

**Metro Detroit
Amateur Softball Association
Hall of Fame and Honor**

**October 2, 2012
Troy, Michigan**

“The history of sports has been marked by the occasional appearance of an athlete who seems to have been touched by a magical hand, whose extraordinary skills are embellished by an intangible spark of greatness, an athlete who seems destined to leave an indelible stamp on his or her chosen avocation. Greatness assumes many shapes and forms, like subtle colors blending into a deep blue hue, but in any form, greatness separates the legends from the mere mortals in the arena of sports. Proficiency and skill can be honed by practice and dedication but the really outstanding athletes, the Hall of Famers, come to the arena with greatness already programmed into their personalities. The purpose of the Metro Detroit Amateur Softball Association Hall of Fame and Honor is to recognize and honor those metro Detroit men and women who have played so brilliantly and competed so well during their careers, managed, umpired, sponsored, or provided that special touch to the game of softball, and who at the same time have contributed to the development and growth of their sport.”

Categories are as follows:

Player

Umpire

Manager

Sponsor

Commissioner

Meritorious Service



**Tim Whitson
Meritorious Service**

Tim has been involved with softball for more than 38 years in many capacities – a player, softball administrator and board member for Metro Detroit ASA. He served on the MDASA board member from 1982 to present. Served as president in 1989, 2004, and 2005.

Tim was selected to serve as the Metro Detroit national player representative on the ASA national council where he held that position for more than 15 years. Tim also served on various committees at the local and national levels. He was instrumental in formulating the local adult tournament program for men, women, and coed dating back to the 1980's.

Tim retired in 2003 as Director of Parks and Recreation from the City of Garden City where his responsibilities included the administration supervision and coordination of all adult men's and women's slow-pitch leagues and tournaments throughout the year, youth slow-pitch, and umpire programs.

Metro Detroit ASA
“The Best in Softball”

www.metrodetroitasa.com

National ASA web site: www.softball.org



Metro Detroit ASA Hall of Fame and Honor Inductees

20th Metro Detroit Amateur Softball Association

Hall of Fame Awards Banquet



Metro Detroit

October 2, 2012 Troy, Michigan



1982

George Caloia-FPP
Bill Cole-SPP
Carl "Tex" Collins*-SPP
Mike Gouin-SPP
Bonnie Jones*-FPP
Sam Lombardo-FPP

1985

Al Dolecki-S
Joe Gauci-SPP
Charles Justice*-FPP
Anthony Lutomski*-C
William Svochak*-C

1988

Thomas Chappelle-SPP
Sammy Gee*-FPP
Bob McCaffrey*-U
John "Jack" Trompicks-MS
Jack Westerlund-SPP

1991

Milo Karhu-SPP
Tony Mazza-SPP
Percy McConner*-FPP
Evans Telegadas-FPP
Jack Tobias-U

1996

Mike Engan-MS
Paul Gatto*-FPP
Jim "Torch" Scullen-S
Ed Shankin-SPP
Mike Turk-SPP

2004

Mike Busch-SPP
Tim Doyle*-C
Angie Fielder-FPP
Gary Urbanczyk-M
Ted Younce-U

2010

Bob Green – SPP
Tom Fitzsimmons – U
Carol Hutchins – M
Mike McDowell – SPP
Evelyn Micol – M
Dennis Troshak – M

1983

Ed Figelski*-FPP
Mike Ilitch-S
Beatrice Lollar-SPP
Roy Lombardo*-MG
Jim Snyder*-S

1986

Mike Axelson-SPP
George Gillies*-U
Wilbur Landis*-C
Rocco Palmeri*-FPP

1989

George Corona*-SPP
Jackie Huggins-SPP
Fred Nothdurft-S
Karl Nothdurft-S
Tom Trompicks-SPP
Ed Tyson-FPP

1992

Diane Laffey-MS
Bob Malicki-SPP
"Buck" Polonczyk*-MS
Charlie Williams-SPP

1998

Al Hortop-MS
Shelley Larned-FPP
George Lerchen-SPP
Frank Pilarowski*-P/MG
Al White-MP

2006

Mike Barel-U
Dick Collard-M
John Eckstein-SPP
Danny Lipinski*-CMike O'Connor-SPP
Kelly Thayer-FPP
Doug Zimmerman – U

