

Hall of Fame Awards Presentation

July 24, 2021

Jane Forbes Clark

Good afternoon and welcome to the National Baseball Hall of Fame and Museum's Awards Presentation ceremony. We are so happy that you've joined us this afternoon to celebrate our five, 2020 and 2021 award winners from here, the internationally renowned Glimmerglass Opera Theatre in Cooperstown, New York. On stage with me are Ben Cafardo, representing his late father Nick, whose tireless reporting and discerning writing brought Red Sox baseball to millions of New Englanders and made him the winner of the 2020 BBWAA Career Excellence Award. He is joined by Dick Kaegel, the recipient of the 2021 BBWAA Career Excellence Award, who was the eyes and ears of Missouri baseball fans for six decades. Also joining Ben and Dick are the two Ford C. Frick Award winners. Ken Harrelson was the 2020 recipient of this award. Ken became a Chicago icon, while calling White Sox games for 34 years. The 2021 Ford C. Frick Award winner is Al Michaels, whose passionate, and authoritative voice was the nationwide soundtrack of the game for more than a decade. Also with us today is Lyn Montgomery, who is representing her late husband David, who received the 2020 National Baseball Hall of Fame and Museum's Buck O'Neil Lifetime Achievement Award after a five-decade career with the Philadelphia Phillies, including five years serving as the team's chairman. Also joining us on the stage today is Jeff Idelson, who was with the Hall of Fame for 25 years, serving 11 as president, before retiring in 2019, and who has returned as our interim president. And joining me in welcoming you today, the Commissioner of Major League Baseball, Rob Manfred. Rob was elected Major League Baseball's 10th Commissioner on August 14 2014, and having worked in baseball for 23 years, has great respect and passion for the game, its history and its future. Ladies and gentlemen, Commissioner Rob Manfred.

Robert Manfred Jr.

Thank you, Jane. Today, we pay tribute to those who connect generations of fans to our great game, with three prestigious awards. The Ford C. Frick Award for excellence in broadcasting, the BBWAA Career Excellence Award for writing, and the National Baseball Hall of Fame and Museum's Buck O'Neil Lifetime Achievement Award, which recognizes exceptional devotion to our sport. Broadcasters and writers give fans a window into our national pastime. They are in our homes, they teach the game to our fans, they bring life to the engaging personalities of the members of the baseball community. We appreciate the great tradition of the men and women who have told baseball stories, and helped build the foundation for our global game. On behalf of Major League Baseball, it is an honor to send my congratulations to the Cafardo family, as we fondly remember Nick's contributions to baseball writing for the fans of New England and beyond. Dick Kaegel, Ken "Hawk" Harrelson, and Al Michaels. Al, we're grateful that your outstanding sports broadcasting resume includes a significant career in baseball. This year's Buck O'Neil Award is particularly meaningful to me. The honor celebrates an individual who dedicated his life to the game, who enhanced baseball's positive impact on society, who broaden its appeal, and whose character and integrity are comparable to the great Buck O'Neil. It's a thrill to know that one of the best people I've known in baseball, my friend David Montgomery, joins the fraternity of Buck O'Neil Award winners. In closing, I'd like to extend my personal congratulations to all of the award winners that are recognized here today. And thank you, Jane.

Jane Forbes Clark

Thank you Rob. As we begin, I would like to call your attention to the video monitor for a presentation about the 2020 BBWAA Career Excellence Award winner, Nick Cafardo.

Jane Forbes Clark

I would like to invite Trent Rosecrans, president of the Baseball Writers' Association of America, who covers the Cincinnati Reds for The Athletic to tell us more about Nick Cafardo, and his illustrious career. I would also like to ask Ben Cafardo, Nick's son, who will accept the award on his behalf, his late father, to join Trent.

Trent Rosecrans

Nick Cafardo mastered baseball coverage in its purest form, with writing more from a devotion for the game and for fans of the Boston Red Sox. Cafardo became their link to Fenway Park and the players who call the ballpark home. Growing up in the Boston suburbs, Cafardo matriculated at Suffolk University in Boston before landing a job in the news department of The Enterprise of Buxton, Massachusetts. He followed his passion to the sports department of the Quincy Patriot Ledger and landed at the Boston Globe in 1989. As the Globe's baseball columnist, Cafardo was a fixture at Red Sox games home and away, bringing game stories to life while simultaneously producing the paper's Sunday Notes that had become a long standing fan favorite. As print turned to the new digital medium, Cafardo kept pace with boundless energy and thrive, satisfying his audience's needs for all things baseball. The author of four baseball books, Cafardo covered the Red Sox history-making World Series run in 2004 remaining on the beat through three more team titles over the next 14 seasons. Known for the devoted relationships he developed with the players and executives, and behind the scenes personnel throughout the industry, Cafardo earned the trust of sources who helped him break news and deliver information and insight across Major League Baseball. A beat writer in the style baseball's legendary scribes, dedicated to the game on the field, Cafardo authored Boston narrative that informed captivated generations of readers.

Ben Cafardo

Good afternoon. It's my family's deepest honor to accept the 2020 BBWAA Career Excellence Award on behalf of my late father, Nick Cafardo. On behalf of my mom Leanne and sister Emily, we'd like to extend our deepest gratitude to the Baseball Writers' Association of America, Jane Forbes Clark, and the National Baseball Hall of Fame and Museum, as well as Dan Shaughnessy, Michael Silverman, Pete Abraham and the entire Boston Writers chapter for their work to make today possible. Earning the respect of his colleagues and peers was paramount to dad. And this recognition, the most significant that any baseball writer can receive, would be a tremendous source of pride for him. Thank you. Congratulations to all those being honored today. Knowing my dad, he would have thanked every baseball player, manager, coach, umpire, scout, agent and executive that he had the privilege of covering across his 35 year career writing about baseball. Baseball, the greatest game, as he often said. Thank you to MLB Network, NESN, the Boston Red Sox, the rest of the thirty clubs, MLB, ESPN, to everyone for the outpouring of love and respect you showed my dad, and our family these last two and a half years. To the readers of The Boston Globe, viewers of NESN and MLB Network, and all baseball fans around the country, particularly in New England. He was one of you. And he felt a deep

