

2019 EXPAND Beyond Adaptive Waterski Volunteers

Cory Lasher, CTRS, Program Coordinator



Cory received her BA from Metropolitan State College of Denver in 1996 in Therapeutic Recreation. Cory started with EXPAND in 1996, as an intern and then took a full-time position immediately thereafter. Through EXPAND Cory has coordinated fund raising events including the Great Rubber Duck Race, Pro-Leisure Golf Tournament and Endless Summer at the Rez. Cory is currently responsible for developing and promoting recreational opportunities for all ages and abilities. Recreational programs including the adaptive water-ski program, outdoor adventure, fitness, cultural arts, day trips, special events and a seven week summer camp for youth and young adults with disabilities. In January of 2004, Cory developed and implemented a recreation/leisure program for adults with Mild Traumatic Brain Injury currently known as Journeys through EXPAND. Cory served as a Board Member for the Golf 4 Fun program, a program that provides golf opportunities for golfers with physical disabilities from 1997-2006.

Rodger Stewart, EXPAND Beyond, Inc. President & Boat Driver



Rodger Stewart, with a BS in Mechanical Engineering from the University of Colorado, has over 40 years' experience in the medical device industry since starting with COBE Cardiovascular in 1977 and most recently completed 18 months as CEO of a venture backed medical device startup in Israel. Mr. Stewart retired in July of 2008 and has been focusing his efforts on giving back to the community. He is on the Board of Directors for ColoradoFIRST, a Colorado 501(c)(3) focusing on STEM development in grades K-12, since June 2009. Mr. Stewart joined the Board of Directors for Expand Beyond in July 2010 and has been a volunteer boat driver for EXPAND since June 2009.

Greg Singer, Board Member, Equipment Dude, Part-time Dock Boss, and General Goofball



Greg has lived in the area since 1974 when he moved down from Fargo, ND. He attended school in the area and served in the Army following High School. Once he was discharged from military service Greg went back to school and earned an ASS in Electronics Technology and worked for StorageTek/Sun Microsystems until being laid off. He now works for Frontier Airlines as a Technical Writer. Greg has been involved with the Expand Adaptive Waterskiing program since 2000, first as a participant, and when he realized he could be more useful, began volunteering.

Brian "BJ" Sample, Board Member & Dock Boss



Brian Sample graduated from Colby College with a BS in Sociology, moved to Colorado in 1997 and worked for Imagine! (Boulder Counties Community Centered Board). Brian staffed and managed homes for persons with developmental disabilities until 2005. Since then Brian has worked in the commercial and residential mortgage lending business and is currently an Asset Manager with Mercy Loan Fund. Brian is a certified adaptive snow sports instructor and has volunteered for Winter Park and Breckenridge adaptive programs since 1998. Brian has been a volunteer with EXPAND since June 1998.

Bill Schwab, Boat Driver



I'm a native to Boulder. In 1977 my brothers put me on a styrofoam block at the Boulder Rez in early spring and let me go, the wind caught me and I floated half way across the lake until a canoe came and got me. My brother thinks that why I have such good balance having to learn at such a young age, I was 6. After high school I went into Army Corps of Engineers, became a plumber and worked as a contractor in Boulder for 20 years, buying properties along the way. Now I am just focused on property investment, owning storage facilities and rental properties, and most of all spending time with my beautiful wife of 15 years and our two young girls who are 10 and 8.

Paul Lealman, Jet-Ski Driver



Throughout the school year I teach Physical Education in south Boulder at Creekside Elem. During the summer, I spend a lot of time volunteering out at the Boulder Reservoir. I grew up in Florida, spending a lot of time sailing and skiing on the Indian River. I love sailboat racing and just being on or around the water. I have sailed the Expand sailing group for the last several years also.

Becky Stewart, Quick Release



Becky Stewart was born in California, but moved to Colorado at the age of eight. After graduating from the University of Colorado with a BS in Sociology, she worked for over 20 years in Promotions at various radio and television stations in Denver. After retiring she has volunteered with the Boulder County Sheriff's Office as a Victim Advocate for 10 years, is still volunteering with BCSO in their Training Office, and has also volunteered with the Dive Pirates, a program which takes adaptive divers on SCUBA diving trips. Becky has been a volunteer with EXPAND since June 2009.

Ben Domeier, Jet-ski Driver, Starter & Rescue



Hello! My name is Ben Domeier and I did my internship with EXPAND years ago and work part-time for the city and various places. I attended Minnesota State University Mankato. I truly enjoy the outdoors and love being able to help people out. Some of my favorite activities to do in my free time include hiking, fishing, hunting, snowboarding, and road biking. I am really looking forward to being involved in the water ski program and seeing the smiles on all the participants' faces.

Dan Rau, Rescue



I grew up in Eau Claire, WI and graduated from the University of Wisconsin-La Crosse. Throughout high school and college, I skied 6 summers for the Eau Claire Ski Sprites Water Ski Show Team where I had a fantastic time and met some lifelong friends. I also taught waterskiing at a few area youth camps. I have been in CO for 4 years and love the people and outdoor adventures available here. I have been a pilot for 16 years flying the last 10 years for Southwest Airlines. I look forward to this volunteer opportunity and meeting some very interesting people.

