

The Retro Sheet

Official Publication of Retrosheet, Inc.

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Tax-Exempt Status Finalized

In the last issue of TRS we announced that Retrosheet had received the initial approval from the IRS concerning our tax-exempt 501(c)(3) status. On May 20, Dave Smith received the official letter from the IRS approving our tax-exempt status. Better yet, they made it effective RetroActive to January 7, 1994, the date of our incorporation!

Donations to the organization now are tax-deductible. Please check with your tax advisor for more information, especially regarding any donations made in the past.

The terms of two members of the Board of Directors expire on June 30. Nominations close on June 16, 2000. Anyone wishing to be considered for the position of President or Vice President should notify David Vincent at GrandSlams@aol.com

The Annual Meeting of Retrosheet, Inc. will be held on Friday, June 23 at 2:00 pm at the West Palm Beach Shera-

Dodgers lose once in 9th, then again in

That was the headline over the Dodger game story in the *Los Angeles Times* on September 13, 1987. Here's the story. Playing in Atlanta, with the score tied 9-9 and the bases loaded in the bottom of the 9th, Dodger pitcher Alejandro Pena hit Brave pinch-hitter Gary Roenicke on the right hand to force in the apparent winning run. The Dodgers left the field, the Braves came out to celebrate, home plate umpire Charlie Williams began walking off the field and the grounds crew came out.

However, Dodger manager Tommy Lasorda came running out of the dugout, claiming that Roenicke had swung at the pitch and asked Williams to appeal to first-base umpire John Kibler. Charlie finally did motion to Kibler, who ruled that Roenicke had indeed swung, making the pitch a strike, even though it did hit him. Roenicke and his manager, Chuck Tanner, argued to no avail and Gary returned to the plate. He took one more pitch for strike three to end the inning.

As the *Times* said about Roenicke: "He swore and motioned at Kibler, who ejected him. When he reached the dugout, Roenicke threw his bat at the umpire". The Braves scored a

Several new baseball stamps are being issued this year. To the right is a retro-stamp from 1939.

After a number of exciting developments in the first quarter of the year 2000 (see the last issue of TRS), it has been pretty quiet in the vault.

New from the Vault

David W. Smith
President

Steady progress is being made on the data proofing front and we continue to enjoy good relations with some Major League teams, but it appears that the dramatic events have calmed down for the time being.

Remember that the Retrosheet annual meeting takes place during the SABR convention. Getting together with those who donate their time so selflessly to the RetroCause is always a highlight of my year and I hope to see many of you in West Palm Beach.

Dave



Retrosheet Web Site a Four-Bagger

Retrosheet's official web site [www.retrosheet.org] contains many useful items for the baseball researcher. Our most important product is the game data that we have collected. Since the last issue of TRS, we have released the 1979 data files, bringing our public collection to five years. In addition, we have been allowed to release part of the collection that belongs to Baseball Workshop. Here is the current available file list:

Data Files Available	
Retrosheet	1967 AL, 1979-1983
Baseball Workshop	1984-1989

The 1990 BB Workshop data will be released by the All-Star Game and our 1978 data is close to release.

Also at the site is our Most Wanted Games list, which appeared in our last issue. The online copy will be kept up-to-date as we acquire new game accounts with an occasional mention in the newsletter.

Strange plays have been a long-time feature of TRS. The collection of these unusual events is available at the site. Those are always great for a laugh!

One of the records in our game data is a ballpark code. We have released a list of those codes that can be used to interpret the data files for park-specific data.

Related to that is the field location chart for batted balls. The official chart that is used by Retrosheet was developed for Project Scoresheet. A copy of that chart is available for download if you do not have one or have worn your copy out.

This is the 21st newsletter to be published by Retrosheet since October 1994. All editions have been made available in various formats through our web site so you can go back and read issues that you do not have.

