

Live-Wire Senator Club Starts 13th Season

'Welcome Senators' Baseball Section

Solons Win Pro Status in '40 In Purchase from Bellingham

The Salem Senators are about to embark on their 13th season of professional baseball.

Although semipro teams representing the city were called the Senators in distant years, it wasn't until 1940 that Salem secured its first professional club bearing that name.

The introduction of the Senators to Salem was a dream come true for the late George E. Waters, for whom the big ball park on 25th street is still named.

Purchase Franchise

A local businessman for many years, Waters wanted to do something for the city he loved. He hired a business manager, Albert (Biddy) Rishop, who had been known around the state as quite a semipro spitball pitcher in his day, and together they purchased the Bellingham Wash. franchise in the Class F Western International League.

They moved the franchise to Salem where Waters was financing the building of what is now Waters Field. The construction of the park under the direction of Bishop, was completed a few days prior to the opening of play in the 1940 season.

Record Attendance

A crowd of 4,856 turned out to see what Waters and Bishop, also now deceased, had brought to Salem. Never since then has an opening night crowd exceeded that total. And hardly has there been a game in the hundreds played there since that would match the inaugural for thrills.

The Senators, equipped with a few holdovers from the Bellingham club some optionees from the San Diego Coast League outfit and some free agents that Bishop had signed, battled Yakima in the memorable opener. It was a wild game, won finally by Salem 11-10, but only after the Senators scored five runs in the ninth inning to nullify a grand slam home run by Yakima's Ernie Springer in the first half of the ninth.

Players Remembered

Many local fans will remember some of the players on that first Salem team. There was Bill (Bucky) Harris, the big-tummied but hard-hitting first baseman; Roy Helsner, the lefthanded pitcher who later accomplished big things with Portland and who is now a coach at Linfield College; Bud Brewer, a sidestarter who won 20 games; John (Bunny) Griffiths, the shortstop who was also the club manager; Charley Petersen, rifle armed center fielder who later managed the



It was through the efforts of Don Young that the Senators were purchased from the Portland Beavers in 1951 and sold to Salem fans. Don was one of the city's leading lawyers. He was killed during a fishing trip in 1952.

and director of the club. She fired Bishop and hired Howard Maple, a former Willamette University coach, as the general manager. Griffith stayed on as player manager.

The 1941 club fared little better than the first outfit, finishing in the second division of the standings.

Then in 1942 the entire Western International League almost folded because of the fast-growing war. Salem, Yakima, Vancouver, B. C., Wenatchee, Tacoma and Spokane were league members in 1940-41, but both Yakima and Wenatchee dropped out in 1943. The other four decided to try it that fateful year and after a hectic season during which night baseball was tabooed by brownouts much of the time, Salem wound up third in the standings.

Petersen Manager

Petersen managed the club in 1942 and Al Lightner, the third baseman and outfielder of the previous two seasons, was the business manager.

The league did fold for the next three years because of the war, but Waters Field was not idle. Hundreds of kids got to play their games in the big park as junior baseball for the teenagers, on a large scale, was brought into local prominence. Also, the Camp Adair Timberwolves, of the famous 104th Division, adopted the park as their home grounds during those war years and played many games here. Some were against Coast League clubs passing through en route to Portland and Seattle, others against GI competition from Fort Lewis and other Army and Navy bases.

Western International League play was resumed in 1946. Mrs. Waters carried on as owner

All-Time Attendance Record At Waters Park Set in '46

The all-time Waters Park attendance record of 7890 may be out of reach of the current opening day effort, but the all-time opening night mark of 4856 can be broken, Salem Boosters club officers believe.

The all-time record of 7890 was notched June 15, 1946, when a benefit was given in behalf of the family of Leo (Frisco) Edwards, popular Salem Senator manager who died of a heart attack at Bremerton. There were 8001 tickets sold. Edwards' Senators had won 13 consecutive games at the start of the season.

The all-time opening night record of 4856 was set in 1940. Last year's opening day turnout clicked only 1352 times when rain threatened. Last year's Save-Your-Senators night attracted 4124.

