#### Neighborhood Boys & Girls Club

# Alumni



# Chatter

January 2016



#### THE BUZZ ABOUT THIS OLD WASP...TOM KRIER SAY IT ISN'T SO!

Wednesday, December 23, 2015 was Tom Krier's last day as NBGC's Executive Director. Tom's NBGC journey did not end on that day, it will evolve into a new opportunity as a SUPER DUPER Volunteer! Tom was born to NBGC as the son of a founding member. He grew up in the shadow of the Clubhouse watching and waiting for his opportunity to join. In the 60's he became a member of the Wasps, then joined the Leader Program, became a Staff Member, then a Board President. Before long he became a parent and coach. Each summer he was on the Fest grounds as our finance chair.

Prior to Tom becoming our Executive Director he was the CFO for Arrow Messenger Services. His extensive knowledge of finances and corporate management has served the NBGC well. Under Tom's leadership, the NBGC has flourished and has a strong Financial Plan for the future of our organization. Each program offered was analyzed to be sure we were meeting the needs of the youth and families and staying true to

our Mission. The hard decisions of changing Legacy Programs like tackle football and baseball were carefully decided on so that we could maintain the legacy and evolve the program to fit the needs of our current families. Eliminating the Family Festival was a tough decision for everyone. But once again Tom stepped up to the challenge. Being a part of the Fest Committee for over 30 years he never realized what a strain the Fest put on the Staff and Leaders. The years of having an excess of volunteers to man the 450+ shifts was long gone. With the removal of the Fest and other events, the staff and leaders have time to focus on enhancing current programs and establishing new ones like the Cleveland and Bateman Afterschool Programs.

But most of all, Tom was a Mentor. He created a collaborative team environment that allowed for creativity and engagement. He always took the time to seek out the members and parents to be sure we were meeting our goals to serve their needs.

So we say Goodbye to Tom the Executive Director, but not to Tom the Leader. At NBGC, we just evolve into a new role and begin a new journey... Thank you Tom Krier for your Leadership to the NBGC Community, Youth, Leaders and Staff. The Clubhouse is a better place because of YOU! The Executive Committee of the Board of Directors is in the process of looking for a replacement. If you know of a qualified candidate, please reach out to Peter Maxfield at <u>Petermaxfield13@yahoo.com</u>

#### THE WALL

Thanks to the hard work and dedication of loyal volunteers, the NBGC now has an additional program room and an executive looking administrative office. John Maieritsch devoted a months of his time coming to the Club daily to build a fully functioning dividing wall with built in work stations, windows, soundproofing and shelving. Tom Krier spent countless hours staining the wood and going on shopping expeditions with John. John's superior craftsmanship is evidenced by great precision and attention to detail. Tom can attest to the countless number of boards that would be reviewed before the perfect pieces of wood would be purchased. Let's just say that Menards and Home Depot knew John and Tom by name! The architectural drawings were created and donated by NBGC friend, John Mackin. And the finishing touches of cabinet doors, enabling us to completely close the wall to separate the two rooms, were donated by John Gschwind. We thank you all so much for sharing your time and talent with the NBGC!!!! The wall is a perfect place to hang the Don Valentin paintings that were donated last year.



The Wall that John(s) built - with a Tom tossed in for good measure

## 2015 HALL OF FAME INDUCTIONS ANNUAL COCKTAIL RECEPTION

The 84th Anniversary and Induction held on October 29th at the Des Plaines Elks Club was a great opportunity to celebrate the accomplishments of our 2015 Hall of Fame Inductees.

#### James E. Baumhart 2015

- \* NBGC Member 1940's
- \* President and CEO of the Better Business Bureau of Chicago
- \* Cofounded the Leaders of the Future Scholarship Program in 1984
- \* NBGC honors the top youth leader each year with the James E. Baumhart Excellence in Leadership Award

#### Bob & Anna Mae Cole 2015

- \* Parents in the 1950's
- \* Anna Mae was a member of the Mothers Club serving as an officer
- \* Anna Mae worked in the office at NBGC
- \* Bob & Anna Mae were devoted volunteers for all Club Fundraisers or projects
- \* Bob & Anna Mae were inducted into the Chicago Senior Citizen Hall of Fame

