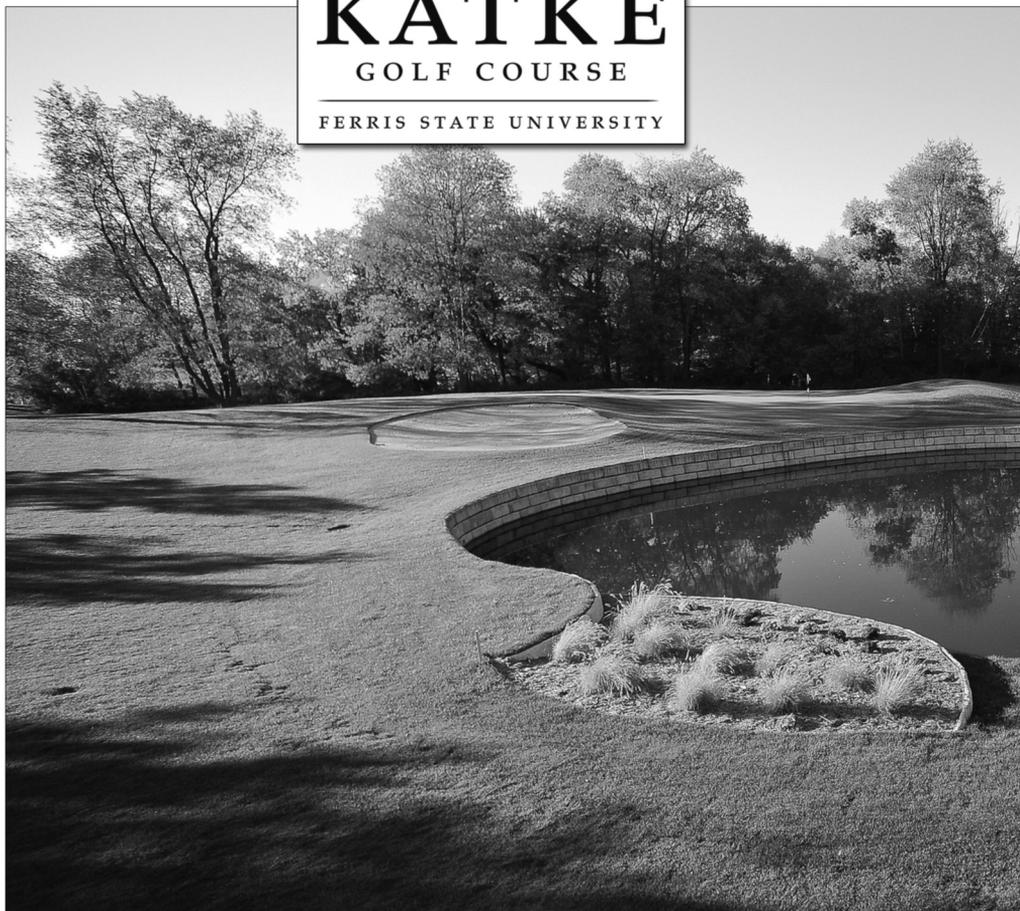


# Michigan Golf Hall of Fame *at*



Michigan Golf Hall of Fame

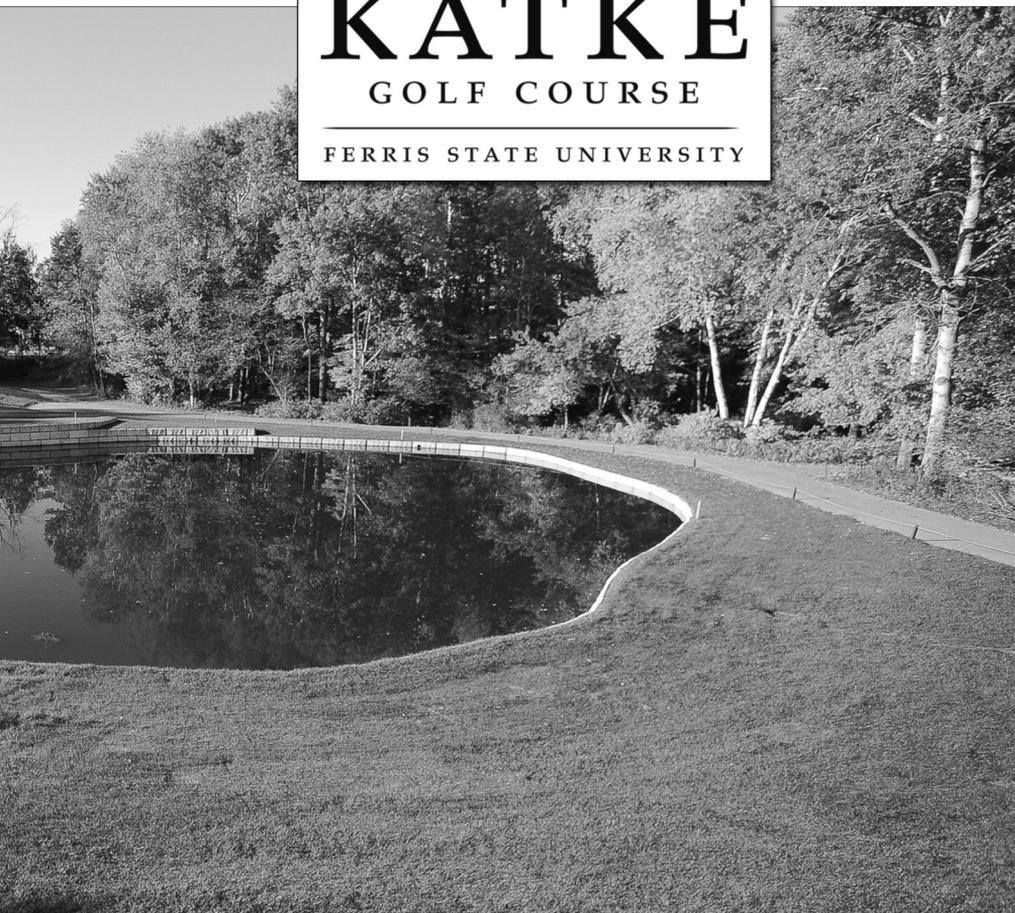
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# Michigan Golf Hall of Fame *at*



**KATKE**  
GOLF COURSE

FERRIS STATE UNIVERSITY



## Induction Ceremony



June 5, 2016

**2016**  
**MICHIGAN GOLF HALL OF FAME**  
**INDUCTION CEREMONY**



*Hosted by*

**Michigan Golf Foundation**

*And*

*Katke Golf Course at*

**FERRIS STATE UNIVERSITY**

**Big Rapids, Michigan**

**June 5, 2016**



Michigan Golf Hall of Fame

[www.michigan-golf-foundation.com](http://www.michigan-golf-foundation.com)





## PROGRAM

<i>Registration</i> .....	<i>9:30 to 10:30 a.m.</i>
<i>Shotgun Start</i> .....	<i>11:00 a.m.</i>
<i>Cocktail Reception</i> .....	<i>4:00 p.m.</i>
<i>Dinner at the Holiday Inn</i> .....	<i>5:00 p.m.</i>
<i>in the University Room</i>	
<i>Induction Ceremony immediately following dinner</i>	

## INDUCTIONS

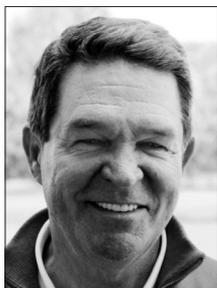
<i>Announcements</i> .....	<i>Terry Moore and Greg Johnson</i>
<i>Ferris State University</i> .....	<i>David Lepper</i>
<i>Hosted By</i> .....	<i>Bill Hobson</i>
<i>Special Award presentation to Oakland Hills Country Club</i>	

### *Introduction of Inductees*

*Ken Allard*  
*Todd Anderson*  
*Steve Braun*  
*Joseph M. Vargas, Jr.*



## KEN ALLARD



**K**en Allard's first golf club was a yellow, fiberglass-shafted 7-iron.

"Boy, did I love that club," Allard said.

As a lifelong golfer and teacher of the game, Allard would come to love all the things about golf with the same, boundless passion.

Allard, a member of the Michigan Golf Hall of Fame's Class of 2016, was born in Selma, Alabama. His father, a Detroit native, was a military man and that meant the Allard family traveled the world. Ken, with his four brothers and a sister, lived in Houghton, Michigan; Japan; Madison, Wisconsin; Florida cities Port Charlotte, Jacksonville and Hollywood.

