



NEWS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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EIGHTH KEYBANK/BASSETT INVITATIONAL RAISES APPROXIMATELY \$100,000 FOR FRIENDS' ANNUAL FUND

Cooperstown, N.Y. – The eighth annual KeyBank/Bassett Invitational took place on Tuesday, May 31, 2005, at The Otesaga Hotel's Leatherstocking Golf Course. The sold-out benefit raised approximately \$100,000 for the Friends of Bassett's Annual Fund, which helps to strengthen Bassett Healthcare's regional initiatives.

As they arrived at the clubhouse, golfers received gift bags filled with golf-related items and KeyBank/Bassett Invitational windbreakers. Following a barbecue lunch, 140 golfers teed up to play 18 holes. Later, golfers and guests gathered in The Otesaga's ballroom for a cocktail reception and buffet, and presentation of awards.

Scott Barrett, executive director of the Friends of Bassett said, "We especially thank KeyBank for its extraordinary leadership support along with the generous individual and corporate contributions from more than 30 sponsors. From the prizes to the golf to the dinner, it was a great event that benefits patient care across Bassett's entire eight-county region. I commend the members of the 2005 Invitational committee – Chuck Hage, Walter Dolan, Jim Empie, Roger MacMillan, M.D., David Muehl, Don Pollock, M.D., Bob Schlather Esq. and Dan Spooner – for their dedication and for volunteering their time and expertise to make this fund-raiser another success."

After scores were tabulated by Dan Spooner, director of golf at the Leatherstocking Golf Course, winners were announced. First place – low net – went to Hamilton Critical Care and Emergency Medicine Consultant's foursome, Connie Jastremski, Mike Jastremski, Pat McKenna and John Pennisi. Second place – low net – was secured by the Laborers' Local 17 LECET foursome, Chris Cerone, Mike Donnelly, Jeff Dorio and Dean Tamburri. Third place – low net – went to Angelica Textile Services foursome – Chris Fisher, Kim Older, Len Rauch and Larry Varecka. Coming in as the fourth-place low-net foursome was Pillsbury Winthrop Shaw Pittman' LLP team, Leo Crowley, Tom Grates, Tony Partenza, and Jeff Woepfel.

Ping G2 drivers were presented to each member of the first-place foursome; Callaway Heavenwoods went to members of the second-place foursome; FootJoy Pro DryJoy golf shoes went to the third-place foursome; and Cleveland sand wedges went to the fourth-place foursome.

In the low gross category, Rueckert Advertising & Public Relations LLC's foursome of Dean Rueckert, Chris Rueckert, Jim Ryan and Paolo Grandjacque took first place. The MVP Health Care foursome made up of Rupert Brady, Stanley Jones, Daniel Couser and Chet Schneider secured second place. First-place winners won Cleveland Launcher drivers; second-place winners will enjoy their new Odyssey White Steel 2-Ball putters.

Leatherstocking Club shirts were won by Tom Birkemeier of McCarthy Building Companies for straightest drive and Dave Muehl, an individual player, for closest to the pin. Allison Quinn of Tougher Industries, won a Leatherstocking Club shirt for Longest Drive/Women and Rupert Brady, MVP Health Care, and Jeff Diorio, Laborers' Local 17 LECET, both received shirts for a tie in the Longest Drive/Men.

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Corporate sponsors that supported the 2005 KeyBank/Bassett Invitational were KeyBank, tournament sponsor; The Otesaga Hotel, greens fee sponsor; Cannon Design and McCarthy Building Companies, Inc., lunch co-hosts; Pillsbury Winthrop Shaw Pittman LLP, prize sponsor; Matco Electric, cocktail reception host; and Laborers Local 17 LECET, putting green sponsor.

Golf cart sponsors were Buffalo Hospital Supply Inc.; County Club Chevrolet and Otsego Automotive; Mang Insurance Agency/Mirabito Fuel Group; and Welliver McGuire Inc. Eastern Painting Company and Liberty Mutual Group were beverage cart sponsors. CDPHP was the Bassett bridge sponsor. Tougher Industries, Inc., was gift bag sponsor, and scoreboard sponsor was the Leatherstocking Region Federal Credit Union.

Hole sponsors were Angelica Textile Services; Bieritz Insurance Agency; Drogen Electric; Hamilton Critical Care and Emergency Medicine Consultants, PC; Health Capital Partners LTD; The Law Firm of Napierski, VanDenburgh & Napierski, L.L.P.; LeChase Construction Services; Medical Liability Mutual Insurance Company; Mid-Hudson Cablevision; MVP Health Care; Otsego Ready Mix, Oneonta Block Company, Pickett Building Materials; Pepsi Bottling Group of Utica; Plumbers & Pipefitters Local 112; Postler & Jaeckle Corp.; Rueckert Advertising & Public Relations LLC; SmithBarney, Matthew J. Sohns; and Spheris. The 19th-hole sponsor was New York Central Mutual Fire Insurance Company. No holes-in-one were made on target holes, therefore the 2005 Dodge Stratus and 2005 Ford Focus that were provided by Delhi Motor Company Inc. and Smith-Ford Cooperstown/Norwich went unclaimed.

Corporate sponsorships are available for the 2006 Invitational and other Friends of Bassett special events, including the 2005 Bassett New Year's Eve Gala and the third annual "Heart of the Matter" Patient Education Benefit Luncheon, which will be held at The Otesaga Hotel on September 23. For information on corporate sponsorships, call the Friends of Bassett office at (607) 547-3928.

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PHOTO CAPTION:

Rueckert Advertising & Public Relations LLC's foursome secured first-place in the low gross category at the 2005 KeyBank/Bassett Invitational on May 31. During the awards reception at The Otesaga Hotel, (left to right) Dan Spooner, the Leatherstocking Golf Course's director of golf, awarded Cleveland Launcher drivers to Chris Rueckert, Dean Rueckert, Paolo Grandjacque and Jim Ryan as Mike Stein, Bassett's executive director of community and government affairs, offers congratulations.