

## **THE MARION RECREATION COMMITTEE**

**To the Honorable Board of Selectmen:**

**During 2005 the Recreation Committee continued to support a wide variety of events and programs with the help of numerous volunteers. In the spring the Marion Youth Baseball Major, Minor and AAA League teams competed with Mattapoisett in the South Coast Youth Baseball League. Our youngest players were divided into t-ball teams. Marion's 13, 14, and 15 year old boys were members of the Gateway Babe Ruth League. In addition, Marion fielded two summer travel baseball teams which competed in several area tournaments. Girls' softball, which consisted of two senior teams and a junior team, competed in leagues made up of Mattapoisett, Rochester and Wareham. A special appreciation goes to the newly formed parents committee for their tremendous support of the baseball/softball programs.**

**Summer is a busy time for recreation in Marion. Many children participated in swimming classes at Silvershell Beach. The beach basketball court, the playground, and the volleyball court were extensively used. Beach volleyball classes conducted by volunteer Mike Martinez were very well received. Many children and adults enjoyed our various kayaking programs in the harbor. The sailing program was a success with students learning sailing fundamentals and respect for the sea and wind. Thirty elementary grade children played street hockey on the town tennis courts on Thursday evenings in July and August. 2005 saw our youth and adult tennis lessons combine with Mattapoisett and moved to the lighted ORRHS courts.**

**Over sixty children participated in the Marion Mile for Kids Program which was held at Tabor Academy on Tuesday evenings. Committee member Chris Adams set up a fun course and the racers enjoyed seeing their times improve each week. Volunteer Jeannie Duggan introduced seventeen girls to the fundamentals of field hockey on our clinic for girls in grades 4-8.**

**During the fall and winter the Marion Recreation heads indoors to the Sippican School gym with several opportunities for children and adults. The 2005-06 Marion Youth Basketball**

League had eight teams of fourth, fifth and sixth grade boys and girls. On Saturday morning we conducted a basketball clinic for 26 third graders and one in the afternoon for 24 second graders. Wednesday nights were used for practices for a boys' tournament team. Friday evenings were used for the girls' travel team and the 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> grade boys' travel team. The Wednesday night Masters Basketball program is for players 35 and older who like to have a fun evening playing recreational basketball. Tuesday morning yoga classes in the Music Hall continued to be a tremendous success in 2005.

The Marion Recreation Committee wishes to thank Tabor Academy for donating ice time so that the residents may enjoy skating during the winter. This very popular Sunday afternoon family activity also included dates during the December and February school vacations. On Sunday evenings the Recreation Committee offered Men's Masters Ice Hockey at the Tabor Rink.

Fundraising continues to be a big part of the Committee's effort to provide quality programs. The Marion Village 5K Run, held in June, was a great success. This event has been well received by local and state level runners and is co-sponsored by Eastern Bank and supported by many local businesses. It is our hope that the race will continue to grow in numbers and community support and will become a major fund raiser for the recreation programs. Much appreciation goes to Lockheed Martin for its donation of Red Sox tickets for a spring fundraiser

The Recreation Committee would like to extend many thanks for the valuable support of the DPW, the Marion Police Department, Tabor Academy, the Emergency Medical Services, the Sippican School administration and custodians and the Harbormaster's Office. The Committee also feels tremendous gratitude and regard for the numerous coaches and volunteers who serve throughout the year; they make it possible to offer many wonderful opportunities to the citizens of Marion.

Respectfully submitted,

**Susanne Kotowski**  
**Activities Director**