

March 2005

73 Years of Service

Alumni



Chatter



HAPPY BIRTHDAY ROBERT BUEHLER NBGC FOUNDER TURNS 102!



NBGC Founder **Robert Buehler** celebrated his 102nd birthday on Friday, April 1st. The Neighborhood Boys Club was started on October 19, 1931 as a tribute to Carl Buehler, Robert's father. NBC became the Neighborhood Boys & Girls Club on January 27, 1997.

NBGC started as a one-time football program. When the season ended and the awards were presented to the league champion Reveres, Robert Buehler and co-Founder Richard Valentin saw the spirit and enthusiasm of the boys and parents and decided to continue the program. At that time no one dreamed that NBGC would continue to grow and thrive, serving the community and over 20,000 children for almost 73 years. The NBGC lives on as a testament to the vision of Robert Buehler and a tribute to the memories of Carl Buehler and Richard Valentin.

75TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION IN OCTOBER 2006!

Plans are moving ahead quickly! Our date is set - Saturday, **October 21, 2006**. **Our location is Villa Brunetti in Franklin Park**. Committees are forming to put together a historical yearbook, hang street banners on light poles in the community, find lost alumni and develop a sponsorship program. We have room for 450 guests and hope that you will be one of them!

We welcome your involvement in planning the event, contacting alumni, reserving a table, buying a banner, marketing the event and putting the yearbook together. Among those who have already offered to get involved are **Tom Lauletta, Jack Leske, Glenn Stahl and Rich Paschall**.



Banners are 30" x 72" and cost \$200.00 each. They will hang on light poles in the community from October 2005 - October 2006. They will then be taken down, displayed at the 75th, and are yours to keep! Order forms will be available soon. If you are interested, please call Sharon Clement or Jim McNulty at (773) 463-4161.

REV. RAY BAUMHART KEYNOTE SPEAKER AT APRIL 12TH SCHOLARSHIP LUNCHEON

The 2005 Neighborhood Boys and Girls Club "**Leaders of the Future**" **Scholarship Luncheon** will be held on **Tues. April 12th** at The Chicago Brauhaus, located at 4732 N. Lincoln Ave. The luncheon honors the young men and women who earned college scholarships in recognition of their service to the Club and community.

Our keynote speaker will be alumnus **Rev. Ray Baumhart**. Father Baumhart was a member of the Bulldogs and Owls from 1935-40. He was a Youth Leader from 1938-40 and Assistant Program Director from 1941-43. Father Baumhart served in the U.S. Navy during WWII. He was ordained a priest in 1957. After receiving a Bachelor of Science degree from Northwestern University, Father Baumhart earned three degrees from Loyola University as well as two degrees from Harvard University. He is a member of Phi Beta Kappa. Father Baumhart served as the President of Loyola University from 1970-93 and is currently Personal Consultant to Francis Cardinal George, Archbishop of Chicago.

Tickets are \$25.00 and **reservations will be taken until April 8th**. Just call Sharon Clement at 773-463-4161 or e-mail sclement@NBGC.org.

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

**YOUR WILL COULD BE
A WAY TO HELP
THE YOUTH AT NBGC**

Occasionally an alum tells us, "I wish I could do something to help the programs at NBGC, but my cash is low right now."

If this is your situation, there is a way you can help significantly, without any money leaving your bank account. It is by putting the NBGC in your will. Talk of a will can strike alarm in some people, but it need not. You can designate a percentage of your estate after other obligations are covered. That percentage does not have to be large. Whatever amount, it will mean support for the boys and girls at NBGC after your lifetime.

Understandably, your first concern in estate planning is to provide for loved ones. But once that is done, there may still be an opportunity to do something to help the kids at NBGC experience what you were able to enjoy when you were a member.

If you would like to know more about planning your estate, please call **Bill Abplanalp** in our Development Department, (773) 463-4161.

UPDATING OUR RECORDS

Many of our Alumni Chatters do not go direct to alums because we still use their childhood address. **Parents, please help us reach our alumni more directly** by passing along a current address. We will be happy to continue mailing a copy to your home. Please call **Sharon Clement**, between 9:00 AM and 3:00 PM, at 773-463-4161. Thanks!

