



**Biographical Research Committee Monthly Report
November 1992**

Tom Gettinger Found

One of our *Top 20* missing players, Tom Gettinger, has been found. And the happy hunter who wins the *Find of the Month* award is none other than ... me. I started looking for Gettinger about five years ago armed with erroneous information that he was born in Mobile, Alabama.

In reading *Sporting Life*, I came upon a note that Gettinger was injured and was taken to the hospital in Mobile. I wrote the hospital (disguised as a relative) and they informed me that he was born in Frederick, Maryland. Frederick County has a cemetery index; however, Gettinger was not in it, nor was any of his family. I checked the 1870, 1880, 1900, and 1910 Maryland census and found the family listed as Gittinger. Tom was listed in Frederick in 1910 with the occupation of baseball manager.

When the 1920 census came out, I checked both Alabama and Maryland and Gettinger or Gittinger was not listed. Acting on a hunch, I checked Florida and found Gettinger living in Pensacola. When I learned that Florida had a death index, I had a lady check it for me and she informed me that Tom Gittinger died in 1943. I then wrote to Florida for the death certificate and obtained the exact date. So you can cross Gettinger off our *Top 20* list and replace him with Huyler Westervelt, who was featured in our April 1992 *Mystery of the Month*.

Member Movement

Please welcome John McMahon, Appleby Drive, Bedford, New York 10506 to the biographical committee. John's code number will be M6. Also, Jamie Selko has moved. Jamie has left the Army (My gosh, now what do you suppose he'll wear?) and moved to 110 E. 49th

Street, Eugene, Oregon 97405.

Over There, Over There

Bob Hoie sends along the following list of American-born players who died in foreign countries:

Charlie Atherton	Austria
Joe Birmingham	Mexico
Rivington Bisland	Austria
George Brunet	Mexico
Alex Burr	France
Ed Delahanty	Canada
Joe DeSa	Puerto Rico
Packy Dillon	Canada
Dick Farrell	England
Marion Fricano	Mexico
Elmer Gedeon	France
Roy Graham	Philippines
Eddie Grant	France
Herman Hill	Venezuela
Len Koencke	Canada
Joe Kostal	Canada
Lou Jackson	Japan
George LaClaire	Canada
Bill Massey	Philippines
Walt Masters	Canada
Bill Mountjoy	Canada
Bob Neighbors	North Korea
Harry O'Neill	Marianas Islands
Charlie Peete	Venezuela
John Pomorski	Canada
Arlie Pond	Philippines
Pete Schmidt	Canada
Frank Shaughnessy	Canada
Tom Sheehan	Panama
Bill Smith	Canada
Ed Somerville	Canada
George Speer	Canada
Will White	Canada
Fred Winchell	Canada
Ed Hengle (MGR)	England
Fred Hoey (MGR)	France

Bob would also like to know why Atherton, Bisland, Graham, Kostal, LaClaire, Mountjoy, Pomorski, and Schmidt were where they were when they died.

A Geography Lesson

We list Howard Craghead as dying in San Zield, California. I recently received a letter from a gentleman who is writing a book on California towns. He lists all towns that existed in California from 1769 to 1992 including all renamed places and alternate names, some 7300 names in all. As you may have guessed by now, San Zield is nowhere to be found. Can anyone locate an obituary on Craghead and find out where he died?

The Class Of 1971

Did you know that the group of players who made their major league debut in 1971 has now lived longer than any other debut group as they now have all lived at least 21 years past their debut date? They surpassed the previous record of the 1949 rookies who lasted until Kurt Krieger's death on August 16, 1970. The 1947 group lasted nearly 20 years while 1933, 1936, and 1948 made it 15 years. Eleven groups since 1900 haven't even made it a year: 1901, 1902, 1907, 1917, 1941, 1952, 1954, 1955, 1956, 1965, and 1969. Thanks to Tom Hufford for providing this information.

More Hockey

Joe Overfield sends along some more information on the baseball/hockey connection. Cecil (Babe) Dye is in the Canadian Hockey Hall of Fame and is currently featured in Minor League Stars III. Also, Kevin Collins, former Met infielder, later became an NHL linesman. Dick Thompson indicated that Bob Hall (1904) also played professional hockey. Anyone know any others?

A Clue

Richard Puff sends along the following clue in case anyone would like to track it down:

Athol, Mass. - John Foley, 25 years ago a noted baseball pitcher, and who was for many years believed to have been murdered in Chicago, is as hale and hearty a man as lives today. His sister, Mrs. John Carney, of this town, today received a

letter from her brother, who for years she mourned as dead. He is living in Peoria, Illinois.

- The Sporting Life, April 10, 1909

Chuck Connors

I'm sure that everyone was saddened to hear of the death of Chuck Connors, one of my favorite TV actors. Chuck was one of the first two-sport stars and is generally considered to be the first basketball player to break a backboard. As you know, Chuck was on the cover of *MLS III*. Since George Brunet died soon after gracing the cover of *MLS II*, one would hope that a pattern isn't emerging here. We'd better be careful who we feature on *More 19th Century Stars*.

That Time Of Year Again

Once again it is the time of year when you can let me know whether you want to remain on the committee in 1993 or I can save SABR the cost of a year's worth of stamps. So if you wish to remain a committee member please let me know by December 31 or I will drop you from the mailing list. This is also how I can tell if you actually read the newsletter.

