



SHARK BYTES



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Proud affiliate of the



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HOLIDAY PARTY A HUGE SUCCESS! BOOSTER CLUB DONATES \$2100 IN TOYS TO FRIENDLY HOUSE

Over 130 attended the 4th annual Worcester Sharks Booster Club Holiday Party on December 15th at the DCU Center. It was a great time for boosters to mingle with their favorite players and the office staff, as well as to give back to the community.

Everyone was greeted with a bag of goodies and candy canes, and the night was started with some casual mingling and banter. The DCU Center provided a great (as usual) buffet, which many went for seconds! After dinner, Santa made an appearance and gave presents to all the kids in attendance. But the night was far from over. In a surprise move, coach Roy Sommer asked all the players to come up to the podium and tell a story from Christmas past—whether good or bad. The coach started off the proceedings and had the entire room in stitches with his holiday story. That set the tone for the rest of the guys—who were really caught off guard and had to think quickly. Some truly hilarious stories ensued, and it really helped create a mood for the rest of the night. For being good sports, Santa gave them each a little present.

But what makes this event most important is what we do for charity—and has been our custom, for Friendly House. We asked for boosters attending to bring unwrapped toys, and a receipt, and for each dollar spent, they would receive a raffle ticket for some cool items, such as a team signed helmet, a game worn jersey, signed game used sticks, etc. At the end of the night, the tally of toys was over \$900—twice the total we have ever received before! On top of this amount, the booster club donated an additional \$1200 worth of toys to the Friendly House, for a grand total of \$2100! Chris O'Shea and Matt Catacchio delivered the toys to a grateful Friendly House, and the toys were all distributed at their Christmas Party to kids that may never have received presents this year, without their help.

Thanks to all of you special people for making it such a wonderful night, while being able to make many children happy!



NEXT BOOSTER CLUB MEETING
THURSDAY, January 21st at 7:00 PM
NEW Place: IRISH TIMES - 2nd floor
Special Guest - TBA Sharks Player
DOOR PRIZES
MEET THE SHARKS, ASK QUESTIONS!



Visit the Web!!! WWW.SHARKSBOOSTERS.COM

BOOSTER SEAT PROGRAM BY ERNIE RACINE

Our Booster Seats program, in its third year, gives the club another way of giving back to the community while supporting Sharks hockey. We got a "wow" response from the AHL last year as we brought a large number of attendees to the All Star Classic. These are people who wouldn't otherwise have been able to attend. With the state of the economy, there is more need than ever and we want to respond. Here are a couple of ways that you can help.

First, help us connect to local groups who have a need. Have the organization fill out a Booster Seats request on the web at <http://www.tinyurl.com/boosterseats>. You can also forward contact information to Ernie Racine (FinAddictAHL@verizon.net) and we'll call them and explain the program. We are especially interested in supporting local organizations that serve the Worcester community.

Second, support our ability to bring in more and larger groups. Proceeds from our 50/50 raffles support this as well as other charity efforts. So buy some tickets and encourage your friends to do the same.

Are you a season ticket holder with ticket vouchers that will go unused? (The Sharks 'no wasted ticket' program makes it more likely that you will have extra vouchers.) Put your extra vouchers in an envelope with your name and bring them to the Booster table at any game. We'll put them to good use. I'll let you know which group your tickets supported and help you get a receipt that might be useful as a tax deduction.

ROAD TRIP UPDATE

BY RICH LUNDIN

We've had some great trips this past year! Are you ready to do it again?

The trips are fun and a great way to cheer on the Sharks in enemy territory with your friends!

If you have any suggestions for trips, please email us at sharksboosters@hotmail.com with any and all of your feedback! Please email or contact Rich Lundin @ 508-829-8285. Stay tuned to your emails!



** TRIP UPDATE **

Through the teamwork of W-Sharks VP Michael Mudd and the SJ Sharks, we have been able to acquire tickets to a game out in **San Jose—March 6th vs Columbus**. These are \$78 tickets, but through a special arrangement, we are happy to announce that the cost to you will be **only \$40!** In addition, you will also receive a club pass, which if you go to the SJ Sharks website is a super place to hangout. The booster club is not arranging transportation or lodging, but together we can help each other find their way to San Jose. Money for the tickets is due by January 21st (our next membership meeting)

We are also looking at trips to Syracuse, Hershey, Norfolk and Wilkes-Barre - so stay tuned! Reminder Providence is offering buy one get one free all season - just call their office and tell them you're with the Sharks BC and they'll seat us all together.



