

## Chipping In

by admin

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Lots of law firms have golf tournaments to compete for prizes, but one six-lawyer firm gathers its clients and friends to shoot for more charitable aims.

At a recent annual golf outing sponsored by Boston's Pierce & Mandell, more than 80 participants teed up their shots on a tough par-three hole to benefit the Eddie Mandell Scholarship Fund, which provides "last dollar" assistance to graduates of Boston public schools who need financial help to get to college.

Each of the players made donations for a chance to double their money by hitting the green, and the result was more than \$2,600 raised to benefit college-bound students.

Golf outing Chairman **Robert R. Pierce** reports that most players who did make the shot also donated their winnings to the scholarship fund.

The firm made a contribution to the fund for all players who scored net 90 or better after taking account of their handicaps, for more than \$1,000 added to the pot, and it auctioned off a box of premium locally distributed GINA cigars for \$300.

Participants also took a chance to make a challenging putt for \$10,000, but nobody pulled it off.

**William M. Mandell** says the firm raised a total of more than \$4,000, adding that it has combined golfing with philanthropy for the past six years in memory of his late father, who died of cancer in 1996.

"My dad grew up in Boston and went to public schools, but he could not go to college," Mandell recalls. "He used to say he graduated from the U.S. Marine Corps, but he knew college opened doors for people and he helped a number of kids to get there. So we looked for a way to honor his memory and came up with a scholarship fund."

Mandell says the firm also pays all golf fees for participants in its annual outing because it is "a great way to give something back to major referral sources, as well as clients."

Regular players at the annual event include: **Frank Clemens**, general counsel of a Connecticut client, who is related to Samuel Clemens, a/k/a Mark Twain; former Boston College basketball star Joe Beaulieu; and a few of Boston's best bartenders from the 21st Amendment and the Tournament Players Club.

Mandell also boasts that the tournament annually features "all of the Frank Feeneys who are practicing law in Massachusetts," including **Francis J. Feeney** of Boston and **Francis P. Feeney** of Watertown.

He says the firm expects to make two scholarship awards with the money raised from this year's tournament, and the amounts raised continue to rise steadily from year to year.

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