Allard began playing the game as an eight-year old upon the family's return from a four-year stint in Japan. The yellow, fiberglass-shafted 7-iron started it all.

"Santa brought me a nice set of ladies clubs the next Christmas and I was hooked," said Allard, whose swing always was so natural and elegant. "Tagging along with my oldest brother and his pals was a great way to learn the game."

Allard got his first (and last) lesson as a 10-year-old and it made an impression. As a sixth-grader he qualified to play on the local high school golf team, lettered as a seventh-grader and was named All-Conference as a senior in Hollywood.

"In 1966, I was lucky enough to win a local high school event," Allard said.

The perk was enduring: It gave him the chance to caddie for Arnold Palmer in an exhibition match. A professional career became inevitable.

"After playing amateur golf for a few years in Ann Arbor I turned pro and was off to the mini-tours," Allard said. "In 1976 I began my club pro career at Radrick Farms in Ann Arbor. I then moved to Birmingham CC for 12 years and subsequent stints at Oakland University GC, Wabek CC and Detroit GC for the past 12 years.

"I feel extremely lucky, fortunate and grateful to have been part of the great game of golf. The best part is getting to know so many people along the way, especially the kids. In recent years I meet some of the kids I once taught and they now have kids of their own who are approaching college age."

For all those many golfers Allard has encountered over the years, that feeling of good fortune is mutual. The game has been extremely lucky to have somebody like Ken Allard in its midst.



## TODD ANDERSON

**B**orn in Grand Rapids, a graduate of Rockford High School and co-captain of the University of Alabama golf team, Todd Anderson's golf journey has taken him to national heights of instructional achievement and acclaim.



In 1984, Anderson began as a PGA apprentice at Green Ridge CC (forerunner of Egypt Valley CC) under head PGA golf professional Lynn Janson, but Anderson's interest in teaching began while a collegiate golfer at Alabama. "I worked as a range assistant at the Golf Digest Schools at North River Yacht Club in Tuscaloosa," said Anderson. "I was around outstanding teachers such as Davis Love Jr., Bob Toski, Jim Flick and Peter Kostis. It was an incredible apprenticeship-type experience to be able listen and soak up what they had to say."

Bolstered by his positive experiences with the Golf Digest Schools and Green Ridge, Anderson branched out by taking Assistant Professional positions in South Florida and North Carolina. By the age of 25, he accepted a Director of Golf position and served in that role for seven years at Elk River Club in Banner Elk, North Carolina and four years at the Old Marsh Golf Club in Palm Beach Gardens, Florida. In 1997 Anderson decided to give his full attention to teaching. "I had to make a choice—to teach full-time or to work as a club professional," said Anderson. The next seven years were spent as the Director of Instruction for the Breakers in Palm Beach, Fla., developing that facility's first golf academy. Anderson moved to Sea Island Golf Club in May 2004 as Director of Instruction. Under his guidance, a state-of-the-art learning and performance center with a multi-disciplinary approach was developed. During his tenure as a PGA Professional, Anderson has been named "Teacher of the Year" by the South Florida and Georgia PGA Sections.

In 2010, Anderson was named the "PGA Teacher of the Year" by the PGA of America, joining such luminaries as Jim Flick, Hank Haney, Harvey Penick and Bill Strausbaugh. He became the first Michigan native to be honored with the prestigious award, first bestowed in 1986, which recognizes "overall performance in teaching, unusual, innovative and special teaching programs, articles published as well as outstanding golfers the Professional has instructed."

As noted, Anderson's astute teaching is seen in the performance of his many students. They have won over 30 times on the PGA/Web.com Tours since 1994, including 2012 FedEx Cup Champion Brandt Snedeker and 2014 FedEx Cup Champion Billy Horschel. Coming full career circle with Golf Digest, Anderson is ranked #9 in the magazine's latest "America's 50 Best Teachers" list while topping the chart as the top ranked teacher in Georgia. Suffice it to say the game of golf is in a better place because of Todd Anderson.



## STEVE BRAUN



Steve Braun's impact in Michigan golf is especially evident from two honors he has humbly received.

