

Women in Baseball
Committee Newsletter

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@Society for American Baseball Research

Send info., questions, submissions, etc to Leslie Heaphy, 2214 31st str, NW Canton, OH 44709, or e-mail;
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Let me begin by thanking Jerry Malloy for running our committee meeting in Florida. There was a good group that attended and it appears some solid discussion took place. Most of our focus right now is on the development of our book project regarding the Top 25 Women in baseball. The list and idea has been shown to Mark Alvarez and he is very interested in our idea. There was some concern raised at the committee meeting about how the names on the list were chosen and would committee members have a chance for input. This was actually a bit disappointing since I have published the list in the last 3 newsletters and have been asking the committee for their feedback each time and so far have received votes from about 8 committee members. So, yes the committee has been asked and so I will ask one more time in this newsletter for your input and suggestions. Then the list will be finalized so we can begin working on the actual project itself. The list we have so far will appear in the following pages. Please pick your top 25 from this list or make any additions or suggestions you want. This is supposed to be our committee project. I look forward to getting your responses. I am also looking for suggestions for a name for our project. Do we want to simply call it the Top 25 Women in Baseball or do you have other ideas? Let me know what you are thinking. We are planning to include photographs and an extensive bibliography to help future researchers. This requires the help of the entire committee in sending me any articles, books etc that you run across.

Please do not assume that someone else has sent them to me. I'll take more than one copy or citation rather than miss out on something. Keep up the search!! There are a number of teams playing currently so watch your local papers for articles and results. We are interested in it all.

Below is our list of top 25 as they have been selected so far--these are the candidates that have received the most votes. (A question was asked why 25-- we thought that was a doable number but that could easily be changed if the committee thinks we need to expand that number)

Ila Borders	Effa Manley
Toni Stone	Dorothy Seymour
Pam Postema	Alta Weiss
Dottie Collins	Margaret Gisolo
Rose Gacioch	Dottie Kamenshek
Sophie Kurys	Babe D. Zaharias
Mamie Johnson	Lizzie Murphy
Jackie Mitchell	Jean Faut
Helen Callaghan	Maud Nelson
Helene Britton	Lee Ann Ketcham
Julie Croteau	Amanda Clement
Doris Sams	Betty Weaver Foss
Annie Occi	

Others nominated include:

Kate Feeny	Linda Alvarado
Mindy Rich	Cordelia Candelaria
Stephanie Leathers	Elinor Nauen
Janet M. Smith	Barbara Gregorich
Effa Manley	Marge Schott
Joan W. Payson	Connie Morgan
Connie Wisniewski	Dottie Schroeder
Jean Faut	Audrey Wagner
Willie Briggs	Maxine Kline

Lib Mahon
 Pepper Paire
 Audrey Wagner
 Faye Dancer
 Helen Dauvray
 Lizzie Arlington

Bonnie Baker
 Jo Winter
 Doris Sams
 Lois Forreich

Please send me your votes by the beginning of September.

At the meeting in Florida it was asked if the newsletter could be published more often and the answer is yes, if I get submissions from the committee. Usually it takes about 3 months to gather enough material unless people help by sending me articles, book reviews, player bios etc. Keep sending me information and I will be sure it gets passed along.



Recent books, articles, websites and other projects. Thanks to the following people for sending material.

Dick Clark, Marc Fink, Jerry Malloy, Cliff Otto, Joan Thomas, Justine Warren, Lisa Wulf.

(**Denotes item available for a SASE, 1 stamp per 4 pages).

WWW.MSWBL.COM-- new website from the Cleveland area. It is an on-line baseball magazine to promote and inform people about women's baseball.

Tim Wiles let the committee know that the baseball Hall of Fame has copies of a magazine published from 1982-84 by Mary Ann Simmons (Wife of Ted) dedicated to issues of concern to ballplayers wives.

The University of Kentucky Libraries has recordings of interviews with Effa Manley.

***NY World* 9/1/1890 "Women Play Baseball"

***NY World* 9/8/1890 "They Were Too Quick For "Em"

** "Show Girl" on Ila borders from *ESPN Magazine*, 6/26/2000

***"A League of Her Own" on Justine Warren, *Small Business News*, Cleveland, June 2000.

***"Female Pitcher Retires" *USA Today Baseball Weekly*, 6-12 July 2000.

***"Indians Promote Wendy Hoppel Hughes to Director of Baseball Administration"

***"Helene Hathaway Britton" *Progressive Woman*, April 1999.

***"A Minor Change of Pitch." By Madeline B. Gaughran. *Boston Globe*

***"Women in Baseball." Debra Shattuck, 9 pp.

***"A Woman's Place is in the Grandstand." *Sporting News* 7/2/52

***" Ila Borders Retires"

Diamonds are a Girls Best Friend. By Elinor Nauen, 1993.

***"Peanut' a Big Deal: Was Negro League Pioneer." *Boston Globe*, 23 July 2000.

<http://www.womenplayingbaseball.com/>
a good link to all kinds of information
about women's teams and tournaments
around the country.

Melissa Coombes

LHP Colorado Silver Bullets 1994
47 IP 10 BB 21 KOs
.222 avg with a .333 on base percentage
Before joining Colorado Melissa was an
all-American at Fullerton State in 1989.
(info. From Silver Bullets Baseball Card
Set).

Interested in writing a review for our
newsletter? How about writing up your
thoughts on Susan Johnson's book *When
Women Played Hardball*? Send your
reviews to Leslie Heaphy for inclusion
in the next newsletter. If you have
another book you'd like to review write
up your comments and send them in.

Please send correspondence, questions,
suggestions, ideas to Leslie Heaphy for
future newsletters. Also, I have not
heard anything from a number of you in
quite some time and so I am asking for a
reply to this newsletter. Please write or
e-mail me as to whether you wish to
continue to be on the mailing list. **If I
do not hear from you I will not be
sending future issues of the newsletter.**
Thanks for your help in keeping our list
updated. Just a reminder that some of
you have not paid your dues to SABR
yet this year and should send that in if
you also want to continue receiving
other SABR publications.

Research Requests

Philip Block is looking for any information available on Japanese Women's teams who toured the country in the 1930s. Information can be sent to Leslie Heaphy and it will be passed on.

Justine Warren continues to look for input as to why women play baseball. Ideas can be sent to her at Jwarren101@aol.com.

Another committee member is looking for information regarding Toni Stone. Please pass on ideas, suggestions to Leslie Heaphy and the information will be passed on.

What are you looking for? What are you currently working on? Let us know and we can help one another as we are doing our research.

Judith Kaplan was the owner of the Orlando Orange, a team in the Women's Baseball Association in Florida. Lance Lusignan works with the Women's NE Baseball League centered in Boston, MA. Their league sent six women to Japan with the USA National Team this past spring. They are hoping to be a professional league by the year 2002. There are even greater hopes that women's baseball could be a demonstration sport at the 2004 Olympics in Athens, Greece. Their first home game in Connecticut brought in 450 people and they hope to increase that to 1,000 per game.

Two Australian women's teams were to be here in June to participate in the International Friendship Series in Orange County, CA. If anyone has

details on these games please send them along.

An update from Justine Warren: In early July the Toronto Blue Jays and Ontario baseball worked together to host a tournament in the Skydome. They also held a clinic for 150 female baseball players with Ila Borders helping to teach fundamentals.

The website www.MsWBL.com has added some new features regarding teams from around the world. Justine is also looking for articles and other ideas for the website.



Lizzie Arlington

She began her baseball career at age 20, earning about \$100 a week. She received a minor league contract from the Yankees but it did not last. She kept playing on bloomer teams as a pitcher.