

THE "HOLY COW"

NEWSLETTER OF THE HALSEY HALL CHAPTER,
SOCIETY FOR AMERICAN BASEBALL RESEARCH

Halsey Hall

January 2001

Blyleven Set for Spring Meeting

Bert Blyleven has agreed to be our featured guest at the April 28 Spring Chapter Meeting at the United Methodist Church, 950 Gould Avenue in Columbia Heights. (However, if the Twins games are not televised that weekend, Bert won't be able to attend. When he does not have television announcing duties, he usually flies back to his home in Florida.) Bert will appear at 1:00. This leaves time for research presentations in the morning as well as a trivia contest or other activities following Bert's appearance. A business meeting, which will include the election of four new directors, will take place sometime during the day. The group will attend the Twins-Orioles game starting at 6:00 that evening.

Contact Joe O'Connell at 651-776-8093 if you would like to make a research presentation. Tickets for the game are must be ordered by April 14. Send a check for \$10 for each ticket to Joe at P. O. Box 600007, St. Paul, Minnesota 55106 (make the check payable to Joe).

Other Upcoming Events:

Hot Stove League Meeting

The 2001 Hot Stove League Meeting—featuring free food, fine conversation, and a Dead or Alive quiz—will take place on Saturday night, January 27 at 7:30 p.m. at the Julian H. Sleeper House, 66 St. Albans Street S. in St. Paul.

Twins Fest

The Halsey Hall Chapter is planning on having a table at Twins Fest at the Metrodome on February 3 and 4. This is always a good opportunity to meet people and get some exposure for SABR and the Halsey Hall Chapter. Contact Cary Smith at 952-471-9357 if you would like to help staff the table.

Hot Stove Saturday Morning

The December Hot Stove Saturday Morning breakfast drew eight members to the Baker's Square in Richfield. The next get together will be at the same spot on February 10, one week later than the usual first Saturday to avoid a conflict with Twins Fest.

Note to Bill Goff Calendar Buffs

Seth C. "Dr. Fan" Hawkins has one Bill Goff 2001 Ballparks Calendar remaining at the special price of \$12 (which includes shipping). The first member to call Seth at 651-225-1505 will get the calendar.

New Member: Joel Rippel

A native of Trimont, Minnesota, Joel Rippel is a news assistant in the sports department at the *Star Tribune, Newspaper of the Twin Cities*. He saw his first major league game when he was 14 and, as a newspaper employee, has been to thousands more since then. He spent five years writing on minor league baseball for the *Orange County Register* in California and recently helped local sports author Ross Bernstein with the editing on his latest book, *Pigskin Pride*. Joel also wrote several stories on Joe DiMaggio, who was stationed in Orange County during World War II and played on the base team. Joel shared some of his stories with Richard Ben Cramer when Cramer was working on his just-released book on DiMaggio. A couple of other notable things about Joel: He has been to all 50 states, and he shares a birthday with Halsey Hall.

See page 2 for directory information on Joel.

Cow Chips

Jerry Janzen went to the Fargo-Moorhead Beez season opener in the International Basketball Association. The Beez beat the Des Moines Dragons. . . . **Cary Smith** went to Omaha for Thanksgiving. . . .

Howard Luloff is now in his sixth season of doing the public-address announcing for the basketball teams at Trinity High School. . . . **George Rekela** is going to Florida to see the Gophers football team play North Carolina State in the Miconpc.com Bowl. . . .

Ray Luurs, George Rekela, Joel Rippel, and your scribe met **Jim Bouton** in November during the Bulldog's book tour for *Ball Four: The Final Pitch*. . . .

Brenda Himrich accompanied her husband to New York to do publicity for his book on the Polo Grounds. New York SABR members **Evelyn Begley** and **Mike Frank** also joined them for a day of graveyard hunting in New Jersey, Delaware, and the Philadelphia area.



Several Halsey Hall Chapter members were on hand to see, hear, and meet **Jim Bouton** at the downtown Minneapolis Barnes & Noble on November 24. Bouton told the group that he has now written the final edition of *Ball Four*. "There will not be a Geezer edition," he promised.

Chapter Profiles

Chuck Blomquist

Chuck Blomquist was born October 27, 1933 in Rockford, Illinois. He was raised in the area and grew up as a fan of the Chicago Cubs as well as the Rockford Peaches in the All-American Girls Professional Baseball League. "My cousin played in the minors for the Cubs back in the thirties. I well remember the excitement and then big disappointment of the 1945 Cubs vs. Tigers World Series. I was in junior high at the time, and they would interrupt class to give the scores." Chuck got to watch Stan Musial, Jackie Robinson, Swish Nicholson and also remembers Lou Boudreau's 1948 Indians with Early Wynn, Bob Lemon, Bob Feller, and Satchel Paige. "But my fondest memory is of that very brief pause after Gaetti's throw to Hrbek to end Game 7 of the 1987 World Series."

