

LA SALLE CLUB

1978 BASEBALL HALL OF FAME

La Salle Club Members, Old Timers and  
Friends are invited to attend the

28TH ANNUAL BASEBALL HALL OF FAME  
BANQUET

ON

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 2ND

Social Hour - 6:00 P.M.

Steak Dinner and Awards - 7:30 P.M.

(Christian Brothers High School  
Cafeteria at 4315 Sacramento Blvd.)

\$6.00 per person

ELECTED TO THE 1979 HALL OF FAME

LOU BORDISSO  
NED CARBONE  
JOE DUARTE  
N.G. CULJIS

LLOYD TOOMEY  
PERCY GASSOWAY  
KARL REIMER  
MIKE BAKARICH

La Salle Club Hall of Fame Committee:

Vincent F. Stanich  
Lou Bordisso  
Bill Svilich  
Bill Avila  
Bill Morebeck  
Pete Perich  
Elmer Enos  
Herry Knight  
Vern Hodge  
Henry Wittpen  
Jim Burich

RSVP BY JANUARY 29TH

LA SALLE CLUB BASEBALL HALL OF FAME

ROSTER

- 1953 \*John "Buddy" Ryan  
 1955 The Knezovich brothers, Al, Mel,  
 \*Paul, Ray and \*Don  
 1957 Al Heist  
 1958 \*Brick Eldred, living members of  
 the Rooney O'Neil family  
 1959 \*Earl McNeely  
 1960 Joe Marty  
 1961 \*Elwood "Kettle" Wirts  
 1962 \*Joe Williams, \*Cliff Darringer,  
 \*Fred Pearl, \*Mel French  
 1963 Horace Smith, \*Harry Lilly, \*Ralph  
 Stroud, the 1934-35 Julius Style  
 Shop baseball club, \*Julius  
 Anapolsky  
 1964 \*Walter Mails, \*Henry Clark, \*Dan  
 Donovan, \*Fred Murphy  
 1965 \*Big Bill James, \*Jimmy Lane,  
 \*Manuel Petralli, \*Capt. Bill Ryan  
 1966 \*Parker Sheehan, Eddie Manger,  
 Dewey Elliott, Verne Hodge,  
 \*Bob Schang  
 1967 \*Jack Dooley, Frank Osborn, \*Frank  
 Bacon, \*Arthur Luddy, \*Tommy Dunk  
 1968 \*Franz Rooney, Francis "Hira" Hall,  
 \*Edwin Grovc, Lloyd Snook, \*Fred  
 Bottaro  
 1969 Ray Rohwer, \*Pete Hepting, Jim  
 Gorman, \*Steve Marietta, \*Bill Shick  
 1970 \*Ted Zackney, Tony Freitas, Albert  
 Westlake, \*Alfred Felix, \*Morvin  
 Neves  
 1971 Frank Ratoni, \*Dick Deterding,  
 George Lial, Eggert Rohwer,  
 \*Harry Hooper  
 1972 \*Clyde "Tub" Perry, Lenny Backer,  
 Joe Rooney, \*John Silvey, \*John  
 Corato, Ralph Young  
 1973 \*Paul Genshlea, \*James R. Kelly,  
 Tom Pendergast, John B. Costa,  
 G.W. "Mick" Hall Jr., Frank Judy  
 1974 Allan Byrne, \*Clarence Murphy,  
 John "Chick" Casali, Joe Lima,  
 Elmer Congdon, Hank Ness,  
 Jack Hoagland, Roscoe Kimble
- 1975 Tony Zupo, \*Dick Lamb, James A.  
 "Lefty" Cooke, Larry Williams,  
 Wallace Canfield, \*Fred Belluomini,  
 Ralph "Babe" Downs,  
 Mike Visintainer  
 1976 Frank Armstrong, Mike Separovich,  
 Elwood J. Keema, George "Butter"  
 Cole, Phil McGee, Larry Gillick,  
 Steve George, Elmer Enos  
 1977 Alex Kampouris, Earl Eberlein,  
 Peter Mitchell, Dave Rodrick,  
 \*Dr. Alfred A. Oliver, Joe Smith,  
 Bill Avila, Mike Page  
 1978 Earl Wagner, Lloyd Wagner, Jack  
 Stassi, Herb Forsch, Manuel Salvo,  
 Clement "Boo" Coyle, Gus Kortstein,  
 William Peccole,  
 Harold "Sam" Sperbeck

