

# Ravens Roost 50 Newsletter



## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

MARCH 2009



*President Don Miller*

If you did not see my interview on Fox45 News the night it aired, which concerned donation instructions from Roost 50 that were not followed correctly by the hierarchy at Ed Block, you can go to the Fox website to see my performance. I would not have chosen this as the subject of my first and only television close-up as President. But things happen for a reason, I guess. Everything I stated was true, and in the end the other Courage Houses did get our donation, albeit a year late. I will always wonder, though, if this would have happened if some people had not attempted to pull back the curtains at Ed Block. I don't think we would have ever known.

For the record, it's true that a television camera adds ten pounds. I had four cameras on me.

I hope everyone had a good time at the Mariners game and on the Atlantic City bus trip. I was forced to work all weekend due to the actions of an evil co-worker. Maybe I'll catch a game before the season ends, and maybe I'll have the opportunity to donate to the New Jersey economy before the year is out.

Because of the stuff that happened with Ed Block, and because of a heaping pile of shh-tuff going on at work, and because of a serious effort to quit smoking, my brain is practically fried. I had planned on an extravagant final message, but I find that this will not be possible with my current lack of cognitive ability. So, I would like to close by saying one big THANK YOU to everyone. Some of you have really helped to make the last three years a lot better than they could have been. You kept me straight and helped me to do my job to the best of my ability. I look forward to serving Roost 50 as Treasurer, hoping to continue the tradition carried on by our past check writers.

Finally, a big thank you and Love You to my wife Ami. Thank you so much for your patience the last three years and thanks in advance for your future patience.

Well, that's it. No more messages. I wish our next President all the luck in the world. You're going to need it. Sucker!!!

# 2009 ELECTION CANDIDATES

Member's Name: *Steve Pearce*  
Position Running for: **President**

I have been a member of Roost 50 since March 2003. I was elected to the Board in 2005, elected Chairman of the Board in 2006 and am now serving my second term as Vice President after being elected in 2007. With Don Miller's recent election as Council President, I am now representing Roost 50 at the monthly Council and have developed a good relationship with a number of the other Roosts. I have served on numerous committees in the past six years including the By-Laws Committee that re-wrote the Roost's By-Laws in 2003 and 2004 and the Golf Tournament Committee, chairing it in 2008. My goals as President of Ravens Roost 50 include maintaining or increasing the level of commitment to the Roost's core charities while keeping the fun and fellowship that helped make this Roost what it is today. Another goal is to keep the high level of esteem that Roost 50 currently has within the Council of Baltimore Ravens Roosts. I want to also maintain the level of interaction between Roost 50 and other Roosts – I have discovered in the past few years that the various Roosts really do look after those who help them.

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Member Name: *Alan Whatley*  
Position Running for: **President**

Since I have been a member of Ravens Roost 50 I have always prided myself with getting involved with a lot of the committees, events and projects we have taken on over the past 10 years. I created the web site and maintained it until this year. I have been involved with the newsletter since its conception; printing and mailing in the early years then producing and laying out the news letter each month for our current email version.

I was responsible for getting the parking lot started, first at Vallis where I worked, then negotiating for our current parking lot. A lot of time and effort goes into making sure we maintain a good relationship with the owners of the lot and also the customers we service each game. The parking lot remains our biggest fundraiser which helps to support our many charities.

I served 6 years as a board member for our Roost. I have also chaired committees for the Shrimp Feast, Season Ticket Raffle, OC Float, Casino night and the PVA shoot. In addition, I have served as a member on the Family Picnic, Golf Tournament, Crab Feast, Historical and Atlantic City committees. I have been named Volunteer of the year for Ravens Roost 50 in 2002 and again in 2007.

As President I would continue to build on the enormous progress Roost 50 has achieved from the strong leadership of our past presidents and board members. I am proud to have been a part of the past success and would like the opportunity to achieve even more in our future.

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Member Name: *Alan Lijewski*  
Position Running for: **Vice-President**

Many of you know me, but for those of you who don't, my name is Alan Lijewski.

I am a ten year charter members of Ravens Roost 50. I served on the Board of Directors for four years and have been the chairman of the Travel Committee, helping organize several of Roost 50's trips, including the Council Convention and the Atlantic City trip.

