



President's Corner . . . JJ Sells

Fellow Boosters - I would like to thank you all for re-electing me as your president for the next 2 years. I hope that I can navigate us through what looks like rough waters ahead as our previous funding sources have dried up. To all the incoming new and old board members, I welcome you and look forward to working with you. To those leaving, **thank you for your many years of service**; we are all indebted to you!

On to baseball, the off-season is upon us and as you read this article, we are 1 1/2 months away from the beginning of spring training. I for one cannot wait! I am also glad there will be labor peace for the next 5 years. If you have not yet been to Camelback Ranch, mark your calendars for the last week of March and come join us before the start of the season to get a look at our 2017 edition.

With all that being said, may I wish a very Merry Christmas and a great holiday season to you and yours...and for 2017, GO DODGERS! As always, see you at the ballpark.

Ticket Talk . . . Mae Rosenkranz

While Mae is busy preparing for another great season of Dodger Baseball, she wanted to pass along this reminder for now to those who have purchased Mini Plans for 2017 – your second payment is due in her hands by **NO later than January 23rd**, followed by the third and final one by February 23rd. She's hoping to have a preliminary Projection Sheet to share with us at the January meeting. We plan to mail out the finalized Projection Sheet to everyone by the end of this month in plenty of time to fill it out and turn it in by our February meeting.



Ed Note . . . John Eiden



If you take a look UP at this issue's masthead, you'll notice it states "Volume 60 Issue 1" and you may ask yourself then, what does that mean? Well, this means as we begin 2017, we mark a very special milestone indeed, as this is the first issue of our newsletter's 60th year of publication! And it seems like only yesterday when that premier edition rolled fresh off the mimeograph machine and was handed out to the charter members!

We are planning a few special things throughout this year in the Booster Bits to commemorate our upcoming anniversary. Although this year commences only my 30th year of working on the Booster Bits, I may still have access to some special treasured tidbits I can dust off and share from the bottom of that old chest, handed down from editor to editor. **Stay tuned!**

2017 Meeting Dates . . .

For the first time in 4 seasons, our club's Dodger games will NOT interfere with our regularly scheduled General meetings held the second Monday of each month. At right are the dates of our monthly meetings for 2017. **Meetings start at 7:00 PM**

No meeting is currently scheduled for October, or for the Christmas Party coming in December. Our regular meeting location will be at the Town Center Hall in Santa Fe Springs unless you are notified otherwise later on.

2017 Meeting Dates

Monday, January 9th
Monday, February 13th
Monday, March 13th
Monday, April 10th
Monday, May 8th
Monday, June 12th
Monday, July 10th
Monday, August 14th
Monday, September 11th
Monday, November 13th
Christmas Party TBA

Booster Family Picnic & November Meeting. . .

If you weren't there, **you missed out on one of the most fun and playful picnics ever** – and it was indoors to boot! We had hot dogs and all the fixin's to create your own masterpiece. Members brought all kinds of tasty salads, side dishes and appetizers and don't get me started on all those sinfully delicious desserts! There were plenty of games; some traditional, musical chairs and others not so much, but lots of fun to try your hand at. With all the kids running around having fun and the adults carrying on conversations and laughing, it was indeed quite the experience!

Oh, and we did manage to squeeze in a quick **November General meeting** in there somewhere. Along with the usual reports and updates, we held our annual nominations for our club's officers. Brent Wood volunteered to act as this year's Election Committee Chair and did a splendid, albeit brief, job. After all the nominations were made, seconded and then closed, because there were no contested positions, all the nominees were then declared winners by acclamation.

There was one interesting outcome. Instead of having one person nominated for the open position of Membership Chairperson, two members were nominated to act together as co-chairs. Since there was no opposition to that during the discussion, they were accepted as one nominee and won. Therefore, the following were elected to these positions: President: JJ Sells; Secretary: John Eiden; Membership Co-Chairs: Danee Gallegos & Brenda Marsh; and At-Large Board Members: Michelle Gorum & Brent Wood. They will be joined by these board members starting the second year of their 2-year term on the board: Vice President Alicia Trujillo, Treasurer Olivia Armenta, Ticket Chair Mae Rosenkranz and At-Large Board Members Jeff Marsh & Dorothy Wylie.

With that, we went back for seconds and desserts and had some more fun at our picnic till later that night. **Armida Vasquez** was the lucky one to ride off, having won the raffle for the mountain bike. A great big Thank-You to **Alicia Trujillo** for putting this one-of-a-kind picnic together and to those who helped her out and to all who brought food!



