

# The Bugle

Winter 2009

## Faith in the Club

by Dave Oyler, Director of Special Projects



One of the goals for the Club for Boys is to provide fun in a caring, safe environment for all boys. The “safe environment” was really brought to my attention a few weeks ago.

The Club for Boys is now open on Saturdays from 10 a.m. until 2 p.m. to make sure that our boys get a hot meal and have a safe place to be on Saturdays. I was working one Saturday and at closing time, I ushered the boys outside so they could wait for their rides or start walking home. At 2:05 p.m., all of the boys were gone, except for Brian, a seven year old member.

I asked him if he needed to call his mother, and he said, “No, she will be here.” I then went back inside

the club, did some more work on the computer and then made sure everything was locked up. I checked outside once more, it was now 2:30 p.m., and Brian was still sitting there.

Now, most boys that age would be very anxious about their ride not being there at closing time, let alone a half hour later. But, Brian was just sitting there. I asked him if maybe we should call someone, and he said, “Dave, my mom will be here. I’m not worried!”

I told him, “Yes, I can see you are not worried and that surprises me, since most boys your age would be worried.”

He then said, “Dave, you

know why I am not worried?” And I asked, “Why?” He said, “Because I know you won’t leave until my mom comes.”

I told him he was absolutely correct about that. What a great statement of faith from such a little guy.



## Art, Fashion & Sports...Oh My!



March Madness in only a few weeks away and at The Club for Boys we have plenty of events to get you ready for the action. Whether you shoot for a good game, assist friends in being fashionable or can’t pass up a great painting, we have an event for you.

March 9 through 13, The Club for Boys will be hosting its annual Corporate Free Throw Challenge. Get your team of five together, come down to the Club and shoot free throws, enjoy a complimentary lunch and best of all take on teams from your industry for the top prize of ten tickets and a prize pack for the Rapid

City Rush Hockey game on March 20.

Just in time for spring The Thrift Store will be hosting a fashion show on Thursday, March 19 at 6 p.m. The event will feature hors d’oeuvres, gifts and a runway show. Come see how you can dress great for less!

That’s not all! On Friday, April 17 The Club for Boys 7th Annual Art Show and Auction will take place at the Dahl Arts Center. This year’s silent and live auctions will feature local masters and a few new faces from the Black Hills art world as well as hors d’oeuvres, wine and a chocolate tasting.

For additional information on these events call The Club for Boys call 343-3500 or visit [www.theclubforboys.com](http://www.theclubforboys.com).

# Foundation Profile: Rod Meador

**R**od Meador was here at the beginning. In the 1950's he participated in meetings of the Morning Optimists that eventually resulted in the formation of The Club for Boys. He was part of a fact-finding trip to see the Boys Club in Sioux Falls and Boys Clubs in Omaha, Neb. in preparation for establishing a club in Rapid City. While in Omaha, Rod met Roger Erickson who was later hired to be the first executive director of our Club and the two have been friends ever since.

Rod has been on The Club for Boys board of directors since its beginning in 1963 and he has held all offices. In 2007, he joined the board of directors of The Club for Boys Foundation and serves as its secretary. Asked about his board service, Rod said, "It has been a great experience. Most people get out of something as much as they give to it. I especially enjoy what we have and are accomplishing at the Club."

After graduating from high school in Lead, S.D., Rod got his Bachelor of Science degree in civil engineering from South Dakota School of Mines and Technology in 1956. For 36 years, Rod was a consulting civil

engineer and surveyor and for the last ten years of his professional life he was the president and CEO of FMG, Inc., a consulting engineering firm in Rapid City. He has been "retired" since 1996.

Rod met his wife, Marlene, in Lead, S.D., where the two were high school sweethearts. "I decided right from the beginning that it was sensible to have a girl friend and stick with her rather than to keep searching. I guess I was lazy in life," Rod chuckled. After 55 years of marriage, Marlene passed away in 2008. The Meadors have three children: Sherry who lives in Borger, Texas, Kevin who lives in Denver, Colo. and Dave who lives in Las Vegas, Nev. Each of his children has a family making Rod a grandfather of eight.

"The principles of the original Boys Club are carried through today and are still taught to the kids. These are basic principles but when they are followed, you get good kids," commented Rod. "Although we stick to original principles, today's Club has kept up with the times as shown by the fact that membership and activities increase each year. Our staff is well-trained today to work with boys and young men who face social problems that are a lot tougher than in the past."

*For information about The Club for Boys Foundation, contact Sara Gentry at 343-3500.*

**Rod Meador (right), one of the Club's longest-serving board members, stands with Scott Bader, the fourth executive director of the Club, and some of today's Club members.**



## Thank you!

The Club for Boys Foundation is grateful for all gifts received during the past year. The following donors gave \$100 or more in 2008. Those with a + gave \$1,000 or more and those with a ! gave \$10,000 or more.

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# In Appreciation

The Club for Boys would like to thank everyone who donated gifts of time, money or inkind from October through December 2008. The following people gave cash gifts of \$100 or more. Those with an \* gave \$500 or more.

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# Our Schedule

## March

Mar. 6 Club Open 7:30-5:30  
Mar. 9-13 Corporate Free Throw Challenge  
Mar. 19 Thrift Store Fashion Show  
Mar. 30 Club Closed for Staff In-Service

## April

Apr. 10 Club Open 7:30-1:00  
Apr. 10 Family Lunch & Easter Egg Hunt at Noon  
Apr. 11 Club Closed  
Apr. 13 Club Open 7:30-5:30  
Apr. 17 7th Annual Art Show & Auction  
Apr. 27 Club Closed for Staff In-service

## May

May 1 Club Open 7:30-5:30  
May 8 Mother's Day Celebration  
May 25 Club Closed for Memorial Day  
May 29 Last Day of School Year Program

