

KELTNER'S HOT CORNER

Ken Keltner Badger State Chapter



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Upcoming Events



Keltner Virtual Book Club
Author Craig Calcaterra
Wednesday, July 6 @ 7 PM CDT
Register [here](#)



Beloit Sky Carp Game
with Halsey Hall Chapter
Saturday, August 13
Info: contact [Stew Thornley](#)



SABR 50 Annual Convention
August 17-21, 2022
Learn More [Here](#)

Direct questions or comments to:
Dennis D. Degenhardt
bovine9@icloud.com

Follow the Keltner Chapter on
[Facebook](#) and [Twitter](#)

Welcome New Members:
Tony Lesniewski - Spring Grove, IL
Mike Kaminski - Appleton
Mike Duncan - Black Earth

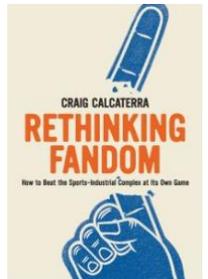
Upcoming Events

Keltner Virtual Book Club Meeting

Wednesday, July 6 @ 7 PM CDT

Rethinking Fandom: How to Beat the Sports-Industrial Complex at Its Own Game
With Author Greg Calcaterra

If you find yourself disenchanted with major sports, or you're just tired of the astronomical amount of money involved, Greg Calcaterra's [Rethinking Fandom: How to Beat the Sports-Industrial Complex at Its Own Game](#) may be for you. He lays out many examples of the misguided corporate greed and suggests various strategies to fight back, because it's supposed to be fun, right? You'll enjoy the author's tremendous knowledge, wit, and humor as well.



One lucky attendee will win a copy of the book.

Register in advance for the meeting [here](#). SABR will forward the Zoom info to you. And as we always say, you don't need to read the book or be a member to join us.



Attending SABR 50?



Are you attending SABR 50 in Baltimore? Or are you thinking about going but have questions? Either way, please let [Dennis](#) know so we have an idea of Keltner members attending the event or we can answer your convention questions. I will be there finally, after waiting three years to do so.

You can get more information about the convention [here](#).

The Keltner Hot Corner Wants You

Do you have an article or topic you would like to publish in the newsletter? If so, that's great. Please contact [Dennis](#).

Recap - Madison Mallards Game Special Guest: Steve Schmidt, Mallard's Owner



With the threat of rain and some members driving from Milwaukee through heavy downpours, a group of 12 attended the Madison Mallards game on Saturday, June 25. We had a pregame assembly with the Mallards owner Steve Schmidt. Sporting a KC Monarch's hat, Steve regaled the group with stories of how he became a St. Louis Cardinals fan as a nine year old during the Milwaukee Braves era; his favorite ballplayer, the Mallards, current and past players including those who made it to the major leagues; baseball in general and his 53 years at the Shoe Box. Cardinals fan? As a nine year old, having listened to Braves games, he was messing with his transistor radio when he tuned into KMOX and heard a different, excitable announcer, Harry Carey. So, he looked for the game again the following night and found it. Then the precocious youngster sent a letter to the Cards announcing his fandom and in return they sent him a number of small black and white photos of some players and he was hooked for life. Favorite player, Stan-the-Man, of course. He talked about the Mallard's 6' 9" pitcher from the previous evening, major leaguers, including Pete Alonso and how much bigger and stronger today's kids are. One big change from 20 years ago is they don't worry as much about the players partying because they instead go to the gym after the ballgames, fitness is more important.

And Steve, always the gracious host, provided us with excellent seats that included a chit for a free beer (or wine), coupon for a soft drink or potato chips and a Mallard's hat, all for only \$10 each.

Comments from those attending were very complimentary of Steve both as our host and speaker, we need to do more of these games, it sure was fun getting together to talk baseball, and the weather was perfect.

Bonus, we saw the Mallards defeated the Kokomo Jackrabbits 7-3 which included a home run, something that Steve had earlier mentioned did not happen often during their 2001 inaugural season.



Special thanks to Steve Landfried for the photos.



