

# Beating the Bushes



*A publication of the Society for American Baseball Research  
Minor League Committee*

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## Intro from the new Committee Chair

I was delighted to be appointed this summer chairman of our Minor League Research Committee. Minor League baseball is very close to my heart. I'm confident that our research group will make steady progress in the year ahead, adding value for our committee members and the entire SABR organization. My major goal is to enhance communications among our members. In September, we initiated work on this goal by conducting a membership survey.

I have a background in public relations and marketing at Health Care and Higher Education organizations. I retired five years ago after 43 years in the field, the last 16 years as Vice President of Public Relations at Greenwich Hospital in Connecticut. This signaled the end of a daily four-hour commute to and from my home in Cheshire, CT.

Over the last fifty years I have now come full circle from my first job as director of sports information at my alma mater, Wilkes University, PA to now research and writing minor league history. Earlier this year, I published my first book, "Dawn and Dusk of the Colonial League," about a post-World War II minor league circuit that operated in Connecticut, New York and New Jersey cities from 1947 to 1950.

I'm now working on books about the Wilkes-Barre, PA minor league history, 1895-1955; and the North Atlantic League, 1946-50, led by baseball lifer, Ernest "Duke" Landgraf. Both of these projects parallel closely with the Anthracite Coal industry, once the major employer in northeastern Pennsylvania. I've also been active in American Legion baseball. From 1999 to 2005, I served as state chairman and tournament director of the Connecticut American Legion baseball program.

Although baseball consumes a big portion of my retirement time, I'm also very much involved in non-sports centric pursuits that include serving on the boards at Wilkes University in Wilkes-Barre, PA; and at the Osborn in Rye, NY, a non-profit continuing care retirement community.

I look forward to hearing your thoughts on how our committee can become more active. You can call me at 860-490-1074; or e-mail me at [george.pawlush@wilkes.edu](mailto:george.pawlush@wilkes.edu).

## BOB BERRYHILL: OLD-TIME MINOR LEAGUE EVERYMAN

by Bill Lamb

Central Indiana proved a fertile spawning ground for late-19<sup>th</sup> century baseball talent. Among those from the region making their mark in the game were future Hall of Famers Amos Rusie and Sam Thompson. Soon thereafter, early Deadball Era standouts, including Cooperstown-bound Mordecai (Three Finger) Brown and 204-game winner Al Orth, joined their ranks. The subject of this profile is a contemporary, and occasionally a local club teammate/adversary, of these Hoosier stars named Bob Berryhill. Over the course of 20 seasons, Berryhill manned, at one time or another, every position on the diamond, except shortstop. And he saw action at almost every level of baseball, going from playing for amateur, semipro, and pro clubs outside Organized Baseball in his youth to Class F to Class A minor leagues in his maturity. For many of these nines, moreover, he also served as player-captain or manager, adding field leadership and administrative chores to his responsibilities. About the only thing lacking from the Berryhill resume is a major league affiliation, his selection in the 1895 post-season draft by the Philadelphia Phillies being his only brush with a big leagues opportunity.

Robert E. Berryhill was born on November 1, 1866 in Lebanon, Indiana, a small but vibrant county seat situated 30 miles northwest of Indianapolis. He was the oldest of four children<sup>1</sup> born to Union Army veteran-turned-druggist William O. Berryhill (1843-1876) and his wife, the former Mary Avis Riley (1843-1884), both Indiana natives. Much of Bob's background – his middle name, family origins, religious faith, etc. – has been lost to time. About all that can safely be said is that he attended school

through the first year of high school<sup>2</sup>, and then became a common laborer<sup>3</sup>. But his real calling was baseball. By the time he reached age 21, Berryhill had risen from the Lebanon sandlots to area semipro teams, including a stint playing for a nine in nearby Brazil, Indiana where he first encountered teenage third baseman-turned-pitcher Mordecai Brown.<sup>4</sup>

According to Baseball-Reference, Berryhill made his professional debut in 1888, playing for the Frankfurt club of the unrecognized Indiana State League.<sup>5</sup> But nothing relating to this engagement has been uncovered. That summer, he also played for a semipro team in Wabash.<sup>6</sup> Berryhill returned to Wabash the following year, assuming the post of club manager and ace pitcher in addition to his customary catching duties.<sup>7</sup> Although barely into his 20s, a precedent had now been set. From this point on and over the next two decades, Berryhill would often assume field command of the nines that he played for. His relative youth notwithstanding, Berryhill was evidently a natural leader. He was handsome, intelligent, and cut an imposing figure. Although his exact size is unknown, a local newspaper later described "big Bob Berryhill" as "endowed with a powerful frame and a good six feet of length. His shoulders are broad and he looks the part of a ball player from the ground up."<sup>8</sup>

For the 1890 season, Berryhill went back to the Indiana State League, signing on as infielder and manager of the Marion club.<sup>9</sup> Here, seen for the first time in newsprint was commentary, later wildly divergent, on Berryhill's temperament. Registering disapproval was *Sporting Life's* Fort Wayne correspondent who lamented, "Of all the kickers who ever played on home grounds, Berryhill is the worst. On several occasions he even tried to intimidate the umpire."<sup>10</sup> Whatever his behavior toward the man in blue, Berryhill drew only praise for his club leadership. In early July, another league observer declared, "The (Marion) team has been playing good ball of late, and to manager Berryhill belongs great credit for the way he has held it together."<sup>11</sup> His play drew similar commendation: "Berryhill is playing third base in his old-time form and is one of the surest and boldest hitters on the team. He is also a very accurate thrower to first base."<sup>12</sup> Days later, Bob encountered another intermittent phenomenon in his baseball career: the financial failure of his employer. The Marion franchise collapsed, briefly setting off a scramble for new berths among its players. At first, it was reported that Berryhill and two other Marionites were headed for the Peru club.<sup>13</sup> But soon, the entire Marion operation was simply relocated to Logansport and finished the season there. Although official Indiana State League stats are lost, it was later reported that Marion-Logansport finished second in league standings<sup>14</sup>, and that Berryhill led the circuit with a .404 batting aver-

age.<sup>15</sup>

The close of the 1890 season signaled yet another hallmark of the Berryhill career. He would rarely remain with the same club for two years running. In 1891, this career-long odyssey took him to the Fond du Lac club of the unrecognized Wisconsin League. Signed as third baseman-manager<sup>16</sup>, Berryhill's fortunes took a tumble in Badgerland. His Fond du Lac club finished (40-49, .448) fifth in the six-club circuit, while his own batting (.225 BA) and fielding (.913 FA) stats plummeted.<sup>17</sup> Despite that unimpressive showing, Bob somehow managed to jump all the way up to Class B baseball for the 1892 campaign, signing with the Atlanta Firecrackers of the Southern League. He got off to a solid start, batting .277 and was covering third base "in excellent style,"<sup>18</sup> until a serious case of typhoid fever brought his season to an abrupt end after 40 games. He returned home to recover, and remained there the following year, organizing, managing, and playing for an independent Lebanon club during the 1893 season.<sup>19</sup> He also umpired some local games.<sup>20</sup>

Berryhill was back at the Lebanon helm for the 1894 season, and frequently served as batterymate for future major league standout Al Orth of nearby Tipton, as well. Also noteworthy was a May game at third base in which Berryhill handled flawlessly the 14 chances that came his way.<sup>21</sup> In late August, however, he left the club to fill in as right-fielder for the temporarily-shorthanded Toledo White Stockings of the Class A Western League. In seven games, Bob batted a respectable .296 (8-for-27), with two doubles, and nine runs scored before drawing his release when the club signed ex-NY Giants utilityman Gil Hatfield.

