

SABR Pictorial History Committee Player Image Index Update

By John McMurray, Project Coordinator
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The Player Image Index Project was discussed at some length at the Pictorial History Committee meeting SABR 28 in San Francisco, with *Tom Shieber* and I updating progress on the project to this point and considering suggestions for refining the project during the coming year. Most notably, Tom and I explained that we would like for PHC members to now begin cataloging player photos from baseball guides for the project.

The idea of cataloging guides is something that I believe would help the PII project greatly. For one, these guides would be available at many major libraries nationwide, and they also contain many very good baseball photos that we would like to have cataloged in our collection. Furthermore, the guides would take a lot of the legwork out of finding photos of lesser-known players. Researchers could presumably catalog dozens of photos at one sitting, which would help to move the project along at an even greater rate than we have experienced to this point.

I would be interested in hearing from PHC members who would be interested in cataloging photos from guides for this aspect of the project. My address and email address are at the bottom of this newsletter. In addition to the baseball guides, we would like for Committee members to catalog back issues of *Who's Who in Baseball* and any other volumes that have extensive photographic records.

The cataloging of baseball photos from baseball guides is intended to be a complement to the work that members have done to this point. Indeed, we would still like for members to submit citations for photos of individual players, and a list of twenty who have played in ten or fewer career major league games is below. (In some cases, we already have a citation for a photo of a given player but would greatly like to acquire another for verification purposes.) In the brief playing biographies of those listed below, I want to recognize PHC member *Marc Okkonen* for contributing all of the minor league information contained within so that PHC members can better research photos. Marc has worked tirelessly for the Committee and for this project, and Tom and I thank him for providing us with this information. Please know that the minor league information is meant to assist researchers and that it may or may not represent a given player's complete minor league background.

Any PHC member is invited to contribute to the PII Project, and any contribution — large or small — is valued greatly. To this point, the Committee has been primarily interested in acquiring citations for photos of major leaguers who have played in ten games or fewer between 1900 and 1950, as those, in our estimation, would be the most difficult of all twentieth century photos to acquire.

I welcome your thoughts regarding the project, and I offer my thanks to the many, many PHC members who have contributed to the Player Image Index Project in recent months.

Below is a list of twenty players who played in 10 games or fewer in the first half of the twentieth century. The Committee is hopeful that PHC members will be able to locate photos of any of the below for the project:

Bob Barthelson — Robert Edward Barthelson pitched in seven games for the 1944 New York Giants winning one and losing one. He also played in 1944 with Jersey City of the International League and the next year with San Francisco of the Pacific Coast League.

John Barthold — A right-handed pitcher, John Francis (Hans) Barthold played in four games for the 1904 Philadelphia Athletics. He did not earn a decision in his major league career. Barthold also pitched for Concord of the New England League in 1902, with Harrisburg of the Tri-State League in 1911, and with Petersburg of the Canadian League in 1912.

Les Bartholomew — Lester Justin Bartholomew pitched for the Pittsburgh Pirates in 1928 and with the Chicago White Sox in 1932. He made nine relief appearances between those two teams without a decision, but he did get one hit while playing for the Pirates.

Boyd Bartley — Boyd Owen Bartley played in nine games at shortstop for Leo Durocher's Brooklyn Dodgers in 1943. He also attended the University of Illinois.

Al Bashang — Albert C. Bashang played with the Detroit Tigers in 1912 for five games and also in two games for the Brooklyn Dodgers in 1918. An outfielder, he has an extensive minor league background: He played from 1913-15 with Saginaw of the South Michigan League; with Peoria of the III in 1917; with Omaha of the Western League in 1918; with Evansville of the III in 1919; and with Portsmouth of the Virginia League in 1922. He also managed the Saginaw team in the Michigan-Ontario League in 1924.

Walt Bashore — A member of the 1936 Philadelphia Athletics, Bashore played in a total of ten games for Connie Mack's team. Born Walter Franklin Beshore, he played in six games in the outfield for the team and another at third base, collecting two hits in ten at-bats.

Dick Bass — Richard William Bass pitched in one game with the 1939 Washington Senators. The right-hander attended Miami University in Ohio and also pitched with Louisville of the American Association in 1933 and with Chattanooga of the Southern Association in 1939.