sense of obligation to be there for you every day. Breaking news, documenting events and telling the story of the Boston Red Sox in the sport at large. Across nearly four full decades in journalism, he became a go-to voice in the Boston area for generations of baseball fans. People completely trusted what he wrote and said. This was a responsibility of utmost importance to him. When you read, watched or listened to him, you could rest assured that one he be researched and ready, and two he served the fans. Fellow baseball colleague Pete Abraham once said he was a baseball writer straight out of Central Casting. He loved the romance of the game, the way it connected generations. It mirrored so many crucial periods in American history. He loved the ebb and the flow of the season, and even the daily grind. But what he cherished most was developing relationships with people in and around the game. Well of course today is bittersweet, since this is his honor to accept. I can feel his presence here with us. Perhaps that's because of the countless hours of the countless trips, he took each year covering the game. His favorite was his annual Cooperstown trip to cover Hall of Fame Weekend. His close friends and terrific writers Bob Nightingale, Scott Miller, Kevin Curran and late long-time scout Gary Hughes stayed in the house up the street together for years. They were called the Cooperstown Crew. It was dad's favorite weekend each year. And now how fitting that he's here forever. Since his passing I've often been asked what made him successful for so long in an industry that is not always kind to longevity. To know that you have to know his story. His story was about family and baseball. Family was in his heart. Baseball was in his soul. He was raised in Hanson, Massachusetts exactly 30 miles southeast of Fenway Park by two hard working Italian immigrants his mom Madalina and dad Nicola. They called him Nicky. They worked multiple jobs in factories and sewing shop so Nikki and his brother Fred could have essentials. It was in that environment, during his upbringing where dad developed his well-documented work ethic. As Red Sox manager Alex Cora endeared when he passed, dad used to ride him and other managers about player off days. He simply didn't believe in them. His parents didn't take off days and neither did he. As a child he listened to the Red Sox games on local radio in the 1960s, eating grilled cheese sandwiches and playing catch. He often wax poetic about these youthful days, and that 1967 impossible dream team of the Red Sox. It was those days that solidified his love of baseball. His parents didn't speak English fluently and in turn, dad didn't learn how to speak or write English fluently until middle school. Once he learned to write the language around fifth or sixth grade, he knew instantly he wanted to write about baseball. It's all he ever wanted to do. He was a classic ball writer, he cut his teeth in what used to be considered the old fashioned way, by elevating through the local newspaper ranks, like the Brockton Enterprise and the Quincy Patriot Ledger. He would routinely bring stories to the point that it caught the attention of legendary Boston Globe sports editor Don Skwar. In 1989 Don made his first hire as sports editor, my dad. He always felt a deep connection to Don, as well as the great Joe Sullivan who would succeed him as sports editor. He appreciated all the editors, copy editors, among them current Globe editors Matt Pepin, Scott Thurston, Greg Lang and Jim Open. He appreciated all of you, as well as the Globe's skilled IT personnel who saved his butt, time and time again when he was on deadline. He wasn't the most technologically advanced. The Boston Globe, one of America's best sports pages ever. Actually I can hear my dad now editing out the phrase, "one of". The Globe has had a dream team of columnists, national writers, beat writers and editors. It's nearly impossible to overstate the Globe's impact on New England, and on the entire country. The local sports writer was a rock star and The Globe boasted what would literally become a Hall of Fame squad. He took great pride in being part of the starting lineup, alongside names like Wilmot Dunn, Dan Shaughnessy, Bob Ryan, Jackie MacMullan, Peter Gammons, Lee Michael, Kevin Paul DuPont and his friend and mentor the late great pioneer Larry Whiteside.

Perhaps apropos dad played a key role in helping ensure that Larry was on the ballot that ultimately led to his own posthumous recognition of the very same award. Dad was an Iron Man, as the saying goes, he was Sunday. Literally, he delivered his popular Sunday Notes column in the Globe every week for 15 consecutive years, never missing a week. He was laser focused on his column being valuable and took great pride in following some of the old timers who penned the column before him. Through his career, he always kept an easy way about easygoing way about him, even at the height of the seasons grind on those long baseball nights, he could be found busting chops, debating the best Italian restaurants or somehow just lightening the mood in the Fenway Park pressbox with his colleagues and pressbox staff members, like Kevin Dorsey. Despite the long days, West Coast road trips, and a toll that can take on family. He was always there. His priorities were in order. He was appreciative of his wife, my beautiful mom for running the show at home during all of those trips and for her unconditional love. And oftentimes as we were growing up, my sister we had such a special connection to and I were fortunate to attend these trips, traveling with my dad and mom all over the country, and making countless family memories. My dad met my mom on a basketball court. She preferred Nick to Nicky. And perhaps the ultimate blunder of his life he was so excited to propose to my mom that he couldn't wait for the scenic beach destination he had picked out and frantically pulled over in a parking lot to pop the question. Unbeknownst to him it was a Burger King parking lot. Quite the story. As he went from Nicky to Nick and then to dad and settled into his career thrive as both father and a writer. In the two and a half years since his passing. We've been so grateful to so many for the generosity of Johnny Miller, the support of Claire Smith, the friendship of Jeremy Castile and the Cooperstown group. We were comforted with Stan Grossfeld, a longtime friend and renowned Globe journalist was there by his side that fateful day in Fort Myers. Along with Dan and Pete and the wonderful Red Sox medical staff, thank you. In later years, the pride and joy, were his two beautiful grandchildren, Anabella and Noah who affectionately called him Grand. I think every baseball writer in the country knows who you are, because he showed off pictures of you both constantly. There was no sweeter joy in his life than the two of you, and you both have a good luck charm in Heaven. He authored five books covered 30 World Series 10 Super Bowls, world class boxing fights won awards, but none of that was crucial. He lived by the credence, it's nice to be important but it's more important to be nice. For him, it all came back to family and baseball. When one of his mentors, the late great Will McDonald passed away, he wrote in his Globe obituary the following passage. When you wander through the vestiges of your life. There are people you will always remember. Those who were kind to you. Those who said something or passed along some wisdom, that will stay with you forever. Those who always have your best interest at heart. He believed this deeply about Will, just like we all believed it about dad. Congratulations, dad. You did it, and you did it the right way. Thank you.

Jane Forbes Clark

Again, I would like to call your attention to the video monitor for a presentation about the 2021 BBWAA Career Excellence Award winner Dick Kaegel.

Jane Forbes Clark

I would like to invite Trent back to the podium to say a few words about Dick, and also invite Dick to join him.

