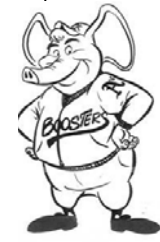
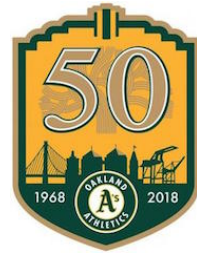


Oakland A's Boosters Newsletter



SEPTEMBER 2018

CELEBRATING 50 YEARS OF THE OAKLAND
ATHLETICS AND THE OAKLAND A'S BOOSTER CLUB!



During the Houston Astros series, Booster Vice-President Joan Riebli presented a check from the Booster Club for \$5,000 to this year's broadcasting scholarship recipient, the winner of the Bill King Scholarship Fund, **Brandon Cadiz**. On the field to present the check: **Ray Fosse, Ken Korach, Joan and Bill King's daughter, Kathleen Lowenthal**.

During the game, Kara interviewed Joan and Brandon on T.V. about the Booster Club. (Thanks to Kris Burgett and Joan Riebli for the photos.)

Brandon told Joan that he was transferring from Dominican to a four-year college at St. Mary's to pursue his broadcasting dreams. His hopes are to call play-by-play for the St. Mary's basketball team. Good luck, Brandon! We're glad we could help!



Because of our members who submit donations all year long, we're able to present a check for \$5,000 each year to a promising broadcasting or journalism student through the Oakland A's Community Fund. Thanks to our members for supporting this worthwhile event!

President's Message By Shannon Starr

Playoff Bound!!! Our boys have done it. At the beginning of the season no one really thought they could, but these boys have heart and determination. I am so proud of all they have accomplished.



As we finish out this season and head for Post-Season Playoffs and the (hopefully not till November) off season, I want to take this time to say what an honor it has been to again serve as your president. Since becoming your president 3 seasons ago I have made it my priority to not only increase our Bill King fundraising, but also our member benefits and opportunities.

I am pleased to announce that the A's have agreed to provide all of the Access Membership benefits to members that purchase the Sunday ticket package. This means 50% off concessions, 25% off merchandise and \$10 pre-paid parking. See the attached flier to sign up for this great opportunity.

Another benefit provided this season for current Sunday Ticket Package holders was the opportunity for early purchase of playoff packages.

For all our members this season we offered special 50th anniversary jerseys which are still available online through our website www.oaklandathleticsboosterclub.com. The board has agreed to open up to non-member sales after the 2018 season so be sure to get yours now.

If you are looking for ideas for Christmas gifts for those A's fans in your life you should consider giving a gift of Booster membership. We will soon have membership gift certificates available through our website to pre-purchase a membership for friends and family members. Included (while supplies last) will be our special 50th anniversary pins that 2018 members received. While you are at it you can include the purchase of one of the 50th anniversary jerseys.

It is members like you that can help increase our membership and our fundraising ability. I have heard it said that only retired people can join us. This is not true. If you have met me you know that I am not retired and many of our members are hard-working individuals. We schedule our luncheons far enough in advance to allow for planning and try to provide weekend options in addition to the original Friday options. Please share with fellow A's fans info about the Booster Club and encourage them to join us. Your help is greatly appreciated to help us continue to provide the funding for the Bill King Scholarship.

Be sure to also check out the flier for our Spring Training 2019 trip and watch future newsletters for 2019 luncheon dates.

I hope to get the chance to see you in Oakland for post-season games and look forward to continuing as your president for the 2019 season.

August 31st Luncheon! – We Welcomed Mark Canha!

It was another energized and delightful luncheon at Shibe Park Tavern at the end of August when we welcomed A's outfielder Mark Canha!

Our MC, Dick Callahan, told us that Mark's new baby, Camilla, will be baptized next week. And then Dick asked Mark, What's it like being a big-league ballplayer?

"I don't take it for granted. It's like living a dream."

And how do you prepare? He does a lot of video work in preparation, "especially lefties," the pitchers who are likely to be pitching to him. "I'll hit 30 to 45 minutes before we go out for BP, work on my swing. I'm pretty much preparing all day."

What position do you prefer? "I like center, I like center field. A lot of people think center is the hardest. I think it's the easiest. I think the corners present more challenges. You can get a good jump on the ball (in center). It's a lot of what I've been working on this year."

Bench coach Ryan Christenson came up to Mark at the beginning of the year, and showed him some analytics. "'If we can get you to take that first step (at the plate),' said Ryan, 'one-tenth of a second faster, you might get more hits.' It's a lot like tennis players. I walk slowly toward (the ball) and take a little hop. We've seen an improvement in the analytics. My numbers are better."

Can you offer any advice to a young player? "Whatever Matt Chapman is doing," blurted Mark, and everyone laughed.

The A's had just lost a tough one to the Astros on Wednesday in Houston, and then were blown out by Seattle on Thursday. "These games will get to you. That game (last night) was a tough one. It sticks with you. I thought about it a lot last night. How do I prepare today so that the same thing doesn't happen today? We did a lot of good things. There is a silver lining. Frankie had a rough night but he stuck it out for six innings."

