

DEBUT OF EDEN/NORTH COLLINS "LITTLE CAGERS"



This year the Club helped to bring a new sports opportunity to kids in third through six grades in Eden and North Collins: a basketball league. The league began with several free clinics offered in Eden and North Collins in early November at which participants could register for the league.

League play began in late November and continued into February. Six teams were sponsored by local businesses, including American Wire Tie, Campbell & Shelton, Eden Collision, Kazoo Boutique, Three Star Restaurant and Tim Hortons. Teams practiced once per week and played games on Saturdays at either Eden Elementary School or North Collins High School.

The games were officiated by members of the Eden girls' and North Collins boys' varsity teams. The results of the weekly games were reported by the [Hamburg Sun](#). All of the players had a great time and the level of play improved dramatically from the beginning of the season to the end.

The season was topped off by an awards ceremony on February 14, 2009 at the Club. All of the players and coaches were also given free passes to attend the UB v. Miami of Ohio game on March 8, 2009.

The Club would like to thank Mike Alvarez and Rod Palmerton for running the clinics and helping to organize the league and all of the volunteer coaches: Sue Burgio, Kris Morano, Brad Evans, Chad Marczewski, Chris Krueger, Ken Graesser, Dave Hartzel, David Robinson, Amy Porter and Rod Palmerton. The Club would also like to thank Bill Weidner, Athletic Director for North Collins Central School District, and Rich Schaefer, Principal of the Eden Elementary School, for their help on securing the school gyms for practices and games. We would also like to extend thanks to all of the officials: Hailee Herc, Hannah Herc, Cassandra Smythe, Nick Gier, Dan Keicker, Stevie Ray Foit and scorekeepers, Brian Hughes and John Popple. The league will be back again next year with plans to expand to eight or ten teams.

The Club will also host a week long basketball camp again this summer at the Eden High School, in July 2009. For more information, please contact the Club at 992-2702.



LOOK AT OUR NEW STAFF



Chad Marczewski
Program Director

Chad came to the Eden Club with experience with the Boys & Girls Club mission and youth philosophy after working in both the Holland and East Aurora Clubs. Chad received his bachelor's degree in Recreation Management from SUNY Brockport. He enjoys getting to know the members and sharing with them his own interests in golf, softball, basketball, the Buffalo Bills and Sabres. You can see a true example of how his interests transfer to excitement with youth as he was a volunteer basketball coach for the newly created Little Cagers program. Favorite Quote – "It's not whether you get knocked down; it's whether you get back up."



Mary Schaefer
Resource Development and Teen Outreach

Mary joins the Club as an Ameri Corps Volunteer. Last May, Mary received a Bachelor of Arts in English from Ithaca College. Mary comes to the Boys & Girls Club with the goal to enhance our resource development committee and youth outreach with teens. Mary says the community has been a positive influence on her thus far and she is excited to give back. Favorite Quote – "All that is gold does not glitter; not all those who wander are lost."

YOUTH DEVELOPMENT PROFESSIONALS



Rachael Barratt
Rachael is a student at Trocaire College studying Radiologic Technology. In her free time Rachael enjoys reading, the Buffalo Sabres, decorating cakes and her family.



Anna Wojtanik
Anna is a junior at the Eden Jr/Sr High School. Anna enjoys playing the violin and plans on continuing onto college to work on a career in the medical field.



Alicia Barratt
Alicia is a junior at North Collins Jr/Sr High School. She plans on going to college to be a nurse, find a job she loves and have a big healthy family.



Eric Bermingham
Eric is currently attending Erie Community College as a general studies major with his favorite subject being Physical Education. Eric's goal is become successful in whatever he chooses.



Staceylyn Smith
Staceylyn is a junior at Eden Jr/Sr High School. Staceylyn enjoys playing volleyball and participates in both the school team and Niagara Frontier Volleyball.

THE CLUB NEWS

BOYS & GIRLS CLUB OF EDEN

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LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT

I want to start by thanking my predecessor, Rodney Pierce, for a job well done over the last two years. Among other things, Rodney guided us through the transition between executive directors, Terrence Roberts and Debbie Popple, oversaw important improvements to our facilities such as the two-story building addition and Brindley Trail and guided us to record-setting levels in our annual fundraising "One Campaign". His shoes will indeed be hard to fill, but I am thankful that he will remain available as President Ex Officio and as a member of the Board of Directors.

Joining me as newly elected officers are Maria Harris as Vice-President, Patricia Fatta as Treasurer and Anne Smith as Secretary.

It is indeed an honor and a privilege to serve as President of this Board. Our Board of Directors currently consists of 22 people, of which 17 are elected to serve three year terms and 5 are annually designated representatives from different community organizations such as the Town Board, the police, local clergy and the schools.