\*Denotes deceased members

## 1978 La CLUB BASEBALL HALL OF FAME

EARL WAGNER,

LLOYD WAGNER

JACK STASSI

HERB FORSCH

MANUEL SALVO

CLEMENT "BOO" COYLE           CB

GUS KORTSTEIN

WILLIAM PECCOLE

WILLIAM "SAM" SPERBECK

2-10-78

3-4 ~~0~~

LLOYD WAGNER EARL WAGNER

This is the first time in 27 years of its existence that the La Salle Club inducted two brothers into the Hall of Fame on the same evening. Like many other youngsters within the confines of the Southern Pacific Railroad Company, the Wagners possessed more than ordinary athletic ability.

Lloyd, the elder of the two, was a soccer and baseball player, while Earl played baseball all the way. Earl, actually had the edge in baseball by doubling as a left handed pitcher as well as playing first base. Additionally, there were few who could hit better than Earl. Along with Jack Costa, he set some hefty local hitting records during his career.

Lloyd was a second sacker and a dashing, center forward on the soccer front.

Lloyd's baseball career was spent on the local lots playing in the Sacramento Winter League and in the Placer-Nevada League with Colfax and Roseville. He also played with the Keating Sweets and later with the champion Eastern Outfitters. He also was a member of the Julius Haberdashers, Yardley Stars and Ed Dell Stars.

~~EARL WAGNER~~

Lloyd did not entertain any professional offers being content to spend his entire productive life with his first love, the S. P. Company. He finally did retire in 1972 after 49½ years of service.

Vince

(3)

Mary J. Watson Grammar 1917-1919

Harkness High 1920

Sacto man High 1921

Drop out of High School  
to go work Southern Pacific Co  
worked 49 years my only job

Placer County Football League  
Colfax 1922 - Roseville 1923

Southern Pacific Co and  
Keating Agents Traveling  
Baseball Teams 1921-1936

Played all top teams

Roseville, Placerville, Colusa, Marysville,  
Arville, Chico, Willows, Arbutle,  
Willows, Colusa, Red Bluff,  
Dunsmuir, Weaverville, Klamath Falls,  
Reno and Ogden

(1901  
15) 17

OVER

Sacramento Winter League

Julius (twice)

Eastern Outfitting

Yardley Stars 1924-1936

Kells Stars

EARL, on the other hand, always flirted with the pro ranks but still

kept his job at the SF. He first received a tryout with the Solons in 1924 when he was 18. He did get into one game as a pinch hitter that year, singling against "Wheezer" Dell, Vernon right hander. After a week with the club, he went back to work at the shops. In the spring of 1925 and 1926 he had brief tryouts with the Missions, but he ~~want~~ wasn't away long enough to lose his job. However, in 1929, he did make a clean break by signing up with the Hollywood Stars of the PCL giving up his \$4.50 a day job. That was a daring economic move, because it was the start of the depression.

Earl did not make the Hollywood club and was farmed out for a year. He came back to Sacramento to look for a job. He hooked on with the Great Western Power company and played with that club and they with Zemanskys, both of which were pennant winners. He then joined a club which George Lial was putting together for Julius. Lial won nine pennants at the helm. Wagner was a part of most of the pennant winners.

Sacramento, Calif  
January 9, 1978

Mr. Stanich  
Dear Vince:

⑦

I played 2 years at Stanford Elementary School, Oak Park. No high school ball - bone injury to hip during high school years. Then I attended Healds Business College for 2 years.

Played for Central Outfitting 2 years  
Played for Celtic Athletic Club 5 yrs

- " " Thomas Blackcats 2 yrs.
- " " Roma Wine 2 yrs <sup>National League</sup>
- " " Painters Union 1 yr " "
- " " Folsom (County League) 2 yrs
- " " Cal Nevada League 2 yrs
- " " Sacto. Valley League 2 yrs Dante Club
- " " Oasis Old Timers 3 yrs
- " " Hot Nail Old Timers 2 yrs.

Position played was usually right hand pitcher.

