

The Cowbell



The Newsletter of the Lancaster Barnstormers Baseball Booster Club Volume 2 Number 1

The Green, Green Grass of Home

This has been a hard winter, here in Lancaster County. For baseball fans, the off-season months are tough enough, but this winter has seen us digging and digging (and digging again) through multiple snowstorms, bitter cold, and seeing our beautiful baseball field covered with snow and a skating rink. While we're happy the stadium gets used during the winter and provides a fun winter activity for the residents of Lancaster, we're all looking forward to spring training and seeing the brilliant green grass of the place we all call home for the months of April through September - Clipper Magazine Stadium.

As you'll read in this, our Preseason Edition of *The Cowbell*, the Booster Club has been busy during the off-season - raising money for

Jed Morris' You and Me on a Comeback organization, donating tons (just about!) of baseball equipment for kids to the Orioles Advocates' Cardboard to Leather campaign, distributing food to Lancaster's needy families at Christmas, and having fun all the while. We've elected a new Board of Directors and team of Officers (check the website for details), enacted new by-laws and other governing documents, and planned several great trips and other activities for the upcoming season. It's never been a better time to be a Booster, and we hope that if you're not a member yet, you'll join us.

If you're already a member, be sure to renew your membership. Every Club member counts, because the more of us there are, the more we can do for the team! From cooking meals and donating snacks for the snack basket to cheering them on at away games, our support does make a difference to the players, the coaches, and the fans. Be a part of it! ★



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 & Membership

Greetings from your Membership and Activities Committees!

The Activities Committee held two bowling nights at Leisure Lanes on January 16th and February 20th. Everyone who participated had a great time. Our next bowling night will be on March 19th at Rocky Springs. Complete information can be found on the club website.

This year we have three bus trips planned. We will be going to Somerset on May 23rd and Camden on June 26th. Our first overnight bus trip will be in the fall. We will be visiting Howe Cavern and the National Baseball Hall of Fame on October 9th and 10th. Visit the club website for reservation forms and complete details on all of these trips. We look forward to seeing you all at the upcoming activities.

The Membership Committee would like to remind everyone

that it is time to renew your Booster Club membership. There is a \$2.00 discount for renewing before the end of March. The renewal form is available on the club website. Thank you.

Wes Kurtz, for the Membership / Activities Committees

Player Liaison

The Player Liaison committee has been busy planning meals for the upcoming season. We have reached out to area restaurants to ask for their help. By doing this, we are going to be able to increase our meals to three per month.

If you know of any area restaurants that would be willing to donate a meal, contact Kelley Breniser, Olivia Lancaster, or Deb Greenwood. Again this year we are looking to the membership to cook a meal each month, The first meal being April 15th the theme will be a Taste Of Lancaster. We will be posting the other dates

...continued on page 2...



on the web site where you will be able to sign up to donate a meal item. The snack basket will return again this year and the goal is to have it filled by Spring Training. You may drop items off at the stadium or bring them to a meeting. We are also still in need of the small Verizon yellow page phone books, as these are very helpful to the players.

Olivia Lancaster, for the Player Liaison Committee

Charitable

Late 2009 and early 2010 have been filled with charitable events for the Booster Club!

First, for the third consecutive year, the Club members assisted the Lancaster Project for the Needy with their Christmas Eve food distribution. We gathered around the main gate at the Clipp at 5:30 a.m., perhaps a little weary from not having our morning coffee, but in great spirits because we knew we were helping others. In addition to our Club members, we were joined with Barnstormer Catcher, Jed Morris who decided to join the fun before heading out to spend the holiday with his family.

Second, after he joined us for the food distribution, we joined Jed for You and Me on a Comeback's first ever Bowlerama on January 16th. 171 bowlers came out to Leisure Lanes to help raise

money for his foundation. Our club members not only participated by bowling, but we helped to staff the event. Between the food sales, merchandise sales, silent auction and the proceeds from the bowlers over \$5,000 was raised at the event. In addition, we were there in full force doing what we do best, cheering on our Barnstormers (Jed, Ross Peeples, Aaron Herr, Eric Ackerman, Matt Watson, Kevin Richards, Tom Herr and Bryan Sabatella) as they participated in the Rose Roll-Off against none other than the York Revolution. York apparently has a battery of bowlers extraordinaire that we didn't know about, because they came out on top with the high score and took the trophy which will likely be displayed at their stadium during 2010.

