



Society for American Baseball Research

San Diego Ted Williams Chapter

NEWSLETTER

June 2023

IN THIS ISSUE:

1. Padres Opening Day 2023, The Price of a Streak
by Gregory Funk p.1
2. Ted Williams, Jet Afire, Safe at Home on a Slide—As Remembered by Charles D. Fay
by Tom Willman p.4
3. Chapter's Predictions For 2023 Padres: 94 Wins...1st Place ...Machado MVP
by Dan Boyle p.6
4. Sullivan Family Baseball Research Center, A Quarter Century of Service
by Wayne Towers p.10
5. Chapter Annual Report, June 1, 2022-May 31, 2023 p.15
6. Ted Williams Chapter Notes... p.17
7. Last Page p.20

REGIONAL MEETINGS COMING UP:

Saturday June 17
2:00p At Lake Elsinore Diamond
5:15p Opening Pitch
Saturday, August 26
9:45a At Serra Mesa-Kearny Mesa Library

1

Padres Opening Day 2023 THE PRICE OF A STREAK

by Gregory Funk

Opening Day. I have always been there. This is the Padres' 55th season. It's been a challenge at times to keep the streak going, but it's something only a die-hard Padres fan would cherish. I have *never not* been at the ballpark for the Padres' Home Opener.

It started out innocently enough. As a freshman at UCSD, my roommates and I made a spur-of-the-moment decision two hours before game time to attend the very first major-league game ever in San Diego on April 8, 1969. No trouble getting in: Only 23,370 showed up to watch Dick Selma pitch a 2-1 complete game victory.

Opening Day 1970: The club now having achieved dismal status, nobody I knew was interested in attending, so I went by myself right after my final class of the day.

By 1971, I went because I had a streak going, and no more than 23,370 people would ever be able to say that.

When I bought my first season ticket in 1972, I'd say that's when I first became obsessed with continuing the streak. But that year, a players' strike made Opening Day a moving target to plan for.

I lived out of town from 1976 through 1978, and had to make the trip down from Santa Barbara and Los Angeles to keep things going.

My first conflict was in 1976: A good friend, a piano major at SDSU, was playing her Senior Recital that evening, but by that point I had already decided that seeing every pitch would be difficult to maintain, so I left after the sixth inning to hear most of her recital.

Opening Day 2023



Padres vs. Rockies

Today: 6:40 p.m., Petco Park

Pitchers: Rockies RHP German Marquez (9-13, 4.95 ERA in '22) vs. Padres LHP Blake Snell (8-10, 3.38)

On the air: BSSD; 97.3-FM, 860-AM (Spanish)

As a church music director and organist, I always check the newly published schedule each year with apprehension, fearing a Holy Week matchup that will require my moral side to consider ending the streak. That came on Thursday evening, April 8, 2004, when the first game ever at Petco Park was scheduled on Maundy Thursday. Fortunately, a casual-style service that could be led by a few folk instruments was planned, and I was allowed to be excused.

A couple of other Maundy Thursdays have been in the picture, but afternoon start times are usually not a problem. One year, a 4 PM start meant leaving early for the 7 PM service, and the choir took bets on whether I would arrive in time. (My route having been calculated ahead of time, I arrived with three minutes to spare.)

The year 2020 probably effectively ended all kinds of streaks, since fans were not allowed to attend. A fantasy league friend of mine, Jack Murray, an official scorer for the Padres, told me he thought he could get me into the park one way or another. But it turned out they wouldn't even let him into the park – he had to officially score the game watching a screen. Ultimately, my son and I drove to Petco Park, stood on the grounds at the locked gate entrance, and watched the first inning on his phone. Then we drove to his place to watch the rest of the game.

The most recent challenge was this year. The game was scheduled for Thursday, March 30, at 1:10 PM. As early as a week before, weather services predicted afternoon rain chances varying from 30% to 60%, so I kept my tickets to Friday night just in case. Thursday night was choir practice: not just any choir practice, but three days before Palm Sunday and Holy Week. Annoyingly, even though the rain prediction remained the same for a week, the Padres waited until 8:20 PM the evening before to announce the time change to 6:40 – too late, for example, to ask the choir to rehearse on Wednesday night.

Since this rehearsal was too important to sacrifice for my selfish needs, I decided the streak was over. But my son encouraged me to somehow find a way. I came up with a plan to cancel the rehearsal break and end the session at 8:20 instead of 9:00, and gamble that this pitch-clock affected opener would last at least 2½ hours. A friend and I were driven right to the park's gate and, aided by a nine-minute puddle delay, got in during the 7th inning stretch. Attendance was 45,103. Admittedly, the accompanying photos are of the 7th and 9th innings, but looking at the upper deck in particular, many others "in attendance" must have had scheduling conflicts.



Commenting on the game itself, watching the first six innings after-the-fact, and now looking back after a quarter of the season gone by, what at the time looked like an unfortunate start to the season now looks like a microcosm of the unfortunate start to the season.

Hitting, pitching, and fielding all fell short of excellence. A lack of hitting limited San Diego to two runs. Outside of Xander Bogaerts' three hits, the entire rest of the team mustered four hits and one walk, although there were also two (TWO) who reached base on catcher's interference.

And middle relief allowing a three-run homer to ruin a decent start by Blake Snell, followed by two more home runs, gave the Rockies seven runs.

A stat that I found quite odd-but-true: San Diego pitchers allowed 17 hits and struck out 17. That means there were only 10 other outs, of which one was spectacular: a relay from left field that nailed Kris Bryant at the plate. Of the plays not made: an easy grounder kicked by Ha-Seong Kim, and three or four batted balls that I thought had possible opportunities for a spectacular play.

Finally, a typical "that's baseball" observation: C.J. Cron driving in five and hitting two homers, neither of which exceeded 361 feet, but Matt Carpenter hitting a 390-foot flyout in the sixth to the track that would have been a game-tying three-run homer.



PADRES OPENING DAY

DAMPER ON OPENER

SABR MAGAZINE 11

Padres' Manny Machado is tagged out on a play at the plate in the fourth inning by Rockies catcher Elias Diaz as pitcher German Marquez looks on.

TOM KRASOVIC On the Padres
T-Gwynn would've liked Padres-fan vibe to start

For two decades, a fan part of Padres season openers was watching Tony Gwynn called them. Posts. He said it in (mostly) mock exasperation. He was

FRIARS FALL TO ROCKIES ON WET NIGHT AT PETCO

BY KEVIN ACEE

7 | 2
 Rockies | Padres

The thing the Padres talked about all spring and into Thursday was the aneurysm.

