

THE "HOLY COW"

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

Halsey Hall

September 2002

Dr. Fan a Hit in Accepting Hilda Award



Dr. Fan delivers his acceptance speech for the Hilda Award to the Baseball Reliquary.

Seth C. "Dr. Fan" Hawkins traveled to southern California to accept the Hilda Award from the Baseball Reliquary in late July. The award was presented as part of the Baseball Reliquary's annual Shrine of the Eternals induction. One of the speakers on the program was Minnie Miñoso, who was being inducted into the Shrine. Another was Peter Golenbock, the master of ceremonies. However, according to The Baseball Primer (<http://www.baseballprimer.com>), "Golenbock may well have had the show stolen from him by Dr. Seth Hawkins, the winner of the Reliquary's Hilda Award (named for the Dodgers' fanatical cowbell lady who was a fixture at Ebbets Field for nearly three decades). Hawkins's credentials for such an award are impressive: he's seen every game where a batter made his 3,000th hit since 1959, was in attendance when Hank Aaron hit number 715 and when Pete Rose collected hit number 4,192, and has seen regular-season games in 66 different stadiums.

"Hawkins, a retired speech professor, was the best speaker of the day, with several memorable ripostes. Perhaps the best of the lot was his recollection of the time that he 'was caught engaging in suspicious behavior at Dodger Stadium.' What was the exact nature of this dire action? Why, remaining in attendance until the bottom of the 9th inning, of course."

Joint Chapter Meeting October 20

The Halsey Hall Chapter will hold a joint regional meeting with the Field of Dreams Chapter of Iowa on Sunday, October 20 at the Music Man Centre in Mason City, Iowa. The meeting will begin at noon and wrap up by 5:00. The program will include a display of Iowa and Minnesota baseball memorabilia, an open forum on how to do research, a joint business meeting, and a trivia quiz as well as:

- A reading by Todd Fuller, author of *60 Feet, Six Inches: The (Baseball) Life of Mose YellowHorse*.
- "Things You Never Knew About Major League Baseball Managers" by John Skipper, author of *Take Me Out to the Cubs Game*.
- A 15-minute radio interview with Lou Gehrig conducted by KROC Radio in Rochester, Minnesota, in August 1939 when Gehrig was at the Mayo Clinic.

For more details, including information on car pooling, contact Ray Luurs at 763-422-9699 or via e-mail at luurscj@aol.com.

On Deck Circle

After an absence of more than two years, the On Deck Circle (the chapter's television show) was revived in July, thanks to the efforts of producer Ray Luurs. The topic was baseball graves. The program will be shown on Minneapolis Television Network as well as other cable television public-access channels in the Twin Cities.

Replogle a Top Recorder

Ron Replogle is listed as one of the Volunteers of Note for The Baseball Index (TBI). Operated by Ted Hathaway, TBI is a catalog to baseball research materials with references and citations to more than 175,000 books, articles, videos, and other items.

Ron has catalogued nearly 500 records for TBI. The information is available at <http://www.baseballindex.org>.

Book Club

Four chapter members met on August 10 to discuss the book *Hitter! The Life and Turmoils of Ted Williams* by Ed Linn.

The next meeting is at 10 a.m. on Saturday, October 19 at Dunn Bros. Coffee Shop, next to Rag & Bone Books, 2812 W. 43rd Street in the Linwood Hills area of Minneapolis. The book to be read is *The Great American Novel* by Philip Roth. For more information, contact Tom Swift at 507-645-2280 or via e-mail at swifttom@hotmail.com.

Quiz Time

Name the Baltimore Orioles player who became the father to quintuplets last July. Answer on page 3.

New Members: Jim Hoey and Scott Taylor

Jim Hoey grew up in the mining town of Taconite, Minnesota, and played baseball on a field adjacent to an iron ore pit. “A lot of foul balls came back with a chalky red substance on them,” Jim recalls. He attended his first Twins game in 1964, where he also saw his first black person. Although he missed Jack Kralick’s 1962 no-hitter for the Twins, nine years later Jim attended his cousin’s wedding at which another relative vomited on Kralick.

Jim attended Greenway High School in Coleraine and later played hockey at St. Mary’s College in Winona, Minnesota. He has taught social studies for 25 years and now teaches at Farmington Middle School. He also works with former Twins first baseman Craig Kusick on the *Rosemount Town Pages*.

