

What's Snakin'



RC Quakes Booster Club
PO Box 3856
Rancho Cucamonga, CA 91729

**2QQ6-2QQ7 Season
Issue #1
January 2QQ7**

Happy New Year everyone!



I trust that you all enjoyed the holidays and are now looking forward to an exciting year ahead. Of course, the excitement would not be complete without some great baseball moments. This year is shaping up to be a memorable one. 2007 is the Quakes' 15-year anniversary, and there are plans in the works to celebrate throughout the season, beginning with the Hot Stove Banquet on January 28th.

We have already had two General Meetings this season, including one on January 7, and some of us were at the Youth Baseball Clinic on January 20. Joe passed out almost 100 Booster Club brochures, and we talked to several new families who expressed an interest in joining this year. You should all encourage your friends to join, too.

As you know, the Quakes have many new staff members this year. Please check out their website (www.rcquakes.com) and see all of the fresh faces. We are fortunate to have the new General Manager, Gerry McKearney, as our guest speaker for the February General Meeting on Sunday, February 18th. Don't miss it!!

Plans for our Spring Training BBQ are well under way. Be sure to get your order in for our special St. Patrick's Day t-shirts (order form and more info included in this newsletter).

Project 3000 Wristbands

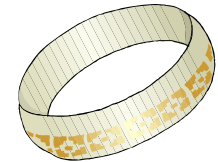
Derrek Lee was my very first "adopted player" in 1994. Derrek's daughter, Jada, has been diagnosed with a very rare disease called Lebers Congenital Amaurosis or LCA, an inherited form of blindness. Jada is blind in one eye, and it is probable that the disease will effect her other eye. Christina told me that Jada has started ballet lessons.

Derrek, along with Wyc Grousbeck, the CEO and co-owner of the Boston Celtics, have combined their efforts and talents to eradicate LCA which has touched both of their families. They call their effort "Project 3000" because it is estimated there are about 3000 people affected with LCA in the US.

The Quakes Booster Club is proud to support Project 3000 by selling official wristbands for \$5 each. Every dollar will go to Project 3000. The Project 3000 funds are managed by the University of Iowa Foundation and The Carver Nonprofit Genetic Testing Laboratory. Check out their website at carverlab.org/project3000/ for more details. To purchase a wristband contact me at: project3000@rcquakesboosterclub.com

Thank you to all of you who have kept Derrek, Christina and Jada in your prayers and prayer groups.

Cheryl Perdew



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Mark Your Calendars (* tentative dates)

February 10th and 11th

Angels' Fan Fest at Angel Stadium in Anaheim

Sunday, February 18th

General Meeting 2PM at the Best Western Heritage Inn

Saturday, March 3rd

National Anthem tryouts (time and place to be announced – please let me know if you are interested in helping to judge and I will put you in touch with the staff person in charge)

Saturday, March 17th

Spring Training BBQ at the minor league facility in Tempe, Arizona

Monday, April 2nd

Player Welcome Dinner 6PM at the B.W. Heritage Inn

*Wednesday, April 4th

Player adoptions during exhibition game (*more info later*)

Thursday, April 12th

Players leave for their first Northern road trip

April 20th thru 22nd

Annual Membership weekend at the Epicenter

This year we will attempt to have short General Meetings before each potluck while we are waiting for the players. We often have a few things to discuss throughout the year, and this seems like a logical time since we are all together. Some of these dates are still tentative as we wait for confirmation from the Quakes that the pavilion is available:

Sunday, April 22 *Saturday, May 19

*Sunday, June 3 *Sunday, July 8

*Sunday, August 12

*Sunday, September 2 – Player Appreciation Dinner

Monday, September 3 – Final regular season home game
(*not including playoffs!*)

The new Quakes players will be arriving in town on Monday, April 2nd, and our annual Player Welcome Dinner will be that evening. A sign-up form will be included with next month's newsletter. Please keep your ears and eyes open for anyone that might be interested in housing a player. Sandy Wakefield and Rob & Candy Holman are collecting names and numbers. We'd like to have as many lined up as possible before the players arrive.

Continue to read on through this newsletter. There are many new features including "Card Corner", "In the News", & calendar inserts, as well as dates for upcoming events and many great opportunities to be involved. We need each one of you to help make 2QQ7 a success.

Can't wait to see you all at the February General Meeting!!

Sammi



“In the News”

Here’s another new section for the monthly newsletter. We will attempt to keep you all up-to-date on what’s happening with former Quakes players and staff. Of course, we won’t be able to include everything, but if you have some news to share please let me know & we’ll try to pass it on in a future newsletter. So read on for some recent updates.

The Angels have made some changes to the 40-man roster heading into Spring Training. Now included are: Jose Arredondo, Greg Jones, Joe Saunders, Steve Shell, Jered Weaver, Jeff Mathis, Bobby Wilson, Erick Aybar, Matt Brown, Casey Kotchman, Kendry Morales, Nick Gorneault, Gary Matthews Jr, Tommy Murphy, and Reggie Willits. Dallas McPherson is also on the 40-man, but a recent report indicates that he will likely have to undergo back surgery as the off-season rehab is not working. Sadly, this could sideline him for most of 2007.

