



Old Time Athlete's Association
of Northern California
Founded 1930

The Roundtable Spring 2018

The Roundtable...A semi-Annual Publication

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From Court to Diamond Marty Lurie

Gerry Stratford

He once defended thieves and murderers but now he solicits testimony from those who steal bases for a living. Marty Lurie is the Bay Area's "Voice of Baseball" and San Francisco Giants fans benefit from his perceptive interviews and observations. Born in Brooklyn in 1946, his baseball memories go back to Ebbets Field, but in 1972 he moved to the Bay Area and for 25 years he defended the accused as a criminal attorney. 3,000 people had his defense and surely many of them owe him their freedom. Just as important, however, are the times he lost when he forced the prosecution to energetically prove their case.

Baseball was his escape from the depressing world of criminal justice, and his eloquent voice found its way to commercial radio. First with FM at KEGG in 1996, and then AM with Oakland A's affiliate KATD for a pre-game show and later KABL. In 2010 he moved to "Sports Radio" KNBR, and has celebrated three World Championships with the Giants.

And he is now followed not for just his radio voice. He has taken his informative and entertaining comments to Twitter. The spectator experience for baseball fans offers opportunity for conversation, discussion of strategy and argument over close calls on the bases, and for years these conversations might be shared with someone in an adjacent seat at the ball park or on the sofa at home watching TV, but today the cell phone has expanded

the conversation. Marty's tweets now bring together a fan in Duluth who is streaming the game with people in the Virgin Club overlooking first base at AT&T Park. It should also be noted that Marty's tweets tend to be far more factual than those of some other prominent users of Twitter.

"Right off the bat, memories of the Game, This Day in Baseball History, and today's Talking Baseball" which is approaching 5,000 broadcasts over 21 years, and at least a million stories it is a shame that we don't have time to hear them all, but you can be sure that he will rekindle your memories when he entertains us at our April 26 meeting.

Service Personified

Gerry Stratford

Tooting the Fife



An extraordinary career of service to his community and country is the story of this year's President of the OTA. 'Tis said that 'tween Tay and Forth is the country of Fife,

but San Francisco is home to our native son. Bob Fife grew up in the Mission and as a student at Sacred Heart he played varsity football (he reminds us often that they beat SI his senior year). He joined the Marine Corps in 1962, and served three years before enrolling in City College where he earned an Associate degree in Criminology. Pursuing that interest, he joined the San Francisco Police Department and worked nights while earning a Bachelor's Degree from USF. He would ultimately retire from the SFPD as a Captain, but not before joining the Coast Guard Reserve where his unique skills lead to his appointment as an Intelligence Analyst for the Commander of the Pacific Area. He was deployed in Asia and the Middle East during interesting times, but he probably can't tell us those stories.

Remarkably, throughout his career of service Bob found time not only to play club basketball, flag football and softball, but also to coach bay area youngsters in his favorite sports.

Bob Fife's involvement with old guys began with the SF Baseball Oldtimers (he was their president last year). Never has it been more appropriate to say to our President, "Thank you, for your service!"

The "Speaker" was Entertaining



After stating at the outset that he was not yet willing to be considered an "Old Timer" and was still young at heart at 83 (he does look to be in pretty good shape) he explained that by pointing out that there is no sugar in Vodka; he went on to tell us some of his life stories. And, true to Manny's "Better we was" admonition, we suspect that his tales might also have grown better with age.

From his court room heroics in defending local hard-working ladies before Judge Horn through his careers in various elective offices he kept us entertained for nearly an hour. He did not answer many questions despite our Dinner Chairman's attempt to wrest control of the microphone, and he did not have much to say about local sports other than to mention his season ticket locations at various venues, but he had us laughing, and some were heard to comment that they would like things better if he were now our President.

We will long remember how he got our police department on to Harley motorcycles, and the way he got the streetlights turned back on for a lady who was afraid of the dark at 2:30 in the morning, so the evening was fun. Unfortunately, due to "Term Limit" rules, he will not be speaking at our Spring meeting.

Honoring Andy Burke



Just one year ago, one of the OTAs beloved members was honored by the Olympic Club with their special Award for Athletic Achievement. OTA members know Andy for his masterful arrangement of our dinners, but perhaps not all of us are aware of his incredible contribution to American Water Polo.

He was introduced to that sport at the age of 16 when he joined the Olympic Club, and he played on the club junior team and then on its senior team after he graduated from college. He would go on to lead the OC Masters Water Polo team for 20 years, taking them to nine different countries and accumulating 11 gold, 7 silver and 3 bronze medals. He has been inducted into the US Water Polo Hall of Fame and the International Masters Hall of Fame. Andy has served as Chairman of the National Water Polo Committee of the AAU, and on the AAU Executive Board for many years, and has been active on the US Olympic Committee as well.

The organizational skills that he developed over the years of coaching some of the world's top athletes have well prepared him to keep our unruly group of Old Timers in line. We couldn't do it without him.

