



1111

ECHOES

NEWSLETTER OF THE RHODE ISLAND REDS HERITAGE SOCIETY

FALL 2008

Membership Renewal Time

This issue of 1111 Echoes concludes the Heritage Society's eighth season. As one of our valued 670 members, it is time for you to renew for the 2008-09 season. Your membership dues remain at \$20 (USA) - less than 40 cents a week. Please use the enclosed form to renew now and help us avoid costly, time-consuming reminders. You'll continue to receive three newsletters annually, your membership card, plus exclusive invitations to our 9th Annual Reunion and other special events, including our 6th annual "Munch & Crunch."

Sponsors Buoy Reds History Video

Launched by a \$10,000 gift from Chelo's Restaurants of Rhode Island and a \$5,000 donation from the George M. and Barbara H. Sage Fund, generated through the R. I. Foundation, the Heritage Society is creating "When the Reds Ruled the Roost," a 30-minute video history of the old Rhode Island Reds hockey team. To date, other donors of \$1,000 each are the Gilbane Building Company, the ChemArt Company, and Jim Bennett. Joe Rocco, former TV sports announcer for Channel 10, is producing the video. More than 30 interviews with former Reds players and officials are "in the can" and ready to be edited for the piece. More information will be available in your Winter 2008- 09 newsletter, due out in January.



■ From left, while Rene Rancourt sings the national anthems of the United States and Canada, honored guests Milt Schmidt, Ferny Flaman, Johnny Bower, Willie Marshal, Gil Mayer, Jerry Toppazzini and George Patrick Duffy stand at attention.

Hat Trick

Heritage Society Scores With Three-Day Reunion

The largest attendance in its history gathered over the weekend of August 1-3, 2008 to celebrate the Rhode Island Reds Heritage Society's 8th annual reunion. By every account – validated in letters received later from attendees – our 8th was ranked by all as "the best ever." Three spectacular organized events were attended and enjoyed by 36 former Reds and other ex-pro hockey players, plus hundreds of happy, enthusiastic society members, sponsors and newcomer guests.

Rhode Island Reds Heritage Society
E I G H T H A N N U A L
REUNION

THE INSIDE STORY

THE BOWER BUS rolls into town for the second year. *Page 3*

BILL GILBANE hosts the VIP party. *Page 4*

FILLED TO THE RAFTERS at Goddard Park. *Page 5*

GATEMAN, MCDONOUGH receive Tops Awards. *Page 6*

Celebrate Valentine's Day With Munch & Crunch

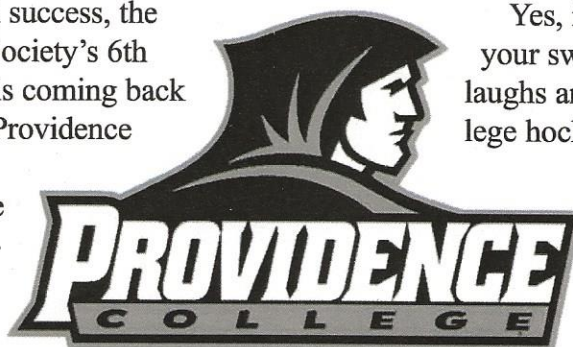
Because of its continued annual success, the Rhode Island Reds Heritage Society's 6th annual "Munch and Crunch" is coming back on Feb. 14, 2009 - once again all on Providence College's beautiful campus.

In cooperation with the college, the Society will offer free parking, a delicious pre-game buffet dinner, and a super NCAA Division I Hockey East clash featuring the Friars, coached by Tim Army, against a powerful University of New Hampshire Wildcats.

As usual, both teams are expected to be nationally ranked again this season. Game time will be 7 p.m.

The place: All at Schneider Arena on the PC campus.

The date and time: Saturday, February 14, 2009, starting at 5 p.m..