January Meeting Treats And Sweets . . . Michelle Gorum

Welcome back Boosters. It's 2017! Wishing everyone a safe and happy new year. Let's start out the year with a bang and get this party started. Bring your friends and family and join our Booster family. Hope to see lots of new faces. As a friendly reminder, we're looking for members to bring some yummy treats & sweets to our monthly meetings. So, please sign up whenever you can. I'll have a signup sheet for 2017 at the January meeting. Don't worry about remembering your date. When it's your turn, we'll remind you in the Booster Bits. Any questions? Don't hesitate to call me.

Spring Training & 2017 Travel Games . . . Olivia Armenta

Happy New Year to all our Booster friends! As in the past, we are planning a trip to Camelback Ranch during the weekend of March 24-27, 2017. On Friday, 3/24, the Dodgers play the Diamondbacks; on 3/25, the A's; 3/26, an away game at Surprise, AZ vs. the Rangers. We are reserving the suites for the Monday 3/27 game at Camelback against the White Sox. Signups will start at our January meeting. The Dodgers will play the Padres in San Diego on three weekends this season. We are planning our annual club trip for Sunday, May 7th. For those interested, the other weekend dates are around the 4th of July & Labor Day. A June trip to see the Dodgers play the Cleveland Indians & the Cincinnati Reds is also in the planning stage. It is very unusual for the Dodgers to visit two cities in the same state on a single trip. Be sure to come to the January meeting to find out more info and to let us know if you are interested in travelling with the club this coming season.

2016 Booster Blood Drive With City Of Hope. . . Brenda Marsh

Brenda Lotero, our coordinator with the City of HOPE, called to send **gracious thanks** for working with them on the City of HOPE Blood drive in Duarte, September 16th & 17th. We ended our two days with 8 donations, 3 of which were Double RED donations! My thanks to all our members who came to donate and to all those who also came out to greet and promote the Booster Club. I'm looking for any suggestions you have for next year. Please call or text me at 000.000.0000 or email 0000000000@00000000.com. Thank you all for the support with our first Blood Drive with City of HOPE!





Membership Notes . . .

If you are reading this article, as I know you always do, you are reading my last article as your Membership Chairperson for the 2016 season. I'm hoping you had a blessed holiday season and are now looking forward to a wonderful 2017! I'd like to thank you all for giving me this opportunity to be your Membership Chairperson. It has given me the opportunity to meet almost everyone of you in person. In addition, I've also learned a little bit as to why you renew your membership every year and continue to be the heart and soul of our club. We end our 2016 season with a membership of 202 members strong! Our 2017 Membership is now underway. **Let's continue to invite** our family and friends to join our Dodger Booster family. Don't forget you can renew your membership online or in-person at our January meeting. The point is to renew early so that you will be informed of all that is happening with our club and our plans with the Dodgers for our 2017 season. Danee Gallegos and Brenda Marsh have accepted the responsibility as your next Membership Co-Chairs. Let's give them all of our support for a successful 2017 season.

2017 Membership Drive Winding Down . . .

We are in the **final stages of our 2017 Membership Drive**. As you know, your current membership ended on December 31st. If you haven't renewed already, you have until the January 9th meeting to renew without any lapse in your membership benefits – NO more Dodger tickets, group trips and all the other really cool things we do! You certainly don't want your membership to lapse now, do you? Didn't think so!

Renewing online really **is as easy as 1-2-3!** Many of you have renewed online already and have really become old hats and this but just in case, here's one last quick recap - **Step 1** – go to www.dodgersboosterclub.com and on the home page, click on "Join or Renew Online" among the menu options listed on the left margin. **Step 2** – A page will open displaying information about joining. Familiarize yourself with the different membership level benefits; clicking on the hyperlinks to the right of the prices listed to review the benefits for each level. Next, click on the "Join Now" button or "Renew" link in the middle of this page. Now, fill out ALL the requested information on that Membership Information form. Be sure to select "RENEWAL" and not "NEW MEMBER" and digitally sign the form by entering the date in the space provided. Then, enter the text exactly as displayed in the red-lined CAPTCHA code box at the bottom. Lastly, then click on the "Continue to Pay Dues Now" button just below that. **Step 3** – Now you are on our Online Membership store. There you'll see "RENEW – Your Membership", along with the four types of membership. IF you attended at 15 LADBC games last season, purchase an ALL-STAR membership now and you will be manually upgraded later to a HALL OF FAME member. When you are done, click on "Go to Basket" to review your selection(s). When you're ready, then select "Checkout". On the next web page, you can select either "Continue" or "Sign In" and next you'll enter your billing and shipping information. When done, click on "Place Order" and voila – you're done and in no time at all! (Note - you are not required to sign up for a Square account; you can pay as a "Guest" and not provide any additional information.) See, **it really is as easy as 1-2-3!**

If you have any questions, concerns or issues, please feel free to contact John Eiden.

