

# Rounding Third

Chicago 16-Inch Softball Hall of Fame Monthly Newsletter



November, 2018

## Don't Forget To Cast Your Vote

Voting for the 2018 HOF Inductees ends November 30th!

If you believe someone should be inducted into the Hall of Fame, please make sure to cast your vote before the polls close!

To cast your vote, please [click here!](#)



## Please Take Our Survey!

Please take our short survey about the HOF museum and activities. We want to know what you are looking for when reading the HOF newsletter!

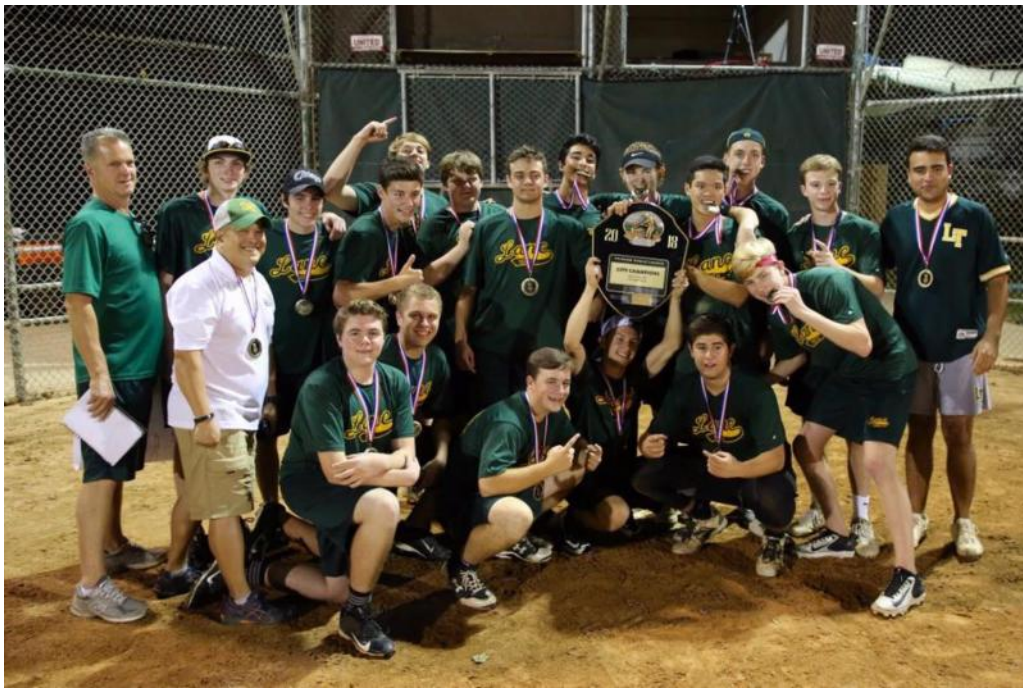
To take the survey, please click [here!](#)

Thank you!

## Lane Tech Wins!

Congrats to Lane Tech's Boys 16" Softball team on their win against Solorio at Forest Park to become City Champions!

To watch the full video, please [click here!](#)



## **March Softball Team Wins 2nd Big Ball Vegas Tournament**

The March Softball Team from Chicago repeats as the Las Vegas Big Ball Softball Tournament Champs. With a historic and dominating performance March Softball lost it's first game of the day to Thunder Softball out of Chicago 4 - 1 and then proceeded to come back through the loser's bracket to win 8 games and out score their opponents 93 to 20. They played solid defense throughout. Lead by tournament MVP Scott Horodecki put on a clique with their bats. March had to double dip the team from Marshalltown Iowa to cap off a very long day of softball.

