BEGINNING OF WSCCA - from Pam Headridge

Recently, Tara asked me, “How and why did we start WSCCA?”

The why was simple: we wanted to grow the cheerleading community across Washington by connecting programs from every corner of the state. Our goal was to foster collaboration through networking events, training clinics, and leadership opportunities for both athletes and coaches.We envisioned a united community built on shared resources and mutual support.

The inception of the Washington State Cheerleading Coaches Association (WSCCA) was fueled by the passion, vision, and dedication of several key individuals. Sheri Ramsey, Dan Ramsey,Toni Buxton, Kathy Crowley, Kim Mayer, Ronda Thomas, and David Long were instrumental in laying the foundation. Their collective efforts helped elevate the role and visibility of cheerleading throughout Washington.

We were also inspired and guided by the Oregon Cheerleading Coaches Association, which served as a valuable model in our early days. In addition, we are incredibly grateful to Cindy Adsit from the Washington Interscholastic Activities Association (WIAA) for her advocacy and support. Her contributions helped establish a solid foundation and gave legitimacy to our growing organization.

During my time with WSCCA, I had the privilege of working alongside many incredible individuals who were deeply committed to our mission. Like any organization, we faced challenges, but I can confidently say our boards were made up of some of the most passionate and hardworking people I’ve ever known.

Many people have helped shape and grow WSCCA over the years. I want to personally thank Tanica Blackwell Wittig, Tara Wood, Cindy Pardee, Laura Nation, Andrea Snyder, Laurie Beaver, Kathy Crowley, Kim Mayer, and Nancy Garr. Each brought unique strengths and unwavering dedication to our shared cause in those early years. Most importantly, they always worked for the good of all. Together, they created impactful programs, expanded statewide networking, and raised the standards of cheerleading education in Washington.

I’m proud to say that many of these leaders—Tara Wood, Tanica Blackwell Wittig, Laura Nation,and Kim Mayer—continue to serve the organization today, a testament to their enduring commitment to our cheer community.

Lastly, to all the amazing cheerleading coaches out there: never underestimate the impact you have on your athletes. Beyond the stunts, cheers, and routines, you are shaping confident,disciplined, and resilient young people. Cheerleading teaches more than physical skill—it builds teamwork, communication, leadership, and lifelong skills and discipline.

You are helping athletes develop confidence, grow as leaders, and build habits that will serve them well into adulthood. Your dedication creates a supportive, empowering environment where young people thrive—not just on the mat, but in school, careers, and relationships. Keep it going! I applaud you all! You are truly making a difference