



Words from the Board President:

Thanks for your continued support. We have been serving the youth of this county for 10 years now, and it certainly could not have been done without the ongoing support of you, the concerned friends and family of the Boys & Girls Club.

-- Bill Ehrnsberger

“Not everybody has the time or resources to physically take a young person under their wing, but we have an opportunity for you to “adopt” a young person without incurring the responsibility of childcare, discipline or any of the other things that bog down a relationship with a young person. We will even help with homework!”

Join our 300 CLUB

A DONATION OF \$300 TO THE BOYS & GIRLS CLUB WILL COVER THE EXPENSES OF ALL THE PROGRAMS AND ACTIVITIES FOR ONE CHILD FOR ONE YEAR. ONE HUNDRED PERCENT OF YOUR DONATION WILL STAY HERE SERVING THE YOUTH OF ERIE COUNTY.



Executive Notes:

-Gil Vaughn, Executive Director

As we close another summer, all of us, including our kids, want to get back to school! Attendance tends to increase in the fall and we see a mix of new and old faces. We are still there for those that need us most.

An interesting story that unfolded recently is not necessarily a new one, but reinforces that we are doing all we can to make this a safe, fun place for those youth who give us a chance. This happened a few weeks ago:

A mother called and after a half hour of explaining what the Club is and what we do, she said this would be great for her daughters after school. I said that they were welcome to visit and make a decision after seeing the place and meeting the staff. She said that would not be necessary, the decision was not theirs. I cautioned her that without members having some input in the final decision, in other words, without the child wanting to be here, our hands would be tied in terms of discipline. A child that does not want to be here can make it uncomfortable and even onerous for the children that do want to be here. Mother said she wanted to curtail some of daughter’s freedom and replace it with structure and supervision. When the daughter came in, a cute 8th grader from Jackson Jr. High, tears were in her eyes. She politely took the tour and even saw some classmates. She left 30 minutes later without saying two words.

When the daughter left the next day (her first full day at the Club) she had laughed, played, ate and received help with some math she did not understand. In short: she really enjoyed herself! Her story is far from being over; but it is on its way to a happy ending.

thanks!

A very big to **Murray and Murray Co.; Zinc Brasserie; Wendy Kromer Confections and Tre Sorrelle** for providing the site and the tasty delights to our wine tasting benefiting the Club in March. Special thanks to **Skip Morrisson from Mid Ohio Wines** and his crew that picked and poured the wines. The Club made over \$8,500 on the event! We also want to thank financial sponsor: **Citizens Banking Company**.

Another partner we have been very proud to be working beside is the Erie County Department of Jobs and Family Services. The Erie Co. DJFS has helped us provide our services to more hundreds of children in the past year. We thank the entire staff for helping us to bring homework help, transportation, tutoring, meals, recreation, group and leadership clubs and more to our members.

Boys & Girls Club Board of Trustees

We welcome our newest board members, **Craig Wood, Kay Gilbert and Ben Yourkvitch** to join our leadership team. We hope Craig, Kay and Ben find the experience as rewarding as our long time members. We bid a farewell to outgoing board members: **Susan Murray, Chris Keys, Willie Roberts** all of whom were charter members, and **Vern Blake and Toni Douglas**, who finished their terms.

Collaborations:

The backbone of a successful community organization

Like any good steward of money, the Boys & Girls Club leadership would like to be as efficient as possible, whether it is with money or supplies or manpower. We have found that the best way for us to get as many programs to as many kids as possible is by collaborating with others that have a similar mission, or have a product that will enhance what we give to our members.

Our collaborative Partner of the Quarter is:

The Children's Museum

Mr. Gallagher has been entertaining and educating our members since way before they were members! The Children's Museum came into the Club during Boys & Girls Club Week and had balloon activities for all. The members thought they were at a party! We had balloon animals, prize balloons and even balloons in balloons. Mr. Gallagher used so much helium, I thought the basement was going to join the first floor.

Mr. Gallagher also does monthly programs at the Huron Youth Connection. Members have enjoyed a bevy of different activities from take apart, to balloons to flight and water games.

Clubs all Over Celebrate National Kids Day

Boys & Girls Club of Erie County continues to celebrate its 10th Anniversary by joining other Clubs in celebration of National Kids Day. Activities will include hundreds of young people attending a Cleveland Indians Baseball game and a statewide Games Room tournament in Elyria, OH. Our members will be attending both events.

Upcoming Events:

The downtown unit is gearing up for a new year of fun and educational programs both in the Club and in the Community. Fall/Winter programs began Sept 8, 2008.

Festival of Lights will be held again at the Lodge at Sawmill Creek beginning November 28, 2008. Please attend opening night and bid on auction items at the Boys & Girls Club table.

FOR NEW AND UP TO THE MINUTE INFORMATION
PLEASE VISIT OUR WEBSITE:

WWW.BGCSANDUSKY.ORG



**BOYS & GIRLS CLUB
OF ERIE COUNTY**

(photo taken from the BGC Centennial mound in downtown Sandusky summer 2007).

Look for new and exciting changes in the programming at the Huron Youth Connection, in the Huron Library next year.



**BOYS & GIRLS CLUB
OF ERIE COUNTY**

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Kids' Quarterly

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Jackson Jr. High's A-Team Visits the Club

Over 100 students earned the right to spend a half day at the Boys & Girls Club last year. The reward is for the highest performing students of the quarter. Students visited the Club three times and the final quarter the kids will be looking forward to a trip to Goofy Golf. We are looking forward to hosting the A-Team again this year.



The kids played video games, surfed on the computers, enjoyed table games and ice cream sundaes.

Always time to Snuggle Up with a Good Book!

Books seemed to be the order of the Spring. We first had a visit from a young angel named Morgan who bequeathed upon us a couple of her favorite books...along with about 1400 others that she had collected. Members got to choose from an assortment of new and gently used books to call their very own. Secondly, we were again blessed with **BGSU Firelands First Book** program which allowed us to take almost 30 members to Borders Book store in the Sandusky Mall to pick out and purchase their very own books.



Morgan, her mother and a group of Club members and over 1400 books

Not all Club Activities are at the Club...

Club members enjoyed day at Kalahari

Thanks to **Dean and Pam Statz** and **Joe and Phyllis Bransky** our members are enjoying the waters of *Kalahari*. The Club received water park passes for members and we were able to visit Kalahari several times. The members, of course had great fun. Needless to say, our members are on their best behavior!!!

GO CAVS!

Our friends at *American Family Insurance*, **Hans Hansen** and **Bethany Killian**, provided tickets to see defending NBA eastern conference champs, the Cleveland Cavaliers. Out of the 18 members that went, for 12 of them it was their first experience at Quicken Loans Arena.



Cleveland Cavaliers beat the New Jersey Nets getting ready for the National Basketball Association playoffs.