

THE SOUTHERN JH/MS ALUMNI ASSOCIATION

HALL OF FAME CANDIDATES

2021

BART L. GANSTER - Southern 1974 to 1977

EDUCATION: Graduated from Reading High School and the Reading/Muhlenberg Vocational Technical School in 1980; Teamster Organizing School (1993); Temple University, Civil and Landlord Tenant Law (1996 - Present).

EMPLOYMENT HISTORY: Construction Foreman and Truck Driver (1980 - 1986); Maintenance Dept. Mechanic & Cement Finisher - Reading School District (1986 - 1999); Chairman & Chief Negotiator of the Teamster Union - Reading School District (1988 - 1998); Owner - Ganster Enterprises (1998 - 2004); Deputy Constable - Exeter Township (1996 - 2004); Owner - Ganster Black Jack Kennels (1990 - 2010); PA State Constable - St. Lawrence Borough (2004 - 2020); Owner - Ganster Karate System (1980 - Present); Supervisor & Director of Operations - Reading Parking Authority (2018 - Present).

AWARDS AND ACHIEVEMENTS: Fifty (50) years of experience in Martial Arts; 10th Degree Black Belt; PA Karate Hall of Fame (1995); World Karate Union Hall of Fame "Master of the Year" (1999); Sport Karate Hall of Fame "Living Legends Award" (2004); United Martial Arts Association "Grandmaster of the Year" (2009); PA Keystone Games "Jim Martin Cup" (2011 and 1017); World Karate Union Hall of Fame "Golden Lifetime Achievement Award" (2014); Lineup of the Masters "Icon Award" (2015); World Karate Union Hall of Fame "Man of Honor Award" (2017).

ACTIVITIES AND INTERESTS: Former Defensive Tactics Instructor for U.S. Police; former PA Boxing Commission Judge; Promoter of the Ganster Karate International Summer Camp (1999 - Present); Owner and 1st Trustee of the PA Karate Hall of Fame (2018 - Present).

KEN LEBRON - Southern 1998 to 2001

EDUCATION: Ken graduated from Reading High School in 2004; he received a Bachelor of Science degree in Criminal Justice with the Horatio Alger Distinguished American Award from West Chester University, and an MBA in Project Management with top honors from the Grantham University; and he also completed Leadership Berks at Alvernia University.

MILITARY SERVICE: Ken served a tour of duty in the United States Marine Corp Reserve in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom from 2006 - 2007 deployed in security force support at Al Asad airbase in Iraq.

MILITARY HONORS: Ken was awarded the Navy Unit Commendation, Selected Marine Corp Reserve Medal, Global War on Terrorism Service Medal, Sea Service Deployment Ribbon, National Defense Service Medal, Iraq Campaign Medal with two bronze stars, Armed Forces Reserve Medal with bronze "M" device, and Rifle Expert Badge.

EMPLOYMENT HISTORY:

- Director and County Veterans Service Officer, County of Berks, 7/2020 - present
- Deputy Director and County Veterans Service Officer, County of Berks, 5/2016 – 7/2020
- SSVF Program Coordinator and Case Manager, Catholic Charities, 9/2013 – 4/2016
- Veterans Program Coordinator and Case Manager, CPPBC Inc., 2/2012 – 9/2013
- Upward Bound Academic Advisor, RACC, 9/2008 – 1/2012
- Billet Radio Operator, USMCR, 6/2004 – 8/2012
- Military Base Security, USMC, 5/2006 – 5/2007

VOLUNTEER SERVICE AND MEMBERSHIP POSITIONS:

- Thin Blue Line, LEMC Berks County Chapter founder, 2021 - present
- United Way Emerging Leaders United, 2018 - present
- Veterans Coalition of Pennsylvania founding member, 2015 – 2017
- Berks County Veterans Treatment Court mentor, 2012 - 2016
- Mentors for Berks Youth, board chair, 2012 – 2013

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DORIS P. LEISAWITZ - Southern 1959 to 1962

EDUCATION:

- M.A. in English, New York University, New York, NY - 1973
- B.A. in Education, Kutztown University, Kutztown, PA - 1969
- Graduate of Reading Senior High School - 1965

EMPLOYMENT HISTORY:

- Gallery Teacher at Reading Public Museum (2007-2012)
- GED Tutor at Reading Area Community College (1995-2000)
- TOEFL substitute instructor and tutor at Reading Area Community College (2001)
- Fourth grade teacher Reading School District (1969-1977)

HONORS:

- Berks County Literacy Coalition Award for outstanding work promoting literacy (1999)
- Volunteer Tutor Award Reading Area Community College (1998)
- Outstanding Elementary Teachers of America Award (1973)
- Homecoming Queen Kutztown University (1967)
- Pennsylvania Junior Miss (1965)

ACTIVITIES PAST AND PRESENT:

