

# SABR Scouts Comm Newsletter

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## THE 2005 CONVENTION

Gear up, make reservations, get your act together, and plan to meet at the 35th Annual SABR Convention on August 4-7, 2005, at the Holiday Inn on King in Downtown Toronto.

If you've never been to Toronto, you're in for a very pleasant surprise. The place is a sprawling mega-city, lotsoof steel and glass, still with the of the English influence, particularly where we will be - downtown. The Dome is there, too. It'll be a trip worth the effort.

As the American dollar weakens, let's hope the Canadians will lower their guaranteed rate. A few months ago, the guaranteed \$157 a night was aout \$105 U.S. As the U.S. dollar weakens that means we would pay a sizeable chunk over \$105. Exchange rates can be brutal. For instance, two years ago, it took 85 cents to buy a Euro. Today it takes \$1.35.

Anyhpw - we'll see you in Toronto. There will be a committee meeting and hopefully a two-hour time slot so we can have a good round table.

## THE BIO PROJECT

When we left the 2004 convection in Cincinnati, Ol' Clark would have bet a month's wages that the bio project would be going full bore by this time. We had set a goal of Oct. 1 to have completed a set of biographical sketches such as you've seen in the SABR publication put together by the Dead Ball Committee (th first half of a two-volume set of old-timers from each league.

Our plan was to do two books as well - starting with those scouts whose primary contributions preceded the beginning of the draft in 1965. The second volumn wound cover scouts of the past 40 years.

The main job up front was the recruitment of researchers willing to put together a story of 1,500-2,500 words along with A picture or two. We were looking for a minimum of 50 bios - possibly even 60.. We have less than a dozen committments and only one completed manuscript. Dwayne King of Las Vegas has checked in with a pair of bios - two lengths - concerning Joe Devine whose career essentially spanned the era between WW I and WWII.

## NEED VOLUNTEERS

We need biographers badly. Rod has the data about working with researchers in other areas to help with data collection. He is the go-to manwho will match scout with biographer. He's the guy with both the computer and the computer expertise. He's also the guy with the file of "who signed whoms." So he becomes the fact-check man in many cases.

Your chairman will handle the general editing and become the prod to get things done on time - as soon as he has someone to prod.

TO GET YOUR ASSIGNMENT

Contact: Rod Nelson  
e-mail: SABRscouts@aol.com.  
Snail Mail:  
2834 West 23rd Street, Apt. No. 10  
Denver, CO 80211  
Phone: 303-477-1656

A NEW TARGET DATE

Our new target date is Dec. 31, 2005. We have one year to get our 50-60 bios assigned, research completed, stories completed, edited and sent on to the SABR publications committee for their comments....and, hopefully, publication.

LOSSES

Death reduced some of those who bridged the past and the present in the past few weeks. They were:

Jim Russo	Bobby Mattick	Johnny Sturm
Angelo Giuliani	Ray Boone	

All five of these veteran scouts would have made great interviews and even books. There are dozens of others out there who are in their 70's, 80's, and 90's who are living legends just waiting for you to stop in and record their histories. Who?? Contact either Rod or Clark.

THE MAILING LIST

Far too many of you will receive this newsletter by e-mail thru Rod's e-mail system. I don't have your address. If you receive this via e-mail and not via snail mail - please send me a note - via snail mail - with your mailing address so we can be in touch. I'd also appreciate a phone number from everyone.

OL' CLARK

Is now doing his newspaper column twice a week and can be found at [www.columbiatribune.com](http://www.columbiatribune.com) on Monday and Friday. Don't look for much baseball, however. It seldom is a topic in a column which primarily matches history of my town and area with the current and the near future. Any baseball references are local.

My effort to start a scout's union has failed, so my only contact with baseball is thru this committee and as secretary of the Midwest Scouts' Association, where I also do the quarterly newsletter.

When I took over this SABR committee in 2000, my plan was to do six newsletters a year. That will be possible only with input from those who receive it. We'll depend on you for the future.

My address: Bill Clark Phone: 573-474-4510  
3906 Grace Ellen Drive  
Columbia, Mo. 65202-1739