



**BOYS & GIRLS
CLUB OF
GREATER
NASHUA**

All About Kids

NEWS ABOUT THE POSITIVE PLACE FOR KIDS

Volume 2 Issue 1

Winter/Spring 2007

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Boys & Girls Club Week - Fun for All

On March 28th, as part of National Boys & Girls Club week, the Club will hold a Teen Forum to ask greater Nashua's teens what they can do to improve the quality of life in their community and what the Boys & Girls Club can do to help.

High school and middle school teens from Nashua, Hudson, Merrimack and Litchfield and teen representatives from other youth agencies and church groups

will be invited to attend.

With 12,000 middle and high school teens in greater Nashua, there are more youth who could benefit from the programs and services that the Club provides to 2,000 teens now. Teens will discuss topics including employment and career opportunities, service to community, safe neighborhoods, issues and concerns for 13-15 year old teens, issues and concerns for 16-18 year olds, and how to reach out to

all teens more effectively. We will use the information to develop programs and services that will better serve greater Nashua's teens.

Other events that will be held during the week of March 25th include parent nights at all Club sites, outreach events for youth who are not yet members to experience Club programs and a Hawaiian Luau for middle school students. (See p.8 for more information.)

Mount Washington Resort Hosts Ski Day

Smiling faces were seen on the slopes of Bretton Woods when the **Mount Washington Resort** at Bretton Woods hosted the Boys & Girls Club of the North Country and other Boys & Girls Clubs for "New Hampshire Boys & Girls Clubs Ski Day."

This fun day featured introduction to skiing, with complimentary lift tickets, rental equipment, and ski instruction for Boys & Girls Club members in grades 3 to 12.

Thirty two members, 2 volunteers and 5 staff from our Club participated and stayed on the slopes until the lifts closed. "They literally opened and closed the rental shop," said **Barbara Langworthy**, Boys & Girls Club of the North Country. In the photo are our members who reached the summit.



Boys & Girls Club of Greater Nashua
47 Grand Avenue, Nashua, NH 03060
(603) 883-0523 (603) 883-1074 FAX
www.bgcn.com

Message from the CEO / Mensaje del Director

To our friends, Thank you for a year of outstanding achievements: celebrating our 35th year; expanding after school programs to the middle schools in Nashua and Litchfield, and to the Merrimack Upper Elementary School; being honored as Citizens Bank's and WMUR-TV's 2006 *Champion in Action*; serving 25,000 meals to our club members; and many more accomplishments.

Thank you for helping the Boys & Girls Club of Greater Nashua establish the way for the next generation of leaders. Through your spirit of caring, giving, and volunteerism, you have inspired our success and have encouraged and supported our 4,000 club kids to make the right decisions.



CEO Norm Bouthilette

Our strategic goals for 2007 include:

- Enhancing the quality of our programs, with special emphasis on our teens. (Look for developments that will deepen our impact on teens, as well as younger members.)
- Increasing emphasis on individual donors. If you donated to support our Club and 4,000 members, thank you; for those of you who have not, we hope you will consider it.
- Building our Boys & Girls Club's Charitable Foundation for our children's future. We hope that you will consider being a Founding Member of our Heritage Club. Heritage Club members have planned a gift for the Club such as designating the Club as a beneficiary in an IRA, insurance policy, or in your will. As the Foundation grows and provides financial stability, it will ensure our young people will always have a positive place to learn and grow.

We deeply appreciate the support of parents, alumni, and caring community members who want to see all kids have a safe, affordable place for hope, opportunity and skills to be productive citizens. Thank you for your continued interest and confidence in our Club.

Amigos, Muchas gracias por un año de éxitos: celebrando nuestro 35 años de aniversario, expandiendo nuestros programas escolares en las tres escuelas intermedias de Nashua, en Litchfield, y en la escuela elemental Merrimack Upper Elementary, haber sido nombrado por el banco *Citizen* y la estación de televisión *WMUR* como *Champion in Action* (Campeón en acción) del 2006, por haber servido 25,000 comidas a los miembros de nuestro club; y muchos otros logros.

Gracias por haber ayudado al Boys & Girls Club de Nashua a establecer el camino para la próxima generación de líderes. A través de su espíritu de cuidado, de dar, y de voluntarios, ustedes han inspirado nuestro éxito y han entusiasmado y apoyado a nuestros 4,000 niños a hacer las decisiones correctas.

