

Alumni



Chatter

January 2014

THE BUZZ FROM THIS OLD WASP...

Tom Krier, Executive Director

Happy New Year!!! So many good things happened at the club this past year, making it all the more exciting to begin anew, with expectations to exceed those successes in 2014.

NBGC currently has 525 boys and girls playing basketball in both the clubhouse's "small gym" and the Revere Park gym. Floor hockey registration has started. Over 150 boys and girls are enjoying the activities of the after-school social and educational programs. More than 50 leaders and staff make this all happen. NBGC continues to be THE PLACE for kids on the north side!

The generosity of the NBGC family, including alumni, parents, neighbors, friends, businesses and foundations helped us achieve our 2013 fund raising goals. As I write the thank you letters, serving the "IRS receipt" purpose, I often wonder if the sincerity of our gratitude is overwhelmed by the required formality of the letter. Know that NBGC is grateful for each and every dollar it receives and that our THANK YOU is heartfelt.

As I start my second year on staff, I am frequently asked what I enjoy the most about the job. (Most assume it's my "commute", just short of 100 steps. I still live on Dakin...once a Wasp always a Wasp.) First and foremost, I seldom think of it as a job. It is an honor, challenge and opportunity to help the club continue its mission of "building better men and women". And, while I enjoy seeing the young kids play and learn, my reward is seeing the Leaders grow each and every day.

There are moments at the club when our hearts are heavy, as we learn of the passing of alumni, parents and dear friends. Since the last chatter we lost Tony Krier, Marc Jotzat, Ruth Bicknell, Bethany Bohn, Solomon Morales, Dick Geschrey, Mike Brumleve, William Mulchrone, Dan Minch, Tony Busch, Elizabeth Jacobco and Vern Feuling. Our prayers go out to the families of these and all those who have lost loved ones. Our memories of them will live forever at NBGC.

The chatter includes several announcements regarding events in the coming year. It would be tremendous to see you at them all. Know that these are "fun" raisers. The more that attend the more "fun" is raised.

Speaking of events, last March we held the last Bob Turco Open Ping Pong Tournament. Don't worry, Bob is doing fine. Those who plan the tournament and after-party thought it was time to have a different winter event. We hope to hear from alumni from all eras with ideas for an early year get-together.



Anthony Krier...at rest.

NBGC's 2013 Hall of Fame Inductees

Every Saturday night **Cas Urban** and his family was with the choir in the field house at Revere Park. Christmas and the choir were inseparable. The choir performed in the cafeteria at Victor Adding Machine to thank the workers and Buehler Family for their long time support. They sang at St. Paul's Retirement Home, caroling for the residents. They caroled at the homes of important NBC supporters, appeared on WGN Television, sang at the Chicago Railroad fair and performed at many other community events. The choir was always the opening act for the Annual Christmas Play, first held at Lane Tech Auditorium then later at St. Benedict Gymnasium. The Urban family knew their father gave his heart and soul to make the NBC choir an organization that represented the NBC with pride and distinction.



Bob Mergens joined NBC in 1938. His first and only team was the Raiders. A few years later he became a leader and remained so until leaving the club in 1947. He fondly remembers officiating many football, basketball, softball and baseball games, singing in the choir, playing in the table tennis, chess, checkers and even marble tournaments, helping prepare and mail the servicemen's letter to alumni in the armed forces and numerous camping trips out West. Later Bob returned to the Club as a member of the Forum, was on the finance committee and volunteered at the annual track meet. Over the years, Bob has been an active member of the alumni association, still attends the annual golf outing and can be found every year at the Family Fest Alumni Night.

Don Wilhelm moved to Chicago from rural Indiana at the age of eight. He went to school at Cleveland Elementary and his new friends encouraged him to join NBC as a member of the Pirates. Don also played on the Army and Wings but quickly joined the Leader Team. Don graduated from Roosevelt High School in 1945 and spent the following year in Japan in the US Army. Don returned home and to the NBC in 1946 working under the direction of his good friend, Dick Valentin.

