Moving to Cog Hill:
Exciting changes for the Marklund Golf Classic

Cog Hill Golf & Country Club has been saving avid golfers since 1927, and Marklund is thrilled to be bringing the 35th Annual Golf Classic to its championship-level courses this summer.

Set for Wednesday, June 7, the event will now include brunch, a morning shotgun start, and an early cocktail dinner, auction and award program. Cog Hill, with four 18-hole courses, the most famous named "Dubsdread," has been home to PGA tournaments including the Western Open and the BMW Championship. It is located in the south suburb of Lemont.

"Cog Hill is one of the most well-known courses in the Chicago area so we are looking forward to presenting our event there this year," said Marklund President & CEO Gil Ferguson. "It will be exciting to connect our longest-running fundraising event with Chicago golf history."

This year's format includes moving up the start time (which ends the event earlier), offering a delicious brunch to participants, and introducing the final annual Porter Cup Championship. Offered by the event's main sponsor, Porter Pipe & Supply, the Porter Cup Trophy will be presented to the lowest scoring foursome competing on Dubsdread and will be kept by the winner until a new champion is crowned the following year.

Registration is underway, with new sponsorship and golfing packages available. All details are available on Marklund's website at www.marklund.org/golfclassic. For more information, contact Jeanine Zupo, Signature Event Director, at jzupo@marklund.org or 630-543-5445.

Event Co-Chairs
Bud Porter and Jim Porter

Event Co-Chairs
Tim Adkins
Darrin Barr
Jim Deisbourz
Bill Dixen
Santina Gearhart

Event Committee
Linda Kowalski
Tim Kueker
Paul McKay
Rene Nye
Mark Porter
Mark Raty
Kevin Rothe
George Webster

Auction Committee
Adara Fako
George Fako
Janet Probst
Jeff Probst
Joanne Webster

Presented by

Wednesday,
June 7, 2017

9 a.m.
Registration
Brunch Buffet & Bloody Mary Bar
Driving Range & Auction

11 a.m.
Shot-Gun Start

4 p.m.
Cocktails & Dinner
Auction & Awards

Introducing our NEW logo!

We are proud to present Marklund's new logo, which we feel better represents who we are today as well as our future as an organization.

The new symbol continues to use the purple and orange that we are known for in the community. The orange triangle signifies our three primary areas of service: residential, educational and vocational. The two colors in the underline allude to the name of our first client – Mark William Lund – as a reminder that our history started with Mark, and to emphasize that our mission is a promise that we make to every person we serve: to make everyday life possible for individuals with profound disabilities.

Residential
Vocational
Educational

OUR VISION
A happy, safe, purpose-filled life for every individual with intellectual and developmental disabilities.
Marklund’s 21st
Top Hat Ball
Breaks Fundraising Records

“The Gatsby Ball,” Marklund’s 21st annual Top Hat event, broke all past fundraising records by netting $646,700. The event, Marklund’s largest fundraiser each year, recently took place at the Chicago Marriott Downtown on the Magnificent Mile. The net proceeds from the Top Hat Ball have steadily grown over the past five years, almost doubling since 2013.

Having the “Gatsby” theme, this popular event allowed nearly 600 guests the chance to step back in time to the Roaring Twenties, when prosperity and jazz were all the rage. Women celebrated new “flapper” fashions, the Charleston was on every dance floor, and speak easies were the place to be. The lavishness of this unforgettable era was evident at the event in beautiful art deco décor, large feather plume centerpieces, long beaded necklaces and fringed fashions, and live Gatsby-era character actors mingling with entertaining guests.

One of the highlights of the evening was a surprise $100,000 dollar-for-dollar match offer made by a guest, during the Fund-In-Need paddle-raise portion of the live auction. “The generosity of those in attendance at this event year after year continues to amaze us,” said Gil Foeger, Marklund president and CEO. “We are thankful and humbled that they choose to support our mission of making everyday life possible for individuals with profound disabilities.”

Money earned at fundraising events such as this help Marklund bridge the large funding gap created by the state of Illinois, of $17,000 per year for each of Marklund’s 144 residential clients.

Bud and Binna Porter of St. Charles presided over the evening’s program as the Top Hat Ball Event Chairs. “What a true honor it is to chairing Marklund’s Top Hat Ball for the second year in a row! This organization has grown so near and dear to our hearts, and we are humbled to serve in this capacity.” Bud stated. “Each year we are in amazement at the selfless giving and support of so many loyal donors—each person, truly, impacting our community in big and bold ways.”

