



Florida Region (USAV) [FloridaVolleyball.org](http://FloridaVolleyball.org)  
**Vol-eNews**  
 The official source for Florida volleyball news!



**March 2011: ISSUE 18**

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**WELCOME NOTE FROM THE COMMISSIONER**

Dear Florida Region Members,

It is with great pleasure I inform you that we have exceeded the 9,000 membership mark already this season! This is great news, considering we still have the outdoor season membership coming up. We have been seeing unprecedented growth in the Region and this year may top the past 4 years since I have served as Commissioner.

If you look at the website, you will see multiple events throughout the year and many dates have more than one event being offered. There are plenty of opportunities for our members to play and we are proud to say that we are still adding more.

Let this also serve as a reminder to attend the 10<sup>th</sup> Annual Florida Region Awards Ceremony on May 6th in Orlando, Florida. David Benzel, creator of “Growing Champions for Life” will be the guest speaker. The ceremony is always great and this year will be no exception!

I wish all of you well in the continuing season and look forward to meeting you at the Florida Region Awards Ceremony. See you soon!

**James Phillips**  
 Commissioner  
 Florida Region of USA Volleyball, Inc.



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## LETTER FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

This month we are all in the thick of the indoor season and the calendar indicates that the outdoor season is right around the corner. With that said, I want to remind you about several very important programs and deadlines that you should have in your calendar this month:

- **BEACH VOLLEYBALL KICKOFF WEEKEND (Siesta Key)** – We still have space available for the beach kickoff event this year. This will be a great weekend of beach volleyball to get everyone ready for the upcoming beach season that will begin in May 2011. You can find additional information here:  
<http://www.floridavolleyball.org/BeachVBKickoffWeekendFP.htm>
  - **Saturday, Mar 5**
    - FOR ATHLETES – Beach Volleyball Boot Camp with Florida Native and Beach Volleyball Pro Tyra Turner. 9am to 5pm
    - FOR COACHES – Regional Beach IMPACT Clinic with USAV BCAP Certified Coach, Dave Carstenson. 9am to 12n
    - FOR OFFICIALS – Beach Official's Training Clinic with National Beach Official James Phillips. 1pm to 5pm
  - **Sunday, Mar 6** – USAV Dig the Beach Jr. Beach Volleyball Friendship Tournament for juniors. This will be a friendship style tournament and the results will not count toward the 2011 season.
- **REGIONAL BID CHAMPIONSHIPS RANKING CHALLENGE** – The deadline for Club Directors to submit their ranking challenges is **Wednesday, Mar 23** at 2pm. Detailed Instructions will be posted on the Region website in early March.
- **REGIONAL RANKING TOUR EVENT** – The final 2011 Regional Ranking Tour Event, prior to the Girl's Jr. Regional Bid Championships, is scheduled for **Saturday & Sunday, Mar 26-27** in Tampa. The Florida Pre-Q Regional Ranking Tour Event has a record number of teams this year, but space may be available in a few divisions for interested teams. Please contact the Tournament Staff directly if you would like to attend:  
<http://www.floridavolleyball.org/RegionalRankingTourFP.htm>
- **PAVO TRAINING CLINIC & UCF SPRING FLING** – There will be a PAVO Training Clinic & UCF Spring Fling Women's College Volleyball Tournament at UCF on **Saturday, Mar 26**. The PAVO Clinic will be for college volleyball officials. The UCF Spring Fling will play host to fifteen (15) Division I & Division II women's college volleyball teams. Make plans to come out and support your favorite women's college volleyball team. Additional information on the events can be found here: <http://ucfathletics.cstv.com/sports/w-volley/ucf-w-volley-body.html> and [www.pavo.org](http://www.pavo.org)
- **SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION PACKETS** – The deadline for high school seniors to submit their 2011 Florida Region Scholarship Application packets is **Friday, Apr 1<sup>st</sup>**. This year we anticipate awarding at least \$4,000 in scholarships for college bound high school seniors in the Florida Region. You can find the application and checklist here:  
[www.FloridaVolleyball.org](http://www.FloridaVolleyball.org)

Remember to check our Region website often for updates; it is packed with lots of great information. I hope you have a great March!

*Steve*

**Steve Bishop**, CYSA  
Executive Director/President  
Florida Region of USA Volleyball, Inc.





## CLUB HIGHLIGHT – USA SOUTH VOLLEYBALL

Each month a member club is featured in *Vol-eNews*. This is a great way to get to know the Club Director(s) and learn more about the clubs throughout Florida. This month **Landon Thomas** and **USA South Volleyball** will be highlighted.