Berryhill returned to Organized Baseball once again in 1895, signing with the Lynchburg Hill Climbers of the Class B Virginia State League.<sup>22</sup> Thereafter designated team captain and third baseman by Lynchburg manager Billy Smith,<sup>23</sup> Berryhill ascended to the pinnacle of his playing career. He feasted on league pitching, tying teammate Charlie McIntyre for circuit lead in home runs (19), and pacing the second-place Hill Climbers in batting average (.341), slugging (.555), runs scored (113), base-hits (173), doubles (38), and total bases (282).<sup>24</sup> This showing precipitated the first, and only known, major league interest in Berryhill. He was chosen in the post-season minor league player draft by the National League Philadelphia Phillies, a selection that cheered noted sportswriter W.A. Phelon, Jr. "When I was a little boy and saw ball games through the fence," wrote Phelon, tongue firmly planted in cheek, "Bob Berryhill was catching and playing other positions for Lebanon, Goshen, and other little Indiana towns. I don't know how old he is but I hear that he used to sub for the Cincinnati Reds of 1869. I would like to see him succeed, but I fear he has been too long in this business. When a man has played until his joints go *squeak, squeak* when he walks

and then breaks into the National League, he is either just flaring up before going into desuetude, or else, like old wine, has improved with age."<sup>25</sup>

At the time, the supposedly-ancient Berryhill had just turned 29, and had 15 more seasons in and around Organized Baseball ahead of him. But he appears to have been given no real shot at earning a roster spot with the Phillies. Although cited as one of four new recruits whom the Phillies intended to try out during the preseason<sup>26</sup>, it never happened. Indeed, even before the Phillies headed south for spring training, Berryhill was ticketed elsewhere, signed as captain-first baseman by the Wilmington Peaches of the newly-formed Class A Atlantic League.<sup>27</sup> Unhappily for Bob, his time in Wilmington would prove a major comedown from the heroics of his previous season in Lynchburg. But the 1896 campaign was not without its moments for him, with the main event being a confrontation with Andrew Freedman, the imperious owner of the New York Giants.

On June 18, 1896, captain Berryhill led the Peaches into the Polo Grounds for a game against the New York Metropolitans, the Giants farm team that Freedman had installed in the Atlantic League. Seeking a two-hour break from the business and political pressures that consumed his days, the impeccably tailored NY club owner visited the ballpark, taking a seat on the Mets bench. In the fifth inning, a call by umpire Burns was hotly disputed, with Freedman promptly striding on to the field to insert himself into the discussion. Upon noticing the top-hatted magnate, an amused Berryhill informed Freedman that he would have to get into uniform if he wanted to join the argument. A humorless man not given to brooking flippant comments from mere baseball players, Freedman took offense, directing his phalanx of NYPD bodyguards to take Berryhill into custody and remove him from the premises. And it did not end there. When the Peaches returned to New York on June 27, Berryhill was barred from entering the grounds. Shortly thereafter, Atlantic League officials, fed up with this and other instances of Freedman highhandedness, expelled the Mets from the circuit.<sup>28</sup>

By this time, Bob Berryhill was not long for the Atlantic League either. Disappointed with his .247 batting average and the uninspired play of his charges, Wilmington management released its team captain in mid-July. Thereafter, Berryhill's luck continued to run bad. Signed by the Peoria (Illinois) Distillers of the Western League, Bob boarded a train and headed west, only to discover

upon arrival that the Peoria club had disbanded while he was en route.<sup>29</sup> He then went home to Lebanon to ponder his future, which now included a wife. That March, he and 24-year-old Estelle Legan had tied the knot and commenced the marriage that would endure for the next five decades.

Unwilling to give up the game, Berryhill accepted the post of player-manager of the Burlington (Iowa) Colts of the Class B Western Association for the 1897 season. As field leader, it was Berryhill's responsibility to recruit playing talent, but was handicapped in this endeavor by the tight \$900/season salary cap imposed by financially-strapped club management.<sup>c</sup> Predictably, the Colts proved non-competitive and quickly sank to the Association cellar. Stung by criticism from his bosses, Berryhill handed in his resignation in early July.<sup>31</sup> The hometown journal regretted his departure, calling Berryhill "one of the most gentlemanly players in professional ranks. ... No one ever

saw him resort to low, ruffian tactics."<sup>32</sup> Even the usually hostile newspapers in Association rival Rockford paid grudging tribute. "By dint of hard work, Berryhill had gotten the team to a fair gait," said one<sup>33</sup>, while another observed that, despite obstacles, Berryhill "had done well (outside of his playing of second base)."<sup>34</sup>

After a brief stint as a Western Association umpire, Berryhill was recalled to the manager's position by Burlington club brass. But his return failed to spur the Colts, losers of 17-straight games in August. By season's end, Burlington's record stood at a dismal 39-85, .315, good for last place, and Berryhill prepared to move on. He spent the next two summers at home in Lebanon, his

only reported involvement with the game being a tentative offer to manage the Anderson entry in the proposed six-club Indiana Gas Belt League.<sup>35</sup> The fledgling circuit, however, never got off the drawing board. Bob returned to the Atlantic League in 1900, signing on as captain-first baseman for the Jersey City club. But only weeks into the season, Jersey City folded, leaving Berryhill and his teammates orphaned. A league rival, the Philadelphia Athletics, quickly installed Bob in its own lineup, but his tenure there was short-lived, as the Atlantic League ceased operations on June 12. He then secured a berth with the Meriden Silverites of the lowly Class F Connecticut State League. Three weeks later, "a difference as to salary" led to Berryhill's departure from the club.<sup>36</sup>

In 1901, the Berryhills relocated to Chicago where Bob took a position with the endowment bank of the Knights of Pythias. For the next two summers, his ball playing



was confined to Sunday games in the Chicago City League.<sup>37</sup> The family then returned to Indiana. Bob attempted a comeback in the 1903 Western League, but a knee injury suffered in spring training short-circuited the effort.<sup>38</sup> Upon recovering, he spent the second half of the campaign as a Western League umpire, drawing generally favorable reviews.<sup>39</sup> The season's end coincided with a personal high note for Bob recorded back home in Lebanon: the mid-September birth the Berryhills only child, daughter Alberta Gene.

Berryhill was back in harness for the 1904 campaign, joining the Evansville (Indiana) River Rats of the Class B Central League as team captain-third baseman. But the season turned out to be another rocky one. With the club firmly ensconced in last place, Berryhill became designated scapegoat and drew his release in early June. He then took a position as a Central League umpire. But not for long. In late-June, Bob was reengaged by Evansville and given the manager's post, supplanting previous skipper Frank Schoeller.<sup>40</sup> The River Rats responded to the change favorably, playing much improved ball under their new field leader. A month later, however, Berryhill once again incurred club brass disfavor – and in a most curious way. On August 1, he took an unexpected turn on the mound and held the Dayton Veterans scoreless for the first seven innings. Then Dayton exploded for 11 runs in the eighth and went on to a lopsided victory. With four pitchers on the Evansville payroll, management took umbrage at Berryhill's "ambition" and promptly sacked him.<sup>41</sup> The move completely misfired. Prior to his termination, Berryhill had rallied the River Rats to a respectable 46-50 record. Under new manager Frank Cross, the club thereafter went 10-33, and finished in the Central League dungeon.