#### Tom & Mary Nickels 2015

- \* Tom was a member of the Bees in the 70's while Mary was a cheerleader
- \* Mary coached daughter Maggie's Panthers team
- \* Tom and Mary were both involved in the Dads and Moms clubs and were in leadership roles during the Haunted House, Tree Sale, Bears Bash, and Fest.
- \* Mary was a member, Secretary and President of the Board of Directors

#### Herb Preiner 2015

- \* NBGC Member of the Midgets in the 1930's
- \* Served as a Second Lieutenant with the 78th division in WWII and fought in several important battles, including the Battle of the Bulge. He was awarded the Bronze Star for bravery.
- Herb worked at the carnivals, sang with the Christmas carolers, planned anniversary dinners, and loved the golf outings, in which he played until he was almost 90.
- \* Herb served on the board of directors in the 70's and 80's

#### Tom Van Den Bosch 2015

- \* NBGC Member of the Cougars and Youth Leader in the 1960's & 1970's
- \* Current Board of Director and Past Board President
- \* Tom volunteered at the Haunted House, Family Fest, Ribfest, Track Meets, Golf Outings and Bears Bashes.
- \* Takes the lead for his era, bringing out a team of alumni leaders to officiate each year on Thanksgiving
- \* Instrumental in changing the by-laws to incorporate the girls in 1991
- \* 4th Generation Family

#### Johnny Weigelt 2015

- \* The owner of Johnny Weigelt Catering Hall, longtime supporter of the NBC
- \* Supported several leaders by giving them paying jobs in the business
- \* Supported the annual Family Fest & Carnival with equipment and supplies
- \* Provided the hot chocolate, coffee and doughnuts on Thanksgiving Day for many decades

#### Leo Wollins 2015

- \* Right hand man to the founders Robert Buehler and Dick Valentin, Leo was instrumental in starting the NBC
- \* A counselor and instructor in the early years of the boys club
- \* Leo was an original member of the Board of Directors and organized the Forum, serving as its chairman from 1934 1946



The Baumhart Family



Bob & Anna Mae's children



Is that Tom & Mary Nickels?



The Priener Family



Tom & the boys



Johnny's son Dr. John Weigelt and Dorina



## HALL OF FAME NOMINATION FORM

Criteria to be selected as a candidate for the NBGC Hall of Fame will be based on the principles of the Club:

- Nominee must epitomize the Club's mantra: "For Better Men and Women".
- Nominee must demonstrate Leadership, Sportsmanship, Scholarship and Volunteer Service.
- Nominee should show a NBGC history of volunteer, support and/or a contributor.
- Candidate must be nominated via an essay about why the candidate should receive "Hall of Fame" status.

Nominations are currently being accepted for the following eras:

- 1930 1949
- 1950 1969
- 1970 1989
- 1990 2010
- Other (Volunteer, Community Business, Community Leader)

Submitted by:\_\_\_\_\_

Phone number:\_\_\_\_\_

Email address:

All information must be completed. This is a nomination only. It does not guarantee that the nominee will be inducted. Please keep the nomination confidential to avoid embarrassment.

Nominations should be submitted to the Neighborhood Boys and Girls Club, Attn: Hall of Fame Committee, 2501 W. Irving Park Rd., Chicago, IL 60618. All nominations are due by June 1st, 2016. The Hall of Fame Inductees will be honored on October 22, 2016 at the 85<sup>4h</sup> Anniversary Banquet Dinner at the White Eagle Banquet Hall in Niles.

PAGE 3

INDIVIDUA	L NOMINEE INFORMA	TION			
Name:	Applicable Era:				
Address:					
City:	State:	Zip:			
Home Phone:	Work Phone:	Work Phone:			
Email:					
Please submit an essay describ into the Neighborhood Boys an	bing the reasons why this nominee Id Girls Club Hall of Fame:	should be inducted			
		4			

PAGE 4

## 85<sup>th</sup> ANNIVERSARY BANQUET AND HALL OF FAME PARTY SATURDAY OCTOBER 22<sup>ND</sup>, 2016

Save the date to commemorate our 85<sup>th</sup> anniversary with fellow teammates, friends and family. Help celebrate the new Hall of Fame inductees along with past Hall of Fame members. **We are also honoring the 25<sup>th</sup> year of the girls programming.** The party will be held at the White Eagle Banquet Hall at 6839 N. Milwaukee in Niles. Doors open at 6:00 PM, dinner will be at 7:00 PM followed by the Hall of Fame induction at 8:30 PM. Tickets will be \$60. There will be a family style dinner, cash bar, raffles and silent auctions available throughout the evening. You can sponsor a table for \$100. A flyer for nominating someone to this year's Hall of Fame is included in this edition of the Chatter.

