



# THE CHRONICLE

BASE BALL PLAYER'S

SUMMER 2018

QUARTERLY PUBLICATION OF THE VINTAGE BASE BALL ASSOCIATION

## President's Corner

This past month I got to play base ball, the game that I love, traveling to Wichita for a match with the Cowtown VBBC and the Topeka Westerns VBBC. The Cowtown experience included a rousing prohibition rally and march to the local saloon to confront the "evils" of liquor, led by our Chicago Salmon founder, Ellie Boss Lady Carlson.

Hopefully your teams have some great stories to tell about your travels. We are both reenactors and ball players. The Vintage Base Ball Association is there to support both endeavors of your ball clubs.

We are in the process of providing vendor discounts to our members. Both the Phoenix Bat Company and KP Weaver have agreed to offer a 15% discount to VBBA member clubs on any of their products. That should help both your base ball and reenactors programs.

I have sent VBBA purchased pennants to more than 58 full member ball clubs. Hopefully all of our full member clubs will be receiving one soon. Thanks to Norma Hildebrand, of Stockbridge Sewing Works. Please post it at each of your games to both promote the VBBA and give your club a form of liability insurance at only the \$50 price, for being a VBBA Full Member club.

Thanks to Dustyn Dubuque and the Menomonie Blue Caps for a great 2018 VBBA Conference. We learned about grant writing, what to do for school presentations, and a wonderful keynote presentation by the Curator of the Minnesota Twins.

Make plans now for the next VBBA conference planned for Branson, Missouri the weekend of March 29 thru March 31, 2019. We are working with the Branson community to put together a great conference at the site of a great entertainment venue.

Most importantly have fun playing the game of vintage base ball.

Gary  
Schiappacasse  
VBBA President

## VBBA Executive Board and Trustees

Gary Schiappacasse  
Doug Ernst  
Dennis Wiegmann  
Paul Zeledon  
Eric Miklich

President  
Vice President  
Secretary  
Treasurer  
Historian

Mike Adrian  
Helen DeGeatano  
Evette Jacobson  
Ted Kopsaftis  
Aaron Staab  
Jerry Sudduth

Trustee  
Trustee  
Trustee  
Trustee  
Trustee  
Trustee

## Get Connected with the VBBA



[www.vbba.org](http://www.vbba.org)



<https://www.facebook.com/vintagebaseballassociation#>



[twitter.com/VBBA19c](https://twitter.com/VBBA19c)



[www.instagram.com/vbba\\_19c/](https://www.instagram.com/vbba_19c/)

## Meet Your New Trustees



Name: Mike "Ace" Adrian  
 State: Arizona  
 Years Played: 12 years  
 1<sup>st</sup> Year as a Trustee  
 Founder: Somonauk Blue Stockings (IL)  
 Founder: Prescott Champions BBC (AZ)



Name: Helen "Wild Sicilian" DeGeatano  
 State: Michigan  
 Years in Vintage Base Ball: 15 years  
 12<sup>th</sup> Year as a Trustee  
 Founder: Douglas Dutchers BBC



Name: Evette "Scrappy" Jacobson  
 State: Michigan  
 Years in Vintage Base Ball: 9 years  
 1<sup>st</sup> Year as a Trustee  
 Founder: Detroit River Belles BBC

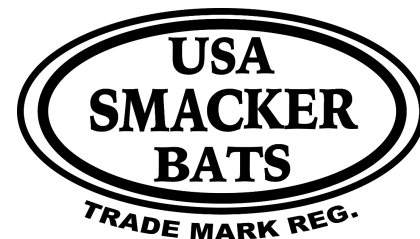
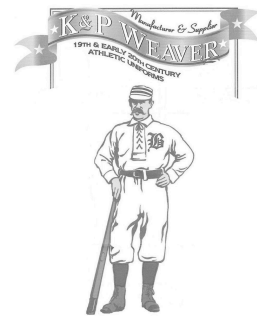


Name: Ted Kopsaftis  
 State: Florida  
 Years in Vintage Base Ball: 2 ½ years  
 1<sup>st</sup> Year as a Trustee  
 Founder: VBB of Central Florida



Name: Jerry Sudduth  
 State: Kentucky  
 Years in Vintage Base Ball: 2 ½ years  
 1<sup>st</sup> Year as a Trustee  
 Team: Bluegrass Barons BBC

## VBBA Vendors



LOVE TO SEW, HATE TO MOW LLC.