It takes real commitment, in terms of time, energy and resources, to serve on the Board. We are very fortunate to have attracted a talented and diverse group of individuals who share an overriding concern and commitment to the mission of the Boys & Girls Club; helping our youth to realize their full potential as productive, responsible and caring citizens. In addition to the monthly meeting of the Board of Directors and annual training, each director is required to serve on at least two of the standing committees: Resource Development, Programming, Technology, Board Development, Human Resources, Marketing, Finance, Facilities and at least one fundraising committee: One Campaign, Golf Tournament, Spelling Bee, Bash for Cash,

Chicken BBQ and Eden Corn Festival. Many serve on more. Each director is also required to make an annual financial contribution to the Club.

It is remarkable to note that 13 of our board members have been serving since the Club was created in November 2002. They are Jay Braymiller, James Collins, Brian Feldman, Patrick Howard, Robert Liljequist, Glenn Nellis, Yvette O'Brien, Mary Lou Pew, Rodney Pierce, Robert Pietrocarlo, Karen Smith and Anne Smith. All of them were recognized for their years of dedication and service at the annual meeting on November 4, 2009. I am also very pleased to announce the election of three new members to our Board. They are Marc Graff, Principal of the Eden Jr/Sr High School, Peter Durringer, of M & T Bank, and Suzanne Swanson-Witteck, of NYS Insurance Fund. All of them are qualified, enthusiastic and poised to make valuable contributions to our team.

I remain committed to the Club and its mission because I know it is making an important contribution to the community and to the many young lives it touches. It has been related many times from teachers and parents that the Club has helped to improve a child's behavior, self-esteem, or simply provided them with a place to go after school, instead of to an empty home. A place with adult and young adult role models, a place to do homework and learn, a place to play sports, do arts and crafts, or simply visit with friends.

The Club has become an integral part of the community and of many young lives. We will continue to do our best to maintain and improve upon this important asset. If you have questions, suggestions or criticisms, please e-mail me at rcampbell@campbellshelton.com.

Colin Campbell

Mission Statement: "To inspire and enable all youth members to realize their full potential as productive, responsible and caring citizens through active participation in positive youth development activities during their leisure time."

The Positive Place For Kids



**BOYS & GIRLS CLUB
OF EDEN**

**Boys & Girls Club
of Eden, Inc.**

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Eden, NY 14057
Tel 716-992-2702
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HOURS:
Monday - Friday 2 pm - 7 pm

Officers

R. Colin Campbell
President
Maria Harris
Vice President
Anne B. Smith
Secretary
Patricia Fatta
Treasurer

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Jay Braymiller, RA
James Collins, MD
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Yvette M. O'Brien
Mary Lou Pew
Rodney Pierce
Robert W. Pietrocarlo
Richard Schaefer
Karen K. Smith
Suzanne Swanson-Wittek

Executive Director

Debra M. Popple

*The Positive
Place For Kids*



**WINTER
HAPPENINGS
AT THE CLUB**

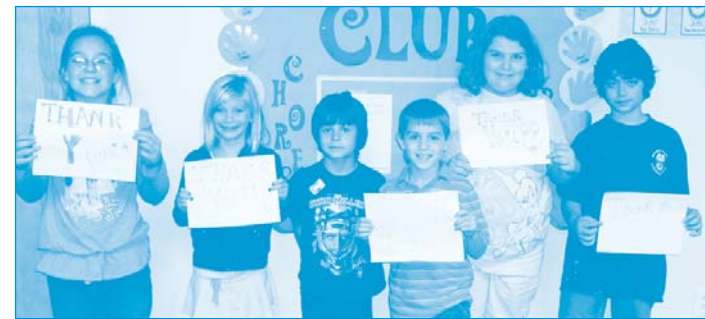
Through a grant received from the Sabres Foundation, the Boys & Girls Club of Eden has been given an opportunity to create a street hockey program in the spring and summer months and to offer ice skating within that same recreation court during the winter months.

With the support of the Sabres Foundation and construction volunteers, Larren Dossier, Eden Fire Department, Jack Rigley, and various other community individuals, we have been able to build an ice rink (40x80) in the rear of the property within the fenced recreation court. We took our basketball court, lined it with lumber, spread a 50 ft. x 100 ft. piece of plastic over it and flooded it with 4 inches of water. Two weeks later, we had a great surface for the Club members to enjoy. We have had more days below freezing then above since we flooded the rink but the cold temperature hasn't stopped them: the kids have been using the ice rink whenever allowed. The rink is utilized for Club programming during the week and with the support of Eden Recreation open to the community on the weekends from 11am – 2pm.



On Saturday, February 14, 2009 the Buffalo Sabres Foundation helped us kick off the winter season and this ice rink with a Family Winter Blast. This event included a hockey shoot out, the chicken barbeque, ice skating, hockey stick raffle, ice hockey and a visit from Sabretooth. The event was well attended and everyone had a great time.