Jim has a four-year-old son, Eddie, and a wife, Ann, who is a pharmacist at the Veterans Administration Medical Center. On their honeymoon in 1990, they attended the Boston-Minnesota game at Fenway Park when the Twins turned two triple plays. He was at the final game at Met Stadium in 1981 as well as at Kent Hrbek’s final game in 1994. At the latter game, Jim caught a grand slam hit by Kirby Puckett.

“I have fond memories of listening to late-night games on the West Coast on my grandpa’s old Zenith radio by lying on the hallway floor outside his bedroom door, trying to pick up the scratchy reception from WCCO and watching the Saturday Game of the Week with my dad with Pee Wee Reese and Dizzy Dean broadcasting,” Jim says. “I miss the old ballparks (by 1989, I had seen a game at every venue except Shea), have great disdain for the present strike zone, and still love the morning box scores.”

Jim’s favorite player is Bert Blyleven, and he once dated a woman who shared Bert’s April 6 birthday. As for Jim, he shares his May 14 birthday with Ed Walsh, Earle Combs, Tony Perez, Bob Thurman, Dennis Martinez, Dick Howser, Roy Halladay, Sophie “The Trophy” Kurys, and George Lucas.

Scott Taylor was born in Toronto, grew up in Sarnia, Ontario, and now lives in Winnipeg. He has a family of three other “baseball-to-the-death” fans: his wife, Sally; son, Jesse, 21; and daughter, Betsy, 18.

As a player, Scott was a member of the 1969 Sarnia Drawbridge Inn Knights, the Canadian Junior baseball champions, and, from 1986 to 1999, of the Giroux A’s, four-time Canadian over-35 national champions. As a baseball columnist for the *Winnipeg Free Press*, Scott has covered 17 All-Star Games, 15 World Series, Cal Ripken’s consecutive-games record, Mark McGwire’s 59th, 60th, 61st, 62nd, and 70th home runs, Barry Bonds’s 73rd home run, Kirby Puckett’s final at bat (in spring training against Greg Maddux), and Manitoba-native Corey Koskie’s first major league game.

Scott shares his April 20 birthday with fellow chapter member Barry Bengtsson as well as Eric Tipton, Don Mattingly, Dave “Beauty” Bancroft, Todd Hollandsworth, Harry Agganis, Preston Gomez, and Adolf Hitler.

Directory Additions and Updates

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Vintage Base Ball Featured in *Fortune*

Cary Smith and Don “Pieso” Hammer are pictured in the September 2, 2002 issue of *Fortune* magazine, which contains an article on vintage base ball in the United States with particular attention on a recent match in Rochester, Minnesota, in which the St. Croixs beat Rochester to win the Silver Ball (the trophy for the state championship). In addition to Pieso, chapter members Deano Thilgen and Dan Cagley play on the St. Croixs. Cary plays on the Quicksteps, a team sponsored by the Halsey Hall Chapter. The Quicksteps will finish their 2002 season with a match against the St. Croixs on Sunday, September 15 at the Cummins-Grill Homestead, 13600 Pioneer Trail in Eden Prairie. The St. Croixs have one match after that, against the Afton Red Socks, on Sunday September 22 at 2:00 at Afton Village Park in Afton, Minnesota.

All-Minnesota Team

The July issue of *The Holy Cow!* featured Alan Holst’s All-St. Paul team. For this team, Alan gets to use the entire state. Here are his picks of the best players born and/or raised in Minnesota.

C: Terry Steinbach

1B: Kent Hrbek

2B: Jack Crooks

SS: Gene DeMontreville

3B: Paul Molitor

OF: Jim Eisenreich, Dave Winfield, Roger Maris

Pitchers: Chief Bender, Joe Bush, Jerry Koosman, Jack Morris, Rube Walberg, Dave Goltz

Reserves:

Pitchers Tom Burgmeier, Dave Goltz, Bill Gullickson, Tom Niedenfuer, Aaron Sele; Catchers Greg Olson and Wes Westrum; Infielders Chick Gandil and Jerry Kindall; Outfielders Spencer Harris, Walt Moryn, and Rip Repulski.

SABR Doings

Potential Chapter Projects

A potential project for all SABR chapters is involvement in the new BioProject Committee. At the SABR convention in Boston last June, committee chair Mark Armour outlined the goals of the group, whose mission is to assemble journal-length biographies on anyone who ever played major league baseball as well as other significant baseball people. Mark cited the experience of the Gardner-Waterman SABR chapter in Vermont, which assembled a book consisting of biographies of Vermont natives who played in the majors, *The Green Mountain Boys of Summer*, and how this became a unifying project for the chapter. Mark said the Baseball BioProject (as it is officially known) could also become a group project for other SABR chapters, allowing them the chance to work together on assembling biographies on players from their area. Regional leaders are encouraged to join the e-list for the Baseball BioProject at <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/SABRBioProject>. More information is also available at the committee's web site at <http://bioproj.sabr.org>.

