

# MYNDERSE ACADEMY ATHLETIC HALL OF FAME NEWSLETTER

Issue VII

July 2015

## The Class of 2015

### LIFETIME CONTRIBUTORS

**PETER DEBOTTIS**  
**SEN. MICHAEL NOZZOLIO – CLASS of 1969**

### HONORED TEAM

**1966 & 1967 MYNDERSE WRESTLING TEAMS**

### FORERUNNER TO TITLE IX

**1921-22 GIRLS' BASKETBALL TEAM**

### INDUCTEES

**GEORGE CAPACCI – CLASS of 1971**  
**LINDSAY GOTHAM CORNUE – CLASS of 2001**  
**LEE LETIZIA – CLASS of 1948**  
**JEFFREY MANNING – CLASS of 1977**  
**STEVE SIEGFRIED – CLASS of 1982**

## INDUCTION WEEKEND 2015

The 2015 Induction Class has been selected and announced. It's time to begin thinking about the fall induction ceremony. The 2015 Induction Ceremony will once again be held at the New York Chiropractic College on Sun., Oct. 11. The cocktail/dining reception will go from 4:00 to 6:00 immediately followed by the Induction Ceremony. Tickets are on sale for \$25.00 and can be purchased at the Mynderse Academy High School Office or from any HOF committee member. The HOF Committee invites all current and past members and their guests to the informal "get together" at the Seneca Falls SMS Lodge on Saturday, Oct. 10 from 6:00-8:00. This event is designed for HOF members, teams and their guests. There is no charge for this event. Substantial appetizers will be provided along with a cash bar. If you're in town, please plan to stop by the SMS, even if it's only for a few minutes. FingerLakes1.com will cover the induction ceremony again LIVE for those who are unable to attend in person. Go to FingerLakes1.com

### NOMINATIONS

Remember, anyone can nominate a former Mynderse athlete, coach or someone who attended Mynderse and has contributed to the athletic program throughout his/her life. The nomination process is very easy.

## Hall of Fame Website

You're invited to check out the MA Athletic Hall of Fame on the Seneca Falls School District website. The website contains information and photos of every Hall of Fame member and team.

Go to the district website at [www.sfcs.k12.ny.us](http://www.sfcs.k12.ny.us) and click on the "Athletics" tab. You should see the link for the Mynderse Academy Athletic Hall of Fame.

## A SURPRISING DISCOVERY

By Ted Novak

If you were asked to name the best Mynderse Academy girls' basketball team, what year would come to mind? I'll bet the girls team of 1921-22 won't enter your thoughts. Why, that was seven years before the Great Depression! The "flats" section of Seneca Falls had recently been torn down to make room for the current NYS Cayuga-Seneca canal. A.H. Boyce Garage in Seneca Falls was selling fully equipped Chevrolets for \$525. And, you could buy Cuban cigars legally for \$2.25 a box. While doing research for the 1952, '53 & '54 Mynderse baseball teams (inducted into the MAA HOF last year), I learned that there was a girls basketball team from 1921-'22 that went undefeated, 17-0. The team was coached by my former Mynderse history teacher Billie (Battenfield) Oliver during her first year of teaching in Seneca Falls. The team of eight played in a different era. In the early 1900's, girl's teams were limited to a minimum of 6 and maximum of 9 players. The coach was not paid, in fact, the girls had to pay for their own uniforms, sneakers, balls, even court rental time. That's right, court rental time because the boys and girls played in the Lyceum in Seneca Falls. You haven't heard of the Lyceum - I hadn't either. It turns out it was located on the upper floor of the old Hunnington Garage near the Memorial Bridge. The '21-'22 team played using different rules with 3 girls on one half of the court - 3 forwards playing offense on one half and guards playing defense on the other half. The rules may have been different from today but the girls athleticism was every bit as developed as today's athletes. During their 17 game season, the girls not only played surrounding schools which included Ovid, Clyde, Phelps, Canandaigua, Waterloo, Penn Yan and Ithaca but industrial all star teams including the Kodak All Stars of Rochester and the Women's Educational & Industrial Union. Another big difference between today's game and '20's could be found in the score. It was normal to have very low scoring games for both the girls and boys teams. The 1921-'22 girl's team averaged 22.6 points per game while holding their opponents to a meager 8.4 points. In one notable game, the girls played Phelps on October 16, 1921 and held them scoreless, which was unusual in basketball for any time period. It didn't seem to matter whom this team played as they powered their way through that long ago season. The deep richness of Mynderse athletics continues to surprise me.



