**APPENDIX 2:** 

**COMMITTEE REPORTS** 

### **Committee Chairs**

Mark Armour Bob Bailey Perry Barber Matt Benham Phil Birnbaum T. Scott Brandon Mark Brunke Jeff Campbell Bill Carle Peter Dolgenos Greg Erion Mark Fimhoff Daigo Fujiwara Karl Green Michael Haupert Leslie Heaphy Ryan Hewitt Chuck Hildebrandt Joanne Hulbert Bill Humber Bennett Jacobstein Kevin Johnson Rodney Johnson Larry Lester Peter Mancuso Larry McCray

Trent McCotter
Andy McCue
John McMurray
Tom Mueller
Rod Nelson
Chad Osborne
Mark Pattison
Marty Payne
Jacob Pomrenke
Mark Rappaport
Paul Ringel
C. Paul Rogers
Joe Runde
Anthony Salazar
Ron Selter
Deb Shattuck
Justine Siegal
Bruce Slutsky
Cary Smith
David W. Smith
Bill Staples Jr.
Stew Thornley
Eric Van
Joe Wancho
Steve Weingarden
Herb Wilson

# SABR Baseball Arts Committee Annual Report 2016.

We baseball bards can write a screed,
Without half trying.
It is an easy field, indeed,
For versifying.
Some bards are stuck from time to time,
And half demented,
But as for us, a word to rhyme,
May be invented.
Anonymous, 1910.

The Baseball Arts Committee, co-chaired by Joanne Hulbert and Jeff Campbell, have spent the past year continuing to provide information, support and inspiration to all those baseball researchers, fans and seekers of baseball lore who have an interest in how, when and where the arts have impacted baseball. When the Committee was first formed, music and poetry were the main areas of interest. Since its expansion to a wider range of interests, the committee has met with artists who have produced impressive works of art. One example is the notable accomplishments of Margie Lawrence (www.margielawrence.com) of Chicago. The Arts Committee met her at the Chicago convention and her work is exceptional. Also at the Chicago meeting we met the Baseball Bards, who have been bringing contemporary baseball poetry to the public via Facebook, as well as on their own website (<a href="www.baseballbards.com">www.baseballbards.com</a>). Thank you James Finn Garner for keeping baseball poetry alive all year round, as also thank you for the poetry collections you donated to the committee in Chicago:

### MOON, SWOON, BASEBALL IN JUNE

On this beautiful summer day in June
They Royals rise and the White Sox swoon
The Astros still dream of their trip to the moon
The Red Sox hope they aren't peaking too soon
While the Yanks obsess over things picayune
The Rangers and Jays field their share of goons

Tampa ponders a move to Saskatoon. . .

And Epstein's still the smartest guy in the room.

By James Finn Garner, 6/2/2016.

Since there is art in baseball everywhere one looks, the Arts Committee has *carte blanche* when it comes to subjects to pursue, to research and celebrate. Jeff Campbell still keeps interest in baseball music alive and his compilations of baseball songs are still popular for the researcher and fan alike. There is still an open offer to anyone who might want to add a touch of class and poetry to a research project that would benefit form a poem, certainly let us know, there's a cache of deadball era and nineteenth century poetry available where needed. Baseball is heavily indebted to literature as baseball is routinely used as a part of contemporary novels such as The Art of Fielding, and of Philip Roth's novels, and baseball shows up in surprising places such as David Duchovny's recent novel, *Bucky F\*cking Dent*. Read it! It's "pretty good, dammit," according to reviewer Ken Kurson of Observer Culture.

There's baseball art in fine art, sculpture, architectural design of ball parks, bat and knuckleball, clothing, food, movies, drama, and a good many standup comics too. The Arts Committee has an endless possibility of baseball to consider.

At the upcoming convention in Miami, the subject to be discussed will be literature. A broad topic, but many will be surprised at the way baseball has become over time an integral part of American literature. Surely, there can be no end to a discussion of the literary value of baseball.

Respectfully submitted,

Joanne Hulbert, co-chair SABR Baseball Arts Committee



by Margie Lawrence

# 2016 Baseball and the Media Committee Annual Report Chuck Hildebrandt, Chair (chuck.sabr@gmail.com)

We have just completed the third full year of existence for the Baseball and the Media Research Committee as of this past March 17. The committee continues to be chaired by Chuck Hildebrandt. John McMurray, as vice chair, serves primarily in an advisory and backup capacity.

