

2023 SABR Annual Report
Appendix 1: Regional Chapters

Allan Roth Chapter (Los Angeles, CA)

Saturday, Dec 10, 2022

10 AM to noon Pacific Time on Zoom only.

Author and SABR member Justin McKinney spoke on the Union Association and California, with excerpts from his book *Baseball's Union Association: The Short, Strange Life of an Early Major League*, which will be published by McFarland. The California-born players who appeared in the Union Association in 1884. The lowly Washington Nationals featured five California natives and the league employed numerous players with California connections.

Jon Leonoudakis discussed his new documentary *Ball Four Turns 40*. The film is about the Baseball Reliquary's legendary celebration of Jim Bouton's iconic book on the occasion of its 40th anniversary. They staged an astonishing 6-hour symposium on the book, featuring a panel discussion on the book's cultural impact, the world premiere of the documentary about the Seattle Pilots, and a panel discussion about the Seattle Pilots and *Ball Four*. The one-hour film stars Jim Bouton, Tommy Davis, Greg Goossen, and filmmaker Ron Shelton.

Dan Taylor spoke about "The Almost Jackie" – Kenny Washington and the football legend's place in baseball history. In the late 1930s Washington was a football sensation at UCLA. In 1946 he became the Jackie Robinson of football when he joined the Los Angeles Rams. However, those who saw him play insisted baseball was his best sport. Dan will delve into that, his brief stint with the Los Angeles Angels and three times in which Washington was at the center of efforts to integrate baseball. Dan Taylor is a former award-winning television sportscaster and currently the television broadcaster for the Fresno Grizzlies. He is the author of five books. Most recent is *Walking Alone, the Untold Journey of Football Pioneer Kenny Washington*. He also collaborated with the legendary scout George Genovese on his autobiography, *George Genovese, A Scout's Report: My 70-Years in Baseball*. Dan is a member of our chapter, and he joins us from his home in Fresno.

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Saturday, March 18, 2023

10 AM to 3 PM

In the backyard of Jeff Hubbard's home in Placentia, CA

Chicago Cub Carmen Fanzone and his wife joined us. They were delightful. Author David Nemecek has donated his book collection to SABR. Several of Nemecek's books were free to every person, as long as the supply lasted. Trivia questions on 2022 season oddities.

— **Barry Mednick**

Dusty Baker Chapter (Sacramento, CA)

Overview

- The chapter returned to regular quarterly in-person meetings in 2023.
- The chapter holds virtual meetings in collaboration with the Lefty O'Doul – San Francisco Bay SABR Chapter approximately every two months.
- Attendance for virtual meetings typically ranges from approximately 20 to 40 and has included SABR members nationwide.
- Attendance for in-person chapter meetings typically averages approximately 30.
- In-person chapter meetings always include the opportunity for members to discuss research projects, participate in a book/memorabilia raffle (everyone wins at least once), and engage in casual social time before and after.
- In addition to virtual and in-person meetings where research/book presentations are made, the chapter also holds smaller, more informal, in-person social gatherings such as happy hours and ballgame outings.
- Many chapter members are also engaged with the Pacific Coast League Historical Society and regularly contribute research articles to their newsletter.
- In the spring of 2023, the chapter partnered with a member to raise money for Keaton's Child Cancer Alliance. The member owns "Little Fenway West," which includes a wiffle-ball sized replica of Fenway Park and a personal baseball museum, and he uses the facility to raise funds for the local organization. Our first chapter meeting there will be June 10, 2023, and we hope to make the partnership an annual event.
- The chapter will be establishing bylaws, adding leadership positions, and holding an election during the next SABR year.
- The chapter maintains a social media presence through the following links:
 - YouTube: <https://www.youtube.com/@zakford>
 - Twitter: <https://twitter.com/BakerSacSABR>
 - Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/DustyBakerSacramentoSABR/>

2022-23 Activities

- June 7, 2022 (Virtual Meeting) – The Dusty Baker-Sacramento and Lefty O'Doul-Bay Area SABR chapters welcomed Craig Calcaterra, author of "Rethinking Fandom: How to Beat the Sports-Industrial Complex at Its Own Game." Sports fandom isn't what it used to be. Owners and executives increasingly count on the blind loyalty of their fans and too often act against the team's best interest. Intentionally tanking a season to get a high draft pick, scamming local governments to build cushy new stadiums, and actively subverting the players have become business as usual in professional sports. In "Rethinking Fandom," sportswriter (and lifelong sports fan) Calcaterra argues that fans have more power than they realize to change how their teams behave. With his characteristic wit and piercing commentary, Calcaterra calls for a radical reexamination

of what it means to be a fan in the twenty-first century. Calcaterra is the writer and editor of the daily baseball, news, and culture newsletter, Cup of Coffee. Previously, he was the lead national baseball writer for NBC Sports, where he launched and edited the baseball blog HardballTalk. Calcaterra's work has appeared on NPR, Bloomberg News, BBC, and ESPN.

- June 12, 2022 (In-Person Dinner) - The Dusty Baker-Sacramento SABR Chapter held a dinner meeting with Johnny Doskow, Sacramento River Cats play-by-play announcer (now with the Oakland Athletics), who shared his unique experiences during COVID and his 30 years as a minor league announcer; Daryl Grigsby, member and author of "Celebrating Ourselves: African-Americans and the Promise of Baseball," who spoke of how baseball is intricately woven in the fabric of African-American family, social, and political life; and Walt Yost, member and author of "A Glove and a Prayer," a novel of baseball, labor, and race in the Gilded Age.
- June 25, 2022 (In-Person BBQ and Pecos League Ballgame) - The Dusty Baker-Sacramento and Lefty O'Doul-Bay Area SABR chapters had numerous members join JapanBall, who spoke before a virtual meeting previously, for the last stop of their "USA West Coast Tour." Members enjoyed a BBQ and a Martinez Surgeon game at Joe DiMaggio Fields.
- July 14, 2022 (Virtual Meeting) – The Dusty Baker-Sacramento and Lefty O'Doul-Bay Area SABR chapters welcomed authors Judith Hiltner and Jim Walker, who discussed their book "Red Barber: The Life and Legacy of a Baseball Legend." "Red Barber" follows the trajectory of Barber's long career from radio and television play-by-play man for the Cincinnati Reds, Brooklyn Dodgers, and New York Yankees to his work calling college and professional football games, his nine-year tenure as director of sports for CBS Radio, and his second acts as an Episcopal lay reader, sportswriter, and weekly guest with Bob Edwards on NPR's Morning Edition. This talented public figure was also a private man committed to rigorous self-examination and willing to evolve and grow under the influence of changing times. When the Dodgers first signed Jackie Robinson and smashed the color barrier in Major League Baseball, Barber struggled to overcome the racism he had absorbed from his culture as a child. But after observing the vicious abuse Robinson endured from opposing fans, Barber became an ardent supporter of him and the many Black players who followed. Barber was also bothered deeply by the strains that his single-minded careerism imposed on his family. He was challenged to navigate longtime family tensions after his only child, Sarah, came out as a lesbian. And his primary role during the later years of his life was caretaking for his wife, Lylah, during her decline from Alzheimer's disease, at a time when the ailment was something many families concealed. Ultimately "Red Barber" traces the career of a true radio and television pioneer who was committed to the civic responsibility of mass media. Barber firmly believed the most important role of a broadcaster was telling the truth and promoting public well-being.

- October 13, 2022 (Virtual Meeting) – The Dusty Baker-Sacramento and Lefty O’Doul-Bay Area SABR chapters welcomed Mark Armour and Dan Levitt, authors of “Intentional Balk: Baseball’s Thin Line Between Innovation and Cheating.” From the moment of its inception, the quintessentially American sport of baseball has included cheating. Sometimes that rule-skirting is embraced as ingenious hijinks; other times, reviled as an unforgivable trespass. But what exactly is the difference? Why is skipping bases less egregious than signing underage players? Is sign-stealing evidence of ingenuity, or does it fundamentally change the nature of the game? In “Intentional Balk,” nationally-recognized baseball historians Dan Levitt and Mark Armour examine cheating in baseball as the pursuit of a competitive edge that in other endeavors might be heralded as innovation. Wherever you come down on the question, “Intentional Balk” offers an engrossing chronicle of America’s pastime and the players, coaches, groundskeepers and management who for more than 150 years have sought any advantage to win at all costs.
- November 29, 2022 (Virtual Meeting) – The Dusty Baker-Sacramento and Lefty O’Doul-Bay Area SABR chapters welcomed Jill Gearin, announcer of the Visalia Rawhide. She shared her story and provided updates on the California League and Arizona Fall League. In 2019, Jill Gearin became the first female announcer in California League history, and one of only three female broadcasters in minor league baseball. She made her major league debut in 2022 and recently called Arizona Fall League games.
- February 4, 2023 (Virtual Meeting) – The Dusty Baker-Sacramento and Lefty O’Doul-Bay Area SABR chapters met to celebrate “SABR Day!” We were delighted to kick off the new year with presentations from documentary filmmaker Jon Leonoudakis and Japanese baseball historian and author Rob Fitts. Jon provided an overview of his baseball work and talked about his recent documentary, “Ball Four Turns Forty.” The film, which is available to view on Vimeo, documents the fortieth anniversary celebration the Baseball Reliquary held twelve years ago. Jon also brought us up to date on other projects he is working on, including his Lefty O’Doul documentary. Rob chatted with us about his numerous books on Japanese baseball, including his newest book “Nichibeï Yakyu: US Tours of Japan, Volume 1, 1907 - 1958.” Over 100 baseball teams from the United States and Hawaii have crossed the Pacific to play baseball in Japan. “Nichibeï Yakyu: US Tours of Japan” is the first book written in English that focuses on these international tours.
- February 16, 2023 (In-Person Social Gathering) – The Dusty Baker-Sacramento SABR Chapter held a happy hour gathering at the tasting room for Baker Family Wines, Dusty’s winery.
- March 18, 2023 (In-Person Luncheon) – The Dusty Baker-Sacramento SABR Chapter held a luncheon meeting with Robert Garratt, who presented on his new book, “Jazz Age Giant: Charles A. Stoneham and New York City Baseball in the Roaring Twenties,” and Eric Gray, who presented on his new book, “Backyards to Ballparks: More Personal Baseball Stories from the Stands and Beyond.”

- April 24, 2023 (Virtual Meeting) – The Dusty Baker-Sacramento and Lefty O’Doul-Bay Area SABR chapters held a special 19th century baseball meeting. Peter Mancuso, longtime co-chair of SABR’s Nineteenth Century Committee and a 2020 recipient of the Bob Davids Award, SABR’s highest honor, joined us to provide an overview of the committee and its 14th annual SABR Frederick Ivor-Campbell 19th Century Base Ball Conference in Cooperstown April 28-29. Then, Justin Mckinney presented on his new book, “Baseball’s Union Association: The Short, Strange Life of a 19th-Century Major League.” The book was recently announced as a 2023 SABR Baseball Research Award winner. Mckinney provided a California angle on the topic, discussing early California baseball and the Union Association players with California ties.
- May 21, 2023 (In-Person Ballgame) – Multiple members of the Dusty Baker-Sacramento SABR Chapter carpooled to San Francisco and attended a Giants game together.
- May 23, 2023 (Virtual Meeting) – The Dusty Baker-Sacramento and Lefty O’Doul-Bay Area SABR chapters received an update on filmmaker Jon Leonoudakis’s upcoming film “Lefty O’Doul: Baseball’s Forgotten Hero.” Leonoudakis was joined by biographer Dennis Snelling, who wrote “Lefty O’Doul: Baseball’s Forgotten Ambassador,” and Lefty’s cousin, Tom O’Doul.

— **Zak Ford**

Ted Williams Chapter (San Diego, CA)

REGIONAL MEETINGS

Our chapter scheduled in-person regional meetings for the first time since January 2020. We are planning to schedule 3-4 regional meetings in this coming year.

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| August 19, 2022 | “Introduction to SABR and Sullivan Family Baseball Research Center (BRC)” at the San Carlos Library. Presentations were by, Jeremy Davies (Library-SABR Liaison), and, Tom Larwin (SABR Chapter) |
| December 10, 2022 | Joint Zoom meeting managed by Los Angeles Allan Roth Chapter with three speakers, each an author and SABR member: Justin McKinney, Dan Taylor, and Jon Leonoudakis |
| January 28, 2023 | Three speakers: Mike Koser (Baseball Ballpark podcast); Mel Proctor (sportscaster); and Andy McCue (author/researcher, SABR member) |
| February 24, 2023 | Held at the Glenner Alzheimer’s Family Center, our speaker was Eric Gray (author, SABR member) |

STEERING COMMITTEE

Our chapter’s Steering Committee held three meetings this year: December 7, 2022; April 10, 2023; and May 8, 2023.

At our May 2023 Committee meeting Bylaws were approved. Our chapter's first election of officers is scheduled for the 2023-24 fiscal year. As of May 31, 2023, our committee had nine members: nine voting members (four officers and five at-large members), plus a San Diego Library Liaison member, and two ex-officio members.

PROJECTS AND NEWSLETTERS

Three Newsletters

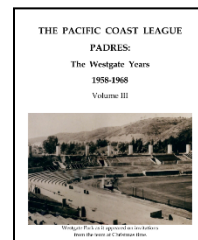
June 2022 Eight articles, 18 pages.
October 2022 Seven articles, 27 pages.
February 2023 Seven articles, 19 pages.



Three Projects

July 2022

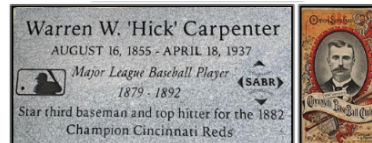
San Diego Padres: The Westgate Years: 1958-1968, by Ray Brandes. A manuscript of this book was completed in 1998 but never published, and seemingly lost. In early 2022 the manuscript was discovered along with old computer disk files. Our chapter had the book digitized, photos added, and published in digital form by SABR. It is available on our web site.



August 2022

Grave Marker Project, Warren W. "Hick" Carpenter

This project included manufacture and installation of Carpenter's grave marker. Our chapter managed the project with financial support from SABR's 19th Century Grave Marker Committee. The project included a 17-page report on Carpenter's career (1879-1892).



Mar/Apr 2023 **"2023 Padres": Member Survey.** The survey's summary report will be included in our June 2023 Newsletter.

Projects being considered for 2023-24 include historical markers for Balboa Stadium and San Diego Stadium, and a follow-up survey of members regarding the Padres 2023 season.

PARTNERSHIPS

City of San Diego Public Library (Sullivan Family Baseball Research Center). The [Baseball Research Center](#) (BRC) was created in 1998 in a partnership between the City of San Diego and our chapter. The San Diego Public Library has a staff member who provides liaison with our chapter and serves on our Steering Committee. This past year the BRC received a significant donation of books and publications from SABR (Phoenix headquarters) that totaled approximately 1,000 publications.

Glenner Alzheimer's Family Centers. On March 23, 2023, we participated with Glenner management at its Town Square located in Chula Vista. We provided counsel on the addition of a

new, specially designed wiffle ball area for Alzheimer patients. Discussions are underway for development of a continuing partnership for 2023-24.

SABR 19th Century Grave Marker Committee. We partnered with this committee to share costs of manufacture and implementation of the Carpenter grave marker.

Los Angeles Allan Roth SABR Chapter. We have partnered with the LA Chapter on several Zoom meetings. We have a current “super-regional” meeting planned for June 17, 2023, at the Lake Elsinore Diamond that will take place before a minor league game.

CHAPTER WEBSITE

The schedule of our regional meeting events, chapter newsletters, and chapter project reports are available at this link: <https://sabr.org/chapter/san-diego-ted-williams-chapter/>

— **Tom Larwin**

Lefty O’Doul Chapter (San Francisco, CA)

The Lefty O’Doul Chapter has held regular meetings on Zoom over the past year.

We continue to partner with the Dusty Baker Chapter on these meetings and are planning to include other west coast chapters as well in the coming year.

The lack of venues as well as the reluctance of leadership to plan indoor events due to the pandemic has prohibited planning of an in-person meeting over the last year. Most of our usual venues have closed or changed hands or gotten prohibitively expensive to use.

We have been successful with our monthly meetings on Zoom and plan to continue with that format. It is great to have presenters and guests from all over the country join us. We typically see over 30 folks at these events.

Our guests included Judith Hiltner and Jim Walker discussing their book on Red Barber. SABR Day featured Jon Leonoudakis, talking about *Ball Four Turns Forty* and Rob Fitts chatting about his new book on US baseball tours of Japan.

SABR President Mark Armour and Treasurer Dan Levitt were guests and talked about *Intentional Balk*.

Jill Gearin, announcer for the Visalia Rawhide, shared her experiences in the booth and some updates on the California League and the Arizona Fall League.

We looked at baseball in the 19th Century with Peter Mancuso, chair of the 19th Century

Committee, and Justin McKinney, who highlighted 19th century players from California.

We enjoyed an opportunity for a virtual Art of Baseball Tour when the George Krevsky Gallery presented the exhibit during Spring Training. It was quite different to visit a virtual art exhibit.

We continue to partner with other organizations as often as we can. The Pacific Coast League Historical Society is a longtime partner, although there was not a meeting last year. Gary Mintz invites us to his always interesting New York Giants Historical Preservation Society meetings.

Our final meeting for the SABR calendar year will feature a look at the in-production documentary *Lefty O'Doul: Baseball's Forgotten Legend*. We will be joined by filmmaker Jon Leonoudakis as well as Lefty's cousin Tom O'Doul, and Dennis Snelling, who has written the recent biography of Lefty.

We are planning a meeting with the Bay Area Vintage Baseball League and visit to one of their games later this summer.

Leadership continues to work on elements of the Chapter Standards.

Thanks to our partner, Zak Ford, for being a great zoomer and to our team of Steve Treder, co-chair, and Peter MacPhail, treasurer, for their input and longtime support.

— **Marlene Vogelsang**

Rocky Mountain Chapter (Denver, CO)

The past fiscal year has been one of continued growth and success for the Rocky Mountain Chapter of SABR ("RM Chapter").

Since June 1, 2022, the RM Chapter has grown its membership by exactly 8% to a total of 164 members within the RM Chapter geographic region, including well over 230 members and followers worldwide!

The first special event held was on June 15 when we hosted special guest Zack Rosenthal, Assistant General Manager of the Colorado Rockies, who was gracious enough to restart his "State of the Rockies Address" by giving an update on the current state of affairs within the ballclub and then answering any questions our chapter members and followers had.

The RM Chapter was also able to continue its success of holding well-attended events, virtually and in-person. To close out the 2022 calendar year, the RM Chapter held a Special Holiday Dinner to celebrate all the great accomplishments and recognition of the RM Chapter Board of Directors and of course all its wonderful members.

To start to the 2023 calendar year, the RM Chapter launched a newly redesigned website that was the result of our dedicated SABR member Joe Adona. The newly redesigned website provides a more user friendly portal into the events and information available to all RM Chapter and SABR members.

Then on February 5, the RM Chapter held its annual SABR Day with a special in-person event at FAST Performance Athletic Training Center, owned and operated by former Colorado Rockies pitcher Jason Hirsh. Jason provided everyone with a personal tour of his facility, as well as introduced us to the field of athletic performance training, including some of the advanced analytics used and provided to its members, specifically in the baseball world. We then observed local position players and pitchers in workouts as they prepares for the upcoming season and saw how analytics was incorporated into their daily evaluation and routine. In addition, Jason and his staff taught us about the various analytics utilized in today's game and available daily at FAST Performance.

Next the RM Chapter held another special event on April 18 for its newly formed Baseball Cards Group, where fellow baseball card enthusiasts and fans gathered with to talk about our collections, debate the best sets and cards.

Also during the 2022-23 fiscal season, the RM Chapter continued its long standing tradition of monthly lunch meetings. The RM Chapter was able to continue the success of holding virtual luncheons as well as starting up again the popular in-person monthly luncheons at the Blake Street Tavern in downtown Denver.

The RM Chapter also will be beginning a monthly newsletter starting in June 2023, to better communicate with our members and followers all the events and available projects they can participate in not only within the RM Chapter but also with SABR through out the world.

The RM Chapter had a great 2022-2023 fiscal season and look forward to its continued growth and success in the months to come!

– **Alex Marks**

Connecticut Smoky Joe Wood Chapter (Hartford, CT)

Once again, our chapter has had a busy year. Several of our members went down to Baltimore for the 50th annual SABR convention, and we had members who did presentations there, such as Paul Hensler, Alan Cohen and Steve Krevisky. Paul also organized a brief meeting there with Greg Bader, Orioles vice President of Administration and Experience.

In October 2022, we had our fall meeting at Middlesex Community College, Steve's home campus. We enjoyed listening to Tony Morante, a long time Yankee employee, who discussed his book, titled: *The New York Game*, a history of baseball since the 19th century, Steve Katz discussing his book about 19th century hurler Candy Cummings, and Steve Krevisky pinch-hitting for Don Mueller on his theme about New Britain's own Steve Dalkowski.

December 2022 featured our annual holiday party at Casa Mia Restaurant at the Hawthorne Inn, organized by Stan Dziurgot. Bill Ryczek gave an entertaining talk there.

In the late winter, we had a chapter breakfast at a local diner, the Athenian in Middletown, where we talked baseball with no agenda.

