

## History of Pastime Athletic Club

If ever the saga of American athletics is written, a space will have to be allotted for the part played by the Pastime Athletic Club of Syracuse. While our prominence has been mostly local and statewide, on some occasions our athletes and teams attracted nationwide attention.

The origin of the Pastime Athletic Club was humble. When, on a Sunday afternoon in July, in the year 1892, a group of about thirty resolute and athletically inclined young men met in the tailoring establishment of John Reith, just north of the Church of Assumption in Salina Street, history was made. Little did these young men think that the seed which they planted that day would live and grow. Little did they dream that the Club which they launched would flourish for a half century, or long enough to become one of the most successful and oldest purely athletic organizations in the country.

Apparently the north side of our city was hungry for just such an organization. In August of that year, the inspired group of young men had expanded so in numbers as to warrant the leasing of club rooms, and suitable space was secured, consisting of part of the second floor and the entire third floor of the Simon Block, on the opposite side of the street, slightly to the south.

Under careful management, the Club prospered from the start, and when our increasing numbers required more room, the balance of the second floor of the Simon Block was leased. In these quarters the Pastime Club spent the first four years of its existence.

### Club History

It was during our stay there that basketball sprang into prominence and our Club played no small part in the stimulation of this exciting indoor game. No doubt, there are many alive today who can recall some of the contests played with the team of the old Syracuse Athletic Association. Basketball was then played with nine men and a little later changed to five players, the same as used today.

The Club's early athletic activities took it into many fields.

Baseball received first call and among our players of that day we counted such celebrities as "Bill" Dineen, George Villeman, "Jack" Wente, John Masset, Edward Dorner, Peter Grassman, "Joe" Glaser and "Frock" Hecker.

A great deal of time was also devoted to track athletics. One of the outstanding events of the period was the sending of Myer Prinstein to a track meet of the New York Athletic Club. Vindicating our action, he broke the world's record at that meet with a broad jump of twenty-three feet, four inches.

Boat or crew-racing is now a national sport, followed mostly by the colleges of the country. No doubt it is real news to most of our members to know that our Club actually owned a six-oared shell, and had a crew which was captained by Jacob Klein, notable athlete and wrestler of that day.

Conspicuous among our track athletes was Charles Keller, an outstanding all-around athlete, and still active in an athletic way as rigger and assistant coach for the Syracuse University Crews. Charlie won laurels against some of the best track athletes in the State.

"Joe" Dunfee, a club member, achieved fame when he fought his famous fight with "Tom" Cawley of the First Ward. Fred Warner, a light weight boxer, who mingled with champions, also worked out in our gymnasium about this time.

Our early cross-country runners, led by George Dayharsh, won honors for our Club on numerous occasions.

When, in 1896, our growing membership again required larger quarters, the entire second and third floors of the Hoffman Block, on the same side of N. Salina Street, a few doors to the south, were leased.

During our stay in the Hoffman Block, cycle racing reached its great vogue and on the Fourth of July, 1896, the Pastime Club held the celebrated "Diamond Race Meet." The prizes were most unique—gold medals studded with diamonds. Notable among the Club riders who participated were "Gus" Griebno, "Bob" Young, Alfred Koehler, Edward Rosbach and "Ernie" Cowan.

In 1897, the Club turned on the heat in handball. Its teams, made up of such players as "Bob" Sawmiller, "Jack" Wente, "Joe" Dienhoffer, George Therre, Edward Hannon, "Midge" Miller and Irving Frey, defeated the majority of the teams which they played, including those of the Syracuse Athletic Association and of the Syracuse Handball Club.

In the summer of 1898, our Tandem Cycle team, consisting of "Ed" Rosbach and Le Roy Hepp, won the Ten Mile Cicero Plank Road Championship. The handsome trophy which they received now reposes in our trophy case.



The following winter our indoor baseball team also began to click and won the city championship and the Spaulding Trophy. The team included "Tom" Haven, Manager, "Jack" Wentz, J. Schmeeder, Fred Eagle, Charles Kuppel, George Stroh, Edward Dorner, Frank Stroh, "Joe" Glaser, Frank Scharoun, J. Malarky and J. Smith. Malarky and Smith were members of the Syracuse Star professional baseball team.

