

RBI Leadership

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What do Golf and Christmas Trees have in common? They are our last fundraisers for 2017!

Come play golf on November 6 – register at www.RBIbaseballonline.com or sponsor a hole with your name or your company! We appreciate your support!

Our Annual Christmas tree sale has garland and wreaths, too! December 2nd & 3rd.

A word from Jordan.....

I had a great time planning the golf tournament this year and last. It brought me back to my roots, James River High, baseball, old friends andgolf! By adding in friends I have made in my work life, it was a fun day with really great people for a really good cause. I hope you can come out this year so I can meet you – our donors are so important to us. Come by and say hi, sponsor a hole and come join us for the shot gun start and say a few words or play some golf with friends! It is always the Monday before Election Day, so plan for each year!

I am excited by the events Coach Hannum has in store for the community. He loves working with kids and has solid ideas for how to allow RBI to achieve its mission through the baseball program. He just loves baseball.....and giving back. Please join me in supporting this great program! We have a very generous matching donation for us to earn and this will definitely be a challenge for us – please help in any way you are able!

Jordan E. Berryhill



2017-2018 \$5,000 matching campaign!

Your donation is matched if we reach \$5,000!

We have received a generous matching challenge! We need to raise \$5000 from November 1 until January 31 in unrestricted donations exclusively made to the Match Challenge. Help us!

Example: Your \$10 donation becomes worth \$20!



The New Head Coach.....

My first season as head coach was **an amazing one**. I had the privilege of coaching twenty phenomenal young men and we put together a fantastic season. **We ended having won sixteen games!** Our pitchers put up record-breaking numbers and our offense was more effective than it had been in the last four years. I am very much looking forward to building on that success in 2018.

RBI had a very busy summer as Cottrell Field played host to a number of events. Our 2017-2018 baseball squad came through with volunteer hours to maintain our field and prep them for these events. RBI relies on these events to maintain the fields, the building, pay our building mortgage, field light bills and give the building cooling and heating during the year. After six years, the field and building now require some maintenance and that is the focus for our upcoming fundraising. I am proud of the leadership these young men learn during our fundraising events. These are talents and skills that I cannot teach in the classroom- it fills me up to have them work with me on these events. The hard work to maintain this beautiful facility is a constant reminder of the people before them who worked hard to give us these fields and these lights. We are grateful. Travel teams from up and down the east coast had a chance to play on our fields this summer, and they are amazed at the work we do to maintain them. We are truly blessed with two great fields and lights. I hope you come and look for me at the Christmas tree sale this year. I want to meet you!

Bryan Hannum

Rapids Baseball Incorporated- October, 2017
www.rbibaseballonline.com

Save the Date!

Rapids Casino and Auction Night!
February 9, 2018
Salisbury Country Club
RBI Website to open for donations
and tickets sales December 1.

Meet Mark Lenzi - Mark is a phenomenal volunteer for Coach Hannum and has made his mark – pun intended – with awesome work on the field and assistant coaching with Fall Ball. Mark played baseball at James River prior to his graduation in 2011. His day job gives him the flexibility to get to the fields to prepare them for fall ball and weekend tournaments. When you see Mark, be sure to say hello!

Meet Dennis Pasquantino

Dennis loves coaching baseball! His son Vinnie played for James River and is currently playing for ODU. Coach Hannum is grateful for the knowledge and perspective Dennis brings to the program and his enthusiasm for the players and events RBI hosts. Dennis managed the first JV Tournament during 2017 spring break and hopes to expand that tournament in 2018.

State Police Association Recognize RBI and Jennifer Coleman

In April, the Virginia State Police Association recognized James River High School leadership and RBI for the First Responder Festival held on September 11, 2016 – which raised more than \$5,000 for the Association's Foundation that helps the families of state police officers or other first responders killed or injured in the line of duty. Jennifer Coleman, Principal at James River High School and the committee that created the event: Lisa Germano, Bryan Hannum, Jesse Powell, Barry Moore and Lisa Schaffner were each given a plaque of recognition at the Association's Annual Meeting.



Coach Hannum and Principal Coleman

Passing it Forward

RBI's mission includes giving back and we certainly have seen that with **Austin Stadler** on RBI's Board of Directors, **Austin McGowan** hosting a camp, and **Mark Lenzi, Coleman Paz, Michael Trentham** and **Austin Pierpont** assisting on the field. This is the unique result of our mission – baseball is a great connection and passing it forward in leadership, mentoring or encouragement in its many forms is the future for our community. Once former players are grown and flown from their birth nest, it is incredible to see them come back as adults, wanting to stay in the game.

Tournament Play – Volunteer!

In the summer, the facility is rented for private academies who run leagues and tournaments. One thing we hear over and over again is that our facility is kept so well, our concession staff very professional and the food unique to a high school concession. We take pride in that and invite others who want to help in any way to join us by volunteering. You can run the scoreboard, help prep the fields, help drag them. You can work as many or as few hours as you wish.

The Dream: New bullpens and hitting cage!

The matching challenge will hopefully allow for the beginning of the reserve to make these improvements for the 2019 regular season after some needed improvements are made to the fields.

Visiting Our Veterans - The varsity squad visited the veterans at McGuire Hospital, bringing toiletries, baseballs and shirts. The players took back so much more than they left there, stories and encounters that will remind them about the commitment of those who serve, the respect they are due and the personal tragedy that war can bring home.