

## Bethesda Community Base Ball Club Big Train Baseball at Shirley Povich Field

*Small town charm, Big League talent*

---

### Founder & President

Bruce Adams

### Vice President

Eric Cole

### Secretary – Treasurer

John Daniel

### Founding Board Members

Rebecca Crowley

William Hickman

Richard Lipsky

Rachel Northridge

Alex Thompson

### Senior Advisor

Richard Walker

### Director, Baseball Operations

Sal Colangelo

### Acting General Manager

Chris Rogers

### Graphics by Text Design

[www.bigtrain.org](http://www.bigtrain.org)

@GoBigTrain

To Our Big Train Community:

Most importantly, I hope all of you and your loved ones are healthy and safe. We will get through this if we take care of each other.

I want to express my appreciation to **Bethesda Chevy Chase Baseball** for continuing the Big Train's traditions of championship baseball and service to our community through eight seasons. As you may already know, BCC Baseball has turned stewardship of Big Train baseball back to the Bethesda Community Base Ball Club.

I want to assure you that *once our health officials give approval, Bethesda Big Train baseball at Shirley Povich Field will be here as the community jewel you count on for baseball at its most genuine at affordable prices right near home.* We made that promise when we built our beloved Shirley Povich Field in 1998.

And that's the pledge I make to you today.

### The Big Train Baseball You Love Will Continue

Since February, I have been working with a talented team of volunteers to reestablish our nonprofit Bethesda Community Base Ball Club (BCBBC). Over 13 seasons, BCBBC built Povich Field, launched Big Train baseball, and raised \$600,000 to improve youth baseball and softball fields throughout the greater Washington region.

We are elevating our legendary Cal Ripken Collegiate Baseball League Hall of Fame manager **Sal Colangelo** to the position of Director of Baseball Operations. He will remain our manager on the field. Sal has guided the Big Train to eight Ripken League championships, ten regular season championships, and the 2011 national championship of all of summer college baseball. I am pleased to announce that **Chris Rogers** has been named Acting General Manager.

The recovery from our current health crisis will be long and difficult. The Ripken League *made the right decision to cancel the 2020 season.* As a leading scientist said recently, "We are only in the second inning of a nine-inning contest." This has taken the 2020 season from Big Train fans and handed the mantle to our newly reestablished BCBBC months earlier than we anticipated.

We are ready to meet this challenge.

### Honoring & Supporting Big Train Community Heroes

BCBBC has always been about more than baseball. Our founding mission was to improve opportunities for our youth. Our community building work has never been more important than it is today.



Bruce Adams  Founder & President

7211 Exeter Road, Bethesda, MD 20814 • [bruce@greaterwash.org](mailto:bruce@greaterwash.org) • 240-855-8727



A friend once told our co-founder John Ourisman: *“John, when I come to Povich Field, I feel like I live in a small town.”* Well, we all live in a small town now. More than ever, we understand how dependent we are on each other.

Echoing the Orioles' Birdland Community Heroes program and with the support of the **Jim and Carol Trawick Foundation**, we were planning to honor five Big Train Community Heroes this summer. We will wait until 2021 to honor them on the field, *but all of us can honor them now with contributions to their organizations as they serve on the frontlines of our fight against Covid-19*. Please [click here](#) for details.

### **How You Can Help: BIG susTRAINability campaign**

We hope helping our neighbors in need during the current health crisis will be your first priority. But if you are also able to help our Bethesda Community Base Ball Club build a sustainable organization, we will value your support. *We have set a goal of raising \$60,000 by September to position us for a successful return of Big Train baseball to Povich Field in 2021.*

Our first priority is to make a partial payment of salary for our coaches and trainer who are such an indispensable part of our Big Train family. And we have all the startup costs of a new organization.

Please act now to help us build the sustainable organization that will preserve our community jewel for our children and grandchildren. As an incentive, the first 100 donors of \$100 or more will receive a handsome **Big Train cloth face mask** (you won't want to be out this summer without it!), and we will donate \$25 to the Manna Food Center in your name. Please [click on the attached donor form](#) and/or visit our website at [www.bigtrain.org](http://www.bigtrain.org) to see our giving incentives.

