



THE JENKINS JOURNAL

THE NEWSLETTER OF THE SABR HANLAN'S POINT CHAPTER Summer 2023

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Editor's welcome

Hello! Welcome to the summer edition of the Jenkins Journal. I trust that you are all doing well and enjoying the lovely hot weather.

I'm still hoping that over the coming months I will get to know you all better and start shaping this newsletter to meet the interests of this diverse group of chapter members.

A feature I was thinking of including was a chapter 'book club' or 'movie night' where we choose a book and movie to read/watch in between editions and we can share our thoughts in the next newsletter. Let me know what you think!

We were able to have a nice group outing on May 28th with a patio lunch followed by a Toronto Maple Leafs game at Christie Pits (unfortunately the home team lost in extra innings). The team has been a fixture in the community for over 55 years and is the best free ticket in the city. But there is some concern as there is need for a new owner since the passing of former owner Jack Dominico in 2022.

You can read more about it here: <https://torontosun.com/sports/baseball/baseball-maple-leafs-exec-looking-for-a-buyer-to-carry-on-54-year-tradition-at-christie-pits>

Hopefully we will be able to host more in-person chapter meetings/outing going forward, while acknowledging that we are a disparate group in many geographical areas, so full attendance will always be a challenge.

As the Toronto logistics coordinator, I'm happy to help organize any outings locally – please don't hesitate to reach out.

In personal news, 2023 has been and continues to be a big baseball year for me. Prior to this year, I had only visited Exhibition Stadium, Rogers Centre (SkyDome) and Wrigley Field. As a diehard baseball fan, it's a goal to attend games at all 30 stadiums (I may be running out of time for Oakland though, sadly) and as many minor league parks as I can.

In March, as part of the WBC, I got to experience Chase Field. And in May, thanks to some inclement weather banging the Mets game on the Saturday, I managed (thanks to the help of some devoted friends) due the very rare two-state doubleheader, starting the day in Philadelphia at Citizen's Bank Field and then racing back to Queens for the Mets evening game at Citi Field.



Joining me at the games was Perry Barber, the first female professional umpire. It was such a pleasure and honour to spend time with her and hear her stories.



I'll be going to Cincinnati in August for the Reds – Jays series, and I've also booked a trip in September to go see a Dodgers and Padres game. So, I will have gone from 3 total stadiums to 10 this year alone.

What stadiums have you been to? I'd love to hear more and include some of your stories and photos in the next edition of the newsletter.

I also had the pleasure of going to the Canadian Baseball Hall of Fame and Museum induction ceremony this year, for my first time. You'll read more about that further into the newsletter. But please let me offer my sincere congratulations to Scott Crawford, Jeremy Diamond and the dedicated board members and volunteers for such a warm, inviting and engaging ceremony.

I've said this before, but I believe that there is a committed group of people who are determined to nurture and grow baseball in Canada. Having a game happening with the sounds of the bat and excited children in the background as some of the pioneers of the Expos and Jays teams were being celebrated is proof positive of this. It makes me very hopeful for the future of the sport in this country.

Ruth Kapelus



Chapter's leader message – July 2023

Welcome to the summer edition of the Jenkins Journal as the chapter embarks on the 2023-2024 operational year. With a new fully staffed Board in place supported by committees as needed, chapter members can look forward to an active year.

I would like to take a moment and recognize the efforts of all chapter members who have participated/attended chapter activities over the past year and a special thank you to those members who have agreed to serve on the Chapter Board and/or Chapter Planning Committee going forward.

These efforts and results were recognized by SABR head office at the recent national convention in Chicago. I am pleased to announce that our chapter was 1 of 4 that achieved the “All Star status” level, hence we are eligible to apply for extra funding to support activities for this upcoming year. For greater context, only one chapter achieved the highest level of “MVP status”. Well done everyone.

For the coming year, I am pleased to announce a new initiative coming from our new social media portfolio led by Adrian Fung. The plan is to issue a weekly twitter release called “On This Day in Baseball History”. Adrian has designed a spread sheet to track entries, however, finding material to post is too much for one person or a small committee. Hence, this is a call for assistance to all chapter members. Please submit material for posting to Adrian at adrian.fung2022@gmail.com to assist with launching this project.

