Press Release

"Art Shell To Be Inducted Into The African American Golfers Hall of Fame in 2012"

West Palm Beach, Fla. (June 3, 2011) - The AAGHOF hosted its “7th Annual African American Golfer’s Hall of Fame Conference, Golf Tournaments, Reception, Dinner, Auction & Awards Celebration” at the Palm Beach Gardens Marriott, 4000 RCA Boulevard, Palm Beach Gardens, FL (561) 622-8888 during the period May 26-30, 2011. The Annual AAGHOF Black Tie Optional Reception & Awards Dinner Celebration” was held on May 29, 2011 at the Marriott.

This celebratory event continues to institutionalize the true recognition of the historic involvement in “the growth of the game of golf” since the 1800’s. The African-American golfing community is at no loss for stories documenting its struggles, tragedies and ultimate triumphs. Little has been done however to recognize the accomplishments of those who really paved the way for today’s “Black Golfers.” Therefore, the ultimate purpose of the AAGHOF is to honor the legacy and achievements of African Americans in the game of golf and build a permanent place for the world to see their collective contributions.

Inner City Youth Golfers’, Inc. established the AAGHOF annual event in order to give African-American Legends of Golf an opportunity to be recognized for their contributions to the sport, to continue being role models to our youth, to network with their peers, to interact and share their own stories about golf “then and now.”

This year’s event was highlighted with a very informative roundtable: “Golf Then, Now & In The Future” - James Garvin, Chair, AAGHOF Collegiate & Youth Golfers Hall of Fame & President, Golf Course Specialist, Inc. w/Dr. Ernest Boger, University of MD Eastern Shore, Legends & Youth Golfers and Stanley Wilson, Jr., Assistant Golf Professional, Bear Lakes Country Club/Youth Golf Advisor, ICYG.

Legendary Professional Golfer, Bob Murphy conducted a youth/parent golf clinic with more than 100 participants followed by the Legends “Say NO To Drugs – Say YES To Education, Culture & Golf” Youth/Parent Golf Orientation, Fun Festival & Clinic © Dyer Park Pavilion, West Palm Beach, FL. The Legends Scholarship Golf Tournament was held at Palm Beach Gardens Municipal Golf Course & its Celebrity Invitational Golf Tournament (Two-Person Team Scramble) was held at West Palm Beach Golf Course.

Scott Walker, Golf Channel Anchor, served as the Master of Ceremony for the “Annual Black Tie Optional Reception, Auction, Awards Dinner & Induction Celebration on the closing evening. Priscilla A. Taylor, Palm Beach County Commissioner (District 7) welcomed everyone. We were also honored with a very special message from Jack W. & Barbara Nicklaus.

The most important thing that happened during the event was the AAGHOF’s demonstration of its commitment to its youth. It believes in its youth! The AAGHOF feels very strongly that golf’s future cannot be passed from its “Legends” to our “Youth” unless they are included and honored annually during this event. Therefore the inaugural “Youth Golfer of The Year” – awards were therefore given to: Evette F. Booker, Detroit, Michigan; Norris Brown, Salisbury, MD; Somalia Eva Jones, Cincinnati, Ohio; Imani Kai Poindexter, Washington, DC; Amari Riley, Chula Vista, CA; & Adrian Stewart, Bowie, MD.


“Celebrating the Accomplishments of Yesterday While Paving the Way for Tomorrow!”
The “Inaugural Inductees” from 2005 were: Gordon Brown, Sr., San Diego, CA; Pete Brown, Dayton, OH; Arthur L. Davis, Sr., West Palm Beach, FL; Renee Fluker, Detroit, Mich; Selina Johnson, Detroit, Mich; Malachi Knowles, Riviera Beach, FL and William Powell, East Canton, OH. Posthumously inducted were Althea Gibson; Dr. George F. Grant, Herman Mitchell, Ted “Rags” Rhodes and John Shippen. The 2005 “Humanitarian Award” recipients were Gary Player, Johannesburg, South Africa; Richard F. Sebastian and Julius Taylor, Ph.D., Baltimore, MD. The 2006 Award Recipients were: Thomas A. Hart, Sr., Ph.D., Washington, DC; Reese A. Jarrett, San Diego, CA and Calvin Goode, Phoenix, AZ. The 2007 Humanitarian Awardees were: Jack W. & Barbara Nicklaus, North Palm Beach, FL; William “Bill” Shack, Yucca Valley, CA and Helen Wilkes, Palm Beach, FL.

