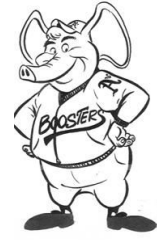


Oakland A's Boosters Newsletter



APRIL 2019

WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW: In This Issue...

- A's and Boosters are collaborating to present to their fans a new concept, "Chalk Talk." There will be two free Chalk Talks during 2019. See below for details.
- New Booster phone number! FindAs4FUN: **(346) 327-4386**

Booster Luncheons:

All 2019 Booster luncheons are in Shibe Park Tavern (formerly known as the West Side Club). The A's will have a motorized cart available for those who need assistance in climbing the hill between Oracle and the Coliseum. Doors open at 11am, food service starts at around 11:30am, program starts at approximately noon. Luncheons will cost \$22 to attend for Booster members, \$27 for non-members. Chalk Talks are free, but only Booster members are allowed to attend.

IMPORTANT DATES:

DATE	EVENT	DETAILS
April 15	Reservation Deadline for the April 19th Luncheon	Email oaklandasboosters@gmail.com , call FINDAS4FUN (346) 327-4386, or use online reservations at www.oaklandathleticsboosterclub.com
April 19	Luncheon - Friday	Shibe Park Tavern, Coliseum
May 24	Luncheon - Friday	Shibe Park Tavern, Coliseum
June 1	Chalk Talk - Saturday	Shibe Park Tavern, Coliseum
July 27	Luncheon - Saturday	Shibe Park Tavern, Coliseum
August 16	Chalk Talk - Friday	Shibe Park Tavern, Coliseum
Sept 6	Luncheon - Friday	Shibe Park Tavern, Coliseum

President's Message

By Shannon Starr

I am so excited that the season has started. Did you make it out for Opening Day? Maybe Opening Night?

As most of you know I live about 3 hours away, but I did manage opening day and a midweek game during the opening series.



I wanted to start off by apologizing to all of you. I heard from some members that were not aware of the date of our Kick Off until it was too late. I honestly thought the date had made it into the November newsletter at the end of last season. It is my fault for not ensuring everyone had that info in advance. For that reason we are exploring additional ways members can be notified of upcoming events. Currently we use the newsletter, website and our FaceBook page. We are exploring using evites to further ensure that members are informed.

For those of you who do not receive this newsletter by email please make sure we have your email so that you can stay informed. I also realize there is a delay for those that receive mailed versions. I would encourage all of you to choose email as your contact option to help avoid this delay. That being said this newsletter is going out a little late and our first luncheon is Friday April 19th....so the deadline for reservations has been extended to April 16th at 7pm.

I hope to see you all there or at the ballpark!!

Luncheon Details:

Luncheons are in Shibe Park Tavern for 2019. And the entrance fee for the luncheon is \$22 for members, \$27 for non-members (\$1 discount for cash or check payments). You'll get a delicious buffet lunch, which includes a choice of two entrees, salad, starch and a dessert, plus soft drinks, tea are free. Beer and Wine are available for purchase. Doors open at 11am, buffet lunch begins at 11:30am.

The entrance to Shibe Park Tavern is between the Coliseum and Oracle Arena. At the top of the ramp, go through the glass doors on the left and take the elevator to the 3rd floor. Shibe Park Tavern is to the right.

Please remember to **RSVP one week prior** to each luncheon so that the East Side Club can have enough food on hand. You can RSVP at the Booster website, oaklandathleticsboosterclub.com, and even pay in advance. Additional options are to email to oaklandasboosters@gmail.com or call FindAs4FUN aka: (346) 327-4386.

Chalk Talk Details:

The A's wanted to work with the Booster Club on a new concept: **Chalk Talks**. There will be two Chalk Talks this year, June 1st and August 16th. An A's player or official will be invited to talk to us. These events are free, but only Booster members will be allowed to attend. The events will be held at Shibe Park Tavern. No food will be served at the Chalk Talks. We're told there will be a limited number of autographs available. –We are working with Shibe Tavern on possibility of having food available for purchase – we will keep you updated.

Spring Training with the A's Boosters

By: Sue Fowler

Boosters started migrating to Arizona on March 6, excited for the start of Baseball Season and to get to know the 2019 Oakland Athletics players. We had 4 home games at Hohokam Field in Mesa during our 7-day stay. The trip was early this year because of the A's leaving on March 14 for Japan. Some Boosters opted to also take in some away games. Stomper stopped by to say hello and entertain us and players mingled with their fans. This year we stayed at the Holiday Inn in Phoenix. As we have done in the past, we got together in the hotel

restaurant dining room for a no-host dinner to spend some time together. After a week of stimulating baseball, good food and comradery, it was back to reality and the Bay Area. Until next year....Baseball Season has now begun.



