Michigan High School Coaches Association

54th Annual Hall of Fame Induction

Central Michigan University

Bovee University Center – Terrace Room

Sunday, September 16, 2012
Michigan High School Coaches Association
2012–2013 Board of Directors

Executive Officers

Jenna Ruddell–President
Mike Rado–1st Vice-President
Mike McGinnis–2nd Vice-President
Susan Miller–3rd Vice-President
Von Metzger–Past President
Rich Tompkins–Executive Director
Kim Spalsbury–Executive Secretary
Jack Johnson–Executive Director Emeritus

Members at Large

Tiger Teusink-Holland  Mike Jolly-Warren
Nancy Brisette-Essexville-Garber  Jim Okler-Grosse Ile

2012–2013 MHSCA Sports Representatives

Dave Elliott  Baseball  Reese
Rick Zoulek  Basketball  Shelby
Jenna Ruddell  Competitive Cheer  Stevensville Lakeshore
Gerald Rabideau  Football  Spring Lake
Jim Bennett  Golf  Grosse Ile
John Cunningham  Gymnastics  Plymouth Canton
Greg Durham  Men’s Lacrosse  Northville
Mike Emery  Women’s Lacrosse  Forest Hills Central
Sue Miller  Skiing  Charlevoix
Tom Calnen  Softball  Troy
Charles Olson  Swimming  Plymouth Salem
Mike McGinnis  Tennis  Battle Creek
Steve Porter  Track & Field/Cross Country  Milan
Von Metzger  Volleyball  Sturgis
Mark Holdren  Wrestling  Portland
Program

Welcome: Kim Spalsbury, Executive Secretary
Master of Ceremonies: Jenna Ruddell, President
Greetings from CMU: Stan Shingles, Asst.VP Recreation, Events, and Conferences-CMU
Invocation: Mike Jolly, Member at Large
Meal: Carved sirloin, Pecan encrusted chicken, Garlic mashed redskin potatoes, Calif. blend vegetables, Salad bar & Dessert
Association Update: Kim Spalsbury, Executive Secretary
Past President’s Plaque: Jenna Ruddell, President
Distinguished Service Award: Kim Spalsbury, Executive Secretary
Hall of Fame Presentations: Mike McGinnis, 2nd Vice-President
Sue Miller, 3rd Vice-President
Mike Jolly, Member at Large

2012 Hall of Fame Honorees

James Benoit
Marine City Cardinal Mooney Cath.

Cecil Burch
Pine River Area Schools

Robert Crosby
West Bloomfield

John DuBois
Plainwell

Sam Ellis
Inkster

Wes Gall
Manchester

Lee Kahler
Bad Axe

Edward Knapp
Vicksburg

Tim Lavasseur
Bay City John Glenn

Steve Nowak
Warren

Greg Phill
Livonia Stevenson

Vern Reed
Hale

Dave Swartout
Jackson Lumen Christi

Patricia O’Neill Williams
Grand Rapids Catholic Central

Mike Woolsey
Jackson Lumen Christi
MHSCA Past Presidents

Paul Smarks  Bob James  Ed Werner
Bob Hayes    Steve Sluka  Ed Graybiel
Jack Streidl Barry Anderson Dick Ouelette
Bill Bupp    Jack Johnson  Earl McKee
Charles Jones Jo Lake    Dan McShannock
Tiger Teusink Rich Tompkins Mike Jolly
Norm Johnson Bill Miilu  Jack Shriver
Sue Barthold Kim Spalsbury John Cunningham
Mike Torrey  Jim Okler    Dave Larkin
Al Cuthrell  Greg Kirchen Nancy Brisette
Sue Miller   Rick Zoulek  Marti Covert
Von Metzger

Distinguished Service Award

This award is presented each year to someone who has done an outstanding job supporting and promoting athletics in general, and has shown consideration and assistance to the high school scene and the Michigan High School Coaches Association. The following are past recipients of the MHSCA Distinguished Service Award.

