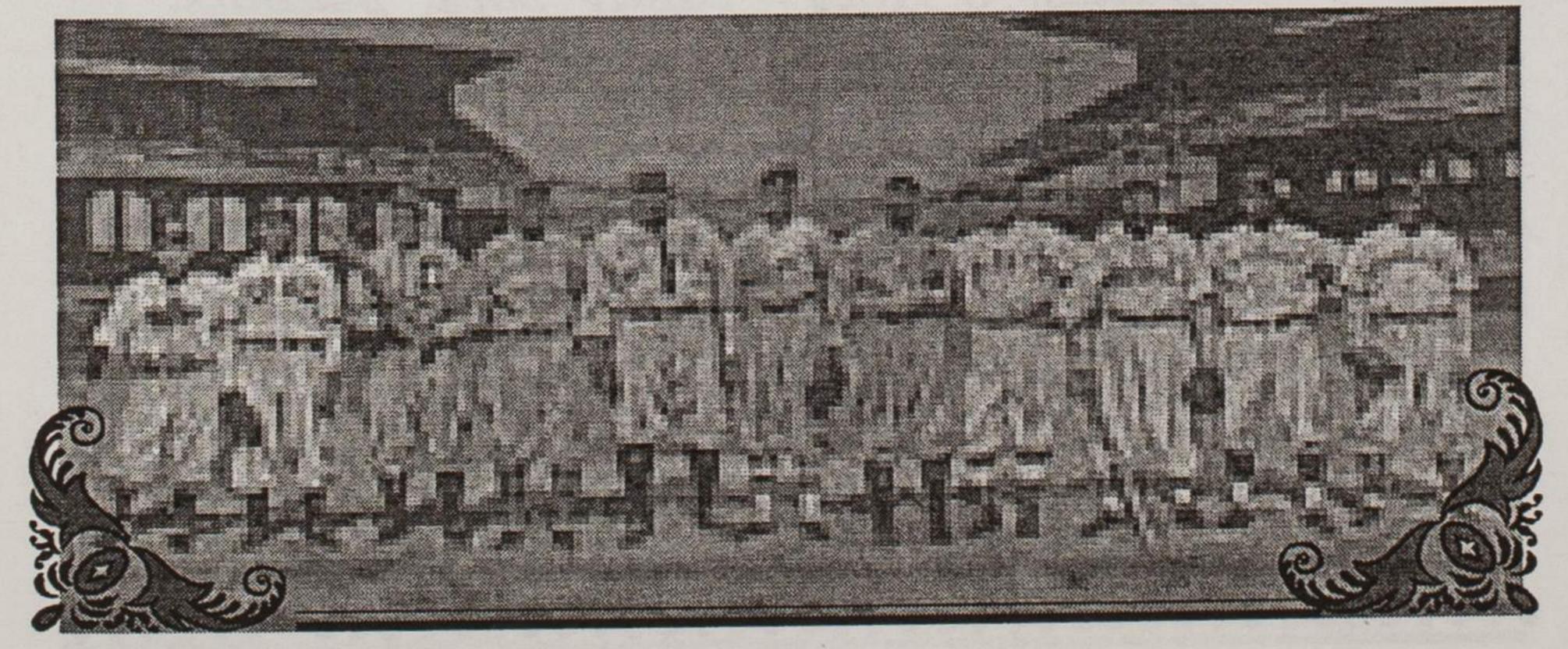
Wintage Base Ball Comes to Nicodemus

September 17, 2005

Nicodemus National Historic Site Nicodemus, Kansas



SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

September 17, 2005

10:00am PRACTICE TIME

Nicodemus Western Cyclones & Hill City Reveille Club practices with Vintage Base Ball group Ball field, east of Nicodemus Schoolhouse

11:00am VINYAGE BALL GAME

Nicodemus Western Cyclones vs. Hill City Reveille Club Ball field, east of Nicodemus Schoolhouse

11:00am Free food served at the Schoolhouse:

Polish sausages, Coca-Cola, Cracker

Jacks, O'Henry candy bars, peanuts,

and popcorn

1:00 pm BASEBALL FORUM

Players from early Nicodemus and Hill City baseball teams will be available to answer questions

Nicodemus Township Hall

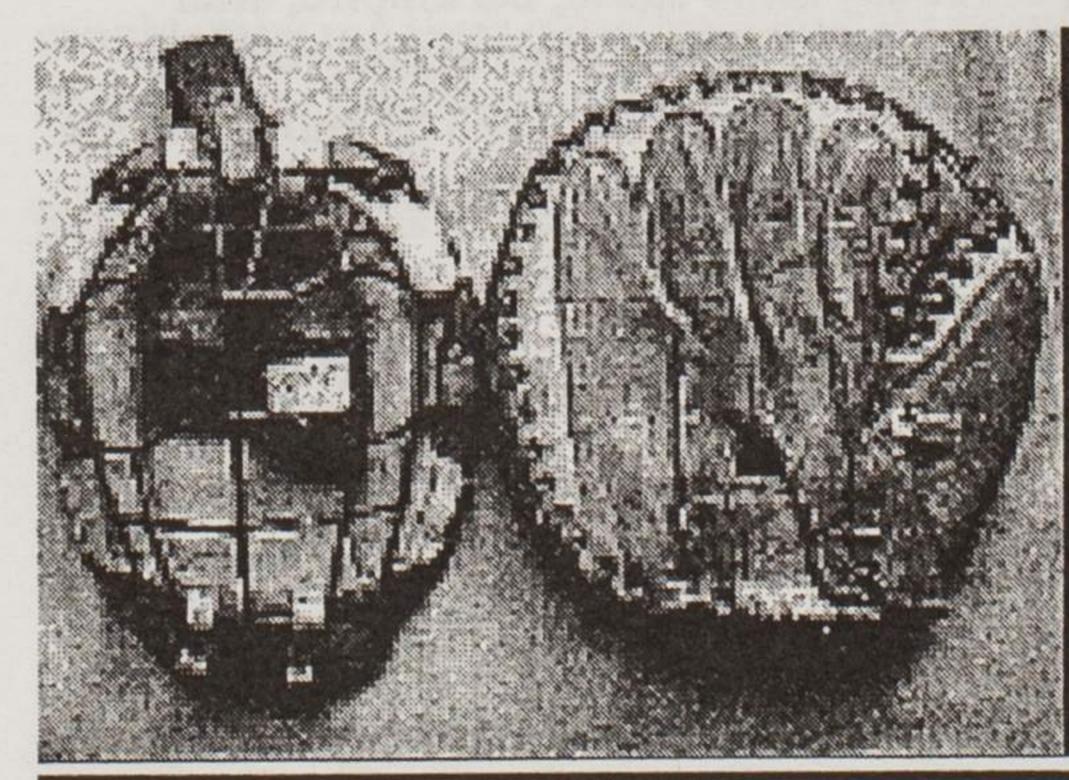
Team Rosters September 17, 2005

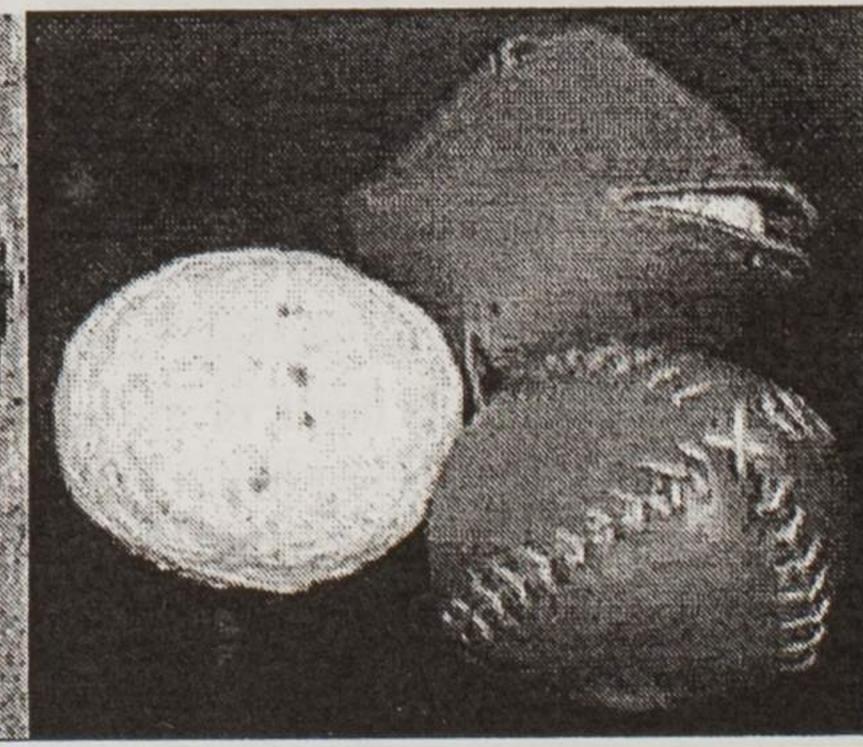
Hill City Revellie Base Ball Club

Fred Pratt, Coach
Alex Leslie
Jerry Aldridge
Mark Niehaus
Pat Lull
Missy Atkins
Bernard Bates
Johnny Billinger
Bob Boyd
Carl Keith
Christy Keith
Gary Alexander
Larry Donahey
Jimmy Brooks

Nicodemus Western Cyclone Base Ball Club

Kim Thomas, Coach Barrie Tompkins Vickie Chapman Nannette Murray Micheal Kountz Sharyn Dowdell-Kountz Sara Crosby Ashely Cromwell Nick Cromwell Robert Brogden Crystal Bates William Bates Clark brother #1 Clark brother #2 Bertha Carter Bondetta Clark





RULES AND REGULATIONS

Adopted by the National Association of Base-Ball Players Held in New York December 9, 1863

