



Center Ice

A MONTHLY PUBLICATION FOR AND BY THE MEMBERS OF THE MMBC

The Manchester Monarchs Booster Club is Born And...Welcome to Our Inaugural Issue of Center Ice!

BY JENNIFER KEMP

- The first regular season game at Lowell on October 5, 2001
- Jerred Smithson scoring the first goal in Monarchs' history
- The home opener at the Verizon on November 16, 2001
- Joe Corvo netting the first goal at the "V"

These are just some of the firsts for the Manchester Monarchs and it is time to mark another one down in the history books. The inaugural season of the Manchester Monarchs Booster Club has arrived and the first Board of Directors is in place and ready to go.

The next logical question is, "Who are these people and how did they become the first Board members?" Towards the end of the Monarchs inaugural season two Monarchs fans, Russ Cooper and Steve Englert, began organizing trips to away Monarchs games, and were dubbed the "Royal Road Warriors" by a fan. The Royal Road Warriors continued to organize trips during the 2002-2003 season,

taking a total of four trips during that time. Over the season another avid Monarch fan, Bill Walch, started thoroughly researching the idea of an official booster club for the Monarchs. Bill gathered information from various booster clubs around the AHL and recruited Jen Kemp, another Monarch fan, to help him get some ideas together and move forward with the formation of a Manchester Monarchs Booster Club. Bill and Jen approached Russ and Steve with the idea of a booster club, an idea they had already been thinking about when they started working on road trips to support the team. Jen's mother and Monarch fan, Katie Kemp, was recruited to help out as well.

Meet your first Board of Directors of the Manchester Monarchs



Our President, Vice President and Treasurer—(rear) Bill Walch, Russ Cooper and Steve Englert—have some fun with two members of the Hershey Bears Booster Club during a road trip last March. For those of you who frequent the AHL Boards, that's Rumblick (Tom Mara) on the left, with President Deb Myers on his knee.

Booster Club: Bill Walch is the President, Russ Cooper is the Vice President, Steve Englert is the

WELCOME...continued on page 7

In This
Issue

MEETING
HIGHLIGHTS
P 3-5

BOOSTER CLUB
CONVENTION
P 8

MONARCHS
TEAM NOTES
P 11

BOOSTER CLUB
TRIP SCHEDULE
P 12



CLUB BUSINESS

From the President

Hello MMBC Members,

As you can see on the front page of this newsletter, this is the very first issue ever of the MMBC's "Center Ice."

I want to take a moment to welcome everyone who has chosen to join the MMBC. The coming season should be an exciting time for us. It will be fun for all involved.

The idea of forming a Manchester Monarchs Booster Club may have been in the air around Manchester since the day the Manchester Monarchs came to town. Either the people thought the team was responsible to form one or nobody knew how to form one on their own.

If you read the page one feature of this newsletter, you'll get the history of how this Booster Club came to be. Through a lot of hard work and many hours of conversation, the MMBC was formed on June 25th, 2003. We became an official non-profit organization on August 27, 2003.

VOLUNTEERS ARE OUR LIFE-BLOOD!

People have since volunteered their time to help out the MMBC. One of them is Hal Collins, the MMBC Trip Chairperson. He, along with his trip committee, have put together the 2003-04 MMBC trip schedule, which has 8 trips on it and features 2 over-night trips. You can find the tentative schedule on page 8 of this newsletter.

The first is an overnight trip to Hartford, where we will see 2 games vs the Wolf Pack in 24 hours. The second is a trip to

Hershey/Philadelphia. Last year's trip to Pennsylvania was very successful. One hundred fifteen people went on that trip. Everyone that went on the trip enjoyed not only the hockey games and the view of new arenas, but also some tourist attractions including the chocolate factory at Hershey Town, and Independence Hall in Philadelphia. If you were not able to make the trek last season, it is a must to add to your schedule for this season. Any questions about MMBC trips should be directed to Hal Collins.

Others that have volunteered their time are Jennifer Kemp (Recording Secretary), Katie Kemp (Membership Director), Susan Foster (Newsletter), Noelle Clark (Fundraising) and Debbie Aiken (Volunteer). The Social Committee currently does not have a chair... perhaps that could be you? If this position interests you, please contact Bill Walch.

WE'RE NOT JUST ABOUT TRIPS...

The MMBC is not only about trips to other arenas to support our team. It is about our community, local charities and maybe even the game of broomball.

I look forward to working together this coming season to help the MMBC flourish. A booster club is only as active as its members. We'd like the MMBC to become a strong, vital and energetic organization. It is through your help that we will be able to accomplish all of our goals.

Bill Walch

MISSION STATEMENT

The Manchester Monarchs Booster Club (MMBC) is a social organization for hockey fans. It will: provide a more formal means for Manchester Monarchs Hockey Club (MMHC) fans to meet and communicate their interests in the Club; assist MMBC members in sharing their ideas and views about the Club; perform civic activities in the community and establish financial support for local charities, including a scholarship for a child to attend the Manchester Monarchs hockey school; find ways to promote the MMHC and to be a civic organization that is responsible in the community; encourage and support good sportsmanship among all fans and players who attend Monarchs home games, as well as away games; do the best we can to promote good sportsmanship at all the games we attend.