The goal is to increase overall enjoyment of the game and give all chapter members an opportunity to share information about their specific baseball interests. Please start submitting material at your earliest convenience and keep submitting material as you identify new information of interest. Launch date will be as soon as sufficient material is submitted to support a tweet.

Planning for the first meetings of the new board and the planning committee are under way now that the National Convention is complete. Please watch for updates in the coming weeks. Enjoy the second half of the season.

Allen Tait



Twin honours for Fergie



He wore a blue jacket in Cubs blue for the unveiling of his statue (the artist prefers 'sculpture') outside Wrigley Field. On June 10, in his hometown of Chatham, he was resplendent in red.

Hundreds of people turned out on a beautiful sunny day to see a full-size replica of the Wrigley piece revealed outside the Chatham-Kent Civic Centre. The pride of Chatham, Ferguson Arthur Jenkins, was piped in by a full band, then took his place on stage to be honoured prior to the unveiling of the sculpture by his daughters.

Following a summary of Fergie's astonishing stats, Mayor Darrin Canniff explained how he was inspired to procure the piece for Chatham-Kent while attending the Wrigley event. He also brought audio greetings from Wayne Gretzky.

Chatham resident Chris Dziadura, son of Gene Dziadura, gave an emotional speech about the close relationship between the Jenkins and Dziadura families, 'the story of Fergie and Gene'.

The elder Dziadura played briefly in the majors and was an area scout who brought Jenkins to the Philadelphia Phillies.

When he took the podium, Fergie talked about his childhood, throwing rocks and coal at passing trains. He mentioned going with his Father to his first major league game at Tiger Stadium. Seeing Larry Doby hit 2 home runs made him think, 'maybe there's a future for me in this game'.

He paid tribute to baseball friends and colleagues in the audience: Byron Browne, Doug Melvin, Larry Walker, Billy Atkinson and Jim Kern. He told stories about Leo Durocher and Billy Martin and outlined his loyalties: team, organization, family. He encouraged kids to pursue their athletic dreams with hard work. Then it was time for the unveiling by his daughters, two of whom may be seen in this photo. The sculpture is a beautiful piece of art and worth a visit to Chatham.





The next Saturday, June 17, brought another honour.



Fergie always attends the Induction Ceremonies at the Canadian Baseball Hall of Fame in the Town of St. Marys and this year was no exception.

But the 2023 event had an added attraction, the renaming of the approach to the Hall of Fame and Museum to Ferguson Jenkins Way.





Those of us lucky enough to be there heard yet another gracious speech, up close and personal with a Canadian icon of whom we are so proud!

From St. Marys, Fergie and his wife were going to Chicago and Pittsburgh, then to London England for MLB's World Tour Series between the Cubs and the St. Louis Cardinals on June 24-25. Mr. Jenkins always shows up!!

Elena North

Notes:

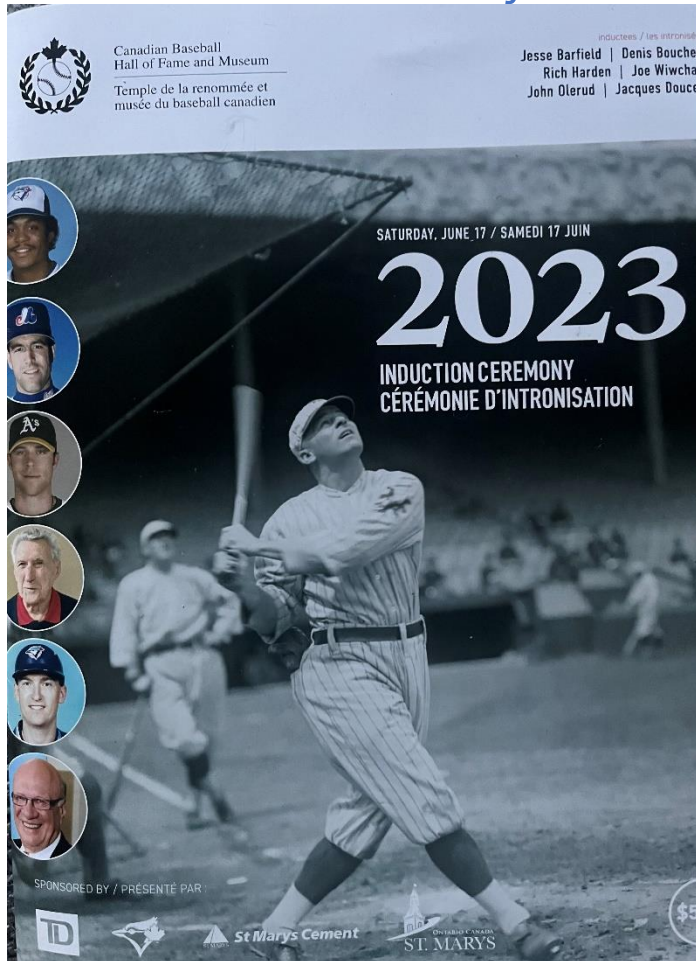
The story of Gene Dziadura, found on the Canadian Baseball Hall of Fame's website is well worth a read. <https://baseballhalloffame.ca/gene-dziadura-chathams-own-moonlight-graham/>

