

*A Merry Christmas & Rockin' New Year Edition*

# Boys & Girls Clubs

*of Gordon, Murray, & Whitfield Counties*

**FAMILY PLUS**

*New Program Serves  
Local Families*

**NEW MURRAY  
COUNTY UNIT**

*Bagley Middle School will be  
host to the additional site  
come January 2009!*

**SUCCESS!**

*Golf Tourney &  
Cook-N-Cruise Photos*

**WWW.BGCGMW.ORG**

*New website offers more  
features*

**MORE TEENS**

*J.C. Penney Supports  
Membership Growth*

**Boys & Girls Clubs of Gordon,  
Murray, & Whitfield Counties**

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[www.bgcgmw.org](http://www.bgcgmw.org)

## **DEAR FRIENDS**

*"The best inheritance a parent can give his children is a few minutes of his time each day."*

**- O. A. Battista**

Happy Holidays 2008! 'Tis the season to be jolly! What a year 2008 has been for the Boys & Girls Clubs of Gordon, Murray, & Whitfield Counties. We have successfully completed our first year as a corporate organization and we have touched the lives of many youth. We have increased the number of youth we are serving by 20% over last year and are offering more programs than ever before. We have remodeled our new Club in Whitfield County, are remodeling a new site in Gordon County, and have doubled our size in Murray County! It has been a great year for growth. As we end the year, I want to thank the communities that support the Boys & Girls Clubs of Gordon, Murray, & Whitfield Counties. We could not make it without your volunteerism, financial support, and community support. There are still many youth out there who need the Boys & Girls Clubs. As we look toward 2009, we will strive to reach more youth and impact more lives.

May God Bless you and your families during this Holiday Season!

Robbie Slocumb  
Chief Professional Officer  
Boys & Girls Clubs of Gordon, Murray, & Whitfield Counties

### **FEATURED BOARD MEMBER:**

#### **2009 Corporate President John Didier**

We would like to welcome our incoming corporate board president for 2009, John Didier. Didier began working with the Boys & Girls Clubs in Dalton five years ago and helped to obtain the very first Club site at Fort Hill School. He served as a board member for the Boys & Girls Clubs of Northwest Georgia and was instrumental in the development of the new Boys & Girls Clubs of Gordon, Murray, & Whitfield Counties; a merger that took place in late 2007 and one of Didier's proudest accomplishments. He was integral in the acquisition of the Underwood Club site in Whitfield County. "The building is a wise use of our donors' dollars and it helps to announce our presence in the community," John stated. When asked about his plans for the future John said, "School based Clubs are very important to our progression. They are an efficient use of our funds and will allow us to serve the kids and not have to deal with issues like transportation."



### **FEATURED STAFF: Tony Causby**

Tony joined the BGCGMW in December of 2005 as a program staff and became the Dalton Teen Center Director in February of 2007. Tony has 4+ years of experience working with youth and is a Murray County native. He is a graduate of the BGCA Learning Club and is working on a Bachelors in Business Administration. In early 2009, Tony will become the director for the new Bagley Unit in Murray County.

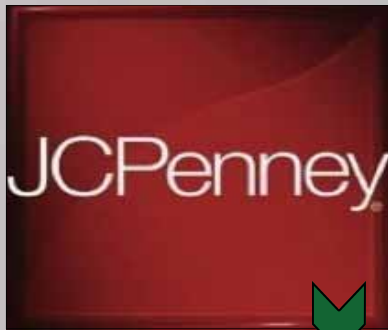
**We are proud to be a United Way agency!**



## In The Know



**WWW.BCGGMW.ORG** This January, [bgcgmw.org](http://bgcgmw.org) will be adding some great new features. Visitors to the website will be able follow weekly activities of the local Clubs and subscribe to regular updates. The new site features a live photo album, Club videos, director updates, and a basic social network for partner communication.



**JC Penney Teen Growth Grant** Recent studies show that 14.3 million children in the U.S. are unsupervised between the hours and 3 p.m. and 6 p.m. each day. The JC Penney Afterschool Fund supports increasing access for youth currently without access to after school programs due to a lack of financial resources. Funds from the grants will cover the expense of attending a local Club and will supply a \$50 gift card to the recruited members for the purchase of school apparel.



**Atlanta Hawks** Boys & Girls Club members have been able to enjoy several Atlanta Hawks games in Atlanta this season. The team supplied BCGGMW with free tickets to six hawks games in the months of November and December. At one game, members were able to meet several Hawks players and ask questions. Mario West and Al Horford signed autographs and posed for pictures with Club members.



### **FAMILIES PLUS**

We have launched our newest initiative, Families PLUS! This program strengthens members' families by providing support resources, parent training, and volunteer opportunities. The program launched with a free spaghetti dinner on October, 16th. Club members served local families while they engaged in presentations by local community support agencies.



