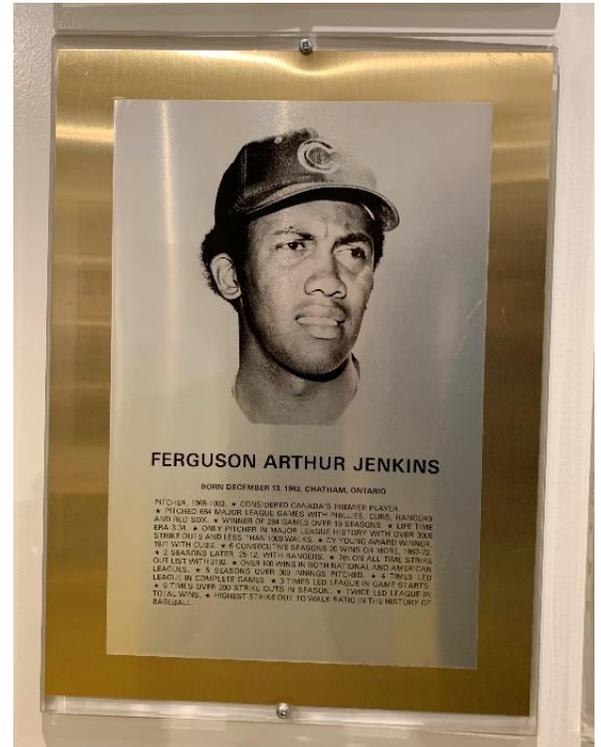




THE JENKINS JOURNAL



THE NEWSLETTER OF THE SABR HANLAN'S POINT CHAPTER WINTER 2022

In this issue

EDITORS' WELCOME.....2

CHAPTER LEADER'S MESSAGE2

CHAPTER NEWS ...4

FEATURE ARTICLES:6

MEMBER SPOTLIGHT10

COMMITTEE HOT CORNER11

CANADIAN BASEBALL CHRISTMAS TRIVIA12

ABOUT US12

CONTACTS.....13

SABR NEIGHBOURS13

OUR PARTNERS ..14

CREDITS14

SUBMISSIONS14



EDITORS' WELCOME

This issue might be called the change issue. As 2022 comes to an end, so does our stewardship of The Jenkins Journal.

It has been great fun for the two of us to introduce it to the membership and to sustain it over two years, but the response to the recent Newsletter Survey (more on that later) and a desire to do something different told us it's time to give ourselves the hook.

So, new year, new broom. Ruth Kapelus, who is in the Member Spotlight, will take over editorial duties with the Spring 2023 issue. We're confident that Ruth will be a breath of fresh air and ask you to support her through contributions to the publication.

Looking back, the chapter had a banner year with the publication of two books, our first hybrid meeting, a group outing to an IBL game and the participation of several members in the Canadian Baseball History Conference. At the same time, our experience with the newsletter and matters discussed by Allen should put us on guard for the future. Hanlan's Point was the first Canadian chapter of SABR and remains the country's largest. We sincerely hope it will carry on in good health.

Elena North and Mike Anderson

CHAPTER LEADER'S MESSAGE

First up, SABR HQ has approved our request to change the name of the chapter to SABR Hanlan's Point (Toronto/Southern Ontario) to better reflect our reach and activities.

Now, I would like to share news about the on-going efforts of SABR to support local chapters. Above and beyond the wealth of on-line baseball material and contacts SABR provides, the local chapter structure is considered an important



benefit to attract and retain membership. Given attendance at the annual national convention is generally around 10% of total SABR membership, local chapter activity is considered the most likely opportunity for SABR members to interact with each other.

In October 2021, SABR updated local chapter compliance standards, establishing three categories. I will not get into specifics as it will suffice to say chapters meeting criteria above minimum standards are eligible for additional financial support. In 2023 members will be seeing some new initiatives that will hopefully increase chapter activity and broaden participation in events.

As an aside, I would like to thank Planning Committee member David Siegel for attending the Chapter Leaders meeting with me in Baltimore and Chapter Board member Elena North for pinch hitting for me when I could not attend the November Chapter Leaders meeting. The common feedback from both David and Elena was that our group is good shape within the chapter hierarchy.

Moving forward, it is important not to get complacent as two recent trends are a concern. Attendance at the fall meeting, to celebrate publication of the Blue Jays book, fell below expectations. Also, downloads of the fall newsletter were below prior issues, and the survey participation rate was below levels attained in previous surveys. While we hope this trend is an anomaly, it does raise the question as to whether or not the programming provided is of interest to members. To that end, please provide suggestions and material that can be used in future events.

