

## 2014 HALL OF FAME INDUCTEES



### **Chris Breer, Male Player Category**

Respectfully known as “Rat” in the softball community, Chris has had a tremendous career in slow pitch softball. He first played USSSA in 1996, for O’Gallagher’s/Cue N Cushion, a men’s ‘D’ team. His team won the ‘D’ State Championship that year. Over the next fourteen years Chris played in ten more men’s State Championships. Winning seven more titles (“D” in 1996 and 1999, “C” in 2000, and four times at “B” in 2003, 2005, 2006 and 2011), he was named to numerous All Tournament teams and was awarded the MVP at the 1999 State Championship. Chris was a member of one State Championship team in the Mixed Program. He was a member of teams that won three Major NIT’s, and finished in the top ten in many World Championships. In 2009 Chris finally reached his goal of winning a World Championship and earning a ring by becoming part of the World Championship team of GTL. Some of his accomplishments include four All Tournament teams at the “Major” level, the 2007 “B” All World team and being recognized as the MVP of the Mike Davis Memorial in 2009. Individual accomplishments were always less gratifying than team success. In Chris’s words: “As a softball player I never wanted to be known as a good hitter or good fielder, but rather as a winner, because that meant I was fortunate to be part of a group making individual sacrifices for one common goal. While I am not sure I had a Hall of Fame career as a player, prior to stepping away in 2011, I assure you without any regrets, I was blessed to

have a Hall of Fame softball experience.” Without a doubt, Chris brings the credentials needed to be recognized for this honor.



### **Greg Bruns, Male Player Category**

Greg began his involvement with USSSA back in the early 1980’s. He has played alongside twenty of the current forty-five male players in the USSSA Washington Hall of Fame. Some of the teams he has played on include Ruth Realty, Pacific Blues and Softball Express. Greg was fortunate to stay relatively injury free over the years and as a result he has been able to realize many individual and team accomplishments. Greg has received a multitude of All Star awards and tournament MVP’s. Greg is best known through the years for his sparkling defensive play at the shortstop position, where he earned the nickname of “Hoover”, due to his prowess in the field. However, his abilities allowed him to play wherever his team needed him, whether it was on the infield or outfield. Greg and his teams have won the Men’s “A” state twice (with Ruth Realty and Pacific Blues) along with a “B” state title, with Softball Express. One of his most memorable games was in 1993 when Steeles came to the Seattle Major and his team beat them, when no one gave them a chance. Greg has hit over .600 throughout his career. He is currently still playing ball in the Senior Division of play, in another association.



### **Barbara Borgen, Female Player Category**

Barbara began playing softball as a very young girl in Texas, where she played youth fast pitch. Her family moved to Washington while she was in middle school, and she was promptly introduced to the game of slow pitch, where her team won a district title, placed 5th at State and she shared honors as an All American catcher. Barbara played on several recreational teams before joining the Jades Softball Club and winning the State Championship and going on to compete at the 'A' and 'B' World Championships. In Barbara's own words, "My most triumphant, friendship building and successful softball days have been the twelve years that I have spent with Al Medley, Al Chalker, Bob Tillman, Edgar Colon and the Seattle Express Softball Club. The combination of staff and players through the years that have represented the USSSA Women's Slow-Pitch Association in Washington State have much to be proud of: the State Championships, several top finishes at the 'A' World Series, and most impressive of all; an 'A' World Series Championship Title, not to mention a lifetime of friendships, and that ring that we all get to wear so proudly."



### **Chris Gregor, Umpire Category**

Chris began umpiring when he was just sixteen years old. He went from umpiring in high school to playing baseball for the University of Washington, and later Whitman College, where he was named to the northwest All Star team in 1982. After college he joined Shippers out of North Bend, and with Chris leading the way they quickly became one of the best teams in the state. Shippers went on to be the first team from our state to qualify for the Men's 'B' World Championships. Back then, only sixteen teams in the country qualified for a World Championship in each division of play. He went on to play for the Horn's All Stars where he won numerous All Tournament awards. He participated in Regional and World Championships in Utah, Oregon, California, Colorado, Idaho, Florida and the first 'B' World back in the northeastern US. Chris returned to umpiring in the late 1980's, and quickly became one of the top umpires in the area. He was requested and volunteered for all top level games he could get, and earned the respect of the players and coaches throughout Washington. In 1995 he was elected to umpire in the Men's World Series in Florida, and earned the honor of being requested to umpire the plate in the Championship game. Chris continued to umpire until the 2005 season, when he finally turned in his red shirt, picked up his five iron, and returned to the game that he loved. Chris is still thought of as one of the most talented umpires that has worked for USSSA in Washington and is missed by all those that know him.



### **Callie Goldsby, Special Category**

Callie's first involvement with USSSA Washington was in 1995 when she joined a mixed league through her place of work. Through the years she has played on some of the better women's and mixed teams in the northwest, which include The Olympia Bulldogs, Rally Time, Angove CPA, MVP Athletic and Lady Combat. In 2009 Callie and her husband became the proud parents of a baby girl and she decided to devote her time and efforts to the new edition to their family. When she first became involved with USSSA Callie took on the challenge of developing a website for the Thurston County Softball Association, and transformed the way people received information pertaining to upcoming leagues, tournaments and team standings. In January of 1998 Callie agreed to take over the USSSA Washington State Office website and registered the domain name [www.usssawa.com](http://www.usssawa.com). In 2002 she redesigned the website and developed a database management system that tracked teams, tournaments, leagues, directors, points and berths, and produced reports for all programs. In 2005 the database system was moved off of the state office computers to the web. Over the past fifteen years Callie has updated and redesigned the website with new functionality each year. Over the years USSSA Washington could not have achieved what it has without the help and work that Callie has given to the organization. The message board has over 7,000 registered members. Since 2005 over 27,500 teams have been registered in the system. Callie is without a doubt one

of the major reasons why USSSA is the number one softball association in Washington.



### **Frank Follansbee, Manager/Coach Category**

Frank has been affiliated with USSSA since the early 1980's, being the coordinator and coach of the softball program at Westminster Chapel, in Bellevue. Shortly after taking this position he switched the league over to USSSA. He has continued to stay involved with the USSSA Church Program ever since. After seventeen years of overseeing the program at Westminster Chapel, Frank moved to Overlake Christian Church in Redmond, where he oversaw and coached their several teams until moving to the Canyon Hills Community Church in Bothell, in 2003. Frank's program currently has four men's teams that play the Church program, with three of those competing in the 2011 State Championships. Not only does he oversee this program, but he still coaches and plays to this day. After finishing 2<sup>nd</sup> in 1991 in the Church State Championships, his team came back the following year and won the Church 'A/B' Championship, beating the perennial champions, Peoples Church. In addition to this, his Canyon Hills Community Church team won the Church "D" State Championship in 2005. Frank has won several All Star and MVP awards over the years, and was presented an appreciation plaque from the Church Program for his contributions to the Church Program.