Yes, it's Valentine's Day. So bring along your sweetheart for a great event, fun, many laughs and some extraordinary Division I college hockey action.

Each lady in attendance will receive a special corsage as a Valentine's remembrance.

The cost remains the same: Just \$30 for adults and \$15 for kids under age 12.

Last year the event sold out very early. So with seating limited to 80 persons, please send your enclosed reservation in now.

Make your check out to R. I. Reds Heritage Society, mail to P. O. Box 167, Barrington, RI, 20806.

Tickets will not be mailed; instead, they will be distributed at the pre-game dinner.



1111 ECHOES
is published by the
Rhode Island Reds Heritage Society
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Barrington, RI 02806
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Explore the Reds legacy
at www.rireds.org

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The Bower Bus Rolls Into Town

Rhode Island Reds Heritage Society
EIGHTH ANNUAL
REUNION

Friday, August 1, 2008

"We really enjoyed being with and seeing our friends. It has been soooooo long. It's so nice of you to organize all this and make so many people happy. We are certainly looking forward to our gathering next year. Thanks again."

Willie and Barbara Marshall
(Lebanon, PA)



■ From left, members of the "Bower Bus" entourage from Toronto pose after arriving on Friday: Mary Ellen Fleck, Blair Buell, Margaret Robertson, John and Donna Finley, "Jack, the Bus Driver," Bev Johnson, Bob Robertson (trip organizer) and Monty Seli.

Former Reds players from as far as Ohio checked into the Hampton Inn and Suites around mid-afternoon to begin a three-day stay compliments of the Heritage Society's "Host a Hockey Hero" program and its generous sponsors.

Around 5:30 p.m., for the second year, the Bower Bus from Toronto glided into the hotel's parking lot, carrying 28 passengers that included its four organizers and former Reds stars Bob Robertson, Ray Ross, Aldo Guidolin and Johnny Bower, plus Eddie MacQueen. After an 11-hour trip from Canada, the stars, families and friends checked in, spruced themselves up and joined more than 50 others for a reception at the hotel.



■ Bill O'Connor, center, chairman of the reunion, with Willie Marshall, left, and Gil Mayer. Marshall and Mayer are ex-Reds who were also teammates with the Pittsburgh Hornets and Hershey Bears.



■ The Bower Bus arrives at the Gilbane home on Saturday.

Highlights

A warm welcome to Willie Marshall and his wife Barbara – first time guests at the reunion. Willie is the all-time AHL career leader in goals, assists and points and a charter member of the AHL's "Hall of Fame."

The evening would not have been complete without the sharing of tons of exaggerated stories that seem to get better every year. Finally, folks were treated to a preview of "When the Reds Ruled the Roost," a highly polished documentary that recounts the Reds' celebrated 51-year history.

REDS ROYALTY
VIPs at the reunion:

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Rhode Island Reds Heritage Society
EIGHTH ANNUAL
REUNION

Saturday, August 2, 2008

"The 2008 reunion was a fantastic success – best ever! What a weekend. And a big thank you to Mr. Gilbane. Reunions are getting bigger and better each year. We don't know how much better it can get. We're all getting spoiled. Our R. I. Reds Heritage Society is certainly a class organization."

Gil and Marielle Mayer
(Lincoln, RI)

Throughout Saturday, players, their families, and friends were free to explore the wonders of Rhode Island and the Foxwoods Resort & Casino (largest in the world), located in nearby Connecticut. Some took the Bower Bus to shop, and others drove to view the historic mansions in Newport. Late in the afternoon, the Bower Bus departed to carry guests to a VIP party at the elegant home of Bill and Nancy Gilbane, located on the scenic shores of the saltwater Barrington River. Bill, president of Gilbane Building Co., outdid himself as our genial host.