In closing, on behalf of the chapter, I would like to thank Elena North and Mike Anderson for creating and editing the Jenkins Journal for the past two years. It is a very professional publication and has always been very informative. I would also like to recognize and thank Ruth Kapelus for agreeing to assume the leadership role for the Jenkins Journal going forward. The support of our members to volunteer for these roles is important to keep the chapter operating effectively. The key to maintaining activity over the long term is to have new members volunteer to provide key support and leadership so the chapter does not become dormant.



CHAPTER NEWS



HP member Warren Campbell has an exciting new venture, an online streaming service called JOIN TV – [Just One Incredible Network](#) – launching in January. The service will offer several channels, including one called World Sports, and baseball games from Italy will be among the exclusive offerings. Looking forward to that!!

The great Fergie Jenkins has received another – somewhat unusual - honour from Chatham-Kent. “Flurrie Jenkins” is a brand new 2023 snowplow named for him as part of an annual contest held by that municipality. For more, click [here](#).

In more Fergie news, Canada’s Sports Hall of Fame and our partner, the Canadian Baseball Hall of Fame and Museum made the following announcement on December 13:

Youth across Canada will be provided the opportunity to learn from and be inspired by the journey of one of this nation’s most prolific athletes in the sport of baseball, Ferguson “Fergie” Jenkins. The project was jointly undertaken by two national sport heritage institutions, as the iconic baseball player celebrates his 80th birthday.

Inspiring the leaders of tomorrow through the invaluable lessons of sport is at the core of Canada’s Sports Hall of Fame’s (CSHoF) mission. Through the organization’s web-based education platform – <http://www.beyondthewin.ca> – classrooms across Canada are provided with curriculum-aligned education programs and resources at no cost. In 2023, youth will have access to four (4) newly launched asynchronous program modules, sharing the lessons and impact of Ferguson Jenkins’ story. This is another demonstration of CSHoF’s commitment to connect youth to outstanding Canadian sport role models.



It was great to see Tim Blaker's work featured in the latest [post](#) by the Games and Simulations committee.

Justin McKinney and Maxwell Kates have had receptive audiences in other chapters for their papers, respectively, "Baseball's Union Association" and "Time for Expansion Baseball". Available via *Stay Home with SABR* on YouTube.

The Hanlan's Point Chapter was well-represented at the 5th Canadian Baseball History Conference, held November 12-13 in Windsor, ON. In order of appearance, Andrew North, Stephen Dame, Martin Lacoste, David Simmons, Warren Campbell, Riley Nowokowski, Christian Trudeau, Maxwell Kates, David Siegel and Chip Martin presented to a small but rapt crowd. SABR members from other chapters – Max Weder (Pacific Northwest), Christian Trudeau (Quebec) and Gary Gillette (Southern Michigan) - also lectured.

A retiree who attended to hear his friend John Farley of the 1950s Delisle Gems interviewed by Andrew North subsequently wrote with this assessment:

We 3 friends attended the weekend expecting very little except 48 hours of adventure and a chance to show our friends, John Farley and Jim Hostetler, some moral support. To our surprise we were welcomed into a Canadian "miniculture" that has a passion for their sport that has become "Americanized". The presenters were consumed with telling their chapters of the Canadian Baseball story and, in doing so, left three "doubting Thomases" amazed and converted. The measure of our awe and respect is in the number of times we have talked to others about the impact that these presentations had on all of us since we returned home. FIVE out of FIVE is your rating! Keep these brilliant folks gathering and presenting and saving the history of Canadian Baseball for posterity! We loved what we saw! Thanks!

All this to say, well done colleagues!!

*By way of novelty, Conference attendees received a copy of Reno Bertoia's family recipe for spaghetti sauce.



FEATURE ARTICLES:

The Newsletter Survey

Mike Anderson and Elena North

First of all, thank you! Thank you to the 23 members of the Hanlan's Point Chapter who responded to our survey. We do wonder, however, about the 141 members who didn't reply. Our response rate of 14.02% is even lower than the voter turnout in the recent Ontario municipal elections (approx. 35%) and still worse than the abysmal turnout in London (25.5%). And our readers didn't even have to go to the polls to reply — a quick-and-easy email format was supplied!

