Neighborhood Boys & Girls Club

Alumni



Chatter

October 2015

WE APPLAUD YOU AND WILL MISS YOU

Of the many memories shared by Neighborhood Boys & Girls Club members throughout the eras, the greatest is the impact made on their lives by the most "senior leader" of their generation. Robert Buehler...Dick Valentin...Rich Brandon AND Jim McNulty touched the lives of so many young people.

It is with great sadness that the club is now without all four. Only seven short months after losing Rich Brandon, we now grieve the loss of Jim McNulty. Jim passed away suddenly in mid-September. As the shocking news was heard, members from around the world shared their heartfelt memories of his days at the NBGC (see page 5).

Jim became a Cougar in 1965. In 1972 he joined the Leadership Program, serving as a Youth Leader and a Staff Member until 1981. He was appointed Program Director in September 1981 and was appointed Executive Director in 1991, leading the organization until 2012.

An "Everyone Plays" Memorial will be held in honor of Jim at the clubhouse on Sunday, October 18th, starting at 1pm for a meet and greet, followed by a service at 2pm. We encourage everyone to bring gym shoes or spikes for a day of friendship, sportsmanship and teamwork. The Clubhouse will be open until the last ball is caught.



Jim planned it...and then did it!!!!



Jim welcoming and thanking all who attended the 75th Anniversary Banquet

THE BUZZ FROM THIS OLD WASP... Tom Krier, Executive Director

Shock and sadness filled the clubhouse the evening we learned Jim McNulty had passed away. The news came just as kids and leaders were finishing their activities and a Board of Directors' meeting was about to be called to order. I immediately saw how Jim had touched the lives of our NBGC family, across a number of generations. With heavy hearts, the kids planned their next day and the Board spoke of programs and events in the future. Though a cliché too often used, I am sure this is what Jim "would have wanted". The NBGC was such a big part of his life. We are all the benefactors for all he did for the club.

Our extended NBGC family also recently mourned the loss of Tim Fahey (1960's) and Elizabeth Horvath (mother of Arpad-1960's and John-1970's). Our prayers go out to all the families who have lost loved ones.

After a very busy summer, the NBGC went right into its new program year. Football, soccer and cheerleaders are on the fields and the clubhouse is filled with members of the after school program (see page 10). The 2nd Annual Step Together Walk and Fun Fair enjoyed another gorgeous day (see page 9). Though the Bears are not the team we hope for, all those attending the Bears Bash at The Piggery had a great time (see page 11).

The clubhouse continues to see improvements. Currently the "Community Room" is being remodeled. The room is being divided into two parts: one for kids activities and one for the administrative offices. Thank you to all who contributed to the capital campaign of a few years ago. A special THANK YOU to John Mackin (architect) and John Maieritsch (contractor) who are making (literally) the wall happen!

As many of you know, at year's end I will be leaving the position of Executive Director. Though not retiring, I have decided to take a "career" break. It has been an honor to serve the NBGC in an "official" capacity. The club will always be a part of the Krier Family...We can see it from our front porch!!!

ALL IN THE FAMILY!!!

Congratulations to Tim Jensen, NBGC's new Athletic Director. Tim follows his brothers Phil, and most recently Sam, in the position. We wish Sam well as he starts his teaching career.

The NBGC is also excitedly awaiting Kathi Jensen's wedding celebration, coming in November. As her brothers Phil, Dan, Sam and Tim, Kathi was a member, leader and league director, growing up at the NBGC. The Jensen family has been a part of the NBGC extended family for almost three decades!!!



Tim all smiles with his "closest to the pin" prize at the John Barrett Memorial Golf Outing

2015 HALL OF FAME INDUCTIONS ANNUAL COCKTAIL RECEPTION

Come join us in celebrating the NBGC's 84th Anniversary and 2015 Hall of Fame Induction on Thursday, October 29th from 6:00-9:00 PM. We look forward to seeing alumni from all eras. The event will take place at the Des Plaines Elks Club at 495 Lee St. in Des Plaines. The cost is \$25 per person, which includes appetizers and cash bar. The highlight of the evening will be the induction of new members into the 2015 NBGC Hall of Fame.