In 1902, our basketball team won the Championship of Central New York. This team remained undefeated for three consecutive seasons, winning forty-four games in a row. They finally bowed to the famous Buffalo Germans Team, which had just returned from winning the World's Championship at the St. Louis Exposition. Our team was composed of "Ed" Kaiser, "Dick" Gleason, "Bob" Sawmiller, "Ed" Goettel and "Midge" Miller. Their success was largely due to good coaching, faithful practice, and the loyal support of its followers. These rooters often chartered trolleys and trains to follow the team to the scene of its battles. On one occasion, our special trolley car, just out of Skaneateles on the way home from Auburn, became snowbound and the trip, which started late Saturday night, ended Monday morning and then only after hiring a special train to buck the snowdrifts and take us to the junction with the main line of the railroad.

Four or five more years of success in the various lines of athletics found the Club's popularity growing apace. Our conditions again became cramped and resulted in the leasing for a period of ten years the second and third floors of the Ryan Block in North State Street.

Our baseball teams, both indoor and outdoor, continued to perform credibly. The indoor team finished second in the City League two years in a row, winning all of the out-of-town games it played, and setting a record that will be remembered by ball players for a long time to come. "Bill" Murdock, pitcher, noted for his speed and good sportsmanship, in one game struck out the twenty-seven men who faced him, nearly all professional players of the big leagues. Most of the games were played in the old Armory, which was located on the site of the present Armory.

During the summer of 1901 our runners were again active, Eddie La Rose winning the Worden Cross-Country Run Trophy. The next year the same trophy was won by "Phil" Appel, and in 1903 the trophy was won by "Phil" Wood, making it a permanent possession of the Club.

Following in the wake of our star basketball team, several secondary groups carried on with considerable success. One junior team, including Norbert Market, Fred Buechner, "Rube" Korthas, "Tony" Markert, "Bob" Schlecht, "Bill"

Eddinger, "Bob" and "Bill" Kramer, made a record for cleverness unsurpassed in this locality.

At this period, a notable collection of outdoor baseball players was developed. Their fountain source was the old Ermenie Club, which joined the Pastime Club in a body, including their manager, Frank Feil. Some stirring games were played with The Clippers, St. Cecelia, the Shamrocks and the Syracuse Star ball teams. This was really a clever aggregation and some of these players could have gone along quite a ways in professional baseball, if they had been so inclined. Among them were Edward Goettel, Henry Benshadel, Alexis Muench, "Tony" Altmann, Frank Eichenlaub, William Wafel, "Jake" Finkler, George Therre, Arthur Merle, "Babe" Spiess and "Dan" Higgins.

While the years that followed were not particularly eventful in an athletic way, they were not idle. Field meets and athletic events followed each other year after year, and with a great deal of stimulation the interest in athletics was kept up.

In 1906, the City Bowling Championship was won by our team, composed of "Gore" Hipkins, John and Jacob Hecker, Frank Spiess and Frank MacDonald.

While in 1907, 1908, 1909, 1910 and 1911 we had a high-class basketball team, we also boasted a junior group known as the Pastime Maroons. This team was at its best from 1909 to 1913. They were conspicuous for their deception and uncanny speed in passing the ball. Maroons: Walter Pounce, Walter Harnish, "Len" Martin, Lee Goodspeed, John Tobin and John Fay.

Our indoor baseball team won the City Championship and the Doubleday Trophy during the winter of 1913-1914. This team was managed by "Gore" Hipkins and captained by "Ed" Goettel.

In 1914, our outdoor baseball team also won the City Championship and the Spaulding Trophy.

On June 12, 1915, our relay team, consisting of A. Glasen, David Earle, T. Dale and Clarence Foertsch, won the handsome Mirbach Trophy at the Gau-Turn Fest, held at the Syracuse University Stadium.

In the years that followed, cycle racing subsided. Track athletics attracted little attention, except among the colleges. Handball, baseball and basketball continued to be played by our boys as a pastime, but lacked the enthusiasm which carried them to championships.



Our stay in the Ryan Block was a long one, and was terminated in 1926 only when the ownership of the building changed hands, forcing us to look for a new home. The suggestion was made to buy a building for our purposes. The idea quickly gained ground among our members and considerable time was spent investigating different pieces of property that were offered. Finally, a decision was reached to negotiate for the purchase of the old Sacred Heart School building in North Salina Street, owned by St. John the Baptist Church. Our efforts were successful and resulted in the purchase of our present Club building in the fall of 1926.