## From our Historian

### 19<sup>th</sup> Century Base Ball Field Exam

1 - Prior to the first baseball convention in 1857, what was the "accepted" distance from Home Base to First Base?

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2 - What year's set of rules standardized the distance between all four corners of the infield to 30 yards?

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3 - What were the Foul Ball Posts and beginning with what season's rules were they first required to be added to the playing field?

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4 - Which set of yearly rules initially required the first and third base Foul Ball Lines to be marked on the playing field and where were they marked to and from?

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5 - Which year's rules first required the Foul Ball Posts to be moved to the "limits of the grounds?"

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6 - Beginning with which season did the rules required that the 15 foot and 50-foot lines to be marked on the playing field?

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7 - Which year's set of rules initially specified that the Foul Ball Lines were to be marked from the fence or wall behind Home Base to the "limits of the grounds?"

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8 - What shape and size was Home Base required to be according to the 1857 NABBP rules?

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9 - According to the NABBP rules of 1857, where was Home Base was to be placed on the playing field?

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10 - What was the first year that the rules required the Striker's Line to be marked by chalk?

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\*\*\*Answers to this Quiz will be provided in our Next Issue\*\*\*

### **To Correspondents.**

**INSONIA, Allegheny City.**—"1. Does the National Base Ball Association recognise any club as champions? 2. If so, who are the champions? 3. Have the Irvingtons beaten the Athletics twice this season? 4. If the Athletics had won the championship would they have had to play the Irvington to make their title good? 5. Which are the best clubs in order, Athletics, Athletics or Irvingtons?" ..... 1. No. 2. The Athletics. 3. The Irvingtons and Athletics have not played this season. 4. Yes. 5. Athletics, Athletics and Irvingtons.

**P. E.**—The Park Theatre took fire on Saturday evening, Dec. 14, 1898. Smoke was discovered issuing from the rear part of the establishment at quarter past six o'clock. In one hour and three-quarters the entire structure was in ashes, with a loss of \$20,000, including all the costly costumes of the theatre. The Montpelier Troupe were heavy losers. The conflagration is said to have been caused by the scenery taking fire from the gas light over the prompter's stand.

**G. E. K., Washington.**—"1. Our opinion is that the bet is a draw. 2. You are wrong; we say each player, in turn, should have a voice in the disposition of the trump, until it is settled. The player next the dealer had a right to order it up, and play it alone, because he had the first say; had he passed, then the next player had the privilege of ordering it up or passing, and so on to the dealer.

**JAMES W. S., Portland, Me.**—"1. Broadway, New York, is longer and more attractive than Backville street, Dublin. 2. Pork is not shipped to this country from Ireland, except in very small quantities. 3. London takes the lead in commercial affairs over Liverpool or New York. 4. A full enough report has not reached us from the Paris Exposition to answer your question.

**CONSUMAUGH, Johnstown, Pa.**—"The Athletics did not refuse to play, but resorted to sharp practice by making up a mufin nipe, hoping by so doing to prevent the game from being finished. The Philadelphians refused to play with these muffs, and that ended the matter. The Athletics still claim the championship.

Moving forward, we would like to have this "To Correspondents" section in our newsletter. In order to make that happen, we are asking that you either post on Facebook or email the newsletter editor, Dennis "Pops" Wiegmann at [dennispopswiegmann@yahoo.com](mailto:dennispopswiegmann@yahoo.com), with your questions. Those questions will then be sent to the VBBA Rules and Customs Committee and will be answered in this format on the next newsletter. Thank you for your time and consideration.