### **Safe at Home in 2020**

The fact that we can't watch baseball at Povich Field does not mean that Big Train baseball will go dark this summer. Many of you pencil Big Train baseball in on your calendars two or three nights a week for all of June and July. So you can stay safe at home, we will bring you three nights of Big Train programming on our new **bigtrain.tv** each week this summer. Please [click here](#) for details.

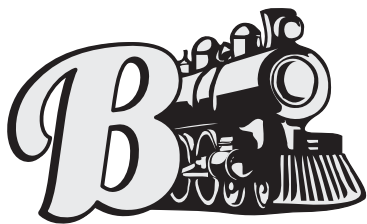
### **Family Fun at Povich Field in 2021**

With approval from our health officials, we intend to fill Povich Field every night next summer as we honor health workers, first responders, and other community heroes who are now leading us through this battle. Wouldn't it be fun to have our own Dr. Fauci Bobblehead Night? For a heads up on some of the special events already planned for 2021, please [click here](#).

We will be looking to you to join us this fall to brainstorm possibilities for bringing the fun back to Povich Field next summer. If you are interested in getting involved, I want to hear from you. Please send me an email at [bruce@greaterwash.org](mailto:bruce@greaterwash.org).

Stay well. Be strong. Roll train!

Bruce Adams, Founder & President  
Bethesda Community Base Ball Club  
[bruce@greaterwash.org](mailto:bruce@greaterwash.org)



# Help Us Preserve Big Train Baseball at Shirley Povich Field

*Small town charm, Big League talent*

## A message from Big Train Founder, Bruce Adams

We have reestablished the Bethesda Community Base Ball Club (BCBBC) that John Ourisman and I and others incorporated in 1998 as the community nonprofit organization that built Povich Field, launched Big Train baseball, and ultimately raised \$600,000 to improve youth baseball and softball fields across the Washington region.

I want to assure you that once health officials approve, Bethesda Big Train baseball at Shirley Povich Field will be here as the community jewel you count on to provide the small town charm and big league talent you have valued for more than two decades.

We have set a goal of raising \$60,000 in the next three months to position us for a successful return of Big Train baseball to Shirley Povich Field in 2021. We need your help and will value your support.

## Help support the BIG susTRAINability campaign

- ☐ I don't need a season pass, or a mask, or a seat plaque.  
I just want to support Big Train baseball with a contribution of \$ \_\_\_\_.
- ☐ \$100 - Individual 2021 Big Train Season Pass and one mask;
- ☐ \$150 - Family 2021 Big Train Season Pass and one mask;
- ☐ \$250 - Family 2021 Big Train Season Pass and one Povich Field seat plaque and one mask;
- ☐ \$500 - Family 2021 Big Train Season Pass and two Povich Field seat plaques and two masks;
- ☐ \$1,000 - Family 2021 Big Train Season Pass, four Povich Field seat plaques, four masks, a picnic for four, and an opportunity to throw out a first pitch at a 2021 Big Train game.

Name

Address

City

State

Zip

Email (please print)

Phone: ☐ cell ☐ home ☐ work

☐ Check here if paying by credit card

☐ Visa

☐ MC

Cardholder Name

Signature

Card Number

Exp. Date

Security Code

Billing Address (if different from above)

State

Zip

## Please Act Now to Get Your Big Train Mask

Don't put this request in a drawer. As an incentive, the first 100 donors of \$100 or more will receive a handsome Big Train cloth face mask (you won't want to be out this summer without it!), and we will donate \$25 to the Manna Food Center in your name.



Please make checks payable to  
"Bethesda Community Base Ball Club"  
and mail your check with this  
form (use the back of the form  
for seat plaque text) to:

Bruce Adams  
Bethesda Community Base Ball Club  
7211 Exeter Road  
Bethesda, MD 20814

If you are able to donate more than \$1,000 to our BIG susTRAINability campaign, please email Bruce Adams at [bruce@greaterwash.org](mailto:bruce@greaterwash.org) to discuss how best to recognize your contribution.

