



**SASKATCHEWAN BASEBALL
HALL OF FAME & MUSEUM ASSOC. INC.
NEWSLETTER**

"HONOURING OUR BASEBALL HERITAGE"
292-22 ST. WEST, BOX 1388 BATTLEFORD, SASK. S0M 0E0
Email <saskbaseballmuseum@sasktel.net>

JANUARY TO APRIL, 2022

VOLUME #39 ISSUE #1

2022 INDUCTEES

Individual Category

Roger Blaquiere, Edam SK
Blair Bosch, Medicine Hat, AB.
Kelvin Colliar, North Battleford, SK.
Myles Dezotell, Regina, SK.
Clayton Ermel, Lloydminster, SK.
Mary Ann Gaetz, Unity, SK.
ISK.
Ernie Weimer. Fox Valley, SK.

Ron Knaus, Regina, SK.
Harry Lamberty, Nipawin, SK.
Mitch MacDonald, Regina, SK.
Jack Scott, Fairmont Hot Springs, BC.
Elmer Torgerson, Eyebrow, SK.
Brooks Washenfelder, Yorkton,

Team Category

Indian Head Rockets, Indian Head, SK.
Marquis wheat Kings, Marquis, SK.

Family Category

Leo MacDonald Family, Regina, SK.

APPRECIATION TO OUR 2022 SILVER SPONSOR, BILL AND PATTY SITTLER, WILKIE, SK.

APPRECIATION AND SINCERE THANKS TO OUR 2022 GOLD SPONSORS

BATTLEFORD FURNITURE, BATTLEFORD, SK.
BASEBALL SASKATCHEWAN
DISCOVERY COOPERATIVE LTD.
KERANDA INDUSTRIAL SUPPLY, MAIDSTONE, SK
SMILEY'S BUFFET AND CATERING, SASKATOON, SK.
SUPERIOR FORKLIFT LTD. REGINA, SK
KONDRO ELECTRIC 1980 LLOYDMINSTER, AB.
LEO AND BRENDA WURTZ, LLOYDMINSTER, AB
HAWTIN PLUMBING SERVICES, NORTH BATTLEFORD, SK.
DARWIN LACKEY, WEYBURN, SK.
ED BRYANT FAMILY, SASKATOON, SK
EARL AND IONE BERARD, MOOSE JAW, SK.
SASKTEL
BASEBALL REGINA, SK
LAKESHORE LIONS, MEOTA, SK
CURMONT FARMS, MERVIN, SK.
JIM GOLIGHTLY, EATONIA, SK



THANK YOU, GOLD SPONSORS!

This Museum is the Protector and Caretaker of our Saskatchewan Baseball Heritage

IN LOVING MEMORY OF . . .

Emile Francis, West Palm Beach, Florida, died Saturday, February 18, 2022 at the age of 95. Emile “The Cat” Francis, a Life Member, was inducted into the Saskatchewan Baseball Hall of Fame, Individual Category, in 1994, for his contribution to the baseball history of Saskatchewan.

Aron Braun, Saskatoon, SK. died November 11, 2021. Aron was a Life Member and was inducted into the Saskatchewan Baseball Hall of Fame, Individual Category, in 2012. [*Aron will be remembered* at a gathering to share memories on Sunday, JUNE 5, 2022, at 2:00 PM, at the Saskatoon Hilltop Clubhouse, 1620 Kilburn Avenue, Saskatoon]

Stanley Robert Montgomery, Moose Jaw, SK., born February 25, 1934, died January 19, 2022. Stan was a Life Member of the Saskatchewan Baseball Hall of Fame and was inducted into the Individual Category in 2006.

George Olafson died December 23, 2021, at 91 years of age. He was a member of the Holar baseball team, a very large part of the Community of Holar, inducted into the Saskatchewan Baseball Hall of Fame, Community Category, in 2003”.

Donald Charles Odgers, Oxbow, SK. died April 6, 2022. Donald was a long-time Life Member of this organization “.

Ted Senko, Humboldt, SK. died August 9, 2021. Ted played with the Colonsay Monarch baseball team for years. Colonsay was inducted into the Saskatchewan Baseball Hall of Fame, Community Category, in 1997. The baseball team made up a large part of the community.

Edith Reanna Falcon, Battleford, SK., died March 27, 2022 at the age of 100 years and 4 months. Edith was the mother of Pat Wouters, who had been a dedicated employee of this organization for many years.