James Baumhart
Bob & Anna Mae Cole
Tom & Mary Nickels
Herb Preiner
Tom VanDenBosch
Johnny Weigelt
Leo Wollins



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

<u>2012 Inductees:</u> 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

Call the NBGC to make your reservations. (773) 463-4161

Jim McNulty...ALL NBGC!!!



Jim sharing his thoughts at the 70th Anniversary Banquet



Signs, signs, everywhere there are signs....Jim setting up the Family Fest



 $Leading\ by\ example$



The "Mt. Rushmore" of the NBGC: Jim McNulty, Rich Brandon, R.O. Buehler and Dick Valentin

"You and Me"...Remembering "Mic"

Many people shared their fond memories of Jim and his impact on their lives. The following are just a few of those reflections:

"Jim was one of my best friends growing up. Jim was the nicest man I have ever met. You will be missed my friend!"

"He was someone I am so happy to have had the experience to know. The Boys Club is where I remember him from. God bless him for making a difference in so many lives."

"... a wonderful person and dedicated professional ... he gave 110% daily to benefit young people at NBGC."

"(Jim was) very influential to me as a kid and always made us feel the boys club was our safe haven. (He) always had the kindest words when we needed it and also taught many of us respect..."

"...Jim could always be found out on the field officiating our football games. It was something he really took pride in, just like the rest of his work."

"My heart goes out to all of you guys that participated and worked at the club for so long. I know he was like a father figure to all of you. Jim was always such a great man and wonderful person."

"Jim McNulty was a man of the finest caliber. He was a positive role model and positive influence for so many of us kids growing up. He was my first boss at my 1st job as an impressionable young man. His character and guidance made us the fine men and women we are today. He instilled in us the value of hard work, ethics, and morals."

"Blackhawks, The Pretenders, Oakland Raiders, officiating, the Monkeyshine, the Cubs, the Smashing Pumpkins, the running hook shot, Queen, floor hockey, and helping young men and women become productive members of society...are some of the things Jim McNulty loved."

"We lost a good one today. Jim McNulty was part of one of my favorite childhood hangouts, NBGC Clubhouse."

"For a long time he was like a second father to me. He was a tremendous man who positively touched the lives of many people I also call friends, and many more individuals who I've never met. He did more good in this world than he'll ever know. I admire the compassion he put into his work and relationships with friends."

"I can honestly say I would not be the man, father, neighbor, or competitor I am today without Jim McNulty and the Neighborhood Boys and Girls Club. Jim was a dedicated and supportive mentor and he impacted the lives of countless families."

"A leader who helped to shape my kids and so many others!!! You were an inspiration to everyone who walked thru the NBGC. You will be greatly missed but never forgotten!!!"

2015 Contributors as of September 15, 2015

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This is the list of Donors from January 1 - September 15, 2015. If any changes in spelling need to be made or we unintentionally left you off the list, please contact Bill Abplanalp.

Inquire with your employer regarding tax-deductible donations through payroll contributions to NBGC.

NBGC Families "Step Together" To Celebrate Start of School Year

On a glorious Sunday morning of sunshine and blue skies, members, neighbors and friends enjoyed the 2nd Annual Step Together Walk and Fun Fair. Activities included a non-competitive walk through Revere and Horner Parks, various recreational games, the Parents' Club concession stand, raffles and vendor tables. Every kid left with a "goody bag" of trinkets, candy and a certificate for a free pizza at Lou Malnati's (4340 N. Lincoln). Thanks to the following sponsors, donors and special guests who made the event a success:

"One Big Step Sponsor": Childrens' Lighthouse Learning Centers

"One Small Step Sponsors": AK Custom Homes, Albank, Baird & Warner-John Byrne, Big Buzz Idea Group, Lou Malnati's Pizzeria, Navy Pier, Pi-Hi Café, The Professionals Moving Specialists and ServPro of Ravenswood

"Raffle Sponsors": Tom Kelly, Bill Abplanalp (Realy Insurance and Realty World All Pro), The Cooney Funeral Home, Steve Baumhart and Arpad Horvath

