

The Puckeater

Anyone can be a knocker...are YOU a Booster?



August 2009

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or visit our website!

ClevelandHockeyBC.org

The Cleveland Hockey Booster Club, Inc. is an independent, volunteer organization supporting the Lake Erie Monsters of the American Hockey League, as well as promoting a greater interest in the sport of hockey in Northeast Ohio. The Puckeater is published monthly by the Cleveland Hockey Booster Club, and is distributed to all members of record. All submitted material is subject to editorial approval and will become the property of the Cleveland Hockey Booster Club. The editor reserves the right to edit for length or content. The opinions expressed in this publication are strictly those of the authors and do not necessarily reflect the opinions of the Cleveland Hockey Booster Club or the Lake Erie Monsters. Articles and comments are welcome! Please forward items for publication to:

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The Prez Sez...By Jeff Robinson

Hello everyone!

The summer is quickly passing us by, though with the temperatures being what they are, you would not really know it! I hope yours has been enjoyable. As such, the annual BC picnic is just around the corner.

For the first time in recent memory, the picnic will be held somewhere other than Bonnie Johnson's house...LOL! Bonnie and her mom have been GREAT hosts in the past when no other locales were offered but this year fellow BC'er Kim Cox (nee' Coolbeth) and her husband Don have offered their new digs out in the country.

Kim and Don live at: 8110 Euclid Chardon Rd. in Kirtland, Ohio 44094. Due to the wide locations partygoers will be coming from, I haven't included directions. But generally speaking, they live about 4 1/2 miles east of SOM Center Rd. (Ohio Route 91) on Chardon Rd. (US Route 6). Please, by all means, consult your Garmin, Tom Tom or factory installed GPS systems for directions. If all else fails there is Rand McNally or any one of the numerous Internet maps available. Bonnie Johnson is still the contact person for the party. Please, e-mail her (bsjhockey@yahoo.com) or call (216-789-4408) in advance by August 16th to let her know what you are bringing. The BC will supply the hamburgers and hot dogs.

By the way, there is room to set up a volleyball or badminton net. If someone had a vintage lawn dart game (Jarts? Is that what they were called) laying around in their garage or basement, bring it! That would be AWESOME! Kim, I believe, has a horseshoe pit dug out for those interested as well.

Other than that there's not much new to report other than to give an official (what official?) welcome to the new board members and trustees. This is the first edition of the new years Puckeater under (some) new management. People in new positions (with the exception of President and Treasurer) are:

1st Vice President - Bonnie Johnson
2nd Vice President - Marcia Slaby
Membership - Marsha Hess
Editor - Melissa Hess
Secretary - Mary Dejak

Trustees for 2007 - 2010: Jason Lehman, Andrea Loyal, Dorothy Michalko and Marie Robinson

Trustees for 2008 - 2011: Carolyn Rimmel, Mary Margaret Dolansky and Pat Gomola
Trustees for 2009 - 2012: Pat Harrington, John Lanzilotta, Sue Marton and Jeff Sabo.

There is one open trustee position for the 2008 - 2011. If you are interested and will be at the picnic, please let us know. Fresh blood is ALWAYS appreciated.

On a selfish note, I am riding in the charity 'Pedal to the Point' bike ride to benefit the National Multiple Sclerosis Society. Information on the website and team name is found later in this edition. Thanks in advance for your contribution, if possible.

Your President,
Jeff

"By the age of 18, the average American has witnessed 200,000 acts of violence on television. Most of them occurring during game one of a playoff series"
- Steve Rushin, writer - Sports Illustrated

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Booster Club 50/50 Raffle

Tickets for the August raffle are attached and cost \$1.00 each. To enter the raffle, legibly write your name, address, and phone number on the reverse side of the ticket and return the ticket(s) and money in a SEALED envelope to the Booster Club at the address below by August 21st. Make checks payable to the Cleveland Hockey Booster Club.



Marsha Hess
13118 Tyler Avenue
Cleveland, OH 44111



This month's winner will be drawn at the CHBC Summer Picnic August 23rd. Proceeds go toward providing hospitality functions for visiting Booster Clubs during the season.

Upcoming Events

The next meeting will be at the Annual CHBC Summer Picnic on **August 23rd**. This year's picnic is being hosted by Kim Cox in Kirtland. The address is 8110 Euclid Chardon Road, Kirtland, OH 44094. If you get lost or need assistance getting directions, contact Kim at 216-337-8521.

The AHL Booster Club Convention is being held **September 11-13** in Hunt Valley, Maryland. Safe travels to everyone making the trip!

