



**Biographical Research Committee Monthly Report**  
**May/June 2000**

## **F. C. Hansford Found**

F. C. Hansford, one of our most mysterious missing players, who pitched one game for Brooklyn in 1898 has been found. With help from Jay Sanford, I found him and am awarding myself the *Find of the Month* award.

We had little to go on with Hansford and he was always listed as being from Colorado. Jay Sanford had done some research into his career in Colorado and found a note indicating that his first name was Frank. Meanwhile, another bio committee member (I forgot who sent this to me and I apologize for not remembering) sent me a note that Hansford hailed from Fort Scott, Kansas.

Armed with this information, I searched through the census and found a Frank C. Hansford listed in 1880 in DuQuoin, Illinois as a 6 year old, in 1900 in Ogden, Utah, born 12/1874 in Illinois, in 1910 in Wichita, age 35, and in 1920 in Fort Scott at age 45. These were all obviously the same guy.

I made a call to Evergreen Cemetery in Fort Scott, a cemetery I had dealt with before when seeking out another player, Lon Ury. Hansford was buried there in 1952. The caretaker told me to call the funeral home which was fortunately still in existence. They told me that his full name was Frank Cicero Hansford, he was born December 26, 1874 and died December 14, 1952 in Fort Scott. As of yet, I haven't been able to track down his place of birth and am still waiting to receive his obituary. Many thanks to all who helped me find Frank Hansford.

### **New Members**

Please welcome Bob Schenkel to the committee. Bob's address is 28 Northampton B, West Palm Beach, Florida 33417 and his code number will be S2.

### **Baseball and the Olympics**

Since this is an Olympic year, it is only fitting that we have a fact that relates to baseball and the Olympics. What ballplayer had both a father and a brother that competed in the Olympics? It was Jackie Gutierrez whose father Campo competed in the hurdles in the 1936 Olympics and brother Freddie ran the 100 meters in 1964. Thanks to Scott Flatow for this bit of trivia.

### **Another Related Question For You Bird Lovers**

Jamie Selko was reading the book Hope Is A Thing With Feathers: A Personal Chronicle of Vanished Birds (for those of you who know Jamie, you know he has a wide variety of interests) and he learned that the last wild Passenger Pigeon was shot in Ohio on March 24, 1900 by Pressley Clay Southworth, the brother of longtime major league manager Billy Southworth. It makes me wonder who shot the second to the last one.

### **Convention News**

We had a pretty good turnout for our committee meeting in West Palm Beach despite our meeting being scheduled at 8:00 Sunday morning. We decided to carry the last date each player appeared in the major leagues in addition to the debut date. Dave Smith will provide all of the end dates back to 1977. If any of you do any research on end dates, for now send the results to Dave Vincent, who is in the process of redesigning the biographical database.

## Cashing Your Bonds In Early

Barry Bonds was called up by the Pirates May 30, 1986 and made his major league debut that night. On August 11, he pinch hit in a game that was the completion of a suspended game from April 20. The official records record the date of the suspended game as April 20, so even though Bonds appears in the box score of the April 20 game, his debut was actually May 30. One hundred years from now, when someone discovers this and tries to change his debut date to April 20, please remember this note.

## Obituary Help

I know that when any of you spot the obituary of a major league player, you send that to me. However, other SABR committees are interested in obituaries as well. If you see an umpire obit, please send it to Phyllis Otto and if you see a minor league obit, please send that to Ray Nemec. Their addresses are below:

Phyllis Otto  
200 N. Pickett St. #415  
Alexandria, Virginia 22304  
phyll@ottoexec.org

Ray Nemec  
1424 Heatherton Drive  
Naperville, Illinois 60563  
Basebalray@aol.com

## The Baseball Digest List

The 10 players listed in the July 1962 Baseball Digest were:

