

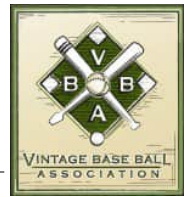


# THE BASE BALL PLAYER'S CHRONICLE

Newsletter of the **VINTAGE BASE BALL ASSOCIATION**

VOLUME 11. NO. 1

JUNE 2011



## BASE BALL'S FIRST HALL OF FAME CATCHER WAS ALL-AROUND GREAT PLAYER

As many Vintage Base Ball enthusiasts and players know, the catcher is one of the most important defensive players on the field. Being able to catch a ball on one bound means your catcher must react to foul ticks quickly. A good catcher can earn several hands or outs per match for your club this way.

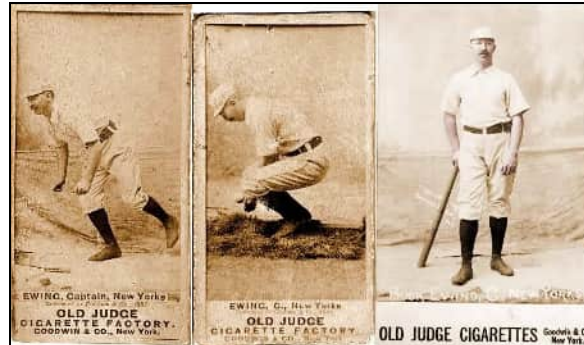


William "Buck" Ewing (pictured) was quite the pioneer Base Ball player of his era, which was mainly the 1880's. Born in Hoagland, Ohio about an hour east of Cincinnati, Ewing grew up during

Base Ball's infancy and began his 18-year career with the Troy Trojans of New York as a 20 year old. Needless to say, he labored mightily at the plate over his first three seasons before the struggling club disbanded.

Ewing next moved to the new National League Club, the New York Gothams (later the Giants), and immediately caught fire.

In 1883, Ewing hit .303 and led the league in home runs with 10, despite playing in only 88 games. Thus followed 10 great offensive seasons and two championships, both with the New York Club, both managed by player-manger, Ewing. Buck's last great offensive season may have been in 1893 with the Cleveland Spiders, where he hit .344, had 6 HRs,



drove in 122 runners, and swiped 47 bases. Ewing also played for the short-lived Players League team in 1890 and with the Cincinnati Reds before retiring in 1897.

Defensively, Ewing was a gem. His Baseball Hall of Fame biography notes, "his remarkable arm enabled him to throw out runners without rising from his crouched position behind the plate." Tim Keefe, one of his former teammates, stated, "he could play any infield position skillfully. I never saw anyone play a deeper short than he." In fact, to add to his 636 games as a catcher, Ewing played 253 games at first base, 235 as an outfielder, 127 as a third base tender, 51 at second base, and 34 as a rover or shortstop. He even won two games as a pitcher in his 9 appearances.

Cap Anson, John McGraw, John Montgomery Ward and Connie Mack all said he was the greatest catcher they ever saw play the game. Many of his era even considered Ewing the greatest player of all time. Sadly, Buck didn't live to see his induction into the Hall of Fame in 1939, having succumbed to diabetes at age 47 in 1906.

So this spring, to all the catchers out there, set lofty season goals and try to fashion yourself as a superior jack-of-all-trades ballist defensively and offensively. Honor the legacy of men like William "Buck" Ewing.— Jon Demagall

## VBBA BOARD OF DIRECTORS

- Scott Westgate, President
- Paul Salomone, Vice President
- Chris Burton, Secretary
- Rich Arpi, Treasurer
- Eric Miklich, Historian
- Dave Brooks, Trustee
- Jay Demagall, Trustee
- Marcus Dickson, Trustee
- Glenn Drinkwater, Trustee
- Greg Powell, Trustee
- Denis Wiegmann, Trustee

## IN THIS ISSUE

HIGHLIGHTS OF THE 2011 VBBA CONVENTION	2
CALIFORNIA VINTAGE BASEBALL	3
SPECIAL THANKS, VBBA MEETING	4
VISIONS OF THE PAST	5
VBBA MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL	6
TERMINOLOGY, EQUIPMENT FORUM	7
First Professional Match, Book Review	8
Upcoming Events, Editor Information	9

## A NEW SEASON BRINGS NEW VINTAGE CLUBS

Despite the fact mother nature has not been particularly kind thus far this season, vintage base ball matches are underway all over the country. New clubs are springing up in Kentucky, Arizona, Maryland, Pennsylvania, Colorado, and Ohio among other places. Many of the clubs have joined existing regional leagues affiliated with the

Vintage Baseball Association. Many are affiliated with local historical societies, which is a great way to receive initial funding as well as providing a field or ground to host matches.