They Helped Capture Senators' Sole Flag



Few Senators fans will ever forget the hard-hitting crew of 1953 which won the first half of the Western International League pennant, the only flag any Senators club has ever taken. From left to right with their respective batting averages at the time, are Shortstop Gene Tanselli, who is again with the club this season, Manager Hugh Luby, Outfielder Connie Perez, Outfielder Les Witherspoon, Third-baseman Milt Smith and Outfielder Jimmy Deyo.

Ex-Giant Snyder Laments Change In Modern Game

SAN ANTONIO, Tex. (AP)—Baseball men weren't just teams in 1922—they were "families" and baseball was a "good family game," according to a man who starred for the New York Giants in that era.

Pancho Snyder, catcher for the Giant team that won the National League Pennant two years straight (1921 and 1922) expressed his opinion while talking over old times with Art Nehf, a teammate on John McGraw's teams in the twenties.

"Baseball used to be a good family game," Snyder said. "We used to travel like a team—we'd play cards together, eat together, have our family squabbles and our little differences, but on the field we were a unified bunch of men."

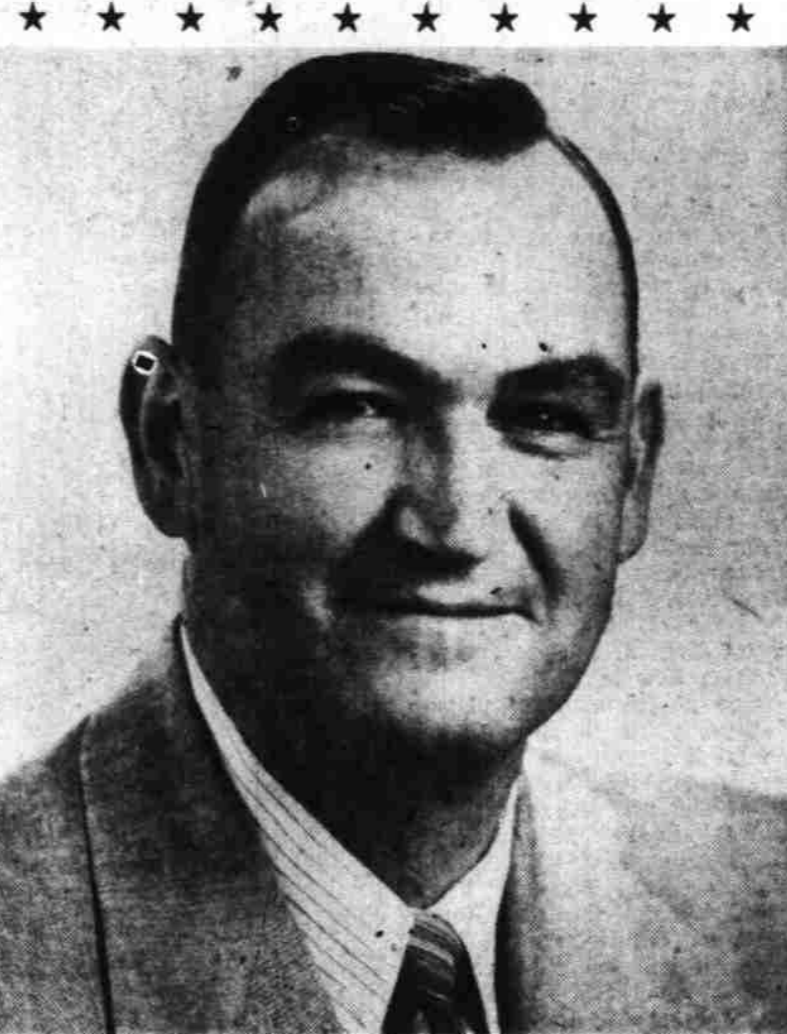
"Now it's different. Players have become individuals who think of their own records and their own problems."

Waters Field Cost \$60,000

Waters Field was built in 1940 at a cost which was at that time estimated at \$60,000. Were the same park and facilities to be erected today, the cost would be triple that figure, according to estimates.

Hugh Luby

Hugh Luby is in his fifth season as general manager of the Senators. Luby took over in 1951 when the Senators were purchased from the Portland Beavers. He's been the boss, and second baseman ever since, except for a brief period after the start of the 1954 season when Harvey Storey was manager. Storey was released after a few weeks of play.