The following year, Berryhill stayed home, managing another independent pro Lebanon nine.<sup>42</sup> He returned to Organized Baseball in 1906, taking the helm of the Mattoon-Charleston (Illinois) Canaries (or Hyphens) of the newly-formed Class D KITTY (Kentucky-Indiana-Illinois) League.<sup>43</sup> Expected to play first base but now near-helpless with the bat (.107 BA), Bob once again resorted to semi-regular pitching appearances. But with his club holding down last place with an 18-32 log, Berryhill resigned as Canaries manager in late June.<sup>44</sup> Later that summer, he joined the Newark (Ohio) Cotton-Tops of the Class C Ohio-Pennsylvania League, but strictly as a first baseman. In 31 games, Berryhill's batting average revived to .214, but his time as an active player was now at an end.

In the partial statistics recorded by Baseball-Reference,<sup>45</sup> Berryhill posted a modest .258 batting average in combined Class A to Class F minor league play, with more than a quarter of his hits going for extra bases. At one time or another, the versatile veteran played every posi-

tion on the diamond, except shortstop, and he even pitched capably on occasion. In sum, Bob Berryhill was not a major league-caliber talent, but a solid professional ballplayer nonetheless.

His days in the lineup may have been behind him, but Berryhill's time in the game had several more years to run. He returned to Newark as non-playing manager for the 1907 season, guiding the newly-christened Newks to a near-pennant, their 86-53 (.619) finish only a whisper behind the 82-53 (.623) mark of the champion Youngstown club. The loss of two season-ending games to the cellar-dwelling Marion Moguls had cost the Newks the O-P League flag. Despite the heart-wrenching ending, Berryhill's leadership drew rave reviews. Typical was the judgment of Cleveland sportswriter Harry Niely: "Manager Bob Berryhill of the Newark club is deserving of unlimited praise from fans and papers around the circuit. ... When he first took the Newark club last spring, it was considered nothing better than a second division club. Nobody doped it for the first division, much less the pennant. However, Berryhill set about securing some talented players and after some hard work succeeded in landing a team which is day in and day out playing better ball than any other team in the O & P."<sup>46</sup>

An entirely different situation presented itself the following year, as Newark dropped out of the Ohio-Pennsylvania League. Under new ownership, the franchise relocated to the just-created Class D Ohio State League. Once again, Berryhill was tasked with assembling a playing roster from scratch, but the previous season's magic was gone. The rag-tag crew that he was able to put together was an immediate non-contender, and its substandard play apparently wore on Berryhill's nerves. In mid-May, the normally gentlemanly manager physically assaulted an umpire named Mulligan, and was promptly fined and suspended by league president Robert Quinn.<sup>47</sup> The suspension soon expired, but Berryhill never returned to the Newark club. Once management realized that Berryhill had abandoned his post, he was officially replaced, first by shortstop Sandy Murray, then by pitcher-first baseman Harry Eells. By the time the Newks finished a fairly respectable 74-75 (.497),<sup>48</sup> Berryhill was long back home in Lebanon, his time in Organized Baseball seemingly behind him.

The Newark Newks disbanded late in the 1909 season. But under still-new ownership, the franchise was revived in spring 1910. In attendance at the meeting wherein when the Newark club was readmitted to Ohio State League membership was, perhaps surprisingly, erstwhile manager Bob Berryhill.<sup>49</sup> Given "carte blanche in the running of the club" by principal owner C. Albert Meade, Berryhill returned to field command and promptly set about recruiting a roster. But as in 1908, the Newks were non-competitive and Berryhill proved unable to govern

his temper. In mid-May, he was suspended by the OSL for abuse of umpire Flaherty,<sup>50</sup> and submitted his final resignation as Newark manager a few weeks later.<sup>51</sup> This time, Berryhill's departure from the game was for good.

Only in his mid-40s, a long life still lay ahead of Bob Berryhill. But it appears that he completely severed his connection to baseball. Apart from a brief World War I-era sojourn in Grenville, Mississippi, Bob spent the remainder of his days as an Indiana resident, until 1932 in his hometown of Lebanon. The Berryhills then moved to Indianapolis where never-married daughter Alberta was employed as a research librarian. Berryhill remained employed into old age, working at various times as a confectioner, salesman, and public utilities agent. In December 1948, stomach cancer claimed his wife Estelle, bring their 52-year marriage to a close. Thereafter, Bob continued to live with his daughter until placed in an Indianapolis nursing home.

On October 23, 1961, Berryhill, wakened by nightmares, struck his head on the bedpost. The resulting injuries included a fractured neck. The patient lingered for another ten days before a stroke brought his life to an end on November 4.<sup>52</sup> Robert E. Berryhill was 95. Following local funeral services, his remains were returned home to Lebanon and interred alongside those of his wife in Oak Hill Cemetery. Survivors included his daughter Alberta and sister Ella Berryhill Fulkerson.

Looking back more than a century, Bob Berryhill appears to have been a competent, but undistinguished, minor league player-manager. Yet one intriguing question remains: Why, given a notable lack of accomplishment by his ball clubs, was Berryhill afforded so many chances at field leadership? For the seasons that can be documented, Berryhill's managerial log stands in the neighborhood of a barely mediocre 255-315, .447. And he only placed one of his clubs (1907 Newark) in pennant contention. Despite that, his contemporaries repeatedly placed him in charge. This suggests that Berryhill in the flesh possessed attributes – imposing size, a quick mind, analytical skills, a forceful personality – now well beyond living memory. Whatever the case, the long-forgotten Bob Berryhill was once a figure of some consequence in the game, holding down a useful place in the baseball landscape of his times.

## SOURCES

Sources for the biographical information provided herein include US Census data and Berryhill family posts accessed via Ancestry.com, and certain of the newspaper reportage cited below, particularly a profile of Bob Berryhill published in the *New York Clipper*, November 9, 1895. Unless otherwise noted, stats have been taken from Baseball-Reference.

## ENDNOTES

<sup>1</sup>Bob's younger siblings were James (born 1869), Albert (1870), and Ella (1877, after her father's death).

<sup>2</sup>According to the 1940 US Census.

<sup>3</sup>The Berryhill occupation listed in the 1880 US Census. Given the 1876 death of his father, Bob would have been obliged to forego further schooling in order to contribute to the maintenance of his widowed mother and younger siblings.

<sup>4</sup>Years later, Brown fondly recalled how his defeat of Berryhill's team made him the hero of Coxville, Indiana. See "Mordecai Brown Tells His Story," *San Luis Obispo (California) Telegram*, December 18, 1909, *Salt Lake Telegram*, December 24, 1909, and *Duluth (Minnesota) News-Tribune*, December 26, 1909.

<sup>5</sup>By 1889, ten minor league organizations fell under the protection of the National Agreement. The clubs belonging to various other circuits were deemed outside Organized Baseball.

<sup>6</sup>Berryhill hit a double in a 12-2 thrashing of Columbia City on August 10, as reported in the *Indianapolis Journal*, August 11, 1888.

