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# THE JENKINS JOURNAL

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HANLAN'S POINT CHAPTER

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<b>INSIDE</b>
EDITORS' WELCOME.....2
CHAPTER NEWS .....2
FEATURE ARTICLES .....4
MEMBER SPOTLIGHT.....4
COMMITTEE HOT CORNER .....4

READING LIST.....6
STATSIDE .....6
TIME MACHINE .....6
ABOUT US.....8
FOOD FOR THOUGHT .....8
CONTACTS .....9
SABR NEIGHBOURS .....9

OUR PARTNERS..... 10
CREDITS ..... 10
NOTES ON SUBMISSIONS ..... 11



## EDITORS' WELCOME

We're a little bit past St Patrick's Day but 'top o' the inning to you' anyway. So begins [the Irish American Baseball Association's](#) podcast, whose Episodes 26 and 27 featured Hanlan's Point member Sean Kane. Sean graciously allowed us to use his Ferguson Jenkins portrait card to introduce this newsletter.

This issue kicks off the second year of The Jenkins Journal. In the near future, you will receive a Newsletter Survey. We trust that the responses will help us to offer more variety and a better match of newsletter features and members' research/interests. (Thanks to Nick Malian for this idea.)

For now, along with regular features, we have a refreshed front page with a new Table of Contents containing links that allow you to go directly to specific sections with a click/touch.

Thank you for reading.

Elena North & Mike Anderson, Co-Editors

## CHAPTER NEWS



While *This Week in SABR* has mentioned Bill Humber's induction into the Order of Canada on several occasions, we want to extend the chapter's congratulations to Bill on achieving our country's highest civilian honour. Readers unfamiliar with Bill's background and achievements may read about him on Kevin Glew's *Cooperstownners in Canada* website [here](#).

In case you missed the most recent chapter meeting, watch Andrew North's sneak peek into the chapter's upcoming Canadian baseball history book [here](#).



We hope to see many of you at the Spring chapter meeting on April 2<sup>nd</sup> at 1 p.m. EDT, either in person at the Canadian Baseball Hall of Fame and Museum in St. Marys or online. The guest speaker will be Chip Martin on his latest – and possibly last – baseball book, *Barney Dreyfuss: Pittsburgh's Baseball Titan*.

As reported in our Spring 2021 issue, the Town of St. Marys Heritage Committee approved a proposal by HP members Scott Crawford and Elena North for a historical plaque on the site of the St. Marys Wood Specialty Company, which manufactured baseball bats in town between 1908 and 1933.



Elena, Scott, and Town of St. Marys Cultural Services Manager Amy Cubberley are pictured here with the historical marker.

ICYMI: Kelly Sage of Saskatoon recently made this offer to chapter colleagues on the group forum on [sabr.org](https://www.sabr.org) :

*Hello everyone. I collect baseball cards of Canadian born MLB, MiLB players, coaches, managers, trainers, etc. If anyone is working on a history project that may require something of this kind, please don't hesitate to contact me.*



## FEATURE ARTICLES

### THE FACE OF THE CANADIAN BASEBALL HALL OF FAME – A PROFILE OF SCOTT CRAWFORD

*Elena North*

You may know Scott Crawford, the Canadian Baseball Hall of Fame (CBHFH)'s Director of Operations from Induction Weekend, from a media appearance, a podcast, or a research request. We caught up with Scott in St. Marys for [an in-depth chat](#) about his background, what it's like to have such a unique occupation and his thoughts on the future of the CBHFH.

### A MODEST PROPOSAL

With the recent resolution of the MLB lockout, Mike Anderson, through his amanuensis Jon Fleet, had some fun working up [a few suggestions for the game](#).

## MEMBER SPOTLIGHT

Nick Malian joined SABR in 2018 and has been very active. Those of us who attended the chapter's SABR Day Zoom meeting enjoyed his presentation on the depiction of Jackie Robinson on TV and other media. [Here](#) Nick tells us how he became aware of SABR and what he's been up to.