In addition to the 40-man roster, each Major League team invites some of their minor league players to join the Major League team for Spring Training. These are referred to as “non-roster invitees”. Often these players will begin Spring Training with the “big boys” and then move back and forth once the minor league camp starts (March 15th this year). Check out this list: Nick Adenhart, Matt Hensley, Tommy Mendoza, Ryan Aldridge, Robert Mosebach, Matt Wilhite, Nick Green, Brandon Wood, Casey Smith, Mike Eylward, Sean Rodriguez, Hainley Statia, Tim Duff, Brent Del Chiaro, Ben Johnson, and Aaron Peel.

More updates: Ryan Budde was selected by the Phillies on December 8th in the “Rule 5 Draft”; Chris Bootcheck was moved from the Angels’ 40-man roster back to the Salt Lake roster; Joe Torres (who got married in December) is still a free agent; Kendry Morales was “crushing the ball” in the Dominican League when he felt soreness in his left knee. He is undergoing tests but is expected to be ready to play again

Renew your membership today!

Please take a few moments to fill out and mail the enclosed 2006-2007 membership application if you haven’t done so already. Remember, membership runs from October to September. Even though the “season” doesn’t start until April, we have plenty to do in the off-season and we look forward to **your** participation this year!

Spring Training T-shirts

You’ll also find enclosed an order form for the special St Patrick’s Day t-shirt. You don’t HAVE to be going to Spring Training to order one, but you do have to be a Booster Club member. Please mail the form with your payment to us at:

RC Quakes Booster Club
PO Box 3856
Rancho Cucamonga, CA 91729

or you can bring it to the February 18th General meeting.





Fundraising

We need your help. Traditionally the Booster Club raises funds through our annual quilt raffle, auction table at the games, 50/50 and Opportunity drawings at our meetings, etc. Last year Kathy Huffstatler hosted a Pampered Chef party and donated a portion of the sales to the Booster Club (and I think she is willing to do the same this year). If any of you have any ideas that may help up raise money this year to provide meals for the players, etc, please let me know. We are looking into a couple of possibilities right now.

Also, we need items for the auction table. For those of you going to Spring Training, perhaps you could get some baseballs signed, or even a hat or bat or picture...? We have found that almost every former Quakes player that we have asked is more than willing to sign when we explain that it's for the Booster Club auction table. They remember how much the Booster Club did for them when they were here & want to help future Quakes share that same experience.

If you have any Quakes collectibles (like game day giveaways, bobbleheads, etc) that you can donate then we can trade these to the Angels Booster Club for some of their special items. These generally do well at the auction table.

Please be creative. We are always open to new ideas.

by Spring Training. Word is that he and Casey Kotchman are expected to be the lead possibilities to start at first base this season. Erick Aybar is also having a terrific winter season in the Dominican League. Other former Quakes playing in the off-season (Mike Eylward, Nick Gorneault, Freddy Sandoval, Rafael Cruz Chavez, and Miguel Gonzalez) have not necessarily put up great numbers but are getting more experience.

Staff news: Expect to see Troy Percival as the roving pitching coach this year. Former Quakes GM Pat Filippone is part owner of a "baseball ownership group" called 7th Inning Stretch that has purchased the low-A Orioles affiliate Delmarva Shorebirds in Maryland. Our buddy and former Assistant GM Chris Bitters has been named the new GM of the Shorebirds. Hope he and family stay warm in Maryland!

What about some of our old Quakes when we were with the Padres organization? Watch for Stephen Watkins who is now back with the Padres after spending last season with the Washington Nationals. Kevin Walker has just signed with the Houston Astros, so will be playing back in his home state. Shawn Camp set some pitching records last season with the Tampa Bay Devil Rays. Rick Guttormson and Greg LaRocca teamed up last year on the Yakult Swallows in the Japanese League. They ran into former Quakes pitcher Marc Kroon playing in Japan. Of course you've kept up with the guys making names for themselves — Derrek Lee, Matt Clement and one of the newest Angels, Gary Matthews, Jr. And don't forget our former managers — Tim Flannery, now with the San Francisco Giants as a coach will be releasing another cd early next month. Mike Basso is with the Blue Jay organization as a roving instructor, meaning Kathy & the 3 boys get to stay home this season!

Well, that's all we have room for this time. Please pass on any updates that you have. Either pass them on to Sammi, or send to rcquakesbc@aol.com.