Center Ice

is a newsletter
published monthly by the

**MANCHESTER MONARCHS
BOOSTER CLUB**

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

BILL WALCH, President
RUSS COOPER, Vice President
STEVE ENGLERT, Treasurer
JENNIFER KEMP, Recording Secretary
KATIE KEMP, Membership Director

DIRECTORS

Newsletter: SUSAN FOSTER
Fundraising: NOELLE CLARK
Social: VACANT
Trip: HAL COLLINS
Volunteer: DEBBIE AIKEN

Manchester Monarchs Booster Club
PO Box 5488
Manchester, NH 03108
www.manchestermonarchs.com
boosterclub.com

Contact: Bill Walch
603-440-8702

August 5 Meeting Highlights

Before the meeting was called to order new members were given the opportunity to join.

Updated and official By-Laws and Constitution were distributed to members.

At 7:50 pm President called meeting to order and Secretary read minutes from 6/25/03 meeting. Minutes were accepted by the membership and signed by President.

Bill informed the membership that the Board of Directors did accept the By-Laws. Any changes to By-laws must be voted on and approved by membership from this time forward.

CHANGE OF VENUE

Our change of meeting venue from TR Brennan's to the Manchester Elks Lodge was because of the expense of renting TR Brennan's. MMBC will make a do-

nation to the Elks at the end of the year in exchange for their hospitality. Katie Kemp donated and baked food for the meeting. Meetings from this time forward will primarily be on the first Wednesday of the month at 7:30 pm at the Manchester Elks Lodge.

MMBC VISIBILITY AT EVENTS

MMBC table at the arena will not be in the same place as the Royal Road Warriors table was. Nobody is sure where on the concourse the table is going to be, it is something that Jeff Eisenberg is currently working on.

FAMILY MEMBERSHIP ADDED

The Board of Directors decided to add a family membership, which would include two parents and up to three kids for \$50. Each additional child after that would be \$5.

There is a family membership application online with the other applications.

BROOMBALL DISCUSSED

Broomball—Bill went to Hershey for a broomball tournament last weekend and explained a bit about this non-contact sport. He has a video if anyone wants to borrow it. Phil Abbott also offered to bring in his tv/vcr unit for members to see the video. Concern was voiced about the expense of broomball and who would pay for it, especially with a new Booster Club, such as ourselves. Bill said anyone interested in playing would have to pay a fee to play and some things, such as shoes, would have to be purchased by the members while other things would be paid for by the Booster club. Concern was

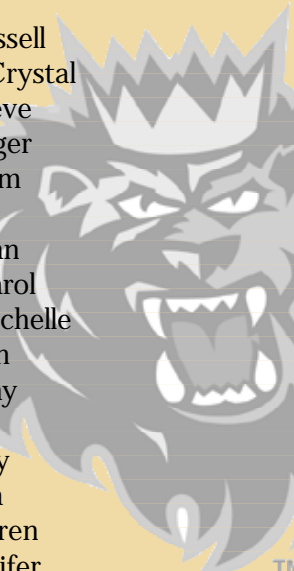
MINUTES, continued on page 4

Welcome Members!

We are pleased to welcome members who joined at our first meeting in June, at our second meeting in August, or who became members by mailing in their applications. We hope this will be the beginning of a fulfilling and enjoyable relationship!

Abbott, Caitlyn
Abbott, Philip
Aiken, Debbie
Auger, Pierette M.
Babonis, David
Babonis, Nevia
Belforti, Mary-Lynn
Belforti, Steve
Brock, Heather
Campbell, David J.
Carrier, Denis
Carrier, Linda
Clark, Gerry
Clark, Noelle
Collins, Hal
Cook, Lorna
Cooper, Leslie

Cooper, Russell
Davidson, Crystal
Englert, Steve
Espling, Roger
Faucher, Tom
Fay, Allyn
Foster, Susan
Gagnon, Carol
Gagnon, Michelle
Gailey, Brian
Gailey, Kathy
Gray, David
Gray, Shelby
Halle, Anna
Heaton, Karen
Kemp, Jennifer
Kemp, Katie



Kemp, Paul
Kisselburg, Pat
Koodin, Mandi
Kula, David
Labrecque, Tim
Ladd, Debbi
Ladd, Richie
Lavoie, Brian
Lein, Marlene
Lessard, Donald
Lessard, Lola
Marshall, Kevin
Messer, Kevin
Messer, Mike
O'Neil, Barbara A.
O'Neil, Bernard
Paul, Amanda

Provencher, Richard
Raiche, Beatrice
Rainville, Robert
Ranno, David
Richard, Rochelle
Roberge, Tracey
Rothaug, Tina
Rothaug, Virginia
Ruben, Darlene
Savage, Ken
Savoy, Stephen
Soucy, C.
Suhling, John
Therrien, Cindy
Therrien, Rene
Walch, William

▶ *MINUTES, continued from page 3*

also raised about being able to get ice time for broomball with so many legitimate hockey teams in this area.

