
Preserving the Sports History of Chautauqua County



Chautauqua Sports Hall of Fame

15 West Third Street - Jamestown, NY 14701

November 2012

Spotlight on Volunteers



Volunteers are the lifeblood of the Chautauqua Sports Hall of Fame. The officers and directors of the CSHOF give freely of their time without compensation, yet there is also another group of exceptional individuals, without whom the organization could not exist. The following people donate several hours each month to help keep our exhibition hall doors open: **Vi Rewers, Dee Rewers, Patty Rewers,**

Nancy Huckabone, Don Long, Louise Long, Del Seekings, Larry Marvell, Bruce Widen and Nancy Schuyler. To them we say thank you. You are sincerely appreciated.

The CSHOF is in need of additional volunteers to be at the hall during the day to greet visitors Monday through Friday, from 12-3 PM. If you can help out, even one day a month, kindly contact Randy Anderson at 716-763-2173.

Class of 2013 Inductees to be Selected

The 10 members of the CSHOF pre-selection committee will undertake the lengthy process of reviewing the 108 nomination folders currently on file. They will narrow the list to 15 nominees. The selection committee composed of 10 different CSHOF directors will then examine the 15 files and further reduce the number to 6. The six finalists will then be submitted to the entire Board of Directors for final approval.

The names of the six members of the Class of 2013 will be announced on December 1. The 2013 Induction Banquet will be held Monday, February 18, at the Lakewood Rod and Gun Club.

Lakewood Rod and Gun Club Donates to CSHOF Project



The Lakewood Rod and Gun Club recently made a generous donation to the collection management project currently underway at the CSHOF. The project involves creating a system to digitally catalog and inventory the vast collection of sports memorabilia housed in our exhibition hall.

Larry Dorler (left), president of the Lakewood Rod and Gun Club made the presentation to Russ Ecklund (right), secretary of the CSHOF.

Ecklund stated, “We sincerely appreciate the generosity of our friends at the Lakewood Rod and Gun Club. We have enjoyed a fine working relationship with the Club. They always do a fabulous job as the host site of our annual induction banquet. This monetary donation will help us purchase the necessary computer software to enable us to manage our inventory in digital format.”

Inductee of the Month: Al Stuhlmiller

Al Stuhlmiller had the finest record of any high school baseball coach in Chautauqua County history and also one of the finest marks in Section 6 history.

Stuhlmiller coached baseball at Dunkirk from 1955-1983 and racked up an incredible 360-144 mark. He won 15 Division 1 titles, 10 sectional titles and two Supersectional titles, but the major disappointment was he wasn't able to compete in the New York State Tournament in Little Falls. His final team of 1983 was possibly his finest with just two losses, but was knocked out of a trip to the states by Sweet Home.

For 15 years, he coached the Marauders basketball team to three Division 1 titles en route to a 122-116 record. He also coached the bowling team and won a Division 1 title. In 1987 Dunkirk won the Chautauqua County roll-off title on the way to making the sectionals for the second time in four years.

Stuhlmiller was president of the Chautauqua County Athletic Directors and president of the Chautauqua County Athletic Council and member of the county committee. He served two terms as president of the CCAA Division 1, was chairman of Section 6 baseball and a member of the Section 6 baseball and basketball committees.



Born in Buffalo in 1929, Stuhlmiller moved to Gowanda and became quite a star in high school where he earned four letters in baseball, three in basketball, two in football and one in track. He played on an undefeated 15-0 basketball team in 1944 and a 19-0 baseball squad in 1947. Twice he was selected to the Cattaraugus County All-Star team for both baseball and basketball.

In his senior year, Stuhlmiller received the Bushnell Activity Trophy and after high school earned a partial baseball scholarship to Syracuse University. He led the baseball team in hitting as a sophomore and was the Most Valuable Player in his senior year when he received the Lew Carr

Baseball Trophy.

He played one year of basketball at Syracuse and also won a scholarship key for academic excellence.

In 1951, Stuhlmiller signed with the New York Yankees and played a year at Amsterdam in the Canadian-American League.

He was once named one of the top eight coaches in the country by College Baseball Coaches of America. He was named from the districts of New York, New Jersey, Connecticut and Delaware.

In 1988 Stuhlmiller was honored with a special award from the New York State Baseball Coaches Association. In 1980, he was the outstanding coach in Section 6.

He worked 15 years for the American Red Cross as a volunteer and in 1987 he was named Elk of the Year by Dunkirk Lodge No. 922.

Al Stuhlmiller was inducted into the Chautauqua Sports Hall of Fame in 1988. He died in 1998.

www.chautauquasportshalloffame.org

The Jersey



CSHOF Director Russ Diethrick came into the CSHOF about a month ago carrying several large garbage bags. He told president Randy Anderson that they were full of old baseball uniforms he wished to donate.

Anderson and Diethrick opened the bags and began examining what was within. Among the items were bygone uniforms from baseball teams at Jamestown Community College, Chautauqua Institution, the Marlin Rockwell Corporation and the minor league Jamestown Falcons.

One jersey caught Anderson's eye. On the sleeve was a patch celebrating baseball's 100th anniversary. Russ revealed that it was a home jersey from the 1969 Jamestown Falcons. Diethrick was general manager and part-owner of that team.

Randy knew that Dick Berardino, the featured speaker at the upcoming Hugh Bedient Centennial Banquet, was a coach on that '69 Falcons team. A look at the roster for that team, also provided by Diethrick, showed that Berardino wore jersey #1. Could jersey #1 be in the bag?

Sure enough, there it was! What a neat Kodak moment it would be to present Berardino with the actual jersey he wore 43 years ago!

Since the jersey was dirty, musty and well-worn, Anderson made a call on Esquire Cleaners who refurbished it to nearly new condition.

Fast forward to the Hugh Bedient banquet, October 20th, at the Robert H. Jackson Center.

Following Berardino's entertaining address, he was given several "warm-up" gifts to set the stage for the big surprise - a photograph of Berardino and Jackie Moore, his manager in 1969 - a Falcons program featuring Dick on the cover - and a roster of the team.

Finally Anderson unveiled the jersey. To say the least, Berardino was blown away. Although Dick may deny it, those sitting close enough saw him wipe away a tear.

Thanks to Russ Diethrick for making Dick Berardino's return visit to Jamestown a truly memorable event.