



*The Friends of Baseball  
Newsletter*

Vol. 1, No. 1

May 18, 2006

Dear “Friends” of Baseball

With this, the inaugural issue of our quarterly newsletter, The Trustees of Friends of Baseball (FOB) have some very exciting announcements. But first, we would like to take this opportunity to thank the scores of individuals who have taken a personal interest in the development of this endeavor. While the inspiration came nearly eighteen months ago, and for many seemed to labor in its development, as Trustees we are very, very heartened by the final product. This could not have happened without the inspiration of all of you who took the time to provide candid thoughts, contacts, or simply cheered us on. Indeed, this final incarnation is a piece of each of you!

**Friends of Baseball Creates Alliance with Oregon Sports Authority Foundation**

Recently the Board of Directors of OSAF announced their acceptance of FOB as an advised fund, in collaboration with their own foundation that assists youth in the State of Oregon. “When we became aware of Friends of Baseball, the Foundation immediately saw how beneficial the grants would be in supporting hundreds of deserving youngsters and their families in Northwest Oregon,” said Drew Mahalic, CEO, Oregon Sports Authority Foundation.

OSAF became a critical link in facilitating FOB grants in our community. It became clear that we shared a vision and commitment to youth, building families and strong communities. With this alliance, FOB is now able to commit 100% of the endowment, and all donations, in the form of grants in our community.

## **Friends of Baseball Announces Inaugural Grant Presentations**

This week FOB announced the inaugural grantees, and can now announces the grant presentation dates for these very deserving organizations.

### **Rockwood Junior Baseball**

*Formal Presentation: June 3<sup>rd</sup> 1:00 P.M, Pat Pfeiffer Park - N.E. 172<sup>nd</sup>, South of Glisan.*

### **Astoria High School and Junior State Baseball**

*Formal Presentation: May 24<sup>th</sup> 4:00 P.M. Tapiola Park 1001 W. Marine Dr. Astoria*

### **Lakeside Little League**

*Formal Presentation: June 3<sup>rd</sup>, 11:00 A.M Lakeside Park, N.E. 51<sup>st</sup> & Columbia Blvd.*

### **Montavilla Little League**

*Formal Presentation: June 10<sup>th</sup> 6:00 P.M American Legion Post 1, 1830 S.E. 122<sup>nd</sup> Ave.*

### **North County Recreation District**

*Formal Presentation: June 17<sup>th</sup> 12:00 P.M, Rex Champ Field 36400 Hwy. 101, No. Nehalem*

As Trustees, we have clearly realized that every team has a story. These amazing organizations have succeeded in overcoming significant obstacles in order to get the game on the field. To read more about the specific grants, and details about the organizations, please visit <http://www.Friendsofbaseball.org> and click on the “Headlines link.” Also, be sure to visit this site as we add photos of our grantees in the weeks ahead.

Each of these team organizations and their many volunteers are highly committed to building support, and to expanding their reach deep into their communities. Why not pick a date and join us in celebrating one of these worthy organizations! Each presentation (with the exception of Rockwood Little League) precedes one of their inspiring youth baseball games. Come hang out, watch a game and pick up a box of popcorn or a licorice rope from the snack shack. If you are like many of us, you haven’t made a youth baseball game since you had a “reason”; perhaps you have found that purpose again.

## **Oregon Disability Sports Plans First Youth and Adult Baseball Game**

Friends of Baseball recently met with Ian Jaquiss of Oregon Disability Sports. Ian is director of an organization that encourages, schedules and organizes sports activities for disabled youth and adults. You can almost imagine the logistics and challenges in this process. Ian has experienced everything from over-protective parents, to individuals who may have become withdrawn because of their disabilities. The organization supports ski trips, basketball, track, and many other sports for nearly 1200 individuals. While he has heard of disabled baseball events, he genuinely thanked FOB for bringing this option to light and is, in fact, committed to having his first - perhaps the first in Portland history - disabled baseball game for teenagers and adults August 19<sup>th</sup>. His hope is that this first game will inspire interest and a critical mass to move forward with additional games in the future. Ian explained his plan is for this first game to be played in wheel chairs on a large flat parking lot. A large softball will be used with standard dimensions for a baseball diamond. We congratulate Ian for his efforts, and are pleased to assist in promoting of this event. I will keep you informed with regards to a confirmed date, time and location!

### **Please Help Us Get the Word Out**

One of our greatest hurdles (believe it or not) is getting the word out about our foundation and the granting process. FOB recently sent out a media release to promote the efforts of their grantees, and to reach and expand their contacts in the youth baseball community. We would be happy to forward to you this media release if you know any “media types.” Additionally if you know of a deserving team in the Northwest Oregon region we serve, please feel free to forward this newsletter to an organization that may be in significant need of grant assistance. Should you know of other parties who might be interested in receiving this newsletter, just send us an email and we will make sure they are added to our list.

Secondly, it is very helpful in the internet search engine process that FOB is referenced as a “link” on as many websites as is possible. If you have, or have access to, a website, ask your “webmaster” to add our web address to your site as a link. This will certainly help in expanding our reach.

*We, at Friends of Baseball, hope that all of you have a great season. A sportscaster recently referenced that baseball is a humbling game; one that pretty much guarantees that you will fail seven out of ten times in order to succeed. What better example - what better lesson - could be shared with our youth?*

*If you would like to unsubscribe to this quarterly newsletter, simply hit reply and email a message to  
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***Friends of Baseball - 1631 N. E. Broadway #118, Portland, Oregon, 97232***  
***Friendsofbaseball.org***

*“A life is not important except in the impact it has on other lives. . .” Jackie Robinson*