### **Q: When did you start playing volleyball?**

**A:** I started playing volleyball around the age of 10. My family spent our summers in California so I started with the beach game.

### **Q: How long have you been coaching volleyball?**

**A:** I have been coaching volleyball for 9 years now.

### **Q: You started out as a coach for USA South. How was the transition to becoming Club Director?**

**A:** The transition went pretty smooth. I had a great group of coaches on staff which made things a lot easier. The biggest challenge was taking your focus and energy from one team to ten teams.

### **Q: What are all the job titles you currently hold? How do you manage all of those responsibilities?**

**A:** Currently I am the Director and Owner of USA South Volleyball and run all the operations within the company. I am also the Head Coach for the 15's National Team. When I took over the club, I implemented an online system that assists with bookkeeping, scheduling and communication to the club. It allows me, parents and coaches to be more efficient. I also hire highly qualified coaches who have the ability to manage their team appropriately and take on extra responsibilities.

### **Q: How many of your club kids have gone to play college volleyball? What colleges?**

**A:** We have had over 60 players from our club go on to play volleyball at the collegiate level. They have attended a wide range of DI, DII and DIII programs. Some of those programs being Florida, Florida State, Miami, North Carolina St, FGCU, Tampa, St.Leo, and Rollins.

### **Q: If you could brag about your club, what would you say?**

**A:** I would say that USA South is a professionally run organization who has a staff solely focused on providing youth with elite volleyball training. We have high expectations for our coaches and players and each one takes pride in being part of the program.

### **Q: Tell us about your practice facility.**

**A:** We currently train in 2 different facilities. We have 2 courts in a local Recreation Center that was built approximately 6 years ago as well as one court in a warehouse that we expanded to this season due to our growth.



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**Q: What do you look forward to in the future for the Florida Region?**

**A:** I look forward to the improvement of volleyball training and the level of players/teams that come through our Region. I believe that Florida may be growing faster than many other Regions in terms of the number of girls playing volleyball. I hope this will result in the advancement of club programs around the Region and produce more National level teams.

*Thanks Landon for participating in the Club Highlight. The Florida Region wishes you and your club success in the 2011 season! Stay tuned for next month's Club Highlight to learn about **Yvonne Devlin** and **Orlando Volleyball Academy**.*

### BEACH VOLLEYBALL KICKOFF WEEKEND

The Florida Region is starting the outdoor season early with a **Beach Volleyball Kickoff Weekend** on Mar. 5<sup>th</sup> in Siesta Key! This is a time for any coach, player or official who wants to get a jump start on their beach game. The Beach Volleyball Kickoff Weekend will showcase a Regional Beach Coaching Clinic, a Junior Beach Boot Camp and a Beach Officials Training Clinic.

**Regional Beach Coaching Clinic**- *Get Certified Early!*

Clinic Instructor: **Dave Carstenson**, BCAP Certified Coach

Cost: \$25/person (in advance) \$35/person (onsite)

**Junior Beach Boot Camp**- *Get a Jump on Summer!*

Camp Instructor: **Tyra Turner**, Beach Volleyball Pro Player

Cost: \$50/person (in advance) \$75/person (onsite)

**Beach Officials Training Clinic**- *Get Trained by Beach Refs!*

Clinic Instructor: **James Phillips**, National Beach Volleyball Official

Cost: \$25/person (in advance) \$35/person (onsite)

**NOTE: Advanced registration will be open until Thursday, Mar. 3<sup>rd</sup>, at 2pm.**

For more information and to register, visit [www.FloridaVolleyball.org](http://www.FloridaVolleyball.org). If you have any questions, please contact the Florida Region office at 352.742.0080.



### HIGH PERFORMANCE ALL-STAR TRYOUTS

Below are the dates for our remaining two HP All-Star tryout dates for Team Florida. Our two tryouts in Daytona Beach and Jacksonville have been great. The talent level this year is at an all time high. **We still have many openings for the Women's International Jr. Age Division (1991, 1992, & 1993)!** Please note that the deadline to register online and take advantage of the reduced tryout fee is 2pm the day before the respective tryout.

- **Friday, Mar 18** – Boys & Girls, Broward County Convention Center, Ft. Lauderdale, FL
- **Friday, Mar 25** – Girls Only, Tampa Convention Center, Tampa, FL



Additional details can be found here: <http://www.floridavolleyball.org/HPInfo2011FP.htm>

## **EXTREME MAKEOVER: HOME EDITION – CARRIE PREWITT**

The Florida Region's own Carrie Prewitt and her three girls received the gift of a lifetime last month - a brand new home courtesy of Extreme Makeover: Home Edition. Ty Pennington and the Extreme Makeover Design Team surprised her at volleyball practice and whisked the girls off to the islands of St. Thomas while their dream home was being built. The show is set to air on May 8<sup>th</sup>, 2011 - Mother's Day. Carrie graciously shared with us her Extreme Makeover: Home Edition experience.



