



# The SkinTalk

September 2009

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**Remember August 10<sup>th</sup>** - the first night of practice? Look how far we have come from there...

We have finally put those long, hot, steamy nights behind us; we are looking forward to shortened practice schedules, cool nights, and exciting Saturday games. Our metro teams have already played three of their home games, and our gridiron teams have their first and second games behind them. However, we have got a lot more events to look forward to which we will detail in this newsletter.

First of all, congratulations to all of our teams!! They have all had great games so far. The kids have been having fun and the coaches have sweated out their game plans to a resounding success! Our fans are supportive and our cheerleaders are cheering their hearts out for the teams. This Saturday, most of our metro teams are on the road for two weeks and our gridiron teams will be at home on September 26th.

A huge, huge thank you to all of the volunteers who have made the past three weeks run smoothly -from the announcers, clock operators, chain crew, and the concessions volunteers. A special note of thanks to team parents who have the responsibility to schedule all of these volunteers. You have done a great job communicating and having your parents assigned to all of these tasks and they have done a great job fulfilling them!

Since we are in an away stretch for metro games over the next two weeks for both football players and cheerleaders, please remember to make sure you have all of your uniform and equipment items with you before you leave. Make sure you are on time or even early to the away field. We will not be able to update you on game times, and if we have a situation where games are running 30 minutes ahead of time as we did last week at Kanawha, it may be hard to get that information to you.

We also want to emphasize a very important policy that needs to be adhered to by all of our players, coaches, parents, and spectators. Metro has a "Zero Tolerance Policy." Meaning, any of the above who show the following behavior: fighting, abusive language, confrontational with an official or metro rep, throwing helmets, and any unsportsmanlike conduct will not be tolerated. Punishment may include the offending person being removed not only from the game and field, but also from participating in the Metro League. Players, coaches, AND fans will refrain from taunting, criticizing, or jeering at opposing players. There will be no badgering, name-calling, or use of foul language directed at an official, coach, or player.

The enforcement of this rule has already led to a number of players from other associations being ejected and banned from playing again. Please take this seriously. Even though this is a Metro-enforced policy, we also expect all Gridiron players, coaches, parents, and spectators to adhere to this policy. Remember, this game is for the kids and about the kids, and teaching them life skills through the game of football. We all need to lead by example and make sure our kids understand the meaning of good sportsmanship.

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact a board member through the email addresses listed on the website or at practice so that we can address them promptly and appropriately. Any suggestions for improvements will also be welcome as it helps us address the needs of our Kanawha families. Further on in this newsletter you can find out how to get involved and help us continue to make this the West End's best youth football and cheerleading association!



### Godwin Youth Football Night

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For the third year the Godwin football program is holding "Youth Football Night." This year's game will be on Friday, October 2nd when the Godwin Eagles will be hosting John Marshall. As in the past, all youth players and cheerleaders will participate in a pre-game rally and then one player will accompany the Godwin captains to mid-field for the coin toss. After that, everyone enjoys the game where a number of Godwin players have their football roots with the Kanawha Youth Football organization! In years past, the Kanawha players and cheerleaders have by far outnumbered the other youth associations on the field. Let's continue with that trend and have as close to 100% participation from our kids as possible!! As in the past, Kanawha will pay for tickets for our cheerleaders, players, and coaches. We have only allotted for a certain number of tickets, so please place your order early. We will have team parent's send information out to you next week on how to order tickets for your child(ren). Parents will have to pay \$6.00 for admission on the night of the game, but Godwin will have a separate ticket station set up for the purchase of your tickets. Let's show the Eagles a ton of REDSKINS that night!!

### Homecoming – Week of October 5<sup>TH</sup>

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Always a fun and special week for the Kanawha families, but this year, we are especially proud that we will dedicate a plaque to honor the memory of C. "Red" Roberts who passed away last December. In 1987, Red Roberts and his wife Peggy took on the monumental task of forming this association known as the Kanawha Redskins. The name Kanawha was taken from the Indian tribe that lived in this area, and also from the old Kanawha Chiefs football team that played in the 1960's and 1970's. The Redskins, of course, because Red was a hugely devoted fan of the Washington Redskins! We will be dedicating the plaque with a quick ceremony between the Pee Wee Varsity and Flag Varsity games on our homecoming Saturday. We hope everyone will join in honoring the memory of Red Roberts whose dream of giving every boy and girl a place to play football and cheer lives on at Short Pump Park today.

#### *Other Homecoming Activities That Week:*

On Wednesday, October 7th, our Pee Wee Gridiron team will kick off the homecoming games at 6:00 p.m. with a game against Western White. Then, in what is being billed as the "gridiron event of the season," our own Midget Gold and Midget Burgundy teams will play each other in the second game that evening. Everyone please come out and watch these games that will begin our homecoming week. On Thursday, October 8<sup>th</sup> at 7:15 p.m., we will hold our annual Homecoming Pep Rally. This is the time when we let our cheerleaders have the spotlight and show off their cheerleading skills. We promise you will be very impressed! At 7:15 p.m., coaches and players will gather by teams along the sidelines of the main field and it will be their turn to cheer on the girls as they do for the players on Saturdays. The Pep Rally will culminate in the crowning of the Homecoming Princesses and King and Queen. Please plan to stay a little longer on Thursday night to enjoy this event.

