



Society for American Baseball Research

2002 Annual Report

Message From the Executive Director

SABR is now over 30 years old and now that it has established itself as an important baseball resource for a generation, it is time to take the next steps and grow into a bigger and better organization. Throughout 2002 and into 2003, the leadership of SABR has been addressing these issues of SABR's maturation as an organization by putting together a task force on the Constitution and By-Laws and addressing the long-term needs of the organization by devoting the entire Winter Board meeting to strategic planning. The By-Laws have been approved, but much more needs to be done to assure SABR of 30 more years of successfully fulfilling its mission of facilitating and disseminating baseball research.



SABR is a very volunteer-driven organization. Its paid staff is an executive director, a membership services associate, and a part-time assistant. A publications director is hired as an independent contractor to head SABR's publications program. Beyond that, SABR relies on its members to do much of the research work of the Society. Dozens of members from around the world donate their time to run regional groups, research committees, and various governance or award committees. In 2002, it is estimated that members contributed over 19,000 hours of their time to help make SABR a better organization.

In the following pages, you will learn much more about what SABR is doing and has accomplished. The strength of SABR is in its members, who share their love of baseball and its rich history with whomever is interested.

John Zajc

Executive Director

Membership Report

SABR ended the 2002 Membership Year with 6,807 members worldwide. Membership was down from the previous year (6,916). There were 731 new members in 2002, down from 950 in 2001. More than 70% of all SABR members have been members for three years or more.

SABR members are on average middle-aged men, educated, and electronically connected. The average age of a SABR member on January 15, 2003 was 53. On that date, over 67.8% of members had e-mail addresses on file. Over 75% of members have attended college. About 94% of members are male.

Comparing January 3, 2003 memberships against state's population in the 2000 census shows that the states SABR has the greatest penetration are:

Rhode Island	.007345%	<u>Least penetration in:</u>	
Massachusetts	.006773%	Puerto Rico	.000289%
District of Columbia	.006468%	Mississippi	.000352%
Vermont	.006242%	Utah	.000493%
Maryland	.004947%	Idaho	.000696%
Connecticut	.004816%	Oklahoma	.000725%
Delaware	.004339%		
New Hampshire	.004289%		
Ohio	.004272%		

Percentages are the percent of the population who are SABR members

Members, By State (includes DC and Puerto Rico)

New York	722	Kansas	49
California	711	Iowa	49
Ohio	485	Tennessee	47
Pennsylvania	442	Alabama	39
Massachusetts	430	Vermont	38
Illinois	338	Louisiana	38
New Jersey	309	District of Columbia	37
Texas	306	Delaware	34
Maryland	262	Nebraska	34
Virginia	238	South Carolina	33
Florida	225	Nevada	26
Michigan	179	Oklahoma	25
Connecticut	164	New Mexico	24
Minnesota	140	Arkansas	21
Washington	139	West Virginia	18
Wisconsin	135	Hawaii	11
Missouri	134	Utah	11
Colorado	132	Puerto Rico	11
Indiana	116	South Dakota	10
Arizona	102	Mississippi	10
North Carolina	96	Idaho	9
Georgia	93	Montana	8
Rhode Island	77	North Dakota	6
Oregon	62	Wyoming	5
Kentucky	59	Alaska	5
New Hampshire	53		
Maine	50	<i>as of 1/6/2003</i>	

SABR Membership, By Year

1971	78
1972	105
1973	140
1974	200
1975	275
1976	335
1977	530
1978	634
1979	836
1980	1,145
1981	1,239
1982	1,806
1983	4,428
1984	5,225
1985	6,231
1986	6,025
1987	6,393
1988	6,000
1989	5,835
1990	5,380
1991	5,875
1992	5,858
1993	6,155
1994	6,581
1995	6,434
1996	6,671
1997	6,739
1998	7,155
1999	6,617
2000	6,740
2001	6,916
2002	6,807

Outreach Overview

SABR's purpose is to help people do baseball research and to provide an outlet to publish it. To properly fulfill this mission, SABR must have several outreach programs. Typically SABR spends over half of its revenues on outreach. The main components of SABR outreach are:

- Publications
- Web Site
- Awards Program
- Regional
- Research Committees
- National Convention

Because finding a replacement for Mark Alvarez (SABR Publications Director, 1992-2001) took longer than hoped, SABR went the first 2 and a half months of 2002 without a Publications Director, which set our publications schedule well behind. The 2002 publications schedule sent *The National Pastime #22, The Best of "By the Numbers,"* and *The Baseball Research Journal* to all SABR members. In 2003, SABR will publish its 1,000th article in *The Baseball Research Journal*.

The SABR web site was a focus of activity in 2002. Functionality was added and fine-tuned and more members visited it each month. The stickiness of the SABR web site is impressive as over 95% of users are repeat visitors. The Internet Committee report covers progress on the web site in greater detail.

SABR honors the best in baseball research through its Awards Program. See the Awards section for a fuller description of the awards and the recent winners.

SABR has over three dozen active regional groups throughout the world. The Ted Williams Chapter in San Diego is among the most active, helping to establish a baseball research center at the San Diego Public Library and funding and erecting an Historical marker for Lane Field. See the Regional Development report for more information.

SABR added three new research committees in 2002. The Spring Training Committee was created in January and the Asian Baseball Committee and the Science and Baseball Committee were created in the Fall. The Bibliography Committee continued its impressive work in making The Baseball Index, a bibliographic database of over 180,000 citations available to all with Internet access at www.baseballindex.org. The BioProject has made significant progress in its huge mission of having a short biography written for every major leaguer as well as other important baseball figures. SABR now has 23 research committees, serving over 1,050 members. You can learn more about each committee's accomplishments in the Research Committee Report section.

SABR held its 32nd annual membership gathering in June of 2002 in Boston, Massachusetts. Over 700 members from around the world met at the Park Plaza Hotel for several days of baseball research and fellowship. The convention is the highlight of the year where members gather to honor the award winners and catch up on old friendships.

SABR Research Library Report

Since June 1, 2002, the SABR Research Library, of which I am the custodian, has handled 198 requests for copies of articles, the requests ranging from one page to 400 or more.

The collection has grown to more than 4,500 articles. For the last several years, I have made a concerted effort to collect as many texts as possible from research presentations at the national convention. Several officials of regional chapters, notably the Halsey Hall chapter in Minnesota, the Keltner chapter in Wisconsin and the Ted Williams chapter in San Diego (apologies to any I have left out), have been thoughtful enough to send texts from presentations at their regional meetings. Appropriate articles submitted in the McFarland-SABR Award competition also make their way into the collection.

A number of individuals also keep their eyes peeled for appropriate Research Library material. The champion among these is Jim Mallinson of Mount Sinai, New York. Several times a year, a package of tearsheets from the New York newspapers comes my way courtesy of Jim. Again, I apologize to any other regular contributors I haven't mentioned here.

Len Levin

SABR Research Committees

Asian Baseball

The Asian Baseball Research Committee was formed in January of this year (2003). Its first officers are chairman Robert Fitts and vice chairman Jeffery Wilson.

The primary goals of the Asian Baseball Committee are to introduce Asian baseball to the North American public and to focus on the long history of interaction between American and Asian baseball. These exchanges are important topics for both understanding the cultural variations of baseball and also for bringing together scholars from different nations. The committee hopes to achieve these goals by producing and distributing; creating a website; encouraging serious studies of Asian baseball by helping researchers network; encouraging members to publish their studies in the SABR journals, and eventually holding a symposium at the annual SABR conventions.

Our committee currently has 25 members. This includes seven international members. In August and September 2003, we plan to have a membership drive and we hope to increase both our domestic and international membership base.

To date the committee has created a website focusing on Asian baseball. The site has a home page at

<http://www.robsjapanesecards.com/asianbaseball.html> and separate pages dedicated to baseball in Japan, China, Taiwan and Korea. A short history of baseball, a time line, and links for each of these countries is available on the site. Reviews of books of Asian baseball will be posted shortly.

Future projects for the Asian baseball committee will be discussed at the National meeting. Suggested ideas included bibliographies of English sources on Asian baseball; collecting newspaper articles on pre-World War II Asian teams touring the United States; translating Chinese and Korean stats into English; and a biographical encyclopedia of Japanese players.

Robert Fitts, chair

Ballparks Committee

The SABR Ballparks Committee was established at the 1982 SABR Annual Convention by a group of members interested in "everything ballparks." In twenty-one years the committee has grown to over 350 members covering three quarters of the states and a few foreign countries. The committee represents a wide range of contacts and resources, including writers, collectors, model makers, artists media people, statistics people, researchers, architects, and ardent "ballparks fans."

The committee produced two newsletters during the year, totally twenty pages, covering the topics of new members, preservation news, major and minor league park news, book and ballparks reviews, new resources, research requests, articles from the past, exhibits & programs, news notes, and project reports. The year's second or third news-

letter should be sent out electronically, cutting the postage expenses dramatically.

Dave Mitchell continued to update the committee's ballparks reference index, a thirty-page listing of most major books and publications that covers the topics of ballparks. Mike Dempsey cares for the committee's extensive snapshot collection that grows in value as many minor league parks functioning just fifteen years ago are now a memory. Francis Kinlaw made revisions to the "Ballparks in TV & Movies" listing of parks that have appeared in film and television programs.

The committee handled dozens of research requests from across the nation and world (a baseball fan in Holland was especially grateful for committee assistance with material on Candlestick). Writers regularly ask for opinions on new parks; researchers are always seeking that elusive statistic or ballpark feature; and preservationists seek the committee's resources or support to save an old park or mark the site of a lost one.

The committee would like to work with other SABR committees to create a guide to ballpark photos; a guide to research in ballparks; and a preliminary guide to ballparks of the nineteenth century. On a more ambitious note, there is talk of producing a new master index to all ballparks of all levels since the advent of the professional sport in the early 1870s. We are overwhelmed with opportunity.

Lastly, the committee has effectively served as a facilitator, channeling the right people or material to a diverse range of people with questions. Sometimes we don't know the answer, but we can usually find someone who does.

The chairman thanks the many SABR and committee members for their support over the past year.

Robert Bluthardt, chair

Baseball in the UK

We at SABR UK are still digging in the same old pit for more information on UK Europe developments. Nothing much new happens here in the UK and so always our work is in buried in the dark distant past with little material available; hence little surfacing upon which we can conclude anything other than conjecture.

We have however expanded our research on Trap Ball at the pub sources available in the South of England (see forthcoming SABR UK Examiner).

The efforts made in the UK amongst entrepreneurs to promote baseball in the 19th and early middle 20th century proved fruitless in all areas, mainly that of commercial success and development of a standard of play with skills that would produce quality ballplayers who could become professionals in America.

There is a 'class' resistance to baseball which is inbred in the class system where the power still seems to

Research Committees

reside, and this is a subject that is worthy of research consideration. Again, the upper classes do not come out and say what they think of baseball in print. However, in articles written by the likes of George Bernard Shaw and Arthur Conan Doyle during the Giants-White Sox tour of 1924, it is believable that if it were up to members of the British public such as these gentlemen baseball which they favoured over cricket, according to their articles, would have gained by leaps and bounds. Alas, with my conversations (interviews) with the elite (elitist) members of the MCC at Lords Cricket Grounds, I am certain for my reasoning why the opposite is the case. In searching the files of the MCC library at Lords, the only item available that certifies that the US Army and Navy played a demonstration game at the grounds, is just one photo of British troops and civilians sitting on the grass at Lords as spectators of baseball looking bewildered.

However there have been developments in Holland and Italy where the game is played professionally, and where professional standards have achieved such heights that some players have made it to the big leagues.

The committee wishes that those who applied for membership of the UK committee who we may have failed to acknowledge: would they please write or email again. Now that we are on course — again.