### **Q: Did you have any idea you were going to be chosen for the show?**

**A:** At this point we knew we were a possibility but did not know that we had been selected for sure.

### **Q: What was going through your mind when Ty Pennington and his Design Team surprised you at volleyball practice?**

**A:** I had my blinders on so I didn't even realize that there was any commotion at the door. But when they actually came in, I was so surprised that I don't know that I actually grasped all that was happening. I went down to my knees and just couldn't believe it. Once it actually sunk in that it was all real, I was so excited and overwhelmed that we were actually chosen and that we were going to be getting a new home.

### **Q: What was the best part about your vacation to St. Thomas with the girls?**

**A:** Honestly, it was just spending time with one another and meeting so many new friends along the way. Everyone was so nice and friendly there. St. Thomas is a beautiful place and the resort we stayed in (Sugarbay Spa and Resort-Wyndham) was amazing. We went snorkeling and saw colorful fish and sea turtles, and enjoyed the beautiful weather. The rest will be shown at the episode on Mother's Day. ☺

### **Q: Describe to us how you felt at the "move that bus" unveiling?**

**A:** I was pretty much numb! The house was so much more than I expected. It was so beautiful and big. It was hard to picture what our home used to look like when that was right in front of us! It looked like a picture out of a magazine and I was taken back with the thought that it was actually our new home. What a blessing!

### **Q: How has it been settling into your new home? What's your favorite room in the house if you had to choose one?**

**A:** It has been pretty hectic trying to get settled because we have jumped right back in to our crazy lifestyle with teaching/school for the girls, club practices, Church on Wed. nights, 4H meetings and club tournaments. We have been unpacking and figuring out all the lights in the house has been pretty comical but it feels like home. It is hard to pick a favorite room. I love the whole house. I can't wait for the weather to stay nice. I have a feeling we will be spending a lot of time outside!



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**Q: If you could say one thing to those around you who have supported you and your family, cheering you on along the way, what would it be?**

**A:** We were so overwhelmed with all the people that had showed up for that “move that bus” moment. I don’t think I actually processed all that it took to make this happen until after going through this experience. So many did so much and the gratitude and appreciation for everything that was done for us cannot be measured or repaid. I want everyone to know that I will do my best to pay it forward and continue to strive to live a life worthy of what has been done for us. Thank you doesn’t seem to be enough, but please do not measure the gratitude on the words, but the heartfelt meaning behind them. I have been hearing so many stories of things that had occurred during that week that have touched my heart and impacted not only me, but the girls as well. The ripple effect of this has not only impacted our family but our community as well. There is a Bible verse that has exploded out at me throughout this experience and I would like to share it with you: **“...From everyone who has been given much, much will be demanded; and from the one who has been entrusted with much, much more will be asked.” Luke 12:48**

*-Thank you Carrie for sharing your experience with the Florida Region! We look forward to watching the full episode on May 8<sup>th</sup>!*

### 2011 USAVFL DIG THE BEACH SERIES TOUR STOP

Pack up those sweaters and dust off those swimsuits because it’s time to hit the beach! The sun is hot and the action on the beach is going to be even hotter! Join us at the first event of the outdoor season on **March 5-6** in **Siesta Key** for the USAV Dig the Beach Jr. Beach Volleyball Friendship Tournament for juniors. This will be a friendship style tournament and the results will not count toward the 2011 season. You must have a current USAV membership to participate in the following tournaments:

**March 5-6 – Siesta Key** (in conjunction with the Beach Volleyball Kickoff Weekend)

**March 12-13 – Fort Lauderdale Open**

April 9-10 – Fort Lauderdale

May 21-22 – Siesta Key

June 4-5 – Fort Myers

June 11-12 – Siesta Key

June 25-26 – Fort Lauderdale

July 9-10 – Siesta Key

July 23-24 – Fort Lauderdale

September 10-11 – Miami Beach National Championships



For more information and to register, please visit [www.digthebeach.com](http://www.digthebeach.com). See you on the beach!!



