

President's Corner . . . Monico Zamora

Hello Everyone . . . As we are slowly approaching mid-season, our Dodgers are keeping up the pace and remain firmly in 1st place.

Our award winner Andre Ethier has shown us that he is the true leader on and off the field. So let's keep our club going with all the events we have planned and maybe it will snow-cone again while summer's still with us. See ya at the park!



Ticket Talk . . . Mae Rosenkranz

Homestands 7 & 8 will be available for pickup at the July 13th meeting. Please make arrangements with me to pick up your tickets if you cannot attend the meeting. Keep in mind this meeting counts toward your Playoff Tickets requirement of attending 5 meetings and ordering tickets also helps you towards Playoff Tickets.

NOTE: due to a lack of tickets ordered for 8/20 and 8/31 (only 8 tickets have been ordered for each game), I am canceling these two dates. If you ordered tickets for 8/20 to see Chicago, take a look at Sunday, 8/23 for Chicago, and let me know if you want to change your order to that date.

Tickets are still available for all games except 7/19 & 7/22 and only a few tickets remain for when Manny comes back to Dodger Stadium on 7/16. Also, don't forget KTF on 8/03 and 9/18 and please remember the kids need to have a ticket to go down on the field. The kids need to be in left field parking lot by the Dodger Ice Cream truck 1 1/2 hours prior to game time, and remember, a parent must accompany them in order to sign a waiver. See you at the ol' ballpark!

2009 Meeting Dates

January 12th
February 9th
March 9th
April 6th
May 11th
June 8th
July 13th
August 10th
September 14th
October 5th
November 9th
December – No Meeting

Your 2009 Booster Club Officers . . .

President – Monico Zamora – 000.000.0000
Vice President – JJ Sells – 000.000.0000
Secretary – John Eiden – 000.000.0000
Treasurer – Herb Hammann – 000.000.0000
Ticket Chair – Mae Rosenkranz – 000.000.0000
Membership Chair – Sandy Zamora – 000.000.0000
Board Member – Susan Davidson – 000.000.0000
Board Member – Carlos Uribe – 000.000.0000
Board Member – Armida Vasquez – 000.000.0000
Board Member – Dorothy Wylie – 000.000.0000

Membership Notes . . . Sandy Zamora

I am sorry to say that I missed the last general meeting. I heard it was a blast! We had 88 members in attendance that night. As of today, we have 253 members and 60 junior members. By now, I hope you have all received your discount cards, and for all of the new members, I hope you have your Rookie Membership Card.

If you don't see your birthday listed in the newsletter, it's because we don't have it. Please let me know the date and we can make sure it's added next time. If you have any concerns, please bring them to my attention.



San Francisco Here I Come . . .

Wanna see the Dodgers play the Giants in San Francisco at whatever their ball park is called nowadays on Saturday, September 12th? Well, member Ralph Holguin has made an annual trek up there going on a number of years now with each one being as different and special from the last one each time. Tickets have already been purchased in the View Reserve 323 and Club Box 233 & 234 levels in anticipation of this year's journey.

Ralph is making his annual trek available to booster club members who would like to join in on the fun. I gotta tell you, the past jaunts he describes in his initial email about this are really priceless and sound like they have all been a blast and a half! Time and space doesn't permit us to reprint that email here but I promise if you come to the July meeting, you'll hear all about it from the man himself.

After that, you'll have some time to decide before you have to commit and pay for the tickets as well as your tour option. If you give Ralph your email address, I'm sure he'd even be happy to send you the email that has us all buzzing!

June Meeting . . .

What a shame our esteemed President and First Lady were not able to make it to our June meeting. They were missed and boy, did they miss a great time. VP JJ Sells again handled the duties involved in running the show! Carlos Uribe had quite a variety of ways to whet our whistles and Jeff Castillo was busy making snow cones for any who wanted them!

In addition to the various reports and updates, members learned about the club's latest venture – our very own Facebook page (be sure to read the article about it).

Manny Galindo and John Eiden talked about our upcoming blood drive, while John followed that with the latest details about our trip to San Bernardino in August to see our baby Boys in Blue play.

One of the highlights was when junior member Mario Morales, along with proud dad and coach Alfonso, presented the club with a plaque in appreciation for our donation to the Wiseburn Little League (Mario played for the Marlins this past season – maybe the Dodgers next year?)

