

TAKE ME OUT TO THE BALLGAME



The Scarsdale Athletic Club, from the Scarsdale Inquirer, 15 September, 1904.

The Scarsdale Athletic Club played its first baseball games in 1902, and publicized them in the Scarsdale Inquirer. That first summer they played against teams such as White Plains High School, National Machine Works of Mamaroneck, and Bronxville All Stars. Their homefield was in Arthur Manor, in front of Fireman's Hall, on Sprague Road between what is now Bell and Webster Roads.



Arthur Manor, Sprague Avenue, between Bell & Webster Roads, circa 1898



Arthur Manor, Sprague Avenue, between Bell & Webster Roads, circa 2020

FIELD OF DREAMS

Games were also played on a field across the Bronx River, just south of Ardsley and Popham Roads. The construction of the Bronx River Parkway in 1920 cut through the field, which was graded for paving. Now cars travel over ground that was once witness to Scarsdale's baseball traditions.



Parkway Field, July 4th, 1916



Parkway Field, circa 1920, graded for construction of Bronx River Parkway. Looking north towards Ardsley and Popham Roads.

On July 4th, 1916, the single men of the newly formed Scarsdale Baseball Club faced off against a team of married men led by Village Treasurer George W. Both. The married men were thoroughly trounced. Games between single and married men were common occurrences.

The members of the baseball team of the newly organized Scarsdale Club have been so loud and long in the praises of their ability that the married men have gotten together and come to the conclusion that it was about time that their vaunted ability was put to the test.

The married men have organized a baseball team, composed of former stars and will meet the unmarried men, representing the Scarsdale Club, in a struggle to the death on the Parkway Field, at Scarsdale Station, 3 p. m., Independence Day, July 4th.

The married men will be captained by the star former second baseman of the Bronx, now Village Treasurer, George W. Both. A special bat has been bought for Mr. Both and the seams of the baseball to be used have been specially reinforced.

BENEDICTS TELL WAITING FRAUS OF PITIFUL DEFEAT

For the rest of the summer the married men's baseball team will place the blame for the gloomy weather upon the horrible disaster they met last Tuesday afternoon at the hands of the marriageable, that is to say, the unmarried men's team of this Village. For the miserable benedicts, the sun ceased to shine when they saw all their hopes for victory dissipated by the prowess of their youthful opponents, who, void of the cares of home and hausfrau, played with a carefree and reckless abandon that soon put them far in the lead.

Scarsdale Inquirer, July 8, 1916

SCARSDALE FIRE

COMPANY #1

The Scarsdale Fire Company #1 organized a baseball team in 1921, led by the Irish brothers James, Tom, and Robert. Their father Bill Irish moved to Scarsdale in 1892, two years after emigrating from Ireland. John worked for the Scarsdale Supply Company and then the County Trust Company. Tom was co-owner of Wright & Irish provisioners, which was located in the Harwood Building. William Irish worked for many years for the Scarsdale National Bank.



The Scarsdale Firemen - August 16th, 1924

Scarsdale			
	AB	R	H
Davis	6	3	3
W. Irish	6	2	2
W. Duhigg	4	1	3
T. Irish	5	1	2
J. Irish	4	2	3
R. Auld	5	3	4
J. Duhigg	4	2	2
R. Irish	4	1	1
Losee	5	1	2
Hungerford	1	0	1
Kern	1	0	0
	45	16	23

St. Agnes			
	AB	R	H
Fox	4	0	1
Tuhny	4	0	0
Warren	4	1	2
Van Tassel	4	1	0
J. Fox	4	1	1
Pathner	4	1	1
Harmon	4	2	2
Toomey	4	0	0
Baker	4	0	0



Members of the Scarsdale firemen's baseball club, pictured at Butler Field, Scarsdale, the scene of their games held every Sunday afternoon throughout the summer months. Included in the group are T. Irish, R. Irish, W. Irish, W. Auld, L. Davis, John Austin, Lawrence Pissaro, Rodney Taggart, W. Duhig and R. Bracalello.

Scarsdale Inquirer - September 30th, 1932. The Irish brothers were still playing for the Firemen in 1932.

