13th Annual
World Tournament of Historic Base Ball®
August 8-9, 2015
Greenfield Village®

thehenryford.org/worldtournament
THE TRADITION CONTINUES this weekend as the Lah-De-Dahs and the Nationals of Greenfield Village take on vintage clubs from Michigan, Indiana, Illinois and Ohio during the 13th Annual World Tournament of Historic Base Ball.

In 1867, the Detroit area hosted the World’s Base Ball Tournament, and 24 clubs from the United States and Canada took the field to compete in the game that was fast becoming the national pastime.

In 2015, watch teams face off on the field until only one club is left to be declared champion. Check out great hands-on base ball activities all weekend. Enjoy music by the Dodworth Saxhorn Band, and see the original rosewood trophy bat awarded to the Unknowns of Jackson, Michigan, for winning first place in the 1867 World Tournament in Detroit. View an original copy of Haney’s Base Ball Book of Reference for 1867, the rule book written by Henry Chadwick and used for the World Tournament and for the Greenfield Village historic base ball program, and examine the rosewood bat at the Luther Burbank Birthplace in Greenfield Village on Saturday and Sunday from 9:30 a.m. to 5 p.m.

For a fun souvenir, take home a reproduction copy of Haney’s Base Ball Book of Reference — available for sale in the Henry Ford Museum and Greenfield Village stores.

Promotional Sponsor

World Tournament Champions

2003 - Clothbusters BBC
2004 - Mother Nature
2005 - Clothbusters BBC
2006 - Clothbusters BBC
2007 - Lah-De-Dahs BBC
2008 - Lah-De-Dahs BBC
2009 - Saginaw Old Golds
2010 - Columbus Capitals
2011 - Saginaw Old Golds
2012 - Saginaw Old Golds
2013 - Saginaw Old Golds
2014 - Saginaw Old Golds
Base Ball as the National Pastime

As base ball (it was spelled as two words into the early 1900s) gained popularity in the 1850s and 1860s, its promoters remarked on the healthful and wholesome aspects of the game. Henry Chadwick, one of base ball’s chief advocates, wrote in 1867: “What cricket is to the Englishman, base ball has become to an American.” Chadwick, the inventor of the box score and a prolific writer on all things related to base ball, explained: “As a means of cultivating the physical powers, base ball is one of the most commendable exercises in vogue. As a remedy for many of the evils resulting from the immoral associations the boys and young men of our cities are apt to become connected with, the game merits the endorsement of every clergyman in the country. But one of the strongest aids to the popularity of base ball lies in the fact that it is a game — and about the only one, by the way — which can be countenanced by the fair sex. American ladies have been hitherto shut out from all pleasures incident to games ... by the low character of the surroundings of most of the sports and pastimes men indulge in.” Chadwick was right: Base ball became the national pastime, and part of the reason was its appeal to Americans of all ages. Base ball meant America. It served as a form of exercise, entertainment and even a way for immigrants to participate in American culture. Base ball built a sense of community and still contributes to our identity as Americans.

Rules for World’s Base Ball Tournament

Base ball in the 1867 Detroit tournament would look only vaguely familiar to us today. The game consisted of nine players and four bases, 90 feet apart, with chalk marking the foul lines. After that, the game began to stray. The pitcher was required to throw underhand, foul balls caught on the first bound put the hitter out, and a ball that first bounced fair and then rolled foul was a fair ball. Run scoring could be prolific, as players seldom wore gloves and the mitts of the day consisted of a fingerless pad that protected the palm and little else. Foul balls did not count as strikes, and the single umpire warned the hitter before he actually began calling strikes. He likewise warned the pitcher to deliver fair pitches before he called any balls. After such a warning, three balls allowed the runner to take his base, and any combination of three called or swinging strikes was an out. That rule remains today: Three strikes and you’re out, and three outs is a turn at the plate. As you watch the game, feel free to ask our players about any call that confuses you. It’s a grand old game, but one that can be confusing to modern visitors.