The mission of the committee continues to be providing research pertaining to the media's coverage of baseball as both news (i.e., the story of baseball journalism and its impact on the evolution of baseball as a cultural and commercial phenomenon) and as an event (i.e., the story of the in-game coverage of baseball games, from telegraph to radio to television to Internet).

We are currently at 202 members as of May 31, 2016, including 44 new members who have joined since this date last year. The committee boasts several high profile members who ply their trade in the baseball media, including MLB official historian John Thorn; ESPN baseball columnist Jayson Stark; MLB.com beat writer Barry Bloom; Red Sox team historian Gordon Edes; and venerated major league broadcaster Hank Greenwald.

We continue to maintain four key databases:

- (1) MLB Broadcaster/Flagship, detailing all radio and TV flagship stations as well as broadcasters for each MLB team back to 1921. This database currently goes through 2015, with plans to be completely updated through 2016 by the time SABR 46 commences in late June.
- (2) Network TV Broadcasts, with details for every one of those back to 1947. This database is maintained independently by Committee member Tony Miller.
- (3) Radio Station Affiliates, for every MLB team starting with 2013, and should be updated through 2016 by SABR 46.
- (4) Baseball Writers, a new database of beat writers, columnist and sports editors stretching back to 1909 that commenced late last summer, with the help of several volunteers, and which is roughly 60% completed. It will be posted online for public access in whatever state of completion it is within a few weeks of SABR 46.

Once completed, the Baseball Writers database is expected to serve as the impetus for a book about the history of baseball writing in the various major league cities.

A previous database, called Sportswriters, focusing primarily on baseball and maintained by Bill Burgess with help from committee member Tony DeMarco, has been suspended following the death of Mr. Burgess in 2014. We will identify needs for Society for American Baseball Research 2016 Annual Report — Appendix 2

additional databases throughout the upcoming year.

We continue to provide relevant baseball media content on an ongoing basis through our website, <u>SABRmedia.org</u>, and we continue to maintain our Twitter feed <u>@MediaSABR</u>, which is used primarily to inform followers of new content as well as tweet and retweet interesting items related to baseball and the media.

In the upcoming year, we will continue to build on the content we have developed for the Committee so far and hope to identify other projects that will spur the interest and activity of not only those SABR members who have signed up for the Media committee, but also of other SABR members who have an interest in contributing to the building of a rich and substantial store of information, analysis, insight and reference material about baseball media. In particular, we hope to interest members of other SABR research committees to undertake projects or feature stories that contemplate the baseball media angle to the committee of which they are already a member.

### **Baseball Index Project**

The Baseball Index project was started in 1991 to create an online database of books, articles, book sections and other baseball research material. It allows researchers to quickly identify the items which are pertinent to their topic and give them some help in finding those materials.

TBI's major event this past year was, unfortunately, the death of the SABR server on which the only copy of our database software was kept. This means that since last November, members have not had any access to TBI. SABR Central has signed a contract to create a new generation of software. As I write this (mid-May), they are aiming for roughly July 1 to have the site up and running again. While the software was lost with the server, the database itself was preserved and our volunteers continue to add content. Joe Wancho has done a sterling job keeping up with the various Bioproject books, Bill Lamb has contributed listings for several committee newsletters and Tom Mueller continues to keep us updated on Baseball Digest. Steve Roney is working on a large collection of spring training magazines.

I have taken the opportunity provided by the down time to reorganize and cleanup the database. We have added a field for URLs, which gain more and more importance as time passes. They also should be a harbinger of full text access, which we also envision down the road. I also went through the database to clean up duplicate entries. These mostly occurred when one volunteer input the magazine or newspaper work of someone such as Roger Angell and another volunteer then entered the same articles as they appeared in his collected hardbound books. The result will make searches more efficient for researchers, but had the unfortunate effect of pushing the total number of entries below a quarter million. We currently have about 247,000 items in the database. We have also used the down time to convert bibliographies for the Negro Leagues and Women's baseball into the TBI format, to add all the papers published from the Cooperstown Symposium on Baseball and American Culture and to keep up with all SABR publications, NINE, Black Ball and Base Ball. We have also been adding new books, especially from the University of Nebraska Press and McFarland, as we see them.