Our spring meeting, again at Middlesex CC, featured Justin McKinney talking about the Union Association, and Dan Taylor doing a presentation about football great Kenny Washington, who also played baseball well, and was a contemporary of Jackie Robinson. The bio for Kenny will soon be on the SABR website. Also, Alan Cohen discussed his Negro League research, and Paul Hensler moderated a panel about Naugatuck High School's long winning streak in the early 1970s. He has also authored a book about this baseball team.

Several of our members will attend the upcoming annual SABR convention in Chicago. Alan Cohen and Steve Krevisky will each present at the convention. They also have articles in the upcoming issue of *The National Pastime*.

Twice a year, we publish a chapter newsletter, edited by Stan Osowiecki. It's called *The Woodpile*, and it features various articles by our members on a number of interesting topics. It's a nice way to reach people and get our members involved!

Our fall meeting will likely be in October, with speakers to be determined.

Chapter officers and leaders:

- President: Steve Krevisky
- VP and Treasurer: Alan Cohen
- New member coordinator: Stan Dziurgot
- Newsletter editor: Stan Osowiecki

— **Steve Krevisky**

Bob Davids Chapter (Washington, DC)

The Bob Davids Chapter of SABR — named for the Society's founder — saw progress on many fronts over the past year, and identified areas where more progress can be made.

Working With Booz Allen Hamilton: The chapter had known since 2019 it would need to find a new home for its annual chapter meeting if it was going to be done in person; the hotel that had served as its home for at least the past decade closed in early 2020 (by design) and was imploded over the Thanksgiving holiday that year. A chapter member who works for defense contractor Booz Allen Hamilton suggested using BAH's still-under-construction Helix Room at its downtown Washington headquarters. One virtual visit and one site visit later, the deal was struck, and the chapter meeting (see entry) was a success, with many good notices from the participants. It seems BAH employees who deal with analytics in their professional career like to kick back and talk baseball analytics off the clock, and we were pleased to pick up a couple of BAH employees as SABR members. We hope to continue working with BAH at this great location for SABR Day in 2024.

Annual chapter meeting (In-Person and via Zoom): The Helix Room is not the size of a hotel ballroom, but it sure is a better venue! We could have opted for round tables, but chose instead a more theater-seating layout as registrations got to the 75 mark. We probably topped out at about 77 attendees in person, and since the Helix Room can do two-way virtual participation, we had **Allison Levin**, SABR Board member and president of SABR's Bob Broeg chapter in St. Louis, for a two-part forum on analytics while about 30 chapter members opted to watch the program from the comfort of their own video screen. Other panelists included: **Brian Hall**, SABR AI committee chair and an adjunct professor at NYU, and **Mike Carney**, Washington Nationals executive VP for business operations on the impact of artificial intelligence on baseball, from gameplay to team management and operations to fan experience and engagement.

Our special guest was **Mark Zuckerman**, who's been covering the Nationals for some media outlet or another since they moved from Montreal. Other meeting speakers were **Adam Korengold**, on visualizing the changes in baseball from the impact of rule changes in the game; **Charles Pavitt** on the value of WAR in assessing player performance; **David Raglin** on the Nats' first season in D.C. (2005); and **Brian Englehardt** on the play of Eddie Day, a Black ballplayer from Reading, Pa., who would travel anywhere to play baseball -- and often had to.

Our baseball book raffle -- which had its own room! -- took in some \$360, including some items donated for silent auction. The relatively few books not taken in the raffle were scooped up by attendees. So, too, were the Subway sandwiches catered from just across the street. As per chapter custom, this was a full-day program, from 9:30 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Annual Election: The chapter held its annual election in early March, with **David Raglin** and **Paul Hertz** being reelected to their positions of Treasurer and Director, respectively. **Ed Baranoski** was elected as the Vice President. Ed takes over the role from **Vernona Elms**, who served in the role for 4 years. The Chapter thanks her for her years of service.

Talkin' Baseball: The first-Saturday-of-the-month (usually) book talk and author presentation is now on a monthly streak closing in on Cal Ripken Jr.'s streak, at least in terms of years. We hardly skipped a beat when we converted to Zoom — arguably a good thing, as the program had been busting at the seams at the senior center where it had been conducted over the past several years. Here was our lineup over the past year:

2022:

June 4, Larry Baldassaro

July 9, Bill Nowlin

Aug. 6, Dan Levitt

Sept. 3, Lawrence Knorr

Oct. 1, Michael Ortman

Nov. 5, Dan Joseph

Dec. 3, General discussion

2023:

Jan. 7, Jay Jaffe

Feb. 11, Justin McKinney

March 11, David Krell

April 1, Barry Sparks

May 6, Tara Krieger

Maryland Hot Stove: The only havoc played with our monthly dinner was — just when people started expressing a hankering to return to the Tastee Diner, it shut down on one day's notice in March (housing development, natch). But we've been meeting the third Tuesday of the month at 6:30 p.m. at Mi Rancho, a Tex-Mex restaurant around the corner from the diner. We still ask people to RSVP, to come on time so we can enter together, and to bring a mask with them in case someone prefers that we all cover up when not eating or drinking. We're not taking any chances on being responsible for SABR's all-time membership numbers going down.

Ballgames: Since our last report, we had nearly 20 members and kin turn out for a Bethesda Big Train-Gaithersburg Giants game June 18, 2022. with pregame speaker **Toby Mendez**, who, in addition to the "**Heroes of Birdland**" statues at Camden Yards in Baltimore, did a commission, "**Shirley and Walter**," for Shirley Povich Field in Bethesda, Md., showing a young Povich interviewing an aging (in baseball years) Walter Johnson.

The chapter sponsored an outing to Nationals Park on July 16, 2022, to see the Nats get routed by Atlanta on Juan Soto bobblehead giveaway day (before the month was over, the team had given away Soto himself).

Since numbers at planned events are still a bit weak compared to pre-COVID activities, the chapter partnered with the Mayo Smith Society — founded 40 years ago in D.C. — for a May 20 luncheon this year at a pub a mile and a half from the park, with better food and prices than what the stadium offers, and guest speakers **Sam Menzin**, VP and assistant GM of the Tigers, and **Stephen Borelli**, editor of *USA Today Sports Weekly*. We also got a brief visit at our seats pregame from **Dan Dickerson**, the Tigers' radio play-by-play man. In the second part of that day's activities, Mayo Smith Society and Davids chapter members watched the Nats come from behind to beat the Detroit Tigers in a late afternoon ballgame.

The chapter is at work on plans to see Cal Ripken Collegiate Baseball League action in the form of a D.C. Grays home game at the Nationals' Youth Baseball Academy in one of Washington's more economically distressed neighborhoods on June 17, and a July 22 Eastern League contest featuring the Harrisburg Senators at the Bowie Baysox. Given that league schedules now run into

mid-September, that leaves open the possibility for a third game — maybe Frederick, Md., home this year to both a Draft League club and an un-nicknamed Atlantic League franchise — or the league's Southern Maryland Blue Crabs in Waldorf, or who knows? In 2024, we're looking to buddy up with one of the new SABR chapters in Virginia in the Richmond and Tidewater areas for a joint outing of some sort, as well as taking in games elsewhere.

Newsletter: The chapter's quarterly newsletter, *The Squibber*, continues to be published unabated.

Baseball Memories: There are chapter members interested in pursuing the Baseball Memories project for our chapter, and chapter leadership is offering its support while the lead members develop the best ways to establish the idea and sustain it over the years.

Bob Davids Papers: At long last, the Bob Davids papers and correspondence is now in the possession of the Library of Congress. Trained professionals will now sift through the holdings and categorize the collection for future researchers to examine. While some may not define this as a chapter-wide research project, the Bob Davids Chapter facilitated the process that put these papers in the Library of Congress' hands. The chapter knew it did not have the internal capacity — even as SABR's largest chapter — to give the material the treatment it deserved, and was able to identify an entity that had the wherewithal to give it the dignity and respect for researchers in future generations to enjoy and to discover anew.

Chapter Bylaws: The Board worked to develop a set of bylaws to document and formalize chapter operations, policies, and procedures. The chapter membership voted to ratify the new bylaws in a late May 31-1 vote. The adoption of the bylaws is part of an on-going initiative with the Board to comply with and meet new SABR chapter standards adopted in 2021.

— **Mark Pattison**

South Florida Chapter (Miami, FL)

The South Florida Chapter of the Society for American Baseball Research seeks to continue meeting the goals that SABR has laid out in their recent governance. Along with the aforementioned lofty goals, chapter leadership continues to foster the study of baseball, past and present, and to provide an outlet for educational, historical and research information about the game. I am excited about the South Florida Chapter and what it offers its members and prospective members. As a Chapter leader, I continue to seek interesting and thoughtful speakers that will share topics that interest everyone. Diversity is important to us and our priority is that everyone feels welcome, and has a forum to share common and budding new interests as they apply to the game of baseball. My plan is to continue providing this outlet and it to prospective members. I look forward to my 18th year as Chapter Chair of our South Florida Chapter, after having revived it in 2005.

2022 Events: The South Florida Chapter (SABR) hosted four (4) Zoom meetings during the 2022 calendar year. Our guest presenter/speakers included Jack Bales, Fred Worth, Dan Levitt, Mark Armour, and APBA game company owner Jack Herson.

— **Sam Zygnier**

North Florida/Buck O'Neil Chapter (Tallahassee, FL)

The North Florida/Buck O'Neil Chapter, based in Tallahassee, Florida, continued its tradition of meeting monthly during the past year, conducting meetings in-person. Attendees have enjoyed a diverse set of presentation topics covering everything from the Savannah Bananas to the Tampa Baseball Museum (housed in the childhood home of Hall of Famer Al Lopez) to an overview on NILs to presentations on Roy Face and his case for induction to the National Baseball Hall of Fame. A particular highlight was a visit with Jamey Shouppe, head coach of the 2023 SWAC Champions Florida A&M Rattlers. Coach Shouppe shared his experiences with attendees from his nearly four decades in the college game.

Every meeting always involves lively discussions about the baseball topics of the moment. Recurring debates have revolved around the current MLB season, the BBWAA and Era Committees ballots for the National Baseball Hall of Fame; the latest strange behavior of the MLB baseball; baseball trivia, errata and minutiae; and the ever-popular annual contest and subsequent debate surrounding the correct prognostication of the postseason participants in the forthcoming MLB season.

In addition, the chapter also hosted a SABR Day in America event on February 4th, 2023. Two special guests joined chapter members that afternoon. Ed Creech, who worked as a scout for several major league teams including the San Francisco Giants after conclusion of his playing career, shared fascinating stories involving Tommy Lasorda, Roy McMillan, Eddie Haas, Buck O'Neil, Eddie Mathews, Larry Doby, and others. He also shared his three World Series rings (2010, 2012, 2014) earned as a member of the Giants organization. Perry Barber, professional umpire and barrier-breaker, regaled attendees with her early interest in umpiring and the many obstacles she overcame. Perry explained that learning how to conduct oneself on the diamond can be as important as knowing the rules and making correct calls. She has worked fantasy camps, spring training games, and many other amateur and professional contests.

In short, the North Florida/Buck O'Neil Chapter continues to thrive, offering a forum for seamheads from all backgrounds and interests to gather on common ground and share their passion for all things baseball. This purpose remains at the core of the Chapter's existence, now and in the years to come.

– **Matt Keelean**

Roush-Lopez Gulf Coast Chapter (Tampa, FL)

Chapter Co-Chairs: Mark Drucker and Thomas Holmes

Newsletter Editor: Sam Dolson (also local player column). Contributors: Steve Nadel (Trivia), Mark Drucker (Name Match & Baseball Cards) Columnists: Thomas Holmes, Michelle Taylor, Sharon Herman, Ken Clawson, Bobby Salerno, Don Wiederecht and Ed Denta. We are now publishing monthly and distributing to 8 locations, card shops, sporting goods stores, sports medicine waiting rooms and cigar shop lounges.

Baseball Games attended: We have currently attended two Tampa Bay Rays games as a group and one Clearwater Threshers game on Jackie Robinson Day. This Sunday 6/4 we will be attending our first of hopefully many Inter Chapter get together with Jim Bards Central Florida Chapter at the Lakeland Flying Tigers Game, something we have been planning for three months.

Outings: 1. Tampa Baseball Museum (Al Lopez House) 2. St. Pete Museum of History, Little Cooperstown. We have monthly in-person get-togethers and bi-weekly newsletter get-togethers.

Meetings: Monthly meetings are held on or about the first Wednesday of each month via Zoom technology. RL is usually between 12 and 20 members in attendance. Some of the speakers we have had this year were:

Dave Wills (Voice of the Tampa Bay Rays)

Dan Schlossberg (Author)

Sam Reich (Author)

Rick Vaughn (Author and former P.R. Director for the Baltimore Orioles and Tampa Bay Rays)

Bill Mathews (Head scorekeeper for the WBC and TB Rays)

David Krell (Author)

Justin Mckinney (Author)

Upcoming: Jeff Pearlman (Author and SI columnist), Kat Williams (Author Women's Baseball Leagues past & Present)

We now have three female members participating and are actively seeking to include other women and minorities in the RL chapter. Attended all Ballpark Figures with Shakeia Taylor.

I have attended other chapter meetings via zoom including, Houston, St. Louis, Chicago, New Jersey, New York, New England, Baltimore and Philadelphia. This is a must for chapter leaders to learn how it's done and implement new ideas.

— **Mark Drucker**

Magnolia Chapter (Atlanta GA)

The following is a summary Magnolia Chapter activity from June 1, 2022 to May 31, 2023:

Third Thursday – monthly chapter meeting

The Magnolia Chapter continued our tradition of holding a meeting on the third Thursday of every month. We met each month for food, friendship and a remarkable baseball trivia session by chapter member Dave Washburn. The chapter typically has between 20 and 25 attendees. The meeting is held at the Taco Mac restaurant on Roswell Road in Atlanta. We have a curtained room reserved for us at the restaurant. We invited both new members and prospective members to attend. Meeting started at 6:45pm and ended around 9:30 pm.

Joe Posnanski interview, online event – June 2, 2022

The chapter held a Zoom meeting with award-winning columnist, best-selling author, and noted blogger Joe Posnanski. The topic of conversation was Joe's recent New York Times bestseller, *The Baseball 100*, over 800 pages of essays on the game's top players from all eras. Chapter member Dave Markus arranged the meeting. About 30 members attended.

Atlanta Cemetery Tour -- November 12, 2022

Over a dozen chapter members and friends enjoyed a nice fall day on Saturday, November 12, to visit the gravesites of several baseball personalities in Atlanta's northern suburbs. After a lunch at Dreamland BBQ in Roswell, the tour, hosted by chapter member Sam Gazdziak, visited Green Lawn Cemetery in Roswell (to see the resting places of Tommy Hanson, Harold "Corky" Valentine, Pete Van Wieren and Ernie Johnson); the Roswell Presbyterian Church Cemetery (Nap Rucker); and Arlington Memorial Park in Sandy Springs (Leon Treadway and Skip Caray).

Membership Recruitment at Braves Fest -- January 21, 2023

Chapter member and Braves Historian Sam Wallace made arrangements with the Atlanta Braves to allow the Magnolia Chapter to set up a table and tent at the 2023 Braves Fest at the Battery at Truist Park on Saturday, January 21. We met a lot of baseball history fans at the event and

showed pictures of old Ponce de Leon Park in Atlanta as a conversation starter. We also gathered email addresses and handed out flyers during the event. The Braves estimated that 40,000 fans came to Braves Fest, which was filled with live music, street performers and meet-and-greet with Braves players. Members Craig Brown, Aaron Hill, Dennis Losin and Frank Ittner manned the recruitment table.

SABR Day, Memorabilia Road Show -- February 4, 2023

The chapter tried a new idea for SABR Day in 2023. We held our own “Memorabilia Road Show” at the Tucker Public Library in Tucker, GA, on Saturday, February 4. Members were asked to submit baseball items from their personal collections ahead of time for consideration. Atlanta sports memorabilia expert Tony Cocchi was then on hand at the event with explanations of the significance and valuation of the items members brought to the meeting. Some of the more notable items submitted World Series bunting from game 6 and signed by Tom Glavine, a jar of Fulton County Stadium dirt, a Babe-Ruth board game circa 1940 in near-mint condition, the infamous 1985 Rick Camp bat, and an autographed baseball by Ty Cobb addressed to the member’s father, among many others. We also gathered for a BBQ lunch ahead of time at a Tucker eatery.

Braves roundtable, online event – March 29, 2023

The chapter held its annual Braves roundtable discussion in anticipation of the upcoming season. The meeting was held online via Zoom and featured Kris Willis, managing editor of the *Battery Power* blog and Magnolia chapter member, Fred Owens, veteran writer and a contributor of the *House That Hank Built* blog, Sam Peebles, host of the Braves Dugout podcast, HTHB contributor, and self-confessed stat head, and Garrett Spain, minor league editor at *Battery Power*, and farm system aficionado. About 20 members attended the meeting. Each panelist predicted the Braves would win the NL East, again.

Chapter magazine – April 2023

The chapter produced its first newsletter/editorial magazine in 2023 called *Magnolia Magazine*. The magazine was offered as a collection of baseball stories, memories and musings written by and for chapter members. The first issue consisted of stories from chapter members Tom Hufford, Sam Gazdziak, Alan Morris and Craig Brown. Hufford’s story about Steve Avery’s Rookie League toothbrush was the lead article. The magazine also included pictures of recent chapter outings.

By-laws and leadership elections – May 2023

In accordance with SABR's wishes, the chapter produced a set of by-laws for the chapter, including an outline of the number of events required each year and the guidelines for electing a leadership team of three. The by-laws were agreed upon by a vote and the May Third Thursday meeting and with several proxy votes submitted. Elections were not held unfortunately due to lack of interest.

Other highlights in 2022-2023

Chapter member Craig Brown and others continued to post to the chapter's Twitter feed:

<https://twitter.com/MagnoliaSabr>

Chapter member Terry Sloope continued to maintain the chapter website, adding research projects written by members in previous years and updating member profiles.

<https://sites.google.com/site/magnoliasabr>

Chapter member Sam Gazdziak continued his role heading up SABR's 19th Century Grave Marker Committee. Sam also continued to publish player biographies on his website: ripbaseball.com, an amazing look at baseball's long dead and recently departed.

<https://ripbaseball.com/>

Chapter member Craig Brown continued to post and blog about 19th -century baseball uniforms on his website: threadsofourgame.com. His research was featured on the Wall Street Journal and mlb.com in 2022-2023.

<https://www.threadsofourgame.com/>

Chapter member Karl Green continued his role leading SABR's Collegiate Baseball Committee, researching and chronicling major leaguers that came from the college ranks.

Chapter member Bradsher Hayes self-published a book on the history of the Braves franchise, entitled *150 years of the Braves: from Boston to Milwaukee to Atlanta*.

Chapter member Alan Morris continued his *Boys of Summer* walking tour at Oakland Cemetery in Atlanta. Alan pointed out the gravesites of those with a baseball history, including members of the Gate City nine, one of the first organized teams in Atlanta.

New chapter member Gordon Warren posted a series of baseball biographies on his YouTube channel entitled *The Athlete Archives*.

<https://www.youtube.com/@theathletearchives>

Chapter member Terry Sloope organized our annual mock Hall of Fame voting for the chapter. Members voted for players nominated by both the Early Years Era Committee and the Golden Years Era Committee. None of the candidates on the ballot in either of the two groups received the support of 75% of the Magnolia Chapter voters.

Chapter members Terry Sloope and Johnny Tallant each organized their annual prediction contests at the beginning of the season for the chapter to participate in.

Chapter member Frank Ittner was the 2022 Braves prediction contest winner and was awarded a “very expensive” trophy at a Third Thursday meeting.

Chapter member Johnny Tallant held hot stove meetings at his house in Cumming, GA. These meetings were held each month in January, February and March 2023. Chapter member Wayne Coleman organized a Braves 400 Club event on October 14, 2023, inviting former Braves first baseman Sid Bream to return to Atlanta on the 40th anniversary of the “Sid Slid” game, Atlanta’s 1992 NLDS victory over Pittsburgh.

Chapter member Kris Willis continued in his role as managing editor of the *Battery Power* blog, reporting on the news and daily activities of the Atlanta Braves.

<https://www.batterypower.com/>

Chapter member Sam Wallace continued in his role as Braves Historian and Senior Museum Curator with the Atlanta Braves.

The chapter lost several key members in 2022. Long-time chapter member Brian Morrow died suddenly at age 61 while in Europe vacationing. Brian was one the more active members of the chapter and a friend to all. Also, chapter president John Hill relocated to the Charlotte area to be closer to his children.

— **Craig Brown**

Emil Rothe Chapter (Chicago, IL)

In 2022-2023 the Chicago SABR Chapter participated in the following activities since the last report.

Virtual Meetings

September 10, 2022: Mark Armour discussed his recent book, *Intentional Balk: Baseball's Thin Line Between Innovation and Cheating*, which was co-written with Dan Levitt and which

examines cheating in baseball as the pursuit of a competitive edge that in other endeavors might be heralded as innovation. The book offers an engrossing chronicle of America's pastime and the players, coaches, groundskeepers and management who for more than 150 years have sought any advantage to win at all costs.

Jason Cannon discussed his recent book, *Charlie Murphy: The Iconoclastic Showman Behind the Chicago Cubs*, in which he explores Murphy's life both on and off the field, painting a picture of his meteoric rise and precipitous downfall.

