

The Courier

A Publication of SABR's Negro Leagues Committee

"We are the Ship, All Else the Sea"

Editor, Larry Lester

September, 2016

In the News

Satchel Paige's 110th Birthday!

Attendees came from Phoenix, Birmingham, Lancaster (NH), Old Hickory (TN), Broken Arrow (OK), Cornwall (VT), Oconomowoc (WI), Cockeysville (MD), Fircrest (WA), White Bear Lake (MN), and as far away as Rome (GA), and Nova Scotia, Canada. From coast to coast, they came with walkers and canes and in wheelchairs to party at the *"Biggest and Best Black Baseball Conference in America."* From the ages of 8 to 80, they came to celebrate the 110th Birthday of Satchel Paige under the banner; **"BARNSTORMING BASEBALL, BLUES & BAR BQ."**

We were honored with the presence of **Turkey Stearnes'** daughters **Rosilyn** and **Joyce**, who sang the National Anthem at the Awards Banquet. Also in attendance was **Julian Duncan**, (left) son and grandson of the first father and son battery in professional baseball, **Frank and Frank Duncan, Jr.**, in 1941. **Carl Rogan**, (center) the grandson of the all around HOF pitcher/outfielder



Wilber "Bullet" Rogan was present. **DeMorris "Mickey" Smith** (right) was there to represent his

HOF father **Hilton Smith**. **Dr. Harriet Kimbro-Hamilton**, daughter of All-Star infielder **Henry Kimbro** was there. It was definitely a family affair.

The birthday party kicked off on Thursday with our educational forum led by Dr. Leslie Heaphy, along with professor **Ray Janifer**, from Shippensburg University of PA. Learning aids were provided, while Dr. Janifer gave an overview of black baseball history.

Later that evening at the Meet & Greet, we were honored by the presence of three-time All-Star outfielder from the Chicago Cubs, et al, and a

member of the 1955 Kansas City Monarchs, **George Altman**. He gave an excellent talk about his career in the major leagues, Negro leagues and Japan. Altman later signed copies of his book, *My Baseball Journey from the Negro Leagues to the Majors and Beyond*, along with other prized collectibles for a long line of fans. Check out Ryan Whirly's revealing article on Altman at:

<https://homeplatedontmove.wordpress.com/2016/07/07/george-altman-kicks-off-the-malloy/>



We later received a note from Mr. Altman stating, *"You guys do a great job putting on a super event that keeps*

the history of the Negro Leagues alive. We as former players appreciate your efforts and hard work to assure that the younger generation understands the contributions to baseball made by Black Super Stars and early pioneers. We are truly grateful! Thanks for inviting me."

FRIDAY'S LINE-UP

Based on feedback surveys, the year's presentations were the best ever. Of the 29 papers submitted, only 13 were selected. The first golden presentation was by **Dr. James Brunson III**, on one of Kansas City's finest catchers, Frank Maupin, with his special twist of combining visual culture with the sport.

Following Brunson was **Dr. Brian Carroll** and his revealing story about the Miami Ethiopian Clowns and their role in shaping stereotypes, cultural understandings, while playing a high quality of baseball. Our next presenter was a rookie from Pittsburgh, who spoke about Moses Fleetwood Walker's major league visit to Columbus, Ohio.

Allison Petonic covered the career of Walker with a powerful PowerPoint presentation that fully captured his impact on the National Pastime. Our clean-up batter that morning was **Brian Campbell**, a graduate student in history from the University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign. His speech focused on black players in Mexico, Cuba and the Dominican Republic, and the issues they faced across several cultural and social barriers. To close out the morning was veteran **Dr. Karl Lindholm** from Middlebury College, where he teaches "*Segregation in America: Baseball's Negro Leagues.*" The former trivia champion spoke about the Cuban Giants coming to Middlebury, Vermont, using a couple of descriptive promotional broadsides to emphasize his points.