The 2006 class included: Jim Dent, Tampa, FL; William “Bill” Dickey, Phoenix, AZ; Alton Duhon, Los Angeles, CA; James Garvin, Jr., Washington, DC; LaJean W. Gould, Atlanta, GA; Calvin Peete, Ponte Vedra, FL; Julius Richardson*, Chicago, ILL; Peggy Rhodes-White, Chicago, ILL and William “Bill” Wright, Los Angeles, CA. Ann Gregory, Las Vegas, NV was posthumously inducted.

The 2007 class included: Agatha M. Delancy, Nassau, The Bahamas; Lee Elder, San Diego, CA; Charlie Owens, Tampa, FL and Renee Powell, East Canton, Ohio. Joseph M. Bartholemew and John Roux, New Orleans, LA were inducted posthumously. Other 2007 awardees were: F. Malcolm Cunningham, Sr. – Pioneer Award; Publisher of the Year – Calvin H. Sinnette, MD; Golf Administrator of the Year – Dennis Morgan; Legacy Awardees – Lavelle “Reds” Anderson, Tim Irving and Dave Stroman, Washington, DC; Founder Awardees – Dr. George H. Grace, Miami, FL; Robert Brock, Albuquerque, New Mexico and Dwayne M. Murray, Baton Rouge, LA. Ann Gregory, Las Vegas, NV was posthumously inducted.

The 2008 selectees were: James W. Black, Charlotte, NC; George G. G. Johnson, Louisville, KY; Eddie Payton, Jackson, MS; Jimmy Lee “Jim” Thorpe, Heathrow, FL; “Humanitarian Awardees”: Dari & Billy Bowman, Tequesta, FL; “Pioneers”: Hercules O. Pitts, Upper Marlboro, MD; Earl G. Graves, Sr., New York, NY; “Publisher of the Year”: Pete McDaniel, Orlando, FL; “Golf Administrator of the Year”: Avis L. Brown Riley, San Diego, CA; “Mother – Daughter Golfers of the Year”: Linda Broadus & Dara Broadus, Atlanta, GA; “Father – Son Golfers of the Year”: Bobby Brown, Shreveport, LA; Ann Gregory, Las Vegas, NV was posthumously inducted.

The 2009 awardees were: “Founders Award” – Congressman Woman Eleanor Holmes Norton (DC); “Golf Course Management Excellence Award”, Golf Course Specialists, Inc.; “Pioneer Awardees”: Wake Robin Golf Club, Inc. Harold LeClair Ickes, Former Secretary, U.S. Department of Interior and U.S. Congressman John Mercer Langston were inducted posthumously.


*Posthumously

Mk: 06/03/11

“Celebrating the Accomplishments of Yesterday While Paving the Way for Tomorrow!”
Former Raiders player and coach Art Shell was born November 26, 1946. He is a two-time former head coach of the Oakland Raiders. He also holds the distinction of becoming the second-ever African American head coach (after Fritz Pollard) in the history of the NFL, and the first in the league's modern era. He also holds the NFL record for playing the longest as a diabetic.

Shell was drafted by the Oakland Raiders from Maryland Eastern Shore. Playing offensive tackle, Shell participated in 24 playoff contests, including Super Bowls XI and XV, and was named to eight Pro Bowls. Shell was elected to the Pro Football Hall of Fame in 1989. In 1999, he was ranked number 55 on The Sporting News' list of the 100 Greatest Football Players.

Born November 26, 1946, in Charleston, SC; son of Arthur, Sr. (worked in a paper mill), and Gertrude Shell; married; wife's name, Janice; children: Arthur II, Christopher.  

**Education:** Maryland State (now University of Maryland--Eastern Shore), B.S., 1968.

**Career**

Professional football player with Oakland Raiders of the National Football League, 1968-82 (franchise moved to Los Angeles, 1982); Los Angeles Raiders, offensive line coach, 1983-89, head coach, 1989--.

