

BRISTOL SPORTS HALL OF FAME

Photos courtesy of Alan/Tom Piotrowski & Mark Gaier

2014 in review

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The President's Posting

Jack Hines, President, Bristol Sports Hall of Fame



On behalf of the Board of Directors of The Bristol Sports Hall of Fame (BSHOF), I am pleased to share with you the events and activities that have taken place in 2014.

The BSHOF features sports figures from numerous sports, including, but not limited to, football, basketball, baseball, golf, soccer, softball, track and field, and swimming. Counting the class of 2014 we currently have 149 inductees and honorees.

The other events held during the year were all successful because of the support of local businesses and the community at large, and to the significant time and effort given to these events by our Board of Directors.

Thank you for your friendship and financial support on behalf of the BSHOF.

Breakfast of Champions added to BSHOF Menu.

This year we took over ownership of "The Breakfast of Champions" event from the Bristol Chamber of Commerce.

Members of the three Bristol high schools attend this program, and the football team seniors and coaches, as well as the coaches and captains of the other fall sports, are recognized. The highlight of this event is the presentation of the Ralph Papazian Award, named in honor of the long-time football coach and Athletic Director.

The recipient of the award this year was Coach Chuck Drury. Unfortunately, because of the cancellation of school on the morning of the event, the "Breakfast of Champions" had to be cancelled also. We did host an evening event at the Bristol Public Library where Donna Papazian presented Coach Drury with the 2014 Ralph Papazian award. We look forward to hosting the event in coming years.

Mum-A-Thon 5K Race

Event coordinator and BSHOF Director Tom Grimaldi and his fellow directors at the Bristol Sports Hall of Fame directed another successful event.



BSHOF Welcomes Class of 2014 Inductees



Bill Benecick



Steve Cooke



Linsie Esau



Roger Godbout



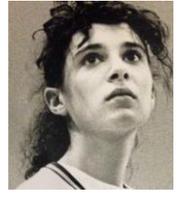
Bob McCabe



Bob Montgomery



Gary Sassu



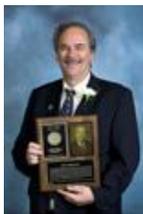
Ginny Torres

The DoubleTree by Hilton was the setting for the BSHOF's 18th annual induction program which was held on November 21, 2014. Almost three hundred and fifty patrons witnessed the induction of local sports legends Bill Benecick, Steve Cooke, Linsie Franklin Esau III, Roger Godbout, Bob McCabe, Bob Montgomery, Gary Sassu and Ginny Ziogas Torres. With the induction of the Class of 2014, one hundred and forty-six individuals and three organizations have been recognized by the BSHOF for their roles in maintaining the tradition and glory of Bristol sports. The commemorative plaques of the Class of 2014 inductees, along with all Hall of Fame inductees, are on display at the Dennis Malone Aquatic Center on Mix Street in Bristol.

The BSHOF would like to extend its thanks to the many businesses and individuals who supported the induction program's advertisement booklet. Thanks also go to all of those who attended the event or sponsored tables. Special thanks go to Mark Cornacchio, CEO & President of the First Bristol Federal Credit Union for their sponsorship of the VIP Reception held prior to the induction program.

A big thank you goes out to Director Tom Mazzarella for his assistance with the production of the video portion of the program. Director Tom Monahan served as master of ceremonies for his seventeenth year and only interrupted for one year due to his retirement party after 45 years as WVIT Channel 30 News political reporter in 2011. And last but not least, the board would like to thank Bob Kalat and Hank Lodge for Co-Chairing the event and the entire Induction Committee members who helped make the 2014 event a success.

Former Inductee Accomplishments & Milestones



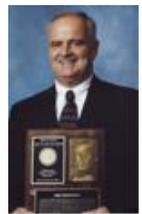
Greenleaf



Mullins



Gilhuly



Giovanazzo

Dave Greenleaf.....inducted into the CT State American Legion "Hall of Fame".