In 1947 Don began his career with Victor Adding Machine Co. but continued to be a regular contributor at the NBC. He served as Chairman of the Forum for twelve years. He was a Board Member for fifteen years including four years as Treasurer and four years as President. When the Buehler Family sold Victor, Don moved to Peer Foods to work with R.O. Buehler until his retirement.



Hall of Fame Inductees continued...

Jerry and Gloria Ottesen have been affiliated with the Neighborhood Boys and Girls Club for over 36 years. Their involvement began when their son, David, joined the club and continues today in numerous ways.

Jerry was an active member of the Dad's Club and NBGC Board of Directors for many years. He served as Treasurer of the Dad's club and is proud to say that he was instrumental in starting the Bears Bash, which is still an annual event.

Gloria got very involved in the Mother's Club and served as President for a period of time. Among other things, she is very proud of starting the Spaghetti Dinner. To this day she serves on the NBGC Board of Directors.

Every summer you will find Gloria and Jerry at the NBGC Family Fest. The food tent is Gloria's pride and joy. Between preparing for the event, running to pick-up food and supplies, cooking the food, and doing all the clean-up, it keeps them both very busy.



Ted and Juanita Roosevelt became active at NBC in 1964. Ted co-chaired the track meet and chaired the Thanksgiving Day Classic refreshments and the Directory for many years. He worked all of the Dad's Club fundraisers - pancake breakfast, card & bunco, plant sales and ham sales. On the Board of Directors for fifteen years, Ted was very proud of the gate he installed in the fence line of Revere Park for easy access to the Carnival. His initials remain in the cement. Ted built the Fest's Ham & Bacon and Krazy Ball games and added his creativity to the Haunted Houses. Juanita worked all the Mothers' Club fundraisers - ham sales, cake sales, card

& bunco and spring socials, chaired the Rumage Sale and helped at Haunted Houses and Family Fests. She often helped Elma Stone, working on Alumni files and mailings. Together Ted and Juanita continued volunteering long after their sons were no longer members and are best known as Mr. & Mrs. Ham & Bacon, running the Fest booth for over 35 years. Juanita returns to her shift in Ham & Bacon working alongside her granddaughters Carlie and Sheila.



The Lunkes Family and NBGC have been neighbors since the inception of the club. John Lunkes always spoke to the fact that the club enriches the neighborhood. The five boys in the Lunkes family, as well as cousins living in the neighborhood, were all members of the Boys Club growing up. John Lunkes was a long time member of the Board of Directors and two of his sons, Jim & Mike, also served on the board.

The Lunkes family made it a priority to support the club. Illinois Battery, the family business, has been the club's next-door neighbor dating back to the old frame clubhouse. The "battery shop" donated over 3,000 square feet of storage space since the 1970's. In addition, the family also donated the use of trucks, tools, equipment and company personnel. The family is thankful to have had the long-standing relationship with the NBGC. Although Illinois Battery has relocated (4120 W. Belmont), the club and the surrounding neighborhood will always play a large role in who they are as a business and family, as well as something they hold close to their hearts.

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.

Candidate must be nominated by an alum from your era 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

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.

NOMINEE INFORMATION

Name: _____

Applicable Era: _____ Team: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Home Phone: _____ Work Phone: _____

Email: _____

Please submit an essay describing the reasons why this nominee should be inducted into the Neighborhood Boys and Girls Club Hall of Fame:

Please Send form and essay to Bill Abplanalp, 2501 W. Irving Park Road, Chicago, IL 60618 or email to bill@nbgc.org.

Thanksgiving Day Classics 2013



Joe Prybell, Jim Swanson, Luke Swanson, Joe Collota, Bill Swanson and Tom Van Den Bosch

NBGC's Football and Soccer Seasons once again ended with the traditional Thanksgiving Day Classic. Teams have been playing in the Turkey Bowl since 1931.

Our Thanksgiving celebration is made all the more special by alumni participation. Many former Leaders and Staff came out to help officiate, serve refreshments and announce the games. Many others watched

games and relived their childhood glory.

