Emil Rothe Chicago Chapter

February 2019 | Volume 10 | Edition 2

Rich Hansen, Chair – Richard Smiley, Vice Chair – David Malamut, Secretary – Peter Yee, Treasurer

On Saturday, January 11, 2019, several SABR Chicago members gathered for lunch and baseball talk at Pints in Elmhurst.

What's Inside?

Page 2: Cubs Convention 2019; Baseball Hall of Fame Class of 2019; Get Social

Page 3: Vital "Black Sox" Resource Now Online!

Page 4: What's On Deck?

Get Your Baseball Research Published

Are you conducting baseball research? SABR's Emil Rothe Chicago Chapter can help. We are looking for new articles to publish in the Chapter's monthly newsletter and social media outlets. Submit your articles to Chapter Secretary David Malamut via email at david@malamut.net. Submittal deadlines are the 15th of each month for inclusion in the next edition.

Chicago Baseball Fans Get Ready to Celebrate SABR Day 2019

CLICK FOR DIRECTIONS

It's freezing in Chicago, but it's time to get ready for another exciting baseball season. The Chicago (Emil Rothe) SABR Chapter "**SABR Day**" meeting will be held on **February 2, 2019** at the **Evanston Public Library**, 1703 Orrington Avenue in Evanston, Illinois. The program will begin at 2:00 p.m. and will conclude around 5:30 p.m.

We have a full program that will consist of:

- Analyst **Scott Lindholm** will discuss the best teams in baseball history
- Chapter member **Jon Daniels** will review his longstanding efforts to get a marker placed in Millennium Park to commemorate the site of two 19th century professional ballparks
- **Gary "The Professor" Schiappacsse** of the Chicago Salmon (https://www.chicagosalmon.org/) will speak about vintage baseball ... err, base ball
- **Neal Johnson**, from **Thinking Baseball**, will highlight his innovative training/coaching app
- A trivia faceoff between local trivia heavyweights **Dave Zeman** and **Chris Kamka**
- Silent auction during the meeting to benefit the chapter, so please bring cash

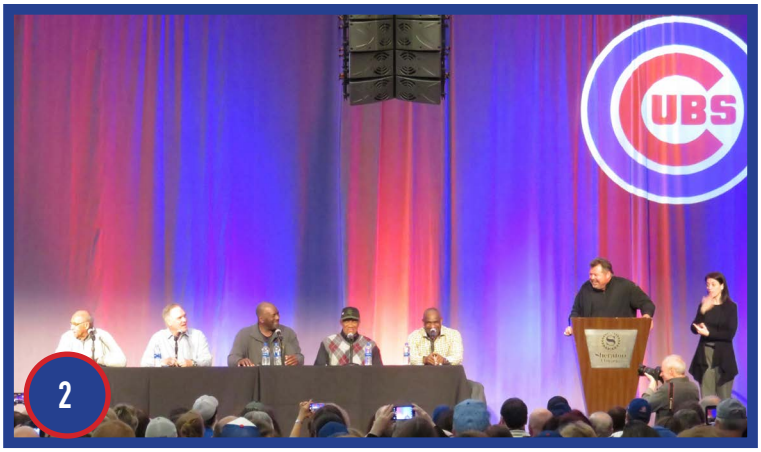
Prior to the meeting some members will be gathering for lunch at noon at **The Celtic Knot** (http://www.celticknotpub.com/), an Irish Pub located directly across the street from the library at 626 Church Street.

For more information about the meeting, contact Vice Chair Richard Smiley at smileyr@georgetown.edu, or Secretary David Malamut at david@malamut.net.

Keep an eye on the SABR Chicago Chapter social media outlets.

Cubs Convention 2019
January 18–20, 2019

Chicago Chapter member, John Racanelli attended the 2019 Cubs Convention at Sheraton Chicago. He captured a few images from that weekend.

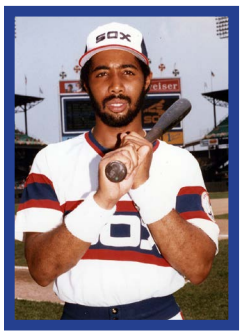


Photos

1.) *Replica marquee welcomes fans to the 2019 Cubs Convention*
2.) *Cubs Hall of Fame includes (left to right) Billy Williams, Ryne Sandberg, Lee Smith, Fergie Jenkins, Andre Dawson and emcee Ron Coomer*
3.) *Reliever Carl Edwards, Jr. signs an autograph*

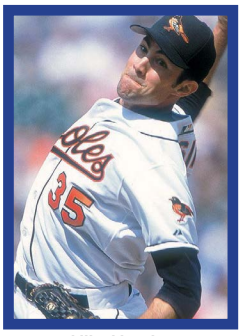
Baseball Hall of Fame Class of 2019

Mariano Rivera


Harold Baines

Lee Smith

Roy Halladay


Mike Mussina

Edgar Martinez

Six former players will be inducted into the Baseball Hall of Fame in Cooperstown, New York. Former New York Yankees closer, Mariano Rivera, became the first player voted in unanimously in history. He will be joined by Harold Baines, Lee Smith, Roy Halladay, Mike Mussina and Edgar Martinez.

Get Social with SABR's Emil Rothe Chicago Chapter

There are five easy ways to interact with Chicago Chapter members.
Click today and start talking baseball.

Vital "Black Sox" Resource Now Online!

By Bruce Allardice

The first printed accusations that the 1919 Chicago White Sox had thrown the World Series were levelled only weeks after the Series, by ***Collyer's Eye***, a Chicago-based weekly publication that specialized in the world of horse race betting.

WHITE SOX MAKE OFFER OF $100,000 FOR 'BABE' RUTH?