That afternoon, we boarded two motor coaches to visit **Satchel Paige Memorial Stadium**, home to youth baseball, and later traveled to my childhood turf, **Municipal Stadium** on 22nd and Brooklyn. It is here fans witnessed the 1924, 1925, 1942 and 1946 **Negro World Series** games, and the **Negro All-Star** game in 1962. It was also home to **Satchel Paige's** last game in a Major League uniform with the **Kansas City A's** in 1965. From there our drivers took us to the co-joining **American Jazz Museum** and the **Negro Leagues Baseball Museum (NLBM)** on 18th and Vine for the next two hours. Despite several logistical challenges, we still had one of our best conferences ever.

We later arrived at Kauffman Stadium to tour the marvelous **Royals Hall of Fame Museum** before the Seattle Mariners squeaked out a 3-2 victory over my World Champion Kansas City Royals. It was only the second time in our 19 year history that the home team failed to win with the Malloy magic. Ugh!

SATURDAY'S LINE-UP

The always entertaining **Bryan Steverson** kicked off the second day of partying with his presentation about "*Brothers in Our Game: Negro Leaguers with Friends.*" Steverson identified several white teammates who stood side-by-side with their black



brothers of the diamond in confronting social and cultural issues.

Next to the bat was the father-daughter team of **Nia** and **Owen Lawson**

IV, a conference first. **Nia**, 14 years old, a **National Honor Society** and **Presidential Scholar**, helped her daddy discuss the short-lived West Coast Baseball Association. It was a solid performance by this dynamic duo which received a standing ovation.

In keeping with our local theme, visual artist and author **Todd Peterson** spoke about the Kansas City (KS) Giants, from 1907 to 1917. Peterson introduced new players from the first professional African American squad from the area, aptly titled, "*King of the Stockyards*". Next up was **Sherman Jenkins** who shared the saga of Satchel Paige's Monarchs against Dizzy Dean's All-Stars at Wrigley Field in 1942. In October, Jenkins is expecting to publish his book, *Ted Strong, Jr.: the Untold Story of an Original Harlem Globetrotter and Negro League All-Star* by Rowman and Littlefield.

We closed out the morning session with playwright **Ruby Berryman**. With a diagram of a ball diamond on the screen, Berryman provided a theatrical journey with "*Barnstorming as Theater: Satchel Seizes the Elixir.*" With a silky smooth voice made for audio books and commercial voiceovers, we all drunk the elixir and gave her, theatrically speaking, "a curtain call." The local *Kansas City Star* wrote about Berryman's extraordinary presentation the next day in Sunday's edition. Read more about Berryman's elixir at <http://www.kansascity.com/sports/article88722172.html>.

Returning from lunch, **Peter Gorton** of the Donaldson Network made a strong case for the HOF induction of John Donaldson. With his career 399 victories, nearly 5,000 strikeouts, and ranked by the *Pittsburgh Courier* in 1952, alongside Paige,



Bullet Rogan, Smokey Joe Williams, and Willie Foster, as one of the greatest black pitchers during the heyday of the Leagues, made a solid case for Cooperstown immortality. If we gave out an award for the best-dressed presenter, Gorton would be the winner. Check him out in this custom-made Donaldson jersey. Also review his outstanding presentation at: <https://vimeo.com/174585638>

Following this tough act, and up to the challenge, was **Frank M. White**, author of *They Played for the Love of the Game: Untold Stories of Black Baseball in Minnesota*. White shared some rare images of Twin City teams and personal accounts of segregated baseball in the North Star state. Check out his award-winning book published by the Minnesota Historical Society Press.

Our next batter was newcomer **Paul Spyhalski** with his unique take on the 1936 Texas Black Spiders, the Algona Colored Giants and Brownies, and the National Baseball Congress. Check out more of his work online at "[The Black Bats of Mason City and Beyond](#)" and his recent article on the Black Spiders in *Black Ball: A Journal of the Negro Leagues*.