See an interview with Fergie about the June 10th event:
<https://youtu.be/cydMBetcaDM>

Photos by Scott Crawford, Nelda Oliver and Elena North



Canadian Baseball Hall of Fame and Museum Induction Ceremony



On Saturday, June 17 there were 6 new inductees added to the Canadian Baseball Hall of Fame and Museum.

Jesse Barfield, legendary Jays outfielder, Denis Boucher, MLB pitcher and longtime coach with Baseball Canada, former A's pitcher Rich Harden and long-time Manitoba coach and executive Joe Wiwchar were the 2023 inductees. Joining them in person were former Jays first baseman John Olerud and longtime Expos writer and broadcaster Jacques Doucet also got their long-awaited moment in the spotlight. Both were part of the 2020 class but couldn't make it in the past three years due to both the pandemic and other scheduling challenges.

Olerud, a two-time World Series champion with Toronto, remains the franchise's single-season batting average leader. He hit a career-best .363 at age 24 with the



club 30 years ago, sparking excitement when he hit .400 going into August of that season.

Jesse Barfield was thrilled to join his former teammates George Bell (2013) and Lloyd Moseby (2018) in the Hall of Fame, calling it 'a long time coming'. He was joined by a number of family members and friends, including his wife Marla, who he asked to stand during his speech, crediting her with supporting him throughout his career, and son Josh, now the Farm Director for the Arizona Diamondbacks and a former MLB player himself. His speech was warm, moving and peppered with a hidden talent – flawless impressions of players and coaches who he encountered along the way.

Olerud entertained the crowd with his humility and by sharing that the legendary 'Rickey Henderson' story was in fact – fiction. (read more here: <https://www.mlb.com/cut4/john-olerud-told-the-origin-of-the-rickey-henderson-story-c265505404>)

Denis Boucher was visibly emotional throughout his speech, frequently blaming his 'allergies' for acting up. Boucher pitched for both the Jays and Expos, but perhaps his greatest contribution is his years-long commitment to Baseball Canada, acting as pitching coach for the Senior Men's team.

Rich Harden too was equally as humbled and moved, with a career sadly cut short by injury. In his prime, Rich had one of the most impressive strikeout rates in MLB.

Jacques Doucet regaled the crowd in both English and French, and his contributions to growing baseball's popularity as beat writer and then broadcaster for the Montreal Expos can't be understated. Quebec now has one of the most thriving developmental baseball programs in Canada, and it's not a stretch to trace that path back to the people who helped the Expos gain prominence in the province in the early years after the team joined MLB.

Joe Wichwar as well is one of the most significant figures in Canadian baseball development, having devoted an incredible over 70 years to baseball in his home province of Manitoba, as a player, coach, volunteer, executive and administrator. His long and successful coaching career spanned from 1953-2013, a nearly unheard-of tenure.

Cooperstown in Canada founder and baseball historian Kevin Glew was also honoured with the 2023 Randy Echlin Lifetime Volunteer Achievement Award at the ceremony.



In Kevin Glew's own words: "On Saturday, I was very fortunate to receive the Canadian Baseball Hall of Fame's 2023 Randy Echlin Lifetime Volunteer Achievement Award at the induction ceremony in St. Marys, Ont.