Articles from March 31, 2023, San Diego Union-Tribune, Section D

Rockies 7, Padres 2

Colorado	AB	R	H	BI	BB	SO	Avg.
Daza cf	5	1	1	0	0	4	.200
Bryant rf	5	1	3	1	0	0	.600
Blackmon dh	5	1	3	0	0	1	.600
Cron 1b	5	2	4	5	0	1	.800
Montero 3b	5	1	2	1	0	3	.400
Trejo 3b	0	0	0	0	0	0	---
McMahon 2b	5	0	1	0	0	2	.200
Daz c	4	0	1	0	1	2	.250
Castro lf	5	1	1	0	0	2	.200
Tovar ss	5	0	1	0	0	2	.200
Totals	44	7	17	7	1	17	

San Diego	AB	R	H	BI	BB	SO	Avg.
Grisham cf	4	1	1	0	0	1	.250
Soto lf	4	0	0	0	0	1	.000
Machado 3b	3	0	1	1	0	2	.333
Bogaerts ss	4	1	3	0	0	1	.750
Cronenworth 1b	3	0	0	0	0	2	.000
Carpenter dh	3	0	0	1	0	0	.000
Nola c	3	0	1	0	1	1	.333
Kim 2b	4	0	1	0	0	0	.250
Dahl rf	4	0	0	0	0	2	.000
Totals	32	2	7	2	1	10	

Colorado	IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO	NP	ERA
Mrquez, W, 1-0	6	5	2	2	0	5	87	3.00
Lamet	1	2	0	0	0	2	20	0.00
Lawrence	1	0	0	0	0	3	14	0.00
Bird	1	0	0	0	1	0	12	0.00
San Diego	IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO	NP	ERA
Snell, L, 0-1	4 2/3	6	3	3	1	9	93	6.23
Crismatt	1 2/3	4	2	2	0	2	32	10.80
Tapia	2	5	2	2	0	4	42	9.00
Wilson	1	2	0	0	0	2	20	0.00

Inherited runners scored—Crismatt 2-2. **WP**—Snell, Crismatt. **Umpires**—Home, Chris Conroy; First, Brian O’Nora; Second, Pat Hoberg; Third, Nestor Ceja. **T**—2:56. **A**—45,103 (40,222).

2

Ted Williams, Jet Afire, Safe at Home on a Slide

At a U. S. Advance Air Base, Korea, Feb. 16 (U.P.)—His

As Remembered by Charles D. Fay

by Tom Willman

Headline from: February 17, 1953, *New York Daily News*, p.148

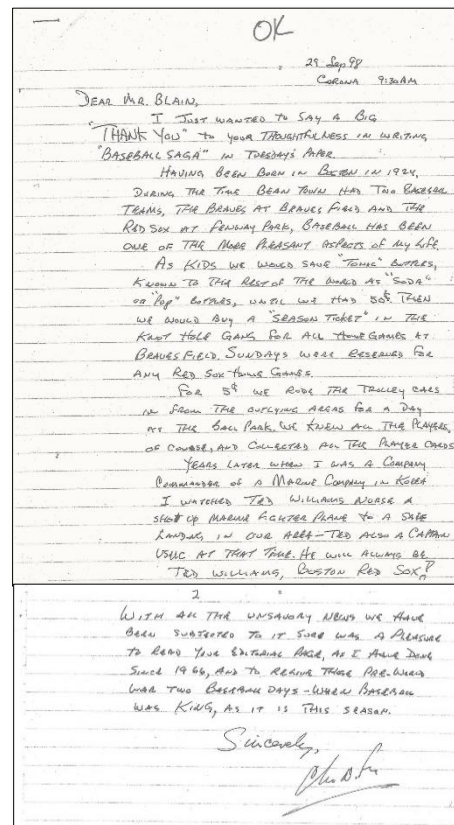
In 1998 a reader named Charles Fay wrote a letter to the editors of the *Riverside Press-Enterprise*. In his morning paper he had found a piece on the McGwire-Sosa home run duel and the good old days of baseball, and it had transported him back to the Boston of his youth, with San Diego's Ted Williams at Fenway and the Knot Hole Gang at Braves Field.

It also carried him back to another time he saw Ted Williams, on February 16, 1953, when both were Marine Corps officers in the thick of the Korean War. The landing he refers to in the letter was Ted Williams' most desperate hour as a Marine pilot.

Williams' F9F Panther jet had been battered almost beyond control by ground fire. It was smoking badly as he limped back, and aflame as he approached. With wheels stuck up and no way to brake, he made a 150-mile-an-hour belly landing and rode his skidding, fiery wreck 2,000 feet before he could manage to escape. Another Marine aviator, Yankees' infielder (and longtime Padres' broadcaster) Jerry Coleman, heard the chilling Mayday calls as Williams came in. And yet another remarkable Marine pilot, future astronaut John Glenn, figures here. Williams would fly 39 combat missions in Korea, about half of them as Glenn's wingman. Glenn would pay Williams a Marine combat pilot's highest compliment: "He gave flying the same perfectionist's attention he gave to his hitting."

As for Charles Fay, he left the Marine Corps as a major, and taught school for 27 years, passing away in 2004.

In this year, the 70th anniversary of Ted Williams' flying exploit, Mr. Fay's reminiscence is worth revisiting for all that it conjures up: evergreen boyhood baseball memories, and timeless admiration for heroism beyond the diamond as well. A copy of his original letter is shown above, and re-typed for easier reading on the following page.





CAPT. TED WILLIAMS praises before resuming raids over Communist lines in North Korea. The former Boston Red Sox outfielder was forced to crash-land his flaming jet plane at an advance air base early this week.—U.P. Telephoto

February 19, 1953,
San Diego Union, p.36

29 Sep 98
Corona 9:30AM

Dear Mr. Blain,

I just wanted to say a big “THANK YOU” to your thoughtfulness in writing “BASEBALL SAGA” in Tuesday’s paper.

Having been born in Boston in 1924, during the time Bean Town had two baseball teams, the Braves at Braves Field and the Red Sox at Fenway Park, baseball has been one of the more pleasant aspects of my life.

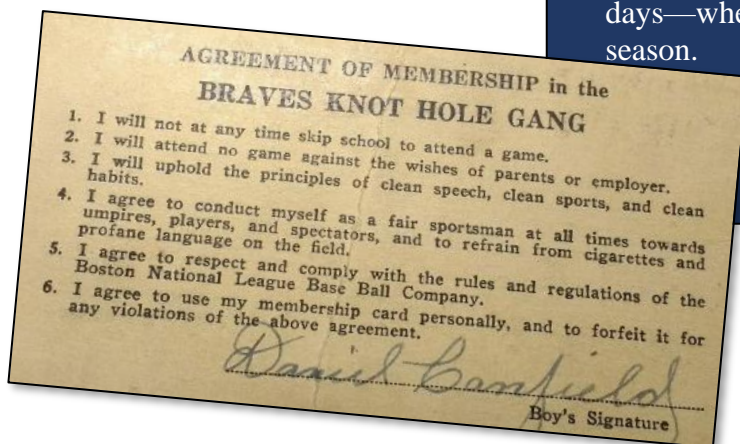
As kids we would save “tonic” bottles, known to the rest of the world as “soda” or “pop” bottles, until we had 50¢. Then we would buy a “season ticket” in the Knot Hole Gang for all home games at Braves Field. Sundays were reserved for any Red Sox home games.

For 5¢ we rode the trolley cars in from the outlying areas for a day at the ball park. We knew all the players, of course, and collected all the player cards.

Years later when I was a Company Commander of a Marine Company in Korea I watched Ted Williams nurse a shot up Marine fighter plane to a safe landing in our area—Ted also was a Captain USMC at the time. He will always be Ted Williams, Boston Red Sox!

