

## eNews

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# Summer Regional Meeting on August 9th Memorable Padres Moments— A Radio Broadcast Re-creation

A unique and entertaining program is planned for our Chapter's next regional meeting. In addition, we want to heighten awareness of our San Diego Baseball Research Center (BRC) located in our new Central Library in downtown San Diego. We will be using this event to raise funds to help with the cost of acquiring a major collection of baseball research and archival material for our BRC.

### The Event

Date: Friday, August 9, 2013

Time: Doors open at 5:30 pm...Program will start at 5:45 pm

Location: Scripps Ranch Library Auditorium...free parking

10301 Scripps Lake Drive, San Diego, CA 92131

Tickets: SABR members will be admitted free of charge.

Guests (i.e., non-members) are welcome, but there will be a ticket cost of

\$10 per person (with all proceeds going to support our BRC):

Tickets can be purchased in advance by mail by sending check (payable to SABR) and mailed to Andy Strasberg, 136 Redwood Street, San Diego

CA 92103 no later than July 29.

Tickets can be reserved by emailing: SDTWSABR@aol.com, reservations must include the number of tickets reserved.

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Tickets can be purchased (cash and check only) at the event site August 9, 2013 beginning at 5:00 pm. (tickets are available on a first-come, firstserve basis).

Food/Drinks: Dinner will not be served...however, you will be able to purchase from a menu of items from a catering truck that will be on premises during the program.

### **Our Program**

Our Ted Williams SABR Chapter will produce a real time re-created radio broadcast of memorable Padres moments complete with sound effects and a live audience. There will be nine re-created innings of actual Padres great moments.

To keep the live performance "fresh" and entertaining, during the 1/2 inning re-created memorable Padres moment a number of guests will be interviewed and be part of the broadcast. Our re-broadcast host will be SABR member and longtime Padres radio announcer **Bob Chandler**.

We have been fortunate to have The Aramco Group sponsor the program.

### **The History of Radio Broadcasts**

The first MLB radio broadcast was on KDKA in Pittsburgh. Harold Arlin was the broadcaster. Harold Arlin was the grandfather of former Padres pitcher Steve Arlin.

He was a little-known and unheralded engineer for the Westinghouse Electric Corp. in Pittsburgh when he was offered a regular announcer's job on radio station KDKA, one of the country's first two or three stations. Some source books indicate that he was the first full-time announcer on radio but all agree that he was the nation's first baseball broadcaster after he called the play by play of the Pittsburgh Pirates-Philadelphia Phillies game on Aug. 5, 1921. (The Pirates won, 8-5.)

The popularity of broadcasting baseball games soon took off and both major league and minor league teams were able to provide the play by play for their fans listening in their homes. Some of those early games were produced as a result of information from a news wire service and became known as studio recreations.

The stories of the problems encountered with those broadcasts have become legendary. And most of the challenges started with the wire service (often breaking down) that provided pitch by pitch information. In some cases a batter would foul off a dozen pitches, get another bat, tie his shoe or get something in his eye while the wire service was being fixed. And then there was the phantom rain delay, when in reality the sun was shining but the broadcasters needed extra time to receive the game information to continue the broadcast.

### **Silent Auction**

There will be a silent auction of baseball memorabilia.



### Meet Our Chapter's Newest Member: Jeff Katz

Our Chapter's newest member was born in Seattle but was raised in Marin County. As a result, *Jeff Katz* proclaims to be a "die-hard Giants fan" but admits that he roots for our Padres now. He is a graduate of Cal Poly State University at San Luis Obispo with a Bachelors of Architecture degree. Jeff runs a private architecture practice in San Diego, "Jeff Katz Architecture." He has four children, three boys and a girl, and he has enjoyed baseball his entire life. He says he was sort of a "stats freak" when he was young plus played Little League and high school ball. As an adult he has coached in the La Mesa and San Carlos Little Leagues. As an architect Jeff had designed numerous projects in our region for private, public, and governmental clients.





