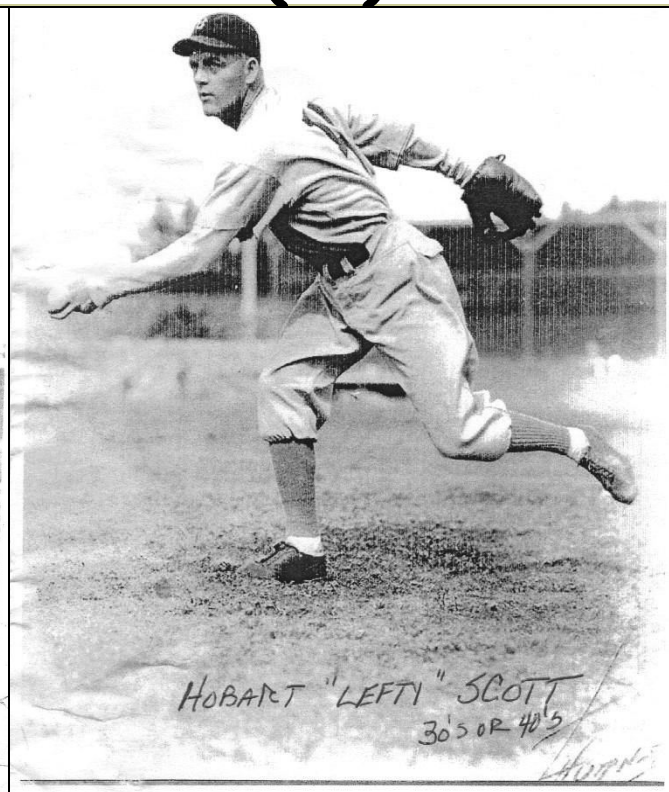
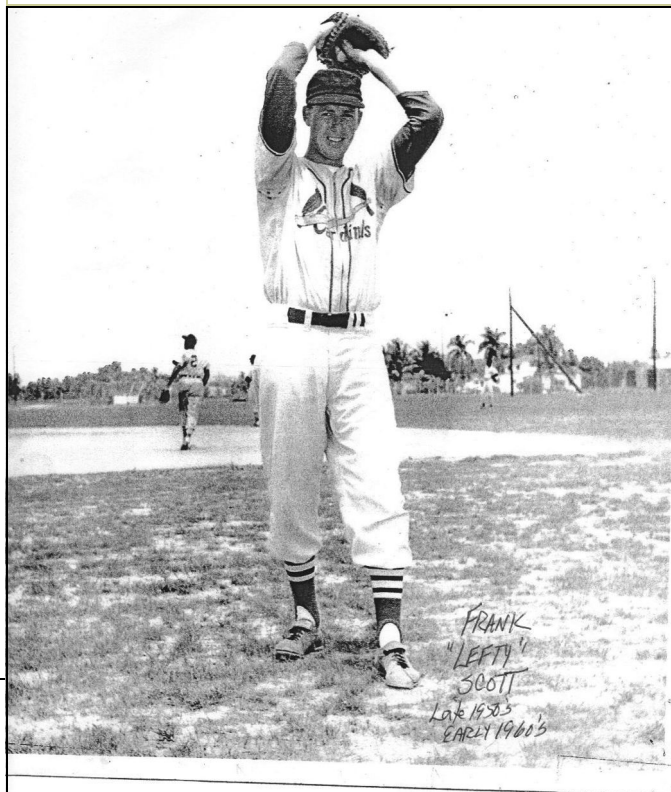


The Lee County Legend

KEEPING THE MEMORIES ALIVE

GREAT SCOTT!(S) 1



THE SCOTT'S OF ST CHARLES—FAMILY OF BALLPLAYERS

THEIR REPUTATION FOR GREATNESS WAS BUILT MOSTLY ON THE LEGENDS OF THESE TWO LEFTHANDED PITCHERS, BUT, THERE WERE SOME PRETTY GOOD RIGHTHANDERS, TOO. ADD OTHER POSITIONS AND SPORTS WHERE BOTH MALE AND FEMALE SCOTTS EXCELLED, AND WE FIND THERE IS MORE THAN ONE SCOTT STORY TO BE TOLD!!!

