

## **Michigan Insurance Hall of Fame**

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Olivet College, 320 South Main Street, Olivet, MI 49076

### **NEWS FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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### **LEADERS AND LEGENDS – OLIVET COLLEGE HOSTS MICHIGAN INSURANCE HALL OF FAME INDUCTIONS**

OLIVET, MICHIGAN -- The Michigan Insurance Hall of Fame will honor three outstanding leaders, legends, and innovators in the insurance industry at the seventeenth annual induction ceremony of the Michigan Insurance Hall of Fame on Wednesday, August 18, 2010 on the campus of Olivet College.

**Mark Odland** of Stevensville, Michigan, will be inducted as a 2010 member of the Michigan Insurance Hall of Fame. Mr. Odland retired from State Farm Insurance Companies in 2009 as Vice President of Operations, overseeing claim operations for the Great Lakes Zone, which includes Michigan, Indiana and Illinois.

**Merton J. Segal** of Bloomfield Hills, Michigan, will be inducted as a 2010 member of the Michigan Insurance Hall of Fame. Mr. Segal founded Meadowbrook Insurance Group and helped many businesses and groups by developing insurance alternatives when insurance was unaffordable or unavailable.

**James E. Wilds** of Frankenmuth, Michigan, will be inducted as a 2010 member of the Michigan Insurance Hall of Fame. Mr. Wilds is the Senior Vice President, overseeing claims operations for Frankenmuth Insurance. During his career he created innovative solutions to improve claims service, and pioneered the use of voluntary alternative dispute resolution.

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Current members of the Michigan Insurance Hall of Fame include – 1994 inductees: David J Dykhouse, Lansing; Richard H. Headlee, Farmington Hills; Fritz Lewis, Middleville; Charles A. McAlear, CPCU, South Haven, Michigan; Ralph Moulton, Green Valley, Arizona; the late A.J. Pasant, Lansing; Charles M. Trubac, CLU, CPCU, East Lansing; the late Nile Vermillion, Lansing; Thomas L. Wenck, CLU, CPCU, Green Bay, Wisconsin; and Roy Westran, CPCU, Brighton. 1995 inductees: the late Thomas G. Bowman, Sterling Heights; Howard “Corky” Gaylor, Roscommon; the late Vern Valentine (V.V.) Moulton, Lansing; Maxine V. Niemeyer, CLU, ChFC, MSFS, Grosse Pointe Woods; and the late William E. Robb, Howell. 1996 inductees: Harvey E. Kern, Frankenmuth; and Irwin “Burt” Meisel, CLU, ChFC, Southfield. 1997 inductees: Robert A. Bailey, Lansing; C. Eugene Chang, Traverse City; and Wardell C. Croft, Detroit. 1998 inductees: Donald A. Aschom, Seneca, South Carolina; and Margaret L. Torok, Southgate.

1999 inductees: E.L. Cox, Grand Rapids; and Douglas L. Federau, Okemos. 2000 inductees: Robert W. Elliot Jr., East Tawas; Thomas H. Ritter, Farmington Hills; and Richard E. Whitmer, Detroit. 2001 inductees: John C. Prost, CLU, ChFC, Grosse Pointe Park; and Robert E.J. Wiseman, Mason. 2002 inductees: Donald Ray Haas, CLU, ChFC, CFP, MSFS, Southfield; and Patrick W. Stainsby, Saginaw. 2003 inductees: Douglas G. Heeter, CLU, CPCU, Big Rapids; Harry G. Iwasko, Jr., Lansing; and H. Max Tanner, CPCU, Traverse City. 2004 inductees: Morrall M. Claramunt, Frankenmuth; and Ralph J. Ladd, Detroit. 2005 inductees: Wayne McBride, Troy; and Daniel Sobczynski, Northville. 2006 inductees: Nicholas J. Simone, Iron Mountain; and Larry W. Thomas, Portland. 2008 inductees: Janet K. Holstine, Scotts; Thomas C. Jones, Ann Arbor; and Norman J.E. Roe, Grand Rapids. 2009 Inductees: Herman J. Arends, Charlotte; and James M. Crosby III, Grand Rapids.

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The Michigan Insurance Hall of Fame was established at Olivet College in 1994 as a way to pay tribute to individuals who have made a significant impact on the ability of the Michigan insurance and risk management industry to serve the public. An election panel, representing a cross-section of the insurance and risk management business, identifies leaders and/or innovators who have made significant contributions in five areas: product/service development, education, recruiting new participants, legislative and regulatory activity, and exemplary service. (<http://web.olivetcollege.edu/mihof>)

Olivet College is also home to a nationally recognized undergraduate insurance and risk management program and Gamma Iota Sigma chapter consistently ranked among the top three chapters in the nation each year – the best chapter in the nation four times including 2001.

(<http://web.olivetcollege.edu/insurance>)

If you are interested in nominating someone into the Michigan Insurance Hall of Fame or need additional information, please visit <http://web.olivetcollege.edu/mihof> or contact Michael R. Hubbel, administrator at Olivet College at (269) 749-7626.

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