



# EASTERN SHORE BASEBALL FOUNDATION, INC.

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# COVERING THE BASES

## OCTOBER 2015

### FROM THE CHAIR

With the baseball season winding down and summer turning to fall, the Eastern Shore Baseball Foundation's Board of Directors is gearing up for a busy off-season. First of all, the Board is preparing for this year's Hall of Fame induction banquet. The eight inductees that were selected from this year's pool of nominations will be honored on Saturday, November 14 at Salisbury University's "The Commons." The Board is looking forward to hosting the banquet at SU once again as we received very positive feedback about last year's banquet. As Foundation members, we encourage you and your families to join us in celebrating the lifelong accomplishments of the eight new inductees. The Board and I look forward to seeing you at the banquet so please reserve your tickets today.

In addition to the banquet, our Curator, Gary Fries, and our historian, Donnie Davidson, are once again making significant improvements to the museum displays. These improvements will be complete by the Shorebird's opening night so be sure to stop in early next season.

## **Introducing the Hall of Fame Class of 2015....**

**Edward L. Athey – Manager** - A coach and athletic director at Washington College inducted into Washington College Athletic Hall of Fame on October 15, 1982, for his athletic abilities as well as coaching. Athey was a three-sport athlete in baseball, basketball and football. He coached the Washington College Shoremen baseball team for 28 seasons and compiled a record of 330 wins and 310 losses.

**Michael Alan Butler, Jr. – Player** – A left-handed pitcher who was a Mid-Shore Player of the Year from 1986 to 1988. Michael was drafted in the 16<sup>th</sup> round by the Oakland Athletics in 1988. He was also drafted in the 46<sup>th</sup> round by the California Angels in 1991. He pitched for the Northwest League Champion Boise Hawks in 1991 who were affiliated with the California Angels. In 1993, he was a California League All-Star while pitching for the Palm Spring Angels.

**William E. Dykes, Jr. – Player** – A versatile baseball player who played catcher, second base and outfielder in the Mar-Va League from 1945 to 1948 and the Central Shore League from 1948 to 1950. William displayed excellent fielding skills, was a solid hitter, and had outstanding speed. He was a lead-off hitter who had power, a high on-base percentage, with exceptional base-stealing skills.

**James "Jim" Fratino – Player** – An outstanding pitcher who pitched for the Pennant winning Salisbury teams from 1951 to 1953. In 1952, while pitching against the Hebron baseball team, Jim pitched a one hitter. In another game that year against the Fruitland baseball team he struck-out 15 batters. He pitched a no-hitter in 1954 for the Delmarva Railroaders against the Crisfield baseball team. He faced 29 batters and didn't permit a runner to score.

**John "Hersh" Hershberger – Player** – Played at Parkside High School, Old Dominion University, and Salisbury University. While playing for the Perdue Chicks of the Eastern Shore Baseball League from 1989 to 1998, John's career batting average was .360. He was a leader on every team he played for. Derek Yobst, a 2013 Hall of Fame Inductee, said John is one of the best players to play on the Eastern Shore.

**Gordon Kissner – Manager** – A successful manager who managed the American Legion Post 145 baseball team from 1999 to 2009. His record during the span was 305 wins and 97 losses. Besides his outstanding win-loss record, Gordon dedicated himself to the development of young men. He made his players have a keen sense of commitment, responsibility, leadership, excellence and humility.

**Mike Lambert – Booster** – A man, who tirelessly promotes, teaches and preserves the history of the Eastern Shore League as well as all of Delmarva's baseball history. He published a highly regarded book on the history of the old Eastern Shore League. Mike has also published many newspaper articles about some of those heroes during that time. He cannot only tell you about the history, but also show you the artifacts from that time.

# OPEN TO ALL BASEBALL FANS

**Buy Tickets Now – Deadline Oct 31, 2015!!!**

## 2015 ESBF HALL OF FAME INDUCTION BANQUET

When: Saturday, November 14, 2015

Where: Salisbury University  
“The Commons” Bistro Room  
1101 Camden Avenue  
Salisbury, MD 21801

Time: 5:00p.m. social hour, 6:00 dinner followed by induction ceremony

Inductees: Edward L. Athey  
Michael Alan Butler, Jr.  
William E. Dykes, Jr.  
James “Jim” Fratino  
John “Hersh” Hershberger  
Gordon Kissner  
Mike Lambert  
Norman “Flea” Phillips

Tickets: **\$35.00 per ticket – must be purchased in advance**

### How to Get Tickets

- Email us at [info@esbhalloffame.org](mailto:info@esbhalloffame.org) to request tickets and we will invoice you by email
- Call and leave a message at 410-546-4444
- Cut off order form below, include check made payable to ESBF in the amount of \$35 per ticket, and mail to ESBF at address below

Note: If you send payment prior to **October 25, 2015**, your tickets will be mailed to you. If we receive your request after this date, your tickets will be available at the front door on the night of the banquet.

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Detach and return to:  
ESBF  
P.O. Box 2071  
Salisbury, MD 21802

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Number of Tickets: \_\_\_\_\_ Amount Enclosed: \_\_\_\_\_