**NBGC MOMS' CLUB
SPAGHETTI DINNER
SAT. APRIL 30TH
4:00 - 8:00 P.M.**



MATCHING GIFTS



Many companies will match an employee's charitable contribution to a non-profit organization, like the NBGC. All you need to do is ask your employer! The following is a list of alumni and the companies who have matched their gifts.

- | | |
|-------------------|----------------------------------|
| John Barrett | Allstate |
| Bill Ellenbecker | Allstate |
| Ed Floden | Follett Corp. |
| Anonymous | Abbott Laboratories |
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| Anonymous | IBM |
| Tom Deyo | Fannie Mae Fnd. |
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| Jamie Dibbern | Gillette Company |
| Joe Prybell | World Reach Inc./Cardinal Health |
| George Stancek | World Reach Inc. |
| Ray Sugrue | Federal Reserve Bank of Chicago |

(If we have accidentally missed you and your company, please let us know)

Did you also know that many corporations have a philanthropic budget that gives monetary or in-kind gifts to non-profit organizations, like the NBGC. All we ask from our alums is to ask your employer if they do any philanthropic giving. You might be surprised how this one little question can help fund the many programs we offer at the NBGC.

These are the Foundations and Corporations who are currently supporting the NBGC programs:

Polk Bros. Foundation, Chicago Board of Trade, Cubs Care, Sulzer Family Foundation, AT & T, Children's Care Foundation, LaSalle National Bank, IBM, Citigroup Foundation, Chambers Family Memorial Fund, Levi Strauss Foundation, Foresters, Day Care Action Council, Comcast Foundation

Wally Johnson (Wildcats, 1970's), former Leader and Staff member, recently wrote that he will never forget his experiences at the Club. He can honestly say that the Club formed him into "A Better Man". There sure is a long line of those who agree with Wally!

Dennis Gonzalez (Cougars, 1990's) saw his holiday gift list more than double in the past year. In May, one of his brothers welcomed a son. In October, not to be outdone, his other brother welcomed triplets – one boy and two girls!

Mike DeQuattro and Edwin Lorenzana (Pirates, 1980's-90's) stopped by the Clubhouse recently. Mike just returned from his second tour of duty in Iraq, where he was based out of Camp Fallujah. He spent about eight months there before returning to Camp Pendleton in January. Mike has been in the Marines for six years. His next stop is as a Drill Instructor in San Diego. Edwin has been in the Marines for two years. He is an ammo tech. He just left for his first overseas stop in Japan.

Congratulations to **Rich Brandon** (NBGC Executive Director Emeritus), and his wife **Maryann**, on the birth of their 15th grandchild. **Marshall Raleigh Blackburn** was born to **Melody (Brandon) Blackburn** in February.

A few months ago we received a delivery at NBGC and it turns out the driver is an alum. **Dominic Biondi** (Owls, 1970's) remembered many great times at the Club and with teammates **Blase Vitello, Bob and John Vasiliadis**. As it turns out, Dominic lives next door to another alum, **John Fahey** (Wasps, 1970's). Once again, anywhere you go you are liable to run into NBC/NBGC alumni!

YOU & ME NEWS

By: Jim McNulty

Officer Roy Schnoor (Tarantulas, 1960's) recently passed through the Clubhouse on his way to attend a 17th District CAPS meeting in the Revere Park Fieldhouse. Roy remembered **Pat, Tim and Shawn Kane, Jim and Rich Paschall and Jim Kartheiser**.

In a recent e-mail, **Dan Diversey** (Cougars, 1980's) wanted to know if some of his, and brother Steve's, records still stood. In the early 1980's Dan did 127 push ups in the LIFT Fitness Tournament. He remembered having to do sit ups right after that and doing about five. He also holds the 19th highest all-time score in the BAC of 2436 points, set in 1983. **Steve Diversey** still holds two free throw records (15 for 8 & 9 year olds in 1980 and 21 for 10 & 11 year olds in 1982), as well as the number two all-time BAC score of 2767 points, set in 1981. That BAC record held until 1995 when **Juan Gibson** (Bobcats, 1990's) scored 2769 points.

