



The Tomahawk Times

The Official Newsletter of the Braves 400 Fan Club


October 2011

January 21, 2012

46th Annual Eddie Glennon Gameboree

Honoring the 1991 & 1992 National League Champions!

Feeling down after the end to the regular season? We have something that may help! Spend an evening recalling the excitement of the 1991 Atlanta Braves' worst-to-first team and the 1992 "Sid Slide" game that captured the world of baseball. You can re-live these great moments when the Braves 400 Fan Club honors these championship teams at our winter banquet.



The Braves 400 Fan Club will host the 46th Annual Eddie Glennon Gameboree on **Saturday, January 21, 2012**. The theme for the gala banquet is "**Honoring the 1991 & 1992 National League Champions!**" Several players and coaches from the Braves glory years will be our special guests.

Here is your personal invitation to the event:

The Braves 400 Fan Club

The official fan club of the Atlanta Braves

Invites you to attend the

46th Annual Eddie Glennon Gameboree

"Honoring the 1991 & 1992 National League Champions"

Saturday, January 21, 2012

At the Atlanta Marriott Century Center

5:00 p.m. Reception and Silent Auction

6:30 p.m. Dinner

7:15 p.m. Program and Awards

9:00 p.m. Closing Remarks



Gameboree Reservations can be made now by mailing your check to the Braves 400 Fan Club, P. O. Box 7689, Atlanta, Georgia 30309. Online reservations and payment can be made after November 1, 2011 at www.braves400.org. Reservation cut-off date is January 16, 2012.

Early Bird Registration
Before January 7, 2012:

\$60 per person
\$600 for table of 10

After January 7, 2012:
\$65 per person

Atlanta Marriott Century Center is a luxury hotel and banquet facility. It is located off I-85 North at Clairmont Road (Exit 91) just minutes from downtown Atlanta, offering free parking. A special hotel room rate of \$89 plus tax will be available to Gameboree guests who wish to have overnight accommodations. The hotel guest reservation telephone number is 404-325-0000.

Silent Auction and Raffle will feature several items from the Braves of the '90s and other sports items. You can bid on autographed baseballs, pictures and posters and lots more! Here's a sampling of auction items:

- Autographed '95 World Series photo by **Tom Glavine**
- Autographed photos of **Bob Feller, Ron Gant, Mark Wohlers** and others
- Baseballs signed by **Dale Murphy, Bob Horner, Freddie Freeman** and more

If you have any autographed items or baseball memorabilia to donate, please email **Andre Cleveland** at a-bcleveland@comcast.net. The proceeds from the auction fund the Phil Niekro Scholarship Program.

The Gameboree program will feature players and coaches from the 1991 and 1992 teams. The fan club will present several awards, including Rookie of the Year, the Luke Appling Nostalgia Award and the Ivan Allen, Jr. "Mr. Baseball" Award. **Pam Cox**, wife of **Bobby Cox** received the Ivan Allen award at the 2011 banquet. Also, Braves Minor League Awards will be presented by an Atlanta Braves executive. Two Georgia colleges will receive funds for their baseball programs from the **Phil Niekro** Scholarship Fund.

Souvenir Programs and Gift Bags "honoring the 1991 & 1992 National League Champions" will be given to all Gameboree guests.

Dinner & Attire– if you have special dietary meal requests, please leave a message on the Fan Club Hotline 770-416-4539. Coat and tie is suggested for men and equivalent attire for women.



Fan Club Election Luncheon

2012 Officers and Board Members named

The fan club election luncheon will be held on **Saturday, November 12, 2011** at the Atlanta Marriott Century Center beginning at noon. The 2012 officers and board are formally voted on at the luncheon. This event is open to all fan club members and guests.

Each year we have a speaker from the Braves organization. We hope to have either **Ronnie Richardson**, Director of Minor League Operations talk about the minor league talent or **Dave Brundage**, share his experiences with AAA players and life as the Gwinnett Braves manager.