Solon Tickets Bought for Use Of Youngsters

Sports fans who have bought one or more student season ticket to the Salem Senator games and donated them to the Salem Senator Booster Club to distribute through the YMCA, Salvation Army and Juvenile Court include: Dr. P. E. Wedel, Murray M. Scholfield, Prime Oil Co., Clyde Prall, Emma Peters, Oregon Gravel Co., Optimist Club of Salem, William Nall, Mootry Pharmacy, Walter Lukins, C. R. Lindstrom, Browns Jewelry Store, Ruth E. Bressler, N. J. Blevins, Elsner Motor Co., Salem Elks Lodge, Hollywood Lions Club, Lilly Gilmer, Larry Oslund, Plaza Hotel Napa, Calif., Loren D. Hicks, P. W. Hale, jeweler, Silverton Rotary Club, J. E. Waterhouse, Dallas Lions Club, Meier and Frank Co.

Lipman's of Salem; Dallas Lion Club, Al Ingels and John Kitzmiller of Dallas. Present plans are that, through the generosity of these various individuals and firms and clubs, worthy young folk between 12 and 18 will be given use of a season ticket for 30 days at a time, and then return it to the sponsoring organization for further use, to obtain the widest possible amount of good from the gifts, sponsors say.

Pete Chinn in Fifth Season

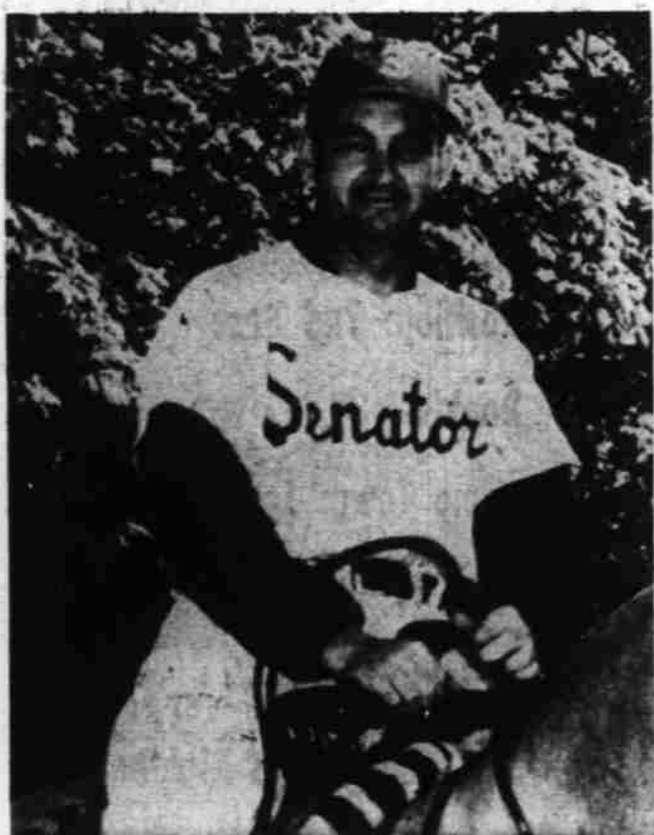
Pete Chinn, the popular little Chinese trainer for the Salem Senators, will be in his fifth season with the club this year. When Hugh Luby took over the management of the Senators in 1951, he secured the former Navy veteran from the Oakland club of the Coast League. Chinn had been assistant trainer for the Oaks, and met Luby when Hugh played for that club.

10 Managers For Senators

Manager	Year
John Griffith	1940-41
Charles Petersen	1942
Leo (Frisco) Edwards	1946
Tedd Gullie	1946
Jack Wilson	1947-48
Bill Beard	1949
Ad Liska	1950
Hugh Luby	1951-53
Harvey Storey	1954
Hugh Luby	1954-55

Another Salem Senator!

Tele-Treat Invites You to Get Acquainted with



Hugh Luby

Manager

Home Town: Salem, Oregon

Married: 1 son, 1 daughter

Age: 39

Height: 5-10

Weight: 185

Another Salem Senator!

Miller's Invites You to Get Acquainted with



Bob Tucker

Pitcher

Age: 21

Home Town: Sacramento, Calif.

Height: 5-11

Weight: 170

Bats and Throws Lefthanded

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