We are looking for people to be table captains who will reach out to their fellow teammates, friends and family to fill out a table of 10. The NBGC can assist you with contact info if needed. Please reach out to Bill Abplanalp at <u>bill@nbgc.org</u> or by phone 847-826-1317. The past anniversary banquets have been a great way to celebrate the rich history of the NBGC as we continue our mission of "Building Better Men & Women".

<u>2011 Inaugural Inductees</u>: Robert Buehler, Richard Valentin, Richard Brandon, Father Raymond Baumhart, Bob Hoellen, Jim Kartheiser, Ralph Stahl and Gene Schulter

2012 Inductees: Jack Pittges, Elma Stone, Paul Goerner Sr., Jean Goerner, Gloria Goerner and Rich Paschall

<u>2013 Inductees:</u> Cas Urban, Bob Mergens, Don Wilhelm, Ted Loosevelt, Juanita Loosevelt, Jerry Ottesen, Gloria Ottesen and The John "Bud" Lunkes Family

<u>2014 Inductees</u>: The Barrett Family, Herb Veith, Mary Dwyer, Arpad Horvath, Ray Donner, Ed Kelly and Fred Stoesser <u>2015 Inductees</u>: James E. Baumhart, Bob Cole, Anna Mae Cole, Tom Nickels, Mary Nickels, Herb Preiner, Tom VanDenBosch, Johnny Weigelt and Leo Wollins

## ROBERT BUEHLER LEGACY SOCIETY DONOR WALL UNVEILING THIS SPRING 2016

Would you like to make a generous gift to a cause you care about without using any of your current income? It is possible by joining the Robert Buehler Legacy Society. A planned gift to the Neighborhood Boys & Girls Club, allows you to make a gift later if you are not able to give one now, or you can make a final gift after a lifetime of giving. To leave a legacy, you must first find the right strategy for you. A bequest in your will to the Neighborhood Boys & Girls Club is an easy way to make a difference without affecting your current cash flow. You can leave a specific dollar amount or a percentage of your estate. You may also bequeath property or specific assets. Adding a bequest to your will is easy—have your estate planning attorney contact us for our formal bequest language—and it can easily be amended or changed.

The Robert Buehler Legacy Society Donor Wall has been installed on the park side entrance to our building.

## These are the names of all the current donors that will be engraved this spring. Will your name be added?

Robert Walter Don & Virginia Wenstrom William (Dick) R. Schroeder Hellen Collins Richard & Maryann Brandon Jerome L. Sychowski Herb Veith Jack Leske James Kartheiser Kathy Kennedy Kartheiser Tim Gibbons Ronald Bare

Frank Lavin Walter J. Oberg Thomas Fisher Stephen P. Sieben

Please let me know if I need to make any changes, THANKS FOR YOUR SUPPORT OF THE NBGC. Call Bill Abplanalp at the NBGC, (773) 463-4161, ext.1 15 or email <u>bill@nbgc.org</u> today to talk about designing a legacy—large or small—that will represent your enduring values.



## 2015 Contributors to the Annual Fund

#### FOUNDERS CLUB

After School Matters Chicago Department of Family and Support Services Hoellen Family Foundation Jim Kartheiser & Kathy Kennedy-Kartheiser MB Financial Bank Sulzer Family Foundation