- Kindergarten Reader 13th and Union Elementary School (2017- present)
- Albright College Neighborhood Task Force (2014-present)
- Board Member Keshet Zion Synagogue (2016-present)
- Board Member and Secretary of Reading Public Library (2004-2012)
- Vice Chairperson City of Reading Board of Ethics (2005-2009)
- President and Board Member B'nai B'rith Apartments (senior housing 1998-2008)
- Minority Inspector of Elections (2005-2016)
- Volunteer Woman's Exchange (2000-2007)

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CHRISTOPHER D. NEIN - Southern 1979 to 1981

EDUCATION: Chris attended Southern Junior High School from 1979 to 1981 and was a graduate of Exeter Senior High School, Class of 1984.

MILITARY SERVICE: Chris served on active duty in the United States Navy from 1984 to 1990, and is a veteran of Operation Desert Storm. He served for 5 years on the USS Richard W. Byrd DDG-23, which is a Charles F. Adams-class guided missile destroyer; and he also served for 1 year on the USS Monongahela AO-178, which is a Cimarron-class fleet replenishment oiler, commissioned in the United States Navy.

MILITARY HONORS: Chris achieved the rank of E-6 of the Enlisted Surface Warfare designation; and was also awarded the Navy's Achievement Medal, the Navy's Commendation Medal, and the Good Conduct Medal.

EMPLOYMENT HISTORY: Chris has served as a Loan Originator for Mortgage America, Wyomissing, PA, since 1999, and is now the company's Assistant Vice President. He is also the Pennsylvania Housing Financing Agency's top performing loan originator for the past five years.

COMMUNITY SERVICE: Chris is a past Board Member for Berks Advocates Against Violence, and a past Big Brother for Big Brothers/Big Sisters; he currently is a Board Member for the Exeter School District Education Foundation, and has served as Vice President for Crime Alert Berks County since 2002.

COMMUNITY AWARDS: Chris received the President's Award from Crime Alert Berks County in 2003 and 2010, and the President's Award from the Berks County Police Chief's Association in 2006.

GABRIELLE (GABBY) ALBERT PRINCIPE, Ph.D. - Southern 1980 to 1983

EDUCATION: Gabrielle graduated from Reading High School in 1986; she received a Bachelor of Arts degree in psychology with honors from Temple University, and a Ph.D. in developmental psychology from the University of North Carolina; and she also completed a postdoctoral fellowship at Cornell University, focusing on forensic developmental psychology.

EMPLOYMENT HISTORY: Gabrielle is currently a Professor of Psychology at the College of Charleston (SC), where she also served as Chair of the Psychology Department; and prior to that, she was a Professor and Chair of the Psychology Department at Ursinus College (PA).

WORK RELATED ACTIVITIES: Gabrielle has presented her research at numerous national and international professional conferences, and has provided numerous workshops and webinars on issues of child development and parenting; she blogs for Psychology Today and Huffington Post on issues of childhood, serves as the education section editor for Evolution: The View of Life, and has served as a legal expert in cases involving the use of children as witnesses.

WORK RELATED ACCOMPLISHMENTS: Gabrielle received the Laughlin Professional Achievement Award at Ursinus College for her significant contributions to scholarship; she has authored or co-authored over 25 scientific journal articles and chapters, and has also authored a book entitled *Your Brain on Childhood: The Unexpected Side Effects of Classrooms, Ballparks, Family Rooms, and the Minivan*.

COMMUNITY SERVICE: Gabrielle has served on the School Board for the Charleston Charter School for Mathematics and Science.

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CLAYTON TAYLOR - Southern from 1958 to 1961

EDUCATION: Graduated from Reading Senior High School in 1963, received a Bachelor of Arts degree in Elementary Education from Cheney State University, was a resident advisor for 3 ½ years, and was inducted into the Kappa Delta Pi Honor Society in Education.

EMPLOYMENT HISTORY:

- Dedicated classroom teacher in Reading School District for 27 years. Paraprofessional for 4 years followed by 23 years as a classroom teacher. Retired in 2002.
- Substituted for Reading School District from 2002 – 2008.
- Currently driving part time for Hertz Car Rental.

COMMUNITY SERVICE:

- Choir musician at Saint John Missionary Baptist Church and Bethel A.M.E. Church for over 40 years.
- Member of the Exeter Black Knights 1970 National Basketball Championship Team.
- Served on the Reading Hospital Board of Mental Health.
- Served as umpire-in-chief for numerous years for the Reading National Little League.

AWARDS/HONORS:

- Inducted into Berks Chapter of the Pennsylvania Sports Hall of Fame as a member of the Exeter Black Knights in 2002.
- Inducted into Berks Chapter of the Pennsylvania Sports Hall of Fame as a member of the Monarch Athletic Club Basketball Team in 2018.