Nuestras metas estratégicas para el 2007 incluyen:

- Mejorar la calidad de nuestros programas, con énfasis principal en nuestros adolescentes. (Estén pendientes a los nuevos desarrollos que harán mayor impacto en nuestros adolescentes, como también en nuestros miembros más jóvenes).
- El aumento del énfasis en donantes independientes. A ustedes que han hecho donaciones para apoyar nuestro Club y sus 4,000 miembros, muchas gracias; para todos aquellos que no lo han hecho todavía, esperamos que por favor consideren hacerlo.
- Fundar una organización caritativa para el Boys & Girls Club de Nashua para el futuro de nuestros niños. Esperamos que usted sea un Miembro Fundador de nuestro "Heritage Club." Los miembros del "Heritage Club" son aquellos que planean hacer un regalo para el Club de una de las siguientes formas: designar al Club como beneficiario de un IRA, una póliza de seguro, o en su testamento. Según la Fundación crezca y provea estabilidad financiera, asegurará que nuestros jóvenes siempre tengan un sitio positivo

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of Greater Nashua
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350 Kids Making Smarter Choices

Program helps children avoid drugs, alcohol, tobacco, and other unhealthy behaviors.

Kids of all ages are learning to make good decisions and avoid risky behaviors through the SMART Moves program. SMART Moves teaches skills and knowledge to help our youngest, preteens, and teens resist peer pressure, media influences and other forces and to make the right choice about being drug and alcohol free.

Lessons are age appropriate and designed to advance children through the program, year after year, to reinforce what they've learned and build upon their knowledge. The components are SMART Kids (ages 6-9), Start SMART (ages 10-12) and Stay SMART (ages 13-15).

Kids get the right message.

"I really have fun. It's neat learning

about so many things, while learning important information," says **Austin Pyles**, a 5th grader at Ledge Street Elementary School. New Hampshire's Youth of the Year, **Desiree Pearson**, says, "They



taught us what not to do, how to make friends, how to help new kids get involved, as well as not to smoke, do drugs or get involved in other bad things."

Research shows Program's impact.

Research completed for the Boys & Girls Clubs of America showed that children in New Hampshire who were Boys & Girls Club members and attended SMART Moves programs were more likely to give the "correct" and/or "pro-social" response to questions about knowledge, attitudes toward, and use of drugs than non-Club members did. The research showed a statistically significant difference between SMART Moves participants and non-participants. **Harvard Pilgrim Health Care Foundation** has supported this program.

For more information or to enroll your child, call Bridget Cooley at 883-0523, ext 228.

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para aprender y crecer.

Nosotros le agradecemos profundamente a los padres, miembros graduados del Club, y a los miembros de nuestra comunidad que quieren que nuestros niños tengan un lugar seguro y económico donde encuentren la oportunidad de desarrollar sus destrezas para ser ciudadanos productivos de nuestra comunidad. Gracias por su continuo interés y confianza en nuestro Club.

Norm Bouthilette, CEO

Thank you to **Juan Bujosa**, Nashua High School South teacher, for translation help.



Member **Rebecca Ashcraft** gets help with brush technique from a staff member of the **Dental Connection** during "Give Kids a Smile Day." The Dental Connection visited the Club and demonstrated oral health skills. They provided mouthwash, floss, and toothbrushes to 100 members.



Club Members enjoy creating posters on the facts and fiction of rocks and minerals formed by volcanoes. Members of the **N.H. Mineral Society** gave the youngsters several mineral specimens for their posters: Peridot (August birthstone), Obsidian needles, used by Native Americans for arrowheads and sewing needles, and Apache Tears, believed to be the tears of grieving loved ones at the end of a fierce battle between the Calvary and Apache warriors.

Graceful and Athletic Synchronized Swimmers

The Club's **Aquamarines** are celebrating 10 years of synchronized swimming. A hybrid of swimming, gymnastics, and ballet, synchronized swimming involves competitors (individuals, duets, trios or teams). It also combines strength, endurance, flexibility, grace and artistry with exceptional breath control while upside down underwater.

The areas of focus for the Aquamarines are: providing physical fitness through the art of synchronized swimming; developing teamwork and leadership skills for each swimmer; training athletes for competitions; and promoting good sportsmanship.

This year's annual water show at 1:00 pm on April 14th at the Club will feature competitive routines and choreography to music from the hit movie, "High School Musical." Don't miss the opportunity to see this unique sport in a fun and dynamic show.



