



The Garfield Backer

Newsletter for the "Garfield Heights Browns Backers Worldwide"



Volume 4, Issue 2

October, 2002

We Are Pleased To Announce

**Venture Inn
8602 Garfield Blvd.
Garfield Heights, Ohio 44125**

**As The New Home For The
"Garfield Heights Browns Backers"**

The Garfield Heights Browns Backers

"Our History"

By: J.F. Hammer Sr.

President: Garfield Heights Browns Backers

The idea for the "Garfield Heights Browns Backers" was started back in December of 1998, with just a few customers, and an owner, sitting around a tavern on Broadway. The Browns were coming back to Cleveland the following year. One member of the group wanted a get-together location for watching the Browns, and suggested having the tavern open on game days. Another thought the idea may not be feasible, and suggested that we have revolving house parties each week, between certain individuals. Yet another expanded on the thoughts, and made mention of forming an Official Browns Backers Club. This idea was discussed further, and we began to pursue it heavily. A Browns Fan Club, although not official, was started at the location on March 1, 1999. Six and a half months later, on September 13, 1999, we became an "Official Chapter" of the "Browns Backers Worldwide" organization. Our official chapter number (199) seemed most appropriate.

Unfortunately, due to the unavoidable delays during the year, many lost interest. The club had only 15 members at its inception. The following year we added 6 more, bringing the total to 21.

Then in late February, 2001, our meeting location was sold, and Backer activity slowed to less than a crawl. In fact, there were no activities even planned during the 2001 football season. Many of our members, were no

longer patronizing the establishment. Meetings became few and far between.

In February, 2002, a failed rebuilding attempt was made. The club had been moved to a new location, however the response there, was null. I was reluctantly getting ready to assign the club an "Inactive" status.

Then, near the end of August, 2002, a conversation with Debbie (our new VP), led to another rebuilding attempt. With another move to our meetings location, and three new officers (VP, Secretary & Treasurer) we once again started to rebuild. It seems apparent, that this move was the right one.

The Venture Inn was officially named as the Home for the "Garfield Heights Browns Backers" on September 17, 2002. The first officers' meeting, (held prior to the official date) took place on Tuesday, September 3, 2002. Several others have been held since. At the time of this writing, we have 30 active adults, as well as 8 junior members. Door prizes (for members) and 50/50 raffles (on game days) were started almost immediately. Future activities are in the planning stages. Even a web site and an online forum are being discussed. The dedication and enthusiasm of our new officers is phenomenal, and I wish to personally thank them for it.

I would also like to thank all of our current members. With your continued support, I feel that the Garfield Heights Browns Backers can, and will, become one of the best in the BBW organization. ❖

Browns Backer Halloween Party Sunday, November 3rd Kick Off till ?

Planned activities include

- A Browns Jersey to be awarded to the **Best Dressed Browns Backer**, as voted by all Backers present. (*Winner must be an active member of the Garfield Heights Chapter.*)
- Bobbing for Footballs.
- Pin the Football on the Receiver.
- Mini-Ball Pass Competition.
- Food & Snacks Provided.



Brought To You By
Your Garfield Heights Browns Backers Club

Have You Been to The “Venture” For A Browns Game?

“If Not, You’re Missing Out!”

The Cleveland Browns haven’t faired to well the last few weeks, however the Backers at Venture are waiting for their next chance to get together, and root them on to victory. There is no doubt in any Garfield Heights Backer’s mind, that this is the place to be on game day (unless of course you have tickets). The thrill and excitement of watching the Browns, along with other Browns Backers, can’t be beat. We even have a “Dog Pound” section. Adding to that is our weekly door prizes for Backer members, and the open 50/50 drawings. If you haven’t yet experienced the excitement, why not stop in for the next game and check it out for yourself. You may find that you actually like stomping on an opposing team’s shirt, taking a bite of a dog bone, and getting into the action, along with the rest of us. ❖

Cleveland Browns Regular Season

9/8	KANSAS CITY CHIEFS	39 – 40 loss
9/15	CINCINNATI BENGALS	20 – 7 WIN
9/22	@ Tennessee Titans	31 – 28 WIN OT
9/29	@ Pittsburgh Steelers	13 – 16 loss OT
10/6	BALTIMORE RAVENS	21 – 26 loss
10/13	@ Tampa Bay Buccaneers	3 – 17 loss
10/20	HOUSTON TEXANS	34 – 17 WIN
10/27	@ New York Jets	1:00 PM
11/3	PITTSBURGH STEELERS	1:00 PM
11/10	– BYE –	N/A
11/17	@ Cincinnati Bengals	1:00 PM
11/24	@ New Orleans Saints	1:00 PM
12/1	CAROLINA PANTHERS	1:00 PM
12/8	@ Jacksonville Jaguars	1:00 PM
12/15	INDIANAPOLIS COLTS	1:00 PM
12/22	@ Baltimore Ravens	4:15 PM
12/29	ATLANTA FALCONS	1:00 PM

General Membership Meeting Sunday, November 10, 2002 2:00 PM @ Venture Inn

It’s a BYE week for the Browns, and an excellent opportunity for you to give us your ideas for the future of our club. All Garfield Heights Browns Backers are encouraged to attend. We really want to know your thoughts and comments. Snacks will be provided.

Your Club’s Officers

President: Joseph Hammer Sr.
Vice-President: Debbie Pacyna
Secretary: Cindy Coles
Treasurer: George Coles

Browns Backers Worldwide

Total BBW Clubs – 274
 Total BBW Members – 29,323
 Total GHBBW Members – 30
 Total Junior GHBBW members -- 8

Meet your officers

Treasurer: George Coles

- Native Clevelander
- Retired Navy Chief Petty Officer
- Browns Backer since 1995 (The year the team moved)
- Memories: The Kardiak Kids of the 80’s

Secretary: Cindy Coles

- Native Clevelander
- Mother of 3 Browns Backers Children
- Browns Backer since 1995
- Memories: Winning in double-overtime against the Jets in the playoffs

Corrections:

The last issue of “The Garfield Backer” was incorrectly marked as “Volume 02, Issue 1”. It should have been designated as “Volume 04, Issue 1”