The project always needs more volunteer help. I would particularly like to catch up with Sports Illustrated, which we have catalogued through 2000, but have little since then. There are many other publications where our listings are incomplete. We also need to do a fuller job cataloguing SABR committee newsletters. I am hoping the redesigned software will make online data entry easier and more attractive to volunteers.

- Andy McCue

### **Baseball Records Committee**

The Baseball Records Committee was created in 1975 to help reconcile differences and pursue a greater degree of accuracy in baseball's "historical record." The word "record," as we use it, has two meanings. We use it in the sense that some player, or some team, has the most or least of something for an inning, or a game, or a season, etc. For example, Red Schoendienst holds the Major League record for Most doubles in three consecutive games, with 6.

We also use the word record to refer to a player's game-by-game, season-by-season and lifetime accomplishments. For example, Baltimore' Scott McGregor allowed 34 home runs in 1985; or Jim Viox had 24 triples in his major league career. Both aspects of baseball's historical record are of equal importance to us, and we are as diligent with regard to accuracy for the "unknown" players as we are for the Hall of Famers.

Beginning with our formation, committee members have contributed countless corrections, additions, and deletions to the record books. Over the past few years the major source of these changes have come from the work done by the volunteers at *Retrosheet*. Our ultimate goal of finding all the errors in the historic record, or at least achieving a full reconciliation of differences among all the record books and encyclopedias, remains unlikely; nevertheless, we will continue to pursue a narrowing of the gap. Our role as SABR's Baseball Records Committee is strictly to make the numbers as accurate as we can.

We are often asked what effect the use of performance enhancing drugs by some players has on the records. The answer is, and always has been, that it is our role as SABR's Baseball Records Committee strictly to make the numbers as accurate as we can.

Our Yahoo eGroup allows committee members to: 1) Discuss happenings in the Records Committee (information on the convention, newsletters, etc). 2) Provide a place for SABR members to send in, keep track of, seek assistance with, or inquire about possible errors in the historical record and also about various record-setting and record-tying achievements in Major League Baseball. Questions like, "What's the record for most passed balls in a season?" and "How many hits did Ty Cobb really have?" are examples of proper subjects for this group.

- Trent McCotter

# Biographical Research Committee Yearly Report 2016

Missing players are becoming harder every year to find. While we continually have new tools to help us through the Internet, we have found so many players that the only ones left are the ones that are truly difficult. When I became chairman of this committee in 1988, there were over 500 players missing. Today, there are less than 200.

In the past year, we didn't find a lot of missing players, but what we were lacking in quantity, we made up for in quality as we found several players who have mystified us for years.

Henry Moore had a very long baseball career and we knew he hailed from San Francisco. Amazingly, he died just where we expected him to and at the time we expected him to. It is surprising we never found him before. James Stanley played briefly for the Chicago Whales in the Federal League. After tracking down virtually every James Stanley in the city of Chicago, we discovered that his real name was Stanislaus Ciolek and we were able to locate his death in Indiana. Arthur Twineham disappeared about 1905 and seemed completely lost. Amazingly, we were able to locate his death in, of all places, Shanghai, China.

We found that Lewis Graulich, who had been listed for years, was not a major leaguer. The actual major leaguer was his brother William. We had George Ziegler misidentified as well. The Illinois man we had identified was a career minor leaguer; the major leaguer was born in Cincinnati and died in Oregon. We also found John Lavin, Lou Galvin, Jack McCarthy, John Schlagle, Henry Jones, Frank Hoffman, and Patrick McKenna.

These are all terrific finds, and we have been greatly aided in recent years by the addition of many great sources on web sites like ancestry.com and familysearch.org. It still requires diligent research, but it isn't quite as mentally and physically taxing as poring over tiny newsprint through a microfilm reader. Hopefully, we will continue to locate these players and our committee will continue to thrive as it has since the day SABR was founded.

Bill Carle, Committee Chairman June 6, 2016

## BioProject Committee 2016 Annual Report June 17, 2016

The 2016 convention will mark the 14th anniversary of the founding of the BioProject Committee. Our committee manages the Baseball Biography Project, whose purpose is to solicit, write, edit, and maintain high quality journal-length biographies of any player who ever played in the major leagues, as well as any other person connected with baseball in a significant way.

