



Chalk Talk

The Monthly Newsletter of The Ohio Gymnastics Institute, Inc.

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December 2009

'Tis The Season

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Calendar

December '09

12-14 USAG Co-Ed Invitational @GTCO in Franklin, OH.

24 - 1 Winter Break - OGI Closed
Classes Resume January 2nd, 2010

January '10

2 Classes Resume

9 NEOBGL Meet @ Broadview Heights

16-17 AAU Markowski Invitational @ Avon Lake, OH.

23-24 USAG Co-Ed Cereal City Invitational@ Kalamazoo, MI

31 NEOGL Meet @ GLG in Avon Lake

February '10

6 NEOBGL Meet @Sokol Center Cleveland OH

12-14 Blaine Wilson Ohio Classic @ Columbus, OH.

12-14 AAU Winter Nationals @ Columbus, OH.

27-28 USAG Spring Fling Invitational@ Hocking Valley in Lancaster, OH

Winter Break

The Ohio Gymnastics Institute, Inc.

Will be closed

Thursday December 24th - Friday January 1st

Remember, The Ohio Gymnastics Institute, Inc. does not offer make up classes or credits for holiday closings. Please refer to your Policies & Guidelines manual or stop by the front office if you have any further questions!

Sign Up another Family Member

The Ohio Gymnastics Institute, Inc. is offering half off of first month's class fees for brothers & sisters of currently enrolled students at OGI. What a great holiday gift!

Offer valid when you register on or before January 8, 2010!

*available for students inactive 6 months or more

Parents Night Out

Parent's Night Out is a great opportunity for parents to enjoy an evening out while the kids get to enjoy a fun filled night. Perfect for parents looking to finish up some holiday shopping! Sign up at the front office today!

Includes: Open Gym, Pizza, Pop, and a
*great movie!

6 p.m. - 9 p.m.

Saturday December 12th, 2009

December Birthdays

Robbie Butler	Kayleigh Cannell	Madison Carl	Christina Corturillo
Samantha Cox	Kaitlyn Dean	Montana Drodouski	Novia Fee
Sydney Ferguson	Riley Good	Michael Goussios	Mara Guerrieri
Macyn Horodyski	Gianna Ignazio	Jordyn Jones	Kristopher King
Rachel Klucinec	Khloe Liakaris	Alexandria Morales	Alexys Moss
Sumeera Murad	Zameer Murad	Carlena Orsine	Emalea Pagano
Kara Pirko	Morgan Priddy	Kayla Rutherford	Justin Sahli
Alyssa Shepherd	Olivia Slater	Bailee Stewart	Carrigan Sundstrom
Scotty Tucker	Dale Wolford	Sierra Wells	Donnie Yeager
Hailey Zelinsky	Miss Alex Tatebe	Mrs. Robin Simeonsson	



Remember...
OGI offers gift
certificates!!!



Don't Forget to Pre-Register for All Open Gym Times!

Athlete of the Month

We are proud to announce that our December Athlete of the Month is Stefani Christy.

Stefani, who turned 10 this past August, is the daughter of Tom and Michelle Christy. She resides in Austintown and is in 4th grade at Frank Ohl Middle School – her favorite subject is math. Stefani has an older sister named Allison and a younger sister Madison who is currently a Tumbling Tiger in our Jungle Gym program. Although she doesn't have any pets now, she hopes to get a dog one day.

Stefani has been involved with OGI since 2004, and is currently a Level 4 gymnast on our Girls Novice Team. Her favorite events are the Uneven Bars and Vault. She looks forward to moving to level 5 next year and learning her Back Tuck on the Floor and her Glide Kip on the Uneven Bars. Stefani's biggest goal is to be a really good gymnast and go to the Olympics!

Stefani had her first level 4 meet of the season on November 22nd at Ashtabula's Chalk Box. There she scored a career high on every event! She earned a 9.3 on Vault, 8.7 on Uneven Bars, 9.25 on Balance Beam, and a 9.05 on Floor Exercise. With an All Around score of a 36.3, she not only took first in her age group, but she had the highest score in the entire meet!

When Stefani grows up she plans on attending the Ohio State University with her friend and fellow teammate Emerson. She hopes to become a teacher and an artist.

When Stefani isn't working hard in the gym, she enjoys reading, drawing, and playing board games. Her favorite is Scrabble! One thing that most people don't know about Stefani is that she is afraid of insects, especially SPIDERS!

Congratulations Stefani Christy!
OGI's December Athlete of the Month!

Staff Spotlight

The Ohio Gymnastics Institute, Inc. is proud to announce that our December Staff Spotlight is Ronnie Ferris.

Ronnie, or Ron as he is also referred to, began coaching at the age of 14 and is currently the Team OGI Assistant Competitive Team Director. Ronnie currently teaches all levels of instruction at OGI and is also a Junior National Rated Men's Judge. Ronnie graduated from Fitch High School in 2002. He then went on to attend the Ohio State University on a full gymnastics scholarship. Ronnie recently returned to our area after spending seven years in the Columbus, Ohio area. He spent his time in Columbus collecting many honors as an Ohio State University Gymnast, training with some of the world's best gymnasts and coaches, and working at several Columbus area private gymnastics schools. Ronnie majored in Ancient Greek Mythology at OSU and over the last 18 months has assisted the OSU Men's Gymnastics Coaching staff at the Steeewood Gymnastics Training Facility.

