George Joyce Found

On August 14, 1886, Washington was playing Philadelphia in a game at Philadelphia. Sadie Houch sprained his ankle, and a man named Joyce (that's his last name, not his first name) came to the rescue and played centerfield. Up until now, he had been unidentified. Joe Simenic found these notes on the game:

"Joyce, an old Washington player but out of practice, was the only available player to be substituted. Mr. Joyce was a well-known baseball player in the early days of the game, before it became a professional institution... He was a member of the old National team, and afterwards the Jeffersons."

In Marshall Wright's book, The National Association of Base Ball Players, 1857-70, the player is listed as George Joyce, who played as an outfielder for Jefferson (1866-67) and National (1869), both being Washington teams.

Sporting Life carried an obit in its November 16, 1895 issue stating that:

"George W. Joyce, an old resident of this city (Washington), died Saturday evening (November 9), at 2129 L Street Northwest, where he had been living with his nephew. Mr Joyce was a well-known baseball player in the early days of the game, before it became a professional institution. (Hmm. Where have we heard that before?) He was a member of the old National team, and afterwards the Jeffersons...."

Obviously, this guy is our missing player. Joe Simenic and Richard Topp did the work on this one and thus, get credit for the "kill." They also share the first 2002 Find of the Month award.

New Members

Please welcome Rod Nelson to the biographical committee. Rod's address is 1550 Platte Street #455, Denver, Colorado 80202 and his code number will be N5. Also welcome Tim Hayburn. Tim's address is 1809 Earlington Road, Havertown, Pennsylvania 19083. Tim's code number will be H0.

These Things Take Time

The Patrick Callahan listed as playing for Indianapolis in 1884 is not the Cleveland-born man who died in Louisville in 1940. This was originally discovered by Tom Hufford in 1972. Tom had spoken with a business associate of the Louisville guy. The friend stated that Callahan never played in the majors. A note from Sporting Life confirms this by stating, "Patrick Callaghan, late third baseman of Indianapolis is available. 130 W. 52nd Street, New York, New York." So it only took us 30 years to make this change.

You Think That Took A While?

We have had George Winkelman's birth date and place wrong all along. Winkelman himself wrote to Bob McConnell in 1959 giving him his correct birthdate. I didn't find out about it until now.

The Fountain of Youth

Ponce de Leon came to Florida looking for the Fountain of Youth. It appears he should have been looking in the Dominican Republic. In the past month, we have discovered that Juan Cruz, Neifi Perez, Timoniel Perez, Octavio Dotel, Mario Encarnacion, Luis Vizcaino, Enrique Wilson, and Rafael Furlan are 2 years older than has been reported, and Ramon Ortiz and Deivi Cruz are 3 years older. Juan Uribe, Felix Heredia, and Bartolo Colon are one year older than previously reported. Luis Pineda leads the...
the way as he is now 4 years older. All were born in the Dominican Republic. With this new information, that means that the first major leaguer born in the 1980s is Albert Pujols, who debuted April 2, 2001. Pujols was also born in the Dominican.

The More Things Change...

John Schwartz sent along the note on Grayson Pierce. After Pierce’s playing career was over he became an NL umpire. He was fired in 1887 for misusing a railroad pass. In 2001, umpire Al Clark was fired over allegedly misusing airline tickets. Perhaps 100 years from now, another umpire will be released over spaceship tickets.

Graveyard Committee

Stew Thornley asked me about our committee possibly forming a subcommittee called the “Graveyard Committee.” Their function would be to locate burial sites of deceased ballplayers. What do you all think about that and would any of you be interested in such a project?

A Lindemann Problem?

We list John Frederick Mann "Bob" Lindemann as playing three games in the outfield for the Philadelphia A’s in 1901. Ernest Lindemann pitched in one game for the 1907 Boston Braves. Marc Okkonen has been researching the minor league careers of these guys and saw that there is a 5 year gap in the records for the pitcher Lindemann and they fit right in with the minor league assignments for the outfielder Lindemann. Mark found the player listed as Robert Lindemann and he was a pitcher. Is it possible these 2 players are the same? Does anybody know about these Lindemanns and where the data on them came from?