Ron Finch    Win Shuler  Bob Reynolds
Fritz Crisler Biggie Munn  George Alderton
Jack Heppenstall Buck Reed  Don Wattrick
Terry McDermott Ray Fisher  Francis Staley
Bingo Brown    Bill Kelly  Earl Staley
Wally Weber    Russell LeCronier  Charles Forsythe
Dale Kennedy    Forster Wilkinson  Jim Lewis
Harold Sponberg Hal Middlesworth  Clayton Kowalk
Bill Odykirk    George Maskin  Sam Madden
Brother George Bob Calihan  Paul Carey
Don Canham    Jim Campbell  Morley Fraser
Helen Geovanes Vern Norris  Russ Thomas
Don Lund      Walt Bazylewicz  Richard Snyder
Marykaye Murphy Tom McShannock  Warren D. McKenzie
Dick Kishpaugh Kermit Ambrose  Roy Allen
Dick Lowry    Robert James  Tom Hursey
Richard Maher Jack Johnson  Jerry Cvengros
Suzanne Martin Jack Moss  Tiger Teusink
Herb Deromedi Don Lessner  Lloyd Carr
Dan McShannock Mike Jolly  Blake Hagman
Rich Tompkins

Distinguished Service Award
Fremont Public Schools

- Married to Carol for over 40 years
- Graduated from Hart HS in 1964 where he earned 10 letters in 3 sports, while also participating in student government, band, choir, theatre, and the National Honor Society.
- Attended Michigan State University, earning a degree in Phys. Ed. and a teaching certificate. He also ran track and field for MSU, participating on four Big Ten championship teams either indoors or outdoors. Also participated in Fellowship of Christian Athletes.
- P.E. Teacher-Reeths-Puffer HS and served as assistant track & field coach for one year.
- 28 years as P.E. Teacher and Coach at Fremont Public Schools
- Retired in 1997 but reentered education with wife Carol from 1998-2000 as teachers at the International Christian School in Hong Kong.
- Highly successful Cross Country and Track and Field Coach at Fremont HS for 28 years.
- 551-108-1 dual meet record for Track and Field and Cross Country combined. These squads earned 118 invitational championships, 48 conference titles (boys and girls, including 24 consecutive between 1973-1996), 23 regional titles, 30 top ten state meet finishes, 3 State runners-up teams, and 6 State Championship teams. Boys Cross Country once won 116 straight dual meets and were the Michigan Interscholastic Track Coaches Assoc.(MITCA) team of the 1980’s and 1990’s. The girls won the same title for the 1990’s.
- Nominee for MITCA Coach of the Year 15 times for either Boys or Girls Cross Country or Boys Track and Field. Six times MITCA Cross Country Coach of the Year (COY) and twice MHSCA State Coach of the Year (both times a national finalist for National HS Athletic Coaches Association (NHSACA) COY and National Federation COY
- Past-President of MITCA and long-time board member.
- Winner MITCA’s Kermit Ambrose Award for Cross Country and a member of its Hall of Fame
- Inducted into MHSCA Hall of Fame in 1997 and the NHSACA in 2003.
- Earned NHSACA Carey E. McDaonald Award in 2006 and Dwight Keith Award in 2010.
- Registered Michigan HS Athletic Association (MHSAA) official since 1968. Following 2nd stint as coach (2000-2009 assistant track coach at Hart HS) Rich has become a very active cross country and track and field official.
- Recent Past-President of Hart Lions Club
- Past-President of his church’s Men’s Group and serving on Lay Leadership Committee.
- Serves with Carol as volunteer with local lighthouse group and tourist information center.
James Benoit

Marine City Cardinal Mooney Catholic HS

- Graduate Mt. Clemens HS where he was Varsity Hockey Captain sr. yr.
- BS Central Michigan University with Social Science major and Ed. certification. MA Saginaw Valley State University in Educational Leadership
- Richmond Middle School assistant principal 2002-2007, then Richmond Elementary Principal 2007-present.
- Inducted into Catholic Schools Hall of Fame in 1999 and Michigan HS Softball Coaches Association(MHSSCA) Hall of Fame in 2004.
- Served as Ethics Chairperson for MHSSCA Comm. Also served as chair of All-State Selection Comm. For D-4, volunteer for All-Star game.
- MHSAA Site Selection Comm. Member and Officials Placement Committees.
- Significant Other: Amy  Child: Jacob
- James would like to thank teaching, coaching, and administrative mentor, Dave Jackson, as well as all of his student athletes who “have given more to me than I could ever give in return.” Also thankful for support and encouragement from parents of his players.

