

BRISTOL SPORTS HALL OF FAME

Photos courtesy of Tom Mazzarella and John Benoit

2019 in review

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President's Posting

Bob Kalat, 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 celebrated the 23rd anniversary of the Bristol Sports Hall of Fame this year.

Happy Holidays!

Vito Hernandez 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. Vito Hernandez is a long time Bristol resident. He graduated from Bristol Central High School in 1970. While at Central he played football, basketball and baseball. It was Vito's senior year at Central when Ralph Papazian came to Bristol to teach physical education and coach football.

Vito attended Central Connecticut State University, and from there he went to work at General Electric in Plainville. At GE he worked in receivables, finance and customer service. Following his retirement from GE after 35 years of service, Vito was hired by the Bristol Public Schools to serve as an outreach worker for both Central and Eastern High Schools. In 2006 Vito became a para-educator at Bristol Central. He will be retiring from that position in December of this year. Vito and his wife Dinorah have two daughters, Emily and Kizzy, and he is the proud grandfather of Kasen and Braden.

Dave Mills Retires from City Council.

Dave Mills, 2003 Hall of Fame inductee and 13-year president of this organization, announced not too long ago that he would not seek a fifth term on Bristol's City Council. This was not an easy decision, but he felt it was the right time. He was originally surprised 10 years ago when asked to run for the position and hasn't regretted taking it on after a 36 year phys. ed. career at Bristol Eastern, while also the school football coach for 26 years. These endeavors alone brought him respect and admiration from those whose lives he touched. It was all about how he handled himself, as a gentleman, informed individual and leader. These same traits followed him into the local political arena, receiving respect from even his opponents and opposing party leaders. Dave was properly recognized at Nuchie's recently because of his then impending departure and also at his last council meeting in October, receiving praise from Mayor Ellen Zoppo-Sassu and the council members he served with. A well done, indeed, Dave, and thank you from your many friends from the Bristol Sports Hall of Fame. "I was a freshman at Bristol Eastern when Dave was a senior leader and he was one of the individuals I looked up to," said Hall of Fame co-founder Bob Montgomery. "I maintain those same feelings for him today."

BSHOF Welcomes Class of 2019 Inductees



Bob Caron



James Deschaine



Malcolm Huckaby



Wendy Guite Kenyon



Pat Parente



Dean Pecevich



Art Whitehead

The DoubleTree by Hilton was the setting for the BSHOF's 23rd annual induction program, which was held on November 22, 2019. Friends and relatives witnessed the induction of local sports legends Bob Caron, James Deschaine, Malcolm Huckaby, Wendy Guite Kenyon, Pat Parente, Dean Pecevich and Art Whitehead. With the induction of the Class of 2019, one hundred and eighty two 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 on our website www.bshof.org.

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 22nd 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 2019 event a success.

Hall of Fame Members Accomplishments & Milestones



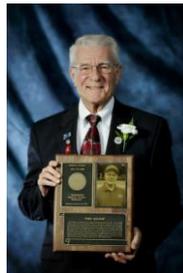
Beaudoin



DeFillippi



Giovinazzo



LaFleur



Mannarino



Siegmann



Sweet

Mike Beaudoin.....Harp Broderick Award from Bristol Tramps

Joe DeFillippi Bill Garrett Award from Bristol Tramps

Mike Giovinazzo..... 600th career baseball win at Bristol Eastern High School

Paul LaFleur..... 50th year with Bristol American Legion Baseball

Phil Mannarino..... Coach Dan Valiero Committee Award from Bristol Tramps and Inducted into the Plainville High School Sports Hall of Fame in October 2019.

Dennis Siegmann..... Inducted into the N.J. Township Sports Hall of Fame and the CT Chapter of the National Wrestling Hall of Fame

Bill Sweet..... 400th career soccer win at Bristol Eastern High School.



