Kiwanis Ballpark Day Benefits Golisano Children’s Hospital

The Kiwanis Club of SOLVAY-GEDDES-CAMILLUS, Ontario Division – When Kiwanians of Ontario Division sponsored an International League baseball game in Syracuse recently, the big winner was the Golisano Children’s Hospital as well as the Syracuse Chiefs.

Kathy Amman of Solvay-Geddes-Camillus Kiwanis club chaired the event in which thousands of tickets were handed out in advance and Kiwanis received several hundred dollars to contribute to the Children’s Hospital. Governor Don Herring’s grandson Alex Herring of Auburn threw out a “first ball” as part of the ceremonies. He pitches for one of the Little League teams in Auburn. Also throwing out a “first pitch” was Brennan Carman of Syracuse who has a close association with the Children’s Hospital since he has visited his 2-year old brother there nearly every day for an extended period.

Kiwanians took advantage of spreading the word about Kiwanis by handing out a brochure to fans telling about the many projects benefitting children such as First Lady Marlene Herring’s “Reading to Children Pre-natal to Age 5” program. The goal there has been to get more “age appropriate” books into Birthing Clinics, Pediatric Clinics, other Prenatal Centers, and in particular, clinics in disadvantaged areas.

The brochure noted that since the early 1980’s the Ontario Division Kiwanis clubs have worked together to provide support of the Children’s Miracle Network and now is looking to help fund the Pediatric Trauma Unit at Golisano Children’s Hospital.

Money raised at the ball game is expected to be directed toward that Pediatric Trauma Unit which was recently announced as the 5th such Kiwanis-sponsored trauma unit in the state. The others are in Buffalo, Rochester, Albany, and North Shore Long Island.

Kommunity Youth and Activity Gets $5600 From Central Adirondack Winter Carnival


Kiwanis Club of the CENTRAL ADIRONDACKS, Adirondack Division – Each year as part of Winter Carnival holds it’s Annual Winter Sports Challenge fundraiser. This year the 8th Annual Winter Sports Challenge raised $5,600, and the proceeds were donated to the Kommmunity Youth and Activity Center (KYAC) in Old Forge.

Jim Connerty, President of KYAC in accepting the important funding, expressed his sincere thanks to Kiwanis and the entire Central Adirondack community for their dedication to creating and financing the Youth Activity Center, which has been so successful.

This year’s event was on Saturday, February 9, and included snowshoeing, cross-country skiing and an indoor walk. The snowshoe and ski events were held at McCauley Mountain Ski Area and the walk event was at the Town of Webb Park Avenue Building.

Over 150 people participated this year and the No. 1 Fundraising Team was Town Of Webb Union Free School District Key Club who received the Traveling Plaque and a Permanent Certificate, the No. 2 Fundraising Team was The Waterbabies who received a Permanent Certificate. The No. 1 Fundraising Individual, Hazel Pellavia received a Permanent Certificate and $50. The No. 1 Fundraising Individual, 18 or under was Josh Mahoney who received a Permanent Certificate and $100.

Corporate Sponsors were Community Bank, Ace Hardware, North Woods Inn, B.J. Queen, Last Run Cafe, Mountain Outdoor Supply Co., TOW Bar Restaurant, Century 21 Realty, Burke’s Marina, Rivett Realty, Eileen & Dennis Michaels, Old Forge Fire Department, Old Mill Restaurant, Timm Associates, Rivett’s Marine, Adirondack Bank, Byrne Dairy, Central Adirondack Assoc., American Legion, Enchanted Forest, George’s Thing, Inlet Youth Commission, Thor Information Services, McCauley Mountain Ski Center, Northeastern Loggers, Old Forge Hardware, Helmer’s Fuel & Trucking, Levi Lumber, Peter Shannon, George Villiere, Drs, Karen & Michael Brady, and Twitchell Sportswear Inc.

Bill Ransom and Dick Olson, Kiwanis Co-chairs of the Winter Sports Challenge Committee stated that; “The startup of the Kommmunity Youth and Activity Center (KYAC) has been one of the most important projects that Kiwanis has participated in and expressed their sincere thanks to all participants, sponsors and volunteers that make this such an exciting community event”. Ransom also noted “it is important to recognize that all the funds raised by Kiwanis stay in the community”. 

Saratoga Springs Serves Roast Beef

Above: Alex Herring, at right, front row, and Brennan Carman, at left front were “first ball” pitchers while in rear, from left are Kathy Amman, Kiwanis Ballgame chair, New York Kiwanis Governor Don Herring, and Kiwanis First Lady Marlene Herring.

Saratoga Springs Soup Kitchen. The event was attended by over 140 needy Saratogians. Above are some members of the Saratoga Club, Saratoga Kiwanis Key Club. President Nadine Sleasman is on the far right.

Kiwanis Club Members

Join the summer fun with a Membership Round-Up as we honor our International President Dave Curry. International President Dave will be here in August to help us celebrate our new members. Need some ideas to start your membership drive? Here are some suggestions to help freshen up your club. Remember, every club is different, so you may need to modify the techniques to fit your club. The most important thing is to start with a plan or a goal. Consider the following ideas when reviewing your club plan.

- Create a Membership Committee – recruiting new members requires a constant effort so your committee should consist of 2 or more members. Form a committee or team to create a clear goal and a plan for achieving your goal. Be sure everyone on the team understands their role and announce the plan to all members of your club, to get everyone involved.

- Call in the experts – the New York District TAG Team is ready to help as well as our Club Development Manager, Algernon Alexander, from Kiwanis International. Past Governors and Past Lieutenant Governors are also an excellent resource. Membership information can also be found on the Kiwanis International Website www.kiwani.org. On the home page, click on Member Area, then click on Club Excellence, there you will find many membership ideas.

- Set goals and responsibilities – provide a unifying purpose for your team and allow you to monitor your progress. In order to achieve your goal, you must have a plan and you must know who is responsible for carrying out each assignment and when it should be completed. “Who will create the new member prospect list? “Who is responsible for sending out invitations?” Are a couple of specific assignments with timelines. 

- You must also think outside the box – if your club’s membership drive works well, then continue with it. But don’t overlook some additional ideas that can complement your efforts.

such as:

1. Look for members in ethnic groups, not represented in your club.
2. Contact former members.
3. Put club brochures in doctor’s offices, hospital waiting rooms, libraries, etc.
4. Put articles about your club in the local newspaper.
5. Send newsletters to local business’s and program speakers.
6. Wear your Kiwanis pins or Kiwanis shirts
7. Celebrate your successes.
8. Invite prospective new members to a service project or fundraiser.
9. Provide new member incentives.
10. Make your club more visible.
11. Host a club open house.
12. Plan a membership drive for parents of your sponsored programs.

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