MMBC WEBSITE

The website will remain: www.manchestermonarchsboosterclub.com. There had been some concerns brought up at the previous meeting that the name was too long but MMBC is not available and we have already paid for this domain name. There will eventually be a link to the MMBC site from the Monarchs site and Monarchs Fan Club site. Members that have their own sites were encouraged to put links to the MMBC site on their site as well as e-mail the MMBC Webmaster so a link for their site can be added to the Booster Club site.

**CHARITIES:
MANY TO CHOOSE FROM**

MMBC has not set up a charity to donate to as of yet. The membership will decide on the charity or charities. If anyone knows of local charities that they feel are good causes, let one of the officers know and we will get in touch with some-

one from that charity. Bill stated the importance of meeting with someone from the charity and getting a good feel of what they are all about before deciding to donate to them.

HOSPITALITY

It was mentioned that Hershey was coming to Manchester early in the season so we should do something nice for the booster club since they were so hospitable to us when we went there last season. However, HBBC is not making the trip when Hershey plays in Manchester but suggested that maybe if we go to Hershey this season we could treat the HBBC to dinner as a way to say thank-you for last year.

It was suggested that we might take a trip to Boston to see the Kings play; unfortunately the Kings don't come to Boston this season.

FUNDRAISING

Russ talked about fundraising. The fundraising chairperson position is still open so Russ is heading the committee in the meantime. He wants to get a committee together and meet as soon as possible as this is a very important function of the club and needed to survive.

Suggestions were taken for

fundraising ideas. Among the suggestions were: car wash, bake sale, raffles with autographed memorabilia, key chains and other specialty items with the Booster Club logo.

Phil Abbott discussed the idea of having a golf tournament as a fundraiser, which was an idea initially suggested by Jeff Eisenberg as well. Phil has had some experience with this and was able to provide the club with some good information.

It was reiterated that we are at a disadvantage compared to other Booster Clubs, as we cannot raise any money inside the arena. Anything we sell with the logo must be approved through Jeff Eisenberg.

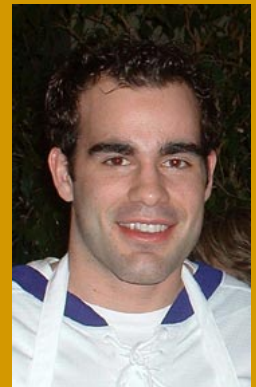
We want to be careful not to step on the Monarchs toes and we want to walk hand in hand with them, especially in this early stage so we can gain their trust. In regard to this, Susan Foster wanted to remind everyone that we exist primarily because of Jeff Eisenberg's good will and we are ambassadors for the Monarchs organization.

NEXT MEETING

The next meeting is Wednesday, September 3rd at 7:30 pm at the Manchester Elks Lodge.

Faces of the Monarchs "At Your Service"

AT THE MARCH 2003 CHARITY FUNDRAISER



Photos by Susan Foster

September 3 Meeting Highlights

OUR "IDENTITY"

Steve Englert informed the membership that we needed special permission to use the name Manchester Monarchs Booster Club and we got this permission from Jeff Eisenberg. The club is now registered with the State as a non profit organization.

Steve will be registering with the IRS and reading up on the laws relating to that.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Treasurer's Report: Current balance is \$778.72.

Membership Report: We have 33 official members at start of tonight's meeting.

Newsletter Report: The first edition of the newsletter is well on its way to being done. The name of the newsletter is "Center Ice," being not only a hockey term, but also representative as a central gathering location. The committee is meeting at Borders in Concord on Sunday, September 7 at 4:00 pm to talk about ideas for future issues.

Fundraising Report: Russ introduced Noelle Clark as the new fundraising committee chairperson. Noelle discussed some ideas so far for fundraising, including:

- Sale of a 2004 entertainment book (proceeds can range from \$4-\$10 per book)
- Raffle Calendar, which we might sell through December for raffles during the month of January. A prize is drawn every day of the month and ticket holders can win more than once in the month
- Ink jet cartridge recycling to be done at meetings and maybe at arena. Up to \$2 per cartridge can be raised

- A Golf Tournament... A separate committee would have to be formed to work on this large and complex undertaking
- Penny/craft/bake sale...looking for ideas in this area, maybe in November?

Noelle hopes to set up a fundraising committee meeting next week. Noelle's e-mail if anyone wants to contact her is dreamonnh@yahoo.com.

Social Committee Report: There is, thus far, no chair of this committee. Anyone interested in helping out and heading up this committee should see Bill Walch. We'd like to host a holiday party and we need to be thinking about times/locations soon.

Trip Report: A trip schedule is assembled (you will find it on page 8 of this newsletter). Hal is still working on the details of the cost and should know this over the next couple of weeks. MMBC members will pay less to go on trips than non-members. He is currently thinking the difference may be \$10. He is also researching parking and departure for trips and looking into spots other than Macy's, which has been used previously. You should soon find a link to Hal's email on the MMBC website.

