

The Booster Cable

Lansing Lugnuts Booster Club

Spring, 2006

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Blue Jays return to Oldsmobile Park!

One true sign of Spring is the appearance of birds after the long winter. For baseball fans, it's the return of the game. For Lugnut fans, it's the return of our beloved Blue Jays!



2006 marks the second year of the player development contract between the Lansing Lugnuts and the Toronto Blue Jays and the 11th season for baseball in Lansing. This season promises to be as exciting as last. Some of our old friends will be returning and will bring some new faces with them. Once again, Ken Joyce will manage the Lugnuts and Charles Poe will return as the hitting coach. New this year will be pitching coach, Tom Signore. Signore spent last season with the Auburn Doubledays of the New York-Penn League, the short season affiliate of the Blue Jays. The Lugnuts will also have a new trainer as Andrew Muccino has moved up to the Dunedin Blue Jays of the Florida State League. The new trainer in

Lansing will be Chris Vernon. The team is scheduled to arrive in Lansing sometime late Monday, April 3. There will be a Meet the Team event on Wednesday, April 5 at the

Holiday Inn South sponsored by the Lansing Lugnuts. Season Ticket holders will have the opportunity to meet with the team at 5:30. The public event beginning at 6:00 pm. Baseball season officially opens on Thursday, April 6 at 7:05 at Oldsmobile Park. The Lugnuts first opponent of the 2006 season will be the Southwest Michigan Devil Rays. The Lugnuts then travel to Battle Creek on Saturday and Sunday for the second half of the series. The Lugnuts play the Devil Rays several times this season, but only 4 games total in Battle Creek. This marks the final season for minor league baseball in Battle Creek as the team will move to Midland beginning with the 2007 season.

Mark Your Calendars Now for our Events



Your Booster Club has several events planned to help make your summer lots of fun! The full calendar is on the

back page of this newsletter. There is something planned for each month. The highlight of the season is a trip to watch the Lansing

Lugnuts play the Kane County Cougars in Geneva, Illinois. Details of the trip are inside. We also have planned potluck dinners, get-away bags for the players and other opportunities designed to keep you in touch with the players and other Booster Club members. Please take a moment to check out our offerings and plan to attend as many of the events as possible!

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On Deck:

- Welcome to Lansing, Wednesday, April 5 at Holiday Inn South, 6:00 pm
- Opening Day, Thursday, April 6, 7:05 pm
- Next Booster Meeting April 11, 6:30 at Foster Community Center.
- Meet the Team Dinner, Saturday, April 15 at Oldsmobile Park following the game.



New Fundraising Opportunity

In order to replenish our depleted coffers, the Booster Club has teamed up with the Lansing Lugnuts to work concessions at Oldsmobile Park. We will be working 5 nights this summer and earning money to assist with our programs and events. We are in need of 16 individuals age 16 and over on each of the nights we work. We will earn a percentage of our sales each night we work. Individuals will need to be at the park 1 1/2 hours before gates open (gates open 1 hour and 15 minutes prior to game time) to set up the stand and get ready for the game. You will be required to stay through the game and assist with clean-up after the stand closes. If we get enough volunteers, it will be possible to split shifts. It is not necessary to be a club member in order to work for us. If you know someone who would like to help, (for example, a Scout who may need to do community service, etc.) be sure to bring them along. The more people we have, the more successful we will be and the less "other" fundraising we will need to do!



the things we have done in the past. Like many others, we have had to make cuts to our programs. For example, we will not be having our annual golf outing and Picnic in the Park. We are also not able to produce the calendar that we have given as part of your membership package.

We need to build up our funds to remain in existence beyond this season so it is imperative that everyone pitch in and assist in any way you can. Dates for our concessions nights will be announced in the near future. Please consider volunteering to work at least one of the dates offered.

Script Order: Another form of fundraising open to us is the Script program. There are many companies who participate and a percentage of the sales of Script are returned to the club in the form of cash. We will be placing a Script Order very soon. If you have an order, please contact the club as soon as possible. Please see the web site www.lansinglugnutsboosters.org for a list of participating Script companies and details for placing your order.

Meijer Community Rewards: We continue to participate with Meijer in a on-going fund raising project. If you are not currently a Community Rewards participant, please consider signing up! If you are not already participating, a link to the program can be found on our web site. If you are already participating, please remember to use your card when you shop at Meijer.

YES! I/We'd like to join the Lansing Lugnuts Booster Club

 Individual Membership \$20

 Family Membership \$35

Name: _____

For Family Membership, spouse, children's name & ages _____

Address: _____

City, ST Zip: _____

Telephone: _____

E-Mail: _____

I/We are interested in the following Activities:

- | | |
|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Away Game Caravans | <input type="checkbox"/> Banquet/Potlucks |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Fishing / Golfing | <input type="checkbox"/> Get Away Snack Bags |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Host Family | <input type="checkbox"/> Membership |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Picnic | <input type="checkbox"/> Public Relations |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Raffle / Scrip | <input type="checkbox"/> Pregame Tailgates |



Boosters to Travel to Illinois!

