

December 2008 - March 2009

# The Cowbell



The Newsletter of the Lancaster Barnstormers Baseball Booster Club Volume 1 Number 4

## The Winter Edition

**What do baseball fans do during the winter?** Other than pine for baseball season to start again, keeping track of “how many days to go,” and rehashing the triumphs and challenges of the previous season, if they’re Booster Club members, they also stay busy - electing new Officers and Board of Directors members to lead the Club, meeting to discuss plans for the next season, doing charitable work to help feed Lancaster’s families in need, and getting together with fellow Boosters to celebrate the Holiday season. As we go to print with this Winter edition of *The Cowbell*, there are less than 90 days left before Opening day. We’re more than ready for that first shout of “Play ball!” and we hope the 2009 season sees more Barnstormer fans become Boosters – to help us continue and expand our activities to support our Barnstormers’ team and their families.

### Committee Reports

Each edition of the newsletter highlights a variety of committees and their activities, depending on what’s going on that month. The Committee Chairs, or their designated representatives, provide the reports.

#### Activities

**The Booster Club picnic**, enjoyed just after the end of the 2008 season, was a great success. Held at the stadium on October 4th, the picnic was filled with good food, great conversation and wonderful fun. It was nice to be able to get together, socialize and reminisce about the season that had just ended. Congratulations to Evelyn Lefever who was the proud adoptive parent of the baseball bear that was donated to the club.



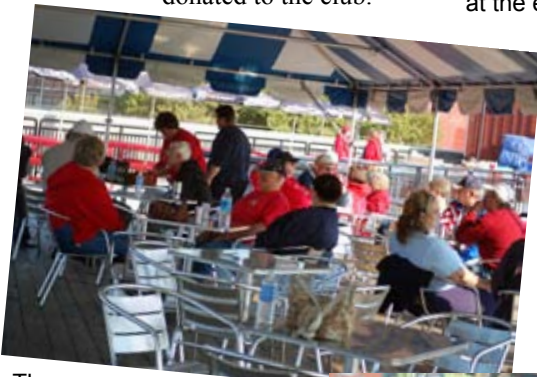
Cylo & Downtown sumo wrestling at a York game at the end of the 2008 season

We all had a great time at our First Annual Holiday Gathering, held at Dutch Apple Dinner Theatre in December. Our members enjoyed a wonderful buffet and were dazzled by an enthusiastic performance *A Christmas Carol*.



The Booster Club gathers by the Christmas Tree in the Dutch Apple Dinner Theatre lobby.

The surveys were very helpful and the results for the individual categories have been shared with the appropriate committee chairs and all board members. Thank you to all who filled out a survey.



The Booster Club Picnic

During the off-season, the Activities Committee put together a survey for members to voice their opinions and ideas about different activities the club may offer to members.



The Activities Committee looks forward to bringing you exciting new opportunities in the new year. Please keep checking the website for updates.

*Lori Baxter, Activities Committee Chair*

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# Committee Reports...

*continued*



## Charitable

**T**om Fasnacht, organizer of the Lancaster County Project for the Needy, deemed the annual food distribution a huge success again this year.

Recipients started lining up outside the main gate of Clipper Magazine Stadium at 9:30 pm on the 23rd. Those early arrivers braved cold weather and freezing rain, before the gates were opened at 6 am. The Barnstormers allowed them to come inside and line up on the 1st base concourse where they could remain dry until the distribution started.



They were served coffee, hot chocolate and cookies and candy while they waited patiently.

Volunteers were already arriving at 5 am on Christmas Eve, and by 9:30, all of the food had been unloaded, positioned and packed. The first 400 boxes were loaded onto trucks for shut-in distribution and then the whole show went live.

The Boosters were well represented for all phases of the operation, unloading the trucks, packing the boxes, and moving the boxes to the distribution table. We even had the gatekeeper collecting the tickets as the dinners were passed out. After, we helped clean up and took all the tables back to Ace Rents.

As usual, a good time was had by all. Cylo was present as was Santa Claus.



Booster Club members meet in the early morning on Christmas Eve to distribute food to Lancaster's families in need.

Tom Fasnacht asked that I pass on a great big THANK YOU to all the Boosters who volunteered and helped make the giveaway a big success.

I would like to add my personal thanks to all the volunteers who braved the icy roads, the slippery parking lot, and even slicker front entrance to help make this a great success. As always, the Lancaster Barnstormers Baseball Boosters came through and provided much needed help to give those less fortunate a wonderful Christmas.

*James Hannah, Charitable Committee Chair*

## Finance

**T**he Finance Committee is happy to report that new and renewal membership fees and money from our winter activities have been deposited regularly. The details of our finances are reviewed at Booster Club meetings, and you can find the dates for upcoming meetings at the Club website: [www.barnstormersboosters.org](http://www.barnstormersboosters.org). The website also holds all meeting minutes, where you can find out exactly how much money has been taken in and how much has gone out to cover expenses.