IT WILL TAKE MORE THAN ONE ISSUE TO COVER THE SCOTT'S. HOBART "LEFTY" SCOTT AND FRANK "LEFTY" SCOTT WILL BE FEATURED IN TODAY'S COPY. FUTURE ISSUES WILL INCLUDE MANY OTHER SCOTT STORIES YOU MAY OR MAY NOT KNOW.

PVN—17APR AND 26 JUN 1958—SUMMARY

Frank H. (Lefty) Scott, 19 years old, 6 feet tall and 170 pounds. His record for his junior year (1957) was 8-1 with 5 shutouts, 1 no hitter and 131 strikeouts in 64 innings. In summer of 57, for the St Charles Miners in the Mountain States League, Frank was 12-2, with an ERA of less than 1.00 and strikeouts at 11 per game. This son of Mr. and Mrs. Delmar Scott also had perfect attendance for his 4 years of high school. Frank signed with the St Louis Cardinals and was sent to play for Albany, Ga in the Georgia-Florida league. His contract paid him a \$6000 bonus and \$400 per month salary.

THE SCOTT'S



Well, what can I say? I married Earl Scott's widow, Patricia Evans Scott in December, and here I am writing about the Scott's of St. Charles athletic fame. Would you believe that I already had this in mind months ago? I promise, I did. I do feel extra pressure to get the stories right.

St. Charles sports teams have been legendary for being good, tough, scrappy and never-say-die. The Scott family seems to be as full of the athletes who made this hard fighting and skilled reputation famous. Over the years, one Scott after another has been a key contributor to the athletic teams of St. Charles.

Having a baseball background, I, of course, love the stories of Hobart "Lefty" and Frank "Lefty" Scott, both professional pitchers. Jerry Scott, ace of the County Champs in the late 60's told me about Hobart, I batted against Earl in high school and played with Frank for one game in the old Lonesome Pine League. Frank and Earl were my heroes. However, I realize there are many more stories than mine of Scotts. Let me know about them.

FRANK SCOTT

Frank Scott is a Lee County Legend, for sure. Any and all of us around during Frank's playing days, remember the facts that have become stories over the years. His pitching at St. Charles High, his pitching for the professional St. Charles Miners during his high school years, the attention he got from pro scouts, his signing with the Cardinals and the brief but very successful pro career.

In 1956—During the summer between his 10th and 11th grades, Frank pitched the St. Charles Miners to the Mountain States League Championship.

In 1956—As a sophomore, Frank pitched 5 consecutive shutouts to start the St. Charles High School season.

In 1957—Frank went 8-1 as he pitched St. Charles to the County Championship.

In 1958—Frank pitched St. Charles to their 2nd straight County Championship as pro scouts were watching.

In 1958—He signed with the Cardinals, then was assigned to pitch for Albany in the Georgia-Florida league.

In 1959—Frank pitched a full season for Hobbs in the Sophomore League in the Cardinals organization.

In 1960—Frank had his best year as a pro going 11-7 for the Dothan Cardinals in the Alabama-Florida League. His earned run average was 3.25 and Frank Scott was ready to move on up.

All of a sudden, this bright and promising career for a great pitcher, (perhaps the best ever from Lee County) stopped. We have heard stories and rumors. The truth is that Frank had a good or great career ahead of him in pro baseball had he chosen that. He was progressing through the ranks and improving as he learned the pro game competing against other talented youth with every pitch in every inning of every game. It is very obvious that the club wanted him to continue. Young and talented left handed pitchers have always been sought by every team. Frank, for whatever the reason, walked away from the chance at stardom in the major leagues.

Just as true as the potential big league stardom is the fact that Frank Scott's choice of walking away does not diminish what he accomplished as a pitcher. The thrills he gave those of us who saw him pitch and the chills he gave opposing hitters will last forever in our memories. Thanks to Frank for what he did on the mound. In the history of Lee County pitchers, only a handful accomplished anything close to what he did. The Lee County Legend salutes Frank Scott.

FRANK SCOTT

1958	19	Albany Cardinals	Georgia-Florida League	D	STL
1959	20	Hobbs Cardinals	Sophomore League	D	STL
1960	21	Dothan Cardinals	Alabama-Florida League	D	STL

As close as I will get.....

