



# Newsletter of the BSL Hall of Fame

January 2008: Issue# 1

## Winter Social - Agenda:

A pleasant event for HOF members and their friends

A brief call to order for announcements/proposals

Celebrating & recognizing 30 years of "playing with pride"

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## Hall of Fame to Host a Winter Dinner Social for all!

The playing season seems far away, so why wait? Let's get together for a nice time at Club Café and talk about the year to come! Bring a friend too! The more the merrier! See you soon!

For more Information, contact Jim M at: [jimmcnulty@comcast.net](mailto:jimmcnulty@comcast.net) or 781-820-8110

## Winter Dinner Social - a note from Jim

Over the past 3 years some Hall of Fame members have mentioned that it would be a good idea for the HOF to meet as a body. I agree.

But since meetings are usually not anticipated with excitement, some had thought a dinner would be a more attractive venue. During the dinner, we can simply dedicate a few minutes to a "meeting segment" where, as the HOF chairperson, I can propose - for your approval - a couple of issues. Those issues will be: a budget and a calendar of events which will include dates for subcommittee meetings for members interested in dealing closely with certain issues. Any member is welcome to submit their own proposals too. Please contact me in advance so that we can properly fit it in to the evening.

In addition, I've been trying to track

January 26, 2008

1<sup>st</sup> Annual Winter Dinner Social

Randy Price of NBC 7 is Guest Speaker

\* January 26, 2008- Saturday

\* Club Café: 209 Columbus Ave, Boston

\* Open Bar 5:30pm-6:15pm & appetizers

\* Dinner: 6:30pm Chicken, pork, or fish

\* Wine: 2-3 bottles per table

\* \$31 per person (a great value)

down and contact Joe Leo in the hope that we could personally recognize him for his role in founding the 'Esplanade League'. If you can help me find him, please do. During my search, however, I met another person who played an important 'founding' role. He is Stewart Landers, founder of 1 of the 4 original teams (Greenleaf Florists). If we can't locate Joe Leo for this dinner, I'd like to personally recognize Stewart at the dinner and then work toward finding Joe for our next gathering. If you know of a similar 'pioneer' that you'd like to see honored, please let me know!

In 2007 the HOF members attending the 'Election Meeting' voiced their desire to recognize people like Joe and Stewart, particularly if they may not qualify for induction into the HOF. Perhaps we could present him with a plaque? I think it's a great tradition to begin!



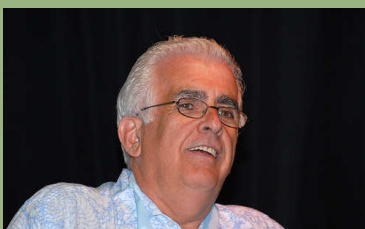
*Above, Gary Brenner, '05 suffered a serious injury to his hand on day 1*

*Below, Ed Fernald, '05 coaches the BSL's "D" team for the 4<sup>th</sup> year in a row.*



*Above, Frank Mickelson, '05 coached his Gators to their 3<sup>rd</sup> GSWS appearance in a row*

*Below: Jack Campbell, '07 takes his 5 Star Diablos to their first World Series ever!*



## *Phoenix Hosts 31<sup>st</sup> NAGAAA World Series*

The 2007 World Series was held in Phoenix, Arizona. 5 teams represented Boston: Fritz in the "A" Division, Alley Gators in the "B" Division, Boston Force -of dbar in the "C" Division as well as the 5 Star Diablos in "C" Division (*by draw*) and the Paradise Pirates in the "D" Division. The best showing was the "Force team who finished 7<sup>th</sup> in their "C" Division after going 2-1 in the Round Robin and then 2-2 in the Double Elimination round.

The Series was held during the first week of October. Traditionally it is held in August, but since Phoenix is in the desert, it was moved to later in the summer. Phoenix is among the

few cities that have the field accommodations to host the ever growing NAGAAA World Series. This year, 183 teams participated (*116 Men and 67 Women*).

The Division with the most teams was the Men's "C" Division with 40. The Division with the least teams was the "A" Division with 13.

In 2008, the World Series will be held in Seattle during the last week of August.



