Building Great Futures at BGCNC

If you’ve been in the Club recently, you may have noticed some construction going on. That is because we are working on some exciting projects that will help improve the safety of our Club and also allow us to offer more diverse programming for our members. We have broken ground on our commercial kitchen (left), padded the basketball court walls (right), fixed the dance studio floor, re-tiled the kids’ bathroom floors, built desks in the loft, painted the administrative hallway, and are starting on a teen center in the back of the Club. And just wait until you see our garden! Thank you to everyone who has helped make these projects possible!

A Paws-itably Wonderful Addition

This October, we welcomed a new member to our Club, Penny! Penny is 50% Irish Setter, 50% Poodle, and 100% adorable. She has been helping us learn to read, calm down when we’re stressed, and cheer up when we’re feeling blue. We’ve been teaching her new tricks and love watching her grow. And don’t worry, she’s also hypo-allergenic so she’s safe for everyone to love.

Tee It Up For Kids

Sunday, June 9th

BGCNC 7th Annual Golf Tournament

A fun-filled day of golf, contests, and prizes
All proceeds benefit BGCNC programs

Who: All Golfers
When: Sunday, June 9th
Where: Maplewood Country Club
Time: 8am shotgun start

$350/team of 4 ($87.50/person)

Sponsors and prize donations needed! Contact admin@bgcnorthcountry.org for more information.

Host Your Next Event at BGCNC

Have you been looking for the perfect venue to host your next birthday party, graduation party, company retreat or team building event? Look no further! BGCNC is now available to rent! We have a full sized basketball court, games room, computer lab, art room, library, outdoor field, and lots and lots of toys. We would love to share the space with you and make your celebration a memorable one. Pricing is available upon request. We can’t wait to party with you!

Sign up for Summer Camp 2019

June 17—August 16

Camp is a place to learn independence, grow, and make friends. It’s a place to develop healthy coping, emotional and social skills, the foundation needed to build productive, caring, and responsible citizens. Visit bgcnorthcountry.org to sign up and spend your summer with BGCNC!

Give a child the gift of a lifetime... a summer they will always remember!

$125 — 1 week of camp
$1,125 — 9 weeks of camp
*Includes swim lessons and field trips*

Our mission is to provide a fun, safe, positive place for all children of the North Country, under the guidance of caring adults.

Spring.2019
Dear Friends,

It may not look like it but spring has sprung! It was a long winter, which has allowed us to make some tremendous progress on projects inside of the Club. As you read through the newsletter, you will see that we have been making some serious improvements. We’ve broken ground on our commercial kitchen, which will allow us to serve lunches and hot meals to our members. We will also be able to provide cooking and nutrition lessons and send kids home with extra food for their families. In addition to our kitchen, our sports court is also a work in progress. We have padded the walls under the hoops to make it a safer, less noisy space. Next up is replacing the floor, which will sparkle with the BGCNC logo. In addition to these projects, we’ve also tiled our bathroom floors, repaired our dance studio floor, carpeted the technology center, and started renovations on our new teen center.

All of these projects would not be possible without the generous support of our community members. From Lowe’s, JEM Enterprise, and Building Alternatives for providing materials, construction, and labor to Eric M., The White Mountain School, Dr. Anne C. Kubik & Michael A. Krupka, and Alex & Nancy V. for their vision and contributions to help see these projects through. There are also so many community groups and donors that we would like to say thank you to for contributing in a big way to make these projects come to life.

Since our last newsletter, our membership has literally doubled. We have gone from 108 members to now over 200. We are so grateful for the in-kind donations and scholarships that have allowed us to serve all of the children of the North Country, especially those who need us most. A special thanks to Rev. Metzger and All Saints Episcopal Church for providing scholarships to those who would otherwise not be able to attend our Club.

I am so humbled by this incredible community that I get to call my home. When there is a need, the BGCNC family jumps to the rescue. Your investment in the North Country’s youth and BGCNC will ensure our community’s success today and into the future. On behalf of the children, thank you for your inspiring support of the Boys & Girls Club of the North Country.

Donor Spotlight – Kevin and Patricia O’Brien

Having moved to the Littleton area very early in our married life we had the opportunity to raise our two children here in the North Country. As with many young families, we were exceptionally involved with each and every activity available to our young children. At three, we had our young ones on Cannon Mountain learning to ski and later, snowboarding. There was soccer, basketball, chess club, home schooling, ice skating, hiking etc., and we were lucky enough to be able to be there with them every step of the way.

