

# The Casey Stengel Chapter Newsletter

## The Lineup

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This issue celebrates the many awards that honor the superb skills, extraordinary feats, and exemplary character traits shown by baseball players who have *mostly* played for teams based in New York City. Some awards are named for individuals associated with MLB such as:

Hank Aaron Award  
Lou Brock Award  
Rod Carew Award  
Roberto Clemente Award  
Lou Gehrig Award  
Tony Gwynn Award  
Fred Hutchinson Award  
Mel Ott Award  
Jackie Robinson Award  
Babe Ruth Award  
Cy Young Award

Other awards are more well-known but for this issue, let’s look at some of the **less** recognized ones. Our next newsletter will include many of the awards not covered in this issue.

## Baseball Awards for Skills, Feats, and Character Traits

As SABR's Jacob Pomrenke wrote in *Baseball Awards Date Back to Game's Earliest Days* <https://baseballhall.org/discover/baseball-awards-date-back-to-games-earliest-days> about baseball awards, "from the Cy Young Award to the Fred Hutchinson Award to the Tony Gwynn Award, all have their own unique histories." This newsletter issue will not delve into every single award but will instead single out more of the lesser-known awards.

However, the actual history of any baseball award deserves some space, so to continue with Pomrenke:

"The idea of honoring the player who was most valuable to his team's success goes back at least to 1875, one year before the formation of the National League. That season, future Hall of Fame catcher Jim "Deacon" White batted .355 in leading the Boston Red Stockings to a 71-8 record in the old National Association. As historian Bill Deane documented in "Total Baseball", White was presented with a tray of silver inscribed "Most Valuable Player to Boston Team" from an admiring fan."

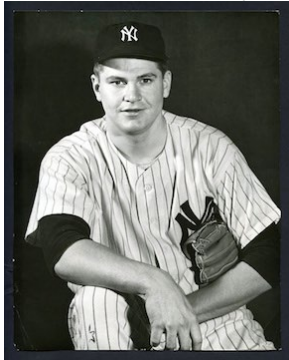
Although that particular award was "one and done," eventually the idea re-emerged for annual awards to reward baseball feats. Both the Chalmers Award (1911-14) and the League Awards (1922-29) are considered precursors to the Most Valuable Player Award. A first-year scandal that led to St. Louis Browns manager Jack O'Connor being thrown out of baseball by A.L. President Ban Johnson and Ty Cobb's decision not to be in the running the next year for another Chalmers Award contributed to reduced fan interest and ended in 1914.

In 1922 for the A.L. and in 1924 for the N.L., the League Awards were given to "the baseball player who is of the greatest all-around service to his club" [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Major\\_League\\_Baseball\\_Most\\_Valuable\\_Player\\_Award](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Major_League_Baseball_Most_Valuable_Player_Award) according to the eight baseball writers on the voting committee yet the criteria differed for each league.

In the A.L., if a player won, as Babe Ruth did in 1923, then he was ineligible later like Ruth in 1927 despite his 60 home runs, 164 Runs Batted In, Batting Average of .356 and Slugging Average of .772 although the N.L. did not have this criterion. It was the N.L. model that the Baseball Writers' Association of America followed in 1931 and which continues today.

The BBWAA also vote for the Cy Young Award, which was first given to the best pitcher in baseball from 1956 (the year after Cy Young, who won a record 511 games, died) to 1966. Young's last game was in 1911 yet he still holds some major league pitching records: 7,356 innings pitched, 25-and-a-third consecutive hitless innings, and 815 games started, with 749 of them completed!

Until 1959, no pitcher could win the award more than once. In 1967, the best pitchers in each of the leagues received the award, continuing to the present. The first Cy Young Award winner in 1956 was Brooklyn Dodger Don Newcombe. In fact, the Dodgers have the most Cy Young Awards (the total includes the Los Angeles Dodgers) [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Cy\\_Young\\_Award](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Cy_Young_Award) and in 1957, Warren Spahn became the first lefty to win. In the third year, 1958, an A.L. pitcher won: Bob Turley of the Yanks.



