

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

<http://sandiego.sabr.org>

April 29, 2005 e-NEWS, Issue No. 25

- **SUMMER REGIONAL MEETING: Saturday, August 20, 2005...we need your RSVP (see below)**
- **Golden League and Chapter Establish a Working Partnership**
- **SABR Baseball Research Center Gets a Workout!**
- **See the New PCL Padres Hall of Fame Exhibit at Petco Park**
- **PCL Padre Hall of Famer Johnny Ritchie Honored at Petco**
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## ***SUMMER REGIONAL MEETING SATURDAY, AUGUST 20, 2005 ...plus SURF DAWGS GAME***

**Summer Meeting** - Details are still being finalized but you can place the date and location on your calendar:

Date: Saturday, August 20, 2005

Place: San Diego State University Aztec Athletic Center Auditorium and Tony Gwynn Stadium

Time: The meeting will begin around 3:00 or 3:30 p.m. and include several guest speakers. We will break before the Surf Dawgs game for a special pre-game talk with Manager Terry Kennedy, followed by a Surf Dawgs game against the Japan Samurai Bears at 7:05.

### **Featured Speakers:**

**Jean Ardell** - author of *Breaking Into Baseball: Women And The National Pastime*. Each chapter is a minihistory of women in each important role: as fans, amateur players, pro players, umpires, owners and executives, sportswriters--even as groupies, or "Baseball Annies." Jean

frequently writes and lectures on women's contributions to baseball. Her work has appeared in the Los Angeles Times, The Sporting News, Elysian Fields Quarterly, Nine: A Journal of Baseball History and Culture, and in the anthologies Diamonds Are a Girl's Best Friend: Women Writers on Baseball and Growing Up with Baseball: How We Loved and Played the Game. In 1999, she earned the SABR/USA Today Baseball Weekly Award for Research for her article, "Left-hander Ila Borders: Crossing Baseball's Gender Line from Little League to the Northern League." Ardell lives in Corona Del Mar, California, with her husband, a former first baseman for the Anaheim Angels.

**Arnold Hano** - author of the baseball classic A Day in the Bleachers. He's also a former writer for SPORT Magazine (e.g., "Ted Williams' Wild Career," September 1964), and has written biographies on Sandy Koufax and Willie Mays.

Following our meeting at the Aztec Athletic Center we will reconvene at Tony Gwynn Stadium for a pre-game inside chat with former All-Star catcher and current Surf Dawgs Manager **Terry Kennedy**, to be joined by one or more Surf Dawgs players.

The 7:05 p.m. game in Tony Gwynn Stadium at SDSU will match the Surf Dawgs vs. the Japan Samurai Bears, a traveling team comprised of Japanese ballplayers. We know that the cost for this game will be \$8.00 for each game ticket. The Surf Dawgs have not finalized their parking plan yet.

»»»» We will need to know how many tickets to buy. So, please let us know if you plan to attend our August 20<sup>th</sup> meeting and ballgame please contact our Chapter Treasurer, **Ron Andreassi**, at [rea25@cox.net](mailto:rea25@cox.net), or (619) 461-5123.

## GOLDEN LEAGUE- TED WILLIAMS SABR CHAPTER PARTNERSHIP ESTABLISHED

Chapter member **Jay Walker** has agreed to assume leadership in an emerging partnership between our Chapter and the Golden League. The new independent minor league starts its inaugural baseball season on May 26, 2005.

On March 29, 2005 Walker and chapter members **David Kinney**, **Tom Larwin**, **Andy Strasberg**, and **Bill Swank** met with Dave Kaval, Golden Baseball League CEO and Founder, and Terry Kennedy, new manager of San Diego's entry, the Surf Dawgs. At the meeting Kaval and Kennedy

both expressed support for the partnership. Our intent is to record the development and progress of the league and archive material that can be useful in the future for historical research purposes. Our interest is similar to what it would have been like if someone in early 1936 could have done the same with owner Bill Lane as he was establishing the San Diego PCL Padres for its maiden season.

We followed up with a conference call with Kaval on April 14, 2005 and recorded further information on his business plan and the events over the past two years as he started up this new, innovative professional baseball league.

## SAN DIEGO SABR BASEBALL RESEARCH CENTER GETS A WORKOUT!

**Vic Cardell**, the Librarian and liaison who oversees our BRC, had some visitors one day a few months ago!

In our last e-News we talked about Baseball Hall of Fame's electronic field trip that selected San Diego's High Tech High for their 2005 program. Specifically, the students were to produce two 90-minute nationwide broadcasts with schools across the U.S. A team of students from this class will then travel to Cooperstown for purposes of hosting the live April broadcast which they have developed.

Well...on February 15, about 100 9th-graders from High Tech High visited Vic at the downtown San Diego Public Library to prepare for an April 26 Internet broadcast about 19th-century baseball. (See <http://www.bsu.edu/eft/0405/eftbaseball.html>.) He gave a presentation about using the library's catalog for finding Baseball Research Center materials, and along with his colleagues in the Art, Music & Recreation Section, helped students find more than 70 books to check out. Such a project bodes well for the future of the BRC. Teachers and others may arrange for an orientation to the library's baseball resources by contacting Vic Cardell at [vcardell@sandiego.gov](mailto:vcardell@sandiego.gov).

So, on April 26th Ozzie Smith and several High Tech High students co-hosted the program. The following web link is the actual curriculum Web site that goes along with the show:

<http://www.bsu.edu/eft/p/baseball/>

(the username is VINTAGE; the password is BASEBALL)

# SEE THE NEW PCL PADRES HALL OF FAME EXHIBIT AT PETCO PARK

The revival of the PCL Padres Hall of Fame started with a call to action from our Chapter in the April 2002 e-News. At that same time we also began a project to have an historical marker installed at the site of the former Lane Field.

