

# ***SAN DIEGO TED WILLIAMS SABR CHAPTER***

<http://sandiego.sabr.org>

**March 21, 2004 e-NEWS, Issue No. 17**

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## **REGIONAL MEETING RECAP**

On January 31, 2004, with 40 people in attendance we held our annual Super Bowl Saturday winter meeting at "The Kid's" old stomping grounds, San Diego's Hoover High School. Dennis Donley, school librarian, hosted the meeting and provided guests a look at school newspapers, scrapbooks and other memorabilia from Williams's 1934-36 period at Hoover. The annual senior trek to the top of the school tower, concluded by signing a class book, showed that Williams's signature changed little over the years.

Leading off the program was Padres President and CEO Dick Freeman, introduced by long-time friend of Dick's, **Andy Strasberg**. Dick's general theme was around the combination of a new ballpark and an improved team which have San Diego Padres management and local fans excited about the upcoming 2004 season.

Next up **Matthew Shugart** gave a summary of his research on "Is Home Field Advantage in the World Series 'Everything'?" Examining best-of-seven series, his research showed that the home team has won games 1, 3, and 6 more than 60% of the time, but other games only around half the time.

Third in the day's line-up was **Bill Swank** who gave a personal biography of the late San Diegan, Catcher Johnny Ritchey, who played with the PCL Padres in 1948-49, being the first to break the PCL color barrier. He ended his career with Syracuse in 1956 with minor league batting average of .302. **Amy Essington** followed with a related update on her dissertation research into the "Integration of the Pacific Coast League."

Emeritus member **Bob Boynton** was next with a presentation on "Al Autry: A One-Game Starter and Winner." Bob's research "universe" began with 952 one-game players all-time, then eventually narrowed down to 86 one-game starting pitchers since 1900, to 24 of those still living today, and finally only two of those who won their games: Al Autry in 1976 and Claussen Brandon in 2003 (who may break out of this "club" in 2004).

Wrapping up the program was a lively "Books in Review" which involved personal reviews of 11 new baseball books by four members: **Dan Boyle, Bob Boynton, Tom Larwin, and Frank Myers.**

## 3rd ANNUAL BOYNTON BASEBALL RESEARCH AWARDS -- PAPERS INVITED

Do you know of some high school student with an interest in baseball? Perhaps you have a high school student in your family? Named after one of our Chapter's founding members, **Bob Boynton**, San Diego County high school students (grades 9-12) are invited to submit baseball research essays for the 2003 Boynton Baseball Research Awards. The first prize award is a cash honorarium of \$250. A \$100 cash honorarium will be awarded for second prize. The award is sponsored by our Chapter and seeks to recognize excellence in academic research on the subject of baseball.

The academic research shall be completed and the report received by April 21, 2004. The suggested length for the report should be 1500 to 3000 words, excluding notes and bibliography. It must be submitted in hard copy, double-spaced in 12-point font on 8.5" x 11" plain white paper. The report should also be submitted on a 3.5-inch disk.

Mail your submissions (hard-copy essay and disk) to Boynton Baseball Research Awards, 3104 4th Avenue, San Diego, CA 92103. If you have any questions, please e-mail [arnewton@cox.net](mailto:arnewton@cox.net).

## Music to your ears! MUSIC & POETRY COMMITTEE... NEWSLETTER

Attached is the latest Music & Poetry Committee Newsletter. All Music & Poetry Committee and SABR members are encouraged to join the baseball music and poetry discussion group. To join, follow this link: [sabrmusicandpoetry-subscribe@yahoo.com](mailto:sabrmusicandpoetry-subscribe@yahoo.com)



musicpoetrynewslett  
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For a view of their newsletter click on this:

## We Have News for You! TBI...THE BASEBALL INDEX

From: Ted Hathaway [sabrtbi@MN.RR.COM](mailto:sabrtbi@MN.RR.COM)

SABR Members:

The Baseball Index (TBI) is a SABR product created entirely through the work of volunteers. It is freely available for searching at: <http://www.baseballindex.org>

This website was created by Daniel M. Levine & Co. and funded by the generous contributions of individual members. Work on building the database began in 1992 and it now references over 200,000 books, articles, documents, poems, advertisements, cartoons, songs, and other materials, from recent publications back to the earliest references to baseball's direct antecedents.

TBI is an INDEX - it does not contain the full-text of the sources it references. The purpose of the Index is to guide you to the sources about your research topic, whether it be baseball in WWII, the New York Gothams of the 1860s, the Black Sox Scandal, or Tug McGraw. You may search the Index by a person's name, topic words, title words, or copyright year. You may also combine these different names, terms and concepts.

Your search results will give you a variety of information about your sources, including basic information about the nature of the content. For example:

Title: Bob Feller Fans Seven in Debut For Bluejackets

Author(s):

Copyright Date: 1945

Issue Date: April 28

Source: Stars and Stripes Weekly (Mediterranean Edition)

Volume: 2

Issue Number: 73

Pages: 7(1)

Photos: n

Statistics: n

Named People: Feller, Bob

Topics: Game Accounts; Military Baseball; Great Lakes Naval Training Station; 1945

Notes: brief article

The Baseball Index by no means covers everything, but it contains a great deal of information and is an excellent starting point for any baseball research project. Give it a try!

