

# The Corner

A Place to Go...A Way to Grow



Summer 2013

## Mission Moment

When Andre Powell first encountered Lawrence, it was in GSBC's "fish bowl," where youth sit in time out. Lawrence had been in his second altercation that week. Andre has been working as a Junior Staff Member for the past six years. In those years, he has met and mentored many members who have needed to learn how to control their emotions.

Andre gave Lawrence some advice: stop getting into fights. Andre explained that fights don't solve anything, and that even if you are provoked, everyone involved in fights gets in trouble. Like many kids, it took Lawrence a few more mistakes before he fully grasped what Andre meant, but Andre continued to advise and mentor him.

A few weeks later, another member provoked Lawrence in the dodge ball room. Rather than escalating the situation, Lawrence approached Andre and talked out his feelings. GSBC's Jr. Staff Program has shown Andre how to be a thoughtful leader and he in turn taught Lawrence to work through his feelings without resorting to violence. ■

## 21st Annual Golf Classic



On May 28th, the Gene Slay's Boys' Club of St. Louis hosted its 21st Annual Golf Classic. Over 200 golfers came out and raised more than \$365,000 to support GSBC's work to empower its members to reach their potential and break the

cycle of poverty. Without this event, GSBC would not be able to provide the high quality and holistic programs that are its trademark. We would like to thank all of our sponsors:

**Tournament Sponsors:** Gene & Joan Slay Charitable Foundation, Slay Industries, Truck Centers, Inc., Occidental Petroleum Corporation, Nestle' Purina PetCare, Polar Tank Trailer, Mungenast Automotive Family, First Bank, Brenner Tank

**President's Club Sponsors:** John & Michele Hopkins, Union Pacific

**Pal Sponsors:** AT&T, Fabick Cat, Novus International, Inc., Tank Trailer Cleaning, Inc.

**Gold Sponsors:** Anders, Boys' Club of St. Louis Alumni, HMS Host, Millstone Bangert, Inc., URS, Stifel Nicolaus

**Silver Sponsors:** Shop 'n Save

**Bronze Sponsors:** A-Mrazek Moving Systems, Inc., Bank of O'Fallon, City Lighting, Eason Law Firm LLC, HR Green Co., Jack Purnell, Ryder System Inc., West County Nissan

*Thanks for a great tournament.*

*We can't wait for next year, May 27th, 2014*

Left to right:  
Brian Bohme,  
Jon Blassie,  
Patrick Blassie and  
Andy Blassie.





## A Message from the Director

**"Through your generosity, the 21st Annual Golf Classic has raised \$365,000"**



Hello Friends,

Thank you to everyone who made the 21st Annual Golf Classic such a success! Year in, year out our supporters flock to Norwood Hills Country Club to make this event a tremendous success to support the growth of the members served by the Gene Slay's Boys' Club of St. Louis. This year, sponsors came from 13 different states to show support for our members! Through your generosity, the 21st Golf Classic has raised \$365,000 as of now, which allows the Club to continue to serve more than 560 active members a year.

In the years since Mr. Slay began this tournament, we have raised over \$8 dollars! Golf donations funded the \$1.5 million renovation of the building, created the Club's endowment, and have prepared thousands of GSBC members to reach their full potential. The Golf Classic funds much of the Club's general operating expenses, including those hard to fund utility bills!

Just as important as the money raised for our members are the relationships that we build with our golfers. Who can forget those two sirens sounding 40-minute thunder and lightning delays in the morning? For a while it looked like the weather might be conspiring against us to cancel the tournament for the first time ever. But two false starts later, and a change of shirt for me, and the tournament was rolling once more!

Between being awarded our first Missouri tax credits, piloting the STL Youth Jobs program and representing them to a White House Cabinet member, running a Summer Program for more than 350 kids, and having four news features produced, it has been a busy summer. Come down to the Club, get involved, and see what all the buzz is about!