Mike Ross

Baseball Records Committee

The Baseball Records Committee was created in 1975 to reconcile differences and pursue a greater degree of accuracy in baseball's "historical record." The word "record," as we use it, has two meanings. We use it in the sense that some player, or some team, has the most or least of something for an inning, or a game, or a season, etc. For example Dick Radatz holds the major league record for Most strikeouts by a relief pitcher in a season (181), or that Shawn Green holds the major league record for Most total bases in a game (19). We also use the word record to refer to a player's game-by-game, season-by-season and lifetime accomplishments. For example, Pee Wee Reese scored 87 runs in 1942, or Case Patten made 238 career starts. Both aspects of baseball's historical record are of equal importance to us, and we are as diligent with regard to accuracy for the "unknown" players as we are for the Hall of Famers.

Beginning with our formation, committee members have contributed countless corrections, additions, and deletions to the record books. Our ultimate goal of finding all the errors in the historic record, or at least achieving a full reconciliation of differences among all the record books and encyclopedias, remains unlikely for the near future; nevertheless, we will continue to pursue a narrowing of the gap.

Since our last annual report, committee members have found errors, additions, and subtractions in the playing records of, or listings of record performances for, Luis

Aparicio, Barry Bonds, Bob Boone, Jim Bunning, Smoky Burgess, Jack Burns, Elton Chamberlain, Chuck Coles, Jake Daubert, Jack Doyle, Joe Ferguson, Dee Fondy, Lou Gehrig, Jason Giambi, Jake Gibbs, Ray Grimes, Charlie Grimm, Kid Gleason, Don Hoak, Rogers Hornsby, Don Hurst, Eddie Joost, Silver King, Ed Konetchy, Andy Kosco, Nap Lajoie, Ed Lopat, Jerry Lynch, Mickey Mantle, Don Mattingly, Orlando Merced, Fred Merkle, Willie Montanez, Bill Robinson, Fred Tenney, David Segui, Richie Sexson, Jimmy Williams, Perry Werden, and Doc White.

The committee is proud of the article "Baseball's Unbreakable Records," written by committee Vice Chairman Joe Dittmar that appeared in the recently published Baseball Research Journal. Many of our members submitted their choices, which Joe evaluated and combined to produce a most informative and entertaining article.

Finally, we at the Records Committee continue to be aware that recent developments in baseball—strikes, shortened seasons, wild cards, interleague play, expansion, realignment, and possible future contraction—have placed a special burden on those of us who not only research the game's numbers, but also treasure the history that accompanies those numbers. Therefore, while we will continue to attempt to make the baseball record as factual as possible, we will also attempt to be an advocate for retaining its integrity.

Lyle Spatz, Chairman

Joe Dittmar, Vice Chairman

Bibliography Committee

The Bibliography Committee's major project, The Baseball Index, had its first full year of internet availability during the past year. The site, www.baseballindex.org, became available on the Internet on May 27, 2002. As of May 26, 2003, the site had seen over two million hits and over 60,000 visitors.

When it opened, The Baseball Index contained about 175,000 books, articles, book sections, videos, art works, sound recordings and other items. The researcher may search it for references to a player, umpire, owner or executive. It may be searched for terms, such as Baker Bowl or Cotton States League or Umpire Baiting or Changeups. Over 2,000 separate terms are included as well as the names of leagues, stadiums and baseball groups.

In the past year, the number of items catalogued has risen to close to 200,000. An initially cumbersome data entry system has been greatly improved. Steve Milman, Skip McAfee, Jim Lannen and Joe Murphy provided the financial donations which made this possible. Daniel Levine and his team at DMLCo. did their usual fine website design work at the (thankfully) usual SABR discount. Murphy, Milman, Ron Kaplan, Bill Ivimey and Maxwell Kates were major volunteers in cataloguing and providing new items for the database.

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The Index's inspiration and manager, Ted Hathaway, and Andy McCue, continue to oversee the project.

While The Baseball Index, is our major effort, the committee continues with other projects. The Bibliography Committee was founded in 1983 by Frank Phelps and seeks to discover, organize and provide information about books and other research materials which might be of interest to SABR members and other baseball researchers.

The committee currently has 63 members working on a variety of projects in addition to TBI.

Two long-time committee members continued to produce the committee's two longest-running projects. Committee vice-chair Skip McAfee has edited the committee's newsletter since 1988 and continues to make improvements. Book reviews from Terry Smith and other committee members highlight the newsletter. Reviews which have appeared in the committee's newsletter are mounted at <http://sabbrbib.home.mindspring.com>.

Rich Arpi started his 16th year of researching and editing Current Baseball Publications, the quarterly listing of baseball books and periodicals which the committee has produced since 1986. Current Baseball Publications has been mounted on SABR's web page to make it more accessible to all SABR members. CBP, along with committee newsletters, is available at <http://www.sabbrbib.home.mindspring.com>.

We are still seeking efficient ways to turn some of the committee's older, paper research into web-available documents. This is especially true of Frank Phelps' Index to Sporting News Registers. Jim Lannen has had some success with early research guides and SABR's Cleveland headquarters is making progress on the Phelps' index.

Southern Illinois University Press continued its program to republish the Putnam team histories with indexes provided by committee members. The Red Sox and Pirates (both indexed by Jack Carlson) were reprinted this year, bringing the total to seven. The Cleveland Indians (index by Bob Boynton) and the Baltimore Orioles (index by John Spalding) are scheduled for 2004.

Andy McCue, Bibliography Committee chair

Biographical Research Committee

It has been an excellent year for the biographical committee. We have found quite a few missing players and have had several major finds. Rick Benner discovered a new ballplayer who actually made his debut in 1936. Gene Ford had been listed as pitching two games for the Boston Braves that year. Rick discovered that the second game was pitched by a former Penn State pitcher named Bill Ford, an entirely different man. It's very unusual to discover a new player who played that recently.

Richard Malatzky found George "Orator" Shafer. Shafer had a 13 year career which had made him our most prolific missing player. Shafer's wife had been listed as a

widow in 1908, but George wasn't dead. He died in Philadelphia in 1922. Louis Sylvester was a player we had been seeking for some time. We had suspected that he died in Stockton, California in 1935, but it turned out that it wasn't him. Richard Malatzky found a Lenis Sylvester in the 1930 census and, lo and behold, this turned out to be Lewis. He died in 1936 in Brooklyn, New York. We found 1871 player Joseph Simmons even though he was living under the name Joseph Chabriel. Incredibly, we found two other players who played in 1871, Frank Sellman and James Carleton. We found 2 missing players named Jones, Oscar Jones, a 1903 player who had previously been misidentified, and Charles Jones, an 1884 debut player who had become a New York City policeman.

And he wasn't the only New York City policeman. William Kinsler, who caught one game for the 1893 New York Giants, also became a New York cop and lived to be 96. He was the oldest living major leaguer at the time of his death in 1962. We had previously listed Patrick Meaney as playing shortstop in the Ty Cobb "strike game" in 1912. Ray Nemeck discovered that this was S. Vincent Maney.

Other players we found include John Greenig, Patrick Murphy, John Roach, James Gladmon, John Schultz, Charles Briggs, George Scott, Albert Sauter, Dennis Coughlin, Henry Killeen, Charles Lauer, Albert Bradley, William Schmidt (previously listed as William Smith), James Burns (the 1888 player - the 1901 James Burns is still missing), George Daisy, Frederick Fass (an 1887 player previously listed simply as Fast), John Otten, George Fisher, George Treadway, Vivian Potts, George Hodson, Marcus Kragen (previously listed as Martin Creegan), Samuel Childs (his 1883 game had previously been carried under the record of James Field), Charles Gessner, and Robert Hogan.

That is a pretty impressive list of finds. Sources on the internet have helped us locate some of these guys, but it has taken a lot of digging and hard work, to follow up on the leads we have found. We also have quite a few other players we think we have located, but are awaiting more proof before we list them as found. As of the beginning of June, 2003, there were 363 players for whom we have no death data. There is still a lot of work left to be done.

Bill Carle, Chairman

June 5, 2003

BioProject Committee

On June 26, 2002, SABR's Executive Board approved the formation of the BioProject Committee. The committee houses the Baseball Biography Project, whose purpose is to solicit, write, edit, and maintain high quality journal-length biographies of every player who ever played in the major leagues, as well as any other person connected with baseball in a significant way.

Much of our first year was spent getting organized. We first created a mechanism for assigning biographies to

subjects, including special provisions for prominent people and for writers who had written biographical articles for SABR in the past. By the end of the year those provisions had expired, and our policy is now essentially first-come first-served. Lyle Spatz is our Assignment Czar.

We spent a good deal of time creating a team of editors, editorial guidelines, and an editorial process. Fred Ivor-Campbell helped a lot with this effort. Jan Finkel is the Chief Editor.

As of June 9, 2003, we had assigned 698 subjects (including 200+ to the Deadball Era committee for their two books). We have received about 70 articles, and our editors have approved 46.

Since our goal is to publish thousands of biographies on the web, we have had a lot of web-based accomplishments. We have an e-group set up to discuss the project. Thanks to Sean Forman and Daniel Levine, we have had a productive web site since September 2002 that has allowed us to publish author's guidelines, a style sheet, research tips, etc. We have also published (on our site) several useful research lists, including Mark Okkonen's "Cup of Coffee" players, and Frank Russo's huge list of on-line obituaries. We have also made contact with a number of relatives of potential subjects.

We have also created a "Biographical Note Cabinet" which allows any member to post information about a player in a permanent archive. This archive already includes notes about over 3000 people. Thanks to a large donation of books from Fred Ivor-Campbell, we have a lending library of biographies.

With membership currently at 235, the BioProject Committee looks forward to an even more productive sophomore year.

Mark Armour, Chairman
June 9, 2003

Business of Baseball Committee

Last August the Business of Baseball Committee, which was formed during the 1994-95 labor dispute, heaved a collective sigh of relief when our area avoided becoming the center of attention once again.

Our mission is to study Organized Baseball off the field: the economic, labor, legal, and organizational side of the national pastime. We publish a quarterly newsletter, *Outside the Lines*, which over the past year has covered topics including the new collective bargaining agreement, baseball in Japan, Pennsylvania's contrasting stadium-building experiences, the Major League Rules, and more.

We're now focused on building a Committee infrastructure and developing projects suitable for collaborative research, both among Committee members and between the Committee and other SABR Research Committees. The Committee is also looking for a Vice Chair to replace Claudia Perry, who is stepping down.

All interested SABR members are welcome to join the Committee and attend our annual meeting. We look forward to seeing you there, and hearing your suggestions for Committee projects.

Doug Pappas, Chair

Collegiate Baseball Committee

In less than nine months, our committee has gone from being dormant to starting up again with renewed interest and some great accomplishments. Since being appointed as co-chairmen of the committee in early November, we have been able to make great strides toward accomplishing our first major goal: creating and making available to SABR members (via the Internet) a searchable database of all major league players who have played college baseball.

As many of you know, the original idea for determining college affiliations started with Tom Shea and was continued by Cappy Gagnon. Their original work was put on a computer file with listings by college of players who attended that school (but who were not necessarily players in the school's baseball program). The original database file or printed hard copies were passed along by Cappy to a few SABR members. Over the last decade, several other SABR members (including co-chairman Rick Benner) were setting up their own databases.

Once this committee was re-established with us as co-chairmen, research efforts were increased to the point that it became possible to post all of Rick's material on a website created by committee member Jeremy Mills. The website address is www.ncaa-baseball.com/sabr. The goal we established for 2003 was to post as many schools as possible, from NCAA Division I through NAIA schools and junior colleges. The work has been running ahead of schedule and, as of the end of May, all 327 Division I programs are now represented on the website with their own individual page. Thirty-seven of those schools have not yet produced a known major leaguer.

Each school's page on our website features information on the years baseball has been played at the school; a chronological listing of past and present major leaguers (according to the date of their big league debut); the years played at the school; and an indication of players in that school's athletic hall of fame. Players whose years in the program have not been confirmed are shown in italics in hopes that their participation will be confirmed at a later date. Assistance is also needed in determining exact years that some schools have had a baseball program.

Another initial major goal for the committee was to start up and send out a committee newsletter to members and interested parties. We have been pleased to see what other committees have done with their newsletters and hope to continue improving ours. Collegiate baseball newsletters have been sent out via e-mail and regular mail in November, February and May, with another newsletter due

before the end of June. Through the efforts of committee member Bruce Brown, an e-mail network of all committee members was set up, allowing us to get newsletters to all members with e-mail. In addition, hard copies have been sent to those without e-mail.