Keltner Book Club

Wednesday, July 6 @ 7:00 PM CDT

***Rethinking Fandom: How to Beat the Sports-Industrial Complex at Its Own Game* by Craig Calcaterra**



If you find yourself disenchanted with major sports, or you're just tired of the astronomical amount of money involved, I highly recommend [Rethinking Fandom: How to Beat the Sports-Industrial Complex at Its Own Game](#). Calcaterra, who loves baseball, lays out many examples of the misguided corporate greed and fan and taxpayer exploitation that are pervasive in major sports. But there's hope. He also suggests various strategies to fight back, or at least alter your fandom so that supporting a team can be enjoyed rather than endured, as it's supposed to be fun, right? And even if you're not a disgruntled fan, this book is extremely eye-opening. You'll enjoy the author's tremendous knowledge, wit, and humor, and you might even be inspired as you reconsider your relationship with sports.



Here is a [link](#) to Calcaterra's website with more info on the book as well as ordering it, only \$17.95 or you can get it at [Boswell Books](#).

A drawing will be held with one lucky attendee winning a copy of the book.

You can register in advance for this meeting [here](#).

Please direct any Keltner Book Club questions, comments or book suggestions to [Mary Shea](#).

Happy reading,

Mary



What's Happening with the DockHounds in Oconomowoc?

On **July 23**, we will finish our year of following the birth of the [Lake Country DockHounds](#) and the construction of a brand new ballpark. It is our chance to see the real thing and enjoy a ballgame (and talk baseball). The game is on a Saturday evening at 6:05 PM versus the Lincoln Saltdogs. Which team will be barking up the wrong tree at the end of the game? We are still working on a pre-game tour of the stadium.



If you have not planned on attending this game, please let Dennis know and we will see about adding you.



Fond du Lac DockSpiders



Jim Misudek, the General Manager of the Northwoods League [Fond du Lac DockSpiders](#) and fellow SABR member reached out to the chapter to see what we could do to work together.

Looking at their weekend schedule, there weren't many days available but he really wants to invite SABRen to Herr-Baker Field. So, he offered us a 50% discount to select games. Visit: <https://fond-du-lac-dock-spiders.nwltickets.com/SingleGame/Tickets>. They have a nice field making for a very enjoyable game.

- Use code "SABR" to get 50% off box and bleacher seats on select games, **7/10, 7/27 (Game 1), 7/27 (Game 2), and 8/1.**
- When purchasing games listed online, select either box or bleacher seats and when in your cart, type code SABR in the promotions box on the bottom left of your cart.

Thanks Jim, we appreciate the generous offer. We will plan for a 2023 chapter game and more.

Get to Know John Graf

John Graf joined SABR in November of 2011 when he got the idea to write a BioProject article on the father of a co-worker, Stan “Peck” Sperry of Evansville, Wisconsin. Peck’s dad, [Stanley “Pop” Sperry](#), played for both the Philadelphia Phillies and Athletics during the 1930s. “I went to the 2012 Minneapolis national convention to find out more about writing for the BioProject and the Negro Leagues Research Committee.” He left with the assignment to write Pop’s bio and an important resource for his expanding passion for the Negro Leagues.

John E. Graf was born on July 14, 1955 in Janesville, Wisconsin to Harriet (Kretschmann) Graf and Allen Graf. He is second oldest of four siblings, eight years younger than his only sister, and has two younger brothers. John’s dad was a church furniture designer and mom an elementary school instructional aide. Growing up in Janesville, he attended Adams Elementary, St. Mary’s Elementary, Franklin Junior High School, and Parker High School.

Most of us can easily recall our earliest baseball memory. For John, it was reading baseball cards, at age 5, on the back of Post cereal boxes. Like most of us who collected those cards, waiting until the box was empty before being able to carefully cut out the treasures seemed to be an eternity.



As a youngster, he mostly participated in playground leagues and neighborhood pickup baseball and softball games. At about age 10, he tried out for the Janesville Little League that used a draft to assign the best players to their teams. For the tryout, they use a pitching machine. As John recalls, “It was the first time I’d seen fast pitching, ever. I foul tipped a couple and then got my timing down and hit a line drive right at the guy playing first base. I might have booted a ground ball or fly ball in the fielding drill, I don’t remember. The upshot was I wasn’t chosen in the draft and was relegated to playing in the playground league where there weren’t the trappings of a uniform, manicured diamond, and organizational infrastructure of the official Little League. I was crushed. Never tried out again at any level. Didn’t even play slow-pitch softball as an adult.”

