

WYNDHAM DRAKE GOLD CUP BENEFITS OAK BROOK HISTORICAL SOCIETY

By Karen Martino

In a match that was close throughout, Arranmore defeated Pinecroft 7-6 in overtime to win the prestigious Wyndham Drake Gold Cup at the Oak Brook Polo Club on Sunday, August 13, 2006.

The tournament has been played at Oak Brook since 1962, the year the Wyndham Drake Hotel opened across York Road from the old International Polo Field. Over the years, the hotel has hosted players and dignitaries from around the world, designating it the “*Official Hotel of the International Series.*”



The prestigious Wyndham Drake Gold Cup



Playing for the winning Arranmore team were (from left) Marcelo Frayssinet, Tim Greene, Carlucho Arellano and John Greene.

Trophies were presented by Michael Yaneck, general manager of the Wyndham Drake Hotel (holding trophy), and his children, Nicki and Brian.

Runner-up in the Wyndham Drake Gold Cup was the Pinecroft team (right): Gonzalo Teves, Marianito Obregon, Antonio Galvan and Jim Drury.



The two team captains, John Greene of Arranmore, and Jim Drury of Pinecroft, ride hard for the ball in the finals of the Wyndham Drake Gold Cup.



The first match of the day was a semi-final match in the USPA Butler Handicap, with Morgan Creek defeating Catamount 12-9, to take Morgan Creek to the finals against Arranmore.

The Morgan Creek team (right): Miguel Gutierrez, Vale Aguilar, Julian Aguilar and Dean Kleronomos. Presenting trophies were Michelle Butler; Michael Butler (holding the Butler Handicap trophy), whose father, Paul Butler, founded the Oak Brook Polo Club in 1922; his son Adam; and Carly Jacobson of Tiffany & Co., who graciously donated trophies for the tournament.



The Catamount team, from Grand Rapids, Michigan, was composed of Augusto "Tatu" Gomez, Del Walton, Todd Offen and Scott Devon.

Also pictured are trophy presenters Michelle Butler, Michael Butler, Adam Butler and Carly Jacobson of Tiffany of Co., Oak Brook.

The annual polo fundraiser for the Oak Brook Historical Society's Old Butler School Museum took place throughout the afternoon. Pre-sale tickets were underwritten by Ronald McDonald House Charities, a long-time sponsor of polo at Oak Brook.



The beautiful silver Butler Handicap trophy and trophies donated by Tiffany & Co., Oak Brook.



Friends of Conservation, based in Oak Brook, set up a booth in the field-side tent, to promote their upcoming fundraiser.