In addition to the always cool Dodger items Susan made available for the night's fundraising raffle, it was finally time to find out who was going home with the 32" LCD HD TV. But wait! Edward Chung of Viola A/V said if the winning ticket was one of the ones purchased that night, not only would they win the TV but they would also win the DVD player showing Dodger highlights (DVDs not included)! That obviously rocketed ticket sales to the next level. Everyone waited with baited breath to see first if the winning ticket was indeed the special color of those sold only that night and guess what – it was! Then the tension mounted as everyone holding those tickets hoped it was going to be the number on their ticket. Well, only one person could win and that truly blessed person was...Olga Castillo!

Guess where we all get to gather to watch the post season away games the Dodgers will play in October? Thanks to Edward's generous arrangement, we were able to collect a total of \$805, splitting the total with him. When he was presented with a check for his half of the proceeds, he surprised us all by donating his half back to the club so we could help out even more little leagues! He managed to affirm in a very special way why the board had earlier voted to extend to him an honorary membership to our club. After having surprised and delighted us all with his generous offer, this meeting was history!

Some 2010 Trips . . . Ralph Holguin

There are two cathedrals I would love to see my team play at - Fenway Park and Wrigley Field. With interleague divisions rotated every year, my calculations are the Dodgers will be scheduled to play the American League East next year. That means the Red Sox! I know I'm talking a whole year in advance but, this opportunity comes only every so often.

If my predictions are right, I'm gonna make the effort to be in Fenway. Knowing MLB, they will probably schedule a weekend series with these two teams. My wife and I are planning our vacation to New Orleans for Mardi Gras next February. I'll forward the details as they come, if you are interested. After Mardi Gras, I'm going west to Camelback for about a week.

Some helpful hints to cut the cost on your traveling is to use your points from your credit card. Last year, I used my Bank of America points to get a free round trip airline tickets to Orlando for my son and I.

I also used my points to get a discount for our hotel and rental car. You and your guest(s) are welcome to join me for any of these trips, just let me know if you are interested!



Giveaway Crew Update . . . Sandy Zamora

By the time this newsletter is printed, we will just about be at the half-way point of our baseball season, as well as our half-way point of giveaway dates. In June we only had two giveaway dates scheduled, 6/10 and 6/28. Luckily, the Dodgers added two more giveaway dates and were kind enough to ask of our help for 6/04 and 6/09.

An e-mail was sent to most of the volunteers whose names I had from other giveaway dates, asking them to step up to the plate on such short notice to come out to work on those additional dates. While we were given the opportunity to take 30 volunteers we fell short of that number. I would still like to thank the 15 volunteers who responded and came out to help.

Although it was an easy giveaway, some gates only had 1 volunteer working at it. Thanks for coming out.

Our remaining giveaway dates for July and August are: Wednesday, 7/22 - Manny Ramirez Bobblehead; Sunday, 7/26 - Webkinz Pet Giveaway; and Wednesday, 8/19 – Matt Kemp Bobblehead. I'd like to let you know right now that the Dodgers are only asking us for 20 volunteers for each of these dates. There were a lot of disappointed volunteers who signed up for the giveaway on 6/10 and were put on the wait list. I heard from one of you who said, "Then why bother signing up if you won't be able to work it." I think that is a great sign of the willingness our volunteers have to want to work. However, when 40 volunteers sign up, some of you will have to be put on the wait list.

I'm asking you to please pay attention to your e-mails and reply back to me when you receive it so I know you are still available to work if your name is on the list to work. Sometimes, the Dodgers have responded to my e-mails when they see the wait list and tell me to go ahead and notify them all to come. I wish that would happen every time but we are not guaranteed that privilege. So, please don't feel disappointed when you are on the wait list. There are many other ways and opportunities to help out our club. I truly do appreciate your enthusiasm and hope it continues.

Fanfare & Booster Tidbits . . .

We are saddened to report the recent passing of family members quite close to two of our long time board members – JoAnn Kaye's sister (and sister-in-law of former VP Ralph Kaye) and longtime Ticket Chair Mae Rosenkranz's brother. Our heartfelt thoughts and prayers go out to you both and to your families during what is definitely a difficult time for you.

On a more joyful note for proud grandma Mae Rosenkranz, her granddaughters Ashley & Brianna Whetstone have just graduated from high school, along with celebrating their 10th anniversary as members of the club. Seems like just yesterday they were bright-eyed little girls and now they are adults, ready to conquer the world – congratulations!

Wine Cooler 2B Raffled Off . . . Susan Davidson

Member Ralph Holguin has generously donated a "Magic Chef Wine Cooler Refrigerator" for our July meeting raffle. It's never been used! It's electric and about the size of a dorm room fridge. It's black with a tinted glass front door allowing it to easily fit into any décor. And speaking of fitting, it easily holds up to 32 bottles of wine.