Growing up we all had favorite teams and players as did Graf, who had a more expansive view. Being from Wisconsin his favorite team was the Milwaukee Braves, “but I loved listening to the Chicago Cubs games during the afternoons on WGN Radio.” But his favorite players, [Willie Mays](#) and [Juan Marichal](#) were not from either ballclub. As he explained, “I was intrigued by Mays’ basket catch and the high leg kick of Marichal.” He also had favorites with those nearby teams, [Henry Aaron](#) and [Ernie Banks](#). When he was about six years old his dad gave him his first baseball cap: Chicago White Sox. “I wore it all the time.” And he added, “People told me my hair would fall out.” Based on his picture, it’s safe to say, those people were wrong!

After finishing high school, he continued his education at UW-Whitewater, UW-Rock County (Janesville), and Northland College (Ashland, WI). John received his Bachelor of Science degree from Northland in Sociology and Conflict/Peace Studies.

John recently retired after 12 years from a nonpartisan job with the Wisconsin State Assembly in Madison where he set up meeting rooms for committee hearings, legislative sessions, and press conferences and was a supply clerk for 99 bosses, the representatives in the lower house. He retired because, “The commute from Janesville to the capitol and back started wearing me out.” In previous lifetimes, he worked in journalism, both radio and newspaper, covering sports and straight news. He also had a retail background with natural foods and convenience stores.

Although never married the love of his life is Mary Easland of Beloit. She works in the Janesville City Clerk/Treasurer’s office as one of those dedicated public servants who makes sure our elections run smoothly. “She does a mighty fine job of it, I might say.” Graf does not have children while Mary has a daughter, Kat, “who is a talented artist and has been a collegiate volleyball player and high school coach in that sport.” And along the way, he picked up another baseball fan since Mary’s mother, Janet, is a diehard Cubs fan. “She goes back to the days of [Gabby Hartnett](#).” Hartnett is considered the best National League catcher in the 1920s and 1930s.

John is the editor, with associates Larry Lester and Duke Goldman, of the SABR collection *From [Rube to Robinson: SABR’s Best Articles on Black Baseball](#)*, published in 2020 as part of the 100th anniversary celebration of the Negro Leagues. Graf developed his interest in Black sports as a kid. He pored over the rosters of pro football and basketball teams discovering that many players came from historically Black colleges and

universities (HBCUs) but didn't "make the cut." He then made up imaginary teams including Black players who weren't selected for the "major leagues." His knowledge and interest started to grow as a teenager when he read the renown *Only the Ball Was White* by Robert Peterson but admitted, "it didn't sink in right away." The intrigue deepened when the *Macmillan Baseball Encyclopedia* included Negro Leagues players in its later editions. But John became hooked when he found James Riley's *Biographical Encyclopedia of Baseball's Negro Leagues* at the State of Wisconsin Historical Library during the early 2000s.

During his previous lifetimes, John did some baseball writing during the late 1970s when he was on the sports beat for the Janesville Gazette. On other topics, he indicated, "Highlights would be writing a lengthy essay that I self-published when Milton (Wisconsin) High School was embroiled in a controversy over its racially-insensitive Native American-referenced nickname and logo. It consisted of fictional commentary from "Miracle," the sacred white buffalo born in Janesville during the late 1990s, who he personified for the story. While at Northland College, "I wrote a monograph on the U.S. sociologist [C. Wright Mills](#) published as part of a college student writers' series."

We are always curious what fellow SABRen may be working on and John's reply was a type we often hear, "I'll just say I'm working on a Negro Leagues-oriented book that is nearing completion and leave it at that. I jinx myself when I talk too much about projects instead of doing them."

In addition to attending the SABR national convention in 2012, he was also at Chicago in 2015, and Pittsburgh in 2018. John is registered to attend SABR 50 in Baltimore this year. With his strong interest in Black baseball, he has attended all of the Jerry Malloy Negro Leagues Conferences since 2015, including presenting in 2017 and winning the Significa trivia contest in 2016. Graf was on this year's conference committee that put on the 2022 Malloy event in Birmingham. He highly recommends attending the Malloy, "The experiences have been consistently glorious."

In addition to John's interest in the Negro Leagues, he is an advocate for playing Strat-O-Matic Baseball, the board game that evolved into a computer game. "It is still a blast, even as I enter advanced age." And this passion played a role in the other fervency when Strat-O-Matic produced its Negro Leagues All-Stars version. "I was spending every moment I could, every weekend, playing the game and familiarizing myself with the players."