For those of you who are familiar with restaurants in the Greater Phoenix area, Don & Charlie's, the iconic restaurant filled with sports memorabilia, is closing its doors this year on April 10th. Spring Training faithful scrambled to get reservations before it closes. A group of Boosters went for one last meal. The collections in this restaurant are unbelievable. Below is a baseball autographed by Babe Ruth among many other autographed baseballs.



Photos provided by Sue Fowler, Kris Burgett, Nancy Sylvia-Goad

Your 2019 Booster Board!

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Secretary Wendi Montag
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Thanks so much for lending a hand:
Banners Steve Davidovitch
Newsletter distribution Brittany Grant

2019 FanFest!



Did you see us at FanFest at Jack London Square? A lot of people stopped by our table and many signed up for 2019 Booster memberships! We hope to see you all at a Booster event this year or at a game!

Pictured: Chris Cypret, Splash (Stockton Ports' mascot), Shannon Starr, Kristina Varela. Also thanks to Joan Riebli, Steve Ow-Ling and Vicky Woo for helping out!

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

The first **Booster luncheon is on April 19th**! Please remember to RSVP a week in advance, by April 12th. You can RSVP at the website, www.oaklandathleticsboosterclub.com, or by calling and leaving a message at FindAs4FUN (346) 327-4386.

You can still buy the **Booster 50th Anniversary jersey**, available in yellow or white. They're on sale for \$20 each at our website, www.OaklandAthleticsBoosterClub.com.



Spring Training 2019

By Linda Burnett

This spring training was different. Yes, we went earlier this time due to the A's pending trip to Japan, and yes, this was Dawn's first trip to spring training, but that wasn't it. It was the fact that we brought Jesse and Janet with us (Dawn's son and daughter-in-law), twenty-somethings that brought with them a lot of energy.



Somehow, just being around the kids forced us to get closer to the players. J & J were trying to get autographs, and we hung around. One morning at Hohokam during batting practice, Janet finally got to the front of the line behind the mesh at home plate, and yelled in Spanish, "Can I get your autograph, please?" to Khris Davis. Janet knew Khris' mother was Mexican-American and fluent in Spanish. Her remark immediately got a reaction from Khrush, who signed her ball. When she thanked him, he replied, "De nada," with a huge grin.



Some things we observed around Hohokam...

- The weather was very pleasant, around 75, every day except for about 45 minutes when it rained.
- The most popular jersey around Hohokam? Matt Chapman, no doubt.
- The most popular Booster Facebook page posting? Nothing to do with a player, surprisingly. The white-and-pink unicorn for sale in the Team Store.
- Some of the restaurant kiosks have disappeared. You won't find Ike's and their McGwire sandwich there any more.
- Players are still much more relaxed in spring. Jesse and Janet were able to have short conversations with Ryan Dull, Jerry Blevins, Paul Blackburn, Lou Trivino and Frankie Montas and his two-year-old after one game by hanging out at the clubhouse door. And, of course, old timers Bert ("Campy")



Campaneris and John "Blue Moon" Odom represented the Ferguson Jenkins Foundation, signing autographs and posing for photos.

The iconic spring training restaurant, Don & Charlie's in Scottsdale, is sadly experiencing its last spring. An owner since 1981, Don decided he'd like to spend some time with his grandchildren and not 12+ hours at a restaurant every day of the week.

I've been to Don & Charlie's a couple of times. Since people loved lingering over their dinner there, we spent a few hours waiting for a table in their bar even though we had reservations. But that gave us a chance to enjoy an adult beverage while we perused the hundreds of baseball memorabilia pieces in the bar. And one memorable



dinner at Don & Charlie's, reliever Scott Eyre (not an A) sat next to us. When owner Don Carson came over to greet Scott and his nephew, well, that was our first clue that a player was sitting next to us. We actually had a nice conversation over dessert.

At the end of a three-game period, what can I tell you about the 2019 season? Not much. I can't even tell you what the rotation will look like. I can tell you that Jesus Luzardo looked very, very good, as did the two starters we know will make the rotation, Mike Fiers and Marco Estrada. Prospect Tanner Anderson was surprisingly effective with off-speed pitches. The hitting was pretty anemic, but that's often true in the early

days. Franklin Barreto, however, was on fire, hitting .500 when we were there.

Spring training is always fun, but there seemed to be a different energy this year. The fans were eager to buy jerseys and shirts that had players' names on them: that's different. And the fan base seems to be getting younger, more hopeful about the future. After 97 wins last year, we can't wait for the 2019 season to start.

Photos:

Dawn, Linda, Jesse Janet

Khris Davis

Janet and Dawn in A's rain slickers

Frankie Montas and Jesse

Jesse with a signed ball from John "Blue Moon" Odom

Don Carson at the Don & Charlie's bar, photo credit by David Wallace/The Republic

Booster website: www.oaklandathleticsboosterclub.com

Facebook page: www.facebook.com/AthleticsBoosterClub

The newsletter is written by Linda Burnett (catattack77@yahoo.com) with assistance from the Booster Board of Directors.