Volunteer Report: Deb Aiken had nothing to report at this time, except that she will coordinate the "refreshment" committee to ensure refreshments are provided for meetings.

OFFICERS' REPORTS

Treasurer's Report: We currently have a balance of \$778.72.

Vice President's Report: Russ brought up the idea of newsletter

sponsors putting ads in the newsletters to help raise funds for the club.

President's Report: Bill reviewed some old business, and noted there will be three Wednesday games that will conflict with meetings so we will have to decide when we want to meet those weeks. He'd like to keep the meeting within the same week. The MMBC table location at arena is still unknown.

New business: Bill Walch and Marlene Lein will be attending the AHL Booster Club Convention in Syracuse the first weekend of September. It will be held in Worcester next year.

When a member joins the MMBC they should receive an invitation to join the MMBC Yahoo Group (this is different than the ManchMon Yahoo Group). Please let Bill know if you have not received your invitation.

Bill was invited to attend the Lowell Booster Club meeting last night to see how another booster club is running things, so he went as a guest of their club.

Bill and others mentioned we should have our own logo and suggestions for designs on t-shirts are welcome. Marlene was going to look into some prices for t-shirts. It was suggested that we might get a sponsor to put their name on the back of the shirt and help with the cost as well.

Steve suggested that at future meetings we might want to research teams that we will be playing to share information with our club such as the opponent's history, overall record, roster, interesting facts, etc. Deb Aiken volunteered to research the Worcester Ice Cats for presentation at the next meeting.

WELCOME...continued from page 1

Treasurer, Jen Kemp is the Recording Secretary and Katie Kemp is the Membership Director. Now, let's take a little deeper look into who will be heading up the Manchester Monarchs Booster Club in the inaugural season.

BILL WALCH

Bill Walch will be the Manchester Monarchs Booster Club's first president. Bill put countless hours into researching how to form a booster club and working on all the By-Laws and Constitution that needs to be in place for such an organization. He also worked closely with Monarchs President, Jeff Eisenberg, on getting an agreement between the Manchester Monarchs and the Manchester Monarchs Booster club in place.

Bill was born and raised in Nashua, New Hampshire and currently lives in Hooksett. He says he was hooked on the Monarchs from his first game in December of 2001 and purchased his Monarchs season tickets in January of 2002. Bill has actually been a hockey fan since 1975, partly due to his mother's influence. Most of his childhood memories involve his mother, who used to watch all the Boston Bruins games and was a big Ken Hodge fan. Bill continues to root for the Boston Bruins to this day.

When there isn't hockey to follow and root for Bill turns some of his attention to baseball. He is a long time Baltimore Oriole fan. He also cheers on the Washington Red Skins during the football season. We are still waiting on the explanation of how someone raised in Nashua, New Hampshire becomes an Orioles and Red Skins fan.

There is not one particular Monarch that Bill considers to be his favorite; he likes the team as a whole. Bill's favorite Monarch

memory so far was the 4-3 overtime win over the Albany River Rats when Joe Rullier, wearing his throw back Berlin Maroons jersey, scored the game winner with .02 seconds remaining on the clock. Who can forget that one?

There are many reasons that Bill is looking forward to being a part of the Manchester Monarchs Booster Club. One reason is the opportunity the club will afford him to meet new people locally and around the AHL. He also looks forward to being able to help out with the local charities.

KATIE KEMP

Katie Kemp will act as Membership Director for the Manchester Monarchs Booster Club's inaugural season. Katie currently resides in Henniker with her husband Paul. She has spent almost her entire life in the Henniker and Contoocook area. Katie and Paul have two children, Michael and Jen, the current Manchester Monarchs Booster Club Recording Secretary. A daughter-in-law (Shannon), two granddaughters (Maegen and Zoë) and two dogs (Allison and Anson) complete Katie's family.

Katie says she has been a hockey fan since she and Paul were dating in high school. At that time they used to go to all the Concord Eastern Olympics and Budmen games. On occasion they would also go to see the Boston Bruins and the Boston Braves of the AHL play.

On February 26, 1972, two feet of snow dropped on New Hampshire; this was also Katie and Paul's wedding day. The wedding went on despite the snow. Not everyone could make it to the wedding because of the snow but that night Katie and Paul managed to get to a hockey game in celebration of their wedding. That should be a small indication of how much Katie

and her husband, Paul, enjoy hockey.

In 1994 when Katie's daughter, Jen, was going to school in Maine they all started going to Portland Pirates games. The Pirates games helped further nurture their love of hockey and the AHL in particular. They all knew at that point that if by some miracle New Hampshire ever got their own team they would buy season tickets.

When there are no Monarchs games to attend Katie still manages to keep busy. She has been known to attend some Nashua Pride and Portland Sea Dogs games in the off-season. She also enjoys watching her 10-year-old granddaughter, Maegen, play both indoor and outdoor soccer as well as spending time with her 10-month-old granddaughter, Zoë. Weekends in the off-season are usually spent watching Men's Modified Softball tournaments, reading, cooking and traveling to the family camp in Clarksville, New Hampshire.