Gordon Haug, Calgary, AB. died in January, 2020. He was a member of the Mervin Juvenile Legionnaires inducted into the Saskatchewan Baseball Hall of Fame, Team Category in 2019”.



NEWS FROM OUR READERS

“Hello Jane. I hope you are well and have been able to avoid the virus. We are now living in Calgary as our grandchildren who are quite young, live here. I hope we all have a healthy year and maybe we will see you in August”. **Wayne Commodore, Calgary, AB. Inductee**

“In 2020, the Village of Muenster, Saskatchewan, named its ballpark, “James G. Korte Field,” after his brother, Jim, a 2001 Inductee of the Saskatchewan Baseball Hall of Fame. Now at 72 years of age, Jim lives in St. Mary’s Villa in Humboldt”. **Dennis Korte, Inductee, 2001**

“Thank you for graciously being part of our Grandpa’s life and his passing. I am certain he was your most proud member! My husband and I thank you!”.

Wyatt and Ashley Gagne

“----I hope you are keeping well during these difficult years. Cheers to you for keeping baseball history alive and well. It has been rough on both Donna and myself losing 2 great friends, the Late Wayne Pusch and Harvey Nybo, both active participants and supporters of the Saskatchewan Baseball Hall of Fame. Wishing you well in 2022!

Brian Keegan, White Rock, BC.

“Season’s Greetings from the South West of our province! Debbie and I were blessed with two grandchildren last fall. A baby boy in September and a baby girl in October-about 9 days apart. It was a fun Christmas! Jane, your work ethic and dedication are second to none. Thank you for this. May all involved with the Saskatchewan Baseball Hall of Fame have a healthy and happy 2022!” **Bill and Debbie Gergely, Richmond, SK.**

“----May you have a prosperous, healthy and Happy New Year, Jane and family. Thanks to you and your committee for your tireless work and dedication to the Saskatchewan Baseball Hall of Fame”. **Mark and Fern Perkins, Saanichton, BC.**

BELATED BIRTHDAY GREETINGS TO:

MEMBERS OF THE BOARD OF THE SBHFM

Earl Berard-Moose Jaw, SK.-April 23

Ione Berard- Moose Jaw, SK-April 18

Ed Bryant -Saskatoon, SK-April 6

Jim Golightly-Eatonia, SK.-April 16

Ryan Herman-Battleford, SK-March 10

Ray Hoover-North Battleford, SK.-January 10

Don Macdonald-Lloydminster, SK.-February 26

Bill Selnes-Melfort, SK.-April 29



MEMBERSHIPS SINCE LAST NEWSLETTER

Life Memberships

Max Weder, Gibsons, BC
Craig Weran, Meadow Lake, SK

2022 Regular Members

Roger Giesbrecht, North Battleford, SK.
Bob Linner, Regina, SK
Lorne Harasen, Regina, SK
Allan Toth, Esterhazy, SK
Greg Brons, Saskatoon, SK
Ann Knutson, Regina, SK
Mervin Borgenson, Calgary, AB
Brian Keegan, White Rock, BC
Calvin Thompson, Saskatoon, SK
Village of Muenster, Muenster, SK
Sylvia Bender-Rongve, Saskatoon, SK
Bud Miller, Saskatoon, SK
Brock Stevens, Regina, SK,
Bernie Nolin, North Battleford, SK
Don Cousins, Saskatoon, SK
Gordon J. MacKinnon, SK, Saskatoon, SK
Bill Hanson, North Battleford, SK
Rod Heisler, Moose Jaw, SK
Ina Williams, North Battleford, SK
Clarence Proctor, Biggar, SK

DONATIONS - OTHER

North Battleford Elks Club
United Way Benefit, Calgary, AB.
Jim Golightly, Eatonia, SK.
Bob Linner, Regina, SK.
Laura Hundt, Glenbush, SK.
Dale Yonz, North Battleford, SK.
Alvin Arnold, Regina, SK.
Ron Brown, Delisle, SK.
Ila Leflar, Regina, SK.
Lorne Harasen Regina, SK.
Allan Toth, Esterhazy, SK.
JB. Lecuyer, Sceptre, SK.

