

## **@ SABR - NEGRO LEAGUES COMMITTEE NEWSLETTER April 1998**

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### **CHAIRMAN'S REMARKS**

Hall of Fame Induction Day will be extra special this year as Bullet Rogan joins Larry Doby and Sam Lacy in the hallowed halls of Cooperstown. Congratulations to Claudia Perry who made it to the Jeopardy Tournament Of Champions and won even more \$\$\$\$. We hope Claudia gets 100% healthy and enjoy the rewards.

A new address for Ted Knorr 205 Mulberry St. #7, Harrisburg, PA 17104, (717) 238-5151. New address for Tim Booker, 15617 Ingleside Ave., Dolton, IL 60419 (708) 849-5574.

As always our newsletter depends on the contributions of members and readers like the following people who submitted material: Scott Allen, Davis Barker, Paul Bauer, Dick Beverage, Todd Bolton, Tim Booker, Bob Brown, Adrian Burgos, Dan Busby, Chuck Carey, Kit Crissey, Paul Debono, Pat Doyle, Jeff Eastland, Clement Hamilton, Francis Harris, Alan Heaton, Leslie Heaphy, Larry Hogan, Ted Knorr, Mike Kolleth, Neil Lanctot, Larry Lester, Len Levin, Jerry Malloy, David Marasco, Gary Maurer, Ralph Maya, Sammy Miller, Doug Pappas, Jim Passannante, Claudia Perry, David Pietrusza, Robert Peterson, Mark Presswood, Jim Riley, Fred Schuld, Eduardo Valero, Eric Wiley, Bill Williamson, Lyle Wilson, and John Zajc.

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

Induction Weekend is July 25-27, 1998. Sunday the 26th will be a grand day as Sam Lacy, Larry Doby and Bullet Rogan enter the Hall of Fame....three men with connections to the Negro Leagues. All were overdue. I'm especially pleased to see Sam Lacy being honored. Our sincerest congratulations to all of them. We may even get Larry Lester to Cooperstown for his first visit. I hope to make it. Let me know if you plan to go. What about Smokey Joe Williams you say? I say let's go Turkey Stearnes for next year! With Williams still out, the HOF has to extend the deadline on Negro Leaguers. We have a slew of articles.

BASEBALL AMERICA 3/30-4/12, 1998 "Rogan, Doby receive their due," by John Holway \*\*\*1pg.

"Isn't it time Hall of Fame invited Doby?" NEWARK STAR-LEDGER 2/22/98 \*\*1pg Jerry Izenberg column.

USA TODAY BASEBALL WEEKLY 3/4-10/98 \*\*1pg, "Fifty years later, Doby waits for call from Hall" \*\*2pp.

USA TODAY 3/4/98, "Doby's way to Hall of Fame had obstacles," \*\*1pg.

THE NEW YORK TIMES, 3/4/98, "Doby is named to Hall of Fame," \*\*2pp.

THE RECORD (Hackensack, NJ) 3/4/98, "Veterans send four to Hall," \*\*1pg. & "Patience pays off for Larry Doby" \*\*1pg & "Quiet leader voted into Hall of Fame," \*\*1pg.

NEWARK STAR-LEDGER, 3/4/98 "Learning to fly with Eagles," \*\*2pp.

THE SUNDAY RECORD (Hackensack, NJ) 3/8/98, "Importance of being second," \*\*2pp.

THE NEW YORK TIMES 3/8/97, "Into Halls of Fame," \*\*1pg & "The might have been in Doby's career," \*\*1pg.

USA TODAY BASEBALL WEEKLY 3/11-17/98, "Vets Committee honors Doby, three others," \*\*1pg.

THE KANSAS CITY STAR 3/4/98, "Monarchs Star to be Inducted," \*\*2pp.

TACOMA NEWS TRIBUNE, 3/4/98, "Finally Doby gets his due," \*\*1pg.

THE SPORTING NEWS, 3/9/98, "Who are these new Hall of Famers?" \*\*3pp.

THE PHILADELPHIA INQUIRER, 3/5/98, "Overshadowed by some but second to none, Doby finally gets his due," \*\*1pg

THE WASHINGTON POST, 3/4/98, "Doby elected to Hall," \*\*1pg.

DAILY-RECORD (Morris County, NJ) 3/4/98, "Doby headed for Hall of Fame," \*\*1pg.

NEW YORK POST 3/4/98, "Veterans Committee opens Hall door for Doby, 3 others," \*\*2pp.

NEW YORK DAILY NEWS, 3/4/98, "Following Fame-ous footsteps," \*\*1pg.

\*\*1pg AD, private signings with Larry Doby.

