

## Spring Flings

The Official Newsletter of the Spring Training Committee  
of the Society for American Baseball Research

Volume number 1, Issue number 1, June 2002  
Kevin M Saldana, Chairman and Editor

### Our Committee Goals

Our goals include the publishing of two committee publications and possibly a third. The first publication will be edited by Mark Rappaport, which will include spring training statistics for all players appearing on a major league roster in camp and what happened to them before opening day. A second publication, will be edited by committee chairman Kevin Saldana. This publication will identify the cities and ballparks used by all professional baseball clubs for spring training. This listing will not be limited to Major Leagues, Minor Leagues, Negro Leagues, Womens Leagues or Foreign Leagues, but any professional league from which we can get information on, since 1871. As of this writing, this publication currently contains 64 pages and will at least double in size before we are through. A third possible publication, edited by John Pastier will have information on ballparks used by clubs in spring training. We probably will not be listing the parks that housed clubs in the regular season. We also would like to write articles for publication in the National Pastime, Baseball Research Journal, the SABR Research Exchange as well as our own newsletters. Our last goal will be to give as much help as possible to the other committees and the SABR organization as a whole.

### Our Committee Milestones

11-20-2001 Committee conceived by founder and message posted to the SABR-L

12-7-2001 First Vice Chairman appointed, Mark Rappaport, in charge of Statistics

12-15-2001 Committees' application for official recognition sent to SABR Board

12-21-2001 SABR Spring discussion list founded by R J Lesch

1-4-2002 First discussion list member from Canada, Kent Morgan from Winnipeg

1-25-2002 SABR Board votes 7-0 to approve committee founding !!!!!!!

1-29-2002 Vote results received from SABR Board President Claudia Perry

2-6-2002 First committee member from Canada, Maxwell Kates from Toronto

2-12-2002 First subcommittee founded, 19th Century Spring by E Michael McCardel

5-26-2002 100th Message posted to discussion list

June 2002 First newsletter published

## Our Committee Roster

Kevin M Saldana Wildomar, CA Chairman and founder

R J Lesch Des Moines, IA Co-Moderator, Discussion List

Jeffery Georges McKinney, TX Vice Chairman, Texas

John Pastier Seattle, WA Vice Chairman, Ballparks

E Michael McCardel Danville, OH Chairman, 19th Century Spring Subcommittee

Mark Rappaport Cleveland, OH Vice Chairman, Statistics

Dave Raglin Laurel, MD Vice Chairman, National Convention

Steve Steinberg Seattle, WA Al Yellon Chicago, IL

Steve Csik Saint Louis, MO Rodney Johnson Tempe, AZ

Andrew Zinner Phoenix, AZ Chuck Partington Rio Rico, AZ

Ron Selter El Segundo, CA Karl Knickrehm Garden Grove, CA

Joe Naiman Lakeside, CA James Sandoval Harvest, AL

Paul Shapiro Santa Monica, CA Maxwell Kates Toronto, ONT

Robert Wilson Gainesville, FL Scott Yaeger Cleveland, OH

Richard Puff Hillsborough, NC James Forr State College, PA

Kent Krejci Frisco, TX

The following members are discussion list members only for our committee list located at <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/sabrspring/>

Kent Morgan Winnipeg, MAN James Robinson New York, NY

Rod Nelson Denver, CO Ed Hartig Bolingbrook, IL

Brian Mohr Cape Coral, FL Jack Morris East Coventry, PA

## Spring Training Memories

You would think that being the chairman of this committee that I have been to spring training every year since the dawn of time. Lets not call this a confession especially when Father Hissrich is not around but, I have only been to spring training twice. The first time was in 1983, when I drove 100 miles to see my beloved Angels play a game at Palm Springs. I do not remember who they played or weather or not they won the game.

The second time I went to spring training was much easier. Like many members of SABR I am a veteran of the armed forces. I spent 4 ½ years in the Air Force. My last of three stops was Williams AFB, located in the east valley of the Phoenix area. One would have thought that I would have seen about 10 games that spring. I only saw three, and even then only two of them were Angels games. I took a co-worker, who was from Chicago and a Cubs fan to a game at Ho Ho Kam Park. They said it was a rough neighborhood for fans of the visiting team, I did not see any trouble.

The next game was a group of us (about 8 in all) went and saw the Angels play the Mariners at Tempe Diablo Stadium. Watch me show my age, at the time the Mariners were the home team. It sure would be nice to see those same two teams play there now.

The last game was between the Cubs and Brewers at Compadre Stadium at Chandler. That was a really easy game to get to, in that my apartment was in Chandler. I took a neighbor with me, Peter is an Australian and had never seen a baseball game played. We sat on the hill in rightfield and ended up meeting up with the guy I went to the game at Ho Ho Kam with. The game went a little long and the only time I ever voluntarily left a game in progress was this one. I had to back on base by five o'clock. At mass, they were going to say goodbye to me as I was leaving to become a civilian the next week. I probably would have saw more games except I had to make a choice between an airshow and a game. What a difficult choice to have to make.

After I got out of the Air Force, I met my wife. Every year we have said, next year will be the year we have the money to go to spring training. For the 12th year in a row, we did not make it again this year. In 1956 next year arrived for the Brooklyn Dodgers, perhaps 2003 will be the next year for the six members of the Saldana Family!!!!!!

## Our Year Ahead

In the coming year, I do not foresee anything more than good old fashion research being done by the committee and its members. With 2 or 3 committee publications in the works, these things take time to put together. Our committee meeting at the national convention is currently scheduled for Saturday morning at 10 AM, opposite the Women in Baseball Committee. The meeting will be run by Dave Raglin, our Vice-Chairman in charge of the National Convention, as committee chairman Kevin Saldana will not be able to attend the convention. We are hoping as a result of the meeting and other recruitment efforts that our committee will grow in numbers, as we strengthen our ties with our other committees.