



Veeck Symposium Speakers

Here is the line-up of guest speakers at the Bill Veeck symposium, which the Chicago Baseball Museum will host on Thursday, Sept. 20:

Dr. Timuel D. Black: Born and raised in Chicago, the 94-year-old is an educator, community leader, oral historian, philosopher and political and social activist. Widely known as Black Thought, he is famous for his knowledge about any subject, particularly the Black Diaspora. The retired professor emeritus of social sciences of the City Colleges of Chicago has taught at several local high schools, colleges and universities. His book *Bridges of Memory: Chicago's First Wave of Great Migration* chronicles black Chicago history from the 1920s to the present.

Paul Dickson: He is the author of the biography *Bill Veeck: Baseball's Greatest Maverick*, which was released last spring. His more than 50 non-fiction books include *The Dickson Baseball Dictionary*, *The Unwritten Rules of Baseball*, *The Hidden Language of Baseball* and *The Joy of Keeping Score*. The Wesleyan University product is the recipient of the 2011 Tony Salin Memorial Award, which the Baseball Reliquary presents to individuals for their commitment to the preservation of baseball history. He lives in Garrett Park, Md.

Roland Hemond: The longtime major league executive spent 23 years as player personnel director, general manager and advisor in the White Sox organization, six with Veeck as team owner. The Phoenix resident is a three-time winner of the Executive of the Year Award. In 2011, he became the second recipient of the Buck O'Neil Award for his impact on the game. Currently, the Rhode Island native serves as Special Assistant to the President for the Arizona Diamondbacks.

Jerry Krause: The Bradley University graduate began his career as a scout in the NBA before he switched to baseball, which he played at Taft High School. Veeck brought him back to Chicago as White Sox chief scout, then he went on to become Chicago Bulls general manager. His teams captured six league championships, and he was selected Executive of the Year on two occasions. He is employed as a Diamondbacks special assistant.

Ron Rapoport: An award-winning sports columnist for the Chicago Sun-Times from 1977 to 1988 and again from 1998 to 2006, he wrote about Bill Veeck frequently. He was the sports commentator for National Public Radio's Weekend Edition Saturday for two decades and his books include collaborations with Chicago legends Eddie Einhorn and Tom Dreesen. He currently is editing an anthology of Chicago sports columnists from

Ring Lardner to the present. He resides in Los Angeles.

Eric Soderholm: The former third baseman experienced the best of his nine major league seasons in a Chicago uniform. Despite a knee injury that sidelined him for the 1976 campaign, Veeck and the White Sox pursued him as a free agent. He responded with a .280 batting average and career-high 25 home runs. He was selected American League Comeback Player of the Year. The New York native makes his home in Willowbrook, Ill., where he is the owner of Front Row Ticket Service.