

1971 La Salle Club Baseball Hall Of Fame

FRANK RATONI

DICK DETERDING CB

GEORGE LIAL CB

EGGERT ROHWER

HARRY HOPPER

Frank (Chi Chi) Ratonl

Born-July 4, 1899 at 7th & L Streets

Attanded Lincoln School

Worked at Southern Pacific from 1917 to 1964 47 years

Played Soccer and Basketball for Southside Athetic Club
for three years

First baseball team played for-Cy Puliz's Barber Shop

Played in the Placer Nevada League for the Southern Pacific
Baseball Tean-Lost to Grass Valley for the championship game
one year. The picture in that game was Tom Pendergast who later
pitched for the old San Francisco Seals

Played on the first Dante Club Ball Club. Babe Bottaro
furnished the uniforms that cost 95 cents each

Started Umpiring in the middles 1930's

Sacramento Winter League-with Bobby Schange, Semon,
Horace Smith

Sacramento Valley League-with Facho Valerio, Bobby
Schange, Bill Griffithh

Night Softball League when first formed

Lived and raised around Southside Park

Five Grandchildren three girls, two boys

Has lived 30 years in Broderick and is now the Fire
Commisenior there.

Will be 72 years old this year

Also drove Taxi for Teddy's Taxi during the depression and
moonlighting while working for the S. P.

Dick Deterding a familiar name in Sacramento's history is 81 years of age and like many other/youngsters he attended Christian Brothers High School at 12th and Kay...Because of his excellent baseball ability he was given a scholarship to St. Mary's College and enrolled there in 1908, joining Duffy Lewis and Harry Hooper...He made the varsity and played under the immortal Hal Chase.

After graduating from St. Marys College and equipped with an excellent education entered the business world in Sacramento. However, he was still in demand by the local semi-pro clubs. He played with the famous Brooke Realty club, the Carmichael Realty and the Panama Murphy Independents. He also appeared with a few of the Sacramento Valley teams for a fee.

After working for several plumbing firms as a salesman, Dick decided to form the J. R. Deterding Company, now located at 615 7th Street...

His brother was a County Executive in Sacramento County and currently his son, Russ, also ~~xxx xx~~ is the foreman of the Grand Jury in Sacramento County.

We are proud to enter the name of Dick Deterding to a long list of Hall of Fame members...For your children and grand children you are hereby presented with this trophy and we are indeed proud to have the name of Deterding as part of our group...

J. R. Deterding Co., Inc.WHOLESALE PLUMBING, INDUSTRIAL SUPPLIES,
HEATING, AIR CONDITIONING & SHEET METAL~~DELETED ADDRESS~~ 615 7th St
SACRAMENTO, CALIFORNIA ~~95804~~

January 11-1971

Dear Vince:

I am 81 years of age, born in Mills Station, Sacramento County.


I attended primary grades at 10th & Q Sts School. (I have forgotten the name.) From there I attended Brother's College. At that time it was named Sacramento Institute and located at 12th & K Sts. From there I went on to St. Mary's College in Oakland and played on the Phoenix Team, under Hal Chase. This was in 1908.

After leaving St. Mary's, I continued playing baseball with the Amateur Teams around Sacramento namely: Brooks Realty, Carmichael Realty and Panama Murphy Independents. I also played with several Sacramento Valley Teams.

In 1910 I went to work for Miller & Enwright Company, located at 917 Front St. When this firm dissolved business, I opened up a branch for Walworth Company from Boston. After working 17 years for this Company I decided to go into business for myself under the name of J.R.Deterding Company, now located at 615-7th St.

With kindest regards,

Respectfully,

 J.R.Deterding (Dick)

JRD:jmd

George Lial...20th annual La Salle Hall of Fame.

Most of the old timers are voted into the La Salle Hall of Fame because of their seniority. There has been some exceptions...One of them is George Lial, who is just beyond the 65 year old mark. He is an old timer who the youngsters still remember and he actually appears to be a youthful, agile youngster who roams the local lots in quest of baseball talent. He has just been appointed a Montreal Expo scout in this area.

Lial, like so many of the local youngsters, hails from the Southside area. Even while attending the Lincoln Grammar School, Lial showed talent as a leader and he ~~was~~^{became} just that in the local bush league circles and in the Sacramento Valley and California State League. Lial was a catcher and a good one. After graduating from grammar school Lial attending a Christian Brothers institution. He was offered a scholarship to St. Mary's College, but chose to become a professional ball player and landed with the Twin Falls club in the Utah-Idaho League in 1927-28.. Lial did not see much of a future in professional ball, and decided to get a job with the County of Sacramento, just at the beginning of the great depression. He stayed on the job for 40½ years retiring in 1969,

Coincidental with his job, he took up a career as a journeymen catcher and manager in the local leagues for 20 years. Sixteen of those years ~~were~~ were with the Julius Style Shop. His club won 10 pennants and he finished as runnerup on the other six occasions. His best Julius club was in 1934-35. Lial filled in for the Sacramento Solons in 1930 as a catcher when both, Art Kueher and Kettle Wirts were injured. Lial also managed clubs in Roseville and Colusa.