The number of committee members has increased significantly since the original list of interested people was determined. The current number of names on the committee list is 58 and newsletters also are sent to other committee chairmen and SABR officials. It is hoped that, in coming months, more members will become involved in helping us “fine tune” the website listings.

Also discussed as future projects last fall were the creation of a history of the College World Series and an index of college players in the summer amateur draft. It turns out that Bill Madden, who is now on our committee roster, has already been at work on a CWS history book, to be published by McFarland in 2005. A history of college baseball is also a possibility for Bill after the CWS book is completed. Rick has had discussions with *Baseball America* about the possibility of tying some of our website information into a possible update book on the amateur draft in the future.

Both of us plan to be in Denver for the annual meeting and look forward to meeting members of our committee, the chairmen of other committees and SABR board members. At our committee meeting, we hope to establish some more goals for the future and find more SABR members interested in college baseball.

Rick Benner and Jay Langhammer, Co-Chairmen
June 2003

Deadball Era Committee

Among the highlights of its third year of existence, SABR’s Deadball Era Committee is finishing its collection of National League biographies and embarking on an American League volume that might be ready for publication in late 2005.

Our current goal is to mail the 384-page NL volume to all 6,700-plus SABR members in November 2003. Edited by Tom Simon, the book will contain 133 biographies varying in length from two to four pages. As of June 9, 2003, Simon had edited 120 of the 133 drafts (90%). The book features at least one and as many as three photos of each subject; signatures for 125 of the 133 subjects (94%); 1901-19 statistical leaders for each franchise; and each team’s most commonly used batting order for each season from 1901 to 1919. Glenn LeDoux is doing the layout.

The AL volume tentatively will include as many as 136 subjects, all of whom have now been assigned. Drafts of at least 1,500 words should be sent before December 31, 2004, to the following “team editors”: Bill Lamberty (league officials and umpires); Mike Foster (Boston); R.J. Lesch (Chicago); Norman Macht (Philadelphia); Trey Strecker (Detroit); Steve Constantelos (Cleveland); Eric Enders (New York); David Jones (Washington); and Mark

Armour (St. Louis). As with the NL volume, Paul Esacove is tracking down signatures, Angelo Louisa is heading up the batting order project, and Lyle Spatz is maintaining the assignment list.

Over the past year, Lamberty produced two issues of the DEC’s official newsletter, *The Inside Game*. As of the annual meeting, Lamberty is retiring as DEC vice chairman, to be replaced by Enders and Jones (joining Simon to form the DEC’s “National Commission”). Charles Crawley will take over as the new editor of *TIG*.

Under the leadership of Paul Rogers, the Larry Ritter Award subcommittee (consisting of Al Blumkin, Scott Flatow, Rogers, David Shiner, Simon, and Dick Thompson) announced its first two winners: Martin Donell Kohout for his book *Hal Chase: The Defiant Life and Turbulent Times of Baseball’s Biggest Crook* (McFarland 2001); and Jim Reisler for his book *Before They Were Bombers: The New York Yankees’ Early Years, 1903-1915* (McFarland 2002).

In other developments, sales of the t-shirt featuring our “bunting Benny Kauff” logo on the front and a quote from Ed Walsh on the back raised \$651; Simon held on to \$151 to buy plaques for the Ritter Award winners and sent a check for \$500 to SABR to hold in an account for the DEC. We added 27 new members in the past year, bringing total DEC membership to 209. Lesch reports that the Deadball E-Group currently has 155 participants. Paul Wendt continues to maintain our official website at <http://world.std.com/~pgw/Deadball>. Organized by Lesch and Richard Smiley, our second spring-training trip to Hot Springs, Arkansas, is tentatively scheduled for March 18-21, 2004.

Tom Simon, Chairman

Latin America Committee

According to the latest report from the SABR office there are 137 members of the Latin America Committee, 15 of them live in the Caribbean area.

In order to broad our sphere of action. I am considering the appointment of Ralph Maya, an enthusiastic member of our committee, with knowledge and relations in Latin America, who lives in the Miami area, as Co-Vice Chairman along with Henry Martino who holds at the present this position of our committee. To the effect I am planning a committee meeting in Florida in the near future.

Our next newsletter should be on the mail next Tuesday, June 17.

On the other hand, we provided full support to “HOME, A Celebration of Roberto Clemente’s Spirit and Passion” an exhibition presented at the Museum of Art at San Juan, Puerto Rico from October 1, 2002 to May 31, 2003.

Among other activities,, we participated in round tables sessions dealing with several intimate aspects of Roberto’s life beyond his baseball participation. We did

Research Committees

suggested that contacts should be made to present the exhibition at the National Baseball Hall of Fame at Cooperstown, N.Y.

Nearly 35,000 adults and 15,00 public schools students from Puerto Rico and other countries, who saw the exhibition, highly appraised it.

On the other hand, the interest (mostly students) from USA, in Latin America baseball has been going beyond Mayor Leagues players. We have been answering requests as to where and since when the sport has been played in this area,

During the 45th Caribbean Baseball Series held on last February 2-8 at the Roberto Clemente Baseball Stadium, Carolina, Puerto Rico, we distributed SABR applications, explaining our goals among radio, TV and baseball writers from the Dominican Republic, Mexico and other countries, who covered it. They seem to be interested in joining it. However there seem to be a language barrier.

On terms of a needed publication to increase our membership, in Latin America, I have suggested several times in the past, an abridged edition in Spanish of the SABR Bulletin is needed. As time goes by, the amount of countries playing baseball increases, as well as their players in organized baseball. To this effect, I can provide data to the effect.

We do expect to have by the end of next July, "JONRON" a book covering the names of all Latin America and Caribbean players participation in the Mayor Leagues. It also includes all their records and achievements

In areas of cooperation, I believe that the Latin America Comm. has overlapping issues with Baseball Records, Biographical Research, Minor Leagues Negro Leagues, and Pictorial History.

Eduardo Valero, Chairman
Evaleropr@hotmail.com
June 11, 2003

Minor Leagues Committee

The Minor League Committee has started a number of projects over the past several years. Unfortunately, only a few committee members become involved in these projects. One of our big projects was a fourth volume of Minor League Baseball Stars. Quite a few people wrote and said that this was a great idea. However, only a few indicated that they would work on the project. Thus, we abandoned the project.

Projects still in progress include:

19th Century Minor Leagues. This involves compiling a list of all 19th Century pro leagues and gathering as much data as possible on each one.

Farm Clubs. Compiling list of all farm clubs of each major league club and farm clubs of minor league clubs. Bill McMahan is doing 95% of the work on this project.

2,000 Cups Of Coffee. Lists all players who played in 10 games or less in the major leagues in the first half of the 20th Century and all of their minor league affiliations. Marc Okkonen is doing 98% of the work on this project.

Less Than 10 Games. Many leagues, prior to 1962, did not publish stats for players in less than 10 games. We are compiling these stats for many of the high classification minors.

League Averages. Several members are compiling complete stats for leagues where no stats were published.

The Encyclopedia Of Minor League Baseball. A third edition of this book is planned for next year. We are supplying the editors with additions and corrections to the second edition.

The National Pastime: The Museum Of Minor League Baseball. This is an organization that is establishing a minor league museum and hall of fame. One of the features of the museum will be a roster of every person who ever played in the minors. A number of our committee members are helping with this project.

Deaths Of Minor League Players. Committee member Ray Nemecek compiles a death list of minor league players who never played in the majors. Many committee members feed info to Ray and the list is published in each newsletter.

We raise various questions in the newsletters and ask members to comment. Included in recent newsletters were (1) Determining league batting champs, (2) Hall of Famers who were teammates on a minor league team, (3) Long service minor league players, (4) The 1905 Ohio-Pennsylvania League.

Bob McConnell, Chair

May 1, 2003

Music & Poetry Committee

The committee continues to promote the research of the rich history of music and poetry related to baseball. The Music & Poetry Committee increased its membership to 61 in 2003. The committee's three primary projects are:

- 1) Compile an index of songs related to baseball.
- 2) Compile a list of players, past and present, who are known for their musical talents.
- 3) Compile an index of poetry related to baseball.

The committee has compiled a significant listing of baseball songs and poetry and will be entered into the Bibliography Committee's database. The list of players known for their musical talents continues to grow.

R. J. Lesch was named co-chairman of the committee.

Jeff Campbell, chair

Research Committees

Negro Leagues Committee

The Negro Leagues Committee is an original SABR committee formed in 1971. The fifty active members had another highly productive year. We celebrate these successes in the past twelve months.

1. The 100th birthday of Ted “Double Duty” Radcliffe.
2. John Miles inducted into the San Antonio Sports Hall Of Fame. Josh Gibson into Georgia’s Hall of Fame. Edward Scott into the Mobile Hall of Fame.
3. The most exciting and successful Jerry Malloy Negro Leagues Conference, to date, in Memphis, TN.
4. Several prominent exhibits around the country.
5. Fifteen different honorings/celebrations across the country.
6. We presented eight Robert Peterson Awards to worthy writers.
7. The Tweed Webb Lifetime Achievement Award to Dick Clark.
8. Another outstanding John Henry “Pop” Lloyd Celebration in Atlantic City.
9. Unveiling of the Turkey Stearnes grave marker.
10. Ten books were published during this period.
 - A. THE NEGRO LEAGUES, 1869-1960
 - B. THE CALIFORNIA WINTER LEAGUE
 - C. BLACK BASEBALL ENTREPRENEURS, 1860-1901
 - D. COOL PAPA’S AND DOUBLE DUTIES
 - E. SUNDAY COMING: BLACK BASEBALL IN VIRGINIA
 - F. CUBAN BASEBALL: A STATISTICAL HISTORY
 - G. THE INTEGRATION OF BASEBALL IN PHILADELPHIA
 - H. FAIR BALL (kids)
 - I. THE BEST MAN PLAYS
 - J. BEYOND THE SHADOW OF THE SENATORS
11. Starting of Outoftheshadows.net website and highly productive body of work finished on the Hall Of Fame Afro-American Baseball History Project.

In the 2002 calendar year we lost 25 players. Since June of 2002 to date, 23 veterans have passed.

We welcome all interested researchers to join in the effort of the Negro Leagues Committee.

Dick Clark and Larry Lester, co-chairs.

Nineteenth Century Committee

The Nineteenth Century Committee was founded in 1983 following a September 1982 letter from John Thorn and Mark Rucker “to whom it may concern”, proposing a focus on “photographic and factual records of individuals

and clubs from the New York Knickerbockers to the end of the century.” Paul Wendt is Chair and Frederick Ivor-Campbell is Vice Chair.

The credo of the committee today is to recover the record of and to interpret base ball through 1900, both for ourselves and for the baseball public generally. A few members work privately on bat and ball games before the Knickerbockers and “the New York game”. A few others work on regional and local contemporaries such as “the Massachusetts game” that will be exhibited on Wednesday afternoon at SABR33 following 1858 Dedham rules.

One project foreseen twenty years ago is now the focus of the Pictorial History Committee. Having completed so much work on the 20th century, the Baseball Records, Biographical Research, and Minor League Committees now focus much of their attention on the last two or three decades of the 19th century, the era of professional leagues. We may foresee that other SABR research committees will turn more attention to the 19c during the next several years, as they complete 20c work—or simply complete the organization of 20c work so that it becomes routine and the focus of planning turns to the 19th century. The Spring Training, College Baseball, and Umpires & Rules Committees are likely candidates.

Meanwhile the 19th Century Committee has become two parts interest group, two parts email research exchange regarding private projects, and one part Research Committee pursuing community projects. We need to change the mix, but we will always be partly an interest group under a broad tent.

The committee now has more than 200 members. The number is greater than 300 including all 2002 and 2003 SABR members and all ‘19cBB’ egroup members who have expressed serious interest in 19th century baseball. During July, the Chairman must complete the transition from one SABR membership year to another and survey recent egroup subscribers who are not committee members.