The Original World's Base Ball Tournament

“WORLD’S BASE BALL TOURNAMENT, DETROIT, MICH. 1867.” So reads the advertisement for the matches that would offer a first-place prize of $300 in greenbacks to the winner of the first class. The Detroit Base Ball Club sponsored the tournament, and it attracted teams from the United States and Canada. These teams were entered in one of three classes so that teams of similar skill might be pitted against each other.

The matches began on the grounds of the Detroit Base Ball Club on August 13, 1867, with the fans paying 25 cents each and 50 cents for each vehicle that entered the property. Seats in the grandstand cost an additional fee. A fence enclosed the ball field. The Detroit Free Press reported extensively on the matches. Crowds as large as 5,000 attended over the tournament’s three days.

The Free Press stories also provided insight into the quality of the matches and activities on the field. In a game on the first day, Witherspoon, the second baseman for the Commercial Club of Detroit, was said to have “made kindling of his bat.” During the games of the second day, the Free Press described a predecessor to “Shoeless Joe” Jackson: “Marker of the Unions determined not to be outdone but rather to outdo, and after divesting himself of shoes and stockings succeeded in capturing two home runs by low balls.” The game accounts also offer an insight into at least some opinions about the introduction of mitts for players. The Free Press writer commented: “We have noticed in all the matches played thus far that the use of gloves by the players was to some degree a customary practice, which we think cannot be too highly condemned and are of the opinion that the Custers would have shown a better score if there had been less buckskin on their hands.” The players couldn’t be blamed for wanting to protect their hands for defensive purposes; scores such as 41-40 and 61-32 indicate that offense ruled the diamond.

An 1860s diagram of the base ball diamond, found in Haney’s Base Ball Book of Reference for 1867 by Henry Chadwick. From the collections of The Henry Ford.
The Greenfield Village Lah-De-Dahs, founded in 1992, borrowed their name from an amateur club that played ball in Waterford, Michigan, during the 1880s. As the sports ambassadors of Greenfield Village, they re-create base ball history every weekend of the summer for enthusiastic crowds of spectators. By challenging other vintage clubs to play by the authentic rules of 1867 in the true competitive spirit that is the legacy of our national pastime, they help to preserve the stories and traditions of America’s past.

**PARTICIPATING CLUBS**

**SPRINGFIELD LONG NINE**
Springfield, Illinois
The Springfield Long Nine was formed as team in 2008. The team plays by the rules of 1858. Springfield is situated a little more than halfway between Chicago and St. Louis, so the Long Nines play teams from both areas as well as festivals in Wisconsin, Indiana, Arizona, Pennsylvania and Ohio. Our name is somewhat unique in that it is derived from a group of legislators, Abraham Lincoln and eight others, who in 1847 were lobbying to have the Illinois capital moved from Vandalia to Springfield. All nine legislators stood over 6 feet tall, so the local Springfield media dubbed them the “Long Nine.” As a result of the name being period in nature, with obvious base ball connotations, it seemed a perfect fit for our club.

**GREENFIELD VILLAGE NATIONALS BBC**
Dearborn, Michigan
The Nationals, founded in 2003 as the second vintage base ball club of Greenfield Village, are based on the Nationals of Parma, Michigan, one of 23 clubs that competed in the original 1867 World’s Base Ball Tournament in Detroit. Together with their brother club, the Lah-De-Dahs, they play ball weekly in the historic and gentlemanly fashion of their namesakes.

**COLUMBUS CAPITALS**
Columbus, Ohio
The Capital Base Ball Club is a team based on the original Capital Club, one of three base ball clubs formed in the spring of 1866 in downtown Columbus, Ohio. The Capital’s uniform — dark blue trousers and hat, blue-and-white checked shirt with white shield — is based on newspaper accounts of the uniforms worn by the original Capital Club. The Capitals take special pride in playing matches at Schiller Park in the German Village area of Columbus because the original Capital Club played on those very grounds in the 1860s.

**WALKER TAVERN WHEELS BBC**
Brooklyn, Michigan
The Walker Tavern Wheels Base Ball Club was created in 2008 and currently is engaged in its sixth season. The Wheels are a modern representation of numerous base ball clubs founded in Washtenaw, Lenawee and Jackson counties. The Wheels’ name pays homage to the Chicago Road (U.S. 13) and to the history interpreted at Walker Tavern. The green in the uniforms represents their home in the Irish Hills.

