



# KINETIC KIDS

WINTER 2012 NEWSLETTER

## SPOT LIGHT STAR OF THE SEASON: BRETT McCLENDON

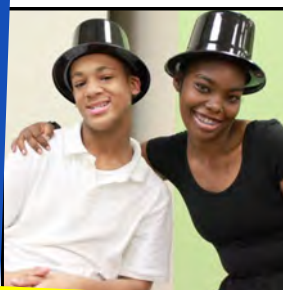
I am Brett McClendon. I just turned 9 last month! I was born with a condition called Spina Bifida. I have been with Kinetic Kids for about 5 years. My first sport was wheelchair basketball. I thought it was so neat to meet other kids & make friends with other kids like me who can't walk or might need some help. I didn't know how much I love playing sports until I went to more programs with Kinetic Kids.

I have played basketball, tennis,

fencing, and track & field with Kinetic Kids. I really like that I have had a chance to play all these sports even though I am in a wheelchair. I have trophies and pictures to show my class when I start a new grade. My teachers and friends think it is so neat that I have done these sports in a wheelchair and they really like the pictures I take to show and tell.

I love going to wheelchair basketball. Its the best part of the

week! I hope to continue to play all these sports and when I get older maybe help other kids who are in wheelchairs play sports too! I still would like to play football, soccer and golf next. I am so glad Kinetic Kids is here to let me play and help me learn all of these different sports. I don't want to think that there is something fun that I am not able to do. I know that I can do it. I just do it differently and in my own way. But there is a way!



**SAVE THE DATE**  
**Friday, April 27<sup>th</sup> 2012**  
(Battle of Flowers Day)

For  
**Kinetic Kids**  
**8th Annual**  
**Try It Before You Buy It Event**

**Time: 10am-2pm**

**Location: University United Methodist Church**

### WHAT IS THE TRY IT BEFORE YOU BUY IT?:

A FREE informational & educational day available to all Kinetic Kids, health care professionals, as well as children, families, & friends in the community. Local and national vendors, and manufacturers of medical equipment, orthotics, and toys and community resources that provide services to the pediatric special needs population will participate and display their products & services for all attendees to "try".

**A Huge**



to  
**Methodist**  
**Health**  
**System**  
for  
**Printing our**  
**WINTER**  
**Newsletter!**

## LOG ON AND SIGN UP!

### KINETIC KIDS NOW HAS ALL ACCESS ONLINE REGISTRATION!

Kinetic Kids is going green! Well, we're working on it—starting with our registration process! We have recently implemented a new online registration process cutting back on printing, mailing & faxing needs and making it quicker and easier for participants to sign up for our programs! Parents of participants can now go to our website, create their personal account and input their child's information. All information is saved for future seasons and registering for programs is only a few clicks away! Check out our website to learn how to get started: [www.kinetickidstx.org](http://www.kinetickidstx.org). While you're there, check out more great website features including media video links, past & present newsletters, current program schedules and exciting upcoming events! Keep an eye out for more great online features in coming seasons like purchasing some fabulous Kinetic Kids merchandise, all with just a few simple clicks!

## "GOING THE DISTANCE: VOLUNTEERS HOLD SUCCESSFUL 1<sup>ST</sup> ANNUAL 5K"

Kinetic Kids staff would like to extend a sincere thank you to all who participated in the 1<sup>st</sup> Annual Kinetic Kids 5K on Saturday, January 28<sup>th</sup>, 2012. Graciously hosted by University of the Incarnate Word, over 340 runners registered for the 5K course, over 50 registered for the 1K course, and the event raised over \$15,000 to support Kinetic Kids programs! Also contributing to the event's success were the following sponsors: KCI, Rackspace Hosting, Lazarus Family Foundation, H-E-B, Warm Springs and Tesoro.

Special thanks to all the committee members who helped organize this event. Kinetic Kids Board Member, Peggy Neal, aside from many other ways in which she serves Kinetic Kids, served as a fantastic committee head and lead a hard-working committee that organized this 5K from conception to event follow-up.

This committee included: Sheryl Cruz (fellow Board Member), Susan Gershennhorn, Natalie Gingrich, Scott LeBlanc, Catherine LeVrier (fellow Board Member), Tiffany Neal, Rick Neal, Liz Reichman, and Lori Velasquez (fellow Board Member). We also had great sup-



port from over 70 community volunteers, who were an invaluable asset at the event. All of these folks volunteered countless hours, energy and organizational skills to make this event a great success. Kinetic Kids staff cannot express how thankful we are for your time and talents.

Also worth mentioning, were some amazing 5K times, presented by the timing crew from Roger Solar Sports. Fastest male time was from 43 year old Dan Austin, with a time of 17 minutes & 38 seconds! And, fastest female time was earned by 60 year old Irma Garcia, with a time of 22 minutes & 4 seconds. Fantastic times from our 5K adult runners!