If you are interested in a board position with the fan club, please let us know and plan to attend the luncheon.



Board Members (l to r) Bill Toothman, Willie Hinton and Andre Cleveland at the 2011 Gameboree.

You can make your reservations for the luncheon online at www.braves400.org using Pay Pal or send a check to the Braves 400 Fan Club, P. O. Box 7689, Atlanta, Georgia 30309 by November 6. Members \$25, Non-Members \$30.

Fans "tailgate" at the 755 Club at Turner Field



On August 30, fan club members and their guests enjoyed pizza and hot wings at a pre-game tailgate in the 755 Club at Turner Field. The Washington Nationals were in town for a three-game series before the Labor Day weekend. Unfortunately, the fans had little to cheer about as the team lost the game that evening.

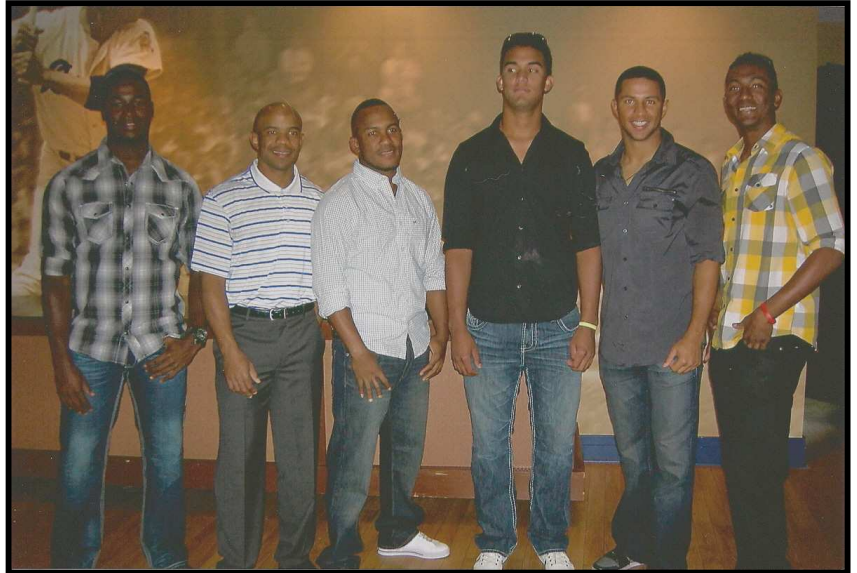
This was the first time the "tailgating" was moved from the parking lot to the air-conditioned 755 Club. Based on the

turnout and feedback, it looks like this may be the venue of choice during the hot summer months at the ball park. **Lynn Walley, Lynn Camp, Shirley Suttle** and **Betty Jeter** are pictured above enjoying the food and atmosphere of the 755 Club before the game.

September Call-up Luncheon

Fans meet Braves top prospects

Once again, the September call-up luncheon was a great chance for fans to dine with some of the Braves top minor league prospects. Pictured from left to right are **Arodys Vizcaino, Antoan Richardson, Jose Constanza, Randall Delgado, Anthony Varvaro, and Julio Teheran.**



The future stars delighted and amused the group at the annual fan club event held at the 755 Club at Turner Field on September 16. Past fan club president, **Gary Novak**, pinch hit as luncheon host when scheduled host, **Wayne Coleman**, was unavoidably delayed at the last minute.

The soft-spoken, yet cordial and approachable young players signed autographs and posed for pictures with fans. When asked the difference between the minor and major league experience, one of the players responded, "There's a big difference; that is why it is called the majors!" Another player made the observation that in the major league dugout the players are more concerned about getting a win than individual performance. **Julio Teheran** said that he has not yet met his favorite pitcher, former Braves pitcher, now baseball broadcaster, **John Smoltz**.

What's On Deck?