Often looking for greater insight, we ask for any final words of wisdom and John offered instead a favorite quote: "It is better to vote for what you want and not get it than to vote for what you don't want and get it." Attributed to labor agitator Eugene Debs, whose namesake [Debs Garms](#) was the National League batting leader in 1940 as a member of the Pittsburgh Pirates. Garms played 12 years in the pre-Jackie Robinson era, and didn't like his name. And Garms's younger brother, was named after Milwaukee socialist, [Victor Berger](#), the first socialist elected to Congress 1910 and co-founder of the Socialist Party with Eugene Debs. Berger Garms reportedly didn't like his name, either.

As we learned earlier in this Get to Know, John's experience with Little League was disappointing. If he could have a "time machine moment" and go back in time to any baseball event, his response was easy, "I wouldn't mind getting back in the batting cage during that Little League tryout."

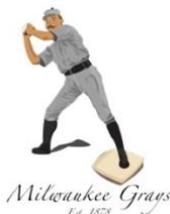


Milwaukee Grays Vintage Baseball Club

The [Milwaukee Grays Vintage Base Ball Club](#) consist of a group of dedicated individuals who enjoy baseball, history and the outdoors. We are not re-enactors! We play actual baseball but we prefer to play by the rules of 1860. We use wooden bats and lemon peel base balls. Our club has players of all ages and we love to compete. The Grays feature matches scheduled for Saturday or Sunday at Estabrook Park

If you would like to enjoy the game as a fan or play, following is their home schedule for the next couple of months.

Saturday July 16th
Home – Estabrook Park
vs. Filmore Fungi
Game Time: 1PM



Saturday August 13
@ Greenfield Park - West Allis
vs. Milwaukee Cream Citys
Game Time: TBD

Treasury of Milwaukee Professional Baseball

Play Ball - Part Two

 CEDARBURG HISTORY MUSEUM PRESENTS
TREASURY OF MILWAUKEE PROFESSIONAL BASEBALL

From Borchert Field & County Stadium to Miller Park & American Family Field
On Exhibit March 31, 2022 through October 2, 2022

Yes, it's time for baseball and The Cedarburg History Museum has a great exhibit showcasing America's pastime and its local history from now until October 3rd.

The exhibit contains many photos and memorabilia dealing with the local community as well as game used equipment and autographed items from the

American Association Brewers, Milwaukee Braves and the current Milwaukee Brewers. This month we feature below autographed items including bats, programs, baseball cards and pictures. [Last month](#) we highlighted jerseys all the way back to the 1913 AA Brewers and signed baseballs.

There's a lot more to see so catch it when you visit the museum.

Cedarburg History Museum
N58W6194 Columbia Road

Cedarburg, WI 53012
Open: Wednesday through Sunday



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Developing Future Events

The Fascinating History of Baseball in Milwaukee Seminar Bjorklunden Seminar Info—Oct. 2-7, 2022

Keltner SABR member Steve Landfried, has been conducting baseball related seminars at the Bjorklunden, Lawrence University's northern most campus in Door County. More details in the August *Keltner Hot Corner*.

If you are a fan of baseball or are curious about the role the sport has played in the history of Milwaukee and Wisconsin, this seminar is for you!



Dating back to the late 1850s, professional baseball sprouted teams like the Cream City Grays and the Milwaukee Creams. It also was host to a little known, secret Milwaukee meeting in March 1900 that witnessed the incorporation of the American League and included baseball giants Charles Comiskey and Connie Mack.

We will use old photographs and vintage articles to document the early days of baseball. Special attention given to the original Milwaukee Brewers who played in the American Association from 1902-1952. Special focus will go Bill Veeck's purchase of the franchise in 1941, his unusual promotions, the appeal of manager Charlie Grimm, and Veeck's fateful 1947 decision to sell the franchise to Lou Perini, the owner of the Boston Braves. Shortly thereafter, Milwaukee decided to build a modern stadium in hopes of attracting a major league franchise.

That strategy worked and Perini was enticed to move his failing franchise to Milwaukee for the 1953 season. The new Milwaukee Braves were welcomed with open arms! The transplanted team was very good and soon found itself challenging the powerful Brooklyn Dodgers for National League supremacy. By 1957 the Braves had won the National League pennant and defeated the mighty New York Yankees in the World Series in seven games. The teams met again in the 1958 World Series, but the Yankees won in seven games. We will watch film highlights of both!