Doc Bass — William Capers Bass singled in his only major-league at-bat, a pinch-hitting appearance for the 1918 Boston Braves. He also reportedly played in one game for Boston that year under the name of Johnson. Bass played with Columbia of the South Atlantic League in 1919 and 1920.

Charlie Bates — Charles William Bates played the outfield in nine games for the 1927 Philadelphia Athletics. The right-handed batter and thrower also played with St. Joseph of the Western League in 1933 and 1934.

Bill Batsch — William McKinley Batsch played in one game for the 1916 Pittsburgh Pirates. It is also known that he played with York of the New York-Pennsylvania League in 1923.

George Batten — Batten played in one game at second base for the 1912 National League Champion New York Giants. He went hitless in his three major league at-bats.

Jim Battle — James Milton Battle played in six major games and made the most of them. He played in four games at third base, two at shortstop, and collected three hits in eight career at-bats.

Lou (Kid) Bauer — Bauer pitched in one game for the 1918 Philadelphia Athletics. The right-hander never gave up a hit, but he surrendered two walks and did not record an out.

Harry Baumgartner — Baumgartner was a teammate of Ty Cobb's when he pitched in nine games in relief for the 1920 Detroit Tigers. A right-hander, Baumgartner finished his career with an ERA of 4.00. He also pitched with Omaha of the Western League in 1922.

John Baxter — Baxter played in six games at first base for the 1907 St. Louis Cardinals, collecting four hits in twenty-one at-bats. Baxter's minor league career included playing with 1902 Sioux City of the Iowa-South Dakota League in 1902 and with Montgomery of the Southern League in 1907 and 1908.

Des Beatty — Aloysius Desmond (Desperate) Beatty was a member of the 1914 New York Giants. He played in two career games for the Giants, one at shortstop and the other at third base. He also played with Poughkeepsie of the Atlantic League in 1914; with Rochester of the International League in 1915 and 1916; with New London of the Eastern League in 1917 and 1918; and with Pittsfield of the Eastern League in 1919.

George Beck — Beck was a right-handed pitcher who appeared in one inning for the 1914 Cleveland Indians. His minor league career included stops with: Cleveland of the American Association in 1911; Nashville of the Southern League in 1912 and 1913; with New Orleans of the Southern Association in 1915; with Moline of the Three-I League (Illinois-Iowa-Indiana League) in 1919 and 1920; and with Rockford of the ILL in 1922 and 1923.

Jim Beckman — Born Reinhardt Boeckman, Beckman pitched with the Cincinnati Reds in 1927 and '28. He pitched in ten games in relief for the Reds, starting one, finishing with a career record of 0-2.

Jim Bedford — William Eugene (Gene) Bedford played in two games at second base for the 1925 Cleveland Indians. A switch hitter, Bedford went hitless in his only three major league at-bats.

Phil Bedgood — Philip Burlette Bedgood played in a total of ten games for Tris Speaker's 1922 and '23 Cleveland Indians. He completed his major league career with a record of 1-2 and an E.R.A. of 4.88. He also collected one hit in six career major league at-bats.

For those submitting citations for photos of the above (or of anyone who has ever appeared in a major league game), the protocol remains the same:

— It is very important for you to include as much relevant information for each photo citation you submit. The name of the publication in which the photo appears, the page number, the names of all players who appear in the photo, and so forth would be appropriate. If there is supplemental information about the photo (such as a special circumstance surrounding the taking of the photo) please make a note of it. If you have any questions regarding the citing of photos, please feel free to contact me. It would be a great help to the Committee if you could submit citations on computer disk in Microsoft Word format, but handwritten citations will certainly be accepted.

— Tom and I emphasized at the Committee meeting in San Francisco that we would be happy to provide PHC members with names of players on our most wanted list sorted by any given category. For example, if you're a Detroit Tiger fan and would like the names of all players on our list who played for the Tigers between 1930 and 1940, we can provide it.

— I am frequently asked if the Committee will accept citations for post-1950 baseball photos. In fact, the ultimate objective of the Committee is to locate photos for all major leaguers. We merely have taken the first half of the century as a starting point. If you have photo citations that you would like to submit for more recent players, by all means, do so. Also, the Committee is glad to receive citations for several photos of the same player.

You may contact me via email at mcmurrayj@aol.com. Citations for photos and all related correspondence may be sent to me by regular mail at:

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