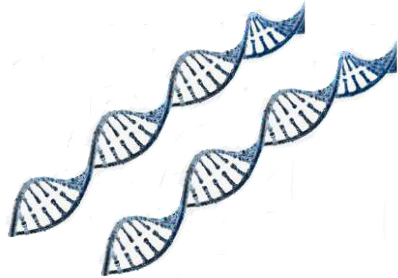




BROTHER BATTERIES



BY CHUCK ROSCIAM, SABR



SOURCES: RETROSHEET.ORG, BASEBALL-REFERENCE.COM, SABR: LYLE SPATZ & WAYNE MCELREAVY



RESEARCH METHODS



- Identified 2300+ MLB catchers (Name, Years, Teams) 1876-2022
- Identified 9000+ MLB Pitchers (Name, Years, Teams) 1876-2022
- Matched Last Names (Catchers & Pitchers) to create POSSIBLE BROTHER BATTERY temp list **[50+ matches]**.
- Matched Teams & Years on temporary Matched Name list to create Working List
- Identified TRUE BROTHERS on Working List from SABR Bio file **[16 pairs identified]**
- Analyzed Box Scores for every game of the 16 pairs (with 19thC help from SABR Members Spatz & McElreavy & 20thC from Retrosheet.org) and found **14 True Brother Batteries.**



14 BROTHER BATTERIES



PITCHERS	CATCHERS	PITCHERS	CATCHERS
Jim Bailey	Ed Bailey	Mike O'Neill	Jack O'Neill
Mort Cooper	Walker Cooper	Elmer Riddle	Johnny Riddle
Dick Conway	Bill Conway	Andrew Romine	Austin Romine
Ed Dugan	Bill Dugan	Bobby Shantz	Billy Shantz
John Ewing	Buck Ewing	Larry Sherry	Norm Sherry
Wes Ferrell	Rick Ferrell	Will White	Deacon White
Milt Gaston	Alex Gaston	Pete Wood	Fred Wood



WILL & DEACON WHITE



PITCHER

Will pitched for 10 years 1877-1886 (403 G) for BSN (NL), CIN (NL), DTN (NL), & CIN (AA)

Deacon played for 20 years 1871-1890 (1560 G) for CLE (NA), BOS (NA), CHC (NL), BSN (NL), CIN (NL), BUF (NL), DTN (NL), PIT (NL) & BUF (PL). **Caught 458 games**

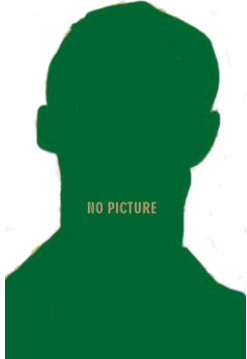


CATCHER

- Formed a battery in 1877 (BSN-NL), 1878 & 1879 (CIN-NL) for 90+ games.



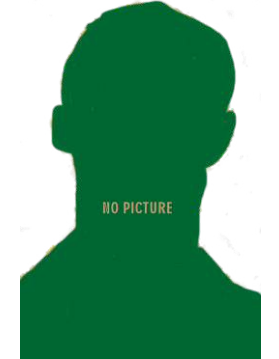
ED & BILL DUGAN



Ed pitched for 1 year 1884 (20 G)
for RIC (AA)

PITCHER

Bill played for 1 year 1884 (12 G) for
RIC (AA) & KCC (UA). **Caught 9 games**



CATCHER

- Formed a battery in 1884 (RIC-AA) for 5 games



PETE & FRED WOOD



PITCHER

Pete pitched for 2 years 1885 & 1889 (27 G) for BUF (NL) and PHI (NL)

Fred played for 2 years 1884 (13 G) for DTN (NL) & BUF (NL). **Caught 8 games**



CATCHER

- Formed a battery in 1885 (BUF-NL) for 1 game.
- Pete started the game and that was Fred's only game (9/30/1885) for Buffalo that year.
- Only Canadian Brother Battery



DICK & BILL CONWAY



PITCHER

Dick played for 3 years 1886-1888 (41 G) for BAL (AA) and BSN (NL)

Bill played for 2 years 1884 & 1886 (8 G) for PHI (NL) & BAL (AA). **Caught 8 games**



CATCHER

- Formed a battery in 1886 (BAL-AA) for 1 game.
- Dick started the game (8/22/1886) and went the distance.