To show the spirit which imbues our members, it may be noted here that when the down-payment on the Club building exhausted our funds, a campaign for money was started among our members. In a very short time we raised over three thousand dollars, which proved a "life-saver" in the rehabilitating of the building. While this sum does not stack large in comparison with the figures we hear spoken of these days, it seemed like a goodly amount in our emergency and was donated mostly by the workmen of our Club.

About this time, bowling as a sport took on a new lease of life in our city. Keeping pace with the demand for this pastime, the old alleys which were in the basement of our building were torn out and new ones were installed. A Club League was formed, which has grown in popularity until at present, with alleys added, we have over two hundred and fifty members rolling in our League games, probably one of the largest exclusively Club Leagues in the country.

In the fall of 1928 the G.S.I.O.C. Club, a social organization of about fifty members, mostly North Side business men, joined the Pastime Club in a body. This proved an excellent move for all concerned.

When the craze for soft-ball started in 1934, our boys also caught the fever. Herman Sommers took charge and captained a team which entered the Y.M.C.A. League. The games were played in the early evening and attracted many followers. In 1935, our team played in the Journal-American League. Those active in the games were "Ed" Kimmerly, pitcher, "Ed" Loos, catcher, Ray Mertens, George Eppler, "Art" Cramer, "Jim" Van Alstine, "Ed" Kuss, "Art" Loos, Herman Sommers, "Al" Disque, "Jim" Reinsmith and James Melligans, coach.

In 1937, our City League Bowling team, consisting of "Jimmy" Reinsmith, "Art" Loos, Clarence Walters, "Jimmy" Melligan and "Hank" Kaupp, bowled into the lead in the A.B.C. Tournament in

New York City with a score of 3,045. With this score, they held first place for nearly a month before being displaced. They finally drew down the prize for sixth place.

In 1942 the Yale bowling team of our Club League won a City Championship by bowling a score of 3,142.

In keeping with the changing tastes of our younger element, a decision was reached to develop the social angle of our Club. A large and beautiful combination dance and dining room was provided, and, with orchestra and entertainment, this has proved a very popular feature of our Club.

During the years between 1939 and 1945 the Second World War, many members of the Pastime Athletic Club were called to serve their country, in all, 183 members served in the Armed Forces. At the conclusion of hostilities three members of the Pastime Athletic Club gave their lives for their country, Charles Murphy, Edward McGuire and Meinrad Kleiner.

During the years of 1945 and 1946 many of the Pastime Members who were in military service were returning home and again the Club was back to normal.

In 1947 due to the increased demands for membership in the Pastime Athletic Club and the ever growing waiting list, the Board of Governors asked that the membership be increased and it was then increased from 800 to 1000 members.

In 1949 again the Board of Governors asked for an increase in membership and it was then increased from 1000 to 1300 members.

In the summer of 1952 after a lapse of approximately six years the Pastimer again came to life with its first publication and it has been published continuously to the present time. The Pastimer, which was so helpful during the War years in getting information and news of home to the veterans in service, once again took up the task of getting news and information to the members of the Pastime Club.

In August 1952 the Pastime Athletic Club celebrated their 60th anniversary with a clam-bake at Hinerwadel's.

In 1953 due to an increase in activities, the Officers of the Club decided to appoint a full time manager who would be able to co-ordinate these events. Henry Kaupp was appointed manager.



In 1954 and 1955 the Club went through an extensive renovating program. All rooms were painted, a new electrical service and dumb waiter were installed and new drapes were put in the upstairs gym.

On May 17, 1955, Edward Dorner, then President, was honored at a testimonial dinner given him in recognition of his 50 years as President of the Pastime Athletic Club. He was presented with an oil painting of himself which is on display in the clubrooms and he was also presented with a 21" television set.

On December 26, 1956 the Pastime Athletic Club of Syracuse Inc. was incorporated in accordance with the laws of New York State. On January 8, 1957 the Constitution and By-Laws of the Pastime Athletic Club of Syracuse Inc., that was revised and brought up to date by the Constitution and By-Laws Committee, was adopted.