The Flint Junior Golf Association, which he helped grow dramatically in 10 years as executive director (1975-85), named a tournament in his honor (Steve Braun Cup) in 2014.

The American Junior Golf Association, where he worked as a tournament director in the mid-1980s, presented him with its national service honor (1992 Digger Smith Award).

"Both of these honors came many years after I had served in each place, and it's nice to be remembered in such special ways," he said.

Steve, a Flint native who received the Special Service Award when he was named to the Greater Flint Area Sports Hall of Fame in 2015, played various sports in his youth, and one day was asked to play golf. He pulled his grandfather's hickory-shafted clubs from the attic, played for the first time and beat the teen who had invited him by 10 shots.

He was a player first, helping Flint Southwestern win back-to-back high school state championships in 1962 and '63, and finishing second in the state individually in '63. Steve reached the finals of the 1979 Michigan Amateur where he was runner-up to legend Pete Green, and 10 times he won the Flint Golf Club championship.

A friend nudged him toward service in golf. He was told that in a three-year period the FJGA enrollment had dropped nearly in half and needed new leadership.

While running the FJGA as an avocation he co-founded a national event with Buick as the sponsor (Phil Mickelson won it twice). This led to a job offer with the AJGA. After a few years Steve found the travel time too large a commitment, returned to Michigan and began his PGA golf professional apprenticeship at Dunmaglas Golf Club in Charlevoix. That led to the opportunity to become the head professional at Belvedere Country Club for 14 years.

"I got lucky getting the Belvedere job because I had just earned my Class A status," he said.

He also found a way in Charlevoix to continue impacting junior golf. In 1994, Steve co-founded the Charlevoix County Junior Golf Association and currently serves as its president.

Steve struggles to consider his golf service as an accomplishment.

"I don't think it's any big accomplishment to give back to the game," he said. "I always felt it was the right thing to do."

A Governor of the Golf Association of Michigan since 2004, he took over as its president in 2016.

"I'm also an officer of the new (Golf Association of Michigan) foundation and we have some ideas for programming with kids that will be unique," he said. "I think we can do special things."

Steve and his wife Marsha reside in Charlevoix.



## JOSEPH M. VARGAS, JR.

Joseph M. Vargas has won numerous awards for his research, expertise and advancements created for turfgrass management.

He has been humbled by them all, but was shocked by being elected to the Michigan Golf Hall of Fame.

“It wasn’t even in a dream,” he said. “It’s a surprise. I tell people it is true I’m going in the Hall of Fame, but it has nothing to do with the way I play the game.”

Vargas joining the Hall of Fame is not a surprise in the golf industry, and especially among superintendents who have benefitted greatly from his work.

A professor of plant pathology (Ph.D.) at Michigan State University for 46 years, he has produced research with international implications for turfgrass, authored over 200 articles on turfgrass disease and related subjects, has made over 1000 presentations at conferences around the world and authored the most widely used turfgrass disease book (Management of Turfgrass Diseases). He also co-authored two other books “Poa annua: Physiology, Culture, and Control of Annual Bluegrass” and “The Turf Problem Solver.”

A Fall River, Mass., native and resident of East Lansing, he started his relationship with golf as a caddie at Fall River Country Club, later landed a job working on the grounds crew and started thinking he would become a course superintendent.

“My last two summers I was actually in charge of the grounds crew, but soon realized I didn’t want to work for 300 people who knew more about my job than me,” he quipped.

The superintendents of the world lost one, but gained much more. Vargas received his B.S. degree from the University of Rhode Island in 1963, his M.S. from Oklahoma State University in 1965, and his Ph.D. from the University of Minnesota in 1968. He came to Michigan State in 1969 and learned it was widely believed annual bluegrass or Poa annua died from high summer-time temperatures.

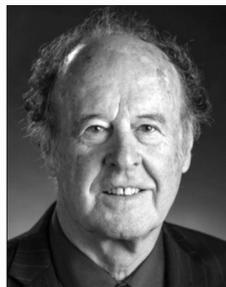
“I was struck that it was thriving at one course and a mile away it was dying in the summer heat,” he said.

“Everybody jumped on me about my research that it was two diseases and not heat,” he said. “This guy will never get his tenure. He will be gone soon.”