Trent Rosecrans

From the banks of the Mississippi River to the Kansas plains, Dick Kaegel's six decade career covering every inch and every angle of baseball. And the journey that took them from the Cardinals beat the Royals press box with a stop in between the Sporting News, Kaegel covered some of the best baseball ever seen the show state, sharing with fans his literate passion for the national pastime. Kaegel started journalism in high school in Southwest Illinois before earning his degree from the University of Missouri. He worked his way to St. Louis in 1968 joining the St. Louis Post-Dispatch. Kaegel covered the Cardinals for the next 12 years, eventually earning the job Post Dispatch's executive sports editor. Eight months into that assignment, he became the managing editor of the St. Louis based Sporting News, a return to the publication for which Kaegel served as an associate editor from 1965 to 1968. In 1981 Kaegel became the editor of The Sporting News, a position he held until the summer of 1985. Assembling a top flight of stable of writers, he prioritized coverage of the national pastime. Kaegel's stint at TSN, marked the glory days of the Bible of baseball. In many ways, his readers waited impatiently for the Thursday bill and your weekly copy arrived. An age prior to digital media, and with ESPN just going to football on the cable TV landscape. The Sporting News delivered inside information to diehard fans, especially on the baseball team. Kaegel returned to the Post-Dispatch in 1985 before moving to the Kansas City Star to focus on the Royals in 1988. Staying with the paper until 2003. He finished his career covering the Royals at mlb.com and retired following the 2014 season. With a story-first outlook and unrelenting determination Kaegel sowed a love of the game, and millions of loyal readers and earn the everlasting respect of those companies.

Dick Kaegel

Thank you, Trent. Two of the most memorable experiences in my 50 years of our great game came here at the Baseball of Hall of Fame in Cooperstown. In 1999, we were here for George Brett's induction. We stopped by the Otesaga Hotel and heard the sound of music in the ballroom downstairs. Stan Musial was playing his harmonica for the enthralled crowd. Now if you ever saw Stan play Take Me Out to the Ballgame or Wabash Cannonball. You know how much he loved it. As we walked in, he stopped playing, and said, "Hey everybody! Here's Dick Kaegel, from St. Louis and Kansas City. How about that?" Then came that wonderful laugh and the next notes from his harmonica. For a kid who grew up across the Mississippi River idolizing Stan Musial and the Cardinals, that was a thrilling moment, a spontaneous introduction from Stan the Man. The second experience is right now, with the highest honor given by the Baseball Writers' Association of America. This too was totally unexpected because the other nominees. New York Press legend Marty Noble and Baseball America founder, Alan Simpson, were equally deserving. And to share the BBWAA Award with 2020 honoree Nick Cafardo is very special. Fellow baseball writers. Thank you for this great honor. I just tried to do my job, work hard, and respect others, especially the ballplayers I covered. You baseball writers are among the hardest working men and women in journalism. Your contributions to the game are enormous. And to the fans who read your stories, year after year, a huge thank you. Always by my side is my bride Betty. She has been my rock on this journey for the last 22 years. So Betty, my princess. I dedicate this award to you with all my love. And we are eternally grateful to the anonymous angel who 15 years ago, gave me the ultimate gift. The gift of life. By donating the liver for the transplant that I desperately needed. We are also thankful to our dear friends, Mike and Ileana Hosmer who recognized symptoms of heart trouble before a game just a few years ago, and insisted that I go to the hospital. When I thanked the operating surgeon for saving my life. He said no, your friends, the Hosmers saved your life. I just finished the job. Baseball Hall of Fame gave me the incredible experience of serving two terms on the Golden Era

Committee in the company of such Hall of Famers as Hank Aaron, Tommy Lasorda, Al Kaline, Ozzie Smith, and so many others. Our sincere appreciation to Jane Forbes Clark, and the Hall of Fame's efficient and gracious staff for your hospitality and warmth during this visit at baseball's home of history, and everlasting glory. In the summer of 1956 when I was 16 years old, my hometown newspaper's only full time sports writer left and the Belmont News Democrat needed a replacement quick. My high school journalism teacher was among those consulted and (she) mentioned the skinny kid with thick glasses, who loves sports and knew his way around the typewriter. I was hired for the summer. And for my senior year the News Democrat arranged for Belmont Township High School to let me work at the newspaper in the morning and attend class in the afternoon. Of course some nights I covered high school games and how my dear, wonderful parents, Ray and Peggy Kaegel managed to sleep while that portable typewriter was clacking out stories on the dining room table, I'll never know. But God bless you, Mom and Dad, for showing me how to work hard. You are always there for me and never let me down. And I know you're here with me today. My sports editor at The University of Missouri's daily newspaper in Columbia, Missouri is Jim Cramer, just one of many talented, editors, writing partners, copy editors, photographers, printers and artists who shaped my career for more than half a century. After journalism school paid jobs at the Columbia Daily Tribune and then the Granite City, Illinois Press Record. Now Granite City happened to be the hometown of Dal Maxvill. The Cardinals infielder replaced the injured Julian Javier at second base in the 1964 World Series against the Yankees. So my Major League Baseball coverage started right at the top. Four World Series games at old Sportsman's Park in St. Louis, as the Cardinals and Maxwell beat the Yankees. Those stories led to a job with the Sporting News in St. Louis. Among other things as a young writer in 1967 I wore a Baltimore Orioles uniform to spring training for a four part series about working out with guys like Frank Robinson, Brooks Robinson, and Jim Palmer on the team that had just swept the Dodgers in the World Series. Then under the St. Louis Post Dispatch the sports editor Bob Broeg assigned me to Cardinals games. Incoming Hall of Famer, Ted Simmons joined other featured inductees of those 1970s teams. Bob Gibson, Lou Brock and Joe Torre and the manager Red Schoendienst. During that time Rick Hummel joined the Post Dispatch staff. Rick won this award 15 years ago, and now is marking his 50th year at the Post-Dispatch, a half century of great (work). Thanks Rick and all who supported by nomination for this award, and especially to Kansas City BBWAA chairman, Jeff Passan for submitting my name to the committee. The Sporting News, brought me back as managing editor for five plus years, then came two years as a columnist for the St. Louis Globe Democrat, until that newspaper folded. But you know what, of all the things I had done, being a baseball beat writer was what I enjoyed most. Kansas City Star Editor Joe McGuff move across Missouri for 16 years of writing a bunch of dynamic Royals players Frank White, Mike Sweeney, Mark Gubizca, Jeff Montgomery, Bo Jackson, Bret Saberhagen. And of course, George Brett. In 2004 I moved to the same job with mlb.com. Although he never mentioned it I am certain that the revered late owner of the Royals, Mr. David Glass was instrumental in getting mlb.com to hire me. I'll never forget my last conversation with Mr. Glass. He told me Betty really did a great job of shaping you up. As usual, Mr. Glass was right. I thank the entire Glass family for their support. During those years players like Carlos Beltran, Salvador Perez, Eric Hosmer, Alcides Escobar, Jorge Lopez, Jorge Soler, Adalberto Mondesi, and God rest his soul, Yordano Ventura became family and friends. And I ended up with 27 years of covering Royals, ending with retirement after the 2014 World Series. Exactly 50 years after my first series in 1964, Along with my fellow BBWAA members I covered a lot of baseball history, ranging from the famous World Series home runs of Carlton Fisk and Kirk Gibson, to the devastating San Francisco earthquake. But when you leave the everyday life of