The booster club would like to thank AA Transportation for providing affordable transportation to our road trips! If you ever need bus/coach or limo service, please give them a call! <http://www.aatransportation.com/>

CONCESSIONS - AIMS TRAINING

Hi everyone, we had another great year of concessions - thanks to all those who helped out! Looks like we have the summer off with renovations going on to the arena, but this will be the perfect time for renewing (or getting for the 1st time) your AIMS training. In order to serve alcohol, you need this training. It is approximately a 3 hour class (I use the term 'class' loosely - more like a seminar). For those who have taken the course originally 3 years ago - it's time to renew! But I have been told that if we get a group together, we can have the class at the DCU Center (pretty convenient!). While the cost is \$20, the booster club will pay for the training. I will try and set up a date early enough in advance so that all who want to can attend. If you have any questions, please email me at info@sharksbc.com

BOOSTER CLUB PLAYER OF THE MONTH

Alex Stalock was October's POM (with booster Ashley Kiefer), and Steven Zalewski was November POM (with booster Ron Kiefer)



HOLIDAY PARTY PICS!



A TRIBUTE TO THE WORCESTER 6 BY CHRIS O'SHEA

This past December 3, 2009 was the 10th Anniversary of the tragic Worcester Cold Storage Warehouse fire that took the lives of six Worcester Firefighters. There was a tribute march from Union Station to the new Franklin St Fire Station led by the Worcester Fire Brigade Bagpipers joined by others from around the state, the WFD Color Guard, and followed by hundreds of Firefighters from the near and far to pay respect to their brothers in arms who gave the ultimate sacrifice to save others. It was attended by the families of the six as well as many spectators who lined Franklin St in memory of the brave six.

There were speakers such as the MA Governor Deval Patrick, LT Governor Tim Murray (former mayor of Worcester 10 years ago), Chaplains of the WFD, Congressman McGovern, City Manager Michael O'Brien, WFD Chief Gerald Dio, MA IAFF Chief McCarthy and Denis Leary (actor - cousin of one of the six and boyhood friend of another). The bell rang for each man as his name was read aloud and a rose was placed at the monument by their family. The recording of that last fire call to the warehouse was played and the crowd was completely silent. There was a gun salute as well for them. The Fire House was open to go through if you wanted and it is an amazing site and tribute to all Firefighters.

The Sharks also did a Hero's tribute to the Worcester 6 starting with Mike Myers designing and painting a special goalie mask that Sharks goalie Alex Stalock wore and just happened to win all the games that he wore it. They had a game between the WFD/WPD hockey team and the Providence FD prior to the Sharks game vs Portland. Both teams wore jerseys that had the W6 logo on them. Then the Sharks came out in special W6 logo jerseys which looked real sharp and went on to win the game 3-2. The most jerseys were auctioned off during and after the game to raise money for local charities and the mask and some additional jerseys were auctioned on Ebay with the proceeds going to the same local charities.

The WFD set up a display out in the DCU lobby with momentos that were left in memory of the Worcester 6 from 10 years ago. These momentos came from all over the country as well as internationally. The Sharks raised a W6 banner to the rafters of the DCU Center that will be displayed forever in their memory. The band Apache Stone led by Michael Lombardi (Rescue Me) played before the game and in between periods.

It was a wonderful tribute through out the week and one that will not be forgotten. The W6 Paul Brotherton, Jeremiah Lucey, Timothy Jackson, Joseph McGuirk, Thomas Spencer, James Lyons will always be remembered for being Firefighters and giving the ultimate sacrifice their lives in the protection of others, True Hero's and may they continue to rest in peace. THANK YOU WORCESTER FIRE DEPARTMENT AND ALL FIRE DEPARTMENTS EVERYWHERE FOR ALL YOU DO!!



CONCESSION STANDS

WE NEED YOUR HELP!

BY RICH LUNDIN

Last year we had a great response to our need to work concessions. We had over 20 people volunteer for several shows. We raised over **\$4000** in very short year. I can't stress enough how important this is to our club. Without volunteers stepping up to work concessions, you could expect booster club events such as our holiday party and awards banquet to go up at least **\$15 per person!** Nobody wants that. It also helped in other areas such as the broomball tournament we hosted. We have been able to work the Grandstand which with sellout events has made **\$1000 for the club in one night!**

For anyone that wishes to volunteer their time, we are offering **free parking** at the garage across from Uno's, and **\$5 Booster Bucks** which can be used on any **trip** and also to our **banquets**. We might roll this out to merchandise as well., but haven't got that far yet.

Concessions have gone very smoothly - even for a rookie like me. The DCU Center folks were there for us when needed. Believe it or not (but you can ask the others that did it), we actually had fun doing it!