### **Mynderse Academy 1921-1922 Girls' Basketball Team**

Seated: Gladys Maxon, Florence Fegley, Dorothy Souhan, Elizabeth VanSickle, Alice Fegley

Standing: Gertrude Garnsey, Beryl Tennant, Marjorie Price  
and coach Lillian Battenfield (Billie Oliver)

# MYNDERSE ACADEMY ATHLETIC HALL OF FAME

## MEMBERS

**JERRY ANDERSON - 1992**  
**JOSEPH AVVEDUTI - 1970**  
**LISA CARACCILO ANDERSON - 1986**  
**BETH ANNE BRADSHAW - 1993**  
**BOB BUCHWALD - 1962**  
**GARY BULLIS - 1979**  
**GEORGE CAPACCI - 1971**  
**DOM "CARTS" CARACCILO - 1952**  
**DOMINIC CARACCILO - 1980**  
**GENE CARACCILO - 1955**  
**LINDSAY GOTHAM CORNUE - 2001**  
**CHRIS DRAGONE - 2002**  
**COACH GEORGE DAVIS**  
**COACH MIKE FERRARA - 1975**  
**LARRY GIUSTI - 1971**  
**LISA POLZINETTI GALVIN - 1982**  
**COACH ALAN HENRY**  
**LEE LETIZIA - 1948**  
**KRISTA RUSCHAK LONG - 1997**  
**KAREN LOUCKS - 1977**  
**JEFFREY MANNING - 1977**  
**DAVE MCNANEY - 1973**  
**RICHARD "ABE" MEYERS - 1956**  
**COACH JOHN NICHOLSON**  
**JOHN PANNUCCI - 1953**  
**FRAN PISCITELLI - 1966**  
**MARK PISCITELLI - 1969**  
**LES ROBINSON - 1962**  
**STEVE SIEGFRIED - 1982**  
**BOB VALESENTE - 1958**  
**GEORGE VALESENTE - 1962**  
**ANDREW VERKEY - 1997**  
**MATT VERKEY - 1992**  
**ROD VERKEY - 1964**  
**DAVE WORMUTH - 1959**

## LIFETIME CONTRIBUTORS

**ART BAKER**  
**JOHN BRACHT - 1903**  
**PETER DEBOTTIS**  
**BRUCE KNAPP, SR. - 1950**  
**NICK NETTI**  
**MICHAEL NOZZOLIO - 1969**  
**DOM PARADISE - 1949**  
**ANGE SUFFREDINI**  
**DAVE BAKER**  
**DR. J. STANLEY MARSHALL**  
**ELIZABETH BECHT - 1970**  
**WARREN "SPEED" WORMUTH**

## MYNDERSE TEAMS

**1946 FOOTBALL TEAM**  
**1938 FOOTBALL TEAM**  
**1992 BOYS' BASKETBALL TEAM**  
**1985 GIRLS' SOCCER TEAM**  
**1994 GIRLS' BASKETBALL TEAM**  
**1952, '53 & '54 BASEBALL TEAMS**  
**1966 & 1967 WRESTLING TEAMS**

## FORERUNNERS TO TITLE IX

**ANGIE BANTUVANIS**  
**HELEN REYNOLDS WESTFALL - 1958**  
**BARRIE DOANE CLARK - 1946**  
**DIANA PANNUCCI - 1957**  
**1922-23 GIRLS' BASKETBALL TEAM**

## Remembrance of Departed Members

It was less than a year ago the MAA HOF inducted members of the 1952, '53 & '54 baseball teams.  
 Two of those members inducted passed away this past year.  
 We will all miss Pete Saracino and Richard Yates.