Top, L to R Jenna Calvino, Lauren Kraemer, Katelyn Egan
Middle: Maggie Guy, Haley Burnham, Natalie Dickson, Jaime Newell. Bottom: Sammie Goy, Deryn Smith, Laura Schmidt

The Synchronized Swim show will be at
1:00 pm on April 14th at the Club. Open to all.

Presstek Volunteers Transform the Gym

Volunteers plan project

In one day, a group of volunteers from Presstek in Hudson, NH, transformed the gymnasium at the Club. The volunteers painted and stenciled the gym walls with vibrant colors and action figures, covering over two decades of drab paint. Wearing "Presstek Cares" T-shirts, volunteers rolled gallons of blue paint onto the walls and then projected athletic action figures onto them, outlined the figures, and filled them in with contrasting color. The results are a very attractive improvement.

Praise for volunteers.

"Presstek's volunteers did a tremendous job," said **Norm Bouthilette**, the Club's CEO. "This project changes the look of the gym and our members are very excited about it. We are so grateful for Presstek's creativity and hard work and for caring about the thousands of children who use our gym."

Presstek took command.

Presstek's Community Outreach

Committee came up with the idea, planned the project, and spent 9 hours executing the plan. Presstek donated the paint and materials and **Jesse Johnson** and **Bill Esposito** of

Simpson's Painting in Derry, NH, were on hand to advise and help.

"Simpson's Painting was pleased to support this project," said **Stephen Dente** of Simpson's Painting. "Jesse and Bill enjoyed working on the project and thought the group was really committed."

Presstek expresses social responsibility.

"Presstek cares. We are committed to giving back to our community," said **Ed Marino**, Presstek's president and CEO. "As a company we believe in making a difference - for our customers, our employees and our community. Our employees enjoyed contributing to the positive environment at the Boys & Girls Club."

Project volunteers were **Charles Beland, Linda Belanger** (and her husband **Victor Belanger**) and her mother **Jane LoCicero**, **Ron Cardon, Bill Davison, Josh Foster, Martin Haseman, Kurt Hotte, Casey Ledoux, Rachel McClane, John Miley, Parker Prescott, and Jim Scafile.**



Standing, from left: Martin Haseman, Jane LoCicero, Linda Belanger, Rachel McClane, John Miley, Bill Esposito, Kurt Hotte, Charles Beland, Parker Prescott, Bill Davison. Behind, Jesse Johnson & Casey Ledoux.



"BEFORE"



"AFTER"

20th Annual Holiday Auction is Big Success

A sold out crowd gathered to enjoy themselves and support the Club at the Holiday auction in December. The event raised funds essential to providing youth development programs and core services to our 4,000 members.

In addition to the delicious meal and the skills of Auctioneer John Terrio, 275 guests were entertained by Club members **Phil Parker** and **Kaina Mondesir** who sang holiday songs. 16-year-old member **Gio Colon** spoke of how important Club programs are to him, especially the Toastmasters program which helped him gain confidence to speak to large audiences.

Lovering Volvo at Nashua was the Platinum Sponsor and Silver Sponsors were **Bank of America**; **Samuel A.**



Tamposi, Real Estate; Ocean National Bank; Nashua Corporation; and St. Joseph Hospital and Trauma Center. Bronze Sponsors were **BAE Systems; Sal and Lois Magnano and Pennichuck Water Works.** **Law Warehouses** provided complimentary wine and the Dessert Sponsor was **Digital Credit Union.** The **Moheban**

Family donated the "Mysterious Santas." All ground transportation for Auction trips was donated by **LA Limousine.**

The Auction Committee was chaired by **Mary Jane King.** Members included **Ellen Arouchon, Dave Brassard, Teresa Gartner, John Ireland, Carol Kreick, Lori Liberty, Linda Lovering, Dianne Mercier, Dr. Robert Moheban, Tom Morin, Deb Owens and Ken Sheldon.**

This year's Auction will be on Sat. December 1, at the Sky Meadow Country Club. For information, contact **Denise King** at (603) 883-0523 x217 or email dking@bgcn.com.

Home Schooled Attend the Club After School

Club provides a social outlet and reinforces education for home schooled kids and parents.

Children who are going to school at home are always welcome at the Club. Recently a special partnership was made for 50 children from Greater Nashua and Pelham to attend

the Club on Wednesdays and Thursdays after their school day "at home." Fifteen parents are involved too and help out regularly with the program.

