

BIG TRAIN BULLETIN

Big Train Base Ball & Holiday Auction Is Coming Back!

The Bethesda Community Base Ball Club is pleased to announce that the very successful Big Train Base Ball & Holiday Auction is coming back – in 2020 style in virtual form.

We will be bringing the Big Train family back together on four consecutive Sundays from 7 to 8 p.m. on bigtrain.tv. Just as in the past, we will have terrific speakers, presentation of awards to our top volunteers and best players of the previous season, updates on the season ahead, and spectacular auction items.

HERE'S THE LINEUP OF SPEAKERS

- 🌀 **Sunday November 15** - ESPN's **Tim Kurkjian** will discuss the 2020 Season & World Series
- 🌀 **Sunday November 22** - **Hank Thomas** will talk about the life of his grandfather Walter Johnson
- 🌀 **Sunday November 29** - *USA Today* sports columnist **Christine Brennan**, best selling author **Kitty Kelley**, and Big Train's own **Peggy Engel** discuss: "Women love baseball. How can baseball love them back?"
- 🌀 **Sunday December 6** - **Maury Povich** will talk about his Hall of Fame father Shirley Povich for whom our ballpark is named.

For each show, four of our Base Ball & Holiday Auction sponsors at \$250 and more will be able to ask a question. To sign up as a sponsor, use the enclosed sponsorship form.

The highlight of our Sunday night events will be online auctions with spectacular baseball memorabilia, sumptuous family takeout from local restaurants, fun baseball experiences, and more. Plan to do your holiday shopping at the Big Train's online auctions.

HERE'S HOW THE AUCTIONS WILL WORK

There will be a new auction with two dozen items each week.

While the shows will be first shown on bigtrain.tv on Sunday nights from 7 to 8 p.m., they will be available on YouTube any time after that. Online bidding at www.bigtrain.org will open at 5 p.m. the Thursday night before each show and stay open until 10 p.m. on the next Wednesday night.



SHOW DATE	BIDDING OPENS	BIDDING CLOSES
Sunday November 15	Thursday November 12 @ 5 p.m.	Wednesday November 18 @ 10 p.m.
Sunday November 22	Thursday November 19 @ 5 p.m.	Wednesday November 25 @ 10 p.m.
Sunday November 29	Thursday November 26 @ 5 p.m.	Wednesday December 2 @ 10 p.m.
Sunday December 6	Thursday December 3 @ 5 p.m.	Wednesday December 9 @ 10 p.m.

THANKS TO OUR GEORGE WASHINGTON UNIVERSITY SPORT MANAGEMENT INTERNS

This fall, four outstanding graduate students from the Sport Management Program of George Washington University's School of Business are helping the Bethesda Community Base Ball Club prepare for the 2021 season. **Cole Becker**, **Kira Bruno**, **Adhiraj Deshmukh**, and **Sydney Staudt** are working with staff and board members on a series of projects ranging from staffing game night operations to preparing Covid-19 safety protocols. As a team, they are supporting our efforts for a successful Big Train Base Ball & Holiday Auction. Thanks to the four students, program director **Lisa Delpy Neirotti**, and to our friend **Russ Ramsey** for connecting us to the program at GW.

Filling Your Baseball Void

HOW SIX COLLEGE STUDENTS HELPED BRIGHTEN YOUR LOCKDOWN SUMMER WITH THE *Big Train Beacon* AND *bigtrain.tv*

We decided from day one of regaining stewardship of Big Train baseball on June 1 that the fact that we couldn't watch baseball at Povich Field should not mean Big Train baseball would go dark for the lockdown summer of 2020. We obtained the rights to the *bigtrain.tv* domain name and set general manager **Chris Rogers** and his team of talented interns to work to bring you Big Train quality entertainment.

It started with "**NOpening Night**" on Friday June 5. We produced nearly 30 hours of programming on *bigtrain.tv* and five issues of our online magazine format *Big Train Beacon*.