**Ted Hathaway**, Project Co-Director

The Baseball Index, Society for American Baseball Research

## SABR Ballpark Committee Newsletter

Attached as a .pdf file is the SABR Ballparks Committee February 2004 Newsletter. You will need Adobe Acrobat Reader to open. Please let me know if you have any problems accessing the file.



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**Bob Bluthardt** [rfvcblue@wcc.net](mailto:rfvcblue@wcc.net)

Chair, SABR Ballparks Committee

## BUFFALO BISON SCRAPBOOKS

This is a note from **Bill Swank**:

*I have 4 Buffalo Bison scrapbooks...**Bob Dreher** made them in the early 1980s and he wants to give them to a SABR member. If somebody wants them, all they have to do is pay for the postage. If interested in them, please contact Bill directly at [WGSwank@ezsg.com](mailto:WGSwank@ezsg.com)*

## BASEBALL MAGAZINE

From Ted Hathaway: *As many of you may know, the Amateur Athletic Foundation of Los Angeles has been gradually digitizing the full-text/full-image of Baseball Magazine issues and making them freely searchable on their website: [http://www.aafpla.org/search/search\\_frmst.htm](http://www.aafpla.org/search/search_frmst.htm)*

*The AAFLA staff have been using issues from their own collections, but they are missing some issues. Wayne Wilson, the head librarian and director of the digitization effort, is asking for baseball literature collectors to copy pages or lend some issues from 1920 and 1921 to be digitized. Specifically, they need pages and/or issues from 1920-21. If you would like to help, please contact Wayne Wilson at the AAFLA: [wwilson@aafla.org](mailto:wwilson@aafla.org) or (323) 730-4646.*

*The AAFLA now houses one of the finest sports collections of any library in the world. Their digitization efforts in recent years have been a boon to sports researchers. Your generosity would be much appreciated.*

**Ted Hathaway** [sabrtbi@MN.RR.COM](mailto:sabrtbi@MN.RR.COM)  
(on behalf of Wayne Wilson at the AAFLA)

## RETRO BALLPARKS

### Stampede toward retro ballparks began in minor leagues

A March 20<sup>th</sup> article in our local *North County Times* presented an interesting view of the new ballparks being developed after the opening of Oriole Park Camden Yards in Baltimore. Here is their introduction: "The lines are easy to draw from Petco Park in San Diego to San Francisco, east toward Denver, Cleveland and eventually to Baltimore. When one traces the heritage of the modern ballpark, each new stadium spurs comparisons that lead back to the city on the Patapsco River. Twelve years ago, Baltimore ushered major-league baseball into a prosperous new era with the opening of Oriole Park at Camden Yards."

For more of this story, click on or type the URL below:

[http://www.nctimes.com/articles/2004/03/21/sports/professional/3\\_20\\_0422\\_24\\_57.txt](http://www.nctimes.com/articles/2004/03/21/sports/professional/3_20_0422_24_57.txt)

## BASEBALL RESEARCH CENTER... NEW ACQUISITIONS

Baseball Resources at San Diego Public Library  
New Acquisitions in Central Library and Branches, October-December 2003

Compiled by **Vic Cardell**, Art, Music & Recreation Section

*All holdings are at Central Library and branch libraries unless noted otherwise.*

## BOOKS

Angell, Roger. *Game Time: A Baseball Companion*. Orlando: Harcourt, 2003. Call Number: **796.357/ANGELL**

Baldassaro, Lawrence, ed. *Ted Williams: Reflections on a Splendid Life*. Boston: Northeastern University Press, 2003. Call Number: **R B/WILLIAMS**

Bouton, Jim. *Foul Ball: My Life and Hard Times Trying to Save an Old Ballpark*. North Egremont, MA: Bulldog, 2003. Call Number: **796.357/BOUTON**

Brashler, William. *Josh Gibson: A Life in the Negro Leagues*. New York: Harper & Row, 1978. Call Number: **R B/GIBSON**

Cluck, Bob. *How to Hit, How to Pitch: A Complete Self-Coaching System for Winning Baseball*. Chicago: Contemporary Books, 1995. Call Number: **796.35726/CLUCK** (Branch libraries)

Cochrane, Mickey. *Baseball: The Fans' Game*. Cleveland, OH: SABR, 1992. Call Number: **796.35764/COCHRANE** (Central Library)

Cottrell, Robert C. *The Best Pitcher in Baseball: The Life of Rube Foster, Negro League Giant*. New York: New York University Press, 2001. Call Number: **R B/FOSTER**

Craft, David. *The Negro Leagues: 40 Years of Black Professional Baseball in Words and Pictures*. New York: Crescent Books, 1993. Call Number: **R 796.357/CRAFT**

Dickson, Paul. *The Hidden Language of Baseball: How Signs and Sign-Stealing Have Influenced the Course of our National Pastime*. New York: Walker, 2003. Call Number: **796.3572/DICKSON**