Among the guests of the evening were former Chicago Bear Jim Osbourne and Roland Harper, as well as officials from United Airlines and Six Flags. Other guests included parents and families of Marklund clients and students, Marklund employees, as well as representatives of some of the event’s major sponsors including BMO Harris Bank, Porter Pipe & Supply, Schmidt Steel, Slumen Insurance, The Hartford, Trust Company of Illinois, Viking Travel Service and the Donahue and Marnane families.

To see photos from the event taken by professional photographer Chris Guille, or to watch the Top Hat Video shown at the event, visit www.marklund.org/tophatball.

SAVE THE DATE
for Marklund’s 22nd Top Hat Ball, Feb. 3, 2018, at our new venue, The Marriott Marquis at McCormick Square!

Aon Named Marklund Friend of the Year

In addition to the fundraising auctions and raffle activities, the Top Hat Ball has traditionally served as the setting to announce Marklund’s “Friend of the Year.” This year, Aon, a global insurance and risk management corporation, and a longtime supporter of Marklund, received the award, the first time it has ever been given to a corporation rather than an individual or family. Don Ortega of Naperville, accepted the award on behalf of the company and the several Aon representatives in attendance.

“Aon has a long history of supporting organizations who advocate on behalf of and directly serve members of our community that have special needs...We value the tremendous impact that Marklund has had on individuals and families. You (the staff) do make everyday life possible for so many with profound disabilities. Thank you for honoring Aon tonight,” he said.

Run, Walk & Roll Registration Opens Soon

Marklund is celebrating 5 years of running, walking and rolling to make everyday life possible for individuals with profound disabilities. Event date is Sunday, October 22, 2017. Registration opens in April!

For up-to-date race details and exciting announcements regarding the 5th Anniversary, check out www.marklund.org/5K.

Fitch Healthcare presents

Run 5K/1 Mile
WALK AND ROLL
An education for student, peace of mind for parents

For Ann and Mike Hacker, Marklund Day School in Bloomington provides more than a high-quality education for their son, Ted. It provides peace of mind, knowing he is in capable hands.

"Marklund is a comforting place," Ann said. "All of the staff have a high skill level. We don’t have to explain medical terms -- they understand them. We know when Ted goes to school, he will be well-taken care of."

Ted, 17, who has cerebral palsy, has attended Marklund Day School for the past five years, and is currently in the high school multi-needs classroom. In addition to receiving an individualized education program, which includes technology-based curriculum (individualized iPads, voice-output switches, assistive- adaptive technology) and sensory-integrated programming, Ted receives health services through the school’s highly qualified nursing staff.

"Medically, other school programs couldn’t compare," Ann said. "We have to pinch ourselves sometimes -- it’s huge. Marklund takes Ted’s care seriously and provides great support."

In fact, the Hackers credit Marklund Day School staff for saving Ted’s life after he collapsed in his classroom a few years ago.

"Ted may not have survived if Marklund staff were not trained," Ann recalled. "We were really lucky."

When Ted returned to school a few months later with a tracheostomy tube, it didn’t faze his teachers at all. It’s amazing to think of that," Ann said.

"Ted’s story exemplifies how Marklund Day School meets the needs of students who have significant medical needs," said Director of Education Paula Bodrozch. "Parents entrust their child with us. We are in constant communication with parents. That collaboration is a key reason why our students do so well in our program."

"All of the teachers and staff have a good rapport with every student," Ann said. "They know what makes each student smile."

Every now and then, the Hackers got a surprise when looking at photos taken during Marklund school events and activities.

"Sometimes we can see Ted in the background, smiling and interacting with others," Mike said. "It’s a sign that the school is working."

Giving back to Marklund

To show their appreciation, the Hackers and their extended family recently gave financial gifts to Marklund, in honor of Ted’s birthday.

In addition, Ann has played an instrumental role in forming the Marklund Parent Teacher Organization a couple of years ago, and she currently serves as president.

The PTO plays include selling Marklund Day School spiritwear, and recruiting parents to assist with special schoolwide events and activities throughout the year.

"We are so appreciative that Ann pushed to form the PTO," Bodrozch said. "It provides the opportunity for parents to participate in typical school activities, like parties and special events. The PTO also provides another avenue for parents to come together building a volunteer pool, making copies, laminating materials and helping in other ways. The PTO allows parents to be a part of a community."

"It’s an opportunity to give back," Ann said. "The PTO is a place of belonging for Marklund Day School parents. It’s a place where they can get to know and support one another."