Back in September, before we were married, I took Patricia's car for the yearly state inspection. After the checks were complete, I went in with the guy to pay. He looked at the paperwork in the name of Patricia Scott and asked me, "WHICH SCOTT ARE YOU?" :) :) Dave

HOBART SCOTT

The 1920s, 30s and 40s must have been the most exciting time for Lee County Baseball Players. Good high school players were fueling the ranks of the professional teams playing in St. Charles, Pennington and the surrounding territory. The outstanding players on these teams were getting communication from and visits by major league scouts. The best were signed and whisked away to play on higher level teams.

Hobart Scott's baseball ride would have been as exciting as it gets. In the late 20s and early 30s, very few if any from Lee County, drew the attention he received. Hobart's career spanned from the 20s well into the 40s as he was a demanded presence throughout as a crafty and fire balling left handed pitcher. Reports indicate that old Lefty was a free spirit both on and off the field and his pitching impressed baseball people in high places.

From what I can gather, Hobart played in and around St. Charles early on and was recruited by Major League Baseball Scouts. He was signed by Boston, then assigned to play in Knoxville for the Smokies during the 1934 and 1935 seasons. Knoxville was in "A" ball then, which was pretty high cotton for a Lee County boy. He must have started the 1936 season in the Knoxville area.

Hobart chose not to play further in this organization and jumped to the Gastonia Baseball Club of the "Outlaw" Carolina League for the 1937 season. He probably did this due to the opportunity to make more money and who could blame him. His contract with Gastonia called for \$200 per month to be paid semi-monthly on the 1st and 15th of each month. In addition, players in this "mill league" were usually paid addition money to "work" at a mill. *See info below about the "outlaw leagues". Very interesting.

For the 1938 season, Hobart was traded to the Lenoir Baseball team of the same Carolina Baseball League . On March 4, 1938, he received a one year contract in to play for \$200 per month again. However, the outlaw Carolina League folded after 1938, so Hobart had to look elsewhere. He ran into some problems. Knoxville wanted him back, but the commissioner of baseball ruled differently. Players were told that they would not permit players to jump their contracts under "the temptation of more money", then when they saw the demise of the new league, come running back into "real organized ball". Hobart was denied re-instatement in January 1939. Through a series of letters and affidavits, he was re-instated in good standing on August 5, 1939 and allowed to return to play for Knoxville.

In 1940, due to unknown circumstances, Hobart was on the move again. On February 23, 1940, he received a letter from Anniston (Alabama) Base Ball Club denying his request for a bonus. A contract was enclosed to pay Hobart \$175 per month. Future letters of March 1 and March 20, 1940 indicate that Hobart signed and reported on April 1, 1940 to start training for Anniston in the Southeastern Baseball League. He received travel money to Anniston and had a room in the home of Mrs. Paul Thompson on Wilmer Street, just one block from the bus station. However, for unknown reasons still, Hobart Scott came back to pitch at least part of the season for the Pennington Miners (the St Louis Browns affiliate) in the summer of 1940. According to baseballreference.com, Hobart pitched for Erwin, Tn. In 1943. No pro records can be found for the 41 and 42 seasons. Maybe this was Armed Service years.

I am not certain about many aspects of Hobart Scott's baseball life. Records and reports are sketchy through the years as I have looked to piece this career together. It is very evident that Hobart was an outstanding left handed pitcher and was sought by many clubs. The way he moved around and was able to get onto many clubs shows that he was talented, for sure. Probably just as evident was the fact that Hobart was a product of his baseball time. He, like most others, was searching for that ticket to the Major Leagues and was willing to play anywhere if there was a glimmer of hope to move on up. He never made it to the Big Club, but he never stopped trying. Regardless of the reasons for his not making it to the top, Hobart was a great pitcher. Join me in saluting Hobart Scott. The likes of him and his talent is not seen often in these parts. He is truly a Lee County Legend.

OUTLAW LEAGUES—I.E. Carolina Baseball League by Wikipedia

The league's independent status led to the league being branded as an "outlaw" league by supporters of the NAPBL (now MLB), and the league's practice of allowing players to freely leave their contracts to play for teams in other leagues, was unorthodox at the time. Additionally, players on various teams were often given year-round no-show jobs in the team owners' various mills with salaries that supplemented their earnings from baseball. There was no cap to salaries for Carolina League players.

