



SOAR NEWS

Swift Outdoor Accessible Recreation Newsletter

April 2016



“The devil of doubt told me I could not withstand the storm. I told the devil I AM THE STORM...”

- Brian P Swift

The mission of S.O.A.R. is to provide programs, services, and equipment to improve the emotional and physical quality of life for people with physical disabilities along with their families and individuals in need by creating outdoor accessible environments. As we grow and reach our long term goals we will also be able to provide grant opportunities for adaptive equipment.



In This Issue

- About S.O.A.R.
- Brian Swift, President of S.O.A.R.
- Upcoming Events
- Our Goals
- Sponsorship information

Fishing events



Brian Swift, Founder of Swift Outdoor Accessible Recreation

Brian Swift, Founder of SOAR

It is rare that someone can take a “tragedy” as an opportunity to change their life and help others. That is exactly what Brian P. Swift did. In 1979 on the day after Christmas, Brian Swift, at the age of 17, broke his neck playing football leaving him a C6 quadriplegic, with permanent paralysis from his chest down. In the process of his rehabilitation, he became aware of the importance of recreation for rehabilitation, not only to improve mobility, but to improve mental well-being. Brian saw this event in his life as a challenge and an opportunity to assist others. This life-changing event developed into his personal crusade.

Brian went back to school and received his bachelor’s degree from Saint Xavier University and his Juris Doctor degree from DePaul College of Law. Brian Swift overcame the challenge of his disability utilizing sports for himself and others by coaching football and basketball for over twenty years. He also continued to hunt, fish, and take long rides in the outdoors after his accident as a means to combat the emotional and physical strains of his disability.

The father of three children and a husband of over 26 years, Brian developed his strategy of success, CIA: Commitment, Integrity, and Attitude. By using this strategy, Brian leaves people invigorated to face their own struggles with hope, faith, and purpose!

It is our hope that SOAR can provide a place and services to help others build their bodies and minds to be healthier and happier. As SOAR grows with the help and generosity of others, it is our goal to positively affect as many lives as we can through the wonders of the great and accessible outdoors.

S.O.A.R. to host *Outdoor Events*

Spring is finally here... Swift Outdoor Accessible Recreation is working on its events calendar.

S.O.A.R. will be hosting a variety of outdoor events in the upcoming months from fishing and hiking to ending the year with a hunting trip. If your interested in an event, or would be interested in a different outdoor event, we would love to hear from you.

You can find us on Facebook too.



Brian Swift, hunting trip

Soar is a nonprofit 501(C)(3) service organization that aims to improve the quality of life for those with physical challenges by offering outdoor recreational activities and programs

Our Goals:

- **To offer as many accessible outdoor activities possible.**
- **To provide enough adaptive equipment so no one will have to wait to participate in an outing.**
- **To purchase an accessible ATV**
- **To be able to award two grants a year to those physically challenged and in need of equipment.**
- **To secure a fully accessible outdoor recreational park**

SOAR is always seeking the help of volunteers like you! Whether you are in a chair, a parent, caregiver, friend, or significant other, we need your help to restore freedom and independence to individuals with a physical disability. Our volunteers assist those with physical disabilities through their generosity and commitment to improving the lives of others.



Wheelchair accessible ATV

Upcoming Fundraising Events

- **Shoes for S.O.A.R.– Give S.O.A.R. your shoes! S.O.A.R. is collecting gently worn and old shoes. S.O.A.R.'s shoe fundraiser will benefit: people with disabilities; the environment in a socially responsible way; and supporting micro-entrepreneurs in developing countries. Call for a local pick up 708-269-7064 drop offs are always welcome too.**
- **Every Monday and Tuesday for the month of May, if you mention SOAR, HoneyCuts barber shop will donate a portion of your haircut to SOAR at all four locations**
- **July 30, 2016 Benefit Run in Northwest Indiana! More information to come! Save the Date!**
- **September 2016 5K Zombie Run– Come have some fun and run with the Zombies! Keep a look out for upcoming information!**

Interested in Sponsoring:

SOAR appreciates any amount of donation and sponsorship, however we offer the following options as a standard for featuring your information on our sponsors page and promoting your company or business:

- *Bronze - \$30 per month or \$300 for 1 year*
- *Silver - \$40 per month or \$400 for 1 year*
- *Gold - \$50 per month or \$500 for 1 year*
- *Platinum - \$100+ per month or \$1000+ for 1 year (Top Sponsor)*

The higher the donation and sponsorship the more SOAR advertises and promotes your company.

Each sponsor of \$500 or more will receive a special SOAR Sponsor Package which includes:

- * Flyers to display at your business
- * A framed SOAR plaque to display that you are a proud sponsor
- * A motivational & inspirational book detailing the founder and presidents drive to start SOAR
- * A SOAR shirt & keychain.

Swift Outdoor Accessible Recreation

10254 W. 195th Street
Mokena, IL 60448

Contact Us

Give us a call for more information about our organization.

Swift Outdoor Accessible Recreation (SOAR)

10254 W 195th Street
Mokena, IL 60448

(708) 269-7064

soar@soarnonprofit.com

Visit us on Facebook

Donate to our GoFundMe account

www.gofundme.com/3p5rpkeg

PLACE
STAMP
HERE