November 6, 2022: Author and Chapter member Don Zminda gave a presentation titled "The Black Sox Scandal 103 Years Later: No One Was Innocent". Don presented research which indicated that members of the 1919 "Black Sox" team continued to throw games during the 1920 season. He also discussed how no one involved in the case, including White Sox management and the teammates of the conspirators, was truly innocent.

April 2, 2023 (joint with Cleveland, Detroit, Minnesota, and Kansas City Chapters): The Chicago SABR Chapter joined the Cleveland, Detroit, Minnesota, and Kansas City SABR chapters on a Zoom call for a preview of the AL Central Division. One representative of each chapter offered a short, 5-minute assessment of where their team stood going into the year followed by the call being opened up for a general discussion of the division.

May 31, 2023: Author Justin McKinney discussed his award-winning book, *Baseball's Union Association: The Short, Strange Life of a 19th-Century Major League* with a special focus on Chicago's entry in the Union Association.

In-Person Meetings, Ballgames, Luncheons

July 23, 2022: Members of the chapter gathered to watch the Joliet Slammers battle the Empire State Greys at Duly Health and Care Field in Joliet, IL.

August 31, 2022: The chapter gathered for a luncheon at Sweetwater Tavern and Grille in downtown Chicago.

October 29, 2022: The chapter gathered for an in-person meeting at the LaGrange Public Library in LaGrange, IL. Venerable Chicago broadcaster Tom Shaer shared stories of covering baseball over his 45-year career in media. Judy Hiltner and James Walker discussed their recent book *Red Barber: The Life and Legacy of a Broadcasting Legend*.

November 30, 2022 (joint with the Chicago Cubs): The Chicago Cubs unveiled a grave marker for former Cubs outfielder Jimmy Ryan at Calvary Cemetery in Evanston, IL.

January 28, 2023 (joint SABR-Day meeting with Ken Keltner Chapter): After several years of celebrating SABR Day virtually, a joint meeting with the Ken Keltner chapter was held at The Brat Stop in Kenosha, WI. Speakers included:

Vinny Rottino, the ninth Wisconsin-born Milwaukee Brewer and Brewer pre- and post-game host, joined the crowd for a lively discussion of his career and the Brewers 2023 prospects.

Gary Livacari gave a detailed presentation on the Leslie Jones Collection at the Boston Public Library. Jones was a photographer for the Boston Herald-Traveler and the library has approximately 40,000 negatives along with thousands of photographic prints from Jones's personal collection. Livacari, who was one of the editors of a SABR project helping identify nearly 3,000 baseball photos from the collection, discussed some of those pictures.

Lee Kluck joined the crowd virtually to share his SABR 50 Research Presentation on Harry Dalton and tell us more about his book on the former General Manager.

March 4, 2023: The chapter gathered for a luncheon at Portillo's in Summit, IL.

Miscellaneous Activities and Accomplishments

Chicago SABR member John Racanelli won the McFarland-SABR Baseball Research Award, which honors the best articles on baseball history or biography completed or published during the preceding calendar year, for his article "Death and Taxes and Baseball Card Litigation," published in the SABR Baseball Cards Blog, January 8-December 14, 2022

Chicago SABR member and Newsletter Editor Bill Pearch ran for SABR's Board of Directors.

The chapter, in the early stages of implementing a Baseball Memories program in the Chicago market, entered discussions with Advocate Health.

Communications

- **Chapter Newsletter** - Our chapter's renowned newsletter is on a bimonthly schedule. Five issues have appeared since the last report: July-August 2022, September-October 2022, November-December 2022; January-February 2023, and March-April 2023.
- **Social Media** - During 2022-23 we continued our presence on Facebook using it as a calendar for upcoming chapter events. Other meetings were run via the Zoom account the chapter acquired. The chapter also had a presence on Twitter.

— **Richard Smiley**

Central Illinois Chapter (Urbana-Champaign, IL)

Meetings and Events

June 14, 2022 – *Charlie Murphy: The Iconoclastic Showman behind the Chicago Cubs* book presentation by Jason Cannon (on Zoom)

June 18, 2022, Normal IL – Tour of The Corn Crib, guest speakers Jarrett Rodgers (Director of Sales, Normal Cornbelters) and Jeff Brover (analytics intern, Normal Cornbelters and Kernel Collegiate League), and Kernels Collegiate League doubleheader

July 9, Springfield, IL – Robin Roberts Stadium tour and Lucky Horseshoes v. Normal Cornbelters game

July 23, Joliet, IL – Joliet Slammers v. Empire State Greys at Duly Health and Care Field (with SABR Chicago)

October 19 – *The Dean of Clinton County* book presentation by Doug Feldman (on Zoom)

November 15 - *Baseball's Union Association: The Short, Strange Life of an Early Major League* book presentation by Justin Mckinney (on Zoom)

December 11, Bloomington, IL – SABR Central Illinois Chapter Lunch

January 26 – “*Roy White: From Compton to the Bronx*” book presentation by Paul Semendinger (on Zoom)

April 23, Nokomis, IL – Bottomley-Ruffing-Schalk Museum tour by Steve Johnson (with the Bob Broeg St. Louis chapter)

Research and Writing Projects

McLean County Museum of History Baseball/Softball exhibit research

SABR Central Illinois co-chair, Chad Kahl, is serving on the museum’s baseball and softball exhibit committee.

The chapter is contributing by doing research on HOF Charles “Old Hoss” Radbourne’s 1876 season playing for the Bloomington baseball club.

A look at the 1887 and 1888 seasons of the Bloomington Reds and the role of HOF Clark Griffith.

Central Illinois Collegiate League research

David Brauer, the Prospect League's new commissioner sent out a request for research assistance. The Prospect League dates back to 1963 with roots as the Central Illinois Collegiate League (CICL). Areas of focus:

- Establish a list of all-time Major Leaguers who played in the league (where and when).
- Identify any coaches/players who went into prominent coaching and/or other MLB careers.
- Build a Prospect League record book with year-by-year standings, playoffs, champions, all-league status, and award winners.

Social Media

Chapter Facebook page – <https://www.facebook.com/search/top?q=sabr%20central%20illinois>

Chapter Twitter page - <https://www.twitter.com/sabrcentralil>

Membership: 24 primary, 59 total

Co-Chairs: Chad Kahl and Ryan Van Der Karr

— **Chad Kahl**

Pee Wee Reese Chapter (Louisville, KY)

Meetings/Events:

June 15, 2023: Lunch meeting with new member Rob Gividen, who expressed interest in being an active member and research.

June 25, 2022: SABR Night at the Louisville Bats. A good crowd attended.

July 12, 2022: Chapter board meeting.

September 1, 2022: Our Chapter was instrumental in the Felton Snow/Louisville Negro Leagues baseball festivities September 1 and 2. On September 1, at Eastern Cemetery, we dedicated the Felton Snow monument. Larry Lester, one of the founders of the Negro Leagues Baseball Museum, who flew in from Kansas City, spoke, as well Greg Fisher, the Mayor of Louisville, Greg Galiette, the President of the Bats, and Billy Snow, Felton Snow's nephew. The Chapter raised some \$10,000 for the headstone (the grave was previously unmarked).

September 2, 2022: The next evening was Felton Snow night at Slugger Field. The Chapter teamed up with the Louisville Bats, which was involved as part of "the Nines" initiative, as was

the Louisville Slugger Museum. The Bats transported little leaguers from West End Sports to the game, and they paraded in before the game. Coaches Howard Jones and Nate Payne kept baseball alive in the West End of Louisville and were honored that night. The Bats handed out some 2,000 Felton Snow baseball cards, created by Gary Cieradkowski for the Chapter, who was there that evening to sign the cards and display his other work. Both events received great media coverage.

September 28, 2022: Board meeting

November 1, 2022: Chapter gathering at Drake's to watch World Series game.

January 11, 2023: We held a planning meeting at Slugger Field to consider honoring Sammy T. Hughes, Negro Leagues ballplayer buried in an unmarked grave.

January 28, 2023: SABR day held at the Slugger Museum, with a number of speakers.

February 19, 2023: First chapter newsletter released.

February 25, 2023: I visited former major leaguer Ron Hunt for additional research on a book I'm doing and for his SABR profile.

April 4, 2023: Chapter members attended the Louisville Bats opening night. Excellent participation.

April 5, 2023: Chris Betsch and I attended the grand opening of the revamped Louisville Slugger Museum.

May 17, 2023: A number of us attended the Bats game, joining several of our members who came over from Frankfort, Kentucky, with some potential recruits.

May 18, 2023: Chapter board meeting.

June 28, 2023: Zoom meeting with Bill Nowlin and Glen Sparks to discuss the SABR publication *Willie Mays: Five Tools*.

Also, our member Ryan Schroer maintains the Chapter's Facebook page. Our member Jon Borie posts content daily, and others respond or add their own.

— **Tad Myre**

Schott-Pelican Chapter (New Orleans, LA)

Membership

As of May 17, the chapter had 38 primary members among a total of 58 members who are associated with the chapter.

Chapter Meetings

The chapter held four meetings during the SABR calendar year. It used a strategy to invite guest speakers to the chapter meetings (via Zoom), in an attempt to increase attendance and variety of topics.

- July 23, 2022 (Joint in-person and virtual)
- October 22, 2022 (Joint in-person and virtual)
- January 28, 2023 (Joint in-person and virtual)
- April 22, 2023 (Joint in-person and virtual)

Guest presenters via Zoom included:

- July 23, 2022 – Paul Semendinger, author of “The Least Among Them” and John Fredland who discussed the SABR Games Project
- October 22, 2022 – Dan Taylor, author of “Walking Alone: The Untold Journey of Pioneer Kenny Washington,” and Nico Van Thyn, author of “Shreveport Baseball”
- January 28, 2023 – Justin Mckinney, author of “Baseball’s Union Association”
- April 22, 2023 – Dan Schlossberg, author of “Baseball’s Memorable Misses”

Some of the other topics presented at the meetings included:

- The Fort Worth Panthers Pitching Dynasty
- Profile of 2023 College Players from Metro New Orleans
- Huey Long Saves Spring Training in New Orleans
- City Park Stadium use for baseball
- Los Angeles Dodgers scout Benny Latino
- Lennie Merullo’s four errors on the day his son was born
- MLB Rules
- Mel Parnell
- Baseball Quizzes

SABR Conferences/Conventions

The following chapter members attended the 2022 national convention in Baltimore: Rick Dempsey, Dave Harlan, Carl Rhoads, and Richard Cuicchi.

Chapter member Ryan Whirty attended the 2022 Jerry Malloy Negro League Conference in Birmingham.

Chapter Leadership Elections

After a two week nomination period, the chapter held leadership elections through an on-line voting process during May 8-15. Richard Cuicchi was elected Chapter Lead and Derby Gisclair was elected Communications Lead. They will serve two-year terms starting June 1, 2023. Leadership responsibilities statements were developed and reviewed at the April chapter meeting.

Chapter Newsletters

Following each chapter meeting, copies of presentations and meeting materials were bundled and emailed to all members.

SABR Publication Contributions

Chapter member Richard Cuicchi contributed to the following SABR BioProject books: *From Shibe Park to Connie Mack Stadium, Arriba! The Heroic Life of Roberto Clemente, Yankee Stadium: 1923-2008*, and *Willie Mays: Five Tools*.

Establishment of SABR Club at New Orleans' Jesuit High School

The chapter established a SABR Club at New Orleans' Jesuit High School as an extra-curricular student activity for the 2022-2023 school year. Chapter members Richard Cuicchi and Rick Dempsey served as volunteer moderators of the club, which met bi-weekly. The chapter's objective was to extend its presence among younger candidates with the goal of adding to chapter membership. The purpose of the club was to expand the student members' knowledge of baseball history in general and to teach them basics of research and writing about baseball topics. The SABR.org website was one of the primary resources for the meetings. Three of the student members became official SABR members.

The chapter applied for and was awarded a scholarship grant through the SABR Local Grants Program. A \$250 grant was applied toward an essay contest among the Jesuit SABR Club members. The winners (Marcellus Savoie and Davis Hebert) received credit for tuition at the high school. [Here is the link](#) to the SABR announcement of the awards.

Jesuit High School has agreed to continue SABR Club activities for the 2023-2024 school year.

— Richard Cuicchi

Boston Chapter (Boston, MA)

The first full year since the pandemic brought to the Boston Chapter new ideas and challenges. The Chapter continued a string of Zoom meetings, beginning in June 2022, with an interesting presentation by Dale Scott, author of *The Umpire is Out*, along with author Rob Neyer. Scott and Neyer both won the whole game and was one of the most impressive duo of speakers that we have had in a long time. This is how we began a year of successful presentations via Zoom.

Back when Zoom meetings became the replacement for in-person meetings during 2020 and 2021, we were skeptical whether this was going to work well for us, as the Boston Chapter was used to the traditional in-person meetings, but two things happened. Zoom meetings worked out very well and allowed for a wider audience – the attendance was similar to the in-person meetings held by the Chapter. Now instead of receiving laments from Chapter members who lived too far away to attend meetings, now we can include them. Also, we were impressed with the number of members with disabilities who now had equal access to meetings that in-person gatherings had not offered.

The second change after the pandemic that the Boston Chapter experienced was that previous meeting sites were now closed, and despite searching around for likely sites and venues, we either found that the price was as sky-high as a fly ball blooper, or the venue just wasn't available anymore. There's no free lunch in Boston – or Worcester, for that matter. Therefore, it was back to Zoom, and we should be grateful for it.

First, discussion began about how to commemorate the upcoming twentieth anniversary of the 2004 World Series win by the Red Sox and, you know, all that stuff about 86 years, the Curse, and the Idiots. We got to work – actually Bill Nowlin cracked his whip and got us lined up and to work on the book, despite also reminding us 2023 marks the tenth anniversary of another Red Sox World Series win, but we must stick to the plan. Assignments were picked up and the book is in the works. That's a lot of works. As for Zoom meetings, we took the summer off.

And then, there was the Fall. The season fell in Boston like something that was sent out to Deer Island and washed out to sea. Red Sox fans know what we mean. The November Zoom meeting needed an appropriate theme: Pity Party. Some were skeptical about that being a reasonable theme, but it worked out swimmingly, like that something in Boston Harbor.

December's Zoom meeting was presented by the Boston Chapter's co-chair, David Laurila, who seemed to think he'd not have much to say – but he did. And we were rewarded with his commentary about minor league players and all that part of baseball often overlooked by fans. February 3, 2023 was Truck Day at Fenway Park. Chapter members were invited to attend and then meet after the outside festivities on Jersey Street at the Bleacher Bar. Due to an unkind turn of weather, the temperature dipped to something like 30 below with windchill, a veritable arctic blast through Kenmore Square that thwarted the less courageous, I was the only Chapter member who attended, and I ate alone at the Bleacher Bar. Such is the burden of a Chapter leader. But the next day, February 4, SABR Day, better weather was hoped for, but it didn't happen. Another day of 30 below with the wind chill, and yet 8 people did brave the weather and we all met at the Bleacher Bar. And so, our one in-person meeting was a success, and we were rewarded with a view of Fenway Park where artificial snow was being set down for the impending hockey games on the field (brutal cold – but no snow).

February proved to be a big month for the Boston Chapter, not only with SABR Day, but also two Zoom meetings – Bob LeMoine – who jumped on board on short notice and presented his latest book, *When the Babe Went Back to Boston*. The second speaker, two weeks later, was Douglas Gladstone with a presentation about his book, *A Bitter Cup of Coffee*, and his story about the inequities of the MLB pension system.

On April 20, 2023 we welcomed Lee Lowenfish who presented his book *Baseball's Endangered Species: Inside the Craft of Scouting By Those Who Lived It*. Great presentation, and we received much positive feedback from attendees. ”The scouts who take the early trains, And sally forth new men to hustle.....” but I digress.

The New England Chapters of SABR enjoy an embarrassment of riches. Meetings, both Zoom and in-person are for most SABR members within easy reach no matter where they are held or where they live. The Southern New England Chapter meetings attract Boston Chapter members, the Northern New England Chapter and Vermont also attract many from all the New England States. Connecticut is not out of reach for all of us as is the Maranville Chapter in Springfield. All the New England Chapters offer their programs across the six-state area. Now, if we can only find a way to get the Worcester Chapter back up and running again, then we'd have every corner covered.

— **Joanne Hulbert, Saul Wisnia, David Laurila**

Babe Ruth Chapter (Baltimore, MD)

2022/23 proved to be a banner year for the BBRC. Not only did we grow our roster, but we hosted SABR 50 in Charm City for the first time since 1982.

More than 550 people came to SABR 50 in August 2022, the first post-COVID convention. Numerous chapter members assisted over the course of the convention and reviews of Baltimore were mainly very positive. Members seemed to enjoy the panels, the proximity to attractions and the ballpark, and really liked the ballpark bus tour. The BBRC hopes to host a national convention again within the next 7-10 years.

Our monthly Peeps @ the Peeb hybrid meeting still occurs every first Wednesday at the Peabody Heights Brewery. Normally a SABR member will present on their most recent findings or publication.

Our Called Shot Lunch takes place in person only on the third Wednesday of the month at the Babe Ruth Birthplace. This dates back to August 2016 and was only interrupted during the COVID lockdown.

Our Sunday night Baltimore Baseball Babble takes place 9 months out of the year on the last Sunday of the month. This is an open discussion on Zoom and is not recorded unless we have a featured speaker.

The BBRC did have a SABR Day in 2023 that took place on President's Day in February. It was once again held the Peabody Heights Brewery and we had over 70 attendees come to hear speakers like Joe Orsulak, Ryan Ripken, Adrienne Roberson and several others present. It was our first SABR Day in person since 2020.

Our newsletter *The Baltimore Chop* is published 4 times a year and we receive submissions from members from all over the country.

The chapter did not host a MLB game in 2022 but did co-host a minor league game at Aberdeen with the Philadelphia chapter over Labor Day weekend. 25 members attended as we heard from Ironbirds GM Jack Graham and viewed the game from a skybox down the right field line. The BBRC looks to continue our annual partnership with Philly in 2023 again for another minor league event.

On February 10, 2023 – thanks to the wonderful application submitted by Chapter VP David Stinson – the BBRC was awarded a \$2,500 grant from SABR which we will put toward a historical marker at Union Park where the Orioles played in the 1890s. When the project will be completed is still unknown but the BBRC would like to mark all the ballparks in the City of Baltimore over time with similar markers.

In addition to our monthly meetings we do plan on going to an Orioles game in August 2023 and perhaps seeing postseason baseball at Camden Yards for the first time since 2016.

The BBRC has been around since 2015 and has grown by leaps and bounds. We hope to continue our success and be a model chapter to SABR.

— Peter Coolbaugh

Halsey Hall Chapter (Minneapolis, MN)

We are pleased to report that our chapter conducted dozens of events this year. This report contains the month-by-month calendar of events, and our monthly newsletter the *Holy Cow!* provides many more details from the year, including books and SABR.org articles written by chapter members. All of our chapter activities are advertised on our Facebook and Twitter pages, and minutes of our Research Committee's, Board of Directors', and Chapter Business meetings and more are posted on our website *halseyhall.org*. These records go back to 1985. Our website and newsletter also have a Baseball Research Primer and sources information. Chapter Membership is headed by Stew Thornley. This past year the number of members listing Halsey Hall as their primary chapter increased from 146 to 165.

June: The April-June baseball exhibit Halsey Hall Chapter put together at the Hennepin County Brookdale Library entitled "Baseball History in Minnesota" wrapped up in early June. This chapter project was two-years-in-the-making. A large glass-window display case open to the public featured 1800s baseball memorabilia and equipment, Minnesota baseball history books, and chapter-produced illustrated baseball history posters. The library contributed shelves of baseball books for patron check-out and a table for our Halsey Hall and SABR handouts and forms. In conjunction with the display was a May 9 panel event focused on Bud Fowler, the first African-American in professional baseball, and his 1884 season playing in Stillwater, MN. Featured speakers were Brent Peterson, director of the Washington County Historical Society and chapter member Bob Tholkes, nineteenth century baseball historian. It was attended by 23 chapter members and three non-members.

Our chapter collaborated with the Washington County Historical Society to produce a two-page illustrated historical 1884 street map/souvenir brochure of the city of Stillwater, MN showing locations where Bud Fowler worked, resided and played baseball in 1884. This was in further celebration of Fowler being inducted into Cooperstown in July.

June 11: bi-monthly Book Club meeting, directed by Art Mugalian – *The Wax Pack: On the Open Road in Search of Baseball's Afterlife* by Brad Balukjian. Site-Barnes & Noble in Roseville.

June 12: bi-monthly chapter Board of Directors meeting at Bakers Square in Roseville. The Board elected officers for July 2022-June 2023. Gene Gomes was re-elected president, David Karpinski vice-president, Sarah Johnson secretary, Jerry Janzen treasurer. Other Board

members are John Swol, Daniel Dorff, Bob Tholkes. The vice-president appointed chairs of standing committees: Howard Luloff, Events; Dave Lande and Gene Gomes, Research Committee co-chairs; Stew Thornley, Membership. Howard set a date of Nov. 5 for the Fall Chapter Meeting at Faith Mennonite Church in Minneapolis.

June 18: trip to see the Mankato Moondogs at St. Cloud Rox Faber Field. 6 p.m.