March team members: Brian Blackwell LF, Angelo Alesa EH, Nate Mercado SS, Billy Smith RF, Mike Manzella C, Israel Sanchez 1B, Danny Villarreal 2B, Anthony Avila 3B, Scott Horodecki UP and Jeff (Jibbs) Hernandez P. Subs: Tony LePore, Rich Batistone, Rich and Ken Baran. Manager Ron Kubicki, Coaches Ray Topps, Fritz Zimmerman, Bill Cavanaugh, Tom Balek, and Mike Caputo.

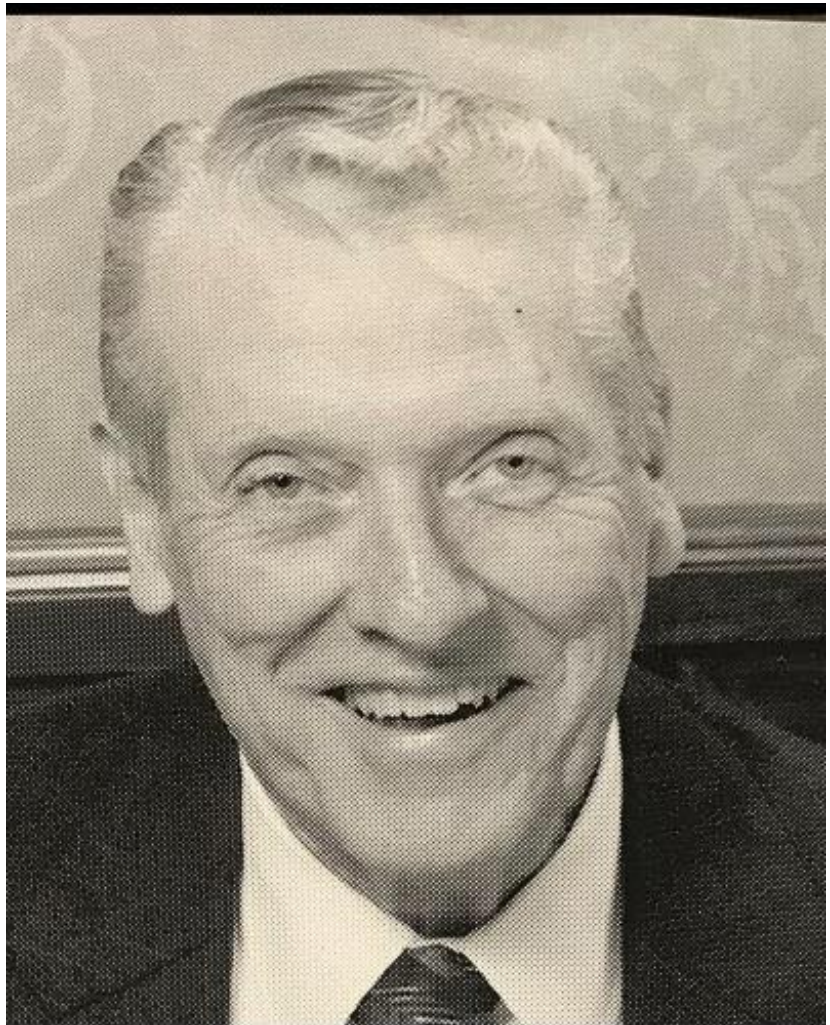
On a final note Fritz Zimmerman donated the \$1000. 1st place money to The Dennis Gardner Family to help with medical expenses for their daughter.

Congrats to HOF Inductee Ron Matrisciano and SSA for organizing another outstanding event with teams from Oregon, Nevada, Yuma, AZ, San Diego and LA, CA, Iowa, and Illinois. He is doing a great job of promoting the sport outside the Midwest. The teams are indeed talented.