Highlights

More than 175 honored persons attended the gala party. Representing the Society were about 125 guests and sponsors. Another 50 or so were family and close friends of the Gilbanes, including some of Bill's teammates from Brown University's hockey teams of the late 1960s. Bill, a staunch supporter of the Society's efforts, overwhelmed guests with his warm hospitality, deliciously catered New England-fare, spirited liquid offerings and lively music that later encouraged some innovative dance steps and more hockey story telling as the evening progressed.

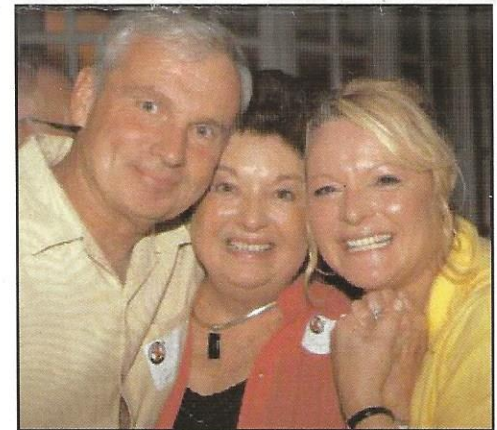
VIP Cookout Hosted by Bill Gilbane



■ View of the bay from the Gilbane party.



■ As the night wears on, Heritage Society President Buster Clegg, left, keeps a sharp eye on the dance floor.



■ Bill Gilbane gets well-deserved hugs from Shirley and Kathye Toppazzini. Bill, who hosted the Saturday soiree, received the Heritage Society's "Host a Hockey Hero Champion" Award.



■ Rhode Island's Army: Tom, his sister Sharon DiNapoli, and wife Betty.



■ Ray Renjere, right, and his musical trio warm up.

Reunion Day at Goddard Park

Rhode Island Reds Heritage Society
E I G H T H A N N U A L
REUNION

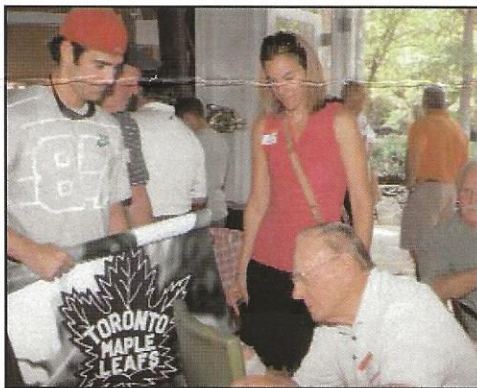
Sunday, August 3, 2008

"Many, many thanks. Had a great time again and enjoyed seeing old friends and making new ones. We're looking forward to 2009."

Johnny and Nancy Bower
(Mississauga, Ontario)



■ Reds and P-Bruins jerseys hang over the crowd in the carousel building.



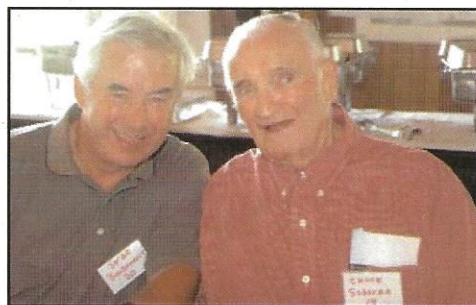
■ Hall of Fame goalie Johnny Bower signs a poster. Behind him is Sara DeCosta, R.I. native and former goaltender for the U.S. Women's Olympic team.



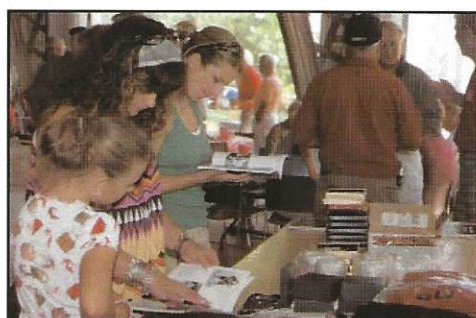
■ "The Hockey Mellors" of Rhode Island: Front: son Duke and dad Don; back: sons Paul, Donny and Tommy. All five played hockey. Dad and Tommy made the pros.



