

## President's Corner . . . Monico Zamora

**Happy Holidays . . .** To all of our Booster family and friends! Well folks, the 2012 season is almost here, so get ready for some fun and exciting Dodger Baseball games and planned trips.

2011 was a very good year for our club. Looking back on the year, I'd say we had a lot of fun and met some fan-tas-tic friends, from tailgating twice in San Diego, to Minor League Baseball and back to Dodger Stadium.

I would like to thank all of you folks for your tremendous support and confidence in me being your President, and I am looking forward to bigger, and better, and greater ideas to keep our club moving forward.

I would also like to thank our Board Members and Volunteers who keep fun and hard work a priority. It was really great seeing ya all at the Holiday Party.



## January Birthdays

01/02 - Lindy Bidolli  
01/05 - Matthew Hernandez  
01/05 - Giana Paez  
01/08 - Loreen Makishima  
01/09 - Dolly Mardock  
01/13 - Rose Marie Turner  
01/15 - Jeff Marsh  
01/16 - Coletta Lindell  
01/20 - Linda Ruelas  
01/20 - Dorothy Wylie  
01/21 - Brandon Medrano  
01/26 - Richard Sanchez  
01/27 - Eloisa Aguilar  
01/28 - Peter Perez

## Membership Notes . . . Sandy Zamora

**HAPPY NEW YEAR!** I'm writing this just a few weeks shy of Christmas, but by the time you read this it will be 2012! So here's hoping you all had a wonderful holiday season and are ready for a great 2012 Dodger season. Let's go Dodgers!

**Membership Renewals!** I am excited to see how many of you are eager to renew your memberships for 2012. Many of you renewed at the last general meeting, some sent in your renewal forms to our mail box and many of you have done it the easy way by going on-line to renew your membership. I hope you have found this process as easy as clicking a button, because it IS just as easy as clicking a button! Just as a reminder to those of you who have not done so yet, you need to renew BEFORE the January general meeting in order to be in good standing and qualify to vote for your 2012 Executive Board.

Membership dues are \$25 for the first member of the household, \$15 for the second member in the same household and \$10 for each additional member in that same household. You have until January 31st to pay your dues to maintain your membership uninterrupted. After that, you will be dropped from the roster.

Our membership for 2011 was 272 adult members and 67 junior members. Let's make 2012 the best year ever for our Dodger Booster Club!



## Start The Season With a Road Trip . . . Olivia & Vickey Armenta

The club has placed a reservation with the San Diego Padres for the opening weekend of April 6th-8th, 2012. The game will be on Saturday with the time to be announced. We have requested the same seats as our last visit to the stadium.

Sign-ups will start at the January meeting. If anyone would like to attend the Friday or Sunday games, we would be glad to look into this for you.

We discussed at the November meeting, the possibility of a trip in June to Seattle. Along with this trip, we are thinking and planning for an Alaskan cruise the week before or after the series with the Mariners. This will be great fun. Anyone interested in joining us, catch us at the January meeting.

We wish you a wonderful Christmas and a fantastic New Year!

## 2012 Meeting Dates

Monday, January 9th  
Monday, February 13th  
Monday, March 12th  
Monday, April 9th  
Monday, May 14th  
Monday, June 11th  
Monday, July 9th  
Monday, August 13th  
Monday, September 10th  
Monday, October 1st  
Monday, November 12th  
Christmas Party, Dec. 2nd

## Electing Our 2012 Officers . . .

As you know, we are electing our 2012 club officers at the January 9th meeting. Please remember only those members who have paid their 2012 dues PRIOR to this meeting can vote in our annual election. If you have not renewed yet, please do it now so Membership Chairperson Sandy Zamora will have an up-to-date list of eligible voters at the meeting.

To renew, it's best to go to our website, [www.dodgersboosterclub.com](http://www.dodgersboosterclub.com), and click on the "Renew Online" link at the left or at the bottom of each web page. With just a few clicks and providing basic information on-screen, you're renewed right then and there in no time at all! If you will NOT be able to attend the January meeting, please fill out the enclosed absentee ballot and return it to L.A.D.B.C. Membership, P.O. Box 86965, Los Angeles, CA 90086. If you do this, PLEASE also do these two simple things to ensure YOUR ballot is included in the final count. FIRST, be sure your full name(s) is/are printed clearly in the return address section of the envelope. SECOND, print the word "BALLOT" in the lower left corner of the envelope. Following these two steps will enable Sandy to verify your eligibility to vote but she will NOT open the envelope.

Please be aware only those absentee ballots in our P.O. Box by the day of the January meeting can be included in the final count. Therefore, don't delay; send in your ballot right away to be included. At the meeting, all the eligible envelopes will be handed over to the Nominating Committee to open and count. If you opt instead to write out your renewal check, please do NOT include it in the SAME envelope as your mail-in ballot. Instead, please send your renewal check AND your 2012 Membership Information form in a separate envelope marked with the word "MEMBERSHIP" in the lower left corner so Sandy can open it immediately and declare you eligible to vote. If you plan to vote in-person at the January meeting, please do NOT bring the enclosed ballot with you as you'll be handed another one that night once your eligibility to vote has been confirmed.