## HOF Inductee John 'Heck' Hechinger Passes Away At 90

John Hechinger began his softball career with St. Viator Grade in 1942 when they made it to the quarter finals in the St. Ignatius tournament. A left fielder who also played first and third, Hechinger had a lifetime batting average over 600, and hit 350 home runs. From 1942 to 1957 Hechinger's teams won twelve championships on such teams as St. Viators, Ideal Liquors, the 35 Club, the Addison Bears, and Murph's Lounge at Mozart and Riis Park from 1948 to 1950. Hechinger played with Fewer Boilers, Spalter Finance, Leo Rose Clothiers and Kool Vent Awnings at the North Town and Windy City Leagues from 1948 to 1952. He also played simultaneously at Clarendon Park with Town Pump, Marino Brothers, Addison Bears, and the 35 Club. From 1947 to 1950 Hechinger played with St. Cyr Council. They won the City Championship once, and lost twice. While with St. Cyr, John Hechinger played along side Lewa Yacilla, Charley Russo and John Abbatacola as short center. He entered the Counter Intelligence Corps in 1952, and served until 1955. When he came out, he earned his law degree and met Mary, who would



become his wife. He went on to play with the Tom Thumbs, with Hall of Famer Bob Lamont, and Knights of Columbus with Johnnie Lattner in center field. During his legal career, John Hechinger served as a judge in the Cook County Juvenile Court, the Criminal Court, and the

Chancery Division of the Circuit Court. In 2000, he was "Of Counsel" with the law firm of Rock, Fusco and Garvey Ltd. and lived with his wife, two sons and a daughter in Chicago. A good athlete throughout his life, he was inducted into the Chicago 16-Inch Softball Hall of Fame in 2000 - the same year his father, Mike, who played professional baseball with the Cubs, was inducted into the Chicago Baseball Hall of Fame. His greatest loves in life were God, his wife, his family, the law, the Cubs, golf and a great martini. Our deepest condolences.

## **Bricks For The Holidays!**

**Looking for a great gift idea? Well, look no further! The HOF has bricks available for you! Make sure you visit the HOF or go online to purchase your brick!**



**Mark Your Calendars!**

# Maag Toy Foundation Men's 16" Softball Tourney

Entry Fee: \$300  
plus one toy per  
team\*



\*\$350 for teams signing up  
after March 1.



Join Us March 9, 2019 at Tempe, AZ Sports Complex for  
The 13th Annual Double Elimination

\$50 paid for every win in the winner's bracket  
\$25 paid for every win in the loser's bracket  
Bonus paid if there are 12 teams  
1st - \$500  
2nd - \$250  
3rd - \$100

**Great Competition & Progressive Cash  
Prizes For Every Win**

This is an open roster tourney for 16 men's teams. Teams will be invited from in Arizona, California, Iowa, Nevada, New Mexico, Oregon and Illinois - First-come, first-served. This is a glove tournament. Each team must sign a roster and wear similar shirts. First game starts at 9am and last game starts in 7pm (if needed).

(8415 S. Hardy Drive)