#### LEAGUE

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#### CENTURY CLUB

3800 Block of Oakley Bill Abplanalp Thomas Adams John & Jean Albinger George Amend

#### **CENTURY CLUB (continued)**

Anonymous Mel Bandanza (in memory of Jay Bandanza) Ronald Bare Maureen Barrett Edward Bass Thomas & Justine Beck Bell Park Servicemans Club Ronald Bergman Jim & Pat Best Brian Boc Maryann Brandon William Braun Danna Brim Marvin Brustin Steve & Mindy Buecking Thomas & Joy Burney Byron's Hot Dogs Chicago Brauhaus Philip & Kathleen Cline George Coleman Kevin Coleman Common Pantry Appeal **Coleman Conneely Beatrice** Coppola (in memory of Anthony Coppola) Thomas J. Coppola (in memory of Anthony Coppola) Mark & Joni Croll Dennis Crow Michael Cumberland Anthony & Donna Czech Mindi & Marty Daiga Joe & Jacqueline Demo James & Arlene Diebold Thomas Doloughty Terry Donahue (in memory of Ed Donahue) Robert F. Emmerich (in memory of Charles H. Jeske) Thomas & Lynn Fair Joseph & Patti Farago John J. Farella Tom & Jackie Festle Freedman Seating Company Friends of Dan Minch Friends of Ameya Pawar Willie Fuchs Michael Gantert Russell Gebhardt Charles Germann Joann Geschrey (in memory of Dick Geschrey) Gloria Goerner Jean Goerner Jessica Gosselink Grace Street Tap Mary Lou Grubb John Gschwind John Guleserian Paul & Catherine Holmes Lynn & John Honiotes John & Silvana Horvath William Hottinger

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#### CENTURY CLUB (continued)

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#### CORPORATE MATCHING GIFTS

BNSF Foundation CME Group— Community Foundation Exelon Gap Foundation ITW Foundation MacArthur Foundation Microsoft Prudential Foundation Robert Bosch Tool Corporation

#### LEADERS OF THE FUTURE SCHOLARSHIP FUND

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Jim Kartheiser & Kathy Kennedy-Kartheiser

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## 2015 Memorials & Special Fund Donors

#### **MEMORIALS** (continued)

*Jim McNulty (continued)* Jim Kartheiser & Kathy Kennedy-Kartheiser David Katzin Koenig Family Charitable Foundation Ira Kudish David McNulty Steven McNulty Susan McNulty Carlos Mendoza Gloria & Gerald Ottesen David & Lori Ottesen Bonnie & Richard Werstein Fares & Jovi Zanayed Mary Zordani

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#### MEMORIALS (continued)

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#### **BUSINESS ALLIANCES**

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#### PROGRAM SPONSORSHIPS

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#### **GOLF OUTING SPONSORS**

Frank Hashimoto Sr. Arpad Horvath Bob Hubberts Tappers The Wenholz Family

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#### STEP TOGETHER SPONSORS

AK Custom Homes Albany Bank & Trust Company Baird & Warner - John Byrne Big Buzz Idea Group Childrens Lighthouse -North Center Pi-Hi Café The Professionals -Moving Specialists SERVPRO of Ravenswood

#### STEP TOGETHER DONORS

Joseph & Patti Farago Friends of Ann M. Williams, State Representative Mary Gallery & Stuart Lange Jim & Maggie Kharouf Gloria & Gerald Ottesen Thomas & Ann Marie Perkins The Piggery

This is the final list of 2015 Donors. If any changes in spelling need to be made or we unintentionally left you off the list, please contact Bill Abplanalp by March 1, 2016.

A Plaque of all 2015 Annual Fund Donors will be displayed in the Clubhouse Game Room.

## In MEMORY of those we recently lost

#### October

Joseph Lobono Sr. - Alumni Parent Clayton "Ernie" Swanson - Alum 30's & 40's Irvin "Irv" Lejman - Alumni Parent

#### November

James Vertucci - Alum 50's Ingeborg Lawrence - Alumni Parent Thomas Kane - Alumni Parent Anna Mae Cole - Alumni Parent & NBGC Hall of Fame

#### December

Coleman Connelly - Alumni Parent Jim Kelly - Alum 40's <mark>January</mark> John Victorine - Alum 70's Steven Chovanec - Alum 00's Don Wilhelm - Alum 30's - 40's & NBGC All of Fame

Memorial Notices can be sent to Bonnie@nbgc.org

#### STEP TOGETHER VENDORS

Chiro One Wellness Wintrust Financial

### STEP TOGETHER

RAFFLE SPONSORS Bill Abplanalp -Realy Insurance & Realty World All Pro Steve Baumhart Cooney Funeral Homes Arpad Horvath Tom Kelly

#### BEARS BASH SPONSORS

Morici, Figlioli & Associates

#### BEARS BASH DONORS

International Union of Elevator -Constructors Local No. 2 Tom Van Den Bosch

#### THANKSGIVING DAY

Ernie Chowanec Donation Kitty Wayne & Virginia Duckmann Tim Fahey Phil Haley Frank Hashimoto Sr. Ernie Sardilli Dick Schuster Bill Sharkey Dennis Sharkey Jack Sharkey

#### LEADERS OF THE FUTURE SCHOLARSHIP DINNER TUESDAY MAY 17, 2016

What sets the NBGC apart from other youth programs is the opportunity for kids to start out as participants and finish as Leaders. Paraphrasing our founder Robert Buehler's vision, it is "a club for kids, run by kids". Time spent as a NBGC Leader is a valuable life experience.

