



YMCA of Central Ohio  
Leaders Club  
130 Woodland Avenue  
Columbus, OH 43203

NURTURING THE POTENTIAL OF EVERY YOUTH AND TEEN



FOR YOUTH DEVELOPMENT  
FOR HEALTHY LIVING  
FOR SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY

# COME TO LEARN RETURN TO SERVE

YMCA OF CENTRAL OHIO

40 West Long St, Columbus, OH 43215

Fall 2011

[ymcacolumbus.org](http://ymcacolumbus.org)

## LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT - LEADERS CLUB



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### ENJOY THIS ISSUE?

Feel free to share this newsletter with anyone who you think may find it useful.

### QUESTIONS, COMMENTS, IDEAS?

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### LEADERS CLUB DEVELOPMENT TEAM

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## BE A BUDDY NOT A BULLY

Compassion and anti-bullying were the themes of the annual Ohio Rally, a gathering of Leaders Clubs from all over the Great Lakes area, Ohio, West Virginia, Michigan and Indiana. From March 25-27, one hundred thirteen Leaders Club teens and Advisors gathered at YMCA Camp Willson to reconnect with friends, share new experiences, and explore new ways to stop bullying and to celebrate diversity.

### "Bullied" movie screening

A 40 minute documentary was shown portraying the story of a courageous young man who sued his school for doing nothing to stop the years of violent harassment and bullying he was subjected to. A follow-up discussion was led by Kaleidoscope (Columbus' GLBT Youth Center), exploring difficult subjects such as the bystander effect, and how to stand up against bullying.



Leaders Club All-American Sponsor



Additional funding for Leaders Club was provided by:

Grange Insurance  
Group Benefits Agency  
Donatos  
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Kegler, Brown, Hill & Ritter  
Robert J. Weiler  
White Castle

**Be a Buddy, continued**

**A Changed Life**

After the 2010 Ohio Rally, a Leaders Club member’s mother contacted his Leaders Club Advisor. At the Rally, he had shared with everyone his struggles with bullies and getting picked on. This is what his Advisor had to say:

“Through tears she (the young man’s mother) told me that he had the time of his life (at Leaders Club;) he told her it had changed him. He wants to go to school and meet with teachers and guidance counselors and try to start an anti-bullying campaign. He felt comfortable there (at the Rally). He met new friends, friends that he can fit in with. This young man had finally found a place where he can be himself, where he can belong—Leaders Club.”

**UPCOMING EVENTS:**

- Skills Retreat at Camp Willson  
Sept. 24-25
- Keep Columbus Beautiful!  
Oct. 22nd, 9-11am
- Black Swamp Service Weekend  
November

**PITCHING IN AT THE CAP CITY MARATHON**

Leaders Club volunteers from the Hilliard, Garver, Grove City, Ward, Gahanna and Hilltop YMCAs participated in the Cap City Marathon. The teens started by setting up tables and assembling cardboard trash cans, then set up cups of water for the runners.



Leaders Club teens handed the cups of water to the runners during the marathon. After the event, they cleaned up the area by picking up the trash and by tearing down the tables. Leaders Club teens finished their marathon 7 hour volunteer day with high spirits, and a sense of accomplishment.



**ROOT, ROOT, ROOT FOR THE HOME TEAM!**

Take me out to the ball game! Peanuts, hot dog races, and hanging out with Louseal (the Clippers’ Mascot) only begins to describe the exciting evening at the Columbus Clippers game on May 20th. The Leaders enjoyed their free baseball gloves and rooftop seats, representing their Clubs with pride.



**A LEADER IN THE MAKING**

**LAURA CAUGHRON**

Laura Jean Caughron has been with the Grove City Leaders Club for 3 years. She has served as a member, president, and now she serves on the Leaders Club Board. Laura is very passionate about her involvement in Leaders Club. She has been an important part of the planning process for many of our activities, including the Ohio Rally, along with other members of the Grove City Leaders Club.

Laura’s dedicated service to the Grove City Leaders Club has helped make it a thriving, vital teen force in our community. She exemplifies our core values and what Leaders Club is all about. We are proud to have her as part of the team.

**FIND A LEADERS CLUB IN YOUR AREA**

YMCA BRANCH	M	T	W	TH
Eldon & Elsie Ward Family YMCA 614 252 3166	6-7 pm			
Liberty Twp/Powell YMCA 614 839 9622			3:45-4:45 pm	
Grove City YMCA 614 871 9622		6:00-7:00 pm		
Hilliard/Ray Patch YMCA 614 334 9622			6:30-7:30 pm	
North YMCA 614 885 4252				4:00-5:00 pm
Jerry L. Garver YMCA 614 834 9622			6:00-7:00 pm	
Hilltop YMCA 614 276 8224				6:00-7:00 pm
Vaughn Hairston YMCA 614 539 1770		6:00-7:00 pm		
Gahanna YMCA 614 416 9622				6:30-7:30 pm

**LEARNING TO LEAD**

My name is Robert Siegfried. I have been a member of the Hilltop YMCA Leaders Club for six years. This year was the fourth time I attended Leaders Training School (LTS) at Mount Union College in Alliance, Ohio. I have grown a lot from all those years of LTS!

Leaders Training School’s motto is “Come to Learn, Return to Serve.” You go to LTS with an open mind, you learn new skills, then return home a week later to serve the community in many ways.

The last night of LTS, our squad leader gave a “Straight from the Heart” session. We, the Leaders, were given the opportunity to say what was in our hearts and about any problems that were weighing us down. This was an opportunity for my voice to be heard, and to get some things off my chest. Without LTS and the awesome people to support me, I might not have been able to graduate and to continue to strive for success in college.



Ward Family YMCA Leaders Club at Leaders Training School Friday Night Banquet