

Association News

Volume 37, Issue 1

William “Buck” Dawson, 1920-2008

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The International Sports Heritage Association has lost one of its founding fathers. William Forest “Buck” Dawson, the organization’s first President, passed away on April 4 at the age of 87.



Dawson was the first president of the International Sports Heritage Association, which he founded in 1971 under the name of International Association of Sports Museums and Halls of Fame.

He authored or co-authored over 18 books in his lifetime on a wide variety of subjects, including swimming,

volcanoes and the environment, the American Civil War and World War II.

In 1964, Buck moved to Fort Lauderdale, FL, with his wife, where they opened the International Swimming Hall of Fame – the world’s first “international” hall of fame. He traveled to promote the sport of swimming, and brought national championship events to Fort Lauderdale, and he convinced college teams to train

there during their spring breaks.

Please visit http://www.ishof.org/video_archive/swimming/buck_dawson.htm to watch a film tribute of Buck.

“Buck’s commitment and passion not only for his first love of swimming but for all sports epitomizes what ISHA is all about.”

Dave Chase

“To honor his memory, we should pause a moment in our busy lives to reflect on his caring demeanor, his robust laugh, and his entertaining tales recounting his many adventures with the sporting greats of yesteryear.” Ed Harris

Financial Assistance Opportunities

The Board of Directors of the International Sports Heritage Association has established two new and exciting grant opportunities for ISHA member institutions, generously supported by ISHA’s *Founder’s Fund*. The **ISHA Annual Conference Grant** will provide financial assistance up to \$1,000 to support ISHA Annual Conference attendance by a member institution. This grant is open to paid employees working in an ISHA Member organization, in a full or part-time capacity, or to volunteers of an ISHA member organization who contribute their time and service on a consistent basis. The **Special Project Grant** will provide financial assistance up to \$1,000 for a project that supports museum activities intended to address one of the following priorities within the member organization: increasing collection capacity; increasing public access; improving documentation; increasing awareness; improving preservation; or increasing interpretation. For more details on the two grant opportunities please review the applications that are available on www.sportsheritage.org. The deadlines for the Annual Conference Grant and the Special Project Grant applications are August 1st and August 15th respectively.

New ISHA Members

- **Guide By Cell, Inc.**
San Francisco, CA.
www.guidebycell.com
- **The MediaPreserve.**
Cranberry Township, PA.
themediapreserve.com

ISHA Members in the News

Vancouver Mayor Sam Sullivan proclaimed May to be **British Columbia Sports Hall of Fame and Museum** month to recognize the 2008 inductees who were honored at the 40th annual Banquet of Champions Gala Dinner on May 29...

Thousands of college football fans are expected to attend this year's Enshrinement Festival on July 18-19 at the **College Football Hall of Fame** in South Bend, Indiana... The **Motorcycle Hall of Fame and Museum** announced that it will open a new exhibit, "MotoStars: Celebrities + Motorcycles," on June 28. The show will feature over 100 of the country's most passionate celebrity moto-enthusiasts, their machines, and memorabilia... The **National Football Foundation & College Hall of Fame** announced March 12

that celebrated sportswriter and bestselling novelist Dan Jenkins has agreed to serve a second three-year term as the NFF Historian through 2010... The **National Baseball Hall of Fame and Museum** has named Jeff Idelson as its President, the sixth to hold that post in the 69-year history of the organization... The **Babe Ruth Museum** opened a new exhibit at its Sports Legends Museum on February 8 titled "Framing the Game: The Art of Our Sports." The exhibit features work primarily from the museum's collection... June 3 marked the re-opening of the **United States Golf Association Museum** in Far Hills, NJ, following a \$20 million renovation project and grand opening of the new Arnold Palmer Center for Golf History... The **Sport Museum of Greece** was

recently renamed **Olympic Museum of Thessaloniki**... The **San Diego Hall of Champions** has opened a new exhibit, sponsored by the USGA Museum, which celebrates the history of the U.S. Open and tournament golf at Torrey Pines. The exhibit will be open until November 1... The **U.S. National Ski and Snowboarding Hall of Fame** will conduct a conservation assessment this summer of its collection of over 75,000 items, funded by Heritage Preservation... The **Pro Football Hall of Fame** opened two new galleries, the *Moments, Memories & Mementos Gallery* and the *Pro Football Today Gallery* on May 9... The **National Soccer Hall of Fame** announced veteran soccer reporter Ike Kuhns will receive the 2008 Colin Jose Media Award during Induction Weekend August 1-3.