We wanted to help the community — Fast forward to the years after high school when both of our children opted to leave home citing the need to see the world and feeling that there was little here to hold them here. There was less of a feeling of community for them. This concerned us and drove us to try to do something about it.

It was right then that we received the call to support the community effort to establish a Boys & Girls Club. As a founding member, Kevin served as the Treasurer, starting in March of 2005. We were involved in Parlor Parties to raise awareness and community donations. It was a very challenging time.

The graying of New Hampshire and the mass exodus of the younger generation had become a reality and we needed to make our area residents aware of the issue. It was a lot of work. We quickly realized that not all the children of the North Country had the same opportunities that our children had. We learned that many of the area children had never been out in the woods, gone skiing or even had the opportunity to play with other children. This was astounding!

For now and future generations! — Later serving as Vice Chair and then Chair of the Board, Kevin rallied the Board and community supporters around the idea of owning our Club building. Through creative efforts The Boys and Girls Club of the North Country purchased the 18,000 square foot building out of bank foreclosure, securing our home for the foreseeable future. We originally occupied less than one-third of the building and now thanks to the incredible efforts of many folks, we are using the entire structure.

It’s been our privilege to be involved — Having gone from 15 children in 2005 to 252 Club members today (including all vacation camps and afterschool members for the past year), with an average daily afterschool attendance of 67 children, is an incredible proof of concept. Seeing the resurgence of young people returning to our community is rewarding. This is why we consider it our privilege to be involved and strongly support the Boys & Girls Club of the North Country and their mission.

Youth of the Month Winners

Youth of the Month is determined by several factors: programs attended, power hour, random acts of kindness, service projects completed, and overall attitude and behavior. Each month, counselors vote on whom they think should receive this honorable title. Congratulations to all of our fall and winter winners!
October was Boys & Girls Club Month at the Ninety Nine Restaurants throughout New England. With the help of their amazing staff and the generosity of guests, the local Littleton 99 Restaurant raised nearly $28,000 for the Boys & Girls Club of the North Country—63% more than last year! BGCNC Club members made artwork for the entryway and were on hand at the restaurant during the month to help welcome guests and sell raffle tickets. The month-long campaign featured special BGC menu items, a raffle for amazing prizes, a pancake breakfast, a spaghetti dinner, and a bake sale. The team at Ninety Nine demonstrated a true “Passion to Serve” the community. Each October, the Restaurant teams up with the BGCNC to raise awareness about the Club and the importance of financial support to carry out our mission of providing a fun, safe, positive place for all children of the North Country.

Bright Futures Start Here

Visitors at BGCNC

We had a full house this winter! We carved pumpkins with Lowe’s & Dave from Littleton Bike Shop (top left), had a visit from Santa (top right), got our hands dirty with Ammonoosuc Conservation Trust (ACT) (middle left), learned how to draw cartoons with Kaio (middle right), honed our sewing skills with Ms. Kathy (bottom left), and took a Pound Class with Marlaina (bottom right). Share your talents and skills and volunteer for a program at BGC today!

Out and About

The boys and girls of BGCNC have had a busy winter! We sang carols at Littleton Regional Healthcare (top left and right) and also at Lafayette Center, hit the slopes at Mt. Eustis’s Kids’ Ski Day (middle left) and at Bretton Woods BGC Ski Day (middle right), walked in the Christmas Parade (bottom left) and we read to seniors at Littleton Area Senior Center (bottom right). We love volunteering and getting involved in our local community!

Boys & Girls Clubs’ unique approach to workforce readiness prepares youth for success in their first jobs and helps them develop a plan to achieve their chosen careers. During National BGC Week, we talked about what we wanted to be when we grow up and identified plans for how to get there. We are future ready!