Dear OTA Members:

The OTA was founded in 1930 and has been a very successful organization. Unfortunately, due to many factors, our membership, and the attendance at our Bi-annual dinner meetings has recently been declining. We have received notice from The Olympic Club that for future dinners, there will be a required minimum of 150 persons, or there will be an Opening Fee charged (They do not normally serve on Thursday night, so they need to bring in staff for us). The Opening Fee charge is substantial, **so we are asking the membership to assist us in meeting this requirement by actively recruiting new members.** This can be done by asking friends and associates to attend a dinner meeting as a guest. There is a \$20.00 extra cost for the guest, but if they take out membership that evening, the \$20.00 is applied to their \$50.00 joining fee (\$15.00 Initiation fee plus \$35.00 annual dues). The Board of Directors have worked hard to find ways to keep The OTA strong, but now they need the assistance of the membership to help them in that task. **So, invite a friend or associate to a dinner meeting, and encourage them to join.** Thank you for your consideration of this request.

OTA Office Information

Initiation Fee: \$15

Yearly Dues: \$35

Mailing address:

**21627 Hathaway Avenue
Hayward, CA 94541**

Website: www.otanc.org

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Andy Burke 650-591-8585

Vice Chairs:

Andy Kerr 415-434-2649

Gary Bader 415-731-8027

Membership:

Roger Ferrari 650-754-1904

Mike Maffei 650-588-2614

Roundtable Information:

Andy Burke 650-591-8585

Send Information to:

poloexpert@sbcglobal.net



Members and Guest at the Fall, October 26, 2017 OTA Meeting

Members present:

Jack Abad
Manny Agorastos
Vince Agular
Allen Alcorn
Jeff Alcorn
John Anderson
Ray Arata
Gary Bader
John Bain
David Banker
Dewey Barron
Wayne Batmale
Kevin Berry
Larry Bingham
Jerald Bocci
Don Bowcutt
Bud Bresnahan
Willie Brown
Andy Burke
Pat Burke
Leo Burns
Rico Cabezas
Lou Carella
Dan Casey
Marc Christensen
Art Citron
Sam Citron
David Clishman
Bill Collins
Aldo Congi
Jim Conolly
Tom Corbett
George Cosmos
Dan Costello
Mike Crilly
Mike Cronk
Frank Damon
Bernie Davey
Jim Deignan
Peter DeLucca
Laird Doherty
Jere Driscoll
Kevin Dunleavey
Roger Ferrari
Bob Fife
Robert Figone
Steve Franceschi
Charlie Gagan
Gene Gallagher
Jim Gallagher
Art Gerrans
Paul Giambra
Frank Glynn
Jerry Gosland
Jeff Graff
Ray Greggains
Eddie Gutierrez
Bill Harrison
Ken Haukom
Jack Hayes
Frank Hedley
Robert Hickox
Allen Hitchcock

Dick Hoedt
Bill Hogan
Tom Hornbecker
Don Hourigan
Gary Johnson
Brian Kearney
Howard Keassler
Rick Kell
Mic Kelly
Andy Kerr
Kris Kimball
George Korte
John Kristovich
Charley Leach
Bob Lee
John LeTourneau
Arney Lundquist
Bob Macaluso
Ron Macaluso
Sal Machi
Dave Mackin
Mike Maffei
Bob Maloney
Joe Marino
Leo Martinez
Mario Maso
Walt McCall
Ray McDonald
Tom McGraw
Rich Mercurio
Richard Moresco
Shaun Morrison
Gene Mullin
Rich Murphy
Jon Nakamura
Steve Negroresco
Chuck Osborn
Scott Overstreet
Don Papa
Jack Phelan
Nick Poppin
Pete Quevedo
Bob Randall
Harry Redlick
Buck Reed
Baxter Rice
Joe Richardson
Cliff Righetti
James Rohrer
Len Rovegno
Andrew Ruiz
Paul Sari
Bernie Schneider
Bob Schumann
Frank Siqueriros
Chuck Smith
Martin Smith
Bob Sockolov
Jeff Stahl
Fred Stecher
Gerry Stratford
Tom Swartz
John Sweeney

Terry Taylor
Al Tripp
Frank Verducci
Joseph Vollert
John Ward
Terry Ward
John Ward
Dick Welsh
Jerome Williams
Greg Wood
John Zuffo

Guests Present:

Tim Brophy
James Burke
Lenny Cianciola
Dan Dillon
Mark Duncan
Matt Hanley
Tom Hanson
Brian Harrison
Mel Johnson
Dick Liewer
Sergio Noesco

The logo for NewKIDS, with "New" in green and "KIDS" in black, all in a bold, sans-serif font.

**We Welcome The Follow
New Members**

Steve Phillips
Steve Pratt
Jack Tacchino
Pal Varni
Joe Vollert

Last of the Ninth

*Since our last meeting we have
lost the following friends:*

Milt Cerf
Norman Gard
Joe Greenbach
Clarence Grider
Val McKeever, Jr.
Al Modena, Jr.
Martin Murphy
Bob Simi
Andre Tolpegin