**ROCHESTER GRANGERS**
Rochester Hills, Michigan
The Rochester Grangers Vintage Base Ball Club was formed in 1999, re-creating a club that played in our community as early as 1875 as part of a merchants league. Home matches are played at the Rochester Hills Museum at Van Hoosen Farm, a nationally registered historic site. The club plays matches throughout the Midwest and has enjoyed the new friends they make every summer. For contact information, visit www.rochestergrangers.org.

**MONITOR BBC**
Chelsea, Michigan
The Monitor Base Ball Club of Chelsea, Michigan, is playing its fourth modern season, having resurrected the Monitor name from a Chelsea club active in 1867. At least three different Chelsea clubs formed in that time period, beginning with the Union club in 1861. The Monitors are an inclusive, community-minded club whose roster members’ ages span over 50 years. They play their home matches at Timber Town park in downtown Chelsea and follow the rules of 1860. They are thrilled to take part in the Greenfield Village World Tournament for the first time this year and hope to muster a stout effort. But every match for these gents is a truly enjoyable affair, win or lose!
COLUMBUS BUCKEYES BBC
Columbus, Ohio
The Columbus Buckeyes were Columbus, Ohio’s first professional base ball team. Although the team played in the International League in 1876, the uniforms represent the 1883 Columbus Buckeyes of the American Association and are historically accurate, according to newspaper clippings and photos of the time. The team was reborn in 2009 and consists of family and friends. The team also has the distinction of having three father-son teammates on the roster.

NORWOOD HIGHLANDERS
Norwood, Ohio
The Norwood Highlanders hail from Norwood, Ohio. The club closely follows the traditions and values of the time when base ball was developed as a means of entertainment and exercise. You can expect to see the highest standards of sportsmanship and gentlemanly behavior by everyone involved in our matches.

OREGON GANYMEDES BBC
Oregon, Illinois
The Ganymedes hail from the city of Oregon, located on the shores of the scenic Rock River 100 miles west of Chicago. The club’s name comes from Ganymede Spring, a local mineral water spring named by the famous Margaret Fuller when she visited Oregon in 1843. According to Greek mythology, Ganymede was the cupbearer to the gods on Mt. Olympus. The team’s gray-and-red uniforms were designed from an 1871 hometown newspaper description of the Oregon base ball club. The Ganymedes have been playing vintage rules base ball as an educational outreach program for Oregon’s Chana School Museum since 2005.

BAY CITY INDEPENDENTS BBC
Bay City, Michigan
The Bay City Independents Base Ball Club is a vintage club that was formed to play 19th-century base ball in the grandest of Bay City traditions. Bay City, Michigan, can date its base ball clubs to 1865, and it is the rules of that era that the Bay City Independents Base Ball Club chooses to re-create. The modern-day Independents patterned their scarlet-and-white uniforms after those of the 1863 club. Check out the club’s website: www.baycitybaseball.com.

REGULAR BBC
Mount Clemens, Michigan
The original Regular Base Ball Club of Mount Clemens was formed in the name of returning Civil War regular (versus volunteer) soldiers in the 1860s. Many post-Civil War club uniforms included a star on the cap and a red artillery stripe on the trousers. Also, firemen’s uniforms of this time included a shield-front shirt and heavy, hand-tooled leather belt. The ball club represents an 1860s working-class Northwestern club. Home matches are played at Kennedy Park in Eastpointe.

INDIANAPOLIS BLUES
Indianapolis, Indiana
The Indianapolis Blues joined the Vintage Base Ball Association in the 2002 season. The Blues play by the rules of base ball as accepted at the December 9, 1863, meeting of the National Association of Base Ball Players. Home matches are played on open fields in Woodmen Park and Craig Park in Greenwood (southern suburb of Indianapolis). Recent highlights include playing the Clodbusters in front of a crowd of approximately 2,400 in Richmond, Indiana, and playing on the grounds of the world-famous, historic West Baden Springs Hotel in West Baden, Indiana.