Another project involves updates to Jon Light's 888-page *The Cultural Encyclopedia of Baseball*. Jon wants to do a second edition of the encyclopedia but needs help. He seeks assistance from interested individuals as well as from chapters that might wish to update and add to the sections about baseball from their area. Anyone wanting to get involved or receive more information may contact Jon at 805-988-8305 or via e-mail at jligh@nchc.com.

Chapter Chatter Debuts

The first issue of *Chapter Chatter*, an electronic newsletter for regional chapters in SABR, is now available at <http://www.sabr.org/reg/chapchat200207.htm>. The newsletter can also be accessed through the SABR web site (<http://www.sabr.org>) on Regional Chapters in the left-hand column. *Chapter Chatter* is the first item in the drop-down list that opens under Regional Chapters.

My SABR

The "MySABR" page, on the SABR web site at <http://www.sabr.org>, allows all SABR members to access and modify their membership information. The new administration feature on MySABR provides an easy way for regional leaders to maintain contact with their local chapter. Members are encouraged to use MySABR and to click on the Administration link, where a multitude of features are available, including the ability to:

- Send e-mails to everyone in their region from a web page on [sabr.org](http://www.sabr.org).
- Get an e-mail with everyone's up-to-date address, phone number, and e-mail at any time.
- Include attachments in the e-mails, such as newsletters.
- Designate individuals within the regional organizations as having some or all of the rights to use www.sabr.org for these purposes.

Cow Chips

Fred and Gaynelle Buckland saw ball games at SkyDome and Comerica Park. . . . On a trip to Philadelphia to visit a friend, **Jerry Janzen** saw games at Veterans Stadium, Oriole Park, Yankee Stadium, and Shea Stadium. . . . On his birthday, **Deano Thilgen** saw the Twins beat Pedro Martinez and the Red Sox at the Metrodome. . . . **Brenda Himrich** is going to Newfoundland with her husband although they aren't planning on seeing any baseball games. . . . **Phyllis Thornley** was the "Subway Fan of the Game" at the August 17 Twins-Red Sox game.

Correction

Alan Holst should have been on the list of Halsey Hall Chapter members who attended the SABR convention in Boston.

Cool Web Site

Retrosheet has box scores—many with full play-by-play accounts—for most of the years since 1969 on its web site. Even the years without box scores, back to 1900, have game logs for each team with the date, opponent, and outcome of every game. Often, the starting pitchers are listed, which makes it a great tool for tracking down games. The web site is <http://www.retrosheet.org>.

Hot Stove Saturday

Kirby Puckett almost became part of the chapter's last Hot Stove Saturday Morning when he, along with his son and daughter, sat in a booth next to the usual crowd that gathers to talk baseball at the Baker's Square in Richfield on the first Saturday of the even-numbered months.

The next convocation is Saturday, October 5 at 9:30 a.m. Baker's Square is on 66th Street, just west of Xerxes Avenue.

Answer to Quiz

Melvin Mora

Last Chance for Subscription Renewal

If you have an orange dot in the box, please send a check for \$12, made out to *Halsey Hall Chapter*, to Rich Arpi, 2209 East Skillman Avenue, Apt. 16, North St. Paul, Minnesota 55109-3996 to renew your annual subscription dues.

Anyone making an additional donation will receive recognition in the newsletter.

Thanks to Bob Tholkes for his generous donation to the Halsey Hall Chapter

Halsey Hall Chapter Board of Directors 2002-03

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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 stew@stewthornley.net.

Halsey Hall Chapter Web Site: <http://halseyhall.org>

Halsey Hall Chapter E-list/Message Board: <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/halseyhall>

Past issues of *The Holy Cow!* and *Holy Cow Extra* are on-line at:
<http://halseyhall.org/pubs.holy.html>

Calendar

October 5
Hot Stove Saturday Morning
Baker's Square, Richfield
9:30 a.m.

October 19
Book Club
Dunn Bros. Coffee Shop, Minneapolis
10 a.m.

October 20
Fall Chapter Meeting
Mason City, Iowa
Noon to 5 p.m.



Halsey Hall Chapter—SABR
The Holy Cow!
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