

Halsey Hall SABR Chapter Research Committee

March 17, 2025 Meeting Minutes

Attendees (12): Ed Edmonds, Dave Lande, Bob Komoroski, Art Mugalian, Rich Arpi, Gene Gomes, John Buckeye, Terry Bohn, Brenda Himrich, Darryl Sannes, Glenn Renick, Doug Skipper

Pre-meeting discussion and conversation about Pete Rose and whether he'll be elected to the Baseball Hall of Fame.

The meeting started at 7:02 p.m.

1. Spring Chapter meeting on April 19

- a. There's room on the meeting schedule for a fourth presentation. Gene Gomes will contact Sam Sundermeyer to ask if he wants to present a research presentation.
- b. Ben Ernest is a first-time presenter.
- c. Dan Evans inquired as to the time allotted for his guest presentation. Dan Levitt responded to Dan Evans' questions via e-mail.
- d. Gene Gomes has the projector and will bring it to the meeting.
- e. Howard Luloff and Gene Gomes will get together to prepare the trivia quiz.
- f. The chapter board reviewed the meeting checklist.
- g. Art Mugalian and Rich Arpi each have one microphone and will bring them to the meeting.

2. Civil War history group

- a. The Civil War history group will meet tomorrow, March 18. Darryl Sannes, Ed Edmonds and Stew Thornley from the chapter will be attending this meeting.
- b. Bruce Allardice from the Chicago area will be giving a presentation on baseball during the Civil War. He has several presentations available to view on YouTube.

3. Multi-chapter Zoom meeting on Earl Weaver biography

- a. Chapters from Wisconsin, Illinois and the Halsey Hall chapter will participate in a Zoom event on March 19 for a presentation and discussion with John Miller, author of a new biography of Earl Weaver entitled "The Last Manager: How Earl Weaver Tricked, Tormented, and Reinvented Baseball."
- b. Bob Komoroski said that the New York Times gave the book a glowing review.
- c. An e-mail with the Zoom link will be sent out to the Research Committee mailing list.

4. American League Central Five-Chapter Zoom event

- a. Five chapters from the American League Central Division team areas will participate in a Zoom event on March 24 to discuss their respective teams' prospects for the 2025 season.
- b. John Bonnes from "Twins Daily" will speak about the Twins prospects in 2025.

5. SABR 19th Century Baseball Committee

- a. On a Zoom event on March 11, Terry Bohn gave a biographical presentation on Dapper Dan Lally. His presentation was very well received on the call.
- b. Six Halsey Hall members attended the meeting.

6. Minnesota History Center

- a. Rich Arpi continues his research at the History Center as to the spread of baseball in Minnesota. Rich is fully retired as of today!

7. Pillbox Plaque

- a. Stew Thornley received notification that his application for the Pillbox Plaque has been received and will be reviewed by the State of Minnesota.
- b. Funding for the plaque will be sought from the national SABR organization in the form of grant money and from private donors.

8. Research Roundtable -Around the Horn

- a. Brenda Himrich is listening to the audio version of "Locker Room Talk".
- b. Gene Gomes has posted on X photographs of the minor league park under construction in Spartanburg, S.C.
- c. Art Mugalian noted that the next book club meeting is on Saturday, April 5.
- d. Bob Komoroski provided information on two upcoming Zoom events.
 - i. A joint event with Wisconsin and Illinois chapters on April 10 with Kat Williams, author of a biography of Maybelle Blair, pioneer in women's baseball.
 - ii. Potential multi-chapter event in late April with Charlie Vascellaro, authority on Rickwood Field in Birmingham, AL.
- e. John Buckeye attended a spring training game at the New York Mets field in Port Saint Lucie, FL.
- f. Bob Komoroski attended the NINE conference in Arizona last week. Dan Levitt made a presentation on John McGraw and the New York Giants. Bob Tholkes also attended the conference. Bob stated that it was a great conference.
- g. Terry Bohn said that the local grant application for the Satchel Paige plaque in Bismarck, ND wasn't accepted this year.
- h. Glenn Renick is working on the final form of his project to identify logos from all the companies that produced baseball cards.
- i. Darryl Sannes continues to work on his project on baseball at Ft. Snelling. He's breaking down the project into sections based on time spans. It's possible he may be able to give a presentation at the fall chapter meeting.

9. Trivia Time Research Committee Quiz, courtesy of Gene Gomes

Theme: "Happy Opening Day!"

- (1) Which President was the only President to throw out right- and left-handed first pitches on Opening Day? Answers: Harry Truman, 4-18-50

- (2) Name a player who tied a Ruthian career record on Opening Day. Name the ballpark. Name the opposing pitcher. Answers: Henry Aaron, HR #714, 4-4-74, Riverfront Stadium Cincy, Jack Billingham.
- (3) Who has hit the most home runs on Opening Day in baseball history? Answers: Frank Robinson, Ken Griffey, Jr., Adam Dunn, all with 8. Jr. hit one of them in 1995 on his opener but the second game for their opponent.
- (4) Name the pitcher who has started the most Opening Day games. How many? Who ranks second? Answers: Tom Seaver, 16; Jack Morris, 14.
- (5) Name the pitcher with the most consecutive Opening Day starts with the same team. How many? Answers: Robin Roberts, 12. Phillies, 1950-1961.
- (6) Name the player with an active streak of five straight Opening Day home runs. For which team? Answers: Tyler O'Neill, 2020-2023, St. Louis; 2024, Boston.
- (7) Name the former Twin who has 6 career Opening Day home runs, including two with the Twins. Which years for MN? Answers: Dave Winfield, '93 and '94 for MN.
- (8) Name the four players who hit 3 home runs in an Opening Day game. How about for which teams? Which one had the lowest total of career MLB homers? Answers: George Bell, 1988, Blue Jays. Karl "Tuffy" Rhodes, 1994, Cubs, 13 career MLB HRs. Dmitri Young, 2005, Detroit. Matt Davidson, 2018, White Sox.
- (9) Multiple choice: 1907's Opening Day game between the Phillies and NY Giants was stopped due to?
- a. a shortage of baseballs
 - b. a snowball fight
 - c. early darkness
 - d. Who was the umpire?

Answers: a snowball fight(s) in the 8th inning, forfeited to visiting team. Bill Klem ump.

10. Next Meeting: April 21. Sparky Seals is the next Quizzer.

11. Meeting adjourned at 8:44 p.m.