

BRISTOL SPORTS HALL OF FAME

Photos courtesy of Tom Mazarella and Tom Ragaini

2017 in review

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The President's Posting

Jack Hines, President, Bristol Sports Hall of Fame



I would like to take this opportunity to thank you on behalf of the officers and directors of the Bristol Sports Hall of Fame for your continued support of the events and programs we sponsor.

The financial support you so generously give helps students from all three Bristol high schools grow in leadership and service, and also helps make it possible for our scholarship recipients to continue the pursuit of their educational goals.

Please visit our updated website (BSHOF.org) to view the events and programs we offer each year. Finally, with an equal share of pride and pleasure, we can proclaim that with your support and partnership, we celebrate the 21st anniversary of the Bristol Sports Hall of Fame this year. Happy Holidays!

"PT" Johnson Honored at Breakfast of Champions.

The Ralph Papazian Leadership Award is given to educators and coaches in the city who, like Coach Papazian, display the qualities of leadership, integrity, and community involvement. Patricia "PT" Tomkil Johnson started her teaching career at Northeast School in 1980, moving to Bristol Eastern in 1981 where she started the girls soccer team.

Over the course of her career she also taught at several elementary schools in Bristol. Besides soccer, her coaching career included track and field, volleyball and cheerleading at BE. She was also an assistant coach with the girls basketball team when Coach Tony Floyd guided Eastern to its first state championship. She moved on to Bristol Central where she coached indoor track and boys track and field having tremendous success coaching with Tamara Stafford.

She ran summer programs for the Bristol Park Department while in college. When not coaching at the high schools, PT ran intramural programs for elementary schools in Bristol giving kids opportunities in rollerblading, bowling and skiing.

"The History of Women' Sports in Bristol".

The Bristol Hall of Fame hosted a panel discussion on how women's sports developed in Bristol in the early years. The panel was made up of former Hall of Fame coaches and players in the Bristol public schools. Joann Galati chaired the panel of Beth Kauke Lafferty, Debbie James, Tami Chapman, Gail Ericson and Phil Pirog.

Each of the women on the panel spoke of playing sports in their neighborhoods at an early age. Every day they would go out and play basketball or baseball with boys and girls playing side by side. It was not until they tried to enter organized sports that they were turned away and told it was only for boys. They were devastated. This was the first time they were told they could not play. "The boys did not understand either", Debbie James said, "We played side by side every day and now we were told we could not play. "Luckily, the Bristol Park Department was ahead of the curve" said Gail Ericson. "I was able to swim and compete in the park department summer programs.".....

To see the rest of the evening please visit our website www.bshof.org and click on Past Events.

BSHOF Welcomes Class of 2017 Inductees



John Benzinger



Don Cassin



Daryl Floyd



Jack Hines



Joe Jandreau



Dr. Werner Rosshirt



Matt Wilson



Adrian Wojnarowski

The DoubleTree by Hilton was the setting for the BSHOF's 21^h annual induction program, which was held on November 17, 2017. Well over three hundred patrons witnessed the induction of local sports legends John Benzinger, Don Cassin, Daryl Floyd, Jack Hines, Joe Jandreau, Dr. Werner "Willie" Rosshirt, Matt Wilson and Adrian Wojnarowski. With the induction of the Class of 2017, one hundred and seventy individuals and three organizations have been recognized by the BSHOF for their roles in maintaining the tradition and glory of Bristol sports. Their Class photo, along with all the classes, 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 and to our Ticket Coordinator, Linda Mannarino. Also Tom Monahan served as master of ceremonies for his 20th year. 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 who helped make the 2017 event a success.

Former Inductee Accomplishments & Milestones



Montgomery



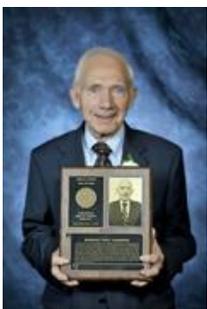
Richardson



Siegmann

Bob Montgomery.....Recipient of "Home Town Hero" Award from the American Legion/Korean Vets
Coral RichardsonRepresented U.S.A. at the World Masters Volleyball team in New Zealand.
Dennis Siegmann..... Inducted into his home town (Bristol Township, PA) Sports Hall of Fame.

Norman "Foo" Fournier will be missed but never forgotten.



Norman "Foo" Fournier, 86, loving husband of Jean (Lessard) Fournier passed away peacefully on Saturday April 8, 2017. Foo was born in Bristol on August 20, 1930 to the late Horace and Marie (Letourneau) Fournier. He lived in Bristol all his life, graduating from Bristol High School in 1948. In high school, Foo was an exceptional athlete, lettering in both basketball and baseball. He had the privilege of pitching and winning the first night game Bristol High School played at Muzzy Field.
Foo stayed active with his passion for sports, coaching in the Edgewood Little League and the Bristol Parks Department Pony and Colt Leagues for many years. In 2012 Foo was inducted into the Bristol Sports Hall of Fame.