Even in retirement from baseball, Lial continued to carry on in baseball being a coach for Post 61 for 13 years. In scouting he has worked for Yankees, Chicago Cubs, Boston, Milwaukee Braves and Seattle. He is quite a baseball man and we recognize his talents....Trophy...

GEORGE (TUBBY) LIAL

Started in 1920-21-22-23 catching varsity baseball for the Christian Brothers College when the School was located at 12th & Kay street. Some of the players on that team were Leo Rooney, Joe Rooney, Andrew House, Notch Parino (Deceased).

Played every Sunday morning at Southside Park, with the gang from the south area. All of the best ball players in town would come down there and hope to be the lucky 18 players that would play. These games were played for blood. A very good experience.

Played for Twin-Falls in the Utah-Idaho league in 1927-28. This league was a very fast "C" League. Some of the players who went up to the big leagues from there, were Lefty Gomez, Curt Davis, Ernie Lombardi, Johnny Verges, Jerry Donovan, Dolph Camilli, Wally Berger and Bill Brenzel.

Played Semi-Pro ball for 20 years. In the Valley League, State League. Manage Colusa and Roseville and played for ~~Rakmarx~~ Palermo. Caught in the State League for Stockton Ambler and Modesto. Was lucky to have caught three no-hitters, two of them being with Speck Shea, in the Winter League and in the State League.

Caught and manage the Julius Team from 1931 on for 16 years won 10 pennants and finished 2nd the rest of the time.

Also caught for the Central Outfitting Co and Dante Club, we won the pennant on each club.

Coached Post 61 American Legion ball for 13 years. Was lucky enough to play for the State Titles in 1936 and 1946.

I think my best Julius team was the 1934-35 team, which won both halves of the Championship, but I also had other excellent clubs. On the 1934-35 Julius club was Earm Wagner first base, John (Chick) Casal 2nd base, Henri Warren, shortstop, Johnny Kaiser, left field, Bill Svilich C.F. Jack Costa right field, Lial catching and Otto Salcedo and George Steward doing the utility work.

Pitching was Elmer Specs Shea, Bud Waters and two High School phenoms, Ellsworth Sonny Davey and Norman Coad. I would say was a very good pitching staff. The Scouts told me at that time, that I had the fastest Class "B" League team in the country, also a number of prospects for pro ball.

Which working as a Deputy County Clerk, saw part time work in the Coast league with Hollywood Stars and the Sacramento Solons. Caught 2 games with the Solons when Art Kohler and Kettle Wirts were hurt.

Have been scouting for big league teams off and on for the past 30 years--Yankees, Chicago Cubs, Boston Braves, Milwaukee Braves, Seattle and Milwaukee.

Played basketball for the Adam Tile team and the Julius Sport shop. Won the City Championship in basketball with Julius in 1929.

Also have been a referee in basketball and football for 25 years.

Have been associated with baseball all of these years, as a player, coach, manager and a Scout.

(over)

Retired from the County of Sacramento on May 1st, 1969 after 40 1/2 years service. The last 20 years was Chief Clerk and Administrator for the Sacramento Municipal Court.

P.S. while catching and managing the Julius team, I had one helluva Press agent handling the publicity for the team by the name of VINCENT F. STANICH.

Played for Twin Falls in the Utah-Idaho League in 1937-38. This league was a very fast "D" league. Some of the players who went up to the big leagues from there, were Lefty Gomez, Curt Davis, Ernie Lombardi, Johnny Vander, Jerry Donovan, Ralph Gamali, Kelly Berger and Bill Bremer.

Played Semi-Pro ball for 20 years. In the Valley League, State League, Kansas City and Louisville and played for Kansas, Indiana, caught in the State League for Stockton Ambler and Modesto. Was lucky to have caught three no-hitters, two of them being with Speck Bros, in the Winter League and in the State League.

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Also caught for the Central Outfitting Co and Dentis Club, we won the pennant on each club.

Coached foot ball American Legion ball for 13 years. Was lucky enough to play for the State Titles in 1936 and 1944.

