

## HALL OF FAME MEMBERSHIP

- 1978** Bill Wilson (Pontiac Northern), Berl Waterman (Ypsilanti), Don Johnson (Lansing Eastern), Dean Rockwell (Michigan Wrestling Club), Cliff Keen (University of Michigan), Fran Hetherington (Michigan School for the Blind), Bill Nelson (Kalamazoo Central), Fendley Collins (Michigan State University), Iggy Conrad (Lansing Sexton), Greg Johnson (Michigan State University)
- 1984** Chris Taylor (Iowa State University), Mark Churella (University of Michigan)
- 1986** Bill Allen (Lansing Eastern), George Hobbs (Western Michigan University), John Nordlinger (Ann Arbor) Dave Porter (University of Michigan)
- 1988** Steve Fraser (University of Michigan), Floyd Oglesby (Battle Creek Central), Francis Bentley (Flint Northern), Steve Szabo (Pontiac Central)
- 1990** Gray Darling (Shelby), Tom McDougal (Fremont), Charles Sherwood (Central Michigan University), Ed Weede (Niles)
- 1991** Al Cox (Galesburg Augusta), Ray Mariucci (Kingsford), John Matthews (Central Michigan University), Grady Peninger (Michigan State University)
- 1992** Kevin Jackson (Lansing Eastern), Frank Kline (Ann Arbor), James Scott (Grand Valley State University)
- 1993** Zeke Jones (Ann Arbor Huron), Ed Langenburg (Bay City), Gary Rivers (Lowell), Duane Wohlfert (Fenton)
- 1994** Rod Rapp (Mt. Pleasant), Jim Walker (Lansing Eastern)
- 1995** Masaaki Hatta (Detroit), Ed Haughn (Traverse City), Mark McClenathan Grand Rapids), Kent Roberts (Sturgis)
- 1996** Art Gillespie (Alpena), John Harris (Shepherd), Bill Regnier ( Bedford)
- 1997** Shorty Jones (Jackson), Jare Klein (Olivet College), Jim Stallings (Trenton), Steve Zervas (Warren Fitzgerald)
- 1998** Dean McKay (Ovid Elsie), Alice Riggle (New Era), Ron Schultheiss (Charlotte)
- 1999** Chuck Colley (Constantine), Gerald Hoffman (Bay City Western), Jim Trumble (Alma)
- 2000** Bill Barrett (Rogers City), Tom Muir (Michigan State University), Don Schierholt (Branch)
- 2001** Al Kastl (Fraser), Dan Pantaleo (Olivet College), Jim Wittibslager (Dundee),
- 2002** Ron Gaffner (Muskegon Community College), Tom Krepps (Grandville), Larry Steward (Ionia)
- 2003** John Baum (Belding), Jim Mooney (Williamston), Don Mosley (Muskegon Mona Shores)
- 2004** Warren Gleason (Rogers City), Mike McCloughan (Portage Central), Jack Provencal (New Lothrop, Eaton Rapids, Grand Haven)
- 2005** Sam Ellis (Robichaud), Inkster, Bishop Borgess, Dearborn), Mike Garvey (Lawton), Tim Fagan (University of Michigan, Lake Orion), Sam Wilson (Gladwin)
- 2006** John Fisher (University of Michigan), Tom Fritz (Novi, New Boston Huron), Ron Helmboldt (Sparta), Jerry Marszalek (Dearborn Fordson), Mike Rodriguez (Detroit Catholic Central)
- 2007** Mark Holdren (Portland), John Quaderer (New Lothrop, Chesaning), Jerry Schneider (Addison), Robert Threlhoff (St. Louis)
- 2008** Jim Dewland (Parma Western), Dennis Fox (Adrian), Bob Galvin (G.R. West Catholic, Niles Brandywine, Niles), Douglas Ruterbusch (Bay City Handy, Bay City Western)
- 2009** Doug Kline (Lake Orion), Tom Lehman (Middleville Thornapple Kellogg), Don Rinehart (Rockford)
- 2010 Stan DeVoir (Lawton), Bruce Bittenbender (Stevensville Lakeshore), Chuck Rubino, (Birch Run, Dowagiac)
- 2011 Ray Arthur (Petoskey), Marti Covert (Byron Area), Joe Pantaleo (University of Michigan)

2011

## Hall of Fame Induction Celebration



**FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 11, 2011**  
**CAUSEWAY INN**  
**EAST LANSING, MI**

### COACH OF THE YEAR HONOREES

Division I	Sam Amine Brighton
Division II	Casey Randolph Tecumseh
Division III	Brandon Day/George Hamblin Richmond
Division IV	Scott Marry Hudson

### ASSISTANT COACH OF THE YEAR HONOREES

Division I	Stan Granger Holt
Division II	Charlie Wells Grand Rapids Northview
Division III	Kevin Edwards Remus Chippewa Hills
Division IV	Todd Gailhouse Decatur

## **RAY ARTHUR**

Ray Arthur is a graduate of Dondero High School in Royal Oak (1973), and of Central Michigan University(1978).

