

# KELTNER'S HOT CORNER



## Ken Keltner Badger State Chapter

### In This issue:

- Joint SABR Day Meeting
- *Sporting News* Player Contact cards, a boon for baseball researchers
- Baseball History Today on Facebook
- Degenhardt elected President
- Keltner Bonus Meeting February 29<sup>th</sup>
- Keltner Chapter Survey

### Did You Know

Researchers, did you know the *Milwaukee Journal*, *Milwaukee Sentinel* and *Milwaukee Journal Sentinel* have been removed from the Google News Archives. For now, we will most likely need to use libraries as we have done in the past.

### Upcoming Events:

Feb 29 - Keltner Meeting  
Broken Bat Brewery  
231 E. Buffalo St, Milwaukee



Mar 14 - Emil Rothe Chapter  
SABR Chicago Book Fest  
DuPage Medical Group Field  
Joliet, IL



SABR Analytics Conference  
March 13-15  
Phoenix, AZ



SABR 50  
July 15-19  
Baltimore, MD



## Ken Keltner & Emil Rothe SABR Day Meeting

### February 15 - Brat Stop - Kenosha - 10 AM

Join us for our annual SABR Day Joint Chapter Meeting held two weeks after the “traditional” SABR Day due to the White Sox and Brewers FanFests. With pitchers and catchers reporting, let’s talk baseball, yesterday, today and tomorrow.

### On Tap!

Michael Hauptert’s SABR 49 presentation “The Business of Being the Babe”...Ruth’s off field accomplishments.

Who is Ken Keltner? Panel discussion on the name sake of the Wisconsin chapter.

Bruce Allardice’s 2020 predictions and 2019 follow up.

Shawn Anderson and Lou Olsen on their virtual Hall of Very Good and podcast.

Carl Skanberg on his comic strips, cartoons, illustrations, and paintings over the past 25 years, focused on baseball and the White Sox.

Krystal Lee, a busy mom and HR professional on her playing with the Rockford Starfires starting her third season this year.

And more...



## Ken Keltner Badger State Chapter Bonus Event



<https://brokenbatbrewery.com>

**Saturday, February 29th, 11AM**  
**Broken Bat Brewing Co.**  
**231 E. Buffalo St.**

Please join us as we kick off spring training by welcoming former All-American Girls Professional Baseball League player Toni Ann Palermo. She was a speedy shortstop for the Chicago Colleens and Springfield Sallies in 1949-50. She'll share stories of her pro career and what it was like to play in "A League of Their Own". Mary Shea will be our emcee.

Broken Bat is a baseball-themed bar and brewery with a great atmosphere and excellent beer, located in Milwaukee's Historic Third Ward. Food may be carried in or ordered through GrubHub for delivery, and there's a Shake Shack across the street. Hope you can join us to talk about women in baseball as well as the coming season. Our events are free and open to the public.



### Watch for the Ken Keltner Chapter Survey

What are your thoughts on your Ken Keltner chapter, like or dislikes? What are your baseball interests and how can the Keltner help meet those needs? Who would you like to see make a presentation or talk at a chapter meeting? How often should we meet and what other type of activities would you like to see.

To answer all of those questions and more, we will be sending out a survey in the next several weeks, hopefully before SABR Day. Yes, the answers will be confidential or you can optionally include your name and email address. Why would you do so, only if you don't mind possibly receiving follow up questions to help us better understand your replies.

So, please respond and help us make your chapter even better.

Thank you in advance.