With all the unsavory news we have been subjected to it sure was a pleasure to read your editorial page, as I have done since 1966, and to relive those pre-World War Two baseball days—when baseball was King, as it is this season.

Sincerely,
Charles D. Fay



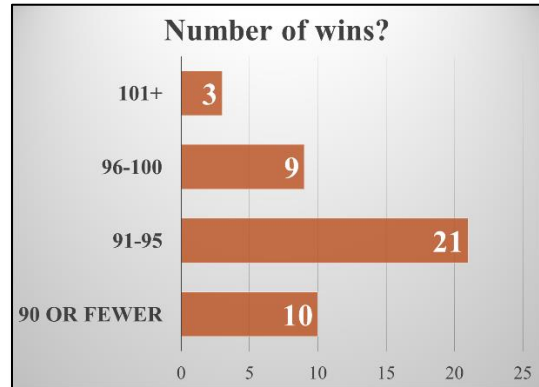
3

**“OUR” PREDICTIONS FOR
2023 PADRES
94 Wins...1st Place...Machado MVP**
by Dan Boyle

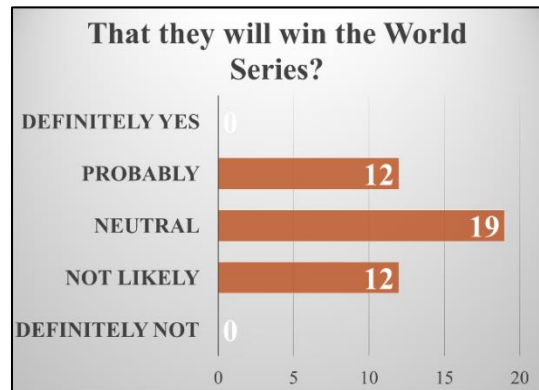
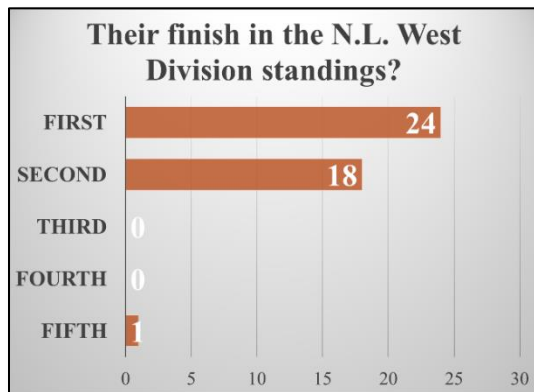
The results¹ from our chapter members are in! There is excitement but not wild-eyed optimism regarding the 2023 Padres.

THE TEAM

Survey respondents see a successful season ahead, between 89 and 104 wins with an average of 94, which is also the median number of predicted wins. Most respondents see a National League West pennant in the Padres’ near future, but not necessarily a World Series triumph.

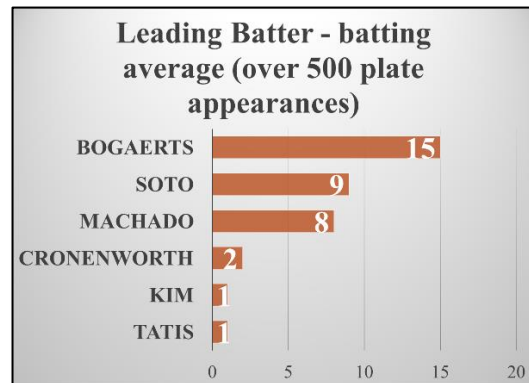


Note: Horizontal Scale for all charts represents number of respondents

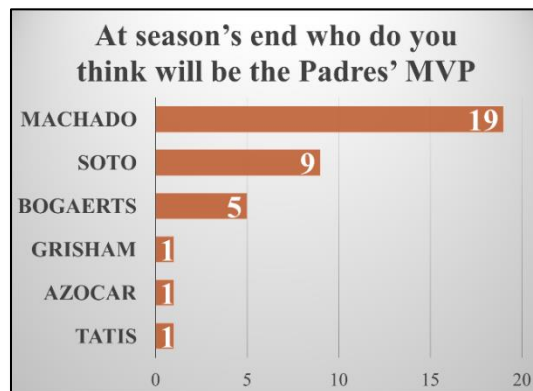
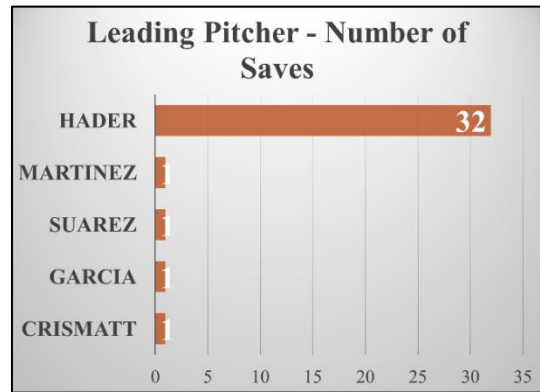
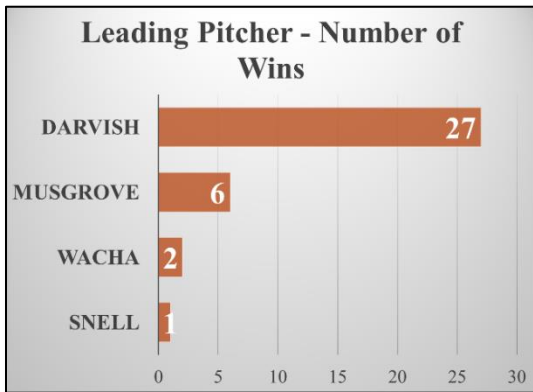
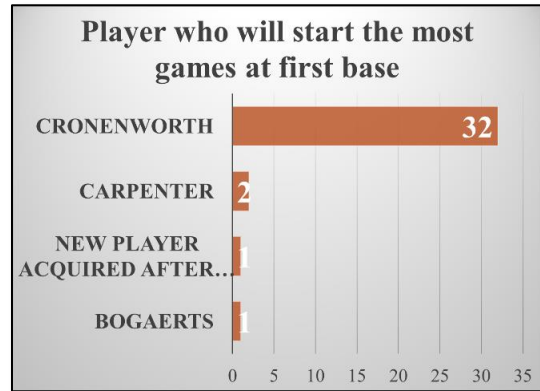
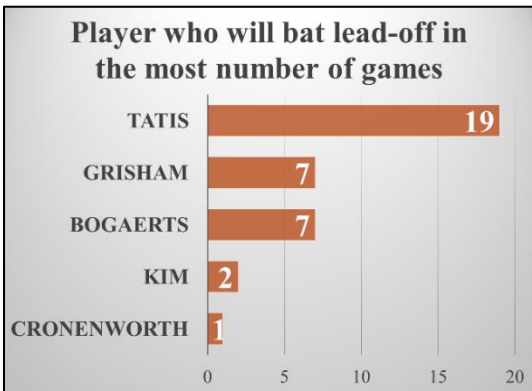
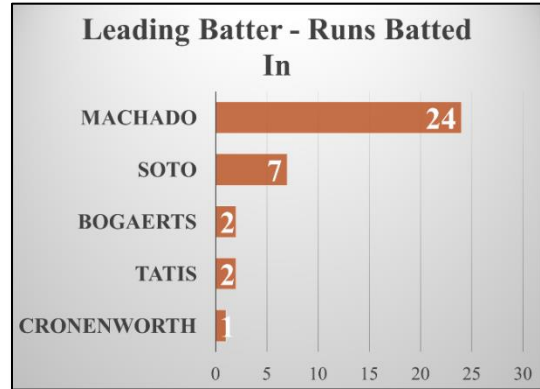
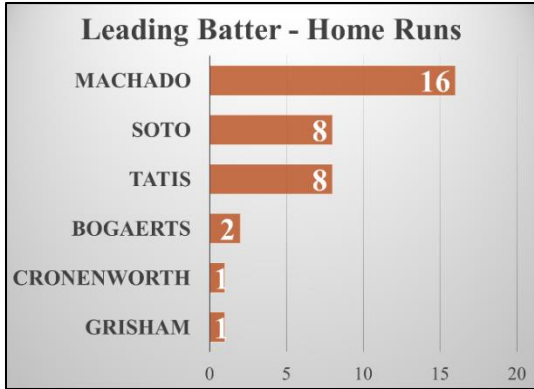


