Donald “Don” Leonard
Umpire

Born: September 17, 1945, Baltimore, MD

Education: Brooklyn Park High School, Baltimore, MD
Frostburg State University, Frostburg, MD
Bowie State University, Bowie, MD

Occupation: Teacher, Anne Arundel County (Retired)

Don began his Umpire career in 1968 and he is still active (50 years and counting). He umpires slow pitch softball practically every night (during the season) at the George F. Bachman Sports Complex in Glen Burnie. He also umpires the Senior Beltway Leagues at Randazzo Softball Park in Severn.

Don started his Umpire career with Pony League Baseball and progressed to High School Baseball; then College Fast Pitch Softball; and, settled in with Slow Pitch Softball.

Don is a past President of the Golden Triangle Umpires Association (GUTA) and trained many of the current Umpires throughout Maryland. His lengthy experience and memberships with organizations such as: ASA; USSSA; GUTA; LVSSA; ISSA; SSUSA; SPA; NCAA; and, NSA has afforded him to be selected for many high profile Tournaments throughout the USA.

Don’s most memorable events include a Tournament game interruption in Mobile, Alabama, due to an invasion by a hoard of Snakes in the field of play. Also, he was Umpiring in Las Vegas (for the Las Vegas Senior Softball Association (LVSSA)) for a game between the Japan and U.S. All-Stars when the 9/11/01 attack occurred.

Highlights
• Coached High School Softball for Broadneck and South River (in AA County) totaling 7 years.
• Don is also a very accomplished slow pitch softball player and senior player.
• Inducted into the Anne Arundel County Slow Pitch Softball Hall of Fame (Player & Umpire).

When asked what it takes to Umpire for so many years, his reply was, “Patience, a love for the game, and a great sense of humor.”