Lastly, we were joined at the January General Membership Meeting by the Orioles Advocates. They visited to share the results of Bob Harden's trip to Nicaragua where they distributed the results of the 2009 baseball equipment drive. Also, they presented our Club with an award to recognize our efforts for assisting in the collection. The 2010 campaign is underway already and the Orioles Advocates will be at our stadium on July 31, to pick up any and all equipment we are able to collect. Last year, they needed to come back with a box truck to pick everything up, so let's try to top last year's collection and they will need an even bigger truck in July!

Mindy Reed, for the Charitable Committee

HOLY OFF-SEASON, BATBOY!



Two months of 2010 are already in the books, Major League spring training for pitchers and catchers is already under way, and it won't be long until we hear the crack of the bats in Clipper Magazine Stadium for the 6th season.

The Booster Club has not taken much time off over the winter. The Club has also had its "Winter Meetings" just like the Major Leagues. I just wanted to update everyone on some of the activities:

- The Club's By-Laws have been reviewed and updated
- The membership application has been revised and posted on the website
- Bus trips for the year have been planned
- Fundraising plans are taking shape
- Menus are planned to feed the team during homestands throughout the season
- Meetings with the front office are making a difference
- Plans to participate in the "Cardboard 2 Leather" program again are under way
- Additional Bowling nights are scheduled and plans are in the works for a Fall Social

As you can see there are things happening all year long with the club.

The members of the Club also participated in great numbers and spirit to support Jed Morris and his foundation's "You and Me on a Comeback" Bowlerama in January. We had great support from the public and businesses with donations for prizes and a silent auction.

I would like to take this opportunity to "pat everyone on the back" for your help and dedication to the Lancaster Barnstormers Baseball Booster Club in the past. And I ask for the enthusiasm to continue in the future for the betterment of Baseball in Lancaster. Let's all see if we can get one new member to join your club this year to expand our cause for the Barnstormers and the Booster Club.

One last thing: "I hope the Storming White of winter is over"!! And we can get on with "STORMING RED IN 2010!" ★



Thank You, Jim Reed, President, LBBBC



Left: Booster Club members happily brave the cold to help distribute food to those in need on Christmas Eve morning.



Right: The Cardboard 2 Leather award, presented to the Booster Club at our January meeting, to thank us for all the baseball equipment donated to children in Nicaragua.



March Birthdays

**Daniel Bridy
Christine Dommel
Martin Heisey
Nate Herr
Joan Lawler
Holly Mould
Leo Noble
Deborah Paules**



We thank Mindy Reed,
Club Secretary,
for assisting the
Membership Committee
in providing the Birthday list/s.

Meetings!

The next two **Board and General meeting dates** are always listed on the website, but here's a list for 2010 – please retain this for reference, so you never miss a chance to attend a meeting and get involved! We look forward to seeing a strong turnout at General meetings, and hope more members will volunteer for committees.

2010 Board Meetings:

- March 9
- April 13
- May 11
- June 7 (this is a Monday)
- July 13
- August 10
- September 7
- October 12
- November 9
- December 14

... and then because our 2010 term for Officers and Board members actually goes into March, we have dates through March of 2011:

- January 11
- February 8
- March 8

2010 General Meetings

- March 16
- May 20 (this is a Thursday)
- July 20
- September 21
- November 16
- ... and then for 2011:
- January 18
- March 15

All meetings will be held at Clipper Stadium, and begin at 6:30 pm.



Electronic production of *The Cowbell* and hosting for the Booster Club's website are happily donated by Limehat & Company. Visit their website at www.limehat.com.



BOWLERAMA!
 At the January and February events, the Booster Club helped raise money for Jed Morris' organization, "You and Me on a Comeback." A great time was had by all!

Visit us online at www.barnstormersboosters.org

March 2010: The Preseason Edition

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