

USA Softball Missouri HALL OF BLUE 1993-2017

USA Softball Missouri Hall of Blue began in 1993 to honor those ASA/USA Softball umpires in the Missouri operational area who have demonstrated outstanding ability, leadership, and accomplishment in ASA/USA softball umpiring.

MINIMUM REQUIREMENTS FOR CONSIDERATION:

- Demonstrated professionalism and support of softball umpiring for the ASA
- Registered with USA Softball Missouri for a minimum of eight years
- Assignment as an umpire or UIC to a minimum of six Missouri ASA state championships
- Assignment as an umpire or UIC to a minimum of two events at the regional level or above, including one ASA/USA national championship. National Qualifiers and Hall of Fame Qualifiers are considered regional events.
- Involvement with USA Softball affiliated organizations may be considered to reach these requirements.
- Demonstrated support of umpire training programs at the local or state level.

2017 – No inductees

2016

Pat Hagan – Cape Girardeau – Hagan worked no less than eight state tournaments in both girls' fast pitch and adult slow pitch and umpired in six national championships between 200 and 2015. His career began in 1990 and has spanned nearly 30 years. He attended the Missouri ASA State Umpire School in 2003

2015 – No inductees

2014

BRIAN DORSEY – Springfield - Dorsey first registered with ASA in 1997 and attained all three levels of the ASA Umpire Medals program. He joined the ranks of the National Indicator Fraternity in 2003 and attend two National Umpire Schools. He has worked nearly twenty nationals and numerous local and state tournaments.

MELVIN RESPRESS – St. Robert – Respress, retired Army, has been an ASA registered tournament for over 25 years and has worked no less than 22 state, 2 regional and 8 national tournaments. He has worked softball in Korea and Germany. He attended the Missouri State Umpire school in 2012 and National Schools in 2012 and 2014. He has mentored many young umpires and officiates four high school sports.

GREG STEPHENSON – Springfield - An ASA umpire for more than 20 years, Stephenson has attended four national schools. He has worked over 20 state tournaments and seven national ASA championships.

MIKE VOGEL – Jefferson City - Vogel works both fast and slow pitch and first began his career in 1975. He volunteers with the Special Olympics softball program and has conducted many umpire clinics in mid-Missouri. He has worked numerous state and seven national ASA tournaments and served as a District UIC since 2010.

2013

DEAN HOMAN – Sedalia - Homan works, ASA, high school and college fast pitch and his career spans over 25 years. His ASA highlights include more than 10 state, 3 regional and 7 national tournaments. He attended one state schools and two national umpire schools and has served as the State Fair District since 2012.

RICH MAUZEY – St. Joseph – Mauzey has been involved with ASA softball since 1998 and worked more than eight state, one regional and a dozen national tournaments. He has served as the Northwest Associate state UIC since 2011.

2012

GEORGE SUTPHIN – Waynesville – Sutphin's career with ASA started at Fort Hood, Texas in 1988. He umpired while stationed in Germany and in Fort Riley, Kansas. He has worked over 20 state tournaments, five nationals and has attended two national umpire schools. In two of the three nationals, he was selected to work the championship game.

TOM WEIBERG – Jefferson City - Weiberg's 30 year career included 34 state tournaments, six regionals and three nationals. He extensively umpired college softball as well and spent a portion of his career working in California.

RUSSELL ROOT – St. Joseph – Root's resume includes 11 state, one regional and three national tournaments spanning nearly 25 years.

2011

CHARLES Mc CARTNEY – St. Joseph - McCartney's career began in the mid 1970's and he umpired countless state and regional ASA tournaments. He served as co- coordinator of umpires for several nationals in St. Joseph.

2010

BOB GARNER – Cape Girardeau – For over twenty years, Bob Garner has displayed a high level of professionalism and support of softball umpiring. He has umpired or served as UIC for more than twenty state championships, umpiring in six national championships, and served as UIC for two national championships. He has attended the National UIC Clinic in Oklahoma City five times and was Missouri ASA President 2011-2014.