June 20: monthly research committee meeting (Zoom).

During June, chapter member Sarah Johnson continued as one of MLB's official scorers for the Minnesota Twins. She is the fourth woman to hold this MLB position in history, and her first game was the Twins' Home Opener in April 2022.

New members: Brian Larson, Neal Karlen and Jason Ernst.

July:

July 9: The bi-monthly Fred Souba Hot Stove League Breakfast was held at Bunny's Grill in St. Louis Park from 9-11 a.m.

July 18: research committee meeting (Zoom). We discussed continuing the project of "The Spread of Baseball in Minnesota". This on-going chapter project documents the first baseball games played in every one of the 73 Minnesota state counties.

July 19: All-Star Game viewing gathering at Bunny's Grill in St. Louis Park.

At the SABR convention in Baltimore Dan Levitt, Sam Sundemeyer and Mike Haupert made research presentations. About eight other chapter members attended the convention.

New members: Darryl Sannes and Joseph Weindel.

August:

August 4: chapter member Tom Flynn gave a presentation on his great-uncle Tom Sheehan to the New York Giants Preservation Society.

August 6: Book Club meeting- Game Time by Roger Angell. Seven in attendance.

August 13: trip to Beloit to see West Michigan Whitecaps at Beloit Sky Carp game. Nine members attended. Pre-game activities lined up by our Howard Luloff included talks from

West Michigan announcer Dan Hasty and Beloit announcer Larry Larson, as well as a tour of the ballpark. Special guest was organist Nancy Faust, whom met with members after the game.

August 14: chapter Board of Directors meeting, held at Perkins Restaurant in Golden Valley from 6:00-8:00 p.m. The Board decided to write amendments to the by-laws which deal with expenses and voting in virtual meetings. Planning begins for **SABR Day** in January.

August 22: research committee meeting (Zoom). Two research presentations for Nov. 5 were approved. Every month in our newsletter, we solicit and invite members to submit a proposal to do a presentation at one of our two large chapter meetings.

New members: Ed Edmonds, Alexander Rothschild and Dennis Lange.

September:

Sept. 17 bimonthly chapter breakfast at Bunny's Grill in St. Louis Park. We enjoyed having two new faces join us, John Buckeye and Mike Anderson. Twelve in attendance.

Sept 19: research group monthly Zoom meeting. Bob Tholkes' presentation will be added to the lineup for the Nov. 5. Everyone enjoyed the monthly Trivia Time baseball quiz which we added to the monthly festivities in 2021.

New members: Glenn Renick, Daniel Spewak and Richard Bong.

October:

October 3: Dan Levitt was featured at Magers & Quinn bookstore for a book talk. Four chapter members were there and about 30-33 people attended.

October 8: Book Club featuring Dan Levitt and his book.

October 15: Three chapter-ites attended a special day-and-evening event put on by residents of Sleepy Eye, MN. Stew Thornley was one presenter on the topic of Babe Ruth's 1922 barnstorming visit to Sleepy Eye. The ball park still exists, is in great shape, and plays host to Games.

October 16: in-person Board of Directors meeting at Mannings Restaurant.

October 17: research committee Zoom meeting. Ten attended.

New member: Ben Ernst of Aberdeen, South Dakota

November:

Nov. 5: Fall Chapter Meeting at Faith Mennonite Church 8:30-3:45. Four research presentations were given as follows:

1. Sam Sundemeyer: “Dawn of the Long Night: The Origin of Baseball’s Color Barrier”. Sam explained how cultural and business precedent from Reconstruction formed the policies and practices of exclusion.
2. Ed Edmonds: “Baseball’s Misunderstood Antitrust Trilogy” First-time presenter Ed gave us lessons about the 1922 Supreme Court case *Federal Baseball Club v. National League* and Justice Holmes’ opinion, *Toolson v. New York Yankees* in 1953 and the fiftieth anniversary of *Flood v. Kuhn* and Justice Harry Blackmun.
3. Bob Tholkes: “What’s Wrong with Base Ball?” – Bob gave us a survey of print media criticisms of base ball in 1867 which described the physical harm experienced by ball players.
4. Stew Thornley: “Babe Ruth in Minnesota-Brown County and Beyond” – Stew cited The Babe’s visits to MN from 1922 to 1948. He highlighted the recent centennial celebration of Babe’s visit to Sleepy Eye MN in 1922.

Special Guest Speaker was Derek Sharrer, the general manager of the AAA St. Paul Saints, who spoke about his family and baseball background, moving to St. Paul, and of course stories about Mike Veeck and the Saints.

At the business meeting segment, hosted by Gene Gomes, chapter members voted yes to two amendments to our chapter by-laws dealing with expenses and voting virtually. Bank account report: \$820.47. Stew gave figures showing 236 chapter members, up from 220 in April 2022. Bob Kormoroski we have 248 followers on our chapter’s Facebook page.

Howard Luloff presented his traditional Big Board *Jeopardy!*-like Trivia contest which ran 30 minutes late till 3:45. The meeting was streamed on Facebook Live. There were 31, plus guests, in attendance.

November 19: Saturday Breakfast at Manning’s with about ten in attendance.

November 21: research committee Zoom meeting. We discussed strategy to improve the Chapter Meetings by tighter scheduling, informing presenters and guest speakers of their time slots, and creating a Power Point Trivia Game instead of the present cards-and-board system.

New members: Steve Montbriand, Mark Schrep.

December:

Dec. 10- Book Club: *Ty Cobb, A Terrible Beauty* by Charles Leerhsen. Nine attended.

Dec. 11 Board of Directors meeting via Zoom. We finalized plans for our SABR Day event at TwinsFest Jan. 28. We have volunteers for the all-day public event, and there is the evening event open to the public “Twins Daily Winter Meltdown” hosted by member Aaron Gleeman and John Bonnes.

Dec. 19 research committee via Zoom.

New members: Roger Groening, Cliff Miller, Dennis Lange, Dave Anderson, Aaron Strike and Michael Wallace.

Thanks to recent-new member John Buckeye for his enjoyable newsletter write-up of the Nov. Fall Meeting, summarizing the presentations and Derek Farrer’s talk. This is a fine addition to our records and hopefully will continue!

January 2023:

Halsey Hall Chapter was awarded a grant through the SABR Local Grants program to honor a high school student competing in History Day in Minnesota. This is in collaboration with the Minnesota Historical Society. Sarah Johnson arranged this and participates as a judge. The winner will be announced April 22, 2023, State History Day at the University of Minnesota and will receive a \$150 prize, an invitation to present at a chapter meeting, a complimentary SABR membership and a writeup in the newsletter.

Jan 14: Saturday Morning breakfast at Manning’s

Jan 23: research committee meeting. Nine attended.

Jan 28: SABR Day events: nine chapter members participated in our annual event at TwinsFest. Several dozen visitors engaged and received SABR info and enjoyed our large poster exhibits. Thanks to Doug Skipper who spent time over the last few months with TwinsFest organizers.

The evening event was the annual Twins Daily “Winter Meltdown” attended by dozens of fans at a nearby venue. Hosted by chapter member Aaron Gleeman and John Bonnes of Twins Daily. New members Harry Williams, Eli Morris, Dave Greisen and Scott Warmka

February:

Feb. 10: informal gathering at Grumpy's Northeast- pizza and baseball talk.

Feb. 11: Book Club: "*The Church of Baseball: The Making of Bull Durham*" by Ron Shelton.

Feb 19: Board group meeting via Zoom. Planning for Spring Chapter Meeting April 15.

Feb 20: research committee Zoom. word is out to solicit presenters for April 15 meeting; Gene announced that author Justin Mckinney will be featured in a chapter Zoom event on March 6. Member David Karpinski's baseball blog *Baseball Roundtable* was named to the list of the Top 100 Baseball Blogs, and added to the Anytime Baseball list of "66 Top Baseball Sites You Should Be Following". Gene had a President's Day trivia quiz for the chapter to solve.

New member: Mark Glotter

March:

March 4: Howard organized an outing for several members to see the Minnesota Gophers play Ole Miss in the college baseball series at U.S. Bank Stadium.

March 9: Justin Mckinney Zoom event open to all chapter members and non-members focused on his book, *Baseball's Union Association: The Short, Strange Life of a 19th -Century Major League*. He highlighted that strange season for the St. Paul Saints, who joined the league and played all of its games on the road. He described the figure Henry Lucas, the league magnate as an impulsive millionaire who created the league, but doomed it as well.

March 11: Saturday Breakfast at Manning's.

March 20: research committee meeting, has been drawing new participants this year, as we did last year. We have two presenters so far for the April 15 meeting: Mike Hauptert and Terry Bohn. We have two slots open. Gene announced the multi-SABR chapter April 2 Zoom event.

March 30: everyone was invited to watch the Twins-Royals Opener at Grumpy's Northeast in Northeast Minneapolis.

Dan Levitt and co-author Mark Armour were awarded the SABR Seymour Medal for their book *Intentional Balk*. Congratulations!

Candidates for our Board of Directors election were listed in the newsletter, with an invitation to members to consider being on the Board. The Board has consistently been stocked with new faces throughout the Chapter's history. Four positions are open for 2023.

April:

April 1: the Book Club was cancelled due to terrible weather conditions. The meeting will be scheduled in June. *The Grandest Stage: A History of the World Series*, by Tyler Kepner.

April 2: The collaborative Opening Day Weekend Zoom event featuring members from all five AL Central Division SABR chapter locations was held from 7-9 pm central time on a Sunday evening. After a promotional announcement about SABR 51 in Chicago, each chapter had a leadoff representative give a brief report on each team's outlook. That was followed by an open forum for everyone to weigh in about the teams. 56 enthusiasts participated.

April 15: The **Halsey Hall Chapter Spring Meeting** was held at Faith Mennonite Church in Southeast Minneapolis. Four research presentations were given:

1. Sam Sundemeyer: "Stare Decisis *Caught Looking: An Examination of Flood v. Kuhn and African-American Labor in Monopolistic Environments*". Sam described teams having a quota on Black players, and Curt Flood's minor league and major league seasons were discussed.
2. Mike Haupt: *The Inglorious Exit of Cap Anson*. Mike presented the baseball and business career of Cap Anson- the great player, and his partnership with Al Spalding. He eventually died penniless in 1922.
3. Terry Bohn: *Joe Cantillon and The Western All-Star Tour*. Terry came down from North Dakota to describe the teams Cantillon put together in 1901-02. They involved many future Hall of Fame players and featured AL vs. NL team matchups, perhaps a precursor to the World Series.
4. Ed Edmonds: *Baseball's Salary Arbitration System*. Ed has been compiling arbitration salary records and results for years. He described the three-member panel system replacing the single arbitration "judge". Ed has records of arbitration wins and losses by teams and player.

The Featured Guest Speaker was Minnesota Twins Assistant Director of Player Development Research Josh Ruffin. He has been with the Twins Analytics Department for several years. Josh was very entertaining and candid. The Twins use Motion Capture and the Hawkeye System to analyze players before they seek to acquire them. Josh described how some players should benefit now that defensive shifts are banned in 2023. An audience member asked Josh, "The person in the Twins Analytics Department who was responsible for Defensive Shifts- what job is that person now doing for the Twins?" Josh paused and shifted, hesitated, leaned forward and back, and then answered "Doing presentations?"! Hilarious.

Our Chapter Business Meeting was held during lunch April 15: Board of Directors elections were held. The expiring terms of John Swol, Gene Gomes, Sarah Johnson and Daniel Dorff were to be filled beginning July 1 by Howard Luloff, John Buckeye, Daniel Dorff (returning) and Rich Arpi. Rich was nominated from the floor and he accepted. They will serve two-year terms. Gene explained that SABR is now urging all chapters to do Annual Reports.

Gene encouraged members to sign up for SABR 51 in Chicago. Also, our Chapter has applied to host a future national SABR meeting in the near future. Jerry gave the treasury/bank account report, and said there is \$1,103.79.

Bob Kormoroski reported that there are now about 258 followers on our Facebook page.

Stew reported Halsey Hall Chapter has 163 members who claim HH as their primary chapter.

Howard's new Power Point presentation of his *Jeopardy!* style Big Board Trivia Contest debuted. It was a resounding success using the chapter's own projector and a member's Macbook Air laptop. The meeting was streamed on Facebook, but due to loss of battery power, failed to last the entire meeting.

Announced: the winner of the History Day Award sponsored by our chapter at the State National History Day was Hudson Warren for his website *Jackie Robinson: A Legend of the Civil Rights Frontier Both On and Off the Baseball Field*. The History Day theme was "Frontiers in History: People, Places, and Ideas". Hudson will receive \$150, a complimentary SABR student membership, and information to get involved in SABR.

Congrats to Daniel Dorff, a member of our research committee, for his SABR BioProject of Minnesota native Lee Quillin, which was posted on SABR.org this month. It's his first article.

New members: John Bonnes, Jason Parker, Brent Hokeness

May:

May 13: Saturday Breakfast at Manning's in southeast Minneapolis.

May 15: Research committee Zoom meeting. Eleven attended. Thanks to Brenda Himrich for securing the appearance of Josh Ruffin at the chapter meeting. Meeting recap: time slots went well and we stayed on schedule. Rich Arpi mentioned that he would soon visit the Minnesota Historical Society to research early baseball in Minnesota counties. Gene reported that SABR will send out official Chapter Surveys soon. SABR now has firm requirements of chapters, and as a bonus, there are financial rewards for achieving all the goals listed. The deadline is May 31.

So far, sixteen Halsey Hall members have signed up for Chicago 51 in July.

Member Carl Rogan, grandson of Hall of Famer Bullet Rogan, was featured in Kansas City media for his efforts getting a grave marker for his grandfather Charles Wilber “Bullet” Rogan.

We will strive to provide optimum service and enjoyment to Halsey Hall Chapter members in the year June 2023-May 2024.

— **Gene Gomes and Stew Thornley**

Monarchs Chapter (Kansas City, MO)

The Monarchs Chapter of the Society of American Baseball Research had two meetings since our last annual report.

The SABR Day Meeting was held February 4, 2023. Phil Dixon! Phil is a long-time SABR member, historian and co-founder of the Negro Leagues Baseball Museum. He is the author of many baseball books, the latest being *John "Buck" O'Neil, The Rookie, His Words, His Voice*.

Sunday April 2, 2023 we held our first online meeting. SABR's Detroit, Cleveland, Chicago, Minnesota, and Kansas City Chapters hosted a joint Zoom meeting, to discuss the American League Central Division's 2023 outlook. One of the goals of this joint meet was to give our Midwestern chapters a chance to become more connected. Roger Erickson represented the KC chapter at this meeting, discussing all things Royals.

We are forming a Monarchs Chapter SABR National Convention Exploratory Committee, to see if we have enough local interest to host a national convention. This would be targeting dates no sooner than 2025 or 2026.

— **Michael Webber**

Bob Broeg Chapter (St. Louis, MO)

The Bob Broeg SABR Chapter in St. Louis, Missouri continues to meet twice monthly—a regular chapter meeting at The Sports Café in Bridgeton, MO and a Fellowship Meeting at Mike Duffy's in Kirkwood, MO. Regular meetings are all hybrid with approximately 20 people attending in person and 6 attending via zoom. The chapter meetings include a guest speaker,

general discussion and trivia, while the fellowship meetings include general discussion and informal trivia.

In September, the chapter sponsored the 8th Annual Jim Rygelski Research Conference, hosted, and organized by the Webster University Sports Media and Analytics Club. Clem Hamilton was declared the winner of the Rygelski Award.

The chapter was also able to hold our annual Hot Stove Luncheon in conjunction with SABR day at Mike Duffy's in Kirkwood, MO. Our special guest speakers were former Cardinals pitcher and current broadcaster Rick Horton and Hall of Fame sportswriter Rick Hummel.

Officers for the current year as elected are President – Allison Levin, Vice-President – Ed Wheatley, Secretary – Jeremy Gibbs, and Treasurer – Clem Hamilton.

— **Alison Levin**

Elysian Fields Chapter (Jersey City, NJ)

Meetings and Events

The Elysian Fields Chapter of SABR continues to be active with Zoom meetings that provide conversation, camaraderie, and connections among the membership.

Because of the ease in hosting and attending a Zoom meeting, I see no reason to have an in-person meeting. There are other highly significant benefits to Zoom.

First, Zoom allows members from other regions to attend.

Second, Zoom allows us infinite freedom in recruiting speakers, who appear from all parts of the country. We would be severely restricted in our roster of speakers for in-person meetings.

Third, the Northern NJ region is fairly large. So, it would be a tremendous inconvenience of time to have members travel on a Saturday morning for a meeting to last a couple of hours. It would not be unrealistic to expect transportation to total an hour each way, depending on the venue. An in-person meeting during the week would be even more impractical given the hassle of driving on Northern New Jersey highways during and soon after rush hour traffic.

In recent months, I've created a 90-minute paradigm for our Zoom meetings. Often, the guest will provide a presentation. In some cases, I will interview the guest.

Our Zoom meetings now run on a monthly basis—the first Monday night of every month from 7:00 p.m. – 8:30 p.m. Eastern in the baseball season. During the hot stove months (November – March), there will be a second meeting each month. The guest has the first 45 minutes, broken down as 20-30 minutes for a presentation or interview and the remaining time for the membership to ask questions. Occasionally, we'll have a baseball quiz instead of a guest.

The next 45 minutes is a “campfire” format where everyone has a chance to talk about what he or she is working on regarding baseball research. Occasionally, we'll have a topic of discussion instead. For example, on the night of the Hall of Fame voting, everyone had an opportunity to talk about people who have been overlooked in past years. Choices included Joan Payson, Dale Murphy, Steve Garvey, Ted Turner, Charles Ebbets, Al Oliver, and Tommy John. We also had an Open Forum in another meeting where each member chose a topic to talk about.

The campfire sessions have worked tremendously well. While I experimented with it in a few meetings in the past, having this format for 45 minutes on a regular basis in the past couple of months has increased participation, camaraderie, and excitement. Members have contacted me directly to express their appreciation. They've also talked about the value of the format during the session.

I've also created an in-person social event to take place twice a year in spring and fall. It's a brunch at The Stage House in Mountainside, New Jersey. The cost is approximately \$30 for an all-you-can-eat buffet (not including tax and tip). Each attendee pays The Stage House directly.

Speakers and Topics

June 13

Campfire—What's everyone working on?
Baseball Quiz

July 11

Campfire—Who should be in the Hall of Fame?
Baseball Quiz

August 15

Jason Cannon, *Charlie Murphy: The Iconoclastic Showman Behind the Chicago Cubs*

Lawrence Baldassaro, *Tony Lazzeri: Yankees Legend and Baseball Pioneer*

September 19

Scott Bush, SABR 50 recap
Richard Puerzer, Annual Forbes Field Celebration – 1960 World Series

October 23

Brunch

November 21

2022 American League Recap

Gabrielle Starr, Editor, *BoSox Injection* and Founder, girlatthegame.com

December 19

Campfire—What’s everyone working on?

Baseball Quiz

January 9

Rosanne Vrugtman, President, Zane Grey West Society

Terry Bolinger, Past President, Zane Grey West Society

Topic: Zane Grey and Baseball

Dan Schlossberg, Author and Braves Historian

Topic: Hank Aaron Beyond the Home Runs—How Good Was He?

January 24

Cassidy Lent, Reference Librarian, Giamatti Research Center, National Baseball Hall of Fame and Museum

Topic: Research Resources at the Hall of Fame

Campfire—Discussion about the Hall of Fame election earlier that day and who’s deserving but not inducted into the Hall of Fame

February 4 (SABR Day)

David Krell, Ten Commandments for Minimizing Stress and Maximizing Value in Your Baseball Research

Ted Reinstein, *Before Brooklyn: The Unsung Heroes Who Helped Break Baseball’s Color Barrier*

Paul Hensler, 50th Anniversary of Nolan Ryan’s Quest for 400 Strikeouts

Bob Golon, Story of the 1946 Newark Eagles – Negro League Champions

Interview: Tom Shieber, Senior Curator, National Baseball Hall of Fame and Museum

February 13

David Pegram, Chair, *NINE* Conference

Justin McKinney, *Baseball's Union Association: The Short, Strange Life of an Early Major League*

February 27

Judith R. Hiltner and James R. Walker, *Red Barber: The Life and Legacy of a Broadcasting Legend*

Campfire—What's everyone working on?

March 13

Erik Sherman, *Daybreak at Chavez Ravine: Fernandomania and the Remaking of the Los Angeles Dodgers*

Lisa Alexander, *The Court Martial of Jackie Robinson* (1990 TNT TV-movie starring Andre Braugher)

March 27

David Krell, *Do You Believe in Magic? Baseball and America in the Groundbreaking Year of 1966*

Campfire—Open Forum (anything that a member wants to talk about regarding baseball—rule changes, length of game, your team's prospects, etc.)

April 3

Dan Taylor, *Baseball at the Abyss: The Scandals of 1926, Babe Ruth, and the Unlikely Savior Who Rescued a Tarnished Game*

Gary Mitchem, Senior Editor, McFarland & Company

May 1

Paul Semendinger, *Roy White: From Compton to the Bronx*

Campfire—What's everyone working on?

May 21

Brunch

Elections

We've tried to hold elections twice in 2023. There was no interest in the first attempt. Regarding the second attempt, we opened it for a Vice Chair and a five-person Advisory Board. One person expressed interest in being a Vice Chair. Nobody wanted to be on the board. So, the elections for Chair and Vice Chair will take place on June 15 via Survey Monkey. David Krell is running unopposed for Chair. Dan Schlossberg is running unopposed for Vice Chair.

