

## HISTORY OF AIAAA

In December of 1979 at the NIAAA national conference in Dallas, Texas, the idea of Arizona organizing a state athletic directors association was first formulated. In a discussion between Zig Kwiatkowski (the "father" of the AIAAA) and the executive committee of the NIAAA and the leadership of the California State Athletic Directors Association it was determined that Arizona should begin the process of forming a state athletic directors association.

In December of 1981 Tony Komadina and Zig met at the NIAAA national conference in Las Vegas. At this meeting the NIAAA reiterated to Zig that Arizona athletic directors would not serve on committees, have voting rights at the delegate assembly or hold office until Arizona had an organized and recognized athletic directors association.

Zig returned from that conference and sent a letter to every high school athletic director in Arizona asking them to join him in organizing a state athletic directors association. That group officially began in September 1982 to work toward creating a state association. Tony Komadina (executive director of the AIA) gave the future organization its first task, to take control of the AIA State Athletic Directors Workshop from the AIA. This meant planning, financing and running the event. Zig Kwiatkowski (considered the "father of the AIAAA") began the task by organizing a constitutional committee. The following athletic directors participated on that committee:

3A Conference: Zig Kwiatkowski, Moon Valley, Sister Lynn Winsor, Xavier Prep, Bob Thrasher, Thunderbird, Burt Miller, Cortez, Steve Knight, Greenway, George Crenshaw, Alhambra,

2A Conference: Don Hyman, Mingus, Fernando Maya, Parker,

1A Conference: Roy Fenton, Dysart, Dave Spellman, Tolleson,

B Conference: Kelly Cordes, Bagdad,

C Conference: Bob Kosower, Phoenix Country Day School.

Chairman of the committee was Bob Thrasher. In December of 1982 the committee met again to finalize the draft. It was presented to the body for final approval in January of 1983. This marked the official organized birth of the AIAAA. The next step was to choose a slate of officers for the organization. The Constitution Committee also served as the Nominating Committee.

The following officers were then selected;

Don Hyman, Mingus, was President, Burt Miller, Cortez, Vice President, Sister Lynn Winsor, Xavier Prep, Secretary and Zig Kwiatkowski, Moon Valley, as Treasurer

Since this new organization did not have any formal membership or money an invitation was sent to every Arizona athletic director. They were invited to meet on October 30, 1983 at the Holiday Inn on Peoria Ave at the Western States High School Athletic Directors Conference. The first formal AIAAA Conference took place in September of 1984 at the same Holiday Inn. The following thirty two athletic directors became charter members by paying their \$15.00 dues:

Sister Lynn Winsor, (the first paid member of the AIAAA)

Zig Kwaitkowski

Burt Miller

Charlie Baker, Horizon

Manny Ruiz, Superior

Don Hyman

Steve Knight

Don Schmidli, Brophy Prep

Al Howell, Chandler

Tom Powers, Duncan

Jerry Smith, Deer Valley

Dave Spellman

Don Wilkinson, Tempe District

Bob Walters, Yuma

Lionel Goar, Mesa District

Sheila Baize, San Manuel

Alfredo Luna, Globe

Ernie Hawkins, Mesa High

Dan Reynolds, San Manuel

Felix Winslow, Buena

Greg Parker, Bisbee

Vince Budenholzer, Holbrook

Bob Thrasher

Steve Somerlet, Miami

Tom Matthews, Round Valley

Danny Turner, Marana

Joe Pico, Gilbert District

Craig Anderson, Shadow Mountain

Richard Riley, Gilbert

Howard Powers, Camelback

Joe Brown, Flagstaff