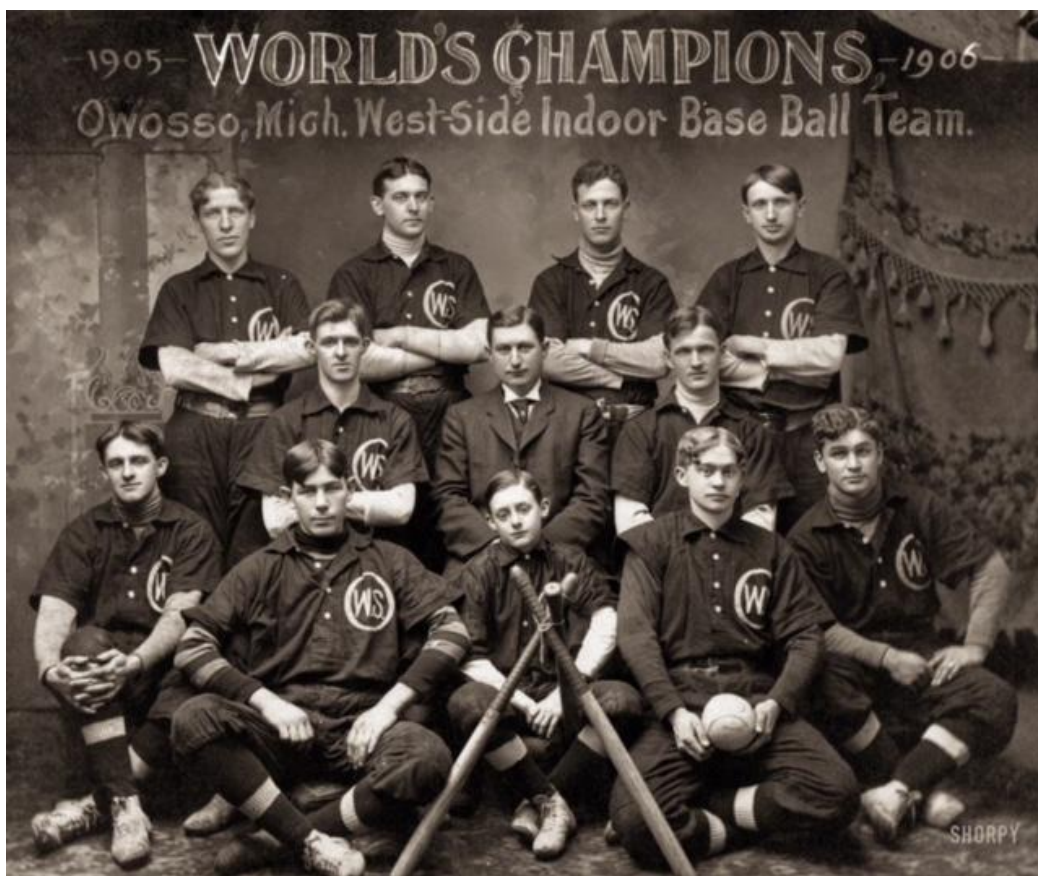
Make checks payable to

Maag Toy Foundation and mail to: 12770 N. 19th St. Scottsdale AZ 85259.  
For more information: [Maagtoyfoundation.org](http://Maagtoyfoundation.org) or call AI 602-363-6038



## Don't Miss Daily Old Photos on Facebook

The HOF Facebook page has been showing a different team every day - from the '30s to the contemporary era. We update our followers on current event, upcoming events as well as past events! We have had an average of 1,000 people view our highlighted teams, individuals, and HOF features and activities. On several occasions, we have even hit 5,000-7,000 views. Check us out and LIKE US on Facebook! We believe you will enjoy our page and may see folks you know - or even your own team.



If anyone has photos/videos from this event, please send to [Al Maag](#)

## Hall of Fame Museum Schedule

Open Saturday 12:00 to 4:00 Only

Call Rachell Entler at (708) 366-7500 x 17 for an appointment.

## The HOF is Looking for 16 inch Softball Memorabilia

A very nice patch was donated to the HOF. If you have any items that you would like us to consider for display please share by contacting Rachel Entler at Forest Park or drop off on a Saturday afternoon at the museum.

Do you have a great story, photos, or ideas of league or team names you would like to share? Send them to [Tiffany.Hoffman@Maagcommplus.com](mailto:Tiffany.Hoffman@Maagcommplus.com) for a chance to be featured in our next newsletter.

To sign up for the newsletter, please email [info@16inchsoftballhof.com](mailto:info@16inchsoftballhof.com)

Sincerely,

*The Chicago 16-Inch Softball Hall of Fame*

Rachell Entler

7501 W. Harrison St.  
Forest Park, IL 60130  
Office 708-366-7500 x 17  
Email [rentler@pdofp.org](mailto:rentler@pdofp.org)

STAY CONNECTED



**HALL OF FAME  
SPONSORS**

Find out how to  
**BECOME A SPONSOR>>**

**molex**  
one company > a world of innovation

**mb** financial  
bank

**MARCH  
PUMPS**