In December of 1956 after serving as President of the Pastime Athletic Club for 51 years Edward Dorner resigned. His resignation was accepted and he was made an honorary President for the remainder of his days. In December of 1956 for the first time in many years a new President was elected and the distinction was awarded to James Van Alstine who served until Jan. 1, 1960.

In the next two years we bought new furniture, and added new women's and men's rest rooms. We built a new bar upstairs, and purchased an ice machine, freezer, soft drink dispenser, cigarette and candy machines, two new televisions and an incinerator. The building next door was torn down and fill added for a parking lot. We installed a new water service to take care of added showers and dishwashers. We built a beautiful new kitchen upstairs and we painted and made new additions to the old one downstairs for a cost of \$9,500. The members voted for air conditioning which was installed in 1957.

In 1958 the Club installed a new roof and our beer system was changed and put downstairs closer to the bar. Our sound system was improved and outlets added. A scoreboard was purchased for the gym. In all, during the years 1954 to 1958 we spent \$60,000 in improving the Clubrooms.

April 12, 1959 at an open meeting of the Pastime Athletic Club the members voted for a new building to house eight new Brunswick Alleys with Brunswick Automatic Pinsetters. The new building is against the north side of the present clubhouse facing Salina St. These alleys will have underlane returns, hand dryers, four telscopes and 80 steel lockers, 40 new bowling balls, bowling shoes for rent and everything that

goes with up to date bowling. There will be men's and women's lockers and rest rooms and a coat rack area.

In December of 1959, Charles Schlacter was elected President of the Pastime Athletic Club.

In 1960, the general renovation and improvement of Club facilities culminated in the construction of eight new bowling lanes with automatic pin-setting equipment.

Through the mid-sixties, the membership remained stable and there was always a waiting list of several hundred men, hoping to get their chance to join the Club. It was during this time that the popularity of the Club continued to steadily grow.

Noted improvements to the Club were the installation of a sprinkler system throughout the club, increasing the hot water system for the shower rooms and kitchen, the construction of the manager's office and a partial remodeling of the kitchen facilities.

The early seventies necessitated the building of the exercise room, supplying that with new equipment and the addition of our golf driving ranges. Our locker rooms were renovated and new lockers were purchased.

The Trophy Room, now known as our Lounge, was renovated and air conditioned. Later, a central air conditioning system was installed. The President's Room was originated.

The ever popular Youth Athletic Programs were expanded during this period. Also expanded was our parking capacity as the Schmid property was purchased.

The following Club activities were also originated during this period:

- a. Family Picnic
- b. Pitch League
- c. Travel Club

The middle seventies also brought continued improvements to the Club. Extensive remodeling was done to the GSIOC Room, lower level rooms and the electrical system. The projects and expansion to procure more adjacent land continued through John Kimball's term as President. Mr. Kimball's leadership during this period reflected the dynamic leadership the Club needed during the inflationary years of this period.



In 1974, Thomas Donelan took over as President and continued with the expansion by purchasing additional land on the Court Street side of the building. Many other things were accomplished with good teamwork and hard work.

December 1976 - Ronald Rosecrans assumed the position of Club President. At that meeting, the Board of Directors was given authority to purchase the house located at the corner of Pastime Drive and Court St.

July 1977 - The General Membership approves to participate in the City of Syracuse auction for the Jefferson School property. A special meeting was held in September to decide the amount we would limit our bid to and to determine the cost of the assessment to Club members. At the meeting it was decided that the Club was in no position to make a bid for the property and the decision to purchase was defeated by a large majority of the members who attended the meeting.

December 1977 - The Club purchases the Fietta property on Pastime Drive at Court St. and prepares for its demolition for our Court St. parking area. Also, Chairman Ed Swanka announces the start of the advertising drive for the 85th Anniversary Book. The Election of Officers saw Ray Freitag defeating Ron Rosecrans, 296 votes to 254 votes.

April 1978 - Pastimer Joe Compeau is honored at his retirement party. George Kappesser handles the master of ceremonies duties.

August 1978 - Jim Lynch Sr. submits his resignation as editor of the Pastimer after 10 years of loyal service to the publication. This was later reconsidered.

November 1978 - Assemblyman Mel Zimmer, a Pastime member, takes steps to introduce a bill that would eliminate the payment of sales tax for Life and Honorary members.

