

# Ravens Roost 50 Newsletter



## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE FEBRUARY 2008



*President Don Miller*

It's tough to say good bye. I had to say it to Tammy Brasher several years ago, and now I've had to say it to Marge. I never got the chance to know either one of them as well as I've gotten to know other members, but I can tell you that they were both wonderful girls who touched a lot of lives. My heartfelt sympathy goes out to John and to their children. Marge, I know you're in a much better place, and you will forever remain in our hearts.

The weeks since the January meeting have been very difficult for more than a few Roost members. For my friends that are experiencing bad tidings, please know that all members of the Roost 50 family are with you during this difficult time.

Like all families, we are not all going to agree all the time. At our January meeting a proposed change to our Mission Statement generated a lot of "buzz." The Board has decided to shelve this issue until after the Election next month, with no timetable to revisit it. The Mission Statement will remain the same as it has, so no one will be required to perform any amount of service beyond what they are already doing, or intend to do, in 2008. Please know that we discussed this for a good six months or more. In fact, I have heard discussions about adding service requirements for members since I joined this club. Maybe it would be better to make a Bylaws change versus a change to the Mission Statement. But from the conversations that I've had with several members, the real debate is about having requirements or not having requirements. A lot of clubs require members to perform some level of volunteerism. Should Roost 50? This debate might take forever. One of the arguments for making members serve was that "it seems that a lot of the same people are doing it all." If this is true, is it because no one else will do it? Or is it because these members want to do it? Answering this question might necessitate another survey, which I will not be conducting. Going forward, I personally will be operating with the attitude that whatever happens, happens. If we have enough people to serve, great. I will not worry about who is doing the work. If we generate enough revenue to increase donations from our Foundation, perfect. If we have less to give, so be it. We'll do what we can and we will still be a great partner in our community. If we have enough in the Social Club for a wild and wonderful Christmas party, fantastic. If we have a regular meeting with finger food, I'll still have a good time.

Further down this newsletter you will find a list of our Committees for 2008, including the names of Chairpersons and their email addresses. It's very good to see a lot of new names on the Committees. One suggestion that I received is to have a mentoring program. This member suggested that there may be people in our club that would like to do more but are not sure of what or how to do it. It was suggested that some of our more seasoned members could teach some of the more green ones. With this being said, I have one request: if you are signed up on a Committee and you have served on this Committee in the past, please take the time and show the newer members as much as you can. Keep them involved in the discussions, decision-making, and the leg work. If you are a newer member, please ask questions and try to take in as much as possible. Someday, you might be the mentor! And no matter how long you've been in the Roost, try to enjoy the time that you put in for our Club. Instead of working with other members, maybe you will be making new friends. And please try to have fun while you're doing whatever it is you're doing for our club! Life is serious enough as it is. I know that if I didn't get some laughs while doing things for the Roost I would have quit signing up a long time ago.

Thank you for taking the time to consider what I've blabbed about here. See you soon.

Ami, can I have the remote now?

# PROPOSED BY-LAW CHANGES

These proposed changes (below) were read to the General membership of the Roost at the November 2007 meeting and again at the January 2008 meeting. They will be voted at the February meeting by the membership of the Roost. Please read through the proposed changes so you will be able to vote on them.

## Article VII

### Standing Committees and Their Functions

#### P. Grievance

##### Change line 9.

A final report detailing the incident, a timeline of the investigation process, the Grievance Committee's Disciplinary recommendation to the Board, and the action taken by the Board, shall be prepared and submitted to the Secretary for archiving.

#### S. Travel

##### Change the name

##### Travel and Council Convention Committee

##### Change line 1.

The Travel and Council Convention Committee shall consist of two (2) or more members in good standing. They shall be appointed by the Board.

##### Change line 2.

This Committee shall coordinate and supervise all Roost-sanctioned events involving travel.

##### Add the following:

3. The Committee will organize and coordinate all aspects of the annual Council of Baltimore Ravens Roosts Convention. This will include, but is not limited to, the following:

1. Distribute and collect member's Convention registrations and fees
2. Take Convention t-shirt orders, collect member's money and distribute the t-shirts.
3. Give members information on placing ads in the Convention program. Collect the funds for any ads that are placed.
4. Collect patron ads from the members along with the money for them.
5. Make sure that all forms and monies are turned in to the Council by the Council's specified deadline.
6. Organize the distribution of Convention goodie bags at the Convention.
7. Purchase and transport all Roost hospitality suite supplies to the Convention.
8. Set up and maintain the Roost's hospitality suite. This includes developing a schedule, organizing a group of volunteers to watch over it, and keeping it stocked and clean.
9. Solicit member participation in Convention activities.
10. Organize the design, construction, transport, display, tear down and return of any Roost float entry in the Convention parade.