So it's time to get back on the bandwagon! Don't feel shy if you never have done it before - we have always made sure we had enough people to help each other out. You can run cash registers, fill food trays, flip burgers, you get the idea - it ain't that hard! We had several new people who worked the Keith Urban concert with no issues.

Please email the club at sharksboosters@hotmail.com or call me @**508-829-8285** to signup!

Thanks again!
Rich

Dates coming up:

January 22nd - Sesame Street
January 30th - Adkins/McBride

FROM THE EDITOR

BY RICH LUNDIN

Would you like to play an active role in the booster club? Let's make this year something special, for the Boosters, Team and the community! We are looking for ideas to make this season the most exciting yet.

If you have suggestions for this newsletter, or have any club business, please send correspondence to:

SharksBoosters@hotmail.com
or
Worcester Sharks Booster Club
P.O. Box 210
Grafton, MA 01519



COMMITTEES

AWARDS

Rich Lundin

BY-LAWS

Darryl Hunt
Josie Brown
Bob Gillies
Ernie Racine

COMMUNICATIONS

Linda Lachance
Rich Lundin
Josie Brown

GAME NIGHT

Chris O'Shea
Looking for more help

HOSPITALITY

Chris O'Shea
Looking for more help

MEMBERSHIP

Linda Lachance
Marc Lachance

SPECIAL EVENTS

Josie Brown
Looking for more help

TRAVEL

Rich Lundin
Josie Brown
Linda Lachance
Marc Lachance
Gerry Collette
Chris O'Shea
Darryl Hunt
Always looking for help/ideas

CONCESSIONS

Rich Lundin
Nick Kronopolus

The following committees are open. Contact any board member or email the club if interested:

AUDIT	ELECTION
HISTORIAN	SPORTS
SUNSHINE	YOUTH

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Rich Lundin, **President**
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One Open Position

Wish to get involved or head up a committee? Contact any Board member. We're always looking for help! Enjoyment and making great friends are the fringe benefits!



AAHLBC 2010—BINGHAMTOM BY CHRIS O'SHEA

This year's convention will be held in Binghamton New York on September 10-12 and hosted by the Binghamton Senators Booster Club. The theme for the convention is Comic Strips. More info should be available at the end of the month or the beginning of February. For those who want to start putting a deposit down feel free to do that. A Non Refundable deposit of \$ 50 is due by March 15 with the balance due by May 15. Prices are not available yet, but should be close to those of last year (for example \$235 for a double). Any questions please feel free to contact me at Hockeynanny20@aol.com

HAPPY BIRTHDAY! BY CHRIS O'SHEA

Belated Happy Birthday wishes go out to those who had birthdays in September, October, and November

9/8 David Anger 9/9 Patrick Pope 9/11 Carleigh Ferraro 9/16 Kaitlyn Rabbett 9/19 Joey Medoff 9/20 Pierce McDonnell 9/20 Sharks Brandon Mashinter 9/23 Claudette McNamara 9/24 Darryl Hunt 9/25 Kevin Leonard 9/26 Adam Ingram 9/28 Keelia Rabbett 9/28 John Whiting 10/2 Bob Gillies 10/2 Sandy Dunn 10/2 Colton Chaves 10/4 Nick DeFalco 10/4 Sally Lyon 10/8 Sharks Joe Loprieno 10/12 Holly DeFalco 10/14 Ritch Burgess 10/14 Katie Parker 10/14 Dennis Leger 10/15 Allen Beck 10/15 Terry Chiapulis 10/17 Debbie Freeland 10/18 Ellen Racine 10/18 Krista Auger 10/27 Mike Dvareckas 10/29 Sharks Frazer McLaren 10/30 Christine Marzoll 10/31 Kelsey Walker 11/2 Barbara Comeau 11/3 Sharks Mitch Versteeg 11/6 Matt Medoff 11/8 Jacob Pruneau 11/8 Amber Comeau 11/10 Bev Tatro 11/12 Marianne Adams 11/16 Johanna Kirouac 11/17 Carrie Wilder 11/19 Janice Anderson 11/22 Lisa Stone 11/23 Frederick Pierce 11/23 Mary Teixeira 11/25 Mike Byrnes 11/25 Lyssa Tatro 11/25 Joe Plonski 11/26 James Toolin 11/28 Mike Myers 11/28 Christina Halbedel 11/29 Maryann Legere 11/30 Margaret Patrowicz

We send Happy Birthday wishes to the following for the months of December 2009 and January 2010