Clockwise; Bob Paige, Rita Paige, Carolyn Paige, Pamela Paige, Lizz Robertson, Faye Paige, Diane and Donald Spivey

The long-awaited panel presentation with the children of Leroy and Lahoma Paige had finally arrived. Daughters **Pamela, Carolyn** and **Rita** joined their brother **Robert** to tell some tall tales about their famous Dad. The panel was moderated by University of Miami professor **Dr. Donald Spivey**, author of *If You Were Only White: The Life of Leroy 'Satchel' Paige*. The "youngsters" told how good life was in their loving home, how to cook and do a little gardening, make some music with pots and pans, and their fishing trips with Mom and Dad, in which Lahoma always excelled.

Most of their true stories were true! You had to be there to appreciate this one-in-a-million event, as we sung happy birthday to a DJ mix from 50 cent and Stevie Wonder to celebrate 110 years. Because of space limitation, read a more complete account at **Dan D'Addona's** post on Satchel Paige's family legacy at:

<http://www.hollandsentinel.com/sports/20160716/dan-daddona-satchel-paiges-legacy-still-legendary-after-110th-birthday> .

Another interesting article was written by **Steve Dunn** from Des Moines, Iowa.

[Steve Dunn: Purchasing a piece of Keokuk baseball history at the Malloy Conference](#) (Daily Gate City)



The Brotherhood of Phil Ross, John Wakelin, Harriet Kimbro-Hamilton, Bob Paige & Don Conway

Dunn captured the essence of the conference emailing me, "*Upon reflecting, I couldn't help but be impressed by the warm relations between the black and white races during the three-day event. That was in stark contrast to the shootings by and at police in three cities last week. Hate is often fueled by ignorance and a warped sense of reality. The Malloy Conference proves blacks and whites can get along if they want to.*" Yes Steve, the camaraderie and brotherhood are alive and well at the Malloy.

AWARDS BANQUET

Throughout the conference we were honored to have three artists display their works in the vendor room; **Dr. Charles Crutchfield III** from Mendota Heights, MN, and **Anthony High** and **Todd Peterson** from Kansas City, MO. We closed out the conference with several awards after **John Graf**, from Janesville, Wisconsin, upset New Yorker **Philip Ross** in the **Trivia Contest**. It was Ross's second silver medal finish. Perhaps next year!



The winner of the prestigious 10th annual Fay Vincent Most Valuable Partner (MVP) went to **Ted Knorr** of Harrisburg, PA. Knorr is fabulously known as a former Trivia champion and current Trivia Contest moderator. Knorr hosted the first Malloy Conference in Harrisburg, featuring *Only the Ball was White* author Robert Peterson as our keynote speaker.

OTHER AWARD WINNERS

Robert Peterson Recognition Award

(1) Dr. Brian Carroll for *The Black Press & Black Baseball, 1915-195*, (2) Dr. Harriet Kimbro-Hamilton for *Daddy's Scrapbook: Henry Kimbro of the Negro Baseball Leagues, a daughter's perspective* and (3) Frank M. White for *They Played for the Love of the Game*

"Tweed" Webb Lifetime Achievement Award presented by son Roger Webb:

(1) Dr. Charles Crutchfield for creating the **Jimmie Crutchfield Scholarship**, (2) Kevin Johnson for creating the website www.seamheads.com and (3) Dr. Derrick Jones for his **Traveling Baseball Exhibit on the Negro Leagues**

Thomas R. Garrett Memorial \$1,000 Scholarship

Winners: Kevin Vernan Crosby from Largo, Maryland; Grant Heindselman from Dallas, Texas; Josephine Riedell from Hiawatha, Iowa; Grace

Rootes from Noblesville, Indiana; Jansen Rouillard from Wichita Falls, Texas

Richard C. Clark Memorial Library \$500 Grant Winner: Geneseo Public Library, Geneseo, Illinois

Art Competition Winners were:

Debbie Sampson (professional category); **Carol Schleppe** (Amateur) and **Hailey Castello** (Youth)

View previous winners at:

<http://www.larrylester42.com/art-competition.html>



Joyce Thompson Stearnes, Jake Cornwell & Rosilyn Brown Stearnes

At the awards banquet, the "Turkey" Stearnes daughters sang the National Anthem along with a four-piece medley of songs to honor the late **Rick Meister**, a Malloy Conference regular.

