

The Bugle

Spring 2010

Sorrow & Joy

by Cindy Lloyd, Director of Individual Services



There is a beautiful classical piece of music, Pachelbel's Canon, in which the bitter and sweet, the sorrow and the joy are intrinsically intertwined. That is a perfect description of Christmas time at the Club for Boys.

At any given point of time in least five percent of our members are homeless. We record over 100 families that are trying to live on less than \$1,000 a month and another 150 families living on less than \$2,000 a month. Some of these families have up to six members. So while we have many children happily looking forward to Christmas, many are looking to the holiday with great dread and sadness.

Over the last several years the community of Rapid City has generously opened their hearts and stepped forward to sponsor some of these families. This is the story of one such family:

Each of the boys in the Smith family joined the Club on their sixth birthday and has been here every day since. The oldest boy, Joey, is now 12; the middle boy, Frank, is 9; and the youngest boy, Bart, is 6. The Smith brothers live with their mom, Barb, and have been struggling financially

in the last year. They were on the top of my list of families needing sponsors this Christmas.

One night, when I heard the boys being paged to be picked up, I rushed outside to try to catch their mom before she came inside to get the boys. We hadn't reset our outside lights since daylight savings ended, so it was dark and I startled her when I popped out and called her name. I told her that this time of year we get many calls from people wanting to help families that might need some support for Christmas and asked if they could use this support.

Barb began to cry. She said that they have really been having a hard time this year. She and her husband divorced and he decided "taking care of his kids isn't something he needs to do" and so has sent no financial support.

"...Just last night I sat down with Joey and Frank and told them we may not be able to have Christmas this year because we don't have any money," she said through her tears. Frank said, 'it's ok mom, we can wait. We have lots of toys we don't even play with' and Joey said 'that's ok, mom, we can wait until you get

your taxes back.' But I reminded them that Bart still believes in Santa Claus and so we can't wait, he won't understand!"

She then grabbed me in a huge bear hug and said, "This will help more than you will ever know! Thank you so much! Thank you, thank you!"

Thanks to the outpouring of compassion and generosity from the community this year we were able to directly serve 87 families and through other sources, indirectly support many, many more. We here at the Club for Boys are deeply grateful to live in and serve this wonderful community and extend our heartfelt thanks to you for your support!



Shoot Hoops and View Art to Support the Club

Just in time for the opening game of March Madness, the Club for Boys is ready to get you fired up for basketball action with its annual Corporate Free Throw Challenge March 15 through 19. 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 and bragging rights for the next year.

If an evening of beautiful art, delicious food and fine wine is more your style join us at The Dahl on Friday, April 9 for the Club for Boys 8th Annual Art Show and Auction. 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 and cabernet tasting.

For additional information on these events call the Club for Boys call 343-3500 or visit www.theclubforboys.com.

Remembering Leonard Wormstadt

Leonard Wormstadt's history with the Club for Boys was relatively short. In fact, we didn't know much about him—except that he was a generous donor—until he passed away at the age of 67 on November 23, 2009. We wish there had been time to know him; the boys would have loved him.

His wife, Cheryl, wrote to the Club: *“Leonard greatly admired and appreciated the work you do for the boys of Rapid City. He would like to have helped in some way but due to an accident on December 6, 2003, Leonard became a quadriplegic, paralyzed from the chest down. Although he could move his arms, his hands did not work. He continued to keep a strong and positive attitude until his death.*

Leonard cared deeply about the hurts and concerns of people, especially children. A couple of years ago he made a contribution and you sent him a booklet entitled, ‘The Best Day of My Life.’ He read every word and was inspired by the work you do.”

Leonard had an active life. Born in Huron in 1941, he graduated from Huron High School in 1959. At the age of 14, he began his own part-time business breaking and training horses. He became a professional bull rider and was the youngest member of the Professional Rodeo Cowboy Association (PRCA) at that time.

Leonard and Cheryl were married in 1963 and they have two children,



Cindy and Kevin. Kevin now lives in Spearfish where he is an artist and Cindy and her husband, Karl Forsburg, live in Sioux Falls.

Drafted into the US Army in 1966, Leonard served one year in Vietnam where he was awarded the Bronze Star plus five other medals, including the Sharpshooter Badge with Rifle Bar. When he returned from Vietnam, Leonard and Cheryl moved to a ranch north of Pierre where he worked as a cowboy.

From 1969 until 2002, he had his own business, Dakota Roofing Company, in Huron. Upon his retirement, Leonard and Cheryl moved to Custer and in 2008, they ventured on to Spearfish where he passed away. After his death, a generous contribution was given to the Club for Boys in his memory.

When we read Cheryl's letter and learned about Leonard's life we were touched by his understanding of what the Club is all about. It's certain the boys would have had a million questions for him about all his adventures. The Club inspired Leonard and, in turn, Leonard has inspired us.

After his death a generous contribution was given to the Club for Boys because Leonard Wormstadt was inspired by our. We, in turn, were inspired by Leonard—by his life and his kindness.

Thank you!

The Club for Boys Foundation is grateful for all gifts received. From November through December 2009, the following donors gave \$100 or more. Those with a + gave \$1,000 to \$9,999 and those with a * gave \$10,000 or more.

- Debra & Steve Bisgaard
- Dr. Gerald & Mary Butz+
- Joe & Jolene Dobbs+
- Jane & Jim Doyle*
- Thomas Foye+
- Dr. Virginia Frei & Dr. Steve Kovarik*
- Kenneth Hanna Memorial +
- Mark & Sharon Hasvold+
- Fritz Judson Memorial+
- Constance Nelson Lane*
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- Chris & Marilyn Schmid+
- Norbert & Jane Sebade+
- Craig & Deb Tieszen+
- Pat & Mary Tlustos*
- Leonard Wormstadt Memorial+



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

The Club for Boys would like to thank everyone who donated gifts of time, money or inkind from October through December 2009. The following people gave cash gifts of \$100 or more. Those with an * gave \$500 or more.

- Anonymous
- Lee and Robbin Ahrlin*
- Feudor Aijala
- Dale Anderson*
- Dick Anderson*
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- Blue Lantern Lounge
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A special thank you to everyone who purchased greeting cards.

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Rapid City Club for Boys, Inc.
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sponsored by:**



Our Schedule

February

February 26 Family Night

March

March 1 Club Closed for Staff In-Service
March 5 Club Open 7:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.
March 15-19 Corporate Free Throw Challenge
Sign your team up today!
March 26 Family Night
March 29 Club Closed for Staff In-Service

April

April 2 Club Open 7:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.
Family Dinner and Easter Egg Hunt
April 5 Club Open 7:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.
April 9 Club for Boys 8th Annual Art Auction
Buy your tickets today!
April 26 Club Closed for Staff In-Service
April 30 Club Open 7:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.