December 1978 - The 85th Anniversary Book goes on sale at \$1.00 each. Also, Pastime Old-Timers have their 41st get together.

January 1979 - Out-of-town Pastimer's had their dues increased from \$5.00 to \$20.00. The Membership Committee reported that there were 300 applications on file. Lifetime Pastime memberships were awarded to John E. Lynch, James P. Morgan and Francis Zeigler. Over 500 members and guests participated in the Club's Pancake Breakfast.

June 1979 - The membership authorized expenditures to construct the parking area at Court and Salina Streets and to replace the roof

over the bowling alleys. The membership was assessed \$20.00 each to cover these projects.

October 1979 - Another Pancake Breakfast is held and once again over 500 people are served. We receive word that Assemblyman Mel Zimmer's bill to eliminate sales tax from life and honorary members is passed.

December 1979 - Dick Brisk assumes the Club Presidency from Ray Freitag. Emile Gerard and Don Winter were elected to Associate positions for a three year period.

February 1980 - George "Chubby" Englehardt retires after 21 years of service as Treasurer of the Pastime Club and was honored by over 200 people at his party. On the same night, burglars broke into the Club and got away with about \$3000.00 in cash and checks.

June 1981 - John Adams, after 35 years of sincere and faithful service, retires as doorman of the Pastime Club.

August 1981 - The Pastime Family Picnic was attended by more than 2000 people. The crowd polished off 47 halves of beer!

September 1981 - One hundred new members were voted into club. Russ Evans wins the \$1000.00 Building Fund Drive monthly raffle.

January 1982 - Voting was held and a close ballot of 304 against and 295 for the proposed assessment for the building expansion was noted. A recount on January 30th found a discrepancy of 5 votes, so the entire vote was declared null & void.

February 1982 - Jim Lynch, Sr., makes it official and resigns as Editor of "The Pastimer", after 13 years of dedicated service. He is succeeded by Carl J. Single who assumes responsibility for the publication.

May 1982 - The Building Committee attempts to revive the proposed improvement plan and asks membership to submit ideas that would help make this an affordable package to the majority of the membership.

June 1982 - 813 members showed up at Grant School to vote on a new building proposal. The results were 490 against and 323 in favor.

July 1982 - Custodian Frank Geruso is acknowledged for 20 years of faithful service to the club.



November 1982 - Jim Lynch Sr., continues to develop the 100th Anniversary Fund and lists a huge column of members' contributions in this month's "Pastimer".

December 1982 - The December election results saw John "Butch" O'Brien elected President, Stan Costick, Vice President, and Ed Layton and Carl Single installed as Associate members of the Board.

March 1983 - The Pastime Club was well represented at the big St. Patrick's Day Parade held in downtown Syracuse. Members decorated a huge truck donated for the day by Ron Rosecrans and rode through the parade.

May 1983 - The 23rd Annual President's Ball was held with a sellout crowd enjoying the festivities and dancing to the music of "Elliot T".

June 1983 - Ed Layton's Building Committee oversaw the redecoration of the front dining room and announced plans to renovate the bar and parking lot areas.

August 1983 - House Committee Chairman, Stan Costick brought back lunch to the Pastimes by starting a soup and sandwich special, daily, throughout the Winter season.

October 1983 - The Security Committee asks members to come forward whenever they witness an accident or sideswipe in the Club parking lots. During the last few months, several incidents happened yet they were not reported. The 100th Anniversary Fund Chairman announces that any member who contributes \$50.00 or more to the fund would have their name inscribed on a special plaque that will be displayed in the clubrooms.

The Club mourns the passing of Stan Costick, Vice-President. Stan headed the House Committee and worked tirelessly to continue improving the operational functions of the Club. Ed Swanka was appointed Vice-President by President Butch O'Brien to replace Stanley.

March 1984 - Pastimers again marched in the St. Patrick's Day parade in downtown Syracuse. Carl Single played Irish tunes on his fife along the parade route.

July 1984 - At a special meeting, the vote passed to purchase two pieces of property on Turtle Street.

December 1984 - Ted Koagel was elected President, Mickey Berger, Vice-President, Charles Tucker, Recording Secretary, Tom Barry, Sgt-at-Arms and new Directors were Mickey Newhouse and Ed English.