U.S. NEWS & WORLD REPORT 3/16/98 "People in the news"\*\*\*1pg.

JET, 3/23/98 \*\*1pg on Rogan & Doby.

CHICAGO TRIBUNE 3/4/98, "Doby's rightful recognition," \*\*2pp.

CHICAGO SUN-TIMES, 3/4/98, "Veterans send Doby to Hall," \*\*2pp.

### **THE NEGRO LEAGUES BOOK**

Jerry Malloy provided 1889 Chicago Resolutes and New Orleans Pinchbacks rosters and added to the 1889 Chicago Unions.

David Marasco greatly assisted with correctly identifying Jose Perez and Blue Perez.

Nice review of the book in DODGERS DUGOUT \*\*1pg.

Thanks to Bob Brown for a 1912 NEW YORK AGE boxscore.

We are very grateful to Ralph Maya for passing along a copy of the program for the Cuban Baseball Hall of Fame Gala of June 28, 1997. The 16 page booklet helped us with some new data.

## HARRISBURG CONFERENCE

All systems are go, interest is very high but registrations aren't happening. Folks GET OFF YOUR BUTTS and sign up. We must get people registered NOW and research briefs submitted or we will draft speakers. DO NOT WAIT! Reservations at the Ramada you can do at your leisure (before June 1st) but we need \$\$\$ to budget costs involved. Lots of people have shown interest but let's get with it and make this THE EVENT it should be. Conference registration is through Ted Knorr (717) 238-5151. \$60 for the conference, \$30 registration, \$25 banquet, \$6 game: \$40 table at flea market. Checks to Ted Knorr, 205 Mulberry Street, #7, Harrisburg, PA 17104. Research briefs to Sammy Miller, 3916 Archer Ct., Florence, KY 41042. Hotel reservations through the Ramada at (717) 234-5021 \$84.

We are trying to work out a deal with a major corporation that has shown some interest in being the sole sponsor of the former Negro League players we want to have at the conference.

For those of you interested in flying to The Harrisburg Conference, American Airlines has agreed to provide us with a "BIG DISCOUNT" if we can get at least ten people to agree to fly their airlines. We are in the process of finding out exactly what the discount is. If you would be interested contact me (248) 487-5273 or Sammy Miller (606) 525-1619. We HAVE to have ten people in order to get the discount. So do not wait we must know IMMEDIATELY of your interest.

Here's the agenda:

8/6- Historic marker dedication, informal gathering at Ramada, Senator's game.

8/7- Opening ceremonies, 8 research presentations, sculptures and reception, Senator's game.

8/8- NLC meeting, 6 research presentations, Robert Peterson talk, player panel, trivia contest, naming of all-time team, etc. banquet.

In addition, the library archives and state museum will be primed for baseball research. There will be a flea market. The players will be accessible for the duration of the conference. There will be an exhibit commemorating Harrisburg and Pennsylvania Negro League baseball.

This will be the biggest Negro Conference since Baltimore 10 years ago. Don't miss out.

THE HARRISBURG TIMES series of Negro League articles, 30 or more, may be secured from them at THE HARRISBURG TIMES, 99 South Cameron St. Harrisburg, PA 17101, just \$10 for all. Articles are still requested.

## SPECIAL EVENTS

The BEFORE YOU CAN SAY JACKIE ROBINSON exhibit opening went very well. Armando Vasquez, Pee Wee Jenkins, Jim Robinson, and Carlos Santiago joined with guest speaker Ron Teasley for a most enjoyable day. THE ADVOCATE (Stamford, CT) 2/2/98, "Exhibit recalls baseball in Black & White"\*\*\*2pp

### Upcoming Special Events

It will be "Luke Easter" Sunday on April 12th during a series of games between Rochester and Buffalo. They will be honoring Easter who played with Buffalo (57-59) & Rochester (60-64).

A Legendary Tribute to Sam Lacy will take place Saturday April 25, 1998 7:00 PM to 1:00 AM at The Baltimore City Life Museum in conjunction with the 1998 UNCF Baltimore. \*\*2pp press release.

Also, on April 25th, in Philadelphia, at the former home of the Stars, 44th & Parkside, an historical marker will be dedicated to the original Philadelphia black teams, the Pythians and Excelsior.

May 14, 1998 will be the New Jersey Sports Hall of Fame ceremonies at the Meadowlands. Pop Lloyd, Leon Day, and the 1946 Newark Eagles will be inducted. On the 15th a reception for Pop at The All-Star Cafe in Atlanta City will be held (Larry Hogan will treat anyone attending and mentioning my name). On the 16th a ceremony with placing of a permanent historic marker at Pop's grave site will occur. A Great Weekend!