## COMMITTEE HOT CORNER

*Allen Tait*

This issue, Hot Corner will describe two SABR research committees with activities of interest to local chapter members.



The purpose of the **Deadball Era Committee** is the stimulation of interest and research into baseball for the period 1901–1919. The committee's [February 2022 newsletter](#) includes Ralph Christian's laudatory review of the aforementioned book, *Barney Dreyfuss: Pittsburgh's Baseball Titan*, written by HP member Brian "Chip" Martin.

This book has been nominated for SABR's [2022 Larry Ritter Book Award](#), presented by the committee to "the author of the best book about baseball in the first two decades of the twentieth century published during the previous calendar year. The winner's work must demonstrate original research or analysis, a fresh perspective, compelling thesis, impressive insight, accuracy, and clear, graceful prose".

Finalists are to be announced soon, and the award will be presented during the Deadball Era Committee meeting at this year's SABR Convention, scheduled for August 17-21 in Baltimore. Congratulations on the nomination, Chip!

The newly established **Baseball Landmarks Committee** had its first meeting in late January of this year. Several chapter members are involved. The purpose of the committee is to create a list of baseball related sites in North America. Given the work our chapter has done with the on-going baseball sites in Ontario project, it will be interesting to see if any synergy is possible.



*Vintage postcard entitled 'Selkirk Ball Team'*

*postmarked Selkirk, ON, Aug. 17, 1921*



## READING LIST

Elena North

It's natural to recommend *Barney Dreyfuss: Pittsburgh's Baseball Titan* in this issue's Reading List and to offer a copy, autographed by the author, as the Journal's giveaway this time. Send a message to [monklands@gmail.com](mailto:monklands@gmail.com) or [mikjoc.anderson@gmail.com](mailto:mikjoc.anderson@gmail.com), with your guess of a number between 1 and 172 (the chapter membership at the time of writing). A publication of McFarland Books, it is available via the Hall of Fame and the usual online vendors.

Another worthy addition to the bookshelf is Danny Gallagher's *Bases Loaded – A Sequel: Inside stories about Eli, Cro, Cy, Terminator and the Expos*, published by Scoop Press. If you're planning to attend the April 2<sup>nd</sup> meeting in St. Marys, you can pick up a copy of the book at the Hall of Fame.

Congratulations to the winner of our inaugural giveaway, Tim Blaker. We chose 77, the last 2 digits of Marty Healy's birth year, as the magic number and Tim's guess came closest. A copy of *George "Mooney" Gibson, Canadian Catcher for the Deadball Era* has been mailed to him.

## STATSIDE

Not only does Scott Crawford have a Rolodex to die for, he also has a gazillion Canadian baseball stats at his fingertips. For this issue, Scott's looking at [the top 3 Canadian baseball players of all time](#).

And Mike Anderson has identified [16 Canadians who played in only one MLB game](#).

## TIME MACHINE

Among the many interesting things in Chip Martin's book, it was fun to read that two Canadians took part in the first game played at Forbes Field on June 30, 1909.



George Gibson was the Pirates catcher. He dropped the ball at the top of the 8<sup>th</sup> inning, allowing the Cubs to score their second run of the game, making it 2-1. In the bottom of the inning, the Pirates went up 4-3 after a massive hit by Dots Miller...or so they thought.

Canadian Bob Emslie conferred with his umpire colleague Hank O'Day, and the hit was called a rule-book double owing to spectator interference. To the fury of the hometown fans, the three Pittsburgh runs were disallowed. Thanks to SABR's incredible research resources, we have images of the Sporting News Player Contract Cards for each player.

Name	Position	Bats	Throws
Emslie, Robt. D.	P-Ump.		
<b>Born-Place</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>Married</b>	
Guelph, Ont.	Jan. 21, 1859		
<b>Address</b>	<b>Height</b>	<b>Weight</b>	
51 Elgin St., St. Thomas, Can.			