The project includes a large staff of people who help considerably. Lyle Spatz is in charge of maintaining and organizing our lists of assigned subjects and authors. Rory Costello heads a group of editors who are responsible for turning our submitted biographies into finished products. Warren Corbett heads a team of fact checkers. Bill Nowlin helps foster and advise team or regional projects. Emily Hawks leads an initiative to focus on younger writers and more recent subjects.

We continue to encourage and support "group" projects, and these efforts will have led to the publication of six books since last year's convention. This will make 35 books since the project began. There should be several more in the next year.

As of today we have completed 3794 articles. We have another 800 biographies in progress.

The committee looks forward to a productive 15th year.

Mark Armour Chair, BioProject Committee

### Black Sox Scandal Committee 2016 Annual Report

Since our last annual report, the Black Sox Scandal Research Committee completed the publication *Scandal on the South Side: The 1919 Chicago White Sox*, edited by Jacob Pomrenke with associate editors Rick Huhn, Bill Nowlin, and Len Levin, through the SABR Digital Library program (SABR.org/ebooks). The book, which came out in June 2015, features peer-reviewed biographies of every figure associated with the 1919 White Sox, including all 31 players who made an appearance during the regular season or World Series, owner Charles Comiskey, manager Kid Gleason, executives Harry Grabiner and Tip O'Neill, and even the batboy, Eddie Bennett. It also includes a month-by-month recap of the White Sox's pennant-winning season, and original essays on the team, the World Series against the Cincinnati Reds, and the subsequent Black Sox Scandal.

Our two committee newsletters this past year were chock-full of new information on the Black Sox Scandal. In the December 2015 newsletter, Jacob Pomrenke examined MLB's recent rejection of Shoeless Joe Jackson and Buck Weaver, whose supporters were petitioning to have their names cleared, while Bruce Allardice analyzed the greatness of the 1919 White Sox. Both authors also wrote Black Sox-related articles for the Spring 2016 *Baseball Research Journal:* Pomrenke debunked a myth about the lack of post-scandal interviews by the 1919 World Series participants, while Allardice laid out the evidence that the White Sox also threw games during the 1920 season.

The December 2015 newsletter also included a history of Black Sox reinstatement efforts dating back to 1921; an obituary of Joe Anders, a childhood friend of Joe Jackson; a comparison of American League player salaries in 1919; rare photos of Black Sox prosecutor Edward Prindiville; Kid Gleason's Philadelphia poolroom partner; and gambler Sport Sullivan's rough encounter with Cy Young.

The upcoming June 2016 newsletter includes a question about Shoeless Joe Jackson's middle name (or lack thereof), Pomrenke's list of more than 85 interviews given by the White Sox and Reds players about the 1919 World Series, along with Norm King's study of the 1920 Cincinnati Reds' late-season collapse, Willie Steele's article on "Shufflin' Phil" Douglas, who was banned from baseball in 1922, and a story on singer/actress Lena Horne's connection to the Black Sox Scandal.

The committee's annual meeting at the SABR 46 convention in Miami is scheduled for Saturday, July 30, 2016.

Last year's national convention in Chicago provided an opportunity for committee members to tour the Chicago History Museum's Black Sox collection. We were treated to a private tour of the CHM vault by curator Peter Alter, who also came to the Palmer House Hilton later that week to speak at our annual committee meeting.

### — Jacob Pomrenke

# 2015- 2016 ANNUAL REPORT COLLEGIATE BASEBALL COMMITTEE

The Collegiate Baseball Committee held its Annual Meeting at SABR 45 with approximately 20 attending despite a last minute schedule change. Jim Toole, a retired professor from The Ohio State University made a presentation on a summer trip the 1956 Buckeye baseball team made to the Japan, Korea and the Philippines.

The Fall Newsletter became available for distribution in February 2016.

The Spring Newsletter will be available for distribution around June 15, 2016.

We published all collegians who attended either a Senior or Junior college making their Major League debuts in 20154.

We continued publishing a "necrology" of former collegiate baseball coaches who passed away.

Previous chair Rick Benner has agreed to store the Committee files. This should be considered a temporary solution to the issue of storage of committee records.

The Committee worked to distinguish the records of Thomas Arthur Barry (played one game for the Phillies in 1904) from those of Thomas Austin Barry, who played for Brown University, several minor leagues and coached college football at Notre Dame and University of Wisconsin before starting a career as a lawyer.

