

## **Greater Woodstock Baseball Association formed to provide multiple baseball choices to youth of area**

### **Communities in area are growing rapidly and new organization will bring expanded baseball options to youth**

Woodstock, Illinois -December 1, 2005— The new Greater Woodstock Baseball Association also known as GWBA, was formed to support the youth of the area through organizing, supporting and offering new and existing baseball programs under one umbrella organization.

The founders of the GWBA, Craig Krandel, Dan Happ and Steve Otten had previously been involved with the 13 - 14 year old baseball program administered by the Woodstck Little League, through roles of Manager and Coach. Through this collective experience, Krandel, Happ and Otten outlined a program to expand the support of the areas youth and presented this concept to the Woodstock Little League Board of Directors.

The Little League Board reviewed and discussed the new GWBA Program in depth and also determined the idea to support the growing areas youth through an umbrella organization made sense. "Little League is excited to support this new organization" stated Bob Stroh, President of Woodstock Little League. "Parents and Players now will be offered multiple baseball products, and pending their skill level, they will find a product that fits them - versus one size fits all," stated Happ Moreover, with the area's rapid growth, "new residents will not have any difficulty in locating and scheduling their new player in baseball" stated Krandel.

"The new programs offered represent the best the area has to offer from Recreational baseball for the new and developing players, to the more advanced Nippersink House/Travel League and up to the more competitive Woodstock Lightning team" stated Otten, who like Happ, also managed a team in the Nippersink League. The GWBA will assist each of the three baseball programs in registration and administration of the programs and being the primary liaison to the City of Woodstock.

#### **Press Contacts:**

Steve Otten  
GWBA  
(815) 341-5905  
[sotten@gwba.org](mailto:sotten@gwba.org)