

Schenck Hall of Fame Honorees Announced

The Schenck High School *Hall of Fame* honors Schenck alumni for their exceptional accomplishments in athletics, the arts, or their professional endeavors. It also recognizes teachers, coaches, or community members, who may or may not be Schenck graduates, but have made significant contributions to the Schenck High School community. Current members of the committee include Chairman Frank Davis, Frank Baker, Judy Fernald, Eddie Hamm, Mindy MacKenzie, Mark Scally, and Kim Smith.

On March 17, 2018, Frank Davis introduced the Inaugural Class of Schenck's *Hall of Fame* at the 2018 Winter Carnival. His remarks on that evening were as follows:

“Growing up in Medway, our first inductee loved everything sports! By the time he reached Schenck High School, Bill Fiske had developed into an outstanding athlete. A hard throwing pitcher in baseball and a slick ball-handler with a beautiful jump shot in basketball. After high school, he took his basketball skills to Southern Connecticut College where he led his team in scoring with 1,250 points - the 3rd highest in school history! As he graduated from college, Bill was diagnosed with Type I diabetes and realized that his playing career was over. Bill reassessed the situation and decided he would be most effective sharing his love of athletics as a coach and teacher. Bill's successes as a coach lead him to West Virginia University where he became a Co-Coach with the legendary Kittie Blakemore. Within five years, Bill's diabetes once again caught up with him, leading to a partial foot amputation, kidney failure, and the loss of his eyesight. Instead of giving up, Bill moved forward. For the next twelve years, Bill served as an academic advisor for West Virginia's student athletes, continued to teach, published a sports memorabilia book, and was a regular on a radio sports' show. Coach Fiske positively impacted the lives of hundreds of student athletes before his untimely death in 1998 - when he was just 51 years old. Please join me in welcoming both Bill's wife Louise and his brother Doug.

As a high school basketball and baseball player, Bert Goddard was a raw-boned kid - well over six feet tall. His imposing stature was matched only by his intense competitiveness. Graduating from Schenck in 1942, Bert joined the Air Force and served in the Pacific Theater during WWII as a Type Code Technician. After the war, he headed to the University of Maine where he joined his brother Charlie on the basketball team. After graduation, he returned to East Millinocket where he is probably best known as the man who regularly opened this gym for area kids to play basketball. It was during these sessions that aspiring young athletes learned their craft and honed their skills against the older, more experienced players. Bert was in his element and loved every minute of it! He never wanted any accolades for the more than fifty years that he gave of his time. Instead, his reward was the pride and joy he felt as he watched “his kids” at Schenck's home games, where he stood in his personal spot behind the scorers' table. As the years passed and Bert was no longer able to open the gym, scores of former athletes demonstrated their love and respect for him by regularly dropping by his Spring Street home. It was their way of saying thank you to the man who had given so much to the young people of Schenck High School. Please welcome Bert's wife Rose Goddard and her daughter, Beth Clark.

45 years ago, our next inductee reigned as King of the Schenck High School Winter Carnival! Following graduation, he joined the work force at the Great Northern, like many other

young men at that time. However, it was for another career that Mike Michaud would become very well-known and highly respected - serving the people of Maine! From 1980 to 1994, Mike represented our area in the Maine House of Representatives. From 1994 to 2002, he served in the Maine Senate where he was elected President of the Senate in 2001. In 2002, Mike won a seat in the U. S. House of Representatives, where he would capably advocate for the citizens of the 2nd District of Maine for the next twelve years. During his 35 years in public service, Mike had many causes that he passionately supported. He was instrumental in the cleanup of the Penobscot River, steadfastly supported the development of trail systems by Maine's snowmobile clubs, and worked tirelessly as an advocate for America's veterans. In 2015, he was appointed by President Obama to the position of Assistant Secretary of Labor for Veterans' Employment and Training. No matter what cause Mike was working for, he never forgot his roots and was always considered a voice for the working people of both Maine and the country. Please join me in welcoming our former Congressman, The Honorable Michael Michaud and his aunt, Evelyn Levesque.

Graduating in 1950, Donald Morin was a key player on the first of many great basketball teams in Schenck history! He was a rugged low post player specializing in rebounding and defense and his offense included an unstoppable hook shot. His 1949 and 1950 teams won back to back State Championships! Don's talents were recognized in 1950 when he was named to the All-Tourney Team. After high school, he enlisted in the Air Force and served his country during the Korean War. Don returned home to East Millinocket and began his career at the Great Northern where he eventually became the fire chief. It was in this capacity, during the summer of 1969, that he responded to an emergency alarm and successfully rescued one of the young men who was overcome by the poisonous fumes, in all probability saving the young man's life! Throughout the years, Don has been very involved in his home town, served in many official town capacities, and gave freely of his time and expertise to numerous projects including East Branch Sno Rovers Club and the East Millinocket Veterans' Memorial. From his success in athletics, to his service to his country, to the contributions in his home town, Donald Morin is truly a hometown hero! Please welcome Donald Morin and his wife Elizabeth.

Our next honoree was one of the region's most dominant athletes in the early 1960's. Although only six feet tall, Terry Ordway played center for Schenck and regularly outplayed his taller opponents. His basketball talents earned him recognition in both his junior and senior years as an Eastern Maine All-Tourney selection. In baseball, Terry was even more dominant. His fastball was nearly unhittable as he amassed 300 strikeouts in just over 200 innings. Wondering whether he could compete at the collegiate level, Terry applied to some of the best NCAA baseball schools in the country and chose the number one ranked University of Arizona where he played both basketball and baseball as a walk-on freshman. His skills and talents earned him a scholarship in baseball for his sophomore year! After two years, Terry transferred to the University of Maine where during his senior year, his 0.94 ERA was the sixth lowest in the nation and he was selected as an All Yankee Conference player. Terry's coach Jack Butterfield called him "one of the finest pitchers to ever play for the University." Terry was drafted by the New York Yankees and played four years in their minor-league organization before an injury forced an early retirement. In 1997, he was inducted into the Maine Baseball Hall of Fame. Please join me in welcoming Terry Ordway and Donna Pound.