Being a Leader is enriched by the opportunity to earn a scholarship, enabling these young men and women to pursue a higher education and realize their dreams and ambitions. Each year the NBGC awards approximately \$35,000 - \$40,000 of scholarships to NBGC Youth Leaders. Leaders receiving the awards participate in a rigorous application, essay and interview process. Over 90 young men and women have benefitted from the Leaders of the Future Scholarship Program.

Join us in honoring our outstanding youth scholarship recipients and their generous scholarship sponsors on **Tuesday, May 17, 2016** at the Annual Leaders of the Future Scholarship Dinner. The event is once again being hosted by the Chicago Brauhaus (4732 N. Lincoln).. It begins at 6 PM and includes a program of dinner (choice of four entrees), award presentations and time to visit with the Leaders, both past and present. Ticket prices are \$35. Parking will be available (with a pass provided by the NBGC) at the Wintrust Chicago-Ravenswood Bank at 2300 W. Lawrence Ave.

We hope you will consider joining the ranks of scholarship sponsors, whether that's an individual scholarship (\$500- \$5,000), participation in the Scholarship Club (\$100) or sponsoring one or more awardees at the dinner (\$35).

The Leader program is our most treasured part of membership at the NBGC. Be a part of it...again.



Neighborhood Boys & Girls Club 2016 Calendar

Jan. 4th-Feb 1st	Floor Hockey, Volleyball & Cubbies Registration			
Jan. 30th	Winter Movie Night 6:30pm			
	Coed Soccer & Baseball Skills Registration			
Feb. 11 <sup>th</sup>	Chicago Blackhawks Outing			
Mar. 12th	Summer Camp Registration			
Mar16th	Board of Directors Meeting 7pm			
Mar. 26th	Easter Egg Hunt 10am			
Mar. 28th-Apr.1st	Private Spring Break Camp 8am-			
Apr.9th-Aug.26th	Fall Flag Football, Soccer & Cheer Registration			
Apr.18th-22nd	CPS Spring Break Camp Open 8am-6pm			
May 17th	Leaders of the Future Scholarship Dinner			
May 18th	Board of Directors Meeting 7pm			
May 27th-30th	NBGC Closed for the Memorial Day Weekend			
May 29 <sup>th</sup>	Bike the Drive Fundraiser with the Piggery			
Summer TBA	NBGC Golf Outing			
Jun. 10 <sup>th</sup> -12 <sup>th</sup>	Volunteers Needed for Northcenter Ribfest			
Jun. 6th-17th	Summer Pre Camp 8am-6pm			
Jun. 20th-Jul 29th	Core Summer Camp 10am-3pm (8am-6pm)			
Jul. 4th	NBGC Closed for Independence Day			
Jul. 20th	Board of Directors Meeting 7pm			
Aug. 1st-26th	Summer August Camp 8am-6pm			
Aug12 <sup>th</sup> -14 <sup>th</sup>	Volunteers Needed for Retro on Roscoe			
Sept. TBA	3rd Annual Step Together Community Walk			
Sept. 2nd-5th	NBGC Closed for the Labor Day Weekend			
Sept. 21st	Board of Directors Meeting 7pm			
Oct 1st-31st	Basketball Registration			
Oct. 22nd	NBGC 85th Anniversary and Hall of Fame			
Oct. 19th	NBGC 85th Birthday! Start of the 86th Year!			
Oct. 28th	Pumpkin Decorating Contest			
Fall TBA	NBGC Bears Bash			
Nov. 16th	Board of Directors Meeting 7pm			
Nov. 23rd	NBGC Closed for Thanksgiving Prep			
Nov. 23rd	86th Annual Pep Rally			
Nov. 24th	86th Annual Thanksgiving Day Classics			
Nov. 25th-27th	NBGC Closed for Thanksgiving Weekend			
Dec. 21 <sup>st</sup>	Board of Directors Meeting			
Dec. 23rd-26th	NBGC Closed for Holiday Weekend			
Dec. 27th-Jan. 6th Winter Break Camp Open 8am-6pm				
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Leaders of the Future 20th Anniversary Reunion 2004 With Co-Founders Jim Baumhart & Joe Walsh