A big THANK YOU to NBC Alums Jack Sharkey, Ernie Chowanec, Phil Haley, Bill Sharkey, Ernie Sardilli, Dick Schuster, Joe Traubenik, Harry Fischer and Dennis Sharkey. This group of alumni from the 1950's has made it a tradition to sponsor the coffee, hot chocolate and doughnuts. They enjoy helping serve and greet NBGC families and alumni. (NBGC will always be thankful to Johnie Weigelt and his family for starting this tradition many years ago.)

We also thank Wayne and Virginia Duckmann for co-sponsoring the event. Wayne and Virginia coached in the 1990's when their children, Wayne and Christine, were active members.

The 40th Reunion of the NBGC Band

The NBGC Band of 40 years ago (later the Chicago Continentals) joined the current club band at the Pep Rally. Here is the band, then and now;



First row, Rich Paschall, Michael Teolis. Second row, Joe Miceli, Tom Krier and Mike Cumberland. Back-Kevin Byrne



Mike Cumberland, Kevin Byrne, Michael Teolis, Bob Papa, Tom Krier, Rich Paschall and Joe Miceli

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2013 Contributors to the Annual Fund

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CENTURY CLUB

3600 N Oakley Block Party
 3700 N Bell Neighbors
 Thomas Abplanalp
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 NEIU Alpha Psi Lambda Rho

CENTURY CLUB

(continued)

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(continued)

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2013 Contributors to the Annual Fund & Special Fund Donors

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Thomas Ehmann		John Wolf Law Office	Lake View Realty
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This is the final list of 2013
Donors. If any changes need to
be made please contact Bill
Abplanalp by March 1st

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2013 Special Fund Donors & Memorials

LOF SCHOLARSHIP (Cont)

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Robert Kartheiser

This is the final list of 2013 Donors if any changes in spelling or need to be made or we unintentionally left you off the list please contact Bill Abplanalp by March 1, 2014.

A Plaque of all 2013 General Fund Donors will be displayed in the Clubhouse Gameroom.

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

EVENTS, EVENTS, EVENTS...

9th Annual NBGC Cubs Rooftop Outing

Join us "Up On The Roof" for the
Chicago Cubs vs. Philadelphia Phillies

Saturday, April 5th, 2014

Game Time 1:20 pm

(doors open 12:30 pm)

Down the Line Rooftop
3625 N. Sheffield
www.downthelinerooftop.com



\$115 gets you your ticket to the rooftop,
food and beverages.

The event is limited to 100 guests
Call 773-463-4161 and ask for Rooftop

Tickets
Or email:

Events@nbgc.org

NBGC LEADERS OF THE FUTURE 2014 SCHOLARSHIP DINNER*



The 2013 Leaders of the Future Class

TUESDAY APRIL 22, 2014

6:00 – 8:00 PM*

CHICAGO BRAUHAUS

4732 N. LINCOLN

\$25 per PERSON

*This year we've changed it from
a luncheon to a dinner...SAVE
THE DATE (more information to
follow).

NBGC's 66th Annual Family Fest



Wednesday, June 25th through Sunday, June 30th

SPOTLIGHT ON OUR ALUMNI SUCCESS STORIES



From left; Rich Hyland, Mark Payne, Jim Morici, Glenn Stahl and Rick Meidel

JIM MORICI—"MAN OF THE YEAR"

Alumni **Jim Morici** (Locust, Bees, Cougars 1966-1971) was honored by the Italian-American Police Association as its "Man of the Year" on the occasion of its 50th Anniversary Dinner Dance on November 2, 2013. Jim, a longtime supporter of the NBGC and a former President of the Board of Directors, is a Chicago personal injury lawyer with the firm of Morici, Figlioli & Associates. The Italian American Police Association took interest in Jim due to his commitment to the legal system for many years and his service in the 1980s as an Assistant Cook County

State's Attorney. Jim served as a First Chair Prosecutor at 26th and California working with Chicago and suburban police departments. He helped put some of the most dangerous people in the County behind bars throughout the 1980s.

Since then Jim has exclusively practiced in the area of personal injury representing the most seriously injured. In 1998, he founded Morici, Figlioli & Associates and has led the firm in helping thousands of injured victims receive full compensation over the last 15 years.