I want to thank Scott Crawford, Jeremy Diamond and the Hall's board for this great honour. I knew Randy Echlin as a passionate Canadian baseball fan. We had many discussions about the Blue Jays and Expos before I even knew he was a judge. He was also one of the first supporters of my blog.

I miss him, but I'm honoured to receive an award in his name. Most of you know that the Canadian Baseball Hall of Fame has been a passion of mine for over two decades. My first involvement with the Hall came at a breakfast meeting organized by Chris West at the Westover Inn in 1996. I was a young buck writing notes during the meeting and I wrote St. Mary's (with an apostrophe) in my notes. Suddenly, Lorne Eedy (who I had just met) reached over and scratched out the apostrophe.

"No apostrophe," he whispered.

Ever since then, St. Marys (no apostrophe) has had a special place in my heart. I'm not important enough to write something this long about an award I received. But I wanted to make sure to thank Scott and the Hall of Fame and ensure that people remember Randy Echlin and let them know how important he was to me.

Please go and visit the Canadian Baseball Hall of Fame in St. Marys. P.S. Also, thank you to my mom and dad for instilling in me both a love of baseball and a love of history."

Scott Crawford would also like to include a huge thank you to the 75 volunteers who gave their time and energy to ensuring a successful induction weekend. The event simply could not run without them.

Thank you as well to the event sponsors: TD Bank, Town of St. Marys, Toronto Blue Jays, BMO, St. Marys Cement Company, St. Marys Rotary Club.



Chicago 2023 Convention Summary

Our chapter has had a lot of new members join in the past few years who have not had an opportunity yet to attend a convention. For those who have attended at least one convention in the past, I'm sure you would agree a written summary could not cover all the interesting topics covered. This summary will highlight interesting items from the conference agenda. I encourage everyone to review the upcoming issue of This Week in SABR and click on links to explore the convention topics that relate to your areas of interest.

SABR Facts

Founded August 10, 1971, by 16 individuals who met at the National Baseball Library in Cooperstown New York. The objectives were:

- foster the study of baseball;
- stimulate interest in baseball;
- establish an accurate historical account of baseball; and,
- disseminate baseball information.

From these roots, the organization has grown to 7,435 members with 84 chapters world-wide and 34 research committees.

Agenda in Brief

Wednesday included the annual Research Committee Chairs and Regional Chapter Leaders meetings, an opening reception and a Chicago Downtown Baseball Walking Tour.

Thursday began with the annual general meeting and opening remarks. The featured speaker this year was Chase Carpenter, Senior Director, Strategy and Analytics, Chicago Cubs. The balance of the day included 8 research presentations running in two tracks, 10 committee meetings, a session on how to do baseball research and three panel/general sessions covering the All-American Girls Professional Baseball League; The Negro Leagues are Major Leagues: Two Years Post Launch; and a Player Panel featuring Ozzie Guillen.

The evening offered a choice of attending a screening of the film covering the final season of the original Comiskey Park or the preliminary round and quarterfinals of the trivia contest.

Friday during the day included 17 research presentations, 8 committee meetings, additional how to do baseball research sessions and 2 general sessions covering: A



Veeck Family Legacy; and Poster Presentations. The evening event was attending the game between the White Sox and Cardinals.

Saturday featured 6 research presentations, 7 research committee meetings and 3 general sessions covering Analytics and Coaching in Baseball; Black Baseball in Chicago; and Reimaging Wrigley. The day also included the Friends of SABR Doner Breakfast and SABR Awards Luncheon. The evening activity was the trivia contest semifinals and finals.

If you have not been to a convention, I hope the above provides a better idea of the convention experience. The location for 2024 has not been decided, however, once announced attending is well worth consideration.

Allen Tait

Canada Day Baseball Trivia

Speaking of Kevin Glew, he put together a fun Canadian baseball trivia contest for Canada Day. Think you know your Canadian baseball facts? Why not try your hand here: <https://cooperstownersincanada.com/2023/07/01/canadian-baseball-trivia-on-canada-day-2/>

Committee hot corner

For this issue, I will profile the Games and Simulations Research Committee. The committee was formed in 2010 to study:

- How simulation games work
- Statistics generated by these games
- Potential applicability of strategies and tactics from these games to major league baseball

The committee can be followed on their website, Facebook and Twitter. Interested chapter members should check this committee out as joining is only a click away.