Of course it can also be used for soft drinks, water or juice. Given as a gift, it would make quite an impression on your friends or family! Raffle tickets will be \$1 each or 6 for \$5. We will also offer some other great items in this raffle as well. Thanks and hope to see you there.

Latest Little League Donation . . .

Thanks to all of you, we have just made another donation, this time to the Pomona American Little League! If you know of any little league, softball team, senior league, traveling team or any other amateur group playing baseball or softball that is in need of some financial assistance, get a note from them requesting aid on the group's letterhead and give it to any board member for consideration.

It's thanks to each and every one of you participating in our various fundraisers that places our club in the happy position of providing financial aid as we can – congrats and keep up the good work!

Editor:

John Eiden

Photographer:

Sandy Zamora

Ticket Chair:

Mae Rosenkranz

Membership:

Sandy Zamora

Sunshine Lady:

Aurora Pina

Vice President:

J.J. Sells

President:

Monico Zamora

July Birthdays

7/01 – Michelle Lucas
 7/01 – Aurora Pina
 7/02 – Christopher Gonzalez
 7/02 – Anthony Zaragosa
 7/04 – Mark Nunez III
 7/04 – Samantha Rodriguez
 7/06 – Chuck Warner
 7/07 – Dolly Bartelme
 7/10 – Mary Coe
 7/14 – Jesus Garcia
 7/14 – Eileen Russell
 7/15 – Cameron Kron
 7/16 – Alex Silva
 7/17 – Jessica Israel
 7/17 – Carl Weckerle
 7/18 – Jack Lucas
 7/19 – Mae Rosenkranz
 7/20 – Jerome Leventhal
 7/20 – Victor Ochoa
 7/20 – Dora Sells
 7/22 – Mia Castillo
 7/22 – Jerald Todd
 7/23 – Luca Cuneo
 7/23 – Johnetta Jones
 7/26 – Dora Chisholm
 7/27 – Sandy Zamora
 7/30 – Randy Caudill
 7/30 – Victoria Hemming
 7/31 – Faviola Resendiz

Ed. Note . . .

One of the biggest things that haunt editors everywhere is having to make that dreaded correction to a previous edition. I have been most fortunate, mostly by dumb luck I think, to have not had to cop to one in the twenty years I've been editor. Or at least no one has brought any to my attention until now! I must say I am most lucky to have one pointed out to me with such panache.

In the May edition I referred to the Vasquez's son/brother Louis Vasquez as a Marine. Proud pop and former Navy man Louis wrote me to say "Our son is in the Army. You do not call a Soldier a Marine, and you don't call a Marine a Soldier...but a Sailor is always a Sailor." I proudly stand corrected!

In Brief . . .

Freeway Series Blood Drive – Thanks to Annette Alexander, June Arellano, Vickey & Olivia Armenta, John Eiden, Jesse Fraire, Manny Galindo, Chris Gonzalez, Linda Heyman, Larry Lamb, Mae Rosenkranz, Jerald Todd, Johnny Torres, Carlos & Delia Uribe, Louis, Armida & Michelle Vasquez, and Sandy Zamora for working at the various sites (hope we didn't skip any one!) and thanks to all of you who donated blood too on Saturday, June 13th! At press time, we didn't have the final tally, so be sure to attend the July meeting to see if we have finally won the coveted Blood Drop trophy!

AZ Trip, 8/14-16 – Your last chance to sign up for tickets to see our Boys in Blue play the D'backs in Phoenix will be the July 13th meeting. JJ Sells will contact everyone who signs up with all the latest details.

Inland Empire 66ers Trip, 8/29 - signups continue through the August meeting to go to San Bernardino to see our Single A team play.

If you want a \$2 pre-paid parking voucher, be sure to sign up and pay no later than the July meeting. Otherwise, you'll have to pay \$4 to park that day. The last day to sign up and pay for tickets will be the August meeting.

Look What's new . . .

Our LADBC Facebook Page. Across the technology landscape are more and ever faster means of communicating with one another. Our monthly newsletter is one way we've used these past 51 years, but it has its limitations as do our monthly meetings. Our website was a great move forward into the 21st century to let a far greater audience know of our existence and share what we are all about but it is not the best vehicle to communicate quickly with our members. Email works well for a specific group such as the board or for a specific task such as giveaway crew updates but isn't flexible enough to share different forms of information with various members with varying degrees of interest.