### The Mynderse Academy Athletic Hall of Fame Committee

*Lisa Anderson, Liz Becht,  
 John Capacci, Tony Ferrara,  
 John Nicholson, Ted Novak,  
 Rod Verkey and Pete Wormuth*



Pete Saracino (right)



Richard Yates

## MAA HOF Candidate Pool

NAME	CATEGORY	STATUS
Bob Caracilo	Athlete	No Information Received
Kerri Ruschak Ellis	Athlete	No Information Received
Vince Giglio	Athlete	No Information Received
Gene Giovannini	Athlete	No Information Received
Kevin Kabat	Athlete	No Information Received
Steven Rutz	Athlete	No Information Received
David Herrick	Athlete	No Information Received
Jim Greule	Athlete	No Information Received
Bruce Knapp, Jr.	Athlete	Pending
Bruno Lombardo	Athlete	No Information Received
Mike Roberti	Athlete	Pending
Scott Siegfried	Athlete	No Information Received
Abe Vancleef	Athlete	No Information Received
Don Verkey	Athlete	No Information Received
Mike Anderson	Athlete	Pending
Steve Avveduti	Athlete	Pending
Bob Bachman, Jr.	Athlete	Pending
Mike Bullis	Athlete	Pending
Beth Chido	Athlete	Pending
Sherry Barrett Deming	Athlete	Pending
Dana Dickson	Athlete	Pending
David Farney	Athlete	Pending
John Hubbard	Athlete	Pending
Joe Lawson	Athlete	Pending
Dave Liberatore	Athlete	Pending
Kevin Loucks	Athlete	Pending
Jace McComb	Athlete	Pending
Henry McCoy	Athlete	Pending
Maggie Nichols Minardi	Athlete	Pending
Bill Moody	Athlete	Pending
Bob Nearpass	Athlete	Pending
LeeAnn Loucks Plate	Athlete	Pending
Steve Ritter	Athlete	Pending
Ed Rogers, Jr.	Athlete	Pending
Theresa Shipley	Athlete	Pending
Bob Spano	Athlete	Pending
Gene Nicandri	Athlete	Withdrawn on Request
Don Mackey	Athlete	Withdrawn on Request
Dave Geitner	Coach	No Information Received
Charles Brady	Coach	Pending
Dan Caraher	Coach	Pending
Lenny Colavito	Coach	Pending
John Walter Marsh	Coach	Pending
Alan Brignall	Lifetime Contributor	Withdrawn on R.
Anthony Ferrara	Lifetime Contributor	Withdrawn on R.
1951 Football Team	Team	Pending
1955 Football Team	Team	Pending
1970 Football Team	Team	Pending

You may have asked yourself, “who has been nominated for the Mynderse Academy Athletic Hall of Fame”? The official pool of athletes, coaches, lifetime contributors, Title IX women and teams are listed on the left. The nomination category is also shown. The status column indicates that the nominee is pending unless they have asked to be removed or their information has not been sent to the HOF Committee.

The MAA HOF by-laws state that a maximum of 5 athletes may be inducted per year. The maximum of 5 inductees also includes coaches. It does not include Lifetime Contributors, Forerunners to Title IX inductees or Teams.

If you know of someone that should be considered and is not on the list, please nominate them.

Our next issue of the MAAHOF Newsletter will be mailed in January 2016. This winter edition will cover the 2015 Induction Ceremony and other HOF information. Remember, if, for some reason, you would like to be removed from the mailing list, please contact one of the HOF Committee members listed on the previous page.

### 1966 & 1967 MYNDERSE WRESTLING TEAMS

The MAA HOF is pleased to induct the 1966 and 1967 wrestling teams. These back-to-back teams achieved perfect, undefeated seasons, the only back-to-back undefeated seasons in Mynderse wrestling history.

Lee Burchim, Ralph Byrne, Tom Calabro, Deane Fritz, Nick Gallina, Dan Hansen, Al Hurd, Jim Osborne, Bill Reigel, Steve Ritter, Bill Rizzieri, Harrison Rogers, Jim Rogers, Sam Scibona, Bill Simson, Larry Smith, Paul Stratton, Jack Stubbs, Norm Swenson Ben Uticone, Doug Werth, Assistant Coach Clarence Raymond, Head Coach Richard “Abe” Meyers