BOSTON, Mass., May 2.—The astounding news has just leaked out here that H. H. Frazee, owner of the Red Sox, is in receipt of an offer of $100,000 for George H. (Babe) Ruth, star left-hand pitcher and batter. Frazee, refusing to confirm the rumor that the White

...franchise and the whole team as Ruth. The sum offered was three times as large as was paid for Speaker but Ruth is our big ace, the most talked of, the most sought for and most colorful player in the game and it is ridiculous to talk about selling him."

Photos: Courtesy of the Chicago Tribune and the Illinois Digital Newspaper Collection.

Recent Black Sox scholarship gives *Collyer's Eye* credit for being the first to report the Black Sox scandal. In a remarkable series of articles starting October 18th (a week after the series ended) and extending through the end of 1919, *Collyer's* named the names that the rest of the publishing world didn't dare to. It named seven of the "Eight Men Out" (all but Buck Weaver). It (correctly) named Abe Attell as one of the gamblers involved in the Fix. It gave details of the ballplayers' goings on. It offered to furnish their findings to baseball authorities. And *Collyer's* did it months before any of the more reputable publications, and almost one year before the players confessed. As we now know, *Collyer's* received most of its "inside" information from famed reporter Hugh Fullerton of the ***Chicago Herald-Examiner***, who used Collyer's to level charges that his own newspaper refused to [See Bruce Allardice, "Collyer's Eye's Ace Reporter: Who Was He?" and "Eye Staffer Reveals New Details in 1946 Series," ***Black Sox Scandal Research Committee Newsletter***, December 2016].

Until recently, baseball scholars were forced to use the only copy of *Collyer's* still existing, microfilm housed at the University of Illinois. No longer. The Illinois Digital Newspaper Collections project (a free database) has now digitized and placed *Collyer's* online (see http://idnc.library.illinois.edu/) , for the years 1918-1922. The online collection can also be found at a for-pay newspaper website, ***Newspaper Archive***. Both sites have an easy-to-use search feature.

Collyer's contains a lot more baseball gossip, over and above its coverage of the Scandal. *Collyer's* was overtly sensationalist, and not over-scrupulous in sourcing its stories—thus being free to report items reputable newspapers didn't. For example, in the May 4, 1918 issue, it passed along a rumor that the Chicago White Sox had offered to purchase Babe Ruth from the Red Sox for $100,000, an offer Red Sox owner Harry Frazee reportedly declined. The publication is especially valuable in tracking how the betting markets set the odds for the pennant races. Publisher Bert Collyer knew the world of gambling, especially racetrack gambling, and many of the same bookies who fixed horse races also fixed baseball games.

It is hoped that more years in the 1920s and 1930s will be added.

Bruce Allardice is a Professor of History at South Suburban College in South Holland. He is a member of the SABR Black Sox Research Committee and has written extensively on the Scandal.

What's On Deck?

Get Your Pencils and Scorecards Ready

- **SABR Day 2019**
  February 2, 2019 - 2 p.m.
  Evanston Public Library
  1703 Orrington Avenue
  Evanston, IL 60201

  CLICK FOR DIRECTIONS

- **SABR Lunch**
  February 16, 2019 - 1 p.m.
  Portillo's
  950 E. Ogden Avenue
  Naperville, IL 60540

  CLICK FOR DIRECTIONS

- **SABR Analytics Conference**
  Presented by MLB and Kinatrax
  March 8-10, 2019
  Hyatt Regency Phoenix
  122 N. 2nd Street
  Phoenix, AZ 85004

  CLICK FOR DETAILS

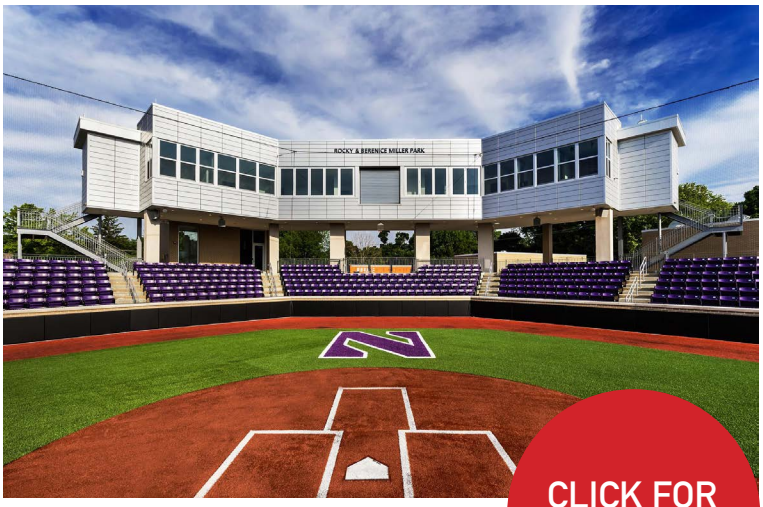
- **Chapter Game #1**
  March 23, 2019 - 2 p.m.
  Boilermakers vs. Wildcats
  Northwestern University
  2750 Ashland Avenue
  Evanston, IL 60201

- **Chapter Game #2***
  May 4, 2019 - 6:30 p.m.
  South Bend Cubs vs.
  Clinton LumberKings
  Ashford University Field
  537 Ballpark Drive
  Clinton, IA 52732

With Field of Dreams Chapter

** Possible meeting with guests prior to game*

...Out With the Crowd



Northwestern University's Rocky and Berenice Miller Park

CLICK FOR DIRECTIONS

Clinton LumberKings' Ashford University Field

CLICK FOR DIRECTIONS

- **SABR 49 – San Diego**
  June 26-30, 2019
  Manchester Grand Hyatt
  1 Market Place
  San Diego, CA 92101

  CLICK FOR DETAILS