Although the response to the survey was disappointing, we did find a couple of replies interesting. For example, when asked about satisfaction with the layout of the newsletter, four of you replied "Somewhat" and another "Not So". It would have been helpful to us if those five members had provided suggestions for changes in layout, either in the survey or — even better — sometime during the newsletter's first seven issues! And another one: When asked about information or sections you would like to see included in the newsletter in the future, one response suggested "more about the baseball-specific" interests of members. That may mean fewer historical features, or it may mean sharing information as to the projects of colleagues. It's hard to say. An attempt to introduce a Research Corner into the publication garnered no replies; even the book giveaway fizzled! Besides, we always considered the entire newsletter to be baseball specific.

Now that we have those points covered, we do appreciate the few of you who took the time to complete and submit the survey, the results of which are reproduced below. It's difficult to gauge the pulse of a group of our size based on such a small sampling of the membership. In future, feel free to make your preferences known to the editor on a regular basis.



1. Are you aware of the chapter newsletter, The Jenkins Journal?

22 Yes, 1 No

2. If yes, how often do you read it: 18 - Usually, 4 - Occasionally, 0 - Never

3. If occasionally or never, why?

Sometimes too busy with other things. /Still a working stiff. /Read when I know a new issue exists.

4. What is your feeling about the frequency of issues, currently 4 per year?

3 - Need more issues per year, 19 - 4 issues/year are satisfactory, 0 - Need fewer issues per year

5. How satisfied are you with the layout of the newsletter?

17 - Very, 4 - Somewhat, 1 - Not so, 0 - Not at all

6. Given the use of hyperlinks in the body of the newsletter, how easy is it to navigate? 14 - Very, 7 - Somewhat, 1 - Not so, 0 - Not at all

7. Does the publication cover topics of interest to you?

17- Yes, 5 -Somewhat, 0 - Not so much, 0 - Not at all

8. Please offer any feedback you have about the newsletter layout and navigation.

Links sometimes difficult to navigate. /Like it. Very readable. /Love the mix of content. / Well Done./Prefer fewer articles with fewer hyperlinks. If space is an issue, then maybe publish more frequently. /Super happy! Best news in Baseball!

9. What information or sections would you like to see included in the newsletter in the future?

Material included now is good. /Maybe more about the baseball-specific interests of members./Regular piece on the Intercounty Baseball League. /Continue with variety already put forth. /Seems fine. /Happy with everything.

10. What, if any, sections do you think should be removed from the newsletter? None/Not necessary/It's perfect



11. How satisfied are you with your ability to submit information or articles for inclusion in the newsletter? 16 Very, 4 Somewhat, 0 Not so, 0 Not at all

12. How would you rate your overall satisfaction with the newsletter? 18 Very satisfied, 4 Somewhat satisfied, 0 Not very satisfied, 0 Not at all satisfied

13. Please offer any other feedback you may have about the chapter newsletter. 4 comments, all positive

So that is that. Perhaps more interesting are the stats from the SABR website regarding downloads of the newsletter (thanks again to Jacob for the information). The sharp decrease in the Fall of 2022 was perplexing.

Winter 2021/2022: 257 downloads

Spring 2022: 286 downloads

Summer 2022: 309 downloads

Fall 2022: 65 total downloads since Sept. 26

It will be interesting to look at the stats for this Winter issue once they become available and to track downloads under the auspices of a new editor. In any event, the current editors believe that the newsletter should continue, if only for the chapter to remain in superior standing.

There are only two seasons – winter and baseball.

Bill Veck



Canadian Baseball History Firsts

Mike Anderson

For the first time in MLB history, a game was won and saved by Canadians for a Canadian team.

October 2, 2022: Boston Red Sox (3) @ Toronto Blue Jays (6)

Winning Pitcher: Zach Pop, b. September 20, 1996 in Brampton ON (4-0)

Save: Jordan Romano, b. April 21, 1993 in Markham ON (S, 36)

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 R H E
BOS 0 2 0 0 0 0 0 1 0 3 8 1
TOR 0 1 1 3 0 0 1 0 x 6 9 1

PITCHING	IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO
Gausman	3.0	4	2	2	0	4
Pop (W, 4-0)	2.0	0	0	0	0	2
Cimber (H, 19)	1.0	2	0	0	0	0
Bass (H,23)	1.0	1	1	1	0	0
Garcia (H,22)	1.0	1	0	0	0	0
Romano (s,36)	1.0	0	0	0	0	1
	9.0	8	3	3	0	7

Canadian Brothers:

Canada can't top the American brother acts like the Delahanty boys (5 major leaguers), the DiMaggio brothers (3), or the Alous (3), but we can still boast about a couple of pairs of Canadian-born siblings who warrant special attention.

