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Heritage Center Presents Oberlin Baseball Memories

Tuesday, July 1 is a great night for baseball! Join lifelong Oberlinians **Sid Comings** and **Marianne Cochrane** as they present baseball stories aplenty from both sides of home plate – from the action on the field to the views from the sidelines. This fun and relaxed presentation, hosted by the Oberlin Heritage Center, takes place at Kendal at Oberlin’s Heiser Auditorium (600 Kendal Drive) and begins at 7:15 p.m. The event is free and open to the public.

For baseball enthusiast Sid Comings, summer meant hitting fungos, repairing broken bats, fetching foul balls for umpires at the big kids’ games, memorizing baseball statistics gleaned from *Sporting News*, and meeting legendary baseball promoter and franchise owner, Bill Veeck. Sid quotes Pulitzer-Prize winning American columnist and author (and baseball fan) George F. Will: “My ardor for baseball was inversely proportional to my ability.”

Marianne Cochrane, on the other hand, was a local legend and began playing women’s fast-pitch softball with an adult team when she was in the 7th grade. She was known for playing fine defensive ball with a batting average in the .300s. Traveling all over Ohio and beyond, she helped her team make it to the state championship in 1952 where the 15-year-old Cochrane batted over .400 and collected four hits and scored two runs.

Sid Comings is a graduate of Oberlin College (OC ’69). He ran the music department in the Co-op Bookstore for 10 years and also served as an adjunct professor of writing at Lorain County Community College for over 25 years. He has written numerous articles on various topics – including baseball – that have appeared in many different publications.

Marianne Cochrane is an Oberlin business woman and a dedicated community volunteer. She graduated from Grinnell College and was the owner/manager of the Ben Franklin Store in Oberlin for more than 40 years prior to retirement. She is an Honorary Trustee of the Oberlin Heritage Center, having served on the organization’s Board for 22 years, including 8 years as President. Through the years, Cochrane also was active with the Oberlin Chamber of Commerce and various City of Oberlin commissions.

For more information about this Oberlin Heritage Center program, or other upcoming tours, summer camps or community events, visit www.oberlinheritagecenter.org, or call (440) 774-1700 or e-mail members@oberlinheritage.org.

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