



# Rounding Third

Chicago 16-Inch Softball Hall of Fame Monthly Newsletter



Feb. 2018

## WGN S.E.E. Goes To HOF

Dawn Jackson Blatner of WGN-Chicago's S.E.E. show came to the Hall Of Fame to film a segment for her upcoming show. Dawn learned how the first ever softball game was played and why this museum is so important to us from HOF President Ron Kubicki and HOF Inductee George Bliss! We are thrilled to tell our story to Chicagoans who have yet to hear about us. The show will be airing in March, exact date TBD. We can't wait to watch.



## 2017 HOF Inductee Dennis Colucci Passes



Like many young people growing up in the inner city of Chicago, Dennis Colucci sought activities that were affordable and could be played in the streets and parks of Chicago.

Sixteen-inch softball fit that requirement perfectly. He started playing organized softball in 1956 with the Jokers, a neighborhood team from Chicago Avenue. He became their starting shortstop and batted in the middle of the lineup. The Jokers entered tournaments at Humboldt, Garfield, and LaFollette Parks and won champions at these parks year-after-year. They continued their success at local tournaments as they took a step up in 1958, entering major league softball at Kells Park located at Chicago and Kedzie. In their first year at Kells, they made it into the finals. Dennis continued as shortstop and batted third with an average over .500. He also entered the Jokers in tournaments at other parks, so the team would often play an early game and then rush to Kells Park for a night game under the lights. While this arrangement presented difficulties, they benefitted from the increased

competition. The Jokers also played in and won the John Marcin Elimination Tournament which consisted of 16 park district Championship teams from the North side.

Dennis played with the Jokers until 1963 when he joined the Rogues. For the next four years, he played shortstop and batted in the middle of the lineup. The Rogues played Class "A" softball at Kells, Clarendon, and many other parks. If there was a tournament, the Rogues played in it. They won a "sweet" victory in the Andy Frain Tournament in 1966 when they defeated the Bobcats 8-5 for the championship at Waveland Park and not making an out. He also played in park tournaments with Hogan's Heroes and the Stompers.

Our thoughts and prayers are with the Colucci Family.

## Join Us On April 7th!

### Ticket Info:

Tickets for the Hall of Fame event by order-which includes a four-course dinner, four hours of open bar and free parking-are available in advance until April 1 for \$130 for adults, and \$90 for people under 21 years of age. Tickets are \$150 and \$110 at the door. Cocktail hour is from 5:30-7:00 p.m., dinner 7:00-7:45 p.m., and presentations beginning at 8:00 p.m.

### INDUCTEE DINNER BOOK ADVERTISING

Ads for the annual Inductee Dinner Book are due each year on March 15th. Full page ads in the dinner book are \$300. For more information, please call Rachell Entler at 708-366-7500 ext 17, via e-mail: [rentler@pdofp.org](mailto:rentler@pdofp.org). Or [Click Here](#) for pricing and sizes.

For registration form and information on the Inductee Dinner,  
[Click Here](#)



## 22nd Annual Inductee Dinner Sponsorships



**April 7th 2018**  
**Oakbrook Drury Lane**

We average 550-600 guests

HOF is a 501(c)(3) all net funds are used for the HOF museum.

### EVENT SPONSOR BENEFITS INCLUDE:

- Noted in press release
- Ad in program
- On-stage mention and graphics on screens
- 2 guests at the event
- Optional product handout as they leave

### PLUS

Multiple mentions/logo on our social media platforms, on website and story and logo in monthly newsletter to over 8,000.

Event Sponsor Cost: \$2000

Dinner Program Full Page Ad \$300

Contact Rachell Entler | (708) 366-7500 | [rentler@pdofp.org](mailto:rentler@pdofp.org)



## Coming To Spring Training?

Golf.com Magazine selected Longbow Golf Club in Mesa as the place to play during Spring Training

Book your tee time today, tell them the Softball Hall of Fame sent you!

[Click Here!](#)





5601 E. Longbow Parkway Mesa, AZ 85215  
Reservations at 480-807-5400

## Purchase A HOF Brick

Order your unique gift for your friends or family. A Hall of Fame brick that will be seen forever at Inductee Park. Brick is \$250 and the large brick is \$500. To order your brick, please go [here!](#)



## 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.

## Don't Miss Daily Old Photos on Facebook

Since September, the HOF Facebook page has been showing a different team every day - from the '30s to the contemporary era. In just that short time, 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! We believe you will enjoy our page and may see folks you know - or even your own team.



[Click Here To View](#)

## 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**  
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