- SEC. 1. The ball must weigh not less than five and one-half, nor more than five and three-fourths ounces, avoirdupois. It must measure not less than nine and one-half, nor more than nine and three-fourths inches in circumference. It must be composed of india-rubber and yarn, and covered with leather, and, in all match games, shall be furnished by the challenging club, and become the property of the winning club, as a trophy of victory.
- SEC. 2. The bat must be round, and must not exceed two and a half inches in diameter in the thickest part. It must be made of wood, and may be of any length to suit the striker.
- SEC. 3. The bases must be four in number, placed at equal distances from each other, and securely fastened upon the four corners of a square, whose sides are respectively thirty yards. They must be so constructed as to be distinctly seen by the umpire, and must cover a space equal to one square foot of surface. The first, second, and third bases shall be canvas bags, painted white, and filled with sand or sawdust; the home base and pitcher's point to be each marked by a flat circular iron plate, painted or enameled white.
- SEC. 4. The base from which the ball is struck shall be designated the Home Base, and must be directly opposite to the second base; the first base must always be that upon the right-hand, and the third base that upon the left-hand side of the striker, when occupying his position at the Home Base. And in all match games, a line connecting the home and first base and the home and third base, shall be marked by the use of chalk, or other suitable material, so as to be distinctly seen by the umpire.
- SEC. 5. The pitcher's position shall be designated by two lines four yards in length, drawn at right angles to a line from home to the second base, having its center upon that line, at two fixed iron plates, placed at points fifteen and sixteen yards distant from the home base. The pitcher must stand within the lines, and must deliver the ball as near as possible over the center of the home base, and for the striker.
- SEC. 6. Should the pitcher repeatedly fail to deliver to the striker fair balls, for the apparent purpose of delaying the game, or for any other cause, the umpire, after warning him, shall call one ball, and if the pitcher persists in such action, two and three balls; when three balls shall have been called, the striker shall be entitled to the first base; and should any base be occupied at that time, each player occupying them shall be entitled to one base without being put out.
- SEC. 7. The ball must be pitched, not jerked nor thrown to the bat; and whenever the pitcher draws back his hand, or moves with the apparent purpose or pretension to deliver the ball, he shall so deliver it, and he must have neither foot in advance of the front line or off the ground at the time of delivering the ball; and if he fails in either of these particulars, then it shall be declared a baulk.

- SEC. 8. When baulk is made by the pitcher, every player running the bases is entitled to one base, without being put out.
- SEC. 9. If the ball, from a stroke of the bat, first touches the ground, the person of a player or any other object behind the range of home and the first base, or home and the third base, it shall be termed foul, and must be so declared by the umpire, unasked. If the ball first touches the ground, either upon, or in front of the range of those bases, it shall be considered fair.
- SEC. 10. A player making the home base, shall be entitled to score one run.
- SEC. 11. If three balls are struck at, and missed, and the last one is not caught, either flying or upon the first bound, it shall be considered fair, and the striker must attempt to make his run. SEC. 12. The striker is out if a foul ball is caught, either before touching the ground, or upon the first bound.
- SEC. 13. Or, if three balls are struck at and missed, and the last is caught, either before touching the ground, or upon the first bound;
- SEC. 14. Or, if a fair ball is struck, and the ball is caught either without having touched the ground, or upon the first bound;
- SEC. 15. Or, if a fair ball is struck, and the ball is held by an adversary on the first base, before the striker touches that base.
- SEC. 16. Any player running the bases is out, if at any time he is touched by the ball while in play in the hands of an adversary, without some part of his person being on a base.
- SEC. 17. No ace nor base can be made upon a foul ball; such a ball shall be considered dead, and not in play until it shall first have been settled in the hands of the pitcher. In such cases players running bases shall return to them, and may be put out in so returning in the same manner as the striker when running to the first base.
- SEC. 18. No ace or base can be made when a fair ball has been caught without having touched the ground; such a ball shall be considered alive and in play. In such players running bases shall return to them, and may be put out in so returning, in the same manner as the striker when running to first base; but players, when balls are so caught, may run their bases immediately after the ball has been settled in the hands of the player catching it.
- SEC. 19. The striker must stand on a line drawn through the center of the home base, not exceeding in length three feet from either side thereof, and parallel with the line occupied by the pitcher. He shall be considered the striker until he has made the first base. Players must strike in regular rotation, and, after the first innings is played, the turn commences with the player who stands on the list next to the one who lost the third hand.
- SEC. 20. Players must make their bases in the order of striking; and when a fair ball is

struck, and not caught flying (or on the first bound), the first base must be vacated, as also the second and third bases, if they are occupied at the same time. Players may be put out on any base, under these circumstances, in the same manner as the striker when running to the first base.

- SEC. 21. Players running the bases must, so far as possible, keep upon the direct line between the bases; and, must make them in the following order (word deleted): first, second, third, and home, and if returning must reverse this order; and should any player run three feet out of this line for the purpose of avoiding the ball in the hands of an adversary, he shall be declared out.
- SEC. 22. Any player, who shall intentionally prevent an adversary from catching or fielding the ball, shall be declared out.
- SEC. 23. If the player is prevented from making a base, by the intentional obstruction of an adversary, he shall be entitled to that base, and not be put out.
- SEC. 24. If an adversary stops the ball with his hat or cap, or takes it from the hands of a party not engaged in the game, no player can be put out unless the ball shall first have been settled in the hands of the pitcher.
- SEC. 25. If a ball, from the stroke of a bat, is held under any other circumstances than as enumerated in Section 24d, and without having touched the ground more than once, the striker is out.
- SEC. 26. If two hands are already out, no player running home at the time a ball is struck, can make an ace if the striker is put out.
- SEC. 27. An innings must be concluded at the time the third hand is put out.
- SEC. 28. The game shall consist of nine innings to each side, when, should the number of runs be equal, the play shall be continued until a majority of runs, upon an equal number of innings, shall be declared, which shall conclude the game.
- SEC. 29. In playing all matches, nine players from each club shall constitute a full field, and they must have been regular members of the club which they represent, and of no other club, for thirty days prior to the match. No change or substitution shall be made after the game has been commenced unless for reason of illness or injury. Position of players and choice of innings shall be determined by captains previously appointed for that purpose by the respective clubs.
- SEC. 30. The umpire shall take care that the regulations respecting balls, bats, bases, and the pitcher's and striker's positions, are strictly observed. He shall keep a record of the game, in a book prepared for the purpose; he shall be the judge of fair and unfair play, and shall determine all disputes and differences which may occur during the game; he shall take especial care to declare all foul balls and baulks, immediately upon their occurrence, unasked, and in a distinct and audible manner. He shall, in every instance, before leaving the ground, declare the winning club, and shall record his decision in the score books of the two clubs.

- SEC. 31. In all matches the umpire shall be selected by the captains of the respective sides, and shall perform all the duties enumerated in section 30, except recording the game, which shall be done by two scorers, one of whom shall be appointed by each of the contending clubs.
- SEC. 32. No person engaged in a match, either as umpire, scorer, or player, shall be either directly or indirectly, interested in any bet upon the game. Neither umpire, scorer, nor player shall be changed during a match, unless with the consent of both parties (except for a violation of this law), except as provided in section 29, and then the umpire may dismiss any transgressors.
- SEC. 33. The umpire in any match shall determine when play shall be suspended; and if the game can not be concluded, it shall be decided by the last even innings, provided five innings have been played, and the party having the greatest number of runs shall be declared the winner.
- SEC. 34. Clubs may adopt such rules respecting balls knocked beyond or outside of the bounds of the field, as the circumstances of the ground may demand; and these rules shall govern all matches played upon the ground, provided that they are distinctly made known to every player and umpire, previous to the commencement of the game.
- SEC. 35. No person shall be permitted to approach or to speak with the umpire, scorers, or players, or in any manner to interrupt or interfere during the progress of the game, unless by special request of the umpire.
- SEC. 36. No person shall be permitted to act as umpire or scorer in any match, unless he shall be a member of a Base-Ball Club governed by these rules.
- SEC. 37. Whenever a match shall have been determined upon between two clubs, play shall be called at the exact hour appointed; and should either party fail to produce their players within fifteen minutes thereafter, the party so failing shall admit a defeat.
- SEC. 38. No person who shall be in arrears to any other club, or who shall at any time receive compensation for his services as a player, shall be competent to play in any match.
- SEC. 39. Should a striker stand at the bat without striking at good balls repeatedly pitched to him, for the apparent purpose of delaying the game, or of giving advantage to a player, the umpire, after warning him, shall call one strike, and if he persists in such action, two and three strikes. When three strikes are called, he shall be subject to the same rules as if he had struck at three fair balls.
- SEC. 40. Every match hereafter made shall be decided by a single game, unless otherwise mutually agreed upon by the contesting clubs.

SHEW!! THAT"S ALL, FOLKS!!

TONI STONE (Marcenia Lyle Alberga)

1921-1996 Second Base; San Francisco Sea Lions, 1949; New Orleans Creoles, 1949-1952; Indianapolis Clowns, 1953; Kansas City Monarchs, 1954

Toni Stone may be one of the best ballplayers that you've never heard of. As a teenager she played with the local boys' teams, in St. Paul, Minnesota. During World War II she moved to San Francisco, playing first with an American Legion team, and then with the San Francisco Sea Lions, a black, semi-pro barnstorming team—she drove in two runs in her first at-bat. She didn't feel that the owner was paying her what they'd originally agreed on, so when the team played in New Orleans, she jumped ship and joined the Black Pelicans. From there she went to the New Orleans Creoles, part of the Negro League minors, where she made \$300 a month in 1949. The local press reported that she made several unassisted double plays, and batted .265. (Although the All American Girls Baseball League was active at the time, Toni Stone was not eligible to play. The AAGBL was a "whites only" league, so Toni played on otherwise all-male black teams.)