[www.bigtrain.org](http://www.bigtrain.org)  
[@GoBigTrain](https://twitter.com/GoBigTrain)

# Be a part of Povich Field!

Please see the reverse side for information about buying a seat plaque at Shirley Povich Field. Please use this side of the form to provide us with the text for your plaque or plaques. In the sample below, you will see that each box represents a letter, a comma, or a space.

## EXAMPLE

	G	o		B	i	g		T	r	a	i	n	!		
A	n	d	y	,		S	a	m	,		A	l	i	c	e
	&		K	e	v	i	n		S	m	i	t	h		

## TEXT FOR FIRST PLAQUE (see instructions above)


## TEXT FOR SECOND PLAQUE (see instructions above)


## TEXT FOR THIRD PLAQUE (see instructions above)


## TEXT FOR FOURTH PLAQUE (see instructions above)


2

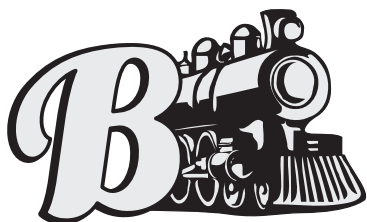
Go Big Train!  
Andy, Sam, Alice  
& Kevin Smith



In 2019, we replaced the seats behind home plate with brand new seat backs. Donors were able to inscribe seat plaques to honor a coach, a parent, a child, or just to memorialize the family's love of Big Train baseball. Over the next few years, we will need to replace the 500 remaining seats. This is your opportunity for your family to be a part of Povich Field.



[www.bigtrain.org](http://www.bigtrain.org)



## Bethesda Community Base Ball Club Big Train Baseball at Shirley Povich Field

*Small town charm, Big League talent*

---

### Honoring & Supporting Big Train Community Heroes

The Bethesda Community Base Ball Club has always been about more than baseball. Our founding mission was to improve opportunities for our youth. Our community building work has never been more important than it is today.

Echoing the Orioles' Birdland Community Heroes program and with the support of the **Jim and Carol Trawick Foundation**, we were planning to honor five Big Train Community Heroes this summer. We will wait until 2021 to honor them on the field, *but all of us can honor them now with contributions to their organizations* as they serve on the frontlines of our fight against Covid-19.

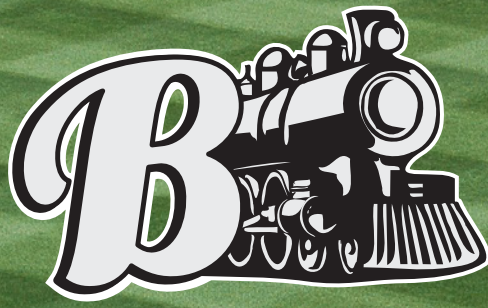
The Jim and Carol Trawick Foundation has agreed to contribute \$250 to each of these organizations this summer, and we urge you to support our Big Train Community Heroes listed below with links for learning about and making contributions to their organizations:

- 🚂 **Mark Bergel**, Founder and Executive Director of **A Wider Circle**. A Wider Circle works to create stable homes by providing beds, tables, dressers, and other basic needs items. To learn more about A Wider Circle and to donate: [www.awidercircle.org](http://www.awidercircle.org).
- 🚂 **Sheryl Brissett Chapman**, Executive Director of **The National Center for Children and Families**. NCCF supports the most vulnerable children and families in our community. To learn more about NCCF and to donate: [www.nccf-cares.org](http://www.nccf-cares.org).
- 🚂 **Jackie DeCarlo**, CEO of the **Manna Food Center**. Manna is actively meeting the national food emergency right here in Montgomery County. To learn more about Manna: [www.mannafood.org](http://www.mannafood.org). To donate: <https://www.mannafood.org/covidresponse/>
- 🚂 **Randy Schools**, our Big Train Booster Club Chair for two decades helped establish **The Children's Inn at NIH**. The Children's Inn meets the needs of children and families participating in ground-breaking research at NIH. To learn more about Children's Inn: [www.childrensinn.org](http://www.childrensinn.org). To donate: [www.childrensinn.org/donate](http://www.childrensinn.org/donate).
- 🚂 **Teresa Rios Wright**, a career Montgomery County Public Schools teacher and Board Member Emeritus of **Identity**. Identity is serving Latino youth and families especially impacted by the health pandemic. To learn more about Identity and to donate: [www.identity-youth.org](http://www.identity-youth.org).

