

CHICAGO BASEBALL MUSEUM

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Chicago Baseball Museum Has First Member On-Deck

Springfield Lobbyist Maureen Mulhall Signs on to Support Chicago Baseball Museum

(September 1, 2005) The fledgling Chicago Baseball Museum (CBM), still in its planning stages, announced its first individual membership has gone to Springfield lobbyist and baseball fan Maureen Mulhall. A long-time fan of the Chicago Cubs, Mulhall is interested in preserving the history and tradition of the game and the way Chicago fits into the national pastime.

“There is a rich history and tradition of baseball in Chicago and Dr. David Fletcher, the visionary behind the Chicago Baseball Museum, realizes that if someone doesn’t do something to honor that history and tradition, it may be lost. I applaud him for his efforts, and am happy to support the museum in every way I can.”

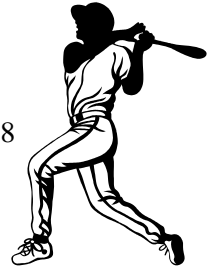
Mulhall got her first taste of baseball by watching the televised Cubs day games with a beloved uncle that lived next door. Now, more than 40 years later, Mulhall has many fond memories and recounts August 8, 1988, the first night game at Wrigley Field, as one of her favorites. “There was quite a bit of excitement and ceremony,” Mulhall recalls, “and when the lights came on to the theme from *2001: A Space Odyssey*, I had chills go through me.” Another indelible memory is of her chance encounter with Cubs legend Ron Santo at the Cubs Convention in 2003. Only a few weeks removed from his second leg amputation, Santo made a point of being accessible to fans.

In April of this year, Mulhall’s enthusiasm of all-things Cubs was front and center of her Springfield home. As Illinois’ state capital celebrated the opening of the Abraham Lincoln Presidential Museum and Library, Mulhall debuted a life-size cutout of Lincoln holding a Cubs banner in her front yard. “I wanted our northern visitors to know at least parts of Springfield are Cubs friendly.”

The Chicago Baseball Museum has been gaining support from former ball players and key members of the Illinois legislature, many of who serve on the museum’s advisory board. CBM Advisory Board members include Chicago White Sox legend Minnie Minoso and Negro League star Buck O’Neil, Billy Pierce, women players from the championship winning Rockford Peaches, as well as legislators including the Hon. Jesse White, Hon. Patrica Bellock, Hon. Robert Churchill, Hon. William Lipinski, Hon. William Marovitz, Hon. Dawn Clark Netsch, Hon. Terry Steczo and the Hon. Sara Fiegenholtz. Additional legislative support is provided by State Rep Ken Dunkin and State Rep Skip Saviano.

(more)

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(CBM MEMBERSHIPS, ADD ONE)

Spearheaded by Dr. David Fletcher, the Chicago Baseball Museum is a non-profit organization that is dedicated to preserving and honoring Chicago's rich history and contributions to the sport of baseball. The Chicago Baseball Museum will serve as a repository for artifacts and will collect, preserve, and document the game as well as serve as an educational and research facility. The Museum is actively looking at a variety of sites in Chicago's downtown area.

Those interested in supporting the Chicago Baseball Museum can contact Linda Williamson, Director of Operations and Development, lwilliamson@chicagobaseballmuseum.org The first 150 members of the Chicago Baseball Museum will be honored for their support and dedication with a founding members plaque to be displayed in the museum.

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