While at the Ohio State University, Ronnie trained side by side with 4 time Olympian Blaine Wilson (2004, 2000, 1996 & 1992), 3 time Olympians Paul & Morgan Hamm (2004, 2000, & 1996) and 2008 Olympian Raj Bahvsar. During his career as an OSU Gymnast, Ronnie trained under OSU head coach and 4 time US Olympic Assistant Coach, Miles Avery.

During his NCAA career at OSU Ronnie became the first ever Ohio State NCAA Horizontal Bar Champion in 2005 at the NCAA National Championships held at West Point Military Academy. In the 75+ years as an NCAA Division I sport, no gymnast from OSU was ever able to win the title, including 7 prior Olympians. Ronnie was also a 5 time NCAA All American for OSU, once on Parallel Bars, twice on Pommel Horse and twice on Horizontal Bar.

During his career Ronnie also compiled the best USA Gymnastics competitive record ever for any gymnast from the Mahoning Valley. A five time competitor at the USA Gymnastics National Championships, Ronnie just missed qualifying to the 2004 Olympic trials by two places falling just .8 of a point short of every gymnast's dream. At the 2004 Visa Championships Ronnie placed 16th All Around (the top 14 go on to the Olympic Trials) and qualified to finals on two events where he placed 7th on Pommel Horse and 6th on the Horizontal Bar.

Ronnie currently has 3 pets. The first is the love of his life Harley, his two year old dog, he also has an 8 foot Albino Burmese Python named Amara and a rabbit named Gonner.

When Ronnie isn't coaching, he enjoys playing video games, writing screenplays, and watching Cavs basketball. He has also taken a new interest in Parkour.

In the future, Ronnie hopes to one day own a huge track of land and start a shelter for rescued dogs! Ronnie also plans to help our gymnasts do everything they need to become an Olympian!

Congratulations Mr. Ronnie!
We are happy to have you back at Team OGI!



Accomplishments

Jenna Amodio earned her first 9.0 on Vault at the NEOGL Meet at Chalk Box in Ashtabula, Ohio!

Mary Fedorak is the proud big sister to a new baby sister! Kourtney Fedorak was born on November 5th! Congratulations Fedorak Family!

Sydney Heinbaugh not only learned her glide kips this month, but she is also the proud big sister to a new baby brother! Trent Heinbaugh was born on November 5th! Congratulations Heinbaugh Family!

Ta'Liyah Luten climbed all the way to the top of the unknotted rope!

Riley and Whitney Miller are the proud big sisters to a new baby brother...whom Riley had the honor of naming! Reese Miller was born on October 28th! Congratulations Miller Family!



New Faces at OGI!

Throughout the month of December you may notice some new faces in the gym. That's because here, at The Ohio Gymnastics Institute, Inc. we are always looking for ways to make our facility a safer and happier place for you and your family. There are several new Team OGI staff being trained in the gym, as well as in the front office. Please know that each staff member goes through extensive training in not only gymnastics, but also in equipment setup, facility management, and safety precautions. More staff means more available classes, which makes our program just that much more convenient for your busy schedule!

Winter Weather Policies

Weather emergency closings are very rare. Typically we will close whenever Austintown Township Schools close. We have, in the past, been able to safely open later in the day once the roads have been cleared. We will attempt to remain open whenever possible. If in doubt, call and we will either have a message on the answering machine (330-652-4386) or we will personally tell you what we will be doing with regards to the weather emergency. The major indicator here is safety: if you feel unsure about heading out in bad weather, simply call in for a credited absence.

Weather emergencies are made up at Open Gym Times and require pre-registration.

January Pre-Pay Discount

Please keep in mind that in order to receive the \$5 prepay discount for January fees, you must pay on or before January 1st, 2010! Some of the options available include: post date checks, payment over the phone, mailing your payment (in time to be **received** by the 1st), or dropping your payment off in the locked box located to the left of the front door. Although the facility will be closed, office staff will be in and out of the gym throughout the week.

Side Door Entrance

Please keep in mind that the side entrance is limited to handicap and stroller use. We ask that you keep that door closed to keep the temperature comfortable in our facility for your family.

Thank You



Need a Great Gift Idea?

What better gift than a month of gymnastics, cheerleading, or Trampoline & Tumbling lessons!

Don't forget to check out our apparel store for great gifts and stocking stuffers!

Students Say...

I like swinging on the rings and jumping into the big pit!

- Savanna S. ~ Tumbling Tigers, Age 4

I like OGI because it is fun and I get to work my back handspring, plus all of the coaches are really nice!

- Chey R. ~ Blue Squad Cheerleading, Age 13

I like jumping on the tumble tracks and going into the pit!

- Carissa S. ~ Girls Beginner, Age 7



ACTIVITIES