January 1985 - Members were reminded that dues are payable on January 1st and that those not paid by January 31st, were subject to a \$5.00 late fee. Members not current with dues by March 1st would be subject to expulsion.

April 1985 - Building Committee announces that the two houses purchased on Turtle Street had been torn down and their lots graded.

Jim Lynch, Sr., announces that the 100th Anniversary fund has grown to \$16,949.78.

May 1985 - Happy Hour is started in the bar on Monday through Thursdays, from 2 P.M. till 6 P.M. This was an experiment for the summer months.

June 1985 - Dutch Dotterer announces that the building expansion project was approved by a count of 224 yes against 163 no votes. An assessment of \$45.00 annually for 3 years was announced and that life members were exempt but their donations would be gratefully accepted.

August 1985 - Final drawings for the building expansion were approved.

January 1986 - Pastimes pays tribute to newly elected Mayor of Syracuse, Thomas G. Young, with a gala bash at the Club that featured Stan Colella's Orchestra. Tom was the second Club member to assume the Mayoral duties. In 1949, Thomas Corcoran was elected. Also, Gary McCandless and Joe Nash were installed on the Pastime Board of Directors.

March 1986 - The Building Committee plans for the Club expansion fall through as the project costs exceed expectations. A refund of assessments is announced.

June 1986 - The Building Committee announces that two additional pieces of property were available on Turtle Street. They request members' comments on a proposal to purchase them.

September 1986 - The purchase of the property on Turtle Street was approved.

October 1986 - Former Syracuse Police Chief and beloved Pastime member, Bob Alexander, was honored at the opening dance of the Club's entertainment season.

December 1986 - Elections produced Mickey Berger, as President, Howard Hayes, Jr., as new Vice-President and Bill Weaver and Dan Engelhardt as Directors-at-large.



February 1987 - Pastimers and the community mourn the death of member David R. Clark, an Onondaga County Sheriff's Deputy, who was killed in the line of duty on February 10th.

June 1987 - "PASTIMER" Editor, Carl Single announces that effective July 1st, Dan Wistrup will take over as Editor of the monthly publication.

September 1987 - The Club gratefully acknowledges the gift of \$500.00 from the Estate of Horace B. Drake.

January 1988 - Tom Barry is appointed Recording Secretary to fill the vacancy left by the resignation of popular Bill Lakehomer, who unfortunately left office due to pressing business commitments. Mark Volz and P.J. Schmid were installed as Directors-at-large.

March 1988 - Art Cornelius, Jr., resigns as Manager of the bowling lanes, after 17 years of long and faithful service.

October 1988 - President Mickey Berger announces a November meeting to discuss a \$50.00 assessment per member for the purpose of Club improvements and to keep pace with the escalating costs of goods and services.

November 1988 - The \$50.00 assessment fee passes and will be added to the 1989 dues.

December 1988 - Bob Hennessy resigns his position as Manager of the Club.

January 1989 - Paul L. Schmid is elected President of the Pastime Club. Ed English, Vice-President and Mickey Newhouse, Financial Secretary, Joe Conway and John McDonald are installed as Directors-at-large.

June 1989 - President Paul Schmid's comments in this month's "PASTIMER" are very strong when he appeals to the membership to pitch in and donate their skills and talents to help pull the Club together.

July 1989 - A public "Thank You" is extended to longtime employee, Carol Sharpe, by Club member, Bob Hennessy. Carol was employed as a waitress and later hostess at the Club for about 40 years. Her attention to detail helped enhance the restaurant operations.

September 1989 - Longtime member, Henry "Dutch" Dotterer backs President Paul Schmid's ideas on policy of operation and member involvement, asking members to get involved and help

get our Club in good financial order to "proudly greet the year 1992 in which we will celebrate the 100th Anniversary of this splendid and wonderful Club of ours".

December 1989 - Edward Swanka assumes the duty of Treasurer. New Directors are: Dick Damon, Mike Rosecrans and Ron Wolek.

May 1990 - One hundred thirty three prospective new members were posted on the bulletin board for entry into the Club. In an effort to keep members advised of Board Meeting agendas, abbreviated minutes of Board Meetings were published in the "PASTIMER".