Michelle Patterson, Rescue



Originally a Badger from Wisconsin, I moved to Denver in 2011 to take advantage of the four seasons of outdoor sports! I'm excited to take on this new adventure of helping others enjoy their outdoor passions. I graduated from UW Madison in 1996 and practiced as a pharmacist for 19 years. I'm currently enjoying "first retirement" and looking into new career prospects

Ben Ramus, Jet-ski driver and Rescue



Darrell Daley, Boat Driver



Lianne Daley, Quick Release



Ron Lever, Jet-ski Driver



Ron Lever is recently retired from the construction industry after 35 years as an owner of a subcontracting company specializing in commercial construction. As an avid water skier at the res from many years ago, I look forward to working with the skiers as well as the other volunteers and getting back on the water.

Josh Jensen, Jet Ski Driver, Boat Driver and Rescue



Jeff Kenney, Boat Driver



Shannon Kenney, Quick Release



Living whole-heartedly as founder of Earth Yoga Studio and the School of Embodied Poetry, Shannon is a writer, teacher and mentor of teachers around the world. She is a storyteller, sommelier and TedX speaker. Shannon infuses her bodies of work with a fullness, artful living and passion for life on and off the mat. Her instruments of instruction are detailed and clear, while woven through a progression of imagery, poetry and truth. She encourages the practitioner to unlock the secrets held in the human heart and release stuck patterns that no longer serve, in order to attain new levels of integrated physical - emotional embodiment. She is described as 'confidently vulnerable'; as a result, she inspires positive change in the lives of others. Off the mat, she loves to cook, teach wine tasting, wake surf, run, and enjoy the sunshine. Shannon is based out of Boulder, Colorado and her home studio, Earth Yoga Boulder. When not at home, she globe-trots to deliver transformative talks, trainings and retreats.

Jennifer Murphy, Rescue



Jen Murphy grew up on the ocean in New Jersey and is happiest when in the water. Living in Colorado, that means spending summer at the Boulder Reservoir. A freelance journalist, she writes about sports, fitness, food and travel for publications including the Wall Street Journal, Outside, Men's Journal, Conde Nast Traveler and more.

Ashton Greene, Rescue



Hello! My name is Ashton Greene and I am an intern for the City of Boulder Parks and Recreation for the summer. I grew up in Saugatuck, Michigan and recently graduated from Grand Valley State University with a degree in Clinical Exercise Science; I am hoping to pursue a career in Physical Therapy. I love meeting new people and spending time outdoors! I'm very excited to be spending my summer in Boulder and volunteering with EXPAND.

Gabby Ranger, Rescue



My name is Gabby Ranger and I am interning with the Health and Wellness area of Boulder Parks and Rec this summer. I'm from Arizona and currently attend Arizona State University. I love doing anything outdoors, especially hiking. I look forward to volunteering with adaptive water skiing this summer!

Brooke Gibboney, Rescue & Quick Release



Hello all! My name is Brooke Gibboney and I am currently an intern through the Boulder Parks and Recreation EXPAND program! I was raised lakeside in Sacramento, California and received my BS in Recreation Therapy from California State University, Sacramento. Growing up I spent countless hours on a ski boat and love kneeboarding, tubing, and am trying to get better at wakeboarding! Outside of water sports I enjoy camping, hiking, and exploring new places. I cannot wait to experience adaptive water skiing this summer and am so excited to be here.

Alexa Brenner, Rescue



I was born and raised in La Crosse, WI, and I'm studying therapeutic recreation with a philosophy minor at the University of Wisconsin – La Crosse! I spent some time working at Chileda, a facility for youth with cognitive challenges and extraordinary behavioral needs, before I headed off to Boulder. I am super excited to be away from home in a place I fell in love with years ago. When I discovered EXPAND, I knew it was program I wanted to be a part of. I believe strongly in the importance of community inclusion for people of all different abilities! I think everyone has something unique to bring to the table of life – we are more the same than we are different. Some of the things I enjoy are yoga, spending time in nature, bouldering, pickles, and asking the deeper questions of life. I am so excited to learn from EXPAND's supportive team as well as the participants!

Cassie Strook, Rescue



Hello! My name is Cassie Strook and I am from the small town of Mayville, Wisconsin. I attended the University of Wisconsin La Crosse pursuing a degree Therapeutic Recreation and a minor in Recreation Management. I am so excited to be interning with EXPAND this summer! In my free time I enjoy yoga, hiking, rollerblading, and spending time with family and friends. I spent a lot of time on the lake while growing up, so I am extremely excited to be a part of the water ski program this summer. I can't wait to meet all of the participants and see this amazing program in action."

Carol Haile, Rescue & Quick Release



Carol retired one year ago from the National Renewable Energy Lab. She now enjoys her horses, mini burro and gardening. She has a husband and 2 sons. Both sons volunteered with Expand for many years and now it's her turn. She grew up in Miami, FL and spent many hours on water skis and boats.

Matt Feeny, Board Member, Instructor, & Land Buddy



After sustaining an unforeseen injury and becoming a paraplegic at the age of 25, Matt returned to work in the financial industry in Denver but soon longed for a more active and fulfilling lifestyle. In 1991, Matt moved to the mountains to pursue his love of skiing and was hired by the NSCD (National Sports Center for the Disabled) in Winter Park to run the sit-ski program, becoming the first person with a disability to hold such a position in the U.S. In his 10 years with the NSCD he not only saw the program more than triple in size but he also saw first-hand how participation in outdoor sports benefited the participants and in some cases was life-changing. It was also during this time that Matt discovered a love for other sports including water-skiing, hand cycling and mountain biking. This love of outdoor sports led Matt to recognize that there was a need in the adaptive sports world for a program that focused on the social aspects of sports in unique settings and provided information about all sports programs for people with disabilities around the county and Adaptive Adventures was born. Matt brings his extensive knowledge in adaptive sports and recreation to the board of Expand Beyond and enhances the lives of others who face similar challenges.