On the Chair’s desktop, the Committee now has a database covering about 1000 persons interested in 19c baseball (mainly SABR members), more than 200 moderately recent books on 19c baseball, numerous reviews of those books, and almost 300 articles on 19c baseball personages that were published by SABR in *Nineteenth Century Stars* (1989) and *Baseball’s First Stars* (1996). I think this calls for two or three minor projects by committee members, not to mention maintenance of the data by the Chair. First, we should identify books about 19c baseball by brief notes on chronological scope (Scope Notes). Second, we should locate published reviews of 19c baseball books (gather data for the Reviews Record). Third, we should identify the books published in the preceding five years whose importance suggests or demands a review published by the Committee, and generate reviews for those which demand one (catch up Reviews).

We did not produce a newsletter this year. Two re-

Research Committees

views of new books are now in hand, with two others about two years old. A few others have been discussed with potential reviewers. Together with the book reviews, we have enough administrative, illustrative, and “catching up” content to fill two newsletters, at least, before we solicit feature articles. Those two issues, at least, should be my editorial responsibility, but I may need help producing the newsletter and selecting material of some types such as that which illustrates the 19cBB egroup for non-subscribers.

Most Committee-sponsored activity in 2001-2002 was 19cBB activity. 19cBB is a mutual distribution email list with some extra features available to its subscribers on the web, mainly an archive of past “Messages”. It was founded in June 2001, by invitation, and opened to all interested subscribers in conjunction with the Annual Convention one month later. We now have more than 180 subscribers.

19cBB traffic also includes occasional announcements and some discussion of committee business such as what books to review and what projects to undertake. Expect more of that next year. Most traffic concerns baseball, and that will continue, from matters of narrow fact to matters of broad historical interpretation. Intermediate themes are particular ballclubs and particular locales, both before and beside the major professional leagues. Thus 19cBB is the principal medium for research exchange regarding private projects and in that respect it is the feather in our cap.

There are two official 19th Century Committee projects, Early Rules and Practices directed by Chip Atkison (“Early Rules”, for short) and American Association History directed by Jon Dunkle (“AA History”, for short).

Email exchange on lowercase early baseball rules and practices is common on 19cBB. Unfortunately, little of that has reached the working archive of “Early Rules”. That uppercase Project was founded in 2000 with co-directors; it foundered upon the death of one and on Chip’s appointment as co-host of SABR33. Chip and I have begun private discussion of what might be and what should be done. Restarting “Early Rules” is a high priority of for the 19c Committee this Summer, and the public process will begin at the Convention.

“AA History” was founded in 1993, directed by Bob McConnell, with the goal of writing a narrative history of the league by 1998. According to the 1998 and 2003 reports, the number of team-seasons covered by the microfilm phase of the project increased from 46 (54%) to 68 (80%), including a gain of three team-seasons this year. On the dark side, 80% is a long way from 100 and the history of phase one in recent years is three steps forward, one step back. On the bright side, three of the ten outstanding Philadelphia seasons have been covered this year, and there are several ways that the completed research might

bear hybrid fruit if the original project cannot be completed. This Summer and Fall, the Committee must begin to assess the quality and potential integration of the basic research that has been completed, and to think about hybrid fruit such as a database of leagues and ballclubs that covers their establishment, disbanding, and personnel.

The 19th Century Committee now has an official website.

<http://world.std.com/~pgw/19c/>

It is an outlet for some baseball research by Committee members, this year most notably “Trades: early transactions between ballclubs,” by David Ball (Dec 2002). Yet its most important purpose is to advance Committee business, especially by making some reports and documents available to everyone with a webbrowser.

Consolidation of Committee archives is nearly complete. I have received files from John Husman and Frederick Ivor-Campbell this Spring and will receive some from Robert Tiemann at the Annual Convention next week. The complete run of newsletters will soon be available on paper at cost of copying and mailing. The archival material is educational in some ways and surprising in some of the same ways. Select committee members have been enthusiastic and others have at least been encouraging since I began email and phone correspondence as a better educated and surprised Chair. Let me end on that hopeful note.

Paul Wendt, Chairman

Oral History Committee

This report covers the period from June 15, 2002 to June 15, 2003. Over the past 4-5 years, SABR has been negotiating with the Baseball Hall of Fame to have them return the Oral History tapes what we loaned them. The HOF had claimed that some obscure New York state ruling prevented them from returning the tapes. However, they said they would make copies for us.

Last year, we received 3 boxes of tapes totaling 79 interviews, and this past February we received another box with 31 interviews. And we estimate the HOF still has 50-100 interviews—which we will diligently pursue their return. Keep tuned.

These interviews (plus all subsequent interviews) will be added to the list on the SABR website. To view the list, go to www.sabr.org

Click on to “research”, scroll down to “oral history comm.” and click on to “list of interviews”. The tapes are only \$3.00 each and most transcripts are \$2.00 each.

SABR member Harvey Frommer wrote a book, “Growing Up Baseball” and graciously sent us his original tapes. We made copies of them and now we have 22 more oral histories.

The following are interviews were turned in by committee members in the last 6 months:

Research Committees

Dave Dravecky by Ron Kingsley

Charles Earl Brannan (scout) by David Paulson

Tommy Barrett by Bill Nowlin

Wilmer Fields (Negro League player) by David Paulson

George Kell by Jim Sanders

Bill Gilbert (writer) by David Paulson

Bob Turley (transcript) by Bill Stevens

Carolyn Thomas (Walter Johnson's daughter) by David Paulson

Pat McGlothlin (transcript) by Bill Nowlin

Jerry Kindall by David Paulson

Bob Turley (transcript) by Bill Stevens

George Kell by Jim Sanders

We have 39 members on the committee but several will be dropped because of lack of interest (a minimum of one oral history a year is required)

Any suggestions or comments on improving the committee's work would be appreciated.

David Paulson, chair

Pictorial History Committee

The primary focus of the Pictorial History Committee is to develop the Player Image Index. The goal of this project is to catalogue at least one photo image of every man who has played in the major leagues. When we are able to catalogue an image, that means that we know where it has been published or in what collection it has been seen. We have been able to catalogue images for over 90% of the players who have been in the majors since the beginning, 1871. The Player Image Index currently consists of about 20,000 records describing image sources for over 14,000 major league players.

At the end of May, 2002, there were approximately 2,650 major leaguers on our Missing Players List. Over the past year, we have cut the size of the Missing Players List in half. As of mid-June, 2003, there are approximately 1,320 players who remain uncataloged into the Player Image Index because we have not yet found sources of photo images for them. At the same time as we have reduced the number of missing players, we have kept up with cataloguing images for all the new players who have recently debuted into the major leaguers.

Mid-2002 to mid-2003 has been a period of broadening participation in the development of the Player Image Index. Forty-six different individuals are now credited with making contributions of at least one player image to this index. We are particularly appreciative of the numerous images submitted by Marc Okkonen, Richard Ulrich, Lefty Blasco, Patricia Kelly, and Steve Gietschier.

For general information about the Player Image In-

dex project, contact Bill Hickman. For information about the computer aspects of the data base, which resides in Excel spreadsheet format, contact the Committee Vice Chair, Cary Smith. The long range plan is for the Player Image Index to appear on the SABR website and to be made available to SABR members.

Other Committee activities over the past year included the publication of four newsletters and the response to numerous requests for leads on photo sources.

Bill Hickman, chair

Science and Baseball Committee

The Science and Baseball Committee was created in 2003 to explore, disseminate, and foster research in the science of baseball, broadly construed to include behavioral, physical, and natural sciences. The Committee provides a forum for all members with an interest in scientific matters, regardless of background or training. Membership has grown from 25 in January to 42, with 73 individuals subscribed to the Yahoo site (http://groups.yahoo.com/group/SABR_Baseball_Science/). Active membership-building efforts within SABR and the broader scientific community have contributed to this increase, and we are hopeful that this trend will continue. Some proportion of our committee members are also new SABR members, bringing new interest and expertise to our ranks.

The discussion group has been active around a variety of topics (corked bats being a recent active thread) and been an effective medium for exchange of information and ideas among members.

Since our formation, committee members have added over twenty links to websites relevant to our mission, and obtained over 75 hard-copies of research articles from the scientific literature in biomechanics, medicine, psychology and economics, which will be forwarded to Len Levin once additional outstanding materials have come in. Several hundred citations from the medical and psychological literature have been collected and will be forwarded to The Baseball Index. Committee members have consulted recently to a few individuals in the general public on specific science matters (e.g., resources for a science project on wooden vs. aluminum bats), as well as a consultant for the Yogi Berra Museum, which is developing exhibits revolving around science and baseball.

The first issue of the Committee newsletter, The Rising Fastball was distributed in March, 2003, with issue 2 due at the end of June.

Kenneth Heard, M.A. Chair

Alan Nathan, Ph.D., Vice Chair

Research Committees

Spring Training

Over the course of the last year the Spring Training Committee has enjoyed a period of steady growth and lots of research. We were able to add six new members to raise our total membership to 30 persons.

Our main project Professional Spring Training only grew about 1 1/2 pages during the year to 64 full pages. The project did however, have its genesis some 20 years ago. With this report we were able to help several AAA clubs, including the Rochester Red Wings, document their spring training history.

Two students were or are being helped by the committee to study the business side of spring training in Florida.

Last August one of our members, Joe Naiman published an article about committee chairman Kevin Saldana in the newspaper The Valley News published in Temecula, CA. Another member Herb Crehan published an article in the Boston Red Sox spring training program about BoSox spring training history.

We are expecting another quiet year with steady growth and lots of research.

Kevin M Saldana, Chairman

Scouts Committee

The following has come to pass in the year since the Boston Convention:

1 - Chairman Bill Clark has applied to the SABR Executive Committee to have Rod Nelson upgraded to co-chairman. Action not received by June 1.

2. - Chairman Clark sent (at no SABR expense) a letter to 800 major league full-time, emeritus, and supervising scouts seeking SABR membership and documents to be submitted to the Hall of Fame Museum for inclusion in the exhibit devoted to scouts which is still in the planning stage at Cooperstown. A very disappointing return gave SABR one new membership and a minimal amount of input to the Hall's Museum.* At least we tried

*NOTE: As of May 2003, SABR records show four new memberships as a result of the Scouts' Mailing.

3. - Continued the publication of the committee newsletter, both in print form and via email thanks to Rod Nelson.

4. - Have begun the formation of a list of biographies to be collected for a SABR publication in the near future involving some 50 scouts from the 19th Century to the current time.

5. - Rod Nelson has worked diligently to form a huge data base for scouts and the work is still a long way from being ready for public record. His spreadsheet data includes birth and death dates, city of birth and death, full names of all 16,000-plus players with major league service, Hall of Fame data, military service, the scout of scouts

responsible for signing the player, the signing club, signing date, draft data, college and/or high school, bat/throw, ht/wt, bonus, ML debut, debut team, source of data, second source, last game played. Of course, the data can be arranged by scout as well as by player.

We project that this huge project will be ongoing for a number of years in the future, but this next year should bring us close in many of the major research categories. Rod compiles all the data received in his database and Clark, who has no computer, does the administrative work.

What started as "who signed whom" project half a dozen years ago, had now been expanded to give a detailed picture of the player and the scout(s) involved in signing the player.

6. - We both have been serving the needs of the media when they require data about a specific player or a specific scout.

Bill Clark, chairman

Statistical Analysis Committee

Founded by Pete Palmer and Dick Cramer in 1974 as SABR's fourth research committee, the Statistical Analysis Committee is the Society's center for empirical analysis and evaluation of the statistical side of baseball. SAC members propose and test evaluation models and techniques, with the goal of both describing the existing record of baseball data and developing models to use in predicting potential futures for the game.

The SAC emphasizes the importance and value of peer review in fostering high quality research. Under the leadership of editor Phil Birnbaum, the quarterly SAC newsletter *By The Numbers* presents models and techniques as well as critical discussion of research ideas. As has been the case for several years, nearly all major preseason annual analytic publications are written by SAC members. So too are many of the most popular, and (importantly) most valuable, online baseball datasets and analytic tools. Though sabermetrics is only one of the topic areas on SABR-L, the Society's listserver is an invaluable tool for gaining the attention of the broader SABR community.