"Parents' Concession": The Piggery, Jewel Foods and Cermak Fresh Market

"Program Book": John P. Toman JET Wealth Advisor

"Vendor Booth": Concordia Place, Chiro One Wellness Centers, The Piggery and Wintrust Financial

"Donors": Joseph and Patti Farago, Friends of Ann M. Williams-State Representative, Mary Gallery & Stuart Lange, Jim and Maggie Kharouf, Gerald and Gloria Ottesen and Thomas and Ann Marie Perkins

"Hosts": Alderman Ameya Pawar, Alderman Deb Mell, Revere Park and Horner Park

"Special Guest": Congressman Michael Quigley

Congratulations to the following raffle winners:

1st Prize-Kathy Chilver (7 night Condo stay or \$1,000)

2nd Prize-Joseph Lucido (iPad or \$500)

3rd Prize-Thomas Washburn (Kindle "Fire" or \$250)

4th Prize-Jason Wilk 2 Cubs Box Seat Tickets

Early Bird "Jonathan Toews Blackhawks Sweater"-Don Wiener

Navy Pier Package – The Tomasello Family

















The 85th year of NBGC programs are off to a fantastic start!!!

Twenty boys flag football teams will be battling throughout the season. Training camps, practices and preseason games got everyone ready for the first games on Saturday, September 26th. The games have all kinds of action, with many teams possessing an aerial attack. The "spread offense" has come to NBGC!

The NBGC girls have formed sixteen soccer teams and will be playing on the "soccer pitch" (formerly known as Field #1) throughout the fall. Passing, receiving, throw-ins, shooting and goaltending are at advancing levels, with team play the focus. NBGC soccer players continue the mania of the World Cup.

"If you're all for NBGC clap your hands!!!" The tradition of the NBGC cheerleading squad continues. Practicing outside the Community Room draws the Executive Director out each session. What better way to get "fired up" for club business than to hear the cheers for NBGC!!! Their opening day performance was a huge hit.

Saturday is a big day at the NBGC, with a full schedule of games. The sidelines are three deep with spectators. It's like the "Turkey Bowl" every Saturday!!!

The NBGC's after school program is growing exponentially. Students from throughout the neighborhood come to the club every day for supervised homework time and recreation. Some schools have an organized walk-over to the club, with NBGCers' coming from all directions. The club is the epicenter for after school activities in the neighborhood.

Did you know the weekly Monkeyshine is available online? Just go to www.nbgc.org and click on the Monkeyshine link.

BEARS BASH(ed)

Over 90 attendees to the 32nd Annual Bears Bash saw the Bears fall to the Seattle Seahawks by the final score of 26 – 0. It was a close game up to the second half kickoff, which Seattle returned for a touchdown and a 13 – 0 lead. (Last year's game was over before halftime). Thanks to Tim and Ken at The Piggery (1625 W. Irving Park Road) for their hospitality. The space, numerous large screen televisions, cold refreshments and menu, highlighted by their famous ribs, were once again a big hit.

The major sponsor again this year was alum Jim Morici of Morici, Figlioli & Associates. He donated a large flat screen TV, won by John and Marge Maieritsch, and numerous prizes, making the pain of the Bears game more tolerable for over 50 raffle winners. Jim May won the Chicago Bears Matt Forte jersey. Each attendee went home with a Morici, Figlioli & Associates pint beer glass. Thanks to all who attended.





Memories... It was a joy to visit with Nanette Shobutte early this summer. Nanette brought her husband and two grandchildren to Revere and the clubhouse to show them where her brother Bruce had spent many of his younger days. Bruce passed away last year. I joined the family on a walk around the park, showing them the tree planted in memory of Tom Radovanovich, who passed away in January. Bruce and Tom were best of friends at the club. Our walk concluded on Dakin Street, Nanette seeing the garden lot where the family house once stood. It was a very special visit, sharing memories of the neighborhood.



It's almost here...Several of our NBGCers, who are St Ben's H.S. alum, are planning an event to honor Mrs. Laurette Kittler. Please mark October 24, 2015 for the St. Benedict Hall of Fame Induction Dinner and Musical Revue Tribute to Mrs. Kittler, which will be held at St Benedict's.

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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