Saturday, October 10th will be our homecoming games. Our metro varsity teams will be playing the Tuckahoe Tomahawks. Unfortunately, MYFL did not schedule JV games for us that day but we will be hosting our gridiron teams after the varsity games, and may schedule an exhibition game for our Pee Wee JVs that afternoon. More details on that to follow. The big event for Saturday will be our Post Game Celebration. In lieu of our traditional tailgate party on Friday night, we are having those same events after the games on Saturday. Around 6:00 p.m., we will have Grandpa Eddies come out to the field and bring some great food, BBQ, chicken wings, and other items. We will ask our football parents to bring an appetizer or side dish, and our cheerleading parents to bring a dessert. Everyone brings their own drinks, chairs, or blanket and prepare to have a great evening with family and friends. We will have some inflatables on the softball field for the kids and we just want everyone to have a great time! There is no cost at all to our Kanawha families - it's just way to say thanks for being a part of our association and for the time and effort you put into helping make this a great place for our kids to be.



### 2009 Kanawha Golf Tournament

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Please join us for a day of fun at Hunting Hawk Golf Course at 1:00 p.m. on Tuesday, October 13<sup>th</sup> for a shotgun start. This captain's choice tournament will not only be a great golf experience but an opportunity to raise necessary funds to keep our football and cheerleading equipment and uniforms in great shape year after year for our kids. Price is \$100 per person, which includes greens fees, cart, range balls, drink tickets, and a BBQ and chicken dinner after the event. A foursome sponsorship cost is \$500, which includes your company logo on the Kanawha website and in the yearbook. Registration forms are available up at the hut on the *SkinsBoard* or you can contact John Aaron at [john@nats.us](mailto:john@nats.us) for more information.

### Other Fundraising Opportunities

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Most of you have seen the spirit cups displayed at the hut. These team cups are being sold this year by Kanawha to help raise money for the association. A portion of the proceeds from each 4 pack of cups sold comes back to Kanawha. We have already put in one order for the cups and are currently taking a second order for the next couple of weeks. This order will go in at the end of September, so order now! They would make great Christmas gifts or great to have on hand while watching your favorite NFL or college team on TV. Each 4 pack of 18-ounce cups is \$12.00. All 32 NFL teams and 30 NCAA teams are available. Tell your friends about this great deal and let's make this fundraising drive a huge success!



Kanawha has also partnered with the American Legacies Company and Wall Americans to provide you with a unique way to showcase your child's great football or cheerleading moments for years to come. Wall Americans are made of high-grade vinyl with a patented low-grade adhesive that resists tears, rips, and fading. Just peel and place on any hard, flat, and smooth surface. They can be moved from wall to wall with no loss of adhesive or wall damage. Just use any high-resolution photo and they will create a life like 3-D wall image of your child. We have a great example of one of our players in action up at the hut if you would like to see what they look like or go to [www.wallamericans.com](http://www.wallamericans.com) to see other examples. Prices range from \$89.00 - \$139.00. Information sheets are available online or at the hut during practices or games.

We also have replicas of our Kanawha helmet available for sale in the Wall Americans. They are \$15.00 and again, can be placed on any wall of flat surface. Show your support and purchase one today!

***Spirit Day at Cheeburger, Cheeburger!*** On Wednesday, October 14th, all day long, both locations of *Cheeburger, Cheeburger* will help raise funds for the Kanawha Youth Football and Cheerleading Association. All you need to do is bring the flyer, eat in or take out, and they will donate 15% of all sales!! It's an easy way to get great food for lunch or dinner and help out Kanawha at the same time. Their two locations are 11363 Nuckols Road, Glen Allen and 7003-A Three Chopt Road at the Village Shopping Center. Flyers will be available at the hut and are attached to the end of this newsletter.

### 2010 Board Positions Open

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Although it seems the season has just begun, the 2009 Board of Directors is preparing to nominate interested parties for open board positions for the 2010 season. A nominating committee that is forming shortly will interview potential candidates and will come up with a slate of officers to present to the membership during our annual end of the year awards banquet that will be held in November after the regular season. These candidates will be voted on at that meeting, along with special awards presentations and the handout of trophies and yearbooks.



We do ask that board members serve in their position for two years. Different positions rotate out every two years depending on whether it is an odd or even year so that we do not have a complete turnover in any one year. It is essential that there are experienced people on the board at all times. Of course, due to unexpected circumstances, there are some instances where you are not able to serve out your two-year term and we will fill that position the next year.