Determined that Albert H. Clancy (3 games with the 1911 St. Louis Browns) had attended the University of New Mexico, a fact previously unknown.

Submitted two sets of corrections on collegiate alumni information to Baseball-Reference. The first involved changes to the 2015 debut information (additions and subtractions). The second set included previously unknown collegiate connections, primarily for minor league players.

Surveyed the Committee regarding the preferred means for making available the information the committee chair possesses on collegiate programs. Twenty-six of 197 members (13%) participated. The results will be presented in the Spring newsletter and discussed at the SABR 46 Committee Meeting.

Karl Green Chair, Collegiate Baseball Committee May 31, 2016

# **Pictorial History Committee**

#### Part I

The current "found" status of the image index is: 18,338 of 18,804 Major League players (97.5%) - 39 found this year 690 of 699 Major League managers (98.7%) – 2 found this year 1,537 of 1,537 Major League coaches (100%) 1,205 of 1,543 Major League umpires (78.1%) – 66 found this year

We are still in the process of cataloging my minor league player photos, but our minor league image database lists just over 200,000 minor league players (not counting foreign leagues), with more than 550,000 player/team combinations.

Near term plans for chair:

progress on minor league index, update newsletter index, frequently misidentified photo index

### Part II – Awards

The third George Michael SABR Pictorial History Committee Award was given to PHC founder and its first chairman **Tom Shieber**. The announcement will appear in the July newsletter and will be available on the SABR PHC web page.

#### Part III – newsletters

We have issued two newsletters:

Dec. 2015: We reported on some excellent 19thC cabinet photos of Milwaukee players found by Dennis Pajot at the Milwaukee Public Library and reported on a newly found c1860 Brooklyn Atlantics team photo. This issue also featured analysis of photos claimed to depict World Series games at West Side Grounds, Chicago. We also corrected player IDs in two well-known early dual team photos from 1886 (Bos-NY opening day) and 1903 (Pit-Bos WS) respectively.

July 2016 (to issue this weekend): This included the announcement of the 2016 George Michael SABR PHC Award winner. We featured the recent large find of missing player images by Justin Mckinney and the ID of an unknown Highlander after years of searching.

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# The Negro Leagues Committee Report submitted by Larry Lester

The Negro Leagues Committee (NLC) had another banner year. Its quarterly newsletter, *The Courier* goes out to roughly 700 members. Since our last convention in Houston, we have lost 12 Negro League veterans: Monte Irvin, Al Spearman, Carl "Yogi" Holden, Sr., Rev. Willie James Honicutt, Jr., Davey Whitney, Sr., Charlie "Whip" Davis, Ted Toles, Jr., Walter T. Williams, Jr., Shedrick "BB" Green, Jr., Mahlon Duckett, Walter Lee "Bubble Gum" Gibbons, and James "Red" Moore, III.

We also lost SABR member Rick Meister, at the age of 71, while attending Spring Training games in Florida. He was a lifelong friend, scholar, and devout baseball fan, and site coordinator for the Detroit Jerry Malloy Negro League Conference.

The NLC continues to raise funds to purchase headstones for unmarked graves of former players and executives. Recent marker purchases and installations from the past 12 months have been for: **Gustavus "Gus" Brooks** (Oakwood Cemetery, Long Island, NY), **John Thomas "Topeka Jack" Johnson** Mount Auburn Cemetery, Topeka, KS), and **Clarence "Waxey" Williams** (Atlantic City Cemetery, Atlantic City, NJ).

The Grave Marker Project is led by Dr. Jeremy Krock of Peoria, Illinois. Donations can be made to the SABR office. More information can be found at: <a href="http://www.larrylester42.com/grave-markers.html">http://www.larrylester42.com/grave-markers.html</a>

This year's \$4300 Thomas R. Garrett Memorial Scholarship winners are: Kevin Crosby from Maryland was the winner of the Robert Peterson Scholarship. Jansen Rouillard from Wichita Falls, Texas was the winner of the Tweed Webb Scholarship. Grant Heindselman from Dallas, Texas was the winner of the Rube Foster Scholarship. Josephine Riedell of Iowa and Grace Rootes from Indiana were the winners of the Jimmie Crutchfield Scholarships.

