



## Society for American Baseball Research

San Diego Ted Williams Chapter

# e-News

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### Summer Regional Meeting Set for Saturday, August 8th

Date: Saturday, August 8, 2009  
Time: 9:30 a.m.—doors open at 9:15 a.m.  
Location: Carlsbad City Library, 1775 Dove Lane, Carlsbad, CA 92011  
Program: **Andy McCue**, SABR President-elect:

- 2009 SABR Convention Highlights
- Presentation on "The 1961 AL Expansion"

**John Green**, "An Author's Summary of Seven SABR BioProjects"  
Plus...a surprise guest...  
...Greg Funk's Trivia Quiz ...and another raffle with quality items

### Recap of Winter Regional Meeting

On January 24, 2009, we held our winter regional meeting in the Padres Petco Park Community Room. Former major league player and hitting coach Merv Rettenmund led off our program. Merv's career has spanned 32 MLB seasons, 13 as a player and 19 as a coach. Get this: **in his first 8 seasons he played on four World Series teams and...those teams averaged 99 wins each of those years...in the regular season!** Then...well...then he played for our Padres in 1976-77

mostly as extra outfielder and pinch hitter, and holds the club record for pinch hits in a season, 21 in 1977.



Merv Rettenmund

Merv covered a lot of ground during his informative and entertaining appearance and gave frank answers to any and all questions that came his way. Subjects such as: the quality of bats today, the importance of younger players getting 800 at bats a year before coming up to the majors, the main reason for the increase in strikeouts (not getting those at bats), the differences among today's new ballparks (and, how Petco Park's April and May months are batting average killers), plus numerous stories about the many players he played with and coached.

Next up was Warren Miller who serves as the Padres' Director of Media Relations. Warren started his career handling sports information at various colleges, and then got into baseball with stints with the Seattle Mariners and Houston Astros before joining the Padres. He gave an interesting behind the scenes view of his job and made it a point to note that he is not the Director of Public Relations. He gave some anecdotes to illustrate the business climate he works in daily where instant news is available via the internet. Like our new President he doesn't go anywhere without his Blackberry.



Warren Miller



Denny Fallon

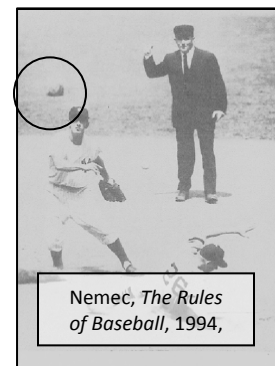
Our program included a presentation by Chapter member **Denny Fallon** regarding his family's association with Ted Williams. It began over 50 years ago in 1952 when Denny's father met Williams while both were in the armed forces. A relationship between the two was formed and lasted through to a phone call that Denny's father received in 2000 from Williams. Denny covered a number of first-hand experiences he had meeting Williams over the years and his stories made for an entertaining presentation.

Next, **Tom Larwin** gave a research presentation on the background leading to Rule 3.14 requiring players to take their glove with them off the field. Through the 1953 season players would routinely leave their gloves on the field when coming in to bat (see photo to the right). In November 1953 the Rules Committee adopted the rule and it was quite controversial when enforced the next spring.

Managers at the time, especially in the American League (such as Paul Richards, Jimmie Dykes, Casey Stengel), voiced their objections (typical was the headline to the left). It may be hard to believe now, but 20 out of the 33 minor leagues also were against the rule at the time.



The Sporting News, March 17, 1954, p. 29.



Nemec, *The Rules of Baseball*, 1994,



In *Baseball's Greatest Hit*, Strasberg, Thompson, and Wiles present the complete story of the third-most frequently sung song in America: "Take Me Out to the Ballgame." The book features countless photos and illustrations, providing a pictorial history of the song's influence on the game and American culture. A bonus CD is also included, which features many rare and classic recordings of the song from artists such as Dr. John, the Ray Brown Trio, Carly Simon, and George Winston.

### Chapter's Interview with Doug Harvey Now Available on Web Site

Our January 2000 regional meeting was a memorable one for those who attended. Former National League umpire Doug Harvey was our main speaker and he covered many aspects of his career in a very frank and forthright manner. Well, now, those of you who did not attend can read his remarks. They have been transcribed and you can read the transcript via our web site <http://sandiego.sabr.org/>.

### Research Request—California Amateur Games Lasting 20 or More Innings

From former San Diegan and SABR member **Phil Lowry** comes this research request for help: "Hi, I am a fellow member of SABR, and would like to request your help. With the assistance of many members of SABR, we have identified the following 13 California amateur baseball games which have lasted 20 or more innings. I am hopeful we can discover missing info on these 13 games, and also identify additional games lasting 20 or more innings played in California. We might especially hope to find some recent such games, because the last game found was played 53 years ago, on June 24, 1956 in Blue Lake. Thank you very much."

