

1965 La Salle Club Baseball HALL OF FAME

'BIG' BILL JAMES;

JIMMY LANE CB

MANUEL PETRALI

CAPT. BILL RYAN CB

Dear Vince:

As you probably know I was born in Iowa Hill, Placer County and played my first ball with the Iowa Hill Wideawakes.

We moved to Oroville in 1904 where I played ball while in school and while in High School pitched a game against Sacramento High and lost 1-0. Lloyd Snook pitched for Sacramento-no run no hit. Some of the fellows on his club were Joe Gideon, Lester Sheehan, Ginger Greenwood and Brick Eldred.

Also while at High School I pitched for Hammonton, a little dredging town out of Marysville, where Emmett Schofield was the Manager. Later he got me a contract with Seattle Northwestern League in 1911.

When out of High school I attended St Marys College on a scholarship. Hubert "Dutch" Leonard and Luke Glavanich were also two of the pitchers. I spent more time going to ball games than I did at school. After my father found this out he was very unhappy but finally consented to my signing a contract with Seattle. He gave me \$50.00 to get back home on. I made up my mind then that I would make good for him if nothing else.

I had a very good year after losing the first three games. I won 29 games, at one time I had 16 straight wins.

In 1912 I was sold to Boston along with Bert Whaling a catcher, for \$8,000.00. That was considered good money in those days. I was named second choice pitcher after "Hub" Perdue. The first time I pitched for Boston was against New York as a relief and lost in ten innings. Then I won three- 4-0, 1-0, and 2-1.

I am sure you have the rest of my career, if anything is needed just let me know. I mean in the Big League.

As you know I was with the Coast League Oakland and Sacramento.

I joined Sacramento as a coach in 1921. Charles Pick was manager that year and Buddy Ryan the next year.

Later I managed and played with the Sacramento Valley League. Colusa, Oroville and Chico. We had some good years in baseball.

I don't know if this is of interest but in 1948 I was awarded the Helms Athletic Foundation award as Athlete of the year for 1914 for California.

Again I will say if I can help you further, let me know.

Where could i call you?

Yours very truly,

W. L. "Bill" James
W. L. "Bill" James

JIMMY LANE

Since, I got my start in baseball like a bunch of other kids by acting as mascot. Manuel "Mac" Silas was playing with the Fulton Stars a team sponsored by the Fulton Mass Market located at 4th & M Street and he picked me as mascot. At the time I lived at 3rd & M and he lived at 5th and M. I would walk up to his home and then proceed to the only ball diamond I knew at that time. It was located in the State Capitol grounds at about 12th & 13th M and N Streets and served all that district. The only two other places were 9th & T Streets and 14th & R Streets.

I went to Grammas School at St. Stephen's Parish School located at 3rd & O Streets and while going there we played ball in any vacant lot we could find or on the street with balls that were made of string until Reverend Father O'Toole one of the pastors from the Cathedral a great baseball fan made up a school team and we played once or twice weekly on a diamond on K Street 5th & 6th against teams from the Christian Brothers and other parochial schools and once a year he would take us over to Woodland where we had an all day picnic and play the Grammas School team over there about that time South Side Park became a reality and I played ball with South Side in the Playground League a league in which

we won many championships.

After graduating from St. Stephen's I went to High School at the Christian Brothers College located at 12th & Street from 1914 to 1917. Here I played ball with the school team known as the Red Sox and managed by Brother Edmund. He would assemble some of the best ball teams in town. I remember my first year playing there in order to play I had to split each game with a fellow who turned out to be a great ball player who later played with the New York Giants Jim O'Connell. You know in those days there wasn't many teams that played inside the walls at Johnson Prison, but we were one of them, I played my first game there in 1915. Most of our playing was done in the spring and summer time which gave me time to play in the Sacramento Winter League. I played with teams from South Side in the American Division and I remember we won the championship by winning on the final day another championship team in the American League I played with was the Battaro Blacksmith's a team sponsored by Fred Battaro, the long time boxing referee and judge, who was recently given a testimonial dinner by the boxing fraternity. I then moved up and played with teams in the National Division of the Winter League. The Foresters, Reviv. Casale Co., Zernovsky and for several years with Julius Sport Shop. My last

year in the Junior League was 1929 or 1930
and that year I managed the Julius Club. In
passing I may say when I started in the
National Division there were no base, Major
Leagues and players from out of the County were
allowed to play which made the League very fast.

In the summer of the 1920's I played with
various teams here in Sacramento that would get a
guarantee plus expenses and would travel to surround
towns. We played in Marysville, Colusa, Oroville, Dixon,
Woodland, Chico, Grass Valley, Newcastle, Auburn,
Placerville, Reno and Oakland. I played for these
town teams one Sunday in various years, Suisun,
Salerno and Loomis. When not travelling around
we played at Folsom Prison which was always a
very enjoyable way to spend a Sunday.

I got away from baseball for some time but
bounced back when my three nephews ~~started~~
starting playing, Jim, John & Frank McManis and
will say I'm mighty proud of them and their
accomplishments.