Cecil Burch (deceased)

Pine River Area Schools

- Played football, basketball, and baseball while attending Rockford High School.
- BA Central Michigan University w/PE major and teaching certificate. Later earned elem. certification and later MA: Recreational Management, also at CMU.
- PE teacher @ Lakeview one year.
- MITCA Cross Country Comm. Member and Chairperson for 1 year.
- Associated Track Officials of Michigan(ATOM) official and former President.
- Chairperson of Methodist Church Finance Comm. For 9 yrs., Member Luther Lakes Masonic Lodge 370, Church Youth Sponsor, and Little League and Pony baseball coach
- Wife Jan  Children: Scott and Dani Cain
Robert Crosby
West Bloomfield High School

- Detroit Henry Ford HS graduate-1969. 3 years on varsity swim team. City champ in 1969 in 100 & 200 freestyle, setting record in 100.
- MA in 1979 from EMU in Community Education.
- Inducted into EMU Athletic Hall of Fame in 1995.
- Taught PE and Business Education in West Bloomfield Schools for 37 years, retiring in 2010. Curriculum Coordinator for Physical Education from 2005-2010.
- Boys Record: 206-120-3  League champs ’95, ’97, ’98, ’03, ’05, & ’06.
- Olympic Torchbearer for 2002 Salt Lake City Winter Olympic Games (as nominated by one of his female swimmers)
- President of MISCA 2002-04. MISCA Rep. to MHSCA 2004-06. MISCA Zone Vice-President 2006-present
- Wife (of 39 yrs.): Marsha  Children: Chad, Whitney Wasielewski, & Brady
- Robert would like to thank parents (Joe & Elizabeth) for love and encouragement, wife and family for their support and encouragement, Michael H. Jones his college swim coach, his athletes and parents for trusting him “enough to let me lead them,” and Heavenly Father who has blessed him “with an abundant life here on earth” and provides a way to eternal life
John DuBois  
Plainwell High School

- 1972 graduate of Jackson HS where he participated in swimming, football, and baseball
- BS Western Michigan University-1976. MA-1986-WMU.
- Teacher/Pool Director-Plainwell HS 1978-present.
- 7 times MISCA Zone COY, MISCA B-C-D COY ’91, ’98, & ’11, Natl. Federation State Coach of Year 2003,
- Wife: Kim Children: Sarah, Meghan, and Erik.
- John would like to “thank his wife and children for their patience and support through the many years of shared sacrifice.” He would also like to thank the student athletes and parents of Plainwell for having been “fantastic partners in a shared version of swimming and diving excellence.” Their “support has made it easy to pursue his passion of coaching swimming.”

Sam Ellis (deceased)  
Inkster High School

- Graduated from Dearborn Fordson HS where he participated in football, wrestling, and track & field.
- Graduated from Eastern Michigan University. Attended on a wrestling scholarship. Later took graduate classes there, as well.
- Taught at Westwood Community Schools
- Also coached softball, girls’ basketball, middle school wrestling, & football at several schools in the greater Detroit area. Additionally, he coached Recreational softball, touch football, and basketball.
- Vice-President of Michigan Wrestling Coaches Association-1984-85.
- Was a member of the Order of St. Ignatius
- Wife: Jennifer Children: Joe and Meagan de Bruin
- Joe Ellis would like to thank the MHSCA for the honor on behalf of his father. “It brought great joy to my family, knowing my father’s impact will never be forgotten. We are truly blessed.”
Wes Gall

**Manchester High School**

- Graduated from Saline HS in 1970 after playing football, basketball, and baseball there.
- Played basketball and baseball for two years while attending Washtenaw Community College.
- 1975 graduate of Albion College with Education BS with major in PE and minor in History. Also played baseball for the Britons. MA in Phys. Education from Eastern Michigan University.
- Taught and served as Athletic Director at Manchester Public Schools 1975-present.
- Also coached volleyball and sub-varsity football, basketball, baseball, and softball.
- Helped operate Manchester Chicken Broil, member MHSFCA and Michigan Interscholastic Athletic Administrators Association( MIAAA)
- Wife: Kathy Children: Amy and Katelyn
- Wes would like to thank father, sisters, and brothers for teaching him to compete, his wife and daughters for their support, and Coaches Bradley, Corona, and Slepsky for guidance, the Manchester community, coaching staff, and athletes, and special thanks to the 1992 & 93 football squads.

