

# Charity Begins at Home

The Discovery Land Company Foundation supports local youth, community and conservation charities

**MIKE MELDMAN'S OLDEST SON** Hunter was just 17 years old when he proposed expanding Discovery Land Company's charitable efforts with a specialized entity that would focus on each club's neighboring community. Mike liked the idea, and less than two years later,

as nonprofit organizations that provide affordable housing, medical aid, educational and literacy assistance, and youth arts and sports activities. In an effort to preserve the natural beauty that surrounds each club, the Foundation also funds groups that are dedicated to environmental awareness and conservation.

Foundation grants start with Nichols' detailed research in each community and with recommendations from club members, residents and staff. Nichols and her team then thoroughly investigate each endorsement and confer with local advisors—such as state legislators, child development specialists, court advocates and shelter directors—to gather objective advice, make valuable contacts and get in tune with the area's needs. “So much thought and effort

these shelters and foster care residences.”

Another recipient of the Foundation's resources is H.O.P.E. Farm, an after-school program in Fort Worth, Texas, for boys without fathers. “Discovery has been most instrumental in organizing and putting on a world class golf tournament to benefit their program,” says professional golfer Ben Crane. Each year, between 10 and 12 top PGA golfers take a side trip from the EDS Byron Nelson Championship to play at Vaquero for this great cause. “We have been able to raise close to a million dollars



over the past three years for both H.O.P.E. Farm and another great organization, Justice For Children International,” continues Crane. “Thanks to Discovery and its foundation's support, these boys are given a chance for a better hope and a future.”

The Foundation is funded by direct contributions from the partners of Discovery, its residents and members, and in-kind donations from staff. The Foundation also sponsors benefit events such as golf tournaments and auctions, that directly support the communities where the events are held. “For these events, the Discovery project pays every cost of funding the event,” says Nichols, “so that 100 percent of all money donated goes to the charities.”

Members who are interested in additional information about the Foundation—including a list of the charities it currently supports—can learn more at [www.discoverylandco.com/dlc\\_foundation](http://www.discoverylandco.com/dlc_foundation) or contact Christy Nichols at [cnichols@discoverylandco.com](mailto:cnichols@discoverylandco.com)

KIMBERLY SMITH

Opposite page: Young members decorate shirts at the Gozzer Ranch Barn Dance benefiting The Children's Village, a local charity in Coeur D'Alene, Idaho.



Foundation director Christy Nichols with her son, Hunter Meldman.

under the guidance of director Christy Nichols, the Discovery Land Company Foundation has greatly increased the amount and impact of its giving. The younger Meldman stays actively involved, and is a member of the Foundation's board of directors.

The Foundation's mission is to aid programs that develop and operate quality foster care services for children, which include stable residential facilities, access to education and scholarships, and employment opportunities for teenagers at a Discovery business. The Foundation also supports existing charities that share its goals, such

as nonprofit organizations that provide affordable housing, medical aid, educational and literacy assistance, and youth arts and sports activities. In an effort to preserve the natural beauty that surrounds each club, the Foundation also funds groups that are dedicated to environmental awareness and conservation.

Children's shelters located near Mountaintop Golf & Lake Club in North Carolina's Jackson County, for example, are among the organizations that benefit from the Foundation's care. “We talked to some community leaders to find out what their exact needs are, and we are supporting several of those,” says Nichols. “We have had an immediate and direct impact on the children in

## DLCF Announcements

**The DLC/CLB Golf Classic Benefiting the Discovery Land Company Foundation and the Casey Lee Ball Foundation**  
January 20th & 21st, 2008  
La Quinta, California

# COMMUNITY CENTER



Harvest Moon  
APPLE