**Bob Turley** sat 4 times for 4 different interviewers.

Here is the first, in 1989.

Interviewee: Turley, Bob  
Interview Date: 11/10/1989  
Interviewer: Langford, Walter  
Duration: 0:30:27

<https://sabr.org/interview/bob-turley-1989/> A transcription is included.

Enjoy this article by Warren Corbett!

<https://sabr.org/bioproj/person/Bob-Turley/>

[Here is the second interview](#)

Interviewee: Turley, Bob  
Interview Date: 1/28/1992  
Interviewer: Austin, Dan  
Duration: 1:33:20  
<https://sabr.org/interview/bob-turley-1992/>

[Here is the third interview](#)

Interviewee: Turley, Bob  
Interview Date: 3/23/2002  
Interviewer: Macht, Norman  
Duration: 1:14:22  
<https://sabr.org/interview/bob-turley-2002/>

[Here is the fourth interview](#)

Interviewee: Turley, Bob  
Interview Date: 2/3/2003  
Interviewer: Stevens, Bill  
Duration: (more than 3 hours, in 5 parts)  
<https://sabr.org/interview/bob-turley-2003/>

The *fourth* interview by Bill Stevens has a Portable Document Format (PDF) that outlines the full contents of the interview, including: Yogi Berra; Roger Maris; Bob Cerv; Ted Williams; Mickey Mantle; Don Larsen's perfect game; Life on the Road; Sportswriters; Ballparks; Umpires; Last years and being traded; Retirement; Yankee tradition; Ballplayers today.

## The Jackie Robinson Award

The Jackie Robinson Award was once called the Rookie of the Year Award back in 1947. That first year, only one player was voted by the BBWAA to be the best rookie that year: Jackie Robinson! In 1949, each league awarded its own best rookie and 40 years after Robinson broke MLB's color barrier, it was renamed the Jackie Robinson Award in 1987.

## The Babe Ruth Award

The Babe Ruth Award recognizes the best player in the postseason. In 1949, the year after Ruth died, the New York City chapter of the Baseball Writers' Association of America (BBWAA) gave the award specifically to a World Series participant. However, in 2007, the award included player performances in all of the postseason games. MLB created its own World Series Most Valuable Player Award in 1955.

**NOTE** – The Babe Ruth Home Run Award was presented from 1998 through 2009 to the top home run hitter in MLB but it is no longer given.

## The Mel Ott Award 1959

Six-time National League Home Run leader Mel Ott died in November 1958. The next year, the 1959 N.L. Home Run leader won the newly-named Mel Ott Award in recognition of Ott's 511 career homers, every one of them for the New York Giants.

These players won the Rookie of the Year Award while wearing a New York City uniform – note that from 1947 through 1956, the last year the Dodgers played in Brooklyn, they won four times in those ten years!

1947	Jackie Robinson	Brooklyn Dodgers
1949	Don Newcombe	Brooklyn Dodgers
1951	Willie Mays	NY Giants
1951	Gil McDougald	NY Yankees
1952	Joe Black	Brooklyn Dodgers
1953	Jim Gilliam	Brooklyn Dodgers
1954	Bob Grim	NY Yankees
1957	Tony Kubek	NY Yankees
1962	Tom Tresh	NY Yankees
1967	Tom Seaver	NY Mets
1968	Stan Bahnsen	NY Yankees
1970	Thurman Munson	NY Yankees
1972	Jon Matlack	NY Mets
1981	Dave Righetti	NY Yankees
1983	Darryl Strawberry	NY Mets
1984	Dwight Gooden	NY Mets

To view further winners and other awards, see Baseball Almanac

[https://www.baseball-almanac.com/me\\_award.shtml](https://www.baseball-almanac.com/me_award.shtml)

Or check out Wikipedia pages.