Teams Played With  
 Guelph, Ont. Pitch at Camden N.J. 1882-Baltimore 83-84-85-rel. 85-signed Athletics 85-Toronto 86-Savannah 87-Rel. July 87-Began International Lg. Ump. July 1, 1887-88-89-Amer. Assn 1890-Western Ass'n.1891-Lg. disbanded. Nat'l. Lg. first game Aug. 19, 1891-Nat. Lg. Ump.-1891-92-93-94-95-96-97-98-99-1900-01-02-03-04-05-06-07-08-09-10-11-12-13-14-15-16-17-18-19-20-21-22-23-24-25-26-27-28-29-30-31-32-33-34  
*Chief of staff from 1922*

35-36-37-

Made Chief of staff after close of 1922 season.  
 Died April 26, 1943.

*Made Chief of staff after close of 1922.*

Name (Hack)	Position	Bats	Throws
Gibson, George C.	C	R	R
<b>Born-Place</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>Married</b>	
London, Ontario	7-22-1880	yes	
<b>Address</b>	<b>Height</b>	<b>Weight</b>	
R.R. #1 Mt. Brydges, Ontario.	5.11 1/2	190	

Teams Played With  
 Buffalo 9/03-rel. to Montreal 6/04-05-rel. to Pittsburgh 7/05-06-07-08-09-10-11-12-13-14-15-16-rel. on waivers to New York NL 8/16-susp. 8/16-vol. ret. 1917-rein. 3/17-18-Sacramento 5/18-Manager Toronto 1919-Mgr. Pittsburgh 1920-21-22-rel. 7/22-Coch Washington 1923-Coch Chicago NL 5/25-succeeded Maranville as Manager 9/3/25-26-Scout Chicago NL 1926-Mgr. Pittsburgh 11/31-32-33-34-rel. 6/34-

Died at London, Ontario, Canada,  
 Jan. 25, 1967.

Canadian. Brown eyes and hair.  
 married Margaret McMurphy, July 12, 1898.

q.2-44/



## FOOD FOR THOUGHT

Major league baseball fans thrive on three things — statistics, conjecture and argument. A fan who doesn't know about Walt Dropo's 12 consecutive hits or Joe Adcock's 18 total bases in one game is someone who goes to the refreshment stand for a hot dog when the home team has the bases loaded in a tie game.

A fan who doesn't wonder what might have happened to the Mets if they hadn't traded away Nolan Ryan and Amos Otis is someone without imagination. One who has no opinion about Roger Maris's 61 home runs in 1961 is someone better off playing computer games. Baseball is numbers, fantasy and creed.

The baseball fan is someone who spends each season, Hot Stove League and spring training trying to marshal these three elements into an explanation of what actually takes place on the field. An uninformed few call it a pastime; the true fan knows there is very little leisure involved.

*From: The Introduction to The All-Time, All-Star Baseball Book, Bart Acocella, Nick Acocella and Donald Dewey. Avon Books (1985)*

## 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 12-member Planning Committee.



## CONTACTS

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## SABR NEIGHBOURS

SABR Frank “Shag” Shaughnessy Ottawa Chapter

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 recently modernized 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.

In 2021, CBHFM featured as 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 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.

### [THE FERGIE JENKINS FOUNDATION](#)

This association began in 1999, when chapter member Maxwell Kates worked in St. Catharines. Liaising with staff at the Foundation, the Hanlan's Point Chapter has organized several events featuring Baseball Hall of Famer Fergie Jenkins.

## CREDITS

Use of Fergie Jenkins' name in the newsletter title is by permission of the Fergie Jenkins Foundation.

The SABR Hanlan's Point logo is used by permission of SABR.

Special thanks to Sean Kane for the use of the Fergie Jenkins glove portrait.

The Selkirk ball team postcard is courtesy of CBHFM donor Jim Hostetler, Woodstock, Ontario.



## NOTES ON 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 Mike Anderson. Contributors should consult the SABR Style Guide and Tips for Aspiring Authors. Scroll down [here](#).