## Article X

### Disciplinary Procedures

**G.**

**Change the beginning.**

**The Grievance Committee shall review a complaint. If it is found to fall within the parameters of these Bylaws, the Committee shall direct the Secretary to contact all parties involved, on official Roost letterhead sent via certified mail, no more than 30 days after the Committee's initial meeting regarding the complaint. The parties will be advised of the following:**

**Keep lines 1 – 3 the same.**

**Add a line after line 3.**

**All correspondence by the Secretary and the Grievance Committee during the investigation process will be on official Roost letterhead sent via certified mail.**

**H.**

**Change line 1.**

**All parties will be interviewed, in person, within 30 days of the date of the certified letter that the Secretary sends (see letter G). There will be a minimum of three Grievance Committee members at each interview. All parties participating in an interview must have an understanding of what is being submitted as "fact."**

**Change line 2.**

**All parties involved may submit a written statement in lieu of an in-person interview. If a person chooses this option the letter must be sent to the Roost P.O. Box via certified mail, addressed to the Grievance Committee, and must be postmarked within 30 days of receipt of the Secretary's initial letter (see letter G).**

**Change line 5.**

**All parties involved in the complaint, all members of the Grievance Committee, and the Secretary, shall maintain strict confidentiality. No material information shall be disclosed to anyone.**

**J.**

**Change line 3.**

**After determining the action needed, the Board shall contact the Grievance Committee Chairperson and all affected parties (on Roost letterhead via certified mail), within 30 days of the Grievance Committee's report to the Board, informing them of the Board's decision.**

**K.**

**Change to:**

**The Board Chairperson shall announced to the membership, at the next regularly scheduled general membership meeting following the Board's action, the incident, the Grievance Committee's disciplinary recommendations to the Board, and the action taken by the Board.**

**L.**

**Eliminate this line and change the corresponding lines to flow alphabetically.**

**Line L as it reads is an exact duplicate of Article VII, Section P, line 9. Even if the proposed change to that line is approved, it will cover this item.**

# MINUTES

The meeting opened at 7:07 pm with Donny Miller presiding. The Pledge of Allegiance was said and guests to our meeting introduced themselves and the members who brought them.

## **SECRETARY'S REPORT** – Pat

- It was reported in the December Minutes that Alan Whatley received a plaque. This was incorrect. He accepted it for several of our contributors. **The rest of the Minutes, as published in the Newsletter, were then approved.**

## **TREASURER'S REPORT** – Ami

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

## **PRESIDENT'S REPORT** – Donny

- We are saying good-bye to Brian Billick and we welcome John Harbaugh to the Ravens Family.
- Thanks to the Food Committee for a great Christmas Party. Before we left, we reserved the evening of Friday, December 26, 2008. Heritage Gardens is for sale, so we will have to wait and see what happens.
- Our 2007 charitable contributions amounted to \$63,000.
- Our top 10 Volunteers and the Board are entitled to go to the Ed Block Awards Dinner. Please advise Donny if you cannot use your ticket so that it can be given to someone else.
- Joan Balog advised that her nephew will be able to work on our Website. He will come to the February Board and Membership Meetings.
- Committee sign-up sheets are on the table up front. Consider helping the Roost.
- Our 10-year Roost anniversary is coming up. We are looking for ideas on celebrating this event.

## **COUNCIL REPORT** – Donny

- 31 Roosts will participate in the Polar Bear Plunge. There will be approximately 250 Plungers and 49 of them will be from Roost 50. Do not bring alcohol on the beach. You will be in trouble. We expect to go into the water at noon as a group.
- The Council account balance is \$26,500.
- Return all unsold tickets for the February 23rd Council Bull Roast.
- Roost 72 is temporarily inactive.
- Their Audit was approved.
- Convention information will be available at the February meeting. They are looking for Corporate sponsors.
- Their former Treasurer is still under investigation
- There will be a Miss Ravens Roost Contest.
- Donny listed the activities of various Roosts.

