SABR Biographical Research Committee July/August 2006 Report

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Jimmy Wood Found

James Leon "Jimmy" Wood has long been one of our most interesting missing players. He was very prominent in the National Association as both a player and manager. In 1874, he decided to do a little home surgery when he lanced an abscess on his leg with a pocket knife. An infection led doctors to amputate his right leg. Wood was written up as a mystery in Lee Allen's column in the Sporting News on April 20, 1963. Wood moved to Florida and did well investing in citrus groves. His daughter Carrie married William Chase Temple. Temple moved to Pittsburgh and became extremely wealthy and it was he who established the Temple Cup. Wood's granddaughter, Dorothy Temple, married major league pitcher Del Mason.

It sounds like it would be an easy task to find Jimmy Wood, but that was not the case. Allen's column suggested that he died in Brooklyn in 1926 or 1927. We could never find any proof of that in Brooklyn. It turns out that the date was about right; the location was just 3000 miles off. In our long and fruitless search for Wood we had tracked him to Quebec, New York, Ohio, Illinois, Tennessee, Louisiana, Florida, and Pennsylvania without finding a death certificate. Peter Morris was able to find a death certificate in California showing that he died November 3, 1927 in San Francisco. The birth matches what he have and his body was sent to New Orleans for burial next to his son. This is a great find. Wood was on our Top 20 Most Wanted list so Peter wins the *Find of the Month* award.

John Brown

John Brown pitched one game for Brooklyn in 1897. I never thought we'd find this guy for two reasons. The most obvious reason is his name. You can't get much more common than John Brown. The second reason is that he was from Philadelphia and the state of Pennsylvania does everything in its power to make life difficult for researchers. However, Richard Malatzky was able to solve the mystery.

Notes from 1897 said that Brown was a stone cutter from Philadelphia. Richard found a John Brown, cutter, listed in Philadelphia with James and William Brown. At various times, John was listed as a ballplayer. Richard found James Brown in an early index of Philadelphia deaths and he was buried in Old Cathedral Cemetery. Buried with him was John Brown, who died July 18, 1908. His obituary confirmed that he was the ballplayer.

Billy Alvord

Billy Alvord was an infielder for five different teams from 1885 to 1893. We knew that he was born in August of 1863 in St. Louis. He appears in the 1900 census in Buffalo, New York with his wife Isabel and daughter Florence. The wife Isabel shows up in the 1909 Buffalo city directory as a widow, so we could assume he dies in Buffalo around 1908. Wrong!! He apparently left his family, remarried a woman named Sarah, and moved to Michigan. In the 1920 census, he is living in Saginaw, Michigan and is listed in the census index as Alvard. Peter Morris found a William C. Alvord dying in 1927 in St. Petersburg, Florida. I sent for the death certificate and his birth is listed as August 10, 1863 in St. Louis, Missouri. Obviously, this is our missing player.

Horace Helmbold

Thanks to the ever increasing resources that the Internet has to offer, we were able to find Horace Helmbold. Horace was born in Philadelphia, but started being somewhat nomadic. He was in Wisconsin in 1910 and Minnesota in 1920. His wife died in Minnesota, but Horace didn't. Peter Morris was able to find his death in a North Carolina death index. The death certificate matched exactly the information we had for the ballplayer. Another name crossed off the list.

Harry Koons

Richard Malatzky and Bob Bailey teamed up to track down 1884 Union Association third baseman Harry Koons. Yet another difficult Philadelphia player, he was listed in the city directories from 1883 to 1900 as a printer, except for 1890 when he was listed as a ballplayer. The only possibly disturbing thing is that 1890 listed him as Henry S. Koons when all other years listed him as either Henry or Harry M. Koons. Since he was at the same address in 1890 and 1891 as Henry S. and Harry M., it would appear to be just a typo. He can be found in the 1870 census as the son of Cadwalader and Emma Koons. The 1910 census shows him still in Philadelphia and by 1920, he has moved to Camden, New Jersey. Bob Bailey was able to find a death certificate in Camden. He was killed when he was hit by a bus on April 5, 1932 and his parents were Cadwalader and Emma Koons. Obviously, this is the player we have been seeking.

Boo Boos

There were a couple of errors in the last newsletter. I misread Peter Morris's notes regarding Clarence and George Stephens. The 1891 Cincinnati game was played by Clarence and not George. Hopefully, I have this correct now. Also, I read the wrong line in the database when changing the cemetery for John Peters. It was not John Paul Peters (1884), but John William Peters (1932) who is buried in Memorial Park Cemetery in Kansas City, Kansas. Sorry about that.

