

Buckeye Bulletin

Ohio Kiwanis Newsletter

August 2017

Bill Flinta

Governor

Gobuckspbf@sbcglobal.net



Thanks to all who attended the 100th Ohio Kiwanis District Convention in Dayton recently. The goals for convention were for everyone to enjoy Fun, Fellowship, and Education. **Fun** was had with a great Friday night event including a trivia contest and live music provided by Division 14 Lt. Governor

Matt Rawlings and his band. **Fellowship** was enjoyed throughout the weekend as Kiwanians made new friends and renewed old friendships. **Education** occurred all day on Saturday through eighteen workshops with a variety of topics including our Service Leadership Programs, The Ohio District Kiwanis Foundation, member engagement, and service project ideas to name a few; through the message delivered by our 2017-2018 Kiwanis International Counselor, Gary Levine during his lunch message; and during our House of Delegates. Peggy and I can't begin to thank Kiwanians throughout the District enough for your show of overwhelming support for the First Family Literacy Project by the book drive at convention. Over 11,000 books were donated at the convention to benefit literacy projects in the Dayton area, with another 12,000 books donated locally by Kiwanis Clubs throughout Ohio as part of this convention service project. Thanks to all for your literacy service to children throughout Ohio. Finally, I wish to thank convention co-chairs Kelly Brown and Paul Price and the entire convention committee for a job well done in hosting this event.

This time of year, with the start of school always makes me think of our Service Leadership Programs and what an important part of the Kiwanis family they represent. Circle K, Key Club, Builder's Club, K-Kids, Aktion Club and Key Leader all help to define what Kiwanis is and means to our communities and our sponsorship of these fine organizations is something we should take great pride in. With the new school year beginning I encourage each Kiwanis Club to reach out and personally meet with your SLP clubs in the near future, plan projects you can complete together for the betterment of your communities in the coming school year, and how you can further support each other for the growth of both the Kiwanis Club and SLP Clubs you sponsors. If you do not currently sponsor an SLP please reach out to one of our District SLP Chairs, to learn how you can begin this wonderfully rewarding expansion of the Kiwanis family in your community. The District Chairs and their contact information are available on the Ohio District Kiwanis website under the menu the District Chair tabs.

Lastly, as school begins, and before all the student calendars fill up, please begin to identify, encourage, and help to financially support sponsoring a student or two from your high school to attend the Kiwanis Key Leader program. This year's event will be held November 10-12, 2017 at Recreation Unlimited in Ashley, Ohio. For more information, or to register a student please visit key-leader.org.

Secretary's Notes

Two weeks ago the Ohio District completed another successful district convention in Dayton, Ohio. While our attendance was not what we had hoped for, those in attendance had an enjoyable and educational experience and we elected our district leaders for the next year. The book collection undertaken to support the First Family reading and literacy project was a success beyond our imagination. Our goal was to collect 100 books per district club to distribute to local organizations in the Dayton Area. The total books donated throughout the district were over 23,000 exceeding our initial goal.

Dave Whiteman
District Secretary
Secretary@OhioKiwanis.org



The balance of this article will be unlike anything I have done in the past, but I believe the topic of Organ Donation is worth spending a few moments on. During my report to the delegates in Dayton, I took a moment to thank Kiwanians and their clubs for the cards and prayers sent my way during my recent kidney transplant. They meant so much to our family and to me.

I hope you had a chance to read the August 2017 issue of the Kiwanis Magazine. On page 36 is an article titled Donating Life. The article spelled out the difficulties that kidney patients go through in the United States and in other parts of the world finding donor kidneys. One of the Kiwanians profiled was Marc Litwack, a Past Governor from the New Jersey District who previously served as the endorsed Travel Agent for Kiwanis International. Marc sent me an email asking how I went about finding a kidney donor. I had to confess that I was lucky to have a daughter who was a match and who wanted to donate a kidney to me. I had no magic method to make it happen. Marc has been on dialysis for 4½ years and is one of 106,000 on transplant lists waiting for a kidney in the United States. Only 16,000 kidney transplants are performed in the United States each year meaning that many of those on the list will never receive the kidney they need to live a reasonably normal life.