As the vintage game grows across this great nation, we at the VBBA encourage any new clubs to contact us for advice or with any questions. Good luck! - JD



## 2011 VINTAGE BASEBALL CONVENTION HIGHLIGHTS

We were honored and proud to host the 2011 Vintage Base Ball Convention, which took place during the weekend of March 25 through March 28, 2011 in Cleveland, Ohio. Local Vintage Clubs, the Cleveland Blues, Forest City BBC and Whiskey Island Shamrocks were the official hosts of the 16<sup>th</sup> annual event in which over 40 clubs attended.

Friday's festivities kicked off with attendees touring Progressive Field. Following the tour, attendees visited select restaurants and bars throughout the city, including The Cleveland, where Blues members Meal Ticket, Woody, Constable, Hammer, Speedy, Pubs, Furbelly, Duke and Iron Horse then entertained attendees at the Blues' new 1860's style Clubhouse, built entirely by the Blues club members. A great time was had by the attendees, as we munched on good food and drank some frosty beverages.

Saturday morning began with a "Cleveland Breakfast" at the Gateway Convention Center. VBBA President "Chooch" Westgate of the Rochester Grangers addressed the 80+ attendees, and Jay "Tomahawk" Demagall of the Blues welcomed guests to Cleveland.

Following breakfast, conventioners were welcome to attend several learning sessions at the hotel including: Professor Barbara Clemenson of Case Western Reserve who spoke about 501(c)3 non-

profit issues; Ed "Mr. Ed" Gutchall of the Mansfield Independents, a radio DJ, who spoke about publicity-related issues; and Stephanie Fleet Liscio, President of SABR's Jack Graney Chapter, who spoke

about Cleveland baseball. The MLB movie "*Base Ball Discovered*" was viewed by quite a few members as well. Finally, a panel of VBBA leadership discussed vintage base ball issues with attendees. The information gathered from the expert panel will help VBBA clubs become better stewards in their communities and better vintage clubs in general.

After a delicious hot dog lunch hosted at The Cleveland by owners' Pat "Furbelly" McGinty and Ed "Irish" McAndrew, players, donning their vintage uniforms proudly, and Kranks (fans) boarded two trolley cars braving the sub-30 degree Cleveland temperatures and headed to historic League Park for a friendly match of base ball.



The match featured President Westgate's Squad versus Tomahawk's Club. Two kids from the neighborhood, Carlos and CJ, kept tally of the score for the game. Despite the fine Hurling of VBBA Historian Eric Miklich, and well struck balls by members of the W & . 's, Canal Jumpers,

Hill Toppers and Forest City's, Tomahawk's Club prevailed in the match, aided by fine defensive plays and well placed Stingers by Great Black Swamp Frogs, Muffins, Early Risers, Welkins and Shamrocks. Local reporters from two television stations covered the match.



Ken Silliman, a representative from Cleveland Mayor Frank Jackson's office, was on hand to welcome the clubs to League Park and announce that the City of Cleveland was slated to begin renovations on the park beginning sometime in 2011, news which was met with a loud "Huzzah" from the ballplayers and cheers



VBBA PRESIDENT SCOTT WESTGATE ADDRESSES THE CROWD BEFORE MATCH COMMENCES

from the Kranks, many of whom signed petitions and wrote letters on behalf of preserving the park back in 2009 & 2010. In appreciation, Mr. Silliman was presented with one of the game balls from the match to be given to Mayor Jackson.

Noted base ball historian James Egan Jr., author of *Base Ball on the Western Reserve*, was also on hand to give tours of the park and answer many of the attendees' questions. Players really enjoyed touring League Park's remnants, taking swings in the same spot where Babe Ruth hit his 500th home run, and pitching off the same location where Cy Young opened the park in 1891. Egan, who was instrumental in helping the Blues discover our club's history, has a new book coming out soon which covers the Cleveland Indians from 1901-1920.