### Noteworthy publications this year included:

Last Train to Cooperstown: The 2006 Baseball Hall of Fame Inductions from the Negro League Baseball Era by Kevin L. Mitchell Daddy's Scrapbook: Henry Kimbro of the Negro Baseball League, A Daughter's Perspective by Dr. Harriet Kimbro-Hamilton

Currently we know of three accredited classes at colleges and universities. They are: Negro League History, at Kent State (Stark campus) by Dr. Leslie Heaphy Baseball and American Culture, at Iowa Western Community College by Dr. John Shorey History 377 - History of Sport: The Black Athlete at University of Miami by Dr. Donald Spivey

### Other notable events included:

Larry Lester, committee chairman, won SABR's Henry Chadwick Award

Willie Mays is one of 17 persons to receive the Presidential Medal of Freedom from President Barack Obama. He joined other former Negro Leaguers like Hank Aaron, Ernie Banks, Buck O'Neil and Jackie Robinson

In his first year on the ballot, Don Newcombe is elected to the Shrine of the Eternals, a national organization equivalent to the Baseball Hall of Fame.

Joseph and Rendon Marbury are inducted into the Robert Russa Moton High School Hall of Fame in Birmingham, Alabama Derrick Jones, educator, returned to his alma mater, Appalachian State University for a residency featuring lectures and presentations on the Negro Baseball Leagues Era. His interactive program was shared with schools and communities in North Carolina and Virginia.

Robert Paige, oldest son of Satchel, gives a lecture, Q&A session at the North American Society for Sports History (NASSH) conference, hosted by the University of Miami

The Ohio State House introduces a bill to designate October 7 as "Moses Fleetwood Walker Day."

Al Spearman and Ernie Westfield appear at the SABR45 National Convention, at the Palmer House Hilton in Chicago.

The 19th annual Negro League Conference, with a theme of "Barnstorming Baseball, Blues & BBQ" was held in Overland Park, Kansas. We celebrated Satchel Paige's 110th Birthday with several family members in attendance. George Altman, former Kansas City Monarch and Chicago Cub was present.

Cumberland Posey is elected to the Naismith Memorial Basketball Hall of Fame. Posey becomes the first man enshrined into both the Baseball and Basketball Hall of Fames.

The Los Angeles Dodgers announce that in 2016, their stadium will erect a statute of Jackie Robinson. Robinson becomes the first player with a statute at Dodger Stadium.

# Nineteenth Century Committee, 2015-2016 Annual Report

Prepared May, 2016 by Peter Mancuso, Chairman

Our Nineteenth Century Committee held its' last annual business meeting during SABR 45 in Chicago in June of 2015 and will formally meet during SABR 46 in Miami in late July 2016.

Our Research Committee has continued to publish its regular quarterly newsletter, "Nineteenth Century Notes" (which is never fewer than 12 pages) in a timely manner thanks to our **Vice-Chair, Bob Bailey**.

Since last summer the Committee has organized and hosted our 8<sup>th</sup> Annual Frederick Ivor-Campbell 19<sup>th</sup> Century Base Ball Conference, a.k.a. "The Fred" which took place on April 15 & 16, 2016 at its usual venue, the National Baseball Hall of Fame and Museum in Cooperstown, NY. "The Fred" sold out to its maximum 57 person capacity within three-weeks of announcing its registration had begun (79 persons registered counting attendees' guests who attended all or some of the meal functions). "The Fred" will take place again next April 21st & 22nd. Although, we were hoping to increase "The Fred's" capacity in 2017 we will not be able to do so until at least 2018 due to renovations planned for 2017 at the HOF.

In addition to "The Fred" our committee is in the final planning stages of its second city-specific symposium, the "Philadelphia 19<sup>th</sup> Century Baseball Interdisciplinary Symposium" scheduled for November 12, 2016 in Center City Philadelphia. In keeping to the strategy of bringing a few non-baseball historians in as presenters to this symposium series, we have already secured a commitment from co-authors Daniel R. Biddle (Pulitzer Prize, Investigative Reporting) and Murray Dubin (veteran Philadelphia Inquirer reporter and editor and book author) as our luncheon keynote speakers. Their enormous research and subsequent book, "Tasting Freedom: Octavius Catto and the Battle for Equality in Civil War America" will do much to broaden symposium attendees understanding of how the famed 19<sup>th</sup> century Philadelphia Pythian [African-American] Base Ball Club was part of a larger struggle by its members to attain freedom and equality.