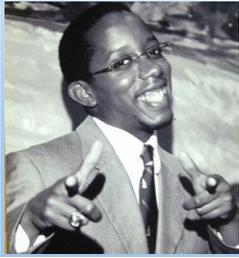
I want to end this article by asking everyone to consider becoming an organ donor, whether it is a living donor like my daughter, or as someone who will be a donor at the end of life. I am proof that the life you save may well be a friend or loved one.

Have news to share?

The Buckeye Bulletin is always looking to share good news about the terrific service that our clubs are doing. To share your club's story in the Buckeye Bulletin, please submit an attached photo of your club members in action. A brief description of the project and who will be benefitting from the activity should be included. If this is a signature project or a new project that information should be included as well.

You never know, your project could inspire another club in the district to do something similar in their community. We are also interested in your Service Leadership Program clubs' activities, since they often do amazing projects with minimal resources available to them.

Send articles to: secretary@ohiokiwanis.org. We will use them as space allows.



Human and Spiritual Values

Hasani Wheat

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Be Someone's Superhero

By now, you have probably seen Kiwanis advertisements regarding superheroes. Some of you may even have the "Kiwanis is my Superpower" pin or t-shirt (currently available at the Kiwanis Family Store). For those of you that work with Key Clubs, you may have seen the instructions on how to cre-

ate a superhero cape (if you have yet to see the instructions, go to http://www.keyclub.org/kcn/13-12-02/Fit_for_a_superhero.aspx). For those of you that work with K-Kids and/or Builder's Club, you may have seen the article "Becoming a Superhero" (found here at http://kiwaniskids.org/en/KKids/Serve/KKids_Service_Focus/Becoming_a_superhero.aspx and http://www.buildersclub.org/Serve/Service_Focus/Becoming_a_superhero.aspx). The focus on superheroes has become incredibly prominent in our organization.

Most of us grew up looking at a fictional superhero that became a favorite of ours whether that is Batman, Superman, Wonder Woman, a certain character from the X-Men series, etc. Many of us have also looked up to people in our own lives whether that is a mother, father, brother, sister, friend, or key historical figure. These "superheroes" are the ones that help shape who we are and will become. While these individuals may not possess lightning fast speed or superhuman physical strength, these individuals possess traits that may be seen as even more skillful as far as our everyday lives are concerned. Traits such as courage, patience, selflessness, and caring for others in the face of danger or vulnerability are just a few that come to mind.

We can all be a superhero to someone else. A couple of ways in which to become that superhero:

Dare To Live Fully (We tend to hold ourselves back especially when life gets tough. Find a way to persevere and to live out your life fully for others to see).

Figure Out What Is Your Kryptonite And Avoid It At All Costs.

Decide What You Stand For (Remember the Phrase: "If you don't stand for something, you will fall for anything")

Rise Above Any And All Obstacles And Stay The Course

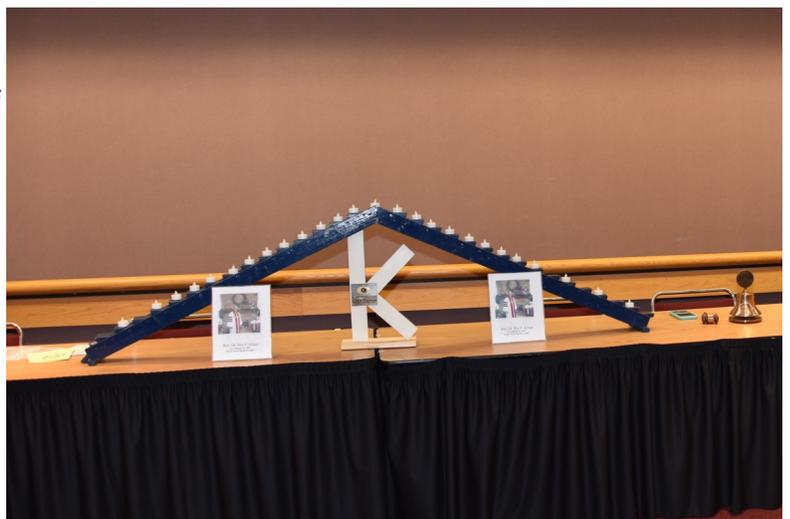
You have the power to change someone's life by becoming a real life superhero. Being in Kiwanis has given all of us a platform to become that superhero in order to influence the children of the world and to be a constant force in communities all over the world.