After the match, the cold and tired players returned to the Hilton Garden Inn for some rest and relaxation prior to the Convention Dinner, which began with our cocktail hour in the Armington Room. While attendees sipped beverages, they were able to view the fine 19th Century Base Ball Collections of Tracy Martin, of the Ohio Village Muffins, and Joe Territo of the Rochester BBC of New York. The gentlemen displayed their collections and explained how equipment and uniforms developed over the 19th century. Their presentations were a great asset to the Convention and helped VBBA members better understand how our game progressed. In addition to the collectors, Ed "Pigtail" Elmore of the Atlan-



## CONVENTION CONT.

tic BBC displayed and sold booklets depicting how the base ball field varied during its formative years. Perennial VBBA Convention sponsor "Lefty" Trudeau of the Ohio Village Muffins was also there on behalf of his company, Phoenix Bats. Phoenix Bats, which has been operating since the mid-90's, sold finely crafted vintage bats and base balls to attendees for a discounted price, which was a great benefit to attendees.

The dinner began at 6:30 PM with a presentation of the Convention awards. Some of this year's award winners included:

- Farthest Travelled - Denver Blue Stockings
- Newest Club - Flower City BBC of Mumford, New York
- Largest Attendance (6) - Huntington Champion Hill Toppers of Indiana and W & . Stars of Michigan

President Westgate provided opening remarks, and the evening's keynote speaker, the honorable Scott Longert, took the podium around 8:00 PM.

Longert, a noted and respected baseball historian in the Cleveland area and author of *Addie Joss, King of the Pitchers*, will have a new book released this year about the 1920 World Champion Cleveland Indians. He discussed, in great detail, what Cleveland was like in 1890 & 1891 when League Park was being built, little known circumstances behind the construction of the park. He also provided a



general context of how the game progressed at the time, creating a need for larger ball parks, closer to their market and transportation hubs. Conventioneers were able to ask many questions, and Mr. Longert's presentation was a huge success. He certainly represented our great city well, and the VBBA owes him and his wife many thanks for his presentation. After dinner, attendees went their separate ways, enjoying the Gateway district's variety of nightlife.

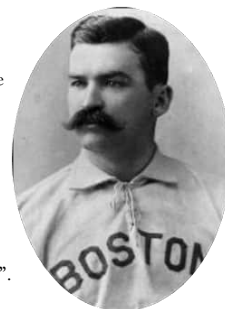
Sunday morning brought another breakfast at the Hilton Garden Inn. Winners of the silent auction, which helps offset the costs of Convention, were notified, and monies were collected. The VBBA leadership panel had its last meeting, where it was announced that the 2012 Convention will be held at Old Bethpage in Long Island, NY, and co-chaired by Eric Micklich and Paul Salamone.

On behalf of the Cleveland Blues, Forest City's and Whiskey Island Shamrocks, much thanks to all attendees who made it out to the 2011 Convention. We enjoyed hosting the event and making new friends!

Jay "Tomahawk" Demagall

### Can you name the vintage player pictured?

He was rumored to have been the inspiration of the 1888 Ernest Lawrence Thayer poem "Casey at the Bat." He played outfield and catcher for several clubs in Boston, Cincinnati, and Chicago. He is also credited with inventing the "hit and run". Do you know who he is?



Answer: Mike "King" Kelly

## 1886 RULES VINTAGE BASEBALL PLAYED IN CALIFORNIA'S GOLD COUNTRY



A member of the 2010 League Champion Rancho Murieta Bandits makes a play.

Near the foothills of the Sierra Nevada Mountains of California, five vintage ball clubs have been entertaining cranks with vintage base ball for five years. In the past Amador County was known as the "Heart of the Mother Lode", in reference to being near the center of the original Gold Rush of 1849. Today it is known for its wineries and vintage ballists.

The five teams that compete in the Gold Country Vintage Base Ball league play by the rules of 1886, they

play with vintage gloves, and pattern themselves after late 19<sup>th</sup> and early 20<sup>th</sup> century local clubs like the Volcano Ball Club and the Jackson Social Athletic Club (S.A.C.). Their league [website](#) describes how hurling sometimes can vary from club to club. "Pitching speed is dictated typically by how much pain the 'behind' can absorb behind the plate. However, most hurlers rely on quick pitches, breaking stuff and pitching from inside the box, one side to the other."

Though they have had issues with

rainouts this year, as many vintage clubs have across the country, in the middle of their fifth season, defending league champion Rancho Murieta Bandits still vie to hold off the likes of the Crushers, the Miners, the Highlanders, and Preston Nine.

So if you are in the area this June or July make sure to frequent an 1886 vintage match played by the good folks at Gold Country Vintage Base Ball. Their complete 2011 schedule can be found [here](#).