BILL AND PATTY SITTLER FROM
WILKIE, SASKATCHEWAN, OUR
2022 SILVER SPONSOR RECENTLY
ATTENDED A TORONTO BLUE JAY
GAME. BILL CONTACTED JOE,
ONE OF THE TWO BLUE JAY GAME
ANALYSISIST REQUESTING HE SAY
A SPECIAL "HI" TO JANE SHURY,
THE LONG TIME PRESIDENT AND
DRIVING FORCE BEHIND THE
SASKATCHEWAN BASEBALL
HALL OF FAME. JOE MADE THE
COMMENT AND PROVIDED THE
VIDEO TO BILL. THANK YOU, BILL
AND PATTY, FOR THE KIND
GESTURE.

GREATLY APPRECIATED!



DONATIONS-OTHER . . . CONTINUED

Glen Harris, Landis, SK.
Bess Eisler, Regina, SK.
Roger Anholt, Moose Jaw, SK.
Mervin Borgerson, Calagry, AB.
Reuben Hartung, Langenburg, SK.
Calvin Thompson, Saskatoon, SK.
Bud Miller, Saskatoon, SK.
Danny Gallagher, Toronto, SK.
Brock Stevens, Regina, SK.
Carole Baerss, White Horse, Yukon
Ken Hoag, Calgary, AB.
Robert Armstrong, Saskatoon, SK.
Richmond Lions Club, Richmond, SK.
Bill and Debbie Gergely, Richmond, SK.
Don Cousins, Saskatoon, SK.

Rod Heisler, Moose Jaw, SK.
Garry Zeman, Edmonton , AB.
Susan Velder, St. Walburg, SK.
Ina Williams, North Battleford, SK.
Pat Wouters, Battleford, SK.
John Yarske, North Battleford, SK.
Kathy and George Watson, North Battleford, SK.
Peter Fylyma, Saskatoon, SK.



DONATION "IN MEMORY:

"In memory of Wayne Pusch" from Brian Keegan, White Rock, BC.
"In memory" of Gordon McMurchy," from Wayne Thompson, Edmonton, AB.
"In memory of Cameron Roemmele" from Wayne Thompson, Edmonton, AB,
"In memory of Norm Bell" from Wayne Thompson, Edmonton, AB.
"In memory of Rea Falcon" from Pat Wouters, Battleford, SK.
"In memory of Emile Francis" from Don Macdonald, Lloydminster, SK.

JANE'S CORNER

Our Volunteer Christmas dinner was well attended with lots of fun and, laughter and Christmas cheer!

Our Open House was also well attended with representatives from the North Battleford Elks Club presenting a donation of \$2000.00, accepted with great appreciation.

-Our copier, Josh, died, however, Josh 2 now replaces him. Josh 2 has now been fully paid for by a donation from Peter Fylyma, 'In honour of Peter and Annie Fylyma". The Late Peter and Annie, his parents, were great supporters of baseball. Previous donation for Josh have been designated toward operational costs. Thanks to those that had donated to Josh,

The roof of the museum building requires new shingles. This project has been on hold until funds would be available. We now have had a percentage of the cost paid by our insurance and one donation designated to the project from a member so with money from our operating account, we are now going ahead with the shingling in a few weeks.

Happy Retirement to our friend, supporter and a 1997 Honourary Inductee of the Saskatchewan Baseball Hall of Fame, Jim Sheron, a certified translator in Ottawa who retired at the end of 2021. Jim's last translation was a Covid-19 vaccination certificate from Brazil. We have known Jim for many years. He is also an author and has donated several of his books, Canada's Baseball Legends and "Over The Fence Is Out", to the museum. These are available for sale at the museum. Call or email to order. Thank you, Jim!

Another friend, supporter and a 2004 Honourary Inductee of this Saskatchewan Baseball Hall of Fame, Bill Humber, has been honoured with The Order of Canada! Bill is known and highly respected for his knowledge of the history of baseball in Canada! Congratulations! Bill has been our guest speaker several times at our annual induction celebrations over the decades. Bill has also provided us with books he has written or co-edited with his son Darryl. One book is called "Let It Snow"-- ["Keeping Canada's Winter Sports Alive" by Darryl Humber and Bill Humber.

I must extend my appreciation to all our members that have made extra donations in order for this museum to operate. These donations, membership fees, profit from our fund- raising events, the Covid grants and the cutting expenses where necessary, have allowed us to keep this Hall of Fame and Museum building that contains the history of baseball in our Province and Battleford, in good condition for many years to come!

