

Please vote for your choice of candidates to the Door County Baseball Hall of Fame!

To vote, just email their names to kschaefer@charter.net or complete and mail the ballot below to: Ken Schaefer, 1044 S. 18th Place, Sturgeon Bay, WI. 54235.

Dad “Fritz” Woldt and “Decker” are already in the Hall of Fame. This year, I’m asking you to vote for John, Paul, and Bill Becker, Herman Woldt, Kenny Herbst, Nicholas “Doc” Schmidt and Butch Hugenroth. *Note my logic and support below:*

Fritz umpiring ... Uncle Doc umpired for years before handing off to Dad.

(Roland “Fritz” Woldt)



Nicholas “Doc” Schmidt

A living legend

Top, Roy “Deck” Woldt gets his game face on with his old baseball bat in front of the Pampa Oiler exhibit at the White Deer Land Museum. Woldt, now 83, played on the Pampa Oilers from 1950-1955. Below, another look at the exhibit at the White Deer Land Museum.

■ Roy “Deck” Woldt, who played from 1950-55, is the last known Pampa Oiler baseball player alive.

By John Lee
jlee@pampaweb.com

It was the 1950s. The air is turning warm and sodas and comics are still the top selling products at drive-ins across the country. World War II is a decade in the past and the country is barely flirting with the idea of military engagement with Vietnam.

Rock n’ roll icon Elvis Presley is swaying his hips and America’s movie sweetheart, Marilyn Monroe, is infatigating men across the world.

The NFL hadn’t become what it is today and NBA had barely started a decade earlier. Baseball was still America’s top sport.

Here in Pampa, Texas the boys of summer are hitting the field as the Pampa Oilers, a baseball club started in 1939. Aside from a hiatus during World War II from 1942-1946, the Oilers provided the residents of Pampa with a base-

DECK cont. on page 7

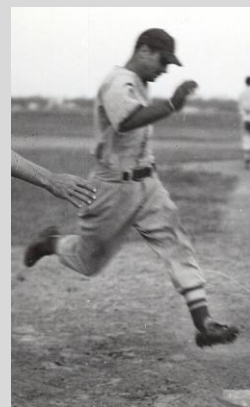
Deck

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ball team from 1939 to 1957, including championship seasons in 1946, 1954 and 1955. Roy “Deck” Woldt, who played on the team from 1950-1955, is the last known Pampa Oiler baseball player alive.

Woldt got his nickname from the glove that his father gave him and he used to wear all the time when he was younger. Woldt played for the Oklahoma City Indians, a AA minor league affiliate of the Cleveland Indians, before coming over to the Pampa Oilers. The Pampa Oilers name by the way was also

(Roy “Decker” Woldt)



Door County Baseball Hall of Fame Ballot

Listed below are the top nominees, leading vote getters and new write-ins for the 2014 Baseball Hall of Fame. Please check your choices and send to:

Ken Schaefer: 1044 S 18th Place, Sturgeon Bay, Wisconsin 54235
e-mail address: kschaefer@charter.net

You can also mail to:

Jocko Rader: 336 N Fulton Avenue, Sturgeon Bay, Wisconsin 54235

We encourage write-ins along with some background on that person.

- | | | |
|--|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Tom Anderson | <input type="checkbox"/> Bob Schultz | <input type="checkbox"/> Jody Viste |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Len Atkins | <input type="checkbox"/> Tom Moore | <input type="checkbox"/> Buck Honold |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Kent Sitte | <input type="checkbox"/> Dean DeBroux | <input type="checkbox"/> Jeff Schartner |
| <input type="checkbox"/> John Toppe | <input type="checkbox"/> Mark Wagner | <input type="checkbox"/> Willie Schartner |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Bob Rosinsky | <input type="checkbox"/> Paul Becker | <input type="checkbox"/> Chico Moeller |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Dale Vogel | <input type="checkbox"/> Henry Martens | <input type="checkbox"/> Galen Denamur |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Pige Birdsall | <input type="checkbox"/> Tom Schmelzer | <input type="checkbox"/> Christy Denamur |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Mike Cordier | <input type="checkbox"/> Conrad Johnson | <input type="checkbox"/> Brad Florence |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Jason Annis | <input type="checkbox"/> Ben Olson | <input type="checkbox"/> Pete Wickman |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Marlow Franpie | <input type="checkbox"/> Neil Claflin | <input type="checkbox"/> Tim Biwer |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Steve Wipperfurth | <input type="checkbox"/> John Bley | <input type="checkbox"/> Craig Bastian |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Mark Woerfel | <input type="checkbox"/> Jake Ellefson | <input type="checkbox"/> Jon Bastian |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Ken Herbst | <input type="checkbox"/> Jack Neubauer | <input type="checkbox"/> Bill Becker |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Marley Doxlater | <input type="checkbox"/> Craig Geisseman | <input type="checkbox"/> John Becker |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Butch Hugenroth | <input type="checkbox"/> John Berns | <input type="checkbox"/> Herman Woldt |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Al "Boze"
Demmin | <input type="checkbox"/> Bob Haberli | <input type="checkbox"/> Nicholas "Doc"
Schmidt |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Joe Schmelzer | <input type="checkbox"/> Quinn Schartner | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Russ Volkman | <input type="checkbox"/> Steve Parent | |

Many nominees need only a few votes before they are presented to the committee. A player must be retired for 5 years before being inducted. Please Vote.

