

BE IN THE KNOW...

January 28, 2022

Dear Boys & Girls Clubs Supporters,

Well, well, well. It's already 2022 and WOW, we are already having a great start with lots of good stuff happening!



What IS up with our Club kids?

First up: our kids had a great holiday season at their respective Clubs — AKA their second home. They deepened friendships with one another and staff as they spread their own kind of cheer while creating ornaments for family and friends and cards for donors (must learn to say thank you!) Every Club member received a gift: a favorite book, food,

toys, games and some, new clothes. Many thanks to **Seven Lakes Country Club, Desert Horizons Ladies Golf, Indian Wells Women's Golf Association, Hot Desert Mopars of Coachella Valley, Kaiser Permanente Hospital, Young People in Recovery and other groups and individuals** for bringing extra BIG smiles to our kids during the holidays. Double WOW!



*I'm thank you for the
books. And thank you
for caring for our
club in Mecca
Your very kind
Your Gift made my day*

BGCA Alumni Hall of Fame Inductee!

This organization is governed by a long-serving and dedicated Board of Directors.

We just learned that member **Tony Reagins** will be inducted into Boys & Girls Clubs of America's Alumni Hall of Fame – the greatest honor for Club alumni. BGCA honors former Club members: whose Club experience had a meaningful impact on their lives; who continue to live the values instilled during their attendance; who are leaders in their industry; and, most importantly, who continue to give back to their Club and/or community in a meaningful way. Past honorees include **Denzel Washington, Misty Copeland, Alex Rodriguez, Shaquille O'Neil** and many others. You may recall in the June issue of BE IN THE KNOW, we reported Tony's story of growing up with a single mom and attending the Indio Club only later to have carved a very successful career with Major League Baseball. He is currently MLB's Chief Baseball Development Officer and also serves on the national BGCA board. On behalf of Boys & Girls Clubs of Coachella Valley, I can't wait for the National Conference in May to witness this momentous occasion! Tony deserves a triple WOW!

In the Headlines!

Despite the woes of 2021, a lot of really good things happened resulting in a lot of positive **headlines** — like the December Barry Manilow *Concerts of Love*. WOW. What a show and what a generous showman! "It looks like WE made it" with not one, but two event-related articles in *The Desert Sun*. Boys & Girls Clubs of Coachella Valley is one of 25 local charities to benefit from 100% of the proceeds. Sharing center stage with Mr. Manilow was



Boys & Girls Clubs CEO gets upfront and personal with Barry Manilow!

quite a treat and quite a newsworthy boon for our organization! “Barry” was *really* interested in our 55 year history and our significant community role. I just wish we had had more time to WOW the audience with our story that evening. Here are some other great newspaper headlines!



Boys & Girls Clubs provide a safe place to dream!



National president of Boys & Girls Clubs of America visits local club!



Board member Judy Vossler awarded national Boys & Girls Clubs of America award!

East Valley kid, Mecca Club member of Boys & Girls Clubs, heads to Stanford!



Our Wall of Fame featuring Adriana Torres

Then there is the story about our Mecca Club Youth of the Year, **Adriana Torres**. A participant in our college readiness program “d2D” (diplomas to Degrees) and recipient of our scholarship program, Adriana finished up her first semester at Stanford with a **3.91 GPA, after taking 20 units and volunteering at two jobs!** She was selected as a recipient of the 2021/2022 **Boys & Girls Clubs of America President’s SPARKLE Award** (*Students Pursuing Academic Rewards, Knowledge, Love and Empowerment*). Selection is based on students pursuing their post-secondary education, exemplifying passion, academic success and outstanding character. How this award personally helps is that

Adriana receives a modest monthly stipend just for “fun stuff” so serious students like her may concentrate on their studies. **This is a super success story of what can and does happen with our Club kids thanks to you! WOW!**

More thanks than I can even fit on this page go out to **YOU** for your interest and support of our great Clubs, Staff and Board members. I hope to see you all at the **Grandest Auction on March 12th!**

WOW - YOU ARE THE BEST!

**Quinton Egson
President & CEO
39 years of humble service!**