We are so thankful for the donation of items for our auctions from **Wayne Stivers**, **Joseph Mitchell et al.** And a big SHOUT OUT to **Michael** and **Christine Garvey** for the purchase of 25 copies of David Adler's book, *Satchel Paige: Don't Look Back*. This heavily illustrated book by Terry Widener was given to each child and grandchild of the Paige family, along with Paige's Hall of Fame postcards and a plethora of historical goodies about their dad.

We also want to thank Kansas City **Mayor Sly James** for his proclamation designating July 7th as **SACHEL PAIGE DAY** in the city of fountains.

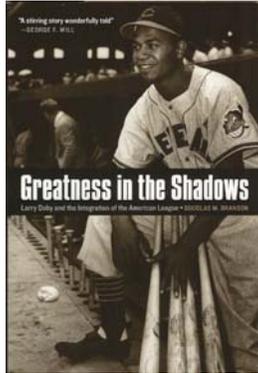
More conference photographs & highlights can be found at: www.sabr.org/malloy and <http://www.larrylester42.com/jerry-malloy.html>

As Satchel once bragged, "Don't Look Back!" Therefore, we are moving forward and expect to see everyone next year in either Daytona Beach, Harrisburg, Boston, Birmingham or Minneapolis to celebrate Black Baseball History.

Dugout Reading:

Greatness in the Shadows: Larry Doby and the Integration of the American League by **Douglas M. Branson**

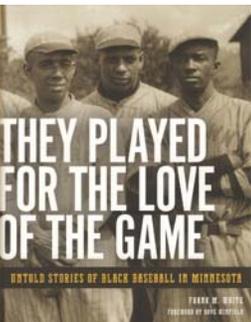
Just weeks after Jackie Robinson joined the National League Brooklyn Dodgers, Larry Doby became the first black player to integrate the American League as a Cleveland Indian. Doby went on to be a seven-time All-Star center fielder who led the Indians to two pennants. In many respects Robinson and Doby were equals in their baseball talent and experiences and had remarkably similar playing careers: both were well-educated, well-spoken World War II veterans and both had played spectacularly, albeit briefly, in the Negro Leagues. Like Robinson, Doby suffered brickbats, knock-down pitches, spit in his face, and others forms of abuse and discrimination. Doby was also a pioneering manager, becoming the second black manager following Frank Robinson.



Why is Doby largely forgotten as a central figure in baseball's integration? Why has he not been accorded his rightful place in baseball history? *Greatness in the Shadows* attempts to answer these questions, bringing Doby's story to life and sharing his achievements and firsts with a new generation.

This is Branson's 19th book and is published by the University of Nebraska Press.

They Played for the Love of the Game: Untold Stories of Black Baseball in Minnesota by **Frank M. White, with foreword by Dave Winfield**



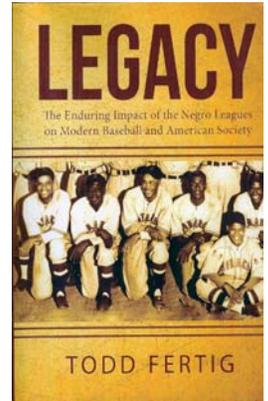
Driven by a personal passion and years of research, Frank White recovers Minnesota baseball history by sharing stories of black ballplayers around the Twin Cities, from the 1870s to the 1960s. Although the stories tell of denial, hardship and segregation, they are highlighted by athletes who persevered and were united by their love of the sport. White's father, Lou

"Pud" White, was one of the top catchers in the Twin Cities in his day, a fact that his son did not learn until late in life. Through photos, artifacts, and spoken histories passed through the generations, White presents the stories of the earliest black baseball players in Minnesota and those who played the game proudly in the decades that followed.