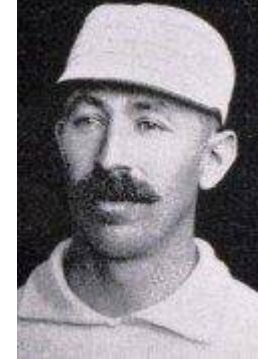
JOHN & BUCK EWING



PITCHER

John played for 6 years 1883-1891 (133 G) and pitched for 4 years (129 G) for STL (AA), COR (UA), WHS (UA), LOU (AA), NY1 (PL) and NYG (NL)

HOF'er Buck played for 18 years 1880-1897 (1315 G) for TRO (NL), NYG (NL), CLV (NL) & CIN (NL). **Caught 636 games**



CATCHER

- Formed a battery in 1890 (NY1-PL) for 20+ games.
- Also a battery in 1891 (NYG-NL) for 1+ games.



MIKE & JACK O'NEILL



PITCHER

Mike played for 4 years 1901-1904 (85 G) for STL (NL). Career **ERA 2.73** with 694 Innings and 228 K's.

Jack played for 5 years 1902-1906 (303 G) for STL (NL), CHC (NL) & BSN (NL).
Caught 280 games

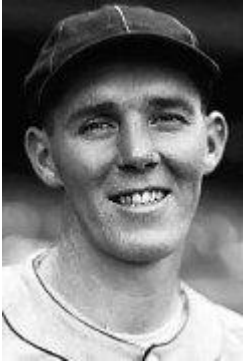


CATCHER

- Formed a battery in 48 games 1902 & 1903 (STL-NL).
- Battery had 33 **“Complete Games”** out of the 48 games together.
- Averaged 8.1 innings together for the 48 games.
- Jack caught 48 of Mike's 55 games (1902 & 1903).



MILT & ALEX GASTON



PITCHER

Milt played for 11 years 1924-1934 (355 G) for NYA (AL), SLB (AL), WAS (AL), BOS (AL) & CHW (AL). Career ERA 4.55 with 2015 Innings and 615 K's.

Alex played for 6 years 1920-1923, 1926 & 1929 (215 G) for NYG (NL) & BOS (AL). **Caught 195 games**



CATCHER

- Formed a battery in 1929 (BOS-AL) for 15 games 6 Complete Games.
- 4/28/1929 7th inning first game together.



WES & RICK FERRELL



PITCHER

Wes played for 15 years 1927-1941 (548 G) for CLE (AL), BOS (AL), WAS (AL), NYA (AL), BRO-(NL) & BSN (NL). **Pitched in 193** Games. Career ERA 4.04 with 2623 Innings and 985 K's.

HOF'er Rick played for 18 years 1929-1945 & 1947 (1884 G) for SLB (AL), BOS (AL), WAS (AL), and again with SLB (AL) & WAS (AL). **Caught 1806 games**



CATCHER

- Formed batteries for 5 years (1934- 1938) for BOS (AL) and WAS (AL) for **156** games [**Most of any brother batteries**].
- In 1934 they were a battery in Newsom's *almost* no-hitter 9/18/34 [lost no-no in 10th inning].
- In 1937 they were a battery for 2 different teams (BOS-AL & WAS-AL), having been traded mid-season from BOS to WAS.



