



information acquired from the MHPA newsletters and other sources

CLARENCE EDWIN FLYNN

Romulus, MI.

inducted 2012

Clarence was born in 1914 in Illinois and passed away in 1968. He married Eva Floyd; they had three children and resided at 6450 Inkster Road, Romulus. Clarence was a crane operator.

Clarence pitched locally at Carleton and Detroit. Clarence pitched in the WSHPA during the 1950s through the 1960s. He was a steady pitcher, usually pitching in the 60+% range, appearing typically in the top group. He pitched in some State tournaments and had his highest finish (3rd place) in 1958.

State Tournaments

1958 - 3rd in Championship class (5-2 record, 62.6%)

1959 - 5th in Championship class (5-4 record, 62.6%)

1960 - 4th in Championship class (6-3 record, no % recorded)

Consolation Class A, he was 1st place after playoff with Ralph Bacon (score 50-34, with 66.6%) 1961 - 2nd place in A group 2 (4-2, 51%)

World Tournaments

Clarence pitched in one World Tournament; 1961 Muncie, IN. He placed 5th in class B preliminary group 1 (7-4, 56.8%)

Regional Tournaments

Clarence pitched two times in the Lakeside Open Tournament which drew many of the top pitchers in the mid-west.

1957-class B, placed 3rd (3-2 record, 54%)

1958-class D, placed 2nd (4-1 record, 60.6%)

Clarence pitched in the premier regional Mid-West Ringer Round-up in 1959 in Frankfort, IN and placed 2nd in class B, group 2 in the prelims (4-1, 62.9%), but did not play in the final round.

Clarence served as President of the WSHPA in 1961 and 1962. During the years around his tenure, the WSHPA was undergoing many changes, and experiencing unprecedented growth with new members and new clubs.

Highlights:

1960 - Inaugural junior boys division offered at the State Tournament.

1961 - Inaugural women's division offered at the State Tournament.

1962 - Revised constitution and by-laws adopted August 25, 1962

1962 - Membership brochure produced with info on WSHPA, with activities and photos of officers

1962 - Miller Brewing Company sponsored events and provided trophies at State and World tournaments. (Arranged through NHPA.)

1962 Late - New membership booklet issued which included new Constitution and By-laws, other info, and many photos

1963 - New tournament, "Water Wonderland National Open" scheduled

One other relatively new development for the WSHPA in the early 60s was the use of portable courts that could be set up for exhibitions to generate interest, especially in forming new clubs in towns that had no permanent courts. They were also used in the winter at indoor sites to allow pitchers to play year round. Three technical advisors were appointed to help in the set up of the portables. Clarence also had seven regional directors for assistance.

With all the many changes and growth during his two terms as president, Clarence must have been an energetic and innovative leader. We are proud to have Clarence Edwin Flynn as a member of the MHPA Hall of Fame.