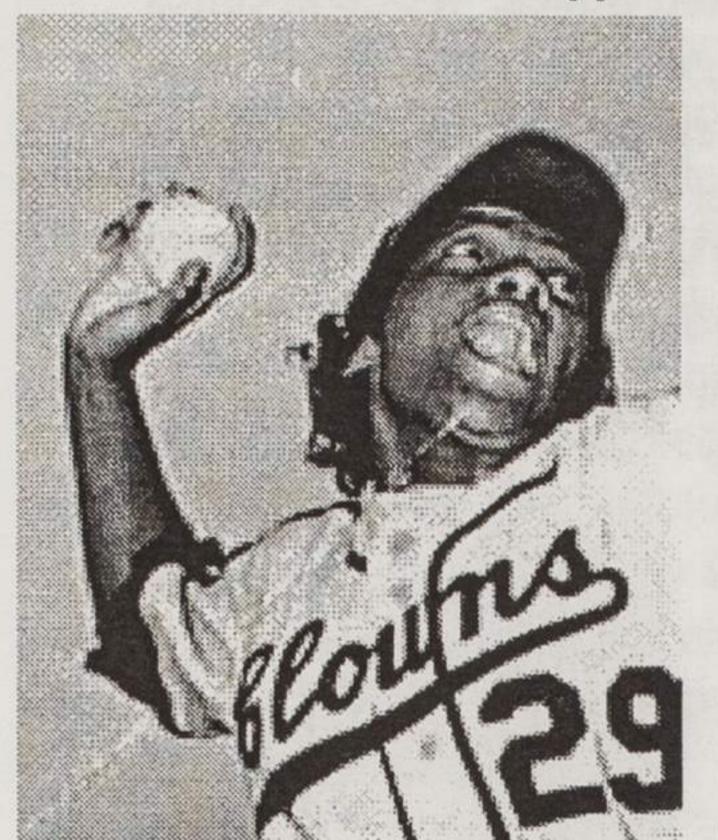
In 1953, Syd Pollack, owner of the Indianapolis Clowns, signed Toni to play second base, a position that had been recently vacated when Hank Aaron was signed by the Boston (soon to be Milwaukee) Braves. Toni became the first woman to play in the Negro Leagues. The Clowns had begun as a gimmick team, much like the Harlem Globetrotters, known as much for their showmanship as their playing. But by the '50s they had toned down their antics and were playing straight baseball. Although Pollack claimed he signed Toni Stone for her skill as a player, not as a publicity stunt, having her on the team didn't hurt revenues, which had been declining steadily since Jackie Robinson broke the color barrier in the majors, and many young black players left the Negro Leagues.

Stone recalls that most of the men shunned her and gave her a hard time because she was a woman. She reflected that, "They didn't mean any harm, and in their way they liked me. Just that I wasn't supposed to be there. They'd tell me to go home and fix my husband some biscuits, or any damn thing. Just get the hell away from here." The team publicized Toni Stone in interviews, on posters, and on the cover of the Clowns' program. And she got to play baseball, appearing in 50 games in 1953, and hitting .243.

In 1954, Pollack sold her contract to the Kansas City Monarchs, an all-star team that had won several pennants in the "Colored World Series," and for whom Jackie Robinson and Satchel Paige had both played. She played the 1954 season for the Monarchs, but she could read the handwriting on the wall. The Negro Leagues were coming to an end, so she retired at the end of the season. She was inducted into the Women's Sports Hall of Fame in 1993. She is honored in two separate sections in the Baseball Hall of Fame in Cooperstown; the "Women in Baseball" exhibit, and the Negro Leagues section.

Toni Stone's most memorable baseball moment came when she played against the legendary Satchel Paige in 1953. "He was so good," she remembered, "That he'd ask batters where they wanted it, just so they'd have a chance. He'd ask, 'You want it

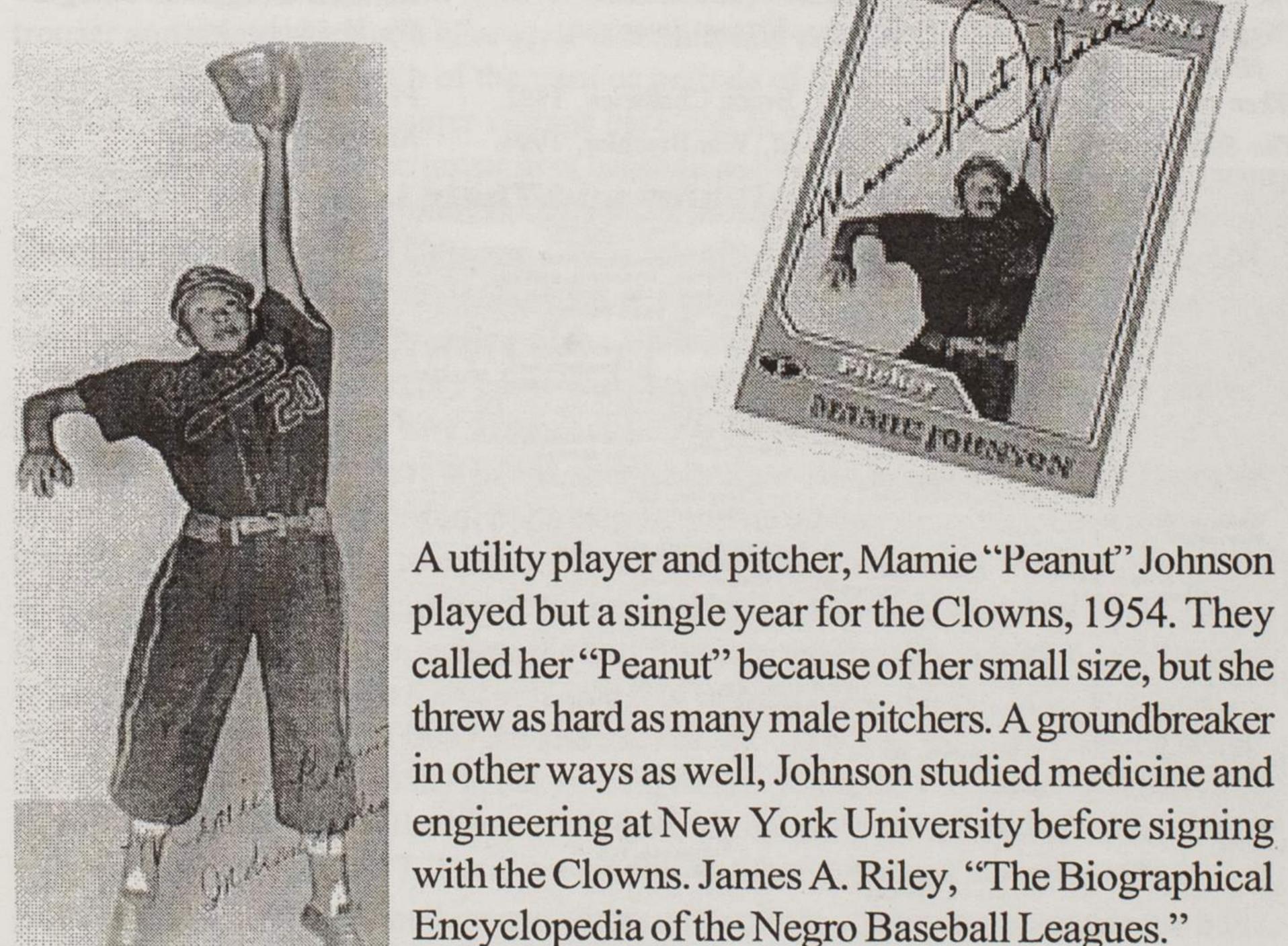
high? You want it low? You want it right in the middle? Just say.' People still couldn't get a hit against him. So I get up there and he says, 'Hey, T, how do you like it?' And I said, 'It doesn't matter, just don't hurt me.' When he wound up—he had these big old feet—all you could see was his shoe. I stood there shaking, but I got a hit. Right out over second base. Happiest moment in my life."



All photographs courtesy of The Buck O'Neil Collection, Negro Leagues Baseball Museum, Kansas City.

Toni Stone

Toni Stone, Connie Morgan, and Mamie "Peanuts" Johnson played on men's professional teams in the Negro Leagues; they weren't allowed to play in the AAGPBL because they are African American.



A utility player and pitcher, Mamie "Peanut" Johnson played but a single year for the Clowns, 1954. They called her "Peanut" because of her small size, but she threw as hard as many male pitchers. A groundbreaker in other ways as well, Johnson studied medicine and

The Negro Leagues

From the 1880s to 1950 literally hundreds of all-black, professional and semi-professional baseball teams played throughout the United States. While at times black baseball at its top levels enjoyed the benefits of organized league structures, most teams played in loosely organized circuits or as independents. In the common parlance all are referred to as "Negro League" teams. Over 2,600 African-American and Hispanic men and women played in eight organized leagues on more than 200 teams from 1920 through 1955. (Negro Leagues Baseball Museum website; Negro

League Baseball website; Black Baseball website). For more on the history of local baseball or the Negro leagues, we suggest the following sources.

League Baseball website; Black Baseball website). For more on the history of local baseball or the Negro leagues, we suggest the following sources.

Further Reading:

Leagues Baseball Museum website, http://www.nblm.com/s/team.htm

Negro League Baseball Players Association website,

http://www.nlbpa.com/the _teams.html

Negro League Baseball website,

http://www.negroleaguebaseball.com/history101.html Black Baseball website,

http://www.blackbaseball.com/

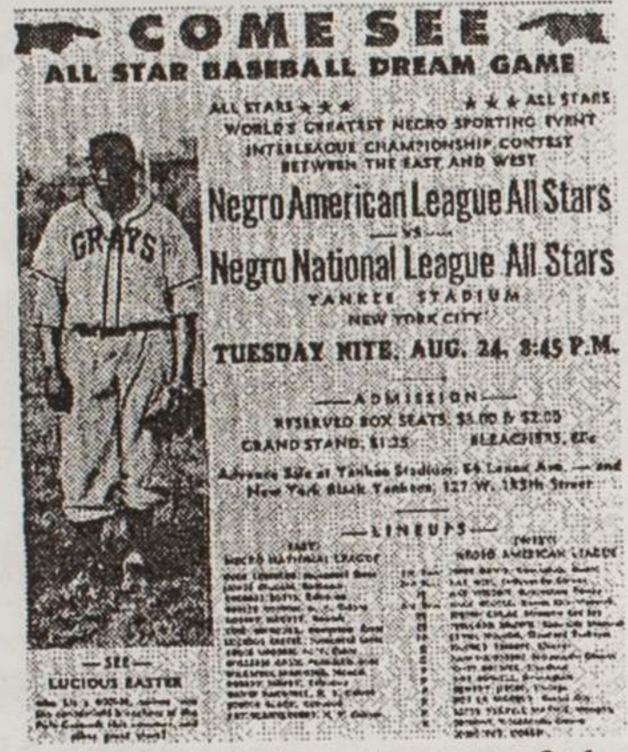
http://www.negro-league.columbus.oh.us/

The All-Time All Stars of Black Baseball, James A. Riley, 1983 Hill City Athletics Baseball: A Decade of Champions, 1950-59, Scott Parker, 1996.

The Negro Baseball Leagues, David K. Fremon, 1994 "Negro Leagues Baseball," Footsteps: African American

History, March/April 2000.

When the Game was Black and White, Bruce Chadwick, 1992. The Story of the Negro League Baseball, Wm.Brashler, 1994.



Above: The winners of the Negro American League played the winners of the Negro National League in a Negro World Series game.