The early 1960's were a time of considerable conflict in Milwaukee because of Perini's decision to minimize the number of Braves' games on television . . . and prohibition of fans bringing beer into County Stadium. Attendance dropped dramatically despite the team having winning records in all of their 13 seasons. Bitter court battles ensued, but the Braves left for Atlanta in 1965. As a result, Milwaukee was without a full-time professional baseball team from 1966-1969.

That sparked car dealer Bud Selig effort to lead a determined effort to bring major league baseball back to Milwaukee. One of his strategies was to arrange for the Chicago White Sox to play games in Milwaukee in 1968 and 1969. That drew big crowds and facilitated Selig's purchase of the floundering Seattle Pilots just before the 1970 season. The Milwaukee Brewers were reborn and arrived in Milwaukee from Tempe, Arizona just six days before the season started.

With this background, our last three days focus to these key topics: the return of Henry Aaron to Milwaukee just before the end of his career; future-defining personnel moves by GM Harry Dalton; exploits of "Bambi's Bombers"; the roller coaster years from 1984-1993; the fight for public funding to replace aging County Stadium; the 1998 return of the team to the National League; the 2001 opening of Miller Park; the 2004 acquisition of the franchise by west coast banker, Mark Attanasio; the rebuilding of the roster which led to the 2008 return of the Brewers to post-series play; notable trades that brought star pitchers Zack Greinke and C.C. Sabathia to town; the additional energy brought to the fanbase by the acquisition of Nyjer Morgan in 2011 and the team's return to the post season that year; fluctuation in the Brewers performance between 2012-2016; and the rebound that has witnessed their appearance in every post-season since 2018.

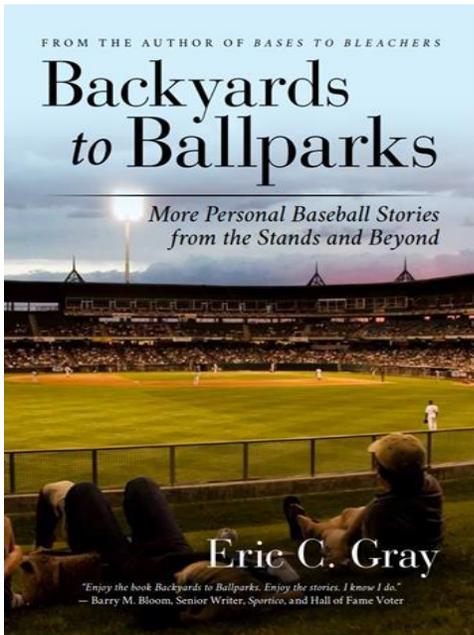
Among other things we will reminisce about radio announcers who enhanced our baseball experience (e.g., Earl Gillespie, Merle Harmon, Bob Uecker, Pat Hughes, Bill Schroeder and Brian Anderson). In addition, we will share baseball memories and memorabilia seminar member bring to our experience. It is also hoped we will be able to tap on perspectives of others with direct personal experiences of those directly familiar with the circumstances we have been discussing. In the afternoon, participants can elect to review books, audio or video material brought to the seminar room. At night participants can elect to watch classic baseball films or television broadcasts of MLB playoff games scheduled for any given evening.

Seminar Leader

Steve Landfried is seven-time Bjorklund seminar leader and has been a fan of baseball since 1953—when he saw the Milwaukee Braves play the Chicago Cubs in April of the inaugural season of Milwaukee County Stadium. That experience inspired him for years as a ballplayer, sports writer, and fan. That interest expanded over the years and eventually led him to participate in two Brewers Fantasy Camps and two Senior Baseball World Series. He eventually journeyed for Induction ceremonies in Cooperstown, N.Y. and a chance to meet some favorite Hall of Fame baseball players Al Kaline, Denny McClain Ozzie Smith, and Robin Yount.



Eric Gray August Book Tour



Backyards to Ballparks: More Personal Baseball Stories from the Stands and Beyond by Eric C. Gray – These stories are a tribute to why baseball remains the American pastime, how it connects friends, families, communities. These memories all have baseball as a setting, but speak to how baseball provides joy and anguish, nourishes family traditions, creates friendships, and can profoundly affect you.

SABR member and author Eric Gray will be in Wisconsin in the latter part of August. We are working on getting together with Eric who will read selections from his new book and discuss why and how he wrote it. More info will appear in the August newsletter as well.