Chuck has a strong interest in Rockford baseball history and intends to do something about that interest, including visiting Ross Barnes's grave when he goes to Rockford again next spring. Chuck also collects pins from minor league teams and thinks "my Salt Lake Buzz pin just became a collector's item."

Chuck has a Ph.D in biochemistry and directs a research laboratory in reproductive endocrinology at Regions Hospital in St. Paul. He's also an associate professor of obstetrics/gynecology at the University of Minnesota medical school.

Chance to See Saints in Winnipeg

Don Hunt, a SABR member in Winnipeg, invites Halsey Hall Chapter members to venture to his city for baseball and other adventures. Don points out that the St. Paul Saints are in town to play the Winnipeg Goldeyes the weekend of June 22-24. If you are interested in attending or organizing a group of chapter members to go to Winnipeg, contact Don at 204-235-1721 or via e-mail at Don_Hunt@excite.com.

Hathaway Chips In

A Halsey Hall Chapter member is a major contributor to the newest SABR publication, a handy booklet titled, *How to Do Baseball Research*. Ted Hathaway wrote the chapter on "Using the Computer for Baseball Research." A librarian with the Minneapolis Public Library, Ted has spoken on this subject at chapter meetings and has been a great resource for many members in helping them use the internet for baseball research.

HC Extra Focuses on Collecting

The focus of the next *Holy Cow Extra* will be collecting and will feature articles by Kevin Hennessy, Lee Temanson, Mark Johnson, and Bob Evans.

Editor Bob Tholkes will distribute the *Extra* to those present at the Hot Stove League meeting on January 27 and mail the remainder to those who aren't there.

Dave Hahn

A lifelong interest in illustrating baseball and an enduring love of the St. Louis Browns are Dave Hahn's legacies of growing up in St. Louis in the 1940s and 1950s. "My whole family were fans," he explains, "and with two teams in town, either the Cardinals or Browns were discussed daily. My dad and I were outnumbered but survived many seasons of grief as Brownie fans in an era of great Cardinal teams. I now look back

with great sadness on the loss of the Browns but with a feeling of fondness for fabulous Cardinal teams of Marion, Schoendienst, Musial, Slaughter, and Brecheen."

Dave saw his first game—Browns vs. Tigers—in 1945 at the age of eight and then started drawing ballplayers. "It was those creamy white Brownie uniforms with brown and orange piping against the infield dirt and worn grass that has hooked me to this day." As a fan, Dave was on hand to see Dizzy Dean come out of the broadcast booth to pitch the final game of the 1947 season for the Browns, Jackie Robinson lead the Dodgers to the pennant that same season ("The Cardinal fans were livid," he recalls), and Ned Garver win his 20th game for the last-place Browns in 1951.

About 15 years ago, Dave began illustrating for the Browns Fan Club; when the Cardinals decided to include the Browns in their Hall of Fame, several of Dave's illustrations ended up in the Hall along with a line drawing of all members of the 1944 pennant-winning team. "Needless to say, I was thrilled to see my work exhibited in such a place."

Dave, who has lived in the Minneapolis area since 1963, retired last July after 44 years as an illustrator and art director. He and Virginia, married 37 years, have two children and five grandchildren. Dave's mom and dad, both 95, are still alive, and, Dave adds, "You should hear their baseball stories!"

Directory Information and Update

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Lee Temanson (lateman843@aol.com) and Dan Levitt (danrl@attglobal.net) have new e-mail addresses.



Illustration by Dave Hahn

Cool Baseball and Research Web Sites

Minneapolis Public Library Newspaper and Magazine Search: www.mpls.lib.mn.us/catalog/database.asp

All-Time Statistics and Rosters: cnnsi.com/baseball/mlb/all_time_stats/index.html