## GOLD SEAL CLUBS

**Congratulations to the following Gold Seal Clubs for the 2010/2011 season!**

- \* **Black Creek VBC** – Jason Berry & Amy Walker
- \* **Brandon Extreme VBC** – Shannon Talmadge
- \* **Cape Coast VBC** – Connie Denaburg
- \* **Central Florida VBC** – Carlos Pizarro & Gilda Grau
- \* **Club Storm of Tampa** – Vicky Page & Dave Wolcott
- \* **Doral VBA** – Leonardo Rivera
- \* **Fort Myers Fusion** – Wynn DePasquale & Steve Harrell
- \* **Gainesville Juniors** – Chad Davis
- \* **Gold Coast VBC** – Lori Eaton
- \* **Jacksonville Juniors Volleyball** – Adis Imamovic & Gail DeLisle
- \* **Manatee Area VBC** – Nancy Cothron
- \* **Miami Select VBC** – Charles Albano & Alvaro Sanchez
- \* **Naples Juniors** – Rich Hubbard & Ann Fredette
- \* **North Florida Fusion** – Doug Wohlstein & Casie McCalister
- \* **North Florida Pirates** – Brian Smith
- \* **North Florida VBA** – Rita Buck-Crockett
- \* **NPower Volleyball** – AnnMarie Blair
- \* **Orlando Gold VBC** – Tom Snodgrass & Ashley Schinzing
- \* **Pinellas Heat Elite** – Terry and Barb Small
- \* **Sham-Roxz VBC** – Joe Keenan
- \* **Sonshine VBC** – Randy Stone
- \* **South Brevard Spirit VBC** – Bonnie & Joe Priester
- \* **South Florida Heat VB** – David Monk
- \* **St. Augustine Volleyball Association** – Taylor Mott
- \* **St. Pete VBC** – Mark & Courtney Draper
- \* **Suncoast VBC** – Jeff Horr & Scott Montgomery
- \* **Synergy VBC** – Bryan Carver & Jessica Ballinger
- \* **Tallahassee Jrs. VBC** – Latoya Washington
- \* **Tampa Bay Raptors** – Madeilynann & Mark Mitchell
- \* **Treasure Coast VBC** – Blair Wickstrom
- \* **Tribe Volleyball** – Dean Barboza & Albert Sturgeon
- \* **USA South Volleyball** – Landon Thomas
- \* **West Pasco VBC** – Jason Kucera



## ESPN ALL-AMERICA TEAMS

Congratulations to the two Florida Region members and Tampa Bay Juniors standouts, **Jordan Burgess** and **Mackenzie Dagostino**! Star volleyball athletes from 14 different states were represented in three ESPN All-America Teams. Jordan Burgess, a 6'0 outside hitter from Berkeley Prep., was chosen for the 2010 ESPN All-America First Team. Mackenzie Dagostino, a 5'10 setter from Berkeley Prep., was chosen for the 2010 ESPN All-America Second Team. Way to go and keep up the great work!!



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### GIRL'S JR. REGIONAL BID CHAMPIONSHIPS



The **2011 Girl's Jr. Regional Bid Championships** will take place **April 9-10** at the Orange County Convention Center in Orlando, Florida. This tournament is for girl's junior teams, age's 12U-18U, trying to earn a bid to the 2011 Jr. National Championships in Atlanta, GA. All teams must register through AES (Advanced Events Systems.com).

The deadline to register teams for the 2011 Florida Girl's Jr. Regional Bid Championships is **Tuesday, Mar 8<sup>th</sup>**. We have limited space for the event and may not be able to

accept teams after the deadline if we reach maximum capacity. Interested clubs that have not registered can find event information here:

<http://www.floridavolleyball.org/2011Girl'sJrRegionalBidChampionshipsFP.htm>

**(Important Note: Only teams that register for the 2011 Girls' Jr. National Championships may attend this event!)**

### FLORIDA REGION AWARDS NOMINATIONS

It's that time again. We need to hear from you regarding the amazing people that make the Florida Region so great. Nominate an athlete, official, coach, parent, administrator, or Hall of Fame inductee. The deadline to submit nominations has been extended to midnight on **Sunday, Mar 6<sup>th</sup>**. You can submit your nomination(s) online by clicking here: <http://www.floridavolleyball.org/AwardsInfoFP.htm>

The **Florida Region Awards Ceremony** will take place on May 6, 2011, at the [Double Tree Resort - International Drive](#).

**Time:** 6:30p Reception, 7:00p Ceremony Begins

**Cost:** \$10 per person in advance (Age 13 & Above), \$15 at the door  
 Food & drinks will be provided, Cash bar will be available

**Dress Code:** Business Casual to Business Standard

**Guest Speaker:** David Benzel



### GIRL'S JR. REGIONAL VOLLEYBALL CHAMPIONSHIPS

The **2011 Girl's Jr. Regional Volleyball Championships** will be held **May 7-8** at the Orange County Convention Center in Orlando, Florida. This tournament is for girl's junior teams, age's 10U-18U. No bids will be awarded at this event!

