

**GREAT FUTURES
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Monthly Moments

News, Events, and Updates

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Issue 20 | December 2022



Welcome to our monthly eNewsletter! Thank you for staying connected to our Clubs.

Our Clubs are now safer than ever. Come see for yourself! We welcome pre-scheduled visits and Club tours. Contact **your local club** for more details. Looking for a membership application? Visit our website to join a Club for just \$5 a year!

It truly is a wonderful experience to make a difference in the lives of young people in Fresno County. Give today for your chance to be a part of the BGC Movement. Visit our **website** to learn more about our mission, values, and programs. Or visit **BGCA** to see how we're making a difference nationally.



A Perfect Holiday for Kids

Forty-Two families were given a perfect holiday thanks to the generosity of individuals and businesses who participated in our annual holiday program-- **A Perfect Holiday for Kids**. This program lets anyone play Santa by donating tailored gifts to Boys & Girls Club families. Donors who sign up for the program receive a family's Christmas wish list. They shop, wrap, and drop off gifts at the Administration Office for distribution to families closer to Christmas.

Clubs hosted holiday parties throughout the week of Christmas (December 19- December 22) to create magical moments with Club members and their families. Staff distributed gifts and in a few cases, families met the givers themselves.

"We were happy to participate in A Perfect Holiday this year for the first time. It was an opportunity to help make Christmas special for a few of the families in the west side clubs. Everyone in our office enjoyed working together and are looking forward to participating again next year," said Phillip Lien, CFO of N.F. Davis Drier & Elevator.

It is an amazing feeling to give Club members gifts during the holidays but it's an even better feeling to see so many community partners come together to create an experience for them. Our goal at the Club is to give the next generation hope for the future and confidence in themselves. A great way to do that is to show them there is a larger community in Fresno who cares about them.

"When I found out UPS choose my family, I was thrilled. My family is the most important thing to me. I tried not to cry. It felt great to be supported during the holidays. My son and daughter were so happy to get their gifts," said one mother at the Zimmerman Club.

This program is coordinated by Sandra Dee Chaney, Director of Community Relations & Special Events. To take part in this program next year or get involved in another way throughout the year, contact Sandra at (559) 266- 3117. You can also make an annual, monthly, or one-time gift [here](#).



[View the full gallery.](#)

Selma Club Gets New Bikes! And one member gets a special gift

On Saturday, December 17th Selma Club members received new bikes from the same group who had sponsored their Thanksgiving event—Kings of Cali Biker Club. The Selma Club took a small field trip to the Harley Davidson store in Fresno, where their bikes were being stored, and were treated to a delicious lunch. One boy did not have a sweater and expressed to Unit Director, Rubie, that he was cold. This led to a caring adult, Elida,



surprising him with a brand new sweater. We are so grateful!

“I was really grateful someone bought me a sweater— and a cool one at that! I love going to the Selma Club. They always find a way to make me smile.”

– said Ivan, age 13.



Gifts Galore...



Pinedale Club's Annual Holiday Party

The Ron Samuel Christmas Party has become a little known tradition in Pinedale. Thanks to the generosity of Ron Samuel and his associates, about 65 beautifully wrapped gifts were handed out to members last Thursday. Pinedale Club members and their families also received a nice hot meal from Luna's Restaurant and a night of fun activities. This year, the gym was full.

“I think the word is out! So many more families came to the party this year and it was amazing. We really love working with Ron and his team. They are so nice and caring,” said Program Director, Jasmine Castillo.

During the party, teens also got gift cards from Fresno First Bank as part of our Things for Teens program, tailored to teens who are too old for Toys 4 Tots gifts. It truly was a magical night to remember.



Keeping Kids Warm: Multiple Coat Drives

Club staff can testify to the large number of kids and teens caught without a jacket during the cold weather season.

Fortunately many community partners stepped up and filled that need. This year we received large donations of jackets and coats thanks to the Fresno Police Department, Burlington Coat Factory, and US Veteran, Ron Vater.

We would like to thank them for hosting coat drives AND would like to thank every individual who gave a coat and helped keep our members warm.

Get involved by donating items, volunteering your time, or giving a gift. Just call (559) 266-3117. Or go on our [website](#).

Facebook Post of the Month

Gingerbread houses at the Clovis Club! Currently, this Club serves about 73 members, age 6-18, everyday. Many of our Club members come from single family

homes, or foster care. The holidays can be hard for everyone but magical moments like this is why kids & teens say the Club is their second home.



Follow [@bgc_clovis](#) Facebook and Instagram to stay connected!

HOLIDAY HOURS

The administration office and all Clubs will be closed on the following dates.

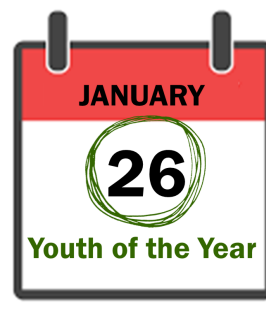
Friday, December 30, 2022

Monday, January 2, 2023

If you would like to make a year-end donation, please contact Kathryn Weakland at kathrynw@bgclubfc.org
Thank you in advance!



Learn More



Learn More

WE ARE OPEN!

Contact a Club to get involved, learn more, and become a member!
Visit our website at www.bgc fresno.org or **visit your nearest Club!**

ZIMMERMAN | EAST FRESNO | WEST FRESNO | CLOVIS | PINEDALE |
JUVENILE JUSTICE CAMPUS | SELMA | REEDLEY | SANGER | DEL REY | ORANGE COVE |
MENDOTA | FIREBAUGH | HARRIS FARMS

CLUB SAFETY

Clubhouses are modified to support small group learning, temperature checks, parent registration, sanitary practices, and social distancing.

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Follow us on our socials!



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BOY