Jim Bouton and *Ball Four*: www.ballfourbook.com/index.shtml

Baseball Online Library: www.sportsline.com/u/baseball/bol/index.html

Newspapers in the United States: www.newspapers.com/npcom1.htm

Baseball in the Virgin Islands: members.aol.com/vibaseball

Society for American Baseball Research: www.sabr.org

Major League Baseball: www.majorleaguebaseball.com

Web Sites of SABR Members: www.sabr.org/links.shtml

Minor League Baseball: www.minorleaguebaseball.com

Santurce Cangrejeros: www.santurcebaseballclub.com

S. Thornley's List of Baseball Hall of Famer Graves: www.tc.umn.edu/~thorn017/halloffame_graves.html

Baseball Hall of Fame: baseballhalloffame.org

New York Times: www.nytimes.com

Minnesota Twins: twinsbaseball.com

Ballparks: www.ballparks.com

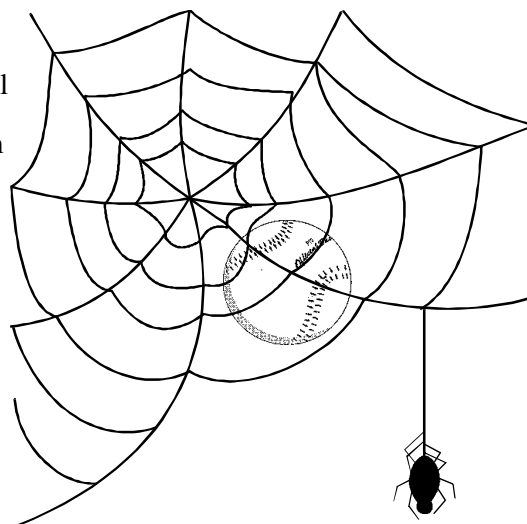
Library of Congress: www.loc.gov

Reference Desk: www.refdesk.com

Babe Ruth Museum: www.baberuthmuseum.com

Total Baseball: www.totalbaseball.com

Baseball Almanac: baseball-almanac.com



Baseball America: www.baseballamerica.com

J. Skilton's Baseball Links: <http://www.baseball-links.com/>

Halsey Hall Chapter Web Site Only 2,630 Hits Behind Musial

The Halsey Hall Chapter web site—started several years ago by John Gregory and now administered by Cary Smith—racked up its 1,000th hit recently, with a little help from a friendly chapter member.

“I pulled up the Halsey Hall web site and saw that I was the 999th hit,” said Lee Temanson. “So naturally I logged out and came back on again so I can say I was the 1,000th.”

Members can help the web site get a good start to its 2,000th hit by logging in at:

member.aol.com/halseyhall/Home.html

Quicksteps Gearing Up

The Quicksteps 19th-century re-creation base ball team is getting ready for another season, according to organizer Bob Tholkes, who is back after a one-year hiatus. Bob reports that the schedule is still in the formative stages, but that the nine is seeking “a mixture of old and new venues for two dates per month from May through September.”

The Quicksteps have an invitation from Living History Farms in Urbandale, Iowa, to play their nine, the Walnut Hill Bluestockings. An amateur team, the Litchfield Blues, is interested in an event in conjunction with the Litchfield Watercade festival on July 7-8.

Calendar

January 27—Hot Stove League Meeting
7:30 p.m., Julian H. Sleeper House, St. Paul

February 3-4—Twins Fest, Metrodome

February 10—Hot Stove Saturday Morning,
8:30 a.m., Baker's Square,
66th and Xerxes, Richfield

April 28—Spring Chapter Meeting,
United Methodist Church, Columbia Heights

Halsey Hall Chapter

Board of Directors 2000-01

President—Joe O'Connell

Vice President—Cary Smith

Secretary—Rich Arpi

Treasurer—Kevin Hennessy

Dan Levitt

Bob Tholkes

Jim Wyman

Webmaster—Cary Smith

The Holy Cow! Editor—Stew Thornley

Holy Cow Extra Editor—Bob Tholkes

Please direct news about chapter events, about yourself, or about other chapter members to S. Thornley, 1082 Lovell Avenue, Roseville, Minnesota 55113-4419 or via e-mail at thorn017@tc.umn.edu.

<http://member.aol.com/halseyhall/Home.html>

January Birthdays

4—Kevin Hennessy (also Charlie Manuel, Daryl Boston, Tito Fuentes, Twinkletoes Selkirk, Herman Franks, Al Bridwell, Oscar Vitt, and Tommy Corcoran)

7—Lee Temanson (also Bob Gorinski, Ross Grimsley, Tony Conigliaro, Joe Keough, Jim Lefebvre, Johnny Mize, Alvin Dark, Kenny Loggins, and Millard Fillmore)

10—John McNeil (also Willie McCovey, Chick Stahl, Harry Wright, Kelvin Torve, Richard Dotson, Chuck Dobson, Jim O'Toole, Jim Croce, and Linda Lovelace)

11—R. J. Lesch (also Silver King, Max Carey, Don Mossi, Elmer Flick, Schoolboy Rowe, Ben Crenshaw, Darryl Dawkins, and Alexander Hamilton)

17—Glenn Gostick and Alan Holst (also Pete LaCock, Arnold Rothstein, Don Zimmer, Chili Davis, Darrell Porter, Hank Leiber, Muhammad Ali, Ben Franklin, Mark Littell, Darrell Porter, Lum Harris, Mayo Smith, and Al Capone)



Halsey Hall Chapter—SABR

The Holy Cow!

Stew Thornley, Editor

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