After just a few weeks, we realized the interns deserved a more appropriate title. We turned to our Montgomery County neighbor and Walter Johnson High School graduate, ESPN's baseball guru Tim Kurkjian, to see if he might help. As he always does, Tim stepped up and allowed us to name our summer staff **Tim Kurkjian Sports Journalism Fellows**.



The first issue of the *Beacon* featured extensive coverage of our 2019 championship season by Chris Rogers. Issue 2 included an in depth look at how Big Train alumni were coping with the uncertainty of the Covid-19 era by Kurkjian Fellows **Patrick Sanderson** and **Noah Ziegler**. Ziegler profiled Tim Kurkjian's journey from Bethesda to the big leagues in issue 3 and 2019 Big Train pitcher **Kelli Jenkins** becoming the first woman to play in the Ripken League in issue 4. The final issue in August included a history of summer college baseball in the Washington-Baltimore region. Kurkjian Fellow **Alex Murphy** profiled the Big Train board members while Kurkjian Fellow

Erin Byard contributed stories on many of the Big Train's 25 greatest games.

Kurkjian Fellows **Shaun Salehi** and **Alex Drain** came to Bethesda this summer intending to reprise their roles in the Povich Field broadcast booth. When handed the lemon of a cancelled season, they made lemonade. Salehi teamed up with Big Train manager **Sal Colangelo** to produce eight sessions of **Talkin' Baseball** on Monday nights featuring Big Train coaches and alumni. Drain hosted **Top Ten Thursdays**, interviewing players, coaches, staff, and fans about the ten greatest games in Big Train history.

Sanderson produced **Safe at Home Tuesdays**, a series of eight interviews conducted by Big Train Founder **Bruce Adams**. Bruce's guests discussed summer college baseball and the lives of Hall of Famers Roberto Clemente, Negro League founder Rube Foster, Hank Greenberg, Walter Johnson, journalist Shirley Povich, and entrepreneur Bill Veeck.

In case you missed them, all of this content is online at www.bigtrain.org. The *bigtrain.tv* shows can be found in the *bigtrain.tv* archives. All five issues of the *Beacon* are here. We are grateful to the **Dandy-Walker Alliance** headed by BCBBC vice president **Eric Cole** for sponsoring all of the *bigtrain.tv* shows this summer. Learn more at www.dandy-walker.org.

JOIN THE BIG TRAIN BULLPEN CLUB

and help make Big Train games at Povich Field the most fan friendly experience in all of baseball

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."

The Washington Post's Marc Fisher called Big Train baseball at Povich Field "... the ultimate small-town fantasy." Big Train baseball, according to Fisher, "... makes you forget about all the politics and the money and the wrangling that have soiled the big league game. This is the real thing."

"John, when I come to Povich Field, I feel like I live in a small town."

Our newly reconstituted Bethesda Community Base Ball Club (BCBBC) thinks we know how to preserve our community jewel as "the real thing."

The board's nominating committee led by long time host mom **Becky Crowley** proposed and the board approved the creation of a **Big Train Bullpen Club**.

The mission of the Bullpen Club, as approved by the board, is "to represent and reflect the voice and vision of the fans of the Bethesda Big Train back to the leadership of the BCBBC; to promote awareness of Big Train baseball in the local community; to ensure a fan friendly environment at Povich Field that is welcoming to fans of all ages and backgrounds; and to support the charitable mission of the BCBBC both at Povich Field and in the community at large."

If you are interested in learning more about the Bullpen Club and possibly joining, please email general manager Chris Rogers at crogs@bigtrain.org.

WWW.BIGTRAIN.ORG



ORDER YOUR BIG TRAIN SWAG TODAY!

Since we couldn't open our Big Train team store at the ballpark this summer, we decided to make it virtual. Our new online team store features several varieties of t-shirts, Big Train notecards with painting of Shirley Povich Field, and, by popular demand, official Big Train on-field hats, in both black and green. Many of these items are in limited supply, so make sure to act quickly if you want to take home new Big Train swag this holiday season.

Online orders can be picked up at Shirley Povich Field for free or shipped to you for an additional charge. All proceeds from our team store go toward bringing fun and championship baseball back to Povich Field in 2021. Visit www.bigtrain.org and click "SHOP" to place your order today!