## **BOARD OF DIRECTORS** – Joan

- We will check to see what the needs are of the Carney Family that were killed in Ohio. Keep all of the family in your prayers.
- Since AJ Whatley and Zack Schenning donate their time to help Roost 50, They will be given \$50 gift certificates for Best Buys.

## **COMMITTEES** – Joan

- Sign up tonight for a Committee you would like to be on. Help is needed on many of them.
- A new version of the Mission Statement was distributed and Joan read it for the members. A discussion followed as to whether or not a By-Law change is needed. Further investigation will follow.
- An Accountant is currently working on our tax return.

## **Audit**

- It will be done in February.

## **By-Laws**

- There was a second reading of a change to the Travel Committee's duties. The change will also be in the February Newsletter.

## **Charity**

- There will be a meeting of this Committee in 3 weeks.
- Tickets are available tonight for our March 30th Bull & Oyster Roast on Sunday, March 30th, at the Towson American Legion from 1 to 6 pm. The cost is \$35. Pat showed a Ray Lewis autographed helmet and display case that will be raffled off that afternoon.

## **Election**

- You must sign up tonight to be on the ballot.

## **Fellowship**

- In December and January, Robin L. sent cards to Marge C, Huggy, Carolyn, Tony & the CRGC, Glen & Di-

ane, New Systems Bakery, Steve & Karen, Ed Slezak, Carolyn & Bud, Mary Foehrkolb, Linda Smith, and Mary Whatley.

#### Fund Raising

- We received a check for \$70 because golfers checked off our name while playing at local courses.

#### Membership

- Linda told us that renewal letters will be distributed at the February meeting. They will be mailed to those not at the meeting.

**- A motion was passed to accept L. Curt Comer as a new member.**

#### Convention

- Information will be available next month.

#### Crab Feast

- It will be held on October 11th from 7 am to 12 am.

#### Family Picnic

- Steve Einig said it will be held again at his Mother's house on August 3rd.

#### Float

- We need a Committee to supervise the float construction and transportation. The theme for 2008 will be "Purple Pride on the Field and in the Community."

#### Golf

- We will need a Chair and Committee members for future events. We are looking at the dates of August 9th or September 27th.

#### Daily Lottery Number Raffle

- We will once again be selling October Lottery number tickets during August and September.

#### Merchandise

- Check what is on the table in the other room.

#### Season Ticket Raffle

- Tickets will be sold from February until the Shrimp Feast on July 26th.

#### **OLD BUSINESS**

- Turn in your Council Wagon of Cheer Raffle tickets and Bull Roast tickets.

- Sign up tonight to run for the upcoming election.

- Ellen Torres thanked the Roost for the check at Christmas. She assured us that whatever Roost 50 does at St Vincent's does matter. The children appreciate it.

#### **NEW BUSINESS**

- AJ Whatley is participating in a bowling fund raiser and needs sponsors.

- Our Parking Lot will be rented for the Kenny Chesney concert.

- Mary Foehrkolb requested that we give a donation to CaringBridge in Huggie's name. We will look into it.

- Donny announced the winners of the Volunteer points. They are:

10. Diane Nigrin
9. Glen Nigrin
8. Colin Wright
7. Karen Pearce
6. Linda Smith
5. Rodney Fischer
4. Terry Boram
3. Jeff Champ
2. Patti Champ
1. Alan Whatley – Volunteer of the Year

- A new form will be composed on which to record points earned by members. Chairs of Committees will be required to fill them out and turn them in monthly.

#### **THOUGHTS AND PRAYERS**

- Please keep the following in your prayers: Huggie, Carolyn & Bud, Marge & John, our Military-Police-Fire personnel, a Roost 4 member, a friend of Vince Poppa, Tony C's brother-in-law, Margarita's Uncle who passed away and his wife who is not doing well, and Clint Boram, who will undergo surgery.

The meeting adjourned at 8:55 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Pat Rebbert  
Recording Secretary

# 2008 COUNCIL CONVENTION

Well, ladies and germs, in less than four months we will be in Ocean City. Back at the Days Inn, scene of a few good times for Roost 50. Here is all the information that we have at this time. I hope you will consider joining your fellow Roost members for what looks to be a great weekend (pray for good weather, pray for good weather, pray for good weather).