A Perfect Strick

Charles Strick played for Louisville in 1882. We knew little about him other than the fact that he was from Erie, Pennsylvania. Richard Malatzky found a relative of Strick’s through the “Find A Grave” website. This man had Strick’s birth date and death date and was also nice enough to go to the library and find an obituary. The obituary referred to Strick as a former major league player and that he had played for Louisville. The obituary also mentioned that Strick’s prowess as a ballplayer was so great that he had a cigar named after him called "Strick’s Home Run." Obviously, it was the Reggie Bar of its day.

Beadlemania

We listed David Beadle as playing one game for Detroit in 1884. Reed Howard’s minor league research showed a David Beadle and his brother Edward with various teams during the late 1880s and early 1890s. Richard Malatzky was able to find the family in the 1880 census under the name Beetle. He traced them through the city directories under the names Beetle, Beadle, and Beadle. David Beadle was a policeman and disappeared from the city directories in 1925. Richard was then able to find his death in the New York City death records. Good work!

Frank Berkelbach

This was an interesting find. Richard Malatzky found a Berkelbach website, where a man listed as one of his ancestors, Frank P. Berkelbach, who had played for the Cincinnati Reds. Richard contacted the man and they exchanged e-mails. Richard was told that Berkelbach died June 10, 1932 in Merchantville, New Jersey. Bob Bailey checked the death certificate and got the birthdate and Berkelbach’s full name. I wish everyone had a website like that.

In Memoriam

I’m sure that we are all saddened by the death of SABR's founder, Bob Davids. I joined SABR in 1977 and began receiving the newsletter with a return address stamped on from an L. Robert Davids. This was back when the newsletter was stamped and mailed from Bob’s kitchen. I attended my first SABR convention in 1979 and that is when I first met Bob Davids. I had expected a garrulous, gung ho, organizer type of guy, but the man I met was a modest, unassuming man with a marvelous sense of humor. Bob used to emcee the trivia contest as well as the presentations at the convention. Back then, they limited the presentations to 10 minutes and there was one member, who frequently ran over his allotted time. The amusing part was watching Bob unsuccessfully try to get him off the stage.

Bob is responsible for all of us getting together and teaming up to do this wonderful research and for the many great friendships we
have formed as part of this organization. We will all greatly miss him.

**Birthday List**

These nonagenarians are celebrating birthdays in March and April. Make sure you send a card.

March 2  Ace Adams  90  
March 11  James Bucher  91  
March 12  Robert Barr  94  
March 16  John Poser  92  
April 1  Jake Wade  90  
April 9  Howie Groskloss  96  
April 9  Claude Passeau  93  
April 15  Eddie Mayo  92  
April 17  Bob Stevens  95  
April 22  Marvin Center  90  
April 27  Bernard Uhalt  92  

**Acting Like A Ballplayer**

This month’s *Mystery of the Month* comes from Peter Morris and actually involves a player who is already "found."

Harry Corson Clarke played one game for Washington on August 28, 1889. He was a prominent actor who somehow got into a major league game. There was an obituary of actor Harry Corson Clarke in the *New York Times* in 1923 that stated he had died in Long Beach, California after a fall in a Cincinnati theatre. However, there is no death record in California for him on that date. The Cincinnati papers didn’t mention him either. It would seem anyone that would merit a mention of his passing in the *New York Times* would be a little easier to track. Was Clarke a stage name? How did he manage to play in that game in the first place?

Clarke also has a connection to an even more mysterious individual. Clarke was forming an acting troupe to perform in Hawaii and the Orient and gave a job to an itinerant actor named William Desmond Taylor. Books could be written on Taylor’s exploits; however, Taylor later became famous as a director of silent films. On February 1, 1922, Taylor was shot to death in a case that remains unsolved to this day and is one of Hollywood’s most enduring mysteries. Due to Taylor’s rather unique and bizarre relationships, there is no shortage of suspects in Taylor’s murder. To me, this makes Harry Corson Clarke’s story even more fascinating. Who was this guy and how did his one-game major league career come about?

