



EASTERN SHORE BASEBALL FOUNDATION, INC.

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COVERING THE BASES

APRIL 2017

FROM THE CHAIRMAN

For us baseball fans, early Spring is a great time of year. The temperature is rising, the days are getting longer, and everyone's favorite team is in first place (at least for a while). Thankfully for us on the Eastern Shore, we have a great local team to root for – the Delmarva Shorebirds. During the offseason, the Shorebirds freshened up the stadium with new seats, new lights, and a new video board. Like the Shorebirds, the Eastern Shore Baseball Hall of Fame Museum has been freshened up a bit. Curator Charlie Silcott has been busy getting the museum ready for the new season. Our newest Hall of Fame inductees are now enshrined in Miss Ella's Dugout and several displays have been updated. In addition to the updated displays, the Foundation is proud to announce we are continuing our monthly special events again this season. On April 30, we start out by recognizing the 2016 Hall of Fame inductees in an on-field ceremony prior to the Shorebirds game. Following months will include events highlighting Fair Play on May 13 (the old-time style of baseball), a benefit auction in honor of Kenny Green on June 9, a membership auction on July 11, and the Negro Leagues recognition on August 11. Please come out and show your support of the Foundation and the Hall of Fame Museum!

HALL OF FAMER SPOTLIGHT - APRIL 2017

HOMER SMOOT - PLAYER (INDUCTED 2001)



Homer Vernon Smoot - (Player) –

He was nicknamed "Doc," was an American professional baseball player. "Doc" played five seasons in Major League Baseball, for the St. Louis Cardinals and Cincinnati Reds, from 1902 until 1906, primarily as a center fielder. He threw right-handed but batted left-handed. Homer attended Washington College in Chestertown, Maryland, where he played both football and baseball. While playing college baseball, he also played semi-professional baseball for multiple teams. "Doc" signed his first professional contract in 1900, with the Allentown Peanuts of the Atlantic League. He then signed with the Worcester Farmers of the Eastern League. He played for the Farmers in 1900 and 1901, except for a ten-day period in which he played for the Providence Clamdiggers. In 1901 "Doc" had a batting average of .356. In 1902, Homer signed with the St. Louis Cardinals and played for them until the midseason of 1906. He was then traded to the Cincinnati Reds where his baseball career ended in 1906. In 1905, "Doc" had his best season. He tie his career high in home runs with four (which tied with Grady for the team lead), he also had career highs in runs (73) and triples (16). Homer led the team with a .311 batting average and his .311 average was seventh highest in the league. Homer played three years with Toledo, hitting .312 in 1907, .301 in 1908 and .270 in 1909. He played with the Louisville Colonels and Kansas City Blues-both in the American Association-in 1910, hitting .236 combined. He started 1911 with the Blues, hitting .379 with them before his contract was sold to the Wilkes-Barre Barons of the New York State League. He won his only pennant in 1911. After his playing days, he became head coach at Washington College for a year. He spent ten years as a chicken farmer and operating a feed business before getting the chance to be involved in professional sports again. In 1925, he was manager of the Salisbury Indians of the Eastern Shore Baseball League. After only one year there, he returned to his feed business.

HALL OF FAME NOMINATIONS

Go to our website to get the nomination form and the rules for induction into the Hall of Fame. While we encourage people to submit nominations using the form, we suggest that the nominator include MORE than the form. The more information the better. Here are some suggestions:

- Be SPECIFIC about what the person did
- Give as much DETAIL as possible
- Provide as much DOCUMENTATION as possible (newspaper articles, etc.)

WEBSITE

For the most up-to-date information on museum news and events, please check out the Eastern Shore Baseball Hall of Fame Museum's website and feel free to send us suggestions. We are continually adding biographies and photos to the Inductees section of the website. Many people have helped with the process by sending us information and/or photos of inductees listed on the site. We hope this continues!

HOF'ER DALLAS PARKS



Eastern Shore Baseball Hall of Famer Dallas Parks paid a special visit to the Museum on April 4. The former major league umpire from Parksley, Virginia stopped by to donate several photos from his days in the Major Leagues. It was great catching up with Dallas and hearing the great stories!

MEMBERSHIP

We hope that all of you continue supporting our museum as it depends heavily on membership and the generous support of contributors for the funds necessary to continue to operate and improve the museum – all without charging admission. If you're currently not a member, please visit our website for the membership form and send it in today!

DONATIONS

Here's a list of 2017 Donors to date:

- Delmarva Shorebirds
- John Hynes
- Mr. & Mrs. Jack Morgan
- Patrick & Julianne Murray
- John Rayne
- Tony Tank Tribe #149
- Joann Truitt

2017 Memorabilia Donations to date:

- Delmarva Shorebirds
- Lana Green
- Dallas Parks