

**Chairperson**

Natalie Niekro

**Honorary Chairmen**

Richard P. Klucznik, M.D.

Drayton McLane

**Master of Ceremonies**

Phil Niekro – Hall of Fame

**Special Entertainment**

Chuck Wicks

**Auctioneer**

Stephen C. Lewis

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Carlos Alfonso Mickey Lolich

Sparky Anderson Ron Mahay

Bob Aspromonte John McLaren

Dave Bergman Omar Moreno

Craig Biggio Joe Morgan

Byron Browne Lance Niekro

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Enos Cabell Gaylord Perry

Bert Campaneris Ron Robinson

Satch Davidson Nolan Ryan

Bill Dawley Joe Sambito

Larry Dierker Mike Scott

Darryl Hamilton Duke Sims

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Art Howe Ozzie Smith

Monte Irvin Dave Stewart

Tommy John Daron Sutton

Jay Johnstone Don Sutton

Dave Kingman Bobby Tolan

Bob Knepper Jon Warden

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Gregg Bingham Lynn Larson

Dave Casper Art Still

Doug Dawson Spencer Tillman

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Elvin Hayes Isaac Stallworth

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**2009 Honorary Medical Committee**

Stanley H. Appel, M.D.

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David Chiu, M.D.

Howard S. Derman, M.D.

Orlando Diaz, M.D.

James Ferrendelli, M.D.

Robert G. Grossman, M.D. and

Dr. Elin Grossman

Richard Harper, M.D.

Hani Haykal, M.D.

Richard Klucznik, M.D.

James J. Ling, M.D.

Rob G. Parrish, M.D.

David Rosenfield, M.D.

Todd Trask, M.D.

John Volpi, M.D.

Jonathan Zhang, M.D.

**2009 Host Committee**

George Baylor

John and Nancy Deane

Dr. Malcolm Gillis and Elizabeth Gillis

Ron and Judy Giroto

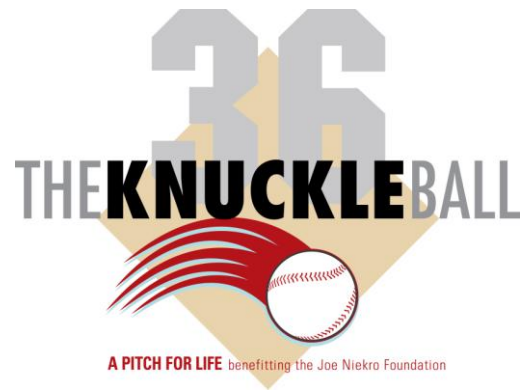
David and Audrey Gow

Robert and Annie Graham

John and Jes Hagale

Barbara Mackey

Don and Chris Sanders



On November 13<sup>th</sup> 2010, athletes from all over the country will come together at Minute Maid Park, in association with The Joe Niekro Foundation, to honor the beloved 13-year Houston Astros All-Star, Joe Niekro, at the 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Knuckle Ball...*A Pitch for Life*. Major League baseball player Jim Bouton once said, "Me watching Niekro pitch was like a young artist inspecting his first Picasso."

Since Joe Niekro's tragic and sudden death as a result of a brain aneurysm, his daughter, Natalie, established The Joe Niekro Foundation, committed to the funding of aneurysm research and treatment.

Because of her father's love for the Houston Astros and the city of Houston, it is only fitting that The Knuckle Ball be held in the city that gave the Niekro family their greatest memories. Last year's Knuckle Ball raised over \$450,000 toward aneurysm research and the goals for 2010 are even greater.

We invite you to join us for an unforgettable black-tie evening of casino gaming, formal dinner, auction and the opportunity to mingle with some of baseball's greatest legends. The evening will be emceed by Phil Niekro and will honor Joe Niekro, his baseball years and charitable work and will culminate with a special performance from the Country Music Superstar, Chuck Wicks. All proceeds from the event will benefit aneurysm research and treatment.

As many as one in fifteen Americans will develop a cerebral aneurysm; 10-15% of these individuals will die before reaching the hospital and over 50% will die within the first thirty days after rupture. Of those who survive, over half suffer permanent neurological deficit. Please support our efforts to raise the awareness of this devastating condition and advance seminal research, while we celebrate the life of Joe Niekro, a truly remarkable citizen, pitcher and Astros player. We would be honored to have you join our efforts. For more information, please contact Natalie Niekro at 602-318-1013.

We look forward to welcoming you at Minute Maid Park on November 13<sup>th</sup>.

Sincerely,

Natalie Niekro  
Founder  
The Joe Niekro  
Foundation

Drayton McLane  
Chairman  
Houston Astros

Richard P. Klucznik, M.D.  
Interventional Neuroradiologist  
The Methodist Neurological  
Institute