**Pitchers and Catcher Report February 12**  
**Some of the most beautiful words ever spoken!**

## Baseball History Today - January 9

On this date in 1882, *Slide, Kelly, Slide* becomes the first baseball song to make the popular music charts. The song, composed by George Gaskin, was about King Kelly who we highlighted on December 31, was professional baseball's first matinee idol: the first ballplayer to "author" an autobiography, the first to have a hit song written about him, and the first to have a successful acting career outside the game" as noted in Kelly's SABR BioProject bio repeated here: <https://sabr.org/bioproj/person/ffc40dac>

In 1903, The defunct American League Baltimore franchise is purchased by Frank Farrell and Bill Devery for \$18,000 and moved to Manhattan becoming the New York Highlanders but made their mark under a different team name, the Yankees. The purchase was completed on Devery's 49th birthday, born on this date in 1854. The Orioles were a founding member of the American League, managed by John McGraw, collapsing after McGraw was suspended in 1902 and jumped ship to manage the NY Giants selling his ownership interest and stealing key players. Not related to today's Orioles, the story on this franchise is at: [https://www.baseball-reference.com/bullpen/Baltimore\\_Orioles\\_\(1901-1902\)](https://www.baseball-reference.com/bullpen/Baltimore_Orioles_(1901-1902))

In 1918, a trade with Wisconsin ties, the fifth place Brooklyn Robins (Dodgers) trade outfielder Casey Stengel (the 1944 American Association Champion Brewers manager) and infielder George Cutshaw to the Pittsburgh Pirates for pitchers, Al Mamaux and Wisconsin born, future Hall of Famer, Burleigh Grimes as well as infielder Chuck Ward.

And nine years later in 1927, Burleigh Grimes is on the move again going to the NY Giants in a three-way deal, including the Phillies.

It is Hall of Fame vote time by the Baseball Writers Association of America ...

In 1980, Al Kaline, the tenth player selected in his first year, and Duke Snider, in his eleventh year are elected to the Hall of Fame.

Kaline's bio: <https://sabr.org/bioproj/person/a141b60c>

Snider's bio: <https://sabr.org/bioproj/person/be697e90>

In 1989, both Cincinnati's Johnny Bench and Boston's Carl Yastrzemski are elected in their first year of eligibility and each spent their entire careers (40 years combined) with one team. Bench set new standards for catchers, offensively, 348 home runs as a catcher (389 total) and defensively (10 straight Gold Gloves) while Yastrzemski hit 452 home runs, with 3,419 hits (8th), and won the 1967 Triple Crown.

Bench's bio: <https://sabr.org/bioproj/person/aab28214>

Yaz's bio: <https://sabr.org/bioproj/person/a71e9d7f>

In 1990, Baltimore's Jim Palmer, three-time AL Cy Young Award winner, and Joe Morgan, two-time NL MVP with the Big Red Machine, are elected in their first years of eligibility.

Palmer's bio: <https://sabr.org/bioproj/person/3c239cfa>

Morgan's bio: <https://sabr.org/bioproj/person/bf4f7a6e>

In 2012, Cincinnati's Barry Larkin is elected with 86.4% of the vote in his third year of eligibility. The 19-year veteran won the 1995 NL MVP Award, was a 12-time All-Star, and the first shortstop to join the 30-30 club.

And in 2013, the second time since 1971 (1996 see January 8), no one is elected to the Hall of Fame. Because a number of leading contenders are considered tainted by association with the steroids scandal, the election is dubbed the "steroids ballot". Craig Biggio in his first year of eligibility is the leading vote-getter, with 68.2%, became a Hall of Famer in 2015. Others on the ballot who were elected later include, Jack Morris, 67.7% (2018); Jeff Bagwell, 59.6% (2017); Mike Piazza, 57.8% (2016); Tim Lincecum, 52.2% (2017); Lee Smith, 47.8% (2019); Edgar Martinez, 35.9% (2019); and Alan Trammell, 33.6% (2018).

From the good ol' days file, all the way back to last year, 2019, when catcher Yasmani Grandal, signed a one-year free agent contract with the Brewers for \$18.25 million. He helped make a big difference as Milwaukee made the playoffs for a second consecutive year, not done since 1981-1982. Playing in 153 games, most in his eight-year career, he had 126 hits, 56 (44%) for extra bases (26/2/28); scoring 79 runs while driving in 77; drawing 109 bases on balls; slashing, .246/.380/.468 for an OPS of .848.