# A Blast from the Past

## Tinted lenses and references

By Hank and Linda Trent

*Discussions about the use of dark, or tinted glasses in vintage base ball has generally led to the question, "When were sunglasses first used in the game?" Hank Trent studied many references to disprove the tale that all spectacles with tinted lenses were worn by VD sufferers during the Civil War era. Tinted lenses were used by people with weak eyes, a trait neither a base ball player nor umpire would likely wish to exhibit through their use. Sunglasses do not appear until the 20<sup>th</sup> century. This article originally appeared as a post on the [cw-reenactors@world.std.com](mailto:cw-reenactors@world.std.com) list, April 13, 2004. We thank the authors for their permission to reprint it her.*

*Scientific American, 1857*

"To weakness of the eyes: 'We should judge that, as you suggest, blue spectacles would convert the yellow rays of artificial light into a green tint, more agreeable and less irritating to weak or sore eyes..."

I just took a look at the section on Venereal Disease in Dr. Gunn, 1861, and surprisingly enough he doesn't even mention weak-eyes as a symptom or a problem with either syphilis, or gonorrhea. The same with Dr. Imray's *Popular Cyclopedia of Modern Domestic Medicine, 1850.*

*Evening at Newport. Harper's New Monthly Magazine*  
July 1855, p. 230

"...at a fashionable watering-place a gentleman at the hop there was described as wearing blue spectacles and was talking about the "frivolity of society," he considers "a little amusement as superfluous." It goes on to say, "He stands aside at balls, and, not having an ear for music, sneers at dancing, is a lawyer, and devotes his days to searching title-deeds and prosecuting claims."

*Out-doors at Idlewild, N.P. Willis, New York,*  
C. Scribner, 1855 p. 296

"Without the refuge of blue spectacles, the dazzling glare of the sunshine on the snow would make prisoners of the weak-eyed classes in sleighing time, ..."

Akin by Marriage. *The Atlantic Monthly*, Jan. 1858  
"... a young lady and her sister (the latter pushing her younger sister to marry a gentleman). The younger sister says "I don't like him, and think he's so disagreeable, --ugh! blue spectacles!" Her older sister says, "Well, I'll agree that a pale, studious face and blue spectacles are good reasons for hating a man. Now let me say a word or two in his favor, notwithstanding, and also in favor of a plan with I had supposed was agreed upon... [she went on to ask] if Mr. Hunt was not good and pious, and of blameless life and reputation; extorting from Laura an affirmative reply to each separate inquiry." The article again continues by saying, "such a good offer, especially to one in your circumstances, from such a worthy, talented, pious young clergyman, whose preference [names of ladies], with their

Thousands would be glad to win... I do say, Laura, that you ought to give better reasons for refusing him, nay, for jilting him, after a two-years' engagement, than that his cheeks are pale and his spectacles blue."

Why would someone encourage her sister to marry a man and say that his "pale, studious face and blue spectacles" are not good enough reasons to reject a man, if they were well known to be worn by people with a VD?

*Military dictionary, Henry Lee Scott New York,*  
D. Van Nostrand, 1861, p. 412

"Snow-blindness. -In civilized life blue spectacles are, as is well known, an indispensable accompaniment to snow-mountain expeditions. The Esquimaux adopt the following equivalent: They cut a piece of soft wood to the curvature of the face. It is about two inches thick, and extends horizontally quite across both eyes, and rests on the nose, where a notch is cut to act in the same way as the bridge of a pair of spectacles..."

Mr. Martin's Disappointments.

*The Atlantic Monthly. Sept. 1863 p. 282*

"A large fortune is left to my hero, who forthwith becomes enamored of a fair damsel; but fearful lest the beloved object should worship his money more than his merits, he disguises himself in a wig and blue spectacles, becomes tutor to her brother, and wins her affections while playing pedagogue."

