
Preserving the Sports History of Chautauqua County



Chautauqua Sports Hall of Fame

*15 West Third Street - Jamestown, NY 14701
December 2013*



Class of 2014 Inductees

The Board of Directors of the Chautauqua Sports Hall of Fame is proud to announce the eight inductees who will comprise the Class of 2014. They are **Vincent Calarco, Geza Farkus, Dan Lunetta, Cindy Miller, Al Muck, Tom Prechtl, Tom Priester, and Jack Wigley.**

These individuals will be formally inducted at the CSHOF's 33rd Annual Banquet, Monday, February 17, 2014, at the Lakewood Rod and Gun Club.

The eight new honorees will bring the total number of CSHOF inductees to 153.

Tickets for the induction dinner are priced at \$50.

2014 banquet reservations can be made by calling chairman Chip Johnson at 716-485-6991.

Vincent Calarco

- born in Westfield 1923 – life-long resident
- graduate Westfield Academy in 1942
- earned 15 varsity letters in football, basketball, baseball and track
- WWII veteran – A Battery, 550 AAA, 3rd Army
- appointed sports director while stationed in England
- owned Calarco's Italian Restaurant in Westfield – a family business for more than 75 years
- sponsored, played and coached basketball, football, softball and baseball teams
- received IAABO award for 50 years of service as a basketball official in 2006
- Kiwanis Club, Civil Defense Director, Westfield Planning Board, Knights of Columbus, Legion Drill Team, Westfield Business Association
- Married to Charlotte 63 years – 3 children

Geza Farkus

- born in Budapest, Hungary 1932
- became interested in gymnastics as a boy - trained before and after school - as his abilities improved, he was selected for Hungarian Olympic team
- at 1952 Oslo Olympics he finished 25th in All-Around
- at 1956 Melbourne Olympics he finished 15th in All-Around
- Hungarian team won the bronze medal – refused to carry Communist flag
- defected to US in 1956 - coached gymnastics at Kent State
- moved to Jamestown in 1960 to work in furniture industry
- coached gymnastics at Lakewood Y - YMCA National Coach of Year 1996
- died in 2002
- survived by a daughter and son

Dan Lunetta

- ✓ born in Jamestown 1955 - graduate of Jamestown High 1973, Jamestown Community College in 1978 and SUNY Brockport 1980
- ✓ groundskeeper at College Stadium (Jamestown) 1979 - general manager Jamestown Expos 1980
- ✓ assistant spring training coordinator Montreal Expos 1980
- ✓ director of baseball operations Buffalo Bisons 1985
- ✓ director of team travel Montreal Expos 1986 - director of team travel Cincinnati Reds 1988
- ✓ general manager Rochester Red Wings 1990
- ✓ director of minor league administration Florida Marlins 1991 - farm director Florida Marlins 1996
- ✓ director of baseball administration Florida Marlins 1998
- ✓ special assistant to general manager Montreal Expos 2002
- ✓ director of minor league operations Detroit Tigers 2004 - present

Cindy Miller

- born Cindy Kessler in Dunkirk 1956 – resides in Silver Creek
- graduate University of Miami – captain of golf team that won NCAA National Championship in 1977 and 1978 - All-American in 1978
- won New York State Amateur in 1978
- won Lake Chabot Women’s Open on Women’s Professional Golf Tour 1979 - won 2004 Golf for Women Magazine championship in Daytona Beach
- has qualified to play on LPGA Tour, LPGA Legends Tour and the Futures Golf Tour
- is a Class A LPGA Teaching and Club Professional - teaches at Wehrle Golf Dome - Williamsville
- named one of Top 50 teachers in 2001, 2006, 2007, 2008, 2012
- 2010 LPGA National Teacher of the Year

- ❑ participated in Golf Channel's Big Break III - Ladies Only and Big Break VII – The Reunion
- ❑ CEO of Cindy Miller Golf – corporate training, team building, executive golf retreats