Charles Ridgeway (Cougars, 1990's) recently enrolled in the Army. He is in training at Fort Benning, GA, and will graduate April 29th.

Elaine (Urban) and **Guy Neukirch** (1950's), winners of the 2004 NBGC Family Fest raffle vacation in Orlando, FLA, wrote about the wonderful time they had in February. They enjoyed a perfect week of warm and sunny weather and enjoyed strolling through the Disney theme parks as well as Sea World. Elaine's father, **Cas Urban**, was the NBGC Choir Director for many years.

Tom Fisher (Spiders, Sparks, 1940's) wrote to wish the NBGC staff well. His father was a strong believer in the Club's mission. He mentioned how vital the Dads' Club was, with **Mr. Lund, Mr. Martin** and many others.

While doing the weekly deposits at Corus Bank, I ran into **Karl Haslwanter** (Locusts, 1990's) working the teller window. Karl is interested in seeing the old Monkeyshines on the website. That project is underway, although technical difficulties converting the Pagemaker files to PDF's has slowed us down.

Jim McGuire (Falcons, 1990's) has moved to W.W. Grainger, where he is the Product Manager for the motor line at the Niles facility. Jim is a former Youth Leader, Staff member and was the first scholarship recipient in 1984.

The annual NBGC Easter Egg Hunt was held March 26th. As always, it is great to see the alumni bring their kids out to the same event that they enjoyed 20 or 30 years ago. Of course, the eggs were real back then and we always had to be on the lookout for egg throwers after the hunt! Today we use plastic eggs with a piece of candy inside. Those attending included **Tom Breason, Will Mulchrone, Paul Goerner Jr., Bob Seablom and Ricardo Solis**.

It was a pleasure to speak to **Ronald Bergman** (1940's) in March. Ron became reconnected with the Club through the scholarship donation program at Laschet's Inn. Since then he has sent in several contributions, as well as some old Monkeyshines and the medal he earned coaching the Seabees to the 194?? football title. Ron worked in the mail room at Victor Adding Machine, then earned a PhD at the University of Illinois. He is a retired professor. Ron is looking forward to seeing Rev. Baumhart at the scholarship luncheon.

Congratulations to **Greg Jiede** (1950's), CEO of **Synergistic Networks**, on being named to the Deloitte & Touche Chicagoland Technology "Fast 50". Located in Elmhurst, IL, SynNet is a leading provider of relationship management, e-commerce and integrated solutions.

2004-2005 ANNUAL CONTRIBUTOR HONOR ROLL

The following alumni, parents and friends made contributions to the NBGC during the fiscal year September 1, 2004 through March 15, 2005. **If you were unintentionally omitted from the list, please accept our apologies** and give Sharon a call at (773) 463-4161 so we can correct this in the next issue. **Thank you to everyone who has supported the Club during the 2004-05 year.** *Your contributions make a difference!*

Your generous support allows us to continue offering boys football, basketball, floor hockey, baseball and softball, girls soccer, basketball, floor hockey, volleyball and softball, a younger children's Discovery Program, Karate, Summer Enrichment, Leader Program, Scholarship Program and more, free of membership fees to the 1,200 girls and boys who participate in one or more programs. *Just think what the Alumni Association could do for the kids if each contributor brought in one new contributor!*

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January 2005

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1930's
February 2005

John Rohleder
Owls, 1940's
March 2005

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January 31, 2005
 Father of Thomas and Robert

Delores Lynch
February 2005
 Mother of Larry and Phil

Thomas A. Washburn
March 2005
 Father of Thomas J. Washburn

Mary Lou Floden
March 2005
 Mother of Ed, Gary and Mike

Friends of NBGC
Alton Sharpe
December 21, 2004
 Nephew-in-Law of
 Dick Valentin



NBGC FAMILY FEST IN JULY!