Fran Mullins.....inducted into the inaugural class of the CT State American Legion Baseball "Hall of Fame"

Doc Gilhuly..... inducted into the inaugural class of the CT State American Legion Baseball "Hall of Fame"

Mike Giovanazzo.....selected High School Coach of the Year by the CT State American Legion Baseball.

Spotlight on Director Bernie O'Keefe



From time to time this space will be reserved to shine the spotlight on any one of our twenty-two directors that comprise the Bristol Sports Hall of Fame board. We are very pleased to tell you about a gentleman that can always be counted on to do the job to the best of his ability.

Not only does he do what is expected but he goes beyond to ensure that everything gets done correctly and on time, unless it's the time he forgot to pick up the flowers, but that's a story for another day. On behalf of the entire board we thank Bernie for all he has done and continues to do for us.

Leadership Council Speaker Ginny Ziogas Torreso.

Ginny Ziogas Torreso, a teacher at Bristol Central who had a standout basketball career at Bristol Eastern and Pace University, was the guest speaker on Tuesday morning when the Bristol Sports Hall of Fame held one of its three annual Leadership Council breakfasts.

"Hopefully you'll take what I say and utilize it through your life," Torreso said in her opening remarks.

She centered her talk on three important items that would help make leaders out of the students, both within and outside high school and college and in adult life.

"First is surround yourself with good people," she said. "Second, whatever the task, give 100 percent. Last, lead by example."

With this, she gave examples of her experiences regarding these points in one of the best presentations given by a Leadership Council speaker.

Sixty six Team Leaders and Captains from St. Paul's, Bristol Eastern and Bristol Central High Schools met in April, September and December at Nuchie's Restaurant for the BSHOF Leadership Breakfasts for the 2013-14 season. Each team Captain summarized their season and were asked to state any problems that arose and how as a team leader it was resolved. Cutting practice, tardiness to practice, not enough playing time, being overly critical of other players and not having enough players on teams were major issues discussed.

The students also participated in activities which helped to instill certain skill sets they will need as team leaders; listening, thinking outside the box, and how instruction and encouragement get positive results. The students were also given ethical scenarios to discuss among themselves.

The group also participated in a community service project in the United Way Day of Caring Event. In May the students volunteered a one-half day at Indian Rock Environmental Learning Center doing general maintenance and clean up.

This was a good group of students who actively participated in the activities and hopefully came away with a better understanding of what it takes to be an effective leader and captain.

BSHOF gives a special thank you to the Robert Fiondella Foundation which helps to partially underwrite the cost of the program

Jack Hines Scholar Athlete Dinner

Shortly after the formation of the Bristol Sports Hall of Fame, its Executive Director, Jack Hines, proposed a program to honor students who were not only outstanding achievers in their academic studies but individuals who were equally successful in their athletic pursuit in their respective schools. The Scholar Athlete program seeks to honor such individuals.

To qualify as a Scholar Athlete a junior or senior must maintain a B+ average and have earned three varsity letters. In recognition of his service, the BSHOF has named its Scholar Athlete Recognition Dinner in honor of Jack Hines.

At the recognition Dinner the BSHOF awards a \$1,500 scholarship to recipients from the three local high schools. 2014 recipients were Robert Jacques (Bristol Central), Jenna Rodjenski (Bristol Eastern) and Monica Roccapiore from St. Paul Catholic High School. Paul Kish was the 2014 recipient of the Joe McGinn Award.

To learn more about this program and prior recipients please visit the "Scholar/Athletes" and "Award Recipients" at our website www.bshof.org.



From top to bottom: Recent Hall of Fame inductee Ginny Ziogas Torreso delivered a strong message to the Leadership Council.

United Way Day of Caring for Indian Rock Preserve Environmental Learning Center by students from Leadership Council.



Top: Scholarship recipients Robert Jacques, Jenna Rodjenski and Monica Roccapiore. (bottom left) with the 2014 Joe McGinn Award Recipient Paul Kish.