He has spent 31 years coaching wrestling at Petoskey High School, and set an incredible standard for “Northern Michigan Wrestling”. The list of accomplishments is very impressive, but more than that, what he did for Petoskey High School Wrestling and the school in general certainly outweighs the numbers of wins and championships that were recorded under his watchful eye.

Wrestlers and families from the northern part of our state looked at Petoskey and Coach Arthur as the standard for excellence.

Ray’s teams captured 20 conference championships, 13 district titles, 7 Regional trophies and in 1996 they captured the MHSAA Division II State Championship.

As the head coach at Petoskey, his teams accumulated an astounding 685-142-8 win-loss record, including 31 consecutive years with a winning record. The number of wins ranks Ray 4<sup>th</sup> all time in the state of Michigan. As of 2010, he was the 9<sup>th</sup> winningest coach in the history of high school wrestling in the United States.

Ray’s contributions were not limited to Petoskey Wrestling. He served 6 years on the MHSAA Wrestling Committee. He has been a clinician at the annual MWA clinic and he never refused to help anybody that asked. He coached Team Michigan in the Freestyle/Greco Roman National Invitational Tournament, and gave 4 years of service coaching Team Michigan Freestyle/Greco Roman Wrestling in the National Dual Tournament.

Ray was honored 4 times as a Regional Coach of the Year, he was the MWA Class B wrestling coach of the year in 1993. He was nominated from Michigan for consideration in the National Coach of the Year competition and in 2007, he was a National Semi-Finalist for the award.

We are not the first organization to induct him, as he is already a member of the NWCA Hall of Fame and the Petoskey Wrestling Hall of Fame.

Ray thanks his wife, his family, the community of Petoskey and Petoskey schools for all they have done top support him and the Petoskey Wrestling Program.

For all you have done Ray Arthur, the Michigan wrestling Association inducts you into the Hall of Fame.

## **MARTI COVERT**

Marti is a 1969 graduate of Fenton High School where he played football and wrestled. He continued his wrestling career while a freshman at Central Michigan University.

Marti’s teaching and coaching career has taken him many places, including Bad Axe, Redford and Byron area. He even spent two years in Swaziland, Africa while serving in the Peace Corps.

Marti coached football, track and wrestling, but his love is wrestling, which he coached for 34 years. His teams had great success and his student athletes achieved at an even higher level. His teams won more

than 400 dual meets, they won 14 district titles and one regional championship. His student athletes were held to an academic and behavioral standard that enabled many young men to move forward in the world to accomplish great things. Among these individuals, there were two state champions and 33 state medalists.

Marti’s contributions to the Michigan Wrestling Association and the sport are too many to list. He can be credited with many advances and with leading the association for a great time of growth. He spent 17 years on the executive board, and we are not letting him disappear any time soon.

Gratitude from Marti goes out to his wife, Chris and daughters Kara and Kathryn, without whom it would not have been possible to do all he has done without their love and support. Along with Mark Schaefer and Terry Drury, the Byron High School administration and the wrestling community are well appreciated.

For all you have done Marti Covert, the Michigan Wrestling Association inducts you into the Hall of Fame.

## **JOE PANTALEO**

Joe was a two time state champion at Roseville High School, accumulating a record of 86-0 as a junior and senior in high school.

Joe took his wrestling talents to the University of Michigan where he was a two time All American, finishing runner up in the Big Ten and the NCAA tournament twice. He was ranked number one in the nation during the 1988-89 season. As a captain over two seasons, the Wolverines snapped a 99 meet win streak that Iowa had vs. Big 10 opponents and both years, the team placed in the top five in the NCAA Championships.

After finishing at Michigan, Joe continued to compete, his resume is extremely full and impressive. In 1986 and 87 he won the Espoir National Championship and in 1987 won the world title. The following year he won the Trophy Malone Championship in Italy and was an Olympic Alternate.

Joe won the Sunkist International and the US International Tournament twice. He was a nine time US National Open Tournament All American, once finishing in the runner up position. He won tournaments in Italy and France. Joe was again an Olympic Alternate in 1992.

Joe has served as a coach over a great period of time. He has served as a graduate assistant coach at the University of Michigan and at Iowa University, and he was the Head Assistant Coach at Michigan State University from 1993-97. During that stretch, the Spartans placed in the NCAA top 11 three times. During his final year at MSU, the team had a pre-season ranking of second in the nation.

Joe coached 17 All Americans, three NCAA finalists and one National Champion.

Joe coached at Grosse Pointe North from 1999-2006 during which time his teams compiled a record of 136 wins and only 20 losses.

