

Janzen Across America

He is well suited to his Quicksteps' nickname, *Traveller*. Jerry Janzen is a travelling man in pursuit of landmarks throughout the country. In his quest to eventually tour all National Parks, Monuments, and Historic Sites (including national battlefields) in the United States, he'll take whatever opportunity he has to visit these locations. For example, Jerry slipped away from the recent SABR national convention in Kansas City to check out Wilson's Creek National Battlefield Park, Hot Springs National Park (which he describes as the strangest of the national parks since it consists of buildings—in the form of bathhouses), and Arkansas Post National Memorial. After competing with the Quicksteps in the vintage baseball festival in Columbus, Ohio last September, the Traveller trekked to the site of the Johnstown Flood and the Allegheny Portage Railroad National Historic Site. Jerry had been to National Parks and Monuments in the past, but he didn't make it his goal to visit every one until 1991 when the Janzen family (which includes wife Robin and daughters Annie and Laura) took the Great Circle Tour of Lake Superior; they re-entered the United States at Grand Portage National Monument in Minnesota. Jerry purchased a National Parks' passport in the gift shop, immediately stamped a page with the Grand Portage imprint, and decided to fill the passport with such stamps.

Jerry is from Mountain Lake, Minnesota. He got his pre-engineering degree at Bethel College in North Newton, Kansas, where he competed nationally in the Putnam Math competition and the College Bowl. He transferred to the University of Minnesota and played trumpet in the marching band while getting his bachelor's degree (with distinction) in electrical engineering. Jerry now works for Simons Engineering.

Jerry grew up as a fan of Harmon Killebrew and had the chance to see his hero hit many home runs at Twins' games he attended in the 1960s. Jerry was also present to see Rickey Henderson steal his 118th base of the 1982 season (tying Lou Brock's record) and sat next to Fernando Valenzuela's wife at the 1985 All-Star Game. Jerry was even in the Bay Area during the 1989 earthquake that pre-empted Game Three of the World Series. Jerry wasn't at the game, however; he was (where else?) at the San Francisco Maritime National Historic Park when the big one hit.

==== Bounding Balls ====

Rekela Snags One

On July 30, G. R. (George) Rekela and I were enjoying seats in the Metrodome's lower deck, thanks to Paul Rittenhouse, who bestowed his season tickets on us while he was on vacation. Section 121 became a busy one for foul balls, included a pop-up off the bat of Mike Devereaux that ended up in George's hands. He used his Quickstep skills as he deftly plucked the ball just as it was bouncing toward some little kid with a great look of anticipation on his face. For George, it was the first ball he had ever gotten at a major-league game. He was thrilled.

But he's still waiting to be a "Weiner Winner."

What Don't They Like about Us?

USA Today Baseball Weekly recently released the results of a survey in which players rated the fans. Minnesota fans didn't fare particularly well (although a darn site better than Milwaukee fans); what was interesting was that five of the nine Twins who participated in the poll rated Minnesota fans as poor. It would be interesting to know who the five are and their reasons for the rating.

Best Line Overheard at a Ball Game Recently

From Brenda Himrich's Old Lady Softball League:

"I lost it in my bifocals."

A Few Good Bermanisms

Rick *Junk* Mahler
 Gary Redus *a Bedtime Story*
 Greg *Life Is a Caderet*
 Tom *Cotton* Candiotti
 Bill *Hello* Dawley
 Me and Willie McGee
 Rob *Bomba* Deer
 John *I am Not a Kruk*
 Jim *Washer and Dwyer*
 Lee Elia *Kuriakin*

Cecil *Is No* Fielder
 Bob *Air* Forsch
 Lance *Oh Darn! You Sank My* Blankenship
 Todd *We Are the* Worrell
 Jim *Bela* Fregosi
 Sil *When the Swallows Return to* Campusano
 LaMarr *Where Does It* Hoyt
 Wally *Absorbine* Joyner
 Ron *Ma & Pa* Kittle
 Steve *Lyons and Tigers and Bears, Oh My!*

Dana *Field Goal* Kiecker
 Dave *Don't* LaPoint
 Jim *Hanky* Pankovits
 Eric *Ker-* Plunk
 Ron *Born in the U. S.* Cey
 Bruce *Two Minutes for* Ruffin
 Mike *Nova* Scoscia
 Rick *Really Big* Schu
 Mark Carreon *My Wayward Son*
 Jeff Dedmon *Don't Wear Plaid*

Directory News

The 1996-97 Chapter Directory will be coming out sometime this fall. Please take a moment to review your entry in the current directory to see if there is any information you would like changed, added, or deleted. We will be listing work phone numbers as well as e-mail address and home page URLs for those who wish to have them included. Please forward this information to Jerry Janzen via e-mail at jjjanzen@hasimons.com or phone, 941-8685 or 332-5936.

Meanwhile, for those of you on the internet, be sure and check out the home pages for SABR and the Halsey Hall Chapter, which have been ably initiated and maintained by John Gregory.

SABR: <http://www.skypoint.com/~ashbury/sabrhomepage.html>

Halsey Hall Chapter: <http://www.skypoint.com/~ashbury/hhhomepage.html>