If you can help, or have questions, contact Phil at [PLowry1176@aol.com](mailto:PLowry1176@aol.com)

20 innings – Arcadia - 3/15/1908 – Southern California State League –Santa Anita 4 Arcadia Eagles 3 in 3:00.  
UNKNOWN BALLFIELD, ATTENDANCE, FINISH TIME

22 – Sodality Park, San Jose - 6/26/1909 – Junior Outlaws 11 Sodality Stars 9.

20 – Marysville - 8/4/1912 – Hammonton 4 Marysville 3.

20 – Goat (later Yerba Buena) Island, San Francisco - 9/15/1917 – Oakland Naval Training Station Sailors 1 Oakland Vampires 0 in 3:10.

21 – South Side Playgrounds, San Francisco - 9/16/1917 – Jeffersons 10 Mission Merchants 9.

20 – San Francisco – 11/24/1918 – Colma 4 San Carlos 3.

23 – Pershing Park, Santa Barbara - 7/11/1920 – Championship Series – Santa Barbara 2 Ventura 1.

21 – Oxnard Armory (later Community Center), Oxnard – 5/26/1923 – Oxnard Indoors League – Hueneme Sea Lions /Turtles/ Longshoremen 8 Hueneme Sunkist/ Citrons/ Lemons/ Packing House Workers 7.

29 – South Side Playgrounds, San Francisco – 10/12/1929 – Regulars 9 Yannigans 8 in 5:00 – finished at 6:00 PM.

20 – Salinas Rodeo Grounds, Salinas – 5/14/1933 – San Francisco Chronicle 1 Salinas Colts 0.

20 – Seals Stadium, San Mateo - 10/1/1944 – Bay Meadows 5 Owl Drug 4.

20 – Memorial Ball Park, Atwater – 8/4/1953 – National Congress – Fort Ord Warriors 2 San Diego Naval Air Station 1 Skyraiders in 4:40 – 3100 fans finished at 12:55 AM in the early morning of 8/5.

20 – Blue Lake - 6/24/1956 – Redwood League – Blue Lake Chicks 8 Crescent City Merchants 7.

## New Acquisitions at San Diego Public Library-SABR Baseball Research Center

January-April 2009

Compiled by **Steve Wheeler**, Art, Music & Recreation Section

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

### BOOKS

*Baseball register*. St. Louis, MO: Sporting News, 1962. Call number: R 797/BASEBALL 1962

Berra, Yogi with Dave Kaplan. *You can observe a lot by watching: what I've learned about teamwork from the Yankees*. Hoboken, NJ: John Wiley & Sons, 2008. Call number: **796.35709/BERRA** Central & branch libraries

*The blue book of college athletics for senior, junior & community colleges*. Montgomery, AL: Athletic Pub., 2008. Call number: **R 796.025/BLUE 2008/09**

*The blue book of college athletics for senior, junior & community colleges*. Montgomery, AL: Athletic Pub., 2008. [supplement] Call number: **R 796.025/BLUE 2008/09 SUP**

Canfield, Jack et al. *Chicken soup for the baseball fan's soul: inspirational stories of baseball, big-league dreams and the game of life*. Deerfield Beach, FL: Health Communications, 2001. Call number: **796.357/CHICKEN** Central & branch libraries

Carlsen, Spike. *A splintered history of wood: belt sander races, blind woodworkers, and baseball bats*. New York, NY: Collins, 2008. Call number: **620.12/CARLSEN** Central & branch libraries

Canseco, Jose. *Vindicated: big names, big liars, and the battle to save baseball*. New York, NY: Simon Spotlight Entertainment, 2008. Call number: **796.35709/CANSECO** Central & branch libraries

Chandler, Bob with Bill Swank. *Bob Chandler's tales from the San Diego Padres*. Champaign, IL: Sports Pub., 2006. Call number: **796.35764/CHANDLER** Central & branch libraries

Chetwynd, Josh. *Baseball in Europe: a country by country history*. Jefferson, NC: McFarland, 2008. Call number: **796.35709/CHETWYND**

Costa, Gabriel. *Understanding sabermetrics: an introduction to the science of baseball statistics*. Jefferson, NC: McFarland, 2008. Call number: **796.357/COSTA** Central & branch libraries

De Lench, Brooke. *Home team advantage: the critical role of mothers in youth sport*. New York, NY: Collins, 2006. Call number: **796.083/DE LENCH** Central & branch libraries