JACK WALKER – Albany – For more than twenty years, Jack Walker has proven leadership abilities. He has umpire or served as UIC for more than a dozen state tournaments, three regional tournaments and six national championships. He has attended the National UIC Clinic in Oklahoma City four times and served as Missouri ASA State UIC from 2011-2014.

2009

KEN KWANTES -- Rolla -- An ASA registered umpire for 30+ years; has umpire countless local, district and state championships and he has umpired in three national tournaments -- Men's Masters 35-Over Slow Pitch (2003); Men's "C" Slow Pitch - West (2005) and Men's "D" Slow Pitch Northern National (2007). In 2008 he was inducted into the National Indicator Fraternity and is a Gold level member of the ASA Medals program.

CHUCK SNOW -- Columbia -- Involved with ASA softball for nearly 40 years. During this time he has umpired in numerous State ASA tournaments and four National ASA tournaments. He has received his 25-year MSHAA pin. He has been inducted into the National Indicator Fraternity and is a Gold Level member of the ASA Medals program. Snow was the UIC for the Missouri Central District and is the Northeast Associate UIC for Missouri ASA. He has also officiated in two National NAIA softball championship tournaments.

2008

THOMAS DRUMMOND, SR. - Cape Girardeau -- Drummond was a leading umpire in the Cape Girardeau area and has a long list of accomplishments over his 25 year career. He umpired more than a dozen ASA state tournaments, served as District UIC for three years, attended a national umpire school in 1991 in San Antonio, Texas and worked two national ASA championships. He was named the 2001-02 NFOA Official of the Year.

CHRIS GROSS -- Cape Girardeau --- In a career that started in Kingsville, Texas in 1977, Gross served in a variety of ASA capacities. He was the District UIC from 1990-1998; Deputy State UIC from 1998-2000, and worked one national and four regional tournaments. He worked NCAA and specifically the MIAA softball conference.

RICK HEURING -- Scott City -- Heuring started umpiring in 1976 and worked numerous state championships. He worked the plate for the MSHSAA Class 4 State Championship in 2001 and was also selected for the plate for the 2004 Girls 14-B national championship finals. Heuring spent more than 20 years working Division I and II college softball.

2007

TERRY BEAS - Rolla - An ASA registered umpire for 18 years; has umpired more than 50 Missouri ASA State Championships, eight Mid-America ASA Regional Championships and five ASA National Tournaments. He has

served as district umpire-in-chief and has conducted numerous rules clinics. Beas has also umpire softball at the college level for 13 years.

AL MYERS - Jefferson City - Myers has been an ASA umpire for 25 years. He umpired more than 35 state championships, three regional and two ASA National Championships. He also worked the 2005 Air National Guard Slow Pitch Nationals in St. Joseph, Missouri.

2006

GARY WALLACE - Willard - Umpired 15 state tournaments, 3 regional, and 9 national championships. Wallace has been an ASA registered umpire since 1994.

LARRY BEEZLEY - Battlefield - Beezley has been an ASA registered umpire for 20 years, umpired in 44 state tournaments, 10 regional, 9 national championships. He was inducted into the National Indicator Fraternity in 1997.

STEVE WILLIAMS - Springfield - Williams has umpired in 18 state tournaments, 9 regional, and 9 national championships, during his 15 year career. Steve was inducted into the National Indicator Fraternity, Silver Medals Program in 1997.

2005

RICK PETTY - Jefferson City - Petty has worked 25 state tournaments, four regionals and 4 nationals. His national tournaments include the 2000 Men's "B" Fast Pitch in Springfield and three youth nationals. He is a gold member of the ASA Medals Program. Petty was named state UIC in October of 2014.

2004

TODD DELPH - Webb City - An ASA umpire for over 25 years, Todd has umpired 25 state tournaments, mostly fast pitch, 20 regional championships and seven ASA nationals, including one Men's Major Fast. He has worked the Big 12, Mo. Valley, Mid Continent, MIAA and Heart of America college conference games as well as two Division II regionals, 5 NJCAA Nationals, 10 NJCAA regionals and two NAIA regionals. He has also umpired in two MSHSAA finals and one ISC World Series. He is a gold-level member of the ASA Medals program and was inducted into the ASA National Indicator Fraternity in 1993. Delph was previously from Sedalia.

