

Friday July 18, 2008

# The HPL News

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



# HPL

## Current Events

**Fall Sports registration** begins this Saturday, July 19 and runs for three consecutive Saturdays. **Register early** to avoid the rush. Late registration is *not guaranteed* and can be a tremendous burden on the league as we try to accommodate.

**Baseball and Softball** both ended in splendid fashion once again. First, the two 12U softball teams played each other for the championship in the city tournament. They each lost only one game all season and it was to each other. Now *that's* a perfect season! Then in baseball tournament action, our AAA team went undefeated in the city tournament to win the championship. Our Coach Pitch team placed 3<sup>rd</sup> in the city tournament. A big thanks to **Belinda Roper** and **Brian Hurless** for great seasons. Remember though that they couldn't have pulled it off without all the good coaches and team moms.

## HPL Welcomes New Presidents of Football and Cheerleading

**Kenny Herrin** has accepted the appointment as the HPL Football President. Raynard Goodman has done a great job here for several years and will be missed but the HPL board was very happy to find Kenny interested in the job. We are just as lucky that **Angela Bonner** was ready to take over as Cheerleading President when Minette was unable to continue. Please extend a welcome to them both and offer your support.

## New HPL Chairman

As a result of the May elections, please welcome **James Wilson** as the new HPL Chairman for the 2008-2009 term. He will assume the duties on August 5. The rest of the board remains unchanged and we are thankful for that as they are doing a great job.

You can find a complete list of HPL board members and their responsibilities on the HPL web site at [www.huntsvillepatriotleague.org](http://www.huntsvillepatriotleague.org).

## Other News

### Leaving Little League?

Yes it's a possibility but before you take a breath of anxiety, know that even if it happens, the change will be largely unnoticed by the general membership and baseball patrons. Patriot League baseball has been a Little League affiliate from its beginning in 1995. Several times since then a movement has been initiated to leave Little League for another program. This movement has picked up enough steam so that's it gotten the attention of city officials. We've had a meeting with a Cal Ripken official as this is the desired destination of those who started the movement. It's come to the point now where a vote will be cast by each league to determine if we move as a district to Cal Ripken. The two main reasons for this movement are: 1) Little League prevents players from tournament play who are active in other leagues and this forces some players to choose not to play Little League baseball and 2) Cal Ripken allows larger field dimensions for the Majors division. This provides an intermediate movement from the small Little League field to the full size diamond used after Little League. There are of course numerous differences between the leagues. Please visit the Cal Ripken web site to learn more, <http://www.baberuthleague.org/cal-ripken.html>. The HPL board has not yet decided which way our vote will go. If you have an opinion on the matter, we'd like to hear it.

Visit our web site if you haven't yet. You'll find lots of good information there including this news letter and previous ones.