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SABR-AZ

HEMOND-DELHI CHAPTER

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LOCAL NOTES

SEPTEMBER 5th, 2018

NATIONAL NOTES

LUNCHEON SUCCESS CONTINUES!

Another enthusiastic group of SABR-AZ members and friends filled the dining room at Casino Arizona Saturday, August 25, for several hours of good food, drink and lively baseball talk.



The brunch was highlighted by special guest Joe Garagiola, Jr., senior vice president of standards and on-field operations for Major League Baseball. Arizonans, of course, remember him as the Dbacks' general manager who guided the team to three division championships, a National League Pennant and 2001 World Series title.

The wide-ranging luncheon discussion and Q&A covered everything from the "juiced ball" controversy, umpire competence (better than you might think), to his family's unique baseball history and legacy. We even learned little known facts about his earliest baseball memories.

SABR DEFENSIVE INDEX RANKINGS RELEASED

Who are the best defenders in the league according to SABR's defensive index metric?

You can find all that out and more as SABR as released its full rankings through August 19th. [Click here!](#)



THE SABR ARIZONA FALL LEAGUE EXPERIENCE IS BACK FOR 2018!

Didn't get a chance to go last year or can't wait to go back? It's almost time to sign up for the SABR Arizona Fall League Experience once again!

The 2018 rosters were released this week and they included MLB's No. 1 prospect Vladimir Guerrero Jr. of the Toronto Blue Jays.

You don't want to miss this once-a-year event in Phoenix. All the information can be found at [SABR.org/AFL](#).

Questions, comments or concerns about this newsletter? Please contact a chapter officer – their information can be found [here](#) -- or Maxwell Madden at: maxmadden33@gmail.com

LOCAL NOTES

For example, his mother was the organist at Busch Stadium (Sportsman's Park) from 1955-1959, and he spent his summers sitting in the organ room watching games.

"We can't thank Joe enough for taking the time to come and share his unique insights and entertaining stories with our group," SABR-AZ President Barry Bloom said. "What a special opportunity it was for baseball enthusiasts to hear from one of the most interesting and successful executives in the game."

Our monthly raffle item was provided by Don Thompson, who donated a (very) limited-edition bobblehead of his great-uncle, Samuel "Big Sam" Thompson, HOF '74. There were just 100 made to commemorate the publication of Roy Kerr's biography – Big Sam Thompson, Baseball's Greatest Clutch Hitter – and is the only 19th Century player bobblehead in existence. Thanks, Don!

And another shout-out to Bruce Kirkpatrick, who once again made a generous donation to our chapter. And, as always, thanks to all of you who attended and continue our efforts to grow the chapter.

Save the date for our next luncheon – Saturday, September 22 at Casino Arizona. You can bet on a good time, so we hope to see even more of our members and guests. More information to follow on guest speaker(s).

In the meantime, we'd love your feedback. Email boonskie@aol.com with your comments and suggestions.

NATIONAL NOTES

A ONE-STOP SHOP FOR ALL OF YOUR SABR READING

If you haven't been able to keep up with all of the reading material we've listed in the newsletter in the past few months, there's no reason to worry.

There are a *ton* of books to comb through from this summer even information on how to get your own book published on the SABR Bookshelf at the link below!

[Click here for access!](#)

HAVE YOU SEEN EVERYTHING THE BASEBALL HISTORY WORLD HAS TO OFFER?

Registration is now open for the 2018 Southern Negro League Baseball Conference in Birmingham, Alabama!

The Rickwood Field Chapter of SABR is hosting the inaugural event on October 4-6 this year!

Find all the registration and event details by [clicking here](#).

SABR IS ON THE RADIO!

SABR President Vince Gennaro now hosts a show on SiriusXM called *Behind the Numbers: Baseball SABR Style*.

It airs 4-5 p.m. PST on Sundays on MLB Network Radio.

If you haven't listened to the show before [here's a link to the archive](#), and when you're ready to listen, [here's where you can find the show live!](#)