

## **SABR MINOR LEAGUE COMMITTEE NEWSLETTER**

### **SUMMER 2006**

**FROM:** John Schleppi, Chair, Minor League Committee  
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**GENERAL:** The National Convention is in Seattle the weekend of June 29-July 2. The Minor League Committee is scheduled to meet 10-11 a.m. on Thursday, June 29<sup>th</sup>. Check the program for the meeting room. Hope to see as many as possible as this promises to be an enjoyable convention in a great baseball city. Don't forget the minor league game in Tacoma on Saturday night.

Gene Sunnen, [gsunnen@yahoo.com](mailto:gsunnen@yahoo.com), is interested in following player development and draft choices. Anyone with a similar interest can contact him by e-mail.

Rex Hamm's Spring 2006 Edition of the American Association Almanac has extensive coverage of the twenty game winning pitchers of the Milwaukee Brewers and Toledo Mud Hens, 1902 through 1911. Contact Rex at [Pureout@msn.com](mailto:Pureout@msn.com)

### **MINOR LEAGUE NOTES:**

This is the last year for Ray Winder Field. Get down to Little Rock (TL) this summer if you want to see a game in this historic park.

The new Columbus, OH (IL) park, scheduled for a 2008 opening will be next to the Nationwide Arena at Neil Ave and Nationwide Blvd.

Quad Cities (MWL) were able to stabilize their operation when they paid their stadium debt to the city of Davenport, IA.

Greenville, SC (SAL), a Red Sox farm club opened their near-downtown stadium in April. The field matches the dimensions of Fenway Park, including the "Green Monster" in left field. What happens if they switch affiliations, to say, Minnesota, is unknown. Also in Greenville, the former home of Shoeless Joe Jackson, was recently moved to a site near the new stadium, where it is to become a baseball museum.

The Oneonta Tigers and TriCity Valley Cats (NYP) will play at Cooperstown, NY on July 29<sup>th</sup> as part of the Hall of Fame Weekend.

Will West Tennessee (SL) move to Biloxi, MS

Ft. Wayne (MWL) is looking to build a new park in downtown Ft. Wayne.

Will the possible forthcoming immigrant legislation affect the number of foreign players on minor league teams?

Check the minor league website for periodic views of selected ballparks and promotions.

For an interesting article concerning Charles Schulz, the creator of "Peanuts," and his enthusiasm for minor league baseball see the May 2006 "At The Yard." It discusses his famous cartoon that includes Snoopy's amazement that Woodstock knew about Ollie Bejma, the 1938 St. Paul Saints' shortstop.

Rod Nelson informed me that SABR has formed an on-line discussion group. To subscribe send an e-mail to [SABRminorleagues-subscribe@yahogroups.com](mailto:SABRminorleagues-subscribe@yahogroups.com)

The following are some websites, provided by Rod Nelson of the SABR offices that minor league enthusiasts will enjoy.

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**[A Fan's Guide to the Midwest League](http://mwlguide.com/)**

<http://mwlguide.com/>

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**[Baseball America 2006 Stats - Scores - Standings](http://www.baseballamerica.com/today/stats/)**

<http://www.baseballamerica.com/today/stats/>

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**[Indy Leagues Graveyard](http://www.indyleaguesgraveyard.com/)**

<http://www.indyleaguesgraveyard.com/>

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**[Mike McCann's Big Bunko Stuff](http://www.geocities.com/big_bunko/)**

[http://www.geocities.com/big\\_bunko/](http://www.geocities.com/big_bunko/)

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**[Minor League History - 100 Greatest Teams](http://www.minorleaguebaseball.com/app/milb/history/top_about.jsp)**

Bill Weiss & Marshall Wright

[http://www.minorleaguebaseball.com/app/milb/history/top\\_about.jsp](http://www.minorleaguebaseball.com/app/milb/history/top_about.jsp)

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**[Minor League Museum Directory](http://www.minorleaguebaseball.com/app/milb/info/museums.jsp)**

<http://www.minorleaguebaseball.com/app/milb/info/museums.jsp>

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**[Minor League News - Baseball](http://www.minorleagueneews.com/baseball/baseball.html)**

<http://www.minorleagueneews.com/baseball/baseball.html>

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**[Minor League Researcher Blog](http://www.minorleagueresearcher.blogspot.com/)**

<http://www.minorleagueresearcher.blogspot.com/>

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**[Minor League Splits Database](http://www.BrewCrewBall.com/special/milb+splits)**

<http://www.BrewCrewBall.com/special/milb+splits>

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**[MinorLeagueBaseball.com](http://www.minorleaguebaseball.com)**

<http://www.minorleaguebaseball.com>

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**[Nebraska Minor League Baseball](http://marian.creighton.edu/~besser/baseball/second.html)**

<http://marian.creighton.edu/~besser/baseball/second.html>

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**[The Alabama-Florida League](http://www.alabama-florida-league.com/)**

<http://www.alabama-florida-league.com/>

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**[The Blue Ridge League](http://www.blueridgeleague.org/)**

<http://www.blueridgeleague.org/>

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**[The Georgia Class D Leagues](http://www.vabella.com/georgiaclass-d/)**

<http://www.vabella.com/georgiaclass-d/>

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**[The Kitty League](http://www.kittyleague.com/)**

<http://www.kittyleague.com/>

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**[The Old Pacific Coast League](http://www.coastleague.com/)**

<http://www.coastleague.com/>

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Also for books, including some on baseball, that Google has digitalized

<http://booksearch.blogspot.com>

## **INDEPENDENT LEAGUES:**

The former major league city of Rockford, IL will open their new stadium, just off I-90, for their 2006 Frontier League season.

Traverse City (FL) park will be ready for the 2006 season.

Santa Clarita, CA hopes to build a new park to attract a Golden League team.

The Quebec Capitales (CanAm) have hired the former long-time announcer for the Montreal Expos, Jacques Doucet, as their play-by-play voice for 2006.

In an unusual approach in backing an independent league, the Joliet team (Northern League) will financially back the proposed South Coast League in 2007.

St. George, UT will have a franchise in the Golden League in 2007. They will play at Bruce Hurst Field on the Dixie State College campus and will be managed by Cory Snyder.

In the Atlantic League, the Southern Maryland Blue Crabs will enter the league in 2007. They will play in Regency Furniture Stadium (That almost revals Whataburger Stadium for a name) near Waldorf in Charles County, MD.

Yes, Wayne Terwilliger is back as first base coach for the Ft. Worth Cats (AA). Stan Hough is now manager at Ft. Worth.

Thanks to all who contributed items to this issue; particularly, Rod Nelson and Gary Sarnoff