Thank you again to all who had a part in raising valuable support for our year-round Kinetic Kids programs. This support will assist with scholarships (so that every child has the opportunity to participate in age-appropriate sports and recreational activities), equipment, facility expenses, qualified instructors, awards, team shirts, and much more! We hope you will join us for the 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Kinetic Kids 5K in 2013! For more information about upcoming events, please visit our website at [www.kinetickidstx.org](http://www.kinetickidstx.org).



## Kinetic Kids is Broadening Our Boundaries

Over the last year Kinetic Kids has focused our efforts on expanding our program locations and reaching out to the underserved population on the southern part of San Antonio. We are thrilled to have established relationships with several wonderful facilities on the Southside of San Antonio.

Expanding to new areas requires rebuilding/recruiting a 'support team' for our Kinetic Kids in that community. In the Fall of 2011 we held a Baseball program at SA 5 Diamonds Little League

Fields. While we were so thankful for the amazing volunteer support from local students and professionals, one group really stepped up and stood out!

A great group of local young men 'Coach Tony Blackburn's 5 Diamonds Rangers' took an interest in our group and dedicated their time, energy, patience and encouragement to our Kinetic Kids. Week after week, these young men came out to support and help our *Kids* do their very best. We were truly inspired

by the warm welcome of the Southside Community and this little league team.

Kinetic Kids is looking forward to providing even more exciting programs on the Southside and broadening our boundaries throughout the city!

This year, you'll find us on the Southside at Mission Road Developmental Center, 5 Diamonds Little League Fields & Palo Alto College! Stay tuned for more inspiring stories about our wonderful San Antonio community & the youth of our city!



Kinetic Kid Cole Stahl during Fall flag football practice



Kinetic Kids cheerleaders Rachel, Chelsea & Annie at a local Cheerleading competition



Kinetic Kids Fall 2011 Southside Baseball team & volunteers with the 5 Diamond Little League Rangers.

## HIGHLIGHTS FROM 2011

**50** excited kids with special needs were able to fish Calaveras Lake and reel in their own fish!! Thanks to **Cast For Kids** sponsored by CPS.

Our Kinetic Kids Wheelchair Basketball team brought home **2ND PLACE** in the **Texas Classic Tournament** in San Marcos, TX.

Over **80** children attended a fabulous and amazing Christmas Party sponsored by the **Weston Center**.

Our Kinetic Kids Cheerleaders have competed in **4** competitions in 2011 and continue to wow the crowd!!

### HOW TO CONTACT KINETIC KIDS

Kinetic Kids Inc. P.O. Box 690993 San Antonio, TX 78269

visit : [www.kinetickidstx.org](http://www.kinetickidstx.org)

For Program Information:

Call: 210-748-5860 or email: [Register@kinetickidstx.org](mailto:Register@kinetickidstx.org)



[www.facebook.com/kinetickids](http://www.facebook.com/kinetickids)



Kinetic Kid Alyse Hernandez dancing with volunteer Jennifer Webb.

*Kinetic Kids has allowed Alyse to do what she loves most...dance! It has encouraged her and motivated her to progress physically and emotionally. She is able to have fun and be herself while being in a safe, positive environment filled with incredible people! —Alexis Hernandez, parent of Alyse Henrandaz*

## “HATS OFF” TO THE 2011 HOOTENANNY!

### *Celebrating 10 years of Kinetic Kids programs!*



Wyatt Struxness, one of the original Kinetic Kids, speaks about his 10 years participating in Kinetic Kids programs.



KENS 5 Chief Meteorologist, Bill Taylor Welcomes Hootenanny guests.



Spurs/Silver Stars Coaches & Staff: Bret Briemaier, Dan Hughes, Jacque Vaughn, & Tom James, pose for a picture during the Hootenanny VIP reception.



Kinetic Kids Executive Directors, Tracey Fontenot & Kacey Wernli present a Kinetic Kids Soccer Jersey to 2010 Hootenanny Honorary Chair Gordon Hartman.

On November 3, 2011, hundreds of cowboys and cowgirls, dressed in “boots and bling”, joined Kinetic Kids for the 8<sup>th</sup> annual Hootenanny presented by Toyota Motor Manufacturing Texas at the beautiful, rustic Pearl Stable! Guests enjoyed a fabulous dinner by the RK Group, dancing to the tunes of Mario Flores & the Soda Creek Band, and an amazing performance from the Kinetic Kids gymnastics team. The program also paid tribute to Kinetic Kids’ 10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary, and Honorary Chairs Nelson & Tracy Wolff, with encouraging words from children that joined Kinetic Kids each year since 2001.

