



# MEDIA LITTLE LEAGUE



P.O. Box 1752, Media, PA 19063

[www.medialittleleague.org](http://www.medialittleleague.org)

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United Way Donor Choice Code No. 04445

Volume 5, Issue2

## NEWSLETTER

Spring 2005

### Opening Day Ceremonies a Solid Hit

On April 16, 2005 the Media Little League officially inaugurated its 54<sup>th</sup> year of baseball with the traditional parade from Springton Lake Middle School to the Major League field, escorted by fire trucks and police cruisers. Awash in bright sunlight this year, the colorful sight of over 500 baseball players and their coaches from all five leagues assembling around the infield never fails to impress. To a first-time observer, or a retired board president who has chalked up 20 ceremonies- seeing the honor guard marching in from 2<sup>nd</sup> base towards the mound invokes a feeling of respect and

This year's opening featured Larry Christenson of the Phillies, who read the Little League Pledge with a player from each league, threw out the ceremonial first pitch and shared boyhood memories. And if that wasn't enough, to everyone's delight, the Phillie Phanatic dropped by to knock off hats, give big green furry hugs, stand for photo opps with local politicians, and offer up his usual mix of fun-loving mayhem and revelry.



gratitude for a truly great sport. It is a wonderful rite of spring that heralds warmer weather, longer days, hot dogs, dirty uniforms, new friends, and lots of entertaining baseball for all members of our Media Little League community.



The most poignant moment of the day occurred when the Dotts family stepped forward to receive the plaque which will be mounted to commemorate the new American League field, aptly named **Fred Dotts Field**, in honor of the service and dedication of one of Media Little League's greatest leaders and benefactors.

### Upcoming 2005 Events

**May Board of Directors Meeting**

May 4th 8:00pm

**Bat-A-Thon® – Media Little League Complex**

May 14 (Saturday) Schedule posted on MLL website

**Regular Baseball Season Ends**

May 26th

**June Board of Directors Meeting**

June 1st 8:00pm

**Playoffs Begin – Major, American & National**

June 3rd

**Championship Day / Closing Ceremonies**

June 18th

## Snack Bar Team Widens Menu and Bottom Line

As anyone with an appetite knows, the Media Little League Snack Bar is an important component to our continued success. Not only does the Snack Bar crew work incredibly hard to produce hearty food, drinks and snacks for our players and their families, they also account for 20% of our annual revenue each year.

The Snack Bar All-Star Team consists of Judi Ashjian, Bob Ashjian and Chris Owens. This year they have enhanced our baseball, as well as our culinary experience by expanding the menu to include healthy choices such as tuna hoagies, chicken wraps and fruit salad. This dedicated core group of volunteers work tirelessly to make the Snack Bar run professionally and efficiently. They show up early each day and are usually the last to leave the Complex each evening.

Judi brings brains and vision to the operation. She has run a lunch truck and she has extensive restaurant experience - an enormous benefit! She handles all the food ordering and keeps things functioning smoothly on a day-to-day basis. The expanded menu is, in large part, the result of her creative mind and inspired

the redesign of the kitchen, which includes a new soda refrigerator, a new prep table and more storage shelves.

Bob, the master carpenter and builder of the redesign, is also the master chef and is responsible for the addition of Cheese Steaks to the menu - a big hit with hungry fans and ballplayers. Bob was an absolute workhorse leading up to Opening Day.



**Back row L to R:** President Scott Kotcamp, Judi Ashjian, Len Geary, Bob Ashjian, Chris Owens. **Front row:** Mystery guest who loves snacks and hugs.

Chris is the organizational and financial wizard of the show. He takes a "systems" approach to team snack procedures, volunteer scheduling, parent workstations, bill paying and cash taking. He keeps the show going and the food coming with his limitless enthusiasm and patience. And if that isn't enough, Chris is the Media Little League webmaster, responsible for the great redesign and continued maintenance of our website, which is the electronic hub that keeps everyone informed.

Please take a moment to visit the Snack Bar section of the MLL website to learn how you can volunteer to support their efforts. Or just stop by and

show your appreciation by saying "Thanks". But better yet, throw on an apron and get in the game!

## Stump the Ump – by Mark "Big Blue" Holland

The Carman Corporation Major League team has the bases loaded with two out when their stud clean-up batter comes to the plate and hits a ball off the fence good for three bases. However, when legging out his hit he fails to touch second base. The sharp 2<sup>nd</sup> baseman for Campbell's Boathouse notices the runner's mistake, calls for the ball, and makes a successful appeal. Do the runs count and what happens to the batter?

### Baseball Quotes

***"What ocean is that?"***

- John Kruk spotting Lake Michigan during his ride to Wrigley Field for his first visit there.

***"So what if I'm ugly. I never saw anyone hit with his face."***

- Yogi Berra

***"I walked with the bases loaded to drive in the winning run in an intra squad game in spring training."***

- Bob Uecker when asked for the highlight of his career.



*"Jamie Fellman takes a hard rip."*

## Stump the Ump Answer

**Answer:** Rule 7.10 The third out on the appeal did not occur until after the three Carman runners had scored, so the runs count. Batter-Runner is not forced at 2<sup>nd</sup> so it's a **Time Play**. If the runner from 1<sup>st</sup> missed 2<sup>nd</sup> then it would have been a Force Play and NO Runners would have scored. In the case of a time play, if the Runners scored before the appeal — they count. Baserunner-Batter is out on appeal and credited with only a single.