After training several people this past year and a half, an Assistant Manager has been hired. Valorie Higgs now fills the secretary's chair. Welcome Valorie! To date I have had no success in filling the position of Manager, however, I will keep trying!



OUR OWN EMILE "THE CAT" FRANCIS

North Battleford has given it's share of successful people to the world, but, few, if any, scored as highly as Emile Francis. His hockey playing career along with his coaching and managing success throughout the years have placed his baseball days in a realm we may well refer to as history. As we all know, as achievements stop being repeated on a daily basis, they are eventually relegated to the category of history, and human beings soon begin to forget. In today's world it may be hard to find anyone who remembers who in the hockey world, was called "The Cat."

Emile was born September 12, 1926, in North Battleford's Notre Dame Hospital, a hospital that still exists as part of the present-day Battlefords Union Hospital. His preliminary education was obtained at the Convent of the Child Jesus, then onto the North Battleford Collegiate Institute, now part of John Paul11 Collegiate. Emile began his ball playing at the age of 17. From the start, he played short stop, playing the 1944-45 season with the North Battleford Beavers in the Saskatoon and District Senior League. In 1945-46 he enlisted in the Army and

played the Maple Creek Army Club. People with natural ability in sports, music and similar skills were granted the rank of Sargent. Thus Emile became Sargent Emile Francis in the Canadian Army. Emile's baseball career extended from 1944-1945 into the late 1950's. The years 1950 to 1958 were the years that baseball was at its best. This brand of baseball has not been played in our province since. Without a doubt the dominating team during that era was the North Battleford Beavers. They won 5 championships in eight [8] years along with winning practically every tournament attended in Saskatoon, Foam Lake, Lloydminster, Rosetown and Indian Head. These were big pay days for the Beavers!

In 1946-47 season, and the 2 following seasons, Emile was back with the Beavers who were not yet involved with the big money tournaments so he was picked up by the Regina Red Sox for tournaments in the south, by Neilburg for Saskatoon and the northern communities.

The 1949-50 season saw Emile with the Delisle Commodores of the Northern Saskatchewan League, winning the championship and several tournaments. He was hired by Delisle and spent the whole summer playing 118 games with the Bentleys. Emile was 1 of 7 imports on the team.

Emile then decided to go all out and get into baseball with both feet, returning to the Beavers as the playing manager of the team for the 1950-1951 season. The team won the Northern Saskatchewan Championship! 1951-1952-1953-1954 saw the team win 3 Western Canada League Championships in a row. He was back as Manager of the Beavers again in 1956-1957, winning another Western Canada League Championship. 1956 was the year the North Battleford Beaver Baseball Team represented Canada at the Global World Series in Milwaukee. The 1957-58, the Beavers again were the Western Canada League Champions. The following year the Western Canada League, as they had known it, disbanded and the Golden Era of baseball was curtailed. Emile had been associated with many teams, hockey and baseball over the years, but he once stated none were as good or as competitive as those Beaver teams. Their records of championships attest to that. He said it was a once in a lifetime deal and he had been fortunate enough to recruit and develop a winning team. Also, he said the team was backed by a tremendous following of fans in North Battleford! When Emile retired from playing hockey, he was given the opportunity to go into hockey on a full time basis, 12 months of the year. He was offered jobs by 3 of the then 6 NHL Clubs, one of the reasons being what he had accomplished in running baseball clubs. In essence, baseball laid a solid base for him and his hockey career. Baseball was behind him, but never forgotten. From the time Emile was a kid, the Yankees were his favourite team. In a final memoir of what Emile called the Golden Era, on the New York Yankees billboard were the words in lights, "Welcome Emile Francis". He was presented with a Golden Pass to New York Stadium.

It was with the greatest of pleasure and in honour of his great contribution to our Saskatchewan baseball heritage, Emile was inducted into the Saskatchewan Baseball Hall of Fame in 1994. How proud we are! [Jane Shury]

The 37th Annual Induction will be celebrated Saturday, August 20, 2022, in Battleford, Saskatchewan. We are preparing for this happy event. You are invited to share in this celebration of the great game of baseball, and all our Saskatchewan Baseball Hall of Fame inductees from the past 36 years and those that will honoured this year and in the future. Make 2022 the year you share this celebration

This museum is the Protector and Caretaker of our Saskatchewan Baseball Heritage
Saskatchewan Baseball Hall of Fame and Museum

Donation and membership campaign

To all inductees of the Saskatchewan Baseball Hall of Fame

This historical Hall of Fame and Museum, is for the benefit of all that contributed to our great baseball history, for their children and grandchildren, and for the citizens of this great province of Saskatchewan and those of Canada.

