CBM Symposium to Celebrate Veeck Legacy

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The Chicago Baseball Museum will host a public symposium in tribute of the Bill Veeck family on the anniversary of their transformation of Wrigley Field, changes that remain local trademarks decades later.

One Family, Two Teams: The Impact of the Veecks on Chicago Baseball will be held on Thursday, Sept. 20, at the Chicago History Museum. A limited number of tickets to the fundraiser are available at $150 each and can be purchased via mail or PayPal on this site. The Chicago Baseball Museum is a 501 (c)(3) charitable organization, and any contributions are eligible for tax deductions.

Guest speakers will include Dr. Timuel Black, Chicago historian, Paul Dickson, author of Bill Veeck: Baseball’s Greatest Maverick, Ron Rapoport, former Sun-Times columnist, Roland Hemond, former White Sox general manager, and Eric Soderholm, ex-White Sox third baseman. Filmmaker Tom Weinberg will present exclusive video of Bill Jr. as he talks about his late father.

The program will begin at 5:30 p.m. Drinks and hors d’oeuvres will be served. Contact event planner Taylar Proctor at 217-356-6150 for more information.

The event will take place 75 years after the ivy vines, bleachers and manually operated scoreboard made their Wrigley Field debuts in the final weeks of the 1937 season. Bill Jr. issued the directives as Cubs general manager in anticipation of a World Series appearance that would come one year later. He went on to serve two terms as White Sox owner, during which the team played in the Fall Classic for the first time in 40 years.
William Sr. was Cubs vice president then president for 15 years, and in that time, he made Ladies Day a weekly event on homestands. The team won two league pennants under his direction.

“The Veeck name remains relevant after all these years, and it will stay that way for as long as baseball is played,” said Dr. David Fletcher, Chicago Baseball Museum president. “It’s only fitting that we bring it to light on the anniversary of some its most famous and lasting achievements.”