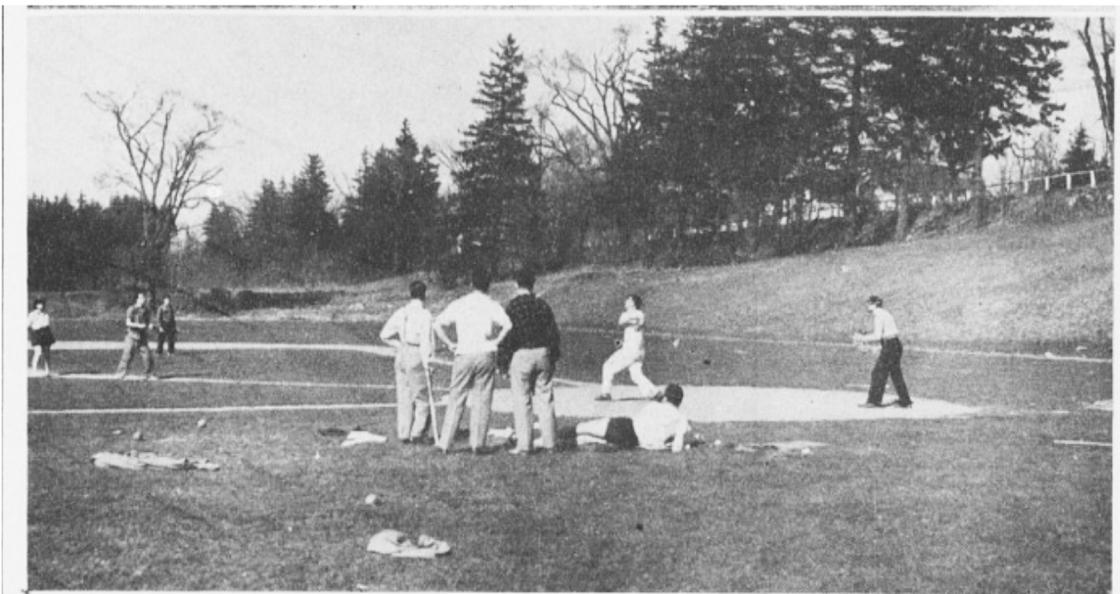


Scarsdale Inquirer - May 27th, 1981. John, Thomas, William, and Robert Irish.

BUTLER FIELD



Butler Field, purchased by the Village in 1920 from Emily Butler for \$70,000 as part of a tract of 25 acres, quickly became a refuge for baseball enthusiasts. Village employees representing different departments, such as the Post Office, the Police, and the Firemen, fielded teams. The Scarsdale High School began fielding a varsity team in the 1920s that competed against other schools such as Hackley, Katonah, and Bronxville.



PHOTOS BY JOHN GASS



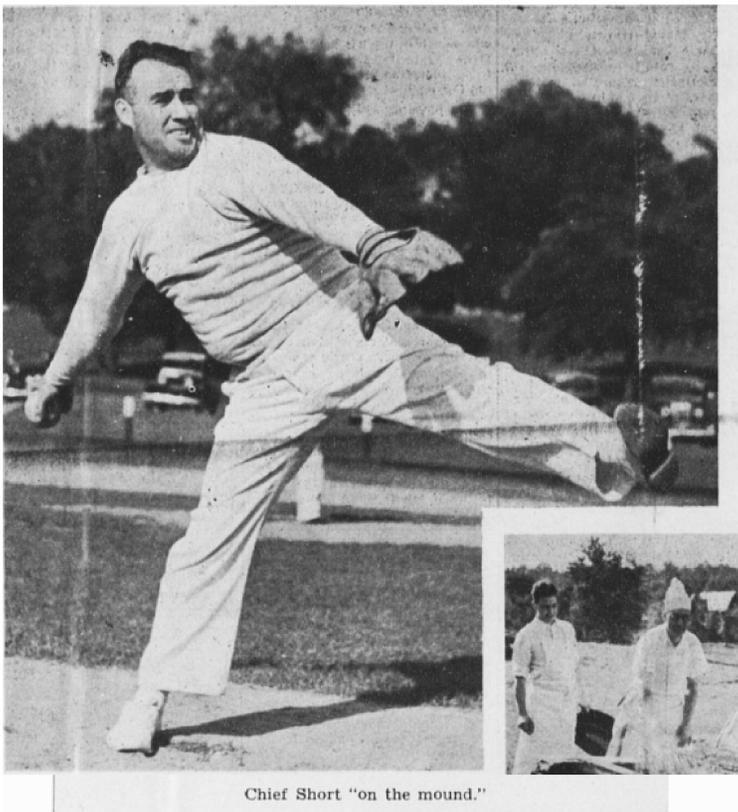
Scarsdale Inquirer, May 4th or 5th, 1940 - Baseball at Butler Field

Ball Teams Battle On Butler Field

The Scarsdale Public Safety team triumphed over the Scarsdale Post Office baseball team Wednesday night at Butler Field. The score was 12 to 8. For nine long innings the two teams struggled, but the Public Safety team, attired in new suits, always held the upper hand. The game was the first of a series to determine the baseball championship of the Village of Scarsdale.