A lady writing a play chose for her hero to wear blue spectacles and pretend to be a tutor to her brother in order to win her love without letting on that he had money. Why would a wealthy man go through so much trouble to wear a symbol of a VD if he wanted to win a fair lady's hand?

Gallipolis [Ohio] *Journal* (newspaper)

I was just going through some old advertisements from our local (1863) paper and found an ad for a very nice jewelry store here in town. Among the things they were selling include: All kinds of watches, alarm clocks, silver and plated spoons, gold and plated locket, fancy hair pins, and yes, colored spectacles.

Granted it doesn't state the colors, but somehow after my previous readings I can't help but to wonder if this isn't where those studious people would have gotten their glasses.

John King, *The Causes, symptoms, diagnosis, pathology, and treatment of chronic diseases*, Cincinnati,  
Moore, Wiltach & Baldwin, 1867

Mentions cobalt blue lenses for both sclerotic-choroiditis posterior and glaucoma. P. 1481 and 1487. But I have yet to see them mentioned specifically for VD. Though they are constantly recommended for people with weak eyes.

*The Surgeon's Story. Appletons' Journal,*  
Nov. 18, 1871, p. 570

"In the carriage... a tall old man in blue spectacles, who



seemed to be a writing teacher.”

*The Mimic World*, Philadelphia, Pa., Cincinnati, O.  
New-world Publishing Company, 1871

“In a frantic manner he sprang to his feet and executed a ‘forward two’ in true Parisian style, and with such utter abandon that a mild old lady knitting socks with a pair of blue spectacles- I mean, knitting spectacles with a pair of blue socks- well, at all events, evidently under an impression that this soldier was going mad very suddenly, she uttered a terrific shriek and bolted.”

Heinrich Goullon, *Scrofulous Affections and the Advantages of their Treatment...Homeopathy*  
New York, Philadelphia: Boericke & Tafel, 1872.

Alright, that one’s a little too technical and has tons of Latin letters that my keyboard won’t type, but again, the blue lenses are for a specific eye disease, and not for an STD.

Henry Clay Angell, MD, *A Treatise on Diseases of the Eye*, Boston: James Campbell, 1873.

Writes “Eye protectors made of curved blue glass are the best [Eye Protectors]. Goggles with wire, silk, or glass sides keep the eye, as a general rule, too close and warm. For photophobia, simple blue spectacles of plain glass are generally sufficient, and may be darker or lighter in shade, according to the amount of protection required. Brown or smoke-colored glasses may be used, if preferred. The latter cut off all the rays of light, and consequently render vision somewhat less distinct, while blue glasses, excluding the orange rays only, interfere less with the clear definition of objects. Green glasses protect the eye from the red rays alone; but it is the orange rays which are most intolerable to a sensitive retina.”

George Alfred Townsend, “Still Taking Pictures: Brady, the Grand Old Man of American Photography”  
*The World*, April 1891

“I thought as I looked at the white cross of his moustache and goatee and blue spectacles and felt the spirit in him still of the former exquisite and good-live which had brought so many fastidious people to his studio, that I was like Leigh Hunt taking the hand of old Poet-Banker Rogers, who had once shaken hands with Sam Johnson, who had been touched for the king’s evil by Queen Anne, and I had almost asked Mr. Brady about Nelly Custis and Lord Cornbury and Capt. John Smith.”

From Storke. “Domestic and Rural Affairs,” 1859  
“Preservation of the Sight. –The following are the general rules for preserving the sight unimpaired for the longest possible period:

1. All sudden changes from darkness to light and the contrary should be avoided as much as possible.
2. Avoid looking attentively at minute objects, either at dawn or twilight, and in dark spaces.
3. Avoid sitting near a dazzling or intense light, as of a lamp or candle, and facing a hot fire.