From: Atlas of African American History.

Negro League Teams and Their Locations Bears, Browns, Elites, Hernets, Red Sox, Milwaukee, WI Detroit, MI Stars BEATS Tate Stars New York, NY Black Yankees, Cubat Teledo, OH Dodgers, Elites Tigars Chiengo, II. & Brooklyn, NY Eagles Columbus, OH Philadelphia, PA Stars Homestead, PA Black Stars Indianapolis, IN a ington, OH Kenens City, MO Monarchs Cincinnati, OH Clowns, Cuban Stars, Louisville, KY o St. Louis, MO Glants, Stars Nushville, TN Memphis, TN Atlanta, GA Black Barons

From: Atlas of African American History, James Ciment, 2001.

A Brief History of the Game

In 1845, Alexander Joy Cartwright, Doc Adams and others were early members of a group of young professionals who made up the Knickerbocker Base Ball Club. The Knickerbockers began the process of formalizing the rules (e.g. bases set at 30 paces or 90 feet apart, establishing foul territory, etc.) in the late 1840s and early 1850s. Establishing clear foul territory was a major improvement as it allows spectators to get up close enough to the action to become interested in the game. By the mid to late-1850s, more than a dozen teams had formed in New York City and Brooklyn to play the game of base ball. In 1858, the National Association of Base-Ball Players was formed. By 1860, the number of teams playing skyrocketed as teams formed in other cities like Philadelphia and Washington.

The Knickerbockers modeled their club after the gentlemen's clubs that had been organized in cricket. The Knickerbockers seemingly had more team rules and regulations about gentlemanly behavior than the game itself. But the popularity of the game, and the prospect of charging admission (first done in 1858) lured some working-class clubs into the game like the powerful Brooklyn Atlantics whose main interest was to win.

After a brief lull during the Civil War, interest in the game of base ball was rekindled in the post-war years. As the popularity grew, still more professionalism crept into the game. Eventually, Harry Wright's Cincinnati Red Stockings fielded the first, openly all-professional team in 1869. In 1876, the National League was established, and the rest is history.

What is Vintage Base Ball?

Vintage Base Ball (yes, it was two words originally) is played by the rules and customs of any earlier period. Ballists wear old-style uniforms, either the early long trouser and shield shirt, or a later style lace shirt and knickers, and recreate the game based on rules and research of the various periods of the mid-to-late nineteenth century. Some groups consider vintage base ball to be a new sport, but at its core, vintage base ball is a reflection of how baseball existed at an earlier time.

Most vintage base ball clubs in the VBBA play the game of base ball as it was played in the late 1850s, 1860s and 1880s. Many clubs in the Midwest have adopted the rules recorded in the first Beadle's Dime Base Ball Player, published in 1860, which recounted the third meeting of the National Association of Base Ball Players.

The mid-nineteenth century game was considerably different than today's game. Most ballists played with bare hands until the mid-1880s, but starting in the late 1860s a few catchers with raw hands needed to wear thin buckskin gloves to keep on playing. Until 1865, fair or foul balls caught on one bound were outs, but the best players always attempted to catch it "on the fly" which eventually made the rule unnecessary. More vintage base ball clubs play the late 1860s style "fly game." Balls are considered fair by where the ball first touches the ground. That is, a ball hit in front of home plate that then spins into foul territory is still a fair ball. Talented strikers take advantage of this rule and use the bat to swat at the ball, creating what is known as a "fair-foul" ball, which first lands fair and spins foul, forcing either the first or third baseman off the base. This technique was abused, forcing the fair ball rule to be changed for 1877. There are numerous other differences in all-amateur games prior to 1869, but modern spectators will still recognize our game as base ball.

Baseball in Hill City & Graham County

Our thanks to Mr. Scott Parker for allowing us to use the following excerpt from his book, "Hill City Athletics: A Decade of Baseball, 1950-1960." From: Graham County Library, Hill City. Hill City, Kansas, "town team" baseball began in the late 1800's. The Western Cyclone, a Nicodemus newspaper documented games between Hill City and Millbrook and Nicodemus in 1887.

According to Arden "Whitey" Wallace, the business manager of the Hill City Athletics throughout the 1950's, town team baseball was very popular in Hill City during the 1920's. The Hill City baseball field, at that time, was located in McVey's Pasture north of where Ringneck Stadium is now. "People in the area enjoyed baseball because it was something on which to gamble," Wallace recalled of the 1920's. "Hill City's main rivals were Moreland, WaKeeney, and Norton. Stockton and Lenora also had teams."

Most Hill City town team players, according to Wallace, were former World War I veterans. These players were not paid. However, it was not out of the ordinary for town teams, including Hill City, to occasionally pay a player, usually a pitcher during a tournament. This was done throughout Hill City's team and semi-pro baseball history.

Wallace recalled that Hill City had an excellent town team in 1934. This was due in large part to be paid pitcher from Kansas State named Freeman who "overpowered batters."

Sometime between 1934 and the start of World War II, the ball diamond was moved. Harold Critchfield, who played for the Hill City town team and was later an Army-post baseball teammate of New York Yankee Whitey Ford, recalls having played baseball on a diamond in McVey's Pasture before the war. Following WWII, Hill City victories included games with scores of 11-6 and 19-14 versus Nicodemus, 12-11 against Logan Cities Services, and 22-13 versus Palco. One of the team's losses was 18-16 at the hands of Penokee. In 1947, the Hill City town team finished second in the tournament. Nicodemus beat Hill City in the championship game of the Graham County Wheat Festival All-County Baseball Tournament to win that crown.

One of western Kansas's most memorable games of 1950 was played in front of 1,200 fans at the Hill City Ball Park on September 2. The WCKL All-Stars faced the Kansas City Monarchs of the Negro American League. The Monarchs were one of the dominant teams in baseball, winning a number of pennants and two Negro World Series championships during their existence from 1920 through 1955. ...In the lineup for Kansas City on this barnstorming trip was Ernest "Ernie" Banks. Banks eventually played in the National League with Chicago, beginning in 1953.

The starting pitcher for the WCKL was Herb Settles of Loretta. Settles went the first four innings, striking out five Monarchs. Athletic Frank Dockins went the next four innings for the All-Stars, and teammate Jack Harmon was on the mound in the ninth inning. The three hurlers combined to hold Kansas City to six hits. Hill Citian Dale Billups led the All-Stars offensively. Getting a triple and a single, off of the Monarch's Walker, to go two for four at the plate. Hill City's Dockins and Olen Smrcka of Plainville each pounded a double. Other A's in the contest were catcher Dave Dennis, third baseman Wayne Welty, and second baseman earl Grindle, who hit a single. Even with Walker's nine strikeouts performance, it was not enough for Kansas City. The WCKL All Stars edged the powerful Monarch's, 3-2.

The big game of the tourney, though, was on August 11 when the Tournament All-Stars faced Kansas City Monarchs. Hill City A's hurler, Jack Harmon, was the winning pitcher as the All-Stars edged the Monarchs 2-1. Other Hill City All-Star players were Jack Ward, Glen Dean, Wayne Welty, Earl Grindle, Bill Korb, Galen Christiansen and Frank Dockins. Rex Welty was the manager that evening. Whitney Wallace remembered, "The Monarchs were always a big draw for us. The Monarch's (manager) Buck O'Neil and I would count the money after the ball game. Kansas City had a 60% split, Hill City, 40%."

Wallace often had a hard time finding black teams a place to stay when they came to play the A's. He recalled, "Things were different during that time, not like they are today. It was hard since black players weren't allowed to stay in motels or eat in restaurants. I remember one time I asked a restaurant manager if a visiting black team could eat there, and he said that they could. But, when the players came into town, they had to eat back in the kitchen. Also I had made previous arrangements for the players to stay at what is now the Western Hills Motel. When they arrived, the motel manager would not let them stay. They ended up having to stay in Hoxie." The black teams were able to suit up in what was then the Pratt Implement building at the intersection of U.S. Highways 24 and 283. Albert Pratt, a member of the Hill City Athletic Association, owned Pratt Implement. The building, which is now part of Money Chevrolet and houses the classic car collection, had a shower for the players.



Ladies Vintage Base Ball

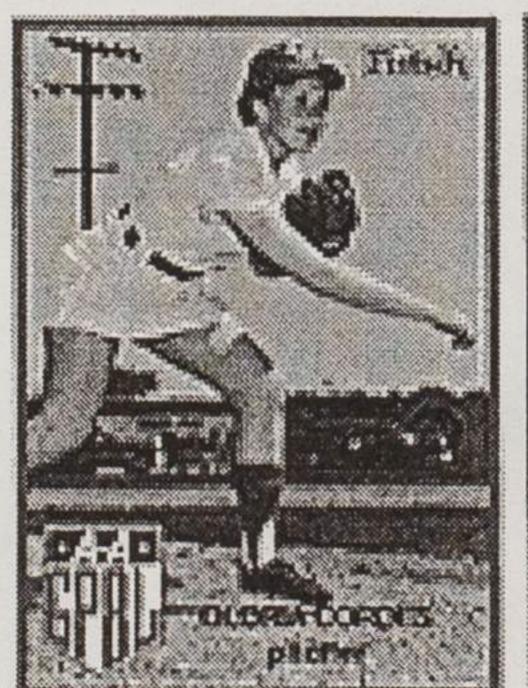
For over a decade women have been part of the vintage base ball phenomenon. The Ohio Village Diamonds were the first such club, but they have now been joined by clubs such as the Lady Clodbusters, the Lady Locks, the Hens, and others. Research on 19th and 20th century womens' baseball is still growing, but it has been documented that like their modern counterparts, a few ladies from earlier times were not content to sit and watch the boys play. In the novel *Northanger Abbey*, published in 1818, Jane Austen's character Catherine is described as follows "...It was not very wonderful that Catherine, who had by nature nothing heroic about her, should prefer cricket, baseball, riding on horseback, and running about the country at the age of fourteen, to books..." Enlightened ladies of the 1860s did understand the need for exercise, and baseball found a place in a few locales. However, most Americans considered it too rough and tumble for young ladies, and by the mid-1870s, inappropriate. Etiquette books of the 1870s and 1880s suggested croquet parties and fishing excursions as suitable activities for women.