One of Katie's favorite Monarchs game was the first playoff game against Hartford. That certainly was a memorable one. Her most memorable goal came in overtime against Quebec at the Verizon. Rob Valicevic made what turned out to be the perfect pass off the back of the goalie's head and into the net for the win.

Katie is very excited about the possibilities the Booster Club raises. She particularly looks forward to meeting new people with an interest in hockey.

STAY TUNED...

Stay tuned to future newsletters to meet the rest of the Board of Directors. We will also introduce you to the members that have stepped forward to help head the various committees within the Booster Club.

Notes & Nuggets

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATIONS

for the Manchester Monarchs Booster Club are available online at: www.manchestermonarchsboosterclub.com.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

In this newsletter, we will endeavor to provide the MMBC members with timely information on upcoming events of the Monarchs', the Booster Club, as well as keep members informed of other Booster Clubs' visits to Manchester.

WOULD YOU LIKE TO SPONSOR AN ISSUE OF "CENTER ICE?"

If your company would like to sponsor an upcoming issue, a "package" of five issues, or all ten issues for the year, please let us know by emailing: newsletter@manchestermomarchsboosterclub.com.

A one-time sponsorship like the one you see at the bottom of page 12 is \$10. Sponsorship of five issues is a mere \$35, and of ten issues, only \$55.

PLAYER OF THE MONTH AWARD

The MMBC will be voting at its meetings each month on a "Player of the Month." The player will be given an award which is still in the works.

*NOTES & NUGGETS,
continued on page 9*

GREETINGS!

We hope to bring you greetings from other booster clubs as a regular feature of this newsletter. Perhaps some greetings will tell us a little about an opponent's arena, favorite players, or their mascot.

When we visit other arenas, let's show good sportsmanship and be friendly and courteous to our opponents' fans.



TO THE MANCHESTER MONARCHS BOOSTER CLUB,

Good luck with the club and the newsletter. We here down south on Rt. 3 are wishing your club the best of luck. We are sure you will have fun, and become a successful club as well. Hope to see all of you often.

Kevin

*President, Lowell Lock Monsters
Booster Club
Bossacsrb@aol.com*



GREETINGS FROM THE READING ROYALS

Greetings to the Manchester Monarchs booster club, and congratulations on forming your club. When I was first approached about joining the Royals Booster Club my first thought was "What is a booster club, and what is it all about?" Now, three years later, after being a member, and an officer, and having the opportunity to talk to a lot of members from other ECHL booster clubs, I can say "It is

what you make it". Every club seems to have different activities, and much different ways of accomplishing the same thing. I'm sure your booster club will be much different from ours, especially being at the AHL level. We probably spend more time and energy providing for the players basic needs such as apartment furnishings and food for road trips than you will. However every booster club I have encountered has one thing in common, and it has been the best part of the experience for me personally, the fun and camaraderie of spending time with other hockey fans.

If any of you find yourselves in Reading for a Royals game, make sure you stop by the booster club table on the concourse and say hello.

Good luck,

Rich Christoph
*President, Reading Royals
Booster Club*



A WELCOME FROM HERSHEY

I would like to welcome the MMBC to the AHLBC family!!!! Be ready for lots of fun and meeting and greeting new fans from all over the AHL!!!! WELCOME once again and look forward to seeing most of you again as part of the MMBC!!! Take care and good luck this season!

Deb Myers

President, Hershey Bears Booster Club (HBBC)

AHL Booster Club Convention – Sept. 5-7, 2003

Hosted by the Syracuse Crunch Club

BY MARLENE LEIN

It's always difficult to put into writing the feeling of any experience; I hope that this "report" gives you a flavor of what Bill and I experienced last weekend in Syracuse.

Bill & I left Manchester to attend the 37th Annual AHL Booster Club convention in Syracuse bright & early on Friday morning. We stopped several times for pit stops, and arrived in Syracuse shortly after 3:00 p.m. Traveling with Bill is an adventure—we definitely didn't lack for conversation!

At check-in for the convention, we were given our credentials (bright green tag marked ROOKIE), along with a Crunch Club lanyard. We were also given a tote bag from the Crunch Club, which contained information on the Syracuse area, and a few small gifts, including a bandana. The theme of the convention this year was "Wild Wild West." We were provided with a convention schedule, which listed the important events & locations—especially the hospitality suites hosted by various booster clubs.

We went up to the room, dropped off our gear and set out to meet some fellow attendees.

Thank goodness Bill had met a few people on Royal Road Warriors trips last year, so we weren't totally without contacts. We met up with several of the Hershey Bears Booster Club members—Tom & Connie Mara, Deb Myers (club president), Cathy, Amy & Heather. We also ran into Dan from the Lowell Lock Monsters Booster Club, and spent some time catching up with all of them. Many reps from other clubs came up to introduce themselves as well, asking

where we were from, and of course to tease us for being convention rookies.

