

THE CORNER

A Place to Go...A Way to Grow.



MISSION MOMENT

When Ariel began literacy tutoring with GSBC Learning Specialist Carol Mendez, she was not enthusiastic. Ariel had many of the skills needed to read on grade level and achieve academically, but she struggled with reading comprehension. As a result, Ariel lacked self-confidence and motivation. Each day, Carol had to go find Ariel and coax her into the library. Even then, she seemed tired and did not bring her homework to the sessions. Each time, Carol encouraged her to get her homework packet and they completed it.

Working four days a week with Carol, Ariel quickly made strides in reading comprehension and overall academic achievement. When she realized she could understand what was happening in a story, Ariel realized she actually enjoyed reading. She even brought in a book from her school library that caught her attention!

Coming from a single-parent home with her mom working long hours, Ariel needed some additional structure to build her confidence and skills. Now, she completes her homework quickly, takes pride in doing it well, and is on her way to reading on grade level. Ariel has come out of her shell and is on track to succeed in school.

MISSION

To enable boys in the St. Louis metropolitan area, especially those who need us most, to realize their physical, intellectual, and emotional potential.

23RD ANNUAL GOLF CLASSIC A TRIUMPH

The Gene Slay's Boys' Club of St. Louis hosted its 23rd Annual Golf Classic on May 26th. Over 300 supporters came out and raised more than \$480,000 to support GSBC's work to empower its members to reach their potential and break the cycle of poverty. This year, our Fund-A-Need raised more than \$50,000 in support of our Teen Job Readiness Program!

Through this program, teens develop effective communication, learn to work in groups, improve decision-making, learn positive work habits, and build confidence, all while gaining real work experience, developing their resume, and supporting themselves financially. Through the generosity of our golfers, two teens from GSBC will get the invaluable opportunity to be honorary Mayors for a Day and shadow Mayor Francis Slay!

We would like to thank all of our sponsors:

Tournament Sponsors: Anders CPAs + Advisors, Dave and Barbara Mungenast Family Foundation, First Bank, Gene & Joan Slay Charitable Foundation, Huntleigh McGehee, Nestle' Purina PetCare, Polar Tank Trailer, Slay Industries

President's Club Sponsors: Husch Blackwell, Ralph McIngvale, Ryder Truck Rental, Superior Building Systems, Truck Centers, Union Pacific

Pal Sponsors: Arco Construction, AT&T, Eason Law Firm, Fabick Cat, Novus International, Mangrove Foundation, Tank Trailer Cleaning, Inc.

Gold Sponsors: Brenner Tank, Millstone Weber, SSM Cardinal Glennon Children's Medical Center, Stifel Nicolaus, ULLICO Management Company, United Auto Workers

Bronze Sponsors: Bank of O'Fallon x 2, City Lighting Products, HR Green Co., Intaglio Creative, John H. Purnell Foundation, Oaktree Products, Polsinelli, Ronald McDonald House Charities of St. Louis, To Be the West Sports Factory, West County Nissan

Thanks for a great tournament! We can't wait for May 31, 2016! ■



Joe Ambrose and Cathy Campbell from Tournament Sponsor First Bank and Bill Frisella.



A MESSAGE FROM **THE DIRECTOR**

Hello Friends,

The generosity on display at our 23rd Annual Golf Classic was truly humbling. This year, we welcomed nine new sponsors and celebrated increased giving from many of our long-time supporters. Thank you! At GSBC, we teach our members the importance of giving back to their community. The Golf Classic is the ultimate example of this. I only wish that more of our kids got the opportunity to see folks from such diverse backgrounds come together at the Golf Classic to give kids the basic building blocks they need for their shot at the American Dream!

Because of the support of the Golf Classic, some vital building blocks to successful futures are currently being built at the Club. Our Summer Program addresses the "Summer Learning Loss" through interactive and fun skill building workshops in reading, writing, math, science, and swimming, all while creating art and playing "sports of the week," like volleyball, badminton, baseball, and basketball. We know that more than half of the achievement gap between lower- and higher-income youth results from unequal access to summer learning opportunities. Having struggled to meet the third grade benchmark in my youth, I understand the importance of engaged learning in the summer.

Without summer learning opportunities, kids lose more than two months of progress in math and reading, while their better-equipped peers are making gains. Summer is also the time for exploratory learning and curiosity. By providing our kids with the opportunity to continue to grow, we are empowering them to achieve in school and find their passion.

Thank you again for all that you do for the Club. And thank you for giving us this opportunity to share our mission with you. Our kids cannot achieve their dreams without your continued support.