The SAC and sabermetrics in general are experiencing increased recognition and support in both SABR and the general baseball analysis community. For the first time in SABR history, in 2003 an overtly sabermetric publication, the compendium *Best of By The Numbers*, was a general-distribution publication of the organization. Kudos to Phil Birnbaum and to SABR Publications Director Jim Charlton for putting together a fine, and well-received, volume.

As Michael Lewis's *Moneyball* climbs the bestseller lists, sabermetrics is also gaining recognition in the world beyond SABR. New books by Rob Neyer, Mark Armour and Dan Levitt, and others further illustrate the potential for popular appeal. On a narrower academic plane, Michael Schell is the 2003 chair of the American Statistical

Association's section on Statistics in Sports, and Jim Cochran is the SIS chair-elect.

We continue to push for increased visibility in the general SABR community, and encourage Committee members to contribute manuscripts to an ever-stronger, more scholarly *BRJ* under its new leadership. The Committee has begun to increase its Web presence, with back issues of *BTN* now available at <http://www.philbirnbaum.com/>. Rob Neyer's suggestion from several years ago – building an online repository of sabermetric tools, information, theory, models, and the like – remains somewhere between a pipedream and a project.

Neal Traven and Clem Comly

Statistical Analysis Committee co-chairs

Umpire and Rules Committee

The Umpire and Rules Committee has undergone a change of leadership this year. Cliff Schold (Christiansburg, VA) and Steve Johnson (Oberlin, OH) will serve as co-chairs of the committee. Mr. Schold will be primarily responsible for comments and questions about rules and Mr. Johnson will be primarily responsible for comments and questions concerning umpires. Reid Duffy (Indianapolis, IN) will continue his good work as editor of the committee newsletter.

The committee hopes to publish the newsletter 2-3 times per year. All stories, articles, and personal notes regarding umpires and/or rules can be sent to Mr. Duffy.

The committee hopes to engage its members in active research. The committee is open to suggestions on possible projects. These may include, but will not be limited to, the following:

1. Completion of the umpire logs for each season. Many have been completed, but several years remain undone.
2. Brief biographies for each major league umpire to be written for inclusion in the Biography Committee project.
3. Researching uniform numbers for umpires. When did the system start, how numbers were assigned to the umpires, what number(s) did each umpire wear during their career, etc.
4. A chronological, annotated list of all rules and rule changes from Cartwright's first rulebook to the present.

Other ideas are solicited and welcomed from members!

Respectfully submitted,

Steve Johnson, co-chair

Women in Baseball Committee

This year we have been continuing to work on gathering materials on the present teams and players who are making this an exciting time for women ball players. We also have had a women's baseball page added to the website <http://www.baseball.guru.com> and have had a number of requests and questions from interested people since that went up in the early spring of 2003.

We have had four newsletters produced for the past year detailing new works and requests that people continue to have. It has been exciting to report on the Women's World Series and other tournaments that continue to be added. A number of our committee members have been involved with these teams and helping to publicize what is happening.

Our committee book project has made significant progress since last summer with articles assigned and contracts being issued to authors. We are working on this project with McFarland Publishing Company and it is in the plans to be published in 2005.

Leslie Heaphy, Committee Co-Chair

May 2003

Internet Committee Report

Overview

SABR's Internet Committee is a functional committee devoted to organizing volunteer activity providing technical support of the Society's mission.

SABR's Internet Committee members are defined as those subscribing to the SABR-ADMIN email list. For the purposes of taking actions prescribed by established SABR policy, an executive committee, called the Internet Core Committee, has been established by the board. This committee consists of five statutory members and two elected members. The statutory members (and current holders) are the IC Chair (F. X. Flinn), the SABR-L co-moderators (Gary Collard and Daniel Levine), the SABR Forums Administrator (Ken Carrano), and the Webmaster (Darren Munk). These five elect two at large members (Rod Nelson and Paul Wendt).

Global issues are usually brought first to SABR-Admin for discussion. Matters relating to policy implementation are resolved by the core committee. The IC Chair conducts bimonthly telecons focused on web development involving the Executive Director, IC Chair, Webmaster, invited guests and DML Co representatives.

The IC has overseen the expenditure of nearly \$50,000 in SABR funds during 2001 and 2002, for both web development and membership office systems. In each specific instance the IC has delivered below budget.

Internal Operations

Membership Office

All PCs owned by the Society are networked in a Windows-based peer-to-peer environment with shared internet access via the 100 mbps service available in the building.

Membership System

During late 2001 work commenced on migrating the membership system from an xBase application designed for DOS-class systems to a SQL based, web-enabled application. By early 2002 the membership system was cutover to the new environment. With the implementation of a LAN at the office, all SABR employees were able to work simultaneously on the membership system.

Shortly after the cutover, the office authorized implementation of the "MySABR" functionality on the SABR website. This application permits SABR members to maintain their information directly, without the need to ask the office to record changes in address, phone numbers, email and the like. More than 2,000 SABR members used this application during 2002, recording nearly 1,000 changes in information.

During 2002, the office made a concerted effort to clean up information stored in the membership system. This effort was occasioned by three key factors: first, correct postal addresses. Second, to support the first implementation of a data-driven research and chapter membership system in SABR. Membership in these committees was com-

pared to membership records maintained by the committee chairs and brought into concurrence. Third, to support the implementation of the online Membership Directory, whose beta test period exposed a number of flawed records which had not come to our attention during the first cleanup efforts.

SABR's membership system represents a significant asset to the Society. It has significantly reduced the recordkeeping burdens of the membership office and greatly reduced the cost of adding a member to the Society. Furthermore, by enabling the membership office to communicate with a large fraction of the membership via e-mail broadcast, it promises to improve intraSociety communications and capture marginal dollars otherwise lost due to the failure of members to renew, sign up for the convention, and other time-sensitive actions by providing targeted reminders just before deadlines.

SABR spent about \$25,000 of its \$30,000 budget for web development in 2002. Approximately \$8,000 of this was spent on membership system development.

Committee and Chapter Support

Committees, whether Research or Regional Chapters, were until mid 2002 managed by a hodgepodge of systems maintained by each committee individually. Now their management, at least in terms of membership and membership communications, has been fully integrated with the SABR membership system.

In addition to identifying members, the system permits SABR members to identify areas of interest and have their interest communicated to the research committee organizers by flagging them as "potential members." In the past, SABR members wishing to join a committee had to contact the committee chair directly. Now they can indicate their interest and in due course they will be informed of committee activities and policies with respect to becoming a member.

Integration of the Chapter information with the membership data means that new members are automatically assigned as full members of their local chapter and automatically included in SABR web-site generated chapter emails. Further, the system permits individuals to be sent information by nearby regions. Instead of members having multiple chapter memberships, members now typically have one chapter membership and multiple satellite memberships.

All communications functions provide the user with lists of those who must be contacted by postal mail.

All committees and chapters can now have their web sites hosted by SABR. For example, Rocky Mtn SABR is now hosted at rockymtn.sabr.org instead of at www.rockymtnsabr.org, and the Rocky Mtn webmaster has direct authoring rights on their subweb.

Certain functional committees, such as the board, have

been provided with group email addresses.

Approximately \$5,000 of the \$30,000 funding was spent developing facilities in support of the research committees and regional chapters. This work represents significant new capability for the Society, principally in enhancing the ability of subgroups within SABR to communicate with each other under the SABR umbrella.

In 2003, work in this area will focus on bringing aboard websites and providing e-list, chat, and discussion forum integration, as monies, development time, and volunteer management time permit.

Membership Directory

The SABR online membership directory went live in mid-December. The online membership directory, in combination with material already on the SABR website, provides all the same information as was available in the printed version. In addition to providing the information in the printed version, the online version makes it possible to group members in combinations that aren't possible on paper. For example, the system would allow one to identify all members with expertise in statistics who live in the state of California, and then send an email to this list while receiving mailing addresses of those without email.

Approximately \$4,000 of the \$30,000 funding was spent developing the membership directory, although in truth by focusing on the membership system and then the committee support, much of the groundwork was done in advance.

In 2003, work in this area will focus on adding functionality to the expertise and member-to-member communications functions, and developing an automated routine for generation of a printed directory. We will create an online research request system; an online procedure for registering member web links; a deeper and more structured expertise system.

Online Bulletin

During the last part of the year, the office began placing all content ordinarily available in the bulletins online. The committee worked with the office to identify functions that can be automated, such as the SABR Bookshelf. In 2003, work in this area will involve automating several of the bulletin departments, such as the aforementioned research request system and a classified ad system.

External Operations

SABR-L

More than 7,000 messages from more than 650 individuals were posted in 2002.

Four moderators now share moderating duties. There

were no significant problems moderating the list this year. The IC will actively seek additional moderators this year, as our existing moderators have been on the job for three years. As this task now takes nearly an hour a day, the work of the moderators represents a considerable donation to SABR.

SABR Forums

SABR Forum software will be phased out in 2003 and replaced with a system that integrates with the SABR membership system and provides better facilities for committees and regions to engage in dialog.

HR Log and other data-driven products

An alpha test of the HR Log is now in progress with a beta test postponed to permit integration of the newly rationalized Lahman databases.

A variety of other data-driven products will be made available on the SABR website in 2003. Using the HR Log as the lead application will enable SABR to capitalize on its unusual demands (some access restrictions, daily updating, need for flexible querying) to create a suite of functions and a set of processes that will be directly applicable to other data products. In the same way that the membership system paved the way for MySABR which paved the way for committee management which paved the way for the online membership directory, the HR Log will pave the way for the Scouts, Collegiate, Pictorial History, Oral History, Umpires and other databases.

Of the 20,000 requested for 2003 development, the IC believes that approximately 7,500 of this will be expended on data-driven products.

Online research warehouse

The centerpiece and the final element of functionality that remains deliverable from the scope document approved by the board in May 2001 is the SABR Online Research Warehouse. Idealized as a way to digitize, cross index, and store SABRen output both past and future, the ORW has always been defined as a goal rather than as a specific technology. In 2003, we will define and implement the technology and take the first step in what will be a series of iterations toward this goal.

Work has already begun on surveying current content management system offerings. The IC believes that there are now candidate systems that are priced two orders of magnitude less than the prices for the same functionality offered in early 2001, when an initial survey was conducted.

Of the 20,000 requested for 2003 development, the IC believes that approximately 10,000 of this will be expended on the ORW. This would include instantiating a substantial amount of content in addition to providing the functionality described in the scope document.

F. X. Flinn, chair

Awards

SABR respects and values the contributions of individuals who have added to the historical record of the game. Every year, baseball writers and researchers add to our knowledge and understanding of baseball with quality scholarship in the form of books, articles, and a wide variety of other media. SABR presents four annual awards for specific research accomplishments among six annual awards, two discretionary awards, and SABR's oldest honor, The SABR Salute. The individuals and projects that follow are an example for current and future baseball researchers to follow as they expand our knowledge of baseball and achieve their own recognition for baseball scholarship.

Bob Davids Award (first awarded 1985)

The Bob Davids Award honors a SABR member of long standing (excepting current Executive Board members and paid member employees of SABR) who reflects the ingenuity, integrity, and self-sacrifice of the founder of SABR, and who makes a significant contribution to the Society in such areas as administrative responsibility, original research, information exchange, or other voluntary and cooperative efforts in the best interests of baseball.

Evelyn Begley was named the Bob Davids Award winner in 2002. Evelyn joined SABR in 1974. She was the 200th person to join the organization and only the third woman in SABR. Evelyn left the organization for a few years but she has been very active since her return. Recently, she has served on the Nominating and Convention Committees. As part of the latter committee, Evelyn helped institute the Poster Award here at the convention.

Evelyn is the editor of the Casey Stengel Chapter newsletter in New York City. She also serves as coordinator of the Baseball Book Authors Reading Group in New York. Most people who attend conventions know her as the Video Historian of SABR.

