



Hundreds of your friends and neighbors used the Galena Art and Recreation Center in 2011.

Dear Neighbor,

How did the Art and Recreation Center impact your family this year? Were your kids or grandkids enrolled in our child care programs? Did you or your kids participate in any of our 11 sports activities? Did you join the Zumba® class or were your kids among the 300 plus a month who participated in free Art in Action classes?

Founded in 1965 by Robert O Buehler, the ARC has been operating for over 40 years as a privately funded non-profit organization.

**Did you know?**

- ARC programs and events reached over 2,500 people in the past year.
- We added a youth basketball camp, a parent/child baseball and softball clinic, adult open gym basketball, year round youth art classes and Zumba® Fitness and Toning.
- The ARC is the only year round day care center in Jo Daviess County, providing 5 separate child care programs:

<b>Moms and Me</b>	mother and children 0 - 5, once a week
<b>Playgroup</b>	2 and 3 year old children, twice a week
<b>Pre-school</b>	children 3 - 5, five days a week
<b>After school/school breaks</b>	children 5 - 12, five days a week
<b>Summer camp</b>	children 3 - 12, five days a week

**PLUS -after school programs at the Galena Primary School and the Scales Mound School.**

**We're doing more with less.**

Budget cuts are everywhere and Galena is no exception. The City of Galena has slashed...

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their annual contribution to the ARC from \$30,000 to \$10,000. We have not yet found a replacement for those funds.

We keep program costs affordable by charging only enough to pay the direct expenses of the programs. Unfortunately, that only covers a third of our total operating budget. Endowments from the estate of Mr. Buehler and from Ray and Helen Brown take care of another third. Every year we are forced to raise the remaining one-third. Traditional events like the Cookie Walk and Taste of Galena (a sellout in 2011) contribute. This year we added a spaghetti dinner and Culvers Kids Night as new fund raisers.

I continue to look for grant opportunities wherever possible. This year we received \$3,000 from the State of Illinois "Quality Counts" Grant Program for tricycles, helmets and computers, \$1,000 from Wal-Mart for after-school programs and \$1,000 from Jo Daviess County Country Fair Charities for sports equipment. We were JUST awarded \$2,500 by the Community Foundation of Greater Dubuque for art programs.

### **Ever changing needs**

Community needs are changing and we're trying to keep pace. We're updating our website to add convenient online registration and program evaluation forms. We hope to add additional music programs, youth/adult Spanish language classes and a multi-cultural dance program in 2012.

### **Won't you help?**

Every year a small group of your most caring neighbors comes through for us in a big way. Yet, even with their kindness and all of the hard work our volunteers put into raising money, we've been forced to draw from the endowments each of the last four years. If we continue to dip into those funds at the current rate, they may be gone **in just five years**. Will you join the fight this year? Please sit down right now and make your tax-deductible contribution. I've enclosed a courtesy reply envelope to make it easier OR go to [www.galenaarc.org](http://www.galenaarc.org) and donate online. Your friends and neighbors thank you.

Sincerely,



Sarah Petersen  
Executive Director

PS Please join us for the 22nd Taste of Galena, February 3, 2012 from 7:00PM to 10:00PM. It's usually a sellout so buy your tickets now online at [www.tasteofgalena.com](http://www.tasteofgalena.com).

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