baseball, it's really the people in the game that you miss and remember. Not only the men on the field, but the team's hard working behind the scenes staff. And the guys and gals who welcome you to the stadium a friendly greeting every day. All of you folks always contributed to every story I wrote. Because you made this honor possible. So please, let me share it with each and every one of you. Baseball truly is a family. And it is a great one. Thank you.

Jane Forbes Clark

I now call your attention back to the video monitor for a presentation about the 2020 Ford C. Frick Award winner Ken Harrelson.

Jane Forbes Clark

Ken Harrelson began his journey with our national pastime as a talented outfielder and first baseman. Debuting in the big leagues in 1963 with the Kansas City Athletics. With the end of his playing career hastened by a broken leg in 1970, and after a stint as a professional golfer, Harrelson turned to broadcasting. He'd call games for the Red Sox on television from 1975 to 1981. Before joining the White Sox broadcast team in 1982, where he earned a reputation as one of the game's most knowledgeable announcers. The White Sox hired Ken as their general manager, following the 1985 season, and he returned to the broadcast booth in 1987 for two years with the New York Yankees television crew. Ken returned to the White Sox in 1991 and broadcast through the 2018 season, rooting for the Southsiders with an enthusiasm that fed a generation of fans during four division winning seasons, and the 2005 World Series. A five time Emmy award winner, Ken brought the White Sox to life for 33 seasons. Ladies and gentlemen, your 2020 Ford C. Frick Award winner, Ken Harrelson.

Ken Harrelson

Thank you, Jane and thanks for all the great people here at the Hall of Fame and thanks for the tremendous accommodation that you provided and hospitality, but I gotta ask Joe Torre something. I gotta ask Joe Torre a question. How in the world did you ever lead the National League in hitting when you ran like Gus Triandos. Joe was not fleet of foot. But you know baseball is a game of memories and heroes and I have my hero. The man was Mickey Mantle. When I was a kid, The Yankees played an exhibition game against Cincinnati. I told my mom and dad let me skip school. So the Yankees after the game came out, they still were in uniform and I was going to the buses to go back to the train to go north, and I walked up to Mickey and I said, Mickey, Mickey, can you send an autograph please. So he didn't say anything, he just looked at me and kept walking. Mickey, Mickey can you sign my autograph please. He goes: "Beat it kid." And we became very good friends. Vin Scully was a play by play guy who told stories, and he wrote and Hawk Harrelson was a storyteller who did play by play. In my 43 years of broadcasting I had 14 different partners. The first one being Don Drysdale, who I thought was the greatest baseball announcer that I have ever heard, he could articulate the game. And I'll tell you, I learned so much from him, and I learned a lot as a player, growing up, from Ted Williams. But I want to tell you about my heroes. And there's one sitting right here, beautiful boy, would you stand up for a second. And that whole section right there is my family. Come over. And one man sitting out there that I love. And he's a man's man, people don't understand that I think he's the greatest owner in sports, that of course is Jerry Reinsdorf. Jerry stand up and let them see please the owner of teams that won seven World Championships, six for the Bulls, one by the White Sox, and he's not done yet. The club he has put together right now is fine and you've created what is a family atmosphere. I mean, it was like a

family for the most part all years I was there. I had a great career I've been blessed. I was a great athlete. And I had some great help in the booth, and I'm in this right now so we came up with a poem. This is my favorite toast. I gave this at Arnold Palmer's 80th birthday and after it was over he hugged me and said, 'Thank you, Hawk.' And the toast is, 'When you take a man's money, you take a man's money. But when you've take a man's time, you take a part of his life.' And I want to thank you all for taking eight decades of your time.

Jane Forbes Clark

I'd like to call your attention back to the video monitor for a presentation about the 2021 Ford C. Frick Award winner, Al Michaels.

Jane Forbes Clark

Al, if you would join us at the podium. Al Michaels began his work on the national stage at the zenith of the three major television networks, reach for baseball fans in 1970s, and 80s his calls became as much a part of the national pastime, as the games themselves. Al ascended to prominence as the voice of ABC's baseball coverage in those two decades. In an era when cable television was in its early days and the Internet was merely a dream. He became the face of ABC Sports with his straight ahead delivery, and passion for the athletes, and for their stories. In 1971, Al joined the Cincinnati Reds broadcast group remaining for three seasons before moving to the San Francisco Giants, where he called games from 1974 to 1976. He was hired by ABC Sports in 1976, working the National League Championship Series, and then taking a full time post with ABC in 1977. From there, Al quickly established himself is a versatile voice, capable of outstanding work while overseeing most any field of play, but it was baseball, where his voice resounded the best with ABC and NBC, sharing the Major League Baseball television contract. Al called World Series, and All Star games during the decade of the 80s. Ladies and gentlemen, Al Michaels.