Excitement filled the air as KENS 5 Chief Meteorologist Bill Taylor worked the crowd to make sure everyone was having a boot scootin’ grand ol’ time! Hoot guests could be seen dining on a wonderful candle lit dinner, cuttin’ a rug on the dance floor, listening to some of our wonderful Kinetic Kids speak, and out bidding each other on HUGE silent and live auction items. This year’s event boasted over 100 incredible auction items including amazing vacations, Spurs tickets, jewelry, fine dining and themed baskets graciously donated by our Kinetic Kids summer & fall program participants.

This year also featured *Salute OUR Stars*, an incredible moment in the evening where Kinetic Kids supporters raised over \$65,000!! It was not only a magnificent and fun evening, but was successful in

raising over \$188,000 to support future Kinetic Kids programs!

All proceeds from Hootenanny directly support sports and recreational programs for children with special needs. On behalf of the Ki-



Hootenanny guests enjoying the festivities.

netic Kids Staff, and the children who will benefit from programs provided by Hootenanny funds, thank you to all who attended!

We hope you will join us for Hootenanny 2012— Save the date for **November 1, 2012** you will not want to miss it!!! For information about how you, or your company, can be a part of 2012 Hootenanny, please contact M’Rhea Lochte [mrhea@kinetickidstx.org](mailto:mrhea@kinetickidstx.org) or 210-896-5686.



A huge thank you to Kinetic Kids’ hardworking Hoot committee for another successful event!



# 10<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY KINETIC KIDS HOOTENANNY



Hootenanny Guests Chris & Nicole Nielsen and Satomi & Kurt Onoue pause for a picture during the VIP reception.



2011 Hootenanny Honorary Chairs, The Honorable Nelson Wolff (far left) & Tracy Wolff (far right) pose with Julie Maguire & Kinetic Kids board member, Peggy Neal.

## LET'S GIVE A HOOT 'N HOLLER

### TO KINETIC KIDS' 2011 HOOTENANNY SPONSORS!

#### STAR OF TEXAS TITLE SPONSOR

Toyota Motor Manufacturing, Texas, Inc.

#### WISH UPON A STAR SPONSORS

Hanger Orthotics & Prosthetics  
Lew and Laura Moorman  
Physical Rehabilitation Institute  
Valero Energy Foundation

#### REACH FOR THE STARS SPONSORS

Birnam Oaks Foundation  
Earl and Suzanne Stanley  
Josh and Allison Zeller  
Rackspace Hosting  
Rick and Peggy Neal  
Weston Centre

#### SHINING STAR SPONSORS

Believe It Foundation  
Bowen & Susan Morris  
Cox Smith Matthews Incorporated  
Curney, Garcia, Farmer, Pickering,  
& House, P.C.

IBC Bank  
Lora Watts  
Nustar  
Padgett Stratemann & Co.

Pediatric Orthopedic Associates  
Pro-Vigil  
Texas Medical & Sleep Specialists  
The Worrich Law Firm PLLC  
Tifini Furst



Auctioneer T-Bone (far right) chats with Hootenanny guests.



Kinetic Kids gymnast Chelsea Figuerora demonstrates her balance beam skills while teammate Katie Kennedy cheers her on.



Kinetic Kid Samuel DeRousse gives a fist bump to Spurs Assistant Coach, Jacques Vaughn



Nancy May & 2009 Hootenanny Honorary Chair, Mr. Harvey Najim chat during the VIP reception.

# Volunteer Voices



Volunteering with Kinetic Kids is truly an amazing experience! I enjoy giving back to the community and what better way than by help-

ing tomorrow's future. Working with Markus was a blessing as I learned so much from him; Markus is a gift to every individual he meets.

—Manuel Z. Montes University of Texas Health Science Center San Antonio, DPT class of 2014

**"To the world I may be ONE person, but to ONE person I am the WORLD." Our Volunteers make a WORLD of difference in the lives of Kinetic Kids!**



Volunteering with Kinetic Kids is one celebration after another! Sometimes it's hard to tell who is more excited about the kids mastering their new skills and achieving new goals, the volunteers or the kids themselves! I have witnessed just a few of the many amazing things the organization has done and have been fortunate enough to share in some of the fun with these amazing kids. And they definitely know how to have fun!  
—2011 Kinetic Kids intern, Monica Deschaine



Kinetic Kids would like to thank volunteer Jennie Schmidt for going above and beyond in both our Summer Musical Theatre and Fall Dance Programs!

Jennie shared her talents for sewing & creative design by making and donating costumes for our dance program in August and creating adorable scenery for our "Winter Wonderland" dance recital in December. Thank you so much, Jennie; as with all of our Kinetic Kids volunteers, you made a huge difference in the lives of children with (dis)abilities!



## Family Field Day!

**Kinetic Kids** is excited to offer a **Family Field Day** to kick off a summer of outdoor fun! Kinetic Kids participants, parents & siblings are invited to come out for some friendly competition. There will be a variety of games & races for every ability. Be prepared—you may get wet! Stay tuned for more details. You don't want to miss out on this exciting event!

