

## **Bruce Froemming**

### **Special Assistant to the Vice President, Umpiring**

Bruce Froemming joined Major League Baseball's Umpiring Department in 2008 as Special Assistant to the Vice President. In this role, Froemming will work on various projects on behalf of MLB Executive Vice President of Baseball Operations Jimmie Lee Solomon and Vice President of Umpiring Mike Port, focusing in particular on the training and instruction of young umpires.

In 2007, Froemming completed his 37th year of Major League service, attaining the longest period of consecutive years of service by an active umpire in baseball history. He surpassed Hall of Famer Bill Klem to gain the mark for longevity. The record was celebrated on April 16, 2007 at Minute Maid Park in Houston, with Solomon and Port in attendance. Later in the 2007 season, Bruce served as the crew chief at the All-Star Game in San Francisco and then led the crew that called the Yankees-Indians American League Division Series. (Froemming's equipment from his 5,000th game is on display at the Hall of Fame. The Boston Red Sox honored Bruce before his 5,000th game on August 16, 2006.)

Froemming's 111 career postseason games worked are the most in baseball history, and his total of 5,162 Major League games worked ranks second to Klem's 5,369. Froemming and Klem are the only umpires in history to work over 5,000 Major League games. Overall, Bruce worked three All-Star Games, nine Division Series (a record), 10 League Championship Series and five World Series (1976, 1984, 1988, 1990 and 1995).

The Milwaukee native is married to Rose Marie with two sons, Kevin and Steve, and two grandsons, Nicolas and Christopher. Bruce now resides in Florida.

## **Tom Lepperd**

### **Director, Umpire Administration**

Tom Lepperd, currently in his 35th year in professional baseball, joined Major League Baseball

in 2000 after serving the previous two seasons as the assistant to Paul Runge, the National League's Director of Umpires.

In his current position, Lepperd is responsible for administering day-to-day umpire operations and for facilitating communication between Major League Baseball's Umpire Operations, the Major League umpires and Minor League Baseball. He also assists in the schedule of umpire assignments and maintains current records of umpire information and game events.

Lepperd graduated number one in his class from the Bill Kinnamon Umpire School in February 1975 and was assigned to the Midwest League for that season. After working in the Midwest League (1975-76), Lepperd umpired in the Eastern League (1976-77) and American Association (1978-86). He was assigned to work in American League Spring Training games from 1983-86 and also served as a fill-in in AL regular season games (1984-86) before joining the Umpire Development Program as a supervisor in 1987, where he stayed until joining the National League in 1998. He was also a part of the first joint committee on training and helped to collaborate the first-ever Major League Umpire Manual.

Lepperd graduated from the University of Illinois (Champaign-Urbana) with highest university honors and a B.S. in Teaching of Mathematics in 1972. Prior to attending the Kinnamon Umpire School, Lepperd taught mathematics at Evanston Township High School in Evanston, IL for three years.

A native of Rochelle, Illinois, Lepperd resides in West Des Moines, Iowa, with his wife, Susan, and two children, Kelsey and Zachary.

## **Medical Consultant**

Mark A. Letendre was selected by the Baseball Office of the Commissioner to develop and oversee the first comprehensive athletic health care program for the 68 Major League umpires on October 15, 1999.

Letendre served as a Major League Baseball athletic trainer for 18 years with the San Francisco Giants and New York Yankees. He was named to serve as National League athletic trainer at the 1987 and 1994 MLB All-Star Games. Letendre has been a certified member of the National

Athletic Trainers Association since 1979 and is an active member of the Professional Baseball Athletic Trainers Society.

When he is not lecturing on health care techniques, Letendre is educating audiences on the hazards of spit tobacco and was honored in 1998 by the National Spit Tobacco Education Program (NSTEP) for his efforts to educate players on the effects of spit tobacco. Mark is a member of the Scottsdale Charros, a civic group and serves on the board of governors for the Scottsdale Boys' and Girls' Club and as an officer for the Baseball Assistance Team charity.

Letendre is a 1978 graduate from the University of Maine-Orono where he received a B.S. in Physical Education and Health. He resides in Scottsdale, AZ with his wife, Judy, and daughters, Alyssa and Shannon.

**Source: Major League Baseball, World Umpires Association**