I am also a current member of the Charity Committee and have participated on the golf committee the past two years. I, along with my wife Michelle, have been a part of many of Roost 50's charitable and social functions and have been avid supporter of Roost 50's financial endeavors. The organization has taken great strides in the past ten years, donating thousands of dollars to charity and helping countless families and children in their time of need. As Vice President, I will support our President, assist our Officers and Board Members, and continue the proud tradition of helping families and charity, maintaining Ravens Roost 50's reputation as (In my opinion) the best Roost in the Council.

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Member Name: *Patti Champ*  
Position Running for: **Vice-President**

I have been an active member of Roost 50 since the day I came to my first meeting and have served in many capacities: Board member, Chairman of the board, Secretary, and Vice President. I have also served as Committee Chairman for the Family Picnic, Shrimp Feast, Bull Roast, Membership Christmas Party and Food Committee in addition to participating in other events and committees, which has allowed me to meet and work side by side with many Roost members. It's important to me to be a sounding board for the interests and concerns of our members. If elected to this position, I will not be a "yes man," but, instead, would not hesitate to present viable alternative viewpoints where indicated.

Through the years, I have had two philosophies when it comes to our Roost: "You only get out of this Roost what you put into it" and "bring new people into the mix," and I have lived by those ideals.

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Member Name: *Don Miller* (unopposed)  
Position Running for: **Treasurer**

- Member of Roost 50 since 2000.
  - President – 2006-present.
  - Vice President – 2005-2006
  - Board Member – 2003-2005
  - Current or former member of Golf Tournament, Travel, Bylaws, Entertainment and Media, Fundraising, and Historical Committees.
  - Have assisted Roost 50 Treasurer for the last three years.
  - My goals will be to continue to see that all Roost transactions occur in a timely, efficient, and correct manner, and to see that all applicable local, state, and federal laws are followed.
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Members Name: *Margarita Salah* (unopposed)  
Position Running for: **Secretary**

- Long time member
  - Able to type & I have organizational skills.
  - Committed to serving the roost:
  - Served as chair person of By-Laws Committee.
  - Served as Grievance Committee.
  - Served as chair person of Membership Committee.
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Member's Name: Lee *Haviland* (unopposed)  
Position Running for: **Sergeant-of-Arms**

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Member's Name: *Sharon Barger*  
Position Running for: **Board of Directors**

I have been a member of Ravens Roost 50 since February, 2004. In the 4 plus years I have been a member I have been on many committees, participated in and volunteered for many events: Thanksgiving, Christmas, PVA Shoot, Bowling Tournament & helped at Polar Bear Plunge for Special Olympics, Family Picnic, Golf Tournament, Chairperson for Election Committee, and others. I take pride in being a part of the many great causes that our Roost 50 helps with and contributes to throughout each year. I would like to be a board member for the opportunity to hopefully offer ideas, suggestions, thoughts and my services in helping to continue to make Ravens Roost 50 the "Best in the Council". I know that I can help and give even more of myself being a Board Member, so I hope you will consider voting for me. Thank You

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Member's Name: *Gary Berge*  
Position Running for: **Board of Directors**

I am retired from the Maryland State Police. I currently work in customer service at a furniture store. I am the Grievance Committee Chair Person. I am on the Membership Committee. I am the Charity Co-Chair Person. My wife Kathy and I were very active in my local Trooper's association and I believe that I can help set up checks and balances to help protect the Roost. My goal is to do the most good with the amount of money that the Roost donates to our community, Courage House, & our homeless shelter. I want our Roost to be a social club, a charity organization and a support group to our members. I want people to be comfortable when they come to one of our functions. I want members to feel like they are appreciated and want to help.

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Member's Name: *Wayne Ciampaglia*  
Position Running for: **Board of Director**

- Charter member.
- Board member 2007-2009.
- Represented RR50 at many community & council events.
- Volunteered for many roost activities.
- I remember when the roost was about 40 to 50 people in The Barn. I've helped RR50 grow to its present size. My son, Tony and I are proud to represent Ravens Roost 50 everywhere we go.

