



BOYS & GIRLS CLUBS
OF WEST CENTRAL MISSOURI

NEWS RELEASE

314 S. Washington | Sedalia, Missouri 65301 | (660) 826-8331 | jconner@bgckids.com

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

February 9, 2010

FOR MORE INFORMATION

Jenelle Conner
Outreach Specialist
Boys & Girls Clubs of
West Central Missouri
jconner@bgckids.com
(660) 826-8331

The Boys & Girls Club Auction is a Huge Success!

Club Raises Twice its Goal

SEDALIA, MO – February 9, 2010 - The Boys & Girls Clubs of West Central Missouri's 20th annual auction, *An Evening of Heart & Hope*, was held Friday, February 5, at 6 p.m. in the Missouri Electric Cooperatives Building on the Missouri State Fairgrounds. More than 300 people attended the event which raised \$102,000 for the Boys & Girls Club.

When the doors opened at 5:30 p.m. the early birds were greeted by a room full of volunteers, ambiance and excitement.

The silent auction kicked off the night as attendees bid on over 100 packages ranging from \$20 to over \$1,000 in value. The premium auction packages were the last of the silent auction items to close before the live auction began. The premium packages included a private fly over of the Country Club Plaza Christmas lights, two track seat tickets to every 2010 Missouri State Fair Grandstands Concert and a Room Re-Do Package. These premium packages brought in nearly \$5,400.

“The outpouring of community support through donations and sponsorships this year was absolutely amazing,” said Boys & Girls Club executive director, Brett Barth-Fagan.

The Live Auction kicked off at around 7:15p.m. after the highly anticipated Beef Raffle and Premium Game.

Although not in attendance, Jenny Sullens name was drawn as the winner of Beef Raffle. She will receive a half side of beef from Crooks' Family Farm LLC and processing from Remer Meat Company valued at more than \$700.

New this year was a premium game of chance, Lucky Kiss, to win \$50,000. A group of 10 attendees was selected to participate where they had a chance to win the cash or two Yeager's Harley Davidson motorcycles or a brand new W-K Chevrolet GMC Yukon Hybrid SUV. For the preliminary round, each participant had to toss a heart token at the target placed 25 feet away. Corey Miller won the prelim round and advanced to the final round where he got to toss a Hersey Kiss at a wine glass from 30 feet away to win the big prize. His toss was close but missed the final mark by a short distance.

"It was so exciting to know that one of our attendees was going to have the chance to win one of those prizes worth \$50,000," said Barth-Fagan. "I was trying to will the Kiss into the glass."

The unmistakable calls of Donnie Ditzfeld with Ditzfeld Auction Services got the bidders moving through the first half of the Live Auction. Halfway through the Live Auction the Club switched gears and unveiled a new opportunity for attendees to Sponsor-A-Youth in the Boys & Girls Club.

The intent of the special appeal was to give everyone the chance to provide hope and opportunity to the youth of Missouri. Sponsor-A-Youth gave all attendees the means to support the Club and to bid anywhere from \$42,3000 to underwrite a entire year of elementary afterschool programming down to \$20 to underwrite one week of elementary afterschool programming.

"I can't tell you how amazing it felt when Barbara Hayden started us out with a \$10,000 bid and then the whole audience followed in suit as we progressed through the different sponsorship levels," said Barth-Fagan. "We received \$24,500 in pledges to Sponsor-A-Youth."

After the Sponsor-A-Youth, the Club unveiled the 2010 Pink Flamingo Award winner. With over \$1,500 in votes the night of the auction, Cara Canon was named the winner. Canon received the newly redesigned Pink Flamingo Award to sit on her desk at ProEnergy Services for the next year and at a time unbeknownst to her, a flock of hot pink plastic flamingos will appear in the ProEnergy yard.

The auction was chaired by volunteer Terri Barker, and by raising \$102,000 the Boys & Girls Clubs of West Central Missouri doubled their \$50,000 goal for the evening. The money from the auction goes directly to helping the Boys & Girls Club offer kids a safe place to go after school, have a healthy snack, get homework completed and engage in positive relationships with peers

and trained youth development professionals.

The event was catered by Bandana's Bar-B-Q and beverages were supplied by County Distributing, Glazer's Distributors and PepsiAmericas.

Sponsors for the event were: **\$5,000 Platinum Level Sponsors:** KCP&L, *The Sedalia Democrat*, Starline, W-K Chevrolet; **\$2,500 Gold Level Sponsors:** Ditzfeld Transfer Inc., Impact Sign; **Silver Level Sponsors:** Inter-State Studio Employee Charity Fund, LAMM Technical Resources LLC, ProEnergy Services, SMC, Thompson Hills Shopping Center, Walmart; **\$500 Bronze Level Sponsors:** EXCEL Bank, Marcum Hauling, Marcum's Landscaping Stones LLC, McDonalds, David & Stephanie Parkhurst, RAC-JAC Properties, Surgical Services of Sedalia, Tyson, Union Savings Bank and Yeager's Cycle Sales.

For more information about *An Evening of Heart & Hope*, or to learn more about the Boys & Girls Club programs, please call 826-8331 (toll free 877-242-9260). Opportunities still exist for individuals to donate their time, talent or treasure to the Club.

###