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Chicago Boosters Relay for Life

By David Dea, Chicago

What do you do when someone closest to your heart is dying right before your eyes? You pray for their recovery. What do you do when the doctors say there's nothing more that can be done except to make them more comfortable? You forever feel a hint of guilt and shame when you pray to God to take them, so that they no longer suffer. What do you do when God hears your prayers and ends their suffering? You fight! You fight for those still suffering, you fight to ease the family member's pain, you fight for a cure.

This year the Chicago Wolves Booster club, the Wolf Pack, did just that. On July 30th the Wolf Pack, for the first time since its inception, has sent a team to the American Cancer Society's Relay for Life. For those of you unfamiliar with the Relay for Life, it is an all-night event in which a team of 10 to 14 team members take turns walking around a field track. This event raises awareness to the fact that cancer never sleeps. So the question is raised, how did we do?



Under the tutelage of our team captain, Lou Georgetta, we did *very well*. With everyone's help we raised about \$1,500.00 for our team and a total of \$61,000.00 for the entire Relay. Many teams, including the Wolf Pack, had tents set up to sell various items such as hot dogs, sandwiches, baked goods, soda, and water, of which all proceeds went towards the Relay.

The entire event was quite festive. The smiles on everyone's faces and laughter in the air was quite infectious. Most of the festivities were found off the track rather than on the track. We would like to thank the Gebbia family for coming out to support our team and a special thank you to Sue and Vince Smith for not only coming out to support us, but for their generous donation.

At the conclusion of this event and after being awake all night talking, laughing, and sharing stories one cannot help but be humbled when every team member including myself vowed to return next year and fight.

The Association of AHL Booster Clubs is now on Facebook

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Mission Statement

The purpose of this organization will be:

- a. To promote better understanding between Booster Clubs and the American Hockey League Organization.
- b. To Compare and attempt to alleviate problems confronting each individual Booster Club.
- c. To act as a social organization for Booster Club members.

Submitting an Article

To submit an article to this newsletter, please email it to lighthouseman2@yahoo.com with "AAHLBC Newsletter" in the subject line.

Please note: Your club must be a member of the AAHLBC in order to submit an article to this newsletter.

Editor: Bill Walch

MMBC Celebrates Seven Years, Raises funds for Bella Tucker & Kidney Foundation

On August 14, 2010, the Manchester Monarchs Booster Club celebrated its 7th anniversary. Over 50 members and friends of the MMBC met at the Gagnon Compound for a celebratory barbeque, swimming, games and karaoke.

Along with burgers and hotdogs, there was a large array of salads and other items for folks to enjoy. The one item everyone looks for at the Gagnon Compound is Yvon's homemade french fries...and there were plenty of them.

Many took the opportunity to swim, since it was a very hot day. Others took a shot at horseshoes and/or bean bags.

There were plenty of raffle items for those who collect Monarchs stuff. This year, all the proceeds from the raffles were to be donated to the Bella Tucker Fund.

Who's Bella Tucker? Bella is a 9-year-old gymnast from Londonderry, NH. She came down with a near fatal infection on Easter Sunday. Doctors gave little hope for this third graders' survival, but after five days in a coma she miraculously survived Streptococcus Pneumonia Sepsis with DIC (disseminated intravascular coagulation).

Unfortunately, her survival from this infection was not without significant cost. The infection caused extensive tissue damage. She underwent quadruple amputation surgery and is currently facing an extremely long and hard recovery (including an extensive rehabilitation) as she learns to live life without her limbs.

The MMBC raised \$229 for Bella. At a recent MMBC Membership Meeting, members voted to send an additional \$221, for a grand total of \$450 going to the Bella Tucker Fund.

The MMBC also raised funds for the Kidney Foundation. A small shed was transformed into a jail. People would make a donation to have someone arrested. Someone else would have to bail them out. It raised \$125, but members agreed to make a total donation of \$325 to the cause.