Birthday List

There are three nonagenarians celebrating birthdays in December. Make sure you send them a birthday card along with your Christmas card.

December 1	Red Badgro	90
December 5	Ray Moss	91
December 13	Robert Wright	101

Where Did They Go?

This month's *Mystery of the Month* is a little different. It concerns material of a man named Marcellus, S. C. Thompson, and Lee Allen. Many thanks to David Stephan of Los Angeles for drawing our attention to this mystery.

It all starts with a man named Marcellus (sorry, but I don't know his first name) who kept ledger books on the National Association. In the mid-1960s, Marcellus loaned these books to S. C. Thompson, the compiler of the *Thompson-Turkin Encyclopedia*. When Thompson died in 1967, Marcellus never got his ledger books returned to him. All of Thompson's

material (43 years worth) wound up in the hands of Lee Allen. Allen died in 1969. During the latter part of his life, Allen had been wintering in Boca Raton, Florida. After his death, a chemistry professor from Florida Atlantic University talked Allen's widow into donating approximately five tons of material to the library of Florida Atlantic University in Boca Raton. As recently as 1982, the library claimed to have "a roomful of material." However, now no one knows where it is. It's quite likely that the material is still in the library but no one knows where. Anyone want to take a trip to Boca Raton and check this out?

The Scoreboard

	IN	OUT	PCT
Total Complete Names	13873	73	99.477
Total Complete Births	13133	813	94.170
Total Complete Deaths	6834	497	49.003
Total Assumed Alive	6615		47.433
Total Bats	12536	1307	90.558
Total Throws	12808	1035	92.523
Total Heights	12710	1133	91.815
Total Weights	12633	1210	91.259
Total Debut Dates	13946	0	100.000
Total Questionnaires	9907	4039	71.038
Total Completion			91.8080

New Monthly Data

Questionnaires Received:

None

New Information Received:

1932 Berger, Louis William 32-8 N	D: <u>Nov 3 1992</u> (G3)
1876 Booth, Amos Smith	<u>Bethesda, Maryland</u>
1943 Ciola, Louis Alexander 42-2	Height: <u>5-02</u> Weight: <u>152</u> (R1)
1874 Clack, Robert S.	D: <u>Oct 18 1981</u> (H1)
1949 Connors, Kevin Joseph Aloysius N	<u>Austin, Minnesota</u>
1916 Currie, Murphy Archibald 16 N	Debut: <u>May 13 1874</u> (R1)
1888 Delahanty, Edward James	D: <u>Nov 10 1992</u> (C1)
1930 Detore, George Francis 30-31 N	<u>Los Angeles, California</u>
1937 Dwyer, Joseph Michael 37-10 N	Name: <u>Archibald Murphy Currie</u> (S7)
	D: <u>Niagara Falls, Ontario</u> (O1)
	Is Deceased (O1)
	B: <u>Mar 27 1903</u> (H1)
	D: <u>Oct 21 1992</u>
	<u>Glen Ridge, New Jersey</u>
1925 Farrell, Edward Stephen N	Debut: <u>Jun 15 1925</u> (D5)
1889 Gettinger, Thomas L. 89-90 N	Name: <u>Lewis Thomas Leyton Gettinger</u> (C1)
	Real name: <u>Lewis Thomas Leyton Gittinger</u>
	B: <u>Dec 11 1868</u>
	<u>Frederick, Maryland</u>
	D: <u>Jul 26 1943</u>
	<u>Pensacola, Florida</u>
1916 Grimes, Burleigh Arland	B: <u>Aug 18 1893</u> (T1)
1940 Hahn, Richard Frederick 40-2 N	D: <u>Nov 5 1992</u> (S4)
	<u>Orlando, Florida</u>
1935 Jorgens, Orville Edward 35-37 N	D: <u>Jan 11 1992</u> (S3)
1890 Keffer, C. Frank 90-2 N	Name: <u>Frank Keffer</u> (S1)
	B: <u>Harrisburg, Pennsylvania</u>
	Delete birth date and death information.
1926 Langford, Elton 26-8 N	B: <u>May 21 1899</u> (H1)
1876 Maloney, John	Delete death date. Wrong man. (S1)
1884 McDonald, James A.	Debut: <u>Jun 20 1884</u> (S1)
1934 McGee, Daniel Aloysius 34-2 N	D: <u>Dec 1991</u> (S3)
1943 Ostrowski, John Thaddeus 43-6 N	D: <u>Nov 13 1992</u> (S3)
	<u>Chicago, Illinois</u>
1874 Roberts, Thomas 74-2 N	Delete player. Record belongs to Robert S. (R1)
	Clack.
1923 Rowland, Charles Leland 23-2	Name: <u>Charlie Leland Rowland</u> (H1)
	D: <u>Jan 21 1992</u>
	<u>Raleigh, North Carolina</u>
1927 Schuble, Henry George 27-29-35a, 36 N	D: <u>Oct 1990</u> (S3)
1980 Scurry, Rodney Grant N	D: <u>Nov 5 1992</u> (C1)
	<u>Reno, Nevada</u>

1950 Van Cuyk, Christian Gerald ~~50-2~~ N

B: Jan 3 1927

(H1)

D: Nov 3 1992

Hudson, Florida

1922 Weis, Arthur John ~~22-5~~ N

B: Mar 2 1901

(H1)

1914 Yount, Henry Macon N2

Debut: May 20 1914

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