<sup>7</sup>Berryhill's management of the Wabash club was reported in the *Indianapolis Journal-News*, May 15, 1889. Brief game accounts and line scores for other Wabash contests in which Berryhill starred were subsequently published in the *Chicago Inter-Ocean*, June 18 and August 11, 1889, and the *Indianapolis Journal-News*, June 19, 1889.

<sup>8</sup>See "Captain Reports to Headquarters," *Evansville (Indiana) Courier*, March 31, 1904.

<sup>9</sup>As reported in the *Chicago Inter-Ocean* and *Indianapolis Journal-News*, March 15, 1890, and *Evansville Courier*, March 17, 1890.

<sup>10</sup>See "From Fort Wayne," *Sporting Life*, May 17, 1890.

<sup>11</sup>"From Marion," *Sporting Life*, July 5, 1890.

<sup>12</sup>Ibid.

<sup>13</sup>Per "Mid-Summer's Tales," *Sporting Life*, July 12, 1890.

<sup>14</sup>According to the Stats Crew website, however, Marion-Logansport finished the season at the .500 mark, 29-29.

<sup>15</sup>According to "Berryhill's the Man," *Sporting Life*, December 12, 1896. Which way Berryhill batted and threw is officially unknown, but the writer presumes that Berryhill, like 90% of the American population, was right-handed. This presumption is buttressed by the fact that southpaw catchers and third base-

men had become a rarity by the time that Bob reached his playing heyday in the mid-1890s, and by the absence of any mention of Berryhill being left-handed in the reportage covering his long career.

<sup>16</sup>As reported in *Sporting Life*, February 7 and March 17, 1891.

<sup>17</sup>As per the *1892 Reach Official Base Ball Guide*, 94. Baseball-Reference has no statistical data for Berryhill's season with Fond du Lac.

<sup>18</sup>*Sporting Life*, April 28, 1892.

<sup>19</sup>Per *Sporting Life*, December 12, 1896.

<sup>20</sup>See e.g., the *Indianapolis Journal-News*, June 13, 1893.

<sup>21</sup>As per "Bob Berryhill," *New York Clipper*, November 9, 1895.

<sup>22</sup>As reported in *Sporting Life*, February 16, 1895.

<sup>23</sup>As per *Sporting Life*, March 30, 1895.

<sup>24</sup>His lone pitching venture, however, was a two-inning/10-run relief outing disaster during a 26-0 loss to Norfolk on July 20.

<sup>25</sup>W.A. Phelon, Jr., "Chicago Gleanings," *Sporting Life*, December 21, 1895.

<sup>26</sup>See the (Springfield) *Illinois State Journal*, March 8, 1896.

<sup>27</sup>As reported in *Sporting Life*, January 11, 1896, and the (Wilmington) *Delaware Gazette*, January 16 and February 20, 1896.

<sup>28</sup>For greater detail, see Bill Lamb, "The Expulsion of the Andrew Freedman-Owned New York Metropolitan from the 1896 Atlantic League," *Beating the Bushes*, Spring 2018, 8-10.

<sup>29</sup>As per *Sporting Life*, August 1, 1896.

<sup>30</sup>As subsequently noted in the *Rockford (Illinois) Morning Star*, July 6, 1897.

<sup>31</sup>As reported in *The Sporting News*, July 10, 1897, which added: "On account of expressed dissatisfaction with Berryhill's ability by some of the Burlington base ball directors, the gentlemanly and generally well-liked manager of the Burlington team has tendered his resignation. It has been accepted." His successor was Colts catcher Del Williams.

<sup>32</sup>The *Burlington (Iowa) Hawkeye*, July 7, 1897.

<sup>33</sup>The *Rockford Morning Star*, July 8, 1897.

<sup>34</sup>The *Rockford (Illinois) Register-Gazette*, July 8, 1897.

<sup>35</sup>As reported in the (Indianapolis) *Indiana State Journal*, March 16, 1898.

<sup>36</sup>As per *Sporting Life*, July 14, 1900.

<sup>37</sup>According to the *Evansville Courier*, March 29, 1904.

<sup>38</sup>Ibid.

<sup>39</sup>Except in the *Colorado Springs Gazette*, August 10, 1903, which declared, "Berryhill gave an exhibition of just how rank an umpire can be" following a game against Peoria.

<sup>40</sup>As per "Central League Gossip," *Sporting Life*, June 25, 1904.

<sup>41</sup>As reported in the *Evansville (Indiana) Journal-News*, August 2, 1904, and *Rockford (Illinois) Republic*, August 4, 1904.

<sup>42</sup>As reported in the *Evansville Courier*, July 13, 1905.

<sup>43</sup>As reported in the *Evansville Courier*, February 17, 1906, (Springfield) *Illinois State Register*, February 24, 1906, and *Evansville Journal-News*, April 9, 1906.

<sup>44</sup>As reported in the *Evansville Courier*, June 26, 1906, and *Illinois State Register*, June 27, 1906.

<sup>45</sup>Significant portions of Berryhill's long minor league career are missing from his B-R entry, including his reputed .404 batting average in the 1890 Indiana State League.

<sup>46</sup>*Cleveland Plain Dealer*, September 8, 1907.

<sup>47</sup>As reported in the *Marion (Ohio) Mirror*, May 13, 1908, and *Sporting Life*, May 23, 1908.

<sup>48</sup>The Newark record had stood at 8-15 (.354) when manager Berryhill was suspended.

<sup>49</sup>As reported in *Sporting Life*, March 5, 1910.

<sup>50</sup>As reported in the (Columbus) *Ohio State Journal*, May 26, 1910.

<sup>51</sup>As reported in "Ohio State League News," *Sporting Life*, June 25, 1910. When Berryhill took his leave on or about June 20, the Newks record stood at 12-28, .300.

<sup>52</sup>As noted in the Berryhill death certificate, dated November 4, 1961.

# Bonneville Park-Salt Lake City

By Ron Selter

This ballpark was used by the Salt Lake Bees of the PCL for 11 seasons: 1915-25. The PCL team, that opened the 1914 season in Sacramento, was moved to San Francisco by the league on September 6, 1914. After the season, the league then sold the franchise to a Salt Lake City group. The now Salt Lake City team set out to build a new ballpark for the 1915 season. Bonneville Park was also used for two seasons (1926-27) by the Salt Lake City team in Utah-Idaho League. After the 1925 season, the Salt Lake City franchise was moved to Los Angeles and became the Hollywood Stars. That team stayed in Los Angeles until 1936, when the Stars moved to San Diego and became the Padres. One might note that this was different Hollywood Stars team than the one that played in Gilmore Field from 1939-57; that team had formerly been the Mission Reds in San Francisco.

Bonneville Park was located between Ninth Street South on the north, and on the south a parcel 250 feet north of Herbert St. Main St was the boundary on the west and State St on the east. During construction in late 1914 and early 1915, the site was called Majestic Park. After the 1916 season, the park's name was changed to Bonneville Park. The ballpark had a 4,000 seat wooden curved grandstand. The ballpark seating in 1915 included a section of roofed bleacher seats adjacent to the grandstand on the first base side, followed further down the first base line by a section of un-roofed bleachers. Total capacity was about 6,000. For the 1916 season a small set of bleachers was added down the third base line. In 1924-25, capacity was reported to have been 10,000. A strange thing about the playing field-the infield was grass, while the outfield was rolled gravel and dirt.

