

# A LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT★



“Perseverance is not a long race;  
it is many short races one after the other.”  
-Walter Elliot

To our SAA Family,

It is now the 2014 Swim Across America Open Water season and we are ready for the many “short races” this year. While none of our swims are actually races, they do all combine to create incredible PERSEVERANCE in this fight against cancer. Each year we grow more connected to each other because of this common goal.

Here are a few of the comments written after our swims from participants like you...our Swim Across America family.

“The first 4 best days of my life where getting married to Kat, then the birth of my three girls. Saturday ranks as the 5th best day of my life.” - **SAA Rookie, Howie Senior**

“Friday night and all day Saturday are really what life is all about. We all get so easily tied up in our work/daily routines that we often times forget what is really important. I can't tell you the last great trade I did at work, but I can tell you how much fun I had this weekend (SAA Event).” - **Colin Campbell, 2013 swimmer who lost his battle to cancer this past fall**

“I want to beat Cancer. I want to see my kids graduate and get married. I want to grow old with my wife at my side. I want to help others do this too. This is why I swim.” – **Steve Roethke, Nantucket swimmer and SAA committee member**

Whether they were rookies bonding with other rookies, or proud “Wavemakers” who exceled in fundraising, these swimmers are the reason we are so successful and still growing. This year we are not launching any new swims – but rather, we are focusing on enhancing your Swim Across America experience. The swims will be more fun, inspiring and spectator-friendly so that each person involved knows the impact they are making.

Together, we have raised over \$50 million and we are excited to see what this year will bring. At SAA, will continue to work hard, seek out and support the best researchers and institutions in the country, all so we can soon live in a world without cancer.

Thank you for being a part of the Swim Across America family and for making us who we are. Most importantly, thank you for joining us in 2014 as we approach the future with unparalleled energy and commitment to the fight against cancer.

All the best,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Janel Jorgensen McArdle".

Janel Jorgensen McArdle  
President & CEO, Swim Across America