This organization operates on donations, membership fees, many fund-raising projects throughout the years, and numerous volunteer hours.

As an inductee, your name and baseball career is embedded in this historical Hall of Fame, and ask your support to become a member or give a donation.

Our basic annual membership fee is \$25.00, and offers:

An annual membership card.

Voting privileges.

The quarterly newsletter.

Recognition in newsletter.

Our fiscal year is January 1 to December 31.

Income tax receipts are issued for membership fees.

A Life Membership fee is \$200.00, and offers:

A laminated Life membership card.

A Saskatchewan Baseball Hall of Fame and Museum lapel pin.

Voting privileges.

Recognition in newsletter.

The quarterly newsletter.

Income tax receipts are issued for all membership fees..

DONATIONS

All donations are greatly appreciated.

Donations designated "In Memory", are also acknowledged in the newsletter.

Income tax receipts are issued for donations of \$10.00 or more.

Payment by cheque to The Saskatchewan Baseball Museum.

E-Transfers- saskbaseballmuseum@sasktel.net

Sorry we are not set up for credit cards.

Be a friend- Become a member!

This Museum and Hall of Fame is the perfect place for generations of families and friends to share their memories and dreams about our rich Saskatchewan baseball history.

This Museum is the Protector and Caretaker of Our Saskatchewan Baseball Heritage

**SASKATCHEWAN BASEBALL HALL OF FAME
& MUSEUM ASSOCIATION INC.**

DONATION FORM

NAME-----

ADDRESS-----

CITY/TOWN-----

PROVINCE-----POSTAL CODE-----

PHONE-----EMAIL-----

Income Tax receipts are issued for your donation

If you want this donation "In Memory" of someone, please indicate name.

NAME-----

Cheques payable to: Saskatchewan Baseball Museum, Box 1388, Battleford, SK S0M 0E0

E-Transfer – saskbaseballmuseum@sasktel.net

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

Annual fees-January 1 to December 31-----\$25.00

Life Membership--\$200.00-----\$200.00

NAME-----

ADDRESS-----

CITY/TOWN-----

PROVINCE-----POSTAL CODE-----

PHONE-----EMAIL-----

Cheques payable to: Saskatchewan Baseball Museum, Box 1388, Battleford, SK. S0M 0E0

E-Transfers <saskbaseballmuseum@sasktel.net>

You receive an income tax receipt for the full amount of your membership fee!

Your support assists in the operation of this organization.

THANK YOU!

**SASKATCHEWAN BASEBALL HALL OF FAME AND MUSEUM ASSOCIATION INC.
INDUCTION BANQUET TICKET ORDER FORM**

ADULT TICKET @ \$75.00 EACH & CHILDREN 8 YEARS AND UNDER @ \$40.00 EACH

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY/TOWN _____ PROV _____

POSTAL CODE _____ PHONE# _____

WILL BE ATTENDING IN HONOUR OF: _____
(Individual, Team, Family or Community)

Adult- \$75.00 X _____ = \$ _____

Children 8 years and under- \$40.00 X _____ = _____ \$

TOTAL PAYMENT = \$ _____

BANQUET TICKETS:

Banquet tickets, will be mailed upon receipt of order and payment.
Banquet tickets, ordered and paid, will not be mailed later than 2 weeks prior to the event but held at the registration desk at the Alex Dillabough Centre (421-28th Street West, Battleford, Sask.).

TIME, LOCATION & DRESS

The Annual Induction Reception is held at 3:30 p.m. at the Alex Dillabough Centre (421-28th Street West, Battleford, Sask.), which is wheelchair accessible.
IF you need wheelchair space at your table, please advise us in advance.
Dress is semi-formal, suit or slacks and sports jacket.

METHOD OF PAYMENT:

Sorry, we do not take credit cards
E-Transfers----- saskbaseballmuseum@sasktel.net
Cheques--payable to:
Saskatchewan Baseball Museum [Mail to Box 1388, Battleford, SK. S0M 0E0

Deadline for ordering tickets is Monday, August 15, 2022

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT US:

Email: saskbaseballmuseum@sasktel.net
Phone #: 1-306-446-1863