The Executive Committee Meeting began at 4:00 p.m. At that meeting, many of the clubs in attendance left "presents" on each chair. We received numerous trinkets with team & booster club logos, such as glasses, pucks, toys, pins, pictures, etc. The Executive Committee consists of 2 represen-

Suffice it to say, we both survived our rookie initiations. We can't tell you what happens at initiation—we were sworn to secrecy, and if someone finds out that we told what happened, we'd have to do it again next year.

tatives from each club, usually the president & vice-president, or two other members. Bill received special recognition from Tom Mara of Hershey as the president of our new booster club, and for providing snacks and drinks for the Hershey club when he came to Manchester last January, before our club had formed.

The EC Meeting is designed to bring forward any new business for the convention, discuss old business, and to nominate new officers for 2 year terms. The officers consist of the Convention Chairman, President, Vice-President, Treasurer and Recording Secretary. The coolest thing about the EC meeting was the roll call of clubs in attendance—there were 27 past & present booster clubs in atten-

dance, with members ranging from 1 (Philadelphia Firebirds & Kentucky—clubs with no teams) to over 30 (Rochester and Wilkes-Barre/Scranton).

The meeting adjourned with a few minutes to spare for members to go back to their rooms to change into their theme costumes for the opening dinner & party. Bill & I hadn't brought any costumes, so we resorted to simply donning our bandanas—fortunately, ours were Monarchs Purple.

Dinner on Friday night was a barbecue buffet, which included BBQ pork & chicken, corn on the cob, salad, pasta, roasted potatoes, and a magnificent dessert bar. Excellent food!! Those people who decided to dress up were amazing—lots of cowboys & cowgirls, barmaids, indian chiefs & maidens. There was a competition for best costume, best couple, best group. After dinner, the hospitality suites opened up. Friday night's was hosted by the Wilkes-Barre/Scranton booster club. Bill & I were invited to spend time with Allan & Ruthie Taylor, from Hamilton. As Allan & Ruthie travel all over the US & Canada for hockey games & conventions, they've made many friends throughout the years, and they introduced us to many of them. Needless to say, we made many new acquaintances among booster club members throughout the AHL. We somehow managed to get to sleep fairly early (near midnight), to rest up for what promised to be a long day on Saturday.

After the early breakfast buffet on Saturday, each booster club set up tables in the hallway adjacent to

BOOSTER, continued on page 9

► *NOTES & NUGGETS, continued from page 7*

GRIPES? CONCERNS? PRAISE?

Write us and tell us your thoughts... about the Monarchs, AHL hockey, the Officials, Max, the MMBC, the food at the arena, this newsletter... anything! We'd love to hear from you and put your comments in print (subject to editing).

SWAP COLUMN

Going on vacation for a week or two? Going on a business trip? Don't want your season tickets to go to waste while you're gone? Send your name, phone number and information on the date of the game and we'll publish it for you so that you can swap or give your tickets to someone who might be looking for an extra for that game.

PLAYER SIGHTINGS

Elvis has left the building... where have YOU seen a Monarch? Our players do eat, shop for groceries, go out with their families. If you have a player sighting, let us know... but remember, this is all in fun, so let's keep it light and non-specific in location to show respect for their privacy.

RAFFLES

We may have occasional raffles at our MMBC meetings. If you or your company would like to donate something for a raffle, let us know. It will help us raise money for the MMBC, which we will use for local charities and for events such as hosting other Booster Clubs.

► *BOOSTER, continued from page 8*

the meeting rooms to sell 50-50 tickets, raffle tickets, sales of various team merchandise items, and convention souvenirs. This was a great way to again learn some names, meet people, and get ideas for our own fundraising efforts. Many club members made it a point to come over to speak with us, congratulate us on forming our new booster club, and to speak with us about our road trips to their cities.

During the general meeting which started at 10:30, once again there was a roll call of club atten-

dance, which is impressive (over 230 delegates were in attendance, a new record). Each booster club is given 2 minutes to tell what their club has done during the year—simply amazing! Activities ranged from supporting various local charities financially & otherwise, road trips, providing beginning & end of year banquets for their players, team meet & greet parties for the booster clubs. I'll provide a short list of some of the ideas to our club fundraising chairperson. After the speeches, the delegates were able to vote as a club for the booster club of the year award, presented annually. The clubs also voted for new officers. Election results were as follows: Secretary - Howie Lewis of Baltimore; Treasurer - June Palsek of Grand Rapids; Vice-President - Jim Pertuso of Providence; President - Kathy Arcaro of Syracuse; and Convention Chair - Dennis Leger of Worcester. The meeting adjourned at noon, giving

us the afternoon off. The convention committee provided an afternoon boat cruise on a local lake, and offered several options for entertainment, from shopping, going to the local zoo or a casino, to just hanging around. We opted to take a nap!

Dinner on Saturday evening was a semiformal event, featuring a great sit-down meal. Chris Thompson from the AHL office spoke first, congratulating the clubs for raising over \$2 million for charities. The keynote speaker was Kevin Dineen, recently retired from the Columbus Blue Jackets. His talk fo-

We learned that many clubs do not have a great relationship with their teams, making their jobs as clubs that much more difficult....The most important lesson: you can get much more accomplished with your team's cooperation than you can without it.

ocused on how his family has been involved in hockey for years, starting with his father who played & coached in the AHL, along with all of his brothers. He spoke of his start in the AHL right out of college, to his years in the NHL. He was a

dynamic and very entertaining speaker. The Hershey Bears Booster Club won Booster Club of the Year, and Donna Marie Dowling-Hall of the Philadelphia Phantoms BC won Booster of the Year.