KEY

SPP –Sow Pitch Player MG – Manager
S – Sponsor FPP -Fast Pitch Player
MP - Modified Player U – Umpire
C – Commissioner MS-Meritorious Service
* Deceased

1984

Mike Adray*-S
Bob Auten-SPP
Mack Phillips*-S
Johnny Spring-FPP
Frank Verbanac*-SPP

1987

Joe Castrodale-FPP
Felix Michaels*-S
Jim Puckett-SPP

1990

Wally Galba*-SPP
George LaPlata-S
Don Lair*-C
Linda Mueller-SPP
Carl Walker-FPP
Jerry Zarick-FPP

1994

Ernie Flowers-FPP
Leon Grunalt-MG
Robert Kaump-U
Andy Kovalcik-MG
Gary LaDue-SPP
Sally Whalen*-MS

2002

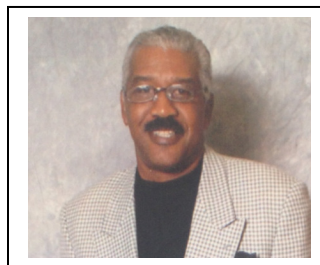
Mike DeLeo-U
Scott Grace-S
Tom Kaminski-SPP
Don Stuckey-MS
Bob/Sandy Thompson-M

2008

Bob Allen – U
Peter Karmanos Jr-S
Jeanne Martin –U
Pam Ossenheimer-FPP
Mike Zdrodowski-SPP

Don Sheffield Slow Pitch Player

The flashy Sheffield began his playing career in the Late 1970's playing with such teams as Softball City, Miller Auto, Lockey's, and Nothdurft just to name a few of the teams he made a major impact as a player. His start began with the Ford Adray team. He was also a major contributor on teams when he played in the famed Major Metro Travel league in the early 1980's.



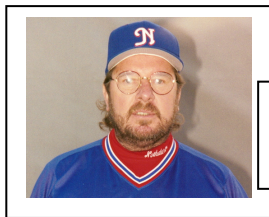
Don's greatest achievement was when he helped the Nothdurft team capture a national ASA title in 1987...his first national title. The speedster and hot glove at shortstop helped his teams win six more ASA national titles while being selected to five all-american teams from 1987-1993. Sheffield also played some outfield positions; and with his quickness took away many hits from the opposing teams. Don continues to star on the diamond playing with a travel 55 and over team (Salsa) where he is defending their 2011 title. He credits his softball prowess to Fred Nothdurft, who helped him achieve star status on the field.

Hall of Fame on Display

The current Hall of Fame is on display at Canton Softball Center – Victory Park located at 46555 West Michigan Avenue, approximately two miles west of I-275.



Congratulations to ASA national Hall of Fame inductees –



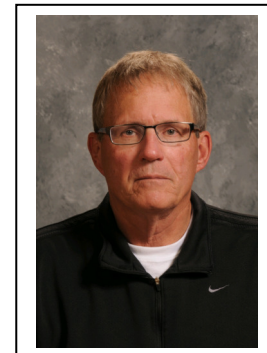
Leon Grunalt
Manager
November 2012



Al White
Modified Pitch Player
November 2011

Gary Bryce Meritorious Service

Gary Bryce completed his 31st season as head coach of the Wayne State softball program in 2012. Bryce became just the 20th softball coach in NCAA history with 1,000 wins when the Warriors won at Findlay on April 20, 2011.



Gary has done it all on the diamond – playing 20 Years of men's ASA fast pitch softball; head coach at Royal Oak Dondero high school from 1977-81 while capturing a state title in 1979; captured an ASA women's class A regional title in 1984; and also an ASA umpire!

Bryce entered 2012 19th on the NCAA All-Time softball coaches wins list with 1,007. Coach Bryce was inducted into the NFCA Hall of Fame in December 2008. His 2003 squad became the first in school history to advance to the College World Series after winning the NCAA Great Lakes Regional in Allendale, while his 2010 team shattered the previous wins record (43 in 1993) by winning 52 games including the NCAA Midwest Regional and Super Regional titles to advance to the College World Series.

During his tenure, he has built one of the most successful collegiate programs among Michigan universities and colleges, compiling a 1007-615-7 (.620) overall record in 30 seasons. Under Bryce's guidance, Wayne State's softball program has been nationally ranked 24 times in his 30 seasons. WSU has made 16 appearances (1983-84-86-88-90-92-93-94-96-02-03-06-07-08-09-10) in the NCAA Division II National Championship tournament since 1982, tied-for-seventh most in NCAA Division II.

