



# Rounding Third

Chicago 16-Inch Softball Hall of Fame Monthly Newsletter



## Join Us For Our 20th Annual Dinner April 16th 2016

2015 16 Inch Softball Hall Of Fame Inductees to be Honored 20th Annual Dinner are as followed:

- **Women:** Sharen Olmstead, Renette McCurry
- **1993 to Current:** Tommy Duddleston, Tony Prochenski
- **1981 to 1992 ERA:** Mike Anast
- **1964 to 1980 ERA:** Jim Martin, Dennis Andristis
- **Pioneers:** Jack Flynn, William Abbatacola
- **Organizers:** Tommy Thompson
- **Umpires:** Larry Danley
- **Managers:** Percy Coleman, Tony Valosek
- **Frank C. Holan Award:** Grace Kenney
- **Richard J. Daley Award:** Ray Czarnik
- **Wall of Fame:** Alvin Robinzine, John Gregerson, Ernest Millsap, Charles Martinkus and Craig Wentz

- **Presidential Service Award:** Bill Wadlington
- **Teams to be Honored:** Legends of the Game , The Dukes, Thunder, Northern Trust, Carpet Country , LA Posse
- **Field of Dreams:** Westchester Park District



For more information, please call Rachell Entler at (708) 522-1070 ext 17 or visit [www.16inchsoftballhof.com](http://www.16inchsoftballhof.com)

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## Did Anyone Think We Would Be Here 20 Years Later?

When Tony Reibel and I co-founded the Hall of Fame we were not 100% sure we would be around another year, and we surely were not contemplating celebrating 20 years of inductee dinners...unless we were smoking something.

The inaugural event was held on a cold winter night at Hawthorne Race Course thanks to the support of their Marketing VP Howie Fagan. It was attended by an overflow crowd of 700 plus to see the first year inductees that included the best of the best and people who helped shape the game. Like Ed Zolna, Sweetwater Clifton, Mike Tallo, MaryPat McGuire, Jim DiVito, super marketer and player Tom Bonen, and Mr. Softball Bob Campbell from deBeer. To be honest it was easy to select the first few years of stars...but what has been very enjoyable the past 20 years for me has been learning more about the men, women and teams that I never heard of and how good they were and how they impacted our sport.

Our MC that night was a future Inductee Bob Sirott - also on hand was Jack Brickhouse. He told me "Al I just attended the Chicago Sports Hall of Fame dinner and

it had less people and not the buzz we had at Hawthorne, whatever were doing keep it up...I think you have something here." I'm glad Jack was right. We received some PR on the event. Just think in those days the internet was just a fledgling opportunity and there was no Facebook and no one was always looking at their phone...they spoke to people.

It's been an amazing journey; we have lasted and built Inductee park and the Museum thanks to Ray Topps, our dedicated board led by Ron Kubicki, sponsors, individuals and major donors starting with March Manufacturing's Fritz Zimmermann. We are not resting on our laurels, we still have to pay off our loan and plan for the future of the game and the HOF enhancements. Our objectives have not changed much since 20 years ago...including our key initiative: promote our sport and get our youth playing.

It's been a long journey and we have lost a few wonderful teammates over the years. So help us on our journey, most of us are 20 years older...at times it's a bit of a grind. We can use help, volunteers and especially more donors and sponsors. Join us as we honor the greatest ballgame going. Thanks for your support and consideration.

Sincerely,  
Al Maag

## Dont Miss Daily Old Photos on Facebook

Since September the HOF Facebook page has shown a different team from the 30's to the contemporary era. In just that 24 hour span on average 1,000 people view our highlighted teams, individuals and HOF features and activities. We have hit on quite a few occasions 5-7,000 views. Check us out - we believe you will enjoy it and possibly see folks you know or even your own team. Please Like us too!

[Click Here To View](#)

## Hall Of Fame Museum Winter Schedule

Open Saturday 12:00 to 4:00 Only

Do you have a great story or photos 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***

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