### **2008 Day For Kids**



On September 13th, BCGGMW and downtown Dalton hosted more than 500 local youth who enjoyed rides, entertainment, activities, and good food. They encouraged families to spend time together. Performances by Dance Theater of Dalton, SEO's Martial Arts, and Raven Bro highlighted the afternoon.

## Developments



**Raymond King Golf Classic** The Boys and Girls Clubs of Gordon, Murray, and Whitfield Counties recently held the second annual golf classic in Adairsville, Georgia, raising more than \$18,000 to support the Gordon County Club operations. The tournament, title sponsored by Fox & Brindle Construction, was held at Barnsley Gardens General Golf Course and hosted full flight of golfers. This

year's Raymond King Memorial Golf Classic champions were Craig Masburn, John Meadows, Greg Crump, and Robb McGlon finishing at 15 under par. This year's tournament marked a special time of remembrance for Raymond King, a community philanthropist and youth advocate.



**Murray County Cook-N-Cruise** On Sunday September 21st, more than 400 Murray County citizens participated in the very first Cook-N-Cruise. The event hosted a cruise in with 24 registered cars in attendance. Children enjoyed air rides and live music

while parents enjoyed chili and grilled food. The event was made possible by the title sponsor Appalachian Community Bank and featured local vendors such as Verizon Wireless and Mary Kay.



### **FEATURED GRANTS**

- JC Penney Foundation- \$7,500 awarded for teen program recruitment and scholarships
- Office Of Justice Programs- \$45,000 awarded to open new service sites in Murray & Whitfield Counties
- Walmart Foundation (Walnut Ave. Store)- \$1,000 for program/event support in Murray County
- United Way of Northwest Georgia- \$102,000 for operations support in Murray & Whitfield Counties for 2009

**COMING SOON...KID STOCK 2009- *Be the Difference!***

**Our annual campaign begins in January of 2009. Be a part this coming year by purchasing Kid Stock! Your investment in the leaders of tomorrow will always reap dividends! You can "be the difference" in 2009!**

## Club Updates

**GORDON:** Members of Gordon County are participating in Youth for Unity, a diversity education program designed to combat prejudice and to help educate young people about the importance of tolerance and diversity. Also the recent Presidential



election took center stage at the Club where members discussed the importance of issues that are facing our country. "It was great to hear what some of them had to say. Many of them are very much aware of what is going on and what we are facing in this country," said Hank Hill, Gordon County Area Director. Staff from the "A Smile 4 U" dentistry came to Gordon County to the Imagination Station to complete oral screenings for our members. Over 51 million hours of school are missed every year due to dental related illness. Each Club member got a bag with some dental goodies, and some got a personal update on the health of their smile. In the end, all members were coached on brushing, flossing, and good dental hygiene.

**WHITFIELD:** The 1<sup>st</sup> semester of school is coming to an end and the afterschool program has been rolling. Our featured program is Power Hour. Power Hour is the time of the day when all of our members are given the opportunity to get help with their homework. This program is designed to give our members every opportunity to complete their work and get help in subjects that they may be struggling with. Along with Power Hour, our members have opportunities in Arts & Crafts, Games Room, Computer Lab and Gym. Our teens enjoyed a community dance organized for TORCH Club, a leadership club. The dance hosted more than 20 teens from the community and encouraged them to participate actively in Boys & Girls Club programs.



**MURRAY:** The Murray Unit has been very busy. The 5-7 year olds have completed the Start Smart and the older groups have completed the Smart Kids. Start Smart kids went to Murray Medical for a visit to the emergency room. Board Member Jim Hazel came out to greet the kids. David Green came to speak to whole group about consequences to poor choices. We also celebrated Member of the Month several times over the last quarter. Jennifer Hernandez was member for the month of August, and Adella Lonas is member of the month for September. December 18 we will have our second celebration. We will announce the

member of the month for October, November and December. Also in October we had a Pumpkin Patch Party where the kids cele-

brated fall. On November 12th, we will open the Power Point Store for kids to cash in their power points earned from completing homework. We have amassed 3500 points for the kids to spend on fun prizes with.



# WE ARE GROWING! NEW SITE OPENING IN 2009!



## Bagley Middle Murray County

**4600 Highway 225 North  
Chatsworth, GA**

**Serving Bagley Middle, Eton  
Elementary, Northwest Element-  
ary, and Woodlawn Elementary**

**The new unit, located at Bagley Middle School, will immediately serve 100 more BCGGMW members during afterschool hours beginning in early 2009. The site will accompany the current Gladden Unit in serving Murray County students. Membership drives are in process at each location and are offering, for a limited time, FREE membership to those who sign up! Contact either school or BCGGMW for more information.**

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Gordon, Murray, and Whitfield Counties**  
P.O. Box 309  
Dalton, GA 30722



*Making A Difference*

*Is the Boys  
& Girls  
Clubs in  
your will?*



*Ask us about planned giving.*

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