

Halsey Hall Research Committee

April 15, 2024 Meeting Minutes

Attendees (12): Stew T, Dave L, Ed E, Rich A, Gene G, Bob K, Glenn R, John B, Terry B, Brenda H, Darryl S, Doug S

1. Pre-meeting discussion: The Frozen Four is in town at the Xcel. Gene and Stew mentioned April 15 as Hiram Bithorn Day as well as Jackie Robinson Day.
2. Meeting opened at 7:07 p.m. Dave moved to approve the March meeting minutes. John seconded the motion. The minutes were unanimously approved.
3. Five-Chapter Zoom Event: "AL Central Season Preview": March 28
 - a. Gene and John Buckeye presented the Minnesota Twins preview: Twins win division, but not 87 games.
 - b. About 10 from the Halsey Hall Chapter attended. 47 total.
 - c. John Bonnes and the *Twins Daily* group gathered for a game watch Opening Day.
4. Chapter Program Event: April 17, 6:00-7:30 pm at Roseville Library: "The 100th Anniversary of the 1924 Washington Senators World Series Championship" Open to the Public
 - a. Stew will bring his laptop.
 - b. Speaker sequence will be Stew, Dave and Matt Hodson from the Twins.
 - c. A variety of door prizes will be awarded. Tickets will be given out for the drawing for door prizes. Glenn, Stew, Dave, Gene and the Twins will provide door prizes.
 - d. Stew will bring several boxes of books to give away.
 - e. The Library has a projector and sound system.
 - f. Applications for SABR membership will be provided.
5. Spring Chapter Meeting: May 18
 - a. Stew will send a notice to all of the presenters.
 - b. Either Rich or Art has the "Mr. Microphone".
 - c. Rich has proposed a presentation entitled "Researching the Western League, 1894-1899, 1901". The last presentation slot is being held for a first-time presenter. Dave proposed that should a first-time presenter not come forward, the chapter should accept Rich's proposed presentation. Brenda seconded the proposal. The proposal passed unanimously.
6. SABR 52: August 7-11
 - a. Curt Brown from the Star Tribune will write a July column about a character or player. Suggestions for this include John Donaldson, Walter Ball, Bobby Marshall or Ossie Bluege.
 - b. Frank White will participate in a panel on Black baseball. Stew recommended getting Frank involved with the Curt Brown column and agreed to write to Frank about this.
7. Other items
 - a. Pillbox Ballpark plaque: Stew is waiting to hear from the State of Minnesota. This is an ongoing research project.
 - b. Twins Daily and Twins biographies: Gene explained that John Bonnes from Twins Daily is looking for help to write Twins biographies. Stew added that it would be good for chapter members to get involved in this as Twins Daily promotes chapter events.
 - c. 19th Century Base Ball Conference: Mike H and Bob T from the chapter are attending this conference.
 - d. Chapter meeting guest speaker: Glenn R recommended that the chapter consider Tami Phillippi as a guest speaker at the fall chapter meeting. She specializes in sports framing and is prepared to do a 40-45 minutes presentation. She will not use this to promote her business. Bob said her presentation could also be used for a stand-alone or community event. Stew said she didn't seem to be a "baseball" speaker.

8. Research Roundtable

- a. "Spread of Baseball in Minnesota" Chapter research project: Rich, Dave, Gene, Glenn and Brenda are among those involved in this research.

9. **Trivia Time Quiz:** Two Themes, courtesy of Darryl Sannes

Theme #1: Civil War Generals' last names; Theme #2: All have prominent nicknames.

1. The last name of an MLB outfielder that had a .356 lifetime batting average. His last major league appearance was September 27, 1920. Babe Ruth said he modeled his swing after this player.

Answer: Joe Jackson "Shoeless Joe"

2. The last name of an MLB first baseman and DH that was a two-time American League MVP. This Hall of Famer had 521 career home runs. In retirement he has appeared in dozens of commercials.

Answer: Frank Thomas "The Big Hurt"

3. The last name of a right-handed pitcher who had 224 career wins. This Hall of Famer played in five World Series and was a one-time AL Cy Young award winner. He died in 1999 from Lou Gehrig's Disease; he was only 53 years old.

Answer: Jim "Catfish" Hunter

4. The first name of a Hall of Fame pitcher with 300 career wins. He was a nine time All Star and a Cy Young award winner. His early career was interrupted by one year in the Army during WWII. He was a Minnesota Twins pitching coach for three years.

Answer: Early "Gus" Wynn

5. The last name of a career minor league player who SABR author Bill Nowlin called the classic "cup of coffee" ball player. He played minor league ball for twelve seasons and only appeared in two games for the Red Sox in 1948. He was a pinch runner in one game and pinch hitter in another striking out, which became his only major league at-bat.

Answer: Neil "Wild Horse" Sheridan

6. The last name of a 19-year-old infielder who played part of one season with the 1907 St. Louis Browns. In his very short career, he had 59 at-bats, 13 hits and 6, RBI's.

Answer: Willis "Kid" Butler

7. The last name of a right-handed pitcher whose major league career consisted of two relief appearances with the NY Yankees in 1949. He was a dominate college pitcher (29-4) and is in the National College Baseball Hall of Fame. His father played in 67 major league games in the 1920's.

Answer: Wally "Captain" Hood

8. The last name of pitcher who played with the Cincinnati Reds in and 1902 and 1903, throwing a total of 10 and one-third innings. He played minor league ball until 1915 and had a few stints as player-manager.

Answer: William "Buck" Hooker

9. The last name of a left-handed pitcher who won a total of 119 games for the Red Sox and the Expos. He was a classic junk-baller and was known as much for his outlandish quotes and ideas, as he was for his pitching. He also co-authored four books.

Answer: Bill "Spaceman" Lee

10. The last name of a right-handed pitcher who played for several teams including the Minnesota Twins. His was the first black American League pitcher to win 20 games and a World Series game. He also hit six home runs in his career and a three-run homer in a World Series game.

Answer: Jim "Mudcat" Grant

11. The last name of a man born in upstate New York in 1819 and for decades was credited with being the inventor and developer of the game of baseball in Cooperstown in 1839. While he never claimed to have anything to do with the invention of the game, the Baseball Hall of Fame was placed in Cooperstown in 1937.

Answer: Abner "Forty-eight Hours" Doubleday

10. Next Research Committee meetings: May 13

a. Next quiz master: Ed Edmonds

11. Meeting adjourned at approximately 8:45 p.m.