UNKNOWN BBC
Dearborn, Michigan
Little is known about this base ball club from the Detroit area. However, it is said that it is made up of players from other clubs, primarily the Lah-De-Dahs and Nationals, and takes its name from the first-place winner of the original 1867 World Tournament. We understand that the club, although nameless, consists of spirited and athletic ball players.

SAGINAW OLD GOLDS BBC
Saginaw, Michigan
The Saginaw Old Golds were reborn in 2007 by Richard Curry, Harold Campau and Thomas Mudd after they discovered the history of base ball in Saginaw in 1883-1884 as a part of the Northwestern League. The club was known as the Saginaw BBC but was nicknamed Old Golds because of its Vegas-gold collars. Every talented member of that original Old Golds team made it to the big leagues, including Hall of Fame pitcher John Clarkson.
World Tournament of Historic Base Ball in Greenfield Village
August 8 & 9, 2015

Division A
- HANEY REGION
  - Columbus Buckeyes BBC
  - 8 a.m. SATURDAY
  - Walnut Grove #1

- CHAMPION CLASS
  - Champions
  - 10:30 a.m. SATURDAY
  - Walnut Grove #1

- CHADWICK REGION
  - Norwood Highlanders BBC
  - 8 a.m. SATURDAY
  - Walnut Grove #1

Division B
- HANEY REGION
  - Lah-De-Dahs BBC
  - 9:30 a.m. SATURDAY
  - Walnut Grove #1

- CHAMPION CLASS
  - Lah-De-Dahs/Monitors
  - 12:30 p.m. SATURDAY
  - Hawthorn Glade

- CHADWICK REGION
  - Springfield Long Nine
  - 9:30 a.m. SATURDAY
  - Hawthorn Glade

Division C
- HANEY REGION
  - Canal Fulton Mules BBC
  - 1 p.m. SATURDAY
  - Walnut Grove #2

- CHAMPION CLASS
  - Buckeyes/Golds
  - 3:30 p.m. SATURDAY
  - Walnut Grove #1

- CHADWICK REGION
  - Rochester Grangers BBC
  - 11 a.m. SATURDAY
  - Hawthorn Glade

Division D
- HANEY REGION
  - Monitor BBC
  - 12:30 p.m. SATURDAY
  - Walnut Grove #1

- CHAMPION CLASS
  - Monitor BBC
  - 3:30 p.m. SATURDAY
  - Walnut Grove #1

- CHADWICK REGION
  - Springfield Long Nine
  - 11 a.m. SATURDAY
  - Hawthorn Glade

Division E
- HANEY REGION
  - Chambur Buckeyes BBC
  - 10:30 a.m. SATURDAY
  - Walnut Grove #1

- CHAMPION CLASS
  - Buckeyes/Golds
  - 3:30 p.m. SATURDAY
  - Walnut Grove #1

- CHADWICK REGION
  - Springfield Long Nine
  - 11 a.m. SATURDAY
  - Hawthorn Glade

Division F
- HANEY REGION
  - Eagles Old Dodgers BBC
  - 11 a.m. SATURDAY
  - Walnut Grove #1

- CHAMPION CLASS
  - Eagles Old Dodgers BBC
  - 3:30 p.m. SATURDAY
  - Walnut Grove #1

- CHADWICK REGION
  - Springfield Long Nine
  - 11 a.m. SATURDAY
  - Hawthorn Glade

Division G
- HANEY REGION
  - Walnut Grove #1
  - 2 p.m. SATURDAY
  - Walnut Grove #1

- CHAMPION CLASS
  - Walnut Grove #1
  - 2 p.m. SATURDAY
  - Walnut Grove #1

- CHADWICK REGION
  - Springfield Long Nine
  - 2 p.m. SATURDAY
  - Hawthorn Glade

Division H
- HANEY REGION
  - Canad Fulton Mules BBC
  - 11 a.m. SATURDAY
  - Walnut Grove #2

- CHAMPION CLASS
  - Buckeyes/Golds
  - 3:30 p.m. SATURDAY
  - Walnut Grove #1

- CHADWICK REGION
  - Springfield Long Nine
  - 11 a.m. SATURDAY
  - Hawthorn Glade

