

Getting to Know -- Gary Moore

Title: Strategic Sourcing Specialist - Generation

Location: Charlotte

Education: B.S., Business Administration, Appalachian State University; also, Certified Purchasing Manager

Years with the company: 20

You were an assistant coach for a wheelchair basketball team that competed internationally in Australia. What got you so involved? My daughter Jill was born with Spina Bifida and at age 6 became pretty much confined to a wheelchair. She was my tandem bike buddy on the Multiple Sclerosis 150-mile bike ride to Myrtle Beach, S.C.



On our third year of the event, we ran into a guy I had met at Duke who was also in a wheelchair. He told us about an adaptive sport group in Charlotte for kids like Jill. The adaptive sport program provided kids with physical disabilities the opportunity to play on a basketball team, water ski, snow ski, swimming and track and field. I became very involved and came in contact with other kids in the program. I became a volunteer with all of the sports and even worked on wheelchairs and other adaptive equipment.

As I met each child, I found myself sharing the same excitement when a child accomplishes something no one thought possible. Whether it's a birth defect, spinal cord injury or cancer -- all these kids had the same desire and determination to be just like other kids. They just needed the opportunity and a supportive parent. I was lucky enough as a volunteer or coach to be there and experience the moment.

You continue to help other kids become involved in wheelchair sports. What kinds of efforts are you leading? In June 2005, I helped start the non-profit group Abilities Unlimited of the Carolinas. Since then, we've seen our organization double in size. We have been able to provide each child the special wheelchairs and adaptive equipment to play basketball, ski, and participate in track and field -- all at no cost to them. (The basic basketball wheelchair cost almost \$3,000.) Raising funds to purchase equipment and travel cost is a challenge. There is a constant effort for funding as more children become involved in the program. There are children as far as Roanoke, Va., and Greenville, S.C., that travel every week to Charlotte for practice.

The other effort involves reaching out and finding children that would benefit from the AU program. We have kids in the AU program making speeches to the surrounding school systems, lunch and learn seminars for pediatricians and working with the public school systems for inclusion of these kids in school sports. Finding these children is a challenge. Convincing parents their child can participate in most sport activities even though the child has a physical disability can be equally challenging.

Best day working at Duke Energy: May 8, 2000; I was re-hired by Duke Energy after being away for

10 years.

Toughest day working at Duke Energy: When they announced that Duke/Fluor Daniel would be closing its operation.

Hobbies, Interests: Sailing, windsurfing, diving and snow skiing

Last good movie you saw? "Wild Hogs"

Last good book you read? "The List" by Robert Whitlow

What's playing on your CD player? Mainly '60s and '70s rock & roll

Something most people don't know about you? I have a child with a physical disability. Fortunately for me, she doesn't know about it, either.

Family: Wife, Patti Moore, married 21 years. We met at Duke Power. Children: Katie, 26, (I'll be a grandpa next March), Jill, 14, involved in all sports.

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