The Naylor:

Josh Naylor (OF/1B), b. June 22, 1997 (Mississauga ON), Cleveland Guardians

Bo Naylor (C/DH), b. Feb. 21, 2000 (Mississauga ON), Cleveland Guardians

The Naylor brothers are the first two Canadian brothers to play on the same team together since 1891, when John Irwin and Arthur Irwin played together on the American Association's Cincinnati Redlegs.



The Irwins:

Arthur Irwin (SS/3B), b. Feb. 14, 1858 (Toronto ON), d. July 16, 1921 (in the Atlantic Ocean *), age 63

John Irwin (3B/SS), b. July 21, 1861(Toronto ON); d. February 28, 1934 (Boston MA), age 72

*Arthur Irwin jumped off a passenger steamer en route from New York City to Boston. Irwin had become terminally ill with cancer in the last weeks of his life. Shortly after his death from the apparent suicide, Irwin made headlines when it was discovered that two wives and families survived him in separate cities. He had been married to one woman in Boston since the 1880s and to the other (in New York City) since the 1890s.



MEMBER SPOTLIGHT

Ruth Kapelus

Hi, I'm Ruth Kapelus. I'm very excited to take over the reins as the Hanlan's Point SABR newsletter from Elena and Mike. They have stewarded this newsletter for a number of years, and I hope to maintain their consistency and quality.

A little about me: I have worked in the nonprofit world for close to the entirety of my career. I also write on the side, both in my personal Substack newsletter and as a baseball writer for Daily Hive among other publications.

A few years back before the pandemic, I was at my friend's son's bar mitzvah. A fellow guest who I hadn't seen in over 20 years asked me "Are you still such a huge Jays fan?" My first thought was perhaps it was time for a personal brand refresh. But baseball is what I was known for.

The first time I fell in love it wasn't with a person; but a sport, on a school trip to Exhibition Stadium when I was in grade four to watch a Jays game. My legs burning on the hard metal bleachers overlooking right field, watching Barfield,



Moseby and Bell - I fell and fell hard. It started what I always believed would be a lifelong relationship.

As a Jewish South African immigrant who never felt like I quite fit in, loving baseball was the first time I could believe that I belonged in this city and country where it was just my small family of 5. Over the years, I followed the fortunes of the Toronto Blue Jays with a fervor that at times seemed almost religious. The back-to-back World Series in 1992 and 93, and the wild playoff runs of 2015 and 2016 provided the backdrop to some of the best memories of my life.

I've since expanded my worldview when it comes to baseball to be more all-encompassing. It's shifted from 'rooting for laundry' to supporting Canadian baseball and becoming more aware of the issues in MLB - and doing what I can in my small way to make working in the sport, or simply being a baseball fan safer and more inclusive.

And it's with that lens that I hope to approach this newsletter. Sharing the stories that matter to all of us, remembering that women play baseball - in Canada! - and that they play it well. Their accomplishments need to stand alongside the Joey Vottos and Jordan Romanos.

I look forward to your feedback and to hearing what you would like to see included as well. It's my hope that this will be a publication you eagerly open when it lands in your inbox.

Thank you,
Ruth (rkapelus@gmail.com)

COMMITTEE HOT CORNER

Allen Tait

For this issue, I will profile one of SABR's newest committees that will likely be of interest to our analytics members. The Artificial Intelligence and Machine Learning Committee, formed recently, listed 42 members at the time I wrote this piece. The mission of the committee is to promote the research and application of artificial intelligence and machine learning to baseball.



The committee hopes to attract SABR members interested in sports technology and plans to meet at the SABR Analytics Conference, scheduled for March 10-12 in Phoenix.

If any of our chapter members decide to join this committee, perhaps someone could volunteer to provide updates on developments in this emerging field through the newsletter and/or future meetings.

CANADIAN BASEBALL CHRISTMAS TRIVIA

E North, with thanks to Kevin Glew

Everyone knows that Rickey Henderson was born on Christmas Day (1959) and that he played briefly with the Toronto Blue Jays. Here are some other baseball players with Canadian connections who share his birthday:

Scott Bullet, American-born, 1968, played with the Pirates and the Cubs, now runs the [Bulletproof Baseball Academy](#) in Welland, ON.

And several former Blue Jays and Expos, including:

Wallace Johnson, b. 1956 (Expos)

Charlie Lea, b. 1965 (Expos)

Marty Pevey, b. 1962, (Expos player, former Blue Jays coach)

Bruce Walton, b. 1962 (former Blue Jays coach)

On a more sombre note, John Rutherford (Belleville, ON), who pitched for the Dodgers, died on Christmas Day in 2016.

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



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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.

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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](#).