

2009 Kiddush Cup

Oh, What a Day!

On Tuesday, June 2nd, two days before our 10th annual golf tournament, alternative plans were being made with our friends at Traditions in anticipation of the sure-thing, flooding rain that was forecasted for Thursday, June 4th.

At 5:00 Wednesday afternoon, after watching the hour-by-hour weather predictions for Wallingford, it became more evident that, by some miracle...or divine intervention, the rains might be held off for our Thursday tournament. But not before heavy rains and thunder fell in Thursday's wee hours. Those of us who woke at dawn on the 4th knew that our prayers had been answered...for one more year.

It was under cloudy and clearing skies that the 2009 Kiddush Cup volunteers began preparing the stage for what would be a wonderful day on the course, followed by a delicious dinner, moving words and a fun, profitable auction and raffle.

This year's playing field held 98 golfers, 30 of whom were part of the 36 who participated in our very first tournament in 1999. We are so grateful for their continued support and friendship.

Despite the tough economic times, this year's Cup netted over \$20,000! In honoring Ryan's legacy, Beth Israel is donating 50% of the Cup's proceeds to Ryan's Circle of Giving, a 501(c)(3) fund set up to provide Ryan's charities a yearly source of revenue.

During our dinner, 4 of the 5 organizations benefiting from the Kiddush Cup were represented by individuals who spoke of how the dollars raised from the tournament have made an impact on the lives of so many. (Unfortunately, the representative from The Cystic Fibrosis Foundation, a CF patient himself, was ill and regretfully, could not attend)

Present, and representing the four organizations were:

Alida Cella – Beth Israel Synagogue, President

Ken Gernander – Ryan C. Gordon/Hartford Wolf Pack Community Foundation Scholarship at Trintiy College; President, Board of Directors of Wolf Pack Community Foundation; Head Coach Hartford Wolf Pack.

Sue Frankenbach – Yale Cancer Center's Thoracic Oncology Program, Development Associate and finally,

Melody Rosas-Grande - Ryan Gordon Endowed Scholarship Fund at Kingswood-Oxford (K-O), K-O Senior

As Alida described, the Kiddush Cup has enabled Beth Israel to make some major capital improvements, and provide, free of charge, for anyone in the greater Wallingford community who wanted to participate in its Passover seder - for the past two years! These accomplishments have led to an increase in the synagogue's small membership, which has been vital for the synagogue's growth and future.

Sue told of the important research being conducted at Yale's Thoracic Oncology Program; the Cup's donations have particularly benefited programs regarding the early detection of thoracic cancers.

Ken spoke of the three children in Hartford who have received the first scholarships from the Ryan Gordon/Hartford Wolf Pack Scholars Fund at Trinity College. These kids are now participating in a Learn-to-Play hockey program that will provide them with experiences they would not otherwise have – and they will certainly benefit well beyond the hockey rink on which they practice.

As all who were present would agree, 16 yr. old Melody, the first recipient of the scholarship at K-O, gave a stirring speech about her community service experiences in Tobati, Paraguay, where the scholarship took her. She lovingly told of her parent's struggles growing up in their native Peru, and their efforts to make their children's lives easier than theirs. Melody was so thankful for the opportunity to give back to the disadvantaged of Tobati, and thanked all Kiddush Cup participants for their support.

She expressed her gratitude for the scholarship by saying, "This grant...has given a girl the opportunity to see where she comes from and where she is going. There are no words to express my gratitude; each one of you has contributed to someone more than just me; you have given to a group of people trying to move forward little by little, and have as much difficulty thanking Team Tobati (the group that goes to Paraguay), as I have thanking you."

Following Melody, New Haven Register sports columnist and Kiddush Cup brochure-developer, **Dave Solomon**, introduced auction and raffle MC, Fox61 sports broadcaster, **Rich Coppola**. Dave, with his dry, wry humor had us all in stitches, sharing early memories of his relationship with Rich. What we might all remember, is that they now each call the other 'Dad'.

We also enjoyed hearing Rich's stories this year, and as always, he did an awesome job as our auctioneer, raising **\$2700!**

Both Dave and Rich are wonderful friends and we can't thank them enough for all that they do to help us in our endeavor.

Once again, we thank our incredible Chairs:

Sandy Balayan	Volunteer & Silent Auction Chair
Wynn Schoolnik	Raffle & Food Chair
Arlene O'Tell	Financial Chair
Pat Gettner	Raffle Basket Chair

And ALL of our wonderful volunteers:

Mindy Schwartz	Nancy Huber	Elise Schoolnik	Mimi Bloch
Rae-Ann Kershner	Lynne Rappoport	Julie Rappoport	Henni Stolzman
Scott Schwartz	Shaina Bender	Gary Spelucin	Kent Billings
Joe Fasulo	Barry Schacht	Amy Stancuna	Saul Freilich

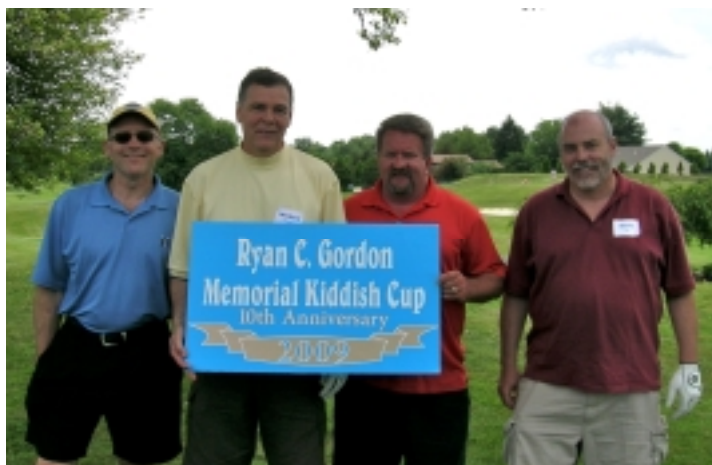
Each and every one of these great people helped to make the day run as smoothly as possible.

Plans for **next year's tournament** are already underway, and we have secured a date at Traditions – so please mark your calendars today – **for Thursday, June 3rd, 2010.**

See you then - for another great day!

CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR KIDDUSH CUP WINNERS!

MEN'S TEAMS



Gross - 1st Place
Barry Gordon, Mike Mastrianni,
Bill Newton & Steve Roux



Gross - 2nd Place
George Dombroski, Chris Gatcomb
Jim Gatcomb & Warren Gatcomb



Net - 1st Place
Ed Hawkins, Paul Rhoda
& Bobby Feinstien



Net - 2nd Place
Bob Bailey, Carl Seeley III
Bob Hourigan & Kevin Buno

MIXED TEAMS



Gross – 1st Place
John Bozzuto, June Brackett
Ed Roman & Artie Sachs



Gross – 2nd Place
Bob Namnoum, Julie Rappoport
Elaine Doherty & John Doherty



Net – 1st Place
Charles Varos, Debra Levine
Howard Levine, John Halovatch



Net – 2nd Place
Bill Reichelt, Coralee Reichelt,
Tony Ciasuilli, & Joan Ciasulli

OUR INDIVIDUAL WINNERS:

Putting Contest - Warren Gatcomb
Closest to the Pin (M) - Mike Kohn

Longest Drive (W) - Sarah Alpert
Closest to the Line(W) - June Brackett

Missing: Longest Drive (M), Closest to the Pin (W), Closest to the Line (M)