Pedal to the Point

You may (or may not) have heard but I am riding in the National Multiple Sclerosis Society's 'Pedal to the Point' 150 mile bicycle ride on August 15th & 16th, 2009. I am doing so with a friend of mine who only rode one day last year to support one of his daughter Madelyn's teachers at school who is affected by MS.

I know it's tough out there but if you are able to donate anything please go to: <http://bikeoha.nationalmssociety.org>

Once you are on the site go to 'Donate/ePledge' (third icon down on the left hand side menu), then either search by my name, Jeffrey Robinson, or the team name, Genoa 'MODD Squad'. The team is named in honor of Madelyn's teacher.

Thanks! I have already met my minimum contribution (\$250.00) but set a personal goal of \$1,000.00.

Have a great summer & hopefully my jelly legs will have returned by the picnic!

Your President,
Jeff



From the Editor:

I want to thank Marie Robinson for all of her great work as Editor in past years. I have some big shoes to fill! I want to encourage anyone and everyone to submit any ideas or articles as the season progresses. All comments and suggestions are welcome!

The deadline for the September Newsletter is August 31st!!

That's Debatable...by Jeff Robinson

Well, the off season has hit its full stride. The NHL Entry Draft serves as sort of a primer for the off season. The 47th Annual version kicked off June 26th & 27th in Montreal, continuing their 100th Anniversary ceremonies. This is perhaps my favorite time of the year...

If you haven't already heard, the Avs shocked no one in taking Brampton Battalion center Matt Duchene with the #3 pick. Opinions may vary on whether or not Duchene was the most talented or NHL ready of the big three available (over center John Tavares who went #1 or defenseman Victor Hedman who was picked second) but surely time will tell. Duchene is only 18 years old so he is ineligible to play in the AHL this year. Even then, I don't think he will ever call Cleveland home. He appears to be well equipped to make the jump from major junior to NHL full time duty.

The rest of the draft went well too. Another center, Ryan O'Reilly (Erie-OHL), was taken next, allowing the defensive zone to be covered in the latter stages of the draft. Defensemen Stefan Elliott (Saskatoon - WHL) and Tyson Barrie (Kelowna - WHL & son of one of the owners of the Tampa Bay Lightning) were taken next followed by goaltenders Kieran Millan (Boston University) and Brandon Maxwell (U.S. National Team). Defenseman Gus Young (Nobles HS - Massachusetts) finished it out. Most draft reviews I've read show this as being a good to excellent crop of future Monsters!

In Front Office news, we learned that the LEM have hired David Quinn as the new head coach to replace the recently promoted Joe Sacco. Dan Laperriere replaces Sylvain Lefebvre as the Assistant Coach. 'Sly' also followed Joe to Colorado. Both Quinn and Laperriere have recent championship coaching experience. Quinn had his as an assistant with the Boston University Terriers (Hockey East) who are now the defending NCAA Champions. One can only guess that Quinn was at least consulted by new Avalanche GM Greg Sherman about their eventual 5th round pick, Millan, beforehand since he was a part of BU's winning program. Laperriere won the CHL's President's Cup in 2007 as a player/assistant coach with the Arizona Sundogs.

It also looks as if COL has officially made a commitment to a rebuild. Ryan Smyth was traded to the L.A. Kings for Tom Preissing, Kyle Quincey and a 5th round draft pick next year. If the Avs have depth anywhere, it is on the blueline. I fully expect more trades to be made on defense (Clark, Salei, Hannan or even Preissing or Liles being moved) to clear a spot for the youth coming up through the system. I also expect a decent pick or prospect in return for any one of these guys.

The forward for the big club have some spots open. Some regular Monsters who I'd like to see back here may have a genuine shot at earning a consistent NHL paycheck. As it stands now, our forwards will likely be some combination of: Burki, Fritsche, McNicoll, Sertich, Willsie, Dupuis, Durno, Galiardi, Hendricks and maybe Hensick or former Toronto Maple Leaf, Darcy Tucker. Also, the Avs have signed AHL stud & former MVP, Darren Haydar. At least three of these guys will not be here come October. More depth signings will be needed as camps approach.

Defense looks like it will be: Cumiskey, Macias, Montgomery, O'Neill, Peltier, Wilson & newly acquired Brian Fahey (for Nigel Williams). In goal, it's Cann for sure. Our starter will probably go to the loser of the COL back up job. Right now it's probably between Weiman and Budaj, with free agent acquisition Craig Anderson being the probable starter in Denver.

I have no idea who our ECHL affiliate will be (Toledo?) but I know I can't WAIT to get it started! On paper, this already could be the most talented team I've ever seen in Cleveland.

Sunshine Report



If you or any member you know experiences a birth, marriage, illness or death please contact:

Cindy Torkowski
cindytork@sbcglobal.net

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