## The Lou Gehrig Memorial Award

Before signing with the NY Yankees, Lou Gehrig joined the Phi Delta Theta fraternity while attending Columbia University. Phi Delta Theta created the Lou Gehrig Award in 1955 to recognize contributions a player makes to his community as well as to philanthropy and each recipient's name is etched onto the Lou Gehrig Award plaque in the Baseball Hall of Fame and Museum.

The first NY Yankee to win the Lou Gehrig Award was infielder Gil McDougald in 1958.

Interviewee: McDougald, Gil

Interview Date: 1/24/1994

Interviewer: Harris, Tom

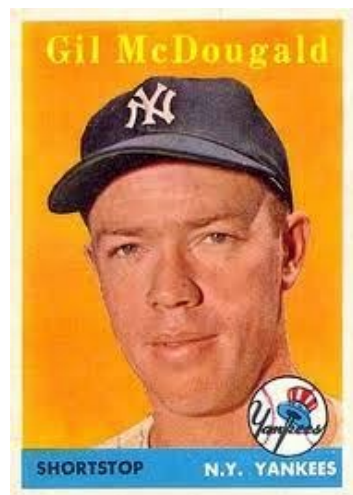
Duration: 0:45:01

<https://sabr.org/interview/gil-mcdougald-1994/>

There is also a PDF transcript

Enjoy this article by Bill Lamb!

<https://sabr.org/bioproj/person/Gil-McDougald/>



McDougald was also the 1951 A.L. Rookie of the Year!

## The Tony Gwynn Award & the Rod Carew Award

In July 2016, the League Batting Championship awards were named for Tony Gwynn in the National League and Rod Carew in the American League. Both players were extraordinary hitters and made outstanding contributions off the field as well.

Tony Gwynn was the recipient of:

The Branch Rickey Award in 1995

The Lou Gehrig Memorial Award in 1998

The Roberto Clemente Award in 1999

The Commissioner's Historic Achievement Award in 2001

Rod Carew was the recipient of:

The Roberto Clemente Award in 1977

The Bob Feller Act of Valor Award in 2016

## The Fred Hutchinson Award

The “Hutch” Award is bestowed on an active player who "best exemplifies the fighting spirit and competitive desire" of Fred Hutchinson, a Detroit Tigers pitcher, who himself battled cancer courageously until his death in 1964. The next year, the Fred Hutchinson Award [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Hutch\\_Award](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Hutch_Award) was created by longtime friends Bob Prince, a radio broadcaster for the Pittsburgh Pirates, Jim Enright, a Chicago sportswriter, and Ritter Collett, the sports editor of the Dayton Journal Herald in Ohio. The inaugural winner in 1965 was Mickey Mantle who personified “persevering through adversity.” In 1998, David Cone (NYY) was awarded the “Hutch” as well.

## The Roberto Clemente Award

The Roberto Clemente Award is awarded to a player who "best exemplifies the game of baseball, sportsmanship, community involvement and the individual's contribution to his team" [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Roberto\\_Clemente\\_Award](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Roberto_Clemente_Award) and is chosen by baseball fans and members of the media. Previously called the Commissioner's Award in 1971, it was renamed for Clemente whose humanitarian actions bringing supplies to earthquake victims were cut short when his plane crashed and he died. Willie Mays won the first Roberto Clemente Award in 1973.

### Roberto Clemente

Interviewee: Clemente, Roberto

Interview Date: 1963

Interviewer: Evans, Clifford

Duration: 08:56

<https://sabr.org/interview/roberto-clemente-1963/>

From the Clifford Evans Archive, used by permission of Gregory L. Peterson. Radio executive Evans conducted audio interviews of baseball players during spring training in the early 1960s. You can watch a video, too.

Enjoy this article by Stew Thornley!