Many of you know that Jeremy Eggleston is a big fan of baseball cards. His collection is incredible, and he is always looking for new cards of players that we have known from their time spent with the Quakes. Jeremy has sent extra cards to the General Meetings for Booster Club members to help themselves, and we will also include some of these cards in “grab bags” for the auction table this year. Here is his first submission for “Card Corner” – Sammi

Card Corner

Hey Quakes Fans,

I have decided to volunteer to include a section in the Booster Club newsletter devoted to keeping everyone up-to-date with baseball cards of current and former Quakes. My son Austin and I collect Angels cards and are aware of pretty much everything that is out there. I usually buy my cards in bulk, so I end up with many extras and am willing to list these in the newsletter for anyone who wants them. Of course I will not charge you for the card unless it is an expensive one (I will list the price of these cards in the newsletter). I also have some old cards of Padres-Quakes if anyone is interested. We used many of these cards in our scrapbooks for our adoptive players so they have a way to keep track of the cards they have out; some received cards that they had never even seen. There are many card sets released over the course of a year. Bowman always has minor league prospects and Topps puts out a few as well. Bowman has 4 to 8 versions of the same card. I have the “base” card (the standard layout and style) of everybody on hand. “Refractors” (cards with a metallic, sometimes colored, sheen), “X-fractors” (cards with a multi-colored metallic sheen), “jersey cards” (cards with a small piece of the

Road Trip Committee

Please plan on staying after our next GENERAL MEETING in February to have a short meeting about the Annual Spring Training BBQ . Last year we all did an incredible job and, of course, we hope to continue that tradition.

At the general meeting in January we started taking names of interested members who want to help us this coming season with all road trip committee duties.

If you have a desire to help out at the Spring Training BBQ, or at any of the upcoming road trips, please contact either Marianne Ruiz or Diane Young, chairpersons.

Looking forward to another great season.....

Marianne Ruiz

909-793-1238 – home

909-936-7298 – cell

Diane Young

626-446-1846 – home

626-274-2268 – cell

dyoung@monrovia.k12.ca.us

Player Adoptions

This year we will hold our player adoptions at an exhibition game at the Epicenter on Wednesday, April 4. If you have an interest in adopting a player when our new team arrives, please contact:

Diane Young, Adoption Chairperson
dyoung@monrovia.k12.ca.us
home phone: 626-446-1846

Once we know the exact time of that exhibition game (which usually lasts only 7 innings) we will notify those that have expressed an interest in adopting. Members are already asking about adopting, so remember that adoptions are on a first come basis. This is a great opportunity to get to know a player and make a scrapbook for your player. If you can't attend the drawing but have an interest in "adopting", please contact me so I can add you to the list.

REMEMBER....our goal is to have all available players adopted by either their Host Family or a Booster Family at the end of the drawing.

player's jersey embedded), and "autograph" cards are the most expensive types. I do have some of these as well. If there is something that you know is out but don't know how to get one, email me and let me know. I will do my best to track it down for you. Since the new season has not yet started, I will list some cards that the Quakes players from last year have out now:

Hainley Statia – Bowman released a base, refractor, and x-fractor for 2006. Upper Deck released a base card and an autograph card a few years ago as well.

Micheal Collins - Bowman released a base, refractor, and x-fractor for 2006. He also had a World Baseball Classic card released in a base and jersey version.

Nick Adenhardt - Bowman released a base, refractor, and x-fractor for 2006. Nick had a Donruss draft card released, but it's pretty pricy.

And here's a quick list of other current or former Quakes that have cards from major companies out: Brandon Wood, Bobby Wilson, Baltazar Lopez, Freddy Sandoval, Cliff Remole, and many others. Feel free to email me with any questions at jbombchamp@aol.com. I can help you get any card you are looking for.

Jeremy Eggleston

SPRING TRAINING BBQ

The Road Trip Committee is busy planning the annual BBQ that we will hold at the minor league complex in Tempe on Saturday, March 17 at 2pm.

Last year JD & Julie Elmquist, Gary Young, and Jerry Diego BBQ'd 70 lbs of tri-tip & 20 lbs of chicken that we will have to exceed this year to make sure all players get to take advantage of our booster club hospitality.

This year we are encouraging all booster club members who will be present to bring something for themselves to BBQ as well . We will start the charcoal at 12:00 Noon so members can eat before we start cooking the meat for the players.

Last year using the new facility at the minor league complex was great. Their picnic area was ideal but we do need additional tables for serving purposes. So, if you are planning on coming to the BBQ please let us know if you have a **portable/collapsible table** that you could bring. Since we never know what the weather will be like, if you have an **easy-up canopy** that you are willing to bring, please let us know.

Last but not least, we will again rent a BBQ in AZ so we will need to know if someone will be coming that will have a truck that we can use to pickup and return the BBQ .

As in the past, we are asking all members who are planning on coming to the BBQ to please bring either a **12 pack of soda or a case of water**.(it was suggested that members purchase these items in AZ...it's cheaper)

Anything that is left over will help to stock the ice chests for all future road trips.

If you have any questions, don't hesitate to ask.

Marianne Ruiz

909-793-1238 – home

909-936-7298 – cell

Diane Young

626-446-1846 – home

626-274-2268 – cell

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