4. Avoid reading or sewing much by an imperfect light, as well as by artificial lights of any kind.
5. Avoid all dazzling and glaring sunshine, especially when it is reflected from snow, white sand, or other light-colored bodies.
6. Avoid dust, smoke, and vapors of every kind, which excite pain or uneasiness of the eyes.
7. Avoid rubbing or fretting the eyes in any manner, and wiping them with cotton handkerchiefs.
8. Avoid much exposure to cold northwest or easterly winds.
9. Avoid all spirituous and heating liquors, rich and highly-seasoned food, and every species of intemperance, all of which invariably injure the eyes and impair their sight.
10. Some persons living in cities who have weak eyes find permanent relief only by a change of residence to the country.

Persons of this description [evidently anyone whose eyes have been weakened by the above problems] will find an advantage in wearing some defense before their eyes, especially when exposed to heat, sunshine, or glaring lights. This will be best if of a green color. Spectacles that do not magnify, of the same hue, are well suited for this purpose.”

O.W. Holmes, “In the Professor at the Breakfast Table,” 1859, did not assume the worst when he met the landlady’s daughter’s fiancée, who wore green spectacles, in fact quite the opposite. He assumed he was a clergyman!!!

“...ended in her bringing home a young man, with straight, sandy hair, brushed so as to stand up steeply above his forehead, wearing a pair of green spectacles, and dressed in black broadcloth. His personal aspect, and a certain solemnity of countenance, led me to think he must be a clergyman; and as Master Benjamin Franklin’s blurted out before several of us boarders, one day, that ‘Sis had got a beau,’ I was pleased at the prospect of her becoming a minister’s wife. On inquiry, however, I found that the somewhat solemn look which I had noticed was indeed a professional one, but not clerical. He was a young undertaker, who had just succeeded to a thriving business. Things, I believe, are going on well at this time of writing, and I am glad for the landlady’s daughter and her mother...”

(Article Originally Published in the Winter 2004 Base Ball Players Chronicle)

## VBBA Treasurer's Report July 2018

Balance, January 1, 2018 **\$13,127.12**

### Income:

Dues, 2017	Individuals	0	<b>\$0.00</b>
	Associates	0	<b>\$0.00</b>
	Full Clubs	2	<b>\$100.00</b>

Dues, 2018	Individuals	15	<b>\$175.00</b>
	Associates	3	<b>\$105.00</b>
	Full Clubs	48	<b>\$2,400.00</b>

Total dues **\$2,780.00**

2018 Interest Earned **\$0.07**

New Member - CT Bulldogs HBBT 2018 **\$50.00**

Full Member - Drovertown 2019 **\$50.00**

Full Member – Keystone 2019

**\$50.00**

Special Gift – Afton Red Sox

**\$100.00**

2018 VBBA Conference Proceeds **\$527.00**

Total Income **\$3,557.07**

### Expenses:

Office Supplies **\$23.40**

Paypal transaction fees **\$64.11**

Communications **\$21.55**

Promotion items – 2018 Conv. Pennants. **\$53.25**

2018 Conference Expenses – Other. **\$923.87**

Marketing Expenses- FOD rep & Maint. **\$500.00**

New Member Club Reimbursement - **\$296.00**

Insurance- **\$1,531.00**

Fees – Secretary of State **\$10.00**

Website – Green Geeks **\$358.20**

Website – Domain Registration – InMotion **\$14.99**

Total Expenses **\$3,796.37**

Income over/(under) Expenses **\$ (239.30)**

Balance as of **July 10, 2018** **\$12,887.82**

## MEMBERS FOR 2018

Paid in 2017 or 2018

32 Members Paid in 2017

51 Members Paid in 2018

7 New Member Program Clubs paid in 2017/2018

## MEMBER CLUBS

2018 = 83 Member Clubs

2017 = 76 Member Clubs

2016 = 111 Member Clubs

2015 = 91 Member Clubs

2014 = 65 Member Clubs

2013 = 70 Member Clubs

## VBBA BOARD SUMMARY APRIL, 2018

**Present:** Adrian, DeGeatano, Ernst, Jacobson, Kopsaftis, Schiappacasse, Staab (Arrived 7:05 EST), Sudduth, Wiegmann, Zeledon (Left 8:15 EST)