## SPECIAL THANKS

Each attendee at the VBBA Conference was given a gift bag upon arrival filled with gifts donated from many organizations and companies who support vintage Base Ball. The Vintage Base Ball Association would like to thank the following for making the 2011 Convention a rousing success.

- Society for American Baseball Research (SABR)
- The Baseball Hall of Fame
- The Cleveland Indians
- Bertman Ballpark Mustard.
- Pat "Furbelly" McGinty & Ed "Irish" McAndrew and all the folks The Cleveland Bar & Grill
- Lolly the Trolley
- The League Park Society
- Cleveland Mayor Frank Jackson's representative Ken Silliman.
- Cleveland Mayor Frank Jackson
- Ed Egan Jr., author of *Base Ball on the Western Reserve*
- The good folks of the Hilton Garden Inn and Gateway Convention Center for providing excellent facilities and service to attendees.
- Tracy Martin of the Ohio Village Muffins & Joe Territo of the Rochester BBC of New York for allowing attendees to view their fine 19<sup>th</sup> Century Base Ball collections.
- The Phoenix Bat Company
- Eric Miklich, VBBA Historian and owner of 19th Century Base Ball.com
- Paper Trails, who provided the Calligraphy for the trophies
- Cleveland historian and keynote speaker, Scott Longert, author of *Addie Joss, King of the Pitchers*
- The folks at WEWS Channel 5 ABC and WJW Fox 8 Cleveland for covering Saturday's Base Ball match.
- The Forrest City BBC and the Whiskey Island Shamrocks
- The Cleveland Blues BBC.
- Jay "Tomahawk" Demagall of the Cleveland Blues deserves a special tip of the cap for really being the man behind the curtain in creating a very successful convention.

## VINTAGE BASE BALL ASSOCIATION

### Executive Committee Meeting

March 27, 2011

**Present:** President Scott Westgate, Vice President Paul Salomone, Secretary Chris Burton, Treasurer Rich Arpi, Historian Eric Miklich, Trustee Dennis Wiegmann

**Absent from the meeting:** Trustees Jay Demagall, Bill Dieckmann,

**Absent from the Convention:** Trustees Marcus Dickson, Gary Hetzel, Brian Sheehy

### 2012 Convention

Westgate asked Miklich to provide information on the possibility of Bethpage hosting the 2012 VBBA Convention. Miklich has speakers and vendors lined up and has spoken with two local hotels.

Burton expressed concern that a convention in the New York City area will be a hindrance for attendees from low cost-of-living areas.

Miklich stated the hotel rooms would be \$115 per night based on a block of 25. He could not quote a price for attending the convention as the cost of dinner would be a major factor.

The board decided that Long Island officially will host the 2012 Convention, though there is still much to be decided.

### Term Limits

The board discussed the term limits currently established by the bylaws. Those bylaws were recently changed to allow the treasurer to serve longer than three years. It was suggested that officer terms might be increased to two or possibly three years so that more might be accomplished between elections.

Burton questioned if officer terms would be staggered, to provide for equal offices contested each year and ensure consistency.

It was agreed that the new board should make a decision on this issue.

### Rebate Program

The board also reconsidered the rebate program. Participation was lower than hoped and expected. It was also noted that the clubs of several board members did not participate.

Wiegmann noted that many established clubs may not require the base ball essentials included in last year's program. He suggested that the program might include settler materials and period accoutrements, if it were continued in the future.

It was suggested that the program could be available every year, though an individual club could only participate every two years.

This was also an issue left for the 2011 board to discuss further.

### Election

The results of the election were announced, after Wiegmann and Burton confirmed their independent counts. In a narrow contest, Dave Brooks, Glenn Drinkwater and Greg Powell were elected. All incumbent officers were retained.

The next meeting, the first of the 2011-12 board, will be May 22, 2011, at 7:00 PM via teleconference.

## VISIONS OF THE PAST

Baseball Artifacts of the 19<sup>th</sup> Century

By Richard "Pastime" D'Ambrisi

This decorated baseball, presented in its beautifully crafted custom-made wooden case, commemorates one of the three Fashion Course games, the historic three-game series between the all-stars of Brooklyn and the all-stars of New York played in 1858 at the Fashion Race Course in Corona, Queens. The trophy ball is a gold painted lemon peel ball, decorated with text relating to the details of the game "K. Brooklyn B.29. L.I. Fashion 1858. Aug 17."

