

The 50 YARDLINE

President's Message – August 2008

The competition between Cleveland and Baltimore:

Cleveland – the Browns (not sure what the name represents other than experienced underwear).

Baltimore – The Ravens (actual, live birds!).

Baltimore 1, Cleveland 0.

Cleveland – Lake Erie.

Baltimore – The Patapsco River

This one is a push, so it's still 1-0 Baltimore.

Cleveland – The Rock n Roll Hall of Fame.

Baltimore – The National Aquarium.

Take the real animals. Baltimore 2, Cleveland 0.

Cleveland – Jim Brown

Baltimore – Johnny Unitas

#19 rules – Baltimore 3, Cleveland 0.

Cleveland – Jesse Owens (Born in Alabama, grew up in Cleveland, so he's *claimed* by Cleveland)

Baltimore – Michael Phelps

Owens was great, but not the greatest. And not from Cleveland.

Baltimore trumps Cleveland 4-0!

Congratulations to our hometown phenomenon on a record-setting Olympiad. Cleveland commentators can argue as much as they want to about the man from Alabama they claim as their own, but I am one person that will not be swayed – Phelps is the King of the Olympics!

Ladies and gentlemen, the man who has earned the right to be the starting quarterback for the 2008 Baltimore Ravens is.....ah, I'll have to get back to you on this one.

Ami and I, along with everyone else I've talked to, had another great time at our Shrimp Feast. Alan Whatley and his stellar Committee have really nailed down the process for making this event a real crowd pleaser.

Thanks to Steve and Lydia Einig and the rest of their Committee for another wonderful Family Picnic. Ami and I had a great time. Can't wait until next year!

Mary Kistler will have Lottery Raffle tickets at this month's meeting. \$5 per ticket. The numbers will be sold through the end of November and the winners drawn during the entire month of December. This is the last fundraiser for the Social Club, and it will go a long way towards helping decide how big we can make our Christmas/10th Anniversary party. Any help you can provide will be greatly appreciated by all!

Miss Ellen Torres has said that quality book bags are the most needed school item for the children at St. Vincent's. After talking to most of the members of our Charity Committee, we have decided to supply the kids with book bags. This will be a mildly expensive purchase, so we are asking that any Roost member who wishes to make a monetary donation for these "supplies" should bring it to the meeting. If you choose to donate by check, make it out to the Roost. We will of course take an actual book bag, if you would like to donate one! We will have receipts ready for tax purposes.

Further down this month's newsletter you will see an article concerning our Volunteer of the Year. Please read it carefully. Hopefully we will be able to answer any questions at the meeting.

I would like to ask all members to keep the Whatleys and the Lachers in your thoughts and prayers. Alan and Jan lost their dear mum recently, and Carolyn has recently had a pacemaker installed. This following a nasty fall at the end of the Shrimp Feast. Alan, Jan, and Carolyn, we're here for you.

Hope to see everyone soon!

THE 110TH MEETING OF RAVENS ROOST 50

JULY 23, 2008

The meeting opened at 7 pm after our meal at the Club, with Donny Miller presiding. The Pledge of Allegiance was said by all. Guests introduced themselves and the members who brought them.

SECRETARY'S REPORT – Pat

- A motion was passed to accept the June Minutes as published in the July Newsletter.

TREASURER'S REPORT – Ami

- After Ami read the report, a motion was passed to accept it.

COUNCIL REPORT – Glen

- Roost #100 has been named.
- The Council will order 3,000 of Bill West's book "1958 Champs."
- A motion was passed to combine the Constitution and By-Laws.
- Tickets will be available for the February 07, 2009, Bull Roast.
- The Council will give away approximately \$8,000 to charities.
- Roosts 4 and 95 thanked Roost 50 for support at their golf tournaments.

- Submit your information if you would like to run for the Council Board.
- If you want to work at the Training Camp, check the sign-up sheet.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Shrimp Feast

- See Alan W if you need Shrimp Feast tickets. Some are still available.
- The Season Tickets Raffle will go off at the Shrimp Feast.

Golf - Steve

- The Golf Tournament on September 27th needs Hole Sponsors and bottles for the Basket of Cheer. A sign-up sheet is available if you can work the tournament.

IronBirds - Steve

- A good time was had by those attending the IronBirds game.

Crab Feast

- Carolyn announced that the tickets will be \$17 per member and \$32 for non-members
- Only 8 tickets will be given per member until we make sure all members get tickets.

Fellowship -Robin

- Cards have been sent to Mary Whatley, Mary Foehrkolb, Karen Pearce, Kollen Kidwell & Family, and Vickie Weber.

Membership – Linda

- There is no one to vote on tonight.
- Visitors should see me tonight if you want a membership application.
- Membership has responsibilities. Sign up to work at various functions that we have, such as the upcoming Shrimp Feast.