As a reminder, Junior Members (those not turning age 14 during 2012) are NOT eligible to vote. Good voting and see ya at the meeting!

## Campaign Statements. . .

What follows is a campaign statement submitted by one of the members running for the 2 at-large Board member positions. **From Dorothy Wylie** - "Hi Booster Members. My name is Dorothy Wylie and I have been a Booster member for five years. I'm a candidate for the board at-large position. I've held this position for four years and enjoy working with all the board members helping to make our club grow and with new ideas. I've been the chair person for the ice cream social, potlucks, and the American Red Cross Blood Drive. My husband, Forrest, and I have started up the coffee service at our general meetings. I would appreciate your vote in January. Thank you for considering me. Go Dodgers!"

## Dodgers Dream Foundation . . .

Our club has made another major donation to the Dodgers Dream Foundation this past year. As a thank-you for our continued generosity, they have given us 3 game-worn autographed jerseys and 7 autographed baseballs. The jerseys are those worn by Jamey Carroll, Tony Gwynn and Don Mattingly. The balls are signed by Jamey Carroll, Andre Ethier, Tony Gwynn, Matt Kemp, Clayton Kershaw, Davy Lopes and Don Mattingly. No time was wasted in putting these wonderful items to good use as Don Mattingly's autographed baseball and jersey were included in our Christmas Party's fundraiser raffle. The rest will be raffled off throughout the year.

For those of you who may not be aware, the Dodgers Dream Foundation was founded in 1998 to provide educational, athletic and recreational opportunities for the youth of the Greater Los Angeles community. The foundation places special emphasis on helping traditionally under-served youth - a good cause indeed!

## In Brief . . . John Eiden

**Christmas Party Invitation & Christmas Card** - The board wants to recognize and extend a heartfelt THANK YOU to member Belinda Uribe for truly outdoing herself in creating this year's colorful and imaginative Christmas Party invitation!

The board also wants to send out a great big THANK YOU to member Eddie Medrano and Ikon Printing for taking Belinda's wonderful designs and creating the beautiful Christmas card sent by the board to all our members! THANK YOU Belinda & Eddie!

**2012 Meeting Schedule Magnet** - enclosed you will find a handy-dandy magnetized 2012 meeting schedule just waiting to be stuck to your refrigerator for easy and ready reference throughout the coming year to keep track of our meeting dates. First up - January 9th - see ya there!

## Fanfare & Booster Tidbits . . .

We are very saddened to learn of the accidental death of member Mariela Cuellar in early November. She was struck and killed by a freight train while walking along Van Nuys Blvd in the Valley. Although she had just joined the club in 2011, she had been a familiar smiling face at many club events for a number of years now, including the picnics, Rose Parade float decorating and working the giveaways at Dodger Stadium. She had been the close personal friend of member Annette Alexander and was her caregiver as Annette dealt with overcoming her recent bout with cancer. Our heartfelt sympathy and condolences go out to Annette Alexander and to Mariela's family and friends during this difficult time.

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**

## Ink Cartridge Recycling Program Reminder . . .

Among the many things we do to help out in our local communities, there's one we haven't written up in a while and that's our on-going Printer Ink Cartridge Recycling Program, run by Treasurer Herb Hammann. Save ALL your used ink cartridges from your printers, copiers and fax machines regardless of the size or brand and bring them to any of our monthly meetings. Herb will in turn sell them to a resource of his who refills them to use again.

So, if you haven't already, start setting aside all your used ink cartridges and give them to Herb at any meeting. Not only are you helping to improve our environment by recycling, you're providing the club with additional funds to turn around and use in helping out in our communities.

As a reminder - even if you decide not to participate in our recycling program, please do recycle them somewhere and don't just throw them away in the trash. Not only is it bad for the environment, it is also illegal!

## January Meeting Fundraiser . . .

Fundraising Chairperson Susan Davidson is not resting on her laurels having capped the best year yet for raising funds for little leagues - **Congrats & Thank You Susan!**

She's not only starting the year off with a bang with a fun regular raffle, she's digging into her treasure trove and coming up with an autographed Chad Billingsley jersey as a special raffle. Tickets for this great item will be \$3 or 2 for \$5. She'll sell tickets for this raffle item at each meeting until the lucky winner is selected at the March meeting!

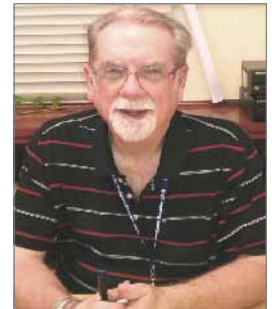
Don't miss out, come to the January meeting!