The group is taking advantage of our swimming and athletic programs, using our games room, and participating in our individualized math and reading

enrichment program called Mindspring.

Home school families interested in getting involved or wanting more information can contact **Bridget Cooley**, Director of Programs at 883-0523, ext 228 or bcooley@bgcn.com.



Sovereign Bank, Demoulas Foundation and Auction Guests Support Nutritious Meals



Sovereign's **Marco Laferriere**, Community Banking Manager and **Joe Wells**, Business Banking Repr. present check. In front from left, Chef **April Wheeler**, Club members, **David Esquivel**, **Desiree Frechette**, **Corey Ashcraft** and **Nina Bayne**.

Hundreds of children will receive free nutritious meals this year thanks to the **Demoulas Foundation** and **Sovereign Bank** who donated funds and to auction guests who bid to support the Nutrition Program. The Club serves about 30,000 meals a year, most to children who qualify for free meals because of family income.

Meals prepared daily.

After school, we prepare evening meals for 100 - 150 children who eat their primary meal of the day here. Often these children have no

one home willing or able to prepare a meal. In some cases there is no food at home.

Won't go to bed hungry.

A safe haven, the Club also provides the assurance that these youngsters won't go to bed hungry.

"We are thankful to Sovereign Bank, Demoulas Foundation and the generous auction guests for providing support to this program," said CEO, **Norm Bouthilette**.

"When members are hungry, it is more difficult for them to make academic and social progress. This support ensures that members who need dinner during the school year and breakfast and lunch in the summer will receive it."

New Directors Voted In Heath, Presstek, Arouchon Honored

At the Annual Meeting, the Club welcomed new board members and officers and thanked those departing for their service.

David Heath was given the Man/Woman & Youth award, presented yearly to the man or woman who best exemplifies commitment to advancing the Club's mission.

Ed Marino from **Presstek, Inc.** in Hudson, accepted the



Dave Heath honored for service

Helping Hands Award for Presstek's outstanding volunteer commitment to the Club, including painting the gym and producing this newsletter (see p.5).

Ellen Arouchon was awarded a National Service to Youth Award for 35 years as a volunteer board member. CEO **Norm**

Bouthilette and Accounting Manager, **Cathy Crane**, were presented with National Service awards for 30 years of service and Director of Operations, **Kurt Norris**, for 20 years.

2006-07 Officers elected are **Donald Winn**, Chief Volunteer Officer



Incoming President **Don Winn** (L), Past President, **Gary Gahan** (R) and Board Development Chair, **Lori Liberty** (4th from left) with new members, L to R, **Deb Owens**, **Michael Cerato**, **Rob Cummings**, **Lynne Simonfy** and **Chris Hall**. Unable to be in the photo are new board members **T.C. Liakos** and **Chris Sharpe**.

("President"); Vice Presidents, **David Heath**, **Maurice Simard** and **Andy Dillman**; Secretary, **Sal Magnano**; and Treasurer, **Ken Sheldon**.

Board members are nominated from community members interested in our mission.



BOYS & GIRLS CLUB
OF GREATER NASHUA

47 Grand Avenue
Nashua, NH 03060
(603) 883-0523
www.bgcn.com

*The **Positive** Place For Kids*

The **mission** of the Boys & Girls Club of Greater Nashua is to enable all young people, especially those who need us most, to reach their potential as productive, caring, responsible citizens.

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Upcoming Events at the Boys & Girls Club of Greater Nashua

National Boys & Girls Club Week
March 25 - 31, at all Club locations.

Highlights include

Monday: Bring a friend to the Club
Tuesday: Family night, Dinner and Movie
Wednesday: "Feature a Teacher"
Thursday: Teen Forum
Friday: "Staff versus Kids"
Saturday: Middle School Luau

To participate or for more information, call Gretchen at 883-0523 or email at gdreimiller@bgcn.com

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matched by 2 generous supporters.

Double your gift; donate today....
safely online at
www.bgcn.com "Ways to Help" or
by mail to the address above.

*A chance to share a meal with our
youth, volunteers, and supporters.*

*8th Annual
Steak and Burger Dinner*

Wednesday, April 18, 2007
6:00 to 8:00 pm

Tickets are \$50 per person

For tickets or information,
contact Denise King at
dking@bgcn.com or
883-0523, ext 217