Enter Facebook. On its home page (Facebook.com) is the simple statement "Facebook helps you connect and share with the people in your life." What better way to now get the latest and most updated information on club events, meetings, apparel, get in touch with other club members, share up-to-the-minute photos of club activities and now have the ability to find possible buyers for or to get your hands on those unused Dodger tickets. Sounds great, huh?

So, whatta ya gotta do to be a part of it? For Facebook veterans you can skip on ahead – otherwise, first, you need a computer with internet access (you can never start too simple). Go to www.Facebook.com and starting on the home page, fill out the information on the right and then go through the steps of setting up your very own Facebook account. After you are set up, now you can find the club's face book page. Running along the top of the screen, is a menu bar – go to the right and in the "Search" box, type "Los Angeles Dodgers Booster Club" and then click on "Search Facebook".

The first result of your search ought to be us – Los Angeles Dodgers Booster Club, with our logo. To the right or two choices – "View Page" and "Become a Fan". Click on "Become a Fan" so you can be added. After that, you can click on "View Page" to see what's currently happening on our Facebook page.

This is a work-in-progress and stuff ought to be added all the time. All board members are administrators, so if you have any suggestions, ideas, comments or info to include, contact any board member to have it considered.

So, that's it – it's new, it's cool, it's fun 'n' it's free! Come join us! A Great Big Thank You to JJ Sells for taking this idea and running with it!

LADBC Scholarship Awards . . .

Our two St. Paul High School 2009 scholarship recipients have been selected: BOYS WINNER is Mario Obando & GIRLS WINNER is Geselle Sarmiento. A THIRD recipient was selected simply because the entry was **too good to ignore**. THIRD WINNER is Andrew Canales. Congratulations to you one and all! Here are the three award-winning essays, unedited, on the topic "How Dodger baseball has enriched my life!"

Mario Obando's essay: "\$6 pavilion, one Dodger Dog, an Eric Karros home run, screaming "RAUULL," when Mondesi batted, were the highlights of my childhood.

I am Mario Obando and I credit the Dodgers for helping me assimilate to the United States. I moved to the US from Costa Rica when I was four and struggled to communicate in school due to language barriers. But all that changed when my family and I would go to Dodger games. I had something to talk about at school, and fell in love with the game of baseball.

Dodger baseball was my escape from a battered household, a confusing school life, and from the harsh real world. Sitting in left field allowed me to find comfort in who I was and that was a proud Hispanic.

I learned to communicate with kids at school and finally enjoyed life by imitating Gary Sheffield at my little league games. If it wasn't for Dodger baseball, I would not be the confident, outgoing, and positive person I am today. I recently went to watch the Dodgers play the Rockies. They came back, won and the fireworks gave me hope that no matter how bad a situation is, there is always a fighting chance to stand tall.

I will always be a die-hard Dodger fan because they have given me hope to improve on a daily basis and keep fighting. Go DODGERS!"

Geselle Sarmiento's essay: "The first time I had witnessed a Dodger game at Dodger stadium was when I was 13 years old. I went with my 7th grade class and stepping on to the stands was a memorable experience. I had bought a Dodger baseball cap and I was ready to cheer. That day the Dodgers played the Boston Red Sox. I thought that this was ironic because my favorite player is Manny Ramirez and he use to play for the Red Sox. Watching the players play seemed like a lot of fun.

That year I tried out for the softball team at my school because I had enjoyed watching the Dodger games so I supposed that I must enjoy playing it too. The coach told me I made the team and I was excited, although I had to work really hard it was worth it. I was not aware of how fun softball really was until I actually played it. I remember in 8th grade cheering for my friends when they were at bat. I also remember waking up early in the morning to get to practice.

Softball taught me responsibility, commitment and teamwork in my life. Softball made me an active person and now I play it for fun with my friends at the park, and it is all because of the Dodger baseball game I went to in 7th grade."

Andrew Canales's essay: "Being a Dodger fan my entire life, I have attended countless games. These games have caused agony, ecstasy, and most frequently, exhilaration. Narrowing it down to one most memorable experience is something I've never even thought about doing.

I consider myself a loyal fan, supporting the boys in blue in times of success and in times of hardship. So I feel I am qualified to speak on behalf of the Dodger faithful when I say that the Dodgers have the best fans in all of sports. There is no better place to be on a summer night than in Chavez Ravine.

One memory that sticks out to me was during September of 2004 when the Dodgers were playing the St. Louis Cardinals in the NL Divisional Series. The Dodgers had yet to win a playoff game since the World Series in 1988 and Jose Lima took the mound. Lima had been the Dodgers' makeshift cheerleader all season long and he just absolutely bamboozled the Cardinals that night on his way to a complete game shutout. The crowd erupted and my face paint began to smear.