Chapter Research Project

I've sent several emails regarding a chapter research project. I've also raised it at our meetings. This is not something that has appealed to any member presently because of the time factor. Based on the input at the meetings, our members are tremendously pressed for time because of their jobs in addition to their own research projects.

Russell Gabay Award

Although we don't have a chapter research project, we do give the Russell Gabay Award annually to an entity or person that has demonstrated an ongoing commitment to baseball in New Jersey. The tribunal that decides the recipient consists of myself, Anthony Arot (Goose Goslin Chapter Chair), and Lori Gabay (Russell's sister). Starting in the fall, members are encouraged to submit their nominations to me by 11:59 p.m. Eastern on December 31.

Treasurer

There is no need for a Treasurer or chapter bank account at this time because our events do not cost any money. A grant for a project—research or otherwise—does not appear to be something that the membership is interested in pursuing right now.

Website

I've sent several emails to the membership regarding a website for the chapter. There has been no interest from any member, including myself, about helping create a website nor has there been any apparent interest in having one.

Newsletter

I've sent several emails to the membership regarding a newsletter for the chapter. There has been no interest from any member, including myself, about helping create a newsletter nor has there been any apparent interest in having one. Also, one purpose of having a newsletter is to keep members informed of the activities and achievements of their fellow members. Our campfire sessions accomplish that goal in a more personal atmosphere.

By-Laws

One of our members has drafted a set of by-laws and I added my revisions based on the input of chapter members and also how I see the needs of the chapter going forward. The by-laws are attached in a separate document.

– **David Krell**

Maddux Brothers Chapter (Las Vegas, NV)

The Maddux Brothers SABR Chapter began its revival as COVID receded. Part of the difficulty was the sad news that our president, Rick Swift, died in November 2022 after a long illness. Several members worked together to revive the chapter, and we are continuing the process.

On February 4, SABR Day, the Maddux Brothers chapter met. Member Rob Sheinkopf delivered a presentation, “The Eddie Scissons Syndrome,” that he also went on to make at the Nine conference and subsequently at a conference at the Baseball Hall of Fame in Cooperstown. The 10 members present also elected chapter leadership: President Michael Green, Secretary Jeff Kallman, and Treasurer Chris Kaempfer.

Beyond that, chapter members have been gradually trying to build a regular meeting schedule and a larger membership. We have sought to do this in two ways so far.

The first has been to meet every first Saturday of the month, in an informal setting (usually, in our case, an Einstein Brothers Bagel location that is central). Members bring memorabilia related to baseball history and discuss it, as well as books they are reading and issues in the game ranging from rule changes to who will win the World Series. These have had a regular attendance of about eight members, though not always the same eight members.

The second has been to attend games occasionally as a group. The Las Vegas AAA club, the Aviators, an Oakland A’s affiliate, play at The Ballpark in Summerlin. Member Chris Kaempfer is the co-founder of a law firm that has long represented the local franchise and has a suite. We have attended several Aviators games and Big League Weekend.

One of our members, Ke Chen, has created a Facebook page for the chapter, and we hope to use that as a communications and promotional tool.

In addition, Sheinkopf has been heavily involved in SABR’s Baseball Memories program, with Green’s assistance. We worked out a partnership with Oakmont of Las Vegas: Senior Living and Memory Care. Sheinkopf has done monthly presentations, sometimes with Green. We are now working on adding another facility to the program.

Our future plans include to start holding more regular online meetings so that we may bring in outside speakers, and we have been in touch with a couple of possibilities; to continue to meet regularly; and to involve ourselves more in research related to the history of baseball locally. The next meeting scheduled after this report involves a visit to a retirement community for a presentation by a SABR member, Mickey Tangel, with a long involvement in reenacting nineteenth-century baseball games, and we hope to have more such presentations at our regular meetings as we expand our membership. We also are eager to see the disposition of the Oakland A's situation and what involvement might be possible there.

– **Michael Green**

Cliff Kachline Chapter (Cooperstown, NY)

July 24, 2021 SABR Meeting (Cooperstown)

Guest Speakers

Bill Deane; Author of “Baseball’s Who’s Who of What Ifs – Players Derailed en Route to Cooperstown”

Daniel R. Levitt & Mark Armour; Co-authors of “Intentional Balk – Baseball’s Thin Line Between Innovation and Cheating”

Mike Mitchell; Author of “Mr. Rickey’s Redbirds – Baseball, Beer, Scandals & Celebrations in St. Louis”

October 2022 – Gloversville Glovers History Display completed at House of Pizza Restaurant in Gloversville. Part of SARB grant.

Cooperstown SABR DAY Meeting – February 4, 2023

Guest Speakers

Tom Shieber – What Jackie Robinson wore during his 1947 season with the Dodgers

David Krutz – Early Base Ball in Little Falls and the Central New York League

Erik Sherman - Author of “Two Sides of Glory: The 1986 Boston Red Sox in their own

words”. Also gave a sneak-peak at his upcoming book “Daybreak at Chavez Ravine: Fernandomania and the remaking of the Los Angeles Dodgers.”

May 20, 2023 Parkhurst Field Phase I Renovation Ceremony; Opening ceremony for Parkhurst Field premier field and grandstands which was part of a 10 year / \$1.8M effort to build a field & grandstands that matched those that of the 1906 NY State League A., J. & G’s who played on the site from 1906-08. www.parkhurstfield.org

— **Mike Hauser**

Casey Stengel Chapter (New York, NY)

The Casey Stengel Chapter of New York City held its National SABR Day meeting virtually on zoom Wednesday, February 22, 2023. The two speakers were Lee Lowenfish, whose most recent book is *Baseball's Endangered Species: Inside the Craft of Scouting by Those Who Lived It*, and Barry Sparks, recent author of *The Search for the Next Mickey Mantle: From Tom Tresh to Bryce Harper*.

Lowenfish shared research facts and insights about baseball’s scouts and the progression of scouting in general from its beginnings to the present day. He compared the player development and rivalry between Branch Rickey's St. Louis Cardinals and the Yankees dynasties under Ed Barrow, Paul Krichell, and George Weiss. Lee emphasized Krichell, who discovered Lou Gehrig early on and signed him, showed how indispensable scouts were to the powerhouse Yankees dynasty.

Sparks covered the never-ending comparison game that fans and the media play with phrases like “he’s the next Mickey Mantle (or Mays/Ruth/Aaron/Musial, and so on).” He focused mostly on New York Mets and Yankees players and how some never recovered from the psychological struggles of trying to meet the unrealistic expectations of others. More nuggets of knowledge emerged during each speaker’s Q&A. Chapter webmaster Kevin Carter coordinated and moderated the event with 55+ members in attendance.

Kevin Carter’s role as webmaster has been especially notable and integral to chapter functions since the COVID pandemic, when he created a virtual space for authors to share their research. During the previous 12 months he has set up book talks several times, such as with Mark Armour and Dan Levitt discussing *Intentional Balk: Baseball's Thin Line Between Innovation and Cheating*, Justin Mckinney talking about his book *Baseball's Union Association: The Short, Strange Life of an Early Major League*, and Dan Taylor, author of *Baseball at the Abyss: The Scandals of 1926, Babe Ruth, and the Unlikely Savior Who Rescued a Tarnished Game*.

Gary Mintz, who led in-person meetings of The New York Giants Preservation Society, which he founded, before the pandemic, has conducted 39 zoom meetings (May 31, 2022-May 31, 2023) with speakers discussing the Giants franchise. Most were about the New York Giants, and all were well-attended. Gary states that “The organization's mission is to remember, honor, and

treasure the past of the New York Giants.” A Polo Grounds Magical History Tour in person was a recent highlight and a new channel is available now on YouTube.

The Casey Stengel Chapter looks forward to the return in two weeks of in-person meetings for the first time since 2020.

— **Evelyn Begley**

Luke Easter Chapter (Rochester, NY)

The Luke Easter SABR Chapter (Western NY) held our 9th Annual Hot Stove Dinner on SABR Day featuring guest Josh Whetzel, long-time Red Wings Broadcaster; drawing north of 50 attendees.

We continued to partner with several local organizations including the Friends of Mt Hope Cemetery on a Baseball-themed tour; the Monroe County Public Library on an exhibit to open in 2024; and the Rochester Red Wings with several ad hoc research requests as well as providing articles for program and media guides.

Have goals for the next year to expand local leadership and have an increased focus on in person social activities while maintaining a balance of zoom and in person research presentations.

— **Ryan Brecker**

Jack Graney Chapter (Cleveland, OH)

Executive Overview

The Jack Graney Chapter had another active year featuring four-chapter meetings including our first face to face meeting since the Covid pandemic. In addition, we continued to play an active role in the Baseball Memories Program (BMP) as we conducted separate regular sessions with three different partners-Alzheimer’s Association of Cleveland, Farrell Foundation, and Brookdale Senior Living. Our Northern Ohio Baseball Tours project continued to move forward to assemble the database of information that will be used to construct tours of a variety of types. We used the early version of the database to construct and present a virtual tour of the many ball parks in Northeastern Ohio that were used by local teams from the various Negro Leagues. We have also formed a partnership with a local group Youth Opportunities Unlimited to identify a summer intern to work on our tours project. Our chapter’s baseball book club continues to meet

regularly and have lively discussions about books of interest. We also took part in the Cleveland baseball team's GuardsFest fan experience day during the winter.

Management

During the reporting period, we continued with the same chapter management team.

Joe Shaw-President
Dave Bodemer-Vice President
Vince Guerrieri-Secretary/Treasurer
Jeremy Feador-Board Member
Stephanie Liscio-Board Member
Dave Scott-Board Member

We have begun the process outlined in our chapter by-laws to conduct an officers' election during the upcoming period of performance. The election process will be completed and the announcement of new officers made at our 2024 winter meeting.

Chapter Membership

The chapter has formed a membership committee which is being co-chaired by Joe Shaw and Vince Guerrieri. It is our desire to add more members to the committee as we outline a go forward plan that will have both retention and attraction elements. One of the areas of emphasis for this committee will be local marketing of SABR as it has become quite clear through a range of chapter outreach efforts such as GuardsFest that the vast majority of Northeastern Ohio baseball fans have little to no awareness of the organization. In addition, we have found that for the small number who do indicate they are aware of SABR that there is a significant misconception existing that all the organization is interested in is analytics.

Meetings

We were excited this past year to begin conducting face to face meetings as part of our suite of four meeting offerings for the reporting period. As we go forward in what we hope will continue to be the post Covid world, we want to offer both face to face as well as Zoom meetings. Our Zoom meetings during Covid allowed us to reach SABR members well outside Northeastern Ohio and offer speakers we could never get for face to face meetings. Our ultimate hope is to be able to offer hybrid meetings that will blend the best of both worlds but the approach to doing that in a high-quality way remains a topic of discussion and research.

Some highlights from our chapter meeting offerings over the past year are as follows.

Winter meeting #1 (February 4, 2023, SABR Day)

Typically, our winter meeting is focused on the off-season hot stove league and a look ahead to the new season. This year were excited to be able to plan and host a set of two meetings, one a face to face meeting and a second Zoom meeting. The face to face meeting was an all-day event at Progressive Field's Terrace Club restaurant. Our partnership with the Guardians made this face to face meeting a possibility. We had number of interesting speakers including The Athletics' Zack Meisel, Guardians' senior analyst Zach Morton and Senior Vice President Bob DiBiasio. We also had two interesting research presentations from chapter members Dr. Steve Dittmore and Dr. Bill McMahon. No chapter meeting is complete without a trivia contest from our chief quiz master Rick Bradley. In addition, we had an excellent time over a wonderful lunch talkin' baseball.

Winter meeting #2 (March 1, 2023, Zoom)

The second part of our winter meeting series was a well-attended Zoom meeting which featured three interesting and informative speakers:

Bob DiBiasio - Sr. Vice President of Public Affairs, Cleveland Guardians, Progressive Field upgrades, a more detailed look

Joe Noga - Cleveland Plain Dealer reporter, Guardians 2023 Outlook

Justin Mckinney - Canadian baseball historian and author of *Baseball's Union Association: The Short, Strange Life of a 19th Century Major League*

Zoom meeting September 6, 2022

The chapter meeting featured an extended session with former Indiana's southpaw hurler "Sudden" Sam McDowell and his co-author Marty Gitlin. They talked about their recent book *The Saga of Sudden Sam* and engaged with us in a lively baseball discussion

Zoom meeting October 20, 2022

Our chapter celebrated the seventy-fifth anniversary of the Cleveland Buckeyes second Negro American League pennant and the Negro League World Series when they played the New York Cubans. Not only did we relive the World Series but we got to know the nine players from the two teams who went on to play in the major leagues. Our featured speaker for the evening was Mr. Dominick Denaro, well known Negro Leagues baseball historian, and he delighted all who attended with a lively, well developed presentation.

Special Interest Groups

Book Club: We have continued to have a very active book club group led by Dave Scott. Our sessions, typically on Saturday mornings, occur roughly every couple to three months and we have had a wide array of books written by SABR members, local authors, and national authors. One very attractive feature of our meetings is we endeavor to get the authors to join us and their

presence adds so much to our discussions. Our most recent session was on the book *The Baseball 100* by Joe Posnanski.

Baseball Analytics: A number of members of our chapter expressed a desire to meet to go more deeply into various aspects of analytics. To meet this need, we have formed an informal special interest group and we meet on a regular basis. The meetings provide an opportunity for those interested to bring topics of interest for discussion as well as present any analytics-based research they are doing or have completed. Currently this group is on hold as we rethink our objectives and we anticipate restarting sometime during the summer. There is clearly a need for such a group but we feel we need to rethink our objectives and approach so as to gain increased, active participation.

Projects

Our chapter has two active projects. We have other potential projects we hope to begin in future reporting periods.

Baseball Memories Program: Almost four years ago our chapter began an effort to work with the Cleveland chapter of the Alzheimer's Association to present monthly baseball theme sessions to a group of early stage Alzheimer's patients and their care givers. More recently we have added two new partners, the Farrell Foundation and Brookdale Senior Living both located in Northeastern Ohio. Currently we are offering monthly sessions for a group of Brookdale residents and bi-monthly sessions for participants in the Farrell Foundation. These sessions continue to be very rewarding for our team as we are impacting the quality of life for not only our participants but their caregivers. Our current team executing this project is Dave Bodemer, Ike Brooks, Dave Scott, Steve Austin (from LA), and Joe Shaw. We will be looking to grow our team going forward. We want to expand our effort going forward so we can reach more people afflicted with this terrible disease.

Northern Ohio Baseball Tours: Northern Ohio has a rich baseball history with the Major League presence dating back to 1901 as well as several Negro League teams, several minor league teams, and a rich sandlot/amateur baseball past. Currently there are no available baseball tours that allow fans whether they are local or visiting the area to sample this rich baseball history. We initiated a project over a year ago to collect as rigorous a set as possible of potential tour sights using a taxonomy we developed to guide our collection process. We are collecting information so that we can populate a multi format database (written narratives, vintage photographs, current photographs, videos, maps).

This data will be the basis of constructing a wide variety of baseball tours given the customer desires. We already have two active external partners in this project who wish to work with us to construct a variety of tours. Destination Cleveland desires to have a walking tour of downtown

Cleveland for out of town baseball fans who have a few hours before attending a Guardians' game and want to sample some of Cleveland's rich baseball past. The Community Cup Classic Foundation desires to have a web-based tour highlighting Cleveland's Negro League history and more recently conversations have begun about a possible bus tour. During this reporting period we used the information already available in the database as it is being constructed to develop a PowerPoint tour of the ball parks in Northeastern Ohio that were used by local teams from the various Negro Leagues. This presentation was given at a Community Cup Classic Saturday morning session and was very well received. Thanks to our partnership with the Community Cup Classic Foundation, we have formed a partnership with a local group Youth Opportunities Unlimited to identify a summer intern to work on our project. We believe these partners and tours constitute our pilot effort and more partners and tour opportunities will follow as our effort gets some public notoriety. We hope this effort with the intern and the partners will help us kick off an effort to increase the awareness of SABR and our chapter and begin a more dedicated effort to recruit new members. Right now, sadly SABR is a very well-kept secret in Northern Ohio. We hope to change that. The chapter members involved in this project are Dave Bodemer, Ike Brooks, Jeremy Feador, Vince Guerrieri, Alex Harnocz, Stephanie Liscio, Dave Scott, and Joe Shaw.

Financial Records

Our chapter has a savings/checking account and the financial information requested has been sent separately to Pete Cottrell as requested.

— **Joe Shaw**

Hank Gowdy Chapter (Columbus, OH)

In 2023-23, we continued our practice of generally scheduling a local chapter event of some sort each month. Like many chapters, during the past year our chapter utilized a hybrid-style meeting of meeting both in-person while offering a Zoom option for those who are out of town or still uncomfortable with in-person meetings due to the lingering COVID-19. However, it did enable us to keep in touch with out-of-town participants who joined us during the zoom only year of 2020. The following is a list of this year's activities:

Quarterly SABR Baseball Book Club: Our book club met in-person with a Zoom option this past year. We met at various Columbus Metropolitan Public Library branches to discuss each quarter's selection. Blake Sherry was the moderator. Generally attended by about 20+ members.

May 2022 – The Machine: A Hot Team, a Legendary Season, and a Heart-Stopping World Series: The Story of the 1975 Cincinnati Reds, by Joe Posnanski– discussion included a lively discussion of the best team’s ever in baseball.

August 2022 – The Summer Game, Five Seasons, Late Innings, and others by Roger Angell. As a tribute to the passing of Roger Angell, we conducted a tribute to him by letting members pick their favorite Angell anthologies and discuss their favorite short stories.

October 2022 – I’m Fascinated with Sacrifice Flies by Tim Kurkjian. We discussed the enthusiastic perspectives of Kurkjian on baseball.

January 2023 – Pull Up a Chair; the Vin Scully Story by Curt Smith. Mr. Smith joined on discussion of Scully’s legendary career and impact on baseball broadcasting.

April 2023 – How Baseball Happened: Outrageous Lies Exposed, The True Story Revealed, by Tom Gilbert. Mr. Gilbert joined us for a lively discussion of the origins of baseball.

Normal activities such as Columbus Clippers games at Huntington Park, Prospect League games in Springfield and Chillicothe, Ohio State University Spring and Fall Baseball games. Once again, our group gathered early to talk baseball before our Clippers event.

We met informally for our annual Opening Day and World Series events at the BW3 sports bar on Polaris Parkway. These have been productive in getting new members engaged with our group.

February 4 2023--Annual Meeting – This past year’s annual SABR Day meeting was well attended, with a high percentage attending in person. We always try to schedule on National SABR day. This has been a well-attended activity for our chapter through the years. This year the agenda included topics on ‘Free Speech in Baseball,’ by Larry Baum; “WAR - What is it good for?” by Rob Janes; a discussion of the Hall of Fame results; and a baseball trivia contest developed and administered by Jim Tootle. Finally, as has been done in our past annual meetings, a used book raffle was conducted. This has allowed members to recycle their used baseball books with other chapter members. No one goes home without a new (used) book.

November, December 2022, January and March 2023– Informal Hot Stove Baseball talks, discussing the new rules changes, winter meetings, trades, the free agent market, both Veteran and BB Writers Hall of Fame voting, and all else baseball. These were conducted concurrently in-person and via Zoom this past year.

March 2023– Online draft for Chapter Fantasy Baseball. We continue to conduct it through the Yahoo Fantasy Sports site and is administered by chapter member Aaron Koch.

— **Blake Sherry**

Dayton Chapter (Dayton, OH)

Exclusive Designated Chapter Members – 26

Planning Committee: 5 members (Mark Miller, John Schleppe, Al Turnbull, Ted Thompson, Jack Wheeler)

No Bank Account (bank fees are more than cash balance so bank account closed in 2017)

Cash on Hand – \$95.01 expenditures \$8.97 (snacks for SABR Day Meeting)

Events

3 evening events – Talkin’ Baseball, (2023 – Jan, Feb, Mar) Total attendance: 30 members and non-members. In conjunction with National Trail Parks and Recreation Dept. (Springfield, OH)

SABR DAY Membership Meeting – 18 members, 4 guests, of which two were speakers.

Special Activity - June 19, 2022 Dayton Dragons Baseball Game. 20 tickets available to members and families.

— **Mark Miller**

Oklahoma Chapter (Tulsa, OK)

June 18, 2022 – Meeting was held at the Capitol Hill Library in Oklahoma City. Chapter president Jesse Asbury presented his highlights from a baseball-themed cross-country road trip, including pictures and souvenirs. Stops included the Baseball Hall of Fame in Cooperstown, MLB games at Citizens Bank Park in Philadelphia and Busch Stadium in St. Louis, the Louisville Slugger museum in Kentucky, and visits to the graves of baseball legends Ed Delahanty, Pee Wee Reese, and Pete Browning. He also presented his research on the McAlester

Rockets, a now defunct minor league team based in McAlester, OK that, in 1954, featured Mickey Mantle's twin brothers, Ray and Roy. Chapter member Ron Elliott also brought several items of baseball memorabilia (books, newspapers, etc.) for members to look over and take home with them if they wished.