THE PLAYERS

Xander Bogaerts will provide the pure hitting, while Manny Machado will lead the way in home runs and runs batted in. Look for Fernando Tatis in the leadoff spot and Jake Cronenworth at first base. Yu Darvish will lead in wins and Josh Hader will be the bullpen ace. The Padres MVP? Manny Machado.

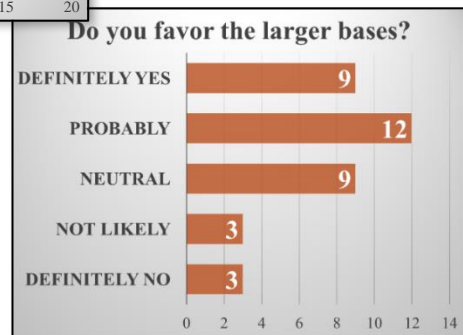
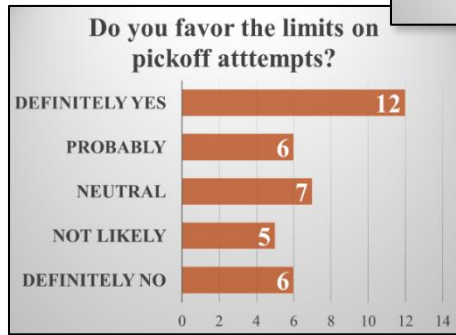
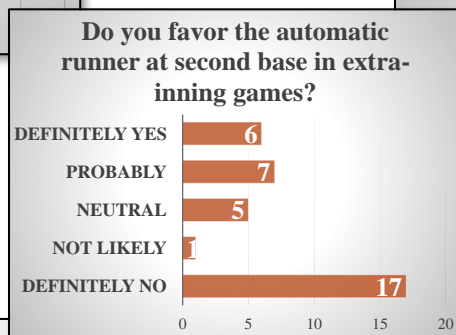
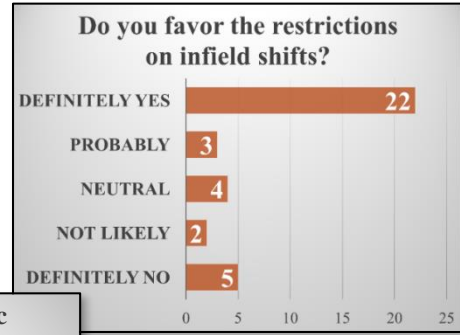
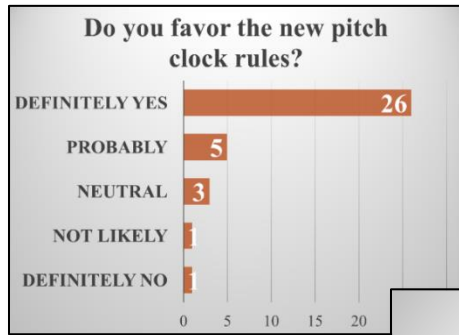


¹ These are the results of 19 questions in a survey of chapter members conducted the first week of the 2023 season.



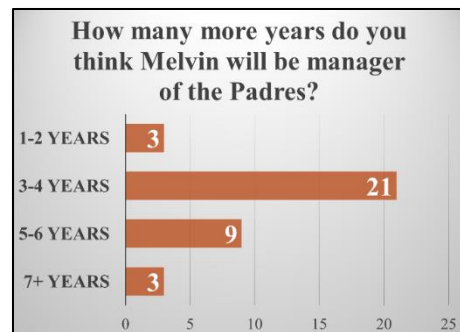
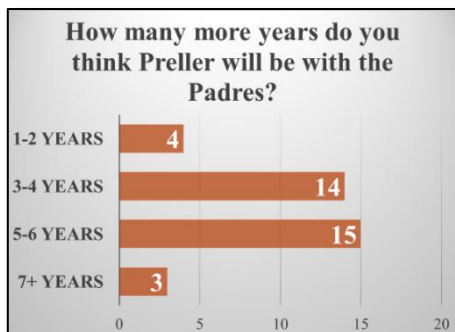
RULE CHANGES

Respondents showed strong support for the pitch clock and restrictions on defensive shifts, as well as favorable reactions to larger bases and restrictions on pickoff attempts. On the flip side, they gave a loud NO to the automatic runner at second base in extra innings, even with a year to get used to the idea.

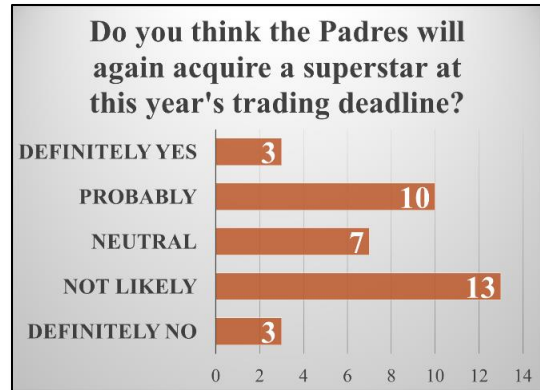
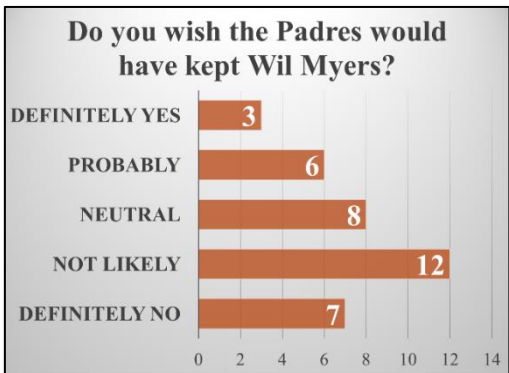


TRADES/DEALS, ETC.

General managers stick around longer than managers, and A.J. Preller will outlast Bob Melvin. Respondents were not sad to see Wil Myers head off to Cincinnati and thought it



somewhat unlikely, but not impossible, that we will see a new superstar in a Padres uniform at the trade deadline.



