learn more about SPLORE's Programs](#)



VOLUNTEER SPOTLIGHT

Thanks to all of our volunteers for your time, support, skill and care. You make us shine!

The Volunteer Spotlight for March is Ellen Hartz. In January Ellen started volunteering with SPLORE. Ellen became a SPLORE volunteer after her previous work with at-risk youth and how the outdoors can have a positive impact on others.

Since January, Ellen has been volunteering almost every Wednesday on the V.A. Nordic Skiing Program. Ellen enjoys introducing others to new experiences, realizing their abilities while finding new ways to authentically relate with others, regardless of age or disability. "I've had some really good conversations with some of the Veterans," she said, "even a good conversation about Democrats, Republicans, and politics."

Thank you, Ellen, for your past, present and future support. SPLORE and our participants appreciate you.

[Learn more about Volunteering with SPLORE](#)

RAISING THE BAR

As a 501(c)3 non-profit SPLORE relies on grants, special events, individual and corporate donations, and agency contracts.

In January, SPLORE participated in the Sugarhouse Rotary Club's Annual Chili Open Golf Classic. On March 20 the Sugarhouse Rotary Club will hold it's annual luncheon to award the charities involved. Many of you participated in this event which made it a great success. To get the final results stay tuned for the April newsletter.



On March 4th SPLORE received a grant from The George S. & Dolores Dore Eccles Foundation. This grant will be applied to participant scholarships that increase access to safe and affordable outdoor recreation experiences for children and adults with disabilities and special needs.

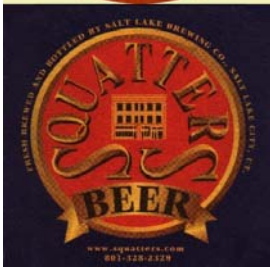


[Learn more about supporting and donating to SPLORE](#)

Finally, We are thrilled to announce that Squatters Brew Pub is sponsoring Guilt Free Dessert month for the entire month of April. During the month of April Squatters Brew Pub will be serving a hand-crafted dessert at all Squatters locations (Downtown Salt Lake City, Park City, and Salt Lake International Airport). 100% of the proceeds will benefit Rock On! a climbing program for children with autism - stay tuned for this exciting event!



<http://www.squatters.com>





BE OPEN.

Because some visionaries are blind.

Because some communicators are deaf.

Because some movers and shakers are paralyzed.

Because the only true disability is a mind stuck in the closed position.

Thank you for reading SPLORE's Monthly Email Newsletter! Your support, involvement, and connection to SPLORE is important to us. If you have any questions, comments or concerns, please visit our website www.splore.org or contact us at (801) 484-4128 or info@splore.org

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