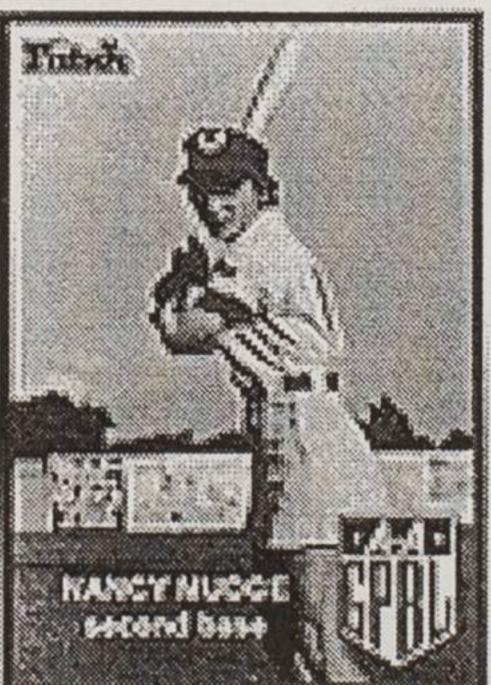
The first documented mention of women playing baseball anywhere in the United States was in a letter from Vassar student Annie Glidden to her brother on April 20, 1866. "They are getting up various clubs now for outdoor exercise. They have a floral society, boat clubs, and baseball. I belong to one of the latter, and enjoy it hugely, I can assure you." A history of the Resolutes and period base ball at Vassar was published in the July-August 1994 issue of American Heritage. Titled "The Girls of Summer" by Gene Smith, the 1876 Resolutes pictured at right were, in fact, one of the last two clubs at Vassar. In Annie Glidden's day, the game was considered good for the mind. Base ball's popularity peaked in 1875 at Vassar and Smith writes, "...increasingly the baseball clubs were also seen as vulgar." Public pressure against girls playing base ball killed off the game at Vassar shortly after the June 1876 photo was taken. However, times changed. In the 1890s, the novelty of barnstorming ladies "Bloomer Girls" teams attracted attention. These clubs usually had a few (typically 1-3) male players and would play against men's clubs. Perhaps the most successful female player and ultimately team owner was Maud Nelson. Born in Italy in 1881 to the name, Clementina Brida, Nelson became the premier female pitcher of latter 19th and early 20th century. She played on the Boston Bloomers and the Star Bloomers before joining forces with her husband, John Olson, owner of the Cherokee Indian Base Ball Club in 1908. In 1911, Nelson created the Western Bloomer Girls club which was a huge success. After two years, she sold the club to her partner and went on to create another ladies club—a pattern she would repeat several times. Ladies base ball would thrive until the Great Depression when many clubs (both male and female) folded in hard times. In addition, the game of softball was starting to take hold in the 1930s and women stopped playing base ball for the most part. The last gasp of air for ladies base ball was the The All-American Girls Professional Baseball League, 1943-1954 which was, of course, the inspiration for the movie, A League of Their Own. For more information, visit the web feature "The Girls of Summer" in the Exploratorium's website "Science of Baseball" section. The Rutgers website has a fine article and photo on Bloomer Girls. Also check the New York Women's Baseball Association website for excellent information on the New York Bloomer Girls, 1910-1933. Some of the information was in this page was taken from the fine book, by Barbara Gregorich, Women at Play: The Story of Women in Baseball (1993)



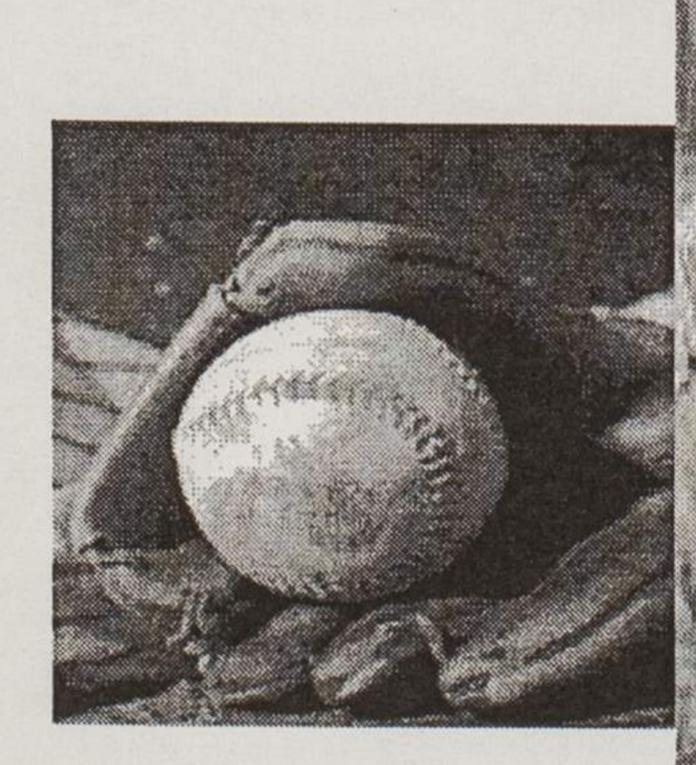


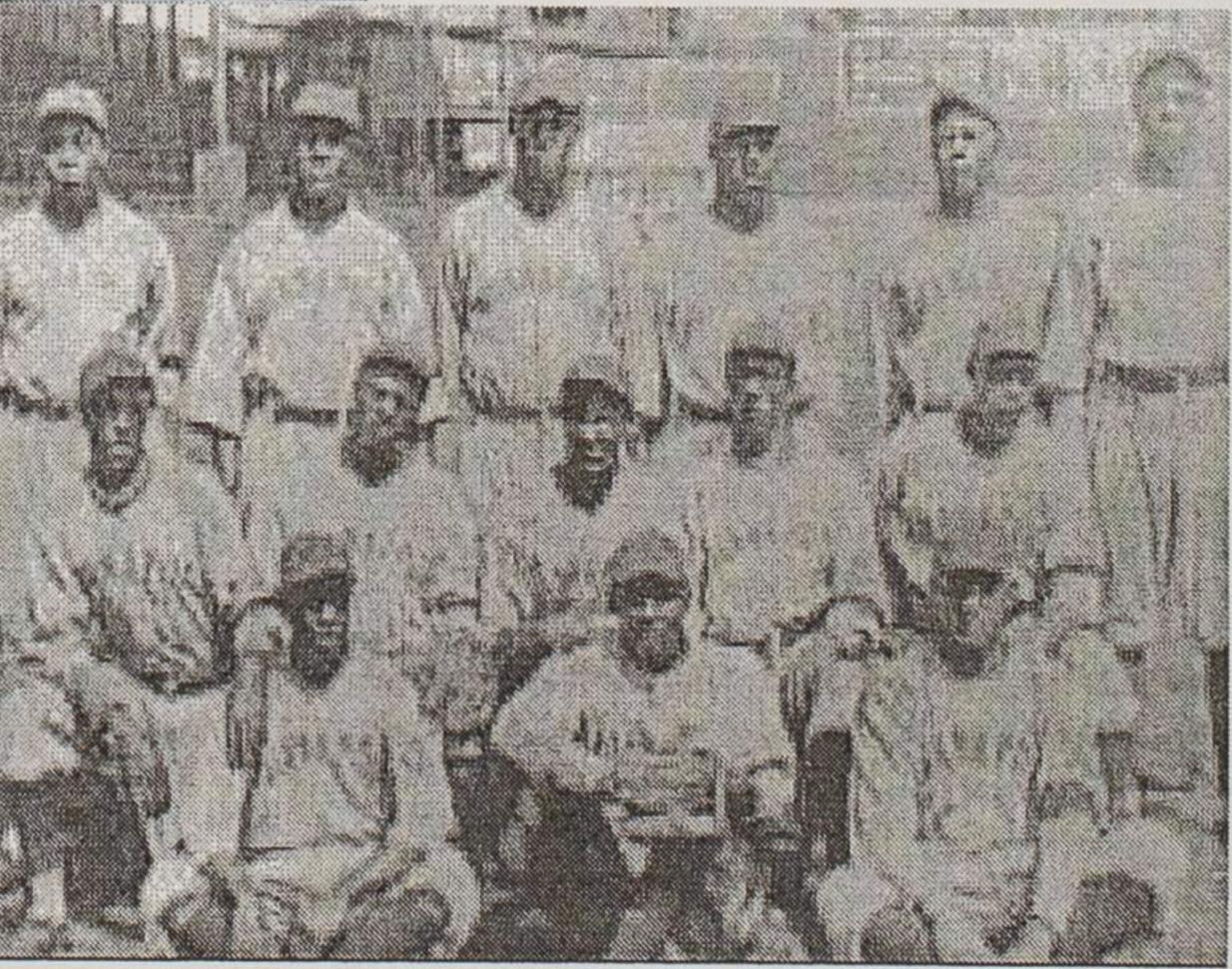












!!! THANK YOU!!!

Nicodemus National Historic Site would like to thank the following people or organizations that gave generously of their time and/or provided support to make this event a reality!

Planning: Angela Bates, Nicodemus Historical Society; Fred Pratt, A & F Motors; Reggie Murray, Nicodemus National Historic Site.

Use of ballfield and Schoolhouse lots: Merle Jones; American Legion Post #270; and Donald Moore, Sr..

Food: Western National Parks Association; Nicodemus Historical Society (Angela Bates, Brenda Brady, and Juanita Robinson); Ernestine's BBQ; Hill City Shurfine; Coca Cola Bottling Enterprises, Victoria; Walmart, Hays; Food for Less, Junction City; ConAgra Foods, Junction City

Logistical Support: Graham County employees Dennis Keith and Bill Miller; Graham County Sheriff Don Scott; Graham County EMTs; Kirk Schweitzer, Graham County Economic Development (Tents); Mrs. Jackie Bates, Hill City (National Anthem); American Legion Post #270, Nicodemus (Color Guard); and the residents of Nicodemus.

Baseball History Forum: Bernard Bates; Fred Pratt; John Billinger; Bob Boyd; Freddie Switzer; Roger Whitley; Harold Kringle; Angela Bates.

Exhibits: Descendants of Nicodemus; Bernard Bates; Mrs. Leroy Nevins.

Vintage Base ball uniforms: Beyenbeye Company, Nebraska.

Equipment & Bases: Beyenbeye Company, Nebraska.

Coaches and Teams: See the team rosters for coaches and team members who are donating their time!