## Little League Parent Orientation

The Little League Parent Orientation Program was created in 2001 to better educate Little League parents regarding the purpose of the Little League program.

"We know that the vast majority of parents at Little League events conduct themselves properly," said Stephen D. Keener, president and chief executive officer of Little League Baseball and Softball. "Thankfully, there are only a few who do not understand that the enjoyment of children is the goal of Little League. The Little League Parent Orientation Program gives our local league volunteers advice on the best way to handle those situations when a parent's behavior gets out of hand."

The Parent Orientation Program is available online as a resource for any visitor to the Little League web site. To view the presentation, visit:

<http://www.littleleague.org/parents/index.asp>

The presentation includes the Youth Sports Parent Code of Conduct, the Little League Pledge and the Little League Parent/Volunteer Pledge, and many other features.

The preamble under the Youth Sports Parent Code of Conduct reads as follows:

The essential elements of character building and ethics in

sports are embodied in the concept of sportsmanship and six core principles:

**Trustworthiness**  
**Respect**  
**Responsibility**  
**Fairness**  
**Caring**  
**Good Citizenship**

The highest potential of sports is achieved when competition reflects these "six pillars of character". Please visit the Little League website and read the Code of Conduct which has 17 affirmations that a Parent of a Little League player should honor. Here are 3 of them:

- #2** I remember that children participate to have fun and that the game is for youth, not adults.
- #8** I will teach my child to play by the rules and to resolve conflicts without resorting to hostility or violence.
- #10** I will teach my child that doing one's best is more important than winning, so that my child will never feel defeated by the outcome of a game or his/her performance.

## 2005 Bat-A-Thon®

On May 14, 2005 Media Little League will hold its 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual Bat-A-Thon® fundraiser at the Baseball Complex. As many of you know, this event is the principal way that our organization raises funds to help pay for the numerous costs of running the League. In fact, the new American League Field – Fred Dotts Field - was only made possible by last year's successful Bat-A-Thon®.

This year's Bat-A-Thon® will include the Continental League for the first time, joining with the National, American and Major Leagues in promoting our great organization to friends, family and the community. For those of you participating in your first Bat-A-Thon®, you'll quickly appreciate how much enjoyment the kids get out of competing with each other for prizes and accruing points for their team. Announcers will be broadcasting the play-by-play at each field as every batter steps up to slug away. Everyone gets into the excitement as the points are tallied and the results are announced.

Baseball's basic costs are much greater than most other organized sports due to baseball's extra equipment, the uniforms, tractors and fuel for field maintenance, insurance, and even coach's clinics that stress skill-building and safety. For example, the cost of new baseballs for just 5 games –or 1 night- can equal the cost of one basketball or soccer ball used a whole season.

The membership of the Media Little League should be proud of their efforts in helping to build this first-class complex that will serve the needs of Little League players and their families for many years to come.

Anyone wishing to volunteer at Bat-A-Thon® should email Scott Bosco ([Scott\\_Bosco@yahoo.com](mailto:Scott_Bosco@yahoo.com)).

*"Two future Major Leaguers having fun."*



*"Chase Luffey reaches back to unleash a fastball."*

**2005 MEDIA LITTLE LEAGUE TEAMS**

<b>MAJOR LEAGUE</b>	<b>AMERICAN LEAGUE</b>	<b>NATIONAL LEAGUE</b>
BAKER PRINTING CAMPBELL'S BOATHOUSE CARMEN CORP. INSURANCE HAGAN'S FUNERAL HOME MOPPERT BROTHERS, INC. PETERSON & PETERSON	AXIS FINANCIAL DOUGHERTY & CONRAD EMERGENCY CARE TRAINING FABIAN-BABER GARDNER/FOX ASSOCIATES KISH FUNERAL HOMES MEENAN OIL QUOTATIONS RESTAURANT	CARAMANICO & SONS, INC. ROSE TREE GETTY BILL BATTY'S CONLEY WARD'S STEAKHOUSE WILSON SAFE COMPANY HEALTHCARE ADMINISTRATIVE PARTNERS (HAP) PATRIOT CONSTRUCTION SPECTRUM ROOFING CHILDREN'S MEDICAL ASSOCIATES

<b>CONTINENTAL LEAGUE</b>	<b>T-BALL LEAGUE</b>
GREGORY HILLYARD D.M.D. UPPER PROVIDENCE POLICE FIDELITY MORTGAGE KENNY'S FLOWERS OFFICE BASIC TAYLOR RENTAL GUIDANT CORPORATION CHIMNEY CRICKET NELLIES HOMERS	PRUDENTIAL FOX & ROACH MARISA KANEDA FIVE STAR INC. CAVANAUGH FUNERAL HOME PRECISION HEALTH CARE COLONIAL PARKING PROFESSIONAL INCOME TAX STERLING HEALTHCARE MEDIA OPTIMIST CLUB MEDIA POLICE DEPARTMENT GLENN H. FEATHERMAN, DMD ROSE TREE FIRE CO. NEW TINY HOAGIE SHOP



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