A SECOND CHANCE TO GET IT “RIGHT”?!

It might be fun to take another look at these questions later this season. Watch your inbox!

Editor’s Note: 94 WINS?!

With a 26-30 won-loss record on June 1 is it still possible for “our” Padres to achieve 94 wins this season, as predicted by our rank-and-file? Make the playoffs?

Well, yes. We have heard in recent weeks about teams through the ages that have come back from bad starts to win it all. Most recently, the 2019 Washington Nationals started play on June 2 with a record of 25-33 ... and finished with a record of 93-69. Not quite 94 wins but you get the drift.

So, we can dream, can’t we?! On the right is a table that shows how it can be done. The Padres would have to win nearly two-thirds of its remaining games. Having something like a 20-game win streak would certainly help (smiley face!). But, if they do it gradually, the table provides you with a way to gauge the team’s performance as the season plays on. The basic need is for them to win, or tie, every series until the end. Why not?

One more thing. Perhaps we were too optimistic in our survey (you think!). Fewer wins than 94 might not win a Division title but could still allow for entry to the playoffs. But, the odds are not too good. On June 2 there was a 38.8% chance that the 2023 Padres would make the playoffs.

Even so, seven of the 12 MLB playoff teams in 2022 had less than 94 wins. In fact, three playoff teams had less than 90 wins. Maybe we settle for a mediocre 89 wins? Like we did in 2022.

THE CHASE TO 94				
Record at End of Play				Record for Week
On:	W	L		
JUNE	Thu. June 1	26	30	n/a
	Sun. June 4	28	31	4-2
	Sun. June 11	32	33	4-2
	Sun. June 18	36	35	4-2
	Sun. June 25	40	38	4-3
JULY	Sun. July 2	44	40	4-2
	Sun. July 9	48	42	4-2
	Sun. July 16	52	42	4-0
	Sun. July 23	56	44	4-2
	Sun. July 30	60	46	4-2
AUGUST	Sun. Aug. 6	64	48	4-2
	Sun. Aug. 13	67	51	3-3
	Sun. Aug. 20	71	54	4-3
	Sun. Aug. 27	75	56	4-2
SEPT./OCT.	Sun. Sep. 3	79	59	4-3
	Sun. Sep. 10	82	62	3-3
	Sun. Sep. 17	86	64	4-2
	Sun. Sep. 24	90	66	4-2
	Sun. Oct. 1	94	68	4-2



4

SULLIVAN FAMILY BASEBALL RESEARCH CENTER (BRC) A Quarter Century of Service

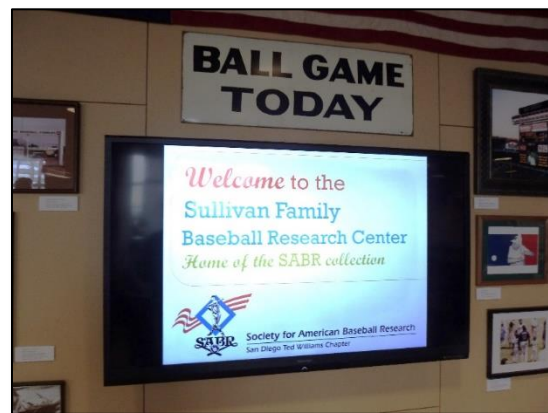
by Wayne Towers

Twenty-five years ago, in May 1998, the San Diego Ted Williams Chapter culminated a project that began in Fall 1997 by approving a Business Plan to partner with the City of San Diego's Main Library at 820 E Street, aka the "Old Central." The result was a June 6, 2000, Memorandum of Understanding that led to the dedication of the San Diego SABR Baseball Research Center on April 3, 2001. This early effort was largely improvisational, being fitted into discontinuous library shelves and some boxes stored in the basement. A highlight was the formal acquisition of some 300 microfilm reels of archival materials from the National Baseball Hall of Fame Library in Cooperstown, NY, in 2006.

Ten years ago, on September 28, 2013, the "Old Central" was succeeded by the newly built and renamed San Diego Central Library, a nine-story building at 330 Park Boulevard. A highlight of this new structure was an area on the 8th floor named the Sullivan Family Baseball Research Center in honor of dedicated library patrons Katie and Dan Sullivan. Under revised library nomenclature, the "Old Central's" San Diego SABR Baseball Research Center was renamed the San Diego SABR Baseball Collection. This new area allowed baseball research materials to be housed in a single, dedicated facility.

BRC: 8TH FLOOR... FOLLOW SIGNS TO "SABR"

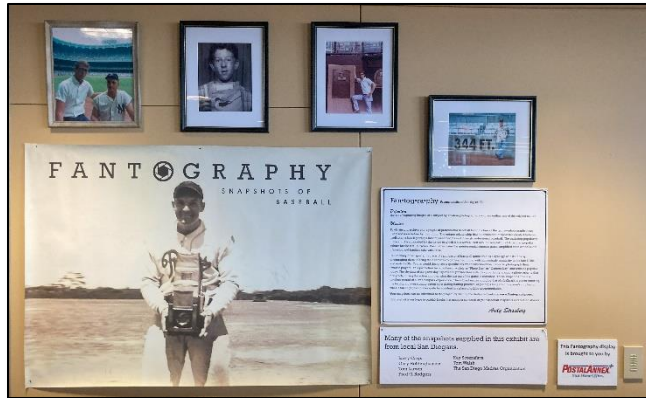
A fitting culmination to all this history would be a visit to the facility as it functions today. Whether returning or a first-time visitor, take the elevator up to the 9th floor, then descend via the staircase to savor the spectacular vista of downtown and the Coronado Bridge beyond, furnished by the Price "People's Penthouse" Reading Room. On the



Sculpture by Yoram Wolberger:
"Male Baseball #1"

8th floor, aka the Manpower Innovation Floor, a veritable sea of reading tables and comfortable furniture provide an inviting area for researching or just perusing. Just beyond this area, baseball research is housed in an inviting, grotto-like area.

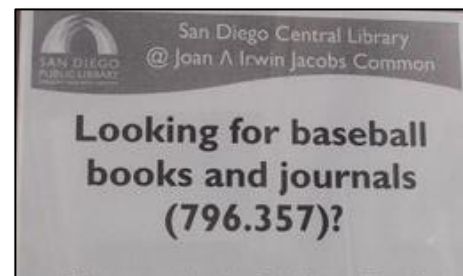
This area is easily found because it is marked by a large, silver statue of a baseball player that functions much like a sailing ship's figurehead. The statue, by famed San Francisco sculptor Yoram Wolberger, is titled "Male Baseball #1" and is on loan from the Museum of Contemporary Art San Diego in La Jolla. Wolberger is famous for enlarging small, plastic children's toys, often used as birthday cake decorations, into epic proportions. In addition to the baseball figure, his works include enlarged figures of politically incorrect "Red Indians" and the green army men made famous by the "Toy Story" films.



Behind the statue, an inviting reading area is enhanced by a changing video display, a collection of sports memorabilia, and a fascinating presentation of some of Andy Strasberg's "Fantography" photographs of baseball fans with their baseball heroes. Display cases with rotating exhibits of baseball-related themes reinforce the welcoming atmosphere, making it a wonderful place to just sit and enjoy the materials.

