

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

## 74<sup>th</sup> Annual Old Timers Banquet to Feature Lance Parrish

### Versatile Player Was 8-Time All Star in 19 Major League Seasons

NASHVILLE, TN – December 1, 2011 – Former Major League player Lance Parrish will be the featured speaker at the 2012 Old Timers annual banquet, scheduled for Thursday, January 26<sup>th</sup> at the Millennium Maxwell House, 2025 Rosa L. Parks Blvd.



Parrish was drafted in 1974 as a third baseman by the Detroit Tigers but was most highly regarded as a skillful catcher, both offensively and defensively. His playing career included stints with the Philadelphia Phillies, California Angels, Seattle Mariners, Cleveland Indians, Pittsburgh Pirates, and Toronto Blue Jays.

A three-time Golden Glove Award winner, Parrish collected six Silver Slugger Awards as the best hitter at his position in the American League. As the backstop on the 1984 Detroit Tigers World Series Championship team, he slammed 33 home runs and had 98 runs batted in batting as the clean-up hitter during the season earning the nickname “Big Wheel” from his team mates.

His most productive year was in 1982 when he garnered a .284 batting average with 32 home runs and 87 runs batted in. He also caught Jack Morris’ no-hitter on April 7<sup>th</sup>, and that season established the American League record for home runs by a catcher with 32, surpassing his own mark two years later with 33.

Ranking fifth in Major League history in home runs as a catcher with 299, he led American League catchers twice in base runners caught stealing. Parrish has been a coach, manager, and broadcaster in the professional ranks and now lives in Brentwood where he continues to coach at the amateur level.

Tickets for the banquet are \$35 each and may be purchased at Hit after Hit, Nashville Sporting Goods, Nashville Sounds, or from any Old Timers board member. The event begins at 6:30 PM and will include a silent and live auction. Call Tommy Parker 371-0001, Farrell Owens 269-7348, or visit [www.otbaseball.com](http://www.otbaseball.com) for more information.

At the annual banquets the Old Timers Baseball Association of Nashville has presented scholarships totaling over \$200,000 to worthy area high school senior baseball players. Scholarship applications are available on the Old Timers web site. A golf tournament is held each September to raise funds for scholarships.

Formed in 1938 by a group of local baseball enthusiasts, the Old Timers Baseball Association is one of the oldest such ongoing organizations in the United States and recently obtained status as a 501 (c) 3 non-profit organization.