



Arizona Softball Foundation Diamond Highlights

June 2016

Summer

Volume 24

2016 Hall of Fame Inductees



Anita Jane (Byrd) Wells Legend Player/Pitcher Anita (Byrd) Wells played softball for the Dudettes and PBSW Ramblers from 1948 to 1957. She was recruited right out of elementary school by Dot Wilkinson and Ford Hoffman. At 13, Anita traveled with the Ramblers to pitch in the ASA Women's National Softball Tournament in Toronto, Canada. Anita pitched in numerous State, Regional and six National ASA Tournaments with the Ramblers.



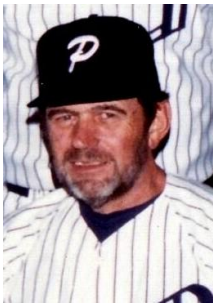
Tairia (Mims) Flowers Player/Third Baseman Tairia started her softball career at 10 years of age in Tucson. She played ASA ball on the Blaze 18 and under team, Lil' Cats and the Phoenix Storm women's Major team. She was a four year varsity starter at Salpointe High School. Tairia was an All Region, All State, and All American while in High School. Her Jr. Olympic Team won a Silver Medal in Taipei, Taiwan in 1999. Tairia was a four year softball player for UCLA. Her UCLA Team won the National Championship in 2003. While at UCLA Tairia was named to the All-College World Series Team, All Pac 10, All Region and All American teams. Tairia's accomplishments include: Two time World Cup Champions (2006, 2007), two time Pan American Gold medalist (2003, 2007), two time World Champion (2002, 2006), Olympic Gold medalist (2004) and Olympic Silver medalist (2008). Tairia currently is the Head Coach at University of California at Northridge.



Joe Robinson Contributor/Umpire Joe started serving as the Arizona ASA State UIC for A.C. Williams, our Long time State Commissioner, in 1981 and continued as the State UIC for 27 consecutive years. He was appointed as the Rocky Mountain Regional UIC in 2008 and has served in this position through 2015. Joe has worked as an umpire for 56 consecutive years. He was appointed and umpired in 19 ASA National Championships. Joe umpired college softball between 1976-1984. In 1978 he umpired the AIAW Women's College World Series. Additionally, Joe was inducted into the Pima County Sports Hall of Fame. Amongst the accolades associated with his induction into this Hall of Fame, was his receiving a Superior Achievement Award from the Arizona Interscholastic Association.



Ed McQuade Contributor/Coach Ed started his head coaching career as the baseball coach at Ida Grove High School, in Ida Grove, Iowa. He also played fast pitch softball for 5 years with the Ida Grove Merchants. Ed became head softball coach at Greenway High School in the fall of 1979. Under McQuade's tenure, the Greenway High School Team's total overall record is 836 wins 253 losses and 3 ties. Ed's teams at Greenway won 5 State Championships, two State Champion Runners up, and 21 Regional Championships. Greenway competed 36 out of 38 straight years in post season play. Ed was named 4 time Arizona Coach of the Year, and earned numerous Regional Coach of the Year honors. Ed also coached the Destiny and Scorpio girls club softball teams. His Scorpio team won Rocky Mountain Championship, qualified for three Metro tournaments, 3 Regional Tournaments, Hawaii Tourney 3rd Place, Disneyworld Tourney (2001) Champions.



Scott Keller Contributor/Coach Scott helped coach and manage the Prescott Merchant's Team comprised of all Prescott young players. The Merchant Team played in various tournaments and qualified for the 18u Boys ASA National Tournament to be played in Prescott. The Merchant's Team defeated the five time Champions, Schilitz Bulls', 15 to 3, winning the 1981 National ASA boys 18 and Under Fast pitch Championship. Sometime between 1981 and 1988, the Prescott Merchants became the Men's Prescott Mustangs. The Mustangs were managed and sponsored by Scott and Barbara Keller. The Mustangs participated in 5 ISC World Tournaments. In addition to coaching and managing the Merchants and Mustangs, Scott also served as the Arizona and Nevada Commissioner to the ISC from 1990 and 1991.



John Thierbach Player John played second and third base on several elite Arizona Softball teams including the F.E. Bailey Team, Sports Club of America and Arizona Turquoise Kings. Played with numerous Arizona softball hall of fame members including Jerry Wells, Jay Bob Bickford, Reid Nielson, and Gil Aragon. John participated in several State, Regional, National, and World Championships with ASA and ISC events.

Welcome to the 2016 Induction Banquet New Location



Book Your Room. Radisson Hotel Phoenix North has a special group room rate of \$79.00 plus tax. Deadline for group rate August 1st. The link will be available at the arizonasoftballfoundation.org web page and **Facebook** page. If you want to access directly, here is the direct link to book your room reservation. If you have any questions regarding room reservations call Evelyn Morales at 602-331-9802. The hotel offers free breakfast.