Jim has gained the respect of judges, insurance companies, defense lawyers and his peers and has been honored as a member of the Multi-Million Dollar Advocates Forum. He has been recognized as one of Illinois, "Super Lawyers." We congratulate Jim Morici and hold him up as an example of how NBGC helps to "Build Better Men."

Carlito (Carlos) Olivero a Chicago native and member of the NBGC Bobcats in the early 2000's finished third on season three of the "The X Factor". Regarding his X Factor experience, Carlito said, "All I ever wanted was to just get past that first round and get four yeses from the judges. When I did that I already felt accomplished."



Carlito performing...

Singing in English and Spanish from the age of 5, Carlito had aspirations of making singing and performing his career. A former Menudo band member on Sony Music, he has continued to grow in his songwriting skill, collaborating with numerous industry pros. His urban-based rhythmic pop flavor with the occasional Spanish language has created a unique sound which sets him apart from the male vocalists in the current pop landscape.



Carlos is bottom row, second from the left

NBGC Board Member Melissa Lagowski “Women of the Year”



The publisher of *Enterprising Women* magazine has announced Melissa Lagowski, as one of the recipients of the 2014 Enterprising Women of the Year Award, a tribute to top women entrepreneurs from around the world. Award winners were chosen from nominees who demonstrate that they have fast-growth businesses, actively support or mentor other women and girls involved in entrepreneurship, and stand out as leaders in their communities.

Melissa said, “It’s nice to be recognized as one of the recipients, but I think we’re each blessed to be able to do what we do, to love what we do, and to assist and encourage others.”

Melissa is president of Big Buzz Idea Group, a WBE-certified events management firm. With nearly 25 years of corporate and nonprofit event experience, she has launched and executed large fundraisers, street festivals and community outreach events; conceived and initiated several innovative programs; organized numerous conferences and workshops; coordinated a variety of dinners and awards functions; and, designed trade show exhibits.

Melissa is a proud member and serves as Executive Director of the National Association of Women Business Owners (NAWBO) Chicago Chapter. In addition, she is a recent graduate of the Goldman Sachs 10,000 Small Businesses program, a board member of the Neighborhood Boys & Girls Club (NBGC), and a frequent panelist for the Women’s Business Development Center (WBDC), City of Chicago, NAWBO and various chamber of commerce functions. She also remains a dedicated mom, carving out time as soccer mom, a coach of her daughter’s softball team and occasional teacher’s aide.

Dan Minch Family Donation



Dan Minch was a member of NBC in the 1940’s and played on the “Indians”. This past December a Blind Draw Volleyball Tournament at Hamlin Park was organized in Dan’s memory. The event produced a \$520 donation to the NBGC.

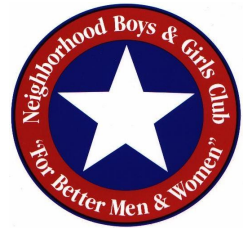
Thanks to the Dan Minch family for honoring their father

with this kind donation, to Chuck Seminary for his hard work in putting the tournament together and to all of those who participated, volunteered and made a donation. Contributions like these have helped keep NBGC going strong over 82 years and allows the club to continue in its mission of building “Better Men & Women”.

This was by far the best of the Hamlin Park Blind Draw tournaments, thanks to the friends and Family of Dan Minch.

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. The contributor list can be viewed at www.nbgc.org.



Contribution Levels

<input type="checkbox"/> ANNIVERSARY	\$83.00	Method of Payment
<input type="checkbox"/> CORPORATE CENTURY CLUB	\$100.00 +	<input type="checkbox"/> Check
<input type="checkbox"/> TEAM SPONSOR	\$500.00 +	<input type="checkbox"/> Visa
<input type="checkbox"/> LEAGUE SPONSOR	\$1000.00 +	<input type="checkbox"/> MasterCard
<input type="checkbox"/> FOUNDER'S CLUB	\$5000.00 +	Credit Card # _____
<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER	\$ _____	Exp. Date _____
<input type="checkbox"/> IN MEMORY OF _____	\$ _____	Signature _____

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_____	Phone _____ Email _____
I have or would be interested in including	_____
the NBGC in my Estate Plan	I played at the Club in the _____'s on the
_____	_____