Vargas remains at MSU and plays golf frequently and in 1981, Red Run Golf Club in Royal Oak requested help from MSU. Dr. Joe came to the rescue, and he was awarded a membership. He has played golf with the likes of Chuck Kocsis, Bob McMasters and Agim Bardha.

Vargas insists his game is nothing to brag about, and his retirement has been set aside a few times. He loves his work and is especially proud of the Michigan Turfgrass Foundation and its fundraising for research at MSU.

“And nobody does anything alone,” he said. “I’ve had many great colleagues who make it all work.”

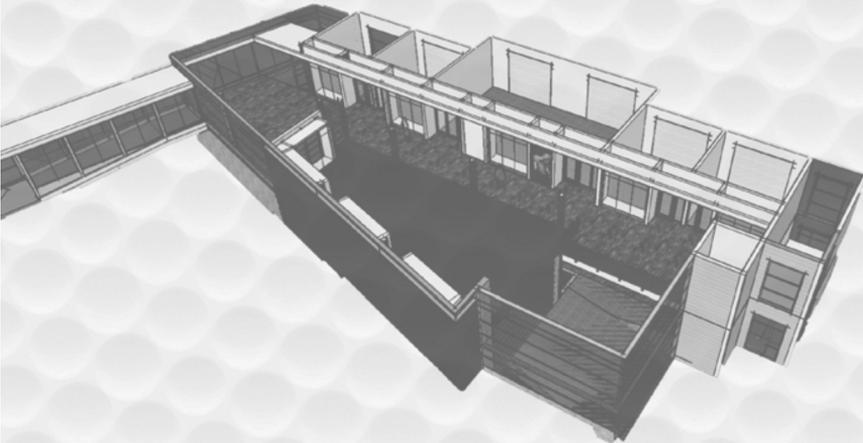


# New Home of the Michigan Golf Hall of Fame

Visit [ferris.edu/giving/PGM](http://ferris.edu/giving/PGM) for more information.



*View of proposed Learning Center and Michigan Golf Hall of Fame from the north*



*Illustrated interior of the future Michigan Golf Hall of Fame*

CONGRATULATIONS



# FERRIS STATE UNIVERSITY

Ferris State University would like to congratulate the  
2016 Michigan Golf Hall of Fame Inductees!

Ken Allard  
Todd Anderson  
Steve Braun  
Joseph M. Vargas, Jr.

A Special Award will be presented to  
Oakland Hills Country Club.

# OAKLAND HILLS COUNTRY CLUB



Oakland Hills Country Club celebrates its centennial this year and the Michigan Golf Foundation thought what better time to recognize one of the most storied golf clubs in our state. Oakland Hills is rich in history with its many contributions to the game of golf and is highly respected on a local and national basis.

Say Oakland Hills and many think of the nickname “the monster” given to Oakland Hills by Ben Hogan after he won the 1951 U.S. Open. Situated on rolling terrain, with undulating green complexes, golf course designer Donald Ross proclaimed “the Lord intended this for a golf course”.

Say Oakland Hills and you might think of Gary Player’s towering 9-iron over the willow trees adjacent to the pond that guards the 16th hole. The shot set up a four-foot birdie putt and Player went on to win the 1972 PGA Championship.

Say Oakland Hills and you think championships. Six U.S. Opens, only two other clubs have hosted more. Two U.S. Senior Opens, the first won by Arnold Palmer and the second by Jack Nicklaus. Two U.S. Amateur Championships, the second to be played this year August 15th through August 21st. In 2002, Ricky Barnes beat Hunter Mahan in the finals. Both players have gone on to have successful careers. Glenna Collett won the 1929 U.S. Women’s Amateur. There wasn’t a women’s tour in those days and Collett dominated the Amateur world winning the national championship six times. Three PGA Championships, most recently in 2008 when Padraig Harrington bested Sergio Garcia on the final hole of play. In the 2004 Ryder Cup, the European team led by captain Bernhard Langer dominated the Americans led by captain Hal Sutton.

The list goes on with a Western Open in 1922 won by host pro Mike Brady to the Hearst Junior on the North Course where the 16-year-old Palmer lost in the 1946 finals. During the war, Oakland Hills hosted exhibition matches to raise money for the Red Cross. Walter Hagen, the club’s first professional, captained a Ryder Cup team against Challengers captained by Gene Sarazen. Say Oakland Hills and it’s easy, just say Championship Golf.