Thank you for your interest to this matter.  
Jack "J" Stassi

I started my baseball career in the  
Sacto. County League <sup>in Franklin</sup> when I was  
fifteen. Played winter league ball  
in the American A league that  
winter.

Playing in the County league  
several years and playing for  
Roma Wines and other teams in  
the Sacto. winter league, I made  
the all stars two years.

Roma Wines gave me a job in  
the Lodi plant to play ball for them  
<sup>then</sup> in the Central County league, when  
they formed the State league, I  
played for them <sup>there</sup> with many of  
the ball players coming from  
Sacto.

When Roma Wines moved to Fresno,  
Supermold of Lodi gave me a job  
at their plant to play softball. I  
played softball for them and base-  
ball for the Lodi Merchants in the  
Valley league, until I was drafted



into the army, where I served  
four and a half years, two and  
a half years overseas.

After the war my wife and I  
moved to Sacto. where we raised our  
two boys Ken & Bob.

My brother and I started Arisid Bros.  
Electric at that time.

When the boys were old enough  
to start Little League, I helped coach  
to get them started in baseball.

Our family loves sports, our first  
love is baseball, we watch the boys  
play whenever possible.

I am retired and do a lot of  
fishing and golfing.

I was raised in the Franklin area,  
went to grammar school there. And started  
county League play under Bill Sims.

Thanks again, it all seems like a  
dream. I didn't think anything like this  
could happen to me. Herb

2-10-78

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MANUEL SALVO

Manuel Salvo, ~~is~~ is the only one of the hall of famers tonight who played in the major leagues.

He was born in Sacramento in 1913.

Manuel did not play baseball in high school. His early campaigning on the baseball field was with the Sacramento Cubs, who were part of the lower division of the Sacramento Winter League.

It was George Lial, manager of the Julius Haberdashers, who actually discovered Manuel and signed him for his 1930 club ~~xxx~~ while He was only 17-years of age. Julius won the pennant that year thanks to Manuel's great pitching.

That was the only stint for Manuel in the Sacramento Winter League <sup>He stayed through the 1935 season.</sup>

as he was signed by the Sacramento Solons in 1932 ~~xxxxxxx~~. During that period the other local discoveries on the club were ~~xxxx~~ ~~xxxxxx~~ ~~xxxxxx~~ Elwood Wirts,

Tony Freitas, Tom Flynn, Larry Gillick, Alex Kampouris, Lenny Backer Hank Ness, William Hartwig, Joe Noonan, Andy House, Roy Gardner, Bill Salkeld, Tony Boroja, Henry Steinbacher, Frenchy Bordagaray Jerry Donovan, George Reiles, Mike Bakarich, Henry Hanna, and Russ DeForrest.

Salvo was drafted by the Boston Red Sox and he was at Fenway Park on the opening day of the 1936 season, but a hurry up call by Bill Lane of the San Diego Padres, who needed a right handed pitcher desperately, cut short Salvo's big league career. Salvo immediately was the ace of the Padre Staff. While with the club, Salvo was able to assess Ted Williams as a future major leaguer. Pleased with the success of Salvo, Lane gave the Red Sox an option on Williams's services. Salvo was having his biggest year in 1938 winning about 22 games ~~xxxxx~~ a little after the half way point, but a sore arm disabled him for the balance of the season. It has been often said

that Salvo would have won 35 games that year. Despite that Salvo was sold to the New York Giants where he stayed one year. The next four years he spent with ~~xxxxx~~ Boston Braves, then briefly with the Phill before he entered the service. following the war he came back to the Coast League with Oakland. He concluded his career with the Solons in 1940

John ABLATTANI  
①

January 5, 1978

MR VINCENT STANICH  
1411 - Marion Way  
Sacramento, California.

Mitch Robinson  
Scotts Dine & Hair

VINCE:

As requested, attached is summary of various teams  
played for over the years.

Thanks for including my name with some of the great  
Ball Players developed in Sacramento. My only claim to  
fame was having the honor and pleasure of playing with and  
against many of them.

Sincerely

Milt Thomas  
Ed Huether  
Tony Dufra 67

'Doc'  
'Doc' Coyle.