Memorial Service at Kiwanis Convention

Each year at the Ohio District Kiwanis Convention, there is a memorial service for members of the Kiwanis Family members who have passed away since the previous convention.

After a brief memorial service, each division's Lt. Governor reads the name of the individuals from their area who had passed. Once their list is complete, a candle is lit in remembrance. This is a very moving ceremony and one that most Lt. Governors find to be memorable for their term.

A beautiful way to remember the service and dedication of Kiwanis Family members no longer with us.



Richard Ulmes
New Club Building
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The year is winding down, but the New Club Team is out and running in full gear.

On Wednesday, August 9, the Ohio District added a new club in the Grafton area. Through the hard work of Division 13 Lt Governor, Celeste Brlas; Past District Governor, Denny Lehman; Club Openers Bob Williams and Vee Reifsnyder and many Kiwanians from the division; we were able to organ-

ize the Kiwanis Club of Midview. The club will meet on the 2nd and 4th Tuesdays of the month.

We have several other New Club projects taking place. One in Cleveland Heights and one in Colerain Township near Cincinnati and hope to organize them by the end of the fiscal year.

Speaking of the new fiscal year, it is fast approaching. The Ohio District Formula Team has been busy reorganizing to put it in a better position to help strengthen existing Clubs and open new Clubs in the future.

As I have mentioned in past newsletters, our team is always searching for more volunteers to help us grow Kiwanis in the Ohio District. If you are interested in opening a new club, mentoring a new club or coaching an existing club, please contact your Division Lt. Governor so he can submit your name to our Formula Team.

Cindy Champer
Ohio MNT Chair
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ELIMINATE SUCCESS CONTINUES, BUT MORE HELP NEEDED!

At the recent Ohio Kiwanis District convention, Ohio Kiwanians were able to celebrate the success first in Ethiopia, and later Haiti, becoming the next two countries to Eliminate maternal and neonatal tetanus. This brings the number down to 43 countries down and 16 countries still remaining in the fight to save the lives of

women and children.

Overall the Eliminate project has reached approximately 65% of its goal PAID, with a total of \$73 million of the \$110 million proposed when the project initially began in 2010.

But the reaches of the program go far beyond dollars and cents. Tetanus kills nearly 100,000 mothers and their babies every year. Yet the cure for tetanus means even more - i.e. providing critical health care serves to those who are underserved and in underserved areas. We in the United States and Canada are truly blessed that our children can be born safe and healthy, without the fear of tetanus.

IN OHIO - THANK YOU for all you have done! Our donations have saved approximately 1,244,536 lives. But still MORE HELP is needed. Ohio still needs to raise \$400,000 to meet our pledged goal. That means we still need to save approximately 223,000 lives.

What can you do? The simplest solution would be for all clubs in a division to pull together. If you have a club in your division that is struggling to pay its pledge, please help them. Reach across the club/ county line and donate even small amounts of \$25, \$50 or the like. Or you can send it directly to the Kiwanis Children's Fund, P.O. Box 6457, Dept. 286, Indianapolis IN 46206, with the name and K# of the club involved. In this way, your small bites will help us succeed in eating the elephant!

Please let me know how I can help, in speaking to your club or whatever is needed for us to fulfill our promises. Ohio is a strong district that can always be counted on to meet its goals. Thanks again!

Bill Snellgrove

Membership Chair

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Where do we stand after $\frac{3}{4}$ of the year? In the past few months we have seen membership growth in 106 of our clubs. That is great – **NEARLY HALF OF OUR CLUBS HAVE GROWN!** And that growth means over 9,000 hours more service to our communities each year.

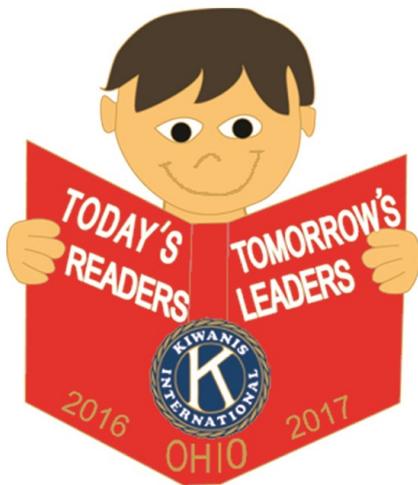
But we cannot relax now. We need to continue strengthening all of our clubs. History says that 30% of those clubs stronger today will end the year weaker than at the beginning.