The Jackson '05

With all those great finds, it seems only fair that we should add another missing player. On August 11 and August 14, 1905, a man named Jackson pitched for Detroit. For many years, we have carried this player as Charles Bernard Jackson. Peter Morris has shown that this was not Charles Jackson, but Herbert Jackson. A note from Sporting Life of 01/20/1906 said that Manager Armour had released Herby Jackson, who pitched for the Tigers last year. The Altoona Mirror of 08/14/1905 also identified this player as Herby Jackson. On 08/18/1905, the Altoona Mirror said that Herbert Jackson was released by Detroit and signed by Lancaster.

Obviously, the Detroit pitcher is Herbert Jackson rather than Charles Jackson. The only problem is that we know nothing about Herbert Jackson. He apparently pitched for Providence, Akron, New Castle, Steubenville, Wilmington, and Reading. He may have been from Ithaca, New York, but we don't know that for sure. We now have a new missing player to replace some of the ones we have found. Jackson is our *Mystery of the Month*.

Birthday List

Here are the nonagenarians celebrating birthdays in September and October.

| September 17 | Ernie Koy | 97 |
|--------------|----------------|----|
| September 19 | Bob McNamara | 90 |
| October 5 | Tony Malinosky | 97 |
| October 13 | Ray Hathaway | 90 |
| October 17 | Mike Sandlock | 91 |
| October 18 | George Gick | 91 |
| October 19 | Ralph McLeod | 90 |
| October 21 | Edwin Carnett | 90 |
| October 25 | Gene Corbett | 93 |
| October 29 | Ed Levy | 90 |
| October 30 | Edward Borom | 91 |

Scoreboard

| CATEGORY | IN | OUT | PCT |
|----------------|-------|------|---------|
| Names | 16475 | 53 | 99.679 |
| Births | 15908 | 620 | 96.249 |
| Assumed Alive | 7948 | | 48.088 |
| Deaths | 8277 | 303 | 50.079 |
| Bats | 15268 | 1149 | 93.001 |
| Throws | 15488 | 929 | 94.341 |
| Heights | 15610 | 807 | 95.084 |
| Weights | 15568 | 849 | 94.829 |
| Debut Dates | 16528 | 0 | 100.000 |
| Questionnaires | 9984 | 6544 | 60.407 |
| Total | | | 92.4117 |

New Monthly Data

Questionnaires Received:

None

New Information Received:

| DEBUT YR | NAME | CHANGE OR ADD | SOURCE |
|----------|------------------------------|--|--------------|
| 1923 | Archdeacon, Maurice John | B: Dec 14 <u>1897</u> | (D7) |
| 1882 | Arundel, John Thomas | Height: <u>5-10</u> Weight: <u>175</u> | (M4) |
| 1913 | Allison, Milo Henry | Eliminate cemetery | (H9) |
| 1885 | Alvord, William Charles | Name: William <u>Crawford</u> Alvord | (C1) |
| | | B: Aug <u>10</u> 1863 | |
| | | D: Apr 7 1927 St. Petersburg, Florida | |
| 1902 | Atz, John Jacob | Name: <u>Jacob Henry</u> Atz | (D7) |
| | | Delete real name of Zimmerman | |
| 1903 | Aubrey, Harry Herbert | B: Jul 5 <u>1881</u> | (M3) |
| 1933 | Auker, Elden LeRoy | D: Aug 4 2006 Vero Beach, Florida | (H9) |
| | | Cemetery: <u>Cremated</u> , ashes retained by | |
| | | family | |
| 1906 | Bates, John William | <u>IL</u> | (D7) |
| 1914 | Beck, Ernest George B. | Name: Ernest George <u>Bernard</u> Beck | (M4) |
| 1872 | Bentley, Clytus G. | Name: Clytus <u>George</u> Bentley | (B3) |
| | | Cemetery: Church of the Holy Trinity, | |
| | | Middletown, Connecticut | |
| 1903 | Betts, Harold Matthew | Cemetery: <u>Cremated</u> , <u>ashes retained by</u> | (R4) |
| | | family | |
| 1955 | Birrer, Werner Joseph | B: Jul 4 <u>1929</u> | (D7) |
| 1897 | Brown, John J. | B: Aug 24 1876 Philadelphia, Pennsylvania | (M3) |
| | | D: <u>Jul 18 1908 Philadelphia</u> , <u>Pennsylvania</u> | |
| | | Cemetery: Old Cathedral Cemetery, | |
| 1005 | | Philadelphia, Pennsylvania | () (1) |
| 1995 | Caceres, Edgar F. | Name: Edgar <u>Fidel</u> Caceres | (V1) |
| 1890 | Caffery, | Name: Ed Carfrey | (M3) |
| 1942 | Clary, Ellis | Cemetery: Sunset Hill Cemetery, Valdosta, | (H4) |
| 1000 | 0 11 0 11 5 | <u>Georgia</u> | (NIE) |
| 1923 | Collins, Philip Eugene | Cemetery: Holy Cross Cemetery, Calumet | (N5) |
| 1884 | Crothers, Douglass | City, Illinois Hoight: 5.00 Wolght: 140 | (1) (1) |
| 1997 | Cruz, Jose Javier | Height: <u>5-09</u> Weight: <u>140</u> Name: Jose <u>Luis</u> Cruz | (M4) (F4) |
| 1997 | Daniels, Bertram Elmer | Name: Bernard Elmer Daniels | (D7) |
| 1890 | Daniels, Peter J. | Weight: 5-08.5 Weight: 160 | (M4) |
| 1951 | Dempsey, Cornelius Francis | B: Sep 16 1922 | (F4) |
| 1701 | Dempsey, Comelius Hariels | D: Aug 5 2006 Redwood City, California | (1 4) |
| 1956 | Drabowsky, Myron Walter | Cemetery: Cremated | (V1) |
| 1948 | Fleitas, Angel Felix (Husta) | D: Jul 10 2006 Miami, Florida | (C1) |
| 1 / 10 | Troitas, Migori Ciix (Husta) | D. <u>34, 10 2000 Milattii, Hollad</u> | () |

| 2001 | Fossum, Casey Paul | B: Jan <u>6</u> 1978 | (F4) |
|----------------|---|--|-----------|
| 1939 | Gedeon, Elmer Joseph | Cemetery: Arlington National Cemetery, | (C1) |
| 1,0, | | Arlington, Virginia | (0.) |
| 1888 | Greenig, John A. | TR | (M4) |
| 1930 | Groskloss, Howard Hoffman | D: Jul 15 2006 Vero Beach, Florida | (R4) |
| | | Cemetery: Woodlawn Cemetery, Miami, | |
| | | <u>Florida</u> | |
| 1937 | Heintzelman, Kenneth | Cemetery: All Saints Cemetery, St. Peters, | (C1) |
| | Alphonse | Missouri | |
| 1890 | Helmbold, Horace Willing | D: Nov 18 1939 Lake Lure, North Carolina | (M4) |
| 1911 | Herrell, Walter William | Height: <u>5-10.5</u> | (M4) |
| 1890 | Hill, Belden L. | Height: <u>5-10</u> Weight: <u>170</u> | (M4) |
| 1901 | Hinton, John Robert | D: <u>Jul 19</u> 1920 <u>Pittsburgh</u> , Pennsylvania | (R4) |
| | | Cemetery: <u>Unknown Cemetery</u> , <u>Braddock</u> , | |
| | | <u>Pennsylvania</u> | |
| 1905 | Jackson, Charles Bernard | Name: <u>Herbert</u> Jackson | (M4) |
| | | Delete birth and death information. | |
| 1984 | Javier, Stanley Julian Antonio (DeJavier) | Name: Stanley Julian Antonio Javier (Negrin) | (F4) |
| 1897 | Johnson, John Gottfred | B: Jul 22 <u>1873</u> | (C1) |
| 1916 | Jones, Carroll Elmer | Cemetery: LeRoy Cemetery, Oskaloosa, | (W4) |
| 107/ | Varieta a la casa la Thanasa | Missouri | /E 4\ |
| 1976 | Kerrigan, Joseph Thomas | B: <u>Jan</u> 30 1954 | (F4) |
| 1902 | Kisinger, Charles Samuel | BLTL | (D7) |
| 1884 | Koons, Harry M. | B: <u>Aug 18 1862</u> D: Apr 5 1033 Complete New Jersey | (M3) |
| | | D: Apr 5 1932 Camden, New Jersey Comptent Formwood Comptent Formwood | |
| | | Cemetery: <u>Fernwood Cemetery, Fernwood,</u> <u>Pennsylvania</u> | |
| 1896 | Leahy, Daniel C. | D: Dec <u>30 1903</u> | (V1) |
| 1913 | Love, Edward Haughton | Cemetery: Forest Hill Cemetery Midtown, | (W4) |
| 1713 | Love, Lawara Haugillon | Memphis, Tennessee | (004) |
| 1943 | Mains, James Royal | D: Portland, Maine | (H4) |
| 1885 | Mappes, George Richard | Height: <u>5-08</u> Weight: <u>200</u> | (M4) |
| 1896 | Mertes, Samuel Blair | D: Mar 12 1945 Villa Grande, California | (D7) |
| 1906 | Morgan, James Edward | Height: <u>5-10.5</u> Weight: <u>180</u> | (M4) |
| 1881 | Morrissey, John J. | Remove Detroit 1882 record. Record belongs | (M4) |
| 1001 | Weinsey, serins. | to Tom Morrissey. | (1011) |
| 1884 | Morrissey, Thomas J. | Add Detroit 1882 record from John Morrissey. | (M4) |
| 1001 | Weinsey, memaser | Debut: <u>Jul 12 1882</u> | () |
| 1901 | Murphy, Francis Patrick | B: Apr <u>6 1876</u> | (D7) |
| 1910 | Newnam, Patrick Henry | Name: Robert Albert Newnam | (H9) |
| 1930 | Perkins, Charles Sullivan | Debut: <u>Jun 27</u> 1930 | (P1) |
| 1950 | Pierro, William Leonard | D: Apr 1 2006 Brooklyn, New York | (C1) |
| 1943 | Poland, Hugh Reid | D: Mar <u>29</u> 1984 | (W4) |
| 1992 | Ramsey, Fernando David | B: Rainbow <u>City</u> , Panama | (C1) |
| | (Ramsey) | <u> </u> | |
| 1949 | Restelli, Dino Paul | Name: Dino Paolo Restelli | (H9) |
| Tyry Restem, E | | D: Aug 8 2006 San Carlos, California | (, , ,) |
| | | Cemetery: Golden Gate National Cemetery, | |
| | | <u> </u> | <u> </u> |