- 1925 - 26 - 27 - CHRISTIAN BROTHERS
- 1928 - SACRAMENTO HIGH
- 1929 - SAN FRANCISCO SEALS - (Released before start of Season).
- 1930 - SACRAMENTO SOLONS - ( This was a novel year to spend with the Solons as Night Ball was introduced at Moreing Field early that Season. Believe this was only the second Park in Organized Ball to turn on the Lights. With a good Club ~~and~~ the novelty of the Lights, Crowds were exceptionly large for that era. It was the last good year Lew Moreing had at the Gate before the Depression really set in.)
- 1931 - SPRING WITH OMAHA and ended up in the Nebraska State League. ( Terrible year - Very little money - Very few Base Hits.) Came home early.
- WINTER LEAGU - ED DELL STARS - ELKUS SPORT SHOP - GENE HUGHES - CHINN BERETTA - PAINTERS UNION.
- VALLEY LEAGUE - SACRAMENTO REALTORS - ROSEVILLE - CHARLIS CLARK'S SACRAMENTO WANDERERS.

Retired from Rainier Brewery after 35 years as California Sales Rep. but still work part time as Consultant.

For years Rainier was owned by the late EMIL SICK, a long time friend of Baseball.

GUS KORTSTEIN

Gus' early baseball success was his contribution to Sacramento High School , which won the state championship in 1922. Gus played third base on that famous club.

Outside of Tom Pendergast, the club's pitcher, who signed a contract with the San Francisco Seals~~xxxx~~ of the PCL, Kortstein was the only player on the club who spent the next 15 years playing the the local semi-pro leagues except for the two seasons with the University of California in Berkeley

Kortstein played for the Kimball Upson club in the National Division of the Sacramento Winter League for six years. Two successive championships were won by the club while Kortstein was a member. He also played for Hales, Nevis-Carnie, Ed Dell Stars, and Nevis-Newman, in addition to the Sacramento Valley League with the Sacramento Realtors in 1929 and the following two seasons with the Dante Club.

Kortstein retired from the Sacramento Bee four years ago after spending 50 years in the accounting division of the local newspaper.

Born: December 18, 1913 - Stockton, California.

Grammar School: Stockton

1926-1930 attended Stanford Junior, High in Sacramento, California, and Sacramento High School.

Paper Boy and played for Sacramento Union Employees Baseball Team.

Moved back to Stockton for Senior year and graduated in 1931 from Stockton High School.

Participated in baseball, track, soccer and basketball throughout school.

Played baseball in all Recreation Department programs in City of Sacramento.

Played ball for American Legion Baseball - Sacramento - 1930  
Sponsored by Julius Haberdashery.

1932- Moved to Las Vegas, Nevada.

1932-1940 Played baseball for Las Vegas.

1936-1940 Attended and graduated from the University of Nevada - Reno.  
Played baseball while in college.

1940-1941 Played baseball for Reno Larks, Reno, Nevada

1940-1941 Received Teaching Fellowship to Springfield College-  
Springfield, Mass.

1941-1942 Coached basketball at Eureka High School - Eureka, Nevada

1942-1946 United States Air Force. Served as Physical Training Instructor  
training Aviation Cadets and Permanent Officers. While in service played  
baseball and participated in and represented Gardner Field, Taft, Ca.  
and Nellis Air Force Base, Las Vegas in baseball tournaments, including  
Baseball Congress Tournament in Wichita, Kansas.

Released from Service with Captains Commission.

1946-47-48 Coached Las Vegas America Legion Baseball. Won first  
State Championship in 1946.

1946-1950 Organized first Youth Baseball Program in Las Vegas.

1947 First President of Las Vegas Wrangler Baseball Team-  
Class C - Sunset League

1952 to date- Sponsored baseball teams in Las Vegas area.

