



## Clinton I. Getz



During the 1950's, the late Clinton Getz established and promoted many local sport organizations and teams. His major focus was on baseball and basketball at both the amateur and semi-pro levels. He founded the Pocono Mountain Baseball and Basketball Leagues and served as the president of the former for seven years. He sponsored the Lake Harmony Baseball and Basketball Teams in those Leagues and won many titles during their existence. Many of his players went on to play for Professional Baseball Minor League Teams.

One of his best teams was the 1953 Baseball Team, which won the Pocono Mountain League Championship. Members of that team included man local sports legends such as Jack Esrang, James "Buck" Rader, Pete McGinley, Walter Slog, Hannah Morgan, Artie Stermer, Ed Becker, Roy Gower, Harkie Getz and Dutch Snyder. The 1957 and 1958 Teams won 37 games in a row and two League Championships.

Mr. Getz was proprietor of the Lake Harmony Hotel for 27 years and subsequently the Lake Harmony Motel. He was an avid booster of the Pocono Mountain Area and spent much of his time working with local resort organizations to promote tourism.





## William "Bill" Klotz



Born in the year the United States entered World War 1 (1917), the late William "Bill" Klotz graduated from Mauch Chunk High School in 1936. During his high school career he played forward on the JV and Varsity Basketball Teams (1934-1936) and was known for his flashy moves and shooting eye. In an era when the game scores were low, Klotz averaged double figures during most of his career. He was also a star on the high school track team. After graduation he continued playing basketball in the YMCA League.

After a stint in the U.S. Army during World War 11 (1944-1945), he returned to town and became a member of the PIAA Panther Valley Chapter of Referees. For 22 years he was one of the area's top referees.

He coached in the Jim Thorpe Little League for two decades and was an original member of the Jim Thorpe Civic League. After his death, the Small Man's Basketball Tournament was renamed in his honor.

Mr. Klotz was also active in the community in other areas besides the athletic scene. He was a member of the Jim Thorpe Fire Department and Fire Police for many years. He was a long-term member of the Mauch Chunk and Jim Thorpe Area School District's Board of Directors and served as President and Treasurer. An active member of St. John's Lutheran Church (Heights), he served as the Superintendent of Sunday School and was a Church Council member until his death in 1978.

He is survived by two children: Ann Louise Hayes and William Klotz, six grandchildren and five great grandchildren





## Daniel "Pete" McGinley



At 5'3 tall Daniel "Pete" McGinley towered over his opponents on the football field, basketball court and on the baseball diamond during the mid and late 1840's. In high school he played quarterback on the football team for two years, played guard on the basketball team for three years, and was a sure handed fielder and outstanding hitter for the baseball team. After his junior year he enlisted in the U.S. Navy and returned home and finished high school in 1937.

After graduation "Pete" competed in basketball in the Civic League, playing for the Knights of Columbus, the Eagles, the Lansford AmVets, Paddy's Ace and a local Mauch Chunk team that participated in the Bethlehem League. He quarterbacked the Mauch Chunk Lions Club in 1948 and played softball for the Knights of Columbus and the Eagles.

Pete's real forte was on the baseball diamond, where his fielding and hitting were nothing short of outstanding. Playing for Getz's Lake Harmony Lakers his batting averages were .378 and .358 in 1952 and 1953, respectively. In 1948 he was offered tryouts with Berwick in the North Atlantic League and the Allentown Cardinals in the Interstate League.

He was a Little League Baseball Coach when it was first introduced in the Mauch Chunks.

Pete and his wife, Nancy, have 10 children, Danny, Jr., Michael, Rose, Bernadette, Connie, Billy, Jimmy, Tommy, Patricia, and John.





## Harry "Hink" Shanfelt



A 1937 graduate of East Mauch Chunk High School, Harry Shanfelt distinguished himself on the basketball court and track field. As a freshman he started on the Varsity Basketball Team and the next year received Honorable Mention as an All-League guard on the Mountain League All-Star Team. During his junior and senior seasons he was selected Captain of the team and his outstanding play continued. Both years he was voted as a first-team guard on the Mountain League All-Star Team. In 1937, he received more votes for selection than any other member of the League All-Star Team.

While track was in the early stages of development at East Mauch Chunk High School, Mr. Shanfelt raised it to a new level. In 1936 he won the gold medal in the discus throw at the County Track Meet, establishing a new record for the event of 114.9 feet. He continued his outstanding track performance during his 1937 year.

After graduation he played basketball in the YMCA and East Mauch Chunk Church Leagues and was the Captain of several Championship Teams.

Mr. Shanfelt is married to the former Mary Jeannette Beineman. They have two children, Bruce and Wendy and three grandchildren. He was employed by Conrail for 40 years and retired in 1981.