As we work on setting up our 2009 season activities, it's important to remember that new memberships – and renewals – will increase our funding, enabling us to do more things for the team and as a club, so please encourage fellow fans of the Barnstormers to join the Booster Club. If you're already

a member, please renew your membership as soon as possible.

It's important to note that we'll also be able to do more fundraising through raffles, etc... now that our 1-year waiting period will be up, so that will provide more opportunities to raise money for the club. We look forward to seeing everyone at the General Membership meetings.

*Deb Heisey, Finance Committee Chair*

## Membership

**T**he Membership Committee would like to thank all the Booster Club members that participated in the Member Survey. We received 41 surveys back. The club members provided some great ideas and comments. This information will be compiled and presented to the new Board of Directors in order for them to plan for next year.

The Membership Committee would like to remind you to keep watching the website, new merchandise will be added. The new

items include a lightweight zipper jacket, fleece jackets, fleece vests, and sweaters. You have until March 1st to order any merchandise with Charter Member 2008 stitched below the logo that you choose. After March 1st, all merchandise will just contain the logo.

*Wes Kurtz, for the Membership Committee*

## Website & Communications

**W**ith this Winter edition of *The Cowbell*, we're publishing our last quarterly/seasonal edition of the newsletter. Starting in April, and running through September, *The Cowbell* will again become a monthly publication, filled with news about the various committees and their activities, pictures of Booster Club members at home and away games, and information about our support for the team and their families as they spend their spring and summer here in Lancaster.

Members who take photos of other Booster Club members at home or away games and participating in Club activities (fundraising, charitable, or otherwise) should send them to me via the [info@barnstormersboosters.org](mailto:info@barnstormersboosters.org) email address. We'll be happy to include them in the newsletters and/or on the website.

Speaking of the website, it continues to be updated continuously with photos, news about upcoming activities, and meeting minutes for both General Membership and Board meetings (usually within just a few days of a meeting). You can catch up on Club news and goings-on for the meetings you missed, and find out when the next meeting will be.

The website also contains info on our newly-elected 2009 Officers and Board of Directors. This includes some new faces – our new president, Jerry Kipphorn, who replaces Deb Ranck, and Mindy Reed, who replaces Vicki Sauders as Secretary. I'd like to personally thank Deb and Vicki for the great jobs they did in our inaugural year, and for their enthusiasm for the Club and its members. Vicki has stayed on as a member of the Board

of Directors (and Chair of the Membership Committee), and we know Deb will continue to be an active member of the club and fierce supporter of the team (especially Cylo!).

In February, a new membership application will be available for download from the website, and as the season draws nearer, we'll have news about the upcoming season, trips to away games, fundraising activities, and where and when you'll be able to find the Booster Club at the ballpark -- fielding your questions, accepting your membership applications and fees, and updating you on Club activities from our table during each Barnstormers' homestand.

The newsletter and website are our main ways to stay in touch with our members and with fans who are considering membership. We hope you'll visit the site often, share the site and newsletter links with fellow Barnstormers' fans, and of course, get in touch with us to share your suggestions for added content and improvements to these two Booster Club publications.

*Laurie Fuller, Website & Communications Committee Chair*



## Booster Club Members BIRTHDAY LIST!

### January

Julia Boyd  
Carl Dommel  
Laurie Fuller  
Scott Geib  
Jennifer Kettering  
Melissa Kipphorn  
Stephanie Lancaster  
John Lewis  
Barb McGee  
John Nagle  
Jeffery Rule  
Lou Semler  
Rosetta Williams  
Glenn Wimer  
Oliver Woodward  
Otto Woodward

### February

Zachary Boyd  
Amanda Breniser  
George Cooper

Vicki Drawbaugh  
Carmen Holcomb  
Sindy Hurt  
Jessica Kuhns  
Olivia Lancaster  
Joy Miller  
Melinda Reed  
Lester Rowe  
Bill Rutter  
Jerry Schwebel  
Ann Talbot  
Shirley Wenger

### March

Christine Dommel  
Martin Heisey  
Nicole Krieider  
Julie Kuhns  
Donald Martin  
Deborah Meck  
Betty Murray

## Attention Lancaster Area Businesses!

Your ad would look great in this spot! We circulate this newsletter online and in print, to many of your potential customers. Check out our Vendors link at our website ([www.barnstormersboosters.org](http://www.barnstormersboosters.org)) or email our new Vice President and Chief Information Dispenser (Lori Baxter) at [info@barnstormersboosters.org](mailto:info@barnstormersboosters.org) for more information on our opportunities to "boost" your business!

**Have a story idea for *The Cowbell*? Send it to Laurie Fuller, via the [Info@BarnstormersBoosters.org](mailto:Info@BarnstormersBoosters.org) email address. Send an article, with or without photos, and we'll be happy to use it in an upcoming edition. Our next edition will be coming out in April, and content for that edition should be received no later than 3/31/09.**

**Thanks!**

Thank You to Vicki Sauders,  
our Membership Committee Chair,  
for providing the Birthday list.



Visit us online at  
[www.barnstormersboosters.org](http://www.barnstormersboosters.org)

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