Founded By Robert Buehler and Richard Valentin in 1931 for Carl Buehler

#### Explore your Leadership! Expand your Opportunities!

From December 26, 2015 – January 2, 2016, Bonnie Werstein took six fortunate Youth leaders and one Staff member to the Everglades National Park for a week of paddling, camping and personal exploration. The leaders ranged from 14 – 18 years old. Jae'Leen Torres, Natalia Rueda Marshall, Julianna Hasselberger, Karlie Kielnik, Liam Hudson, Vicky Rueda Marshall and Sergio Arroyo, share their personal experiences as noted in the following combined excerpts:



With the generosity of the Neighborhood Boys and Girls Club and Chicago Voyagers, I, along with other leaders, was able to participate in a one of a kind trip to the Everglades. On the Everglades trip I learned that there are many different types of leadership, such as being a role- model, a dictatorship and a democratic leadership. Each day on the trip there was a different leader. Everyone on the trip was able to learn new leadership skills like communication and learning to take initiative which is going to help us help the club out and make it better. The trip allowed me to further, and create new friendships, and gave me memories that will stick with me forever...like hilarious tent talks, motivational cheers while canoeing, and our interesting car rides. Despite the fun it seemed like every day we faced new challenges and obstacles, but with perseverance and teamwork we ended the day satisfied with what we had accomplished. One of the things that I could say about this Chicago Voyager's trip to the Everglades was that it was definitely one of the most physically and mentally challenging experiences of my life. From our canoe getting tipped over in pitch black, to washing up on a beach full of mosquitoes and other nasty bugs, this was just what happened on the first day. We all taught each other so much. Whether it was how to do something at our campsite, or teaching each other how to be a better leader in some shape or form, we were all role models for one another throughout the entire trip.



One of the things that I loved was that we brought ourselves to step out of our comfort zones and we were able to do things that we never thought possible for ourselves before it was necessary. However, despite all of the bug bites and sunburn, this was a fantastic trip overall. We laughed, cried, and at some instances got extremely frustrated, but all of this was worth it for the end result. As the days went by we faced many more challenges that could have set us back, but being the strong leaders we are, we were able to overcome all of them. Throughout this trip we developed a better definition of what it truly means to be a leader, and that it takes more than one person to be a successful one. This trip was filled with so many fun and exciting things such as being attacked by flying fish, paddling into the sunsets, and dealing with the strong winds. For me, this trip helped me realize that you shouldn't focus on just the destination, but to focus on the setbacks, accomplishments, and memories you make that get you to it. From the beautiful warm days, starry nights, and late night campfire discussions, my

favorite part by far was the opportunity to get to know and bond with all of the other leaders and guides that were on the trip. Everlasting friendships were made and memories that I will take me for the rest of my life. We all learned something new about ourselves. Some of us gained the confidence that we were missing. Some realized that they were strong leaders but needed a little push to help them show it to everyone. While we did learn about ourselves on the trip, we still learned great outdoor skills, from starting a fire to learning different canoe strokes. We were all able to overcome all obstacles that crossed our path, no matter how difficult they were. I know that we will look back on this trip to see how much we have grown and learned and just to remember what a great time we had.

**Bernie Rupe**, the Chicago Voyagers' Program leader, has been working with the Club's leaders for over ten years now, providing a variety of outdoor adventures to help the youth grow in leadership and build community. "Those were the goals on our expedition, too, as we had four new senior leaders as part of the group. As always, it was a pleasure. Together, we overcame 2'-3' seas, bugs, 10-15 knot winds, a lost camp site, bugs, travel delays, booked camp sites, and did I mention bugs? All of the teens rose to the challenge, stayed positive and gave their all – proving that success is not measured by challenges, but the ability to rise above them."





We know that we will look back on this trip to see how much we have grown and learned and just to remember what a great time we had. - NBGC Leadership Trip, Everglades 2015

#### WHAT ARE THE KIDS ARE UP TO AT THE CLUBHOUSE ?

#### Fall Football and Soccer

The NBGC hosted it's 85th Turkey Bowl to celebrate the end of the season for all the kids and parents that put a lot of hard work into another successful year. Some things may have changed from previous years, but what has not changed is the long traditions and spirit of NBGC. The Pep Rally on Wednesday night kicked of the festivities as all 34 teams, their coaches, and parents came together to celebrate their season, showoff their team banner & pride, and make predictions to get pumped up for their game the following morning. The NBGC Cheerleaders, parents, and fans lined the sidewalk as the teams gathered and ran out to the field for their game once their team was called, smashing through their proudly made banner along the way of course. Three fields were full of games simultaneously from 8:00 in the morning until 2:00 in the afternoon as all the teams battled it out on the field before coming inside to enjoy pastries, hot chocolate, coffee, and walking through the halls of NBGC looking at all of the old pictures and the history past Turkey Bowls.

