

THE SPORTS PAGE



News from the Babe Ruth Birthplace and Sports Legends Museum

Vol. I, Issue I
Summer 2014

INSIDE THIS ISSUE



Celebrate Babe Ruth's 100 year anniversary of joining Major League Baseball with the interesting facts on page 3.

Kids CORNER

Kids, look at the Kids Corner on page 4 for a special Babe Ruth puzzle.



Ever heard of Ann Klima? Find out how she changed the face of Pony League baseball on page 6.

THE BABE RUTH BIRTHPLACE PRESENTS

"BABE RUTH: 100 YEARS"

By PATRICK DICKERSON

714 Home Runs. The highest all-time slugging percentage. It all began on July 11, 1914 when George Herman "Babe" Ruth began his professional career with the Boston Red Sox—the career we celebrate in our newest exhibition, "Babe Ruth: 100 Years."

Director Mike Gibbons and Board Chairman John Moag opened the exhibit on June 26 in the Babe Ruth Birthplace's first floor gallery, featuring both collection favorites and never-before-seen pieces. Babe's 60

home run season bat returns to public display along with his 1914 Orioles' rookie card, his catholic rosary that he carried to his death in 1948, and the original marriage certificate from his wedding to Helen Woodford in Ellicott City, Maryland. They bring to life both Ruth the professional and Ruth the person, from his beginnings with Jack Dunn's Baltimore Orioles to his final days battling cancer.

The "Babe" loved to tell a story. Visitors to our new exhibit can hear those stories from Ruth himself through interactive historic audio recordings. Listen up as Babe shares his memories of 1914 spring training in Fayetteville and his larger-than-life slugging records.

Another Ruth memory comes to life Just down the hall in our acclaimed film, "The Star-Spangled Banner in Sports," winner of the 2013 International Sports Heritage Association Communications Award. Using state of the art projection technology, the video captures the classic moment during the 1918 World Series when "The Star-Spangled Banner" became an official game-opening tradition. Ruth was pitching for the Boston Red Sox when President Woodrow Wilson requested the song be played in honor of those fighting in World War I, and it has been part of our national sports tradition ever since.

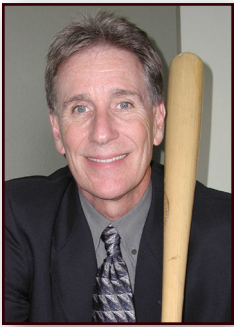
Both exhibits will be on view at the Birthplace through 2014.



FROM OUR STAFF



From the Director's Desk



As we soar through the summer, with pennant races heating higher than Mid-Atlantic thermostats and training camps kicking off, the board and staff of the Babe Ruth Birthplace and Sports Legends Museum are looking to the colder months, next January-March, specifically, when construction of the makeover of both our attractions commences.

That's right, immediately after the holidays we are planning to embark on a two-year process that will bring the Birthplace up to code in terms of ADA and fire-safety issues while at the same time moving the main entrance north onto Dover Street and installing an elevator. We will also renovate the lobby and East wing of the first floor of Sports Legends so as to accommodate larger sit-down crowds for after-hours rentals.

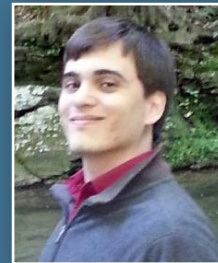
While timing for the startup of this process is still tentative, we do have funding in place to carry out the scope of work outlined above. Should all proceed as planned, the Birthplace will close to the public during construction, while Sports Legends should remain open, except for the lobby and East wing.

Don't worry, our annual Babe Ruth Birthday Bash on February 6 is still slated for Sports Legends.

In the meantime, please enjoy your summer and look for a 'behind-the-scenes' museum bus tour of Babe Ruth's Baltimore sometime this fall.

See you there!

GET TO KNOW OUR NEW STAFFERS



Patrick Dickerson

Membership & Group Sales Coordinator

Patrick returns to Baltimore with a Master's in Museum Studies from Cooperstown, New York. He enjoys the outdoors and playing music with his wife, Emily.



Amanda Peacock

Curator of Collections

A past volunteer and intern, Amanda finally joins us as a staffer after graduating from Johns Hopkins University, excited to officially manage her favorite museum collection.



Mildre Clemons

Bookkeeper

Mildre became part of our museum team in May, and we are happy to have her as we carry on through major transitions in the coming months.



Scott Mattingly

Chief Financial Officer

Our resident CPA, CFP, and Mount St. Mary's alumnus, Scott enjoys biking, running, and spending time with his wife and three kids.

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The “Shift”

By Jim Henneman

Most people my age tend to associate Ted Williams with the “shift” craze that is now dominating baseball, but I’m more inclined to think about Russ Snyder than the Splendid Splinter – and I understand if you don’t get the comparison.