Lee Kahler

**Bad Axe High School**

- Graduate of Horsehead HS in New York where he played football, wrestling, and baseball.
- Graduated from Michigan State University with Educ. Certification and Science major and Math minor
- Taught Science at Davison Junior High 1964-67. Also coached track and field and football
- 1967-2000 taught biology at Bad Axe HS.
- Head Football Coach-1979-81 Record: 13-14
- Also served as football assistant from 1967-1978 and assistant track & field coach from 1967-1979.
- Winner of MITCA’s Chuck Sweeney Award for track and field coaching, member MITCA Hall of Fame.
- Past President of MITCA, served MHSAA Track & Field Rules Committee and Regional Track Site Selection Comm., and served on MITCA track and field and cross country committees.
- Member Jayces, Lions Club, Sacred Heart Church Youth group, Thumb Meet of Champions Board.
- Wife: Pamela Jo Children: Martin and Phillip
Edward Knapp  
**Vicksburg High School**

- Played football, basketball, baseball, and boxed before graduating in 1954 from Concord HS
- Served his country in the US Army during Koean War from 1954-57.
- Attended Jackson Community College 1960-62, running track and field.
- BS Business Education @ Western Michigan University in 1964. MA in PE in 1970.
- **Wrestling Coach**-1971-1998 Record:360-98-2. 15 Conference titles, 5 District championships, 4 times Regional COY
- **Baseball Coach**-1964-1998 Record: 393-205. Ten Conference titles, 3 District championships.
- **Football Coach**-6 yrs. varsity assistant and 13 yrs. JV/Frosh Coach
- Coached 4 Individual Wrestling State champions
- 14 times Wolverine Conf. COY in three different sports. 29 Conference titles. Winner Wolverine Conf. Distinguished Service Award
- Ran community baseball and wrestling programs for many years.
- Winner Vicksburg Vocational Service Award and 4 time winner of Significant Educator Award
- Served on several MHSAA committees
- 8 yrs as Board member Church of Nazarene
- Wife: Susan  Children: Ted, Tom, and Fred

Tim Levasseur  
**Bay City John Glenn High School**

- Graduate of Bay City St. Joseph’s HS where he competed in football (four yrs on varsity and All-State sr. yr.), basketball, track & field, and baseball.
- BS in Education at Central Michigan University in 1970, playing football for one year.
- **Football Coach**-Overall Record: 236-89-3 @ Saginaw St. Stephen (Head Coach) 1972-74, 1975 @ Bay City John Glenn (Head Coach), 1976-8 @Saginaw Carrollton HS (Asst. Coach) 1979-2007 @ Bay City John Glenn HS (Asst. Coach). Regional Football champions 1979 & 1999. 1979 Class B Football Semifinalists. 14 yrs in State playoffs, 14 Conference championships.
- MHSFCA Assistant COY in 1999
- Member of MHSFCA Coaching Staff of the Year 1999
- Inducted into MHSFCA Hall of Fame in 2008.
- Worked w/ Freeland Little League, Freeland Youth Football, and Bay County Pony League.
- Wife: Luana  Children: Lisa and Craig
- Tim would like to thank fellow coaches Jim Geary(St. Stephen), Joe Etienne (Carrollton), and John Loop and Ken Fowler at Bay City John Glenn.
Steve Nowak (deceased)
Warren High School
• Graduated from Hamtramck HS and played football (captain in 1943 and All-City center), basketball, and baseball.
• Granted early graduation to enter US Navy during World War II
• Returned from WW II to attend Western Michigan University where he also played varsity football.
• Football Coach-Overall Record: 110-105-3 @ Marine City 1949-1958, @ Mt. Clemens 1959-1961, @ Warren HS 1962-82. Won 2 Conference championships
• Baseball Coach @ Marine City from 1950-58
• Track and Field Coach- 1977 & 1979 @ Warren HS. League champs in ’77.
• Member Marine City Hall of Fame, Hamtramck Hall of Fame, and Macomb County Hall of Fame
• Former deacon at First Presbyterian Church
• Started Little League and Pony League baseball programs in Marine City.
• Wife: Lois (deceased) Children: Thomas, David, Angela, and Mary Ann
• Son Tom reports that he knows his father thought very highly of former athletes Dick Chapman, David Byers, Jesse Johnson, and Manuel Rey.