**Absent:** Miklich

### Secretary's Report:

- Brief summary of the Menomonee Meeting. Menomonee meeting was very short, but there was a brief informative session from a member of the Branson Contingency, putting in their bid to host the 2019 VBBA Conference.
- Mr. Wiegmann informed the board that he is working with Bill Helm, from the Ft. Verde Newspapers, to create the newsletter. The newsletter is going to be reformatted in a way to look more 19<sup>th</sup> Century. The hope is to have all information and the newsletter drafted by the end of May so that it can be published and distributed by early June.
- Minutes for March were Approved.

### Treasurer's Report:

- Mr. Zeledon presented the Treasurer's report. Currently the VBBA balance stands at \$12,179.90. There has been a \$947.42 loss since last month. Mr. Zeledon is projecting a \$525 Projected Income from the Menomonee Conference
- As of Friday, April 20<sup>th</sup>, there are 73 Full Members of the VBBA (Branson and Drovertown were confirmed at the last meeting). Franklins of Detroit and the Keystone BBC have paid their \$50 initial fee and are waiting to be approved for New Member Program.
- Mr. Zeledon also mentioned that there are possible New Member applicants in the Connecticut Bulldogs BBC and the Alliance Crossing Club (Not sure if that is what I heard or not).
- Money Market Account:
- Mr. Zeledon stated that he will be moving approximately \$2,500 into a Money Market account that will be able to "sit and collect interest".
- Mr. Zeledon mentioned that Mr. Schiappacasse paid Green Geeks for the website renewal and he will be reimbursing Mr. Schiappacasse. Mr. Zeledon will be

## VBBA BOARD SUMMARY MAY, 2018

**Present:** Adrian (Arrived 7:19 EST), DeGeatano, Ernst, Schiappacasse, Staab, Sudduth, Wiegmann, Zeledon

**Absent:** Jacobson, Kopsaftis, Miklich

**Secretary's Report:** April Meeting minutes sent out electronically and approved.

### Treasurer's Report:

- 80 Full/Associate Combined members.
- Balance of \$12,318.48
- Treasurer Zeledon has moved \$2,500 into a Bank of America Money Market Account receiving 0.2% interest at this time.
- Trustee DeGeatano inquired about adding more into this account.
- Zeledon was waiting to hear back from the bank to ensure there would be no penalties for having less than \$10,000 in the checking account.
- Treasurer's Report was approved.

### Old Business:

- VBBA Logo Trademark Update: Secretary Wiegmann is working with Mr. Michael Paes, attorney and VBBA member, to check into this. Wiegmann will report back at a future board meeting.
- Regional Director's Report: Trustee Staab stated that he is working on reaching out to teams in Texas, however, no response. His club will be hosting and event along with Colorado and Branson and would talk with them.
  - Trustee Adrian is going to meet with Arizona Territorial Associate to provide member benefit information for the VBBA. There was brief discussion during this about a possible group rate. Secretary Wiegmann stated that would require a by-laws change. This will be discussed at a later time.
  - President Schiappacasse stated that Trustee Jacobson had created a button that had a T on in to signify Trustee and was wearing that to games.
  - Trustee Sudduth stated that all teams in the Cincinnati and Kentucky area had started their season. There is a group in Moorehead, KY that are considering forming a new club.

contacting Green Geeks to get all of the financial information squared away for automatic payments.

- Mr. Adrian asked Mr. Zeledon why the Prescott Champions were not listed on the membership spreadsheet and Mr. Zeledon said that they are on the page under New Member Clubs.
- Mr. Zeledon also stated that he will be working on cleaning up the spreadsheets to make it more easily accessible for what he is working on.
- Treasurer's Report Approved

## Old Business

- Conference Summary: Final Numbers

All numbers stated should be considered preliminary until Mr. Zeledon sends out his official report.