Thanks to the efforts of **Adam Darowski** and our Overlooked 19<sup>th</sup> Century Baseball Legends Project Committee that committee conducted our annual Overlooked 19<sup>th</sup> Century Baseball Legends selection which included a committee-wide primary election with a slate of 25 candidates in January/February 2016 and the (soon to be launched) SABR-wide final election in late May/ early June. The 2016 Overlooked 19<sup>th</sup> Century Baseball Legend election results will be announced at our annual business meeting during SABR 46 in Miami.

In addition to the above, the Nineteenth Century Committee formed two new working sub-committees since last year:

The "19th Century Baseball Grave Marker Project Committee" currently under the capable Chairmanship of Ralph Carhart planned,

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organized and completed its first marker placement and dedication ceremony, for the grave of baseball pioneer, early NY Knickerbocker player and club President, James Whyte Davis, buried in 1899 in an unmarked grave in Brooklyn's Green Wood Cemetery. This specific project was recommended by Nineteenth Century Committee co-founder and co-chair emeritus and MLB's Official Historian, **John Thorn** at the 2015 "Fred". The 19cBB Grave Marker Project Committee was quickly formed under the leadership of **Bob Gregory** who had to defer his Chairmanship (due to illness) to **Ralph Carhart**. This project committee is currently planning future marker placements and dedications. In addition to over \$2,500 raised through donations from SABR members, the project was given an additional boost of \$10,000 from MLB and its Commissioner's Office and has recently received an offer of an annual \$5,000 sustaining grant due largely to the success of this committee's initial success with internal fundraising and its highly visible and successful first grave marker dedication.

The second new project committee which got underway in 2015 is a book project committee currently working on a two volume set, "Baseball's 19<sup>th</sup> Century 'Winter' Meetings'". The first volume's (1857-1875) Editor-in-Chief is **Jeremy Hodges** and the second volume's (1876-1900) Editor-in-Chief is **Susan Lantz**. Approximately 40 Nineteenth Century Committee members are engaged in this book project as writers, associate and copy editors and fact checkers. The project's completion is estimated to be by late Spring 2017.

A "19<sup>th</sup> Century Baseball Research Resources Committee" that we had begun a preliminary discussion on last summer at SABR 45 in Chicago has not gotten past that stage. The topic will be brought up again at our 2016 annual business meeting in Miami.

At this past April's "Fred" in Cooperstown we conducted a preliminary discussion, which was followed by a flurry of emails, on how to bring 19<sup>th</sup> century baseball writers into greater general awareness and possible posthumous recognition. Several ideas were mentioned but not yet fully explored including, a biographical encyclopedic work, inclusion as a specific category in our current Overlooked Legends selection process, a separate annual selection and recognition process; developing a possible relationship with the BBWAA, etc. This discussion will continue during 2016-2017.

Finally, three annual Nineteenth Century Committee "Chairman's Awards" were announced at our summer 2015 annual business meeting in Chicago. The 2015 recipients for service to our Committee were: **Ralph Carhart** for his dedicated efforts in connection with SABR's Negro Leagues Grave Marker Project to mark the grave of 19<sup>th</sup>-century player and Baseball Hall of Famer, Sol White; **Don Jensen** for his exemplary tour of Manhattan's Historic Madison Square District in conjunction with our November 2014, NYC 19<sup>th</sup> Century Baseball Interdisciplinary Symposium and; **John Zinn** for his role in co-planning and co-presenting that same NYC Symposium.

# Official Scoring Committee, July 2016

The SABR Board of Directors approved the creation of an Official Scoring Committee on April 2, 2016. As of July 21, 2016, the committee has 65 members.

Jacob Pomrenke created a committee web page and a page for committee files.

One of the folders within the committee files is for oral histories and articles on official scorers. We have worked with John McMurray of the Oral History Committee; John is a vice-chair of the Official Scoring Committee and serves as the liaison with the Oral History Committee. We are encouraging members of both committees to interview official scorers and capture their stories. The folder in our committee page now has transcripts, recordings, and/or articles about Chaz Scoggins, Mike Shalin, Ed Munson, Bob Rosenberg, Chuck Dybdal, and Susan Fornoff. The interview with Fornoff resulted in an article that was also posted to the BioProject web page.