Note: *The Hall of Fame organizers have moved the cut-off date for voting from December 15 to January 1, 2014 but the sooner you vote the better. Following is my logic and support for my votes. **Please vote ASAP!***

Why am I voting for John, Paul, and Bill Becker, Herman Woldt, Doc Schmidt, Kenny Herbst, and Butch Hugenroth?

John Becker, Paul Becker, Bill Becker, Herman Woldt, Nicholas "Doc" Schmidt, Kenny Herbst, and Butch Hugenroth have all had a significant impact on baseball in Door County. All not only played but aggressively organized, coached, managed, and promoted baseball in Door County. All spent winters recruiting players, umpires and ground's keepers. All played ball with a passion from young on. All started shagging foul-balls, had their first time at bat in Grade school and than played on school teams and on teams and in leagues throughout Door County, to include our Door County Baseball League. I'm not sure when, but all played an active role in team and/or league management, to include setting up and managing schedules and tournaments. In summer, Saturday's where mostly spent preparing the field for Sunday games. Sundays, if they weren't on the field, they were taking tickets, manning food stands, or covering the field during a down-pour. All worked hard to build and maintain ever improving ball fields; to include mowing, lining the field, and repairing back-stops.

Herman Woldt's baseball history was handed down to me by Dad and Uncle Deck with the latest update coming tonight from Decker

Woldt. The stories handed down speak of the influence Herman had on Decker Woldt's baseball career as Deck lived with his uncle Herman and aunt Hilda from 1923 to 1938 or from 6 years old until he was a teenager. Prior to 1923, Herman owned

what's now Rosa's bar in downtown Egg Harbor from where he organized an Egg Harbor ball team on which he played, coached, and managed. That's him in the picture below, holding the ball and glove.



Herman Woldt 1923 Holding the ball and glove

Around 1923, Herman bought the original "Woldt's Corner's south of Sturgeon Bay on the corner of County "O" and Hwy #42/57. It's now the building in which they hold actions. In addition to adding a dance hall to the north end of the building, Herman leased a field about 1/2 mile south of the bar and built a baseball field. From his bar, he organized a team made up of Door County's best and than entered tournaments held throughout Door and Kewaunee county. I'm not sure of the league' name at the time but I think it was "Lakeshore" or Lake something. I believe his team was called the "Johnson Oilers" because Johnson Oil Co. sponsored their team. Herman was a team

organizer, and an over-all promoter of Baseball in Door County. While his reputation might only be documented by family stories, Herman and wife Hilda had a significant impact on baseball in Door County from roughly 1915 to the 1950's.

Another family baseball legion handed down through family stories is Nicholas "Doc" Schmidt who played for Jacksonport before and after the team moved to West Jacksonport. In picture below, Doc is dead center in the back row. He's in a suit in the picture to the right. Sunday' ball games in the 20's were a welcomed social event.



Dad, "Fritz" attributed much of his love for baseball and especially his interest in umpiring to who we all knew as "Uncle Doc." He was married to Lydia Woldt my grandfather's (August "Dick" Woldt's) sister.

My Dad "Fritz" grew up living with Doc and Lydia Schmidt from 1923 to 1940. Dad and Decker tell stories of working on Uncle Doc's farm during the week and on Sundays, Dad putting on his Egg Harbor uniform and Decker his Jacksonport' and together heading off with Uncle Doc to the ball field where Doc umpired and they played. Decker often tells the story of a championship game between Egg Harbor and Jacksonport with

him at bat in the ninth, bases loaded, full-count and Uncle Doc calling him out on a ball that at best was "chin' high."

The Becker boy's Bill, Paul, and John grew up mostly behind the plate catching however, all three played ball from Bailey's Harbor Grade School through Gibraltar and into the County League. While all played, Bill and John also played important roles off the field to include recruiting players, managing when needed, and making sure the ball field was ready, tickets were collected, announcements were made, and everyone had a fair share of hot dogs, pop corn, soda, and beer.



Paul Becker 1975



John Becker 2005



Bill Becker 2010

The impact Paul Becker, John Becker, Bill Becker, Herman Woldt, Nicholas "Doc" Schmidt, Kenny Herbst, and Butch Hugenroth have had on Door County baseball has been significant and much deserving of our recognition. **Please cast one vote each on the ballot above or simple email their names along with others you choose to: kschaefer@charter.net.**