Al Michaels

You don't have any idea. I was a kid with a head of hair that looks like a Brillo pad, and you have no idea what it cost me to straighten that hair for the 1972 World Series. I was in that chair for about an hour and a half. I can only think that I got lucky enough to grow with a rabbit's foot in my pocket. I was one of those kids who grew up in Brooklyn, in Flatbush, and my father and I could walk to Ebbets Field and my dad was a tremendous force fan was my best friend. And we want to feel that was probably five or six, went to a Dodger Cardinals game on a Saturday afternoon, and I remember walking in is the first thing I remember in life. And I walked in and the grass was so green. And the signage on the walls are so spectacular. I saw Jackie Robinson. Second base. Which is when Vin Scully would say, the Dodger uniforms were wedding cake white, and I remember thinking, I want to be here every day. How great would it be to be here every single day. And we sat in the second deck. Behind the Open Broadcast room, which was made in those years by Red Barber. Maybe live in a county district there was a pretty good announcer in his own right really good. And a young guy named Vin Scully. So as a child. I heard Vinny and I heard Vinny all 67 years. And he was as big an influence on my career as anybody. So as a kid in Brooklyn. Of course I am destroyed in 1958, when the Dodgers are going to move to Los Angeles. So what happens, my father comes home one night and says he got transferred in his work. We're moving to Los Angeles. So out we go I didn't miss a beat. I've got my Dodgers, I got Snider, I got Gil Hodges, Sandy Koufax, ready to ascend Don Drysdale the whole thing. And I knew I wanted to

become a sportscaster in particular baseball, build around base was my dad and I look for colleges that had at that time, radio stations where kids could get experience broadcasting the college games. Now every school has it. Then very few schools had it. So we looked at USC, which had one that I wanted to go away to school so we looked at Arizona State. And I went down there and met with the, the counselor when I was a senior in high school yeah you know come down maybe get a chance to do some games. I enrolled there in 1962. And I'm standing in a long line long registration line talking to the guy in front of me. We talked for half an hour. He's there on a baseball scholarship. He was from Ohio. I tell him what my dream is he tells me what his dream is. It was Sal Bando would go on to have a pretty good career. The next year, along comes, Rick Monday, who would wind up being the number one pick in the first amateur draft, and then the following year, a player I think you may have heard of, Reggie Jackson, shows up at school. So I've got these guys I've got Bobby Winkles who is the coach know managers and colleagues are coaches with Bobby would go on to manage the Angels and the A's. So that was the formative years for me. Getting to 200 baseball games on a campus station that could not be heard outside of maybe a 50 foot radius of the boiler room in a women's dorm. But there I was doing these games, provided for me reel to reel tape, which I was able to send to a number of teams minors and majors around the country. When I got out of Arizona State I didn't get very many responses. One great response I got, I wrote to a lot of announcers to was by Ernie Harwell, who I now join in in this pantheon of broadcasters, and he was very encouraging and wrote a long handwritten letter I'll never forget that as long as, obviously got to know Bernie before, before he passed, but I went over to Hawaii, because my father in law had a business in Hawaii, and he said: Come on over here I know some people is a team over here. So I get on the plane and go over to Hawaii, and I wind up getting introduced to a man by the name of Jack Quinn, who was running the Hawaii Islanders of the Pacific Coast League at that time. At that, in 68 they were the Triple A affiliate of the Chicago White Sox and go into his office and his father had been the general manager of the Braves both in Boston and in Milwaukee, and Philadelphia and his brother Bob Quinn longtime baseball executive longtime General Manager. So Jack Quinn is the man who wish me luck as I left the meeting, he has a couple of guys that are announcing the game but we will stay in touch. On the eve of the season, his primary play by play man is in the reserves and his unit gets called up, and I get a call, can you come over here and do a few games. I don't know how many, I don't know when this guy is going to come back and how often he can be here. Of course I was on the next plane. Scared to death. Going to Hawaii and going to announce some baseball games. We're going to get paid for it. And remember thinking on that plane just sound like Vin, just, just emulate Vinny. When you get on the air so we go over there, wind up on the air in 1968, 69 and 70. In 69 and 70 we become the Angels farm club, the manager is Chuck Tanner. The farm director for the Angels is Roland Hemond and I got to meet so many players who would pit to the majors as I would in the 70s, our big rival was the Spokane Indians, and they were the Dodgers top farm club. And in 1970 they had Steve Garvey, Bill Buckner. Bill Russell, Davey Lopes, Bobby Valentine, and managed by Tommy Lasorda. Hall of Famer Tommy Lasorda. He sort of takes credit for discovering me. Tommy loved to tell the story. I wasn't going to stop him. There was a little bit of embellishment to Tommy after every game and when teams would come to Hawaii because travel, they wouldn't come over for three games they come over for seven games, so they'd be there all week and you got to know them in Spokane. So Lasorda says after every game he would call Al Campanis who was in the Dodgers General Manager, and report: Here's what Valentine did tonight. Here's what Buckner did tonight the pitching this, this and that. There's a kid over here named Al Michaels and he's doing the games on the radio and just, you might want to just follow him. This kid is really good. So