EXPERIENCE YOUR AMERICA The National Park Service cares for the special places saved by the American people so that all may experience our heritage. Volunteers provide very important support to the National Park Service! Between October 2001-September 2002, 125,000 volunteers contributed 4.5 million hours of service to the National Park Service. Their contributions were valued at over \$72 million dollars in that single year. This generous donation of time helps us manage more than 83 million acres at 388 sites across the nation.



David Dinell

Angela Bates
President, The Nicodemus Group, Inc.
President, The Nicodemus Historical Society
Board menental, Kansus President Allure

Angela Bates, Nicodemus, Kansas native and historian offers a variety of dynamic presentations on the black pioneer experience, with a focus on historic Nicodemus, Kansas.

Nicodemus, a national historic landmark and only all black town in Kansas, holds a unique place in the history of the United States and partioularly in the expansion and settlement of the western frontier.

These 1 pur presentations include a lecture, slides and videos that capture the essence of life for the black pioneer out on the great western plains.

These are two of the presentations that Angela offers:

- o The Black Pioneer Experience, With A Focus On Nicodemus, Kansas.
- o The Women Of Nicodemus

Fees are negotiable - Travel must be included.

Please call (913) 674-3311

The Nicodemus Group, Inc.
P.O. Box 70
Bogue, Kansas 67625



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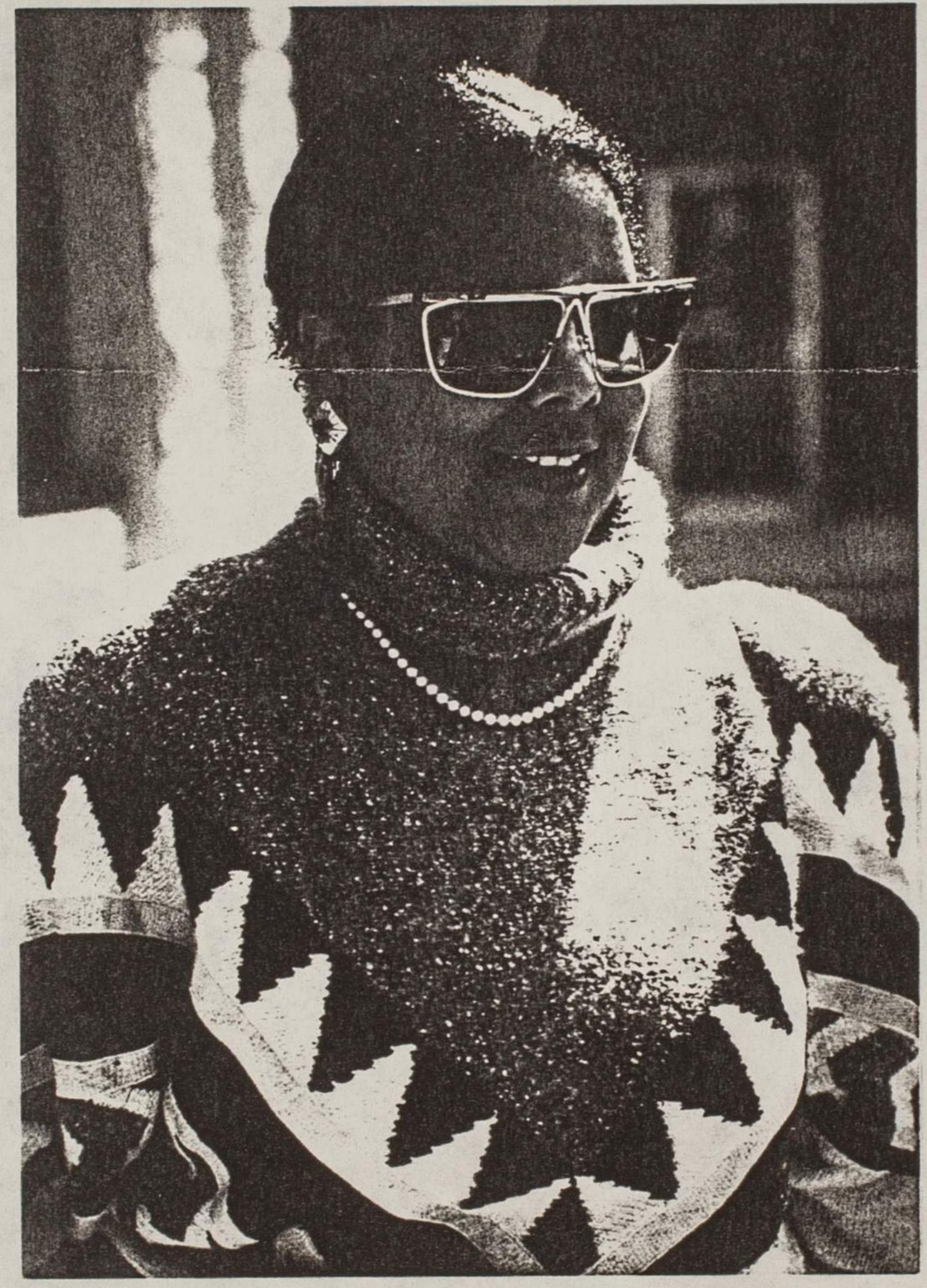
Please call (913) 674-3311

The Nicodemus Group, Inc. P.O. Box 70 Bogue, Kansas 67625

KANSAS - KENTUCKY CONNECTION

"Black Kentuckians in the Promise Lands of Kansas" Historic Nicodemus, Kansas

Slide Presentation and Lecture



William McIntyre

Angela Bates

President Nicodemus Historical Society

With the use of slides, the dramatic tale will be told of how Black Kentuckians left the oppression of the blue grass state and ventured into the western frontier of Kansas after the Civil War. Named after the first African to purchase his freedom in the United States, they establish in 1877, on the high plains of Kansas, a home they called their own, Nicodemus. Nicodemus is the only remaining all Black town west of the Mississippi River established during the western migration of African Americans from the oppressive South to the promise lands of Kansas during the 'exodus' years. It was designated a National Historic Landmark in 1976, and efforts are currently underway for National Historic Site designation. If designated, Nicodemus will become one of the most prominant and nationally significant African American sites within the National Park Service.



This program was funded in part by the Kentucky Humanities Council and the National Endowment for the Humanities. For More Information (913) 674-3311

Back To History Camp

Historic Nicodemus, Kansas

Established 1877 Only All African American Town in Kansas

STAFF

Fee - \$40.00 per camper*

June 18, 1994

June 25, 1994

July 9, 1994

July 16, 1994

John Ella Holmes, Camp Director,

Teacher and Educational Curriculum Developer and Consultant. JohnElla was the Director of the Topeka Parks and Recreation Eastlawn Community Center for 5 years. She has developed successful camps for the Recreation department and ran a staff of 75.

Insurance Information

All campers must have health insurance to participate in camp. _ I will be covered by my personal or family accident and illness insurance. My insurance company is Company Name____ Policy Number_____ Company Address_____ Company Phone Number_____

Mail application with deposit to: Nicodemus Historical Society Camp RR2, Box 139 Nicodemus, Kansas 67625 913 674-3311

Authorization

(Make sure parents sign and T-Shirt size marked)

WE, the undersigned parents or guardians of a minor, do hereby authorize the director of the Back to History Camps of his designee to select hospital facilities and/or physician of her choice and authorize treatment of the above named camper on an emergency basis in the event such treatment becomes necessary as a result of the participation in the Back to History Camp Nicodemus. We hereby grant permission for him/her to participants -pate in the camp and acknowledge the fact that he/she is physically able to participate in camp activities. I will be responsible for all medical bills incurred as a result of illness or accidents for which medical treatment is necessary while the above applicant is at kamp, except those bills covered by insurance.

Signature of Parent or Guardian Please indicate your T-shirt size

___Small ___med.__Large__X-Lrg

General Information

Housing - All girls and boys will be separated and will reside in modern air-conditioned residence, where the staff will supervise 24 hours a day. In addition both boys and girls will have their own qualified adult counselor to give individual help when needed.

Health and Insurance - We ask each attending camper to be covered by his/her own personal or family accident and illness insurance. Please list your personal or family insurance company on the application blank on the back page of this form, along with other pertinent insurance information. Campers who do not have personal or family insurance are responsible for their own insurance and must show proof of coverage to attend kamp.

Camp Regulations - There will be no dating, riding in cars or be off camp grounds unless with an organized and supervised camp group. All visitors must secure permission through the office. Those bringing cars will be asked to check in keys.

Enrollment and Registration - Registration will be between 7:00 - 9:00 p.m. on Friday night before camp. Township Hall Nicodemus, Ks..

Reservations must be made ahead of time in order to insure complete enrollment. Deposits will not be returned unless notified one month prior to camp in writing. No refund for early departures!

Confirmation - Upon receipt of your enrollment blank and deposit check, our office will mail a letter of confirmation to confirm that we have received your enrollment blank and deposit and that you are officially enrolled in camp.

Departure -

Camp will be concluded officially 5:00 p.m. on Saturday, following presentations to campers. Everyone is welcome. Each camper is free to leave following conclusion of program and checked out by the staff. Return, transportation will leave at the appropriate time to connect campers with the bus or airline.

Transportation - campers who come by plane or bus will be met by staff members at the airport of Hays, Kansas or bus depot in Wakeeney, Kansas and transportation provided to Nicodemus, Ks.. It is the responsibility of the camper to notify the NHS camp office of the exact time and mode of travel one week ahead of arrival time. Call 913 674-3311 between 8:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m.

What to Bring - All campers should plan to bring plenty of comfortable casual play clothes such as shorts, t-shirts, etc. We will not however be responsible for washing camp clothes. Don't forget your tennis shoes, towels and washcloths, personal toilet articles, light jacket and swim suit.

There are occasions when certain of the representations made herein cannot be fulfilled for one reason or another, and the sponsor of this camp assumes no liability for representations made herein that need to be changed, so long as the substantial purpose of the camp is fulfilled.

Cost - Day Camp - \$40.00

A \$10 deposit is mandatory for all in camp. No refund on deposit unless we are notified, in writing, four weeks prior to the start of the camp. Total camp costs must be paid by the day of registration. All checks must include state drivers license I. D. Number. Early departures from camp due to illness or injury will be charges a \$15 administrative fee. NO CASH REFUND FOR EARLY DEPARTURE.

* FAMILY DISCOUNT INFORMATION:

Two or more siblings attending the camp weekends will receive a \$25 discount per camper. Two or more siblings attending the camp descendants will receive a \$15 discount per camper. An additional "Early Bird" \$5 discount per camper if packet is received by May 15, 1993.

