

## **@ SABR - NEGRO LEAGUES COMMITTEE NEWSLETTER**

June 1998

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**\*\*Denotes items available for SASE-Please affix enough postage (Usually 1 stamp/4 pages.)**

### **CHAIRMAN'S REMARKS**

There are numerous events coming up; make plans now to attend one or more.

Congratulations to Scott Allen who accepted the Herbert H. Rosenthal Memorial Award for historical writing for his paper, "Organize Your Team: The St. Louis Giants and Black Baseball, 1910-1921 on April 19th. Scott will be attending Michigan State University for his graduate studies.

This newsletter reflects the worthy contributions of the following: Davis Barker, Todd Bolton, Rich Bozzone, Adrian Burgos, Bob Davids, Paul DeBono, Jeff Eastland, Bob Eisen, Cappy Gagnon, Larry Gerlach, Leslie Heaphy, Larry Hogan, Lou Hunsinger, Ted Knorr, Mike Kolleth, Neil Lancot, Joe Lee, Larry Lester, Jerry Malloy, David Marasco, Horace Marchant III, Gary Maurer, Sammy Miller, Cliff Otto, Claudia Perry, Judith Plummer, Bob Peterson, Ronda Smalley, Lyle Spatz, Brad Sullivan, Steve Taylor, Chris Warren and Lyle Wilson.

The annual NLC report is available **\*\*1pg.**

### **NEGRO LEAGUERS AND THE HALL OF FAME**

We plan to have a complete report of the induction ceremonies on July 26, 1998, when Sam Lacy, Larry Doby, and Bullet Rogan are honored. Larry Lester, Scot Mondore, Rick Morris, and myself will be there.

### **THE NEGRO LEAGUES BOOK**

Lyle Wilson passed along 31 pages of box scores of barnstorming games played in Washington over various years.

Jeff Eastland passed along photo copies of a 1942 scorecard which gave us more uniform numbers and even new men for the rosters.

Jerry Malloy gave us valuable information on the 1908 and 1909 Chicago teams.

### **SPECIAL EVENTS**

On Saturday April 25, 1998 "A Legendary Tribute To Sam Lacy" was held. Larry Lester represented SABR and the NLC as part of the honoring of one of the world's finest gentlemen and 1998 HoF honoree. **\*\*12pp** program available. THE HERALD-MAIL (Hagerstown, MD) "Hall of Fame scripts perfect ending for Lacy," **\*\*1pg.**

Pop's In! A Celebration Of The Induction Of John Henry "Pop" Lloyd into The New Jersey Sports Hall Of Fame, began with an induction dinner on May 14th at the Meadowlands, followed by a reception in Atlantic City on the 15th and then a gravesite ceremony to unveil an historic marker at Pop's grave in Pleasantville, NJ. **\*\*8pp** program. A wonderful event!

Also, on May 16, 1998 Oscar Charleston Park in Indianapolis was dedicated at 29th and Oxford. Buck O'Neil presided over the ribbon cutting ceremonies, along with Mayor Stephen Goldsmith and Charleston's niece Anna.

#### **Upcoming Special Events**

On June 19th Yesterday's Players Association and the Milwaukee Brewers will have the second Wall Of Fame Ceremony. It begins with a 11:30 AM luncheon and then a ceremony at 4:00 PM and followed by a Brewers-Pirates game. This year's inductees include Rodolpho Fernandez, Willie Grace, Nap Gulley, Buster Haywood, Clint Jones, Lester Lockett, Art Pennington, and Andy Porter. A card show and signing will take place on Saturday.

The weekend of June 27th will be an especially busy time for the NLC.

The National SABR Convention begins in San Mateo, CA on June 25th. I trust many West Coast folks will be there to be part of a great NLC meeting. It will be better than ever as Jerry Malloy will conduct it. Larry and I will be

missing (my first miss since 1985). The Saturday meeting will be at 8:30 AM. The National is always a great time. A complete report in the August newsletter.

I will be involved in the third Annual Negro League Celebration in Detroit on the 27th. The Tigers and Cincinnati Reds will wear replica uniforms and many veterans will be participating. Events will be reported in August.