The 56th Annual NBGC Family Fest and Carnival will be held from **Wed. July 6th through Sun. July 10th** on the old Victor parking lot, thanks to the **Philip Garoon Family of Basic Wire & Cable**. This is our biggest fundraising event of the year, with all proceeds going toward the boys and girls programs.

There are many ways alumni can participate in the event. **Volunteers are always needed!** We need game barkers, ticket sellers, beverage pourers, food servers and chefs! We also need game players, ticket buyers, beverage drinkers and food eaters! Maybe you or your business would like to sponsor the Ham & Bacon Game, the Moms' Club's Food Tent or the Dunk Tank. Maybe you can donate some prizes, merchandise, supplies or services. **If you can assist please call Sharon Clement at (773) 463-4161 or e-mail sclement@NBGC.org.**



GOOD LUCK, BRIAN WRIGHT



NBGC Assistant Program Director **Brian Wright** left the Club in February after spending 14 years as a member, Leader and Staff member. Here are some excerpts from his "farewell" letter to the kids and parents:

"As I get ready to start a new chapter in my life I can't help but stop and think about all that the Club has done for me. I am grateful for all of the great people I have met over the years and the life-long friendships I have made. I can still remember the very first day I walked in the door; when I was eight years old, like it was yesterday. The very first people I met were **Fares Zanayed, Tony Ramirez** and **Arturo Radilla** doing registration. From that day I knew there was something great about this place. NBGC is unlike any other place I have ever seen, the traditions, the history, the community and family roots, and most of the values that are instilled in every boy and girl that comes through those double doors. I did not fully realize this until I became a leader when I was 13; it changed my life. The "Boys Club" (which is what it was referred to when I was growing up) has taught me many great things such as *leadership, dedication, fairness, sportsmanship, self-motivation, and the ability to overcome adversity* and deal with everyday life. I just pray that every youth that comes through those doors takes full advantage of every opportunity that NBGC has to offer them just like I did.

The values of 1931 still hold true today in 2005 and will continue to grow...If it wasn't for the club, I definitely would not be where I am today or be the young man I have grown up to be. I am truly grateful! I just wish I could do so much more for those who have done so much for me. Remember if you work hard, you get far in life.

The greatest advice I can give to present and future generations is to always remember this is "OUR" club; every boy, girl, parent, and volunteer. So be sure to take care of it...I want all of you to remember this and keep the club alive for the next hundred years. Although I am leaving, this is definitely not goodbye forever! You can never truly leave such a great place and the people you care about. I will always be a volunteer and I want my children to grow up her one day to. One thing I can say for sure is that the "Boys Club" will always be a part of who I am and my everyday life.

In closing I would like to say to the Leaders and Staff, good luck! You are the foundation of this wonderful organization; please keep the tradition alive! To all the young members of NBGC, remember the Club lives through you, so take care of it."



CONGRATULATIONS



The NBGC Staff and Leaders congratulate **Tim Ward** (Locusts, 1990's) on his promotion to Assistant Program Director, taking over for **Brian Wright**. Tim became a member when he was five years old as a new Cub Leaguer. He played year round for six years as a Cadet, Prep and Tribe, then later played two more years of Teen sports. Tim decided to join the family of the NBGC and become a Junior Leader in 8th grade. He then went on to become a Senior Leader, then a Staff member in 2002. He worked as a Prep and Tribe League Director until now being promoted to Assistant Program Director in February 2005. Tim earned college scholarships for six years, from 1998 - 2003. He is a graduate of Wright College and will get into law enforcement when Chicago Police positions are available.



NBGC GOLF OUTING COMING



Mark your calendars for **Sat. August 6th**, as we will be holding our **35th Annual Golf Outing**. This year's event will again be held at **Arlington Lakes Golf Course**, 1211 S. Wilke Rd (between Algonquin and Central) in Arlington Heights. The first tee time will be at 10:30 a.m.

A dinner will be held at the Arlington Lakes Banquet Hall with dinner starting at 6:30 p.m. A catered dinner will be held in the upstairs room of the clubhouse. We will have a cash bar.