The Detroit Tigers will hold their annual Negro Leagues Celebration on Saturday June 27th in a game against Cincinnati, who will wear Cincinnati Buckeyes uniforms. The NLC is also actively involved, this year, in helping to plan the program. This date conflicts with the SABR National Convention in San Mateo but has nothing to do with the fact that neither Larry nor I will be able to attend. We are very sorry we'll miss all the NLC folks from the West and the regulars. This is strictly an economic decision. We can't afford plane fare plus convention costs when I can drive easily to a site that fits into my budget. Please don't let this stop anyone from attending (the NLC meeting should be better). SABR Conventions are terrific. This is my first no-show since 1985. Unless I win the Lotto I won't be there. I'll let everyone know the meeting time in the June Newsletter. Please let me know now of anything you may want discussed at the NLC meeting.

## COMMITTEE ANNOUNCEMENTS

It is always a sad occasion to report the deaths of Negro Leaguers: Booker T. Robinson 1/29/98 in Lakeland, FL at 78; Eugene Collins 2/9/98 in Detroit at 73. (funeral program \*\*2pp); Roy Welmaker 2/12/98 in Atlanta. (SCD \*\*1pg and BASEBALL AMERICA \*\*1pg); and Ed Finney 3/17/97 in Akron, OH. (AKRON BEACON JOURNAL 3/19/98 \*\*1pg.) Obit 3/22/98 \*\*1pg and funeral program \*\*2pp.

AP Wire stories, "Only Venezuelan to play in Baseball's Negro Leagues found unconscious" 2/27/98 \*\*1pg & "Rescue came too late for Star" 2/28/98 \*\*1pg. These cover the death of Carlos Ascanio.

Earl Taborn has died. Reportedly, Reuben Williams, Gene Richardson, Pepper Sharpe, and Tim Bond have died.

Funeral program for Sammie Haynes \*\*6pp.

Anyone aware of Negro League games broadcast on radio?

### **COMMITTEE ANNOUNCEMENTS, continued**

Todd Holcomb of Marietta, GA has compiled a 16 page list of All-Star Teams for all 50 states and a few country and city teams compiled for APBA Baseball for Windows. They include a host of Negro Leaguers. It can be obtained from Len Levin at the Research Exchange.

"The Men of Bethel Roast Buck O'Neil" program \*\*4pp.

Seeking info on Melvin McCray (BEG), Fuzzy Tolbert (Pittsburgh area athlete), "Famous" Jones of KC Monarchs, and New Orleans Black Pelicans. Neil Lanctot provided info on Herb Hill.

Mark Presswood, 2141 Misty's Run, Keller, TX 76248 seeks any info on the Fort Worth Black Wonders/Cats.

Scott Allen spoke at the St. Louis SABR Chapter meeting January 31st on Black Baseball and the St. Louis Giants and entertained all. He is working on St. Louis Giants and Stars stats for the St. Louis Cardinals Encyclopedia. Scott also passed along a \*\*3pp flyer on a baseball round table conference at Southern Illinois University the 24-25th of March in which former player Josh Johnson was in attendance along with Dr. John Haddock. John's video BLACK DIAMOND, BLUES CITY: Stories of the Memphis Red Sox was shown. Finally, a big thanks to Scott for passing along the St. Louis Public Library holdings 4pp on black baseball and its players.

Lyle Wilson made a presentation on his book (excellent) SUNDAY AFTERNOONS AT GARFIELD PARK: Seattle's Black Baseball Teams 1911-51, at Washington State Museum of History on 2/7. Lyle also points out the book ROSEWOOD-LIKE JUDGMENT DAY has some recollections about the Rosewood All-Stars and Florida Stars on pages 76-79. Quite an interesting work.

Artie Wilson was a guest at the Northwest SABR Chapter meeting on February 15th.

Official Grand Opening of the MCI National Sports Gallery was February 26-28, 1998 and was a huge success. Our congratulations to Jeff Eastland for his role in the exhibit. AP "Grand Opening" \*\*1pg 3/1/98. SCD 3/27/98, "National Sports Gallery opens in Washington DC," \*\*1pg.

### **ONLINE COMMITTEE ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Larry Lester asks anyone Emailing him to please accept his apologies in getting back to you in a timely fashion. He gets 50-100 Emails A DAY. Be sure Larry knows your address or make a specific title on mail. A lot gets deleted without reading. Do you believe 7 minutes to download mail in a flash session?

Mike Kolleth's new Email address MKolleth@compuserve.com

Clement Hamilton on Negro Leaguers in HOF \*\*1pg.