If you want to know the power of our web site, go to your favorite internet search engine and ask for Retrosheet. On May 31, Yahoo yielded 85 and IWon.com 88 matches. There is even a web site devoted to the Seattle Pilots that has box scores and play-by-play accounts of their games provided (with credit) by Retrosheet. In addition, many sites have links to our location.

On August 23, 1945, the New York Evening Telegram reported that the National League had fined two umpires an undisclosed amount for "haranguing Cincinnati fans". In the game of June 17 between the Giants and Reds in Cincinnati, there were a number of close calls that angered the home team. The umpires were Beans Reardon and Ziggy Sears and the event which pushed things to the critical mark was an interference call against the Reds by Reardon. The result was a "pop-bottle barrage" from the stands, after which the two umpires went to the stands to argue their position with the patrons. Ford Frick, the NL President, made it clear in a telegram to the Cincinnati Enquirer that his decision to fine the two umpires was based entirely on their inappropriate conduct with the fans and had nothing to do with the quality of their decisions on the field.

Wild Pitch Scores Three

While inputting games from the 1945 Dodgers from the scoresheets of a New York sportswriter, **Clem Comly** came across an unclear inning in which it appeared that the team scored three runs and left the bases loaded. However, the inning summary showed that six runs scored. The following three paragraphs are from the game story in the *New York Times*, which explains what happened.

A crowd of 16,329 was delighted with this Cincinnati scoring splurge, but the joy was dampened in the fourth inning of the second game. Frank Dasso had pitched a three-inning no-hitter when, with one out, Goody Rosen beat out a bunt toward third that started a six-run deluge, the final trio of Dodgers scoring on one wild pitch.

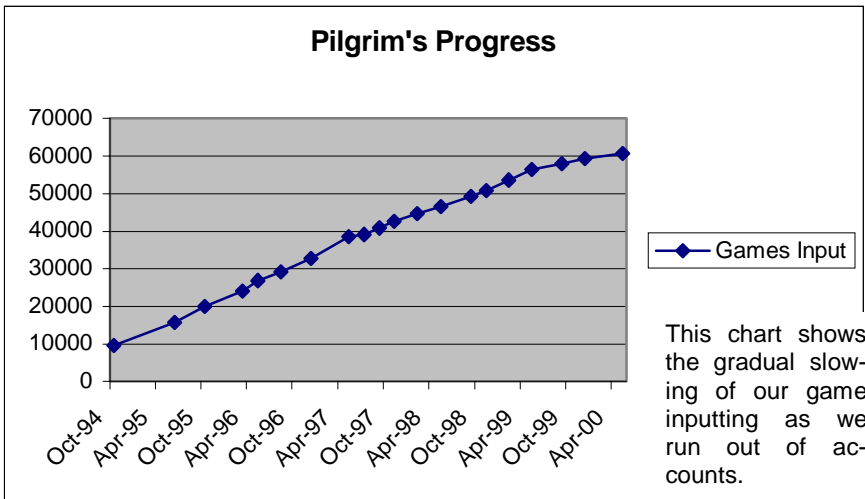
Eddie Miller made a costly error when he dropped Al Unser's throw as Rosen was trying to steal second. Clean singles by Luis Olmo and Frenchy Bordagaray followed the second out, then McCormick, Mesner and Unser clustered around Bill Hart's high pop between the plate and mound only to let it fall for a hit.

The wild pitch came with Art Herring at bat, two runners scoring on that. Andrews, who had been purposely passed with two strikes on him after Hart had pilfered second, tallied also when Unser made a wild throw to Dasso at the plate.

Comment from **Dave Smith**:

This is clearly an exciting inning, but what I like best is the intentional walk with two strikes, just because the runner stole!

On August 26, 1935, the New York Evening Telegram reported another incident between fans and umpires, this time at the Northern end of Ohio. During a doubleheader between the Red Sox and Indians on the 25th, umpires Brick Owens and Lou Kolls made two crucial rulings against the home team and the "shower of bottles" was followed by about 100 fans walking onto the field. After a 15 minute delay and at least one ejection (Eddie Phillips, Cleveland second baseman), order was restored and the Indians completed their second loss of the day. At the end of the game, umpire Kolls was escorted to the dressing room by three policeman.

