



1979-1989

BOYS & GIRLS CLUB

OF NEW ROCHELLE

HISTORY



BOYS & GIRLS CLUB
OF NEW ROCHELLE

Boys Club holds 50th annual meeting



1979

1979 the Boys Club celebrated our 50th Anniversary. Board President Paul Ryan retired after 10 years of service and was replaced by Joseph Miressi.

1979

Frank "Hank Deck" Declemente was honored with the Man of the Year Award in 1979. Declemente was one of the first members of the "Better Boys Club" and served as a staff member for 42 years.

Man of Year is DeClemente



Frank Declemente

1979

In 1979 the Feeney Park Branch was renamed after longtime Executive Director, August E. Mascaro.

Boys' Club renamed for August Mascaro

Changing the name of the Feeney Park Boys' Club to the August E. Mascaro Branch of the New Rochelle Boys' Club was quick and easy.

The New Rochelle City Council unanimously sponsored and approved the honor for a man who has touched the lives of countless New Rochelle boys for more than 30 years.

"To say the least, it's great. It's our way of thanking Gus for all he has done for us," said Councilman Leonard C. Paduano, who has been a member of the Boys' Club since 1938.

Mascaro served as executive director of the New Rochelle Boys' Club

from 1942 to 1942 and returned to New Rochelle to serve as executive director from 1957 to 1977.

The Feeney Park Boys' Club was destroyed in a fire in 1977 and the reconstruction is expected to be completed this spring.

Another lifelong member of the Boys' Club, Councilman Don Zaccagnino, said, "Gus Mascaro is the catalyst behind the continued success of the Feeney Park Boys' Club. With his retirement, the construction of a new building and the 50th anniversary of the New Rochelle Boys' Club, I couldn't think of a more appropriate tribute to Gus."

—MICHAEL SENTER

1980

Mayor Lenny Paduano said at the dedication ceremony, "Mascaro was a man who was a father and a teacher but most importantly a friend."

Mascaro B.C. dedicated

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start, during the ceremony, re his first day at the Feeney Park Club. He was transferred from Vernon Boys Club in 1952 and, as roached the Feeney Park Boys' about 15 youngsters stood with their hands to greet him, had to make a decision to either ay or advance toward the enemy," he walked towards the youngsters' rocks flew into the air, Mascaro's guardian angel must have been in because none of the rocks hit t decision, which he calls the at decision of my life," began a ship with youngsters that is still y mutual trust and respect. re Leonard C. Paduano said he bers Mascaro as "a man who was r, and a teacher, but most impor- friend. If it wasn't for August E. o, I sometimes wonder what ave happened to Councilmen Don



Former Boys' Club members all, from left, Councilmen Don Zaccagnino, Rocco Bellantoni Jr. and Mayor Leonard C. Paduano.



August E. Mascaro... a happy man

City, Y, Boys' Club to share center

By Edward Frost

Staff Writer

Four months before the expected completion of the New Rochelle Community Center, the City Council has been shown an agreement on who will operate the center.

The agreement, made public Tuesday, splits use of the \$2.5 million building between the New Rochelle YMCA and the Boys' Club, with their members using the building for some programs. The city also would share the building, and run programs of its own.

City Manager C. Samuel Kissinger emphasized that the agreement circulated Tuesday was a draft, and that he expected some problems to arise as the operators learn to work with each other.

"There are going to be battles,"

the programs in it.

Under the agreement, the YMCA will pay 65 percent of the cost of utilities and security and the Boys' Club will pay 35 percent.

Both will be responsible for routine cleaning while the city will handle large-scale maintenance and repairs.

The YMCA is to operate adult programs, including swimming and racquetball, for its New Rochelle members. The Boys' Club will offer youth programs for its members. Each organization sets its own fees.

During Tuesday's meeting, Councilman Francis X. Judge requested a proposal that the YMCA reimburse the city for use of the building. He asked that if the YMCA sells its building at 175 Memorial Highway, it turn the

1983

In 1980 the Southside Boys Club was torn down to make room for the New Rochelle Community Center which would be shared between the YMCA and the Boys Club.

1986

1986 Kelly Johnson became the new Director of the Remington Clubhouse.

New director rallies support for youth



By Scott Benjamin
The new director of the Remington Youth Center of the Boys and Girls Club of New Rochelle says that he is determined to get the center back on its feet. Johnson was born with a heart condition that left him unable to lead him and girls than to most men and women. He is currently 17, the Boys' and Girls' Club, the 25-year-old New Rochelle graduate is employed as a youth worker at the New Rochelle Police Department's Youth Bureau and serves as chairman of the board of the New Rochelle Community Action Program.
"I had a choice to either sit home and wait for a chance to go out and earn some," he said.
While working his living, Johnson has received many community awards. Soon he is slated to be the first in a long-standing career in the town. Since 28 at the Police Department on New Street, Johnson said he is looking forward to the night, but not before he is being honored.
In an effort to improve membership, officials of the Remington Youth Center want to bring in children from surrounding neighborhoods who cannot afford their own transportation. Parents called at the director's office to help toward the purchase of a bike.
"Our staff is good, but we need something to supplement them. We can do as much more. The heart of our club is the amount of volunteers and community support it gets."
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In an effort to improve membership, officials of the Remington Youth Center want to bring in children from surrounding neighborhoods who cannot afford their own transportation. Parents called at the director's office to help toward the purchase of a bike.
"We are not a city organization," he said. "We cannot afford much help. But these kids need role models. And the best thing is to get people from the community to help them."

"IT IS BETTER TO BUILD BOYS AND GIRLS THAN TO MEND MEN AND WOMEN"