White is a former athlete, coach, official and sports administrator. He currently coordinates the RBI program for the Minnesota Twins. His exhibit, *They Played for the Love of the Game* was developed with the Ramsey County Historical Society in 2010.

Legacy: The Enduring Impact of the Negro Leagues on Modern Baseball and American Society by **Todd Fertig**

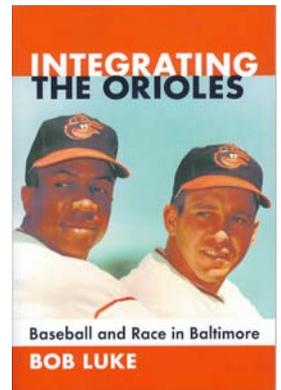
Legacy features stories of four families of Major League players who are direct descendants of Negro Leaguers. The four families featured are the Sam Hairston, George Giles, Victor Weeks and Luis Tiant, Senior. More than 50 Major League stars, coaches and others provide original reflections upon the many ways in which the Negro Leagues changed sports, America and the world. The interviews include subjects; Derek Jeter, Charlie Pride, George Altman, Jason Heyward and Jackie Joyner-Kersey. Fertig is a freelance writer and communications specialist. The book is published by Tate Publishing and Enterprises, LLC.



Integrating the Orioles: Baseball and Race in Baltimore by **Bob Luke**

The struggle to integrate the Baltimore Orioles mirrored the fight for civil rights in Baltimore. The Orioles debuted in 1954. As Baltimore experience demonstrations, white flight and a 1968 riot, team integration came slowly. Black players made cameo appearances as black fans stayed away. The breakthrough came in 1966, with the arrival of a more enlightened owners, and African American superstar Frank Robinson. As more black players filled the roster, the Orioles dominated the American League from 1969 through much of the 1970s and into the early 1980s.

Attempts to integrate the team's executive suite were less successful. While black players generally did not participate in civil rights actions, several under Robinson's leadership pushed for front office jobs for former black players. Drawing on primary sources and interviews with former executives, players and sportswriters, this book tells the story of the integration of the Orioles. Note, Luke is author of four previous books about baseball and race in America.



Baseball's No-Hit Wonders: More Than A Century of Pitching's Greatest Feats by **Dirk Lammers**.

Award-winning AP journalist and baseball blogger Lammers dedicates chapter eight to Negro League no-hitters. Who pitched the first no-hitter in the Negro Leagues? Find it here. Foreword by the *Last Commissioner* Fay Vincent. An Unbridled publication.

Research Request

The **SABR's Latino Committee** is looking for stories or articles about Negro Leaguers playing in Latin American Leagues, or Latino players playing in the Negro Leagues. If you have any research you would like to share with the Committee please contact chairman **Anthony Salazar**, at salazar8017@yahoo.com. This is a great opportunity to partnership with another committee for crossover topics, etc.

LONNIE WHEELER, has written numerous baseball books and collaborated with baseball greats including Bob Gibson on his autobiography *Stranger to the Game*, Mike Piazza on *Long Shot*, Hank Aaron on *I Had a Hammer*, and Bob Gibson and Reggie Jackson on *Sixty Feet, Six Inches: A Hall of Fame Pitcher & a Hall of Fame Hitter Talk About How the Game Is Played*. Wheeler is working on a biography about **James "Cool Papa" Bell**. He can be reached at 5wheelers@fuse.net or 513-553-4801

AL DAVIS is requesting information about the **Frank "Red Ant" Wickware's** headstone. Does Wickware have a headstone in Vale Cemetery, Schenectady, New York? Wickware died November 2, 1967 in Schenectady. Davis can be reached at alhdavis@gmail.com

