

WACO NEWSLETTER, May-June, 2017

Hello! It's been a busy spring for the Woodfield Area Children's Organization, and it's just begun! Here's an update on what's happening in May and June:

1. Read to Succeed Children's Book Drive – April 24 – May 6
2. National Burger Month, Weber Grill & WACO – May 1-31
3. WACO Scholarship Presentation – Tuesday, May 9
4. WACO's Swim Into Summer Reading Program – May 24 – July 19
5. A look ahead – Coming in July – Wingfest! Discount tickets on sale NOW.
6. "Steak" Your Claim Meat Raffle Update
7. WACO Needs Your Help
8. WACO's Newly-Amended Mission Statement
9. Donate Now
10. Gameworks Works with WACO
11. Updates: (1) After Hours Underwear Collection (2) Pub Crawl (3) Coat Drive (4) WACO benefactors come through with comode!
12. WACO in the News



CHILDREN'S BOOK DRIVE WACO's Children's Book Drive runs from April 24 through May 6. We are collecting both new and gently-used books for children up to age 14. Please drop off your books at any of the following locations:

- Heartland Bank – 321 W. Golf, Schaumburg
- Patrick BMW & Mini – 700 E. Golf, Schaumburg
- Patrick Cadillac & Volvo – 526 Mall Drive, Schaumburg
- Patrick Hyundai – 1020 E. Golf, Schaumburg
- Roosters – 122 W. Lake St, Bloomingdale
- Village of Schaumburg – 101 Schaumburg Ct, Schaumburg
- Walk-In Closet – 107 S. Third St, Bloomingdale
- Weber Grill – 1010 N. Meacham, Schaumburg

WACO thanks all of these establishments for their help with this project. For more info contact Linda McGill 847-209-5513 mcgwilinator@aol.com or Geri McCall-Barrath 847-891-9214 geri031716@gmail.com.



May is National Burger Month and Weber Grill in Schaumburg is commemorating it with a special burger, along with a nice donation to WACO. Every time you dine on an Ultimate Backyard Bacon Burger, Weber Grill will donate 10% of the purchase price to WACO. The burger is the "Ultimate" blend of ground certified Angus beef and cherrywood smoked bacon, cheddar cheese, caramelized smoked onions, bacon aioli, toasted ciabatta bun, crispy pickles and Parmesan fries.



The John Bestmann, Michael O'Malley and Bill Kelly Memorial Scholarships will be awarded to three outstanding high school seniors at 6:30 p.m. on Tuesday, May 9 at Chandler's in Schaumburg. Everyone is encouraged to join us as WACO celebrates some of the area's finest students.



WACO's annual Swim into Summer Reading Program kicks off at the end of May and runs through the end of July. Weber Grill, McDonald's and Chick-fil-A are supplying some of the incentives the children will receive every time they complete ten 15-minute reading units. Children too young to read are included if mom or dad reads to them.





A brief look ahead...Savor the flavor and stay for the fun at

WACO's 17th Annual Wingfest, sponsored by the Daily Herald. Join us at DRINK on Sunday July 30, 2017 from noon to 5PM for: Unlimited wings • Live music by The Big Richards • Two drink tickets • Adults only • Bags Tournament sponsored by Schaumburg Toyota • Eating Contests sponsored by Chandler's • Raffles and more.

Hot, mild, BBQ and creative - we've got all kinds of wings. You get to sample them all and then vote for your favorites. This year's competitors are: Big Iron Horse BBQ, Garsillo's, Harold's Chicken Shack, The Hideout, JL's Pizza & Sports Bar, Moretti's, Neighborhood Inn, Real Time Sports, Rack House Kitchen & Tavern, Rosati's on Wise, Sweet Caroline's, Tap House Grill, and Uno Chicago Grill.

Discounted early bird tickets are on sale now at [WINGFEST](#).