| | | San Bruno, California | |
|------|---------------------------------|---|------|
| 1915 | Russell, Allen E. | Name: Allen Russell | (M4) |
| 1913 | Russell, Ewell Albert | B: <u>Mar</u> 12 1889 | (P1) |
| 1994 | Saenz, Olmedo (Sanchez) | B: <u>Chitre</u> , Panama | (C1) |
| 1999 | Scheffer, Aaron Alvin Marcus | B: <u>Aug</u> 15 1975 | (H9) |
| 1886 | Schomberg, Otto H. | Height: <u>5-11</u> Weight: <u>175</u> | (M4) |
| 1886 | Stephens, Clarence Wright | Add record of 09/23/1891 game credited to George Stephens Last date: Sep 23 1891 | (M4) |
| 1891 | Stephens, George Benjamin | Debut: Aug 5 1892 Eliminate 1891 Cincinnati record. This belongs to Clarence Stephens | (M4) |
| 1872 | Swandell, John Martin | BL | (M4) |
| 1939 | Thompson, Eugene Earl | D: <u>Aug 24 2006 Scottsdale, Arizona</u> Cemetery: <u>Green Acres Memorial Gardens,</u> <u>Scottsdale, Arizona</u> | (L6) |
| 1889 | Thornton, John | B: May 22 1869 | (M3) |
| 1983 | Ullger, Scott Matthew | B: Jun 10 <u>1955</u> | (F4) |
| 1942 | Wells, Leo Donald | D: Jun 23 2006 St. Paul, Minnesota Cemetery: <u>Cremated</u> | (T2) |
| 1883 | Winkleman, George | Name: George W. Winkleman | (M3) |
| 1901 | Winter, George Lovington | BR | (M5) |
| 1871 | Wood, James Leon | B: Dec 1 <u>1842 Brooklyn</u> , New York D: <u>Nov 3 1927 San Francisco, California</u> Cemetery: <u>Greenwood Cemetery, New</u> Orleans, Louisiana | (M4) |
| 1947 | Wooten, Earl Hazwell | D: <u>Aug 12 2006 Williamston, South Carolina</u> Cemetery: <u>Forest Lawn Memorial Park,</u> <u>Anderson, South Carolina</u> | (L6) |