

SERVING THOSE
WHO SERVE



THE MISSION OF THE 100 CLUB OF BUFFALO IS TO PROVIDE FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE TO FAMILIES OF POLICE OFFICERS, FIREFIGHTERS AND EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES PERSONNEL WHO ARE SERIOUSLY INJURED OR KILLED IN THE LINE-OF-DUTY, AND TO PROVIDE RESOURCES TO ENHANCE THEIR SAFETY AND WELFARE.

First Responder

Spring 2010

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July 13

The 100 Club of Buffalo

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(716) 932-6489
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100clubbuffalo.org

Heroes Honored

It's hard to thank someone who risks their life to save another. Yet each day area first responders do just that. As a way to acknowledge and show our gratitude to these brave men and women, The 100 Club of Buffalo annually hosts a dinner to honor them. This year's Heroes Dinner was held at the Country Club of Buffalo in Williamsville on February 26 with a record capacity crowd applauding them.

The organization paid tribute to seven first responders, two civilians and thanked long-time legal supporters. The selection committee led by Judge Barbara Howe reviewed a multitude of amazing hero nominations, selecting the most worthy being honored at the dinner. Her committee included 100 Club members Arthur F. Duc Musarra, Esq.; Frank Broderick; Ross B. Kenzie; Thomas H. O'Neill, Jr.; John J. O'Neill; Paul J. Verostko; Robert A. Wutz, Jr.; and Robert M. Zak.

Events such as the Hero Awards Dinner don't happen by themselves. They take people who are willing to volunteer their time to help others – essentially heroes themselves. 100 Club President Robert A. Wutz, Jr. acknowledged the committee that put together the ingredients for the dinner including Chairman Ralph Vanner, Jr.; along with Frank Broderick; Nancy A. Fredrickson; James McGuire; Kenneth Richmond and himself.

Following is a brief summary of the Class of 2009 Heroes' stories. For a more detailed background click here ([weblink](#)).

New York State Trooper Matt Luft Trooper Luft responded to an accident where a vehicle had left the road, flipped upside down and was partially submerged in swampy water. The driver was trapped, having trouble speaking and breathing with water all around him. Trooper Luft crawled through murky water through the window and rescued the driver.

State University of New York at Buffalo Police Officers Jonathan Fletcher and Sean Ford

A floundering dog in the University at Buffalo's Lake LaSalle was the start of this incident. The pet owners entered the water to save the dog and subsequently needed rescuing themselves. The Officers jumped in the lake, swimming to the victims and brought all back to shore saving the owners and dog. While the owners survived this life threatening ordeal, the dog did not make it.

Niagara County Deputy Sheriff Roger C. Schreader II A fiery two car accident required swift action from Deputy Schreader who was first on the scene. He broke the window of the first car and reached in to unlock the door of the burning vehicle. He cut the female victim from her seat belt, bringing her to safety before the flames intensified. He and another officer who had now arrived on the scene turned to the second vehicle where the intoxicated driver also needed rescuing. Both drivers survived thanks to first responder efforts.



Row 1: Maria "Angie" Heusinger (John Croom's mother), Hon. Barbara Howe and Robert A. Wutz, Jr. Row 2: Giuseppe A. Ippolito, Officers Jonathan Fletcher and Sean Ford, Daniel Cunningham (President, Buffalo Professional Firefighters Local #282) Row 3: Dr. Dietrich Jehle, Joseph D. Morath, Trooper Matt Luft, and Deputy Roger C. Schreader II. Row 4: Michael Byham, Officer Sean Gallagher, Terrence M. Connors, Frank Broderick

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2010 Officers and Reorganization

In examining the structure and effectiveness of the Board of Directors it was evident that an organizational review was needed. This was the second phase of an initiative that began in 2009 with the appointment of an executive director, Frank Broderick. The officers will be responsible for customary operations/ activities and the executive committee, comprised of upcoming, current and recent past presidents, will provide long-term oversight. Their charge is for overall mission guidance, policy making and continuance of the organization through search for qualified board members.