More than 100 people battled the pouring rain to come out for WACO's 3rd Annual "Steak" Your Claim Meat Raffle, sponsored by Nation Pizza and Foods. We raffled off a lot of meat, including crown pork roasts, prime ribs, pub burgers and five 12-pound slabs of bacon. Our net profit was up 17% over last year. A big thanks to Nation Pizza, the meat raffle committee, and all the volunteers who helped to make it a great day. And thank you to everyone who came out to support WACO. Keep an eye on WACO's Facebook page for tons of pictures.



Over the years the community has been very generous whenever we have requested gift certificates for our various events. There is one group of professionals who are routinely underrepresented, the personal service group. WACO would be most grateful if you would reach out to your barber, hairdresser, manicurist, masseuse, cleaning service, etc. and ask if s/he would be willing to donate a gift certificate. In return, we will list their business's name on our website sponsor page for 12 months. Both Wingfest (July) and the Toys for Tots Dinner (December) are coming up and we're already collecting donations. If you need any materials, such as a copy of our brochure or federal tax exemption letter, please contact Geri geri031706@gmail.com, 630.999.1270. Thank you for your help.



WACO When WACO was first conceived our mission focused mainly on providing disadvantaged children with some of the great memories that all children, regardless of their parents' economic situation, deserve. Thanks to a system of great volunteers, and with your financial support, we've been able to expand our mission to include education. Several years ago we held our first book drive, and we added a summer reading program and a school supplies drive in 2015. Recently we added our Learning in the 21st Century and Learning Beyond the Classroom programs.

WACO's Mission Statement

As amended at the 2.14.2017 board of directors meeting.

The Woodfield Area Children's Organization is an all-volunteer, 501(c)(3) nonprofit dedicated to creating positive childhood memories, providing basic needs, along with educational support for children living at or below poverty level in Chicago's northwest and western suburbs.

Maximize your impact



with a matching gift! Every penny counts. Double or triple the impact of your donation. Check with your HR Department to see if you are eligible for a matching donation.

WACO is an all-volunteer organization. We do not have a brick and mortar building, so are able to use .97 of every dollar we raise to help disadvantaged children in the northwest and western suburbs. Your donation today is greatly appreciated.



If you would prefer to send a check, please make it out to WACO and mail it to WACO 725 E. Schaumburg Rd., Schaumburg, IL 60194. Thank you.



In early June, Gameworks in Schaumburg will treat 20 WACO families to something they probably have not experienced before – a lovely breakfast, along with two hours of free game time for everyone in the family. These families have been specially chosen, based on a variety of criteria including parental involvement in the children's education. In all, we expect about 100 people to attend this event. Gameworks has not asked for any publicity for this, but we wanted to toot their horn and thank them for their generosity.



WACO Updates: Thanks to all who came out to WACO's After Hours and Member Appreciation night in February. Several people joined WACO that night. It was a lot of fun and we collected several dozen packages of children's underwear. • Lots of new and old faces at WACO's Annual Charity Express Pub Crawl in March. We had a great time, raised a little money, and what happens on the pub crawl stays on the train. Check out WACO's Facebook page for pictures. • We are currently going through all the coats collected at our End of Winter Coat Drive. We don't have an exact count yet, but the number of coats collected has easily surpassed all of our other coat drives. Thank you! • And thanks to WACO members Donna and Dan Yohe for providing a like-new commode for one of the agencies we serve. The Yohe's neighbors decided they wanted a taller commode and Donna and Dan snagged the regular size "throne" for WACO.



WACO in the News – click on these links for our most recent media coverage:

[Scholarships](#) [Coat Drive](#) [Meat Raffle](#) [Book Drive](#)

Take care and hope to see you soon,

Geri

Geri McCall-Barrath

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The Woodfield Area Children's Organization is an all-volunteer, 501(c)(3) nonprofit. Since 1979 WACO has been dedicated to creating positive childhood memories, providing basic needs, along with educational support for children living at or below poverty level in Chicago's northwest and western suburbs. A full 97 cents of every dollar we raise goes to help the kids. Visit our website <http://www.waco4kids.org/> or like us on Facebook <https://www.facebook.com/waco4kids/>. By the way, it's whack-o, not way-ko.