The ball rests on a blue velvet cushion and is protected under a sealed glass covering. A blue ribbon is displayed under the glass along with the ball, pinned in place, which reads "29 - All Brooklyn Nine. 8 - All New York Nine. Fashion Race Course Long Island N.Y. Match Aug. 17, 1858 Umpire - J. Bache Excelsior - H. Chadwick - Scorer"

The lid houses three pieces under glass: two are partially printed and appear to be sections of a program for the Fashion Course game, both with added notations relating to the game. One has the Excelsior's logo on a lemon peel baseball which is affixed to the center of the elaborately printed Excelsior design. Between these two program sections is a CDV size photograph of Henry Chadwick, which is beautifully signed on the mount by Chadwick in black ink.

An engraved plate on the front of the box reads "Presented to HENRY CHADWICK In Recognition Of Your Golden Anniversary a Trophy from Brooklyn's Past Glory by Your Friends at the EXCELSIOR CLUB." Henry Chadwick was the scorer of the Fashion Course series games, and was presented with this extraordinary keep sake in 1906 in honor of his 50th anniversary as a sportswriter.

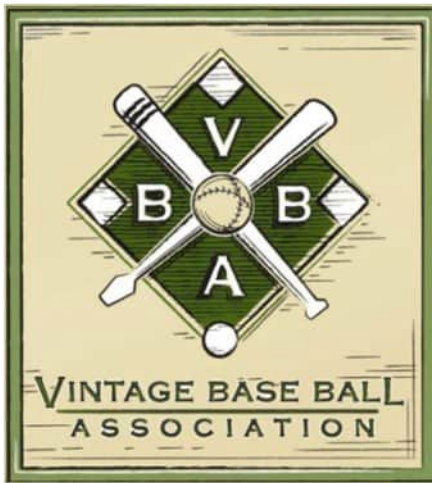


### \*\*\*\* RENEW YOUR MEMBERSHIP \*\*\*\*

Treasurer, Rich Arpi has mailed out renewal forms to all member clubs. If you have misplaced yours, a renewal form is included in this newsletter on the next page. If you are not currently a member of the VBBA, you can join now. Complete the form and mail it to Rich Arpi with your check made out to "Vintage Base Ball Association"

Thanks for supporting the VBBA.





# Vintage Base Ball Association Membership

The VBBA offers three different annual memberships as described below for each calendar year, with dues to be paid by December 1<sup>st</sup>. With your membership, you will receive our newsletter and invitation to the annual conference. Full Club members are also entitled to two votes on association issues. Be sure to check out the website [www.vbba.org](http://www.vbba.org) for more valuable information as well as links to Full Club and Associate Club member's websites.

Name:			Phone		
Mailing Address:					
City:		State		Postal Code:	
Email Address:					
Club Affiliation:					
Club Website:					

	\$50 Full Club Membership: for clubs who play at least 6 matches per year.
	\$35 Associate Club Membership: for clubs who are not interested in a full membership or do not play 6 matches per year.
	\$10 Individual Membership: For individual ballists, civilian interpreters, base ball historians, fans, etc., who wish to support the organization.

Make checks payable to the Vintage Base Ball Association.

Mail payment to:

Rich Arpi  
VBBA Treasurer  
2445 Londin Lane East, Unit 410  
Maplewood, Minnesota 55119

Thank you in advance for supporting the Vintage Base Ball Association.



# VINTAGE BASE BALL TERMINOLOGY

Most of the following terms were found on Wikipedia and other various vintage club websites as well as the VBBA website. After attending matches over the past few years, I can say I hear most of them at matches. - JD