## DIMENSIONS

In the article about Tony Lazzeri (Source No. 1), the dimensions of Bonneville Park were listed as LF/RF 325, and CF only 360. The late great SABR ballpark historian, Larry Zuckerman, researched all PCL park through 1997. He plotted the distances at Bonneville Park from a Sanborn Insurance Co. map, and he noted that these numbers are only estimates, albeit fairly reasonable. LF: 308, CF: 408, RF: 319, Backstop: 45. The planned RF dimension was given in a March 1915 Salt Lake City newspaper article as 320. This reference suggests the Larry Zuckerman dimension estimates are quite good. One should note that Sanborn ballpark maps rarely showed the foul lines or the location of home plate. Therefore, the home plate-backstop distance was uncertain, and home plate could have been closer to CF.

If the Zuckerman estimated dimensions (in particular CF

=408) are reasonably close, the dimensions of the park would lend itself to quite a few inside-the-park-home runs (IPHR). My calculations from the Bonneville Park diagram make left-center 355 and right-center 369. If CF at Bonneville Park was 408, there should have been a goodly number of IPHRs. Conversely if CF was no more than 360 there would likely have been very few if any IPHRs. As Larry Zuckerman found a minimum of 12 IPHRs for Lazzari in 1925, the Zuckerman Sanborn-map-derived dimensions are far more likely.

The relationship of IPHRs and the CF dimension can be tested with some actual ML data. Consider the case of HRs at Hilltop Park (NY AL) in 1911-12. After the construction of the CF bleachers in front of the existing CF diagonal fence for the 1911 season, Hilltop Park possessed what was the ML's shortest CF on record-at least since 1900. For the last two seasons of Hilltop's use, CF (dead CF) was an estimated 370-375 feet -left-center and right-center dimensions were noticeably more. In the two seasons 1911-12, there were a total of two IPHRs to CF- out of a total of 35 HRs to CF. At Hilltop Park in those two seasons it was a case of there being virtually no IPHRs. In the same two seasons there were 21 IPHRs to right-center RC and RF.

Bear in mind Salt Lake City was one of the minor league cities at a high altitude. (4,266 feet). At that altitude, a batted ball will travel 6.4 % further than at sea level. When one considers the altitude effect, and the data on IPHRs, the reported dimension of 360 for CF is unbelievable small. Conclusion-Bonneville Park was likely about LF 308, CF 408, and RF 320, as Dick Beverage reported from the Zuckerman research.



Bonneville Park, 1917

(Continued on page 8)

## FENCES

Zuckerman (Source No. 3) had access to some photos of the park, and they suggest the fences were quite high, perhaps 20 feet or more. There is a photo of the RF and CF fences at Bonneville Park (Source No. 2) in which the RF fence is 12-14 feet high including a two-three foot wire screen atop a portion of the RF fence near the RF foul pole. The low CF diagonal fence was about three to four feet high and was located in front of a higher (about 12 feet) CF diagonal fence. The space behind the low CF fence was likely the location of the bullpens.

## CAPACITY

6,500 (1915), 8,000 (1916), 10,000 (1924)

## IMPACT OF THE PARK'S CONFIGURATION AND DIMENSIONS ON BATTING

We have six seasons (1918, 1921-25) of batting data for Bonneville Park (Source No. 3). The batting average at Bonneville Park during those six seasons averaged some 50 plus points above the league batting average; Three times as many home runs were hit over that period of time than at the average PCL ballpark; One & one-half times as many doubles were hit there; and, as for triples, they averaged slightly less than the league average. Note that comparing batting data for one park vs. the league average contains a potential defect. It is possible that the

outstanding batting marks at Bonneville Park were in part due to the home team batters having been above average and the home team's pitchers having been below average.

For the 1923 season at Bonneville Park, the home team Bees hit .369 while the visitors hit .353. On the road the Bees hit .285 compared to the league average of .299. Excluding Bonneville Park, the batting average at the other seven PCL parks in 1923 was .290. Historically, teams on average hit about four percent higher at home than on the road. The Bees hit .285 at the other seven parks while the league average at these seven parks was .290. However, all of the Bees games at these seven other parks were on the road while the other seven teams were at home for half of the games. Adjusting for the Home/Road effect for comparison purposes, makes the Bees batting average at the other seven parks .291. Thus it appears that the Salt Lake City's batters were nearly exactly the same caliber as the rest of the league and the huge Home/Road differences were due to the effect of Bonneville Park.

Sources:

- 1) "Tony Lazzeri: Baseball's First 60 Homer Man", by Dick Beverage, 1991 SABR Baseball Research Journal
- 2) "A bit about Salt Lake City's Bonneville Park in the 1920s", The J. G. Preston Experience
- 3) Ballparks of the PCL, Larry Zuckerman, Baseball Press Books, San Diego, CA 2007
- 4) "Huelsman, Tony Lazzeri, and Salt Lake City", SABR-L by Carlos Bauer, 14 February 2005



Oakland Tribune Jun 16, 1907

## Minor League Miscellany

By Jamie Selko

### Short Careers, High BA

Max Macon, 916/2787 **.329** also won 100G  
Billy Rhiel 1208/3554 **.339**  
Clay Parrish **-.340/.606** 5 yrs + 20 G  
Joe Egnatic in svc @ 19 had 44 HR already DNR to OB  
Ray Knowles .324 in @ 21, played 185 G after  
Tennis Mounts went in svc @22, DNR to OB **.346/.562**  
Jim Eldridge 724/2106 **.359**  
Tom Kurst 48 HR by 20, DNR  
Tom Wolfe 720/2106 **.342/.604**  
Worthington Day into svc @19, DNR to OB 331/968 **.341**  
James Guyman, 290 G, **.343**  
Earl Martin 725/2120 **.342/.511**  
Walter Walsh 504 G **.320/.563**  
Norman James 747/2330 **.320**  
Denny Williams 1201/3647 **.328**  
Parnell Ruark 804/2484 **.324/.563** 125 HR  
Chuck Henson 501/1522 **.329**  
Jule Mallonee 458/1413 **.323**  
Jack Schaefer 871/2551 **.341**  
Joe Joshua 913/2845 **.320/.537/.438** (117 HR)  
Ed Stewart **.318/.556** 57 HR 282 G  
Rabbit Leary- WWII **.332/.567**  
Douglas Dean 566/1632 **.346**  
Charles Connors 450/1318 **.340**  
**Bernard Lewis 517/1306 .396/.629/.430**  
Wash Seelman, 4 yrs Neb. St. 521/1477 **.352**  
Sam Rainey 362/1027 **.351/.503**  
Fran Boniar 939/2736 **.336**  
D. Mario Garcia 531/1600 **.332**  
Tony Antista 652/1772 **.368/.565**  
Brown Braly 923/2839 **.324**  
Harry Topel 1103/3312 **.332**

Leonard Dugan 503/1496 **.335**  
Rusty Saunders 618/1734 **.356/.528**  
Bruce Caldwell 594/1669 101 HR **.356/.628**  
Stan Stack 653/1870 **.349/.582**  
J.T. Smith 689/2002 **.343**  
Gus Koch- 1st 3 yrs 313 G 86 HR **.308/.611-**  
then, next 2 yrs,  
23 G, **.153/.167** 0 HR  
Blas Guzman 1100/3578 **.316/.552**