Schedule announced for WBSC Women’s Baseball World Cup Group A

| GROUP A | | | | | |
|------------------------------|--|------------------|----|--|------------------|
| AUG 08 (BASEBALL CENTRAL) | | | | | |
| 1 11:30 | | HONG KONG, CHINA | VS | | KOREA |
| 2 15:30 | | AUSTRALIA | VS | | UNITED STATES |
| 3 19:30 | | MEXICO | VS | | CANADA |
| AUG 09 (BASEBALL CENTRAL) | | | | | |
| 4 11:30 | | UNITED STATES | VS | | KOREA |
| 5 15:30 | | MEXICO | VS | | AUSTRALIA |
| 6 19:30 | | CANADA | VS | | HONG KONG, CHINA |
| AUG 10 (PORT ARTHUR STADIUM) | | | | | |
| 7 11:30 | | KOREA | VS | | AUSTRALIA |
| 8 15:30 | | HONG KONG, CHINA | VS | | MEXICO |
| 9 19:30 | | UNITED STATES | VS | | CANADA |
| AUG 11 (PORT ARTHUR STADIUM) | | | | | |
| 10 11:30 | | AUSTRALIA | VS | | HONG KONG, CHINA |
| 11 15:30 | | MEXICO | VS | | UNITED STATES |
| 12 19:30 | | KOREA | VS | | CANADA |
| AUG 12 (PORT ARTHUR STADIUM) | | | | | |
| 13 11:30 | | HONG KONG, CHINA | VS | | UNITED STATES |
| 14 15:30 | | KOREA | VS | | MEXICO |
| 15 19:30 | | CANADA | VS | | AUSTRALIA |
| AUG 13 (RAIN DAY) | | | | | |

* The top two finishers in each group, plus two wild cards, advance to the Finals in 2024. ** All times are local times.

Team Canada starts their series at the World Baseball Softball Confederation (WBSC) Women’s Baseball World Cup Group A against Mexico on August 8th at Baseball Central in Thunder Bay, Ontario. Next games see the team taking on Hong Kong-China, USA, Korea, and Australia. The Women’s Baseball World Cup takes place between August 8-13.

Hosted by the Thunder Bay International Baseball Association (TBIBA), the round robin tournament will see six nations taking part, and excitingly - Canada is the host team.

In addition to Canada’s opening game against Mexico, the August 9th contest versus Hong Kong-China will also be played at Baseball Central before the tournament moves to Port Arthur Stadium for the remainder of the event.

Group B will be playing from September 13-18 in Miyoshi City, Japan featuring Chinese Taipei, Cuba, France, Puerto Rico, Venezuela, and host country Japan.



WBSC
WOMEN'S BASEBALL
WORLD CUP
GROUP A
THUNDER BAY 2023

TEAM CANADA
SCHEDULE

| Date | Opponent | Venue |
|--------|-------------|---------------------|
| AUG 8 | Mexico | BASEBALL CENTRAL |
| AUG 9 | Hong Kong | BASEBALL CENTRAL |
| AUG 10 | USA | PORT ARTHUR STADIUM |
| AUG 11 | South Korea | PORT ARTHUR STADIUM |
| AUG 12 | Australia | PORT ARTHUR STADIUM |

#BASEBALLWORLDCUPW

The top two finishers in each group plus two wild cards advance to the WBSC Women's Baseball World Cup Final Stage which will be played in Thunder Bay in 2024.

Prior to the Group A stage, Canada will hold a training camp in Halifax, Nova Scotia on August 1st and 2nd before moving to Thunder Bay from August 4-7 where they will play a pair of exhibition contests against the Thunder Bay Lakers on August 5th and 6th at Baseball Central.



Canada's Women's National Team is currently ranked as the No. 3 nation in the world based on the latest WBSC world rankings. This is its first, sanctioned international baseball competition since the 2019 WBSC Americas Women's Baseball World Cup qualifier.

For more information on the WBSC Women's Baseball World Cup Group A, you can visit the tournament website [here](#).