Over the years the members have reinvested in their clubhouse, the second largest wood structure to the Grand Hotel on Mackinaw Island. In 1999-2000 the club spent \$16,250,000 to completely renovate the main structure as well as create a new special facilities area. Recently, the club’s Heritage Committee, with the help of curator Andrew Mutch, PhD, has restored and catalogued many of the historical artifacts acquired over the years. These artifacts are the focal point of various rooms celebrating the club’s head professionals, Donald Ross, Walter Hagen and Ben Hogan. The Champions Hallway extends 150 feet along the upper hallway and serves as a chronology of the golf history at Oakland Hills.

Oakland Hills Country Club: one hundred years later and still going strong.



# INDUCTEES

---

**1982**

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Walter Hagen\*  
Chuck Kocsis\*  
Al Watrous\*

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**1983**

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Walter Burkemo\*  
Glenn Johnson\*  
Horton Smith\*

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**1984**

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John Barnum\*  
Chick Harbert\*  
Dorothy Higbie\*  
James Standish, Jr.\*

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**1985**

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Patti Boice  
Leo Diegel\*  
Dave Hill\*  
Wilfrid Reid\*

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**1986**

---

Tommy Armour\*  
Tom Draper\*  
Pete Green  
Bud Stevens

---

**1987**

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A. Fred Kammer\*  
Sam Kocsis\*  
Wiffi Smith  
Carlton Wells\*

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**1988**

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Gene Bone  
Ed Furgol\*  
Sally Sessions\*  
Marvin Stahl\*  
John Walter\*

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**1989**

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Bob Babbish\*  
Cindy Hill  
Everett Kircher\*  
Emerick Kocsis\*  
Shirley Spork

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**1990**

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Ed Ervasti\*  
Jake Fassezke\*  
Frank Lovell\*  
Mary Lovell\*  
Ben Smith\*  
Jenny Weiss\*

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**1991**

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Randy Erskine  
John Malloy\*  
Warren Orlick\*  
Mike Souchak\*

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**1992**

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Ben Davis\*  
Mike Hill  
Lynn Janson  
Bill McDonald

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**1993**

---

Bonnie Lauer  
Ray Maguire\*  
Bruce Matthews\*  
Calvin Peete\*  
Buddy Whitten

---

**2002**

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Mary Fossum  
Meg Mallon  
Robert McMasters  
Betty Richart  
Clarence Wolfrom\*

---

**2003**

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Jack Berry  
Cindy Figg-Currier  
Joyce Kazmierski  
Greg Reynolds  
Sara Wold

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**2004**

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Mary Jane Anderson Hies-  
tand  
Elaine Crosby  
Dan Pohl  
Jack Saylor\*  
Lloyd Syron

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**2005**

---

Stan Aldridge  
Joan Garety  
Jerry Matthews  
Jeff Roth

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**2006**

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Ray Bolo  
Thomas Chisholm\*  
John Grace  
John Morse  
Jeanne Myers

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**2007**

---

Bruce Fossum\*  
John Lindholm  
Steve Maddalena  
Mark Woelch  
Ted Wehrle\*

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**2008**

---

Ken Janke\*  
Meriam Bailey Leeke  
John Morgan

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**2009**

---

Bill Curtis\*  
James R. Dewling  
Randy Lewis  
Tom Wargo

---

**2010**

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Sue Ertl  
John Traub  
Bill Zylstra

---

**2011**

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Jim Briegel  
Arthur Hills  
Terry Moore  
Don Perne\*

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**2012**

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Larry Mancour  
Jack Seltzer  
Rick Smith  
Jack Van Ess

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**2013**

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Fritz Balmer  
Steve Brady  
Tom Doak

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**2014**

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Becky Iverson  
Vartan Kupelian  
Paul Rieke, PhD  
Thomas Werkmeister

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**2015**

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Greg Davies  
Scott Hebert  
David Kendall  
Kelly Robbins

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**2016**

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Ken Allard  
Todd Anderson  
Steve Braun  
Joseph M. Vargas, Jr.