This is a book about folks' experiences with baseball on many diverse levels. The book, *Backyards to Ballparks: More Personal Baseball Stories from the Stands and Beyond* is published by Palmetto Publishing, and will be available at Amazon.com, BN.com, and other online retailers in August 2022

Gray is originally from Plainview, New York, and earned his Bachelor of Arts from SUNY New Paltz. In 1974, he came to San Francisco, began a thirty-nine-year career at the U.S. Department of Labor, met his future wife Lynn Rhodes, and never moved back to New York. His hobbies include rock and roll, following politics, playing and watching baseball and basketball, hiking, and hanging out with friends and family. He and his wife have two children, Rachel and David. All are baseball fans.

The Keltner Hot Corner Want's You

Do you have an article or topic you would like to publish in the newsletter? If so, that's great. Please contact [Dennis](#).

Schabowski's Super Stumpers

By [Rick Schabowski](#)

July Trivia

Guest Member's Stump the Stumper Questions

After successfully stumping the stumper, Dave Klement submitted 12 trivia questions. Giving Rick a break, we used six in June and the other half dozen this month.



- 1) Who hit a home run in the 16th inning on two consecutive days? (7/3/1988 and 7/4/1988)
- 2) Which pitcher won a no-hitter while kneeling in the on-deck circle? (9/29/2013)
- 3) Which HOF pitcher hit his only ML HR in his first at-bat?
- 4) Ted Williams broke the career walk% record previously held by _____.
- 5) Who was the shortstop in Connie Mack's \$100,000 infield that featured Stuffie McInnis, Eddie Collins, and Home Run Baker?
- 6) Who was the third baseman in the famous Cubs infield of Tinker to Evers to Chance?



Do you have a baseball trivia question (or 12) to stump the stumper like Dave did? If so, send your brilliance to [Rick](#) to see if you can stump him and he'll include it in a future *Keltner Hot Corner* giving you credit - bragging rights - for your stumper(s).

Trivia Answers are [here](#)

Keltner Hot Corner Archives

You can now view or download past copies of the Keltner Hot Corner at: [Ken Keltner Badger State Newsletters](#)

Use of Links

Links in the *Keltner Hot Corner* are used to enhance the articles with the majority going to players SABR [BioProject](#) and [baseball-reference.com](#) as well as other sites.

Who is Ken Keltner? See his SABR [Biography](#).

Landmarks Research Committee

SABR members comprise a special breed of individuals, drawn to out-of-the-way places to spy an old ballpark, visit a historical marker, or pay their respects at the grave of a late ballplayer. To date, however, there has not been a comprehensive checklist or map to document the staggering array of baseball-related sites located across North America. The [Baseball Landmarks Committee](#) will endeavor to fill this need, with the help of SABR membership, to curate the most complete list/map of baseball sites possible.

The initial phase of our project will involve creating a "Baseball Landmarks Project" page and a call for members to help document and verify the initial offering of sites, which have been arranged by state and categorized by type. If you are interested in contributing to this project, please contact a committee leader below.

Follow or post landmarks pictures and info on Twitter [@SABRLandmarks](#)

Contacts: For more information, or to get involved, contact a committee leader below:

- [John Racanelli](#) (Co-Chair)
- [Chris Kamka](#) (Co-Chair)
- [Mark Armour](#) (Vice Chair)

Chapter Challenge - As we travel around the state this year (or the country) keep your eyes open for landmarks that can be shared with the Landmarks Research Committee. Pictures are helpful and you can share them on Twitter [@SABRLandmarks](#). How many alone are in the Milwaukee area? Do any of the former ballparks have plaques like the Lloyd Street Park, AAGPBL, etc? Grave sites? (Statues? What other noted landmarks can we find?)

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SABR BioProject reaches milestone with 6,000th baseball biography

Celebrating its 20th anniversary this year, the SABR Baseball Biography Project has reached another milestone with its 6,000th published biography. SABR's most ambitious research initiative, which began in 2002 and is now directed by Gregory H. Wolf and Rory Costello, aims to produce comprehensive, peer-reviewed profiles of *every person* who ever played or managed in the major leagues, as well as other subjects significant to baseball history.

More than 800 SABR members have contributed to the BioProject as writers, editors, or peer reviewers over the past two decades.

At SABR.org/BioProject, you can read about anyone in baseball from A ([Henry Aaron](#)) to Z ([Bob Zuk](#)). Some of our favorite articles produced by the BioProject are of the “cup of coffee” players whose stories are rarely told, such as [Moonlight Graham](#), a one-time Giants outfielder whose name was immortalized in the film *Field of Dreams*. You can also read about Negro Leagues greats like [Oscar Charleston](#) or [Josh Gibson](#), and stars from the All-American Girls Professional Baseball League such as [Marge and Helen Callaghan](#).