12/2 Gerry Collette 12/3 Sharks Kevin Henderson 12/6 Kathy McBride 12/7 Kristy Clark 12/9 Sarah Corso 12/11 Ken Halbedel 12/12 Sharks Mike Moore 12/15 Ashley Kiefer 12/17 Christy Tataro 12/19 Allen Burgess 12/20 Tony Chaves 12/20 Sharks Joe Callahan 12/22 Teddy King 12/23 Paige Williamson 12/24 JoAnn Mosher 12/28 Mark Bolivar 12/28 Kyle Kirouac 12/28 Roger Lyon 12/29 Bob Oliver 1/1 Neal Swenor 1/2 Rich Iannotta 1/2 Dan Marleau 1/4 Danielle Patrowicz 1/6 Jayvon Stone 1/6 Suzanne Schwartz 1/13 Sharks Matt Jones (currently in Kalamazoo) 1/14 Laken Euzibio 1/15 Tony Foley 1/20 Joe Ferraro 1/25 David Kenwery 1/26 Ellen Marcell 1/28 Kristen Poirier

ST. PATRICK'S DAY PARADE JUST AROUND CORNER BY JOSIE BROWN

The St. Patrick's Day Parade is coming right up! This year's parade will be on March 14th with a noon step-off. The Booster Club will be marching with the Sharks again this year, and it's sure to be a great time as always! We will have more information as we get closer to the date, but save the date now for a terrific event. Participants will receive five Booster Bucks, applicable towards trips and banquets. This is a huge event for the city of Worcester and we want to make a big impact, so start planning your black-and-teal outfit now! Please contact Josie Brown at josie.brown@gmail.com or 774.262.3735 with questions or to sign up to participate. GO SHARKS!!

GAME NIGHT NOTES

BY CHRIS O'SHEA



HAPPY NEW YEAR TO ONE AND ALL!

The 2009/2010 Hockey season enters the fourth month and the Sharks are playing well, and as of this writing they are currently in second place in the Atlantic division with 46 Points and riding a 6 game winning streak. The Sharks are a hard working team and very exciting to watch whether home or away, so get out there and support them ,they deserve it .

Upcoming January games are Fri Jan 8 vs Hartford, Sat Jan 9 vs Providence, Sunday Jan 10 vs Portland, Wed Jan 13 vs Springfield, Sat Jan 16 vs Manchester, Wed Jan 27 vs Manitoba, Fri Jan 29 vs Manitoba and Sun Jan 31 vs Lowell. Mike Moore Bobblehead night is on 1/8. There are High school games preceding the Sharks on both 1/9 and 1/16 and also on 1/16 it is Youth Sports night with appearances by Wally the Green Monster from the Red Sox and others. On 1/31 Chaske Spencer from the Twilight series will be there for autograph signing. The weather is cold and it is HOCKEY WEATHER come out and join us for all the fun.

Thanks to those who have donated candy for the game night table Shark candy dish as you all know it is a very busy spot each and every night. Also thanks for all the concern over my voice or lack there of it. Some day it will be back.

Thanks go out to all who helped with the Christmas party that the Boosters put on for the Sharks, from the cookie brigade to the raffle ticket helpers to Josie taking care in obtaining the players and ladies gifts to the Sharks for the raffle items to Rich who restructured the prices to make it easier for more boosters to attend. Also thanks to the DCU for the wonderful food that was served and to all those who attended the event and to those who brought all the toys/clothes/food donations that all went to Friendly House.

CONGRATULATIONS

We send along congratulations to many of the Sharks who have had special events since the last newsletter. NHL first goals for Logan Couture, Jason Demers, Frazer McLaren, Ryan Vesce, Benn Ferriero. 400 wins for Coach Roy Sommer. Co-Rookies of the month for December for Benn Ferriero and Logan Couture. Community Relations/Youth Hockey Director Mike Myers on his tribute goalie mask to the W6 that Alex Stalock wore and his mask that he designed and painted for Josh Harding in 2006 (Minnesota) was voted goalie mask of the decade by Sports Illustrated .com

CONDOLENCES AND SYMPATHIES

We would like to extend our prayers and thoughts to Booster members Paul, Laurie and Caitlin Markiewicz on the passing of Paul's Brother in early December and also to Booster members Jon and Janice Anderson on the passing of Jon Father in mid December.

GET WELL

We would like to send get well wishes to Booster member Claudette McNamara who recently had surgery and after a short hospital stay she is back at home recovering. Speedy recovery Claudette we miss you at the games.

Excited about the season? Talk about it on the message board!

Visit <http://www.worcestersharks.org> -

A great fansite where you can talk about your Sharks!

Visit the Web!!! WWW.SHARKSBOOSTERS.COM

NEWSLETTER



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