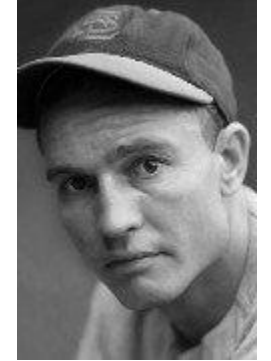
MORT & WALKER COOPER



PITCHER

Mort played for 11 years 1938-1947, 1949 (297 G) for STL (NL), BSN (NL), NYG (NL) & CHC (NL).
Pitched in 297 Games. Career **ERA 2.97** with 1940 Innings and had 913 K's.

Walker played for 18 years 1940-1957 (1473 G) for STL (NL), NYG (NL), CIN (NL), BSN (NL), MLN (NL), PIT (NL), CHC (NL) and again STL (NL). **Caught 1223 games**

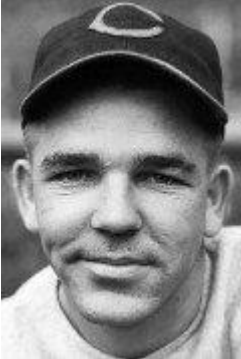


CATCHER

- Formed batteries for 7 years (1940- 1945 & 1947) for STL (NL) and NYG (NL) for **125** games [**2nd most of any brother batteries**] with 63 Complete Games..
- Battery in 3 World Series (1942-1944) 2 games each Series and had 2 Complete Games.
- All-Star Game battery twice (1942 & 1943).



ELMER & JOHNNY RIDDLE



PITCHER

Elmer played for 10 years 1939-1947 (191 G) for CIN (NL) & PIT (NL). **Pitched in 190** Games. Career **ERA 3.40** with 1023 Innings and had 342 K's.

Johnny played for 7 years 1930, 1937-38, 1941, 1944-45 & 1948 (98 G) for CHW (AL), WSH (AL), BSN (NL), CIN (NL) & PIT (NL). **Caught 98** games

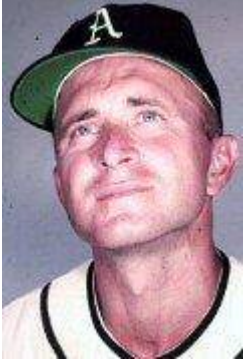


CATCHER

- Formed battery for 2 years (1941 & 1948) for CIN (NL) and PIT (NL) for 3 games.
- 1944 & 1945 on same team (CIN-NL) but never a battery



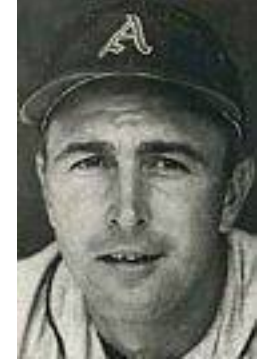
BOBBY & BILLY SHANTZ



PITCHER

Bobby played for 16 years 1949-1964 (578 G) for PHA (AL), KCA (AL), NYA (AL), PIT (NL), HOU (NL), STL (NL), CHC (NL) & CHC (NL).
Pitched in 537 Games. Career **ERA 3.38** with 1935 Innings and had 1072 K's.

Billy played for 3 years 1954, 1955 & 1960 (131 G) for PHA (AL), KCA (AL) & NYA (AL). **Caught 130 games**



CATCHER

- Formed battery for 13 games starting on 4/14/1955 for KCA (AL).
- 1954 both on PHA (AL) but not a battery
- 1960 both on NYA (AL) but never a battery



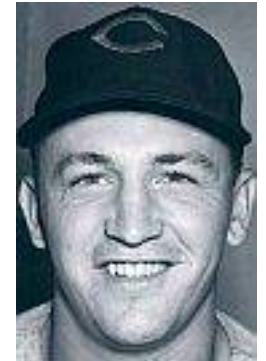
JIM & ED BAILEY



PITCHER

Jim played for 1 year 1959 (3 G) for CIN (NL). Total 11.2 IP with 7 K's and an ERA of 6.17

Ed played for 14 years 1953-1966 (1212 G) for CIN (NL), SFG (NL), MLN (NL), CHC (NL) & CAL (AL). **Caught 1064 games**



CATCHER

- Formed battery for 3 games starting on 9/10/1959 for CIN (NL).
- Ed caught **ALL** of Jim's appearances.