Sincerely,

*Tom Wild*

Tom Wild



## YOP Tax Credits

GSBC has been approved for \$150,000 in tax credits over the next two years. YOP tax credits allow Missouri individuals and corporations to maximize gifts to Gene Slay's Boys' Club of St. Louis. In addition to your state and federal deductions for charitable gifts, eligible donors will receive a 50% Missouri tax credit for your gift of \$1,000 or more. GSBC staff will assist you with filling out your application. ■





## STL Youth Jobs

Summer 2013 was the first session of an exciting new program for our city: STL Youth Jobs.

This program introduces participants to positive adult relationships and provides them with the opportunity to advance their workplace and social skills. Meaningful employment reduces behaviors that correlate to youth violence and criminal activity, increases academic success, and develops meaningful workplace skills. STL Youth Jobs recruits at-risk youth from two neighborhood clusters that are particularly in need. The selected areas have multiple high risk factors, such as unemployment and crime, in addition to maintaining high youth populations. Participants are at-risk youth who are surrounded by high levels of unemployment, academic failure, drug use, crime, and violence.

STL Youth Jobs provided funding for salaries and training to 15 at-risk youth working at the Club and a total 196 youth throughout the city.

By employing STL Youth Jobs workers, GSBC was able to fulfill its mission of enabling at-risk youth to reach their potential, while benefiting from the additional staff. Check out the news story on this program that was filmed at the Club on our website!

The Club's participation in this program even garnered some national attention! The Assistant Secretary of Veteran's Affairs, Dr. Tommy Sowers, came in from Washington, D.C. to attend a roundtable on the STL Youth Jobs program at the Club. Dr. Sowers spoke with GSBC members and even posted on his Facebook page about the Club! ■



Dr. Sowers' press interview at the Club

## Summer Program by the Numbers

367 youth participated

160 was the average daily attendance

50 members learned about gardening and healthy foods through Gateway Greening

12 members participated in golf classes through the Missouri Golf Foundation

88% of members tested maintained or improved their skills in math

83% of members tested maintained or improved their skills in reading

89% of members benefitted from swimming classes at the Club

97% of members did not drink alcohol, smoke cigarettes, or do drugs this summer

97% of members reported making friends at the Club

## Generous Donor Posts \$100,000 Challenge

An incredibly generous donor, who wishes to remain anonymous, has presented GSBC with a \$100,000 challenge grant. This donor came in for a tour and saw the strides that our members are making in reading, athletics, and social development and wanted to partner with GSBC to support their growth.



This partner also wants to provide the wider community with an opportunity to join this effort. The partner will give the Club \$100,000 and challenges us to raise another \$100,000. In effect, your donation is now worth double its original value! To increase the impact of a gift even more, donations over \$1,000 are eligible for YOP Tax Credits. Just as the Club empowers our members to reach their potential, we need you to help us reach our potential! ■

## Take A Tour

We welcome everyone to come and take a tour of our facility and programs to see for yourself the outcomes we have been able to achieve, and the potential for making even greater impacts in the lives of our members. ■



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## The Newsletter for Gene Slay's Boys' Club

Summer 2013

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#### Executive Director:

Tom K. Wild

### In Our Corner Mungenast Family



Ray Mungenast has been on our Board of Directors for the past seven years and currently serves as the Secretary for the Board. Ray's father, Dave Mungenast, went to St. Louis University High School with Ken Wild and joined GSBC's Board in 1987. When Dave passed in 2006, Ray followed in his father's footsteps and joined our Board.

The Mungenast family has been steadfast in supporting GSBC's mission over the years and that commitment continues today. Ray coordinates GSBC's annual Friends Drive and provides vital leadership and strategic direction as GSBC continues to evolve and focus its program to meet the needs of changing demographics.

And what would the Golf Classic be without everyone trying to win a free car with a hole-in-one? Maybe next year will be the first year Ray has to hand over the keys to the Lexus.

Ray's passion for GSBC's members is infectious. He mobilizes the Mungenast Automotive Family Dealerships every year to donate toys to give to the members during the holiday season and personally drops them off. He loves taking the opportunity to make members happy.

Come by GSBC today and find out how you can be in our corner!



Helping people.