Upcoming events

[Jerry Malloy Negro League Conference](#)

July 20-23, 2023 | Detroit, MI

Since 1998, the Jerry Malloy Negro League Conference has been the only symposium dedicated exclusively to the examination and promotion of Black baseball history.

[LEARN MORE REGISTER](#)

[SABR/IWBC Women in Baseball Conference](#)

September 29-October 1, 2023 | Rockford, IL

The annual Women in Baseball Conference is co-sponsored by SABR and the International Women's Baseball Center and hosted by Rockford University. The 2023 conference will be a hybrid event, with panels and presentations on Zoom and a dinner banquet and golf outing in Rockford, Illinois. The theme is "Through the Lens of Baseball."

Ballpark Figures with Shakeia Taylor

August 3, 2023 8:00 p.m. EDT

SABR's **Ballpark Figures** is an interview series hosted by Shakeia Taylor. The virtual Zoom event is free and open to all active SABR members.

Pre-register: [Click here to pre-register for Ballpark Figures on August 3 with Jay Jaffe](#)

Shakeia Taylor is a Deputy Senior Content Editor at the *Chicago Tribune* and a Chicago-based baseball historian. Her work has appeared at SB Nation, FanGraphs, Baseball Prospectus, MLB.com, Yahoo! Sports, and other outlets. She was a recipient of the 2021 SABR Analytics Conference Research Award for historical baseball analysis/commentary.



Jay Jaffe is a senior writer for [FanGraphs](#), author of [The Cooperstown Casebook](#) and creator of the [JAWS \(Jaffe WAR Score\) metric](#) for Hall of Fame analysis. He founded the Futility Infielder website, was a columnist for [Baseball Prospectus](#), a contributing writer for [Sports Illustrated](#), and a contributor to more than a dozen books including *Baseball Prospectus' Extra Innings*. He has been a recurring guest on MLB Network, a member of the BBWAA since 2011, and a Hall of Fame voter since 2021. Follow him on Twitter [@jay_jaffe](#) and BlueSky [@jayjaffe.bsky.social](#).

About us

The SABR Hanlan's Point Chapter has existed for some 40 years. Named after the park from which Babe Ruth launched his first professional home run in 1914, it was originally intended to serve the Greater Toronto Area; however, its membership spans a much wider geographical area running from Newfoundland to the Western Provinces. Chapter activities are planned and coordinated by a Planning Committee. Follow us on Facebook and Twitter: @SABR_HP

Hanlan's Point Board June 2023 - May 2024

Chapter Leader: Allen Tait
Secretary/Treasurer: Elena North
Membership: Paul Moorehead
Communications: Barry Naymark
Social Media: Adrian Fung
Coordinator GTA: Ruth Kapelus
Coordinator SWO: Jim Easton
Ex Officio:
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SABR Frank “Shag” Shaughnessy Ottawa Chapter: website ; on Twitter:
@OttawaSabr
SABR Quebec
SABR Southern Michigan Chapter

OUR PARTNERS

[THE CANADIAN BASEBALL HALL OF FAME AND MUSEUM](#)

The Canadian Baseball Hall of Fame and Museum exists to preserve and promote Canada’s baseball tradition. Its extensive collection is housed in a modern facility on a 32-acre site. It is also home to the Harry Simmons Memorial Library, a joint venture with the Centre for Canadian Baseball Research.

CBHFM is a stop on London Tourism’s Southwestern Ontario Baseball Heritage Pass, together with historical Labatt Park in London and the Beachville District Museum.

[THE CENTRE FOR CANADIAN BASEBALL RESEARCH](#)

The Centre is a not-for-profit corporation established to encourage and facilitate research into baseball’s historical development in Canada and to disseminate the results of this research. Its initiatives include maintenance and operation of the Research Library and an annual Canadian Baseball History Conference.

CREDITS

Use of Fergie Jenkins’ name in the newsletter title is by permission of the Fergie Jenkins Foundation.

The SABR Hanlan’s Point logo is used by permission of SABR.

SUBMISSIONS

We have not established a word limit for articles since the format allows us to publish an article précis with a link to a longer text.

To have your work included in the newsletter, or to make suggestions, please email Ruth. Contributors should consult the SABR Style Guide and Tips for Aspiring Authors. Scroll down [here](#).