As a coach at Liberty University, the team sported a 30-14 record, winning two East Regional Team Championships and there were 11 NCAA qualifiers on the team.

For all you have done Joe Pantaleo, the Michigan Wrestling Association inducts you into the Hall of Fame.

## **STAN DEVOIR**

Stan DeVoir played football for four years at Albion High School and wrestled during his senior year. After graduating in 1971 he attended Adrian College where he played football for three years.

His first teaching job at Athens Area Schools included the responsibility of initiating a wrestling program at the high school. Two years later he was offered a teaching position at Lawton Community Schools with the stipulation that he would also start a high school wrestling program. Stan was the head wrestling coach for eleven years at Lawton. During that time, Lawton, a high school with a student population of 200, grew into a greatly respected and highly competitive program throughout the State of Michigan. From 1984-89 his teams placed 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup> (twice), and won 3 consecutive State Championships. Lawton also was the Tri-League Champion for four consecutive years. Over 60 Lawton wrestlers were state medalists with 13 winning Individual State Championships during his coaching tenure. Stan was honored by the MWA as Regional Coach of the Year four times and as the State Coach of the Year three times. After teaching for sixteen years Stan served as a building and district level administrator for seventeen years in four schools and was instrumental in helping to create wrestling programs at Camden-Frontier and Nouvel Catholic Central.

Stan wishes to express his gratitude for the love and support he has received throughout his life from his entire family, especially his wife Debbie and their three daughters Erica, Sonya, and Chelsea. He thanks all of the people who helped build the wrestling program at Lawton including Mike Garvey, Wally Hitchcock and the parents of the young men who wrestled for Lawton. Most importantly, he acknowledges these young men whose dedication, work ethic, and devotion to each other made all of the success at Lawton possible. His induction into the MWA Hall of Fame is a tribute to their character and their efforts.

For all you have done Stan DeVoir, the Michigan Wrestling Association inducts you into the Hall of Fame.

## **CHUCK RUBINO**

Chuck is a 1969 graduate of Lamphere high school where he wrestled on the first wrestling team the school ever had. He earned 3 varsity letters in wrestling and was coached by Gary Bandlean.

Chuck attend Central Michigan University graduating in 1974 and was a volunteer wrestling coach at Mt. Pleasant Jr. High while he was a student at Central.

Chuck served one year as Jr. High wrestling coach in the Lamphere Schools while serving as a substitute teacher.

Beginning in 1975 Chuck taught at Birch Run Area High School and served as head wrestling coach. During his tenure (8 years) his teams won 3 conference championships, 2 Saginaw County Championships and finished as District Runners up in 1983. He was named Saginaw County Coach of the year in 1981 and 1982.

Chuck spent 3 years coaching in Denver Colorado before relocating to Dowagiac in 1986. Over the next 17 years, Chuck guided the Chieftans to a record of 353-89. While at Dowagiac Chuck was named Regional coach of the year 5 times and Southwest Michigan Coach of the year twice. His teams won 6 conference titles, 11 district championships and 5 Regional tournaments. The 1998 team finished runners up at the MHSAA Finals.

Chuck would like to thank his wife Eileen and his children Mike (Jessica), Nick and Lisa for the amazing support over the years. Since retiring from the coaching ranks, Chuck spends some of his winter still on the mat as an MHSAA registered official.

Chuck Rubino, for all you have done, the Michigan wrestling Association inducts you into the Hall of Fame.

## **BRUCE BITTENBENDER**

Bruce comes to Michigan from Pennsylvania and he has made a mark since arriving. During the 1969-20 school year, Bruce was an assistant coach at South Haven High School as they won the Class B State Championship.

In 1970, Bruce began coaching at nearby Stevensville Lakeshore High School where he has written quite a history of wrestling accomplishments.

Bruce's teams have won 764 dual meets while losing only 181, which is a winning percentage near 75%, while competing with some of the best programs in the state. Bruce has more wins than any other coach in Michigan Wrestling history. He ranks second in the nation. In wins and he is still coaching and serving our organization with great passion.

Under the leadership of Bruce, the Lancers have won 26 conference titles, 21 district championships, 8 regional titles and 90 invitational titles.

Two of Bruce's teams have been State Runners Up and there were 4 teams that finished the season undefeated in dual meet competition.

Bruce has coached 78 state place winners, which includes 20 individual state champions.

In 2009 Bruce was named National High School Wrestling Coach of the year at convention of the National High School Coaches Association. Other accolades include South Bend Tribune Male Sports Coach of the Year, WSJM Male sports coach of the Year for Southwest Michigan and he has been selected 9 times as an MWA Regional Coach of the Year.

Bruce recognizes his immediate family and the Lancer Wrestling Community as having made such a difference in his life and career.

For all you have done, Bruce Bittenbender, the Michigan Wrestling Association inducts you into the Hall of Fame.