This year, our annual Caravan Trip will take us to Geneva, Illinois, home of the Kane County Cougars. The Lugnugs will play there beginning Saturday, July 15 through Tuesday, July 18. The Booster Club will host a dinner for the team after the game on Saturday night. Those planning to attend may book rooms at the team hotel, **Best Western Naperville Inn** 1617 Naperville Road Naperville, IL 60563. Phone **630-505-0200**. The rate for Booster members is \$50 per night plus tax. We have 10 rooms reserved on a first come, first served basis. Reservations must be made by individuals directly with the hotel at the number listed above. **The deadline for reservations is June 1.** After that date, there is no guarantee that there will be space or that the rate will be available. Although the only planned event for members is the dinner following the game on Saturday, there is plenty to do

in the area. The Kane County Cougars are very good at entertaining their fans. There will be fireworks following the Saturday game, a Beatles Tribute band is scheduled to perform on Sunday. The Monday game is scheduled for noon and Tuesday's game features Myron Noodleman. In addition to Lugnugs baseball, the Chicago Cubs also play at home that weekend. If you would rather take a break from baseball there is plenty of shopping in the area, known for antiques.

There is also the Prime Outlet Mall, just minutes from the ball park and downtown Chicago is just a short drive away! So plan a weekend in the Chicagoland area with the Boosters and the Lansing Lugnugs!



2006 Souvenir Calendar

Due to cost considerations (yes, we really are short on cash!) we are unable to produce the annual picture calendar this year. However, Robin Sackevich has developed the calendar and it will be available online very soon. You will be able to print your own copy and, if you desire, we have the ability to bind your printed copy for you at no cost. If you are unable to print it yourself but still would like to have a copy, we will be able to print one on card stock (as before) and bind it for an \$8.00 fee. The fee offsets the cost of producing the calendar. We have calculated that this is our cost for paper and ink to produce each one. Perhaps with successful fundraising we will be able to offer the calendars again next year!



Host Families Needed

The team will be here soon and we will need to find housing for those who wish to live with a Host Family. We currently have room for 8 players, however we could use more. If you are interested in housing a player (or two!) for the season, please contact **Randy Talbot** at **(517) 627-5365** for further information. Families will be introduced to their players Monday evening, April 3.

Please remember to complete and return your 2006 membership application and dues if you have not already done so. Unfortunately, those who have not renewed by the start of the season will be dropped from the membership list.



Welcome to Lansing Potluck

This year our Meet the Team dinner will be held following the game on Saturday, April 15 following the game. Game time is 2:05. Dinner will follow in the Spartan Locker Room. IF weather permits (remember, we live in Michigan and we haven't had much snow yet...) we may hold the event on one of the picnic decks. This decision will be made the day of the event. The club will provide a meat dish beverages and table service. Please bring a large dish to pass (remember, we are feeding hungry baseball players!) and enjoy the afternoon getting



Dinner with the team after the game Saturday, April 15!

to know our new team. A survey will be given to the players as they fly to Lansing which will, hopefully, give us an idea of their collective likes and dislikes. A decision will be made next week concerning the main dish the club will provide. We will spread this information as soon as possible. This will be their first contact with the club this year so lets have a good turnout and show them what a great group we are! It also doesn't hurt that we have a lot of great cooks!!

2006 Calendar of Events

- 4/5/06 Meet the Team -- Holiday Inn South/Time TBA
4/6/06 OPENING DAY! vs. Southwest Michigan 7:05 P.M.
4/11/06 Regular Booster Club Meeting, Foster Community Center, 6:30 P.M.
4/15/06 "Welcome to Lansing" Potluck, Spartan Locker Room, Post game
4/28/06 Get-Away Bags (1 of 3)
- 5/16/06 Regular Booster Club Meeting, Foster Community Center, 6:30 P.M.
5/21/06 Post game Potluck, Gasoline Alley
- 6/20/06 Regular Booster Club Meeting, Foster Community Center, 6:30 P.M.
Midwest League All-Star Game, Davenport, IA (Quad Cities)
6/22/06 Get-Away Bags (2 of 3)
- 7/11/06 Regular Booster Club Meeting, Foster Community Center, 6:30 P.M.
Major League All Star Game, Pittsburgh, PA
7/15/06 Caravan to Kane County
7/23/06 Post game Potluck, Gasoline Alley
- 8/4/06 Get-Away Bags (3 of 3)
8/8/06 Regular Booster Club Meeting, Foster Community Center, 6:30 P.M.
8/20/06 Tailgate / Feed the Team, @West Michigan, 2:00 P.M. Game time
- 9/3/06 Ice Cream Social, Post game
9/4/06 Regular Season Ends
9/6/06 Playoffs Begin
9/12/06 Regular Booster Club Meeting, Foster Community Center, 6:30 P.M.



Bottom of the Ninth...

Finally, thanks to all of you who attended our annual Spring Training Warm-up dinner this past January. There is nothing better when baseball is in hibernation than good friends, good food and a hint of the season to come! A big thank you goes to Jeff Calhoun who came out to give us the details of the upcoming season. Thanks also to Brandi Bullard who once again acted as our emcee. Brandi brought with her gourmet popcorn, compliments of her company, Liquid Concessions. Anyone who would like more information about their products may contact Café Liquid at 815.468.3695 or by email at info@cafeliqid.net. Their website address is www.cafeliqid.net Mail order services are available for any of their products.