Wednesday, October 19, 2011	2011 World Series Begins in St. Louis National League Champion
Saturday, November 12, 2011	Annual Fan Club Election Luncheon Marriott Century Center – Noon
Saturday, January 7, 2012	Gameboree Early Bird Registration Ends
Monday, January 16, 2012	Gameboree Reservation Cut-off Date
Saturday, January 21, 2012	Eddie Glennon Gameboree Annual Banquet Honoring The 1991 & 1992 National League Champions!
January 24 – 29, 2012	Atlanta Braves Fantasy Camp

Atlanta Braves Fantasy Camp: January 24 – 29, 2012



Otis Nixon shares a light moment with fan James "Willie Mays" Hayes on the field at 2010 Fantasy Camp. Nixon beat Hayes in a 50-yard dash. Hayes challenged Nixon to the race...and lost.

Popular Braves Alumni on the Fantasy Camp coaching staff

The Atlanta Braves have announced the second annual **Atlanta Braves Fantasy Camp** which will take place January 24-29, 2012 at the Braves Spring Training facility at ESPN's Wide World of Sports in Kissimmee, Florida.

The Braves Fantasy Camp gives fans the chance to live like Major Leaguers, and have the once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to learn from and play alongside Braves alumni. Braves Hall of Fame member **Dale Murphy** will join the staff as a "full time" coach, serving as an instructor for the entire week. **Tom Glavine**, 2010 Braves Hall of Famer will be a "roving" instructor, joining the coaching staff for one day. Other Braves alumni returning for a second year to lead the camp include: **Javy Lopez, Steve Avery, Sid Bream, Otis Nixon, Marquis Grissom, Greg Olson, Greg McMichael, and Pete Smith**. The five-day, five-night camp includes:

- Hotel accommodations at the luxury Wyndham Bonnet Creek Resort
- Daily training and skills sessions with alumni coaching staff
- Personalized authentic uniforms for games and batting practice
- Big League clubhouse service and training staff
- Breakfast and lunch each day
- A welcome night party, awards banquet, and fantasy camp reunion party at a 2012 Braves home game.

The Braves Fantasy Camp is open to men and women 25-and-older and costs \$3,999. To register before January 6, 2012, fans can go to www.braves.com/fantasycamp, call 404-614-1526 or email fantasycamp@braves.com. Spouse and family packages are available as well for family members and non-players.

A Grand-Slam Movie Review – Several baseball fans have recommended the movie **"Moneyball"** (Rated PG-13) now playing at several theaters. A review of the movie in *Entertainment Magazine* declares that the movie, starring **Brad Pitt**, is an "intelligent drama about Oakland A's general manager **Billy Beane**, whose number-crunching strategy revolutionized the way major league baseball is played." Get over the post-season blues and see a good baseball movie!

We've "Reached Out"

Braves 400 Fan Club supports community programs

By Tom Millin

Our club, once again during the 2011 season, participated in the Atlanta Braves "Reach Out Be Our Guest Program" by donating 500 tickets to allow underprivileged youngsters the opportunity to attend Braves games. The program is administered by the Atlanta Braves. Groups of children and their chaperones from the [Salvation Army](#), [Covenant House Georgia](#) and the [Georgia Sheriff's Youth Homes](#) were among the attendees at games this year. The smile on the faces of the young folks is rewarding and they express their gratitude to the club for the tickets and the experience.



During batting practice, [Braves player Michael Bourn](#), visited with the kids, signed autographs and posed for pictures.

The Editor's Scorecard

by Jean Berken, Editor



It's hard to believe that another regular season is over. Although some fans are very disappointed about the end of the Braves season, overall it was another exciting year. I guess it depends if your beer glass is half full or half empty how you view the season. I thought former Braves pitcher and now broadcaster, [Tom Glavine](#), said it well when he reflected on the season and said "If I told you before the season that the

Braves would still be eligible for the post-season on the final day, wouldn't you be pretty happy?"