■ Milt Schmidt signs memorabilia.



■ Serge Boudreault and Chuck Scherza.



■ Checking out merchandise.

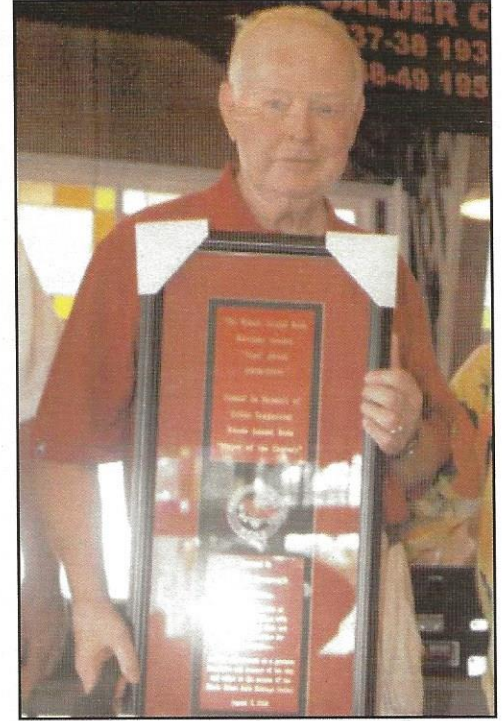
A record crowd of 335 assembled at Goddard State Park's historic carousel building at noon to begin our 8th annual reunion. Once again the crowd was treated to sunny, 80-degree temperatures with a refreshing breeze coming off the bay. Both old and brand new fans applauded the group of former Reds who marched onto center stage to a rousing organ rendering of "Roll Out the Barrel" (theme song of the Reds at the old R. I. Auditorium). "Just like the old days on Sunday nights at the Auditorium," remarked Hockey Hall of Famer Ferny Flaman.

Highlights

Each player on stage was introduced to the sellout crowd and warmly received by their admiring fans. Those players saluted were Ian Anderson, Stan Baluik, Jimmy Bartlett, Ross Brooks, Serge Boudreault, Johnny Bower (HHOF & AHL/HOF), Ray Clearwater, Bruce Cline, Buzz Deschamps, Bo Elik, Ferny Flaman (HHOF), Marty Gateman, Aldo Guidolin, Ivan Irwin, Bobby Leduc, Yves Locas, Ed MacQueen, Willie Marshall, (AHL/HOF) Gil Mayer (AHL/HOF), Don McKenney, Howie Menard, Wayne Muloin, Don Raleigh, George Ranieri, Bob Robertson, Ray Ross, Chuck Scherza and Milt Schmidt (HHOF).



■ Marty Gateman receives his Tops Award from Zello Toppazzini's widow, Shirley, and brother, Gerry Toppazzini.



■ Tom McDonough holds his Tops Award, given at then annual reunion.

Marty Gateman And Tom McDonough Receive Society's Highest Honor

Two prominent members of the old R. I. Reds hockey family were presented with the R. I. Reds Heritage Society's 2008-09 "Tops Award" at the organization's 8th annual reunion at Goddard State Park on Sunday, August 3.

Marty Gateman of Greenville and Cranston resident Tom McDonough accepted the society's awards given annually to honor the late Zello Toppazzini, Reds "Player of the Century."

The tribute recognizes outstanding contributions to the R. I. Reds hockey club combined with significant public service within the larger community.

Appropriately, Shirley Toppazzini, Zello's widow, and Gerry, his brother, made the presentations.

Gateman was a dependable, stalwart defenseman for the Reds when

Rhode Island Reds Heritage Society EIGHTH ANNUAL REUNION

2008-09 Tops Awards

the team moved from the old R. I. Auditorium in 1972 to the downtown Providence Civic Center, now called the Dunkin' Donuts Center.