**THEME: PURPLE PRIDE – On the Field and in the Community.**

**DATES: Thursday, May 29 to Sunday, June 1**

**OUR HOTEL: Days Inn, on the Boardwalk at 22nd street.**

Prices (including all taxes) - \$103.87 Thursday night, \$137.03 each Fri. & Sat.

As of this writing, we have 34 rooms left out of 38.\*\*

**REGISTRATION COST: \$55 for adults, \$25 for ages 6-20, under 6 is free.**

Money is due no later than our April 23 meeting! Late registration will be allowed, but you will not receive the souvenir bag full of goodies! All forms and monies **MUST** be turned in to the Council by April 25!

**SHIRTS: Men's t-shirts - \$10 for all sizes S-XXL, \$12 for XXXL.**

Available in purple, white, and gray.

Women's white tank tops - \$9 for sizes S - XL, \$11 for XXL

Women's violet tank tops - \$9 for sizes S - XL. XXL is not available in violet.

**EVENTS: Castle in the Sand, on the beach between 37th and 38th streets.**

**Thurs. May 29 – Welcome Social from 6-10pm.**

Open mike karaoke starts at 6:30pm.

**Fri. May 30 – Miniature golf tournament at 9am at Old Pro Golf on 28th Street.**

Roost #44 scholarship golf tournament – more info to come.

Scavenger Hunt starts @ The Castle at 2pm.

Horseshoes from 3-6pm on the beach @ The Castle.

Tug of War starts at 4pm on the beach @ The Castle.

The big boys from Roost #83 will not be there!

The Dunk Tank from 4-7pm @ The Castle.

\$25 to put someone in the tank for fifteen minutes.

3 balls for \$3, or 6 for \$5.

Proceeds to go to charity.

Karaoke competition starts at 7pm @ The Castle.

We can enter one person or one group.

Food from 5-9pm

Beverages from 5-10pm

**Sat. May 31 – Parade – Line up by 8:30am. Starts at 10am.\*\*\***

Volleyball starts at 2pm on the beach @ The Castle.

Horseshoes start at 2:pm @ The Castle.

Dunk Tank from 3-6 @ The Castle.

Tug of War final is at 4pm @ The Castle.

Food from 1-5pm.

Beverages from 1-8pm.

Awards presentation starts at 7pm.

**\*\*If we get at least 25 rooms booked, we will have a hospitality suite. If we don't get enough rooms booked, we'll have to use someone's room (I will take volunteers). The budget for a hospitality suite (food and beverages) is around \$550, which comes from the Social Club.**

**\*\*\* We have to decide if we want to enter a float this year. This endeavor requires manpower, and a commitment to helping design, build, transport, set up, and take down a large moving display. Funds come from the Social Club and will be a minimum of \$1,000. Think about it and we'll talk at the meeting.**

## **ADVERTISING**

### **Program Ads**

**A full page ad in the Convention program costs \$75 (7" w X 9 1/2" h printable area).**

**A half page ad is \$45 (7" w X 4" h printable area).**

**A quarter page ad is \$30 (3 1/2" w X 4" h printable area).**

**If you or someone you know owns a business or has something to advertise, this is a great way to reach about 1300 people in the Baltimore Metropolitan Area. And the cost is dirt cheap.**

### **Patron Ads**

**Patron Ads are located in the back of the Convention program. The cost is \$1 per line. Most people put their names, but some of us put "other" things in there. Keep it clean, though. Roost 50 usually has about two full pages of Patron Ads, so if you're going to the Convention, please consider buying one. And if you're not going, you can still place one.**

## **NOMINEES FOR 2008**

**Well folks it's election time again and we will need you to get your voting skills warmed up for next month's election. The nominees for 2008 are as follows:**

<b>PRESIDENT --</b>	<b>Don Miller (unopposed)</b>
<b>VICE-PRESIDENT --</b>	<b>Steve Pearce (unopposed)</b>
<b>SECRETARY --</b>	<b>Pat Rebbert (unopposed)</b>
<b>TREASURER --</b>	<b>Ami Rentko (unopposed)</b>
<b>SERGEANT-AT-ARMS --</b>	<b>Lee Haviland</b>
	<b>Steven Shifflett</b>
<b>BOARD OF DIRECTORS --</b>	<b>Joyce Burk</b>
	<b>Maria Schenning</b>
	<b>Karen Pearce</b>
	<b>Mary Kistler</b>
	<b>Jack Garmer</b>
	<b>Jerry Shifflett</b>
	<b>Mike Davis</b>

