

SABR Scouts' Comm. Newsletter

Vol. IV, No. 1June 21, 2004

SABR CONVENTION

Most or all of you have long had information concerning the annual convention of the Society For American baseball Research - which will be held July 15-18 in Cincinnati. Those who plan to attend have made their plans, in all probability, so no registration data is attached.

Though hotel rates were guaranteed only thru June 24, there may still be rooms. You can try by calling the Westin Hotel at 513-621-7700.

ROLAND HEMOND AWARD

The Fourth Annual Roland Hemond Award, which goes annually to the major league executive who has been a contributor to both the history of baseball and the scouting profession, will be presented on Saturday to Paul Snyder, the long-time scouting director and baseball operations director of the Atlanta Braves. His career as a player and executive with the Braves covers half a century. He will join Roland Hemond, Bob Howsam, and Pat Gillick as Hemond Award winners.

Roland will be on hand to make the presentation.

COMMITTEE MEETING

The Scouts' Committee will have an abbreviated session this year. It will meet for one hour from 10:30-11:30 on Saturday morning in the Track Two Room (wherever the hell that is). We'll do business as quickly as possible and try to squeeze in at least a brief question-and-answer session with Roland and Paul to close the meeting. There will be no scouts' panel as we enjoyed the past two years.

OUTSTANDING CONTRIBUTION AWARD

Each year, our committee honors the efforts of one of its members. Jim Sandoval of Alabama will be this year's honoree for his work in compiling the rosters of scouts, by team and year. We'll have a chance to see the fruit of his efforts at the committee meeting.

THE BIO PROJECT

Our efforts to pull together the brief, but comprehensive, bios of the scouting leaders in the game prior to the baseball draft (1965) has been slow to materialize. Several old-timers have been assigned to committee members, but movement has been slow - and that includes both your co-chairmen. We're looking at having this work done for publication by the end of 2005. At the current time, Rod Nelson is coordinating the effort, but he's looking for someone with a bit more time to take over the job of putting this project together.

CHANGES

Things have been rather slow for the committee since last July. Both co-chairmen have experienced job changes and some total new directions. Thus, the committee took a back seat for several months. We're ready to roll into the future at this point. Cincy will be the kickoff for the future.

CHANGES (Cont.)

01' Clark lost his job as the international director for the San Diego Padres on Nov. 1 and was not picked up by anyone else at the major league level. He did catch on as player procurement director for the Mid-Missouri Mavericks in teh independent Frontier League, but resigned that position recently and has put baseball in the memory bank after 37 years at the major league level. He has only three committments to the game at this time:

- 1 - Increased time for the SABR Committee.
- 2 - Continue as secretary of the Midwest Scouts' Association for at least another year.
- 3 - Sift thru 50 bank storage boxes of letters, records, files, notes, 10,000 tryout camp registration cards, who knows what else, in an effort to do a book involving a life devoted to scouting.

In addition, I'm currently writing a column in the local daily paper and deeply involved in Democratic Party politics on the local scene. I've done 200 pages on a book about grass-roots sports officiating, and have done a small book of family history wrapped around the Clark Family Newsletter.

Rod has changed jobs for the better, but added responsibility greatly reduced the time he was able to devote to his ongoing project of "whom signed whoms" and all the other data he has compiled with that original project.

We welcome ourselves back - and ready to challenge the future.

COMMITTEE MEETINGS**Thursday, July 15**Track OneTrack Two

11:00am	Minor Leagues	Baseball Songs & Poetry
4:30pm	19th Century	Science & Baseball
5:30pm	Asian	Deadball

Friday, July 16Track OneTrack Two

8:00am	Negro Leagues	BioProject
9:00am	Pictorial	Business of Baseball
5:00pm	Oral History	Internet

Saturday, July 17Track OneTrack Two

7:30am	Education/Youth	Spring Training
8:00am		Biographical Research
9:30am	Bibliography	Scouts
10:30am	Baseball Records	Retrosheet
11:30am	Latin America	

Sunday, July 18Track OneTrack Two

8:00am	Baseball in UK	Ballparks
9:00am	Statistical Analysis	Women in Baseball

SCHEDULE SUBJECT TO CHANGE

A BRIEF NEWSLETTER

Once the convention is history and we had the opportunity to set a straight course for 2004-05, we'll be back with you with a good newsletter devoted to more than making excuses.

In the meantime, please consider your part in the bio project and let Rod know your intentions.

A note overlooked earlier - at the convention in Cincy, Eddie Feigner, the great softball pitcher, will be interviewed about pitching against major league players. Should be worth the price of registration in itself.

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