Campanis goes on with a conversation that is Tommy puts it, Campanis says hey Tommy, This kid you talking about this Michaels kid. How do you know he's any good? Lasorda says I've been thrown out of the last four games down in the clubhouse listening to him. Now, the embellishment was he was only thrown out of three out of four. So Tommy was there listening to me, loves to tell that story, and it's true in so many ways, it. And of course we stay great pals, through all through all of the years. The Hawaii thing was so was great because the team was not only really good, but we lead the minors in attendance, we had over 450,000 people in 1970, Chuck Tanner is now going to go manage of White Sox, he gets the job at the end of the 1970 season for 71. Roland Hemond is going to be the general manager, and they're going to take me to Chicago. We're going to go there and we're going to talk to the owner of that man's name was John Allyn, one of your predecessors Jerry, and John heard the tape and told Roland and Chuck, you know, it's the number two market in the country, this kid is like 25-26 years old. Too dangerous. Okay, they pass on me. Two weeks later I get a call from the Cincinnati Reds come in for an interview, and audition, I go to Cincinnati they had won the pennant in 1970, and I get the job on the announcer for the Big Red Machine. 71 wasn't a very good year 72 was a fabulous year, win the pennant and in those years on NBC if your team won the pennant. you got to announce the World Series which you saw on tape on NBC. I'm 27, come out with Curt Gowdy he had that red jacket and I got my hair was slicked down. And as the camera's pulling back, it's gonna be a two shot and the curtain opens it up. The only thing I could think of was, please God, when I open my mouth, let some air come out. It was that kind of a moment, but once I got going away we go. It turns out to be a seven game World Series. In the following year we win the division, but it came time to leave. The San Francisco Giants tripled my salary. Real simple. So I'm leaving the Big Red Machine, who of course would go on to win to more World Series won the classic with the Red Sox. The other is a more of a franchise that almost leaves for Toronto before the Blue Jays got their expansion franchise and Horace Stoneham was out of money. And the team had to be saved by Bob Lurie, who bought the team with a partner in 1976, for a total of \$8 million. So, that was San Francisco. Three years there was fun, because Candlestick Park was like doing games in a mausoleum. But that led to ABC hiring me to do the number two game on Monday Night Baseball, which was a package that began there in 1976. They put me on the second game my partners were Norm Cash, and the just retired Hall of Famer Bob Gibson. And off we went for 14 years. On Monday Night Baseball, and the Hawk talked about Don Drysdale, some many games with Don through the years. Then I had Earl Weaver, and for the retired, Earl comes to the booth. But I never enjoyed a three man booth more than with Jim Palmer and Tim McCarver, of course Tim is one of the broadcasters in the Hall of Fame. Jim is known for his pitching excellence, and he could be in the Hall of Fame as a broadcaster as well. Howard Cosell was also a party to about, oh, I'd say 70 to 80 games that I did. And one night. My fondest memory of that would be involves Bobby Uecker. So Uecker, Cosell, and I, doing a game in Houston, and Howard would always denigrate baseball. It's such a simple game, they make it so strong. It's a child's game right, that's sort of an attitude. So Howard's calling for a situation where if the manager wanted to get fired on the spot. And it's one of those things where, when somebody really doesn't know too much about baseball and they're always going for a buck, you know, they don't know baseball. So I looked over at Bob and Bob is now he's got to get the audience out of the fact that they think about funding here and Uecker says: Well Howard you know they probably wouldn't mind So now Cosell's gonna play with Uecker. And he says, I'm kidding. I get your point. You don't have to be so truculent. You do know what truculent means don't you? And without hesitation, Uecker says how of course, if you had a truck and I borrowed it, it would be a truculent. Anyway, those were good times. Those were fun times, but they

won't happen again. After the 1989 season, the earthquake World Series, CBS had gotten the contract. And we were out, and it was heartbreaking to be at that baseball, you know from the get go now 14 years on Monday night, World Series, the whole thing, lost our games playoffs. Wonderful primetime games, we're done. We're done. I didn't know if I would ever get back but we did we came back in 94 and 95 for something called the Baseball Network which was pretty cool to see but there were a number of regional games, but it did get me to, to one more World Series in 1995 Cleveland against Atlanta. After the 94 season, there was no postseason because of the strike. And so, NBC and ABC were sharing it so we got to do games 1, 4, 5 and if there was a seventh we would do that, and NBC did two three and six. So we do five in Cleveland. I don't know where the contract is going. But in game six I'm watching on television praying the Cleveland wins to send it to a seven game, of course, Tom Glavine pitched a shutout. Dave Justice, it's a home run Atlanta wins and we're done. But I knew I was done, the minute there was a shot of Bud Selig sitting with Dick Ebersol and NBC, and I said, We're screwed. This is all over, and it was. So, this is kind of the end of my baseball career in 1995. And thank God you know I've had all these other great things that happen as you say, go back to the rabbit's foot and doing Prime Time to the NFL all these years and all the other things that have happened. But you know when I think back to, you know how much I missed baseball. And so much of it revolved around baseball, worked with a number of you know fantastic people I'd like to thank Bob Costas on top of a top of the list right now because Bob was I think very instrumental and even though I hadn't done a game in a quarter century. I said a lot of the things that I said through the years that people went wow that's great, fantastic information and all of that was the guy was talking in my ear. A lot of the time, his name is Steve Hirdt. Steve is here, and Steve and I worked together on three sports for 30 years, never met a more competent complete man in my life. He would tell me something, you could go to the bank, go to the bank. I don't want to say Steve never made a mistake in 30 years, but Steve never made a mistake in 30 years. Most important, and finally, this doesn't happen without family. And in the 10th grade, when I moved to Los Angeles, meet a girl, or friend. That was a friend for about four years and then the friendship, sort of evolved into something a little bit more than friendship. And I was going to Arizona State, she was going to school in Los Angeles but when I would come into town. I would say hey you want to go play hockey game something whatever it was, whatever the sport was. And on a number of occasions that will take you to the actual stadium which just recently opened up. And the Dodgers and the Angels were sharing Dodger Stadium between 1960 to 1965. So we would go into the upper deck. And I would take that tape recorder and I would practice doing baseball at the upper deck at Dodger Stadium and she sat with me. Where we then proceeded to the point where I have to go to her father and ask for her hand, and he wasn't a very big sports fan, but he said: How do you intend to support my daughter? I said I would like to be a sportscaster. His idea of sports caster was the guy who said, Thank you for coming, and drive carefully on the way home. And I said no that's not quite what it is, but he turned out to be my biggest booster and biggest fan. And all I can tell you is that when you do this for a living, and you're on the road a lot, and you raise two children. Stephen and Jennifer who I just adore could love them anymore, but 93 percent of it was Linda Michaels, and I'll take, you know, the 7 percent would you say the Linda Michaels, the love, nothing greater than sharing all of this, all of it, she was there for every moment of it. Anyway, just in closing, somebody said to me recently. People know you know me from a hockey game for primetime football on the NFL for years. And from a slow speed Bronco chase in 1994 when I actually did narrate. Our callings driving OJ Simpson up the freeway. So, if that's my calling card so be it. But none of this would

have happened without my first love baseball. So for somebody who hasn't done a game in a quarter of a century...Getting it the Cooperstown. It's really cool. Thank you.

Jane Forbes Clark

In 2008, the Hall of Fame's Board of Directors, established the prestigious Buck O'Neil Lifetime Achievement Award. The award is presented to an individual for extraordinary efforts to enhance baseball's positive impact on society. The award is presented at the discretion of the Board of Directors, though not more frequently than once every three years. Many of you have seen the life size statue of Buck O'Neil at the Hall of Fame on the museum's first floor. It and the plaque behind it, serve as the home for this lifetime achievement award. Buck, Roland Amos, Joe Garagiola and Rachel Robinson, were the award's first four recipients, and joining them today is David Montgomery. To fully appreciate the breadth and depth of his career. I would like to call your attention to the video monitor.

Jane Forbes Clark

I would like to invite Commissioner Manfred, to talk about David Montgomery, and Lyn Montgomery is representing her late husband, to please join us at the podium.