The Harrisburg Senators will Honor Spottswood Poles at the 2nd annual Negro League Commemorative Night on Saturday June 27th. Before the game, at noon, an exhibit of Harrisburg Negro League History will be on display on City Island. A player panel consisting of local minor league, latter day Negro League and semi-pro players (some who played for Poles) will be held at 4 PM. A pre-game ceremony honoring Poles will begin at 6:30 followed by the game between Harrisburg and Akron. The first 2,000 youth will receive souvenir Harrisburg Giant caps and special programs will be sold for \$2. The hats and programs will be available for purchase at the SABR Negro League Committee Conference in August. In addition, registered conference attendees will receive a free program. More information call Ted Knorr at (717) 238-5151.

## **COMMITTEE ANNOUNCEMENTS**

It is always sad to report the deaths of Negro Leaguers. The following have passed; Rafael Noble in Mahhatten at 79 on 5/9/98, NEW YORK TIMES 5/11/98 \*\*1pg; John Wyatt, 4/6/98 at 63 in Omaha, KANSAS CITY STAR 4/8/98 \*\*1pg; Gentry Jessup 83 in Springfield, MA on 3/23/98, SPRINGFIELD UNION-NEWS 3/26/98 \*\*1pg; John Kennedy 4/27/98 in Jacksonville, FL; Zachery Redden 5/3/98 in Toledo, OH; Robert Baten 1/29/98 in Simsbury, CT, HARTFORD COURANT 2/1/98 \*\*1pg; Charles Marvray 4/6/98 at 69 in Pensacola, FL. Dan Black on May 12th in Nashville at 72.

Francis Kinlaw sent along that Negro League Baseball Day in Greensboro, NC on April 26th wasn't much of anything.

1998 inductees to THE DIAMOND ANGLE's Stars In Their Time Hall of Fame are Max Manning and Jud Wilson. New address for TDA & James Floto 706 So. Alu, Wailuku, HI 96793 (808) 244-7704.

Updated NLC address list \*\*1pg.

Juan Marichal has joined the HoF Veterans Committee replacing Monte Irvin.

No 395 Playlot Park will be renamed Leland Giants Playlot Park. It is located at 7526 S. Lowe, Chicago.

\*\*2pp press release giving details of new relationship between Yesterday's Negro League Baseball Players Association and Advocates Marketing Group LLP.

Jeff Eastland presented an educational program to the Capitol Beltway Postcard Club on Negro Leagues Baseball on May 14th. Jeff also displayed his New York Renaissance collection at an April postcard and paper show in Havre de Grace, MD. and in Richmond, VA. Finally at his wife's school he enlightened the kids with his presentation.

Larry Hogan, Neil Lanctot and Lyle Wilson provided input on radio broadcasts.

Lyle Wilson was able to assist Mark Presswood on the Fort Worth Black Cats and info on the New Orleans Black Pelicans.

## **ONLINE COMMITTEE ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Scott Allen Email [spartans@primary.net](mailto:spartans@primary.net)

Lou Hunsinger Email [wptgrays@csrlink.net](mailto:wptgrays@csrlink.net)

For more on Charleston Dedication, check <http://www.indy.net/~pdebono/oscar1.htm>

BOSTON GLOBE 4/17/98 "Sox more diverse" \*\*2pp.

CHICAGO TRIBUNE, Jerome Holtzman column 4/15/98, "For baseball's 1st real Black, fame wasn't even fleeting," \*\*3pp

Adrian Burgos was selected as an online panelist/moderator for the April 14th ESPN Town Meeting on Race and Sport.

Judith Plummer, [jplummer@earthlink.net](mailto:jplummer@earthlink.net) seeks any info on the baseball exploits of Paul Robeson. Here are two URLs on Robeson. <http://www.rutgers.edu/robeson/robesonbiography.html>

<http://www.cs.uchicago.edu/cpsr/robeson/bio.971016.html>

They are also very willing to help with any research.