David Brain - Died May 25, 1959 in Los Angeles

Jacob Aydelotte - Died October 22, 1926 in Detroit

Earl Akers - Alive in 1962. Died May 15, 1979 in Bay Pines, Florida

Raymond Miner - Alive in 1962. Died September 15, 1963 in Glenridge, New York

Elmer Pence - Alive in 1962. Died September 17, 1968 in San Francisco

Robert Potter - Alive in 1962. Died January 27, 1983 in Ashland, Kentucky

Michael Hayes - Still missing

Oliver Brown - Died September 23, 1932 in Brooklyn

Wingo Anderson - Died December 19, 1950 in Fort Worth, Texas

John Wieneke - Died March 16, 1933 in Pleasant Ridge, Michigan

## World Series Survivors

Here is some trivia that you can bring up in your next baseball discussion. The oldest World Series team which still has a participant living is the 1932 Yankees with Frank Crosetti. The oldest team to still have all of its players living are the 1975 Reds and 1975 Red Sox. All participants in that World Series are still alive.

## Birthday List

There are several nonagenarians celebrating birthdays in July and August. Make sure you send them a card.

July 9	Lou Polli	99
July 19	Henry Kinzy	90
July 25	Joseph Zapustas	93
July 29	Fran Healy, Sr.	90
August 8	Tot Pressnell	94
August 11	Forrest Jensen	93
August 20	Al Lopez	92
August 22	Robert Keely	91
August 23	Lonny Frey	90
August 27	Herbert Pyle	90
August 31	Ray Berres	93
	Michael Haslin	90

## Speaking of Nonagenarians....

Elden Auker, who will turn 90 on September 21, was the keynote speaker at the SABR convention in West Palm Beach. For a man about to turn 90, he looked like he could still pitch. He gave a wonderful talk and told about the first 2 hitters he faced in the majors, a couple of guys named Ruth and Gehrig. Auker is also one of the oldest living World Series participants, having pitched in the 1934-35 World Series with the Tigers. It was a very enjoyable evening that culminated with Lyle Spatz winning the Bob Davids award. Congratulations, Lyle!

## We Need To Look Higher And Lower For Lauer

John Charles Lauer played several positions, none of them well, for Pittsburgh (AA) in 1884, Pittsburgh (NL) in 1889, and Chicago (NL) in 1890. He was later signed by Quincy, Illinois in 1896. Lauer married a Pittsburgh girl on September, 10, 1891 and definitely appears to be from Pittsburgh. He comes from a large family as in the 1880 Pennsylvania census, John and Dora Lauer are listed with 10 children: Mattie (16), John (15), Marion (14), Elizabeth (13), Henry (11), Charles (9), George (7), Edward (4), Dora (2), Emelia (5 months). The 1920 Pennsylvania census lists John Lauer, 55, and his wife, Mary, living at 437 Walnut in Hazleton, Pennsylvania. With all those Lauers floating around Pennsylvania, it seems like we should be able to find some clues on his family. Lauer is our *May/June Mystery of the Month*.

## The Scoreboard

	IN	OUT	PCT
Total Complete Names	15255	66	99.569
Total Complete Births	14584	737	95.190
Total Complete Deaths	7610	438	49.670
Total Assumed Alive	7273		47.471
Total Bats	13974	1239	91.856
Total Throws	14225	988	93.506
Total Heights	14242	971	93.617
Total Weights	14181	1032	93.216
Total Debut Dates	15321	0	100.000
Total Questionnaires	9984	5337	65.166
Total Completion			92.1372

