



Corvette Club Participation in Special Olympics Family Fest

September 16, 2023
Lake Land College, Mattoon
9:00 a.m. – 2 p.m.

On September 16, 2023, the Central Illinois Special Olympics (Region 1) is having its Family Festival. The Corvette Club of Illinois will be an integral part of this very special event by participating in the parade, displaying our cars and volunteering to work a game tent. It is estimated that there will be about 800 athletes, 800 friends for a day escorts, and some 400 volunteers at this event. This festival event features sports activities, fun games, singing and dancing, performances by local entertainers, exhibitions and a free lunch.

I will like to get a commitment of 13 - 15 cars and at least 25 club members to sign up before I tell Special Olympics that we are good to go for this year. **I currently have 11 cars signed up and would like a couple more.**

The event will be held on the grounds of the Lake Land College in Mattoon. All club participants should arrive at the McDonalds at exit 184 on I-57 South at 8:30 am on Saturday, September 16th. We will then caravan the ½ mile to Lake Land College at 9:00 am., where we will line up for the parade. The Corvettes will start lining up about 9:00 to be featured in this short parade that winds through the Lake Land parking lot. The Corvettes will be carrying 4 Special Olympics Athletes and about 10 local Princesses and Queens (we will need to have waivers signed by all riders). The parade will start at 10:00 and after the parade there will be a torch lighting. About 10:00 am, we will park the parade cars in the Corvette only parking area.

This is when all of the Special Olympians and their families will get a chance to see our cars up close. The organizers have requested that we DO NOT let anybody sit in our cars.

During the day, there will be all kinds of games, activities, music and lunch. The Corvette Club will be the volunteers for one of the activity tents. Our tent will have three games for the athletes, a soft ball toss, bucket ball, and a drag race game. Each athlete will have a "friend of the day" to help them with each game. Each athlete will be given a ribbon for participating. The ribbons will be supplied by Special Olympics. I will need about 14 club members at a time to run the games, and we will switch out during the event. I would also like to have some of the members check on the Corvettes during the day.

All volunteers will get a Special Olympics Family Fest Volunteer Shirt.

Lunch will be provided by Special Olympics from 11:00 – 1:30. I understand it is a box lunch with a Jimmy John's sandwich, other healthy snacks and bottled water.

The games in the tent will close at 1:30, and then we will be able to clean up and leave by 2:30.

If some of the Club members are wanting to go to Fun Fest in Effingham you will be able to leave around 12:00 noon.

At 2:00 pm, they will have the closing ceremony if you want to stay.

Please contact me if you want to join in on this great club charity event.

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