

AUTOGRAPHS



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## Wayne-Pike Adult Literacy Program

Presents

### *An Afternoon of Vintage Baseball*

Date: July 23, 2011

Time: noon

Produced by

Wayne-Pike Adult Literacy Program



## Bingham Park 2011 Vintage Baseball Exhibition

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Welcome to Bingham Park.

Thank you for coming to experience this  
Vintage Base Ball Double Header, brought to  
you by the Wayne & Pike County Adult  
Literacy Program.

Thanks to the Roxbury Nine and Brooklyn  
Athletic Base Ball Club for coming to play  
baseball the way it was played back in the late  
1800s!

Both teams are part of the Vintage Base Ball  
Association and play their sanctioned games  
according to the rules and customs of an  
agreed upon year. We hope you enjoy this  
look back at the game. You will learn a little  
history of the game, how it has evolved over  
the years, and have fun too.



## 1864 Rules (Compilation by Ed Elmore)

- The ball is slightly larger than a modern base ball. The center is made of rubber. It is hand-made.
- Bats are made of wood, and may be of any length.
- The bases are 90 feet apart.
- Home base is a flat circular white plate.
- The pitching distance is 45 feet, marked by two 12 foot lines, 3 feet apart, which the pitcher must stay between while delivering the ball.
- Pitching is underhand.
- All runners advance on a balk.
- Three balls constitute a walk. Balls are called after a warning is given to the pitcher for not delivering fair balls. All runners advance one base on a walk.
- Three strikes constitute an out. Strikes are called on good pitches after a warning is given to the striker.
- A foul ball is not counted as a strike.
- Not all pitches need be called.
- The striker must stand on a 6 foot line drawn through the center of the home base.
- A fair or foul ball is determined by where the ball first touches the ground.
- The striker is out if the ball is caught on the fly or on the first bound. Runners may run at their own risk on a bound catch, but must tag up on a fly catch.
- A foul ball is considered a dead ball until it is returned in the hands of the pitcher. Runners must return to their bases on a foul ball, and may be put out, as in a force.
- The striker is not permitted to overrun first base, as he risks being put out.
- Each inning after the first, the striker following the player who made the last out will strike first.
- Bunting is permitted.
- Leading off bases is permitted.
- Stealing bases is permitted.
- Sliding is permitted.
- There is no infield fly rule.
- Choice of innings shall be determined by captains.
- There are no time-outs permitted between pitches.
- The striker is not awarded a base if hit by the pitch.
- If a pitched ball, not swung at, hits the bat, it is a dead ball.
- A runner hit by a batted ball is not out, unless the umpire deems it intentional.
- Possession of the ball after a catch, or after a tag, is not necessary.

## 1898 Rules

(Changes to the rules since 1864)

- A ball tipped, or a foul tip, by the Batsman which rises above his head that is caught by the catcher within the catcher's 10-foot lines, is a strike.
- The "In-field fly" rule instituted.
- After the striker receives his base on called balls, only base runners that are forced to, move one base.
- The striker is permitted to overrun first base provided that he returns without attempting to run to second.
- The umpire was allowed, during the game, to ask a bystander whether a catch had been fairly made before rendering a decision.
- If a batted ball strikes a base runner, while not occupying a base, he is declared out.
- The home team no longer had to bat in the bottom of the ninth inning if they had more runs than their opponent.
- A strike was defined as a fair ball that was between the batter's knees and shoulders.
- The batsman was awarded first base after being hit by a pitched ball only if he attempted to avoid the ball.
- Any fair batted ball that was hit over a fence less than 235 feet from home plate entitled the Batsman to two bases.
- A foul hit, other than a foul tip, as the result of a bunt attempt is a strike.
- The batter is out if, with two strikes, a bunt attempt results in a foul hit.

(from [www.19cbaseball.com/rules](http://www.19cbaseball.com/rules))



## Roxbury Nine

[illegible]

# Brooklyn Atlantic Base Ball Club

[illegible]



## Famous Literary Quotes Can you identify these writers?

1. "I have snatched my share of joys from the grudging hands of Fate as I have jogged along, but never has life held for me anything quite so entrancing as baseball."

2. "Baseball exemplifies a tension in the American mind, the constant pull between our atomistic individualism and our yearning for community."

3. "For in center field, if you can get to it, it 'is' yours. Oh, how unlike my home it is to be in centerfield, where no one will appropriate unto himself anything that I say is mine."

4. "It breaks your heart. It is designed to break your heart. The game begins in the Spring, when everything else begins again, and it blossoms in the summer, filling the afternoons and evenings, and then as soon as the chill rains come, it stops and leaves you to face the Fall alone. You count on it, rely on it to buffer the passage of time, to keep the memory of sunshine and high skies alive, and then just when the days are all twilight, when you need it most, it stops."

5. "We knew there was something poignant about Mickey Mantle before we knew what poignant meant."

6. "I see great things in baseball. It will take our people out-of-doors, fill them with oxygen, give them a larger physical stoicism, tend to relieve us from being a nervous, dyspeptic set, repair those losses and be a blessing to us."

7. "Relax, all right? Don't try to strike everybody out. Strikeouts are boring! Besides that, they're fascist. Throw some ground balls- it's more democratic."

8. "Williams swung again, and there it was. The ball climbed on a diagonal line into the vast volume of air over center field. From my angle, behind third base, the ball seemed less an object in flight than the tip of a towering, motionless construct, like the Eiffel Tower or the Tappan Zee Bridge. It was in the books while it was still in the sky. Brandt ran back to the deepest corner of the outfield grass; the ball descended beyond his reach and struck in the crotch where the bullpen met the wall, bounced chunkily, and, as far as I could see, vanished."

9. "Who is on first."  
'What are you asking me for?'"

(answers on last page)

## WAYNE PIKE ADULT LITERACY PROGRAM

The Wayne Pike Adult Literacy Program is a volunteer, non-profit organization under the aegis of ProLiteracy America. It was founded in 1986 by two local volunteers whose vision for the future included a literate society in which every citizen could be a well-informed voter. Our goal is to help people improve their lives so that they might reach their fullest potential. We provide adult populations of both Wayne and Pike counties with reading, writing, and math skills. Tutoring is on a one-to-one basis with those who have no reading skills, as well as for adults with limited skills, people for whom English is their second language, and also those who wish to attain the equivalent of a high school diploma (GED). Our programs extend to both the Wayne and Pike County Jails. Our program covers over 1,200 square miles.

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Suggested Reading:

- "Stan Musial: An American Life" by George Vecsey
- "Baseball in the Garden of Eden: The Secret History of the Early Game" by John Thorn
- "Baseball: An Illustrated History, including The Tenth Inning" by Geoffrey Ward
- "The Greatest Baseball Stories Ever Told: Thirty Unforgettable Tales from the Diamond" by Jeff Silverman
- "Bums: An Oral History of the Brooklyn Dodgers" by Peter Golebock
- "The Boys of Summer" by Roger Kahn

Visit These Web Sites:

- [www.facebook.com/pages/Roxbury-Nine/127092880659802?sk=info](http://www.facebook.com/pages/Roxbury-Nine/127092880659802?sk=info)
- [brooklynatlantics.org](http://brooklynatlantics.org)

To support adult literacy, donations can be made to:

Wayne Pike County Adult Literacy Program

1406 North Main Street  
Honesdale, PA 18431

Famous Literary Quote Answers

1. Clarence Darrow
2. George Will
3. Phillip Roth
4. Bart Giamotti
5. Bob Costas
6. Walt Wiltman
7. "Crash Davis" in the movie **Bull Durham**
8. John Updike
9. Bud Abbott and Lou Costello