<http://www.emanhi.com/negroleagueproducts.htm>

## **NEGRO LEAGUES RELATED ARTICLES**

Larry Hogan was featured in THE NEW YORK TIMES 5/10/98, "When baseball was Black and White," \*\*1pg.  
WASHINGTON POST 5/8/98 \*\*3pp, "Playing ball with history," (D.C. Little Leagues)  
THE BALTIMORE AFRO-AMERICAN, 2/14/98, "The Business of Black Baseball," \*\*11pp.  
\*\*4pp by John Holway.  
City of Indianapolis Proclamation "Mamie Peanut Johnson Day," \*\*1pg.  
EXODUS, Oct. 12 to Nov. 11, 1993 \*\*2pp, "Ex-Negro League Ball Player Sam Williams Never Strikes Out,"  
THE JERSEY JOURNAL 2/26/98, "Robinson Statue unveiled in Journal Square," \*\*2pp.  
THE ANN ARBOR NEWS 4/10/98, "Center honors Robeson legacy," \*\*2pp.  
"Before Jackie" by David Marasco, Spring 1998 TDA \*\*1pg  
SCD 5/22/98, "The Major Leagues first Black Player....not Jackie Robinson" (Walker) \*\*1pg.  
SOUTH BEND TRIBUNE 3/30/98, "Former player lauds baseball's Negro Leagues," (Ira McKnight) \*\*1pg.  
SARASOTA HERALD-TRIBUNE 3/8/98, "The game should be this way" \*\*1pg (O'Neil).  
Some book reviews: MINNEAPOLIS STAR-TRIBUNE 4/5/98, "Double Duty" shines despite editing, typography woes. \*\*1pg  
From NINE, reviews of JACKIE ROBINSON: AN INTIMATE PORTRAIT \*\*2pp & Paul Debono's THE INDIANAPOLIS ABCs done by Jerry Malloy. \*\*4pp.  
SCD 5/22/98 \*\*2pp "Prized baseball memorabilia from the National Sports Gallery."

## **CURRENT AND FUTURE INDIVIDUAL PROJECTS**

Adrian Burgos spent two weeks in Cienfuegos, Cuba and conducted research in the Provincial Archives. He found rosters from 1890 teams. He talked with many current and former players. He spoke with Martin Dihigo's son who stated that his father's favorite position was Centerfield. He hopes to interview Lorenzo "Chiquitin" Cabrera when he returns in September. A wonderful time for sure.  
Seeking comprehensive information on Jesse Owens' involvement with baseball.  
Christopher Warren seeks who did the majority of the photography for the Negro Leagues.  
Very pleased that SABR's Tom Shieber is going to Cooperstown to become Manager Of Internet Services (Webmaster) for the Hall of Fame.

## **THE MARKETPLACE**

Latest Quality Autographs AD \*\*2pp  
Larry Doby in Charlotte, NC June 12-14. Buck O'Neil in Chantilly, VA July 24-26.  
Autographed items AD \*\*1pg  
Negro Leagues 8x10 autographed photos \*\*1pg AD.  
Wayne Stivers AD for autographs \*\*1pg.  
Following are recent prices for NL items  
From SWEET SPOT April/May, 1998 a Willie Wells handwritten letter \$1531. Autographed copy of Jackie Robinson's MY OWN STORY \$3479. Autographed copy of MAYBE I'LL PITCH FOREVER, \$1628.  
Jackie Robinson's WAIT TILL NEXT YEAR, \$2981.  
A May 15th auction had many Negro Leaguers in Cuba items, mostly cards.  
More prices, \$9900 for a single signed ball of Martin Dihigo. 1920 Chester Giants team photo \$743, 1930s Negro League mini-broadside \$1105. Satchel Paige signed ball \$1055.  
An upcoming auction will feature a 1924 NL World Series panoramic photo (common) and a very rare 1903 Cuban X Giants trophy ball.

## **FINAL REMARKS**

The next newsletter will be August's. Please get all items to me before the last week of July. Make your plans for the NLC Harrisburg Conference. You won't be disappointed. Special information sheet to follow.

Dick Clark & Larry Lester