2008 Inductees

INSTITUTION	INDUCTEES	DATE
Alabama Sports Hall of Fame	Sim Byrd (football), Dr. Gregg Carr (football), Condredge Holloway (football), Steve Lowery (golf), Don McNeal (football), Don Mincher (baseball), Oliver Robinson (basketball), Jerry Wilson (football), Joseph Gibbs (Co-founder of The Golf Channel)	May 31, 2008
Canadian Golf Hall of Fame and Museum	James Barclay Lisa Walters	May 13, 2008 August 14, 2008
Canada's Sports Hall of Fame	Nancy Garapick (swimming), Pat Gillick (baseball), Donovan Bailey, Bruny Surin, Glenroy Gilbert, and Robert Esmie (4x100 relay team), Lennox Lewis (boxing), Marc Gagnon (speed skating), Steve Yzerman (hockey), David Dore (figure skating)	November 5, 2008
International Tennis Hall of Fame	Michael Chang, Mark McCormack, Eugene L. Scott	July 12, 2008
National Polish-American Sports Hall of Fame	Christian Laettner (basketball), Aleta Rzepecki-Sill (bowling), Tom Nawatske (football), Jim Konstanty (baseball)	June 12, 2008
World Golf Hall of Fame	Pete Dye	November 10, 2008

SportsHeritage.com

- Event dates will be noted on the front page calendar of the ISHA site
- If you have traveling exhibits available - or if you are looking for a traveling exhibit to host at your site, check out the "Members" section
- Use our job posting tool to get applications from those keen on sports heritage
- In the "Members" section of the website, visitors can find the study results of the care and preservation of footballs
- Provide all updates to ISHA webmaster at pete.fierle@profootballhof.com

Sports Museum of America Opens in NYC

The Sports Museum of America (SmA), www.sportsmuseum.com, the first museum to pay tribute to the history and excitement of all sports, opened its doors in New York City on May 7. SmA has partnered with more than 50 single sport Halls of Fame, national governing bodies and other top athletic organizations to showcase inspiring exhibits, memorabilia, stories and heroes that resonate with fans of all ages. In addition to hosting the first women's sports hall of fame, SmA is also the new permanent home of the Billie Jean King International Women's Sports Center and the legendary Heisman Trophy.



The SmA features an exhibit dedicated to the museum's partners, including many ISHA members. Partners include the National Baseball Hall of Fame, USA Football and the Pro Football Hall of Fame, NASCAR, USA Basketball and the Naismith Memorial Basketball Hall of Fame, the United States Olympic Committee, the United States Tennis Association, NCAA Hall of Champions, the United States Golf Association, the United States Paralympics Committee, USA Hockey, the Hockey Hall of Fame, the Women's Sports Foundation, the Negro Leagues Baseball Museum, the Yogi Berra Museum & Learning Center, U.S. National Ski and Snowboard Hall of Fame and Museum, USA Track & Field, the National Track and Field Hall of Fame and more.



"With the tremendous support of our partners in top professional athletic organizations and the generosity of some of the nation's greatest and most legendary athletes, we're able to share their stories, and through them, showcase the excitement, grandeur and significance of sports in American culture," said Philip Schwalb, the museum's Founder & CEO.

"The Sports Museum of America offers visitors, for the first time ever, one destination where they can come to experience the feeling of triumph at the core of all great athletes and all sports." Philip Schwalb, the museum's Founder & CEO

ISHA's Semi-Annual Board Meeting

As you may be aware, the Board Members of the International Sports Heritage Association hold a two day meeting mid-year to address long range planning, conference scheduling, etc. This is in addition to the monthly teleconference meetings that address the business of the association with the leadership of our Executive Director, Karen Bednarski.

This year's board meeting was held at the site of our 2008 Conference Host – the Cincinnati Reds Hall of Fame and Museum. In addition to being a great opportunity to visit the host site and meet the operations people, it was a fine opportunity to explore a bit of the city. Dinner at the famous Montgomery Inn Steamboat, a few innings of a Red's game, and a tour of the Great American Ballpark were enough to ensure the promise of our return in November.

The board – led by the Vice President Sheila Kelly following the last minute unavoidable absence of President Dave Chase – had great discussions regarding membership needs, future conference sites, expanded communication with our members and engaging our membership. Hopefully you will see the results of this action list over the coming months.



Did you know:

- Manchester United defeated rival English team Chelsea FC to win the 2008 Union of European Football Associations (UEFA) Champion's Cup on May 21. Manchester was defeated by Chelsea a month earlier in the English Premier League but went on to capture the Premier League Championship as well.
- The International Olympic Committee has approved two new sports for the 2008 games: 10K Open Water Swimming (men and women) and Women's Steeplechase.

A Road Trip Dave Chase, ISHA President

Our institutions permit us the opportunity to honor sports pioneers and athletes and to celebrate fantastic moments in sports across the decades. Generations are able to share memories and experience the gamut of emotions sports fans deal with on a game-by-game, event-by-event basis through the exhibits, displays and reference materials offered by ISHA member halls of fame and museums. Part of that sharing of our sports heritage comes through the personal interactions of our visitors – sometimes between total strangers, but more often, I'd guess, between family members: husband and wife, siblings, mother to child, father to son or daughter.