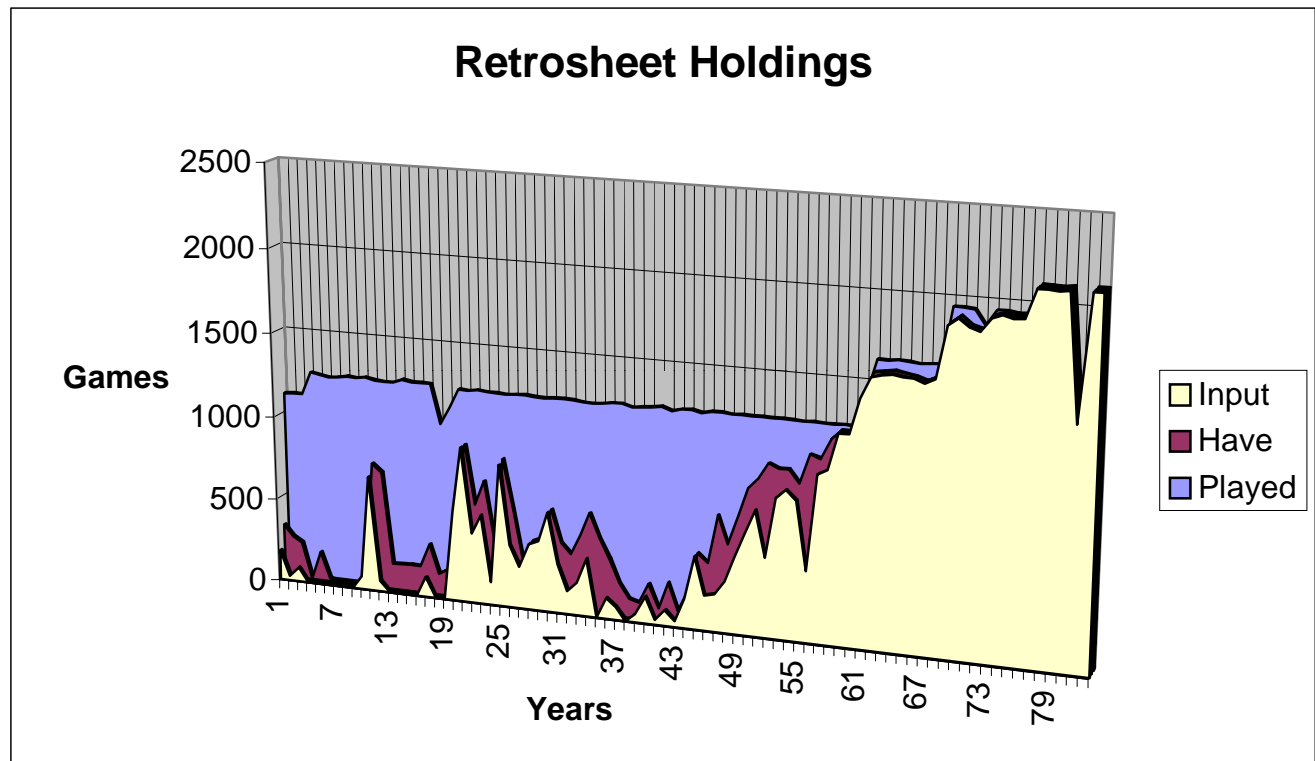


This chart shows the gradual slowing of our game inputting as we run out of accounts.

Opening the Vault Door We Find...

The annual report of our holdings reveals that we have 60% of all games played from 1901 through 1983. Now take a deep breath, go back and re-read that last sentence. We have 60% of those games. The first time we published a summary of the contents of the vault was in July 1995. That report was about games processed, not the games in hand. However, it is interesting to note that we had 15,704 games input at that time (that total is now 60,746.) The current input total is 53% of the games played and 87% of what we have. The one game in 1979 that is "not done" is a forfeit—Disco Demolition Night.