DAN ROGERS - Webb City - A seventeen year career in ASA includes work at 13 state, 4 regional and 6 Nationals. He has umpired in the MIAA and Big 12, has worked seven NJCAA Nationals, six NCAA D-II regionals and three D-II Nationals. He is a member of the ASA Medals program.

2003 – No inductees

2002

BRIAN HEATON - Springfield - In a 13-year career, Heaton umpired in 17 state, 4 regional, 4 National Qualifiers, and 3 National Championships. He joined the National Indicator Fraternity in 1995, attended one state umpire school, one regional school and one National Umpire School. In 1994, he was selected to work the home plate for the championship game for a men's super slow pitch national qualifier, 2 state tournaments, one regional and the Girl's 14 & Under Slow Pitch National in Springfield.

MERLIN THOMAS - Jefferson City - An umpire for over fifty state , 20 regional and 3 national tournaments, Merlin Thomas has earned the respect of administrators and fellow umpires in the Mid-State area. He currently serves as the Mid State ASA District UIC.

DAN MORROW - Jefferson City - Dan umpired his first state tournament in 1979 and has worked more than 50 state tournaments, 8 regionals and 5 national championships. He has been designated the tournament UIC for ten state tournaments. He has worked ten NCAA regional tournaments as an umpire or UIC and umpired three NCAA World Series. He has served as the ASA Mid State District Commissioner since 1999.

DON STUBBLEFIELD - Jefferson City - "Stubby" as he is know to his friends, has umpired in more than fifty state tournaments, four regionals and two nationals in a career that began in 1971. He has served as Tournament UIC for two state and one regional tournament. He served as a Deputy District UIC for Mid State District in 1992-96, District UIC from 1996-2000, and was then named a Deputy State UIC for Missouri. Stubblefield also umpires high school softball, baseball and volleyball as well as college softball and baseball.

2001

ROBERT BURRIS - St. Joseph - His umpire career started in 1980, Burris has umpired almost 30 state tournaments, two regionals, three nationals, and served as umpire coordinator for the 1986 Men's Over 40 Nationals. Since '97, Burris has umpired 13 National Tournaments and 4 regional.

2000

RON HERMANN - Springfield - An umpire career that began in 1980, Ron Hermann has attended four National Umpire Schools, was picked to work nine National Championships, served as a Deputy State UIC for Missouri from 1991 to 1995 and worked in the state A.S.A. office for two summers. He was instrumental in forming the Springfield Umpires Association and has umpired or UIC-ed more than 100 invitational, state, and regional tournaments. He was named to the A.S.A. National Indicator Fraternity in 1991.

1999

JIM BONEBRAKE - Gower - With 24 years experience in the St. Joseph softball program, Bonebrake is known for his professionalism and willingness to help train younger umpires. His career includes three nationals, several regional and more than thirty state tournaments. Jim has served as District UIC for eight years and has held a variety of positions on the St. Joseph Umpire Association board since its inception.

(HARRY) KENT RICH - Jefferson City - Since 1970, Rich has been umpiring. His long list of credentials include attendance at three National Umpire Schools, umpiring or serving as UIC for more than twenty state tournaments, six regionals and four nationals. He was the Mid State District UIC from 1985-1995.

1998

DOUG BLAUVELT - Blauvelt, from Springfield served as umpire or Umpire-in-Chief for some thirty state, six regional, and four National Championships. He served as the Missouri A.S.A. Deputy State UIC for Area 5 from 1987 to 1992.

JOE LEDL – Ozark - Ledl worked 10 state, three regional and three National A.S.A. Tournaments in a relatively short twelve-year career. He was considered by some to be the premier slow pitch umpire in Missouri in his day, and he became a member of the A.S.A. National Indicator Fraternity in 1987.

DON FREEMAN - Springfield - Don is still active with the Springfield-Greene County Park Board softball program, where he began working in 1981. He has umpired twenty state, eight regional, and eight National Championships. He has served as the Springfield District UIC since 1995.