THE BOOKS

Immediately available for research or perusal are books and oversized materials. Seven double-sided sets of book shelves feature some oversized materials and books catalogued from 016 McCue to 797 R B Zaharis. If some of these materials are designated "R" for "Reference" they do not circulate, meaning that they need to be used on-site. Circulating and non-circulating materials are also found in the roughly three dozen City of San Diego local libraries and in the roughly three dozen County of San Diego local libraries. The holdings of the City and County libraries do not necessarily duplicate the research center's books.

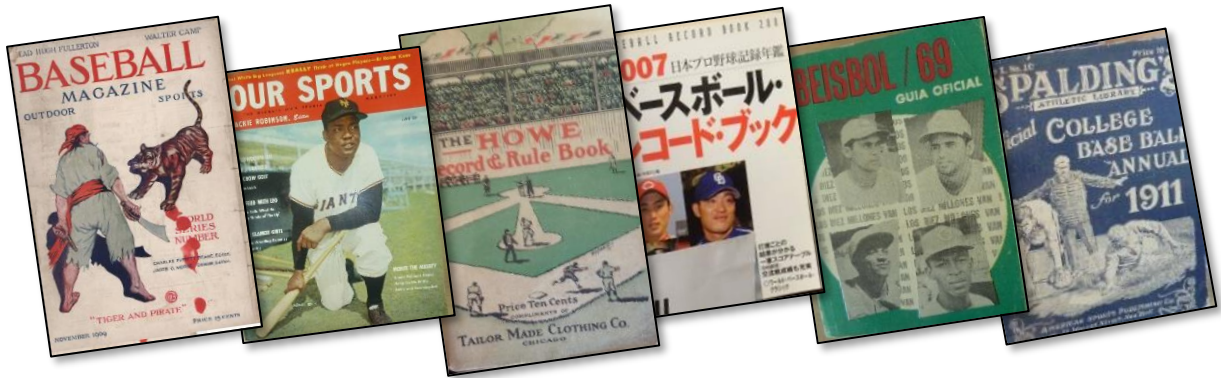


BEYOND THE BOOKS

But the books are the tip of the iceberg. In areas less accessible to the general public, librarians toil to maintain and grow the entire collection of baseball research materials in a facility facing the back of the scoreboard at Petco Park. Presided over by the professional and genial Pete Miesner, the goal is accumulation, not evaluation. Since they don't know what might prove useful to researchers, key criteria include uniqueness, useful duplication, and general condition. A key bugbear is that materials donated by smokers are more likely to have damage caused by the smoking.

Special Collections. In addition to the books out front and some 900 publications donated by SABR's national office, the cavernous collection also houses books that are more fragile or

more off the beaten path. A prime example is a collection of children's books about baseball that might be useful someday to a researcher examining such publications. Another example is Japanese baseball publications (in Japanese) in case baseball biographers are investigating a player's years in Japan. Some of these books are included in the library's catalog and can be accessed upon request, but be sure to check with the librarians about materials awaiting cataloguing.



Periodicals, Magazines. Beyond books, periodicals such as magazines are also housed backstage, primarily because of fragility. Magazines are included in the library's catalog, but only some covers and tables of contents have been digitized because of copyright restrictions. A lot of fun to peruse online, especially for colorful (and famous) cover artwork is *Baseball Magazine* 1908-1923. In addition to magazines, a cavalcade of casual periodical format publications from team yearbooks to fan magazines to short-lived annuals also are archived. Some might or might not be catalogued, but, again, can be found and accessed by request. Since the collection is active, the materials are a living and growing entity.

Non-Print Resources. Last, but not least, non-print materials like VHS/Beta analog video recordings are included. Beyond readily available videos like *Field of Dreams*, many teams and other entities put together videos of championship seasons or not-so-championship seasons, favorite players, and a potpourri of numerous and varied topics.

In addition to singular items, large, complex collections are housed backstage.



Archival Resources. The previously mentioned 2006 formal acquisition of archival materials from the National Baseball Hall of Fame Library was an early achievement. The bulk of the materials (271 reels) was the Minor League Contract Collection of contractual transactions between minor-league players and their clubs from approximately 1900 to 1980. Additional reels included official records for players in the 1880s and 1890s; player questionnaires from the 1940s through the 1980s, including the Negro Leagues and the All-American Girls Professional Baseball League; and documents related to the Black Sox scandal investigation.

Another large asset is the William J. Weiss Collection donated in February 2014. As a statistician for West Coast minor leagues like the Pacific Coast, Pioneer, and California Leagues from 1948 through the 2000s, Weiss accumulated roughly 1,000 books and a cornucopia of periodicals, scoresheets, records, and files, all of which were donated in over 600 storage boxes.

Another formidable backstage resource is the Joseph P. Murphy Jr. Baseball Autograph Collection, officially donated on June 20, 2020. Beginning in 1931, Murphy and his younger brother John started with a Pepper Martin autograph and collected autographs on 3” x 5” index cards through the 1930s, eventually accumulating some 1,300 items, including autographs and miscellaneous correspondence. The autographs are highly valued as a source for validating signatures on baseball memorabilia and can be searched on the Central Library’s digital archive.

But not all of the materials archived are so colossal. For Chicago Cub aficionados, chapter member Eric Hanauer donated copies of their 1986-2016 “Vinline” newsletters, while Elwood Scharf donated his compilation of scrapbooks covering 1876-2010. Minor-league-related collections include Marc Okkonen’s early minor-league roster materials and Carlos Bauer’s minor-league statistical compilations, including unpublished season averages. Additionally, Willie George furnished the career records of thousands of players, while Larry Zuckerman provided drawing, histories, write-ups, and notes for major- and minor-league parks from the 1800s through 2000. All you have to do is ask – even if it’s not listed here.

IN SUM...

San Diego is a baseball goldmine for the serious researcher or the serendipity seeker. No matter where you live – from Oceanside to San Ysidro, Ocean Beach to Palomar Mountain – you have access to one of the largest collections of baseball information outside of the National Baseball Hall of Fame.



Editor’s Note:

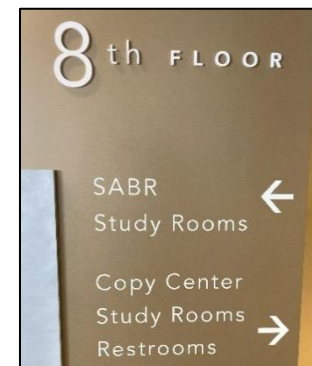
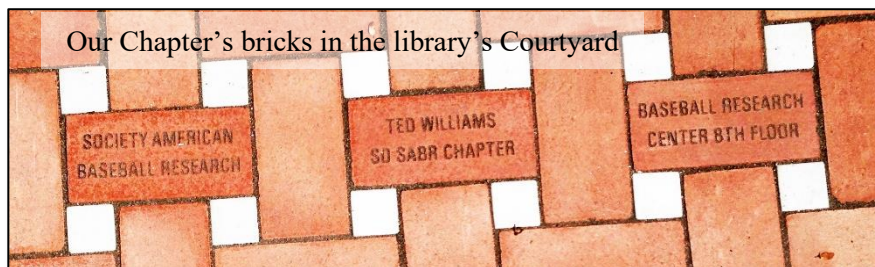
Special thanks to Pete Miesner for his help and support in producing this article.