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Member's Name: *Stephen Einiq*  
Position Running for: **Board of Directors**

As a former member of the Maryland Jaycee organization, I feel that I have the necessary experience to serve on the Board of Directors of Ravens Roost 50. During my tenure with the MD Jaycees, I served on the local level – Vice-President & President of the Parkville Jaycees, as well as on the state level- District Director and

Region Director. The skills that I acquired in those positions allow me to feel confident that I could be an asset to the board of Ravens Roost 50. I have been a member of Ravens Roost 50 for the past 4 years and have served on the Membership committee and also chaired the Family Picnic last year.

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Member's Name: *John Purvis*  
Position Running for: **Board of Directors**

I have been a member of Roost 50 for going on 3 years now. Since I have joined, I have recruited many members. I have worked on various committees, and volunteered as an extra helper on others. I don't mind getting my hands dirty to support a great cause, and I also give 100% on everything that I become involved with. I want to step up to the next level and serve as a board member to try to help our Roost to become even bigger and better. Any business or club can always do better. We should always strive to beat goals set from the previous year. I am the Store Manager of a Shoppers Food Store, and I have recruited 2 of my fellow Store Managers to also join our club. As Managers of grocery stores, we sometimes have access to donations for our club from our many vendors. We have contacts for prizes that we may auction, donate, etc. I have asked for many food donations already, which has saved the club considerable money. I could also partner my store with our club, to save even money for the club in the future. I, along with my wife, Yvonne, plan on being in RR50 for the rest of our lives. I am ready to step up to the plate and take on new challenges that the club may offer to me. Thank you for your time. John Purvis

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Member Name: *Patricia Rebbert*  
Position Running for: **Board of Directors**

I am not running for Secretary this year. I would like to run for one of the three Board spots.

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Member Name: *Jim (JR) Scarbrough*  
Position Running for: **Board of Directors**

I am currently on the Board and would like to serve again. I have really enjoyed learning how the Board works for Ravens Roost 50. Last year after a survey was completed by the membership, it was decided that a new location was needed to watch the Raven's away games. I investigated several bars, talking to the managers to see what specials they could give us, and found a location that served us well last year. I also visited several hotels in Ocean City to find the best deal possible for RR 50 to stay in during the convention last year and was able to get the hospitality room free. I am retired so I have plenty of time to serve RR50.

I enjoy working for the membership of RR 50 and I am ready to work hard to help raise funds for our designated charities.

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Member's Name: *Jerry Shifflett*  
Position Running for: **Board of Directors**

- Food Committee
  - Thanksgiving Drive
  - Always helping setting up & clean up.
  - Always selling raffle tickets.
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# COUNCIL CONVENTION

The weekend following Memorial Day is fast approaching. Our Travel and Council Convention Committee is hard at work on our parade entry. One thing that will help us do well in the parade competition is member participation. This starts with attending the Convention.

The economy stinks. We all know this. But if you have the funds and the time, I urge you to attend. Your \$55 registration covers all expenses related to the Convention, from parade permits to souvenirs to beverages at the Castle in the Sand. The Council does not make a profit from the Convention. \$55 might seem like a lot, but you are getting something for your money, if nothing else than food and beverage for a couple of days and a bag of goodies.

We have to get a head count to the Council Convention Committee by the close of our April meeting (4/22) and we have to turn in all registration money by Friday, 4/24. Any registrations received after 4/22 will be accepted, but you will not get a souvenir bag and the registration cost will not be reduced! T-shirt orders must be turned in on 4/24. Program ads and patron ads are also due.

At the meeting this month we will have information on Convention activities, and we will be looking for Roost members to participate and try to bring us some more Convention booty! These include:

## *Friday* -

**Mini-golf** – 9:00am (two-person team) – Old Pro on 23rd St.

Road Rally/Scavenger Hunt – 2:00pm (at least two people – time may change!)