## *18 Hall of Fame members attend World Series!*

Do you think HOF members mean success or what? Leading the way to Phoenix:

**Bill (Bucca) Hull**-(Boston Force-dbar coach), **Bill Svetz**-(Fritz Sponsor), **Bob Burnham**-(Fritz coach), **Ed Fernald**-(Paradise coach, picked up), **Frank Mickelson**-(Alley Gators manager), **Gary Brenner**-(Fritz player), **Gary Staples**-(Fritz manager), **Ken McNeil**-(Umpire), **Paul Gedman**-(Fritz player), **Paul Moreno**-(5 Star Diablos sponsor), **Sandro Frattura**-(Fritz player, picked up), **Stephen Barlow**-(5 Star Diablos sponsor), **Buck Bachman**-(Fritz player), **Kevin Docherty**-(Fritz player), **Mark McGrath**-(Fritz player, picked up), **Ed Rivera**-(Fritz player), **Peter O'Leary**-(Alley Gators player), **Jack Campbell**-(5 Star Diablos sponsor).

**Gary Staples** made his 27<sup>th</sup> World Series appearance in Phoenix last year, the most of any BSL member in history! Gary is also a member of the NAGAAA Hall of Fame.



## *Who the heck is Stewart Landers?*

MIT student, Stewart Landers, received a "B" grade for the project he undertook for his "City Planning" course in 1978. His project was to establish the first "gay softball team" in Boston, before there was a team or League of any kind.

Stewart went about posting signs, distributing leaflets and advertising in the popular "Gay Community News" newspaper to attract players to a meeting he had scheduled at the Charles Street Meeting House (the

recognized safe haven for the gay community at that time). To his delight, 20-30 gay players showed up! A couple of players informed the attendees that there was another meeting going on simultaneously to this one at the gay bar "12 Carver" for the same reason. That meeting was being led by Joe Leo, who was also looking for gay softball players! (Coincidence or not?!)  
Stewart went on to coach "Greenleaf Florists" the 1<sup>st</sup> year of the Esplanade League before returning home to New York after the season.



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*Celebrating  
"30 years of Pride"  
through sportsmanship,  
competition, & teamwork!*



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## *Boosters Club!*

**THANK YOU** to everyone for your very generous contributions in the first year of the "HOF Boosters Club"! We raised a total of \$2000 dollars among Hall of Fame Members which averaged out to be over \$130 for every contributor!

Everyone seemed pleased with the style of the HOF jackets and polo shirts too!

We will make an announcement on the 2008 Boosters Club after the budget needs are approved by the Hall of Fame members!....Thanks again everyone!!!

## *A note from Jim*

I want to thank you for the support you've given the Hall of Fame since it was founded in 2005!

The Hall of Fame has grown to a total of 33 members with three being deceased. It appears certain to have a great future and a much respected role in the BSL!

As a new Hall of Fame member, it has been a pleasure to get to know many of you better, and in some cases, to meet you for the first time!

I am enjoying my role as chairperson, mostly because of the excellence that emerges as I go about learning more about you and the League's history.

I ask you to please help me make the *Winter Dinner Social* a success. I see it as the beginning of a great tradition !

**Please get involved by joining a subcommittee:**

Procedures Committee  
Focusing on our functioning, especially our nomination and election processes

Events Committee  
Focusing on planning and managing our events



The HOF Class of 2007 will shed its "Freshmen" label this June!

## MEMBERS OF THE HALL OF FAME :

### 1970's Era

Seth Hyde '78  
Gigs Kreger '78  
Ken McNeill '78  
Frank Mickelson '78  
Jim Vierra '78  
Henry Weinberger '78  
Bob Burnham '78  
Gary Staples '79  
Leslie Tiffany '79

### 1980's Era

Kevin Docherty '80  
John Cutting '81, *RIP*  
Vinnie Peruzzi '81, *RIP*  
Rudy Beccera '82, *RIP*  
Warren Mitchell '82  
Gary Brenner '83  
Bill Hull '83  
Mark McGrath '85  
Ed Fernald '86  
Mike McCabe '86  
Bob Quist '86  
Bill Svetz '86  
Ed Rivera '89

### 1990's Era

Peter O'Leary '90  
Frank Ribauda '90  
Paul Gedman '91  
Buck Bachman '94  
Chris Burke '94  
Stephen Barlow '95  
Jack Campbell '95  
Mark Haas '95  
Paul Moreno '95  
Sandro Frattura '96  
Jim McNulty '97