Pete began supporting San Diego baseball research when he became the “old” library’s liaison for the San Diego SABR Baseball Research Center with the Ted Williams Chapter in 2009.

In 2013, Pete contributed greatly to the evolution of a dedicated place for baseball research in the “new” library.

To visit the results of his hard work, just follow the SABR signs on the 1st floor to the elevators, and the SABR signs on the 8th floor.

And, if you see him, be sure to thank him for his steadfast support of our Ted Williams Chapter.



SOME HELPFUL DETAILS FOR YOUR VISIT TO THE BRC

Access to Library Materials:

All of the aforementioned are available at no cost if you physically go to 330 Park Boulevard and use the resources there, including the online library catalog and the reference librarians. You also can access the card catalog at any [City of San Diego branch](#), again at no cost. But as long as you are at one of those locations, and you are a resident of California, you can pick up a library card, again for free.

You can apply for a card online, but you still need to go to a library in-person to verify your information. At the library, you will be asked to provide photo identification (e.g., California driver's license) and address verification (e.g., current utility bill).

In addition to digital access, the card also gives you physical access to the books in each of the 36 city library locations. Each library has a great deal of flexibility in their acquisitions so duplication and uniqueness of available materials varies widely. Not only can you access the books at your local library, you can request books from any other library. Any circulating materials in the [Library Catalog](#) can be delivered to your local library through [Inter-Branch Loan Services](#). Your local librarian is happy to help, especially with any quirks particular to their facility.

For a wide physical array of baseball information resources, the [Sullivan Family Research Center](#) on the 8th floor of the City of San Diego's Main Library has a world-class collection of research resources. Be sure to first check its [operating hours and schedule](#). California observes federal holidays, plus a few of its own, so make sure the library is open. Just follow the "SABR" signs on the 1st and 8th floors.

To save time, you can preplan your visit using the [Library Catalog](#). Also review the [Ted Williams Chapter's Self-Help Guide](#).

At the facility, another important resource is the Reference Desk, also on the 8th floor. Staff there will be happy to help you with catalogued information. If time is scarce or the request is difficult, feel free to contact our chapter's library liaison, Jeremy Davies, via phone (619.238.6632) or e-mail (JLDavies@san-diego.gov). Please remember to make any inquiry specific and with a reasonable lead time, bearing in mind that some materials are available by appointment only.

Finally, if you don't have a specific request, don't be afraid to just wander through the public access area of this baseball wonderland.

Getting There:

- * If driving, enter the parking garage off 11th Avenue.
- * Parking is free for the first two hours via validation at the 1st floor front desk.
- * The library is also close to several bus and trolley lines. Check sdmts.com for details.

Questions: Just e-mail Wayne Towers (wctowers@yahoo.com).



5

CHAPTER ANNUAL REPORT

June 1, 2022 – May 31, 2023

REGIONAL MEETINGS

Our chapter scheduled in-person regional meetings for the first time since January 2020. We are planning to schedule 3-4 meetings in this next year.

- August 19, 2022 “Introduction to SABR and Sullivan Family Baseball Research Center (BRC)” at the San Carlos Library. Presentations were by, Jeremy Davies (Library-SABR Liaison), and, Tom Larwin (SABR Chapter)
- December 10, 2022 Joint Zoom meeting managed by Los Angeles Allan Roth Chapter with three speakers, each an author and SABR member: Justin McKinney, Dan Taylor, and Jon Leonoudakis
- January 28, 2023 Three speakers: Mike Koser (Baseball Ballpark podcast); Mel Proctor (sportscaster); and Andy McCue (author/researcher, SABR member)
- February 24, 2023 Held at the Glenner Alzheimer’s Family Center, our speaker was Eric Gray (author, SABR member)

STEERING COMMITTEE

Our chapter’s Steering Committee held three meetings this year: December 7, 2022; April 10, 2023; and May 8, 2023.

At our May 2023 Committee meeting Bylaws were approved. Our chapter’s first election of officers is scheduled for the 2023-24 fiscal year. As of May 31, 2023, our committee had nine members: nine voting members (four officers and five at-large members), plus a San Diego Library Liaison member, and two ex-officio members.

PROJECTS AND NEWSLETTERS

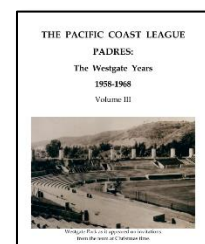
Three Newsletters

- June 2022 Eight articles, 18 pages.
 October 2022 Seven articles, 27 pages.
 February 2023 Seven articles, 19 pages.



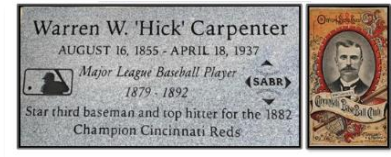
Three Projects

- July 2022* ***San Diego Padres: The Westgate Years: 1958-1968***, by Ray Brandes. A manuscript of this book was completed in 1998 but never published, and seemingly lost. In early 2022 the manuscript was discovered along with old computer disk files. Our chapter had the book digitized, photos added, and published in digital form by SABR. It is available on our web site.



August 2022 **Grave Marker Project, Warren W. "Hick" Carpenter**

This project included manufacture and installation of Carpenter's grave marker. Our chapter managed the project with financial support from SABR's 19th Century Grave Marker Committee. The project included a 17-page report on Carpenter's career (1879-1892).



Mar/Apr 2023 **"2023 Padres": Member Survey.** The survey's summary report will be included in our June 2023 Newsletter.

Projects being considered for 2023-24 include historical markers for Balboa Stadium and San Diego Stadium, and a follow-up survey of members regarding the Padres 2023 season.

PARTNERSHIPS

City of San Diego Public Library (Sullivan Family Baseball Research Center). The [Baseball Research Center](#) (BRC) was created in 1998 in a partnership between the City of San Diego and our chapter

The San Diego Public Library has a staff member who provides liaison with our chapter and serves on our Steering Committee.

This past year the BRC received a significant donation of books and publications from SABR (Phoenix headquarters) that totaled approximately 1,000 publications.

Glenner Alzheimer's Family Centers. On March 23, 2023, we participated with Glenner management at its Town Square located in Chula Vista. We provided counsel on the addition of a new, specially designed wiffle ball area for Alzheimer patients. Discussions are underway for development of a continuing partnership for 2023-24

SABR 19th Century Grave Marker Committee. We partnered with this committee to share costs of manufacture and implementation of the Carpenter grave marker.

Los Angeles Allan Roth SABR Chapter. We have partnered with the LA Chapter on several Zoom meetings. We have a current "super-regional" meeting planned for June 17, 2023, at the Lake Elsinore Diamond that will take place before a minor league game.