November 6, 2022 - Chapter held a virtual Zoom meeting this afternoon. The first half of the meeting centered on a post-mortem of the 2022 season, culminating in Dusty Baker's Houston Astros winning the World Series over the Philadelphia Phillies. We also discussed our plans for future meetings, including SABR Day 2023, as well as the potential impact of the proposed rule changes for the 2023 season (pitch clock, larger bases, etc.). The rest of the meeting featured presentations from Howard Johnson on legendary catcher-pitcher batteries throughout history (inspired by the recent retirement of Yadier Molina) and Jesse Asbury about Oklahoma native Pumpsie Green, the first African-American to play for the last team to integrate: the Boston Red Sox.

February 11, 2023 (SABR Day) – Special thanks to chapter member Ron Elliott, who coordinated with Oklahoma State's field superintendent Todd Tribble to get our chapter a tour of O'Brate Stadium in Stillwater, OK, the new home of Oklahoma State's baseball team. This was one of our better attended meetings, with nearly thirty people (members and non-members) making the trip. Before the tour, we met with former Cowboy baseball players Colin Simpson, Max Hewitt, and Jake Thompson for a Q&A session about their time in Stillwater and their ongoing journeys in the minor leagues. Manager Josh Holliday joined us after the team's practice for a brief Q&A before Todd took chapter members on a tour of the playing surface, dugout, bullpen, press box and surrounding areas. Several members met up after the meeting for dinner at Hideaway Pizza, a Stillwater institution.

May 20, 2023 – Meeting was held at Southern Oaks Library in Oklahoma City and featured our first ever SABR Swap Meet. Members brought their unwanted baseball-related books/memorabilia/cards, etc. for other members to look over and take what they wished home with them. Any remaining items were set aside to be donated. Jesse Asbury presented his research on the artistic side of baseball cards, including the works of Dick Perez and Graig Krendler. There were also a few rounds of Oklahoma-themed baseball trivia interspersed, which led to discussions about statistical analysis in baseball and the deficiency of statistics and awards when trying to quantify defensive prowess.

Other chapter events of note occurring during the past twelve months include the creation and expansion of a chapter Facebook page, an update of our mailing list to include all members as shown on the SABR website as well as several non-members who expressed interest in following the goings-on of our chapter, and beginning a relationship with the National Baseball Congress in Wichita, KS as they look to organize and digitize their copious amounts of

records/artifacts/photos/etc. We also had chapter members contribute to multiple SABR publications during the year, including an upcoming book about the World Series champion 2004 Boston Red Sox.

— **Jesse Asbury**

Connie Mack-Dick Allen Chapter (Philadelphia, PA)

The Connie Mack-Dick Allen chapter had a quiet year but did partake in several events.

- August 2022: Zoom discussion with Bill Kashatus about his book *Lefty and Tim*
- September 4, 2023: Co-hosted a multi-chapter outing at an Aberdeen Iron Birds game with the Baltimore SABR chapter.
- February 4, 2023: Hosted the chapter's SABR Day event, both in person and digitally via Zoom, at Temple's Center City campus in Philadelphia. Meeting time was from 9am-4:00pm.
 - Bob Warrington: "The Athletics-Phillies City Series: A Postscript"
 - Ed Morton: "John I. Rogers biography"
 - Mark Kanter: "Mark Kanter's trip to the DR and Impromptu Meeting with Cristopher Sanchez"
 - Brian Engelhardt: "The Black Delahanty...But For The Color Rule"
 - Tom Silknitter: "Covering the Phillies as a Photographer"
 - Brian Michael: "A Philadelphia Negro League Exhibit"
 - Frank Klose: "Trash Cans and Needles: Is There Disincentive to Cheat in Baseball"
- December 1, 2022: Zoom discussion with Tom Alesia about his book *Beauty at Short*.
- December 15, 2022: Zoom discussion with Justin McKinney about the Philadelphia and Wilmington Union Association clubs, and the history of the Union Association.
- 2022-2023: Created a newsletter committee.
- Chapter members have individually found ways to assist the "Barrier Breakers" exhibit at Cheery Street Pier financially and intellectually. This exhibit earned a 2023 SABR Local Grant.

Goals:

- Publish the chapter's first newsletter in Q2/Q3 2023.
- Host officer elections.
- Enhance the chapter's activity digitally and in person.
- Explore additional officer positions.
- Increase chapter visibility on social media in an effort to attract new members..

Chapter leadership remains Matt Albertson (Co-Chair), Rock Hoffman (Co-Chair) and Stephen Glassman (Secretary).

— **Matt Albertson**

Forbes Field Chapter (Pittsburgh, PA)

On Dec. 31, 2022, George Skornickel relinquished his role of president of the Forbes Field Chapter of SABR. George submitted his annual report to SABR for the months in his role of president, June 1, 2022 – December 31, 2022. He was unable to share his report with me.

Mark Woods was appointed as his replacement effective January 1, 2023, with approvals from all chapter members. A chapter meeting was conducted May 6, 2023, at the Heinz History Center in Pittsburgh. There were approximately 60 attendees. The following outlines the meeting content and will conclude the chapter's annual report.

The meeting opened with Mark Fatla, a semi-retired lawyer and longtime community development leader on Pittsburgh's Northside. He lives in an 1870 house just blocks from the site of Pittsburgh's earliest ballparks and has long wondered how the people who lived in his house experienced baseball in Victorian times. That led to an interest in the parks themselves - how they were conceived, constructed, adapted over time, and demolished. With the arrival of the pandemic, Mark realized he'd now have the time to explore that more deeply and the result is "Pittsburgh's Historic Ballparks." Mark introduced his new book titled "Pittsburgh's Historic Ballparks," that contains 127 pages of photo archives of Pittsburgh ballparks and fields with historical footage. Mark gave a descriptive overview of his book.

The next presentation was titled Ki Ki Cuyler (Hazen Shirley Cuyler). The granddaughter of Ki Ki Cuyler, Heather Jerry Cuyler, spoke about her grandfather and shared many vintage family photos of him and her family. Her grandfather lived in Harrisville, Michigan where she noted the many tributes acknowledging him. She discussed some of his notable statistics and induction to the Hall of Fame in 1968. Ki Ki played for the Pittsburgh Pirates 1921-1927 and led the team to a World Series (WS) Championship in 1925. His lifetime batting average was .321 during his major league career 1921 – 1938. Heather brought a bat used by Ki Ki that was recently discovered in a house in Harrisville by a family friend as well as an original family scrapbook with photos and newspaper clippings of Ki Ki. She let meeting attendees hold the bat and examine the scrapbook. Heather brought her mother and son to the meeting to substantiate the many family stories about Ki Ki. She and her family are hoping that the Pittsburgh Pirates will acknowledge Ki Ki in 2025 which is the 100 th anniversary of the Pirates WS Championship. Her grandfather died in 1950 at 51 years of age.

The final presentation before lunch break was titled, "Bill Virdon: A life in Baseball". David Jerome introduced his newly released book and gave attendees a background for writing this book. David is a retired U.S. Army officer, and a former college professor. David's baseball research interests include former MLB pitching great Preacher Roe, of Northern Arkansas and West Plains, Missouri, and legendary New York Yankees scout Tom Greenwade formerly of Willard, Missouri. David talked about every facet of Bill's career as a player as well as a coach and manager. What was more interesting was his relationship and friendship development with Bill and his wife Shirley consenting David to do a biography on Bill's remarkable career. David did cite some untold stories from Bill and his wife. Bill Virdon had a long career with the Pittsburgh Pirates both as a player and coach/manger. David visited the Virdon's on Nov. 22, 2021 five days after the Virdon's celebrated their 70 th wedding anniversary. Bill and his wife Shirley approved David's book that he had just received publisher notification of acceptance. David concluded his talk by stating to Bill during his final visit, "I love you, Bill Virdon." Bill responded, "I love you too". David kissed him on the forehead and departed. Bill passed away the next morning on Nov. 23, 2021. In attendance at the meeting was a close family friend of Shirley Virdon.

The Donora Historical Society gave a presentation titled "From the Sandlots of Donora, Pa to Forbes Field". The main speaker was Brian Charlton who is a retired educator, author, historian and the curator and archivist of the Donora Smog Museum and Historical Society. He taught history in the Belle Vernon Area School District for thirty years. He lectures at the University of Pittsburgh Osher Lifelong Learning Institute, and works with the Senator John Heinz History Center HCAP Program, The Library of Congress Teaching with Primary Sources Program and California University of Pennsylvania's Veterans Oral History Project and the Digital Story Telling Program. Brian mainly discussed the life of Stan Musial to include history and photos of his high school sport playing days in Donora. He talked about the deduction held in Stan's honor on July 30, 2022 when there was an installation of the Stan Musial Pennsylvania state historical marker in Donora. He showed an actual 14-minute color film of pre-game and game action of the St. Louis Cardinals vs Pittsburgh Pirates from Aug. 2, 1956 played in Forbes Field showing Musial in action as well as other notable stars. He also brought copies of 3 formats of the box score from this game for attendees to examine.

Concluding the meeting was a presentation by Brian Engelhardt. The title of his talk was, Eddie Day-The "Black Delahanty:" "...But for the Color Rule". Brian is a native of Reading, Pennsylvania where he resides and is a baseball aficionado. The author of, Reading's Big League Exhibition Games, he has written several SABR biographies together with articles appearing in other SABR publications. He is also a regular contributor to The Historical Review Berks County with his subjects covering various local matters of historical note including baseball. Brian began his talk by giving some background on Eddie Day, an outstanding African American baseball player from the 1890's. In 1887, there was an unwritten gentlemen's agreement by

major league owners not to have black players on teams, but the minor leagues continued to have integrated teams. Day was considered one of the finest baseball players from Reading. He was born in 1874 and was a Reading native. Brian discussed the circumstances that led to Eddie Day's release for insubordination from his brief stint with the Reading Actives team for refusing to pitch in an exhibition game and the relationship he had with the team owner and manager William Witman. Witman brought Day back on the team when the Actives were losing games without Day in the line-up and a petition was signed by prominent lawyers and business owners from Reading requesting his return. The Reading Times newspaper wrote an article suggesting Day's release from the team due to poor performance. Witman released Day for the second time. In 1891, Day joins the original Cuban Giants team. Brian reviewed the career path of Day and his brief appearance umpiring a game in Reading. In 1893, Day was arrested for assault when he got into a fight. Little information was known about Day from 1893-1896. Day rejoined the Cuban Giants in 1897 and then comes back to Reading to play. In 1898, Day joined the Celoron Acme Colored Giants black and white team. Brian talked about a white major league baseball player named Ed Delahanty who played for several major league teams for 15 years. In 1903, he met his death falling from a bridge trestle after getting put off a train because he was drunk. Eddie Day was moving around and returned in 1903 to play in Reading and 1904 with the Cuban X-Giants. Newspaper articles stated, "He was one of the best colored players in the state." Day died of a heart condition in 1906 at the age of 35.

— **Mark Woods**

Jimmy Sebring-George Stovey Chapter (Williamsport, PA)

Williamsport PA - Chapter Meetings - 2022-2023 - Saturday Mornings - 11am James V. Brown Library - West 4th Street - Lowry Room - 3rd Floor - Williamsport Attendance - 25-60 members for in-person meetings; email distribution list is over 100 interested SABR fans

1. **July 12, 2022:** SABR Williamsport Chapter "Picnic Gathering", Bowman Field Williamsport Crosscutters vs. Frederick Keys Game Time 6:35pm 28 Williamsport SABR members attended. "Cutters Cove - 3rd Base - Great View of the Game."
2. **National SABR Annual Conference and Meeting: Baltimore, Maryland:** August 17-21, 2022 (Wednesday to Sunday) Attending from Williamsport Chapter: Jack Houston, Anne Hetzel, Lou Hunsinger
3. **September 3, 2022:** James V. Brown Library, 11 am, "Ed Ott Talks Baseball" with Lou

- Hunsinger - 45 SABR attended. Marc Pompeo - MLB Trivia - A SABR Tradition
4. **December 3, 2022:** James V. Brown Library, 11am, "Tom O'Malley Talks Baseball" with George Jansson and Lou Hunsinger - 38 SABR members attended. MLB player, coach, scout, and manager: 9 seasons with MLB and 6 seasons with Japanese Central League. Tom O'Malley is a former MLB player with six MLB teams: Giants, White Sox, Orioles, Rangers, Expos, and Mets. He spent six highly successful season with "Japanese Central League with the Hanshin Tigers and Yakuit Swallows. Marc Pompeo - MLB Trivia - A SABR Tradition.
 5. **January 24, 2023:** Williamsport SABR Chapter attend "The Williamsport Crosscutters" Hot Stove Banquet on Tuesday, January 24 in the Grand Ballroom of the Genetti Hotel in Williamsport. Guests at this year's banquet include former Pittsburgh Pirates manager Clint Hurdle and ESPN Baseball Analyst Tim Kurkjian. A portion of the proceeds from the event benefit the programs of Sojourner Truth Ministries.
 6. **February 4, 2023:** National SABR Day and Black History Month at JVB Library: James V. Brown Library - 11am - 60 SABR members attended. The Negro Leagues and Major League Baseball” - Lou Hunsinger. Ted Knorr - "The Negro Leagues were the Major Leagues” Marc Pompeo - MLB Trivia - A SABR Tradition.
 7. **April 22, 2023:** James V. Brown Library, 11 am, Yankee Stadium, 100th Anniversary Presentation, Baseball Panel Presentation - National Pastime in Retrospect: MLB Rule changes for the 2023 Season: Ben Brigandi, Steve Shoulder, Dave Troisi, Tom Smith, Scott Thomas, and Shawn Vucuolo Marc Pompeo - MLB Trivia - A SABR Tradition. .

The local Williamsport, PA chapter of SABR is the North Central PA – Williamsport Chapter: Jimmy Sebring - George Stovey - SABR Chapter. The approval of the Williamsport Chapter took place on May 20, 2021 by the National Organization of SABR - chapter designation letter from Leslie Heaphy and Jacob Pomrenke was sent to Jack Houston.

Founding Members of the Williamsport Chapter and Coordinating Leadership Committee: Jack Houston, Marc Pompeo, Lou Hunsinger, George Jansson, and Brad Nason. Lou Hunsinger is the "Official Historian" of Minor League Baseball in Williamsport, PA.

Membership in the local SABR chapter is free and open way for members to join in conversation and discussion with topics on baseball history, tradition and statistics. Local members are informed and encouraged to view the website of SABR and join as members of the national organization.

Leadership Board for 2023-2024

Chair: Jack Houston

Co-chair: Marc Pompeo
Co-chair: Lou Hunsinger
Brad Nason
George Jansson
Anne M. Hetzel
Robin Splain
Bob Sebring
Gabe Sinicropi
Ben Brigandi
Shawn Vucuolo

The Williamsport SABR Chapter moves forward with a theme "aspiration to achievement" on June 1, 2023 completes two years of meetings, research, and community outreach - our chapter begins the "third year" with continued growth based on integrity, inclusion, and inspiration.

The setting in Williamsport, PA - with Little League Baseball International and World Series, the "MLB Classic" in August, the Williamsport Crosscutters, a member of the "MLB Draft League" - now in 2nd season of competition - all provide an enriching way for baseball enthusiasts of all ages.

The Williamsport SABR chapter meetings are held at the James V. Brown Library on West 4th Street in Williamsport - 3rd Floor - media room - the "Lowry Room"; *Williamsport Chapter of SABR and James V. Brown Library share the same mission:* of research, writing, adult literacy, dialogue, learning, and literature. Attendance at Chapter Meetings -25-30 members.

The name of the local SABR chapter is the Jimmy Sebring-George Stovey Chapter, named for two Williamsport area players who played interesting and prominent roles in baseball history. "Jimmy Sebring" - (1882-1909) from Williamsport, played in the 1903 World Series with the Pittsburgh Pirates and was the first player in World Series history to hit a home run. "George Stovey" – (1866-1936) from Williamsport, is widely considered the best African- American baseball pitcher of the 19th century. Both Jimmy Sebring and George Stovey are buried in the Wildwood Cemetery in Williamsport, PA.

Williamsport SABR Chapter Mission: "The SABR local chapter and meetings are ways for seeing how baseball has evolved and reflects the times and growth of our nation and how baseball has connected to events in American History. Our Williamsport SABR chapter is a place for our community to discover more about the impact baseball played in the history of our local communities and our American life. In our SABR meetings, women and men gather and share their personal baseball stories and their love for the game. SABR has a unique way of bringing people together; it connects generations with shared experiences of our youth..

— Jack Houston

Larry Doby Chapter (Aiken, SC)

During the past year our chapter had 12 monthly meetings which included guest speakers such as authors, the Head Coach at Benedict College, a former player from the minor leagues, a current coach (Tina Whitlock) for a minor league team, someone in the analytics department for the Texas Rangers, and a self proclaimed Negro League historian.

The Head Coach at Benedict College, Selwyn Young, is an interesting man to listen to. He is an African American born and raised in South Carolina. He asked me to speak to his Mother before our meeting so I could have a better understanding of his roots. I learned that his family didn't have much money and he doesn't make much money as a Head Coach at a small and mostly African American college. But Selwyn and his family have strong faith, a close knit family and they enjoy life.

As you can see, we employ the D.E.I. into our chapter meetings.

We also had Mark Armour and Dan Levitt as guest speakers as well as Bill Nowlin.

We had a chapter get together at the Lexington Blowfish Stadium, a minor league team, where we met with the owner and manager.

During one of our meetings we discussed some goals for the chapter. The number one priority was to find someone to put our chapter on social media. We have a member that is currently working on it.

I was hoping some of the chapter members would want to be officers in the chapter so we can accomplish more goals. I have tried to have a vote for new officers but no one wants to help. At this time I am the only officer. My next goal is to work on the bylaws

— **Tim Deale**

Rogers Hornsby Chapter (Austin, TX)

As precautions against the pandemic have eased in the last year, the Rogers Hornsby Chapter returned to more in-person meetings, continuing its streak of monthly meetings to 198 months in May.

The chapter also continued long-standing traditions such as an outing to see the Round Rock Express, a World Series watch party and annual winter meeting. We also celebrated SABR Day with a Zoom meeting and added an outing to see the Austin Weirdos of the Pecos League of Professional Baseball.

Most of our meetings involve lunches on the weekend with baseball chatter and a trivia quiz. Jim Baker continued his long-running Predictatron contest in which members try to forecast the regular and post seasons and presented trophies to the regular season and postseason winners. Ryan Pollack added Awardatron, a contest in which members try to guess the winners of the major baseball awards by making their picks before the start of the season. In May, under guidance from the SABR national office, the Hornsby Chapter conducted its first-ever election for chapter leadership. After a week-long self-nomination process and a three-day online voting period, chapter members unanimously elected Gilbert Martinez as chapter commissioner. He was the only candidate on the ballot and plans to appoint directors to the chapter's leadership team.

In April, Ryan Pollack created a poll to survey members about their overall satisfaction with the chapter and their suggestions for improvement. We had 20 out of 78 members respond, for a response rate of 25%, and 19 out of 20 rated their satisfaction with the chapter at 3 or 4 (satisfied and very satisfied). Among the suggestions from survey respondents was to incorporate an outing to a Minor League game in San Antonio, which has been tentatively scheduled for later in 2023. We're hoping to conduct the survey annually to stay in touch with all our members and let that guide our decisions for chapter activities.

Another change the chapter made was transforming the monthly meeting summaries into monthly newsletters, launching for the first time in April. In addition to summarizing the monthly meeting, the newsletter also includes tidbits about regular chapter activities involving the baseball memories volunteer efforts, Predictatron and Awardatron contests, baseball research and other baseball-related topics.

At the 17th Annual Bill Gilbert Winter Meeting in January, Nancy Finley, niece of Oakland A's owner Charlie O. Finley, talked about her book "Finley Ball: How Two Baseball Outsiders Turned the Oakland A's into a Dynasty and Changed the Game Forever." David Vaught, a Texas A&M history professor and author of "Spitter: Baseball's Notorious Gaylord Perry," told of Perry's life and career of a pitcher known to use foreign substances while pitching. Feature writer Mike Bryan shared anecdotes of working with Cal Ripken Jr., Keith Hernandez and Kirby Puckett in writing books with them about their lives. Express General Manager Tim Jackson and broadcaster Mike Capps previewed the team's roster and MLB's rules experimentation with bigger bases and pitch clocks. Our youngest member and high school sophomore, Bailey Hall, gave a brief history of the use of statistics in baseball and how

technology has transformed how we watch and analyze the game we love. Also, winter meeting coordinator Jerry Miller, a long-time Dodgers fan, gave a touching remembrance of Vin Scully. Members also shared their baseball memories from the 2022 season and participated in a mock Hall of Fame vote.

In addition, Hornsby volunteers are beginning their ninth year offering a baseball memories program to participants and care partners living with Alzheimer's, dementia, or living in isolation or institutionalized. The chapter established a partnership with AGE of Central Texas and are offering regular sessions.

For SABR Day, we held a meeting on Zoom and spoke with longtime Astros broadcaster Bill Brown, who is part of the Class of 2023 to be inducted into the Astros Hall of Fame in August.