Three years later we are pleased to say that both efforts have reached successful completion. The historical marker has been in place at the foot of Broadway and Pacific Highway for two years and then this month a wall with displays of the PCL Padres Hall of Fame has been completed at the PCL Club in Petco Park. The wall and the plaque for Ted Williams are shown below.



The display is in the same room—the PCL Club—as the Johnny Ritchey bust which is discussed in the next section of e-News. Chapter members that have contributed their time and energy to bring this effort to fruition include **Bob Chandler, Tom Larwin, Jim Smith, and Bill Swank**. We also thank Bill for the photos and career summaries that were used for the plaques. Our thanks, too, to Jeff Overton of the San Diego Padres who managed the production and installation part of the project.

Here are the 27 players who make up the roster of the PCL Padres Hall of Fame:

- |                    |              |              |
|--------------------|--------------|--------------|
| Earl Averill       | Bobby Doerr  | Jesse Gonder |
| Jim (Tiny) Chaplin | Cedric Durst | Jack Graham  |
| Dom Dallassandro   | Luke Easter  | Tommy Harper |



eternally grateful."

The sculpture has been made possible in large part due to the efforts of the Johnny Ritchey Commemorative Task Force, led by member **Bill Swank**.

## CHAPTER MEMBERS AUTHOR NEW BOOKS ON SAN DIEGO BASEBALL

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*Baseball in San Diego: From the Plaza to the Padres*, authored by **Bill Swank**, and published by Arcadia.

Many of baseball's greatest names including Babe Ruth, Lou Gehrig, Walter Johnson, Ty Cobb, Grover Cleveland Alexander, and Satchel Paige all played in San Diego prior to the arrival of the Class AA Pacific Coast League in 1936. With *Baseball in San Diego: From the Plaza to the Padres*, take a seven decade journey from Horton Plaza, the site of San Diego's first base ball game in 1871, to lower Broadway, the future home of Lane Field. Before the PCL, San Diego had three Class D teams. One was the Bears, whose frustrated owner Dick Cooley complained, "I don't believe they'll make baseball pay here in a thousand years." With America's finest year-around climate, barnstorming and black baseball were popular attractions. Rube Foster's Chicago American Giants practically lived in San Diego in the winter of 1913. All the while, there were constant struggles between the forces of amateur and professional baseball for players, diamonds and sports coverage

This newly published book, authored by **Bill Swank**, is the perfect complement to his previous Arcadia title, *Baseball in San Diego: From the Padres to Petco*. Justifiably, he has been called San Diego's preeminent baseball historian for his extensive work on the San Diego Padres. Aided by over 150 rare photographs primarily from the San Diego Historical Society, this book provides many heretofore untold sights and stories.

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*The Kid: Ted Williams in San Diego*, edited by **Bill Nowlin** with written contributions from nine SABR members, and published by Rounder Books.

This book is an outgrowth of our March 29, 2003, regional meeting at the Hall of Champions where we hosted a symposium called "A Celebration of Ted Williams." About 150 members and guests attended the event. The outside cover of the book jacket sums it up nicely: "Inspired by and published in collaboration with the Ted Williams (San Diego) chapter of the Society for American Baseball Research, and with the cooperation and support of the San Diego Hall of Champions and the Ted Williams Museum."

Seven of the nine SABR members contributing to the book are local members from our Chapter: **Carlos Bauer, Dan Boyle, Tom Larwin, Joe Naiman, James D. Smith III, Bill Swank, and Jay Walker**. Included in this unique biography are detailed accounts of Ted's sandlot games, his high school career, his two years with the PCL Padres, and even his year in Minneapolis before becoming Boston's best ballplayer. Some never before seen photographs of Williams are included in the book.

## SABR BUSINESS OF BASEBALL COMMITTEE UPDATES

A few updates from re the Business of Baseball committee might be of interest:

"Thanks to the help of a college student named Aaron Schwartz we now have Team-by-Team payroll going back to 1977. This is a considerable increase in data as prior we only had back to 1997. Also, I have updated the team attendance figures to include 2004.

Both spreadsheets can be accessed here:

<http://www.businessofbaseball.com/data.htm>

"Remember, if you wish to join the business of baseball committee email listserve, send an email to the following address to subscribe and follow the directions in the automated email reply. When time permits, I send a daily update of al business of baseball related matters and we have intelligent, and lively discussions daily. To subscribe, simply send an email to the following email address:

[businessofbaseball-subscribe@yahooogroups.com](mailto:businessofbaseball-subscribe@yahooogroups.com)

"Forbes annual franchise valuation listing for MLB is out, and I have rolled the data into the committee spreadsheet that has been tracking such data since 1990.

"This year, something special was added... an interactive charting system that plots out franchise valuation from 1998-2004. Simply select the team from the dropdown list, and the graph is created. To view this data, use the link provided here:

<http://www.businessofbaseball.com/data.htm> "

Thanks,

**Maury Brown**

Co-Chair

SABR Business of Baseball committee

<http://www.businessofbaseball.com>

# SABR RECORDS NEWSLETTER

From: [f.x.flinn@mindspring.com](mailto:f.x.flinn@mindspring.com)

Sent: Tuesday, April 19, 2005

Subject: [SABR Records] 2005 Newsletters posted

The April 2005 newsletter has been posted at <http://www.sabr.org/sabr.cfm?a=cms,c,1238,5,0> which you can also get to by going to <http://www.sabr.org> clicking on Research, then on the Baseball Records link, then Newsletters and finally 2005.