After dinner, the 50+ rookies were given the opportunity to go back to their rooms to change into comfortable clothes "that we didn't mind getting ruined" for the rookie initiation. After all the hype from virtually every convention participant, we were totally nervous about what would happen to us. Suffice it to say, we both survived our rookie initiations. We can't tell

BOOSTER, continued on page 10

HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

September Birthdays

PLAYERS ARE LISTED IN BLUE. MANCHESTER MONARCHS BOOSTER CLUB MEMBERS LISTED IN BLACK. * = gone but not forgotten!

Cristobal Huet	9/3
Bill Walch	9/6
Travis Scott*	9/14
Derek Bekar*	9/15
C. Soucy	9/24
Jon Sim	9/29



October Birthdays

Beatrice Raiche	10/2
Debbi Ladd	10/5
Hal Collins	10/9
Tomas Zizka	10/10
Denis Grebeshkov	10/11
David Gray	10/20
Gerry Clark	10/24
Steve Kelly	10/26
Michelle Gagnon	10/26
Karen Heaton	10/26



Some of the Gift baskets and ceramic plates (made by players) auctioned at the 2003 Monarchs "At Your Service" Fundraiser.



► BOOSTER, continued from page 9

you what happens at initiation—we were sworn to secrecy, and if someone finds out that we told what happened, we'd have to do it again next year. As we don't want to have to do that again, you'll all find out next year when you attend your first convention!

Once again, the hospitality suite was open, this time sponsored by the Albany River Rats boosters. Every imaginable snack and drink made was available, including their signature drink: sewer sludge. After Bill & I were initiated, we again hooked up with several other booster club members, and spent the evening talking, drinking, etc. I crashed early—1:30 am; Bill stayed

out until after 3:30 am hanging out with whoever was still awake!

We both got up fairly early, to grab breakfast & to say our goodbyes to the new friends we had made. We got back to Manchester around 3:00 pm, tired and happy.

I think it was a very important experience for us to have had the opportunity to attend the convention. We learned a lot from all the other clubs, both by asking questions and by simply listening to what each had to say. Many members simply came up to us and offered us any kind of assistance they could provide.

We learned that many clubs do not have a great relationship with their teams, making their jobs as

clubs that much more difficult. We should be thankful that the Monarchs have been as cooperative as they have been, especially in the early stages of our formation. The most important lesson: you can get much more accomplished with your team's cooperation than you can without it. We need to do everything we can as a booster club to maintain that good relationship, so that we can begin to grow and so that we can provide as much help as we can to our team.

Next year's convention is the weekend immediately following Labor Day, September 10-11-12, in Worcester, at the Crown Plaza Hotel. I would strongly recommend this experience to anyone who can attend. We had a total BLAST!!!

TEAM NOTES

Excerpts from the Manchester Monarchs website: www.monarchshockey.com

Monarchs 2003 Exhibition Schedule

MANCHESTER, NH - The Manchester Monarchs have scheduled three exhibition games against Atlantic Division opponents in early October. Two of the three games will be played against the Portland Pirates, with the Monarchs hosting the Pirates at the ICENTER in Salem, NH on Sunday, October 5 at 2:00 p.m.

Fans can purchase tickets for \$8.00 at the Monarchs Pro Shop located at the Verizon Wireless Arena in Manchester. Tickets may also be purchased at the ICENTER or through the Salem Youth Hockey Association.

The Monarchs 2003 exhibition

schedule kicks off with a game in the Portland region against the Pirates on Wednesday, October 1. The location and time of the exhibition game in Portland will be finalized at a later date. The Monarchs will face off with their northern neighbor 10 times (including five home games) during the 2003-04 season.

The Monarchs continue their exhibition schedule when they travel to Ridgefield, CT on Saturday, October 4 to meet the Bridgeport Sound Tigers. The game, set for a 4:00 p.m. start, will mark the first meeting between the two clubs since the Sound Tigers ended the Monarchs post-season in April.

Monarchs Sign Brad Church

MANCHESTER, NH - The Manchester Monarchs, the AHL affiliate of the Los Angeles Kings, have signed left wing Brad Church to a one-year AHL contract, Monarchs Director of Hockey Operations Hubie McDonough announced today.

Church, originally selected by the Washington Capitals (NHL) in the first-round (17th overall) of the 1995 NHL Entry Draft, skated in 64 games this past season with the Richmond Renegades (ECHL), and also skated in eight games with the Cleveland Barons (AHL).

Church, 26, skated with both the Portland Pirates (AHL) and the Lowell Lock Monsters (AHL) during the 2001-02 season.

Aulin Suffers Dislocated Shoulder

EL SEGUNDO, CA - Los Angeles Kings forward Jared Aulin is expected to be out of the lineup for five months after dislocating his left shoulder. Aulin, 21, was injured last Thursday in the opening game of the Kings 2003-04 rookie tournament.

