



SALEM - ROANOKE BASEBALL HALL OF FAME ANNOUNCES CLASS OF 2015

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Five area baseball players and contributors have been selected for induction into the Salem-Roanoke Baseball Hall of Fame at the 24th annual hot stove banquet, scheduled for Thursday, January 29, 2015, at the Salem Civic Center. Former major league player and manager **Charlie Manuel** will be the guest speaker.

This year's inductees are **Kelly Dampeer, Cecil Doss, Ben Minton, Gary Rice and Bob Scarborough**. The Hall of Fame also has announced that **Chuck Muncy** of the Christiansburg Department of Parks and Recreation will receive the Wayne LaPierre Community Service Award at the January banquet.

Dampeer had a .489 career average at Northside High School. He was a four-year All District player and a four-time All Big South Conference selection at Radford University. Kelly was named Mizuno Freshman of the Year in 1994, Division 1 Player of the Year in Virginia in 1995, and is the single season and career record holder in home runs at RU, as well as the career leader in doubles and total bases. He was drafted by the Cleveland Indians.

Doss is a former American Legion Post 3 coach as well as a sandlot coach in Roanoke and the Garden City area. He coached several men who are in the Salem-Roanoke Baseball Hall of Fame. Cecil served in the U.S. Navy, where he also played baseball in the Atlantic Fleet program from 1950-1954. He is still active in the American Legion, presently serving as Post Commander for the third time.

Minton has been a high school umpire for 43 years. He has been the State Championship Crew Chief eight years and umpired many state games over the past 20 years. He has umpired American Legion baseball for 41 years and served as the umpire coordinator for 16 years. He has umpired in the Virginia Commonwealth Games since its inception and has been a college Division III umpire for 10 years.

Rice is the current head coach at Alleghany High School, where he has coached since 1982 and has amassed over 500 wins during his career. He had 20 wins in two seasons at old Valley High School before moving on to the Mountaineers. He notched victory number 500 on May 15, 2013 and is now tied for fourth on the Virginia High School League list of all time coaching victories with 513, along with fellow Salem-Roanoke Baseball Hall of Famer Jim Cutler of Liberty High School.

Scarborough was a flame throwing right-hander from Franklin County High School from 1982-1985. Bob played college baseball at Ferrum from 1986-1988 and was then drafted by the Cleveland Indians organization. Bob played for the Indians in 1988 and 1989. He is now a Vice-President for Valley Bank in Roanoke.

Manuel, a 1995 inductee into the Salem-Roanoke Baseball Hall of Fame, will be the guest speaker. He's a Southwest Virginia native and graduate of Parry McCluer High School. Charlie played in the major leagues for the Twins and Dodgers and was a big star in Japan, hitting 48 homers for Kintetsu in 1980. After his playing days he became a major and minor league manager and hitting instructor. He was a very successful manager for both the Cleveland Indians and Philadelphia Phillies, winning the 2008 World Series with the Phils.

Tickets for the banquet are available through members of the Hall of Fame Board of Directors or by calling President Charlie Hammersley at 540-556-0377 or Vice President Gary Walthall at 540-427-1977.

The Salem-Roanoke Baseball Hall of Fame was founded in 1991 and honors players and contributors from the counties of Alleghany, Roanoke, Bedford, Botetourt, Craig, Floyd, Franklin and Montgomery and the independent cities located within the boundaries of those counties. The Hall of Fame building is located on the grounds of the James E. Taliaferro Complex, next to the Salem Red Sox administrative office behind the third base seating area of Salem Memorial Ballpark.

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