Gregg Phill
Livonia Stevenson High
• Graduated in 1975 from Clarenceville HS where he swam for 4 years.
• Girls Swimming and Diving Coach – Overall Record: 264-100 @ Clarenceville 1976-1984. @ Livonia Stevenson 1985-present. 29 League titles. Three State Runners-up.
• 5 times MISCA Zone COY. 2 times MISCA COY & NHSACA National finalist for COY.
• 2001 MISCA Matt Mann Award winner.
• National Federation of State High School Coaches Coach of the Year-2008.
• 1987-2002 served on MISCA Executive Board (2 yrs. as President). 2000-present serves as Clinic Chairperson for MISCA.
• Wife: Julia Children: Samantha and Kayla
• “Gordy Larson started me in coaching early and was a great help in teaching me what was important. Big mentors in my career were Michael Jones (EMU) and all my peers to date. My time with MISCA has been very important to my career.”
Vern Reed II
Hale High School

- Played four years of football, basketball, baseball, and track & field at Vermontville High School. State champion miler in track.
- BS in Education at Central Michigan University where he also ran 3 years of cross country (#2 runner on Conference championship team in 1958) and 2 of track & field.
- Named Football field at Hale HS Reed Field in his honor in 2010.
- Athletic Director - six years at Hale
- Basketball Coach - Varsity-3 yrs, @ Bellaire and Junior High-1964-70 @ Hale.
- Hale held a “Coach Reed Day” in 1984.
- Served on MHSAA Track & Field Rules Committee.
- Member of Masonic Lodge.
- Wife: Marilyn Children: Vern III, Jodi, and Matt
- Vern would like to thank Dan Dorcye who coached with him for 20 years. He also relished coaching all three of his children. He fondly remembers the 1969 football team that had no two-way players and former 220yd. dash state record holder, Joe Less.

Dave Swartout
Jackson Lumen Christi High School

- BS in Education from Central Michigan University.
- English and Technology teacher, Asst. Principal, and Technology Coordinator from 1970-2012 @ Jackson Lumen Christi.
- MHSCA State COY ’83 and ’93. NHSACA national finalist in 1993.
- Member of Jackson Golf Hall of Fame, MIGCA Hall of Fame, Michigan Golf Hall of Fame, and Jackson Lumen Christi Hall of Fame.
- Served on MIGCA All-State selection committee for over 20 years.
- Regional Manager for MHSAA golf tournament many times.
- Member Dept. of Education for Lansing Diocese, President of St. John’s (of Jackson) School Bd. Of Education (1978-81), and St. John’s Parish Council President (1982-4).
- Wife: Mary Jo Children: Christopher and Erin
- Dave would like to thank his wife and children for their “support and encouragement over the years.” Would also like to thank all of the young men and women he has coached during his career. “I never once hit a ball or made a putt in any of the hundreds of matches…that the teams won over the years. The players really deserve the credit.”
Patricia O’Neill Williams