Robert Fiondella Leadership Council Speakers: Ray & Wojnarowski

The goal of the Leadership Council is to help instill leadership skills in those student-athletes that are identified by their coaches as the future leaders or captains of their teams. The group meets three times a year, once in the spring of their junior years, and then again in September and December of their senior years. We bring in speakers, discuss ethical situations, participate in activities, and discuss any problems the students may have encountered on their respective teams.

The Bristol Sports Hall of Fame held its first Leadership Council Breakfast for a new group of students from Bristol's three high schools, those identified to be a sports team captain/leader during the school year 2017-2018. Mark Ziogas, a BSHOF director and local attorney, was the program's MC once again with Jay Ray as the keynote speaker for this April 4th gathering at Nuchie's.

Ray played football and baseball for Bristol Eastern as a member of the class of '89. He was a football captain his senior year and member of the state championship team in 1988. He went on to WPI to play four years of football, and two years of baseball, the latter as a walk-on.

In starting out, Mr. Ray talked about his leadership in college. He was in a fraternity seeking a national ranking and as a candidate to lead the group, his inspiring speech led to his being elected its president. Following graduation, he learned enough along the way to eventually start up eight different companies.....Jay's entire speech can be viewed at www.bshof.org under "Leadership Council".

On December 5, 2017 the leadership council had the pleasure of having renowned author and sports reporter Adrian Wojnarowski as their speaker. Adrian talked about perseverance and drive in obtaining your goals. If you put your mind to something it is obtainable. He talked about some of the great professional basketball players he has had the privilege of covering over the years, in particular he talked about Ray Allen and the countless hours he put into honing his skills. Nothing comes without hard work and dedication. He also spoke of Tim Duncan and the quiet leadership he provided, leading more by example than by words. Be honest and true to your teammates and to yourself because one bad act can tarnish your reputation and career. Somebody is always watching so lead by example and be a role model for the underclassman. To view Adrian's speech go to www.bshof.org under "Leadership Council".



From top to bottom: Jay Ray and Adrian Wojnarowski delivered strong messages to the Leadership Council. Students helping at United Way Day of Caring.

United Way Day of Caring Support

The Bristol Sports Hall of Fame helped out in the United Way's Annual Day of Caring on May 19th. Students from Bristol Central High School, Bristol Eastern High School, and St. Paul Catholic High School who are participants in the Hall of Fame's Leadership Council did various tasks to clean up the grounds at the Indian Rock Nature Preserve in Bristol.

After a breakfast of bagels and doughnuts, the sixty students were given their charge and divided into groups. One group spread mulch in the apple orchard. Another group painted fencing, and a third group pulled weeds and groomed gardening areas.

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



Scholar Athlete Recognition 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 who were also equally successful in their athletic pursuits in their respective schools. The Scholar Athlete program seeks to honor such individuals.

To qualify as a Scholar Athlete a junior or senior must have an 88 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. 2017 recipients were Sarah Strilkaukas (Bristol Central), Emily Stadnicki (Bristol Eastern) and Thomas Kretsch from St. Paul Catholic High School. Davina Hernandez was the 2017 recipient of the Joe McGinn Award.

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



Top: Scholarship recipients Thomas Kretsch, Sarah Strilkaukas, Emily Stadnicki. (Bottom right) the 2017 Joe McGinn Award Recipient Davina Hernandez.

2017 Golf Tournament Another Success



The 13th Annual Bristol Sports Hall of Fame Golf Tournament was held on July 31, 2017 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 Scholar Athlete Program which provides scholarship money for Bristol high school seniors.

Among the participants were hall of fame members, Gail Ericson, Robert Freimuth, Duke Snyder, Dave Raponey, Beth Lafferty, Debbie James, Chris D'Amato and Jim Ziogas. 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. Super volunteer, Patti Kalat helped at registration and took over the duties of collecting entry fees for the Wine Hole for the umpteenth year.



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 57 was the team of Tony Panazzo, Jeff Olson, Dan Roach and Dom Perno.

On the Net side, the winning foursome with a score of 46 and winning by matching cards was the team of Jack Hines, Brian O'Leary, Mark Cornacchio and Tom Monahan.

Long Drive winners were Chris Robitaille in the Men's division and Tom Monahan in the Men's Senior Long Drive. Ladies Long Drive went to Coral Richardson. The Closest to the Pin winners were Bob Freimuth 4'3" and Beth Kauke Lafferty 7'2". 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 go to our Co-Chairs Jack Hines and Don Soucy, for their leadership and commitment to making this another successful fundraiser for BSHOF and our community.

It is with a great deal of gratitude that we thank our outgoing Co-Chairs Brian Farrell, Sr., and Hank Lodge for successfully chairing the past twelve tournaments.

Tom Pincince Spoke to Parents and Student on "Social Media".



The Bristol Sports Hall of Fame would like to thank Tom Pincince for being our guest speaker this past March. Tom is the Assistant Athletic Director for Communication and Media Services at Central Connecticut State University. He speaks all over the country about educating student-athletes about how to use social media in a positive way. On March 8th Tom talked to over 100 parents and students at Bristol Eastern. Tom spoke about making good decisions on social media, and how important it is to have a positive social media presence. The night began with Luke Hines playing the national anthem on his violin.

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 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.