<http://www.radisson.com/reservation/itineraryEntrance.do?hotelCode=USAPNIX&promotionalCode=AZSOFT>

Radisson Hotel Phoenix North

10220 North Metro Parkway East, Phoenix, AZ 85051 | 602-997-5900

This year's induction banquet will be held at the **Radisson Hotel Phoenix North** on **August 13th, 2016**. Registration and a **No Host Reception** will be from 4:30 PM until 6:00 PM. During this time, visit the memorabilia tables showcasing the lives of our inductees. Dinner will be served at 6:00 PM with the induction program to follow at 7:00 PM. Dinner will include prime rib, vegetables, bread, salad, and dessert. Cash bar will be located in the ballroom for the convenience of the attendees. Tickets for this year's banquet will be \$45.00. Please contact Bobbi Forner at 602-266-7125 for ticket information or write to:

**(ASF) Bobbi Forner
6336 North 11th St.
Phoenix, AZ. 85014**

Deadline for tickets is August 1st. There will be a **Silent Auction** and a **50-50 Raffle** prior to the induction ceremony. Please note only cash and personal checks will be accepted for silent auction items and late dinner reservations.

COME JOIN YOUR FELLOW SOFTBALL FRIENDS FOR A NIGHT OF FUN AND ENTERTAINMENT

Fifteenth Annual ASF Scholarship Golf Tournament

The Arizona Softball Foundation has provided several young ladies attending a junior college in the state financial assistance using the proceeds from the ASF golf tournaments.

Date: Saturday September 10, 2016

Time: Shotgun Start: 7:30 AM Check in from 6:30 AM-7:15 AM

Where: Aguila Golf Course 35th Ave and South of Baseline Rd

Cost: \$60.00 per player or \$240.00 for foursome

Divisions: Men's, Women's, and Mixed

Special Contest holes: Closest to the Pin and Longest Drive for both men and women

Silent Auction items, 50/50 Raffle tickets, Mulligans and String for sale

Sponsorships available Sponsorships begin as low as \$50. Contact: Karen Mischlispy: 602 438-2928

Enclosed with this newsletter is the brochure with the registration form. ASF Golf Chair: Ed Fletcher



Life Time Achievement Award Dot Wilkinson

The Arizona Softball Foundation is proud to announce our first LIFE TIME ACHIEVEMENT AWARD to be presented to **Dot Wilkinson**. Dottie started playing softball in 1933 at the age of 11. As the catcher for the PBSW Ramblers for the next 32 years, she was named ASA All-American 19 times, and won National Championship titles in 1940, 1948 and 1949. Dot became the first woman to be inducted into the Arizona Sports Hall of Fame in 1976. She was also inducted into the ASA National Softball Hall of Fame in 1970 and the Arizona Softball Hall of Fame Charter member in 1974. She is considered the greatest female athlete in Arizona history and Dot is widely considered to be the best softball catcher of all time. She has been a great ambassador for softball and women's sports.

ASF Scholarships for Fall of 2016

Returning recipients:

Daniella Arndt Sophomore Glendale Community College from Surprise, AZ Ford Hoffman Scholarship
Maricella Holguin-Torres Paradise Valley Community College Tucson, AZ ASF Scholarship

New Recipients:

Makaila Mason South Mountain Community College Phoenix, AZ Bev Stewart Scholarship
Kelsey Chiaverini Mesa Community College Flagstaff, AZ Maricopa ASA Scholarship
Celeste Jada Faz Glendale Community College Phoenix, AZ ASF Scholarship
Kyla Rae Quintanilla Paradise Valley Community College Yuma, AZ ASF

2016 Reunion Team Prescott Mustangs

The Arizona Softball Foundation is proud to announce the Prescott Mustangs as the 2016 reunion team. Join your softball family at the Radisson Hotel Phoenix North (Metro Center). During the reception there will be a special video highlighting players, team photos and more of the Prescott Mustangs. Please pass this info on to past players and interested friends.

Arizona Softball Foundation Web Page: arizonasoftballfoundation.org

Visit Arizona Softball Foundation on our Facebook page: [arizonasoftballfoundation](https://www.facebook.com/arizonasoftballfoundation)

Membership Information

Annual dues: \$20.00

3-Year Member: \$50.00

Life Time Member 150.00

Please Print:

Name: _____
 First Last

Mailing Address

 City State Zip

E-mail (optional) _____

Phone: (Day) _____

(Evenings) _____

Cell _____

include area code for each

Send To: ASF - Rita Stilwell
 19741 West Colter Street
 Litchfield Park, Arizona 85340
 Phone: 623-853-1012

Make Checks Payable to: Arizona Softball Foundation

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 Scholarship Chair
 Important!!!
 Please contact Karen Mischlispy at
 602-438-2928 if you are interested in serving
 on the ASF Board.

Join Us At The Banquet

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Who Are These Players?



Rosie
 Andrade
 Dennis
 Stilwell
 Dot
 Wilkinso