### The Scoreboard

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None

New Information Received:

1884 Beadle, David
Name: David A. Beadle
B: Jan 1864
D: Sep 22 1925
New York, New York

1884 Bertleback, Frank P.
Name: Frank Pierce Bertlebach
B: Jul 27 1853
D: Jun 10 1932
Merchantville, New Jersey

1882 Birchall, Adoniram Judson
B: Sep 12 1855
(M3)

1927 Boney, Henry Tate
BL
(P1)

1884 Callahan, Patrick Henry
Name: Patrick J. Callaghan
B: New York, New York
Delete birth date and death information

1910 Castle, John Francis
Debut: Apr 25 1910
(V1)

1910 Cheek, Harry G.
Debut: Apr 30 1910
(V1)

1950 Chiti, Harry
D: Jan 31 2002
(C1)

1997 Colon, Bartolo
Haines City, Florida

1913 Connolly, Joseph Aloysius
Name: Joseph Francis Connolly
B: Feb 1 1884
(C1)

1908 Cravath, Clifford Carlton
B: Poway, California
(M4)

1932 Crosetti, Frank Peter Joseph
D: Feb 11 2002
(C1)

1997 Cruz, Deivi (Garcia)
Stockton, California

2001 Cruz, Juan Carlos
B: Nov 16 1972
(D6)

1882 Daily, Hugh Ignatius
B: Oct 15 1978
(P1)

Ireland

1848

1999 Darr, Michael Curtis
D: Feb 15 2002
(C1)

Phoenix, Arizona

1958 Davis, Robert Edward
D: Dec 22 2001
(B3)

New York, New York

1883 Diven, Frank Robert
B: Aug 29 1859
(B6)

1999 Dotel, Octavio Eduardo (Diaz)
B: Nov 25 1973
(P1)

1890 Doty, Elmer L.
B: Lyons, New York
(M3)

1955 Easton, John David
D: Jul 28 2001
(B6)

Princeton, New Jersey

2001 Encarnacion, Mario (Gonzalez)
B: Sep 24 1975
(P1)

1962 Faul, William Alvan
D: Feb 21 2002
(Q1)

Cincinnati, Ohio

1940 File, Lawrence Samuel
Name: Samuel Lawrence File
Debut: Apr 26 1898
(P1)

1898 Flick, Elmer Harrison
Debut: Sep 19 1891
(P1)

1891 Fuller, Henry W.
B: Aug 24 1978
(C1)
1872 Galvin, John S.
1899 Harris, Charles Jenkins
1996 Heredia, Felix (Perez)
1964 Hoffman, John Edward
1901 Jackson, James Benner
1886 Joyce,

1897 Leroy, John Michael
1871 Malone, Ferguson G.
1962 McGaha, Fred Melvin (MGR)

1879 McManus, Patrick
1999 Ortiz, Ramon Diogenes (Ortiz)
1996 Perez, Neifi Neftali (Diaz)
2000 Perez, Timoniel
2001 Pineda, Luis A.
1939 Pyle, Herbert Ewald
1886 Shindle, William
1953 Smith, Alphonse Eugene

1884 Sneed, Jonathan L.

1907 Speaker, Tristram E.
1912 Spencer, Fred Calvin
1968 Spencer, James Lloyd

1882 Strick, Charles

1937 Strickland, William Goss

1909 Sullivan, Harry Andrew
1950 Taylor, Frederick Rankin

2001 Uribe, Juan C. (Tena)
1912 Veach, Robert Hayes
1904 Vinson, Ernest Augustus
1999 Vizcaino, Luis (Arias)
1871 White, William Warren
1916 Whittaker, Walter Elton
1997 Wilson, Enrique (Martes)
1883 Winkelman, George Edward

1948 Yochim, Raymond Austin Aloysius
1945 Zabala, Adrian (Rodriguez)