### 1 Year Wonders

John Welch 1 YR? 1925 Mi-Ont 77/508 **.348/.530**  
Who is the Hunnifield who hit **.347/.515** in the 1925 NYP?  
Al Groski 1 yr 164/455 **.360**  
Luke Collins, 1 yr 170/490 **.347**  
Tait Clarke, 1 yr 147/379 **.388**  
Howard Murdeski 38 HR 1941 **.341/.689**  
Art Flesland 1 yr **.331**  
Milt McIntyre '35 MAL **.352/.608** LL w/24 HR

### 2 Year Wonders

Juan Hernandez 218/641 **.340/.664/.497**  
Vince Carney 309/94 **.328 80 2B**  
Cliff Blake **.338**  
Art Strutt 1936-37 **.333/.615 80 2b, 25 3B, 46 hr**  
J. Luis St. Claire 247/684 **.361**  
Silvio Mesa 290/818 **.355/.608**

**Frank Raymond played 15 years, had 1502 Hits with a .215 BA**

### Bad Pitchers

Acton, James 19-22 6.16 355/368  
Barhorst, Harold 1-8 8.02 74 BB/55 IP  
Bene, Bill Tried for 9 yrs- 18-34 5.45 in 445 IP (489 BB) 1-10 for '90 Vero B, Team played **.637** w/o him  
Boos, Minor 2-8 9.35

Bronkar, Clarence 2-11 7.98

Bruce, Preston 0-3, 14.63 16 IP/53B/ **29.4/9** 14 WP 9HB

Burpo, George 20-33 6.59 **11.6 BB/9**

Burrell, Thomas 8-29 5.86 305BB/270IP

Caplinger, E.N. 4-15 some missing

Cassutt, Florian 0-3 13.12 57bb/43ip

Costinette, Robert 3-10 6.55 189 BB/116 IP, **14.7/9**

**Daniel, Luis 14-23 6.20 9 yrs Active**

Davie, Ralph 14-39 (1-20 1911, 3-23 C lgs)

Davis, Harold 0-9 8.49 83bb/70IP

Deering, Bob 22-57 - 1901-02,04

Dryden, Oral 34-31 (!), 6.10

**Duing, Paul 2-20 7.24 1931 MAL**

Elliott, Joe 27-24 (!) 6.33

Ellyson, Lee 2-14 8.62

Elvira, Abraham 32-64 5.64 **18 yrs 431 G883 IP** - 2004 (4-10 82/57 6.26)

Entwisle, Tom 22-31 5.58 444/424 BB 211 BB '48

Fedak, Gene 18-42 6.50 504 BB/448 IP

Fitzgerald, John 20-49

George, Everett 6-20 6.12

Grimmett, Zach 15-30 6.62

Hardcastle, J.D. 16-30 6.16

Harlow, Jack 4-22 8.27 217 BB, 58 WP 200 IP

Harriman, Norm 6-9 7.02

Hoisington, Allan 8-28 6.24 (- 4 IP)

Holz, Roger 1-7 9.63

Honas, Thomas 0-21 9.00

Jackson, R. 1929 W.Tex 8-14 106 IP. 92 BB, 243 H 179 R 15,0 RPG 3.16 BR/9

Kelcher, Laurence 0-9 8.59 95bb/72 IP - '54 Cot St.

Kelsey, Charles 24-30 7.79 471 BB/440 Ip not incl 1951

Maspero, Victor 2-9 8.03 88BB/74IP

Meadows, Frank 5-20 8.62

Neri, Braulio 3-6 6.51 151 G 86 IP

Oates, Mike 1-21 9.47 **89 IP/139 BB**

Olagues, John 2-4 13.50 **93 BB in 46 IP 18.2/9**

Pearson, Robert 7-23 5.38

Poupore, Bernard 15-28 5,22

Posadas, Obedt 3-12 7.98 150 IP

Pruett, Dick 2-5 9.53 (or more)

Pryor, Aaron 3-11 10.47 (135 IP)

Red, Socrates 9-15 5.63

Reilly, Lou 9-17, 8.13 287BB/186IP **13.9/9**

Rolin, Sammy 1-2 9.00 47 BB/42 IP

Romo, Noe 8-12 6.33 235 G 223 IP All Mex

Ruiz, Antonio 7-19 7.91 55 k/ 105bb 10.17 in 100 IP 1967

Ryan, Reid 5-15 6.04

Salgado, Eduardo 46-77 5.78 (262 G, 978 IP!) All Mex

Savage, Pete 6-27 6,68 272 bb/264 IP

Schillings, Red 33-53 6.01

Skaugstad, Dave 23-50 5.06

Speckenbach, Paul 5-6 7.17 142 BB/103 IP **12.5/9**

Spring, Ronald 10-37 6.73 +

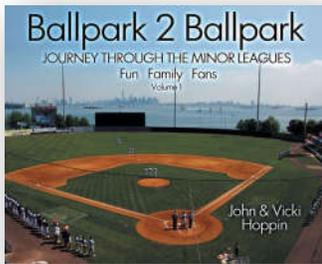
Varga, Andy 15-27 402BB/349IP

Wainwright, James 5-26 (3-22, 1914)

Wilde, Gregory 5-13 7.90 165 bb 133k 106 IP

Williams, Joel 2-4 11.80 56/40

Williams, Lawrence 0-3 12.77



## **BALLPARK 2 BALLPARK: JOURNEY THROUGH THE MINOR LEAGUES**

**BY JOHN AND VICKI HOPPIN**

2018, *Black Rose Writing*

[ISBN: 978-1684330591, 182 pp. 44.95, Hardcover]

**Reviewed by Bill Pruden**

John and Vick Hoppin's *Ballpark 2 Ballpark* is just plain fun. And that is exactly what its authors intend it to be. While it has become a cliché, one cannot help but see this book as a labor of love—both in their effort and in the way it offers a modern look at efforts to keep the nation's long time love affair with baseball, with its distinctive history and spirit, alive, especially for the younger generations for whom the game's status as the national pastime is rooted in history.

The wide array of books on baseball come at the game from a wide array of directions and the approaches often reflect the aspect of the game they explore. John and Vicki Hoppin's distinctive look at the minor league experience focuses on the community. Sure baseball is important, but not as a contest—which of course on a nightly basis it is—or as the training ground for the major leagues—which of course for teams of young ballplayers who dream of the show it is—but rather as the vehicle which the community embraces—in countless ways. However unconsciously, the game is at the center—of their book and of the experience they explore and illustrate—but it is not the most important thing.

The book itself is a gloriously illustrated work about people and places and the way they connect—both to each other and to the sport and to the experience of being at the ballpark. Indeed, it explores the connections, the people and the stories outside the lines that lead a general manager—a role that in the minor leagues is more ringmaster than Sabermetrics guru—to feel that a good day is when a fan leaves the ballpark not even sure of the game score but certain that they had a good time and will be back.