BLAKE SHERRY is researching the **Pittsburgh Crawfords** and **Homestead Grays**. Reach out to him at: bsherry@aol.com

RON SELTER is the editor-in-chief of *Green Cathedrals*, the fifth edition. Selter is looking for updated information on **ballparks of Negro League teams**. Selter can be reached at: rselter@att.net

DIRK LAMMERS, author of detailed *Baseball's No-Hit Wonders: More Than a Century of Pitching's Greatest Feats*, continues his research on **No-Hitters** in the Negro Leagues. Lammers can be reached at: dirkL@lammers.net or 605-254-3472

LOU HERNANDEZ, author of a new book entitled, *Chronology of Latin Americans in Baseball, 1871–2015* by McFarland Publishers is seeking information on **Negro Leaguers** and **Latin American** players.

MATT KEELEAN, RALPH MAYA and NICK DIUNTE, are interested in Negro League players that crossed over into Major League baseball after the color line was broken in 1947. Diunte can be reached at ndiunte@yahoo.com Maya is at cubanralph@aol.com Keelan at mattkeelan@yahoo.com or 850-459-4703

KARL GREEN, an historian of collegiate sports is seeking historical won-lost records and head coaches for **Selma College** in Selma, Alabama. Contact Green at: atlcrackersfan@gmail.com

TOM BRADLEY is very interested in knowing more about the great Negro Leaguers that are NOT in the Cooperstown Hall of Fame. Share your thoughts and findings with him at: Trbmbb@gmail.com

MIKE HAUPERT is seeking **financial records** of any and all Negro League teams for statistical analyses. Haupert can be reached at: mhaupert@uwlax.edu

RICK SOLOMON is looking for more information about the **1946 Seattle Steelheads** of the West Coast Baseball League. Reach out to Solomon at ricksolo@ricksolo.com or 206-963-3258

TOM HUFFORD of Marietta, Georgia is looking for more information about the **Grave Marker Project**. I would suggest contacting Dr. Jeremy Krock at jkrock@comcast.net or visit <http://www.larrylester42.com/grave-markers.html> Hufford can be reached at: hufford@mindsprings.com or 404-402-0539.

ANDY McCUE, a SABR member since 1982, and winner of the **Bob Davids Award** in 2007, is interested in **ownership biographies and organizational information** about Negro Leagues teams and organized Negro Leagues. McCue can be reached at: agmccue44@earthlink.net or 951-318-1267.

DAVID HARLAN is researching players of color for the **1969 Atlanta Braves**, the National League West Champions, who lost three straight to the New York Mets in the post-season. Reach out to Harlan at: धारलान501@sbcglobal.net

JOANNE HULBERT, who specializes in 19th Century Boston baseball history, is interested in the social and cultural issues about the integration of baseball in and around the New England area. She has a special interest in **William Selden** and **Alfred Jupiter**. Hulbert's contact information: jhulbert@earthlink.net

JOHN SCHLEPPI, is looking for information about **Riverside Park**, a historical facility that hosted one of the first pro baseball games under the lights in 1930. The park was home to the Independence Producers (Class C; Western Association). The park is located in Montgomery County, Kansas. Contact Schleppe at: jrschleppe@gmail.com

The Jerry Malloy Collection - Archived in Cooperstown, N.Y.