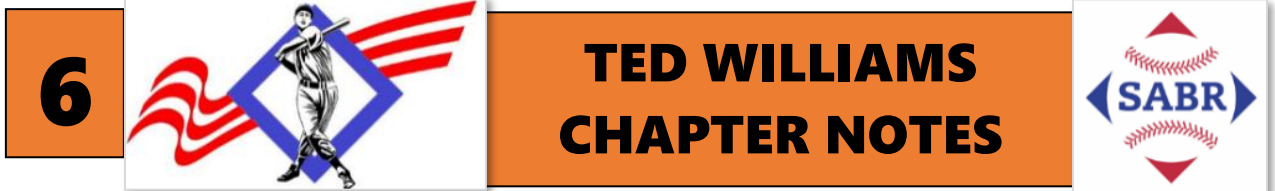
CHAPTER WEB SITE

The schedule of our regional meeting events, chapter newsletters, and chapter project reports are available at this link: <https://sabr.org/chapter/san-diego-ted-williams-chapter/>



Bay View Park, Sunday, January 21, 1900.
Greatest game of the season.
BASE BALL—Southern California League Game.
San Bernardino vs. San Diego.
 C. H. Cameron will umpire. Game called at 2:30 sharp. Admission 25 cents.
 Ladies admitted free to Grand Stand.

January 19, 1900, *San Diego Evening Tribune*, p.4



**WELCOME TO SABR
and to the
TED WILLIAMS CHAPTER!**

Trevor White, San Diego, *February 23, 2023*
 Rob Connolly, La Mesa, *February 24, 2023*
 Dennis Parker, San Diego, *March 10, 2023*
 Xavier Smith, San Diego, *May 25, 2023*



**SABR BASEBALL MEMORIES PROGRAM
Reminiscence Therapy Via Baseball Memories**

Our Chapter is in the beginning stages of developing a local initiative that would be part of [SABR’s Baseball Memories Program](#). The objective of such a program would be to use Reminiscent Therapy—centered around the subject of “baseball”—to connect with individuals suffering from dementia and Alzheimer’s disease.

Providing stimulus to our effort, in March we were contacted by Glenner Alzheimer’s Family Center to offer input to their design of an indoor Wiffle ball court that would replicate images of San Diego’s Lane Field. When completed, the court will be one of several venues that comprise Glenner’s [Town Square](#). The design of Town Square evokes scenes of San Diego in the 1950s and provides a unique visual setting for its adult day care activities.

Information on the project, and the role of Lane Field, was contained in a March 28, 2023, article in the *San Diego Union Tribune*.

You will hear more of the program in the coming months. It is another example of the breadth of SABR’s role and the importance of baseball to so many people in so many different ways.



Meet Our Two New Steering Committee Members — In Their Own Words

EDDIE BROWNING and JOHN LORAH

Here's Eddie:

I am Eddie Browning. I was born in New York City back when they had 3 teams! My first ballgame was in Shea Stadium in 1966. I moved to Cleveland in 1973. My wife and I have a daughter, Sophia, who was my partner on many baseball trips. In July of 2022, we moved to Ramona to be near Sophia and her husband. I am a retired CPA.

I am a Ballpark chaser, and will see my 30th active MLB ballpark July 30 at Dodger Stadium. I have also seen 20 former MLB ballparks, 18 former MLB ballpark sites (building is gone), 22 current AAA ballparks, and many other professional ballparks in the US, Canada, and the Dominican Republic. I currently follow the Padres, Angels, Guardians, and Blue Jays.

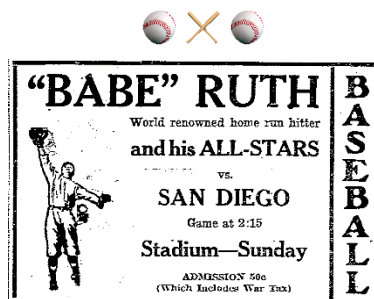
I feel honored to serve on the Steering Committee of the SABR Ted Williams chapter.

Here's John:

My name is John Ezra Lorah. I was born during Oakland's heyday and married my wife Tana when the Padres lost to the Yankees. We have two children, a retired greyhound and two bossy cats. I work as a Cardiovascular Technician at Grossmont Hospital.

I am a native Philadelphian. The Phillies are my team, yet the Padres have wormed their way into my heart. I inherited the love of baseball from my father Marv. Baseball was the foundation of our relationship. "Phillies lost 5-3 last night," replaced the words "I love you."

Studying baseball history has been a hobby since grade school and it compelled me to join SABR. I am thrilled to be a member and truly eager to learn and talk baseball with my fellow SABR members.



December 28, 1919, *San Diego Union*, p.24

TWO REGIONAL MEETINGS SCHEDULED

🌀 Saturday, June 17, 2023 🌀
"Super Regional" --Los Angeles & San Diego SABR Chapters

LOCATION: The Diamond at Lake Elsinore
500 Diamond Dr., Lake Elsinore, CA 92530

TIME: **1:30 pm** ... Parking Lot Opens
Disabled parking in Lots A, & B
Free parking in Lot C

2:00 pm – 3:30 pm ... Meeting

5:15 pm ... First Pitch
Lake Elsinore Storm (SDP) vs. Stockton (OAK)

PROGRAM: +Open Discussion with two members from the Lake Elsinore Storm team
+Presentation: Michael Rinehart, "The California League: Some History, An Overview of the Lake Elsinore Storm, and the League's Famous Alumni"
+Trivia Quiz

ADMISSION: \$20 per person (Game only) OR
\$39 pp (Game plus "All-You-Can-Eat")
GUESTS ARE WELCOME



ALL-YOU-CAN-EAT Hot dogs, hamburgers, cheeseburgers, chips, cookies, water, and fountain drinks.

RSVP with payment, via check, payable to:
San Diego Ted Williams SABR Chapter
c/o Tom Willman
676 Rue Parc
Chula Vista, CA 91913

🌀 Saturday, August 26, 2023 🌀 San Diego Ted Williams SABR Chapter

LOCATION: Serra Mesa-Kearny Mesa Library, 9005 Aero Drive, San Diego

TIME: 9:45 a.m. – 12 noon +/-

Mark your calendar, and watch your inbox over the summer for more information on the program.



September 29, 1926, San Diego Evening Tribune, p.34

7

LAST PAGE

CHAPTER ARCHIVES ARE AVAILABLE
For information on our chapter or to check out past Chapter newsletters and Chapter Project Reports click on this link:
<https://sabr.org/chapter/san-diego-ted-williams-chapter/>

San Diego Ted Williams Chapter Steering Committee

Tom Larwin, President <i>619.251.0419; Lar.11@cox.net</i>	Greg Funk, At-large
Andy Strasberg, Vice President	John Lorah, At-large
Geoff Young, Secretary	Anna Newton, At-large
Tom Willman, Treasurer	Dan Boyle, ex-officio
Eddie Browning, At-large	Jay Walker, ex-officio
Steve Bryant, At-large	Jeremy Davies, SDPL Liaison <i>619.238.6632; JLDavies@sandiego.gov</i>

From Our Files



Manager George Hendrick of the Lake Elsinore Storm
May 4, 2002, SABR meeting at The Diamond
The Storm finished second in the South Division that year
with a record of 75-65



WE WELCOME YOUR ...

- Comments
- Ideas for future articles, or projects

Contact: Geoff Young
via email at gyoung858@yahoo.com