Your 2017 Booster Club Officers . . .

Before we announce your 2017 LADBC officers, we would like to take a moment now to **acknowledge and thank** our two outgoing officers, both longtime and valued board members - Membership Chair **Sandy Zamora** & Board Member **Susan Davidson**. To Sandy & Susan: Words cannot adequately express our thanks and acknowledgment for all the time and hard work you have both given to our club for many years now. We are blessed for your many efforts! Now, of course, neither one of them will be riding off into the sunset; they'll both remain vital and active members of our Booster Club family!

Please welcome our newest officers: Membership CoChairs **Danee Gallegos** & **Brenda Marsh** & Board Member **Brent Wood**. We look forward to great things from you all!

Your 2017 Booster Club Officers . . .

President – JJ Sells – 000.000.0000
 Vice President – Alicia Trujillo – 000.000.0000
 Secretary – John Eiden – 000.000.0000
 Treasurer – Olivia Armenta – 000.000.0000
 Ticket Chair – Mae Rosenkranz – 000.000.0000
 Membership – Danee Gallegos – 000.000.0000
 Membership – Brenda Marsh – 000.000.0000
 Board Member – Michelle Gorum – 000.000.0000
 Board Member – Jeff Marsh – 000.000.0000
 Board Member – Brent Wood – 000.000.0000
 Board Member – Dorothy Wylie – 000.000.0000

Christmas Party Recap . . .

77 boosters, family and friends came together to celebrate at our **59th annual Christmas party** last month. Our room was all decked out, giving many of us our first taste of the Christmas spirit! That same spirit inspired our members to fill up a table with lots of great toys and other gifts for the children served by **Friends of Foster Children**. **Susan Davidson** took two more tables to lay out quite a wide range of great door prizes so that everyone would be able to leave with something! A whole host of great raffle prizes filled up a fourth table. Quite a few members were also able to go home that day with some really great raffle prizes. Each table was dressed with an elegant and colorful centerpiece, (top right) donated and arranged by **Ben Lee** and **Olivia & Vickey Armenta**, thanks so much. Almansor Court's buffet was as splendid as it is ever varied.

This year's guest speaker was **Mark Langill**, Dodger Team Historian & Publications Editor, always a club favorite to hear talk. He chose to focus his talk about Vin Scully and how his last year as our broadcaster unfolded. He shared with us some poignant stories about Vinny, and especially how his final weeks as broadcaster both here and in San Francisco played out. He gave us some great although bittersweet memoirs to take home and gave us goose bumps a couple times. In particular, he shared with us how it came about that Mark was the one who had "given" that 1936 blue NY Giants cap to Vinny that he was so proudly and grandly displaying during his final broadcast. On a lighter ending note, Mark thanked us for allowing him to speak with us so as to avoid a few more hours of a lengthy family event. Besides, he said he loves talking about what most to him with people to whom it matters most. With the rest of his family, it tends to be a matter of "Who cares?" when he talks about stuff like this.

Junior member **Ian Duarte** spoke to us about his experience playing in a baseball tournament in the Dominican Republic this past summer. He also thanked us all for the money the club raised to help out with his expenses from a gift basket raffle done by proud grandma **Dorothy Wylie**.

We were even graced with a quick visit by the man himself - **Santa Claus!** Each child there got to say hi to him and take home a special gift. **Ralph Kaye** took pictures of each kid with Santa as well as several family and group shots. Santa made sure we all knew which team HE roots for! No LADBC Christmas Party would be complete without the gathering for the group photo (see photo) – thanks Ralph! Now for more thank-you's and acknowledgments.

First and foremost, a great big THANK YOU must go out to **Mae Rosenkranz** for organizing this year's extravaganza! A special Thank-You also goes to **Monico Zamora** for contacting Mark Langill to have him be our guest speaker. Thanks also to **Susan Davidson** for another magnificent job of providing all the door prizes and coordinating the raffle prizes. Last but not least to **Dorothy Wylie** for helping Santa and coordinating all the great gifts for the kids' visit with Santa. As all things must, this year's party ended with a festive time had by all, one of the best ever. Filled with gifts, food and pleasant memories, no one left empty-handed.

Raffle News . . . Susan Davidson

Do you want a Dodger item that nobody else has? Well, come to the January meeting to see this cool item being offered up in a special raffle.

It's a custom-made miniature Dodger bar complete with 2 bar stools. It stands 14 inches high and would be perfect for a man cave, your den or wherever you display your cherished Dodger collection!

There will also be other nifty items available in our regular raffle as well. As always, your purchase of raffle tickets helps support our clubs' endeavors.