The 2004 Dodger season was a reason to smile. There were familiar faces playing well alongside some not-so-familiar faces, but they seemed to mesh together pretty well. Adrian Beltre was having a breakthrough season, smashing 48 home runs while making a case for himself in the MVP race, and Eric Gagne continued his record streak of 84 consecutive saves converted. After a drought from the playoffs through most of the 90s and the beginning of the new millennium, it felt good to be competing again while winning the NL West Division.

As I said before, it is hard to pinpoint one experience when I felt the most invigorated, but that memory sticks out to me. As the new season is under way, the smell of fresh Dodger Dogs and salted peanuts dance around my nostrils and the vibration of the ground as the crowd erupts tickles the bottom of my feet.

Dodger Stadium is a sanctuary of sorts. It never gets old and you can't but smile as you walk through the gates and receive your complimentary promotion. It's a place where generations upon generations have cheered, sobbed, stomped, and fist-pumped for decades.

As the palm trees wave in the wind, dreams are created and realized in the stands and on the field. I have made many memories at Dodger Stadium and I plan on making many more in the years to come."

Serendipity and Opening day 2009 . . . John Aston

Sometimes, you're just in the right place at the right time. Back on April 9th, I got an email from First Lady Sandy Zamora. The Dodgers were looking for some volunteers to help with rehearsals for their home Opening Day celebrations. Would I like to participate? You betcha!

The next afternoon I get to the stadium and find a group of people waiting for the rehearsal. Turns out there are two rehearsal groups - one to fill-in for Dodger players (who would be making their entrances from the field level seats!) and the other for an on-field display. I got in with the display group.

We went behind the centerfield wall and national flags from 30 different countries were being handed out. I tried to get Japan first (I went to Tokyo in 2007 and saw three JPL games), but it was given to a woman. I got China (I went to Tokyo via Beijing), but when Scotland came up I swapped (my grandfather was born in Dundee).

We rehearsed our routine – marching along the warning track; stop; wait for a music cue; march towards the infield and line up along the outer rim; wait for some announcements and the national anthem; march back out along the warning track and through the centerfield gate.

The flags were fairly large (the poles were close to eight feet long) so we had to use harnesses. We repeated the process two more times (with a couple of tweaks – one significant change had us rimming the inner infield grass). The next day (Saturday) we had another two-hour rehearsal. We were rocking.

Monday morning (Opening Day) I get to Dodger Stadium at 9:30 AM, three hours before our performance. We were given plain dark-ash tee shirts and got to hang out as the final touches were put on the stadium. Shortly after we started our final preps (we were already inside the stadium), Dodger owner Frank McCourt came through the centerfield gate.

The person with China took a picture with him, then Norway got a picture. I pushed my way up to him and asked if he'd take "one more, with Scotland" He said, "Well, I wouldn't want to anger my Irish ancestors, but OK." Then, the actual performance started.

While we were waiting along the outfield wall, I found myself five feet away from multiple Cy Young Award winner (and starting pitcher for the visiting San Francisco Giants) Randy Johnson. He's about 6'7" and skinny as a Dodger Dog. We continued our routine. I stepped on first base as we went into position in front of over 57,000 fans.

Once our part of the ceremony was over, we headed out (and I stepped on third base!) My moment in the sun was over. An amazing thrill (even though I've been on the field before – I've done First Pitch three or four times, along with a couple of other special events), this was very different.

When I got home, I checked my TiVO of the pre-game show and I got about 1.5 seconds air time. I'm also a minuscule blur on the front page of the Long Beach Press Telegram. [ED. Note – Members Audelia & Belinda Uribe also carried flags during that pre-game ceremony.]



Free Membership!

Recruit 10 NEW members & YOUR 2010 membership is FREE - It's never too early to start



Booster Club

Start Early! Recruit 10 NEW members to the LADBC by the end of

December, and your membership, next year, will be FREE.

NEW members must be signed up & paid before 12/31/09.

Must be NEW members, renewals of existing members not applicable. One adult member = one referral, Two Child members = one referral. Free membership refers to one year renewal of your existing membership for 2010, after ten new members

recruited. Maximum value \$25.00. If you recruit more than ten, the benefits increase.

Receive one free raffle ticket for every 5 referrals over ten recruited. Recruit 25 members, and your 2009 Christmas Party fee will also be free. for more information, you can contact any Board Member, or attend any monthly meeting