Al Muck

- born in Buffalo 1944
- lived in Chautauqua County 1951 – present
- graduate of Forestville High School 1962 – most outstanding athlete senior year
- quarterback on football team, captain and high scorer on basketball, 3X all-star
- in high school pitched 5 no-hit games - averaged 15 strikeouts/game
- signed professional baseball contract with Kansas City A's
- 1962 Daytona Beach (class D) – 1963 Lewiston (class A) – 1964 Burlington (class A) – 1965 Shelby (class A)
- continues to play competitive baseball in 50+, 55+, 60+ and 65+ baseball league
- played in Roy Hobbs World Series 8X
- founding member and Board of Directors of Northern Chautauqua County Youth Hockey Association
- refereed hockey, basketball, football

Tom Prechtl

- born in Dunkirk 1935
- attended Fredonia High School 1950-53
- multi-year letter winner in basketball, football, baseball and track
- played basketball at Niagara University 1954-57 for legendary coach Taps Gallagher - teammates included Larry Costello, Hubie Brown and Frank Layden
- after college played in many local basketball leagues and on traveling teams
- coached at Jamestown High School, Jamestown Community College and Panama Central
- taught elementary school at Chautauqua and Jamestown for over 30 years
- volunteered countless hours of excavating expertise to create playgrounds and athletic fields
- died 2008
- survived by wife, Judy, and three children

Tom Priester

- 🕒 born 1939 in Erie, PA – lived in Chautauqua County since 1962
- 🕒 1958 graduate of North East, PA High School – basketball and track
- 🕒 1962 graduate of Slippery Rock University – soccer player
- 🕒 coached at Southwestern Central 1962-2007 – cross country, track/field, volleyball, bowling, tennis
- 🕒 high school track and field official since 1975 - USATF official since 1985

- 🕒 officiated NCAA Division I, II, III track/field meets
- 🕒 officiated National and International track/field meets including US Olympic trials
- 🕒 received multiple awards for teaching, coaching and officiating excellence
- 🕒 served on Board of Directors of Joint Neighborhood Project and Southwestern Schools Education Foundation
- 🕒 married to Susan 48 years – two children

Jack Wigley

- ❖ born 1934 in Jamestown
- ❖ 1952 graduate Lakewood High School – salutatorian - football, basketball, baseball, track and volleyball - still holds Southwestern long jump record 22' 2"
- ❖ signed professional baseball contract with NY Giants organization - 1953 Maryville-Alcoa Twins of Mountain State League (class D) – 1954-55 St. Cloud Rox of Northern League (class C) - 1955 Sioux City Soos of Western League (class A)
- ❖ served in Army for 2 years - graduated from JCC and UCLA
- ❖ taught math at La Jolla Country Day School 1962-1996, 34 years
- ❖ coached football, baseball, girls and boys basketball, softball, volleyball, tennis, and golf
- ❖ 4X girls basketball conference champion - 2X boys basketball conference champion - 2X softball conference champion - 1X tennis conference champion
- ❖ inducted San Diego Hall of Champions 2001 as coaching legend
- ❖ died 2011
- ❖ survived by wife, Carolyn, three daughters and a son

Who?

This CSHOF inductee played on championship teams in two professional sports. He played professional basketball on the championship Chicago American Gears team of the National Basketball League. One teammate was NBA Hall of Famer George Mikan.

Then switching sports to baseball, he won three World Series rings as a player and three more as a coach. As a veteran baseball player, he was assigned a roommate who ultimately played in twelve World Series and earned a bust in Cooperstown.

Our inductee is also an honoree in the same hall of fame as Jackie Robinson. Who is he?

Irv Noren won a National Basketball League championship in 1946-47 as a player for the Chicago American Gears.

He won three World Series rings as a player for the New York Yankees in 1952, 1953 and 1956. His roommate was Mickey Mantle.

Irv won three more World Series rings as a coach for the Oakland A's in 1972, 1973 and 1974.

Noren and Jackie Robinson are inductees of the Pasadena Hall of Fame.