Oct 1956 PVN—ST CHARLES MINERS CAPTURE PENNANT IN MOUNTAIN STATES LEAGUE PLAYOFF!

...The 3 game series stood at 1-1 as the game at Leeman Field was played here Sunday. St Charles emerged with a 22-5 victory and the league championship for 1956. ..."Lefty" Frank Scott toed the slab for St Charles, holding the hard hitting Harlan Smokies to 5 hits in seven innings of work. Red Engle took over, allowing 2 hits to end the gaffe. England led the St Charles hitting with 4 hits in 5 trips, followed by Rutherford with 3 for 5, while Wells and McElyea collected 3 for 6 each.

June 7, 1956—PVN ...St Charles and Keokee finished the season in a tie for 2nd place. Each had a 4-2 record in Lee County. The Midgets, with Frank Scott pitching, held their first 5 opponents scoreless. St Charles was undefeated outside the county.

May 23, 1957 PVN—ST CHARLES DEFEATS FLATWOODS, PLAYS KEOKEE FOR CHAMPIONSHIP SATURDAY!

In order to meet Keokee, who had defeated them earlier in the season, it was necessary for St Charles to win over Flatwoods. This was accomplished to the tune of 15-2 in the game which was played at Leeman Field on last Tuesday. In this game, St Charles left handed hurler, Frank Scott, pitched a 3 hit game with 17 strikeouts and was not scored on until the 9th inning. St Charles blew the game open by scoring 8 times in the 8th inning. Eugene Bush with 2 triples and 3 single, Carlos Chandler, with a triple, double and two singles, Scott with a triple and 2 singles and Wayne Bell with a trio of singles paced the St Charles thundering 23 hit attack.

May 30, 1957 PVN—ST CHARLES TOPS KEOKEE FOR THE TITLE!!

St Charles, behind the 3 hit pitching of Frank Scott, captured the Lee County Championship here last Saturday by blanking Keokee, 2-0. It was the 9th victory in 12 starts for St. Charles and was Scott's 8th pitching win in 9 games. Scott ran his strikeout total to 82 in the last 5 games by whiffing 15 Keokee batters Saturday. With the score 0-0 going into the home half of the 6th, St Charles' Carlos Chandler drove home James Ray and James Thompson with a single. Tommy Morris, pitching for Keokee, went the distance giving up 7 hits.

A Letter from a Baseball Scout.....March 11, 1958

PITTSBURGH BASEBALL CLUB, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania

Dear Frank: You will remember me as the Pirate Scout who worked you out on the mound in St Charles last summer. It is our intent to come down and observe you pitch this year and with that in mind, I would appreciate your forwarding to me a copy of your high school baseball schedule. Best wishes to you for a fine season. Sincerely, Joe Bowen, Scouting Supervisor, Middle Atlantic Area. Home address: Market Lane, Greenwich, NJ.

HOBART SCOTT		Baseball reference.com																				
1934	--	Knoxville Smokies	Southern Association																		A	BOS
1935	--	Knoxville Smokies	Southern Association																		A	BOS
1936	--	UNKNOWN																				
1937	--	Gastonia Baseball Club	Carolina Baseball League (Outlaw)																		?	?
1938	--	Lenoir Baseball Assoc	Carolina Baseball League (Outlaw)																		?	?
1939	--	With Knoxville Smokies AFTER CONTRACT DISPUTE																				
1940	--	Pennington Gap Miners	Appalachian League																		D	SLB
1941-42	--	UNKNOWN																				
1943	--	Erwin Aces	Appalachian League																		D	CHC

Year	Age	Tm	Lg	Lev	Aff	W	L	W-L%	ERA	G	GS	GF	CG	SHO	SV	IP	H	R	ER	HR	BB
1934		-- Knoxville	SOUA	A		9	7	.563	3.71	25						160.0	150	82	66		40
1935		-- Knoxville	SOUA	A	BOS	4	11	.267	4.43	29						138.0	144	77	68		48
1943		-- Erwin	APPY	D	CHC	2	4	.333		7						35.0	53	35			13
3 Seasons						15	22	.405	3.62	61						333.0	347	194	134		101
A (2 seasons)				A		13	18	.419	4.05	54						298.0	294	159	134		88
D (1 season)				D		2	4	.333		7						35.0	53	35			13