Starts at The Castle

**Horseshoes** – 3:00pm (two-person team(s)) – On the beach at The Castle

**Tug-of-War** – 4:00pm (team info to be announced) – At The Castle

4:00-7:00pm – Dunk Tank at The Castle

5:00-8:00pm – food and beverage at The Castle

7:00-9:00 – Karaoke (one person or one group) – The Castle tent

## *Saturday* -

**Parade** – 10:00am (line up at 8:30 at designated location)

**Volleyball** – 1:30pm at The Castle (men's, co-ed, and women's – six per team)

**Horseshoes** – 2:00 (two-person team(s)) – On the beach at The Castle

3:00-6:00 – Dunk Tank at The Castle

1:00-5:00pm – Food

5:00 – Volleyball and Horseshoes finals

1:00-8:00pm – Beverages

7:00 – Awards Presentation

We should have complete schedules available at the meeting if you're there.

If you have the time and the means please consider attending the Convention. If you're going to be there, please consider representing Roost 50. Thank you!

# MINUTES

## **THE 116TH MEETING OF RAVENS ROOST 50**

The meeting opened at 7:05 pm at the Club with Steve presiding. The Pledge of Allegiance was said by all. Guests were introduced by the members who brought them. The Food Committee was thanked for the great "Thanksgiving" dinner this evening. There was even fish for those not eating meat today.

## **SECRETARY'S REPORT** – Pat

- A motion was made and passed to accept the Minutes of the January meeting (held on February 4th), as published in the February Newsletter.

## **TREASURER'S REPORT** – Steve

- Since Ami was away, this report will be given at the March meeting.

## **PRESIDENT'S REPORT** – Steve

- Donny sent his thanks to Steve for handling the meeting.
- We will discuss Ed Block later in the meeting.
- Thanks to Mary Kistler for handling our successful Lottery Raffle. We made \$1,600.

## **COUNCIL REPORT** – Steve

- There are currently 44 active Roosts. The latest is Roost 102 in Fort Smallwood.
- The Council treasury amount is \$50,432.
- Thirty-one Roosts took part in the Polar Bear Plunge.
- We still have four of the 1958 Colt books "Sudden Life." Steve listed those who owed for books they had already received.
- The Council is considering having an Associate Membership category for out-of-state Roosts. Someone in Tennessee inquired about membership.
- The Ocean City Convention will be from 5/28 to 5/31 this year. The theme is "It's Gametime in Marga-Raven-ville." Registration forms are available tonight. The cost is \$55 for adults and \$20 for children. Tee shirts can be purchased tonight for \$11. There are 42 rooms reserved at the Days Inn for Roost 50. Ocean City will be enforcing their alcohol policy during the convention and the parade. Only drink on the balconies of the buildings along the route, not on the streets.

## **BOARD REPORT** - Jack

- The Board approved creation of a website to allow parking pass purchasers to pay by credit card at no cost to the Roost.
  - We approved a budget of \$1,200 for our float. We will also purchase a Convention registration ticket - A new cover sheet for the By-Laws was approved and new copies of the By-Laws are being printed. They should be available at the March Membership meeting.
- The design for new Membership cards was approved. They will be distributed after dues renewals are received.
- The check given to Ed Block was cancelled until further investigation of the charges against the foundation has been completed.
  - We voted to give \$15,000 directly to St. Vincent's instead of having it go thru Ed Block.
  - Two plaques for the names of past and future Volunteers of the Year have been ordered.
  - We are looking at alternate ways to reward our top volunteers. Suggestions are welcome.

## **COMMITTIES**

### *By-Laws*

- We need a few more members.

### *Charity*

- Gary Berge told us that 132 pounds of can tabs only netted him \$28 and change.

### *Season Ticket Raffle*

- Marge Kiskis will be handling this. See Alan tonight to get your tickets before you leave.

#### *Parking Lot*

- We will be accepting charge cards as payment for spots on our lot. It will not cost the Roost anything.

#### *IronBirds Night*

- We can get hot dogs, hamburgers, salads, etc., and see the game for \$22 for 20 people or steamed crabs for \$40 for 30 people. We will have to decide which we want.

#### *Election*

- Robin W. told us to use an absentee ballot if you will not be at the March meeting. Mail it to the Roost PO box and put "Election Committee" on the envelope so it will not be opened ahead of time. The ballots must be received by the day of the meeting, March 25th. Colin will handle the pickup of the mail.

#### *Fellowship*

- Jan Harding told us cards had been sent to Bobbi & Lee Haviland, Alan Whatley, and Mike Brooks (before his death) and to Michelle Brooks afterwards. A thank-you card was received from Michelle Brooks thanking the Roost members for all their prayers and support.