2014 Golf Tournament Another Success



The 10th Annual Bristol Sports Hall of Fame Golf Tournament was held on July 28, 2014 at Chippanee Golf Club in Bristol. Through the generosity of the golfers and many sponsors, the proceeds of the tournament are used to support the Bristol Sports Hall of Fame "Jack Hines Scholar Athlete" Program which provides scholarship money for Bristol high school seniors.

Among the participants were hall of fame members, Gail Ericson, Robert Freimuth, Dave Mills, Spec Monico, Dave Raponey and Duke Snyder. They were joined by Jack Hines, President of the Bristol Sports Hall of Fame. On Course management was firmly supported by our Co-founder Bob Montgomery.



The tournament was held under a scramble format with winners in both the gross and net categories. First place gross winners with a score of 56 were the team of Bunty Ray, Bob Freimuth, Brian Rooney and Pat Hall. Finishing two strokes behind the winning foursome was the team of Elaine Watchel, Bernie Ericson, Gail Ericson and Beth Lafferty.



On the Net side, the winning foursome with a score of 49 was the team of Russ Wentland, Sean McCarthy, Anthony DiPalo and Nick Urso. Finishing second by matching cards was Jon Leary, Chris Leary, Bob McFadden and John Colapietro. Team Lodge is still on the course.

Long Drive winners were Ryan Mullen in the Men's division and Bob Patterson in the Men's Senior Long Drive. Ladies Long Drive went to Mary Beth Baldyga. The Closest to the Pin was won by Adam Swicklas 4'4" and Fran Serratore 10'1". The event drew 92 golfers who also enjoyed lunch and dinner in addition to some great golf at Chippanee Golf Club. We thank all our players and sponsors for allowing us this privilege to support our community.

Special thanks to our Co-Chairs Hank Lodge and Brian Farrell, Sr. for their leadership and commitment to making this another successful fundraiser for BSHOF and our community.

Gerry Greger and Fran Mullins Remembered.

Both Gerry Greger and Fran Mullins will be greatly missed.



2013 Inductee Gerry Greger a standout three sports athlete at Bristol High School and Bristol Central golf coach along with serving his country while rising to the rank of Colonel will be missed.



Awards and recognition continue to add to the legacy that is Fran Mullins, a 2001 inductee into the Bristol Sports Hall of Fame. Most recently Fran was inducted into the inaugural class of the State American Legion Baseball Hall of Fame.

Helping BSHOF help the Community

The Bristol Sports Hall of Fame (BSHOF) sponsors many activities that benefit both student-athletes and the adults who are involved in sports in the Bristol community. These programs are the result of the generous contributions from local businesses and individuals who recognize the value of promoting the accomplishments of Bristol athletes. Without community support, the BSHOF would not be able to continue the scholarship and educational programs that it sponsors. These events include:

- Three \$1,500 scholarships awarded at the Jack Hines Scholar-Athlete Dinner
- The Bristol Sports Hall of Fame Annual Induction Ceremony
- The Robert J. Fiondella Leadership Breakfast
- The Community Speakers Program
- The Bristol Park and Recreation Department Hershey Track Meet (co-sponsor)
- The Bristol Sports Hall of Fame Annual Scholarship Golf Tournament
- The Annual 5K Mum-A-Thon Road Race & The Breakfast of Champions

If you or your business would like to support the community activities sponsored by the BSHOF, we offer the following:

- The BSHOF Scholarship Golf Tournament Sponsorships - Tee - \$100, Carts - \$500, Lunch/Dinner - \$1,000
- The BSHOF Annual Induction Ceremony Booklet
Full Page Ad - \$200 Half Page Ad - \$100 Quarter Page Ad - \$ 50

One time contributions of any amount are always welcome and appreciated. For more information regarding financial support of the BSHOF, please contact Bob Kalat at 860-589-2415 or via email at rkalat@aol.com.