Gould, Stephen Jay. *Triumph and Tragedy in Mudville: A Lifelong Passion for Baseball*. New York: W.W. Norton, 2003. Call Number: **796.35702/GOULD**

Idea Logic Co. *The Little Giant Encyclopedia of Baseball Quizzes*. New York: Sterling, 1999. Call Number: **796.35709/LITTLE** (Central Library)

Johnson, Daniel E. *Japanese Baseball: A Statistical Handbook*. Jefferson, N.C.: McFarland, 1999. Call Number: **R 796.357/JOHNSON** (Central Library)

Kahn, Roger. *October Men: Reggie Jackson, George Steinbrenner, Billy Martin, and the Yankees' Miraculous Finish in 1978*. Orlando, Fla.: Harcourt, 2003. Call Number: **796.35764/KAHN**

Loverro, Thom. *The Encyclopedia of Negro League Baseball*. New York, NY: Facts on File, 2003. Call Number: **R 796.35764/LOVERRO**

Mankoff, Robert, and Michael Crawford, ed. *The New Yorker Book of Baseball Cartoons*. Princeton, NJ: Bloomberg Press, 2003. Call Number: **741.5973/NEW** (Central Library)

Society for American Baseball Research, comp. *Minor League Baseball Stars: Career Records*. Cooperstown, N.Y.: The Society, 1984-. Call Number: **R 796.35764/MINOR vols. 1-3** (Central Library)

Vincent, David W., ed. *Home Runs in the Old Ballparks: Who Hit the First, the Last, and the Most Round-Trippers in our Former Major League Parks, 1876-1994*. Cleveland, OH: SABR, 1995. Call Number: **R 796.35726/HOME** (Central Library)

Voigt, David Quentin. *America through Baseball*. Chicago: Nelson-Hall, 1976.  
Call Number: **R 797.09/VOIGT**

#### AUDIO

Berra, Yogi. *Ten Rings: [My Championship Seasons]*. New York: Harper Audio, 2003. Call Number: **AC B/BERRA**

Lewis, Michael. *Moneyball: [The Art of Winning an Unfair Game]*. New York: Random House Audio, 2003. Call Number: **CD 796.35706/LEWIS**

#### CALIFORNIA ROOM

*Ballpark and Redevelopment Project Documents*. [San Diego, Calif.: City of San Diego, 2000]. Call Number: **RCC 796.357/BALLPARK** (Central Library)

## SABR PICTORIAL HISTORY COMMITTEE NEWSLETTER

**Bill Hickman**, Chair  
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#### NEW BALLPARK PHOTO PROJECT LAUNCHED

The Ballpark Committee and the Pictorial History Committee have started a joint project to develop a Ballpark Photo Index. Its ultimate scope will include more than major league ballparks, but we will restrict it to current and former major league stadiums for the time being.

Like the Player Image Index, this Excel data base will consist of pointers towards available photos, rather than inclusion of digitized forms of the photos themselves. When a photo of a ballpark is found, we seek to record the following information about it in the Ballpark Photo Index:

1. City Where Ballpark is/was Located
2. State Where Ballpark is/was Located
3. Name of Park
4. Home Team

5. Location of Picture (used only in the case of a library, museum, or private collection)
6. Identity of Publication, Photo, or Postcard (In the case of a book, please give name of book and author; In the case of a postcard, please give the postcard identification number and type, e.g. standard chrome, continental chrome, jumbo, pre-linen, linen, mechanical, metallic)
7. Issue Date for Publication
8. Page Number within Publication
9. Caption Associated with Photo
10. Shot Kind (e.g. the front entrance to the park, a broad sweep of the outside of the park, aerial view of the outside, aerial view of the inside, view towards the outfield, view towards the stands behind the plate, view of the grandstands along the sides, and special characteristic of the park, e.g. The Green Monster in Fenway).
11. Color vs. B&W
12. Data Input By
13. Found for this Project By
14. Update Date

Credit will be given in each data record to the person who found and reported the photo to this project. **Paul Healey** has agreed to head this project. He may be reached at [paulhealey@yahoo.com](mailto:paulhealey@yahoo.com). Please participate in this project by contacting Paul and offering to catalogue the ballpark photos which you may have in your collections or in baseball books in your libraries.

#### BALLPARK PHOTO WEBSITES

For those who do not participate in the SABR-L List Serv, you may want to be aware of a recent thread which introduced us to some websites which feature ballpark photos. The websites are listed below, along with the names of the SABR members who posted the website addresses on SABR-L.

<http://www.ballparkdigest.com> (posted by **Kevin Reichard**)

<http://www.mwlguide.com/cities/parks.html> (posted by **Joel Dinda**)

<http://www.digitalballparks.com/> (posted by **Joel Dinda**)

<http://members.aol.com/charliezeb/stadiums.htm> (posted by **Joel Dinda**)

<http://www.minorleagueballparks.com/> (posted by **Joel Dinda**)

Plus a link to other webpages containing ballpark photos:

<http://www.minorleagueballparks.com/links.html> (posted by **Joel Dinda**)

An email message from SABR member **Bruce Adams** conveyed an additional ballpark website. It is: <http://www.baseballparks.com>