<https://sabr.org/bioproj/person/roberto-clemente/>

Winners wearing a New York uniform:

1984 Ron Guidry, NYY

1985 Don Baylor, NYY

1989 Gary Carter, NYM

2000 Al Leiter, NYM

2006 Carlos Delgado, NYM

2009 Derek Jeter, NYY

2016 Curtis Granderson, NYM

2023 Aaron Judge, NYY



## The Lou Brock Award

Lou Brock broke and set many stolen base records during his playing career with the Chicago Cubs and the St. Louis Cardinals. Throughout the years, he also garnered several honors for his skills, feats, and character:

- The Babe Ruth Award as the outstanding player in the 1967 World Series
- The Sporting News Player of the Year Award in 1974
- The Roberto Clemente Award in 1975
- The Lou Gehrig Memorial Award in 1977
- National League's Comeback Player of the Year in 1979
- The Hutch Award in 1979

An unusual honor commemorating his 8 years of leading the N.L. in steals happened in 1978 when the league said it would name the annual stolen base leader award The Lou Brock Award. This was the first time that an *active* player had an award named for him.

When Brock finished his 1978 season, he was named as *The Sporting News* Comeback Player of the Year. That was unique as well: he became the first player to get that award in his *final* Major League season.

## The Hank Aaron Award

On the 65<sup>th</sup> birthday of Hank Aaron (2/5/99), who had broken Babe Ruth's record of 714 lifetime homers with his 715<sup>th</sup> home run 25 years earlier on 1974, was told by MLB that the award for the best overall offensive performer in the American and National League would be named for him.

It was “the first major award to be introduced in more than 30 years” [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Hank\\_Aaron#Awards\\_and\\_honors](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Hank_Aaron#Awards_and_honors) and was the first award named after a player who was still alive at the time. Media members and fans have voted for these New York players:

2006 Derek Jeter, NYY  
2007 Alex Rodriguez, NYY  
2009 Derek Jeter, NYY  
2022 Aaron Judge, NYY

## The Brooklyn Dodgers Awards Focus



### **John Roseboro**

Interviewee: Roseboro, John

Interview Date: 1962

Interviewer: Evans, Clifford

Duration: 09:29

<https://sabr.org/interview/john-roseboro-1962/>

From the Clifford Evans Archive, used by permission of Gregory L. Peterson. Radio executive Evans conducted audio interviews of baseball players during spring training in the early 1960s. This is a video, too.

Enjoy this article by Warren Corbett!

<https://sabr.org/bioproj/person/john-roseboro/>

## The NY Giants Awards Focus

### **Carl Hubbell**

Interviewee: Hubbell, Carl

Interview Date: 6/15/1982

Interviewer: Langford, Walter

Duration: 2:38:29

<https://sabr.org/interview/carl-hubbell-1982/>

Enjoy this article by Fred Stein!

<https://sabr.org/bioproj/person/Carl-Hubbell/>



## The NY Mets Focus

### **Warren Spahn**

Interviewee: Spahn, Warren

Interview Date: 5/8/2001

Interviewer: Vincent, Fay

Duration: 2:34:17

<https://sabr.org/interview/warren-spahn-2001/>

He tells of getting a hit off Carl Hubbell and He recalls that Willie Mays got his first hit “off me, my curveball in the Polo Grounds.”

Enjoy this article by Jim Kaplan!

<https://sabr.org/bioproj/person/Warren-Spahn/>





## The NY Yankees Focus on: Oral History & Biographies



### Joe DiMaggio

Interviewee: DiMaggio, Joe  
Interview Date: 2/7/1980  
Interviewer: Hetrick, J. Thomas  
Duration: 0:29:18

With PDF transcript (← You will need this!)

This interview was recorded for the author's books *Baseball Italian Style* and *Beyond DiMaggio* on Italian-American participation in baseball. Used by permission. Visit <https://baseballitalianstyle.com/> for more.

Enjoy this article by Lawrence Baldassaro!

<https://sabr.org/bioproj/person/Joe-DiMaggio/>

Interviewee: Berra, Yogi  
Interview Date: 02/17/1999  
Interviewer: Baldassaro, Lawrence  
Duration: 18:44

<https://sabr.org/interview/yogi-berra-1999/>

This interview was recorded for the author's books *Baseball Italian Style* and *Beyond DiMaggio* on Italian-American participation in baseball. Used by permission. Visit <https://baseballitalianstyle.com/> for more.