When the members aren't ice skating, they are cross-country skiing. Through donated equipment and the help of volunteers, a cross country trail was made in the rear of the property which leads to the Brindley Trail. When the weather allows, a volunteer and staff take members out cross country skiing to enjoy all nature has to offer. This program provides exercise physically and emotionally for the members. It also enhances the members' awareness of our surroundings as sometimes the best teacher is the environment we live in.



2009 ONE CAMPAIGN

The time of year has come again, when the National Boys and Girls Clubs of America and all of their local affiliates are involved with their major fund raising effort, One Campaign. I am proud to say that because of the support and great generosity of the Eden community during the 2008 local One Campaign we exceeded our \$40,000 goal by over \$2,000. We remain very proud of the Eden community, which over the past seven years has enabled our Boys and Girls Club to develop into the great service provider it has become for Eden's youth.

The 2009 financial goal is again \$40,000, and at this writing we have already raised over \$10,000 in cash and pledges. This is very encouraging, because the present economic climate portends a more difficult year in fund raising. We remain confident in your continued support of this annual effort, because we have evidence of more than a half dozen years of great interest and financial generosity from the Eden community.

The current national and local economic situation has impacted the Club through increased requests for scholarship aid, and, at the same time, loss of some government aid upon which we depend. Calls are being made and letters will go out, and I ask that you make a special effort this year to once again help the Eden Boys and Girls Club continue the fine service to our Eden youth that has become such a wonderful tradition in our town. Thank you.

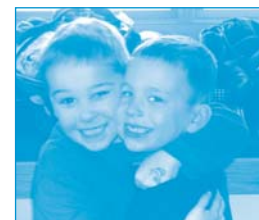
Rodney Pierce
Chairman, One Campaign

NEW ADDITION

We are thankful to the many individuals and companies who donated time, money and services to complete the new building addition (southwest corner).



The upstairs portion of the addition serves as an office suite, with offices for the Executive Director, Bookkeeper and Ameri Corps Volunteer and a conference room. The lower portion is a large carpeted portion with a small stage in one corner. It is dedicated for specific programming which includes use by our younger members in "Munchkin Mondays", a special weekly program for First Graders.



The Club continues to be well-used and well-attended by its members, and we will continue to explore options for improving and expanding our facilities to meet the strong demand.

CAN YOU SPELL "CHALCEDONY"?



Well the Eden "Library Ladies" can! Champions of the 2nd annual Spelling Bee were Joyce Maguda, Pat Smith and Pat Nagle, sponsored by Endion Hospitalist Specialists. It was a great competition, with three final elimination rounds between

the Spellunkers from Eden Elementary (Christine Duringer, Karen Inman, Ellen Kindley) and the Library Ladies.

The Bee was held Friday, February 27th at Duffy Hall at ICC Church. New this year was a theme for the event; all of the words were from "the Great Outdoors". The Kazoo Hummingbirds team (Janelle Burger, Laura MacLeod, Jennie Smith) won for best outfit. The Library Ladies are winners of a cruise on the Miss Buffalo, Open Bar at Quote Nightclub, the bakers dozen "Bagel of the Month" from Panera Breads and most important to the Ladies, the coveted "Bee" trophy, which will soon be engraved and on display at the Library. Stop in and congratulate them!

Special thanks to all of the Club Board Members and parents who worked on the committee. The Emcee for the event was Eden Elementary School Principal and B&G Club Board Member, Rich Schaefer; word pronouncers were High School Principal and new B&G Club Board Member, Marc Graff, retired GLP Principal, Kathie Saab; judges were Erie County Legislator, Bob Reynolds, and Club Mom, Mary Ann Clerc; time-keeper was Greg Jacobs. Many thanks to the local restaurants and caterers who donated their signature items for a dessert and appetizer bar, and the businesses and families who donated items for the auction.

**CORPORATE
PARTNERSHIP TEAM**

The Boys & Girls Club of Eden would like to introduce you and your business to the "Corporate Partnership Team". This team is made up of businesses the wish to support the Club's work in the community.

The Corporate Partnership Teams provides the opportunity to:

- Sponsor major events and fundraising campaigns. Once a member of the Corporate Team, no further solicitations are made.
- Be recognized on our Corporate Membership Plaque located in the main foyer of the Club.
- Receive tax deductible donation benefits that directly support the Club's programs.
- Make a difference in someone's life.

The most important benefit of the Corporate Partnership Team is the satisfaction of knowing you are supporting a quality organization that is providing much needed positive alternative activities to the youth of our community.

The various levels of giving are Business Gold (\$3,000 and over), Business Silver (\$2,000 - \$2,999), Business Bronze (\$1,000 - \$1,999) and Business (\$250 - \$999). Please take this opportunity to support this organization and the youth of the community and ensure that the Boys & Girls Club of Eden continues to be "The Positive Place for Kids".

Thank you to Lehigh Construction for becoming a Business Member of the Corporate Partnership Team.