**Ace or Tally** - run; crossing home base

**Apple, pill, horsehide, onion** - the ball

**Artist** - proficient player

**Baller, Ballist** - player

**Basetender** - an infielder

**Bench** - manager or coach

**Blind** - no score

**Blooper, banjo hit** - weak fly ball, "Texas leaguer"

**Boodler** - ungentlemanly maneuver

**Bound** - bounce

**Bowler, hurler, thrower, feeder** - pitcher

**Bug bruiser** - sharp grounder

**Club, Nine** - team

**Cranks (or Throng)** - fans

**Daisy Cutter** - sharp grounder

**Dead or Hand Dead, Hand down** - put out or batter out

**Dew Drop** - slow pitch

**Dish** - home plate

**Foul tic** - foul ball

**Four Baser** - home run

**Garden** - outfield

**Ginger** - enthusiastic play

**Ground** - field

**"Huzzah!"** - hooray

**"Leg it!"** - run swiftly

**Match** - game

**Midfielder** - center fielder

**Muckle** - power hitter

**Muff or Duff** - error

**Muffin** - enthusiastic but unskilled player

**Pitcher's Point** - pitchers mound or rubber

**Player Dead** - out

**Pluck** - fine strike or play

**Rover** - shortstop

**Scouts** - outfielders

**"Show a little ginger"** - play harder or smarter

**Sky Ball, Skyer** - flyball

**Sky scraper** - A high Pop Fly

**Stinger** - hard hit ball

**Stir your stumps** - run fast/hustle

**Striker** - hitter

**"Striker to the line!"** - batter up

**Talleykeeper** - scorekeeper

**Three Hands Dead** - 3 outs, side retired

**Whitewash** - team held scoreless for a match or at-bat

**Willow** - bat



## EQUIPMENT FORUM

In this economy, Vintage Base Ball can be an expensive hobby. Buying equipment, uniforms, bats, bases, chalkboards, tables, benches, banners, etc. can certainly add up for any new or existing club. My advice is to contact vendors personally by phone or email to figure out what is best option for your club before purchasing.

The VBBA has an excellent [listing of vendors](#) who create uniforms, bats, and gloves on their website.



## NEW CLUB? - PLEASE LET US KNOW

If you are a new vintage club or know of a vintage club, please email me at [jde-magall@gmail.com](mailto:jde-magall@gmail.com) to let me know. I will enter that information for future newsletters. I can search the internet and find out about new clubs by word of mouth at matches and events but it's much easier if you email me. Also, feel free to send me articles, club information, etc. Generally speaking we are looking to promote the game's past, vintage baseball today and you, the current VBBA club members.

## FORT WAYNE SHUTS DOWN CLEVELAND IN BASE BALL'S FIRST PROFESSIONAL MATCH

In the inaugural year of professional baseball, less than two months after ten club delegates met in New York on St. Patrick's Day to elect a President and set up championship rules, two clubs took the field in the first professional baseball match ever played. Amateur clubs had played for decades prior and a few paid clubs barnstormed in previous years but this was a paid league of teams in an organized format. This was also 5 seasons prior to the foundation of the storied

National League. The Forest City Club from Cleveland met the Kekiongas of Fort Wayne, Indiana on a cold afternoon in early May of 1871. The young, 23 year old James "Deacon" White, at the beginning of a 20 year career led off the game for Cleveland with a double. Cleveland would only manage four more hits as Fort Wayne's Bobby Matthews pitched a complete game shutout, outdueling Cleveland's Al Pratt in what would be the lowest scoring game in the National Association of Professional Base-Ball Players (NAPBBP or NA) leagues first 4 years of existence. Both teams would eventually finish the season near the bottom of the standings as the Philadelphia Athletics held off the demoralized Chicago White Stockings, who lost their field due to the Great Chicago Fire of 1871, and had to play their remaining games on the road. Regardless of their eventual records, history had been made, as professional baseball was born on that cool May afternoon in Indiana. —JD

Thursday, 5/4/1871

Cleveland 000 000 000- 0  
Ft. Wayne 010 010 000- 2

CLEVELAND	AB	R	H	BI	BB	SO	PO	A
D.White, c	4	0	2	0	0	0	9	0
G.Kimball, 2b	4	0	0	0	0	0	4	1
C.Pabor, lf	4	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
A.Allison, cf	4	0	1	0	0	2	2	0
E.White, rf	3	0	0	0	0	3	1	0
A.Pratt, p	2	0	0	0	1	0	1	3
E.Sutton, 3b	3	0	1	0	0	0	0	1
J.Carleton, lb	3	0	0	0	0	1	6	0
J.Bass, ss	3	0	0	0	0	0	1	4
<b>Totals</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>9</b>

### BATTING

2B: D.White (off B.Mathews).

RBI, scoring position, less than 2 outs: G.Kimball 0-1;

A.Pratt 0-1.

### BASERUNNING

SB: A.Allison (2nd base off B.Mathews/B.Lennon).

CS: A.Allison (2nd base by B.Mathews/B.Lennon).

Team LOB: 4

### FIELDING

PB: D.White 3.