THANK YOU TO OUR BIG TRAIN FANS WHO DONATED THIS SUMMER

William Hickman • Kevin Martin • Steve Silverman • Lew Berman • Nancy Floreen • Carole Brand • Art and Marli Pasternak • Preston Plous • Alan Malasky
Isabel Marbury-Mauro • Ira Lechner • Manny Hidalgo • Hank Levine • Mindy Portnoy • Kent Hamrock • Tinsley Van Durand • Sara Barakat and Mike Northridge
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Thomas Chapman • Peter Crowley • Theodore LeVasseur • Renita Johnson • Chuck "Skip" Rideout • Maya Crone • Albert Kapikan • Guy and Dana Semmes • Alex Saroken
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Donald Heacock • Emily Waldman • Bruce Robertson • Jay and Judith Shapiro • Brenda Dunham • Bob and Jane Levey • Floyd E. Davis Family Foundation • Tina & Sonny Small
Joan and Sandy Horwitt

THANK YOU SPONSORS

FOR HELPING US PROVIDE OUR FANS WITH BIG TRAIN CONTENT IN THIS LOCKDOWN SUMMER



**The Floyd E. Davis
Family Foundation**





We want to connect with you

To stay informed about Big Train activities, please go to www.bigtrain.org to sign up for our email.

Send your questions and your ideas for the 2021 season to:

Bruce Adams: bruce@greaterwash.org

Chris Rogers: crogs@bigtrain.org

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Bethesda Big Train Baseball



Big Train TV

Big Train in the Community

SUPPORTING THOSE ON THE FRONT LINES OF THE FIGHT AGAINST COVID-19


Since our founding in 1998, the Bethesda Community Base Ball Club (BCBBC) has been about helping to build a stronger community. In our first 13 years, we raised \$600,000 to improve ballfields for kids from Germantown to Anacostia.

Over the last decade, our **Nonprofits of the Night** program supported by the **Trawick Foundation** has allowed hundreds of community nonprofits to showcase their programs to Big Train fans. Our players have collected 17,289 pounds of food for the Manna Food Center as part of the Ripken League's annual **Feed the Hungry Challenge**.

Our newly reconstituted BCBBC realizes that our work in the community is more important now than ever, especially in this difficult Covid-19 era. On September 14, as a result of our successful summer fundraising, we were pleased to be able to donate \$2,500 to support the essential work of the **Manna Food Center**.

We named our first five Big Train Community Heroes in partnership with the Trawick Foundation this summer:

Jackie DeCarlo, CEO of the **Manna Food Center**; **Sheryl Brissett Chapman**, Executive Director of **The National Center for Children and Families**; **Mark Bergel**, Founder and Executive Director of **A Wider Circle**; **Teresa Wright**, a career Montgomery County Public Schools teacher and Board Member Emeritus of **Identity**; and **Randy Schools**, long time chair of the Big Train Booster Club now retired from a distinguished National Institutes of Health (NIH) career heading various NIH charities such as **The Children's Inn at NIH**.

 Bethesda Community Base Ball Club dba Bethesda Big Train Shirley Povich Field Bethesda, Maryland		1001
Date		September 14, 2020
PAY to the Order of	Manna Food Center	\$2,500 00/100
Two thousand five hundred and 00/100		Dollars
Memo	BIG susTAINability campaign Fans of Big Train Baseball	



This fall, we joined the **Nourishing Bethesda** coalition to fight food insecurity right here in the greater Bethesda community. The coalition includes **St. John's Norwood Episcopal Church**, **Greater Bethesda Chamber of Commerce**, **Hyatt Regency Bethesda**, **Montgomery County Government**, **Bethesda-Chevy Chase Rescue Squad**, and **Nourish Now**. On Friday October 2, Homer helped Nourishing Bethesda volunteers distribute boxes of food to 200 of our neighbors in need at the B-CC Rescue Squad. *Big Train fans may support Nourishing Bethesda when they donate to support BCBBC.*

WWW.BIGTRAIN.ORG