There are many more game accounts available that we have not collected. The chief source is afternoon newspapers that published play-by-play of the local team. We need volunteers to do two things: find these accounts and copy them from microfilm. Money spent on this can be reimbursed from the treasury.



Contents of the Vault

Year	Played	Have	Done	Missing	%Have	1943	1238	78	37	1160	6
1901	1110	318	181	792	29	1944	1242	205	174	1037	17
1902	1115	257	24	858	23	1945	1230	432	432	798	35
1903	1114	222	83	892	20	1946	1242	379	207	863	31
1904	1249	2	1	1247	0	1947	1243	665	220	578	53
1905	1237	176	0	1061	14	1948	1237	502	302	735	41
1906	1228	18	0	1210	1	1949	1240	670	450	570	54
1907	1233	2	0	1231	0	1950	1238	841	601	397	68
1908	1244	3	0	1241	0	1951	1239	904	735	335	73
1909	1240	10	2	1230	1	1952	1239	998	470	241	81
1910	1249	74	74	1175	6	1953	1240	973	817	267	78
1911	1237	754	690	483	61	1954	1237	974	871	263	79
1912	1232	706	62	526	57	1955	1234	898	817	336	73
1913	1234	157	1	1077	13	1956	1239	1069	417	170	86
1914	1256	159	0	1097	13	1957	1235	1052	980	183	85
1915	1245	163	0	1082	13	1958	1235	1166	1009	69	94
1916	1247	162	4	1085	13	1959	1238	1222	1219	16	99
1917	1247	303	117	944	24	1960	1236	1222	1222	14	99
1918	1016	126	0	890	12	1961	1430	1430	1430	0	100
1919	1118	163	7	955	15	1962	1621	1564	1548	57	96
1920	1234	653	536	581	53	1963	1619	1572	1565	47	97
1921	1229	923	922	306	75	1964	1626	1581	1575	45	97
1922	1238	570	418	668	46	1965	1623	1570	1565	53	97
1923	1233	719	529	514	58	1966	1615	1561	1561	54	97
1924	1231	363	137	868	29	1967	1620	1542	1540	78	95
1925	1228	862	844	366	70	1968	1625	1568	1568	57	96
1926	1234	565	375	669	46	1969	1946	1870	1869	76	96
1927	1236	255	249	981	21	1970	1944	1914	1914	30	98
1928	1231	393	393	838	32	1971	1938	1869	1869	69	96
1929	1229	420	417	809	34	1972	1859	1851	1851	8	100
1930	1234	590	589	644	48	1973	1943	1929	1928	14	99
1931	1236	402	293	834	33	1974	1945	1945	1945	0	100
1932	1233	342	137	891	28	1975	1934	1934	1934	0	100
1933	1226	463	191	763	38	1976	1939	1939	1939	0	100
1934	1223	595	344	628	49	1977	2103	2103	2103	0	100
1935	1228	453	0	775	37	1978	2102	2102	2102	0	100
1936	1238	337	121	901	27	1979	2099	2099	2098	0	100
1937	1239	197	78	1042	16	1980	2105	2105	2105	0	100
1938	1223	112	0	1111	9	1981	1394	1394	1394	0	100
1939	1231	100	50	1131	8	1982	2107	2107	2107	0	100
1940	1236	213	155	1023	17	1983	2109	2109	2109	0	100
1941	1244	78	29	1166	6						
1942	1224	236	94	988	19		115717	69524	60746	46193	60

The Retro Sheet
 Official publication of Retrosheet, Inc.
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Assistance provided by Shelley and Tim

Hey, where's the rest of my newsletter?

This is an abbreviated edition of The Retro Sheet for two reasons. The last issue was late and we are not inputting as many games now as we have in the past. That gives us fewer items to run in the newsletter. All contributions are gratefully accepted by the editor at the e-mail address on the left.