Evelyn personifies the concept that SABR is about people. This was especially true last February when SABRites gathered for Bob Davids' funeral. Evelyn's natural ability to relate to people helped lift everyone's spirits during that stressful time. She was a joy to watch.

Evelyn represents what is best about SABR: the grassroots organizing, the extensive chapter activities and the selfless service. Her self-effacing, humble and sincere personality fits so nicely with that of the founder.

The Seymour Medal (first awarded in 1996)

The Seymour Medal recognizes the author(s) of the best book of baseball history or biography first published during the preceding calendar year.

To be considered for the medal, a work must be the product of original research or analysis. The winning book shall significantly advance our knowledge of baseball and shall be characterized by understanding, factual accuracy, profound insight and distinguished writing.

"History", for the purposes of determining the eligibility of a book for Seymour Medal consideration, shall be understood as analytical nonfiction narrative. Among the kinds of works that do not meet the criteria are encyclopedias, novels, short story collections, statistical compilations, collections of documents, personal reminiscence, interviews, simple chronicles of events, edited works, and works by multiple authors (as distinguished from works by co-authors). "Biography" is the history of a person or persons. (November, 2001)

Single volumes of multi-volume works are eligible. Multi-volume works as a whole are also eligible if at least one of the volumes was published during the preceding calendar year and if the author has not received a medal for any of the works separately.

No more than one Seymour Medal shall be given each year. If, in the judgment of the award committee, a worthy candidate cannot be found, the medal shall not be awarded.

There is no limit to the number of times an individual may win the award, but it must be awarded each time for a wholly new work.

The winner of the Seymour Medal for books published in 2001 (chosen in 2002) is:

Early Baseball and the Rise of the National League by **Tom Melville** (McFarland)

Previous winners: *Past Time: Baseball as History* by **Jules Tygiel**, (Oxford University Press); *Baseball's Pivotal Era: 1945-1951* by **William Marshall**, (The University Press of Kentucky); *Baseball's Last Dynasty: Charlie Finley's Oakland A's* by **Bruce Markusen**, (Masters Press); *The Detroit Tigers: Club and Community, 1945-95* by **Patrick Harrigan**, (University of Toronto Press); *Honus Wagner, the Life of Baseball's "Flying Dutchman"* by **Arthur D. Hittner**, (McFarland); *Fleet Walker's Divided Heart*, by **David Zang**, (University of Nebraska Press).

The Sporting News-SABR Baseball Research Award (first awarded in 1995)

The Sporting News-SABR Baseball Research Award honors those individuals whose outstanding research projects completed during the preceding calendar year have significantly expanded our knowledge or understanding of baseball.

Eligible projects must be the product of original research or analysis and must significantly advance our knowledge of baseball. They must be characterized by factual accuracy and notable insight.

Eligible projects will include, but not necessarily be limited to, research in statistics, statistical analysis and statistical compilation, and research in such diverse areas as advertising, architecture, bibliography, collectibles, economics, equipment, labor relations, sociology and technology.

Research project may be of any length and, if published, may be published separately or as part of a larger work. Researchers honored for unpublished work may not later receive a SABR research award for that work (or work that is substantially the same) in published form.

In June 2002, the following were awarded The Sporting News-SABR Baseball Research Awards:

Jim Albert and Jay Bennett, *Curve Ball: Baseball, Statistics and the Role of Chance in the Game*

David Vincent, Lyle Spatz, and David W. Smith, *The Mid-Summer Classic*

Greg Rhodes and John Snyder, *Redleg Journal*

McFarland-SABR Baseball Research Award (awarded 1987-2000 as the Macmillan-SABR Baseball Research Award)

The McFarland-SABR Baseball Research Award honors the author(s) of the best articles or papers, published or unpublished, on baseball history or biography completed during the preceding calendar year.

Eligible works will include magazine and journal articles, previously unpublished chapters or articles in anthologies or other books with multiple authors, unpublished research papers and written versions of oral presentations. Authors honored for unpublished work may not later receive a SABR research award for that work (or work that is substantially the same) in published form.

There is no limit to the number of times an individual may win the award, but it must be awarded each time for a wholly new work.

In June 2002, the following were awarded McFarland-SABR Baseball Research Awards:

Bruce Markusen, *Thirty Years Ago...The First All-Black Lineup*

Robert H. Schaefer, *Legend of the Lively Ball*

Dick Thompson, *Baseball's Greatest Hero: Joe Pinder*

USA Today-Sports Weekly Award (first awarded in 1993; awarded 1990-92 as the John Cox Award)

USA Today-Sports Weekly honors the best research presentation at the annual National Convention with a cash prize and a matching amount donated to SABR. One winner will be selected at each convention, and finalists will be named at the discretion of the award committee.

At the June 2002 Convention in Boston, Tom Tippet was presented the Sports Weekly Award for *Using Lineup-dependent Expected Runs Analysis to Evaluate Strategies*. Michael Schell was awarded the sister prize for his poster presentation, "Identifying the Best Home Run Parks in Major League History."

SABR Hero of Baseball Award (first awarded 1996)

The SABR Hero of Baseball Award honors someone connected with organized baseball who has made a significant contribution to improving the lives of others, and in doing so has brought credit to the national pastime. The honoree may be a current or former player, manager, owner, executive or anyone else connected to baseball. The honoree must have distinguished himself/herself by remarkable achievements in base-

Youth



Members of the Clinton High School Chapter do research at the Hall of Fame. (photo by Richard Hunt)

SABR knows that its long-term future relies on the development of the baseball researchers of tomorrow and so it attempts to promote youth baseball research. On January 6, 2003, 32 SABR members were 18 years of age or younger, and another 88 were between 18 and 24 years of age. This figure is similar to the same point in the past three years.

One way it has done this is to have a high school chapter. The most successful SABR high school chapter is run by Richard Hunt at Clinton High School in Clinton, New York. Each year, the group does research which culminates in a product such as a baseball calendar. SABR donates up to \$250 in cash to support these efforts and provides each student with SABR publications for that year. The library at the high school also has a complete run of SABR publications.

SABR's Award Program also recognizes the best in youth baseball research with The Lee Allen Award and The Jack Kavanagh Memorial Youth Baseball Research Award.

SABR-Lee Allen Award (first awarded in 1996; named for Lee Allen in 1997)

The SABR-Lee Allen Award, named in honor of the late baseball historian, Lee Allen, honors the best baseball research project at the National History Day competition.

Winners of the Lee Allen History of Baseball Award include:

- **2002** *Free Agency Revolutionizes the Business of Baseball*, **Steve Mason and Kevin Rowe** of Grand Rapids, MI.
- **2001** Exhibit of *Jackie Robinson Integrates Baseball*, **Philip Beck**, WI.
- **2000** *Turning Points in Baseball History: Branch Rickey Hires Jackie Robinson* by **James McMahon** of Windsor, Connecticut
- **1999** no award given
- **1998** *Baseball's Migration to Latin America* by **Nicholas Condon** of Stamford, Connecticut
- **1997** *Baseball's Hidden Half* by **Carl Leivers** and **Marcus Kret** of Colorado Springs, Colorado.
- **1996** *Curt Flood: Man Against the System* by **Alex Giannini, Ethan Schwart, Lane DeSimone** and **Brian Krost** from Stanford, Connecticut

The Jack Kavanagh Memorial Youth Baseball Research Award (first awarded 2000)

The Jack Kavanagh Memorial Youth Baseball Research Award may be presented each year to a researcher under age 21, for either (a) a research presentation given at the SABR national convention (papers must accompany any oral presentation), or (b) a research paper submitted to the award committee between the end of the SABR national convention and June 1 of the following year.

Winners of the Jack Kavanagh Memorial Youth Baseball Research Award include:

- 2002:** Aaron Feldman, East Brunswick, New Jersey
 - *Baseball's Transition to Professionalism*
- 2001:** Christopher Devine, Norwalk, Connecticut
 - *Harry Wright: Was He the Most Important Baseball Figure of the 19th Century?*
 - *The Hall of Fame Induction Speech Harry Wright Never Gave*
- 2000:** Barrie Ribbet, Flossmoor, Illinois.
 - *The Baseball War, 1900-1915: The Cubs, White Sox and their Fight for Survival and Supremacy*

Finances

Society for American Baseball Research, Inc. Statement of Financial Position December 31, 2002

ASSETS	Unrestricted	Restricted	Total
Current Assets			
Cash and Temporary Investments	\$ 383,409	\$ 2,400	\$ 385,809
Interest Receivable	125		125
Accounts Receivable	1982		
Prepaid Expenses	7828		7828
Publications Inventory (Note 1)	9150		9150
<i>Total Current Assets</i>	402494	2400	404894
Property and Equipment			
Fixed Assets	38500		38500
Accumulated Depreciation	(31,836)		(31,836)
<i>Net Property and Equipment</i>	6664		6664
Other Assets			
Investments	15892	6530	22422
Research Collections	21451		21451
Microfilm Lending Library	3268		3268
Trademark	1650		1650
Deposits	857		857
<i>Total Other Assets</i>	43118	6530	49648
	\$ 452,276	\$ 8,930	\$ 461,206
LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS			
Current Liabilities			
Accounts Payable (Note 1)	\$ 53,750		\$ 53,750
Deferred Membership Dues (Note 1)	186441		186441
Deferred Revenue	6728		6728
<i>Total Current Liabilities</i>	246919		246919
Long-term Liabilities			
Deferred Membership Dues (Note 1)	42096		42096
			0
<i>Net Assets</i>	\$ 163,261	\$ 8,930	\$ 172,191
	\$ 452,276	\$ 8,930	\$ 461,206

Note 1

ORGANIZATION AND SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES AND ORGANIZATION -- The Society for American Baseball Research, Inc.

The Society is a not-for-profit membership organization exempt from income tax under section 501 (c) (3) of the US Internal Revenue Code. The Society was formed to cultivate, promote, and disseminate baseball research.

TEMPORARY CASH INVESTMENTS -- The temporary cash investments consist of certificates of deposit of \$27,128 carried at cost, which approximates market and \$261,264 in money market accounts.

PUBLICATIONS INVENTORY -- Prior to 2002 Publications Inventory was carried at cost determined at time of publication. The Board decided to value back Publications at Fair Market Value beginning in 2002. The more realistic value of the existing inventory has resulted in a decreased value of \$80,074.

EQUIPMENT -- Equipment is stated at cost. Depreciation is computed using straight-line method over the estimated useful lives of the assets.

RESEARCH COLLECTION -- The organization has capitalized its collection since inception. If purchased, items accessioned into the collection are capitalized at cost, and if donated, they are capitalized at their appraised or fair value on the accession date. Gains or losses of collection items are classified on the statement of activities as unrestricted or temporarily restricted support, depending on donor restrictions, if any placed on the item at the time of accession.

BASIS OF REVENUE RECOGNITION -- Membership dues are billed in the last quarter of the year for the following year. Dues collected prior to year-end are recorded as deferred revenue and then recognized as income in the following year. Publications sales, research service fees, lending library fees, and advertising and label sales are recorded at time of sale. Awards, donations, convention revenue, and royalties are recorded at time of receipt.

Society for American Baseball Research, Inc. Schedule of Functional Expenses December 31, 2002

	Program Services	Fundraising	Management	Total
Publication Expenses	\$ 125,442			\$ 125,442
Salaries, Benefits and Payroll Taxes			\$ 98,592	\$ 98,592
Rent and Utilities			\$ 13,551	\$ 13,551
Regional Groups	\$ 5,111			\$ 5,111
Committees	\$ 12,959			\$ 12,959
Operating Expenses			\$ 73,037	\$ 73,037
Advertising and Promotional		\$ 3,851		\$ 3,851
Board Expenses			\$ 13,385	\$ 13,385
<i>Total Functional Expenses</i>	\$ 143,512	\$ 3,851	\$ 198,565	\$ 345,928

Complete financial statements are available upon request from the SABR office, 812 Huron Rd E #719, Cleveland OH 44115. The 2002 Year End compilation report was prepared by Thomas Collier, CPA.