Robert Manfred Jr.

Good afternoon again. At the outset, I'd like to acknowledge the members. The members of Dave's family who are here with us today. In addition to Dave's wife Lyn, their son Sam, his wife Leslie and her daughter Elizabeth. David and Lyn's daughter, Susan, her husband Sam, and their two sons. There was only one thing more important in Dave's life in baseball, and that was all of you. I'd also like to recognize the many members of the Phillies family who are here with us today, John Lehman Middleton, the owner of the Phillies. Andy and Lark MacPhail, Mike and Leslie Styles, Shari Clothier, Richard, and Nina Dietz, Jack and Adele McDonald, David and Nancy Buck, and John Webber and I apologize in advance if I missed anyone. Every once in a while, there is an issue, or idea that unites the diverse constituencies that made up the great game of baseball. Owners executives players fans. The recognition of David Montgomery, with the Buck O'Neil Lifetime Achievement Award was one of those issues. But love is a word that implies a superlative, and David Montgomery was truly beloved throughout our game. Dave was a true baseball man, a man who loved the game and quite literally devoted his professional life to it. After he graduated from Wharton, he accepted an entry level sales job with the Phillies. He remained an employee of affiliates for the rest of his life. In today's world, his unwavering loyalty to a single organization is almost unprecedented. Dave rose quickly through the ranks of the Phillies organization, eventually becoming the president, Chairman and securing an ownership stake. As the longtime leader of the Phillies, Dave developed a culture that was truly like family and emphasizing continuity and devotion to a common goal of excellence on and off the field. Under Dave's leadership the Phillies fielded some great teams, including the worst to first Phillies in 1993. The crowning achievements of course, were the Phillies first ever World Series in 1980, and a repeat of that achievement in 2008. Dave was a true competitor, he relished these victories, and he revered the players that made those victories possible. David's influence of the game went far beyond the Phillies. For more than two decades, Dave played a pivotal role in virtually every major league baseball initiative, devoted countless hours to industry matters. He was the chairman of Major League Baseball Properties for over a decade. He served on the committee that push revenue sharing forward in 1992 and 1993. He served on the 1994 labor negotiating committee, the Major League Baseball

Executive Council, and the search committee that led to my election. He was a friend and confidant, not only for me but for my predecessor Commissioner Selig. I can go on about Dave's career accomplishments for much longer. Rather than doing that, I hope you will indulge me while I mention a few of Dave's personal characteristics. Maybe idiosyncrasies, is a better word. I found them interior when he was with us, and they remind me of him now that he's gone. I hope this list will evoke special memories for some of you. And for those of you who did not know Dave, I hope they will give you some sense of his personal charm. First his perfectly sharpened pencils. Today, you just don't see people write, let alone write with pencils. Dave always had a supply of perfectly sharpened pencils, and he took the most detailed notes, he didn't write cursive we he actually printed with a precision that was like a typewriter. Dave was meticulous in many things and his notes, were just one example. Seconds his book of scorecards. Dave rarely if ever missed the Phillies game and for each year, he had a spiral bound book of scorecards that he kept for each game. I always admired Dave's focus while he was watching a game, and I think his attention to each detail that was carefully recorded on the scorecard was a reflection of his devotion to and love for the great game of baseball. Three, the chipper. This is the golf section of the program. Unlike most people, Dave didn't chip with a wedge. Instead, who had this infomercial looking club that was half putter and half wedge. Truth be told, Dave missed a lot of greens. But he'd pull out this damn chipper and put it close to the hole every time. Dave was an amazing competitor who never quit and I think that chipper as his partner in crime stealing holes from opponents. Four would be the Phillie Phanatic. My wife Colleen and I were really actually very honored to be invited to the wedding of David and Lyn's daughter, Susan. It was a beautiful wedding with one unique feature and appearance by the Phillie Phanatic at the reception. I'm sure Susan was in on this decision because it was after all her wedding. But to me the presence of the Phanatic was a symbol of the fact that for all of his accomplishments his great accomplishments in the game. Dave was at core, a fan. The life of Dave Montgomery was full of accomplishments, both for the Phillies and for Major League Baseball, but perhaps his most important legacy is the countless people who were touched by his understanding of and his appreciation for the fact that it is a privilege to be associated with baseball. Dave is truly deserving of the Buck O'Neil Lifetime Achievement Award that's bestowed on him today. I know everyone who was fortunate enough to be part of his life, are forever grateful for the special example that Dave set for all of us. Thank you.

Lyn Montgomery

I'm incredibly honored to be here in Cooperstown on this very special day, to accept the Buck O'Neil Lifetime Achievement Award on behalf of my late husband, David. People were often refer to a special twinkle that David had in his eye as he would talk about his beloved game of baseball. And I have no doubt that twinkle would be particularly great if you were here today. I'd like to thank Jane Forbes Clark and her wonderful staff for all the care and support they have shown me. Since the announcement was made in March of 2020. And I would also like to thank the Board of Directors who selected David for this incredible honor. While I would give anything to have David here to deliver his own speech. The silver lining is that it gives me the opportunity to talk about him for a few minutes. If he were here, his entire speech would have been would be about everyone else but him. Those of us who knew him, were aware he never wanted to be the center of attention, even on the most deserving of occasions, like today. David grew up in a home filled with humility and love. His mother was a schoolteacher and his father was an accountant, and also a minister. They were both kind, hardworking people. And they were devoted to their own child. With the help of a small amount of money from his grandfather, they