When Art Shell was named head coach of the Los Angeles Raiders in 1989, he became the first black head coach in modern National Football League history. A former star offensive lineman for the Oakland Raiders, and part of two Super Bowl championship teams, Shell replaced Mike Shanahan, a second-year coach who was previously with the Denver Broncos. By appointing Shell, Raiders management hoped to rejuvenate the franchise, which, after moving to Los Angeles from Oakland in 1982, had lost the mark of the dominant Raiders teams of the late 1970s and early 1980s. "I wanted a Raider," general manager Al Davis was quoted as saying in the New York Times after naming Shell early in the 1989 season. "When we went back in Oakland for an exhibition game two months ago, the one thing lacking was a link to the past in our coaching leadership."

Shell's history with the Raiders runs deep. In fifteen seasons as an offensive lineman, he was considered one of the N.F.L.'s finest. At 6' 5" and 300 pounds, Shell could, as Jill Lieber noted in Sports Illustrated, "intimidate opponents with his size alone." He was selected to the Pro Bowl a total of eight times, the most of any Raider ever, and played in a total of 207 games, the third highest number of any Raider. One of his career highlights came when Oakland defeated Minnesota in the 1977 Super Bowl, and Shell's defensive opponent had neither a tackle or sack the entire game. Former Raiders fullback Mark van Eeghen recalled to Lieber: "Art had extremely high standards. He prided himself in keeping his guy off [quarterback] Ken Stabler; a sack hurt Art more than it did Kenny." In 1989, Shell was honored for his career achievements by being elected to the Professional Football Hall of Fame.

Selected eight times to the Pro Bowl; elected to Professional Football Hall of Fame, 1989.

The 2011 edition of the Art Shell UMES Celebrity Golf Classic and Junior Tournament will be held June 14 and 15 at Great Hope Golf Course near Westover, MD.

Shell, a pro football Hall of Famer and University of Maryland Eastern Shore alumnus, again will host the tournament, which features its traditional roster of former athletes who enjoy a round of fund-raising golf. Celebrity golfers include Shell's former teammates, friends and competitors from his football-playing days.

The event is an activity of the UMES Foundation and benefits student scholarships in support of the university's PGA golf management program.

"Celebrating the Accomplishments of Yesterday While Paving the Way for Tomorrow!"
Hello Mrs. Gunn:

1. How are you this wonderful day? Great I hope. You must be extremely happy to get your “pool project” underway. The ARC is equally excited as you are. We know that it is going to ultimately be beautiful.

2. I came by to introduce myself on yesterday but was informed that you were not there. As the project appeared to formally begin on yesterday, I requested of your prime contractor a copy of the “approved Riviera Beach City Permit” as a copy had not been placed in your file in the office. The guard at the gate had no clue to provide access to your contractor(s) so I copied and delivered it back to the gate last night. Access is no longer a concern.

3. I placed the original permit and engineering/construction approval documents in an appropriate baggy so that the “city posting requirement for visual inspection” can be satisfied and delivered it to your subcontractor digging the dirt and preparing for the next phase at approximately 9:30AM today. Your subcontractor assured me of posting before they leave today.

4. The subcontractor removing the dirt was asked by me to line up their trucks on one side of the street so as to allow as smooth a traffic flow as possible by the neighbors and potential emergency vehicles. This was done with no hesitation.

5. While onsite a short while ago, I observed that the sprinkler lines in your back yard had been cut. To cap these off, to replace these or reconfigure these so that your neighbor’s water flow will not be compromised is your responsibility. How do you plan to resolve this challenge?

6. When previously asked in an email about the sod replacement, I assumed that you have a “common area sod/grass in front replacement plan.”

7. I was very pleased to be informed that your subcontractor said that “the gravel will be removed from the street and it will be swept clean before they leave today.”

We know that you will continue to do everything possible to insure that a completed project will not end with any neighborly or otherwise challenges. Thanks for your understanding.

Malachi Knowles, Chair
Thousand Oaks ARC