For those with good memories, Snyder is best remembered as the leftfielder who made the diving catch for the last out when the Orioles clinched their first pennant on Sept. 22, 1966. He isn’t someone, however, who would normally be mentioned in the same paragraph as Ted Williams, who famously refused to give in to the moderate shift he faced during his career.

Snyder was a productive .280 hitter during his seven-year career with the Orioles, including a .306 mark during that first championship season, but he was more of a “fleet slap hitter” than a prodigious slugger. He also had a penchant for hitting a lot of ground balls to the right side of the infield. So much so that one day he said to Neal Eskridge, the late, great baseball writer for The News-American, “you know, if they hadn’t put that guy (the second baseman) there 100 years ago, I’d be a .400 hitter.”

From that day forward for the rest of his career, and even beyond, anytime someone grounded out to second, it was “4-to-3” in the scorebook, but “Snydered out” to anyone who wanted a more elaborate verbal description. So, when he watches a game from his home in Nelson, NE, I often wonder if Snyder

has any flashbacks – and wonders if some of those “4-3” grounders might’ve had a better chance against the modern version of baseball’s spread defense, where “that guy” playing second base is never stationary.

Which, for whatever it’s worth, is why I think of Russ Snyder more than Ted Williams when I see the latest version of “The Shift.”

Jim Henneman is a long-time Baltimore sports writer, author of the new Baltimore Orioles: 60 Years and the “Upon Further Review” column on www.pressboxonline.com.

100 years OF Babe Ruth

April 22, 1914

Babe made his Baltimore Orioles and professional pitching debut with a 6-0 shutout against Buffalo.

July 11, 1914

Babe won his first major league game with the Boston Red Sox, giving up 8 hits and 0 walks.

October 17, 1914

Babe married Boston waitress Helen Woodford at St. Paul’s Catholic Church in Ellicott City, MD.

Upcoming Events

BAMBINO & VINO NIGHT

ORIOLES-YANKEES PRE-GAME PARTY

Friday, September 12, 2014

Babe Ruth Birthplace Museum

5:00PM

MARK MILLIKIN BOOK SIGNING

“BABE RUTH: STAR PITCHER OF THE BALTIMORE ORIOLES”

Sunday, September 14, 2014

Babe Ruth Birthplace Museum

11:00AM-1:30PM

Kids CORNER



FIND THE BABE RUTH WORDS USING THE HINTS BELOW!



1. Famous Nickname for Babe Ruth,
S _____ of _____
2. Babe Ruth's Middle Name
3. Babe played for the New York _____.
4. He also played for the Boston _____.
5. He began his professional baseball career on
July 11, 1914 with the Baltimore _____.
6. Babe grew up in Baltimore on
216 _____ Street.
7. Babe pitched with his _____ hand
8. He was the first baseball player to hit
60 _____ in one season.
9. He learned to play baseball at _____
boarding school in Baltimore

NEW at the Gift Shop!



Check out our new tees! Celebrate Baltimore's Bicentennial of the national anthem with our "Star-Spangled" Babe Ruth, and show off your baseball math skills with the new visitor favorite, the *Double Play!* \$29.89 each

**Holiday Rentals
are going fast!**

It's time to book your Holiday Party rental at the Babe Ruth Birthplace or Sports Legends Museum! Dates are already going fast for some of the most competitive holiday rental prices downtown, plus easy parking for companies of all sizes.

**Call (410) 727-1539 x3051 today
before time runs out!**

What's the Buzz?

SABR Visit

Director Mike Gibbons and Director of Development Shawn Herne visited with the Bob Davids Chapter of the Society of American Baseball Research (SABR) in June, showing them a sneak peek of collections items and sharing some new Babe Ruth stories. We are happy to continue our partnership with local SABR members.

Legends Club with Dick Cass

Sports Legends hosted Ravens President Dick Cass at an exclusive Legends Club event in July. Special guests enjoyed a unique look at the state of the Ravens, hosted by WBAL sportscaster Keith Mills.

Members Night at the Baysox

Attendees to the August 15th Bowie Baysox game sat right behind home plate to see the game-winning, bottom of the ninth 3-run up close. More members' nights are on the way at sports venues near you.



Members Ed Sadowski (left) and Pat Brown (right) enjoy Members Night at the Bowie Baysox with Curator of Collections Amanda Peacock (left) and her friend Molly Benson (right).

SUMMER INTERN SNAPSHOT

We always welcome young sports fans to learn how we tell our stories, and we were thrilled to have Rachel and Jacob join us this summer!

Rachel Barnes

Visitor Services

Hometown:

Essex, MD

College:

Elizabethtown College



Jacob Meyer

Business Development

Hometown:

Ellicott City, MD

College:

Waynesburg University

Rachel is a rising junior majoring in Corporate Communications and minoring in Psychology. Her internship is the kickoff to a career in the sports industry, going hand in hand with her love of baseball. She tries to learn something new every day at the museum, and encourages anyone who enjoys sports to try an internship.