Sincerely,

Prescott W. Benson, MAPC, MA



SPORTS **CORNER**

This winter, GSBC fielded three travelling basketball teams who competed at the Creve Coeur and Chesterfield Jewish Community Centers. Travelling teams practiced twice per week for an hour at a time. All team members were required to maintain their academic performance throughout the season, and were not allowed to compete if there was anything less than a C on their report card. GSBC's 13U and 14U each finished second in their league, losing in the championship game. GSBC's 11U team finished in third place.



Over the course of the season, youth improved their skills, learned about strategy on the court, practiced sportsmanship, and came together as a team. Jourdan Kelley, GSBC Youth Development Specialist and coach of the 11U team, said, "The best thing was watching them overcome a slow start to the season with camaraderie and a strong team spirit." ■



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. Call Bob Puricelli at (314) 655-9008 to schedule one today. ■

LITERACY THROUGH ART

Since investing more than a \$100,000 in renovations to the Art Studio, GSBC has been presenting exciting and engaging art education opportunities to our members. Through a grant from the Missouri Arts Council, Carrie Keasler, GSBC's MO Certified Art Teacher, designed and implemented a Literacy Through Art program. The kids have been learning about communication and literacy through the ages.



They started by studying cave paintings and creating their own representative stories through pictures. Students created clay tiles and practiced carving hieroglyphics and original symbols into the clay. They learned about the process of glazing and firing. Students have been painting and learned to create washes with India ink and traditional brushes. They learned about the Chinese New Year and painted a dragon to represent their hopes for the new year. Students created stamps of Chinese characters and West African Adinkra symbols and learned how to apply ink with a brayer and reproduce the stamped image in a pattern. Students also designed symbols and used these to create an Adinkra cloth inspired textile. Throughout the year, they have learned about character traits like Respect, Responsibility, and Integrity and incorporated those words and their concepts into art pieces.

To bring everything together, the kids are now creating their own book. They collaborated to illustrate and write their own book of tales featuring Anansi the spider. They went on a field trip to Central Print to make the book themselves using Central Print's printing press. GSBC proudly displays their finished product at the Club, and a small number of books may be available for purchase to support next year's project. Contact Jeremy Kane at jkane@gsbcstl.org if interested. ■

CHARACTER COUNTS

As part of GSBC's five core competencies, GSBC has been presenting a character development class to the youth served. Youth are confronted with real life scenarios that force them to use critical thinking skills, recognize potential options, understand the consequences of their choices, and, ultimately, make better decisions. Students initially write their answers down, but the hallmark of an effective classroom is getting students up and moving around, forming debates, and looking at the issues from diverse perspectives.

Throughout the class, youth learn about and demonstrate positive character traits, such as cooperation, respect, responsibility, peace, caring, and integrity. GSBC staff emphasizes positive character development throughout all GSBC activities. ■



MEMORIALS/HONORARIA

Memorial and Honorarium gifts are a great way to honor the memory of loved ones and celebrate the special occasions in your lives while supporting the next generation.

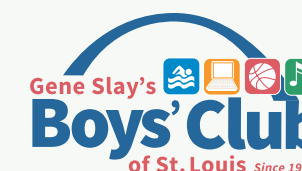
Memorials:

Helen Ambrose
Sharon L. Baker
Theodore W. Benson, Sr.
Sharon Bridges
Jack Cronin
Juanita Kukay
Morris (Fats) Mechler
Dave Mungenast

Charles Larry Myers
Jim O'Mara
Hazel Rieber
Robert Puricelli, Sr.
Alex Scherzer
Mike Schimmer
Gene Slay
Ken Wild

In Honor Of:

Sr. Betty Brucker
Adeline Cronin's 90th Birthday
John McCartney
Trey McWilliams' Birthday
Charlie Nash
Guy Slay
Tom Wild's Retirement





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The Newsletter for Gene Slay's Boys' Club | SUMMER 2015

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In Our Corner

Polar Tank Trailer

Since 1998, Polar Tank Trailer has proudly supported the Gene Slay's Boys' Club at the Annual Golf Classic. Polar has supported the Golf Classic for more than a decade, and has been a Tournament Sponsor since 2010.

Polar Corporation is North America's largest tank trailer manufacturing, parts, and service organization. Working with commercial and private fleets of all sizes, they design, build, and support the best trailers for hauling dry and liquid bulk freight. Based in St. Cloud, MN, Polar employs more than 1,700 people across the country.

Polar's Regional Sales Manager Bryan Burns represents Polar at the Golf Classic every year. Bryan says, "The Golf Classic is always a great event, the Slay family and personnel from the Boys' Club go out of their way to make it an exciting and memorable event for all every year. We enjoy seeing old friends and the camaraderie with the other attendees. The staff at Polar Corporation truly values the opportunity to help support a program that empowers kids to achieve their dreams!"

Thanks, Polar!" ■



Helping people.



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Child Care Center
- After School Care