#### **Basketball**

The basketball season has come and gone with a flurry of kids and teams in another exciting winter season. We had 64 teams this season from Kinder-8th grade utilizing all the space in both the NBGC and Revere Park gym as well as the new practice room next to the gym in NBGC. The kids had a fun filled season playing multiple games each week and making the most of all of their playing time. The youth leaders and staff ran nearly 400 hundred basketball games for the kids throughout the season as they were very busy working on their knowledge of basketball rules and officiating skills. The basketball achievement contest was held over winter break for all of the youth playing basketball to come in and compete against fellow players in their league for the right to be called Miss or Mr. Basketball 2015.

#### After School and School Breaks

NBGC after school programs continue to thrive and play a big role within our community. The after school programs allow for our families to not have to rush out of work to get to their kids on time but it allows our young members to spend extra time with their friends while still

getting homework done and enjoying their out of school time. As our afterschool programs continue to grow this fall we opened up new doors at Bateman elementary. We have been on site since November and we cannot be happier with this new partnership. Bateman has been extremely accommodating and it has truly become another home away from NBGC home. Our afterschool programs continue to allow our members to participate in our athletic program as time is never an issue when its game time. Any child that has a game or practice gets walked over from Bateman, Cleveland or Coonley in order to make sure that they are always in attendance. Walking our kids over allows participation in everything that NBGC has to offer and we wouldn't have it any other way. Well... with the exception of a van! Our after school programs continue to thrive and our numbers definitely speak for themselves! Coonley has an amazing 205 members registered, Bateman started with 12 kids and is now sitting pretty at 51 overall members and the NBGC afterschool program remains steady with 54 registered members not including our day off school drop ins. Winter break this year was a success as we had 95 kids registered with an average of 60 kids in attendance daily. We had an amazing time at Brookfield zoo as we were able to take in the dolphin show and see the different trees from around the Chicagoland area. Pump it up of course is always a hit and the kids jumped their way into 2016. Winter break was an overall success and we are already planning on how we can make it even bigger for next winter. As we can't wait until the cold is gone planning for Spring and Summer break are in full effect and we cannot wait to put the final details into our calendars!

#### Leader Candidates

A new group of NBGC Youth Leaders have arrived! The newest addition to our leader team graduated from their training in December right before the holidays. During the training, some of the topics that were covered included: counter operation and how to monitor the gameroom, after school program procedures, basketball score marking and officiating, and a lot more. All of our new Leaders quickly jumped into the swing of things helping us run all of our social and athletic programs. They even got to join us for our Leader holiday party during winter break and started showing off their new Leader shirts around the clubhouse. There is no doubt that the success of all of our programs stem from the hard work and commitment put in by our dedicated Leaders day in and day out.



Join us for this great opportunity! If you have questions or would like to register for Bike The Drive please contact Bill Abplanalp at <u>bill@nbgc.org</u> or <u>847-826-1317</u> and he will send you the official registration form (that will require pre-payment). We have a \$5,000 matching gift opportunity, let's reach that goal!

Payments will be accepted online at <u>www.nbgc.org</u>. Click the donate button, enter your payment amount in the contribution box and in the description box enter Bike the Drive. You may also pay in person at the NBGC or by phone, <u>773-463-4161 x 118</u>.

Price includes Registration Fee, Bike the Drive T-shirt and Breakfast Buffet at the Piggery. We will meet at the Piggery around 7:00 AM and leave at 7:30 down Irving Park Rd to Lake Shore Drive. You may bike any distance you want. Just be back to the Piggery by 10:30 AM for the breakfast buffet (1 drink per adult).

## **OPPORTUNITIES TO GIVE**

One of the key sources of funding for our many programs and services is the generous support of our alumni, families, neighbors and friends. Your support is vital to the Club. Join our growing list of supporters. Just return this form with your donation. You can also make a contribution on the website at **www.nbgc.org**, using the "Donate" button.



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