There will be several hole-in-one contests, longest drive, straightest drive, longest putt, closest to the pin on the par 3's, and Peoria scoring prizes. We will also have a variety of raffle prizes at the dinner.

The cost for golf and dinner is \$100 (\$5.00 increase), which includes golf, cart, lunch at the halfway house, Peoria scoring prizes, the hole-in-one contests, banquet dinner and the raffle prizes at the banquet. The cost for golf only is \$80, which includes golf, cart, lunch at the halfway house, Peoria scoring prizes and the hole-in-one contests. The cost for dinner only is \$25. For more information, to reserve a foursome, to sponsor a hole, to donate a prize or to volunteer, please call Bill Abplanalp at (773) 463-4161 or e-mail BillNBGC@aol.com.



NEXT ISSUE IN JUNE



If you have any news for the next "Chatter" please submit it by May 15th. If you can e-mail your news, please direct it to NBGC1931@aol.com. The Alumni Chatter is printed in September, December, March and June.



THANKS TO OUR DIRECTORY ADVERTISERS!



The NBGC Community Directory is at the printer and will be distributed in April. Just as when many of us were kids, the members and parents will be asked to volunteer an hour of their time to go door-to-door passing out the 8,000 books. The support of our advertisers will generate over \$12,500.00 for the kids. Whenever you have the opportunity, please consider supporting the businesses which support the mission of the NBGC. If you visit any of these businesses, please tell them you appreciate their support!

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 PLCS GREMLEY & BIEDERMANN
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 WILLIAM H. POST, INC.
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 WM. HUBER CABINET WORKS
 Z GRAPHICS

ALUMNI APPEAL CONTINUES

One of the key sources of funding for our many programs and services is the generous support of our alumni. Your support is vital to the Club. Since fiscal year started last September 1st, 137 **alumni have contributed almost \$16,000.00!** You can join this growing list of supporters. Just clip the form below and return it with your check.

Name: _____

Address: _____

City/State/Zip: _____

I played at the Club in the _____'s on the _____

Home Phone: _____

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Contribution levels:

Anniversary	\$ 74.00
Corporate/Century Club	\$ 100.00 +
Team Sponsor	\$ 500.00 +
League Sponsor	\$ 1,000.00 +
Founder's Club	\$ 5,000.00 +
Other	\$ _____
In memory of _____	\$ _____

I have applied for a matching gift from:

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I have or would be interested in including the NBGC in my Estate Plan _____

Neighborhood Boys & Girls Club
2501 W. Irving Park Road
Chicago, IL 60618

Mission Statement

Founded in 1931, the Neighborhood Boys & Girls Club is a non-profit independent organization dedicated to youth development. Its mission is to enhance the well-being and develop the potential of its members, their families and community.

This is accomplished through a year round, multifaceted program where "everyone plays". This approach stresses teamwork, sportsmanship, character and leadership - qualities that will build "Better Men and Women".

MUSIC FESTIVAL BEING PLANNED

A new fundraising event is being planned for August, an outdoor **Music Festival** featuring a weekend of music from local and national bands! The event is being spearheaded by a couple of enthusiastic dads, **Gregg Friedman** and **Ron Prokaski**. The festival is being planned for Friday and Saturday, **August 19th and 20th**, on the DeVry University Campus near Belmont and Western. The event will include food, beverages and kids activities. There will be more information in the weeks to come so check our website, www.NBGC.org.



THANK YOU



Thanks to the **Ravenswood Community Council** for honoring NBGC with a Youth Services Award at their annual dinner February 8th. Accepting the award were Executive Director **Jim McNulty** and Program Director **Bonnie Werstein**. Other staff attending were Director of Development **Bill Abplanalp**, Outreach Director **Patrick McGinnis** and Outreach Assistant **Dick Anderson**.

Thank you to the NBGC Moms' and Dads' Club's for their recent donations. The moms and President **Vicki Bauer-Spivey** donated \$2,000 from the proceeds of their Christmas Ham Sale and Craft Sale. The dads and President **Pat Kane** donated \$5,000.00, raised at the Bears Bash and Christmas Tree Sale. Thanks for your great support!