A super SABR-L post by Jerry Malloy on early black baseball and Charles Douglass \*\*5pp.

Hieronimus & Co. Press release at ZohandBobH@aol.com

Alan Heaton AHEATON@PRODIGY.NET is seeking any info on Stuart "Slim" Jones.

Steve Tahsler OTTERSBB@EVANSVILLE.NET seeks all Negro Leaguers that played in Evansville over the years.

Joel DeLeon JoelDeLeon@aol.com is willing to help out the NLC.

### **NEGRO LEAGUES RELATED ARTICLES**

GERMANTOWN COURIER 2/25/98, "Lefty Jim Jones: Rewarded now for his play when only the ball was white," \*\*1pg

MINNEAPOLIS STAR-TRIBUNE 2/1/98, \*\*3pp, "A League of Legends," (NLBM).

THE BRAZOSPORT FACTS, 9/7/97 Remember When "Black Tarpons," \*\*3pp.

\*\*2pp "The Negro Leagues" overview from DRAMATURE.

THE KANSAS CITY STAR, "Buck O'Neil gets title to match his standing," \*\*1pg KC "Mr Baseball"

"Discover Greatness: The Negro Leagues \*\*3pp. The NLBM exhibit in Louisville.

THE RECORD (Hackensack, NJ) 2/25/98, "Lawmakers act to name post office for baseball great, Doby" \*\*1pg.

LOS ANGELES TIMES, 2/28/98, "A park where only the game mattered," \*\*1pg

CHICAGO SUN-TIMES, 2/8/98, "Double Duty, 95, a credit to game," by SABRite Michael Marsh, \*\*3pp.

THE RECORD, (Hackensack, NJ) 2/15/98, "Satchel Paige: Life and times of an ordinary man," \*\*1pg. & 2/21/98 New Jersey HOF Inductions \*\*1pg.

Cannon Classic from 8/16/55 in NEW YORK POST 5/25/97, "Endless road for Satchel," \*\*2pp.

### **CURRENT AND FUTURE INDIVIDUAL PROJECTS**

Adrian Burgos was in Cuba, researching 19th century baseball clubs in Cienfuegos, for a couple of weeks in March

Dean Sullivan, author of EARLY INNINGS & MIDDLE INNINGS is starting work on "Late Innings" on 1949 to present. He seeks subjects to consider and hopes to find primary articles on the demise of the Negro Leagues, status of the League in the 50's, effects of players in OB, etc. Contact at 3508 Queen Anne Dr. Fairfax, VA 22030-1831 and online at donsull@erols.com

Mark Choquet, 974 North Main #1, Randolph, MA 02368-3036 is researching the Cuban Giants 1893-1896 and needs additional bio info on the players.

## **THE MARKETPLACE**

Books to look for this spring **QUEEN OF THE NEGRO LEAGUES: EFFA MANLEY AND THE NEWARK EAGLES** by Jim Overmyer \$6.95. A great book!

**MIDDLE INNINGS: A DOCUMENTARY HISTORY OF BASEBALL 1900-1948** by Dean Sullivan (several NL references) University of Nebraska Press.

Youngster's books **GREAT AFRICAN-AMERICAN ATHLETES**, \$2.95

**THE NEGRO LEAGUES** by Jim Riley from Chelsea House. One of the best young adult works ever.

New addition to Latin American baseball is **BEISBOL PROFESIONAL BORICUA** (Puerto Rico Professional Baseball) by Jose A. Crescioni Benitez \$28 postpaid. 376 pages (Spanish) tons of stats, lots of career stats. Recommended, order from Jose, PO Box 630548, Catano, PR 00963-0548.

Due in August from Amistad Press/St. Martins Press will be Francis C. Harris two-volume work. **THE AMISTAD PICTORIAL HISTORY OF THE AFRICAN-AMERICAN ATHLETE**. Over 2500 pictures in each edition. One is collegiate and one professional. The proof pages I have seen are really impressive. As the release date appears closer I'll try to have more info including price.

\*\*1pg AD, Star Struck The Negro League Caps.

\*\*2pp Autograph price guide on NLers.

\*\*1pg AD Negro League Baseball Card Set \$13.95 +P&H

Hieronimus & Co. press release \*\*1pg NL Memoriabilia to benefit Geraldine Day.

\*\*1pg AD for autographed NL 8x10 photos.

Josh Gibson Kenner figure available at Toys R Us.

\*\*2pp list of needed Negro League World Series tickets & stubs needed.

## **FINAL REMARKS**

Our next newsletter will be June's. Please get all information to me before the last week of May.

Dick Clark & Larry Lester  
NLC Co-Chairpeople