FT. WAYNE	AB	R	H	BI	BB	SO	PO	A
F.Sellman, 3b	4	0	0	1	0	0	2	1
B.Mathews, p	4	0	0	0	0	0	1	0
J.Foran, 1b	4	0	1	0	0	0	3	0
W.Goldsmith, ss	3	0	0	0	1	0	1	0
B.Lennon, c	4	1	1	0	0	0	10	1
T.Carey, 2b	3	0	0	0	0	0	6	0
E.Mincher, lf	3	0	0	0	0	0	2	0
J.McDermott, cf	3	0	1	1	0	0	0	1
B.Kelly, rf	3	1	1	0	0	0	2	0
<b>Totals</b>	<b>31</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>3</b>

### BATTING

2B: B.Lennon (off A.Pratt).

2-out RBI: J.McDermott.

RBI, scoring position, less than 2 outs: F.Sellman 1-1;

T.Carey 0-1; E.Mincher 0-1.

### BASERUNNING

Team LOB: 3

### FIELDING

E: B.Lennon (drop fly); W.Goldsmith (fumble);

J.McDermott (fumble).

### PITCHING

CLEVELAND	IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO
A.Pratt (L)	9.0	4	2	1	1	0

FT. WAYNE	IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO
B.Mathews (W)	9.0	4	0	0	1	6

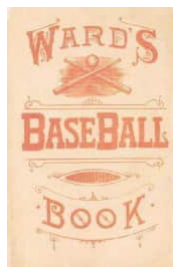
DP: (1). T.Carey, unassisted.

GAME DATA -- T: 2:00; A: 200; Temp: 56;  
Wind:

from the southeast (12 MPH); Sky: cloudy

UMPIRES -- HP: J.L. Boarke

## BOOK REVIEW



At this year's Vintage Baseball Convention, guests were given a copy of John Montgomery Ward's *Baseball: How to Become a Player*, first published in 1888 and reprinted by the Society for American Baseball Research (SABR). A very interesting look into the world of 19th century baseball shows that Ward was a man who thoroughly understood the game, even at the young age of 28.

Ward, then very much a star ball player, breaks down the roles of each position, often citing contemporary players as being strong at particular skills. It is as the author notes 'a hand-book of the game, a picture of the play as seen by the player.' It was a little tough to get into at first but once you get acclimated to the 19th century language, it really is what SABR publications director Mark Alvarez calls "one of the best books about baseball ever written by a player. Ward was a thinker, an innovator, a close observer—and, rarest of all, a decent writer" Available at most bookstores for around \$10. - JD



Get Your VBBA

T-Shirts [here](#)



## UPCOMING EVENTS

JUNE & JULY 2011

**NOTE:** *It's always best to check your local papers for when and where local events are held. Most clubs have websites or facebook pages as well. Here are match and tournament listings of posted on event calendar at the [VBBA](#) website as some found on the internet.*