BSHOF Board welcomes our newest director, Chris D'Amato

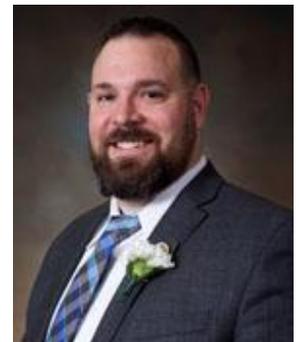
The BSHOF welcomes Chris D'Amato to its board of directors. A Bristol native, he has an outstanding reputation of getting things done. This was seen with his work in providing the athletes at Bristol Eastern with improved sports venues, giving back to the school where he works and was once a standout athletic performer. He served as a basketball and baseball captain at the school before going on to play baseball at ECSU. There, he captained the 1998 baseball team which won the national title with Chris earning tourney MVP honors. He coached the girls' softball team at BEHS in compiling a win-loss mark of 177-38.

Robert Fiondella Leadership Council Speakers: Gould and Deschaine

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.

Bristol Police Chief Brian Gould was the speaker at the September 2019 breakfast. Chief Gould talked about the things he has learned about leadership skills and qualities from his many years on the force and from the leadership conferences he has attended over the years. He said it is not a position but it is a process to become a good leader. He told the students to encourage and engage with their teammates. He described the Art of Leadership as follows: Supportive not Coercive; Lead Don't Drive; Mission First, Vision First, but People Always First; Lead People Manage Things; and People are Most Important Asset.

At the December meeting Jim Deshaine, a recently inducted member of the BSHOF was the speaker. Jim talked about some of the great leaders of the past and quoted phrases that showed their style. President Truman described leadership as convincing a man to do something he does not want to do and getting him to enjoy it. Leadership depends on circumstances and goals, but can also be shaped by a crisis at the time. He emphasized that trustworthiness; fairness and cooperation were key factors in being a good leader.



From top to bottom: Chief Brian Gould and Jim Deschaine delivered strong messages to the Leadership Council. Students helping at United Way Day of Caring.

United Way Day of Caring Support

As part of the program the students also participate in the Day of Caring Event sponsored by the United Way of West Central Connecticut. In May the students volunteered a one-half day at Indian Rock Environmental Learning Center doing general maintenance and clean up

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



Jack Hines/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 honors 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 named its Scholar Athlete Dinner, the Jack Hines/Scholar Athlete Dinner in 2009.

At the recognition Dinner the BSHOF awards a \$1,500 scholarship to recipients from the three local high schools. 2019 recipients were (from Left to right) Nathan Rosa & Erin Petke (Bristol Central), Brianna Ogonowski & Olivia Beaudoin (Bristol Eastern), Hannah Mulcahy & Ximena Varela-Marin (St. Paul). Ryan Rodriguez was the 2019 recipient of the Joe McGinn Award.

2019 Golf Tournament Another Success



The 15th Annual Bristol Sports Hall of Fame Golf Tournament was held on July 29, 2019 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 many past hall of fame members. On Course management was firmly supported by our Co-founder Bob Montgomery. Super volunteers Linda Soucy and Patti Kalat helped at registration while Patti again managed the 8th hole raffle while Phil Mannarino did the same on the 11th hole.



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 54 was the team of Morrie Laviero, Adam Ward, Drew Fries and Brian Fries.

On the Net side, the winning foursome with a score of 44 was the team of Shaun Redman, Jason Dinerman, Tim Tycz and Josh Dinerman.

Long Drive winners were Tim Barrette in the Men's division and Jack Hines in the Men's Senior Long Drive. Ladies Long Drive went to Gail Ericson. The Closest to the Pin winners were Mark Tedesco 10'4", Gail Ericson at 19'1" took the Ladies Division. The event drew 104 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 Brian Farrell, Sr. 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 Chairman Jack Hines for successfully chairing the prior two tournaments.



Director Spotlight



2002 Bristol Tramps Bill Garrett Award recipient Bob Kalat was a Teacher for 35 years in Thomaston. 20 years as treasurer of FLL, 21 years as member of BSHOF. He served for 15 years as VP and is just finishing his first year as President. Member of the Bristol Park Board of Commissioners. Helped start the Bristol Park Dept. Youth soccer program in 1980. Served as chairman of BSHOF selection committee for 15 years and co-chair of its induction program since 2007. He has volunteered along with his wife Patti, at the Eastern Regional LL Tournament every year, serving in many capacities including as a member of the tournament committee for many years. Bottom line, if Bob took on a responsibility he "owned" it.

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:

- Six \$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 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 - \$250, Lunch - \$500, Dinner - \$1,000, Golf Gift - \$1,500, Corporate - \$2,500
- 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.