Next Wednesday evening at six-thirty the Scarsdale policemen will clash with the Yonkers force in a nine-inning battle on Butler Field. Many residents of Scarsdale and Yonkers are expected at the game.

Scarsdale Inquirer, July 19th, 1929



Chief Short "on the mound."

Village Employees Have Steak Party On Butler Field

It pays to have an outside job if you want to shine at baseball, the men who work in the offices at the Village Hall are saying today. For on Monday evening at Butler Field the baseball team made up of village employees who work out-of-doors trimmed the baseball team of the office men to the tune of eight to nothing.

The game was one of two baseball games played late Monday afternoon before the steak dinner served at the annual picnic for village employees sponsored by the Town Club. In the other game the men of the police department played a team from the fire department and won with a score of 10 to 8.

These games and other contests of athletic skill took place between 4:30 and seven o'clock when the steak dinner was served on the grounds near the Boy Scout house.

Baseball fans and archers also are making the most out of the good weather that has arrived. At the business office of the Board of Education they said the other day that Butler Field is spoken for during all the time it can be spared from high school activities, now that warmer days are here. The baseball league of employees at the Village Hall, the Scarsdale Archers and the Daylight Baseball League all have their days, and every week-end the field buzzes with activity. In addition, the Softball League uses the field three nights a week from early evening until it becomes dark.

These photographs show some of last week-end's golfers at the Scarsdale Golf Club and some baseball players and fans at Butler Field.

Scarsdale Inquirer, May 10th, 1940

Scarsdale Inquirer, June 5th, 1940 - Police Chief William Short on the mound

HIGH SCHOOL Baseball

The Scarsdale High School began fielding baseball teams in the 1920s, which competed against other schools such as Hackley, Katonah, and Bronxville. High school girls also played baseball, though they may have played with "softball" rules and equipment as this variant of the game grew popular in the 1930s and 40s. The High School yearbooks from that era often refer to the girls' baseball team, but in some cases use the term softball instead.



The 1933 Scarsdale High School Varsity Baseball Team as pictured in the 1933 Bandersnatch yearbook. The team included Robert McGowan, William Hollrock, Morse Cartwright, Wright Mallory, Frank Ginell, George Harrison, William Martin, Eddie Szaniawski, and Charles Carmody.

Barnard Baseball Game
With the team playing errorless ball, the maroon nine won a 2-0 victory over Barnard School Friday, May 12, at Van Cortland Park.

McGowan pitched extremely effective baseball in issuing but two walks, fanning ten batsmen, and allowing but six hits. His timely single in the seventh inning with Fitzgerald on second base drove in a run which also helped his own cause. The team as a whole played very well, committing no errors, and the infield combination of Carmody, Mallory, Thomson and Cartwright worked in fine style.

The box-score:

	A.B.	H.	R.
Mallory, 2b	3	1	0
Thomson, ss	4	1	0
Cartwright, 3b	4	0	0
Harrison, lf	2	1	0
Eddie, cf	3	0	0
Carmody, 1b	3	0	0
Hollrock, c	3	1	0
Fitzgerald, rf	1	0	2
McGowan, p	2	1	0

Scarsdale Inquirer - May 19th, 1933



Sitting: J. Ritter, S. Van Daell, V. Alvarez, E. Tucker, G. Brown, Standing: Miss Chamberlin, coach, D. Nairne, B. Hoehn, M. Ohlander, G. Graff, B. Keelips.

1940 Scarsdale Yearbook - Girls' Baseball

SCARSDALE GIRLS DEFEAT ROGER ASCHAM IN TWO GAMES

The girl's baseball team played its second game with Roger Ascham, on Wednesday, May 24, on the High School diamond, and won with a score of 27-36. The game was played in six innings. At the end of the first inning, the score was 12-6 in favor of Roger Ascham. Then the score was very close for a good while, but finally, Scarsdale took a decided lead. The spirit of both teams was excellent to the last out.

Very special credit is due to Florence Gleeson, who kept perfectly cool, with the bases full, and twirled in fast balls that Roger Ascham failed to understand. Who said girls couldn't play baseball? Madge Banner pitched well for two innings, while Florence entertained at third base. Also, we appreciate the catcher, Stella Baker, who held every one of Florence's fast balls. Mr. Otto umpired the game.

Scarsdale Inquirer - June 3rd,

1922