The following are the 2010 open positions, along with a brief description of their responsibilities:

- **Vice President** - Assists the President in all capacities as requested by the President. The Vice President, in the absence of the President, shall perform the duties of that office and shall discharge other duties as may be required by the President of the Board of Directors. The Vice President may be league representative for football for the Association.
- **Treasurer** - Receives all funds paid or donated to the Association; keeps an accurate account of all earnings, savings, reserves, holdings, receipts, and disbursements; accounts receivable and payable; responsible for annual tax returns, annual budget, reports to the Board monthly.
- **Cheerleading Director** - Acts as cheerleading representative on the board; responsible for the scheduling of all cheerleading events; nominates all candidates for the position of head cheerleading coach; responsible for implementing the cheerleading policies of the Board and shall be responsible for the manner in which all cheerleading squads are coached; responsible for all individual cheerleading supplies and will purchase and maintain a complete written inventory
- **Communication Director** - Responsible for all forms of communication to the general membership, which includes but is not limited to: website, hotline, email communication in conjunction with Volunteer Director through team parents for all activities; preparing and sending out communication via mail; coordinates annual yearbook
- **Registration Secretary** - Responsible for annual open registration set up; maintaining registration information on all football and cheerleading participants as required by metro or gridiron; works with athletic director and cheerleading director to set up team rosters; represents Kanawha during Metro and/or Gridiron roster approval meetings prior to the season.
- **Metro Representative** - Serves as the Association's league representative for football in MYFL and performs other duties as deemed necessary by the President; responsible for game day check-ins and controls all aspects of the games along with opposing team metro rep and in conjunction with officials; works with gridiron director to oversee gridiron football operations
- **Field and Equipment Director** - Responsible for all individual football equipment belonging to the Association; presents to the board of Directors a list of required football equipment and shall purchase football equipment as authorized by the Board of Directors; and maintain a complete inventory of all football equipment. Responsible for the coordination of distributing and collecting all individual football equipment belonging to the Association at the open and close of the seasonal activities; also maintains and purchases equipment to set up field for games and coordinates with County for painting of field and other field issues.
- **Volunteer Director** – This person would be filling the second year of a current term. Responsible for the team parents, concession stand staffing, and other volunteer areas as deemed necessary by the board from time to time.

If you have any further questions about any of these positions, please check with a current board member. If you are interested in being considered for a 2010 board position, please place your name, contact information, and your position of interest in the Nominations folder that will be up on the *SkinBoard* at the hut.

### Yearbook Help

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Every year we try to prepare a yearbook to give out at our end of the year awards banquet so that you and your child will be able to have memories of their football and cheerleading friends and coaches for years to come. This is why your team parent has asked for a photographer for each team. The yearbook can only be as good as the pictures that we get to include in them. Game action shots are great, but we are also looking for other moments that you can capture during practices, on the sidelines,



after the game, during homecoming activities, or even shots around the field - fans, volunteers working your games or anything that might be a great addition to the yearbook. We'd love to have several photographers per team, so feel free to submit pictures even if someone else is taking them. The important thing is to check with your team parent to make sure there is someone taking pictures for your football AND cheerleading team. At the end of October, we will start asking for your best pictures on a disk or by email to include in the yearbook. Thanks again for all of your help to make sure we have another great yearbook for 2009!

### Exclusive "Hall of Famers" Audio Set Now on Sale

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*For all of you Redskins Fans, or for that matter, for any football fan -*

Don Newberry, former coach and sportscaster in the 1970s, has preserved and captured some amazing and historic interviews from that time period on a 3 Audio CD set now available for you to purchase for a limited time only. These CDs are a treasured football and Redskins time capsule with such voices as Tom Landry, George Allen, Don Shula, John Madden, Johnny Unitas, Joe Namath, John Riggins, and many more. These CDs are now in the Pro Football Hall of Fame and you can purchase them for yourself and future generations so that these voices will live on forever! Remember, there was no ESPN or All-Sports radio back then and most radio stations erased their on-air sound, so these CDs contain interviews, post game conferences, some wonderful speeches, and some actual on-air programs from that time period that would never be heard again, but for these audio CDs.

For those of you who are new to Kanawha, Don Newberry has been a supportive Kanawha Redskins fan for several years and has enjoyed coming out to our games on Saturdays over the years to watch his grandson Don Papa, who is currently on the Midget Varsity team. Several years ago, he discovered his old audio tapes from his hundreds of interviews back in the late 60s and 70s in the attic of his home and has catalogued and converted these historical documentaries to CDs to preserve these amazing sports stories. He is making these CDs available to us for only \$15.00 and a portion of the proceeds will be given back to Kanawha. Order forms are available up at the hut, or contact Kim Spencer at [kspen01@aol.com](mailto:kspen01@aol.com) to get an order form. Be sure and order a set for yourself and one for your friends or family. It is something you will treasure for a long time to come.

# GO SKINS!!!

The Kanawha Youth Football and Cheerleading Association

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