100 Club Board Members Thomas H. O'Neill, Jr., Robert A. Wutz, Jr., James McGuire

Congratulations to the 2010 officers

President, Robert A. Wutz, Jr.
First Vice President, Robert M. Zak
Second Vice President, Daniel Penberthy
Secretary, Kenneth Richmond
Assistant Secretary, Honorable Barbara Howe
Treasurer, Ross B. Kenzie
Assistant Treasurer, Reginald B. Newmann, II
Executive Director, Frank E. Broderick

The Executive Committee includes:

Robert A. Wutz, Jr.
Robert M. Zak
Thomas H. O'Neill, Jr.
Ralph J. Vanner, Jr.
Ross B. Kenzie
C. Anthony Rider
John J. O'Neill
Arthur F. DuC. Musarra, Jr.
Honorable Barbara Howe

Sweet Suite Deal

The sun is shining, spring training is in full swing, and opening day for the Buffalo Bisons is April 14. It's time to decide which games you want to attend.

This season you can enjoy a Bisons' game in style from a luxurious suite while simultaneously making a donation to The 100 Club of Buffalo. In a generous arrangement with the Buffalo Bisons, The 100 Club will receive \$100 for every suite reserved at a 2010 Bisons' games.

Suites include \$100 toward food and beverages. Suite sizes available include:

- Corporate suite \$400 (including 12 tickets)
- Themed Suite \$500 (including 24 tickets)
- Party Suite \$600 (including 30 tickets)

It's the perfect opportunity to entertain clients, thank employees, get together with family and friends or to celebrate Western New York while supporting our area's first responders.

For detailed information and reservations contact Anthony Sprague (716) 846-2256 or ASprague@bisons.com and tell him you're purchasing your suite in conjunction with The 100 Club of Buffalo.

Scholarship Applications Being Accepted

The 100 Club understands the financial challenges first responders' families face when their children wish to go to college. Several years ago the organization established a Scholarship of Excellence program to assist in fulfilling continuing education opportunities. Awards of up to \$2,000 are presented to deserving high school seniors of active law enforcement, fire or emergency service providers who plan to continue their education at a two- or four-year college.

Seniors must meet qualifications that include demonstrated outstanding achievement in academics, extracurricular or employment activities and community involvement. Specifically, the high school senior must:

- Serve as a role model for other young adults
- Demonstrate community involvement
- Demonstrate extracurricular or employment activity
- Demonstrate consistent academic achievement throughout high school
- Exhibit leadership potential

Application forms are available by clicking here (weblink) or going to (website location.) Deadline is May 3, 2010 with awards announced in July.

Logo Update



You may have noticed a slight change in The 100 Club of Buffalo logo. We've added our motto "Serving Those Who Serve" to better identify our organization's mission.

Heroes, continued from page 1

Village of Hamburg Police Officer Sean Gallagher Officer Gallagher responded to an unusual call and engaged his usual “must do” response. A man was pinned under water below a one-ton lawn mower he was driving that had rolled into a drainage ditch. With assistance from others who were finally able to lift the mower, Officer Gallagher was able to extricate the victim from the water. The victim was not breathing, blue and showed no signs of life. Officer Gallagher continued life saving support until the Sheriff’s helicopter transported the victim to the Erie County Medical Center in critical condition. After a week of hospitalization and intensive care, the victim is expected to make a full recovery.

Dr. Dietrich Jehle and Mr. Michael Byham Both men came upon an eight-car accident on Route 190. Dr. Jehle was on his way from work at ECMC to the Buffalo Bills game where he helps provide medical care to fans and players. Instead of driving past, the two men, unknown to each other and in separate vehicles, stopped to help. With first responders not yet on the scene, the two men recognized the severity and immediacy of the situation and took action. The burning vehicle’s doors would not open so they had to smash the windows to gain access. Fighting through the fire they pulled out three trapped victims, a six-year-old boy, the driver and a seven-year-old boy who had severe injuries. As soon as first responders arrived, the victims were transported to the hospital where, unfortunately, one of the boys succumbed to his injuries.