**Further information about these nominees will be posted in the March Newsletter before elections will be held. Thank you to all these people who stepped up to the plate and are willing to work at providing another successful year for our Roost.**

**Please remember that yearly dues must be paid BEFORE the March meeting in order for any member to be eligible to vote. The Election Committee hopes that all members will participate in this election. If there are any questions about these elections, please see on of the Election Committee members.**

**The Election Committee: Sharon Barger (chairperson), Mary Ellen Vogel, Mary Foehrkolb, Robin, Lewis and Colin Wright**

# 2008 RAVENS ROOST COMMITTEES

Here is a list of our Committees for 2008, including the Chairperson of each (Bylaws and Grievance choose their own Chairperson), and the Roost 50 members who have signed up to help.

Please note that we need five more members on the Grievance Committee. Otherwise, the Board of Directors will be the only authority to handle any complaints that may be lodged.

## *Standing Committees* **Audit**

Kathy Berge Terry Boram  
Jeff Purvis Linda Smith

## **Bylaws**

Pat Rebbert Margarita Salah

Colin Wright

## **Charity**

Diane Nigrin – Chairwoman – glennigrin@comcast.net

Joan Balog Mark Balog  
Gary Berge Kathy Berge  
Terry Boram Mary Edmonds  
Alan Lijewski Michelle Lijewski  
Glen Nigrin Linda Smith

Ellen Torres

## **Entertainment and Media**

Patti Champ Jeff Champ  
Maria Schenning Steve Shifflett

Alan Whatley

## **Fellowship**

Jan Harding – Co-Chairwoman – ravenjan@aol.com

Robin Lewis – Co-Chairwoman

## **Food**

Patti Champ – Chairwoman – patticc@aol.com

Jeff Champ Bryan Mettee  
Roz Mettee John Purvis  
Yvonne Purvis Jerry Shifflett

## **Fundraising**

Karen Pearce – Chairwoman – rowdyrachel@gmail.com

## **Grievance**

Gary Berge Derek Rubino  
Margarita Salah

## **Historical**

Mary Whatley – Chairwoman – ravenmaniac58@hotmail.com

Jan Whatley Robin Lewis  
Carol Sofinowski

## **Membership**

Linda Smith – Chairwoman – rugbydpd@erols.com

Gary Berge Kathy Berge

## **Travel\***

John Purvis – Chairman – jrp40@comcast.net

Bryan Mettee Colin Wright

\*Pending membership approval this month, this becomes the Travel and Council Convention Committee

## *Special Committees*

### **Family Picnic**

Steve Einig – Chairman – seinig@veriaon.net

Lydia Einig Polly Einig  
Sharon Barger Patti Champ  
Mary Foehrkolb Robin Lewis  
Bryan Mettee John Purvi  
Derek Rubino Maria Schenning  
Ellen Torres Colin Wright

### **Golf Tournament**

Steve Pearce – Chairman – obxsteverr50@verizon.net

Mark Balog Alan Lijewski  
Mark Prietz Steve Shifflett  
Bill Smith Scott Stanton

## ROOST NOTES

**This month's menu is choice of Chili or Ruby Tuesday's Potato Cheese Soup. If you would like to take home some leftovers, please bring your own plastic container. Dinner will be served at 6:15 p.m.**

### Lottery Raffle

Mary Kistler – Chairwoman –  
marykistler@comcast.net

Jason Davis                      Steve Pearce  
Mark Prietz                      Jerry Shifflett

### Merchandise

Mary Edmonds – Chairwoman – purplem-  
re@comcast.net

Regina Sidlowski              Jen Burke

### Season Ticket

Alan Whatley – Chairman –  
awhatley@comcast.net

Sharon Barger                  Joyce Burk  
Maria Schenning              Jerry Shifflett  
Carol Sofinowski

### Shrimp Feast

Alan Whatley – Chairman –  
awhatley@comcast.net

Sharon Barger                  Joyce Burk  
Patti Champ                      Jeff Champ  
Jason Davis                      Lee Haviland  
Dave Lewis                      Robin Lewis  
Thomas Michael                Maria Schenning  
Jerry Shifflett                    Colin Wright

## CALENDAR OF



**FEBRUARY MEETING - 2/27/2008  
MENU - SEE ROOST NOTES**