

## In This Issue

- Aquafest
- Rebecca Soni
- Reno Student Makes Water Polo Team

### SNCA Mission Statement:

Our mission is to promote, facilitate and coordinate the sustainability and expansion of aquatic resources within the Truckee Meadows.

### Contact Us

Leah Bradle,  
Executive Director  
775-997-3004

leah.bradle@sncaquatics.org

www.sncaquatics.org

## Aquafest 2012!

### Aquafest 2012

Fundraiser for Sierra Nevada Community Aquatics (SNCA)

Swim Meet, BBQ, Auction and Family Pool Party

Saturday, August 25<sup>th</sup> at the Idlewild Pool  
Relay Swim Meet 4:30pm to 5:30pm  
BBQ 5pm to 8pm

[www.SNCAquatics.org](http://www.SNCAquatics.org)

**BBQ Tickets:** Adults \$25, Kids 12 & under \$10

**Relay Swim Meet:** Entry fee \$10, includes event t-shirt

Aquafest 2012 is sponsored by The Raymond Rude Foundation, NV Energy, The Atlantis Hotel/Casino, The Peppermill Hotel/Casino, The City of Reno, Men Welding Fire, American Assay Laboratories and The Grape and the Grain.

## Aquafest 2012 Featured Athlete: **Rebecca Soni**

Known to her family and friends as “Reb” and born in Freehold Borough, New Jersey, Rebecca is the daughter of Peter and Kinga Soni. Rebecca’s parents are of Hungarian descent and Rebecca also speaks Hungarian. When Rebecca was growing up she preferred gymnastics and only joined her older sister Rita’s swimming club because it was a better option than the alternative of having to wait for Rita to finish her class. So at age 10, Rebecca started swimming, with no idea that she would eventually win an Olympic Gold medal.

2008 was a breakout year for Rebecca. She won the





Find us on  
Facebook!

Click here and  
become a fan today!

#### SNCA Mission Statement:

Our mission is to promote, facilitate and coordinate the sustainability and expansion of aquatic resources within the Truckee Meadows.

#### Contact Us

Leah Bradle,  
Executive Director  
775-997-3004

leah.bradle@sncaquatics.org

www.sncaquatics.org

Gold Medal and set a World Record in the 200m breaststroke at the Beijing Olympic Games by defeating the Australian favorite, Leisel Jones. Rebecca also took home 2 Silver Medals in the 100m breaststroke and the 4x100m medley relay. In 2010, Rebecca was named the World Swimmer of the Year and American Swimmer of the Year by Swimming World Magazine.

At the 2012 Olympics in London, Rebecca took gold in the 200 meter Breaststroke and broke her second world record in 24 hours. Soni, wearing her trademark bright pink swimsuit, became the first female Olympic champion from Beijing to retain her title, with a powerful race that she led from the start, pulling away from Japanese challenger Satomi Suzuki in the last lap. Punching the air after she saw the world record on the scoreboard, Soni became the first woman to break the elusive 2:20.00, a personal target set for herself as a teenager after her coach suggested she could do it.

"I kept it to myself as a secret goal... I didn't think it was possible for a long time, but I told myself, 'I want to be there before I finish swimming'," she said.

Rebecca missed out on a gold in the 100 breaststroke in London, an event she had been the favorite for, when schoolgirl Ruta Meilutyte took the top spot. Soni won silver.

"I wasn't swimming with anger or a vengeance," she said on Thursday. "I took the 100 as a way to see where I am at and I felt really good about the 200."

The 200, she said, was always her goal, and her training in the Pacific Ocean, often with friends and just blocks from her Californian home, helped her relax and ease her rhythm to prepare for the Games. She continued to train at the pool in the morning but then "jumped in the ocean at night".

"The main thing was to not to be too mentally challenged every day ... a couple of friends joined me, it was a lot of fun," she said. "I just wanted to be in water and feel the water without being in a competition pool."

Rebecca graduated in 2009 from the University of Southern California with a major in Communication at the Annenberg School for Communication. She is now back in school working on a graduate degree in topics of science and nutrition. Rebecca resides in Manhattan Beach, California and continues to train with her college coach, Dave Salo.

---

## Reno Student Makes National Water Polo Team

News from the Reno Gazette-Journal:

Local water polo player Ben Stevenson has made the USA Junior National Water Polo travel team.

He is one of 13 players, ages 18 and under, from throughout the USA who will compete in the 2012 UANA Pan American Championships from Aug. 9-18 in Montreal.

Stevenson is a 17-year-old senior at Reno High School who plays for the Washoe County boys and girls water polo teams and Northern Nevada Aquatics, a local youth water polo and swim team.

SIERRA NEVADA  
COMMUNITY AQUATICS

# AQUAFEST

## CELEBRATE AQUATICS!

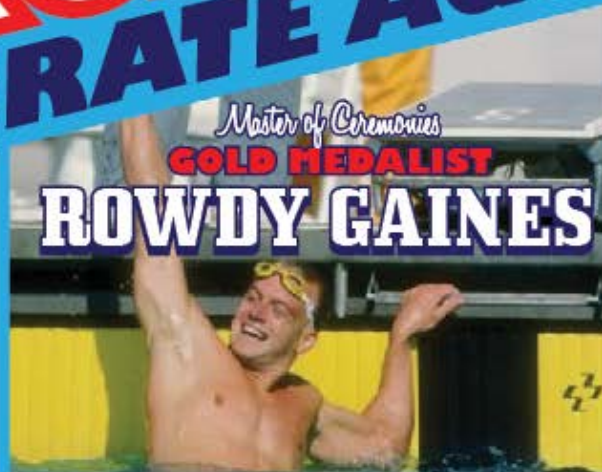
Saturday

**AUG 25**

**5 PM - 9 PM**

at  
*Idlewild Pool*

**Fun Relay Swim Meet**  
**4:30-5:30 PM**  
**\$10.00 Entry Fee**  
**Includes Event Tee!**



Master of Ceremonies  
**GOLD MEDALIST**  
**ROWDY GAINES**



**GOLD MEDALIST**  
**REBECCA SONI**



**GOLD MEDALIST**  
**RICKY BERENS**

*Auction*  
**Dinner**  
**DRINKS**  
*Dessert*

**HELP US BUILD A NEW POOL!**

**TO BUY TICKETS**

go to  
[www.SNCAquatics.org](http://www.SNCAquatics.org)

*Adults: \$25.00*

*Kids 12 & Under:*

*\$10.00*