I think my best Julius team was the 1935-36 team, which won both halves of the Championship, but I also had other excellent clubs. On the 1935-36 Julius club was Sam Kanner first base, John (Dixie) Gamali 2nd base, Henry Warren, shortstop, Johnny Kaiser, left field, Bill Swisher C.F. Jack Goetz right field, Left catching and Otto Salcedo and George Stewart doing the utility work.

Fitching was Elmer Speck Bros, Bud Waters and two High School guys, Elmer Speck, Sonny Davey and Norman Good. I would say was a very good pitching staff. The Goodie sold me at that time, that I had the fastest Class "B" League team in the country, also a number of prospects for pro ball.

Which working as a Deputy County Clerk, saw part time work in the Great League with Hollywood Stars and the Sacramento Solons. Caught 2 games with the Solons when Art Kohler and Kattie Wirtz were hurt.

Have been scouting for big league teams off and on for the past 30 years--Yankees, Chicago Cubs, Boston Braves, Milwaukee Braves, Seattle and Milwaukee.

Played basketball for the Adam Title team and the Julius Sports shop. Won the City Championship in basketball with Julius in 1939.

Also have been a referee in basketball and football for 25 years.

Have been associated with baseball all of these years, as a player, coach, manager and a scout.

Eggert Rohwer--20th Annual La Salle Night...

Eggert Rohwer is the second member of the Rohwer clan to be entered in the La Salle Hall of Fame, Ray, was so honored two years ago.

Eggert, unlike ~~xxxx~~ the late Claude and Ray, did not play professional baseball. However, many of the old timers claim that he was the best hitter.

Although Eggert, Claude and Ray were singled out for their baseball achievements, it was Hans, who compiled a great pitching record for the home team of Dixon were all of the Rohwers, six of them were born.

The Rohwers are a hardy lot. Hans is 80, our Honoree, Eggert is 77, Ray is 75, ~~xxxx~~ Claude, who died in 1941, would have been 73. Otto, a practicing attorney here in Sacramento, is 65. Another brother, H Jake, who died in 1950, would have been 63. Two sisters, Agnes Sherman is 78 and Catherine from Red Bluff is 70. The late Claude, an attorney, has a son living in Sacramento, Claude, Jr., is also a lawyer and instructor at the McGeorge College of Law. Hans' son, also graduated in law, was shot down in Africa flying a B26 in World War II. Eggert, Jr., is athletic director in Woodland High School and another son, Russell, is in the carpet business in ~~xxxx~~ Seattle.

Mrs. Eggert Rohwer passed away two months ago in Woodland.

Eggert played his entire career in the bushers. The highlight of his career was hitting in 38 successive games in the Valley League. In Grass Valley in 1932, he collected three triples and a single, still a league record. His best hitting year was .582 in 1931. That's quite a mark considering Jack Costa's Winter League record in the Winter League with .521. Jack is here as a regular from Sebastopol. So, to you Eggert, we present this trophy to you and your name is also enshrined in the hall of fame for posterity.

Here Goes, Vince:

I started as a skinny fifteen year old Junior in High School. I was not ready, but Hans was 90% of our local Dixon team as pitcher, cleanup hitter and leading base stealer. He saw to it that I was permitted to play now and then. With Dixon until 1924, two years at St Helena and back to Dixon until 1933. Played with Champion Heeseman Clothiers under Al Hugheon in 1923.

Highlights:

Played against Fred Pearl and the Brooke Realty Co in a Sunday & Labor Day doubleheader in 1909. The Brookes were the goal of every Bush Ballplayer in the area. Julius Dude Pappa beat them 3 to 0 on Sunday. Hans on Monday 5 to 4 in twelve innings.

Played with Jack Hern many times. At Galt in 1910, Willows and Modesto 1911, Winter League 1913-1914, Gridley 1916. Stayed with us at the ranch one Christmas week. Almost caused a neighbor feud, when he herded the neighbor's hogs off the grain field with a shotgun, while dressed in my sister's nightgown.

Pitched a game in 1920 against an All Star Team with Bill Hickey pitching. Lost two to one when they made thirteen errors behind me. I walked six times and the next hitter struck out six times.

Two triples and three singles in a Winter League game at Southside Park. Missed a homerun the other time by a few feet.

Suisun 1922. Man on second with score one to nothing in seventh inning. Fielded a single to right center barehanded. Threw a strike home, while still going toward the foul line. They tell me the ball came right at the edge of the plate inches about the ground, and the ball and the runner arrived together. Even a foot higher he would have scored. Drove in only run with a triple.

Hit in thirty eight straight games over more than two years in late 1920's. Mostly against Valley League pitching.

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I have a picture of the Heeseeman Champions of
1923. Sorry I did not list them as many of them are gone.
I will bring it along, perhaps Eddie Menger or Lloyd Ricker
can name them all.

