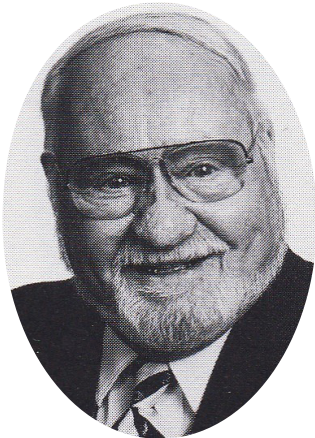


## *Leo Fagan*



Leo Fagan played baseball in Norwalk deep in the depression era of the late 1920s through the mid '30s, when working was more important than playing baseball. And yet, as a teenager who had to work to help support an invalid father, he found time to earn a reputation as a strikeout artist with many of the top teams in the area.

After graduating from Center Jr. High at the age of 14, Leo became an apprentice carpenter with William J. Lyons at 16. But, with a gifted arm, he worked in baseball games as often as he could, and soon was in demand from all corners of Norwalk.

He started by winning a baseball throw contest when he was 13 at a Field Day at Roton Point Park, outdistancing competitors several years his senior. He caught his brother Tom against the Colored Giants when he was 16, playing with

the White Eagles.

The next year, in 1929, Leo started pitching in earnest for the Aggies, with the Bredices — Nick, Lou, and George with Bill, John, and Jim Miller. When he wasn't pitching, however, and in one game in the Norwalk Twilight League in the early 1930s, he struck out 11 consecutive YPHA batters, a record at the time in the Twilight League.

Fagan, who is 80 years of age, ultimately played with almost every baseball team in the area during the period. With the White Eagles in 1928, he played for the Aggies several years, and added Winnipauk, Georgetown, Redding Ridge, Schultz Market, Connecticut Lace, and even had a short stint with Frank Riley's Wilton club.