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\*Deceased



## HISTORY OF INDUCTIONS

Michigan's Golf Hall of Fame grew out of collaboration between two men who envisioned a celebration of the sport's heritage, Ken Janke and Stan Aldridge. Building on Janke's idea, the goal for the Hall of Fame was to honor the many Michigan golfers who made the sport popular not only in our state, but nationally. Stan, who had purchased and rebuilt the traditions of Indianwood Golf and Country Club, endorsed Ken's idea and offered support by playing a leading role in establishing the Hall of Fame.

Assembling a committee was the first challenge Ken faced. He needed people who knew the sport and could represent both players and spectators. He founded his committee with representatives from the media including Jack Berry of the Detroit News, Jack Saylor from the Detroit Free Press, Barry Smades of the Oakland Press and Larry Adderley, then with WXYZ-TV. This foundation of members was supported by representatives from the sport of golf. They included long time Birmingham Country Club golf professional, Ray Maguire, Nancy Koustas of the Women's District Golf Association and Jim Dewling, then president of the Michigan PGA. Ken Janke served as chairman.

The committee selected the original class of inductees following a series of organizational meetings. Jack Berry set the tone, not only for the first, but for all future inductions. He suggested that the first members of the Michigan Golf Hall of Fame should be three of the most titled golfers in the history of the state. By committing such a high standard, every future inductee would point with pride to their own selection to this elite group. Honored in 1982, at the banquet following the play of the Pro-Am Tournament during the Michigan PGA Championship at Indianwood Golf and Country Club, the first inductees were Walter Hagen, Chuck Kocsis and Al Watrous.

Since its inception, the Michigan Hall of Fame has honored people who have contributed on many levels to the advancement of golf. Additional criteria have been added over the years to acknowledge and reflect the need for people to extend their talents beyond the golf course to the clubhouse, organizations and the community. Contributions not just in the area of playing ability, but to leadership, promotion and education help to ensure the expansion of the sport. Only with a wide range of expertise can we ensure a future for golf, which upholds its rich traditions and heritage.



## SETTING THE STANDARDS

Our state boasts three professionals who played on the first U.S. Ryder Cup team in 1927 – Leo Diegel, Walter Hagen and Al Watrous.

Winners of the Michigan Open reads like a Who's Who in golf with past champions that include Diegel, Hagen, Watrous, Mike Brady, George Von Elm, Chuck Kocsis, Chick Harbert, Sam Byrd, John Barnum, Horton Smith, Walter Burkemo, Dave Hill, Pete Brown, Mike Souchak, George Bayer, Lynn Janson, Randy Erskine and Buddy Whitten. All gained some measure of national prominence.

Hagen, Diegel, Harbert, Smith, Burkemo and Jimmy Demaret each won professional majors during their careers.

Two of the original organizers of the LPGA – Sally Sessions and Shirley Spork – called Michigan their home.

Wiffi Smith, Cindy Hill, Bonnie Lauer, Meg Mallon, Joyce Kazmierski, Elaine Crosby, Cindy Figg-Currier, Sue Ertl, Becky Iverson and Kelly Robbins are Hall of Fame members who played at the highest levels of the game.

Two golfers from our state played on U.S. Walker Cup teams – Chuck Kocsis and Fred Kammer. Kocsis was the first ever from any state to earn that honor in three separate decades.

James D. Standish, Jr. was a standout amateur golfer who later became an outstanding administrator, and served as the president of the United States Golf Association (1952-'57). He founded the U.S. Public Links Championship in 1922 and the trophy awarded to the champion was named after him. Michigan golfer Sam Kocsis won that championship in 1955.

Bob McMasters was elected president of the Western Golf Association, an organization known for its Evans Scholarship program. He was the first from Michigan to receive that honor.

Randy Lewis won the U.S. Mid-Amateur Championship and played as an invited golfer in the Masters Tournament. Dan Pohl was a Masters Tournament runner-up.

Michigan is rich in golf history, and it goes well beyond its many gifted golfers. Some of the finest golf courses in the world are located in Michigan, and we number more courses than most other states. Our season always seems too short, but our golfers are among the most avid in the country.

We celebrate Michigan's golfers and the game in the Hall of Fame.