— **Gilbert Martinez**

Ernie Banks-Bobby Bragan Chapter (Dallas-Ft, Worth, TX)

The Ernie Banks-Bobby Bragan DFW Chapter conducted three in-person meetings during the June 2022 to May 2023 period. On June 23, 2022, we met at the Stub Hub Club at Globe Life Field in Arlington and heard from Tim Hyers, the Rangers' hitting coach, who previously was the successful hitting coach for the Boston Red Sox, including for their World Championship team in 2018. We also heard from TR Sullivan, who covered the Rangers for 32 years, first with the *Fort Worth Star-Telegram* and then for *Rangers.com*. TR spoke to us about his ongoing Rangers' history project. Rangers VP John Blake also told us about the remaining Rangers 50th Year Celebration activities.

The chapter next met on November 14, 2022, also at the Stub Hub Club at Globe Life Field. We heard from Texas Rangers' Director of Baseball Operations Paul Kruger who discussed the hiring of new manager *Bruce Bochy*, the Rangers' off-season, player development, and prospects for the 2023 season. Rangers VP John Blake then interviewed former Rangers' outfielder Pete Incaviglia. Both then signed copies of the new book titled *50 Years of Texas Rangers Baseball*.

The chapter also met on February 6, 2023 at the 421 Club at Globe Life Field in Arlington. We first heard from Texas Rangers' Vice President/Assistant General Manager for Player Development and International Scouting Ross Fenstermaker. Then Mike Capps, the voice of the Round Rock Express and noted baseball author spoke to us about his recent book *Grinders*. Former Ranger Jeff Frye, one of the subjects of *Grinders*, also joined us and spoke about his baseball journey. Capps and Frye then signed copies of *Grinders* to those who purchased it.

In addition, the chapter, at the request of the Texas Rangers, compiled The 50 Greatest Moments in Texas Rangers History in commemoration of the Fiftieth Anniversary of Texas Rangers history. The 50 Greatest Moments consist of a 500-to-750-word description of each Greatest Moment which was prominently featured in the *Texas Rangers 2022 Yearbook*. In all, 12 chapter members contributed descriptions of the various Greatest Moments, which were selected by the chapter.

The chapter awarded its annual Howard Green SABR Metroplex Collegiate Player of the Year Award for the 28th time. The award, named in honor of the chapter's founder, the late Howard Green, is for the most outstanding Division I baseball player in the Metroplex. The 2022 award went to TCU's Tommy Sacco. Sacco had a season to remember for the 2022 Big 12 Conference champion TCU Horned Frogs. The 5-10, 185-pound senior shortstop from Gilbert, Ariz., was first team All-Big 12 in '22 and first team Academic All-Big 12 in both 2021 and '22. The 2022 NCAA College Station Regional All-Tournament team member led the Horned Frogs in virtually every hitting category with a .355 batting average, 58 runs, 82 hits, 14 home runs, 23 doubles, 34 RBI, 18-for-20 success in stolen bases, 149 total bases, and a .645 slugging percentage while starting all 60 games for the 38-22 Frogs.

Sacco was drafted in the 14th round of the 2022 MLB First Year Player Draft, signed with Houston Astros and is playing for the Astros High A minor league affiliate the Asheville (N.C.) Tourists.

The chapter also awarded its eleventh annual Carroll Beringer SABR Metroplex Collegiate Division Player of the Year Award, named for Carroll Beringer, long-time chapter member, former Texas League All-Star and Player of the Year (1959) and major league coach with the Dodgers and Phillies. Beringer, who passed away in 2011, was very active in supporting college baseball in the area. The award is for the top Metroplex collegiate player from four-year colleges playing Division II, Division III, or NAIA baseball. The eleventh award winner of the Beringer Award is Texas Wesleyan's Joseph Barfield. Barfield, a 6-0, 205-pound senior third baseman from Pearland, Texas, was a first team All-Sooner Athletic Conference infielder and paced the Rams in six different hitting stats; hits (74), batting average (.389), runs (70), doubles (19), homers (11), and RBI (66). He helped coach Bobby Garza's squad finish 35-19 with several NAIA weekly national rankings and a berth in the SAC postseason tournament. He started all 54 contests last spring, was 6-for-8 in stolen bases and was a four-year letterman for TWU. Chapter President Paul Rogers presented Barfield with his Award on February 5 in Fort Worth between games of a doubleheader between Texas Wesleyan University and Jarvis Christian College.

— **Paul Rogers**

Larry Dierker Chapter (Houston, TX)

The Larry Dierker SABR chapter met 15 times during the past year using both joint in person meetings and zoom broadcasts. The chapter also had a booth at the 2023 Houston Astros Fan Fest. Fifteen members of the chapter passed out SABR material and greeted as many of the 35,000 attendees as possible. Typically, the chapter had 25-30 members and guests attend in person and another 10-15 on zoom. We had local speakers and some speakers from out of state that appeared on Zoom. A trivia contest is a constant at every meeting as well we have a yearly Astros Win Contest. In addition, over the past year, the chapter published four quarterly chapter newsletters, regularly updated the chapter website (sabrhouston.org), and constantly shares interesting baseball posts and meeting videos through its various social media pages on Facebook and Twitter. The chapter is currently in the process of looking to expand to other social media platforms. The chapter will hold an election of officers in January 2024.

July 18, 2022 Chapter Meeting

On Monday, July 18, 2022, our chapter held its midsummer meeting in a hybrid format; 25 members of the Larry Dierker Chapter met both in person and via Zoom. Our first guest speaker of the evening was author David Krell who talked about the contents of his new book *1962: Baseball in America at the time of JFK*. Since he focused on the Astros and the Mets, the book is of great interest to Houston fans. David also recalled his attendance at the 2014 Annual Conference here at which he made the winning bid to throw out the first pitch at an Astros game. Our second presenter was President Emeritus Bob Dorrill recalling some of the memorable relationships he built during his six years as a Little League coach in Charlotte, North Carolina. He elaborated on his extended contact with two of his former players: Dwight Clark who became a highly regarded NFL player and Mark Davidson who played six years in MLB, including a stint with the Astros. The July 18, 2022 chapter meeting video can be found on the chapter's YouTube page here: <https://youtu.be/6Kmn-szHLTc>.

August 6, 2022 Chapter Event at Constellation Field and Pre-Game Meeting

On Saturday, August 6, 2022, while not an official chapter meeting, over twenty members of the chapter met at Constellation Field in Sugarland to watch the Astros AAA affiliate Space Cowboys battle the Round Rock Express. Before the game, long-time Round Rock Express play-by-play radio announcer and friend to the chapter Mike Capps spoke with the group and shared some stories of his time as a broadcaster. Mike also talked with the group about his new book *Grinders: Baseball's Intrepid Infantry*. Mike agreed to sign copies of his book for those interested. The chapter had a great time as they watched the AAA Space Cowboys beat the Express 10-1 that evening.

September 19, 2022 Chapter Meeting

On Monday, September 19, 2022 thirty-five members of the Larry Dierker Chapter met both in person and via Zoom. President Joe Thompson welcomed all the new chapter members, including those in attendance. The special guest of the evening was Chris Rawls, a former Astros tour operator and currently the owner and operator of Constellation Tours and the portable Houston baseball museum. Chris welcomed everyone with a very nice setup at the Spaghetti Western of various items he had collected over the years. The theme of the evening was Larry Dierker. Chris spent the evening displaying several items and telling many stories about Astros history that involved Dierker. Some of the items from his personal collection included a 1969 Dierker jersey and Dierker's jersey from his final All-Star game in 2000. Chris reminded the group that Dierker is the only uniformed person in Astros franchise history that was a uniformed member of the team in all three stadiums (Colt Stadium, the Astrodome, and Minute Maid Park). The second presentation of the evening was several chapter members sharing some of their favorite moments from SABR 50 in Baltimore. Bob Dorrill, Maxwell Kates, Gloria Rubac, Joe Thompson, and Herb Whalley shared some photos they took from the convention. Some of the photos featured Boog Powell, Memorial Stadium, Camden Yards, Babe Ruth's childhood home and museum, and Bob Dorrill's photo with Carlos Correa's younger brother, JC Correa, member of the Astros Single A Asheville Tourists. The September 19, 2022, chapter meeting video can be found here: <https://youtu.be/IW6fY8esE4k>.

October 8, 2022 “Meet the New Chapter Members” Session

On Saturday, October 8, 2022, the chapter's first "Meet the New Chapter Members" Session went well. Eight members joined the meeting and spent a little over an hour talking about baseball and learning about our newest chapter members. Two of our newest members, Wes Pierce from the Woodlands and Pat Petty, a former upstate New Yorker living here in Houston, joined us for the meeting. Both attended the September meeting, and we were happy to get to know a little more about them and why they joined SABR. The Saturday, October 8, “Meet the Newest Chapter Members” event held via Zoom can be found here: <https://youtu.be/HgpHjzPkeSc>.

October 16, 2022 Chapter Meeting

On Monday, October 16, 2022, twenty-one people gathered together in person at the Spaghetti Western Italian Restaurant on Shepherd Drive in Houston and via Zoom to attend the monthly Houston SABR meeting. The special guest of the evening was Dan Taylor, a former award-winning television sportscaster and current television broadcaster for the Fresno Grizzlies. Dan is the author of *Walking Alone: The Untold Journey of Football Pioneer Kenny Washington*. Dan's talk focused on the baseball career of Washington. His talk was titled “The Almost Jackie.” It was the story of the baseball part of Washington's life – the three-times he was at the center of efforts to integrate the game, how Jackie Robinson tried to persuade Branch Rickey to also sign Washington, his brief post-football stint with the New York Giants and PCL's Angels. A few of the interesting stories Dan talked about were Kenny's decision not to sign with the

Brooklyn Dodgers for the 1946 season because he had made a commitment to play football with the new Los Angeles Rams of the NFL and that Kenny did not play baseball with Jackie Robinson at UCLA in 1940. Dan's presentation was very engaging and informative and included video of Kenny Washington's playing days and conversations with Groucho Marx! After Dan's presentation, chapter member Chris Chestnut played a video featuring a comical story about Bob Feller. The story was told by MLB network talking head Sean Casey. The October 16, 2022, chapter meeting video can be found here: <https://youtu.be/R9LE58p7K40>.

November 12 "Houston SABR Chapter Talk"

The chapter held a "Houston SABR Chapter Talk" on Saturday November 12. The event became a celebration of the World Series Champions Houston Astros. A recording of the event can be found on the chapter's YouTube page here: <https://youtu.be/02IgNs3cbCE>

November 21, 2022 Chapter Meeting

On a chilly, rainy evening, November 21, 2022, forty-five (45) members gathered in person and via Zoom for the monthly chapter meeting. President Joe Thompson opened the meeting with a shout-out to the World Series Champion Houston Astros. Bill Brown introduced the evening's first presenter, Astros Hall of Famer and local favorite Terry Puhl. He now works as a financial advisor and as a college baseball coach. A native Canadian, Terry had a long and distinguished career with the Astros. Terry Puhl and Craig Reynolds were the longest pair of Astro teammates at fourteen years until Bagwell and Biggio Beat them. He recalled some of the highlights of his big-league career and shared many recollections of relationships with other players and managers. He responded generously in a question-and-answer time to conclude his remarks. The second presenter, John Racanelli, joined us via Zoom from his home in Chicago. A dedicated baseball fan with an insatiable interest in baseball history and litigation, he provided information on the SABR Landmarks Committee which aims to identify baseball-related sites in many different categories across North America and beyond. Both chapter and individual involvement is sought in the ongoing expansion of this valuable resource. Available on the SABR website (<https://fortress.maptive.com/ver4/7e78650bfdb58ca6c5dbdc95fb4b28f4>) and as an app on your phone, it offers information and maps to help baseball fans locate places of interest. John also spoke of a blog that he writes and manages called The Hardball Voyager; all members are urged to investigate it and to submit their own essays. The November 21, 2022, chapter meeting video can be found on the chapter's YouTube page here: <https://youtu.be/TGKnbcvjN8>.

December 19, 2022 Chapter Meeting

Just in time for the holidays, twenty-six (26) members gathered in person at the Spaghetti Western restaurant and via Zoom for the December 19, 2022 chapter meeting. Tony Adams was the first speaker of the evening. Tony is a Houston-based graphic designer and web developer who spent more than 60 hours writing an application to analyze video and audio footage and logging the details of the 2017 Houston Astros' sign-stealing operation. The results are available

at <https://signstealingscandal.com/>. Adams won the 2021 SABR Contemporary Baseball Analysis Award for his work. Tony spoke to the group about his work regarding the scandal. David Vaught, a professor of History at Texas A&M, was the second speaker of the evening. He spoke on the book he wrote about HOF pitcher Gaylord Perry called *Spitter: Baseball's Notorious Gaylord Perry*. The December 19, 2022, chapter meeting video can be found on the chapter's YouTube page here: <https://youtu.be/qHWkZjclfco>

January 16, 2023 Chapter Meeting

The Larry Dierker Chapter opened 2023 with a large in-person and Zoom meeting. Over 60 people showed up in person and via Zoom on Monday, January 16. Bill Brown introduced the guest speaker for tonight. He commented that it looked like Lady's Night tonight at the meeting and he attributed the large number of women present to our guest speaker, former Astros correspondent and current mlb.com executive editor and journalist Alyson Footer. Brown explained how she was a pioneer for women in sports. She was the first woman allowed into the locker rooms after a game. Alyson gave a short talk about how she got started working as a baseball journalist. In 1996 when she looked at the web pages for the MLB teams, she was shocked that Astros.com was only one page. In the middle of this page you could click on a button that said "Apply Here for a Job." She clicked and wound up being asked to come to Houston for an interview. She had no idea where Houston was but flew in. The Astros hired her in 1997 as Coordinator of Publications and she worked for three years in the Dome. In 2001 MB.com started covering the Astros and she worked for them. Then in 2009 the Astros asked her to come back and do social media. In 2012 she went back to MLB.com and is now a manager of MLB reporters around the country. Her title is Executive Editor of National Content. The next speaker was a member of the chapter, Jimmy Scruggs. He spoke about his time as an umpire. The YouTube link to the January 16, 2023, chapter meeting featuring Alyson Footer and chapter member Jimmy Scruggs is located here: <https://youtu.be/Tx3kFOwuNOg>.

Astros Fan Fest 2023 Chapter Event

On January 21, 2023, the chapter continued a yearly tradition by having a SABR booth at Houston Astros Fan Fest. This year, the Astros welcomed over 34,000 people to Fan Fest. Fifteen Houston chapter members volunteered to work at the booth during Fan Fest. The chapter worked in two-hour shifts from 10-4 pm and handed out SABR material, baseball cards, and took names down of prospective new members.

The highlight of the day for the chapter was the announcement that our very own chapter member Bill Brown will be inducted into the Houston Astros Hall of Fame. Brownie's induction will occur into the Astros Hall of Fame on August 12, 2023.

SABR Day – February 4, 2023

On February 4, 2023, fourteen members of the Larry Dierker chapter gathered at Jax Grill for SABR Day. We had a great lunch, talked a little baseball, and told memorabilia stories. The special guest for the day was author, chapter member, and former Astros announcer Bill Brown who talked about the process that went into writing his first fiction baseball book, *Swinging for Glory*. Brownie gave credit to all those involved in the process of writing his book, especially the editor Tal Smith. The book has quite a bit of Astros and MLB connections but in fiction form. Brownie had several copies that he gave away and signed all of them. For those interested in watching a video of our SABR Day event and Brownie's talk about his book at Jax Grill, here is the link: <https://youtu.be/O-bgSA6pTIE>.

February 20, 2023 Chapter Meeting

Forty-three (43) chapter members and guests gathered in person via Zoom for the February chapter meeting. Longtime journalist, author, and ghostwriter, Dan Good flew in from New York to speak with the chapter about his book on *Ken Caminiti: Playing Through the Pain*. Dan mentioned that the book took ten years to write. It has received a starred review in *Publishers Weekly* and was a Casey award finalist as one of the year's best baseball books for 2022. A few things of note that Dan said about Caminiti are worth mentioning. Dan said that Ken's talent was often overlooked. He said that Caminiti stood out above players in his era because every time people watched Caminiti play, he often did something astonishing. One of the other reasons that he does not get the credit he deserved, Dan mentioned, was because he played for the Astros and later the Padres. Caminiti won his MVP while with the Padres in 1996. The next two presentations were handled by Mike McCroskey and Chris Chestnut. Mike asked the group if it was against the rules for a player to catch a ball while inside the dugout. He told a story of a game he attended on May 16, 1993 that involved Ken Caminiti. The Astros were playing the Dodgers. Caminiti caught a foul ball in the Dodgers dugout. A video was shown of this catch. The rule now is that a player may reach in but not step in the dugout. Chris Chestnut then gave a presentation that showed the best home run hitters in baseball history and how they fared against good and bad pitching during their best home run year. Chris used WAR (Wins Above Replacement) as his methodology in comparing the best home run hitters. The players he used was Babe Ruth, Ted Williams, Mickey Mantle, Roger Maris, Mark McGwire, Barry Bonds, Giancarlo Stanton, Yordan Alvarez and Aaron Judge. The analysis showed that Yordan and Aaron Judge hit the majority of their 2022 home runs off bad pitchers. The February 20, 2023, chapter meeting video can be found on the chapter's YouTube page here: <https://youtu.be/byhI857n52A>.

March 20, 2023 Chapter Meeting

On Monday, March 20, 2023, the regular monthly meeting of the Larry Dierker Chapter was held. A total of 25 members and guests gathered in attendance. Just in time for the kickoff of the 2023 baseball season, the chapter invited Sugar Land Space Cowboys radio announcers Mike Acosta and Gerald Sanchez. The two talked about their long history of announcing sports

together, the upcoming Space Cowboys season, and then took questions from the audience. Mike Acosta is a Houston native. He spent 22 years with the Astros where he was the team historian and authentication manager. Mike established the Astros Hall of Fame. Mike has broadcasted baseball/football since 2001 for high school, college, and minor leagues including the Sugar Land Space Cowboys. He owns an online media company called Houston City Beat that creates original content that tells stories from around the Houston area. He also owns Astrodome reIMAGINEd LLC, a company dedicated to the future of the Astrodome. He also handles branding and communications for two other companies. Gerald Sanchez is a native of Victoria, Texas. He has been in broadcasting for almost 31 years. In addition to broadcasting Sugar Land Space Cowboys baseball, he owns Legacy Sports Network. LSN Sports specializes in broadcasting high school and college sports online and on mobile devices. The March 20, 2023, chapter meeting video can be found on the chapter's YouTube page here:

<https://youtu.be/Bq0fPONsZ9g>.

April 17, 2023 Chapter Meeting

Our April 2023 chapter meeting was held on Monday, April 17. Twenty-five (25) chapter members and guests gathered in person and via Zoom for the April chapter meeting. The 2023 Houston SABR chapter Astros win contest entries were announced. The chapter received 38 entries for the annual Larry Dierker Chapter Astros Win Contest for the 2023 season. The average of all the entries were that the Astros would win 96 games for the season, Yordan Alvarez would hit 39 homeruns and Kyle Tucker would steal 33 bases. Justin Mckinney, a baseball researcher and archivist who lives in Calgary, Alberta, Canada was the guest speaker of the evening. He is the author of *Baseball's Union Association: The Short, Strange Life of a 19th Century Major League* which was recently awarded the 2023 SABR Baseball Research Award. Justin joined us via Zoom and presented his talk with a power point presentation. In 1883, a third major league was hurriedly put together as a rival to the two leagues in existence. The Union Association upset the heads of the baseball world and disrupted the status quo. The Union Association was backed by Henry V. Lucas, an impetuous 26-year-old millionaire from St. Louis. The UA existed for only one chaotic season in 1884. McKinney's book is the first full-length history of the Union Association and tells the captivating story of the league's brief and enigmatic existence. It's interesting that the salaries were lower than the other two leagues—the National League and the American Association. Lucas recruited a wild mix of disgruntled stars, misfits, crooks, has-beens, drunks, and the occasional spectator--along with a future star or two. The result was a bizarre experiment that sowed both turmoil and hope before fading into oblivion. Teams were in Altoona, Baltimore, Chicago, Boston, Cincinnati and other cities. St Louis had the best team. The legacy of this is that this was Kansas City's first team, St. Louis was the first pennant winner, and McKinney reported that this was the first step in a fight for player freedom. The April 17, 2023, chapter meeting video can be found on the chapter's YouTube page here: <https://youtu.be/Tlxe2Z4dbYI>.

May 13, 2023, Chapter Event at Constellation Field and Pre-Game Meeting

On Saturday, May 13, 2023, our chapter held a monthly meeting at Constellation Field, the Sugar Land Space Cowboys ballpark. That night the Sugar Land Space Cowboys played the El Paso Chihuahuas, the Triple AAA affiliate of the San Diego Padres, and gave away Jeremy Pena Astros orange jerseys. Forty-eight members and guests gathered prior to the game to hear Garrett Greene, the media relations manager and 'Voice of the Space Cowboys,' for all 150 games, home and away. Garrett grew up in Arlington, Texas and went to Texas Rangers games growing up. He got a degree in broadcast journalism at the University of Texas at Austin. Garrett spoke to the group about his life in baseball, his time out of the game in 2020 during the COVID pandemic, and the last few years calling games in the minor leagues, mostly for the Milwaukee Brewers organization. Before being offered the job with the Space Cowboys, Garrett called games for the Biloxi Shuckers, the Helena Brewers Baseball Club and the St. Paul Saints, the AAA affiliate for the Minnesota Twins. Garrett also talked to the group about the current makeup of the Space Cowboys and, he talked about the change in approach that he had noticed this year with recent Astros callup pitcher JP France. After the meeting, attendees enjoyed dinner and were treated to a couple of plate appearances by Jose Altuve who was rehabbing after having his wrist broken in March. Despite the threat of rain all evening and a brief rain delay, the night concluded with a 7-6 victory for the Space Cowboys. The chapter thanks Mike McCroskey for putting this event together.

