



Catholic Youth Organization

52nd AGM – Executive Director's Report Tuesday, September 21, 2010

Executive Director's Update:

In 2009/2010 business year, our agency touched the lives of over 30,000 children, teens, young adults and their families with our outdoor education, recreational programs, and supporting services.

Construction has begun in earnest at the Marydale Park Site and if all goes according to plan, I hope to be able to stand here next year and announce that the first campers have enjoyed a summer at the new, fully accessible, Camp Marydale.

A year with such significant milestones and exciting new beginnings has also been very humbling and reminds us of the importance of community, faith and the need to creatively work towards meeting the current and future needs of our young people. We thank our associate members for your yearly support of our agency and our mission.

Finally, I would like to express a very deep gratitude on behalf of the agency and the young people we work with to His Excellency Bishop Tonnos, who just recently offered His retirement.

AGM Highlights:

- ***Crusader Athletics*** – 22,262 students from 60 participating element schools (English & French) participated in our five (5) core athletic programs. The Crusader Athletic Program provides the opportunity for children and teens to grow physically, emotionally and spiritually through participation and volunteering. We truly believe that the competitive challenge that sports offer provides these young people with real everyday opportunities to demonstrate their Catholic faith and mission.
- ***C.Y.O. Camps Marydale & Brébeuf*** – 6,044 campers participated in our outdoor camping and education programs. During our fiscal year, 550 campers attended Camp Marydale/Urban Hoops Basketball Camp, while an additional 5,494 attended Camp Brébeuf.
- ***One-to-One Counsellor Program*** – In 1972, the C.Y.O. became one of the first camps in Ontario to integrate campers with special needs our mainstream camping programs. In 2009 we had 102 campers who were identified with either a developmental or physical disability and who required the use of our One-to-One Counsellor Program.
- ***25th Children's Fundraiser – C.Y.O. Celebrity Dinner*** – On February 25, 2010, we celebrated our 25th Celebrity Dinner Fundraiser. This fundraiser has been essential to our agency's goal to raise \$50,000 needed each year to administer our unique One-to-One Counsellor program. The One-to-One program enables children with special needs to participate in our summer day and residential camping programs offered at Camp Marydale and Camp Brébeuf. With the success of our first Celebrity Dinner in 1986, we have been fortunate enough to offer this unique One-to-One Counsellor Program to over 6,000 children in our community.
- ***Marydale Park - "Because every child deserves to play"*** - Marydale Park is the C.Y.O.'s largest and most ambitious community service project that our agency has ever undertaken. The dream of creating a community park that is accessible to everyone no matter their abilities, or their financial situation, is well on its way to becoming a reality. Construction has begun, with the goal to have the park operational by late spring 2011. For more information please visit our website: www.marydalepark.ca



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Awards & Presentations:

Bishop's Medal Award:

This award is open to all C.Y.O. coaches (past & present) who have coached for a minimum of ten years in the C.Y.O. Crusader and/or Juvenile Athletic Programs. During the C.Y.O. athletic season our goal is to be fun focused. The C.Y.O. program is built on beginners, beginners in playing, coaching and officiating. We want to create a healthy environment and form positive relationships. Our programs allow for opportunity to learn and grow, and develop sportsmanship.

- **Paul Kelly** – Paul has been involved in the Crusader Athletic Program for close to 20 years. His dedication to the programs as coach, official or volunteer has been instrumental. The children are fortunate to have Paul as a leader in his community.
- **Elizabeth Marskell** – As a C.Y.O. Representative, C.Y.O. Coach, former C.Y.O. official and C.Y.O. participant, Liz is the ultimate supporter. Her guidance and dedication towards her students has not gone unnoticed. Her love of sport has spread into the lives of the youth in her community, creating an active and healthy environment.
- **John Pizzuti** – With quiet leadership, John has been influential to many student athletes. John has the ability to coach numerous of athletes and has provided them with encouragement and development for over 10 years. His patience and calm demeanour is a God given characteristic, which allows for positive athletic experiences for all involved.

Peggy Walton Memorial Youth Award:

Peggy Walton was a long time employee and supporter of the C.Y.O. who personified words like: service, patience, optimism, enthusiasm and caring. In the early days of the C.Y.O. under the guidance of Father Kryan Kennedy, Peggy demonstrated a work ethic that reflected in 20 hour days. Despite her challenging schedule Peggy always practiced the saying "*the most important thing that parents can give their children is their time*". Her faith commitment was exemplary. She lived it every minute of every day.

The Peggy Walton Award is open to teenagers and young adults who have been involved in the Hamilton C.Y.O. and are between the ages of 16 and 25 years. These individuals must have participated in and played a significant leadership role in any one of three qualifying categories: Youth Ministry, Camps Brébeuf & Marydale and Crusader Athletics. This year we had the pleasure of Katie Walton, granddaughter of Peggy Walton, to present the Peggy Walton Memorial Youth Award to:

- **Ann Craig** – Ann is an active member in her Catholic Community. She is a true disciple of our Lord, following and leading by God's example. She is a saint in her own way, doing the little things that make you smile.
- **Sara Densmore** – Sara has a heart of gold. She gives her time and her efforts to the children at camp. Sara has a creative flair and has genuine passion with working in a Christian surrounding with the youth.
- **Paul Taylor** – Paul at a young age has shown his commitment to his faith, family and the Catholic Youth Organization. Paul's active involvement in the Catholic community has provided many young youth with a strong male role model. Paul's life decisions have formed him into a respectful young man today.



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Honourary Life Time Members

Initiated in 1998, this Honourary Lifetime Award is given to individuals who are considered as having rendered outstanding service to the community at large, or to the C.Y.O. and our mission to serve the children in our community. Persons who receive this prestigious award shall hold membership for life. Previous recipients include early founders of the C.Y.O., past board members and many other longtime community supporters.

- **Margaret Burden** – Past C.Y.O. Office Manager.
- **Joan Jeffrey** – Past C.Y.O. summer day camper registrar for Camp Marydale.
- **Ida Spilak** – Past C.Y.O. Bookkeeper.

2010-2011 C.Y.O. Board of Directors

Officers:

- President, Bob Morreale, Retired Businessman from the WSIB
- Vice President, Shawn McCowell, Peel Police Sergeant / Detective

Directors:

- Tony DeLuca, Past President c/o Pettinelli, Mastroluisi, Chartered Accountant and Partner
- Corrado Ciapanna, H.W.C.D.S.B., School Superintendent
- Colleen Cupido, Physio Therapist/Clinic Manager
- Sam Esposito, Architect
- Joanne Guarasci, c/o Ross & McBride Law Firm, Lawyer and Partner
- David Hansen, H.W.C.D.S.B., Principal of Curriculum
- Teresa Hartnett, Director, Office of Family Ministry & Religious Education
- Honourable Stan Keyes, President, Canadian Payday Loan Association
- Pat Reilly, Prosthetist Orthotist
- Pat Ryan, Education Assistant