Greetings from Cooperstown. To follow is a special message from **Jim Gates, Jr.**, library director at the Hall of Fame. *"I hope this email finds you all well and enjoying a pleasant summer season. While we have been very busy with a hectic summer at the museum, the library staff has continued to organize and prepare collections for researchers. There is one newly organized archive which may interest some of you. This would be the **Jerry Malloy Papers** which now consist of eight boxes of material that is ready for the research world.*

The basic catalog record may be found via this link:

<http://abner.baseballhalloffame.org/search~S1?/Xmalloy&searchscope=1&SORT=D/Xmalloy&searchscope=1&SORT=D&SUBKEY=malloy/1%2C19%2C19%2CB/frameset&FF=Xmalloy&searchscope=1&SORT=D&2%2C2%2C>

The more detailed Finding Aid may be found via this link:

http://baseballhall.org/sites/default/files/all/FindingAids/ba_mss_228_jerry_malloy_research_papers.pdf

Please do not hesitate to share this with anyone who may have an interest in the collection. Best wishes from everyone at the library."

James L. Gates Jr., Library Director,
jgates@baseballhall.org

Please note, much more Jerry Malloy archival material will be coming from Wayne Stivers and myself in the near future. Many thanks to Hall of Fame archivist **Claudette Scrafford** for compiling this initial Finding Aid. Stay tuned!

Berra, Doby, Irvin honored by Essex County Leaders

On June 6, three New Jersey legends earned a bronze plaque in Essex County. Executive Joseph DiVincenzo honored the legacy of **Yogi Berra**, **Larry Doby** and **Monte Irvin** during a ceremony at the Essex County Government Complex. The three baseball Hall of Famers who influenced the world, began their professional careers in Essex County.

Pictured, Irvin (left) and Doby (right) were a double play combination for the 1946 champion Newark Eagles of Essex County.



U.S. Senators introduce bill to award Larry Doby with Congressional Gold Medal

U.S. Senators **Sherrod Brown** (D-OH) and **Cory Booker** (D-NJ) have introduced legislation to award civil rights pioneer and longtime **Cleveland Indians** great **Larry Doby** with the **Congressional Gold Medal**. The honor would be a long overdue one for Doby, who broke the color barrier in the American League when he debuted with the Indians on July 5, 1947.

During his 13 seasons playing Major League Baseball (10 with the Indians), Doby amassed 253 home runs and a career slash line of .283/.386/.490. Doby was a central figure in the Indians' 1948 World Series run -- just his second year in the majors -- slashing .301/.384/.490 with 14 home runs in 121 games. In that series, in which the Indians defeated the Boston Braves,



Doby became the first African-American player to hit a home run in a World Series game.

Doby also went on to become the second African-American manager in league history when the **Chicago White Sox** hired him in 1978. He was enshrined into the Baseball Hall of Fame in 1998, and just this past offseason the

Indians erected a statue in his honor outside of **Progressive Field**.

Senator Brown, who proudly displays a replica of Doby's statue in his Washington D.C. office, had this to say about Doby and his influence on the game of baseball and the civil rights movement as a whole:

"Larry Doby is not just a sports hero, but an American hero who overcame discrimination and hostility as a young man to lead Cleveland to victory and lead our country in the right direction. Doby and the 1947 Indians broke barriers, finally integrating all of professional baseball. Doby has seldom received the credit he deserves, and this bill offers a small way to honor all he did for civil rights and America's game. To Senator Brown's point, while Major League Baseball celebrates Jackie Robinson every year on April 15 (as they should), "Larry Doby Day" often goes unnoticed."

The **Congressional Gold Medal** is the highest reward a civilian can receive from Congress, and only two other baseball players have received a medal: **Roberto Clemente** (in 1973) & **Jackie Robinson** (2003).

Sunrises!

SEND YOUR FAVORITE NEGRO LEAGUER A BIRTHDAY CARD.