DeMause, Neil. *Field of schemes: how the great stadium swindle turns public money into private profit*. Lincoln, NE: University of Nebraska Press, 2008. Call number: **796.06873/DEMAUSE** Central & branch libraries

Engelberg, Morris. *DiMaggio: setting the record straight*. St. Paul, MN: MBI, 2003. Call number: **796.357/ENGELBERG** Central & branch libraries

Gwynn, Tony with Roger Vaughan. *The art of hitting*. New York, NY: GT Pub., 1998. Call number: **796.35727/GWYNN** Central & branch libraries

Hastings, Penny. *Sports for her: a reference guide for teenage girls*. Westport, CT: Greenwood Press, 1999. Call number: **796.082HASTINGS** Branch library only

Kreidler, Mark. *Six good innings: how one small town became a Little League giant*. New York, NY: Harper, 2008. Call number: **796.35762/KREIDLER** Central & branch libraries

Lewis, Michael. *Moneyball: the art of winning an unfair game*. New York, NY: W. W. Norton, 2003. Call number: **796.35706/LEWIS** Central & branch libraries

Meissner, William. *Spirits in the grass*. Notre Dame, IN: University of Notre Dame Press, 2008. Call number: **FIC/MEISSNER** Central & branch libraries

Mele, Andrew. *The boys of Brooklyn: the parade grounds: Brooklyn's field of dreams*. Bloomington, IN: AuthorHouse, 2008. Call number: **796.35764/MELE**

Montville, Leigh. *The Big Bam: the life and times of Babe Ruth*. New York, NY: Doubleday, 2006. Call number: **B/RUTH** Central & branch libraries

Montville, Leigh. *Ted Williams: the biography of an American hero*. New York, NY: Doubleday, 2004. Call number: **B/WILLIAMS** Central & branch libraries

Morgan, Joe. *Baseball for dummies*. Hoboken, NJ: Wiley Pub., 2005. Call number: **796.357/MORGAN** Central & branch libraries

Mortenson, Tom. *Standard catalog of sports memorabilia*. Iola, WI: Krause Publications, 2001. Call number: **796.075/STANDARD 2001** Central & branch libraries

Murphy, Cait. *Crazy '08: how a cast of cranks, rogues, boneheads, and magnates created the greatest year in baseball history*. New York, NY: Smithsonian/Collins, 2007. Call number: **796.35709/MURPHY** Central & branch libraries

National Alliance for Youth Sports with Greg Bach. *Coaching baseball for dummies*. Hoboken, NJ: Wiley Pub., 2007. Call number: **796.35762/COACHING** Central & branch libraries

*The National directory of high school coaches*. Montgomery, AL: Athletic Pub., 2008. Call number: **R 796.07/NATIONAL 2008/09**

Pahigian, Josh. *101 baseball places to visit before you strike out*. Guilford, CT: Lyons Press, 2008. Call number: **796.357/PAHIGIAN** Central & branch libraries

Reisler, Jim. *The best game ever: Pirates vs. Yankees, October 13, 1960*. New York, NY: Carroll & Graf, 2007. Call number: **796.35764/REISLER** Central & branch libraries

*The sweet spot: the story of the San Diego Padres Petco Park*. Solana Beach, CA: Canum Entertainment, 2004. Call number: **796.357/SWEET** Central & branch libraries

Torre, Joe and Tom Verducci. *The Yankee years*. New York, NY: Doubleday, 2009. Call number: **796.357/TORRE** Central & branch libraries

Wells, David. *Perfect I'm not: Boomer on beer, brawls, backaches, and baseball*. New York, NY: W. Morrow, 2003. Call number: **B/WELLS** Central & branch libraries

Xu, Guoqi. *Olympic dreams: China and sports, 1895-2008*. Cambridge, MA: Harvard University Press, 2008. Call number: **796.0951/XU**

## AUDIOBOOK

Torre, Joe and Tom Verducci. *The Yankee years*. Newport Beach, CA: Books on Tape, 2009. [downloadable audiobook] Available at <http://sdpl.lib.overdrive.com/>

## VIDEO MATERIAL

Tony Gwynn: *Mr. Padre*. San Diego, CA: Channel 4 Padres, 2001. [videotape] Call number: **VC 796.357/TONY** Central & branch libraries

### Answers to Trivia Questions (from page 3)

1. 13. 1978 1984 1985 1988 1989 1991 1992 1996 1998 2004 2005 2006 2007
2. Gomez, Zimmer, McNamara Dark Craig Coleman Howard Williams Boros Bowa  
McKeon Riddoch Riggleman Bochy Black
3. Williams