It's easy to get involved. Any SABR member is eligible to write for the BioProject, the Ballparks Project, or the Games Project. If you'd like to contribute, visit our [BioProject Resources page](#) or read the [FAQs section](#) to get started.



SABR/IWBC Women in Baseball Conference

The fourth annual Women in Baseball Conference is set for Rockford University in September and the Call for Papers is now open. Visit the [conference page](#) for more information and submit your proposals by June 27!

SABR and the [International Women's Baseball Center](#) have announced a call for papers for the fourth annual **SABR/IWBC Women in Baseball Conference**, scheduled for September 16-18, 2022, at Rockford University in Rockford, Illinois.



Registration information and details will be available soon. All baseball fans are welcome to attend.

This year's conference theme is “Title IX and Women's Baseball: Where We've Been, Where We Are and Where We're Headed.” Topics can focus on anniversaries such as: Title IX (50th), Marie Pepe (50th), umpires (Bernice Gera 50th), *A League of Their Own* (30th), the Colorado Silver Bullets (25th anniversary of final season); or any other ideas related to women's baseball are welcome for individual oral and poster presentations.

Schabowski's Super Stumpers

June Answers:

- 1) Mark McGwire
- 2) Henderson Alvarez had pitched 9 hitless innings, but the game was scoreless going into the bottom of the ninth. The Marlins scored the winning run with Alvarez on deck, and he had his no-hitter.
- 3) Hoyt Wilhelm (4/23/52)
- 4) Max Bishop
- 5) Jack Barry
- 6) Harry Steinfeldt

[Return to Trivia Questions](#)

Jayson Stark's - Milwaukee Related Weird and Wild

As a fan of Jayson Stark and his Weird and Wild articles, I thought most of us would find this interesting. If you aren't familiar with Stark's work, he is a strong proponent of a baseball adage, "anytime you attend or watch or a baseball you may see something you've never seen before. Following is taken from Stark's June 17 article in [The Athletic](#).



2. How the Yankees shut down Steph Curry and Steven Stamkos

What a time to be alive. It's NBA Finals time. It's Stanley Cup Final time. It's baseball season. And every once in a while, in my brain at least, the three of them mush together to form a giant must-devour stew.

Which is how I found myself comparing the Yankees to the Warriors, Celtics, Lightning and Avalanche this week.

You see, the Yankees played their 60th game of the season — and came out of it with an almost unheard of .733 winning percentage (44-16). And I thought: You see .733 winning percentages in those other sports all the time. But in baseball? Almost never.

Then, however, I went down a Sports-Reference rabbit hole again and found ... that after 60 games, neither team in the NBA Finals had a .733 winning percentage ... and neither did those two teams in the Stanley Cup Final. And then I thought: Hmmm, I bet that doesn't happen much.

So I asked my friends at STATS Perform to take a look. Glad I did.

- Since **the NBA-ABA merger (in 1976-77)**, STATS found only three baseball teams whose winning percentage after 60 games was better than all four of the finalists in the other two sports after *their* first 60 games:

YEAR	MLB LEADER	BEST OF NBA/NHL
1998	Yankees .767 (46-14)	Bulls/Jazz .756
2001	Mariners .783 (47-13)	Avalanche .720
2022	Yankees .733 (44-16)	Avalanche .726

- Since **NHL expansion (in 1967-68)**, we add three more teams.

YEAR	MLB LEADER	BEST OF NBA/NHL
1969	Orioles .717 (43-17)	Canadiens .678
1969	Cubs .678 (40-19-1)	Canadiens .678
1968	Tigers .661 (39-20-1)	Celtics .659

Now before that, back in the 1950s, this happened almost every year. So we'll skip past that, because here comes the Yankees' real challenge: Can they pull this off over a *full* season?

Wish them luck. According to STATS, only one team has ever gone on to win the World Series *and* had a better record than all four of the NBA/NHL finalists. You'll be surprised.

YEAR	MLB WS WINNER	BEST OF NBA/NHL
1957	Braves .617 (95-69)	Celtics .611

Other Local Baseball Organizations

Milwaukee Braves Historical Association, [Facebook](#)
Old Time Ball Players of Wisconsin, [website Facebook](#)

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