So what can you do today? Two things.

First, the really good news is that we know there are people out there who are willing to be part of our great organization. Many clubs have found them. Continue to ask potential members to join in on one of your service projects so they can see and experience the good that you do. Then invite them to a club meeting. They won't be able to resist joining if you make them feel welcome, involve them and meet their needs.

AND don't neglect your existing members - Re-Member members who you have not seen for a while. Invite them back for service. Let them know that we care about them and that they are important to the club and the community. Don't let their next contact from you be their dues statement.

Whether we are bringing in new members or retaining existing members, it is the personal aspect – letting members know we care about them, appreciate their service and honor their contribution – that keeps them active in our clubs. Just do it – it pays big dividends to your community.



A book drive supporting the First Family Project, *Today's Readers; Tomorrow's Leaders* at the Ohio District Kiwanis Convention, led to a flood of donations for local agencies. Kiwanians across Ohio brought piles and piles of books. While most of the books were for young children, a healthy mix of books for young adults also helped fill the book case display several times over.

A huge thank you to Chuck Sousa for organizing the drive and coordinating volunteers to pack, haul off and later sort the thousands of books that arrived. Clubs that participated *and reported on*, the First Family literacy campaign will receive a banner patch at Mid-year Conference.

Overall, more than 24,000 books were donated to various literacy agencies, putting books in the hands of individuals who do not have easy access to reading materials.



Welcome



The community of Midview once again has a Kiwanis Club! Organized on August 9, the newest club in Division 13 meets at noon on the 2nd & 4th Tuesdays of each month. They are currently meeting at the Grafton Village Town Hall, 960 Main Street in Grafton. Current Lt. Governor, Celeste Brlas will be serving as club secretary, while Justis Clifford will serve as Charter President.

If you are aware of a community that could benefit from a Kiwanis Club, please consider working with the Formula Team to build a club. To explore information of how to recruit for new and existing clubs, be certain to visit the Kiwanis International website regarding club membership growth at <http://www2.kiwanis.org/theformula>.

This website provides all manner of tools for recruitment, retention, and appreciation of our membership. Information on how to create community awareness of the Kiwanis Family, discovering the needs of your community, even information on creating a club brochure specific to your club are available at your fingertips!

Ohio also has multiple club counselors and club builders available to assist clubs with growth goals. As always, Kiwanians are ready to help!



KIWANIS ONE DAY!

Remember, Kiwanis One Day is now celebrated in October. This year the date is Saturday, October 28th. Of course, this falls in the 2017-18 Kiwanis year but planning should be underway now.

The 2017-18 First Family Project will focus on food insecurity, especially as it impacts children. A special emphasis will be on backpack food programs. Those programs send a supply of food staples home with needy children on the weekends.

For Kiwanis One Day, clubs with an existing backpack food program in their community/area might consider hosting a food drive to support the program asking for specific types of food item donations. If there is not an existing food backpack program a general food drive could be conducted

to support an area food bank.

Kiwanis One Day is also a great time to plan an event involving the entire K-Family. Involve your SLPs in planning and conducting your Kiwanis One Day project. Check out the Kiwanis One Day Toolkit on the kiwanis.org website for helpful information on planning a successful event.



The Bath Richfield Kiwanis is holding a golf scramble on Friday, September 22 at Valleaire Golf Club in Hinckley, Ohio. Registration starts at 8:30am with a shotgun start at 10:00am. Greens fees, cart, continental breakfast, lunch, drinks on the course, and dinner are all included for \$85 per golfer. Dinner only is \$20. Prizes will be awarded for 1st through 5th place plus various hole contests.

Proceeds from the event help support the 2017 P.E.N.S. Basket Project providing essential items to victims who arrive at the Hope and Healing Center & Battered Women's Shelter of Summit & Medina Counties.

