

SAN DIEGO TED WILLIAMS SABR CHAPTER

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- **Winter Regional Meeting Coming Soon...
Saturday, February 4, 2006... "Up for Grabs!"**
- **Arizona Flame Delhi Chapter Regional Meeting Set for March 11-12, 2006**
- **Hall of Champions *Sports at Lunch* Hosts the Padres' Towers and Bochy on Monday, February 6, 2006**
- **Two more Ted Williams Chapter regional meetings to be scheduled in 2006!**

WINTER REGIONAL MEETING: "UP FOR GRABS"

Date and Time: Our next regional meeting is scheduled for its traditional off season date: the day before the Super Bowl, Saturday, February 4, 2006. Doors open at 10:00 a.m. and the meeting will begin at 10:30 a.m.

Location: San Diego Hall of Champions Sports Museum in Balboa Park. We will meet downstairs in the auditorium.

Program: We have scheduled an unusual program, but one we know will be interesting as well as entertaining, and about baseball...a very specific and significant baseball. We will show the movie "**Up for Grabs**" about the chase for ownership of Barry Bonds' 73rd home run ball.

After the movie we will have a discussion that will be led by a panel of professionals with backgrounds in library and museum special collections, television media, and law. We will first gain their reactions to the movie and then open up the discussion to everyone else.

We expect that there will be some strong feelings on the matter and a diversity of opinion, too.

Here are some of the issues that you find yourself thinking about:

- The legal definition of "possession" or, "when is a catch a catch"?
- How is the monetary value of the ball determined?
- How is the value influenced by the actual event as opposed to other subsequent events?
- How does the individual hitting the home run (e.g., Barry Bonds) affect value?
- Has the significance of the home run record been diminished given the subsequent controversy related to performance enhancing drugs?
- What makes two individual fans decide to resolve the ownership controversy through the courts?
- Is it all about money?

A summary of the film is below:

"Michael Wranovics' UP FOR GRABS might have been considered the next can't-miss mockumentary, except it's all REAL. This biting funny picture exposes the custody fight that erupted over Barry Bonds' record-setting 73rd home run ball. From the embattled litigants who wouldn't settle, to the impassioned eyewitnesses and their contradictory accounts, to the bemused reporters who covered the bizarre case, Wranovics presents a rich cast of characters who prove that truth is funnier than fiction.

With all the farcical qualities of This is Spinal Tap or Best in Show, UP FOR GRABS invites us to laugh, and sometimes cringe, at the outrageous behavior of two grown men chasing down an elusive pot of gold. Winner of the Audience Award for Best Documentary at the Los Angeles Film Festival, UP FOR GRABS tells a tale of absurdity that will leave you muttering "only in America."

ARIZONA DELHI CHAPTER REGIONAL MEETING: March 11-12

Need an excuse to get over to Phoenix and watch some Cactus League baseball? We received word from **Bill Suphan** that Arizona's "Flame" Delhi Chapter will have its Spring Training Weekend on March 11 and 12, 2006. The spring training weekend is the Delhi chapter's biggest event of the year, with a tailgate party and spring training game on Saturday and breakfast, guest speakers and member presentations on Sunday.

If you are going to Arizona for spring training games, this would be the weekend to be there. Their speakers have included former major league players, broadcasters, and scouts, and several chapter members have given presentations on baseball's rich history.

For more information, contact Bill at the following e-mail address GSuphan@aol.com, or at 480-223-7490.

HALL OF CHAMPIONS TO HOST PADRES' GM & SKIPPER: FEBRUARY 6, 2006

Getting prepped for baseball and spring training, the Hall of Champions have scheduled Padres general manager Kevin Towers and manager Bruce Bochy to speak at their Sports at Lunch program. They will appear on Monday, February 6, 2006.

TICKETS: \$30 for Hall Members (Medallion tickets apply); \$40 for non-members.

RESERVATIONS: RSVP to (619) 699-2321

Also, the Hall of Champions' major annual event is scheduled for Tuesday, February 28, 2006, when the 60th Annual Salute to Champions dinner will be held. At the event, the Breitbard Hall of Fame's 2006 class will be inducted. For ticket information call 619-234-2544.

BE READY! TWO MORE TED WILLIAMS CHAPTER REGIONAL MEETINGS IN 2006!

We have decided to have a spring meeting (April-May) and summer meeting (July-August) this year. We will have more information on the dates and programs coming your way soon!

And, we are always interested in your baseball research for presentation at one of our meetings. Call our Vice President, *Dan Boyle*, with any ideas you have or projects you are working on. Dan can be reached at 858-259-6515 or dboyle34@pacbell.net.