Historical – Ami

- For our 10th anniversary, we need any pictures you may have.

Family Picnic – Steve Einig

- You need to read and sign the release on the front table if you are coming to the picnic.
- Please use common sense when parking in my Mom's neighborhood. Thanks.

December Lottery – Mary Kistler

- We will start selling tickets at the August meeting.

Polar Bear Plunge

- The goal for Roost 50 this coming January will be \$30,000. See the web site to register.
- Mary Kistler is talking to the Special Olympic people to see if we can all go in together.

NEW BUSINESS

- A motion was passed to donate \$600 to the PDK Foundation for their golf tournament. Steve Einig thanked the Roost. See the Newsletter if you want to play in it.
- The Council is having a raffle. We will buy 10 tickets, as we have in the past.
- Help with cleanup tonight.
- Hank asked if the Roost would once again help with a donation to the Family Crisis Center of Baltimore County? He must submit it to the Charity Committee.
- Ellen Torres told us of a bowling event to benefit St. Vincent's Center on October 4th at Timonium Lanes. Teams will be four adults and one kid from St. Vincent's.
- There will be an Ed Block Mini-Golf Tournament on September 20th.

THOUGHTS AND PRAYERS

- We were reminded to keep Jim & Naomi McGuire, Karen Pearce, those in the Services, Police, Fire, Ambulance personnel, Mary Whatley, Vickie Weber, and Huggie.

PRESIDENTS REPORT – Donny

- I waited until the end of the meeting to give this report because I wanted to pay tribute to the four members of Ravens Roost 50 that we have lost.
- First, I would like a moment of silence in tribute to Bob Kidwell.
- We also want to honor the other three members we have lost – Marge Cimino, Tammi Brasher, and Greg Balog.

ROOST 50 ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP APPRECIATION CRAB FEAST ***Saturday, October 11, 2008 7-12, Carney Gun Club: Hot and cold buffet, steamed crabs, crab soup, beer, wine and soda.***

Tickets have already been passed out, and there are a lot of members that are still without tickets. Please verify your ticket sales and turn in any unsold tickets at the August meeting so that your fellow members may be accommodated. If you have collected any money, please bring that to the meeting as well, please make sure checks are payable to Ravens Roost 50! Otherwise, the final turn-in date for money is the September meeting at the latest. See Carolyn Lacher before the meeting or contact her at 410-661-9064.

Family Picnic

I would first like to thank the group who manicured the lawn, trimmed the bushes, and even cleaned out the gutter the Monday before the party. The four of them, Clint Boram, Terry Boram, Linda Smith and Ellen Torres, did a fabulous job. Maybe they have a future as landscapers! Thanks ever so much. I was fortunate to have an excellent committee that included: Brigitte Christian, Bryan Mettee, Carolyn Lacher, Colin Wright, Debbie & Bob Lina, Derek Rubino, Ellen Torres, John & Yvonne Purvis, Linda Smith, Maria Schenning, Mary Foehrkolb, Patti & Jeff Champ, Robin Lewis, Sharon Barger and Vickie Weber. A special thanks has to go out to John Purvis, store manager at Shoppers Food, for all the donations of bread, bakery items, chips and soda. The only setback we had was a short rain storm, but we all blew real hard and it went away. As for the entertainment, I think it's safe to say that the caricature artist was a big hit. We'll be sure to invite him back again next year. In closing, that you all for making the party such a fun family event.

Steve Einig, Chairman

August Menu

On the menu this month will be sliced turkey, homemade dressing, gravy and green beans. Dinner will be served at 6:30 so be sure to get there in time to enjoy the delicious meal.

ROOST 50 GOLF TOURNAMENT

The Roost's golf tournament is fast approaching. For those of you who don't know, it will be held on Saturday, September 27th at 7:30 AM (yeah, I know it is way too early but what are you going to do?). We will be playing at Oakmont Greens Golf Course in Hampstead, Maryland.

We are still in need of donations. We need hole sponsorships (a great deal at \$65 per hole); skill prizes for the longest drive contest, the putting contests and the closest to the pin on all four par 3 holes. We also need items to put in the golfer's goodie bag to will be given to all golfers. If you have anything with your company's logo on it that would go into the bags, we will include it. We are also looking for additional bottles to go into the Cooler of Cheer that we are raffling off. Everything that we get is tax deductible and we will gladly supply everyone who donates anything a letter showing your donation for tax purposes.

We are also need of volunteers to work the tournament. We have nine volunteers so far but we need another seven. The work isn't hard and you will get to join the golfers for a steak dinner afterwards. Please help us make the tournament a successful fundraiser for our Foundation.