Enjoy this article by Dave Williams!

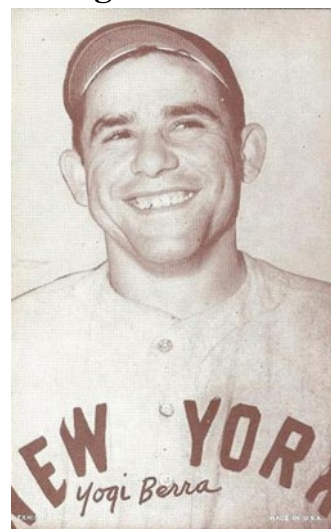
<https://sabr.org/bioproj/person/yogi-berra/>

AND

Interviewee: Berra, Yogi  
Interview Date: 9/12/2000  
Interviewer: Vincent, Fay  
Duration: 1:50:22

<https://sabr.org/interview/yogi-berra-2000/>

### Yogi Berra



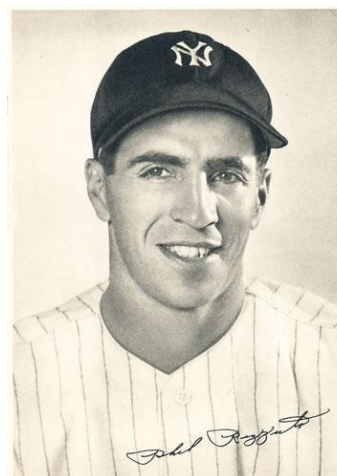
### Phil Rizzuto

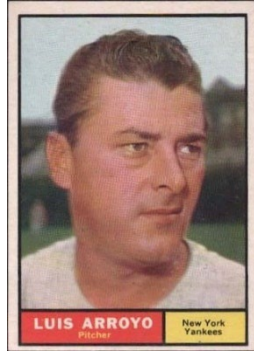
Interviewee: Rizzuto, Phil  
Interview Date: 1993-06-12  
Interviewer: Baldassaro, Lawrence  
Duration: 00:56:51

This interview was recorded for the author's books *Baseball Italian Style* and *Beyond DiMaggio* on Italian-American participation in baseball. Used by permission. Visit <https://baseballitalianstyle.com/> for more.

Enjoy this article by Lawrence Baldassaro!

<https://sabr.org/interview/phil-rizzuto-1993/>





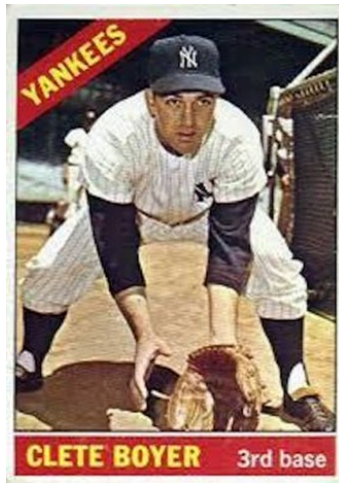
## Luis Arroyo

Interviewee: Arroyo, Luis  
Interview Date: 1993-01-01  
Interviewer: Otto, Frank  
Duration: 2:26:54

This interview is conducted in Spanish

Enjoy this article by Rory Costello!

<https://sabr.org/bioproj/person/Luis-Arroyo/>



## Clete Boyer

Interviewee: Boyer, Clete  
Interview Date: 1963  
Interviewer: Evans, Clifford

<https://sabr.org/interview/clete-boyer-1963/>

From the Clifford Evans Archive, used by permission of Gregory L. Peterson. Radio executive Evans conducted audio interviews of baseball players during spring training in the early 1960s. This is also a video.

<https://sabr.app.box.com/s/z4ln90kutquwcjj2n8td7wxvcj6oqyuj>

Enjoy this article by Joseph Wancho!