## MICHIGAN GOLF HALL OF FAME COMMITTEE

Greg Johnson	Co-Chair
Terry Moore	Co-Chair
Loretta Larkin	Admin Asst., Michigan Golf Foundation
Larry Adderley	Media
Fritz Balmer	Golf Association of Michigan
Jack Berry	Media
James R. Dewling	Michigan Golf Course Owners Association
Judy Figa	Women's Metropolitan Golf Association
Joan Garety	Michigan Golf Hall of Fame Member
David Graham	Golf Association of Michigan
Kevin Helm	Michigan Section PGA
Adam Ikamas	Michigan Golf Course Superintendents Association
Vartan Kupelian	Media
Robert McMasters	Golf Association of Michigan/Western Golf Association
Nancy Serra	Michigan Women's Golf Association
Jim Szilagyi	Michigan Publinx Golf Association
Aaron Waltz	Ferris State University
Doug White	Michigan Section PGA
Sara Wold	Michigan Women's Golf Association/ Golf Association of Michigan

[www.michigan-golf-foundation.com](http://www.michigan-golf-foundation.com)



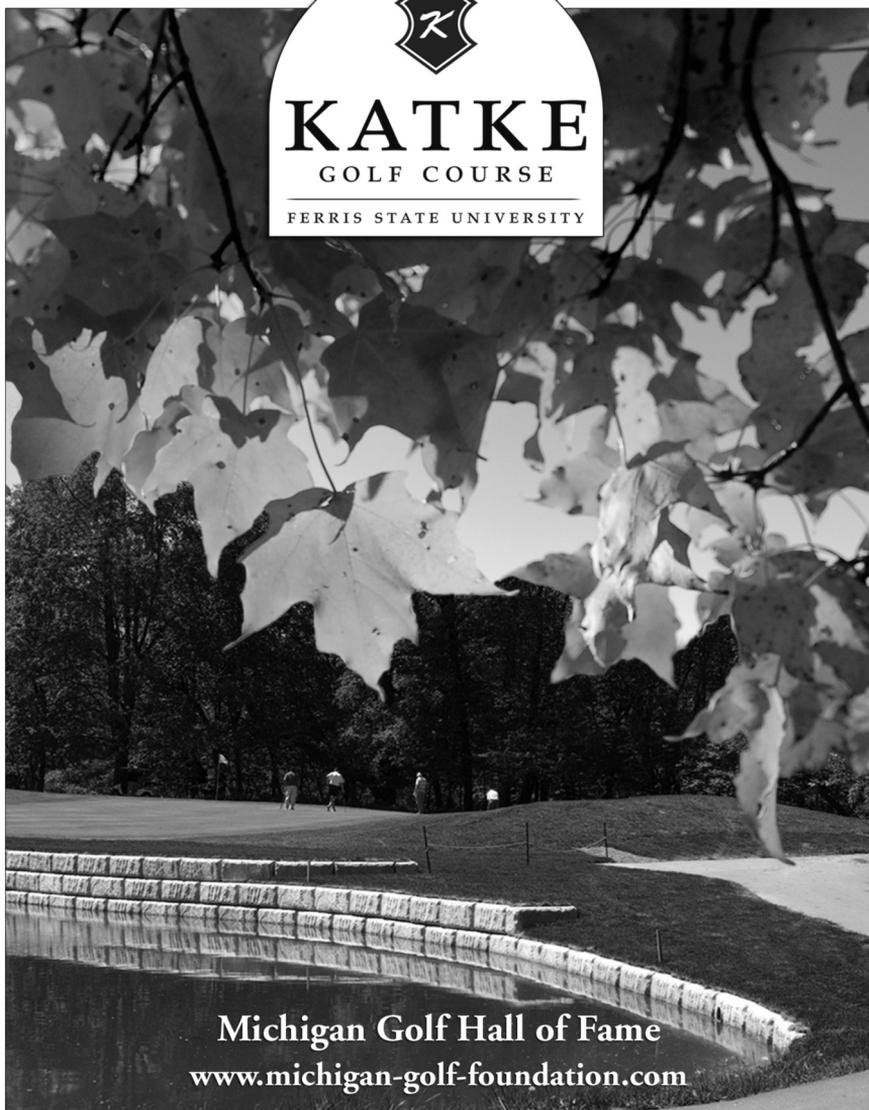
Michigan Golf Hall of Fame *at*



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FERRIS STATE UNIVERSITY



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