All five of these wonderful leaders and their organizations deserve our support every year.

Since 2010, Cal Ripken Collegiate Baseball League players have collected 60,846 pounds of food for Manna. This year, Manna is honoring the decade long work of the Ripken League with a Heroes Against Hunger Award. *Our season's cancellation means a shortfall of almost four tons of donated food this summer.* To help make up for this shortfall at this critical time, the Bethesda Community Base Ball Club will donate \$25 from each of the first 100 contributions we receive of \$100 or more.





## 2020 SUMMER NIGHTS ON **bigtrain.tv**



### **MONDAY**

**Talkin' Baseball with Sal  
and His Boys of Summer**

7 p.m., June 8 – July 27



### **TUESDAY**

**Safe at Home  
Tuesdays**

7 p.m., June 9 – July 28



### **THURSDAY**

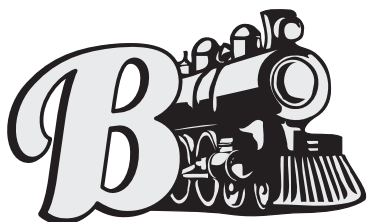
**Top Ten  
Thursdays**

7 p.m., June 11 – Aug. 13

The fact that we can't watch baseball at Povich Field does not mean that Big Train baseball will go dark this summer. Acting General Manager Chris Rogers and his team of talented interns will be bringing you quality Big Train entertainment and engagement this summer. Many of you pencil Big Train baseball in on your calendars two or three nights a week for all of June and July. So you can stay safe at home, we will bring you three nights of Big Train programming on our new initiative bigtrain.tv each week this summer.

**Bethesda Community Base Ball Club**  
**Big Train Baseball at Shirley Povich Field**

*Small town charm, Big League talent*



## Bethesda Community Base Ball Club Big Train Baseball at Shirley Povich Field

*Small town charm, Big League talent*

---

### Family Fun at Povich Field in 2021

After this strange year, we really need to have some fun at Povich Field next summer. This fall we will be scheduling Fan Fest focus groups on Zoom to brainstorm ideas for the entertainment program for 2021.

With approval from health officials, we intend to fill Povich Field every single night next summer as we honor health workers, first responders, and other community heroes who led us through this battle. Wouldn't it be fun to have a **Dr. Fauci bobblehead night**?

And the cicadas return in 2021. Time for another **"I ate a cicada at Povich Field"** t-shirt giveaway as we did in 2004. Let's ask our neighbor and international hero Chef José Andrés of World Central Kitchen to fry the cicadas next June.

We are hoping that two really special events we were planning for 2020 will happen in 2021. Israel's Olympic baseball team scheduled an exhibition game with the Big Train at Povich Field for just days before their planned trip to Japan. With the Olympics delayed for a year, we are planning for an **Israel-Bethesda Friendship Game** in July 2021.

In addition, we had planned a very special day to honor that great humanitarian Roberto Clemente. Clemente gave his life in 1972 attempting to deliver aid to earthquake victims in Nicaragua. The Big Train retired Clemente's #21 in 2009 as part of a Latino Heritage Night. In 2021, we will go one better. We will have our first annual **Roberto Clemente Community Service Day** with Big Train players and fans volunteering with nonprofits across Montgomery County on a Saturday morning. That night we will have a festive Latin American Baseball Heritage Night complete with the music of a mariachi band and tasty pupusas. All Big Train players will be wearing jerseys with "Tren Grande" – "Big Train" in Spanish – on the chest and "21" on the back.

We will be looking to you to join us this fall to brainstorm possibilities for other ways to bring the fun back to Povich Field next summer. If you are interested in getting involved, Bruce Adams wants to hear from you. Please send Bruce an email at [bruce@greaterwash.org](mailto:bruce@greaterwash.org).



*Big Train founder Bruce Adams enjoying a fried cicada in 2004.*



*Tren Grande player jersey*