PKD Golf Tournament

On Wednesday, Sept. 26 at 8:00am there will be a golf tournament at Rocky Point Golf Course in Essex. The funds generated benefit the PKD Foundation. Last year we sponsored this tournament by purchasing a tee sign and by putting a Roost 50 team in it.

We are doing the same this year. All Roost 50 golfers that are available on this date and are interested in playing need to let me know before the August meeting (8/27).

If we have more than four members interested we will put all the names in a hat and draw names. The first four will be in. The others will go on standby in case any of the selected players have to cancel. We will draw the names under New Business.

Thank you,

Don
410-952-6723
iceman_689@hotmail.com

The Return of our Bull Roast

The responses that were made to the Charity Committee's survey – the pink sheets distributed at the last several meetings – contained one common request – bring back the fall bull and oyster roast. Well, you asked for it, you got it.

We have reserved Columbus Gardens – the same hall as the Shrimp Feast – for Saturday, November 22, from 1-5:30. This is one of the nicest halls in the area, and they've always worked well with us. This was the only slot available in November that did not interfere with a

home game or Thanksgiving weekend. The Ravens play at home the next day, so the time frame should allow for enough recovery time for everyone.

More details – cost, ticket availability and due date, etc. – will come out at the August meeting.

The time frame is short, so we need everyone that's interested to mark the date on their calendar. The hall holds 400 people, and we will need at least 300 to guarantee a financial success. If the interest that seems to be there – judging from your responses, it is – we will go forward. If not, we'll have to wait until next year.

Right now we have our Feed the Families event scheduled for that morning. The Committee will be deciding if they think it will be possible to do both events in one day. We may have to move the Feed the Families day up one week to November 15. This decision will be announced at the August meeting.

Thank you!

Volunteer of the Year System

For the last several years we have used a points-based system to determine our Volunteer of the Year along with the rest of our top volunteers that earn tickets to the Ed Block Courage Awards Banquet. Like any system it has good and bad points, and this year we attempted to refine it to try and eliminate as many bad points as possible. For this Board of Directors, the biggest problem was trying to come up with a way to credit all service fairly. After several months of fine tuning, we thought we had a winner, but when it came time to discuss it we realized that it would be a nightmare to try and make it work. So, we have decided to scrap the points based system entirely.

The Board has decided to institute a membership voting system to determine our top volunteers. **This club functions because of the time and energy donated by its members, so why not have the members elect the people that they feel deserve recognition?!**

Here are the parameters:

- We will ask a minimum of six members to handle the voting for Volunteer of the Year. The only stipulation we have is that no more than 1/3 of the members of this Committee can be Board members. We would also like to have previous Volunteer of the Year winners participate. The Committee will handle the disbursement and collection of ballots, prepare the nominee information for the November newsletter, count the votes, and report the results to the Board at the December Board meeting.
- Nomination forms will be available starting with the August newsletter and the August meeting, and will be available electronically.
- Nomination forms must be received by the October meeting. They may be hand delivered at the meeting, emailed, or snail mailed to the PO Box. Emailed forms must have a date stamp indicating that they were sent prior to 7:00pm the date of the meeting

(10/22). Snail mailed forms must be in the PO Box in time to be picked up before the meeting starts @ 7:00pm.

- For this year, we will count any service starting with the December 2007 Christmas Wrapping Party through the October 2008 membership meeting. Service on the Committee handling this election will count this year.
- Going forward, we will start with the Thanksgiving Feed the Families day and finish with the October meeting the following year.
- The November newsletter will include a list of all nominees, the service they have performed, and a consolidated description of why they were nominated based on the ballots that are submitted.
- Votes will be cast at the November meeting. We will have a copy of the information that is published in the November newsletter for anyone who needs help deciding on whom to vote for.
- The top vote getters will be announced at the December meeting/Christmas Party. The nominee with the most votes will be the Volunteer of the Year and will receive TWO tickets to the Ed Block Courage Awards dinner. The next eight people who receive the most votes will receive ONE ticket to the Awards.
- We have decided to make the Officers and Board members of this club eligible for Volunteer of the Year. However, if an Officer or Board member is voted Volunteer of the Year, he or she will receive ONE ticket to the Awards (an Officer or Board member already receives one ticket), and the next nine members who receive the most votes will get ONE ticket.

It would be next to impossible for us to try and come up with a system that could be truly described as “perfect.” However, we feel that by making this a membership vote, we are putting it squarely in the hands of those that should be deciding who is most deserving of recognition.

Although a lot of members do things without the need to be recognized, there are more than enough who would welcome such recognition, so I do hope that as many members as possible take the time to submit names and in November take the time to fill out a ballot.

Please contact Don or Steve if you would like an electronic version of the Volunteer of the Year ballot.

Thank you,

Don

Volunteer of the Year Nomination Form