PLEASE PRINT AND COMPLETE ENTIRE FORM

I (my ca	mper) will	attend:
	June 18, 19	994
	June 25, 19	994
	July 9, 19	994
Vame:	July 16, 19	
Home Address		
City	_State	Zip
Home Phone ()	
Parents Work(_)	

Back To History Camp Historic Nicodemus, Kansas

Established in 1877
Only All African American Town in Kansas
National Historic Site Designee

Bring your children out for an action packed weekend in Historic Nicodemus Kansas. This camp will be a fun-filled learning experience. Children ages 6 -17 will have the time of their life learning about the African American pioneer experience in historic Nicodemus. Parents are encouraged to attend. A Special Camp for parents is available.

Date: June 20 - 24, 1994 July 25 - 29, 1994

(Emancipation Celebration July 29 - August 1, 1994)

History, Life and Times of the Settlers
Historic Townsite Tour
Farm Life Tour
Historic Games
Bar-B-Q Picnic
KidVideo and Talent Show
Historic Dramatizations
Native American History and Sweat Lodge
Much, Much, More!
Staff: Certified teachers and counselors.
Lodging Provided

	Please send me more	information about the	camp.
	I would like to sign m	y child(ren) up, please	send enrollment forms.
Name of P	arent or Guardian Addr	ess	
State	ZipCode	Day Phone	Evening Phone
Address:	R. R. #2, Box	139	

Nicodemus, Kansas 67625

(913) 674-3311

Back To History Camp Historic Nicodemus, Kansas

Established in 1877
Only All African American Town in Kansas
National Historic Site Designee

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Date: June 20, 1994

July 25, 1994

Fee: \$155.00

(Emancipation Celebration July 29 - August 1, 1994)

History, Life and Times of the Settlers

Historic Townsite Tour

Farm Life Tour

Historic Grames

Bar-B-Q Picnic

Kid Video and Talent Show

Historic Dramatizations

Much, Much, More!

Staff: Certified teachers and counselors.
Lodging Provided

	Please send me more in	formation abou	t the camp.	
	I would like to sign my	child(ren) up, p	elease send er	rollment forms.
Name of	Parent or Guardian		Address	
State	ZipCode	Day Phone		Evening Phone

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Established in 1877
Only All African American Town in Kansas
National Historic Site Designee

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Date: June 18, 1994

June 25, 1994 July 9, 1994 July 16, 1994

Fee: \$40.00

History, Life and Times of the Settlers
Historic Townsite Tour
Historic Games
Bar-B-Q Picnic
Historic Dramatizations
Native American History
Camp Membership
Camp Newsletter and Photo
Much, Much, More!
Staff: Certified teachers and counselors.

	Please send me more i	nformation about the	camp.
	_I would like to sign my	child(ren) up, please	send enrollment forms.
Name of	Parent or Guardian Addre	ess	
State	ZipCode	Day Phone	Evening Phone

Camp T-shirt (additional cost)

Address:

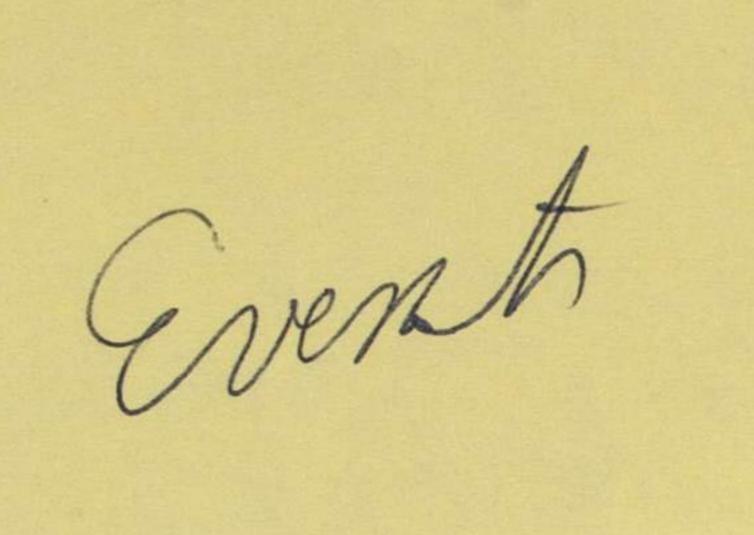
R. R. #2, Box 139

Nicodemus, Kansas 67625

(913) 674-3311

Nicodemus Historical Society

Highway 24 between Stockton and Hill City



September 16, 1996 2:00 p.m. Museum/Offices (south of the 1 room school)

"Historical Women Clothing - 1880 thru 1900"

Guest Speaker

Margaret Linderer

Professional Seamstress - Specializing in Historical Clothing

Margaret Linderer, wife of Steve Linderer - Superintendent of National Historic Site - Fort Larned will be here to talk with ladies about historic period clothing, share patterns & fabric samples, measure and take orders. She is the seamstress who has made period clothing for Barrie Tompkins and Angela Bates-Tompkins and many others throughout the state.

All women are welcomed!

Bring your favorite tea cup

Tea, Coffee and Cookies will be served

Ladies of Micodimus

Dralle Fritzer Rosetta Mray Petrie Jackie Bates Dianna Petric Debra Wilson Ava Bates Clara Clark Plarlena more Rose Stolnes Yovonne Sayer Esta Clarko Roberta Robinson Ora Switzer Lois Alexander Ernestine Van Dwall Dorthea Hernelow Johnene Jean maneans Blertha Carter Alvena Alexander Ada Battes Billey Brogden Guaneta Robenson Charsetter Bates Sharron Alexander Wanda Adams

Lethanapue Keimshomas Valeriadhomas Maxine Guen

Lesta Switzer

September 16772 Zioo Mongant Amderer

AB

· Tea Day

AB

· Coffee · Sugar / Swuth Low

AB AB o Créami

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· Napluns

Ernes.

· Spoons

Ern/Mem.

· Table Cloth · Silver (Tea Pat / Coppie set)

e Hot water mitel

Valerin

· Cookies · Howers

Drugo of flyers to

Newspaper, Bank, Schools

Dea In attendune: 916/96 RSVP 2:00. aleria thems will do cooliers V Clara Clara Kim Thomas Lether Napauce The state of Ereoustine Van Du Vall Bertho Cartes monne Sages Plantene moon gean mimus Dorsen Herndon Rose Stohes Roberta Prhimson Marla mathems Angela Bates grest Speaker: morgant Ludie · John Vaghn · Devin Sagen



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Saturday, September 17, 2005 Game Starts at 11:00 am

News conference at 1:15 pm

FUN FUN See the game played using 1863 rules!

Nicodemus Western Cyclones

VS.

Hill City Revielle Club

LOCATION:

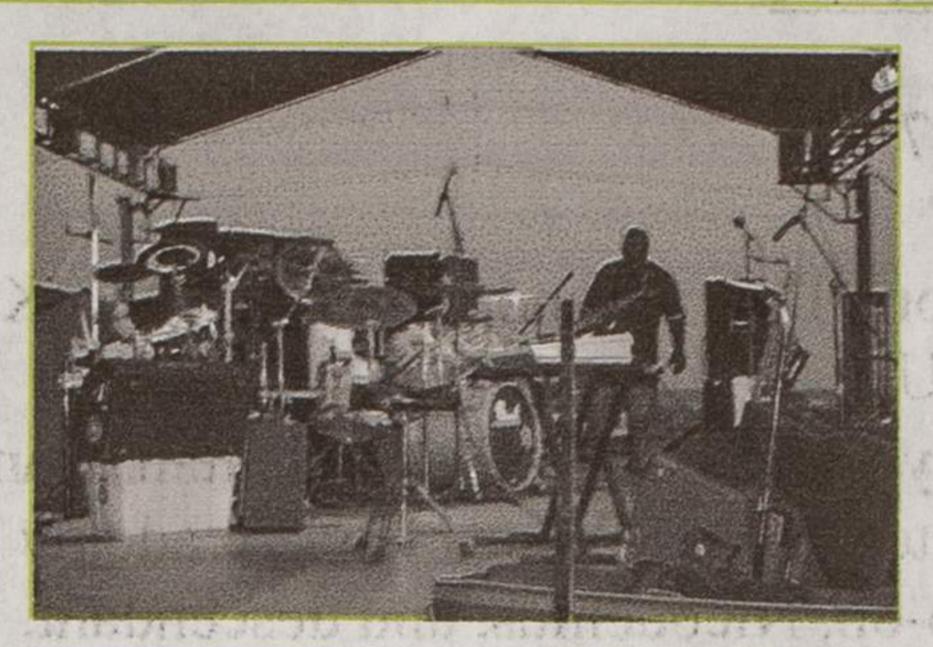
Baseball field, southwest end of town Nicodemus, Kansas

FREE FOOD!!

Bring your own seating -- Lawn chairs or blankets!!

Nicodemus 5th Annual Jazz & Blues, and a Little Country Too Festival June 22, 2007—Moved to the Bates Farm (1 mile north of Nicodemus)

This years Jazz/Blues and a Little Country Too Festival was moved from the Nicodemus Park to the Bates farm. The open farm atmosphere proved to be a perfect setting for the festival. Country music was added to the music venue, providing the audience an opportunity to hear some of their favorites. Brothers Making Waves (BMW) was back for the 5th year in a row to move the audience. The Wild Ride from Colby, provided the Country Too to the festival. Spectators ate Ernestine's Ribs and bbq beans, polish sausages and barbecue roasted corn on the cob, while they drank Coors beer and other refreshments provided. Although the day was hot day, it was clear with a breeze, and an large canopy provided shade for most. After all expenses, \$366 was raised. Angela donated an additional \$40 to make a total of \$400 donated to the Nicodemus Historical Society. The money was used to make a payment on the new windows at the museum.





