Contact: Joe Campbell [330.858.1720](tel:330.858.1720) or Terry Bennett [216.870.6340](tel:216.870.6340)
eMail: bathrichfieldkiwanis@gmail.com

2017 Convention Recap

Dave Whiteman, District Secretary

The 2017 Ohio District Kiwanis Convention was held August 11-13, 2017 at the Dayton Convention Center in Dayton, Ohio. Attendees participated in workshops on various Kiwanis topics and enjoyed their time in Dayton! One of the most important duties of our delegates attending the district convention was the election of a leadership team for the 2017-18 Kiwanis Year.

We are pleased to announce that Dan Litzinger, of the Ashville and South Columbus Kiwanis Clubs, was elected to lead the district as Governor for the coming year. Dan and First Lady Barb's photo is shown with the article.

Faith Levine, a member of the Dublin and I-NExT Kiwanis Clubs, was elected as Governor Elect. Faith has served as a Lieutenant Governor, on the Ohio District Kiwanis Foundation and in many significant district chair positions during her years as a Kiwanis member.

Our 2017-18 District Treasurer selected by the Delegates was Dr. David Gallit of Columbus and I-NExT Kiwanis Clubs. Dave served as Lieutenant Governor in 2006-07.



Along with Dan Litzinger, Faith Levine, and Dave Gallit; Bill Flinta, of the Stow-Munroe Falls Kiwanis Club, will continue on the District Board as our Immediate Past Governor and Dave Whiteman, of the Newark Kiwanis Club, will continue as District Secretary.

One of the highlights at this year's convention was the book collection with the books to be donated to organizations in the Dayton Area. The goal of the collection was 100 books per club. The response was overwhelming and more than 24,000 books were collected at the convention and in local communities throughout the Ohio District.



There were three minor bylaw changes that were approved. These changes were mostly housekeeping in nature to bring our district bylaws in line with those of Kiwanis International. In addition the delegates adopted several Resolutions; the most important of these were to congratulate Governor Bill Flinta and First Lady Peggy for the success of the First Family Project. Most clubs and divisions in the district supported Literacy related projects during the 2016-17 Administrative Year. The delegates also unanimously endorsed International Trustee John E. DeVilbiss, of the West Alexandria Kiwanis Club, to run for the office of International Vice President at our 2018 International Con-

vention in Las Vegas, Nevada.

ELVIS was in the HOUSE (of Delegates)!

On to International Convention Co-Chairs, Ruth and Bob Handelman invited members of the Ohio District to come to the 2018 Kiwanis International Convention in Las Vegas. Watch your upcoming International and District Newsletters and magazines for additional information.





OXFORD CLUB CHAMPIONS KIDS' LITERACY PROGRAMS

The Oxford, Ohio Kiwanis Club has been a long-time proponent and financial supporter of literacy programs for youth in the greater Oxford area and the Talawanda School District. Two programs in particular have received continuous support: *Oxford Reach Out and Read* and the *Oxford Literacy Team*.

Reach Out and Read began in 1998 as a local program that was supported by Kiwanis International. Its purpose is to encourage early childhood literacy by providing age appropriate books to children coming into the pediatrician's office for their well child visits from birth to age 5. To support the program, local volunteers from the community read to the children while they wait for the doctor. They not only expose the children to the joy of reading, but also calm them before their pediatrician visit.

Over the years, approximately 7,600 children up to age 5 have been served, with nearly 20,000 books provided to allow them libraries and maintain reading. In terms of the Oxford Club has *Out and Read* with contributions since the 1998. Beyond financial members of the Oxford on the program's volunteer readers to

The Oxford Literacy cially unrelated to *Read*, takes up where off by developing a cy programs in the Founded in 2007, its mote literacy initia- opportunities, and families in the Tala- District. One of the cessful initiatives has *Summer Readers* pro- six two-week sessions

four separate neighborhood locations with a high concentration of "at risk" readers. The program involves distributing self-selected books to keep K-5 students engaged in activities that promote reading during the months when school is not in session. This is done through the help of club members and other community volunteers who bring their expertise to help make connections between what the children may be reading and the world around them, such as gardening, animal care, drama, and nutrition.

In the several years that the Oxford Club has been supporting *The Literacy Team*, over \$2,000 has been given to support the purchase of books and to provide meals for the children who attend the reading sessions. Last year alone, 2,600 books were distributed to over 130 students participating in the *Super Summer Readers* program, a nearly thirty percent increase over the previous year. The Oxford Club is rightfully proud of their continuing financial and volunteer support of these valuable programs that promote literacy, thus improving their community one child at a time.



to build their own their interest in financial support, provided *Reach* nearly \$13,000 in program's start in support, mem- Club also serve board and act as the children.