**Saturday, June 4, 2011**— Opening Weekend for the **Michigan Miracle League**. The **Rochester Grangers BBC** currently sponsor a team as well as volunteer as "buddies". The Miracle League provides children with mental and/or physical challenges an opportunity to play baseball as a team member in an organized league with assistance from their "buddies". Details can be found [here](#).... the **Pittsburgh Franklins** play Diamond St. The Franklins complete schedule can be found [here](#).... **Sunday, June 5, 2011**— the **Bloomington Bucks** host their home opener at Bloomington, Illinois.... The **Athletic BBC of Philadelphia**, PA will make a promotional appearance at the Haverford Township Heritage Festival from 11-4. Their schedule can be found [here](#)... The **VBBA** will hold a **teleconference board meeting at 7:30 PM**.... **Friday, June 10, 2011**— the Rochester Grangers will visit University Hills Elementary School in Rochester. The Grangers will demonstrate the game of vintage base ball (and do some advance scouting!), and finish with a match of the Grangers vs. the Kids.... **Saturday, June 11, 2011**— **Brewery Ommegang Tournament**—5 clubs from the Great Lakes Region will take on 5 clubs from the Northeast on three ball fields at Cooperstown, NY. It will be an all day event. Details can be found [here](#)... the **Cincinnati Vintage BBC** will host 4 other vintage teams from around the Midwest in the **Queen City Invitational Festival**. The event is being held at Heritage Village and Sharon Woods Park @ Sharonville, Ohio. Details can be found [here](#).... **Sunday June 12, 2011**— Indiana's **Munster Centennials BBC** will host the **Grinders** and **Prarie Dogs**. Details can be found [here](#).... **Saturday, June 18, 2011**—the **Simsbury Taverneers BBC** play the **Whately Pioneers** at Forest Park in Springfield, MA in an 1886 rules match... **Sunday, June 19, 2011**—**Father's Day Baseball Match**—come out to see the **Greenbush Dead Citys BBC** of Greenbush Wisconsin @ 1:30. Details can be found [here](#).... The **Quicksteps BBC** out of Minnesota will host a **Father's Day match** at The Landing in Shakopee, 2187 E Hwy 101. vs. the Olmsted County Roosters and Mankato Baltics. 10:00 a.m. Details can be found [here](#).... **Saturday, June 25, 2011**—the **Elizabeth Resolute BBC** (NJ) will host the **Brooklyn Atlantics** @ 11 AM @ Atlantic Park, Smithtown, L.I., N.Y... details can be found [here](#).... **Sunday, June 26, 2011**—the **Ohio Village Muffins** take on the **Champion City Reapers** and the **Wyandot Ghostriders** @ noon. Their detailed schedule of matches can be found [here](#).... **Saturday, July 2, 2011**—Illinois' **Rock Springs Ground Squirrels BBC** will host the **Unions** and **Springfield Long Nine** @ 1. Details can be found [here](#).... **Sunday, July 3, 2011**—Illinois' **Somonauk Blue Stockings** will host the **Millers** in an 1888 vintage game @ 5:30 PM at the Sandwich Fairgrounds. Details can be found [here](#).... **Saturday, July 9, 2011**—The **Bay City Independents BBC** (Michigan) host the **Royal Oak Wahoos BBC**. Details can be found [here](#).... **Sunday, July 10, 2011**—**Western Reserve Cup**—4 clubs from Northeast Ohio square off against each other at Lakewood Park, in Lakewood, Ohio in a local tradition that dates back to 1866. From 11-4 PM. Details can be found [here](#)... For our members from the north, The **Young Canadians** play the **Woodstock Actives** @ 1:00 PM @ Cathedral Park in Hamilton, Ontario (Canada). Details can be found [here](#). **Saturday, July 16, 2011**—**2nd Annual Gettysburg 19th Century Base Ball Tournament (Sat. & Sun.)**—9 clubs from all over the U.S. compete at one of the most sacred grounds in our country's history. President Lincoln, General Grant and General Lee will be in attendance so don't miss out! Details as well as sponsor information can be found [here](#).... **Sunday, July 17, 2011**—Massachusetts **Essex BBC** will face off against the **Brewers of Ipswich BBC** on Georges Island. Details can be found [here](#).... **Saturday, July 23, 2011**—The **New Hampshire Granite BBC** will host the **Olneyville Cadets** @ Nashua, NH @ noon. Details can be found [here](#).... **Sunday, July 24, 2011**— Michigan's **Rochester Rangers BBC** will host the **Port Huron Welkins** @ Van Hoosen Farm @ 1:00 PM. Details can be found [here](#).... **Saturday, July 30, 2011**—The **New York Mutual BBC** is hosting the 14th Annual 19th Century Base Ball Festival Sat. and Sun. @ Old Bethpage Village, NY. They are looking for teams to sign up. Details [here](#).... **Sunday, July 31, 2011**—The **Gold Country Vintage Base Ball League** will host a vintage match in Sacramento, CA @ Raley Field. Details can be found [here](#).

## ROLE OF THE EDITOR & CONTACT INFORMATION

**Note:** I borrowed heavily from outgoing editor Dave Brooks original post 'What do you expect from an editor?' My intention is to publish information about vintage base ball, the people, clubs and games of today and the people, clubs and games of a century and more before. I will write some articles myself (I wrote more than I intended to this newsletter but plan on stepping back in future editions), but it will be much more interesting if you, the reader, takes an active part in the content of this newsletter. You can email your text files to this editor, Jon Demagall at [jdemagall@gmail.com](mailto:jdemagall@gmail.com) and I will put it into the future issues of the Base Ball Player's Chronicle. If you feel like sending me a hard copy of your articles, you can do that as well. Send me an email and I can provide a mailing address. If you do not want to write an article, let me know what topic you are interested in learning about and I will find a willing writer. If you have a copy of an old newspaper account of some interesting bit about base ball, pass it on to share. **A few warnings:** editors sometimes change content (usually due to space restrictions) and spelling. have edited three newsletters in the past but my grammar is by no means perfect. Please let me apologize in advance for the errors I may (will) commit. I will do my best to correct them in future editions.

**THE NEXT ISSUE** of the **Base Ball Player's Chronicle** will be available on August 1, 2011