sent David to the William Penn Charter School. The oldest Quaker school in the world. He attended the University of Pennsylvania, another Quaker institution where he earned a degree in history, and then graduated from Penn's Wharton school. Philadelphia was founded on Quaker values, and this is known as the City of Brotherly Love. And those same values deeply influenced David throughout his life. The Guiding Principles for Quaker are simplicity, peace, integrity, community, equality, and a stewardship. It is quite remarkable that those same qualities are what make individuals worthy of consideration for the Buck O'Neil Lifetime Achievement Award. It is as if his life has come full circle. As I stand here today, to accept this award for him. Simplicity was at the core of who David was, and how he approach life. He never expected nor wanted special treatment. He didn't have a successful career due to a desire for material goods. He didn't drive a flashy car or wear designer clothes, they simply were not important to him. He loved his job for the people he interacted with the smiles that brought to the faces of all ages, and the ability to impact the lives of others less fortunate than he was. He was energized by interaction with others, and was never too tired to talk to someone, even after a 16-hour long workday. People sought his advice on all kinds of matters, as they trusted his values and wisdom. He had an excellent recall of people's names and stayed in touch with friends both old and new. One thing that wasn't simple about David was his mind, which was superb. He remembered all kinds of dates, numbers, and conversations or meetings he had attended decades ago. He also remember the see locations of several fans for many years. Some might say was a little compulsive about certain things. He kept score of, every game, both home and away in ink, and in his personal score book, which was meticulous. He also kept a precise score card on the golf course. Rob, you would know this. Tracking everyone's score, how many strokes they got, how many there were up, and usually what clubs he had used on every hole. As busy as David was he usually somehow managed to have an aura of peace around him. He was comfortable with who he was. He was easy and fun to be with, and had a disarming charm about him. That was calming and enjoyable to be around. Although he was frequently late for meetings when he did arrive he would calmly take out his yellow pad, sharpened pencils and Uniball pens, and focus on the situation. He was interested in what others had to say and encouraged all to participate. When it was time to conclude, a decision was usually made based on plenty of input. He believed the best outcome of any meeting or discussion was when all parties walked away feeling they have gain something. In other words, reached a peaceful compromise. There were at least two exceptions to this general rule, however, the first occurring, particularly for those who had to deal with him, when there was a decision that needed to be made that pertained to the weather on a good night. He hated to disappoint the fans. I'm not sure what his coworkers feared more the potentially damaging heavy rain and wind gusts, or the wrath of David, if the wrong decision was made about whether to play a game during inclement weather. The other was except the other exception was, if anyone moved his papers in an effort to organize his office. This was attempted once or twice, and the reaction was memorable, and terrifying. He had his own system and wanted no help from anyone else. Integrity is what set David apart from others. As Bud Selig said during an interview with The New York Times in 2008. He always does what he believes is best for the game. David committed his life to one of honesty, fairness, and kindness at an early age. Friends and co workers shared all kinds of problems with him, knowing that he would keep the conversation to himself. There are many reasons why he will always be remembered fondly. But honesty and integrity would probably be two of the most important qualities he would like to be remembered for. He will also be remembered for his wonderful sense of humor. He could poke fun at him himself, and to widen and teasing others, particularly on the golf course. I believe that he was invited to serve on many baseball committees over the years because he

was dependable, intelligent, and fair to every team, whether it was a big market or a small market team. David's commitment to the community was one that began early in his career when he found the time to coach several college and high school teams. The charity component was instilled many years ago by Nancy and Bill Giles when Philly set up to help the ALS chapter in Philadelphia. The Phillies charities board grew out of that effort, so that in addition to the ALS Association, many other worthwhile needs in the community were addressed. Decades later, with hundreds of charity events on his calendar, sometimes two or three in one day, you would still see that twinkling in his eye when he was giving back. He also supported many flare events, not just with his attendance but also by actively participating in their events. He personally served on the boards of many nonprofit organizations in the area, lending his name person expertise and was happy to do so. Equality was another one of the bags that was rooted in his upbringing. There's a simple phrase that his mother repeated to him often coming from a young age on. Treating people the way you want to be treated yourself. He lived that mantra by making everyone who worked for the Phillies feel as though they were part of a family, whether it was an intern or the longest tenured employee, he genuinely cared about what was going on in their personal lives, and took the time to make sure they knew it. He also made sure they knew not to call him Mr. Montgomery, it was David, and he kept an open door whenever possible, letting it be known that he was accessible. The word stewardship today it's come to represent leadership. Without pretense he tried to be the best example it could be to all his associates. He worked his way up through the organization learned about as many departments as he could, like the team on the field, he realized that all the players with front office also had to work well together to create a winning environment, and a great place to work. He was completely honest and dependable, because his approval was important to many, he was able to encourage those around him to put forth their best effort. As we all know personnel changes sometimes have to be made in any business. When David had to let someone go he delivered the message himself, and gave the person, the best advice he had offering to help however he could. If the meeting didn't go well, he was troubled by it, and usually not at peace until another conversation had taken place. And there was a better understanding and acceptance of what change had been made. On the other hand he never discouraged an employee from accepting another work position with another team, even if it was a loss to the Phillies organization. And if they were offered and accepted the new job. They had his full blessing, and he encouraged them to call to catch up, or ask for advice any time. A few of those employees continue to be among his closest friends until he died. David believed in setting an even tone of voice as president, whether the team was on a winning or losing streak. He would remind everyone that it was a long season with lots of ups and downs. He was the cheerleader when the team was in a slump and was quietly thrilled when they were on a winning streak. Even in his illness when he was diagnosed with throat cancer in 2014. I asked him if he was angry, or discouraged. He said he was neither as a true leader he viewed it as a challenge. From that day on, he felt compelled to do more. He worked even while when enduring difficult treatments and increasing pain. As you continue to live life as normally as he could. Since his death, I have heard that Phillies employees find themselves living with a WWDD mindset of What Would David Do outlook. What a wonderful legacy. I would be remiss if I didn't take a page of David's book and shine a spotlight on others. If he were here today he would thank his parents, his teachers, and coaches, his numerous beloved friends, and above all he would express his gratitude for his children and grandchildren, who brought him such happiness. He would also thank the many co workers and friends of the Phillies, who supported him in creating a caring and winning team, both on and off the field. They made it a joy for him to go to work every day. Eight months before David's death, the Phillies renamed

the club's most esteemed Award, and the Ashburn Award became the Ashburn Montgomery Award. At that time he told employees in an email that there could be no greater honor than to be associated with an Award that recognizes the dedication, loyalty, and passion of my co workers for nearly half a century, I've been blessed. I've been fortunate enough to have worked in baseball for my hometown team with a countless number of wonderful people. A dream come true to now have his name on this award and Cooperstown is yet another incredible dream come true. Thank you to everyone who has helped make this possible.

Jane Forbes Clark

I'd like to ask Trent, Danny, Dick, Lyn, Ken, and Al to join Rob, Jeff and myself, so that we can congratulate them one more time on their prestigious honors, and their dedication and their commitment to our sport.

Thank you all so much for joining us today. I hope that you'll join us again on September 8, for our 2021 Induction Ceremony at the Clark Sports Center, here in Cooperstown, and it will be carried live on MLB Network also, thank you. And please stay safe.