Donors

SABR began an annual campaign to solicit donations from members during the renewal drive in the 1993-94 renewal drive. That first campaign raised just over \$5,000. Every year since then, SABR members have become more generous, with the most recent drive raising over \$30,000. This past drive also had the highest participation in SABR history with over 11.2% of all members contributing to SABR beyond their dues.

The lists below recognize those members who have made the greatest donation to SABR in the period of January 1, 2002 to May 2003. The lengthier list on the following pages lists all other donors, arranged by the year they joined SABR.

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1972

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1973

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GM James Herre
Ted DiTullio
John Kelly
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1974

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1975

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1977

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John Ginder
Stephanie Grober
John Harris
Donald Harrop
Helen Harte
Lou Hernandez
Joanne Hulbert
Martin Jatlow
Bill Kelly
Thomas Lee
Richard LeTarte
Lawrence Levine
Craig London
Richard Mandat
Erin Moore
Ralph Noistering
Tim Olsen
Cynthia Palmer
George Platt
Mike Radan
Colin Reynolds
John Rumierz
Dave Stewart
Maynard Bert Thiel
M. Thomas
Peter Whyte

John Wintermute
Tony Woodside
Miller Young

2002

Randy Aliff
Jim Baker
Lou Barberini
Nan Bartlett
Thomas Caestecker
Matt Chew
Joseph Ciaramataro
Robert Craig
Howard Danzig
Mike Dean
Daniel Desrochers
Tom Ford
Roy Gedat
Ron Gertz
James Hughes
James Kelly
Warren Klein
Ira Levinton
Thomas Love
Adrian Marcewicz
Virgil Nipper
Tod Parrott
H.W. Pease
Jeff Pett
Elizabeth Schlappi
George Stewart

Thank you to all supporters of SABR



At the 2002 National Convention, 712 members and guests attended, making it the largest gathering of SABR members ever. Over 500 took in a game at venerable Fenway Park. (photo by John Zajc)

Regional Development Committee Report

There has been activity or at least interest expressed in several new potential chapters. Mel Poplock and Jack Zerby have been organizing meetings in southwest Florida and are distinct from the existing Auker-Seminick Chapter in central Florida as well as the South Florida Chapter, which is attempting to regenerate activity in the Miami area. The Southwest Florida group has approximately 100 members on its electronic mailing list and has had several meetings with guests that include residents of the Naples-Fort Myers area as well as snowbirds during the winter. Their regular meeting attendees include Dorothy Mills Seymour and Hank Greenwald. Their speakers have been play-by-play announcer Joe Castiglione, former scout Joe DeLuca, and former pitcher Ike Delock. They have three meetings scheduled for their next season (January to April) when baseball activity and snowbirds are at their height in that region.

In South Florida, Lyle Spatz recently met with Ralph Maya and Sean Holtz. They will be doing a mail survey to help identify their membership and gauge their level of commitment. Lyle says both Ralph and Sean are anxious to make the South Florida Chapter a viable one.

There has been new activity in New Mexico although Ron Toya says they are still part of the Rocky Mountain Chapter, not an independent chapter. This will remain at least until someone in the Albuquerque area is willing and able to devote more time to chapter activities.

A new member named Evan Crane has expressed interest in starting a SABR chapter in the Buffalo, New York, area. Both Maxwell Kates in Toronto and the leaders of the Leatherstocking Chapter around Cooperstown have indicated a willingness to help the new chapter. Evan had planned on attending a chapter meeting in Toronto, but he ended up not going. About seven people responded to a letter inquiring about their interest. That's not enough to generate much activity, but they have decided upon a name: The Luke Easter Chapter.

Meanwhile, Dana Marshall, who joined SABR when he lived in Minnesota, has been attending meetings of the Allan Roth Chapter in Los Angeles and is interested in starting a chapter in Las Vegas. To date, however, nothing has happened with that.

I'm now making plans for the Regional Leaders Seminar at the SABR convention in Denver. I would like F. X. Flinn or someone from the Internet Committee to demonstrate our web site's functionality for chapter leaders. We did this last year, and I think it's worth repeating, both to reinforce and expand on what was done before as well as to reach leaders who didn't attend last year's seminar. I'd like to have David Paulson talk about book groups that some chapters have. Rod Nelson has said that author Andrew Zimbalist is interested in putting together a national network of book groups with Barnes & Noble and would be willing to address the Regional Leaders on this topic. I'd also like to have someone talk on starting a chapter. This might be Lyle or one of the other people from the South Florida Chapter. I don't want to have more than three topics, because I want to leave a lot of time (at least 45 minutes) for general discussion and questions. Last year's Regional Leaders Seminar had a lot of good topics but didn't leave any time for general discussion.

Looking down the road, I would like to amend the policy manual concerning chapters to deal with specific information on reporting requirements. The proposed by-law revisions include this statement: "Chapters shall annually submit financial information to the Board of Directors in a manner prescribed by the Board of Directors." If the revised by-laws are adopted, we should then provide specific details about what will be required. This has been a point of contention with a few members, but we shouldn't let that deter us in moving forward with it. Also, I would like the issue of who chairs the annual Regional Leaders Seminar to be codified in some way. I mentioned this in an earlier report, but I believe that, when there is a changeover in the chair, the seminar should be chaired by the incoming chair, regardless of when the seminar is held in relation to the annual business meeting (where the change in officers officially takes place). Also, we should review the language and make any changes necessary to reflect that the word "chapter" will be used instead of "regional" in some instances, such as Chapter Development Committee.

Stew Thornley
June 2003

In the Spring of 2003, SABR members were asked to approve a new set of by-laws which would completely replace the following..

SABR Constitution and By-Laws

Article I - Name

A. The organization shall be known as Society for American Baseball Research, Inc., and shall hereinafter be referred to as the Society.

B. Society for American Baseball Research, Inc. is a not for profit organization incorporated in and organized under the laws of the State of Illinois.

Article II - Objectives

A. To foster the study of baseball as a significant American institution.

B. To establish an accurate historical account of baseball through the years.

C. To facilitate the dissemination of baseball research information.

D. To stimulate the best interest of baseball as our national pastime.

E. To cooperate in safeguarding proprietary interests of individual research efforts of members of the Society.

Article III - Membership

A. Membership shall be open to those who have an interest in baseball research, statistics or history.

B. Members shall be accorded all privileges to which membership shall normally entitle them, including bulletins, annual publications, and any other benefits the Society shall obtain or provide.

C. Any member who fails to abide by the objectives or any other provision of the constitution shall be subject to expulsion by action of the executive board or by a majority of those voting at the annual meeting. Any member expelled by the executive board or by a majority of those voting at the annual business meeting shall be ineligible to rejoin the Society for three years following his expulsion, unless the executive board approves earlier readmission. Members shall receive thirty days advance notice of such proposed action.

D. A member's resignation takes effect immediately upon receipt of the resignation in writing and verification by the SABR Executive Director.

Article IV - Finances

A. Dues shall be determined by majority vote of the Executive Board. Date of payment shall be stated in the by-laws. The amount of postal surcharge for non-United States members shall be set by the Executive Board.

B. All moneys received by the Society shall go di-

rectly into the Society's treasury and shall be used to defray the cost of the annual publications, bulletins, membership directory, and other expenses of the Society that are approved by the Executive Board.

Article V - Officers and Committees

A. The officers shall include a president, a vice-president, a secretary, and a treasurer.

B. Election of officers shall be by a plurality of votes cast by mail ballot and other methods deemed to be acceptable by the board.

C. An executive director shall be chosen by the Society's executive board and employed by the Society under such terms and for such a period of time as are mutually agreeable.

D. In addition to the aforementioned officers there shall be four directors to provide functional continuity for the Society on administrative policy. These four members shall serve staggered terms, and shall be elected by a plurality of the votes cast by mail ballot.

E. The officers and directors shall constitute the Society's executive board which shall be responsible for handling any business which cannot be transacted at the annual meeting.

F. Removal of officers and directors and the filling of vacancies shall be stated in the by-laws.

G. Officers and directors of the Society shall be ineligible for employment in or with the Society within one year of completion of their term of office.

Article VI - By-Laws

A. The Society may adopt by-laws to carry out the operations of the Society and these original by-laws shall be ratified by the affirmative vote of two-thirds of those eligible to vote. Further by-law changes may be made by a process set forth in the by-laws.

Article VII - Meetings

A. There shall be an annual meeting, the date and site of which will be selected by the executive board. The meeting shall not be held in the same city in successive years.

B. The membership shall receive a treasurer's report and reports from all committees, and conduct any other business which may come before it at the annual meeting.

Article VIII - Amendments

A. The Constitution and By-Laws may be amended by a two-thirds vote of the members voting by a 30-day mail ballot. Amendments may be proposed by the executive board of its own initiative, or on the petition of any 25

members addressed to the board. All such proposed amendments shall be presented by the board to the membership, with or without recommendation, at the time of election of officers and directors. Total Constitution/By-Laws revision may be presented in a special mailing. At least 100 valid ballots must be returned to constitute a valid action.

Article IX - Parliamentary Procedures

The proceedings of the Society's annual meeting and all executive board meetings shall be governed and conducted according to the latest edition of Robert's Rules of Order.

Article X- Dissolution

A. If the Society should ever be compelled to dissolve, all obligations and liabilities shall be satisfied. The remaining assets, if any, shall be distributed in accordance with the Society's Articles of Incorporation as amended.

BY-LAWS

Article 1 - Membership

A. One may become a member of the Society by payment of dues and by submitting a completed application form.

B. The membership year shall begin on January 1 of the calendar year.

C. A member's dues must be paid by April 1 to remain in good standing.

Article 2

Article 2 was repealed at the Annual Business Meeting of July 29, 1990

Article 3 - Officers and Functions

A. President

1. Shall preside over the annual meeting;

2. Shall serve as chairman of the executive board;

3. May establish ad hoc committees and appoint the chairperson.

4. Shall carry out the directives of the membership and the executive board;

5. Shall work with the executive director in public relations matters;

6. Shall be elected in odd-numbered years for a term of two years and may serve one additional consecutive term if re-elected.

7. Must have been a member of the Society continuously for four years prior to taking office.

8. Shall be empowered to sign contracts and letters of agreement subject to prior approval of the executive board. The President may delegate signatory power, as appropriate.

B. Vice-President

1. Shall assume all duties of the president in the absence of the president or in the event that the president is unable to accept or perform his or her responsibilities and duties.

2. Shall serve as chairperson of the Regional Development Committee and submit a report annually.

3. Shall be elected in even numbered years for a term of two years and may serve one additional consecutive term if reelected.

4. Must have been a member of the Society continuously for four years prior to taking office.

C. Secretary

1. Shall take minutes at the annual meeting and at all executive board meetings and distribute same promptly to all executive board members;

2. Shall be elected in even-numbered years for a term of four years and may serve one additional term if re-elected.

3. Must have been a member of the Society continuously for four years prior to taking office.

4. Shall maintain and record all changes in and of the policy manual.

5. Shall be responsible for the use and maintenance of corporate files and records either directly or by supervisory authority at the discretion of the executive board.

D. Treasurer

1. Shall monitor the preparation of the Society's annual budget and the reporting of financial status against budget and submit recommendations regarding same to the executive board.

2. Shall prepare and submit expense reports regarding executive board meetings;

3. Shall be elected in odd-numbered years for a term of four years and may serve one additional term if re-elected.

4. Must have been a member of the Society continuously for four years prior to taking office.

E. Executive Director

1. Shall be the Society's chief administrative officer;

2. Shall carry out the directives and policies of the executive board.

3. Shall supervise the Society's fiscal operations and submit quarterly and annual financial reports to the executive board;

4. Shall submit an annual budget and periodic lists of recommended projects to the executive board,

5. Shall work with the president for public relations

and the vice president for regional development.

6. Shall serve as editor of such publications as determined by the executive board.

7. Shall be a non-voting member of all standing committees and receive reports from all committees.

8. Shall be empowered to sign contracts and letters of agreement not to exceed \$5,000 for routine administrative expenditures, without prior approval by the Board.