"I'm certainly disappointed about this setback," said Aulin, who is expected to undergo surgery this



Rookie Kings Win Again

SEPTEMBER 6, 2003

EL SEGUNDO, CA - The Los Angeles Kings rookies remained undefeated as they shutout the San Jose Sharks 5-0 in Friday night's match-up at the Kings Training Facility in El Segundo.

Michael Cammalleri netted his first goal of the game at 17:24 of the first period, and followed that with a nifty backhand just a minute and a half into the second period to give the Kings a 2-0 edge.

In the third period, the Kings offense took over and continued to take the Sharks netminder to task. Petr Kanko, **Yanick Lehoux**, and **Dan Welch** each notched goals against San Jose's Dimitri Patzold.

NOTES: **Cammalleri** left the game after two periods with a hip flexor strain. He is listed as day to day.

week. "I've worked extremely hard this summer to be ready for camp and this is certainly a hard thing to swallow. But I just have to put the same type of effort into getting myself healthy and back into the lineup."

Aulin suffered the injury during a second period skirmish with Shane O'Brien of the Mighty Ducks of Anaheim in the Kings 3-1 victory.



Bus Trip Schedule Nearly Complete

The time is near. In less than 60 days, the Manchester Monarchs will be on the ice for the 2003-04 season. It will be great to see the guys on the ice again. The following is our trip schedule for the 2003-04 Manchester Monarchs season. Please note that it is tentative and is subject to change.

October 26 Providence
 November 22 Springfield
 January 24-25 ... Hartford
 February 14..... Albany
 March 6 Portland
 March 14 Bridgeport
 March 27-28 Hershey/
 Philadelphia
 April 9 Worcester

Prices and other information will be posted once it becomes available.

Bus Trip Rules

1. There MUST be a minimum of 40 people paid in advance one week prior to the trip, in order to secure a bus and group tickets to the game. All trips that do not meet the minimum 40 paid people, one week prior, will be canceled and all funds returned.
2. Bus Trips are first-paid, first-served. Once the first bus is full, we will start a "stand-by" list for a second bus. For a second bus, there MUST be a minimum of 80 paid people.
3. Buses will leave from the Macy's parking lot in Bedford, NH promptly at the designated time. NO EXCEPTIONS!!! We ask that you arrive at least 15 minutes prior to departure, so we can leave on time. If you miss the bus, you will not be refunded for the cost of the trip.
4. Payments are in advance by cash or check. If your check is returned for any reason, you will be charged a \$25.00 return check fee.
5. Please keep the buses clean. Trash bags will be located in the front and back of the bus. If there is a spill, please let the bus monitor know, so we can wipe up the area.
6. Coolers are allowed on the buses, but they must be small enough to fit under your seat (except when the MMBC is providing one for each bus) and they must not leak. No coolers will be allowed in the aisle or in the overhead storage.
7. Any damage caused by you or your family to the bus, will be your responsibility.
8. Trip prices include a ticket to the game and transportation.
9. For overnight trips, the Royal Road Warriors will secure a block of rooms at an area hotel, but it is up to the individual members to make their reservations with the hotel, prior to the announced deadline. The MMBC will supply members with hotel information. Any damage caused by you or your family to the hotel, will be your responsibility.
10. There will be NO alcohol allowed on the buses.
11. There is no smoking on the buses. We will make a courtesy stop every 2-3 hours for members to use the restroom facilities and smoke.
12. Payment deadlines for MMBC trips will be posted in the newsletter and at the Booster Club table, as well as on the MMBC website.
13. If you are with us at the start of the trip, you are expected to return with us also.
14. Bus trips are open to all fans of the Manchester Monarchs. Booster Club members receive a discounted trip price. The more fans we have, the more we can support our team when they travel.
15. Junior members (17 years or under) must have a parent/guardian (18 years or older) with them on any trip they want to take with the MMBC. The parent(s) must provide any guardian with two notes, (1) giving permission stating that said guardian can take their child on a MMBC trip and (2) giving permission for said guardian to ok any emergency medical attention. The note must contain the following information: Date note was written, date(s) of MMBC trip, the name of the guardian, phone number where parent(s) can be reached and signature of the parent(s). Sorry, NO non-member children 17 or under will be allowed to take a MMBC trip unless accompanied by a parent. No Exceptions!!!

WOULD YOUR BUSINESS LIKE TO SPONSOR A NEWSLETTER LIKE THESE COMPANIES DID?

\$10 for a one-issue sponsorship; \$35 for 5 issues; \$55 for 10 issues.

Contact: newsletter@manchestermonarchsboosterclub.com

GRAPHIC MANOEUVRES
PUBLICATIONS DESIGN

SUSAN G. FOSTER
 sgbfoster@comcast.net

SPEEDY PRINTING

- PRINTING
- COPYING
- GRAPHIC DESIGN

24 Pleasant Street
 Concord, NH 03301
 (603) 225-6649
 Fax (603) 226-2548