The 2009 senior class was the first in school history to make four consecutive NCAA tournament appearances, while the class of 2010 became the first with three 40-plus win seasons. Gary has made an impact on softball in metro Detroit that is recognized by the entire state!

Metro Detroit to Host Tournaments in 2013

The City of Novi, Metro Detroit ASA and the Detroit Sports Commission hosted a very successful Girls 14 & Under Class A fast pitch Northern National championship this past August.

Future tournaments in Metro Detroit:

2013 – State Tournament, July, Sterling Heights, MI
Men's Senior 50 & Over, 55 & Over, 60 & Over;
Women's Senior 50 & Over, 55 & Over
2013 – Girls 10 & Under Fast Pitch Class A and B
Northern National Championship – Novi, MI; August

Bob Kost Umpire

Bob started umpiring Jr. Baseball in the late 1960's. In 1971, Bob joined the Westland Athletic Officials Association under the guidance of Hall of Famer George Gillies. Bob umpired fast pitch, modified pitch, and slow pitch softball. That first year Bob got invited to umpire the ASA National tournament in Southgate which included Detroit's own Little Caesars, who captured the title that year. That experience helped Bob a great deal learning the art and control of a game as an umpire.

In the years that followed Bob decided ASA was the avenue to continue his umpiring career. In the following years he worked many metro Detroit and state district tournaments while also working several national tournaments. In the late 70's, Bob was appointed as a Deputy UIC in Wayne county for metro Detroit overseeing many umpire clinics throughout the area.

Looking back to those years Bob met so many class umpires, players and recreational administrators of the sport, which was a learning curve for his life. Kost truly represents the class of an ASA umpire!



Al Land Meritorious Service

Al Land has been with the Compuware girl's fastpitch program since it was first organized back in 1982. During that time, Al was a head coach for 25 years; and a board member for 10 years along with assisting at the 18U for the last four years.



His teams went to different age divisions at ASA nationals, but mainly with the 18U division. They finished in the ASA National top 10 on four occasions with the 1998 16U ASA national held in Novi where his Compuware team finished in 6th place the most gratifying. Land has worked with, instructed, coached and mentored more than 1000 players, with many playing college softball. He has also served as Compuware tournament director for 25 years (attracting 92 plus teams annually) at the nationally known event. Al has also coached at the high school varsity level for more than 20 years and has been involved with youth sports in the community both as a coach and supervisor. He feels strongly that a young person needs to feel important and sports (softball) provide them an avenue to that direction. Working and building character young ladies was his most

important drive; his goal was to be a mentor and positive influence on their lives!

Julie Liljeberg Fast Pitch Player

Julie joined the Daly Restaurant class A fast pitch team in 1994 after completing a successful college career at Western Michigan University.

Julie played with Daly from 1994-99 and set many batting records hitting for the team. She had a lifetime batting average of .370, fourth highest in Daly team history with 400 or more at bats. Julie was a standout left-handed first basemen turning many double plays and defending the bunt down first base exceptional. Julie played in nine national championships, six with Daly. She was named ASA all-american four times – first team in 1995, second team in 1996 and 1999, and third team in 1997. Julie was a major contributor to the success of any team she played on during her illustrious career. She was also inducted into the Western Michigan University Hall of Fame in 2002.



Tony Profita Meritorious Service

Across the country, Tony Profita is one of the most recognized faces in slow pitch softball. Known by many as the number one softball fan in the country, "Tony Pro" has been involved in ASA softball for more than 65 years. As a young employee with the Detroit Packard company in the 1940's, Tony helped organize the company softball league, which exposed him to Detroit softball – and he's been hooked ever since. Tony became a regular Detroit parks and recreation leagues, following local players and their teams to tournaments and world championships. He was a long time friend, confidant and advisor to Bill Svochak and Tony Lutomski, and proudly carried his ASA District Commissioner card to ASA tournaments and events.

In his prime, Tony watched more than 500 softball games a year. His weekend travels included trips to almost every state where softball is played and he forged many friendships with softball players, managers and sponsors. Tony began collecting team jerseys and softball caps from his favorite players and teams as souvenirs and created a collection that is unmatched anywhere – his own Hall of Fame museum in his home. At age



89, Tony continues to watch games each night in hopes of catching up with many of his softball friends.