SEPTEMBER

3rd – BILL GREASON – 92
4TH – JOSE SANTIAGO – 88
5TH – BILLY RAY HAGGINS – 87
7th – RICKY MAROTO – 84
9th – JIM PROCTOR – 81
16TH – OLLIE BRANTLEY – 85
21ST – LOUIS CLARIZIO – 85
22nd – SWEET LOU JOHNSON – 82
27th – MAMIE “PEANUT” JOHNSON – 81
30TH – ARCHIE YOUNG – 86

OCTOBER

7TH – RAY MADDIX – 88
20TH – CLIFF LAYTON – 87

NOVEMBER

4TH – ERNIE “SCHOOLBOY”
JOHNSON – 88
16th – “SKEETER” BANKS - 96
17th – ROBERT ROSELL WILLIAMS – 84
18th- BOB “PEACHEAD” MITCHELL – 84
20TH – BUDDY OWENS – 89
23rd – WILLIAM “BABA” RICHARDSON – 82
25TH – CLEO BROWN – 83
30TH – ERNIE WESTFIELD – 77



Grave Marker Project Update

Tentative plans to install a headstone for **John Thomas "Topeka" Johnson** (1883-1940) are scheduled for October 29th in Topeka, Kansas, in Mount Auburn Cemetery. Johnson was a player-manager for the Chicago Union Giants, Topeka Giants and the Kansas City (KS) Giants. This mission is led by **Ms. Jan Johnson**, janjohn723@gmail.com More details to come.

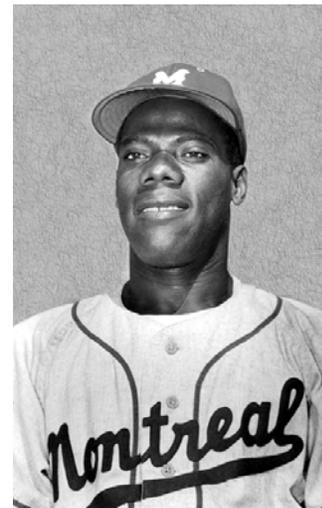


SABR's Negro Leagues Committee

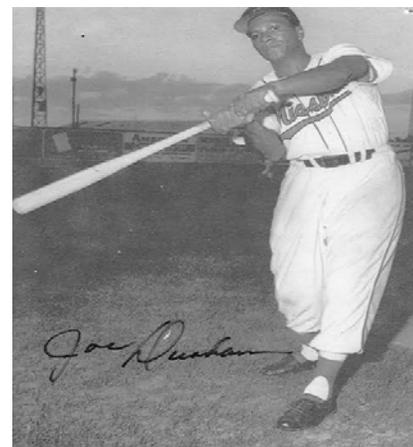
Larry Lester chair, LarryLester42@gmail.com
The Courier is a quarterly newsletter published by the Society for American Baseball Research (SABR); in March, June, September and December. Inquiries, submissions and research requests can be sent to Larry Lester. Back issues can be found [HERE](#).

Sunsets

JONATHAN CLYDE "THE DUKE" PARRIS, 93, died July 9, 2016, in Valley Stream, NY, at Franklin General Hospital. Parris, from 1946-49, was the first baseman for the **New York Black Yankees, Louisville Buckeyes, Philadelphia Stars** and the **Baltimore Elite Giants**. The Panamanian native also played in the **Brooklyn Dodgers** minor league system with Class-A Elmira and was named MVP of the Eastern League. The next season, 1956, Parris won the **batting title**, hitting .321, with the Triple A **Montreal Royals**. In five seasons with Montreal, Parris's slugging percentage never failed under .400. Parris is buried in Pinelawn Memorial Park, Farmingdale, NY.



JOSEPH VANN "POP" DURHAM, 84, died April 28, 2016, in Randallstown, MD. Durham was an outstanding outfielder for the 1951-52 **Chicago American Giants**. He spent the next two seasons with minor league teams before joining the **Baltimore Orioles** in 1954 for a brief stint. Durham served in the military in 1955 and 1956, before rejoining the Orioles in June of 1957. He appeared in six games with the 1959 **St. Louis Cardinals**. His final four years of professional baseball, 1961-64, where spent with the **Rochester Red Wings** of the International League (AAA). In 1962 Durham won the International league's **Silver Glove Award**. Durham is buried in Garrison Forest Veterans Cemetery, Owings Mills, MD.



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