## John Searfoss



Mr. John Searfoss began his Jim Thorpe Area High School athletic career in 1983 and completed it upon graduation in 1987. During those four years he accumulated eleven varsity letters, four each in baseball and football and three in basketball.

He started at quarterback for four years and was the first quarterback to have back to back 1,000-plus yard seasons. His record for the most passing yards (1,491) in one season still stands. He also hold the record for the most TD passes in one year (14), most career passing yards (3,591) and the most combined TD's passing and running in a career. In 1986 he was a Big 33 Nominee and the team MVP. He was honored in 1984-85-86 as a mid Penn League All-Star and in his senior year was selected for three positions –

quarterback, safety and punter.

His baseball career began in Little League and in 1982 he was the starting and winning pitcher on the only District 18 Little League Championship Team in the history of Jim Thorpe. In 1984 he was a starting member of the Babe Ruth Championship Team of the Carbon Schuylkill League and the shortstop on JTAHS Division III championship Team of the Carbon Schuylkill League. In 1985 he was the MVP of the Babe Ruth All-Star Game and was selected as a Schuylkill League All-Star (as shortstop) in 1986. His teams won the Schuylkill Division III Championship in 1985, 1986 and 1987 and during his time his pitching record was 11-6. His career batting average was .373 – during his junior and senior seasons he batted .442 and .470, respectively.

Mr. Searfoss was a member of 1985/86 PIAA Eastern State Finalist basketball team and the following year was the team co-captain and led the team in steals and assists.

After graduating from East Stroudsburg University in 1991, he returned to Jim Thorpe to begin a coaching career. From 1992 to 1997 he was an assistant basketball and baseball coach (5 years each). He served as the Head Baseball Coach of JTAHS in 1998 and 1999.

Mr. Searfoss has been a teacher at Jim Thorpe Area High School since 1992. He is married to the former Michelle Santore.





## Lowell "Zeke" Swartz



A 1953 graduate of Mauch Chunk High School, Mr. Lowell "Zeke" Swartz was one of the outstanding local basketball players of the 1950's. As a starter in his freshman year he averaged 13 points per game. In his sophomore season he averaged 12 points per game, led the team in assists and was named First Team All-Mountain League. In his Junior and Senior seasons he averaged 15 and 10.5 points, respectively was the assist leader and made the First Team All-Mountain League (both years). He was selected Honorable Mention on the Pennsylvania All State Basketball Team in 1952-53. His high school coach, "Ossie" Maeher, described him as the best-all-

around player that he had seen in his coaching career.

He joined the Marines in 1954 and the following year he won the YMCA National Free Throw Contest for the Service Division. After making 91 of 100 free throws in the Camp Lejeune phase, he made 92 of 100 in the All-Service phase, capturing second place. In 1955-56, as a member of the Charleston Bluejackets he was named first team League MVP, first team 6<sup>th</sup> Naval District Tourney and second team All-Service Tourney.

Zeke is the father of two sons, George and Glen.





## 1992 Jim Thorpe High School District XI Championship Baseball Team



Over the years, the community of Jim Thorpe has produced many outstanding athletic teams but the 1992 Olympian Baseball team certainly ranks among the best. Their season record of 19-2 included Schuylkill League Division II – North and District XI AA Championships. Entering the State Playoffs with a 19-1 record, they faced Oley Valley who defeated the locals by a 3-0 score, in extra innings. It was the only time during the season the team was shutout and their second loss – both of which occurred in overtime.

With a team batting average of .365 and the pitching ERA of 2.30, the team outscored its opponents, 221 to 61; and, in four District Playoff games outscored the opposition, 32 to 5. The Olympians averaged 10 runs per game and the pitching staff, led by Brian Rehrig (8-0) and Kyle Armbruster (7-1), allowed only 25 hits in a 21 game season.

The morning call ranked the team #2 in the greater Lehigh Valley Area, the #1 team was Parkland High School, a 4A team. Voted “Morning Call Team of the Year”, the team’s record over a two year period was 35 wins and 6 losses.

Junior Randy Hydro, whose batting average was .545 (with 6 home runs), was selected Player of the Year in Schuylkill League. Also making the League All-Star squad for Jim Thorpe were: Dave Figura (shortstop); Nelson Ulshafer (catcher); Mike Kmetz (third base); Brian Rehrig and Kyle Armbruster (pitchers). Other members of the team were: Lee Marzen (co-captain); Norm Garner, Joe Butchko, Walkter O’Donnell, Sean Zebroski, Eric Schrantz, Pete McFadden, Aaron Zeblin, Jason Skrimcovsky, Sean Redline, Mike Bott, Mike Davis, Rich Hartman, Dana Miller.

The Head Coach was Mike Lewis, who was “Coach of the Year” in Division II North of the Schuylkill League. Assistant coaches were Dan Rossino and Chris Figura.