<https://sabr.org/bioproj/person/clete-boyer/>



## Stan Bahnsen

Interviewee(s): Bahnsen, Stan  
Interview Date: 2009  
Interviewer(s): Liptak, Mark  
Duration: **9 pages of a PDF transcript** of the interview  
<https://sabr.org/interview/stan-bahnsen-2009/>

This Oral History interview (PDF transcript only, no audio) is part of the Mark Liptak Collection

<https://sabr.org/latest/mark-liptaks-white-sox-interviews-added-to-sabr-oral-history-collection/>

Enjoy this article by John Gabcik! <https://sabr.org/bioproj/person/Stan-Bahnsen/>

**Did you guess what awards and/or honors these players earned during their careers? Part of the fun of finding out about awards and honors is that your own favorite team has a history of players that you are now realizing were exceptionally good!**

## SHARING OUR STORIES

### **M. Frank's Westchester Column: By Mike Frank**

The White Plains County Center has been hosting autograph shows for some years and when possible, I do go. Instead of collecting autographs (except for the Miss America winners but that's another story), what I collect are photos of myself with the stars.

The players leave the stage on the right side after they have completed their signings and it was there that I was able to get a photograph with Cal Ripken Jr. (among others over the years).

Last month, I was waiting for 17-time All Star, MVP, Rookie of the Year, World Series MVP, Golden Glover, Silver Slugger, and 3-time batting titlist Pete Rose. As I was looking for the middle-aged version of the man, a wheelchair was rolled by with a sickly-looking old man. I was right there when they helped him down the few steps. No pictures. A few weeks later, he was dead.

Years earlier, I had seen Willie McCovey, by then retired, in a wheelchair in the same facility. But he still exuded strength. Not so with the once-mighty Peter Edward Rose.

### **The Jints Column By Gary Mintz**

*Editor's Note:* Most baseball players agree that the highest honor after retirement is to be inducted into the Hall of Fame. Although not a baseball player, Gary did go to the 2024 Cooperstown Symposium to speak at the Hall of Fame about his book, how technology allows fans to follow closely their favorite teams, and other topics that you can hear and watch here:

[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=znx3Ib7C9vw&ab\\_channel=NewYorkGiantsPreservationSociety](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=znx3Ib7C9vw&ab_channel=NewYorkGiantsPreservationSociety)



The Casey Stengel Chapter publishes this monthly newsletter on our website [www.nycsabr.org](http://www.nycsabr.org) and emails it to chapter members to inform them about news, events, and subjects of special interest. We ask members to send us news, events, and short pieces that might interest our chapter. Thank you!

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# **Baseball Trivia: World Series Games Between the Dodgers and the Yankees**

**By Al Blumkin**

**(Answers are at the bottom of this page)**

More than any other two teams, the Dodgers and Yankees have faced each other 11 times in the World Series, and to commemorate this, here are 11 questions about those World Series.

1. Name the only Dodger player to appear in all 7 World Series of 1941-1947.
2. Name the 1947 New York Yankee pitcher who had a no-hitter until the 9<sup>th</sup> inning when Cookie Lavagetto broke the no-hitter with a two-out hit.
3. Who hit the first walk-off home run in 1949?
4. In 1952, which left-handed pitcher got the last 8 outs and the save?
5. In 1953, which Dodger pitcher gave up a Game 5 grand slam to Mickey Mantle?
6. In 1955, which Dodger leftfielder robbed Yogi Berra of an extra-base hit?
7. Name the New York Yankee who hit 3 home runs off Don Newcombe in 1956.
8. In 1963, the Yankees faced the Dodgers in Los Angeles for the first time. Can you name the Dodger who hit the winning home run in Game 4?
9. In 1977, which NY Yankee hit 3 homers in Game 6, the final game?
10. In 1978, Ron Guidry won Game 3. Name the Yankee third-baseman whose spectacular plays in the field helped make that victory happen.
11. In 1978, who won Game 5 with a complete game?

## **ANSWERS**

1. Pee Wee Reese
2. Bill Bevens
3. Tommy Henrich
4. Bob Kuzava
5. Russ Meyer
6. Sandy Amoros
7. Yogi Berra.
8. Frank Howard
9. Reggie Jackson
10. Graig Nettles
11. Jim Beattie