Post 9/11 the role of major league baseball, especially in

New York, was lauded for its role in restoring the city and the nation's spirit. This book helps one understand how minor league teams do that same thing across the nation on a regular basis without the need of a crisis—although they can do it then as well. Rather, the readers sees clearly how teams in cities ranging from San Jose and Fresno, California in the west, to Lowell, Massachusetts and Portland, Maine in the east, along with teams in Little Rock and Des Moines in between, as well as countless others spanning the country, serve as focal points for the development of civic pride—and sometimes economic growth. It is a book that showcases more the lessons that might be found in a Bill Veeck book of baseball leadership—and his son gets more than a few well deserved mentions—than one authored by Branch Rickey, although his grandson, the president of the Pacific Coast League, not only makes a couple appearances, but also makes clear that he realizes that the role of the minor leagues and the farm systems that his grandfather pioneered, have changed—and needed to in order both to survive and encourage the love of the game among younger generations.

Indeed, the elder Veeck and Rickey were both trailblazing pioneers who would fully appreciate the need for change that the modern minor league experience represents and embodies. In its own way baseball has always been a form of entertainment but as that concept has changed in America so too has the need to the way things like baseball are presented to its fans. Minor league baseball has adapted and the stories and photographs that the Hoppins present make this clear. It is a book infused with joy and hope. The players are barely mentioned and yet one never forgets that the centerpiece is the game, for it is the love of the game that brought the fans to the ballpark and which parents seek to infuse in their children. It is the game at the ball park that unites the child and the octogenarian on a warm summer night. This book is a love song to a part of the American experience that endures amidst rancor and debate. If the game is what you want, then it is there with its indisputable result. But at the same time you can come back and do it all again.

It is not a perfect book. Certainly some readers might like a bit more specificity about the pictures—what stadium is that, whose fans are these?—and yet given that the book is about the minor league experience one can argue that it is not critical that the exact location of each panorama be identified. The spirit is clear and that, more than any specific identification, is what the book is really about. Too, an interesting story about how former journalistic giant Michael Gartner returned to his youthful love of baseball after retirement as the owner of the Iowa Cubs is marred by confusion about his name as Gartner and Gardner are interchanged on multiple occasions over a four page span. And yet these are quibbles about a book that offers much to enjoy.

Indeed, the book offers a range of human interest stories,

descriptions of ball park cuisine that make hot dogs, peanuts, and cracker jacks, not to mention a cold beer, seem antiquated, and descriptions of individual ball park legends and familiar faces, as well as a sampling of the many non-baseball entertainment options ranging from Ferris wheels to lazy rivers, all of which keep even the most disinterested fan engaged while perhaps also piquing their interest in the game. And yet, even if they do not develop into true baseball fans, those for whom the many other attractions are the real draw will, nevertheless, as the Hoppins make clear, leave the ballpark having had a good time.

Not surprisingly, while all of this makes for a fun read, while also offering a sense of the fun to be had at ball parks across the country, it is not a book that will appeal to baseball purists. And yet as one observer notes in response to the old-timer who complained about all the “non-baseball stuff,” were it not for all of that “stuff,” the game the purists treasure might not be there to be enjoyed. The Hoppins in no way minimize or show any disrespect for the game of baseball, they simply recognize, like every General Manager they talked with made clear, that in order to survive and now to thrive, minor league baseball—at least the game outside the lines—has had to change. And yet in doing so, it has allowed even more

teams to develop, thus creating ever greater opportunities for fans. Indeed, while there may be many a side show, they are happening in venues—ballparks—that better showcase the game than did anything that one could have found in what the critics might have called the “good old days.” Also, while showcasing the way the modern Minors have adapted to the entertainment demands of the modern fan, they also show how teams have connected with the history of baseball in general and their own individual history and legacies. For all of the changes, the game is still at the heart of the experience, and it is at the heart of this book.

In the end, after completing this most enjoyable ride, the reader is left wanting more—and given the number of ballparks the Hoppins visited—159—it is not hard to imagine how much more they could have shared. Too, given the distinctive nature of each ballpark as well as its environment, one is hard pressed to believe that readers would tire of more. Happily the authors are promising that a second volume will be appearing in October and for devoted minor league fans who have to suffer with the shorter season inherent in the minors not to mention the September call-ups, another volume, a late fall teaser that would be a reminder of the season ahead, will undoubtedly, be much appreciated.



*Mattoon Journal Gazette May 23, 1947*

# MINOR LEAGUE COMMITTEE

## SURVEY RESULTS

Over one-hundred members of the Minor League Research Committee responded to a month long survey to better understand the needs and activities of our members that concluded on Sept. 24

The survey yielded some interesting feedback that will be used to energize the committee in upcoming months. I was pleased with the response rate. Even though it represented only 16 percent of our 606 members, it included responses from a large group who most likely make the minor league committee their top priority.

Fifty-six members acknowledged that they are currently involved in research. How much of this is duplicative? We immediately addressed this opportunity by including a list of projects and researchers in this and further issues of our "Beating the Bushes" newsletter. This really is a no-brainer, as ten members suggested sharing research topics in the survey. In addition to connecting researchers with similar interests, the list may inspire others to participate in research projects.

What should be the priority focus of our committee? The responses varied widely with suggestions such as:

- Digitize baseball guides (a comprehensive listing of on-line guides is here: [http://bbsas.net/wiki/index.php/Baseball\\_Guides](http://bbsas.net/wiki/index.php/Baseball_Guides))
- Compile a comprehensive database of minor league statistics
- Identify potential minor league publications projects
- Preserve the cultural importance of minor league baseball
- Educate committee members about research sources available to them

Forty-Six members indicated that they had written an article or book on minor league baseball. This suggests that we have a critical mass of writers on hand who could

be recruited to work on a group project or contribute articles to our newsletter, "Beating the Bushes."

Surprisingly, only 13 of those 46 members have authored articles for the publication.

What information would respondents like to see included in "Beating the Bushes?" The feedback included:

- Anecdotes related to life in the minors
- More biographical player sketches
- Records and anecdotes
- Articles on minor league ballparks
- Updates on statistical research
- Minor league baseball cards

Another interesting finding was that 87 of the 101 respondents said they would be willing to help other members with their research needs. This is another opportunity to get members involved. The internet has greatly changed the way we research. Volunteers could be recruited to serve as "How To" resources as well as provide input about people who played or lived, and events that occurred in their respective home areas..

With regards to attending SABR's annual convention, just 41 members said they have ever attended the annual con-fab. Some of the reasons for not attending included time lost from work, travel and money constraints and distance issues.

Finally, members were asked what else could the committee do to meet their needs?

Again there were a wide range of suggestions:

- Install a SABR version of the MiLB database online for member usage
- Produce more frequent communications
- Create an advisory group to mentor members regarding research
- Expand our focus to include current Independent leagues

# Member Research Interests

## Players, teams and Leagues

Strange and unique happenings in minor league history

Al Arrighi

[cyberdadal@aol.com](mailto:cyberdadal@aol.com)

302-381-0899

No hitters, triple plays, league schedules, team picture and player photos

Chuck McGill

[cmcgill.vt@gmail.com](mailto:cmcgill.vt@gmail.com)

802-893-8707

North Atlantic League, Ernest "Duke" Landgraf, minor league baseball in Wilkes-Barre, PA

George Pawlush

[George.pawlush@wilkes.edu](mailto:George.pawlush@wilkes.edu)

860-490-1074

Latin American players in the minor leagues

Juan Vene

[Jbeisbol5@aol.com](mailto:Jbeisbol5@aol.com)

917-841-9671

Minor league teams and players in the Montreal Expos system, 1969-2004

Alain Usereau

[althetiger@hotmail.com](mailto:althetiger@hotmail.com)