To see all of the baseball historical event on this day visit:

[https://www.baseball-reference.com/bullpen/January\\_9](https://www.baseball-reference.com/bullpen/January_9)

Continued on Page 5

## Join the Baseball History Today Team

SABR Members, join the Baseball History Today Team helping research, write and/or making suggestions to make the daily posts more interesting, fun and informative. You will learn a great deal about players you may or may not have known about and hone your research skills. We work with [baseball-reference.com](http://baseball-reference.com), [retrosheet.org](http://retrosheet.org), the SABR website and more.

Contact Dennis at [bovine9@icloud.com](mailto:bovine9@icloud.com) or call/text 262-339-9968. Ideas and suggestions are always appreciated.

### Baseball History Today - January 9 (Continued from Page 4)

#### Wisconsin Related Birthdays:

Born in 1897, AA Brewers, Dave Keefe spent parts of three seasons, 1922 to 1924 in Milwaukee after his five-year Major League career ended with Cleveland in 1922. During that time, he pitched in 55 games, with a 13-29 record, losing 20 in 1924.

Born in 1919, Charlie Sproull, pitched in the minor leagues in ten of his eleven years in professional baseball with five seasons in Wisconsin. Sproull's first Badger State baseball was in 1939 and 1940 with the Class D, Northern League, Eau Claire Bears where he had a 18-23 record, 4.21 ERA in 54 games over 323 IP. He moved to the Class B Madison Blues of the 3-I League (Illinois-Indiana-Iowa League) in 1941 enjoying a 14-11 record with a 4.23 ERA. He spent two years in Milwaukee in 1943 and 1944 leading up to his year in Philadelphia. In Sproull's two-year final tune-up for the big leagues pitching in 72 games over 279 innings pitched he was 21-12 with a 3.00 ERA. His 1944 season was his career best starting 26 of 35 games, with 11 complete games and three shutouts leading to a .696 winning percentage with his 16-7 record, 2.50 ERA and 1.337 WHIP for the American Association Champion Brewers. In his only Major League experience in 1945, Sproull started 19 of his 34 games with the Phillies with a 4-10 record; 5.94 ERA and 1.826 WHIP. Returning to the minors in 1946, Sproull pitched for three more years retiring after the 1948 season.

Born in 1983, outfielder, Brandon Boggs, finished his four-year MLB career (2008-2011) with the Brewers in 16 games, slashing .158/.273/.474 with two of his three hits, solo homers for a respectable .746 WHIP. Signed as a free agent in October 2010, Boggs spent most of the season in the minors with Indianapolis after his demotion in May similar to the rest of his career except his inaugural season when he had 283 ABs with Texas in 101 games with 64 hits, 29 for extra bases (17/4/8); batting .226 with a .733 OPS.

#### Hall of Fame Birthdays:

None

Primary Sources: [baseball-reference.com](http://baseball-reference.com) and [retrosheet.org](http://retrosheet.org)

Slash line: batting average (BA)/on-base percentage (OBP)/slugging percentage; OPS: on-base percentage + slugging percentage, (better indicator than batting average); Extra Bases (doubles/triples/homers), WHIP, walks + hits per innings pitched; IP, innings pitched

To learn more about the Society for American Baseball Research, SABR, visit: <https://sabr.org>

## Emil Rothe Chicago Chapter Newsletter

Our fellow SABR members to our south published an excellent newsletter for the past year or so, on a by-monthly basis. In the January edition, they had an articles on "Baseball Caps: A Quick History of Licensing and Logos", "Chicago Connection to the "Negro League Centennial", Shoeless Joe Jackson: Changing Perceptions" "In Memoriam: Baseball Players Lost in 2019 and much more in 14 action packed pages. To read the newsletter visit: <http://malamut.net/january2020newsletter.pdf>