Since my retirement I teamed up with
Dr. Al Oliver and for the past seven years have
been ~~setting~~ ^{active} in Little, Pony, Babe Ruth and Cash
League trying to help other boys to get the enjoyment
out of Baseball that I did. I made many, many
friends playing baseball which I will always cherish and
~~(I will never stop playing)~~

I look forward to seeing them at these
yearly La Salle Night gatherings.

(Use what you want since and many, many
thanks to you and your committee for choosing me
for this honor)

SACRAMENTO BUSHERS



Baseball Players Association

January 18 1965

MANUEL PETRALI, Sec.-Treas.
6017 BROADWAY
SACRAMENTO 20, CALIFORNIA
Phone GL 6-1693

Hello Vince:

Thank you for the invitation to be present at the La Salle night on Feb. 11th. I have not missed one since they started but I will be very pleased to be there this year.

In 1913 the Methodist Church on 33rd St. & 4th Ave. were organizing what I believe was one of the first Boy Scout Groups in Sacramento and they started a league for youngsters too. They asked to play with them and I started out as a catcher. I have played continually until 1963 when I developed nicotine poisoning in my blood stream and it effected my legs and had to finally hang them up.

I played in the county league from 1922 to 1937 and in the forties I played several seasons in the rural and county leagues.

When Tony King passed away in 1947, I took over the Klump's Girls team and won the pennant in their league in 1947, 1948 & 1949 and they did not lose a game in all those years.

In 1919 I played my first game in Folsom Prison with the S.P. Apprentice team and played up there at least once a year until 1963.

I played soft ball for almost as many years, both indoor and outdoor.

I sure have many memories of my playing days.

Yours;

Manuel Petrali

Sacramento Calif.

January 1965

Vincent P. Stanich

P.O. Box 2471

Sacramento Calif.

Dear Vince:

I will be very happy to receive a La Salle award at the annual "OLD TIMERS NIGHT" on Feb. 11TH. I want to thank you and the committee for choosing me for this honor.

Here are some of the high lights of my life.

I was born July 6 1884 at 1511-5th St. Sacramento (between O&P Streets), at that time the heart of the city, was educated at The Christian Brothers School at 12TH & K Streets.

July 1900 went to work in the Rolling Mills for The Southern Pacific Co. December 23 1913 went to work as a guard at Folsom Prison. We worked 12 hours a day, no days off for \$75.00 a month, if hurt in the line of duty you paid your own hospital bill.

April 20 1920 I was assigned as mail censor for incoming and outgoing mail, (inmate mail)

June 1924 Clarence Larkin was appointed Captain and I was appointed Lieutenant, We were very good friends and got along very well.

1927 Thanksgiving Day. We had a riot at the prison. There was a 45 automatic pistol smuggled into the prison and the inmate that smuggled it in name was Ryan. There was a movie picture in the school that A.M. and the rioters grabbed an officer and used him as a hostage and they tried to force their way into the administration building. The officer at the outer door refused to open.

They went back to the school where they killed one of the guards and injured four others, then the officers surrounding the building started shooting and in a short while 13 inmates were killed and many injured, There were many shot fired during the day and night, next morning about 7:30 I was in the Captain's office and the telephone rang it was one of the inmates he stated that if I come to the cell block alone they would give me the gun. I asked to whom am I talking? He said never mind, I'M a friend of yours. The building was surrounded by armed guards. I told the gatekeeper I was going into the cellblock, if I was picked up as a hostage and they tried to come out the gate for him to get and not to open the gate. I went up to the end of the cellblock where the rioters were holed up, The leader asked me who is with you? I told him I was alone.

They looked around the corridors and they saw I was alone so they said stay where you are and don't move. The leader went up to one of the cells and brought down the gun. I said where is the ammunition? He said get the gun out of here and come back alone. They watched me going and coming. He went up to the cell and brought down a hat with 150 rounds of live ammunition that ended the Thanksgiving Day Riot.

1936 Captain Larkin was appointed warden and I was appointed Captain.

September 19 1937 Warden Larkin was holding interviews in my office, suddenly we were overpowered by seven inmates armed with knives and two phony guns. We were subdued after a short battle and our hands were tied behind our backs. Two inmates led the warden out of the office with knives at each side of his throat, Two inmates led me out under the same circumstances, After we got out of the office the tower guards started shooting, The inmate on the Warden's left was shot through the head, The inmate on my right was shot through the shoulder. They knew by this time they couldn't get out so they started stabbing both of us.

OVER

a 30-30 creased my skull and I received 11 stab wounds the warden also received many stab wounds, I was left on the ground for dead, I was taken up to the prison Hospital and my good friend Dr Proctor Day worked on me and they transferred me the next A.M. to Mercy Hospital and with the good care I received, I walked out of the hospital the 20TH OF October and rested at home for two weeks then went back to work and started in where I had left off on the day of the attempted break.

In 1944 I was appointed Associate Warden in charge of custody by Warden Robert Heinze. We worked together for 11 years until my retirement in 1954. We were very good friends.

In closing I wish to thank you for past favors and want to wish you the best of every thing,

sincerely .

Bill Ryan

Bill Ryan