- 48 Full Time Attendees
- 5 Attendees Just for Dinner
- Silent Auction made between \$1,500 and \$1,600.
- Projecting a \$525 Income from the Conference
- VBBA Logo Branding Update:
- Mr. Schiappacasse brought to the board the idea of licensing (branding) our logo.
- Mr. Wiegmann will call Kelly Cheatle, Website Designer and Creator of Logo, to talk to her about official branding. Was this done when she created it?
- Mr. Schiappacasse assigned Ms. DeGeatano to contact her legal friends to work on drafting language that would need to be in place for branding (licensing) requirements.
- Regional Directors:
- Mr. Schiappacasse said that Mr. Miklich and Mr. Ciccarello will be handling the liaison duties for the East Coast
- The West will be handled by two different trustees
- Mr. Staab will help with Kansas, Nebraska and Texas
- Mr. Adrian will help with Arizona, Colorado and possibly California
- Mr. Schiappacasse mentioned that his main focus for these two regions are that there are not many clubs that are VBBA members in these regions and that we should hope and try to build relationships and bring these teams along.

- Major Festival VBBA Tabling: Regional Directors
  - Secretary Wiegmann is contacting Brian Travers from Providence Grays to re-design Rack Cards for VBBA.
  - President Schiappacasse is sending supplies (Rack Cards and Table Cloths to Trustees Sudduth and Jacobson).
- Social Media Policy:
  - President Schiappacasse discussed the possibility of a second Facebook page (strictly for Rules and Customs or possibly for results or scheduling). This will be discussed in future meetings.
  - President Schiappacasse would like to have a committee create policies and rules and regulations on Social Media posting and usage. Secretary Wiegmann and Trustee Jacobson will head committee and reach out to Erik and Lisa Sjogren for guidance.
- Vintage Base Ball This Week with Gypsy Kladiva:
  - President Schiappacasse would like everyone to know that Jason "Gypsy" Kladiva has returned to the airways with Vintage Base Ball This Week.
- VBBA New Members:
  - Welcome the following teams to the VBBA:
    - Thames BBC
    - Alliance Crossing Rails (Robbins Crossing)
    - Mountain Athletic Club (Tabled until June Meeting)
    - Keystone Club of Harristown, PA (Admitted to New Member Program)
- Rules and Customs Committee:
  - Currently working on 1867 Rule set and will be modifying 1864 with current information.
- Update on 2019 Branson VBBA Conference:
  - Vice President Ernst is working with a committee from Branson, MO, to create a schedule for the conference.
  - Vice President Ernst, Historian Miklich and Secretary Wiegmann will be working on the breakout sessions for the Conference.
  - More news to follow at the next meeting.

## New Business:

- VBBA Benefits: Vendor Discounts (Updating):
  - President Schiappacasse is updating the letters to vendors and will be using a similar letter from the past to work on ensuring discounts for VBBA member



- Major Festival Tabling:
- Known events that these table cloths and rack cards are being used:
- Ohio Cup (Columbus, OH)
- Gettysburg Festival (Gettysburg, PA)
- Mr. Schiappacasse is asking board members to let him know of other places that it would be beneficial to have this tabling.
- Social Media Policy:
- Mr. Schiappacasse is asking for Board Member volunteers to create framework/guidelines of what is ok and not ok to post on Social Media.
- Mr. Schiappacasse also mentioned that the VBBA needs to make sure that we are using the social media outlets that are available.
- Mr. Wiegmann will contact Brian Travers and see if his wife can update our rack cards to have the social media information on them.
- Field of Dreams Update:
- Mr. Schiappacasse gave the new board members a brief background on why the VBBA donated money to the Field of Dreams. He stated that not only was it good publicity for the VBBA but also that the Field of Dreams has become a favorite destination of many vintage base ball clubs.
- VBBA New Member Program:
- Mr. Schiappacasse mentioned that he would like Mr. Sudduth to assist with this program since his club the Bluegrass Barons went through the program.
  - The Keystone BBC - Tabled
  - Franklin Base Ball Club of Detroit – Approved by the Board to start New Member Program