Grand Rapids Catholic Central High School

- Attended Marywood HS. There were no competitive sports for women available interscholastically, but she still managed to play basketball, volleyball, softball, track, and her first love, tennis.
- Became Grand Rapids City Champion at age 16 and played on the Junior Wightman Cup Team
- BS Mathematics-Aquinas College-1968. Played four years of varsity tennis at #1 singles and doubles.
- Has held a wide range of vocations, in addition to raising her eight children. Currently Adjunct instructor in mathematics at GR Community College and Math Instructor at Davenport University
- Overall Record as Tennis Coach @ Grand Rapids Catholic Central HS: 486-204-23.
- 1987 Tennis Coach Bronze Award. Franklin Life Select Circle Award for Coaching.
- Centennial Award from Michigan High School Tennis Coaches Association(MHSTCA) for 100 wins-1989
- Inducted into MHSTCA Hall of Fame and GR Cath. Central Hall of Fame in 2000.
- Inducted into Aquinas College Hall of Fame in 2009.
- Homemaker Award from Michigan State Extension1976
- Treasurer Kent County Association for Gifted and Talented-1975-85.
- St. Thomas Church Family Life Commissioner-1984-89, Education Commission member ’84-’89, and Eucharistic Minister 2000-present.
- Coached Battle of the Books for 10 years.
- Treasurer St. Thomas Boosters 1992-2007
- Husband: Thomas  Children: Thomas, Robert, Daniel, Matthew, Anne, Patrick, Michael, and Tricia
- Patricia would like to thank her parents, Bud and Rita O’Neill, her husband and children. “I am especially honored to have coached my own eight children, six of whom were not yet born when I started. For it all, I feel very lucky! (And thankful to my husband who always thought it would go away!)” Special thanks also to all of her players, parents, teachers, and administrators at GR Cath. Central, especially Jim Galvin and Mike Neuman.
Mike Woolsey

Jackson Lumen Christi High School

- Graduate of Jackson Lumen Christi HS in 1974. Ran four years of cross country and track and field.
- Attended Jackson Community College 1974-6 and continued running track and cross country.
- BS Olivet College 1978 after two more years of running
- Taught at Jackson Lumen Christi HS from 1979-present
- Girls Cross Country Coach-1979-present. Overall Record: 253-21. Twenty-two Conference titles. 14 Regional championships. 31 times team State meet qualifiers. 5 State Runners-up. 8 State titles
- 11 times MITCA COY
- MHSCA COY 1984 & 2004
- 2004 National Federation National COY, 2005 NHSACA COY
- MITCA Kermit Ambrose Award Winner & member Hall of Fame
- Past President of MITCA
- Head Coach Team Michigan for Mideast Meet of Champions All-Star Cross Country Meet 1988-2011
- Chairman MITCA Cross Country Comm. 1991 & 2004
- Member Games Committee for MHSAA State Cross Country Championships 1996-present.
- Jackson Area Race Directors Association and Jackson Recreation Dept. member.
- Wife: Ellen  Children: Emily, Adam, Caitlin
- Mike would like to thank his parents “who taught me to find something you like and work at being the best at it.” He also would like to thank his high school coach, the late Patsy Arpino, and current fellow coaches, Dave Miller and Debbie Smith, as well as “all the dedicated young ladies...who have [had] a way of making me look good and their parents who support and trust me.” Finally, he thanks his wife and family for sharing their husband and dad with the team.
Michigan High School Coaches Association

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MHSCA Hall of Fame

The Michigan High School Coaches Association was founded on the campus of Central Michigan University in 1954. The new Hall of Fame Room is located in the Student Activities Center next to the Dan Rose Arena. The old Hall of Fame room was dedicated in 1971 and the new room was opened in 1996. It is without a doubt the finest high school Hall of Fame Room in the country. With the induction of this year’s honorees, the total has now reached 621. The induction of the Hall of Fame began in 1958, but it was not until 1971 that it had a permanent home. Qualifications for membership are as follows: one must have served a minimum of twenty-five (25) years in high school coaching and/or athletic administration and have exemplified service to his/her community, state and affiliated organizations.

Hall of Fame Rings

Reminder, Hall of Fame rings are available through Jostens of Michigan. They are available in men’s and women’s sizes. Any Hall of Fame member or inductee interested in purchasing a ring, or a school group wishing to purchase a ring for an inductee or member, should contact Thomas Alward, Jostens School Product Group, work phone: (810) 658-1700.
MHSCA Coming Events
“State Coach of the Year Banquet”
Sunday, November 4, 2012
Site: Ramada Inn of West Lansing (formerly Holiday Inn West)
Lansing, Michigan
Order Tickets from Rich Tompkins