Jake is entering his sophomore year at Waynesburg University majoring in Communication with a Journalism track. A future career in sports writing is in his sights. He is a passionate baseball fan and player, pitching for his college team as well as his local American Legion ball club.

Thank you, Greg

It is with much sadness that we say farewell to the museum's long-time curator, Greg Schwalenberg. For 31 years he has been one of the brightest faces of the institution and Baltimore's all-time beer vendor! But we don't expect to have seen the last of Mr. Schwalenberg, and hope he stays part of our museum family.



Good luck, my compatriot.

Mike Gibbons

CURATOR'S CORNER



First in the Pony Leagues, She Paved the Way

By Shawn Herne

Karen Ann Klima did not start out trying to be a pioneer. She didn't start out trying to prove that girls were just as good as boys. She simply wanted to play baseball.

Baltimore-born Klima became the first girl in Maryland to play in the Pony Leagues. In the spring of 1975, her then basketball coach, Chuck Starr, asked her to try out for his local boys baseball team. She had played softball and felt her skills were suited to highly competitive baseball. Starr told her, "It isn't going to be easy, these lads will be resentful."

Starr was right. "My teammates were embarrassed, said Klima. "They were the team with the girl. They got harassed by their friends and, of course, the other teams." The other teams, she added, "were trying to knock me out."

But halfway through the season, one incident changed everything. With Klima up to bat, the opposing team's manager instructed his pitcher to throw at her. Ann's hands took the blow and she dropped to her knees. "Her eyes welled up, but she didn't cry," said Starr. "That's when they (the team) came together." Klima remembered, "My teammates cleared the bench and ran after the pitcher. [They] realized that I was part of the team, a team that was winning. In that moment it seemed the fact that I was a girl faded and I had become their teammate." Klima's teammate Steve Stoffregen told Mike Klingaman of the Baltimore Sun, "She's better than me, better than most of us. I'd play with more girls if they were good like her."



1975 was a championship winning season for the Gardenville Local 37 team. A 15-7 record was enough to put the mixed squad atop the 12-team league. Klima, having pitched and won during the season, was voted to the Coach's All Star Team for 1975. The trophy ball from that game was put on display at the Sports Legends Museum after the Baltimore City Bureau of Recreation confirmed she was the first girl to ever pitch and win a game in organized boy's baseball.

That season was her last in the Pony League. Intended for ages 12-14, there

was no next level for her to advance. Forty years later, she recognizes the importance of what she did in 1975—helping pave the way for other girls to play.



Shawn Herne is Chief Curator and Director of Development, and continues to be an expert on Maryland sports heritage.

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SPORTS UPDATES

THE BALLPARK FOOD REVIEW

By WBAL's "Beltway Gourmet," Doug Roberts

In Rick Dempsey's Brew Pub and Restaurant at Oriole Park at Camden Yards, forget about 'peanuts, pop corn and cracker jacks' and settle in for a choice of over 40 beers and a jumbo lump crabcake sandwich.

Rick's menu offers fifty choices including specialty burgers, while his delicious crab dip and crab pretzels are special 'local' treats all by themselves.

For dessert, don't miss the *Berger*

Cookie ice cream sandwich duo—two ice cream sandwiches between two cookies. Hey, if you don't know Berger Cookies, you don't know Baltimore, hon.

Ask Dempsey's Restaurant Manager LeRoy Yegge about Rick's "Bacon On A Stick." Two inch squares of Hungarian smoked bacon seared on a grill with Old Bay maple syrup. Yegge calls them "bacon lollipops."

I call 'em the most fascinating ballpark food of the year.



Rick Dempsey's
Brew Pub & Restaurant:
A year-round operation where
your plate is only 730 feet from
home plate.

WHAT ARE THE PROS SAYING... *about Instant Replay?*


Steve Melewski, Orioles Insider at MASN


"I like instant replay. Overall, I think the best thing about it is it corrects obvious mistakes. If you're sitting on your couch at home and you can see the runner was safe at first and he was called out, shouldn't there be an ability to get the call right? And now that they're doing that, some more calls are right in baseball and that's a good thing. I think it's going to be big in the playoffs when you don't want an egregious error to cost a team a big game."

Boog Powell, Orioles All-Star

"I really do like the idea of instant replay. The only thing that I'm not crazy about is that I miss the managers being in the faces of the umpires. Earl Weaver would have had to have been on some kind of tranquilizer."

*Interviews for "What are the pros saying..."
are conducted by Doug Roberts.*



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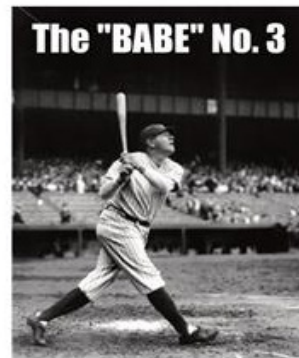
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