# An Early Glimpse of the San Diego SABR Baseball Research Center (BRC) In the New Central Library

Our Chapter's Library liaison, *Monnee Tong*, provided the following update on the new San Diego Central Library and its grand opening.

**Grand Opening—September 28<sup>th</sup>** 

After much anticipation, San Diego Central Library will be opening its doors to a new, contemporary building on 330 Park Boulevard (across the street from Petco Park) on Saturday, September 28, 2013. The new library replaces the building on 820 E Street, which closed its doors on June 9, 2013, after serving the public since 1954. A grand opening celebration will take place and include a ribbon-cutting ceremony, street fair, tours of the building, and music and dance performances. In the meantime, our staff will be hard at work acclimating to our new home, preparing programs, making educational materials, publicizing the library, building community partnerships, and ensuring that every resource is in its rightful place before we open the doors.

### SABR Baseball Research Center – 8<sup>th</sup> Floor Of New Central Library

The new SABR Baseball Research Center will be an accessible and inviting space that we are very proud to provide for our public. The baseball collection in the old library was unfortunately spread out in many areas—circulating and reference books were in two different spots, the microfilm and journals were housed in the basement, and the microfilm reader was down the hall from the books. In the new library, SABR's Baseball Research Center will have its own area on the 8<sup>th</sup> floor in the Art, Music & Recreation section. This space will have both circulating and reference baseball books, journals and VHS cassettes, a small reading area, and digital and memorabilia displays. The microfilm, which was originally in the basement, will be close by at our Art, Music & Recreation reference desk along with a microfilm reader. Baseball researchers, therefore, will be able to access most of the baseball collection while never leaving the comforts of the 8<sup>th</sup> floor.

We hope you can all make it to our new library and Baseball Research Center, which will surely be a destination for baseball fans and researchers. Plan to attend the grand opening on September 28, 2013, at 330 Park Boulevard! For updates, visit the Library's website at <a href="https://www.sandiegolibrary.org">www.sandiegolibrary.org</a>.

### **Photos Showing Status**

Photos below show recent views of the SABR Baseball Research Center (BRC) area that will be in San Diego's new Central Library. From left to right: (1) the first photo shows the BRC area, (2) the middle one is of the reading room that will be next to the BRC, and (3) the last one shows the Library's art, music and recreation desk which will be adjacent to the BRC.









## Negro Leagues Grave Marker Project Receives Donation from Padres

On Friday, May 31, the San Diego Padres made a generous donation to the Negro Leagues Grave Marker Project at the 10th annual Salute to the Negro Leagues Luncheon held here in San Diego.

The Negro Leagues Grave Marker Project, founded in 2004 by SABR member *Jeremy Krock*, raises funds to buy headstones for unmarked graves of Negro League players. More than two dozen headstones have been installed at cemeteries throughout the country for black baseball stars such as John Donaldson, Jimmie Crutchfield and Dink Mothell. For more information, <u>click</u> here.



The luncheon was hosted by Padres Executive VP/Senior Advisor and Hall of Famer Dave Winfield. Honored were former Negro League players, including George "Jo-Jo" Altman, Neale "California Comet" Henderson, Don "Groundhog" Johnson, Ray "Boo Boy" Knox, Minnie Minoso, Charley Pride, Mack "The Knife" Pride, Jim Robinson, and Ron "Roomie" Teasley. At the function Winfield made the presentation of the donation to *Andy Strasberg*, our Chapter VP.

For more information on the SABR Negro Leagues Research Committee, which raises money for the Grave Marker Project, <u>click here</u>.



# NEW ACQUISITIONS San Diego Public Library's SABR BASEBALL RESEARCH CENTER (BRC)

Baseball Resources at the San Diego Public Library
New Acquisitions in the Central Library and Branches
August 2012 – May 2013

Compiled by *Monnee Tong*, Art, Music & Recreation Section

All holdings are at the Central Library only unless noted otherwise.

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