June 12, 2023 Chapter Meeting

Our next in-person chapter meeting will be held on Monday, June 12. The speaker will be Bailey Hall. Bailey will offer a presentation on the history of statistics in baseball, and how much technology has changed how the game is watched and analyzed. A recording of the meeting will be made available on the chapter YouTube page. Stay tuned.

— **Joe Thompson**

Bud Metheny Chapter (Norfolk VA)

July 5, 2022 –

Author Patrick Townsend - “The Baseball Miracle of the Splendid 6 and Towny Townsend: Heartbreak, Inspiration, and how Baseball Can Be”.

Discussion of Hampton Roads Coaching Legend, Towny Townsend and his impact on the local amateur baseball scene and the development of The Splendid 6 of Michael Cuddyer, David Wright, Ryan Zimmerman, Mark Reynolds, B.J. and Justin Upton

July 17, 2022 –

Harbor Park – Norfolk Tides vs. Worcester Red Sox/ 1-0 Tides lose.

December 10, 2022 –

Hot Stove Discussion. Met and discussed the free agent and trade needs of our favorite teams.

February 18, 2023 –

“Rain Delay” - SABR Day - Zoom Meeting – Author - Justin McKinney and Chapter member Paul Boren

Presentation on the Union League by Justin McKinney, “Baseball's Union Association: The Short, Strange Life of an Early Major League”

Baseball in the 1960's – Discussion led by Paul Boren on the players and stars of the '60's.

March 23, 2023 – Zoom Meeting – Author Andy McCue – Baseball Expansion

Discussion on Baseball Expansion through Andy's two books *Sumbling Around the Bases* and *Mover and Shaker* – Walter O'Malley and the Dodgers Westward Expansion.

April 8, 2023 – Zoom Meeting – Bud Metheny Chapter Operations

Chapter met to discuss our by-laws and upcoming Leadership team election

May 4, 2023 – Zoom – Author – Cesar Brioso – Cuban Baseball Discussion on Cuban Baseball and Cesar's two books: “Havana Hardball: Spring Training, Jackie Robinson and the Cuban League” and *Last Seasons in Havana - The Castro Revolution and the End of Professional Baseball in Cuba*”. Cesar shared his personal experiences emigrating from Cuba and the impact Fidel Castro had on baseball and his family.

— **Andrew Noe**

Central Virginia Chapter (Richmond, VA)

Chapter Formation: I was notified in a letter dated 9/1/2022 from the SABR VP Leslie Heaphy that my request to establish a new Central Virginia Chapter was approved. Initially, our chapter consisted of myself and about a dozen other existing SABR members from the region. I agreed to be the initial chair of the chapter until we became more established.

I created a Facebook page for the chapter and invited all members to like and follow it. To date, the page has 33 followers.

We held our first in person meeting at my office (which is also the chapter office) on October 11, 2022. Only two other members attended so we decided to do more virtual events until we could build some momentum. We held the following virtual meetings:

January 19, 2023 – with guest speakers / authors Jim Overmyer and Justin McKinney.

February 16, 2023 – with guest speakers/ authors Tim Wendel and Brad Balukjian.

March 16, 2023 - with guest speaker and Puerto Rican baseball historian Jorge Colon Delgado. This session was recorded and posted to several pages and groups.

All Central VA Chapter members were invited along with other potential members. The first two meetings drew about 10 attendees, with only one Central VA primary member (other than me). The third meeting with Jorge Colon Delgado drew only one other attendee – a SABR member from Florida.

After this disappointing turnout to what I felt was a strong line up of speakers, I sent an email to all chapter members asking for their input on what times worked best and what topics they were interested in. I received no responses.

We did not schedule a meeting in April.

On May 4th, our chapter was invited to participate in a virtual meeting with the nearby Bud Metheny Chapter. I participated on the call, but no other chapter members participated.

As a result of the lack of engagement, we have not had the opportunity to hold any elections nor draft bylaws. We have not established any outside relationships with other organizations. We do not have any financial accounts, nor plan to in the near future.

Based on SABR membership data, our membership has grown from the initial 12 members to 18 primary members now. I have expanded the invitations for potential members to southern Virginia and even into West Virginia.

I plan to reach out to the members and schedule an in-person meeting in the July/August timeframe and promote the upcoming SABR events

— **Tom Hardiman**

Pacific Northwest Chapter (Seattle, WA)

Pacific NW SABR did some housekeeping this past year. We plan to renew our online presence (and conclude our old webpage, now moribund.) When you see some of our virtual meetings titled “Social Meeting”...well, they were social, but we were using the time to figure out some improvements. We considered changing the name of the chapter – to “SABR Cascades”, but ultimately decided to refine our original name, now referring to ourselves as “Pacific NW SABR” rather than NWSABR.

Virtual meetings will continue to be part of our spread-out chapter. We would like to work on co-presenting with other chapters in our time zone. A lot of our members who will attend a 75-minute presentation on a weeknight won't drive 100 miles to an all-day Saturday meeting. But those that do attend on Saturdays cherish the fellowship. We must dedicate ourselves to both formats; now for several reasons, we need to find new sites.

Virtual Meetings:

7/28 Mark Armour and Dan Levitt introduced their new book, “Intentional Balk”

9/28 Social Meeting: One of several this year. We wanted to renew our social interactions during another year of pandemic. But we began this year to do some re-organization of the chapter. More specifically we began work on revitalizing our web presence, and with the overall goal of uniting our spread-out membership.

11/2 Social meeting: Chapter reorganization.

11/5 Social meeting: Follow up to previous meeting.

12/13 We heard from Seattle Times baseball writer Ryan Divish, reviewing the '22 Mariner season.

1/25 Social meeting: website, blog, social media presence

2/7 Social meeting: (SABR Day) Chapter re-organization

2/21 Social Meeting: Website revisions

3/14 We heard from Katherine Cheng, the VP of Culture and Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion for the Seattle Mariners. She spoke to our chapter about building an inclusive organizational culture at the big league level.

In-Person:

5/6, at Seattle Pacific University: Our first post-pandemic meeting.

Four speakers plus a trivia quiz.

Ryan Divish - Q&A with the Seattle Times' Mariners Beat Writer

Eric Nusbaum – Author, *Stealing Home: Los Angeles, the Dodgers, and the Lives Caught In-Between*

Mike Rice – “When a Noun Becomes a Verb: To Throw a Maddux”

Tip Wonhoff – “Searching for Marc Newfield: Fulfilling the Baseball Dreams of My Youth”

CHAPTER STANDARDS

We meet the criteria at the “Starting Lineup” level. Our bylaws have not mandated elections; we’ve always depended on volunteers. The tasks of recruitment and retention are assigned to the chapter president and vice president.

— **Bob Russon**

Ken Keltner Chapter (Milwaukee, WI)

For the year June 2022 – May 2023 we again had a busy chapter year. Our total membership maintained the same level with some changes in the population that make up the total changing.

We provided 17 opportunities for meetings, virtually, in-person and the book club. The members have stated that we are very fortunate to have had some excellent speakers who were knowledgeable, entertaining, and appreciated how we ask great questions.

We had two members win prestigious awards at SABR 50, Larry Baldassaro’s Tony Lazzeri: Yankee Legend and Baseball Pioneer won the SABR Baseball Research Award; and Dave Heller won the Larry Ritter Book Award for *Gettysburg Eddie Plank: A Pitchers Journey to the Hall of Fame* presented by the Deadball Era Committee.

We again thank SABR for providing Zoom for the chapters, we were able to reach members further out in Wisconsin and members nationwide with excellent speaker opportunities. Their support is greatly appreciated by the Ken Keltner Chapter.

Membership

We have been reviewing our membership annually in July. Since the SABR Annual Report is due in

May, we are moving our review to May. For the following review, we are comparing to July 2022.

2023 Membership Review					
	2022		2023		
	#	%	#	%	Chg
Keltner Mbrs	105	49.5%	112	52.8%	7
Other Chaps	86	40.6%	85	40.1%	-1
No Chaps	21	9.9%	15	7.1%	-6
Total Mbrs	212	100.0%	212	100.0%	0
By States					
	2022		2023		
	#	%	#	%	Chg
Wisconsin	122	57.5%	118	55.7%	-4
St Chaps	86	40.6%	91	42.9%	5
Foreign *	3	1.4%	2	0.9%	-1
No St Chaps	1	0.5%	1	0.5%	0

Total Mbrs	212	100.0%	212	100.0%	0
*Foreign 2022: Canada 2, Mexico 1 - 2023 Canada 2					

Our total membership remained the same, 212 SABR members including 100 from 22 other states and Canada. In July of 2021, we were at 199 total members.

Our Primary Keltner members, their “home” chapter, grew by seven, in 2021 it was 103.

When comparing members by state, those living in WI decreased by four as did foreign members dropping by one with growth from the other chapters making up for the decrease.

Currently over 55% of our membership resides in WI. When we add the 44 members of the Emil Rothe Chapter (Chicago) that are also in Keltner, that’s 76.4% of the total.

Moving forward we are adding a “Membership Lead” to help recruit and maintain membership.

Virtual Meetings

We held a total of six Virtual Chapter meetings during the last 12 months.

- September - Andy McCue presented his SABR 50 Research Project, *The First Ball Four Saga: The Seattle Pilots Journey to Bankruptcy*. Bob Buege won Andy’s book, *Stumbling Around the Bases: the American League’s Mismanagement in the Expansion Era* which was the basis for the presentation. Bob Buege won a copy of the book.
- October - Maxwell Kates presented his SABR 50 Research Project, *Time for Expansion Baseball*. o January – Adam McCalvy, Milwaukee Brewers MLB.com beat writer, John Stodola won a copy of Adam’s book, *The Milwaukee Brewers at 50*.
- February – Josh Maurer, Milwaukee Brewers radio broadcaster.
- April – Professor Mary Hums of the University of Louisville spoke about her Management of Professional Baseball course that is an elective of the university’s sports management program. o May – Matt Klentak, Assistant to the General Manager, former Phillies GM talked about his career and answered questions from the audience.

In-Person Meetings

The chapter had eight in-person meetings this past year.

o June 2022 – a group of 12 attended a Madison Mallards game preceded by team owner Steve Schmidt regaling the group with stories about his favorite major league team the Cardinals and of course his 20 plus years of owning the most successful team in the Northwoods League, the Mallards.

o August - Talking Baseball, A very small group met at the Southshore Park Beer Garden to talk baseball and stuff.

o September - Author Eric Gray read from his latest book, *A Collection of Personal Baseball Stories from the Stands and Beyond*, on the patio at McGinns Bar & Grill.

o November – Fall Chapter Meeting at Stack'd Burger Bar, Milwaukee.

- Mike Hauptert presented his SABR 50 Research Project, *Salaries, Skinflints and Scandals" The Cost of the Black Sox Scandal*.

- Phil Sklar of the National Bobblehead Museum told us about the museum.

- Tour of the National Bobblehead Museum.

o December – Ten members met on the 10th at our usual hangout J&Bs Blue Ribbon Bar and Grill to talk baseball and stuff. It was a wonderful lead into the holiday season.

o January 2023 - Joint SABR Day meeting with the Emil Rothe Chapter (Chicago) at the Brat Stop in Kenosha.

- Vinny Rottino, WI born former Brewer player and Brewer's broadcaster.

- Lee Kluck who is writing a book on Harry Dalton, gave a presentation titled, *The Last Ride of the Dalton Gang* about Dalton's final three years as the Brewers GM.

- Larry Livacari spoke about the Leslie Jones Collection at the Boston Public Library. Jones, a Boston Tribune-Herald photographer from 1917-1956 had 40,000 negatives including 3,000 baseball pictures. ▪ The fourth scheduled speaker canceled due to weather with a snowstorm bearing down on Kenosha as the meeting progressed.

o May – Spring Chapter Meeting at J&Bs Blue Ribbon Bar and Grill, Milwaukee

- Fond du Lac Dock Spiders General Manager, Jim Misudek who returned home to become General Manager talked about his 14 year career with big league teams working in media relations with the Atlanta Braves, Baltimore Orioles, Cincinnati Reds, and Milwaukee Brewers as his Northwoods League ball club where he is starting his second year.

- Matthew Prigge came to speak about his new book, first about baseball, *Opening Day in Milwaukee: The Brewers Season Starters, 1970-2022*. Opening Day has always been like a holiday in Milwaukee, and he had a presentation highlight some of the uniqueness of these events in Milwaukee. His book was part of the raffle that was won by Mary Shea.

o May – Bob Buege, Rick Schabowski and Bill Peach were invited to the Milwaukee Historical Society to talk about one of the Milwaukee SABR Books, *From the Braves to the Brewers: Great Games and Exciting History at Milwaukee County Stadium*. The museum will have all three Milwaukee books on display to sell

Keltner Book Club

We had three virtual Keltner Book Club meetings in the past year.

o July - Author Craig Calcaterra joined us to discuss *Rethinking Fandom: How to Beat the Sports Industrial Complex at Its Own Game*. Mike Kaminski won a copy of the book.

o November – Author Thomas Gilbert joined us to discuss his fine book *How Baseball Happened*. Dave Heller won a drawing for a copy of the book.

o February – Author Noel Hynd joined us to discuss of *The Sputnik Season: 1957*. A copy of the book was won by Jack Liebl.

Keltner Hot Corner

The chapter's newsletter, *Keltner Hot Corner* was published in all 12 months by Dennis D Degenhardt with many different topics as well as some continuing series like, Get to Know, Schabowski's Supper Stumpers by Rick Schabowski, Wisconsin Born Ballplayers SABR bios and links to neighboring chapters newsletters from Chicago and Minnesota. To see all of our newsletters visit [here](#).

Get to Know Profiles

We have a regular feature in the *Hot Corner* titled *Get to Know* a small bio on SABR members often from the Keltner Chapter to get to know them...better.

June 2022: Paul Tenpenny

July 2022: John Graf

August 2022: Francis Kinlaw

October 2022: Mike Kerry

November 2022: Maxwell Kates

December 2022: Gregg Hoffmann

February 2023: Scott Bush

March 2023: Jacob Pomrenke

April 2023: John Gehring

May 2023: Matthew Prigge

Special thanks to our contributors to the Keltner Hot Corner.

Tom Alesia

Dave Klement

Rex Hamann

Steven Landfried

Cory Ritterbusch

Financials

Rick Schbowski, Mary Shea,

Paul Tenpenny Tom Van

Hyning

The Ken Keltner Chapter primary income source comes from raffles held at in-person meetings. Hurting the revenue this year was not doing the raffle at the Joint Chapter Meeting January with a hectic schedule and a snowstorm heading our way. Also, raffles have been lower than in the past.

Our expenses are twofold. At some of our meetings, Book Club or Chapter meetings, we hold a drawing to support the author giving a book to one of the attendees. The other expense is we buy the speakers their lunch at live meetings. For the year, we are in the red by \$76.71.

We have a checking account with \$257.89 plus \$5 in savings at a credit union. The last deposit to that account was after the Spring 2022 meeting. For the time being, I prefer leaving the account alone in the event we require more funds.

Ken Keltner Chapter Finances					
Date	Transaction	Incom e	Expens e	Total	Comments
9/9/2018	McCue Book		\$31.60	\$31.60	Won by Bob Buege
11/12/2022	Donation	\$40.00		\$8.40	Donations at fall meeting
	Raffle	\$32.00		\$40.40	Fall Meeting
	Mike H Lunch		\$20.00	\$20.40	
11/17/2022	Gilbert Book		\$25.00	\$4.60	
1/13/2023	McCalvy Book		\$33.22	\$37.82	
1/28/2023	Donation	\$5.00		\$32.82	SABR Day, no raffle, donation in can
	Rottino Lunch		\$16.00	\$48.82	
2/19/2023	Sputnik Season 1957		\$20.89	\$69.71	Jack Liebl winner @ book club
5/6/2023	Raffle	\$50.00		\$19.71	Spring Meeting
	Prigge Book		\$30.00	\$49.71	Won by Mary Shea
	Prigge Lunch		\$14.00	\$63.71	Spring Meeting speaker
	Misudek Lunch		\$13.00	\$76.71	Spring Meeting speaker

– Dennis Degenhardt

Hanlan's Point Chapter (Toronto, ON)

The Year in Review

The first chapter meeting for fiscal 2023 was held October 16th. The meeting was a hybrid, based in Toronto with a Zoom option for chapter members not within easy commuting distance of Toronto. The 25 registered attendees enjoyed hearing from three authors (Mark Davis, David Fuller and Adrian Fung) who contributed to the book *We Are, We Can, We Will: The 1992 World Champion Toronto Blue Jays*. The book had been published by SABR in August 2022.

In November 2022, the chapter was advised the SABR Board had approved an amendment to recognize growth in the expanded geographic area the chapter was serving. The chapter is now known as Hanlan's Point (Toronto/Southern Ontario).

Originally, the chapter was formed to serve Toronto. The service coverage area has expanded over the years to include neighboring communities in the area known as the Greater Toronto Area (GTA). However, there was a growing cluster of SABR members in Southern Ontario, specifically in the London, St. Mary's (location of the Canadian Baseball Hall of Fame and Museum), Kitchener and Guelph that were interested in greater chapter participation. Following discussions at the 2018 SABR national convention in Pittsburgh, a successful pilot was launched. The increase in participating members has strengthened the chapter.

Also in November 2022, the chapter entered into a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with the Centre for Canadian Baseball Research (CCBR). The CCBR is a non-profit corporation dedicated to encouraging and facilitate research into the historical development of baseball, with an emphasis on Canada, and provide opportunities to disseminate that research. The CCBR holds an annual Canadian Baseball History Conference and chapter members are an important for research papers presented at the conference. Further, in May 2022, SABR had published *Our Game Too: Influential Figures and Milestones in Canadian Baseball*. The book was a joint initiative of CCBR and the chapter with many SABR members contributing essays for the book.

The MOU recognizes that the chapter provides support and encouragement of SABR members to prepare annual research material for presentation consideration at the annual CCBR conference. The CCBR will provide the chapter with a promotional opportunity for the chapter to increase awareness of SABR among conference attendees. The November 2022 conference did generate several new ABR members.

The SABR Day 2023 meeting was a virtual event held on January 26. The 45 registrants were able to enjoy a Q&A session with Rob Thomson, a proud Canadian and Manager of the Philadelphia Phillies. In addition, chapter member Justin Mckinney spoke about his recently published book *Baseball's Union Association: The Strange Short Life of a 19th Century Major League*.

The spring meeting was held April 15 at the Canadian Baseball Hall of Fame and Museum in St. Marys Ontario. A zoom meeting option was also available. The 12 in person and 14 Zoom

attendees enjoyed an interesting Q&A session with Allan Simpson, founder and editor of Baseball America and member of the Canadian Baseball Hall of Fame. Following the talk by Allan Simpson, the Chapter held an annual general meeting that included the election of the Board for fiscal 2024 and approval of the Chapter by-laws.

The final meeting of the year was a group lunch and attendance at an Intercounty League game on May 28 with the Toronto Maple Leafs hosting the Welland Jackfish. Despite hitting a grand slam in the sixth, the hosts came up short losing 11-9. The meeting had 8 attend the lunch and the group was joined by additional SABR members and prospective new members at the game.

— **Allen Tait**

Quebec Chapter (Montreal, QC)

The SABR Quebec chapter is happy to report that 2022 was a productive year for our small group.

We had planned to return to our normal schedule of meetings in 2022 but some COVID restrictions still in effect in Quebec coupled with a limited availability of meeting places in restaurants due to the ongoing labor shortage in the Province restricted our options. Furthermore, some members and guests were still weary of meeting in person so soon after the pandemic. Their judgment was proven sound when several of our members were independently infected with the COVID virus in November, forcing us to cancel our Fall meeting.

We did hold two exceptional meetings. The first one involved a half-dozen Quebec born players who participated in the baseball tournaments at the Summer Olympics, two of them even had stints in the Majors. Our other meeting featured our first ever foreign research presentation guest, author Justin Mckinney who discussed the short life of the Union Association. He specifically talked about Canadian players who played in the league. Both meetings were well attended and appreciated by those in attendance.

A small number of new members joined our group in 2022. It is always a challenge to enlist new recruits because of the language barrier. However, those who join are well engaged and knowledgeable about baseball in Quebec and its history. Our membership remains steady. Our website was still popular. Several feature stories, Jackie Robinson in Montreal, Civil Rights heroes and other article help attract visitors to the website.

Perhaps our best accomplishment in 2022 was our participation in a new scholarly periodical, the Journal of Canadian Baseball. Its inaugural issue featured the sole article in French in this

bilingual journal by two of our members. Member Christian Trudeau was already managing editor of the journal. He later enrolled chapter president Patrick Carpentier on its editorial board. We expect that our collaboration with the Journal will only strengthen in the coming years.

Plans for 2023 are for our chapter to finally resume its pre-pandemic activity. We have a number of guests and research presenters lined up so the coming year shall be an exciting one for our devoted group.

– **Patrick Carpentier**