



www.Friendsofbaseball.org

... The Friends of Baseball Newsletter ...

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Dear "Friend of Baseball,"

As August comes to a close, this time of year becomes a time of baseball reflection; for many, often with the anticipation of spring and a new season. It's also a time to show your appreciation for all those who've helped in creating this memorable season. With this in mind, I'd like to thank our trustees, our partner providers, and each and every one of the coaches, administrators and volunteers for their very personal help in building these memories.

This has been a very exciting year for FOB. In just the first eight months of 2008 we've committed over \$40,000 in grants! More importantly, we've secured nearly an equal amount of funding, goods and services from so many of you who first believed in our mission and then chose to personally get involved. We can't thank each of you enough, and can only dream that you'll consider us in the future as we peel back the layers to find those many worthy teams whose the needs are the greatest. Thank You!

Friends of Baseball Announces Two New Grantees

We've been contacted by two organizations that have certainly worked hard in developing their programs. Like so many, Barlow Baseball has been challenged by the spring weather elements. This group has recently secured a structure that will house their new pitching and hitting facility. We are pleased to help in completing their dream.

Grant for netting in new facility: \$2,584

Oregon City Black Sox Baseball has managed a wonderful summer program for many years. Now, after many years, it is time to refurbish some of their facilities. FOB looks to partner with organizations in the building and re-building of their organizations, helping to create sustainability. We are honored to help in the fundraising for this great group.

Grant for indoor pitching mound: \$950

Sharing Board Awaits You . . .

When our trustees began the process of planning for our new sharing board, we fully understood its potential greatest use would come with the 2009 season. Establishing needs and the search for resources often comes in the early part of the baseball/softball season. Now that we've gotten all the "bugs" out we hope you choose to register and post not only your league's needs, but also how you might be able to pay forward with goods and services, ideas and suggestion that will continue to strengthen our community of baseball. Take the plunge at friendsofbaseball.org

Help us Find Those Hard to Find Communities

As many of you know, we've expanded our reach south to include Corvallis, Newport and surrounding communities. We've often found in our grant making that some of the more rural areas are where the region's needs are the greatest! Many of these communities have been hard hit with our current economy, changes in tax revenue and in their ability to create resources. For some, baseball and softball programs can become a luxury rather than a necessity.

These are exactly the leagues and teams we hope to hear from in addition to the wonderful urban leagues who serve so many and so very well. **NOW** is the time to begin planning and assessing your challenges for 2009. The grant review

process can take months in some cases. We ask that you encourage leagues to think ahead and to contact us in the short term; please also contact us if you know of a league that might need our help! This often happens, and we promise to be pro-active in the process.

We hope you have a wonderful "off season" or "fall season" for some. I'll be in touch to announce some initiatives our board is working on; stay tuned. I sure look forward to hearing from you.

Keenan Longcor
Founder

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Please feel free to forward this Newsletter to others who might take interest.

Also Check out our team shop at www.cafepress.com/fobaseball