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# Around The Horn

*News for the Middle Atlantic Region*

## *Volunteer Spotlight*

This month's spotlight is on **Bonnie and Jim Winder from Williamsport, PA**. The Winders have been a driving force behind the success of the West End Babe Ruth League in Pennsylvania.

Bonnie has been the West End secretary-treasurer for the past 23 years. She also has been a key figure in keeping West End one of the top leagues in Pennsylvania.

Jim has managed in the West End League since 1981. He is also currently the District Eight Commissioner.

The Winder's are also officers in the West End 16-18 program and in 2007 the West End 16 year olds went to the World Series and finished in a tie for fifth place.

Both have been very dedicated to the West End program. West End won its first state title in 2005 (15 year olds). The highlight of their dedication came in 2006 when the West End 15 year olds won not only the league's second State Championship, but also captured the Mid-Atlantic Regional and went on to finish second in the World Series.

Jim and Bonnie helped to raise over \$200,000 for the league and worked with the Williamsport High School Board to acquire land and build a new

baseball field in the Williamsport area. The High School team plays their PIAA schedule on the field, and Babe Ruth players continue throughout the summer playing league games, hosting District and State Tournaments on the new field, as well as the lighted original Williamsport West End Babe Ruth field. Jim and Bonnie, again working alongside the Williamsport School District, will watch their efforts come to the top again this fall, as lights are installed at the new field for the 2009 season.

The Winders are only the second husband & wife team to enter the Pennsylvania Babe Ruth Hall of Fame. The other was former State Commissioner Charlie Hoyer and his wife Marge.



Bonnie and Jim are shining examples of what makes Babe Ruth volunteers so great.♦

## Baseball Quote

"The beauty of baseball is it's all about the long haul, not one game."

- Todd Jones

## Now is the Time to Plan Ahead

Now is the perfect time to start planning ahead for the 2009 tournament season. More and more leagues are opting to play in tournaments other than the Babe Ruth League tournaments. This may require working out scheduling issues.



Remember that starting with the 2009 season the Middle Atlantic Region will be cracking down on leagues which fail to play the full tournament pool play schedule. If a team pulls out early the league will be assessed a \$350 fine. If the league does not pay that fine in 60 days then they lose their tournament eligibility for two years.

Don't let this happen to your league and your players. The dates of the Regional and World Series tournaments are listed in this newsletter. Plan appropriately!

Also remember that when it comes to the Cal Ripken Division, the tournaments that Ripken runs under his Ripken Baseball corporation in Aberdeen, Maryland and Myrtle Beach, South Carolina have nothing to do with the Babe Ruth Baseball tournament trail.

You cannot buy your way into a Babe Ruth League Regional or World Series tournament. You get there by winning the championship at the previous level or by hosting the tournament.♦

## MAR Babe Ruth Scholarship Winners

This year two baseball and one softball player from the Middle Atlantic Region were awarded Scholarships from Babe Ruth Baseball.

STEVEN J. DE BONIS, from Hamilton, New Jersey, graduated from Hamilton High School North. His interests include baseball, soccer, student government, Peer Leadership Program, community service and volunteering. His honors and achievements include the National Honor Roll Society, and several other awards for academic and athletic excellence. Steven is currently attending Misericordia University in Dallas, Pennsylvania.

SCOTT A. JACKSON, JR., from Hamilton, New Jersey, graduated from Hamilton High School East. His interests include baseball and various other outdoor activities, church group, FBLA, Peer Leader Program, Italian Club, Stage Crew, volunteering and community service. His honors and achievements include the Honor Roll, Italian National Honor Society, Academic Award Winner (GPA above 3.5), and several other honors for academic excellence. Scott is currently attending Rider University in Lawrenceville, New Jersey.

CASSANDRA MATHERS, from Cassadaga, New York, graduated from Cassadaga Valley Central High School. Her interests include softball, volleyball, basketball, animals, veterinary science, singing and community service. Her honors and achievements include the

National Honor Society, various awards for athletic achievement in softball, volleyball and basketball, and the New York State Public Schools Association Scholar Athlete Award. Cassandra is currently attending Nazareth College of Rochester, New York.

Congratulations to these fine young people! ♦

## Halloween Baseball Quiz

You are the manager of a spooky sounding major league team. Can you place these players in the correct lineup?



“Bones” Buhner

“The Phantom” Javier

“The Monster” Radatz

“Spooks” Gerber

“The Gause Ghost” Moore

“Hack” Miller

“Bonehead” Merkle

“Spook” Speake

“Creepy” Crespi

## 2009 TOURNAMENTS

### Regional Tournaments

**Cal Ripken Div. 10 year-old**  
Site: **contract signing pending**  
Dates: July 30 – Aug 5

**Cal Ripken Div. Major/60'**  
Site: TBD  
Dates: July 29- Aug 3

**Cal Ripken Div. Major/70'**  
Site: **contract signing pending**  
Dates: July 30 – Aug 5

**13-year-old**  
Site: **contract signing pending**  
Dates: Aug. 6-12

**14-year-old**  
Site: **contract signing pending**  
Dates: Aug. 6 - 12

**13-15 year old**  
Site: TBD  
Dates: Aug. 5-11

**16-18 year old**  
Site: TBD  
Dates: July 30 – Aug. 5

### Invitational Tournaments

**8-year-old**  
Site: TBD  
Dates: Aug. 6 - end of play

**9-year-old**  
Site: TBD  
Dates: Aug. 6 - end of play

**11-year-old/ 60 ft.**  
Site: **contract signing pending**  
Dates: Aug. 6 - end of play

**11-year-old/ 70 ft.**  
Site: **contract signing pending**  
Dates: Aug. 6 - end of play

**16-year-old**  
Site: TBD  
Dates: Aug. 6 - end of play

### World Series

**Cal Ripken 10 and under**  
Site: Lamar, CO  
Dates: Aug. 15-22

**Cal Ripken Div. Major/ 60'**  
Site: Winchester, MA  
Dates: Aug. 13-20

**Cal Ripken Div. Major/70'**  
Site: Aberdeen, MD  
Dates: Aug. 15-22

**13-year-old**  
Site: Murray, UT  
Dates: Aug. 22-29

**14-year-old**  
Site: Appleton, WI  
Dates: Aug. 22-29

**13-15 year old**  
Site: Longview, WA  
Dates: Aug. 21-28

**16-18 year old**  
Site: Moses Lake, WA  
Dates: Aug. 15-22

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## Quiz Answers:

P – Dick “The Monster” Radatz	Red Sox	1962-1969
C – James “Hack” Miller	Tigers	1944-1945
1B – Fred “Bonehead” Merkle	Giants	1907-1920
2B – Frank “Creepy” Crespi	Cardinals	1938-1942
3B – Julian “The Phantom” Javier	Cardinals	1960-1972
SS – Walter “Spooks” Gerber	Browns	1914-1929
OF – Jay “Bones” Buhner	Mariners	1987-2001
OF – Joe “The Gause Ghost” Moore	Giants	1930-1941
OF – Robert “Spook” Speake	Cubs	1955-1959

*Happy Halloween!*