Division I
- HANEY REGION
  - Lah-De-Dahs BBC
  - 9:30 a.m. SATURDAY
  - Walnut Grove #1

- CHAMPION CLASS
  - Lah-De-Dahs/Monitors
  - 12:30 p.m. SATURDAY
  - Hawthorn Glade

- CHADWICK REGION
  - Springfield Long Nine
  - 9:30 a.m. SATURDAY
  - Hawthorn Glade

Division J
- HANEY REGION
  - Walnut Grove #2
  - 11 a.m. SATURDAY
  - Walnut Grove #2

- CHAMPION CLASS
  - Lah-De-Dahs/Monitors
  - 12:30 p.m. SATURDAY
  - Hawthorn Glade

- CHADWICK REGION
  - Springfield Long Nine
  - 11 a.m. SATURDAY
  - Hawthorn Glade

Division K
- HANEY REGION
  - Lah-De-Dahs BBC
  - 12:30 p.m. SATURDAY
  - Walnut Grove #1

- CHAMPION CLASS
  - Lah-De-Dahs/Monitors
  - 12:30 p.m. SATURDAY
  - Hawthorn Glade

- CHADWICK REGION
  - Springfield Long Nine
  - 12:30 p.m. SATURDAY
  - Hawthorn Glade

Division L
- HANEY REGION
  - Monitor BBC
  - 10:30 a.m. SUNDAY
  - Walnut Grove #1

- CHAMPION CLASS
  - Lah-De-Dahs/Monitors
  - 10:30 a.m. SUNDAY
  - Walnut Grove #1

- CHADWICK REGION
  - Springfield Long Nine
  - 10:30 a.m. SUNDAY
  - Hawthorn Glade

Division M
- HANEY REGION
  - Chambur Buckeyes BBC
  - 10:30 a.m. SUNDAY
  - Walnut Grove #1

- CHAMPION CLASS
  - Lah-De-Dahs/Monitors
  - 10:30 a.m. SUNDAY
  - Walnut Grove #1

- CHADWICK REGION
  - Springfield Long Nine
  - 10:30 a.m. SUNDAY
  - Hawthorn Glade

Division N
- HANEY REGION
  - Eagles Old Dodgers BBC
  - 10:30 a.m. SUNDAY
  - Walnut Grove #1

- CHAMPION CLASS
  - Lah-De-Dahs/Monitors
  - 10:30 a.m. SUNDAY
  - Walnut Grove #1

- CHADWICK REGION
  - Springfield Long Nine
  - 10:30 a.m. SUNDAY
  - Hawthorn Glade

Division O
- HANEY REGION
  - Walnut Grove #2
  - 9 a.m. SUNDAY
  - Walnut Grove #2

- CHAMPION CLASS
  - Lah-De-Dahs/Monitors
  - 9 a.m. SUNDAY
  - Walnut Grove #1

- CHADWICK REGION
  - Springfield Long Nine
  - 9 a.m. SUNDAY
  - Hawthorn Glade

Division P
- HANEY REGION
  - Lah-De-Dahs BBC
  - 10 a.m. SUNDAY
  - Walnut Grove #1

- CHAMPION CLASS
  - Lah-De-Dahs/Monitors
  - 10 a.m. SUNDAY
  - Walnut Grove #1

- CHADWICK REGION
  - Springfield Long Nine
  - 10 a.m. SUNDAY
  - Hawthorn Glade
Historic Base Ball-Related Sites
For more information and sources regarding historic base ball, please visit these sites:

- Vintage Base Ball Association • vbba.org
- 19th-Century Base Ball • 19cbaseball.com
- Base Ball Supplies & Equipment • vbbf.com/home.html
- Wooden Base Ball Bats • www.phoenixbats.com/index.html
- Period Base Ball Equipment • www.bulldogbatsonline.com
- Dodworth Saxhorn Band • www.dodworth.org/contact.html

Tune in CBS on Saturday mornings for our weekly half-hour news magazine filmed here at The Henry Ford. Each episode celebrates the inventor’s spirit, from historic scientific pioneers throughout past centuries to the forward-looking visionaries of today.