



The Line Up

Jan Burch, Editor | Article submissions always welcome. | October, 2025

2025 SUMMER ISSUE

This Issue's Topics:

- Fall Season Coming to a Close
- Home Run Derby X Guests
- Time To Register for Annual Halloween/Trophy/Pizza Party!
- Andersons & The ALL STAR WEEKEND in Georgia
- Holmes Murphy "Made our Day!"
- DM Police & Fire Departments ALL STAR NIGHT
- Barnstormers Love Us
- Calendar of Events



Various members of the Plymouth Church Matins Choir provided us with some fun-loving "angels" on September 13. Hope we see them again some time!

Fall Season Coming to a Close

Our Fall Season, which started August 30, is half over. Registration closed at 119 youth and 47 adults for total of 166 players. Mother Nature played games with us, too—some Saturdays very hot, some brought some rain showers. We had several out of the park homeruns. Popcorn is still 50 cents a bag! And we had some great buddy groups, too.



Matt, long time Yankees player, has a pretty cool "angel"--Rick Ankiel of the St Louis Cardinals (pitcher and center fielder).



Ember, a Mets player, gets some friendly baseball advice from Adam Wainwright (St. Louis Cardinals pitcher) while Mets coach, Michelle, looks on.



A White Sox player gets some first hand batting instructions from Jonny Gomes (minor league coach and several MLB teams such as A's, Red Sox, and Royals). White Sox coach Kyle tries to pick up some pointers, too.

Home Run Derby X Guests

But who can forget our opener on the 30th?

We had some very special buddies. First, members of the I Cubs staff made a trip across the street to buddy for our 10:30 game. THEN, another very special group—Major League Baseball greats who were in town for the inaugural HOME RUN DERBY X. Yes, players like Adam Wainwright (Cardinals pitcher), Rick Ankiel (Cardinals centerfielder), Taylor Shumaker (Florida softball & 2025 National Freshman of the Year), and Noah Bridges (Savannah Bananas). There were lots of pictures, lots of autographs, and many smiles! Some would say, “It was a magical day at the KML ballpark.” Lots of memories, too.



Time to Register for Annual Halloween/Trophy/Pizza Party

Join the fun on October 10 in celebrating a wonderful 2025 baseball year at the KML. (Rain date is October 17).

- Wear your spookiest Halloween costume.
- Meet all of our trunk or treat station leaders, tell some jokes, and pick up some yummy munchies.
- Take some good selfies.
- Watch some Halloween cartoons on the video board.
- Participate in all the games.
- Enjoy pizza and other treats.
- Celebrate a fun year and take home your “trophy”!

Please sign up for the number of **immediate family members** attending (maximum 6). Times are 5:30 pm, 6 pm, or 6:30 pm.

Registration for this fun event is **ONLY** online.

Registration will close October 8 so be sure to register **SOON**!



Andersons & The Miracle League All Star Weekend in Georgia



Each year, the national Miracle League association hosts an All-Star Weekend. Leagues from around the country are encouraged to send one or two player/families to the event. Due to weather/environmental issues in the Atlanta, GA area, the September 2024 event was postponed to May 2025. Coaches of the A's Jenn and Bob Anderson, along with player Jacob, and Jaci represented us. Jenn also represented our KML board at several "directors' meetings". What a fun way to meet other ML directors, coaches, players and families from other locations! [Click here for their recap of the event.](#)



KML board members gathered at the home offices of Holmes-Murphy for the board's August meeting and were presented with a check for \$22,000. Picture includes (right) Drew Engebrecht, long-time Mets coach, John Leder and son Owen (Mets player)--both employees of Holmes-Murphy.



Mets coach, Drew Engebrecht, speaks to the gathered crowd of employees at the check presentation ceremony.

Holmes Murphy

Earlier this summer, we received some pretty spectacular news! The Holmes Murphy Foundation selected our KML as the 2025 recipient of the Foundation's Community Foodprints program. We were presented with a check for **\$22,000!** Holmes Murphy hosted our August board meeting and formally presented us with the check. You'll be seeing a new outfield banner soon. Truly amazing and so appreciated!



DMPD/FD Annual All Star Night

Who doesn't love to play under the lights? We got that chance on September 15 as we hosted the Des Moines Police and Fire Departments for an evening of great fun. Youth played at the 6 pm and 7 pm games followed by adults at 8 pm. Many of the police and fire officers have been with us in previous years...and many experienced the KML "magic" for the first time. We witnessed some great

hits. Welcomed the DM Police Chief Michael McTaggart as our pitcher. And had an all-around fun time.



Red Sox player, Brayden, found a real pal with Barnstormer #3!



And talk about smiles! Cardinals player, Bracen, had a great time with his Barnstormer "angel". Don't you luv those Barnstormer designed shirts? The shirts were "hot items" in the online auction.

Barnstormers Love Us

The Iowa Barnstormers tried something new for us this season! They had two online auctions—one for Barnstormers logo drawings by the players and for player designed Barnstormer named shirts. The result? A check for \$2,500! THANK YOU, Barnstormers!

Calendar of Events

September 27 KML Game

October 4 Last Games of Fall Season

October 10 KML Halloween/Trophy/Pizza Party

October 17 Rain Date for Party

October 25 Ball Park “Winterizing”

October 21 KML Board Meeting

November 18 KML Board Meeting/Annual Meeting

November 27 Happy Thanksgiving!

 KML NEWS! 