## Christmas Party Recap . . . John Eiden

Our largest crowd ever - 112 members and guests, young and old alike, helped usher in the holiday season in grand style at our 54th annual Christmas Party, held again this year at Almansor Court in Alhambra. The room was decked out beautifully for Christmas and was soon filled with holiday greetings,

good conversation and the peals of children's laughter though we never felt crowded with as many revelers as showed this time. The food was as tasty and varied as ever. One of the many surprises to await us each year is what the floral centerpieces will look like. The exquisite artistry of members Olivia Armenta and Ben Lee was quite evident in their enchanting winter floral baskets - THANKS!

One table (at left) was piled sky high with great toys and gifts for children and teens which everyone brought. Thanks to you all, all the foster kids served by Friends of Foster Children truly will have just that much nicer a Christmas this year. Carol & Bob Robenbacher from the organization were on hand to thank us and to accept our gifts. There was truly a wide range of door prizes laid out over 2 tables - everyone in attendance was able to go home with something! Lastly, there was a fourth table decked out with over a dozen really great raffle prizes including a baseball and jersey autographed by Don Mattingly and specially made model car - a Dodger Blue VW bug complete with an action figure Matt Kemp poised to drive it off. This last special prize was made by member Chris Gonzalez. *continued Pg 4*

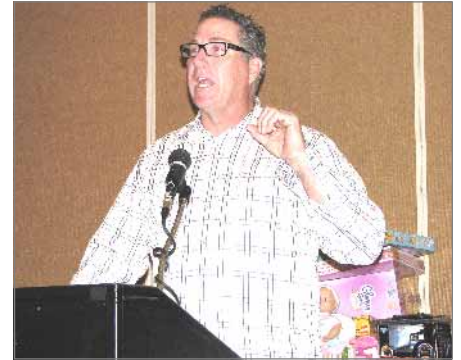




Susan Davidson did yet another magnificent job of providing all the door prizes and coordinating the raffle prizes (top left). A great big THANK YOU to Susan and to Chris, Kay Grall and all the other donors as well! Before the festivities were well underway, member Caryssa Sells (lower left) again serenaded us all with several Christmas carols on her violin. Thanks Caryssa!

The first of our two guests was former Dodger pitcher Jim Gott. (top right) He was quite articulate and colorful and was a really good storyteller. He shared many tales of his being born and bred locally, his journey through professional baseball and a number of anecdotes involving family, teammates and Tommy Lasorda.

His story of going to Fenway Park for the first time as the starting pitcher for the Blue Jays yet watching batting practice of his childhood idol Red Sox as a baseball fan was quite touching and the ending humorous. He recounted his experience winning his first game, pitching against the great Jim Palmer and truly savoring that special baseball as a memento. However, that wasn't the only historic thing taking place that day. It turns out it was also the start of Cal Ripken Jr's incredible record of playing 2,632 consecutive games. When Cal broke the record, Jim was asked if he'd be willing to give up that ball and present it to Cal during a ceremony honoring the new record. Without thinking twice, Jim said yes and ended up sharing a limo to Camden Yards with greats Hank Aaron and Ernie Banks. You could hear a sniffle or two at the end of that story.



As fun and entertaining as all that and more really was, if not for a fortuitous question about Danny's Farm, we would not have learned about a special part of Jim Gott's life journey. Jim has 2 autistic boys. In addressing their needs, Jim and his wife, Cathy, found their youngest of the two, Danny, responded well to interacting with small animals. So, in turn created Danny's Farm as a safe and nurturing working farm and social environment for children and adults with autism and other developmental disabilities. In addition to petting zoos and other activities serving children ages 5-17, they also focus on providing meaningful employment opportunities for autistic adults and helping them to transition out into the community. His passion of baseball and love of family truly shone through his entire time speaking to us and later, one-on-one. Jim had to finally relinquish the spotlight for our next special guest.

No Christmas party could be considered complete without an appearance by the Man himself! Santa Claus, along with a couple elves, took some time out of his really busy schedule to make an appearance again this year. Every child got the chance to sit on Santa's lap, (lower right) tell him their secret wish, and then receive a special gift. Even the adults weren't shy about taking their turns too.



Our resident Christmas Party photog Ralph Kaye took pictures of each

kid with Santa as well as several family and group shots with him. And of course, no LADBC Christmas Party would be complete without the gathering for the group photo.

Ralph's wide-angle lens was painfully tested taking in the largest group shot ever! THANKS Ralph, can't wait to see this year's shots!

A great big THANK YOU must go out to Herb Hammann for heading up the group planning this year's extravaganza.

THANKS also to Mae Rosenkranz and the Uribes for their valued contributions. As all things must, this year's party came to an end after a fine and festive time was indeed had by all. Filled with gifts, food and pleasant memories, no one left empty-handed that day!

### Your 2011 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