As a New York Ranger farmhand, he played four seasons with the Reds, helping them reach the AHL's Calder Cup playoff finals in 1973-74.

After pro hockey Gateman spent 15 years coaching youth hockey in Smithfield and high school at St. Raphael Academy, serving as a role model for hundreds of young hockey players.

Today he is employed by the Coca Cola Company, a strong supporter of

the Reds Heritage Society.

McDonough was stick boy and locker room assistant for seven seasons for the Reds from 1951 though 1957 and was part of the celebration of the team's last Calder Cup championship in 1956.

After graduating Providence College, he served in state government, retiring as associate director of the Department of Human Resources. He also coached youth hockey and basketball and was a founding director of the R. I. Reds Heritage Society back in 2000.

He is also the founder and director of the 30-year-old Cranston Sports Collectors Show, largest single-day event of its kind in the country. Proceeds are donated annually to the Immaculate Conception Church in Cranston.

Letters and Emails To The Heritage Society

CONGRATS ON REUNION WEEKEND

Hi, Buster:

Well, we had another safe trip on the "Bower Bus" from Toronto. I know I sound like a broken record, but another fabulous weekend was had by all, thanks to you and your staff.

Each reunion seems to get bigger, better and easier even for us guys and we all were really impressed by the tremendous turn out we had for all three events at the 8th annual reunion. Some friends I brought for their first visits would like to join the Society, so please send some membership forms.

Once again, thanks.

*Ray Ross
Former Reds' forward
Hamilton, Ontario*

■ ■ ■

Hello.

Today I attended my first reunion cookout with my dad. I wanted to tell you how much we appreciated all the hard work that your directors put forth to make it such an enjoyable day. We sat at a table with Bob Robertson and his wife and sister. My dad really enjoyed talking with

Bob about the old Auditorium and the Calder Cup teams of past. The buffet was very good, and I even won a hat and shirt during the raffle. Thank you again for a truly enjoyable day.

*Robert Arvidson Jr.
Society member
North Kingstown, RI*

■ ■ ■

Hi.

I've been meaning to email all week, but just haven't had a chance – we wanted to tell you how much we enjoyed the reunion last Sunday. It was the best one yet – and they've all been great! Everything seemed to flow so smoothly.

Congrats, and pats on the back and thumbs up, and all that sort of things for the terrific job you guys are doing. Looking forward to next year.

*Linda Yates and Lou
Maynard
Society members
Coventry, RI*

■ ■ ■

Folks:

Congratulations to you and your committee members on the R.

I. Reds Heritage Society's gathering on August 3. The former players were great, as were the food and the facility. This Reds Heritage Society affair was, literally, one of the most enjoyable days of my life!! Well done.

*Frank McCaffrey
Society member
New York, NY*

■ ■ ■

Guys:

What a day. The 8th annual reunion on August 3 was the greatest ever – the biggest and best yet! Each year you and your entire staff exceed perfection of the previous year. Congrats to all of you.

The day, the company, the food and the entertainment and awards all were so great. Just to meet again with so many old friends and legends of hockey, to relax and enjoy their company, made for a great day.

Anxiously awaiting next year's reunion, I remain, sincerely,

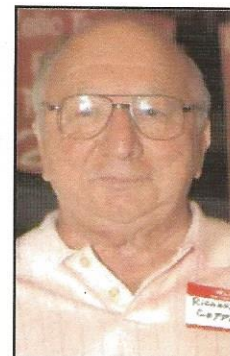
*Bill Fallon
Society member
North Providence, RI*

Rhode Island Reds Heritage Society EIGHTH ANNUAL REUNION

Special Awards



■ Bob Paquette Jr.



■ Rick Cappalli

Service Awards

Three individuals with strong ties and service to the old R. I. Reds and the R. I. Reds Heritage Society were presented with special "Service Awards" at the group's 8th annual reunion: Bob Paquette, Jr., Rich Cappalli, and Mike Pappas, who was unable to attend.