Other files on the site include:

Bill Shannon's booklet on official scoring, an chapters on official scoring from Tim Kurkjian's latest book and from A Diamond Appraised, the 2015-16 NCAA baseball rule book, and the 2016 official baseball rules (all are pdfs).

Word documents on the following topics related to official scoring and the influence of the scorers include:

- No-hitters and milestones
- History
- Links to on-line stories dealing with official scoring
- Scoring rules changes and origins
- Interesting plays and situations
- Elisa Green Williams and other women

Retrosheet has been cooperative about helping to identify official scorers for particular games. David Vincent has a nearly complete list going back to 2004, and Retrosheet is now listing the official scorer in its box scores. Gabriel Schechter, who earlier has assisted Bill Shannon with a list of official scorers for no-hitters, has been helping by going through scoresheets at the Hall of Fame.

Other interests and activities by members:

Christopher Phillips is working on a history of official scoring.

Jim Wohlenhaus helps deduce play-by-play of games for Retrosheet and is tracking discrepancies/scoring errors. Mitch Soivenski is also interested in helping to identify and correct official scoring errors.

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Richard Hershberger is a self-proclaimed "19<sup>th</sup> century guy" with a self-proclaimed cut off of 1885. His interests include official scoring during this period, especially related to whether or not Paul Hines made an unassisted triple play in 1878 (and he had a really interesting article on that in the recent *Baseball Research Journal*).

The committee issued a newsletter in the spring: http://sabr.org/content/official-scoring-committee-spring-summer-2016-newsletter

Stew Thornley, Chair

### SABR Women in Baseball Committee – Annual Summary (Activities June 2015 to May 2016)

Members and friends of the SABR Women in Baseball Committee contributed to the following live events/papers, publications and digital media activities that enhanced our collective knowledge of women in baseball and their participation in 2015-2016. Annual highlights include:

# **Presentation/Panels**

2015 Fan Fest—July 2015, Cincinnati

• One of the panels for MLBAM fanfest involved 4 young people talking about their experiences with baseball. Included in the group was Lawna Ferrell who played for Baseball for All. When asked what she would change about baseball Lawna simply said "Let girls play"

### Individual/Group Presentations

- Mary Ann Barragan, "'Dolly Vardens': The First Paid Professional Baseball Team"-at the 19<sup>th</sup> Century conference in April, 2016, Cooperstown, NY
- Leslie Heaphy, African American Women in Baseball, March 2016, Kent Stark Campus, Kent State.
- Jane Leavy, keynote Speaker at Cooperstown Symposium, May 2016.
- Jean Ardell moderated discussion with Jane Leavy and Janet Marie Smith, Cooperstown Symposium, May 2016.
- IWBC Symposium at Louisville Slugger Museum, Labor Day weekend, 2015.—Perry Barber, Leslie Heaphy, Kat Williams, Maybelle Blair, Katie Horstman, and Mary Hums.
- Sarah Gelles participated in a panel at the 2016 Analytics Conference.
- Dorothy Seymour Mills appears in documentary "Town Teams: Bigger Than Baseball," and writes about it as well as presenting on a number of occasions about the film.

### **PUBLICATIONS**

### **Articles**

• Guest blog by AJ Richard on attending the Red Sox Women's fantasy baseball camp - <a href="http://www.chicagonow.com/token-female/2016/02/guest-blog-i-was-part-of-first-womens-red-sox-fantasy-camp/">http://www.chicagonow.com/token-female/2016/02/guest-blog-i-was-part-of-first-womens-red-sox-fantasy-camp/</a>

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• Rob Neyer article on female scouts- <a href="http://www.nytimes.com/2016/03/29/sports/baseball/a-harder-look-at-female-scouts-shows-more-in-the-job-than-thought.html">http://www.nytimes.com/2016/03/29/sports/baseball/a-harder-look-at-female-scouts-shows-more-in-the-job-than-thought.html</a>? r=0

**Books** 

• Encyclopedia of Women in Baseball—reissued in paperback format by McFarland

### Newsletter(s)

• 3 issues sent out

### **DIGITAL**

### Social media

- Launch of podcast: attagirl: women and girls in baseball by member AJ Richard (https://itunes.apple.com/us/podcast/attagirl-women-girls-in-baseball/id1090168461?mt=2)
- Baseball Heritage Museum publishing a monthly artifact and in March 2016 focused on Women's baseball

### Report Submitted by Leslie Heaphy, chair