The Braves 400 Fan Club has members from all across the country. We thought it would be fun to highlight some of these members in *The Tomahawk Times*. Beginning with this issue, you'll meet [Erma Killings](#), a long time Braves fan and member of the fan club board. If you know a member to shine the spotlight on, please let us know!

Meet the Members

Erma Killings, Board Member

Erma Killings is pictured here with Braves players **Randall Delgado** and **Julio Teheran** at the recent call-up luncheon.



As a long time Braves fan, Erma Killings has fond memories of Atlanta-Fulton County Stadium where the Braves first played and then witnessed the implosion of the historic stadium before Turner Field opened. Erma loves the game of baseball and enjoys meeting wonderful people at the ball park. She attends about 25 to 30 games each season. Her all-time favorite Braves player is former catcher, **Javy Lopez**. She confides that she enjoyed watching him behind home plate for many years. Female fans will understand why the higher cost tickets were worth the price!

Erma Killings was born and raised in Fort Valley, Georgia. She spent her working life in Education. After she graduated from Fort Valley State with a B.S. in Comprehensive Business Education, she earned a Masters in Education from UGA. She taught in the Atlanta Public School System for 16 years, was an instructor at Morris Brown College for 3 years, and the assistant principal and intervention coordinator at Rockdale County High School for 16 years. She retired in 2000 but remains active in several charitable endeavors. She is Committee Chair for the United Negro College Fund, a member of the Rockdale Retiree Education Association, Zeta Phi Beta Sorority and Hillside Presbyterian Church of Decatur. Even before she became a breast cancer survivor, Erma participated in the **Making Strides for Breast Cancer campaign**. Erma lives in Decatur, Georgia with her son, Justin.

The President's Pitch

By Rick Wheeler



I am writing to "pitch" two great annual fan club events: the 2012 major league trip and the Gameboree winter banquet.

Major League Trip – In the last issue I wrote about our enjoyable major league trip to New York. Each year we offer two travel packages: an air package and land package.

The land package is a great way to keep your travel costs down, yet still enjoy the camaraderie and baseball of these great trips. I want to point out that sometimes the land package, that includes everything but the air fare, can be the most economical way to make the trip. The land package is usually a more affordable trip for both our Atlanta fan club members and members outside the metro Atlanta area. You might want to keep this in mind as we are planning our major league trip to Boston in June 2012.

With increased airline fares, we try very hard to keep the individual cost of these trips under \$700. If you are flexible with departure and arrival times, you can arrange your own air fare using your frequent flyer points or purchasing individual low cost fares unavailable through group reservations.

Gameboree Location - As you see from the lead article, we are working on the details for our annual Eddie Glennon Gameboree winter banquet. This year we will return to the Atlanta Marriott Century Center hotel conveniently located at Clairmont Road and I-85. This is a somewhat smaller venue than last year's but it is a more convenient location over any downtown venue. The fan club has hosted several outstanding events at this facility in the last five years.

Gameboree Theme - We will be honoring the 1991 "Worst-to-First" National League Champions and the 1992 repeat National League Champions. If you can't remember what Braves baseball was like in Atlanta twenty years ago, this event will jog your memory, and we hope bring back some very happy times. These early 90's teams proved to be just the beginning of Atlanta Braves championship baseball (including a 1995 World Series Title) for years to come.

We are just starting to work on the Gameboree head table invitees but anticipate no problems bringing back many of the key members of these two teams – and maybe a surprise or two.

Make your plans now to join us at the Gameboree on January 21. Circle the date on your 2012 calendar! Even better, mail in your reservations today to the P. O. Box or sign up on the website beginning November 1. The banquet seating is a first-come, first-serve basis so get your reservation in early for a table close to the action! Watch for more information about the Gameboree in the December newsletter and online at www.braves400.org.



Braves 400 Fan Club

The official fan club of the Atlanta Braves

P. O. Box 7689
Atlanta, Georgia 30309

400 Fan Club Hotline
770-416-4539

Award Winning Website
www.braves400.org