July 1990 - The Pastime Club extends condolences to the family of Henry "Dutch" Dotterer, who passed away on July 16th. His wisdom, encouragement and humor will be missed.

December 1990 - Ted Koagel assumes duties as President, Mickey Berger, Vice President, Jim Mahan, Financial Secretary, Brian Walsh, Sgt-At-Arms and Paul Fields and Mike Whitehead, Directors.

January 1991 - Dedicated Club member and former Board member, Dick Brisk, assumes the duties of Club Manager. Outgoing President Paul Schmid writes his last newsletter to the membership for the PASTIMER, and makes it a point to publicly thank all of the members who had volunteered their time to fix things in the Club during Paul's term in office. He estimated that through volunteer efforts, the Club saved an estimated \$20,000 in expenditures.

March 1991 - Joe Klodzen is appointed Assistant Manager and Ron Baker assumes the duties of Head Chef in our kitchen.

May 1991 - The PASTIMER, the Club's monthly newsletter, takes on a new size and a new columnist as Wally Barfield vows to become an "Inside Scoop" and report on club happenings each month.

June 1991 - After several years of absence, the Pastime Family Picnic returns to Longbranch Park. A good crowd attends the festivities.

July 1991 - Treasurer Ed Swanka reports that over the last few years, our membership has decreased from 2200 members to 1830 members. Ed makes a pitch to our members to go out and solicit new members to help generate income to compensate for our expenses.



September 1991 - Bob Hennessy returns to the Club to assume the position of Club Manager. Long-time Club member, Jim Lynch Sr., called the first meeting of that 100th Anniversary Committee together to begin drafting plans for the gala celebration that will be held in July 1992. Also, the Club mourns the loss of Jim "Star" Leonard, a true friend whose conversation and humor helped make the Pastimes a better Club to enjoy. Art Whitehead joins the staff of the PASTIMER as a columnist.

November 1991 - The Bowling Committee introduces Rock N' Bowl as a monthly party, held in our bowling lanes. The event continues to increase in popularity.

December 1991 - The Pastime "Old Timers" get together for their 54th annual meeting.

March 1992 - A call goes out to the membership from Don Brown, Sr., for historical items that can be used in the 100th Anniversary Book.

May 1992 - The Club pays tribute to Jim Lynch, Sr., for his years of dedication to the Club, not only as past Financial Secretary, but for all his hard work and the ability to have the foresight to establish the 100th Anniversary Fund, that will provide a large subsidy for our celebration plans.

July 1992 - A huge crowd gathers at the Sheraton Inn, Liverpool, to celebrate the 100th Birthday of The Pastimes Club.

### **More Bits and Pieces about Pastimes**

#### **Building Committee**

The past fifteen years have proven to be both successful and prosperous, in making our present building what it is today.

Many improvements have been made to upgrade the facilities and equipment, including carpet, painting and paneling. A new roof was installed and new equipment purchased. Incandescent lighting was replaced with new energy efficient fluorescent lighting. Outdated fuse panels were replaced with modern circuit breakers. Much of this work was done with our members donating their time and efforts. A new dishwasher, remodeling of the main bar, a new phone system, and parking lot repairs were all done by members.

A note of recognition and gratitude to the Building Committee Chairmen of the past fifteen years: Howard Robbins, Emile Gerard, Ed Layton, Bill Weaver and Mike Rosecrans.

A big thank you goes out to the committee members who made much of the work in the past 2 1/2 years possible.

Times change and our building and facilities must change as well. Just as our membership continues to grow, our building must continue to grow along with it.

The Edward Dorner Building Fund was established in the mid 70's. The fund is now referred to as the Pastime A.C. Future Building Fund. This is a fund for the members to build on through their contributions, so that we may someday have a new addition or a major improvement. Please continue to support this fund as we hope to expand our building in the near future.

### **Club Facilities**

Over the past 100 years, the Pastime Club has constantly adjusted its facilities and events to go along with the prescribed needs and circumstances of the day. The following is a prospectus of the facilities that exist today:

ON THE MAIN FLOOR, the Bar is lined with comfortable stools and tables where male members and guests can mingle, enjoy a reasonably priced drink and watch sporting events on our satellite equipped system. The following areas serve as dining rooms: The Lounge, an atmospheric area with limited space serving meals and cocktails. The Century Room is our largest dining area and is capable of handling large parties and banquets. The President's Room, where the walls are lined with portraits of our past Presidents, serves as an overflow room on heavy dining nights, and is used for small parties and business meetings.