Since 2009, Lowe’s Charitable & Educational Foundation has partnered with Boys & Girls Clubs of America to provide grants to local Clubs in numerous markets. Lowe’s Heroes employee volunteers support local community projects with local Clubs. Our local Lowe’s has gone above and beyond in this effort, providing salt during the winter, donating building supplies and paint for Club projects, providing prizes for fundraisers, and participating in numerous projects throughout the Club, including laying carpet, building stairs, redoing our entrance walkways, and providing tile for bathroom floors. During the month of October, the Littleton Lowe’s store raised over $1,000 thanks to community supporters, who donated to BGCNC during checkout. We are so appreciative for this invaluable partnership with Lowe’s and thank all of their employees for their hard work in helping us build great futures for the children of the North Country.
BGCNC’s 7th Annual Casino Night

Our annual Casino night fundraiser was held in January at a new location, The Maplewood Country Club. The fundraiser was a huge success, raising over $14,000 for BGCNC! Attendance was great, with over 100 area residents taking part in this year’s event, with some familiar faces and some new ones too. They all enjoyed a fun evening of great food, music, friends, and casino games. Players turned in their chips for a chance at winning some great prizes, donated by area businesses. Food and beverages were provided by local restaurants and generous volunteers. Entertainment was provided by Phil Rivera. Next year, our annual Casino Night will be back at the Maplewood Country Club.

Mark your calendars for next year’s Casino Night—you won’t want to miss out on the fun!

SATURDAY, JANUARY 25, 2020 at
THE MAPLEWOOD COUNTRY CLUB

Special thanks to our Event Sponsors
Building Alternatives • Creative Financial Strategies
Crosstown Motors • Garnet Hill • The Heinze Group
Littleton Coin Company • Mascoma Savings Bank
Secured Network Solutions • SBP Builders

Growing with Root to Rise

This summer, BGCNC will be the proud recipient of a beautiful garden, thanks to a partnership with Root to Rise and their use of permaculture. Permaculture is the process of using systems thinking and ecological design to meet human needs while creating resilient, diverse, and thriving ecological systems. Root to Rise is using the Club to teach a Permaculture Design Certification course and this summer, they will be bringing permaculture out of the classroom and into the world by connecting Club members to community projects and needs.

A new garden this summer! — Stacey Doll, founder of Root to Rise, held a Garden Planning Program at the Club in February to talk to the kids about their wants and needs for the garden. From treehouses to water slides, the kids had quite the wish-list! Stacey and her students will be working with Club members to discuss the local ecosystem, build the garden, plant fruits and vegetables, and harvest their goods for snacks. This collaboration will teach the members the lifelong skill of gardening and also help them understand how different ecosystems are intertwined. We will also be using their harvest to teach cooking basics and send the kids home with healthy food for their families.

How You Can Help

There are several ways you can support the Boys & Girls Club of the North Country. We are always looking for VOLUNTEERS—positive role models, who want to mentor, tutor, or run a program. If this sounds like something you would be interested in, contact the Club, admin@bgcnorthcountry.org.

INVEST IN BGCNC. We pride ourselves on being able to offer a no-turnaway policy, which allows us to serve all children of the North Country, especially those who need us most. In an effort to keep our rates affordable, we have continued to offer consistent pricing, even while membership is growing. By donating to the Boys & Girls Club, you can invest in our scholarship program and help us keep up with the cost of our growing numbers.

SPREAD THE WORD. In our community, word of mouth can make all the difference. Help us grow by advocating for us at town meetings, sharing social media posts, and recommending us to friends and family.

We thrive off of DONATIONS. Please keep an eye out for: sports equipment, bookshelves, game tables, pool cue sticks, office & school supplies, arts & crafts, kitchen appliances, tables, chairs, winter jackets, gloves, games, dolls, and toys.
I/We agree, the best investment we can make is in our children.

Name: __________________________________________________________________________

Business Contact Name (if applicable): __________________________________________________________________________

Address: __________________________________________________________________________ Town: __________________________

State: ____________ Zip: ____________ Phone: __________________________________________________________________________

Email*: __________________________________________________________________________

Donation enclosed: $ ____________ I will repeat this gift: Monthly ______ Quarterly ______ Semi-Annually ______

To make donations by credit card, please visit our website BGCNorthCountry.org and click on the Donate Now Button to donate via PayPal. You may also call Tina Bedor at 823-9889 with your credit card information.

*We won’t share your email address. Occasionally, we like to send electronic updates regarding our program.

I would like the donation to be Anonymous to the public: Yes or No

Donations are deductible to the full extent by the IRS 501(c)(3) tax code. Our FEI 27-3653199

Please complete & enclose the Donation Slip if paying by check.

Please contact me about:

_____ Sponsorship opportunities

_____ Volunteer opportunities

Make checks payable to: BGCNC Mail to: PO Box 111 Littleton, NH 03561

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