Marklund Day School is a nonpublic Illinois State Board of Education approved program that provides high-quality individualized educational and vocational programming for students, ages 3-21, with mild to complex disabilities, including autism. Learn more at www.marklund.org.

CORPORATE PARTNER Spotlight:

B&W
VALEXY

In 2002, one of the first corporations to welcome Marklund to the Geneva community was Baird & Warner of Fox Valley. Spearheaded by realtor Larry Smith, Baird & Warner has supported Marklund in a variety of ways, leading to over $50,000 being invested in our programs and services.

In mid-May, the real estate agency will host its annual bowling fundraiser in St. Charles to benefit Marklund. Residents, families, community friends, and staff are invited to attend the bowling event to mingle and have fun!

Larry always shared how his heart was filled with love by the residents, and he is Marklund’s biggest advocate at Baird & Warner. He has secured additional funding through the national Baird and Warner Goodwill Network to strengthen the partnership with Marklund.

Every year, Larry Smith makes a point to bring new agents to Marklund to meet our clients and show them how the annual bowling fundraiser makes a difference. Marklund is grateful to have Larry and Baird & Warner as a corporate partner.

To get more information about the annual bowling event, contact Baird & Warner of Fox Valley at 630-377-1855.

To learn more about Marklund’s Corporate Partner Program, contact Vicki Krystof, Director of Corporate and Foundation Relations, at 630-593-5482 or vkrystof@marklund.org. Visit www.marklund.org/cp for a list of all Marklund’s partners.

Continue a Lifetime of Support for Marklund

Many people choose to name a charity in their will because they like to support causes that have been important in their life. There are plenty of advantages to making a gift to Marklund in your will, trust or other gift plan. Tax savings are one benefit, but more than that - you can help support the future of children and adults with developmental disabilities living and learning at Marklund.

Different gifts may benefit you in different ways. Find the perfect plan that meets your financial needs and fulfills your charitable interests:

• Gifts Through Your Will – Remembering Marklund in your will can help you reduce estate taxes, and ensure that the exceptional care that our clients receive will continue well into the future.

• Gifts Outside Your Will – Help our mission even faster by making a gift that avoids probate. Name Marklund as a beneficiary on appreciated securities, retirement plans, insurance policies or real estate.

• Gifts That Pay You Back for Life – Receive payments back for your lifetime, save on your current income taxes, and possibly reduce or eliminate estate tax and probate expenses when you make a gift to Marklund in the form of a Charitable Remainder Trust or Charitable Lead Trust.

For more information, contact Chief Development Officer Heather Graves at hgraves@marklund.org.
30th Annual Pledge Run Hits the Road in May

2,000 participants
1,000 motorcycles
80-mile course
Thousands of dollars raised
30 years

Anyone who enjoys riding motorcycles can join one of the Midwest’s largest and longest-running single day motorcycle events this May and help support the care of children and adults with profound developmental disabilities.

The 30th Annual Little Angels Pledge Run takes place Sunday, May 21 this year, starting and ending at Woodstock Harley-Davidson, in Woodstock, IL. Riders must check in by 10 a.m. then leave on the 80-mile route which travels a well-marked, carefully monitored route.

Participants pay a registration fee and are asked to collect pledges donations prior to the ride.

“Our Pledge Run is the first large motorcycle event of the riding season and gives the biker community the chance to break out their leathers and ride together. Everyone ends up back at Woodstock Harley-Davidson for lunch, a live band and a great party,” stated Bob Norman, Elgin Area Organization of Motorcycle Riders (EAO) member and Pledge Run Coordinator.

The Little Angels Pledge Run began in 1988 as a way for the local Elgin Harley Owners Group and the Chicago Harley-Davidson dealership to give back to the Elgin community. When looking for a local charity to support, the group reached out to the Little Angels organization, and found a grateful recipient. From this partnership, the Little Angels Pledge Run was born. The first run had about 100 participants and raised a little over $5,000. Now 30 years later, the Annual Pledge Run has grown tremendously, boastting around 2,000 participants annually. During its history, generous participants have raised close to $5 million dollars for Little Angels. Now the Marklund Waxmond Center in Elgin.

The founding Harley Owners Group which reorganized in 2005 as the EAO, continues their dedication to the organization.

“We all have a great time while supporting our kids at the Marklund Waxmond Center at Little Angels,” states Beth Norman, EAO member and Pledge Run Coordinator. Norman adds “Good guys did indeed wear black. Good guns too!”

All makes and models of motorcycles are welcome.

For information on the Little Angels Pledge Run to register for the event, to volunteer, and to purchase raffle tickets for a chance to win a

2017 Harley-Davidson