Directors' Award

Bill O'Connor, a director and recording secretary of the Society since its inception in 2000, was presented with the 2008 "Director's Award" by his colleagues.

Bill also has been chairman of each of our successful eight reunions.

Kudos, Bill.



■ Bill O'Connor

Reunion photos now on line

To view and order photos from our 8th Reunion, visit:
<http://danphoto1.tripod.com>

SHOW YOUR

RED PRIDE

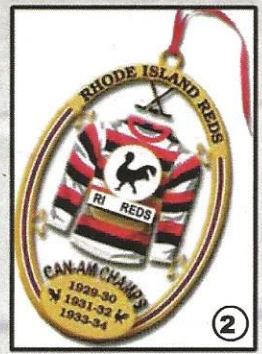
HERITAGE SOCIETY GIFTS FOR THE HOLIDAYS

Introducing Our Newest
Annual Collectible Ornament for 2008/09

1. First Zamboni at R. I. Auditorium

Visit back to 1954, when the Reds became one of the first teams in pro hockey to purchase a new-fangled machine called "The Zamboni" – a vehicle that would quickly resurface the R. I. Auditorium's ice between periods.

- Delicately etched in solid brass
- 3" wide, finished in sparkling 24 kt gold
- Silkscreened with authentic Reds colors
- Includes stand for year round display
- Booklet with history of Reds 1st Zamboni
- All package in velvet-lined gift box
- Limited edition of 250



BEST SELLERS

They're Going Fast And Won't Be Restocked –
So Order Today While They Last!

2. Can-Am Champs Ornament 2007-2008

3. Calder Cup Champs Ornament 2006-2007

4. Inside the Auditorium Ornament 2005-2006

5. "Raging Rooster" Cap

- Highlighted by the "Raging Rooster" emblem
- White or red; adjustable headband fits any size

6. "Raging Rooster" Classic Reds Golf Shirt

- 100% cotton, machine washable; M, L, XL, 2XL

7. "Raging Rooster" T-Shirt

- Black, 100% cotton, machine washable; M, L, XL, 2XL

8. "Slapshot Rooster" Cap

- Highlighted by the "Slapshot Rooster" emblem
- White or black; adjustable headband fits any size

9. "Slapshot Rooster" T-Shirt

- Gray, 100% cotton, machine washable; M, L, XL, 2XL

10. Reds "Holiday Cheers Mug"

- Side # 1 displays the "Raging Rooster" emblem
- Side #2 shows the old R. I. Auditorium
- High quality porcelain



ORDER FORM

Item	Price	Qty/Size	S&H*	Total**	Tax***	Total
1st Zamboni	\$15	_____	3*	_____	_____	\$_____
Can-Am Champs	\$15	_____	3*	_____	_____	\$_____
Calder Cup Champs	\$15	_____	3*	_____	_____	\$_____
Inside the Auditorium	\$15	_____	3*	_____	_____	\$_____
Reds Mug	\$10	_____	4*	_____	_____	\$_____
Slapshot Tee (Gray)	\$15	_____	3*	_____	N/A	\$_____
Rooster Tees (Black)	\$15	_____	3*	_____	N/A	\$_____
Slapshot Cap (Black)	\$18	_____	3*	_____	N/A	\$_____
Slapshot Cap (White)	\$18	_____	3*	_____	N/A	\$_____
Rooster Caps (Red)	\$18	_____	3*	_____	N/A	\$_____
Rooster Caps (White)	\$18	_____	3*	_____	N/A	\$_____
Rooster Golf Shirts (Red)	\$30	_____	3*	_____	N/A	\$_____
TOTAL ORDER				_____ + _____ =		\$_____

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 Barrington, RI 02806

* Add \$1 for each additional item. ** Quantity times Price plus S&H

*** R. I. Residents add 7% sales tax (Item total multiplied by .07)