

Halsey Hall Chapter SABR

Board Minutes

December 8, 2002

at the home of Bob Tholkes, 5 p.m.

present: board members Bob Tholkes, Rich Arpi, Jim Wyman, Dean Thilgen, and Fred Buckland.

absent: board members Dan Cagley and Cary Smith.

Also present: Howard Luloff (events chair) and Stew Thornley (newsletter editor)

Treasurer's Report: Rich reported that there is \$ 829 in the treasury. With a recent donation from Bob Evans (\$ 200), the treasury is really a healthy \$ 1029.

Holy Cow Newsletter: With Stew Thornley not seeking re-nomination to the post of newsletter editor for 2003, Rich Arpi offered to tackle the job. It was motioned that Rich be assigned the editorship for one year, starting with the January 2003 issue, motion passed, and accepted by Rich. Since Stew's name is still on the membership fliers he will refer any new memberships he may get to Rich. Stew, in concert with Dean, will still maintain the electronic membership list for the time being. Rich will contact John Zajc, at the national office and change the chapter's contact in national publications, from Stew to Rich. There was some discussion of national newsletters going completely electronic in the next 8 to 10 years, and that sometime the local chapter should seriously consider switching over to an electronic newsletter, and

thus printing only issues for those without computer access.

Holy Cow Extra: Bob Tholkes, contacted David Wee, a professor at St. Olaf and a recent chapter SABR member, who has taught a baseball history in american culture course for several years about several of his students contributing articles to the next issue of the Holy Cow Extra. Apparently at least 10 students are interested in submitting an article. Bob hopes this issue will be ready for mailing by the end of January.

Chapter Breakfast: Will be moved to the first Saturday of the odd numbered months. The exception will be those months with holidays (or other conflicts) on that first weekend; in those cases the breakfast will move to the second Saturday of the month. There was general satisfaction with keeping the breakfast at its current location at Baker's Square at 66th and Xerxes in Minneapolis.

Chapter Bookclub: In order to not compete with the breakfast, the bookclub will meet on the first Saturday of the even numbered months. Exception being Feb. 2003 when Twins Fest will be held on the first weekend of the month. Bookclub will next meet on Feb. 8th 2003.

On Deck Circle: With the departure of Ray Luurs, it looks like any resurrection of the cable television show will not occur in the near future.

Vintage Base Ball Report: Bob mentioned the Quicksteps had a 2003 planning meeting in October and the team has three new members for next year (Dean Thilgen, John Bonnes, and Josh Reyer?) who will take the place of Ray and Geoff Luurs and Eric Reinkikka. One event, Murphy's Landing on June 28th and June 29th is set. Dean discussed the uncertain future of the St. Croix

team and their relationship with the Washington County Historical Society. Possibly the St. Croix will spin off from the County Historical Society and be completely independent. Since there are Halsey Chapter members on both teams, each team could say, "Sponsored by the Halsey Hall Chapter of SABR," for whatever that is worth.

Twins Fest: The Twins have announced that Twins Fest will be on the weekend of Jan. 31 - Feb. 2 at the Metrodome. The Chapter will again obtain a booth and have publications for perusal and membership fliers available. Stew will bring both display boards as in the past. Members who would like to staff the booth should contact Rich Arpi.

Hot Stove Meeting: Howard announced this meeting is set for Saturday night, January 25th, 7:00 p.m. at Kevin Hennessy's home at 608 Grand Avenue in St. Paul. Chapter will reimburse Kevin for any expenses he incurs.

Spring Regional: Set for May 10th at the Minnesota Historical Society where members can view the recently opened Baseball exhibit (public opening on March 22). The room is free, due to sponsorship arranged by Dean Thilgen with the Local History Office at MHS. Members can buy their own lunch at Cafe Minnesota and will have to pay for parking, if they want to use the MHS lot. Members will also have a behind the scenes tour of the museum collections department and a viewing of baseball items (items not in exhibit) will be obtained. Dean mentioned that some of the St. Croix team will be in uniform on the public opening on March 22 to answer questions. Howard mentioned the possibility of getting the new Red Sox general manager, Theo Epstein, as a guest. Another name mentioned was Johnny Pesky. Howard will look into both possibilities. Dean will look into the coffee situation, for the morning; whether members will be allowed to

bring in their own coffee and doughnuts or if all items will have to go through Cafe Minnesota. Howard will contact Rob Malec of the Twins about tickets for the game that night. Fred mentioned the possibility of a presentation by a friend of his, Tim Wolter, who recently wrote a book about baseball in POW camps during World War II. Jim Wyman has already offered to give a presentation.

Website: Dean mentioned his plans for the chapter website as being a place where one could find information on Minnesota baseball history (19th century articles, especially). How the chapters site will interact with the national SABR site, still has to be explored. Links to some of Stew's articles on his web page should be a part of the web-site at least. Bob mentioned recent research has unearthed that Elmer Foster was not the first Minnesota major leaguer (the Elmer Foster in question was really a Robert Foster). So Joe Visner is the first Minnesota major leaguer.

Chapter leadership: Fred Buckland was elected president to fill the term of the departed Ray Luurs. Bob Tholkes was then elected to fill the term of vice-president, left vacant by Fred Buckland.

Next board meeting: February 8 at Bob Tholkes' at 5 p.m.