William Peter Peccole

- 1913 Born, Stockton, California (December 18)  
1932 Came to Nevada  
1940 Graduated from UNR B.A. History and Physical Education  
Member Sigma Alpha Epsilon  
1941 Attended graduate school Springfield, Massachusetts  
major-physical education  
1941-1942 Taught school and served as athletic director  
Eureka High School as physical training instructor  
1942 Joined Air Corp World War II/ Released as Captain USAF  
1946 Owner of Peccole Realty Company and Insurance Agency  
Coached American Legion Junior Baseball Program  
One of the organizers of Midget ~~Junior~~ Baseball  
teams  
Member of American Legion Post  
Won American Legion State Baseball Title 19466  
\*1943 Graduated form Officer Candidate School  
1947 1st President of Wranglers Baseball Team 1947  
1949-1953 Elected to City Commission-Las Vegas  
1951 President State Municipal League  
President Son's of Columbus  
1952 President Southern Nevada Insurance Agents Association  
1952-1953 President State Association of Insurance Agents  
1957 State Handball Runner-up Doubles  
1959 Developed Charleston Plaza Shopping Center  
Member Nevada Insurance Agents  
Received Paul Hammel Award--Nevada Independent Insurance  
Agent of the year  
1952-1962 Owner of Peccole Insurance Agency  
1968 Developed Westland Mall Shopping Center  
1971-1974 State Director of International Council of Shopping  
Centers  
1968-1976 Member Nevada State Museum

Past President

Las Vegas Baseball Club  
State Board of Realtors  
State Insurance Agents Assoc.

Member

Junior Chamber of Commerce  
Lions Club  
Elks (42 yrs.)  
American Legion

8

Division  
 440-7771

HAROLD J. SPERBECK  
 REAL ESTATE - INSURANCE  
 204 FIFTH STREET  
 MARYSVILLE, CALIFORNIA

Harold J. "Sam" Sperbeck—Born Dec. 22, 1910 in Browns Valley (near Smartsville) (Conlin) Served as assistant ~~business~~ business Mgr. of Marysville Giants during last years of the Sacramento Valley League; Under late Joe Sauer, late Jack Fredericks and Wick Straub who were board of directors. Later during war 2 was business Mgr and presidents of Giants along with playing mgr. Vic Pitts and secretary-treasurer Harold W. Keely, both will be at LaSalle party. This team played to record crowds and was independent ball. Such stars as Bill Wright, Vic Pitts, late Dick Hoskins, late Ernie Barber, late Clyde "Tub" Perry, Fred Basano, Ken Brock, Elmer Newman, Cliff Anderson and other well known former valley league stars.

In the middle fortys he was sports editor for the Marysville Appeal-Democrat and later with the Bee as it's Yuba-Sutter news rep. Recently wrote a extensive story of <sup>N</sup> "50 yrs in about baseball over 50 yrs in Yuba-Sutter area which was published in Sutter County Historical Society's quarterly publication.

Was president of Yuba County Foothill Baseball League for several years and prior to that managed the Browns Valley team which won the Yuba Co. title and then defeated Sutte<sup>r</sup>, <sup>CITY</sup> winner of the Peach League in the little world series.

Managed and coached the Marysville Pi Delta Koppa basketball team. As you well know it was one of the best in N. Calif. Managed and coached the Marysville national guard basketball team to the state championship of the CNG. While in Yuba College I coached the first class D basketball team (without pay) at Marysville High.



HAROLD J. SPERBECK  
 REAL ESTATE - INSURANCE  
 204 FIFTH STREET  
 MARYSVILLE, CALIFORNIA

While in Marysville Hi worked with Bill Conlin and late Eddie Burt<sup>e</sup> in covering local sports.

was home chief umpire for the local Japanese-American baseball team as well as for Marysville Colored Giants—both standout<sup>T</sup> teams in their respective leagues.

ST<sup>2</sup>ON.

Former Marysville Mayor—27 yrs. on Yuba Co. Board of supervisors past director state supervisor's association; past president of 14 county mother lodge regional group of supervisor's ass'n. Past president of Northern Cal. League of cities; past president local chamber of commerce; past Grand Knight local K. of C., past president local Exchange Club, life member Marysville Elk's Club and many other civic and sporting events in the Yuba-Sutter area.

Married almost 43 yrs. wife Betty<sup>8</sup> children—15 grandchildren. One of sponsors of Yuba County Water Agency which was responsible for building New Bullards Bar dam and reservoir, 28 miles E. of Marysville on Yuba River.

Was named "man of the month" in September 1977 by the Yuba County Bicentennial Committee—Over 500 local folks attended award banquet.

Past President Northern California old Timer's Association and was voted into hall of fame two years ago.

Thanks—Vince—You should get enough out of this.

If not will send You 6 more pages.

Best regards  
 Sam