Save the date **June 2, 2012** & check out our website for more information.





## Meet M'Rhea, Kinetic Kids' Development Director



Kinetic Kids would like to welcome a new Development Director to the staff - M'Rhea Lochte (pronounced like "Marie Lock-tea"). M'Rhea was born and raised in College Station, but is a graduate from Texas Lutheran University majoring in Communications with a minor in Public Relations. Since graduation, M'Rhea has worked in Development (fundraising and event coordinating) for University of Texas Medical Branch, C.A.S.A. of Central Texas, and most recently with Special Olympics Texas.

You will see M'Rhea often at Kinetic Kids spe-

cial events and programs throughout the year. Outside of work, M'Rhea maintains an active schedule in Boerne with her new husband, Landscape Architect Jason Lochte, is active in her local church, and is often found in jeans and boots headed the stable for her favorite pastime- horseback riding.

M'Rhea will be coordinating all fundraising efforts including sponsorships, special events, mail-outs and much, much more! She brings an enthusiastic, fresh outlook and we are thrilled to have her as part of the Kinetic Kids team. Welcome, M'Rhea Lochte!



### Kinetic Kids Board of Directors:

**Josh Zeller,**  
Board President  
**Karen Martin,**  
Board Secretary  
**John Maguire,**  
Board Treasurer  
**Ray Bissmeyer**  
**Dan Blecher**  
**Alpa Patel-**  
**Challapalli**  
**Sheryl Cruz**  
**Tifini Furst**  
**Cathryn Le Vrier**  
**Lew Moorman**  
**Susan Morris**  
**Peggy Neal**  
**Ramona Parker**  
**David Smith**  
**Lori Velasquez**  
**Todd Wyckoff**

## Paralympic Sport Experience: Basketball & Field Events

Kinetic Kids held its first **Paralympic Sport Experience** on October 9, 2011 which consisted of wheelchair basketball & field events. Fourteen excited athletes had the opportunity to work with Willie Jackson and several members of the San Antonio Spurs wheelchair basketball team! Kinetic Kids SCORED big with all the experienced players we had

to teach our kids with physical disabilities about wheelchair basketball.

Afterwards everyone headed outside to the field to work on shot put, discus, and javelin. Kinetic Kids was thrilled to have Gabe Diaz de Leon to instruct and guide our athletes in proper throwing techniques.

**WHAT A DAY!!**

Paralympic Sport Club provides train-

ing and competition for our athletes with physical disabilities. Our next competitive program in track and field starts in late March.

Our athletes will be training for the Texas Regional Track and Field meet on April 20th-21st, and then the Endeavor Games in Edmond, OK on June 8th-10th.

Please contact Kacey Wernli with any questions: 748-5866.



*"We love this program and were very glad to have found a place for Ray to go and participate in sports where there are no judgments imposed on him because of his disabilities and where his confidence can grow. It's a fabulous program for these kids. Keep up the wonderful service you are providing for these kids."—Ana Vargas and Ray Gonzales, parents of Kinetic Kid, Raymond Gonzales.*





Kinetic Kids Inc.  
P.O. Box 690993  
San Antonio, TX 78269

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SAN ANTONIO, TX

**Kinetic Kids thanks all of our 2011 Stars!!**

Our goals and dreams for enriching the lives of children with disabilities is made possible from our generous donors and supporters throughout the year. We are able to achieve such great results because of people like you.

Thank you.

**\$10,000 and Above**

Blue Bird Auxiliary  
Faye L. & William L. Cowden  
Charitable Foundation  
Genevieve & Ward Orsinger Foundation  
Graham & Elizabeth Weston  
H-E-B Tournament of Champions  
Kronkosky Charitable Foundation  
Lew & Laura Moorman  
The Najim Family Foundation  
Toyota Motor Manufacturing, Texas, Inc.  
Valero Energy Foundation



**\$5,000 - \$9,999**

Birnam Oaks Foundation  
Hanger Orthotics & Prosthetics  
Physical Rehabilitation Institute  
San Antonio Childrens Foundation  
St. Luke's Lutheran Health Ministries  
The RWM Foundation  
The Stephen Colbert Americone Dream Fund of  
Coastal Community Foundation  
The USAA Foundation, Inc  
Josh & Allison Zeller

*Interested in learning how you can make a difference in the lives of these special children?*

Contact Kinetic Kids for information about our upcoming

*~ Mother's Luncheon ~*

A fundraiser honoring mothers, benefiting Kinetic Kids programs.

Featuring designer handbags for raffle!

Wednesday, May 2<sup>nd</sup>, 12:00-1:00pm

San Antonio Country Club

Please contact M'Rhea Lochte: [mrhea@kinetickidstx.org](mailto:mrhea@kinetickidstx.org) or **210-896-5686**