Buffalo Fire Department Firefighters Lieutenant Charles “Chip” McCarthy and Firefighter Jonathan Croom It was with great sadness that awards were presented posthumously to the families of these Buffalo Firefighters. They had responded to a delicatessen fire on Buffalo’s east side. Fearing someone was trapped inside, firefighters intensified their search. Unfortunately, a floor in the old two-story brick building collapsed under Lt. McCarthy. Responding to his “mayday” signal, Firefighter Croom also fell through the floor. Both men made the ultimate sacrifice.

Terrence M. Connors, Esq., Connors & Vilardo, LLP For the past five years Mr. Connors and his firm’s legal team have provided extensive pro bono services for The 100 Club of Buffalo. They have spent considerable time in an attempt to expand interpretation of federal Public Safety Officers Benefit Act for two U.S. Coast Guardsmen killed in the line of duty. Unfortunately they have not been able to successfully argue the interpretation. However, Mr. Connors and his colleagues Joseph D. Morath, Jr.; and Giuseppe A. Ippolito were recognized for their commitment and hard work.

Anyone for a Swim?

As the temperature dipped in early December, 100 Club representatives including board members Scott Ritchie, Kenneth Richmond and Richard Qualey, donned their swimsuits for a (brief) swim in Lake Erie as part of The New York Special Olympics Polar Plunge at Hamburg Town Beach. More than 700 hearty souls braved the icy waters raising \$130,000 for Special Olympics of WNY.

With a team of 20, this is the second year that The 100 Club of Buffalo has participated. This year the 100 Club raised more than \$3,000.

Thanks goes to 100 Club team members Doug & Heather Nemeč who provided the 100 Club hospitality RV. Also Holly Smyczynski with the Erie County Fair who obtained the 100 Club’s uniform for the day (Santa hats and 100 Club t-shirts.)



100 Club of Buffalo polar swim team.

Sabres Sellout

It was a winning night all around as the Buffalo Sabres defeated the Tampa Bay Lightning by a score of 5 to 3 on Wednesday, January 6, 2010. The 100 Club hosted its second annual Hockey Night at the HSBC Arena as a fundraiser for the organization which was a sellout with more than 200 attendees.

The evening’s Harbour Club Party Package included 200 level seats along with a prime buffet dinner prior to the game and coffee/desserts at intermission.

The event, in conjunction with the New York State Troopers – Police Benevolent Association, netted more than \$600 for The 100 Club.

Grapes Galore

Mark your calendar for Thursday, April 22 or a private wine tasting. The complimentary two-hour event includes complementary cheese and fruit along with a cash bar. Fox Valley Country Club is hosting the tasting beginning at 6 p.m.

Wine experts will explain the various wines while attendees sample them. Fox Valley also is making special arrangements for anyone wishing to enjoy dinner at the Club that evening.

For both the wine tasting and dinner, reservation are required by Friday, April 16 by contacting Frank Broderick (100clubofbuffalo@gmail.com or 854.3130 before April 1 or 932-6489 after that.)

New Address

The 100 Club of Buffalo is on the move. As of April 1, we will be at 338 Harris Hill Road, Suite 102, Williamsville, NY 14221. Phone will be (716) 932-6489 and fax, (716) 932-6490.

SAVE THE DATE

Wine Tasting

Thursday, April 22, 2010
Fox Valley Country Club

First Responders Night with the Buffalo Bisons

Thursday, June 17, 2010
Coca-Cola Field

Annual 100 Club Scholarship Golf Tournament

Monday, July 13, 2010
Fox Valley Country Club