Recently my 15 year-old son, Holden, and I had the opportunity to visit two state sports heritage facilities – the Mississippi Sports Hall of Fame in Jackson and the Arkansas Sports Hall of Fame in North Little Rock. The overall experience included the four to six hour roundtrip drive as well

as visiting the baseball ball-parks in each city. The visits provided us the opportunity to learn together and explore the sports history of each state with each display offering new information for us.

I'm a baseball fan to my very core – other sports fill in the calendar between the end of the World Series and the first workouts of Spring Training. Holden is a fan of most sports (except for hockey, sorry Phil Pritchard). His North Carolina genes have driven him (no pun intended) to NASCAR and all sports UNC.

And, let's face it, today's world doesn't offer many topics that span the generations like sports. Several years ago, when I was publisher of Baseball America, I was traveling through upstate New York visiting many minor league ball-parks. My day ended in Syracuse and I decided to attend a Sky Chiefs game. I have vivid memories of a conversation that was going among the guys sitting in the 4 seats in front of

me - I'm guessing, three generations, talking baseball and offering opinions on the best players ever. Other than family matters, they probably didn't have much in common other than sharing baseball – how awesome.

Our mission – sharing sports heritage – is not just through the experiences of our Honored Members or dramatic moments in sports, but also through the eyes, ears and memories of our visitors. Visitor to visitor, peer to peer, father to child – the history we endeavor to preserve becomes a today experience for all those who pass through our doors.

Sports – today's games and yesterday's heroes (and goats) – bring families, friends, communities and strangers together every day in a unique way. Tragedy or calamity may, for a short time, bring people together, but sport unifies us for a lifetime.

Did you know:

- Turner Field, home of Major League Baseball's Atlanta Braves, was originally constructed for the 1996 Olympic Games.
- The Stanley Cup has been awarded to the best hockey team in North America each year since 1892 with only two exceptions. A 1919 a flu pandemic and the 2005 NHL strike.

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From the Executive Director Karen Bednarski

It's been a busy spring for the ISHA office as we process renewals for the 2008/2009 membership year, update your institution's information on the website, compile the 2008 ISHA Membership Directory and finalize plans for the 2008 ISHA Annual Conference at the Cincinnati Reds Hall of Fame and Museum.

Many thanks to all of you who renewed your ISHA membership. We appreciate your support and look forward to another excellent year for the Association.

Several previous members have come back to the Association after a brief absence, including StudioEIS, the Singapore Sports Museum, the National Museum of Racing & Hall of Fame and the National Sports Museum (Australia), formerly the Australian Cricket Hall of Fame.

We've recently welcomed two new members, Guide by Cell, Inc, based in San Francisco and The MediaPreserve located in Cranberry Township, PA. I know a number of you already make use of the services and products of these companies and we are very pleased to add them to our roster of corporate members.

If you haven't already, mark your calendar for the ISHA Annual Conference at the Cincinnati Reds Hall of Fame and Museum on November 11-13, 2008. This is shaping up to be an excellent event – one you won't want to miss. There's no better opportunity to network with your colleagues, get a behind-the-scenes look at another hall of fame, and enjoy all that Cincinnati has to offer.

What is the world's most famous sports venue?

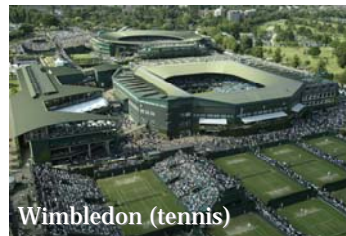
As sports historians, we all have well founded opinions on every-and-all-things sports, so how about offering your well founded opinion on the world's most famous sports venue. Select from one of the choices below or add your own entry. Cast your vote at celebratesportsheritage@yahoo.ca. We'll publish your results in the next newsletter.



Yankee Stadium (baseball)



Wembley Stadium (soccer)



Wimbledon (tennis)



St. Andrews Golf Course



Indianapolis Motor Speedway



Association News

International Sports Heritage Association

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Communication Awards Due

It's that time of year again to review your publications, catalogues and other communication materials from last year! ISHA's Communications Awards will be given again this year in multiple categories. Please visit the website for more details and to download the application today! Good luck!

Nominating Committee

The nominating committee is looking for individuals who would like to become more involved in the organization.

If you, or someone you know, recognizes the value of getting involved please contact the chair: Karen Hewson khewson@rcga.org.

The mission of the International Sports Heritage Association is to educate, promote and support organizations and individuals engaged in the celebration of sports heritage.