LARRY & NORM SHERRY



PITCHER

Larry played for 11 years 1958-1968 (416 G) for LAD (NL), DET (AL), HOU (NL) & CAL (AL). Total 799 IP with 606 K's and an **ERA of 3.67**

Norm played for 5 years 1959-1963 (194 G) for LAD (NL) & NYM (NL).
Caught 186 games



CATCHER

- Formed battery for 3 years 1960-1962 for LAD (NL).
- In 1959 both were on LAD (NL) but never a battery in Norm's 2 games that year.



ANDREW & AUSTIN ROMINE



PITCHER

Andrew played for 11 years 2010-2021 (609 G) **primarily as an infielder**. But did pitch 8 games over 5 seasons. Played for DET (AL), SEA (AL) & CHC (NL). Total 6.2 IP with 2 K's and an ERA of 12.15

Austin played for 11 years 2011-2022 (474 G) for NYA (AL), DET (AL), CHC (NL), LAA (AL), STL (NL) & CIN (NL). **Caught 431 games**



CATCHER

- Formed battery for exactly 1 game and 1 inning on 8/12/2021 for CHC (NL) vs. MIL (NL).



RECORDS & FACTS



- There have been 14 **BROTHER BATTERIES** in the MLB from 1877 to 2022
- The first set of brothers were Will & Deacon White on 7/20/1877 (Boston)
- The last pair of brothers were Andrew & Austin Romine 8/12/2021 (Chicago Cubs)
- Brothers Wes & Rick Ferrell hold the record for the most battery games at 156
- The Romine brothers paired up for only 1 game and 1 inning for the fewest games/innings
- Mort & Walker Cooper formed a brother-battery in 3 World Series (STL 1942-1944) 6 Games
- Mort & Walker Cooper were batteries in 2 All-Star Games (1942 & 1943)
- 1941, 1944 & 1960 are the only years where 2 different sets of brothers formed batteries (Elmer & Johnny Riddle [CIN] and Mort & Walker Cooper [STL] and in 1960 Bobby & Billy Shantz [NYA] and Larry & Norm Sherry [LAD])
- Wes & Rick Ferrell formed a battery in 1937 for two different teams (BOS and WAS)



NO BATTERIES



- 1912 Tommy **Thompson** (Pit) & Homer Thompson (Cat) on NYA-AL never a battery. Homer had 1 game 10/5/1912 and Tommy did not pitch.
- 1914 Lefty **Tyler** (Pit) & Fred Tyler (Cat) on BSN-NL never a battery. Lefty last pitched on 10/2/1914 and Fred debuted on 10/3/1914