THE DOWNSTAIRS AREA, is restricted to men only, mainly because it contains the shower and locker room areas. It also features: Our game room, which has two regulation slate top pool tables, which can be rented for a nominal fee on an hourly basis; a ping-pong table and a couple of video arcade games. A table area in this room can be used for card playing or meetings. Also on this floor is an off-limits area used for storage and as an equipment repair room. The locker rooms, with adjacent shower and steam room facilities, is across the hall from the game room. Located under the bowling lanes and near the locker room, is the exercise area, which features four exercise bikes, two treadmills (one mechanical and one manual), a step up machine, a rowing gym, large and leg apparatus, a universal weight area, sauna and two indoor golf driving ranges.



UPSTAIRS, there is the gym which can be used for basketball or volleyball. A pull-out section makes it into a handball and racquetball court. The gym is also used for large parties and banquets. A kitchen area next to the gym is off-limits to non-Club personnel. Completing the upstairs is the G.S.I.O.C. Bar.

THE PASTIME BOWLING LANES are located adjacent to the Club itself and its entrance is opposite the lounge. We have eight lanes and offer league and open bowling.

### Pastime Old Timers

Through the great depression, the many recessions, the inflated dollar, there have been many changes in lifestyle. A handful renting a small space, through hard work and great devotion, 100 years later has become the Pastime Athletic Club we know today.

In celebrating our 100th Anniversary, we must put aside many misconceptions and face reality with the same determination and fortitude of our founding fathers. This will insure that the Pastime Athletic Club will be around for many more years to come.

One of the greatest misconceptions in our Club today is the "Old Timer", who some believe to be a member along in years, who having reached the "great plateau" of a non-paying member, is just along for the ride. Well, for a few maybe, but that is not a true fact for all.

An Old Timer is a member who after 20 years of membership becomes eligible to attend the Old Timers Dinner, the first Sunday in December.

Once an individual has attained 30 years membership in the Pastimes, they are awarded Life Member status. Life Member status exempts members from the annual payment of dues. Even though these members no longer pay dues, they still contribute services, ability and knowledge under the facilities and circumstances allowable, thus maintaining the privilege of an Old Timer and not just staying along for the ride.

As of December 1991, we have 784 members on the Old Timer roles. The breakdown is as follows:

60 - 66 years	13 members
50 - 59 years	49 members
40 - 49 years	99 members
30 - 39 years	122 members

That makes 283 non-paying members who contribute by their own individual way to the Club. We also have 401 members who have belonged from 20-29 years making a grand total of 784 "Old Timers".

We would like to make special mention that even though the Life Members are exempt from paying their dues, they still make voluntary contributions to the Pastime A.C. Future Building Fund on an annual basis. Let it be known that the membership acknowledges these contributions and deeply appreciates the concern of these Life Members who do their part to insure the continuance of this wonderful Club of ours.

### The Pastime Athletic Club Building Fund for The Future

In 1976, the Board of Directors under the leadership of then President Tom Donelon, authorized the formation of the Building Fund, commonly referred to as the Dorner Fund, named after our Past President of 51 years, Edward Dorner. The use of this fund is limited to the construction of a new building or a substantial addition to the present facility, at a minimum cost of \$200,000.

The Pastime Club is currently celebrating its 100th Anniversary. The present facility we occupy was acquired in the 1920's. Various alterations have been done to allow for its use by our expanded membership. There is not much more that can be done with our present building without creating an addition or remodeling.

As we celebrate our 100th Anniversary, it is the dream of the founders that we will continue to acquire significant funds to start our second hundred years. It is our responsibility to plan for the future with faith, courage and foresight. The Building Fund for the Future provides a way for all of us to participate in planning for the future of the Pastime Athletic Club.

While space does not permit us to list all of the contributors over the years, it does allow us the opportunity to extend heartfelt thanks to all individuals and groups that have made donations. As all things count, one memory comes to mind whereby longtime member and friend to all, Earl White was instrumental in developing what he called the "Pastime A.C. Barflys" collection where each month he would turn in a contribution of change collected at the bar.