## New Business

- Trustee Responsibilities
  - Marketing the VBBA to Historical Societies:
    - ❖ Mr. Schiappacasse discussed that Bill Helm, Reporter for the Verde Valley Newspapers, is interested in helping with this endeavor.
- Benefits: Team VBBA Liability Insurance
  - ❖ Mr. Schiappacasse discussed that the VBBA Liability Insurance is in effect and we should be marketing this to members and prospective members.
- Re-Enactors Committee
  - Mr. Schiappacasse appointed Trustee Jacobson as Chair of this Committee.

clubs.

- VBBA Website Current Updates, Use of Google G Suite, Addition of Conference Audio & Video:
  - President Schiappacasse would like to start incorporating Google G Suite into Board Discussions and Communications.
  - The 2014 & 2016 VBBA Conference Video and Audio will be added to the VBBA Website.
- VBBA Liability Insurance Application for Member Clubs:
  - President Schiappacasse connected the Columbus Buckeyes to our insurance vendor, W.E. Davis and received the coverage needed for their club.
  - Treasurer Zeledon would be sending out VBBA Pennants to member clubs along with a letter describing the insurance coverage and how to apply for a certificate, if needed.
- Other:
  - President Schiappacasse has contacted Mr. Michael Ossy, who is in charge of base ball operations at Greenfield Village about the possibility of the village hosting the 2020 VBBA Conference.
  - President Schiappacasse appointed Mr. Bill Helm to contact local Historical Societies to discuss partnerships with base ball clubs. Secretary Wiegmann suggested that Mr. Helm should send these Societies information on clubs that are already form in their area.

**Meeting Adjourned at 8:12pm Eastern**

- VBBA Web Info
  - Google G Suite
  - Mr. Erik Sjogren will be helping with getting the board set up on G Suite.
    - ❖ Will allow board members to work concurrently with documents and make the necessary changes without having to email a doc back and forth.
- Vintage Base Ball This Week, Gypsy Kladiva
  - Jason Kladiva works with the Public Radio Exchange and is broadcasted on 500-600 radio stations, plus two stations in New Orleans.
- Rules and Customs Committee:
  - Working on the Rules Interpretation of 1867
  - Will be working on:
    - ❖ Rules Interpretation of 1858, Equipment and Uniforms, Umpire's Guide
- Other:
  - Mr. Schiappacasse presented Branson, MO as the host for the 2019 VBBA Conference, pending board approval.
  - Mr. Wiegmann offered up some concerns before the taking of a vote on the matter:
    - Three (3) long distance Conferences in a row. (Cooperstown, Menomonee, Branson)
    - Reasonable Rates
    - Lodging
    - Conference Registration Fee
    - VBBA Conference Committee must be involved to make sure that there is plenty of 19<sup>th</sup> Century information being presented at the Conference.
  - Motion to Approve Branson, Missouri as the host for the 2019 VBBA Conference:
    - Individual votes were tallied:
      - Yes: Adrian, Ernst, Jacobson, Kopsaftis, Schiappacasse, Staab, Sudduth.
      - No: DeGeatano
      - Abstain: Wiegmann



**We are always looking for ways to enhance our Newsletter. Do you have any stories or historical information that you would like to share with us? Do you want to ask us any questions about the VBBA or the rules of the 19<sup>th</sup> Century?**

**If so, contact Dennis 'Pops' Wiegmann at [dennispopswiegmann@yahoo.com](mailto:dennispopswiegmann@yahoo.com) and he can help. We would love to hear from you. Enjoy the rest of the Summer part of your season!**

Meeting Adjourned at 9:04 EST.