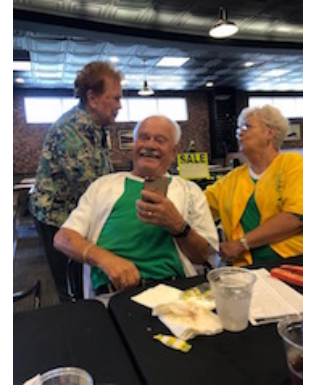
Your walk-up song is Bob Dylan's "Like a Rolling Stone." "I took a class in Berkeley that was about Bob Dylan. I just took a class. I didn't know much about Dylan. My dad collected vinyl: Beatles and Bob Dylan. The more I learned, the more I like him. Right now, if someone were to ask me what's the greatest music, I would say Dylan and the Beatles."

How'd you get so versatile as a defender? "I was always an outfielder in baseball in college." He always wanted to play center, but the coaches would never put him there. In high school he played football and gained a lot of muscle. "They pressed me to play first at Cal, and then that transferred that I wanted to play third. When I was with the Marlins, they wouldn't let me play third or center. I'm thinking, 'I'm better than all your third basemen. I'm better than your centerfielder.'"

Does the pressure get to the team? "This is a pretty light-hearted group. I don't think we put pressure on ourselves too seriously. We have fun out there. I think the best teams have fun out there. We're a very confident group; we expect to take the next three (of the Seattle series). You have to play loose."

We hope to see you play in October, Mark.





Do you have your **Booster 50th Anniversary** jersey yet? They're for sale for \$20 each to **Booster** members only, at least for the present. They're on sale at our website, www.OaklandAthleticsBoosterClub.com, and you can have the jersey shipped to you.

Sept 7th luncheon! We welcomed Relief Pitcher Lou Trivino!



Thanks to **Dawn Kepler** for her notes on the luncheon, and for the great photos.

"I decided if I didn't make it, it would be because I didn't have the stuff, not because I didn't work hard." So Lou made sure he worked hard.

"I started with a better diet, working out every day, not just 3 times a week."

At one game, Bob Melvin told him to throw a ground ball because the A's needed a double play. After Lou was able to execute the ground ball for the DP, Bob told him, "You follow instructions really well."

Lou was asked what the pitching coach says at the mound. "I never remember what the pitching coach says. They always relax you or tell you something about the hitter. He just settles down the pitcher and helps him slow down and focus."

What does he do to prepare for a game? "I always take a shower and wear the colors on my socks." He wears red, white and blue socks.

Thanks to "Sweet Lou" for joining us! We hope to see you in October.



ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Spring Training News! Due to the fact that the A's will be playing the Seattle Mariners in Japan March 20 - 21, spring training for the Green-and-Gold has been moved back to start in February. We have moved our dates accordingly for the Boosters Spring Training trip to **March 7 – 13th**. Make your plans to be with us!



The Booster Club contributed flowers to the memorial of our beloved Don Murphy, who passed away recently. Don was with the club for 50 years. Here is the card his family sent back to us.

Oakland A's Booster Club,
Thank you for the beautiful flower arrangement. Don was a grand, loyal fan for 50 years. He will be greatly missed.
Love
The Murphy Family

Check out our new and improved Booster website!

www.oaklandathleticsboosterclub.com

We have a new section called "History," which tells newcomers all about our Booster past. Thanks to members **Nancy Marshall, Glenn LaFleur and Don Murphy** for lending us their old photos so that we could colorfully illustrate our history!

Booster website: www.oaklandathleticsboosterclub.com

Facebook page: www.facebook.com/AthleticsBoosterClub

Want to comment on something in the newsletter? Write Linda at catattack77@yahoo.com.

Want to become a Booster Club member? Go online at

www.oaklandathleticsboosterclub.com to join, or give a check/cash at any Booster event to Kristina Varela, our Membership chair. Dues are \$26 annually (minus \$1 for cash or check).

The 2018 Luncheon Guests!

April – **COO Chris Giles**

May – **Vida Blue**

June – **Josh Phegley**

August 3 – **Bip Roberts**

August 31 – **Mark Canha**

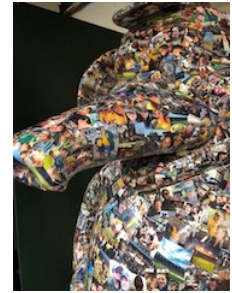
September – **Lou Trivino**

50 Stomper Statues



There are 50 Stomper statues, painted by various artists at the beginning of the season, that have been placed all over Oakland. Have you found any of them?

We found this one just inside from Championship Plaza at the Coliseum. This particular one was done by the A's Front Office; you can see by the close-up on the right that they took photos of A's fans and papier mache'd the onto the statue. Thanks to **Mike Barnbaum** for taking my pic with Stomper.



← This one can be found next to the Treehouse in the outfield.

I found one on MacArthur, close to my vet's office. →



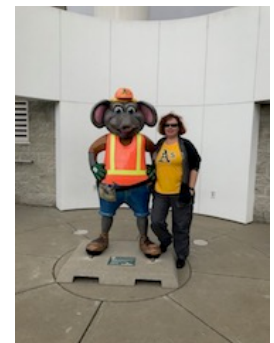
Joan Riebli and Shannon Starr combined efforts and found four Stompers:

← **Joan** poses with "Bay Area Scapes" at Lungomere at Jack London Square;

"Stompedelyc" is at Plank at JLS. →



← **Shannon** poses with "Pink Hawaiian Shirt" in front of the Waterfront Hotel at JLS;
 "If You Build It, They will come" is behind the new A's offices at JLS.
 →



And Dawn Kepler found this one in Montclair, right in front of the main parking building on LaSalle.
 →

Have you found any?

The Stomper statues are currently being sold at auction, and proceeds will go to the A's Community Fund.