The host hotel will be the newly renovated Double Tree Resort on International Drive, located 1 mile from the playing site. Room rates for the Double Tree Resort are \$89. Visit [www.FloridaVolleyball.org](http://www.FloridaVolleyball.org) for more information on prices and event registration.







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## FCVL SPRING EXHIBITION & LEAGUE CHAMPIONSHIPS

The **Florida Collegiate Volleyball League** (FCVL) was formed to create more opportunities for men to play Club Volleyball at the collegiate level with the hope of eventually transitioning to a scholarship sport in Florida. The FCVL is a member league of the National Collegiate Volleyball Federation (NCVF) and offers men's and women's college club volleyball competition for any 2 year and 4 year colleges located within the boundaries of the league.



### North Florida Conference

Florida State University  
University of Florida  
University of Central Florida

### South Florida Conference

Florida Gulf Coast University  
University of Miami  
University of South Florida

We are hosting our first ever FCVL Spring Exhibition Volleyball Tournament on **Saturday & Sunday, Mar 19-20** at the Broward County Convention Center (Ft. Lauderdale) in conjunction with the Cloverleaf Juniors Volleyball Tournament. We are expecting 5 men's college club teams to attend the two day event and the competition should be excellent. If you are attending the Cloverleaf, make plans to cheer on your favorite men's college team from Florida.

Our very first FCVL Men's College Club League Championships will be on **Sunday, Mar 27<sup>th</sup>** at UCF. This should be a great event as our men's college club teams battle it out for the first ever League Championship title. The winning team will be representing Florida at the National College Volleyball Federation (NCVF) National Championships in Houston, TX. The FCVL League Championships will begin at 9am. Additional information can be found here:  
[http://www.floridavolleyball.org/FCVL\\_Info.htm](http://www.floridavolleyball.org/FCVL_Info.htm)

## NEW MEMBERSHIP OPTIONS

The Girls Jr. Regional Bid and Boys & Girls Jr. Regional Championships are right around the corner and now is the best time to buy your **Spectator/Fan Membership!** This membership option is a non-playing membership that, for \$25, gives you full access to all the Florida Region hosted events! The Florida Region also added a new **Outdoor Summer Membership** option, effective March-August. The Outdoor Summer Membership costs \$15 and is available for all Junior Boys & Girls who are interested in participating in any USAVFL Dig the Beach Events this summer (does not include National Competition). For more information on the memberships offered by the Florida Region, visit [www.FloridaVolleyball.org](http://www.FloridaVolleyball.org).



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### 2011 USA VOLLEYBALL FLORIDA REGION CALENDAR



**You can now order your 2011 USAV Florida Region Calendar!!**  
 The calendar features Florida Region members playing indoor, beach and grass volleyball. Devoted to Florida Volleyball, the calendar includes full color, high resolution photos and sells for a new low price of **\$10** (plus S&H). All calendar orders will be shipped out within 2 business days. Proceeds support the Florida Region Scholarship Funds.

**\*\* Order yours online today! \*\***

### MEMBERSHIP COUNT UPDATE

Our current membership count as of March 1st, 2011 is **9,088** members! Our goal for this year is 10,000 members. Please let others in your area know about the playing, coaching, and officiating opportunities offered by USA Volleyball in the Florida Region.

### REGION INFORMATION

Florida Region of USA Volleyball, Inc.  
 15014 US Highway 441  
 Eustis, FL 32726

T: (352) 742-0080  
 F: (352) 414-5304

E: [info@FloridaVolleyball.org](mailto:info@FloridaVolleyball.org)  
 Web: [www.FloridaVolleyball.org](http://www.FloridaVolleyball.org)

**Board Members:**

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**Shanon Lewis**, Asst. Commissioner  
**Donna Beasley**, Secretary/Treasurer  
**Mary Andrew**, Indoor Chair  
**Kendra Vanzwieten**, Outdoor Chair  
**Darin Clark**, Official's Chair

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**Steve Bishop**, Exec. Director/President  
**Kelly Mills**, Registrar  
**Sara Hoffman**, Events Coordinator  
**Krissy McKane**, Marketing Coordinator  
**Michelle Daniels**, Bookkeeper  
**Sue Wainio-Oato**, Official's Coordinator

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**Rita Crockett, Lori Eaton, Mitch Sadowsky, Russel Williams**

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