#### *Food*

- Thanks were again given to Yvonne and the rest of the Food Committee for the great meal.

#### *Fundraising*

- Karen Pearce is looking into several fundraising ideas. More info at the next meeting.

#### *Grievance*

- A few more members are needed.

#### *Membership*

- The dues will be payable at the March meeting. Remember to fill out a form to accompany your check or cash payment. We will be giving receipts out tonight for payments received so far. If you paid me and I don't give you one, stop by the table in the other room on your way out tonight to get your receipt.

- Linda presented Linda and Mike Yurche for membership. **A motion was passed to accept them.**

#### *Merchandise*

- Tonight, if you buy an item you can get one free.

### **OLD BUSINESS**

- Committee sign-up sheets are on the table in the other room. Sign up for something.

- Sports Legends admission tickets are available.

- The Guest Bartender Night at Carson's Creekside will be on March 6th, not the 10th. Come and support us.

- There are still 10 spots on the bus for the March 14th Atlantic City trip.

- Maria still has a few tickets for the Mariners Arena Football Game on March 15th.

- Ellen Torres reminded us of the Walk-a-thon on April 18th at Harford Mall. Volunteers will be needed. Please sign up.

### **THOUGHTS AND PRAYERS**

- Remember our men and women in uniform, Jan Harding, Polly Einig, and Bobbi & Lee Haviland's mom.

The 50/50 was not held tonight.

The meeting adjourned at 7:52 pm. (We think it was a Roost record.)

Respectfully submitted,

Pat Rebbert

Recording Secretary

## ROOST NOTES

### *Spring Football Festival*

#### *Season Ticket Raffle*

Its that time of the year again!!! Tickets have been printed and are ready for distribution at the February meeting. Please take as many tickets as you can to sell to help make this raffle a success. The season ticket raffle fully benefits the social side of our club and pays for our members Christmas party, the family picnic and most importantly the food and beer that we enjoy at each monthly meeting. We will be setting up stands at different venues throughout the sale period so if you can spare a few hours, come on out and give us a hand. More information about outside sales will be available in the future. Lets make this raffle a sellout!

#### *Membership*

It's that time of year to renew your membership. To save both you and the Roost the cost of a stamp renewal forms will be available at this month's meeting. Bring your \$40 and renew there. If you are paying by check please make it payable to Ravens Roost 50. If you are unable to attend the meeting, your renewal form will be mailed. All dues must be renewed by the beginning of the March meeting. Hope to see both you and your money at the February meeting.

#### *Roost 50's night with the Ironbirds*

Save the date!!! Roost 50's night with the Ironbirds will be held this year on Thursday August 20th. For only \$40 per person you will receive the ticket to the game along with an all-you-can-eat buffet that includes Maryland Steamed Crabs, Hamburgers, Hot Dogs, Corn on the Cob, cookies and non-alcoholic drinks for two hours from the start of the catering or through the 7th inning (whichever comes first). John Purvis will have more information about this event at this months meeting, or you can contact him at [jrp40@comcast.net](mailto:jrp40@comcast.net) to sign up.

The 11th Annual Spring Football Festival will be held at M&T Bank Stadium on Saturday, April 26th. The day's events will include: Watch the 2008 NFL Draft unfold live on SmartVision and TV's throughout the stadium Interactive on-field games at the Ravens Fan Zone Autograph sessions with some of your favorite Ravens players Live 98 Rock broadcast from the North Club Level On-field Gatorade Junior Training Camp and Ravens Rookies Kids Area Self-guided tours of the Ravens Locker Room Unique memorabilia at the Ravens Rummage Sale 2008 Ravens Cheerleaders performance and autographs Entertainment featuring Poe's Mascot Game and Baltimore's Marching Ravens Pep Band and drum line Red Cross Blood Drive on Press Level Ravens Team Store Announcement of Ravens Rewards prize winners.

If we have a group of 10 people or more, tickets will only be \$17.00.

*Menu: Sloppy Joes and deli salads, being served at 6:15. Reminder: For all meals, please bring your own containers if you would like leftovers.*