514-524-3190

KC Monarchs games in western Canada during the 1920s and 1930s

Jay Berman

[jayandirene@aol.com](mailto:jayandirene@aol.com)

310-374-5186

Moe Berg's 1925 season with the Reading Keys

Brian Engelhardt

[bengelhardt@comcast.net](mailto:bengelhardt@comcast.net)

610-790-9429

Mexican Summer and Winter League

Edward B. Almada

[Edalmada88@gmail.com](mailto:Edalmada88@gmail.com)

520-505-8314

American Association, 1949-57

Dana X. Marshall

[dxmarsh@hotmail.com](mailto:dxmarsh@hotmail.com)

702-349-8016

Toronto Maple Leafs IL, other aspects of IL, PCL, and AA

Clay Marston

[claymarston@hotmail.com](mailto:claymarston@hotmail.com)

416-545-1666

New Hampshire State League with William "Bill" Thompson (African-American) playing

Clifford Otto

[ottoc.bb.etc+sabr@gmail.com](mailto:ottoc.bb.etc+sabr@gmail.com)

Minor League teams, managers, locations, nicknames and franchise moves

Jerry Jackson

[SABRMnLgs@gmail.com](mailto:SABRMnLgs@gmail.com)

407-542-1136

Cotton States League, 1887-1955; Pine Bluff Lumbermen/Judges

Jamin Ross

[Jamin\\_ross@yahoo.com](mailto:Jamin_ross@yahoo.com)

870-489-2977

History of the 1948 Franklin Cubs (Virginia League)

James P. Holl

[patjimholl@juno.com](mailto:patjimholl@juno.com)

1895-96 Eastern International League that had clubs in Quebec, Vermont and Upstate NY

Patrick Carpentier

[ppcarpentier@compuserve.com](mailto:ppcarpentier@compuserve.com)

514-212-9444

1937 Cape Breton Colliery League

Jim Myers

[James.myers@ns.sympatico.ca](mailto:James.myers@ns.sympatico.ca)

History of the Northwest League

Bob Webster

[Bobwebster10@gmail.com](mailto:Bobwebster10@gmail.com)

503-830-1626

House of David team – 1934 team that won the Denver Post Tournament led by Satchel Paige

Geoff Griffin

[Griffen\\_geoff@hotmail.com](mailto:Griffen_geoff@hotmail.com)

801-828-7951

19<sup>th</sup> Century Southern League

Karl Green

[atlcrackersfan@gmail.com](mailto:atlcrackersfan@gmail.com)

404-394-4451

Buffalo Bisons history

Brian Frank

[herdchronicles@gmail.com](mailto:herdchronicles@gmail.com)

716-408-7108

PCL in the Post World War II era to 1957

George Bullock

[GBbullock@Agnesscott.edu](mailto:GBbullock@Agnesscott.edu)

404-373-3524

Tampa Bay (Devil) Rays player movement since their inception

Peter Bauck

[pbauck@gmail.com](mailto:pbauck@gmail.com)

727-365-8860

Judge William Bramham's tenure as president of minor league baseball

Don Etheridge

[wmamsbl@yahoo.com](mailto:wmamsbl@yahoo.com)

404-229-3367

Early years of minor league history in Miami, FL

Sam Zygnier

[sflasabr@hotmail.com](mailto:sflasabr@hotmail.com)

786-573-0027

Game between Rome and West Virginia where a pitcher threw two pitches and got three outs

(first in baseball due to the new extra-innings rule)

Tom Brown

[thomasjbrownjr@gmail.com](mailto:thomasjbrownjr@gmail.com)

919-280-4636

Professional baseball in Dayton, OH

Jack Carlson

[Trinityjack2@gmail.com](mailto:Trinityjack2@gmail.com)

The Federal League

Blake Sherry

[Bwsherry1979@gmail.com](mailto:Bwsherry1979@gmail.com)

614-595-9729

Keokuk, IA minor league teams

Steve Smith

[Ssmith2084@aol.com](mailto:Ssmith2084@aol.com)

612-418-2366

(Continued on page 16)

(Continued from page 15)

History of Baseball in Iowa

Tim Rask

[Tim.rask@mchsi.com](mailto:Tim.rask@mchsi.com)

319-541-2558

Semi-pro and amateur baseball in Canada and parts of the USA

Jay-Dell Mah

[jdm@attheplate.com](mailto:jdm@attheplate.com)

250-265-4302

DiamondsintheDusk.com

Brian Morrison

[Diamondsinthedusk@gmail.com](mailto:Diamondsinthedusk@gmail.com)

Portland, OR professional team history

Rock Bauer

[Jrocko44@hotmail.com](mailto:Jrocko44@hotmail.com)

503-298-1434

1936 San Diego Padres (PCL)

Ted Larwin

[Lar.11@cox.net](mailto:Lar.11@cox.net)

619-251-0419

History of the Asheville Tourists

Bill Ballew

[baseballew@bellsouth.net](mailto:baseballew@bellsouth.net)

Farm Clubs, 1930-62

Bill McMahan

[mcmahan@uakron.edu](mailto:mcmahan@uakron.edu)

330-836-5473

The most unique and bizarre moments in minor league history

Tim Haggerty

[Haggertytd@gmail.com](mailto:Haggertytd@gmail.com)

503-896-1273

Early Canadian minor leagues

Martin Lacoste

[Martlaco1@rogers.net](mailto:Martlaco1@rogers.net)

519-590-1300

Arizona League history/record book

Chuck Johnson

[Mjohns2@cox.net](mailto:Mjohns2@cox.net)

602-697-9079

Gus Munch, the 1897 Red River Valley League

Red River Valley baseball history

[www.facebook.com/RRVBaseballHistory/](http://www.facebook.com/RRVBaseballHistory/).

Jeff Bozovsky

[jeffbozovsky@yahoo.com](mailto:jeffbozovsky@yahoo.com)

## Statistical

Statistical database of minor league baseball

Pat Doyle

[bbdata14@gmail.com](mailto:bbdata14@gmail.com)

913-636-7015

Add data from Triple A World Series to collected data, 1903 to present; Dixie Series data

Bob Bailey

[bobbbailey@cox.net](mailto:bobbbailey@cox.net)

352-262-2722

Minor league bio and team data, first decade of the 20<sup>th</sup> century

G. Reed Howard

[reedhoward@verizon.net](mailto:reedhoward@verizon.net)

302-478-1004

Collecting box scores and rosters from 1856 to 1893

Charles "Newton" Weaver

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410-289-7215

Comprehensive database of minor league statistics

Cliff Blau

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914-948-8406

Compilation of minor league statistics, pre-1950

Sean Lahman

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Incomplete Stats from 1957-1963

Tim Tucker

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336-782-7319

Compilation of game logs for minor league seasons

Bob Kistler

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Statistical records of the Columbus (Ohio) professional team, 1867 to present

Chris Gallutia

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614-575-1145

Minor league pitching, concentrating on winning pitchers with high ERAs or high WHIPs

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Missing stats from the low minors in the 1940's

Richard K. Tharp

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240-498-0832

Independent team records; South Dakota minor league teams; Stadiums

Dave Kemp

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605-367-6913

605-338-8006

Unassisted triple plays

Will Christenson

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All players with 1400 hits, 140 homeruns or 140 walks

Jamie Selko

[jamieselko@gmail.com](mailto:jamieselko@gmail.com)