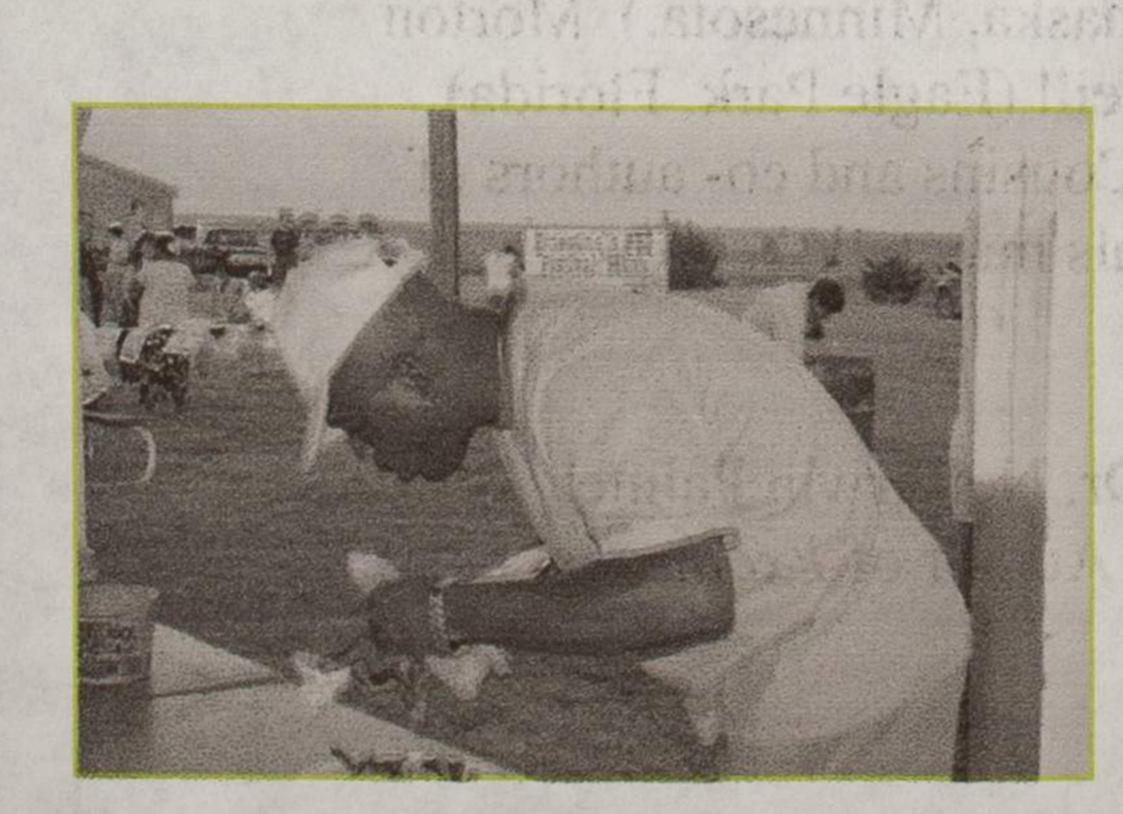


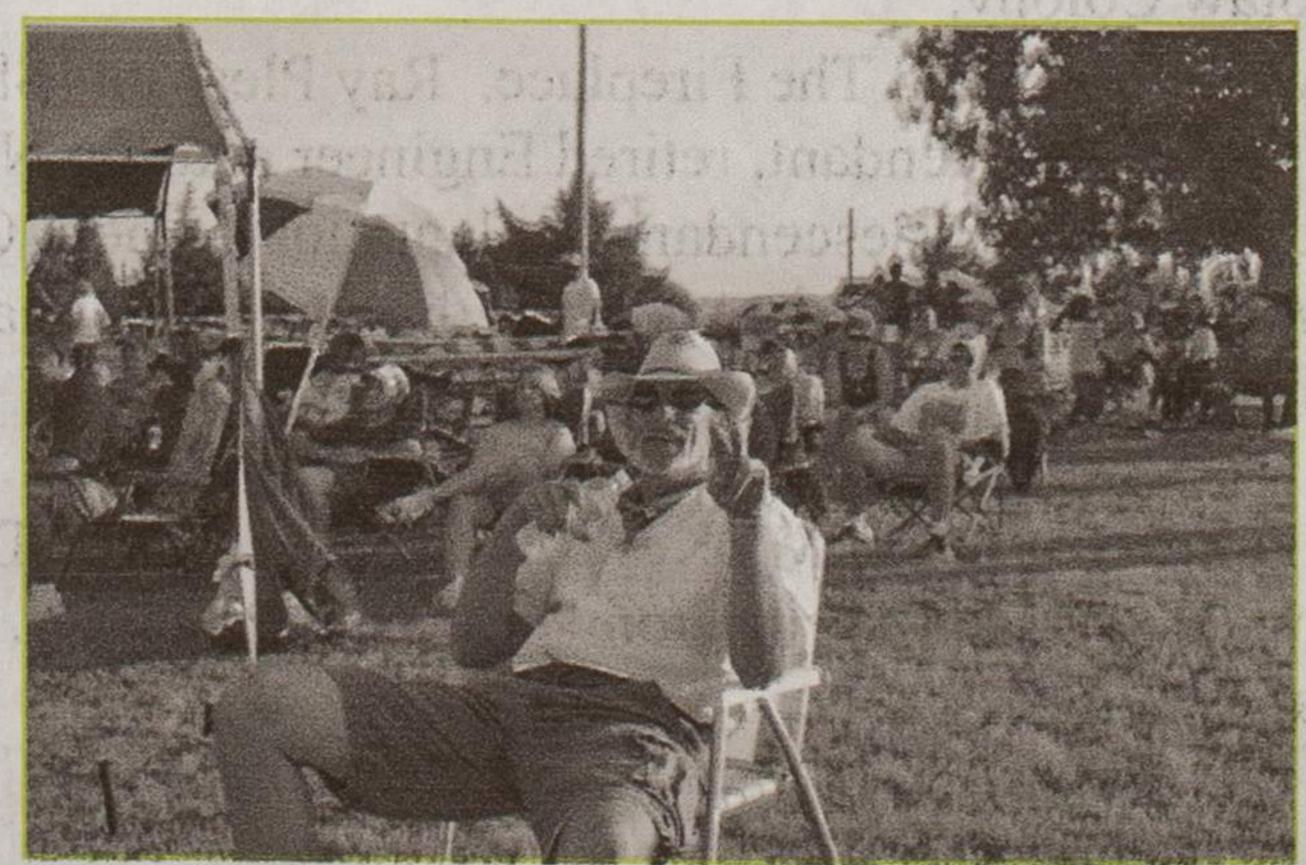


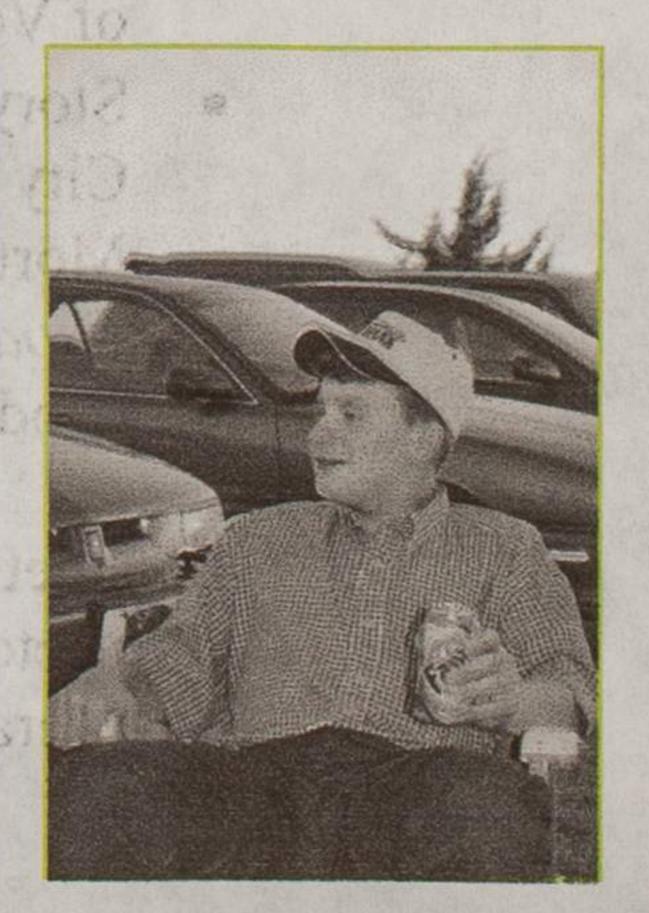












"Reconnection II" Event Schedule

Wednesday, August 8th, 2007

• The Kansas Collection. Debra Dandrige (Lawrence, Kansas), Archivist Spencer Research Library, KU, (on going display two days)

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Anvited Coll butter Collins of the Continue Country Loo Festivals

- The Nicodemus Story. Veryl Switzer (Manhattan, Kansas), former Professor,
 Administrator, Director of Earl Woods Golf Academy KU, co-owner of
 Nicodemus Flour Co-op, Nicodemus, and descendant.
- Life and Times of George Washington. Slave, Soldier, Farmer, Jimmy Johnson (Raytown, Missouri) professor at Penn Valley Community College, KC, MO., descendant of Bloomington Colony.
- Publish Your Own Book. Morris Turner (Rhonert Park, California) historian and author.
- The Genealogy Workshop. Electra Price (Oakland, California) professional genealogist, retired Public School Administrator.

Gospel Concert Wednesday evening Presented by choirs of five churches which ministered to the needs

of the exoduster colonist. Location: Pleasant Green BC. 340 David L. Gray Drive Kansas City, KS. 66101 913.371.5393 7:00 PM.

Thursday, August 9th, 2007.

- Little Known History Facts Of Color. Dr. Leonard Wesley (Wichita, Kansas) Retired Teacher, Wichita Public School Administrator. Staff with Peopling America and Americans All Foundation.
- The Liberian and African American Connection, The History, The Culture.
 Selena Gennehma Horace (Takoma, Maryland), Scholar and lecturer, Descendant of a Liberian Exodus African American Colony, now residing in the United States.
- Play, The Making Of Votaw Colony. Playwright, Peggy Stuntz, (Kirkland, Indiana). Historian and Author, and great, great niece of Daniel Votaw, founder of Votaw Colony.
- Storytelling Around The Fireplace. Ray Pleasant (Shaska, Minnesota.) Morton
 City Colony Descendant, retired Engineer and Jon Neill (Eagle Park, Florida)
 Mortgage Banker, descendant of plantation owner. Cousins and co- authors of
 Exoduster Sallie Board. Audience driven, individuals may tell their own
 exoduster story.

Banquet follows at 6:45 PM. Keynote Speaker will be Dr. Nell Irwin Painter (Princeton, New Jersey) Princeton University Professor, Author of *Exodusters* as well as several other books.

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