Team, while offi- *Reach Out and* the latter leaves number of litera- local community. mission is to pro- tives, cost-free awareness for wanda School Team's most suc- ceen the *Super* gram, a series of during June in

THE TEACHER SHORTAGE GOES BEYOND THE CLASSROOM.



KIDS NEED KIWANIS

Jennifer Weinberg

Aktion Club Administrator

jldefrance@gmail.com



Aktion Club Convention – Barnyard Bash

The Medina County Aktion Club hosted the 2017 Ohio Aktion Club Convention on August 26th at the Medina County Board of DD's Achievement Center. Many Kiwanians came together from the Medina Breakfast and Medina Evening Clubs along with dedicated Kiwanians and Circle Kers throughout Ohio to make this event a success. There were around 140 attendees at the Barnyard Bash.

Thanks for the Kiwanians for the donations and help. Also, thank you to the advisors, caregivers, and Kiwanians who made it possible for members to attend the event.

Guest speaker, Christopher Milo, inspired Aktion Club members with his "13 Messages from Milo" that are embodied in good character. Christopher was able to reach Aktion Club members through his Mohawk, kind heart, entertainment, interaction, and powerful message. To learn more about Milo, visit www.christophermilo.com. Members were so inspired and excited about Christopher Milo, they flocked to get his autograph and purchase his book.



In addition to workshops for officers and members, attendees learned about new service projects, participated in Barnyard Bash Games, played Bingo, and did crafts. Members and clubs participated in the annual Contests. The theme for the Speech and Poster Contests was the "Courage to Engage." Below is a listing of the winners.



Speech – Michelle Boyles, Hancock County
Poster – Amy Gorley, Licking County
T-Shirt – Alyssa Nutter, Medina County
Scrapbook – Licking County

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The All Ohio E-Medina Club, lead by Tom Crawford, presented the Tom E. Crawford Service Award. The 2016-17 winner was Morrow County for their efforts in working with the military to provide Christmas gifts.

New this year was the "Awesome Aktion Club Member." To earn this recognition, members had to participate in three service projects, 2 club meetings, and 1 special event like a fundraiser or Kiwanis meeting. Eleven members were awarded "Awesome Aktion Club Members."

Clubs also received recognition for participation in donating pop tabs for Ronald McDonald House and in donating books for the First Family Project. Aktion Club members are busy! They love participating in these projects (and succeed as seen by my SUV that was stuffed with pop tabs).

While we are excited about the attendance and the great time that attendees had, we would like to see more clubs and individuals participate in the contests. Information about the contest are always available at www.aktionclub.org.

Looking to next year, if your Kiwanis and/or Aktion Club would like to host the Aktion Club Convention, please contact me so we can consider the opportunity. I think it can be a very rewarding experience for your Kiwanis Club.





Kiwanis Day at the Ballpark

PIRATES
VS
Reds

**Sunday, September 17th
at 1:10 pm**

Ohio Kiwanis Governor Bill Flinta will participate in the Game Ball Delivery before the game!

Lower View

\$12 x

(Regularly \$21)

= \$

Field Box \$25 x

(Regularly \$43)

= \$

NAME: _____

TOTAL \$

ADDRESS: _____

Acct # 6577023

CITY: _____

STATE: _____ ZIP: _____

DAY PHONE: _____

E-MAIL: _____

METHOD OF PAYMENT: VISA MASTERCARD AMERICAN EXPRESS DISCOVER

CARD NUMBER: _____ EXP. DATE: _____ BILLING ZIP: _____

CARDHOLDER NAME: _____ SEC. CODE: _____

FOR MORE INFORMATION OR TO ORDER VIA TELEPHONE: Contact Vicki Pumple at 513-765-7963

EMAIL ORDER FORM TO: vpumple@reds.com

This offer is only available through Group Sales, and forms must be received prior to game day. Orders must be received 10 days prior to game date for return mailing of tickets. Otherwise tickets will be left at Will Call under name on order form. Photo I.D. required for Will Call pick-up.