Brother Batteries Yearly Summary

Year	Team		Pitcher	Catcher	Games	Notes	Actual Battery?
	Team	Lg	Pitcher	Catcher	P	C Notes	
1912	NYA	AL	Tommy Thompson	Homer Thompson	7	1 Homer's game was 10/5; Tommy did not play.	No
1929	Bos	AL	Milt Gaston	Alex Gaston	39	49 15 Games 6 CG 1st Gm together 7th INN 4/28/1929	Yes
1934	Bos	AL	Wes Ferrell	Rick Ferrell	26	128 25 Games 15 CG	Yes
1935	Bos	AL	Wes Ferrell	Rick Ferrell	41	131 38 Games 31 CG	Yes
1936	Bos	AL	Wes Ferrell	Rick Ferrell	43	121 39 Games 24 CG	Yes
1937	Bos	AL	Wes Ferrell	Rick Ferrell	12	18 7 Games 4 CG	Yes
1937	Was	AL	Wes Ferrell	Rick Ferrell	25	84 22 Games 17 CG	Yes
1938	Was	AL	Wes Ferrell	Rick Ferrell	26	131 25 Games 9 CG	Yes
1954	Pha	AL	Bobby Shantz	Billy Shantz	2	51 Not in same game per Retrosheet	No
1955	KCA	AL	Bobby Shantz	Billy Shantz	23	78 1st game together 4/14 per Retrosheet 13 Gm	Yes
1960	NYA	AL	Bobby Shantz	Billy Shantz	42	1 Billy caught part of 1 game; Bobby did not pitch in game	No
1877	BSN	NL	Will White	Deacon White	3	7 7/20/1877 Will's ML debut & Deacon caught entire game	Yes
1878	Cin	NL	Will White	Deacon White	52	48 Team played 61 games	Yes
1879	Cin	NL	Will White	Deacon White	76	59	Yes
1885	Buf	NL	Pete Wood	Fred Wood	24	1 9/30/1885 Fred's only game; Pete started	Yes
1890	NY	PL	John Ewing	Buck Ewing	35	81	Yes
1891	NYG	NL	John Ewing	Buck Ewing	33	6	Maybe
1902	StL	NL	Mike O'Neill	Jack O'Neill	36	59 29 Games - 4/24/1902 Jack CG	Yes
1903	StL	NL	Mike O'Neill	Jack O'Neill	19	74 18 Games - 4/21/1903	Yes
1914	Bsn	NL	Lefty Tyler	Fred Tyler	38	6 Lefty last pitched 10/2; Fred debuted 10/3	No
1940	StL	NL	Mort Cooper	Walker Cooper	38	6 9/25/1940 Mort Cooper's debut 2 Gm - 1 CG	Yes
1941	StL	NL	Mort Cooper	Walker Cooper	29	63 4/16/1941 - Retrosheet 15 Gm 6 CG	Yes
1942	StL	NL	Mort Cooper	Walker Cooper	37	115 31 Games 16 CG Also battery in 2 WS Gm 1 CG & ASG	Yes
1943	StL	NL	Mort Cooper	Walker Cooper	37	112 33 Games 22 CG Also battery in 2 WS Gm & ASG	Yes
1944	StL	NL	Mort Cooper	Walker Cooper	34	97 27 Games 18 CG Also battery in 2 WS 1 CG	Yes
1945	StL	NL	Mort Cooper	Walker Cooper	4	4 1 Game 4/22/1945 vs CIN	Yes
1947	NYG	NL	Mort Cooper	Walker Cooper	8	132 6 Games 1 CG	Yes
1941	Cin	NL	Elmer Riddle	Johnny Riddle	33	10 7th INN 4/17/1941 - Retrosheet - 2 Games	Yes
1944	Cin	NL	Elmer Riddle	Johnny Riddle	4	1 Johnny 8th INN Sub Caught Howie Fox	No
1945	Cin	NL	Elmer Riddle	Johnny Riddle	12	23 Elmer's 12 Games Not caught by Johnny	No
1948	Pit	NL	Elmer Riddle	Johnny Riddle	28	10 Both finished 9/11 game - Only game in 1948	Yes
1959	Cin	NL	Jim Bailey	Ed Bailey	3	117 1st game together 9/10 - Ed caught all 3 Gms of Jim	Yes
1959	LAD	NL	Larry Sherry	Norm Sherry	23	2 Not in same game per Retrosheet	No
1960	LAD	NL	Larry Sherry	Norm Sherry	57	44 14 Games 5/7/1960 1st game together ?5/2/1960	Yes
1961	LAD	NL	Larry Sherry	Norm Sherry	53	45 10 Games	Yes
1962	LAD	NL	Larry Sherry	Norm Sherry	58	34 10 Games	Yes
2021	CHC	NL	Andrew Romine	Austin Romine		8/12/2021 1 Game 1 IP vs MIL-NL	Yes
1884	Ric	AA	Ed Dugan	Bill Dugan	20	9	Yes
1886	Bal	AA	Dick Conway	Bill Conway	9	7 8/22/1886 Pitcher went distance - 8/13/1886	Yes