Eggert

Woodland, Calif

Jan. 11 1970.

Dear Vince:

I was the pitcher on our championship High School Team in 1910. When my younger son Russell was old enough to read the School Annual, he said 'No wonder you had such a good writeup, you wrote it'. Here goes.

Hans is eighty, I am seventy seven, Ray is seventy five, Claude would be seventy three, Otto is sixty five. A younger brother Jake, who also played, passed away in 1950. He would be sixty three. We have two sisters, Agnes Sherman seventy eight living in Glendale, and Catherine ~~Sherman~~ ^{Heald} seventy living in Red Bluff.

Hans and I attended Heald's Business College in Sacramento after High School. Ray, Claude, Catherine and Otto along with numerous Nieces and Nephews attended University of California. Claude was an attorney, his son Claude is an instructor at Mc George Law School in Sacramento. Hans' son Lester graduated in law, but was shot down in Africa flying a B26 in World ~~War~~ War Two. My son Eggert, Jr. is Athletic Director in Woodland High School. Was active in every sport in High School except baseball. Russell is a carpet jobber with headquarters in Seattle. Mrs. Rohwer passed away a month ago here in Woodland. She was a good fan, I guess in self defense. I have six grandchildren and three great Grandchildren.

I managed the family ranch from 1918 to 1932, paymaster and office man for C Bruce Mace Meat Co. from 1932 until 1960. Keeping busy in Fraternal work, And babysitting Great Grandchildren

Grass Valley 1932:

Hit three triples and a single, scored four runs. On the third triple they were still bringing the ball back to the infield when I stopped at third. Could have crawled home. That is when I know it was time to hang em up.

Joe Genshles's story: In a game at Knights Landing. March Bros. ~~Bill~~ and George, pitcher and catcher. Rube Eames our catcher, I was filling in as pitcher and Chas Jennings our ~~regular~~ regular third baseman. All five left handed.

Our great year in Dixon. Did not lose a game until we met the Sacramento Coast League at the end of their season with Dutch Klawitter pitching. Hans struck out his usual dozen, but we lost 5 to 1. Hans was one of those born fifty years too soon. The local paper says ~~if~~ I hit .582 for the season.

If Dick Deterding is the outfielder who played with the Brookes he is another born fifty years too soon.

I want to correct one story. Some of the players I hired over the years to play for us, were kind enough to say I was the hitter in the Rohwer Family. I wish I could believe that, as pound for pound I consider Ray the greatest left hand hitter I played with and against, and that includes Cecil Jimmy Oates. I do believe I led them all in desire. Bob White and Don Traynham are my right hand hitters.

See Jim Kilkenny, 700 East A St, or Joe Dawson, 740 Marvin Way, Dixon or Joe Genshles if you want to check further.

Excuse the rambling. Editing is your job.

Eggert Rohwer
201 Rancho Way
Woodland 95695.

Harry Hooper ---La Salle 20th Anniversary, February 8, 1971...

Of the five men chosen to the La Salle Hall of Fame ^{tonight,} only Hooper has enjoyed a long professional career...He was the Hooper, who was a member of the famed Red Sox outfield of Hooper, Speaker and Lewis... Oddly enough, Lewis, like Hooper, also graduated from the St. Mary's College, which gives our party tonight a great Christian Brothers flavor.

When the committee were considering Hall of Fame candidates for tonight they had license to give the nod to Harry Hooper...He qualified as being a member of the this select group by being a former Solonx and in ~~xxxx~~ looking over his record they could not understand how this outstanding ball player was never chosen to Baseball's Hall of Fame...That has been ~~xxx~~ resolved two weeks ago when our Harry Hooper, finally received this great honor.

His record has been reviewed many times,...His great ~~nizzi~~ fielding, timely hitting and his great throwing arm never did get the proper recognition until this year, when he attained the age of 83.

Hooper was unselfish of his talents and he tirelessly spent many hours with the immortal Babe Ruth when the Babe was a member of the Red Sox pitching staff...Hooper claimed that the Babe should be playing every day due to his prodigious hitting...His patience payed off as Ruth, not only became one of the greatest hitters of modern times, but he also became a great fielding outfielder, thanks to Harry Hooper.

We are all ~~xxxxx~~ ^{proud} of Hooper's accomplishments and we are doubly proud of the fact that his group saw fit to give him his proper recognition. So, to you Harry Hooper, we are proud to enter your name in the La Salle Hall of Fame and your name will be indelibly encribed in our perpetual plaque, plus, for your memories, we are presenting you with this trophy, which we hope you will be proud of...Harry Hooper.