F. Directors

1. Must have been a member of the Society continuously for four years prior to taking office.

2. Shall serve a four year term.

3. Shall serve on the executive board.

G. Executive Board

1. Shall advise and direct the executive director.

2. Shall determine policies.

3. Shall approve all contracts and letters of agreement prior to signing *except those covered in Section E-8*.

4. Shall appoint the chairpersons of all standing and research committees except the Nominating Committee.

5. Shall meet at the annual meeting and at least one other time between annual meetings.

6. May establish new research committees in accordance with the bylaws.

7. No member of the executive board may serve more than two successive full or partial terms in the same elective position, or more than eight (8) successive years.

8. No one person may fill two positions on the Board simultaneously.

9. All decisions of the executive board shall be made by majority votes except where specified otherwise in this document.

I. Vacancies

1. If a vacancy occurs on the executive board for any reason other than a recall by two-thirds vote at the Annual Business Meeting, the vacancy shall be filled by two-thirds vote of the remaining members of the board until next election, at which time the members shall elect a replacement for the unexpired term. If a vacancy is created by a two-thirds vote of recall at the Annual Business Meeting, the vacancy shall be filled by a majority vote at the Annual Meeting until the next election, at which time the members shall elect a replacement for the unexpired term. The replacement officers and/or directors may serve a successive term.

J. Removal of Officers

1. An officer or director for reasons of cause (such as medical incapacity or gross improprieties) may be judged by the Executive board unsuitable for service to the Society. The Executive Board by unanimous vote (excluding the officer in dispute, who may not cast a vote) may remove an elected officer or director from service. Officers and directors also may be removed by two-thirds vote of the membership at the Annual Business Meeting. The Board shall notify the officer or director in question 30 days prior to the meeting and shall provide for a reasonable opportunity for defense. The vacancy created by the removal of an officer or director shall be filled according to section 3.I.1 of the by-laws.

Article 4 - Quorums

A. Fifty (50) members shall constitute a quorum for an annual business meeting.

B. A majority of the executive board membership shall constitute a quorum for an executive board meeting.

Article 5 - Committees

A. Nominating Committee

1. Shall consist of three members as follows: The president shall appoint the chairperson and the executive board shall appoint two members.

2. All members must have been a member of the Society for the preceding four years before being eligible for appointment.

3. The Committee may solicit nominations, but not to review candidates' qualifications beyond ensuring they meet the constitutional criteria to serve.

4. While serving, members of this committee shall themselves be ineligible for nomination to any office in the Society.

5. Members shall be appointed within 30 days following the annual meeting and shall serve for a term of one year.

B. - Auditing Committee

1. The executive board or its representative shall appoint the chairperson and up to two additional members.

2. Shall audit and validate the expense reports of the executive board and report on same to the membership at the annual meeting.

3. Shall examine the annual financial report of the Society's accountant and report on same to the membership at the annual meeting.

C. - Tellers Committee

1. Shall be appointed by the executive board and shall consist of a chairperson and two additional members.

2. Shall receive, validate, open, and tally all ballots cast in accordance with the policy manual.

3. The tabulation of the ballots shall constitute a certified election.

D. - Regional Development Committee

1. Shall be chaired by the vice president and shall consist of such additional members as are approved by the executive board.

2. Shall serve to foster and aid the growth of local and regional groups.

3. Shall actively seek to encourage the establishment of additional local and regional groups.

E. - Convention Committee

1. Shall consist of a chairman and four other members. The chairman and three other members shall be appointed by the Board with the fifth member to be appointed by the vote of the other four members. No more than three members of the committee may be members of the Executive Board.

2. Shall propose sites for SABR Conventions

3. Shall be responsible for choice of convention facilities.

4. Shall be responsible for choosing a Program Coordinator for each convention.

5. Shall be responsible for any publications produced for each convention.

Article 6 - Research Committees

A. Shall be established by the executive board.

B. Shall upon establishment have a stated purpose and a set of goals in conjunction with the objectives set forth in Article II of the Constitution.

C. Shall submit a written report to the executive director annually and informally upon request.

D. The executive board shall have the power to dissolve any research committee in accordance with the policy manual.

Article 7 - AD HOC Committees

A. The President may appoint and disband ad hoc committees as needed.

B. These committees shall serve for a finite period of time and be established only to perform specific tasks for the Society.

Article 8 - Elections

1. "Campaigning" includes any statement indicating support for, or opposition to, a specific candidate for SABR office. "Electioneering" includes any statement supporting or opposing a group of candidates or officehold-

ers, whether or not these individuals are identified by name.

2. SABR stationery, committee newsletters, and regional newsletters may not be used for any campaigning or electioneering material. The SABR Bulletin may not contain any campaign or electioneering material other than the candidates' statements. No campaign material may be mailed at SABR expense, nor transmitted on SABR-L, or other SABR-sponsored electronic media.

3. SABR's salaried employees and members of the Tellers and Nominating Committees may not engage in campaigning for or against any candidates or issues appearing on the ballot.

4. None of the foregoing limits or prohibits any other SABR members from supporting or opposing candidates or issues individually and at their own expense.

5. Any individual, candidate or not, who violates these rules, shall be subject to disciplinary action, sanctioned by the Board, up to and including expulsion from the Society.

6. Election of officers shall be by a plurality of votes cast by mail ballot and other methods deemed to be acceptable by the board.

EFFECTIVE DATE OF REVISED CONSTITUTION AND BYLAWS: June 27, 2002

SABR Executive Board, 2002

<u>President:</u>	Claudia Perry, 108 Mercer St #1, Jersey City NJ 07302-3511
<u>VP:</u>	Stew Thornley, 1082 Lovell Ave, Roseville MN 55113
<u>Secretary:</u>	Neal Traven, 4317 Dayton Ave N #201, Seattle WA 98103
<u>Treasurer:</u>	F. X. Flinn, 586 Fairbanks Turn, Quechee VT 05059-1350
<u>Directors:</u>	Dan Ginsburg, PO Box 1151, Calistoga CA 94515-1151
	Rodney Johnson, 239 E. Chilton Dr, Tempe AZ 85283
	Norman Macht, 226 S Washington St, Easton MD 21601
	Andy McCue, 4025 Beechwood Pl, Riverside CA 92506

SABR's Executive Board is an all-volunteer board. Elections are held each Spring, with the winners taking office after the Annual Business Meeting.

History of SABR Officers

<u>Year</u>	<u>President</u>	<u>V. Pres</u>	<u>Secretary</u>	<u>Treasurer</u>	<u>Board of Directors</u>			
1971	Davids	Pardon		McConnell				
1972	Menchine	P. Frisz		Grosshandler				
1973	R. Allen	Simenic		Grosshandler				
1974	D. Voigt	Cramer	Shlensky	Simonsen	Davids	Grosshandler	McConnell	Kachline
1975	Davids	E. Rothe	Linthurst	Gonzalez	Cramer	Grosshandler	McConnell	Kachline
1976	Murdock	Grosshandler	Hufford	Gonzalez	Cramer	Davids	McConnell	Kachline
1977	Murdock	Grosshandler	Zocco	R. Burt	Cramer	Davids	McConnell	Grosshandler
1978	Kachline	Schott	Hoie	R. Burt	Cramer	Davids	McConnell	Grosshandler
1979	Kachline	Gustafson	Hoie	Phelps	Pardon	Davids	McConnell	Grosshandler
1980	Crissey	Gregory	Luse	Phelps	Pardon	Kachline	McConnell	Grosshandler
1981	Crissey	Gregory	Luse	Soderman	Pardon	Kachline	Phelps	Grosshandler
1982	Davids	T. Evans	Humber	Hugo	Pardon	Kachline	Phelps	McConnell
1983	Davids	Gagnon	Pardon	Hugo	Simonsen	Jozwik	Phelps	McConnell
1984	Gagnon	McCormack	Pardon	McGillen	Simonsen	Jozwik	Phelps	McConnell
1985	Gagnon	T. Smith	Salisbury	McGillen	Luse	Jozwik	Pardon	McConnell
1986	Sunnen	T. Smith	Salisbury	Gagnon	Luse	Jozwik	Pardon	Daniels, M
1987	Sunnen	Salisbury	Lowry	McAfee	Gagnon	Jozwik	Pardon	Daniels, M
1988	Sunnen	Salisbury	Levin	McAfee	Gagnon	Carle	Pardon	Daniels, M
1989	Topp	Gabriel	Levin	McAfee	Gagnon	Carle	Puff	Daniels, M
1990	Topp	Gabriel	Perry	Ruland	Gagnon	Carle	Puff	Rucker
1991	Johnson	Kavanagh	Perry	Ruland	Gerlach	Carle	Puff	Rucker
1992	Johnson	Kavanagh	Ruland	Macht	Gerlach	Ivor-Campbell	Puff	Rucker
1993	Pietrusza	Perry	Ruland	Macht	Gerlach	Ivor-Campbell	Vincent	Rucker
1994	Pietrusza	Perry	Ruland	Macht	Gerlach	Ivor-Campbell	Vincent	Salamon
1995	Pietrusza	Beverage	Ruland	Andresen	Gerlach	Ivor-Campbell	Vincent	Salamon
1996	Pietrusza	Beverage	Macht	Andresen	Gerlach	Riley	Vincent	Salamon
1997	Gerlach	Beverage	Pietrusza	Andresen	Gietschier	Riley	Shieber	Salamon
1998	Gerlach	Ivor-Campbell	Beverage	Andresen	Gietschier	Riley	Shieber	Nicholson
1999	Riley	Ivor-Campbell	Beverage	Levin	Macht	Johnson, R	Shieber	Nicholson
2000	Riley	Ivor-Campbell	Beverage	Levin	Macht	Johnson, R	Shieber	Nicholson
2001	Perry	Ivor-Campbell	Beverage	Flinn	Macht	Johnson, R	Rothgerber	Nicholson
2002	Perry	Thornley	Traven	Flinn	Macht	Johnson, R	Ginsburg	McCue

History

The Society for American Baseball Research has come a long way since 16 individuals met around two tables at the National Baseball Library in Cooperstown, New York, on August 10, 1971. SABR has grown to over 6,700 members and added research committees, regional groups, and a variety of other membership services.

Once “SABR Who?” was a familiar question. Today, nearly all baseball publications make some reference to SABR or SABR members. Professional baseball executives and media are well aware of the collective expertise and talents of SABR members. Slowly but surely more and more general baseball fans are learning about SABR.

SABR is the brainchild of L. Robert “Bob” Davids of Washington DC. For many years, starting in 1951, he contributed free-lance articles to *The Sporting News*. When *The Sporting News* discontinued statistical-history types of articles in the mid-1960s, Davids sought another outlet for his avocations and launched a four-page newsletter, “Baseball Briefs.” The initial response to the publication spawned the idea of forming an organization of researchers, and in March 1971, he sent letters to approximately 40 “statisticians” around the country asking for expression of interest in forming a research group.

The 16 willing and able to meet in Cooperstown formulated the Society’s objectives, its name and acronym. The essential constitutional objectives of SABR are to foster the study of baseball, stimulate interest in baseball, establish an accurate historical account of baseball and disseminate baseball information.

In addition to Davids (who passed away in February of 2002), the original members included Dan Dischley, Paul Frisz (deceased), Dan Ginsburg, Raymond Gonzalez, William Gustafson, William Haber (deceased), Tom Hufford, Cliff Kachline, Bob McConnell, Pat McDonough (deceased), Raymond Nemec, John Pardon, Thomas Shea (deceased), Joseph Simenic, and Keith Sutton (deceased).



Participants at SABR’s first meeting on August 10, 1971 at the National Baseball Library in Cooperstown, New York. Back row (left to right): Neil Campbell, Bill Haber, Keith Sutton, Dan Dischley, Dan Ginsburg, Tom Hufford, Ray Nemec. Front row (left to right): Cliff Kachline, Ray Gonzalez, Bill Gustafson, Joe Simenic, Paul Frisz, Tom Shea, Bob McConnell, John Pardon, Bob Davids. Campbell, almost hidden behind Kachline, was a visitor at the meeting. Pat McDonough is the only founding SABR member not pictured.