1997

CAROLYN HEAVIN - Republic - Carolyn Heavin has served in a variety of capacities in her career. She has umpired forty state, four regional, and five national championships as well as MIAA and Missouri Valley Conference games. She served as the Area 5 Deputy State UIC in the 80's.

MIKE BROOKS - Springfield - Mike Brooks is perhaps best remembered for his extremely high level of professionalism and his ability to officiate without calling attention to himself. His career included work at nine state, two regional, and five ASA National Championships and he has also worked the Gateway and Missouri Valley Conference Championships. He attended one National Umpire School and the Missouri State Umpire School in 1989.

1996

FLORA STANSBERRY - Seneca - Included in a 21-year career that is ongoing are fifteen state tournaments in Missouri, nine state tournaments in Kansas, a total of 7 regional tournaments and one national.

1995

JERRY LEHR - Known throughout southern Missouri as a sports official, Lehr's career in softball ran from 1975 to 1989 and included twelve state championships, two regional tournaments, two national tournaments, and three TRADOC Nationals at Fort Leonard Wood from 1984-86.

RON TILLMAN - Tillman is well-known and respected as one of the finest softball umpires ever to come out of St. Joseph. Highlights of his career include no less than six state, two regional and two national championships.

1994

MANNY HORD - St. Joseph - Hord served as Umpire-in-Chief for the St. Joseph District for over twenty years, and was UIC for the state of Missouri. He was President of the St. Joseph Softball Association for 19 years, and umpired numerous state and regional, and two national softball tournaments. In 1965 he was assigned a 46-day tour of the Far East to promote softball and conduct rules clinics.

JOEY RICH – Springfield/St. James - Rich's softball umpiring career has spanned over forty years, and included officiating of no less than ten state, one regional, and three national championships. He also served as both tournament director and umpire-in-chief for eight state tournaments; has conducted over thirty umpire clinics, and has been tournament director for three national championships. He was school coordinator for the 1993 ASA National Umpire School in Springfield, and has attended 16 A.S.A. National Umpire Clinics in Oklahoma City. He is currently a member of the A.S.A.'s National Indicator Fraternity, the A.S.A. Medals program and is the Missouri A.S.A. State Commissioner. He continues to umpire in the Rolla area.

KERMIT DANIEL – Monett/Liberty - Daniel served as District Umpire-in-Chief in Springfield in 1984-85, the Deputy State Umpire-in-Chief of Area 5 from 1984-87, and as the State Umpire-in-Chief from 1987-2005 and 2007-2010. He has conducted more than thirty umpire clinics and served as the organizer and lead instructor for two Missouri A.S.A. state umpire schools, the only two ever held. He officiated in the Gateway Conference from 1982-92 and in the Missouri Valley Conference since 1992. All told, he has umpired or served as UIC for 45 state, seven regional and seven national championships, worked a variety of Armed Services competition, attended eight National UIC Clinics in Oklahoma City, and is a member of the A.S.A.'s National Indicator Fraternity and Medals program.

1993

AL FLISCHEL - Columbia - Considered by many as one of the true "originals" of softball umpires, Columbia's Al Flischel has a list of accomplishments nearly unending. He umpired or served as UIC for at least sixteen state tournaments (in some cases three in one year), three regionals, one national invitational, and served as Assistant UIC at one national championship. Al is a walking rule book and has umpired local leagues since 1974. He attended the A.S.A. National Umpire Clinic in 1989.

BOB KESSLER - St. Joseph - Kessler, currently the Deputy State UIC from St. Joseph, has umpired or served as UIC for no less than ten state, two regional, and four national tournaments. He has been active with the St. Joseph Softball Board, Parks Board, and St. Joseph Umpires Association. He attended the first National Umpires School in Colorado Springs at the Olympic Training Center in 1992.

ART CHARLE - Springfield - Charle served as district Umpire-in-Chief in Springfield for two years, and his umpire career spanned 1970 to 1984. He had played fast pitch softball for twenty years starting in 1952. He worked numerous state tournaments as well as two nationals in Springfield.