## New Monthly Data

### Questionnaires Received:

None

### New Information Received:

1884 Baldwin, Charles Busted	BR	(S5)
1884 Berkelbach, Frank P.	Name: Frank P. Bertleback	(D2)
1934 Bordagaray, Stanley George	D: Apr 13 2000	(C1)
	<u>Ventura, California</u>	
1884 Burns, Thomas P.	BL	(S5)
1904 Byers, James William	Weight: 210	(M4)
1884 Carroll, John E.	BR	(S6)
1933 Chapman, Edwin Volney	D: May 3 2000	(C1)
	<u>Clarksdale, Mississippi</u>	
1956 Cimoli, Gino Nicholas	Real Name: Gino Anichletto Cimoli	(H4)
1895 Clark, William Otis	Height: 6-00 Weight: 195	(M4)
1942 Clary, Ellis	D: Jun 2 2000	(B6)
	<u>Valdosta, Georgia</u>	
1902 Clay, Frederick C.	TL Weight: 175	(R1)
1948 Conatser, Clinton Astor	Real Name: Astor Clinton Conatser	(H4)
1899 Dowling, Henry Peter	BL Weight: 165	(M4)
1932 English, Charles Dewie	D: Jun 25 1999	(C1)
	<u>Pasadena, California</u>	
1995 Estes, Aaron Shawn	BR	(P1)
1915 Fluhrer, John L.	Name: John Lister Fluhrer	(S1)
1884 Flynn, Joseph	Name: Joseph Nicholas Flynn	(R1)
	B: Jan 1862	
	<u>Providence, Rhode Island</u>	
	D: Dec 22 1933	
	<u>Providence, Rhode Island</u>	
1893 Garry, James Thomas	Height: 5-10 Weight: 165	(M4)
1896 Garvin, Virgil Lee	BR	(M4)
1997 Green, Bertrum Scarborough	BS	(P1)
1901 Hallman, William Harry	Height: 5-08 Weight: 165	(M4)
1898 Hansford, F. C.	Name: Frank Cicero Hansford	(C1)
	B: Dec 26 1874	
	<u>Illinois</u>	
	D: Dec 14 1952	
	<u>Fort Scott, Kansas</u>	
1905 Hershey, Frank	Height: 5-10	(R1)
1900 Husting, Berthold Juneau	Height: 5-10.5 Weight: 185	(M4)
1885 Kennedy, Theodore A.	TR	(S6)
1956 Keough, Richard Martin	B: Apr 14 1934	(H4)
1897 Leahy, Thomas Joseph	BR	(M4)
1953 Liddle, Donald Eugene	D: Jun 5 2000	(C1)
	<u>Mt. Carmel, Illinois</u>	
1939 Loane, Robert Kenneth	B: Aug 5 1914	(H4)
1928 Martin, John Leonard Roosevelt	Name: Johnny Leonard Roosevelt Martin	(S7)

1951 Merson, John Warren	D: <u>Apr 28 2000</u>	(PP)
	<u>Elk Ridge, Maryland</u>	
1994 Mordecai, Michael Howard	<u>BR</u>	(P1)
1897 Nance, William G.	Eliminate 1904 St. Louis (AL) record	(S1)
	Game belongs to Mike Kahoe	
1969 Perez, Martin Roman	B: Feb 28 <u>1946</u>	(H4)
1904 Rementer, Willis J.	<u>BR</u> Height: <u>5-06.5</u> Weight: <u>180</u>	(R1)
1889 Reynolds, Charles Lawrence	<u>BR</u>	(S5)
1887 Roach, John F.	<u>TR</u>	(S5)
1949 Robinson, John Edward	D: <u>Mar 2 2000</u>	(C1)
	<u>Ormond Beach, Florida</u>	
1944 Ruszkowski, Henry Alexander	D: <u>May 31 2000</u>	(S1)
	<u>Cleveland, Ohio</u>	
1889 Shannon, Daniel Webster	D: Oct <u>24 1913</u>	(P1)
1901 Smith, Harry Thomas	Height: <u>5-08.5</u> Weight: <u>165</u>	(M4)
1897 Sparks, Thomas Frank	Height: <u>5-10</u> Weight: <u>160</u>	(M4)
1952 Tiefenauer, Bobby Gene	D: <u>Jun 13 2000</u>	(C1)
	<u>Desloge, Missouri</u>	
1962 Tillman, John Robert	D: <u>Jun 23 2000</u>	(Q1)
	<u>Gallatin, Tennessee</u>	
1990 Vatcher, James Ernest	B: May 27 <u>1965</u>	(H4)
1901 Waldron, Irving J.	<u>BL</u> Height: <u>5-05.5</u> Weight: <u>155</u>	(M4)
1980 Yost, Edgar Frederick	B: Aug 19 <u>1954</u>	(H4)