With a musical career spanning 30 years, our next inductee has deep roots “In the Valley Where the Old Penobscot Flows,” which just happens to be the title of a song published by Ray’s great, great grandfather, Henry Powers. As a student at Schenck High School, Ray Pasanen participated in every activity that involved music! From singing in the chorus, to playing in the bands, to acting in the plays, he did it all. After high school, he attended Berklee College of Music and was a member of the popular Maine band, Choice. Ray’s unique style as an entertainer could best be described as a combination of country, soul, and rock and roll. Heading to New York City, Ray was soon a regular performer in the Manhattan clubs before spending the next 17 years playing his music in Bermuda. His talents found him opening for such stars as Travis Tritt, Johnny Cash, Willie Nelson, and The Charlie Daniels Band. He has performed at country music festivals and at the world-famous Lincoln Center and Beacon Theater as well as at venues throughout Australia, Europe, Japan, and South Korea. Ray currently lives in Minden, Germany with his wife and son. Ray’s fans will be glad to know that he will be performing at Summerfest 2018! Tonight, please welcome Ray’s parents, Ray and Roxanne Pasanen.

Our following inductee was honored by the Maine Legislature as “a natural resource of the State of Maine” for representing the finest in scholastic, athletic and personal attributes of Maine youth. Mark Rosebush was not only the valedictorian of his graduating class, but also earned the prestigious rank of Eagle Scout in the Boy Scouts of America. As an athlete, his cross-country teams won two State Championships and his basketball teams won three Eastern Maine Championships and one State Championship! His 1,262 points were the most in Schenck High School history at that time! In his junior and senior years, Mark was selected to the Eastern Maine All Tournament First Team, the All State First Team and was named an All-American! He was widely recognized as one of the all-time great boys, high school basketball players in the State of Maine! After high school, Mark headed to Princeton University where he played basketball his freshman year before deciding to concentrate on academics. Graduating Magna Cum Laude, he went on to Tufts Dental School. Mark now lives on a ranch in Montana with his wife Lori and owns three dental practices in Massachusetts and Montana. Representing Dr. Mark Rosebush tonight are his brother Craig Rosebush and Craig’s wife, Joanna.

Tom Brokaw called the men and women who fought for our country during World War II - America’s Greatest Generation! Edwin Runnels was a prime example of this Greatest Generation! He graduated from Schenck High School in 1939 as the Great Depression was ending, jobs were still scarce and a world war was looming. Edwin did what most young men of his time did – he enlisted! Joining the Army Air Corps, he was soon selected for the highly competitive officer’s training program as a pilot, successfully completed the program, and received his wings and his commission as a 2nd Lieutenant. Edwin was assigned to the 349th Bomber Squadron, 100th Bomb Group which flew some of the most important bombing raids on Nazi strongholds throughout Europe that helped pave the way for the Allied forces to invade and conquer Italy. In September of 1943, while returning to base from another successful bombing raid, Edwin’s B24 Liberator was shot down by German artillery. All aboard were lost. Edwin’s courage, integrity, and love of country are a reflection of the outstanding person that he was – a credit to his family, Schenck High School, and his home town. Representing Lt. Edwin Runnels tonight are two members of this Gold Star family. Please welcome Edwin’s sister, Mabel Vinson.

In 1968, our next inductee entered the halls of Schenck High School as a young French teacher who had just married the love of his life Sharon Callnan. Prior to coming to Schenck, Harry Rush Jr. had graduated from Holy Cross College, earned a Masters of Teaching from Assumption College and served his country in the Navy. For the next 33 years, Harry's work ethic and pride in his school and community was obvious to his students and fellow teachers. He was almost always the first to arrive each morning and the last to leave when school was done. He was famous for his "suitcase of life" stories that addressed the real-life issues that his students might be facing. In all the years that Harry taught at Schenck, he never once missed a school play and always followed up with a review of the production for the local paper. On his own time, Harry had a passion for researching the history of the area. He loved sharing this knowledge and wrote *The Centennial Diary of East Millinocket* for the town's 100th anniversary. During his later years, Harry's loving care of his wife Sharon during her illness was truly a testament to his life-long devotion to the love of his life! Representing Harry tonight is Mike Provenzano.

Our last honoree and her teammates helped put girls' basketball on the map in the State of Maine! A 5'11" center, who played with "grace and determination," Stephanie Carter Thompson was named to both the All-Tourney Team as well as the All-Maine First Team as a sophomore, junior and senior. Schenck also won their first three State Championships in Girls' Basketball during these three years! Stephanie finished her career at Schenck with 2,167 points, a state record at the time, and a Schenck school record that still stands today! During her senior year, Stephanie was named Miss Maine Basketball, Maine Sunday Telegram Athlete of the Year and Gatorade Player of the Year. As a senior, Stephanie was also the salutatorian of her class and was the goalie when the Schenck Girls' Soccer Team brought home Schenck's first gold ball in soccer! Stephanie graduated from St. Joseph's College where she also played basketball and was named the Conference Player of the Year in 1992! A 2013 Bangor Daily News article commemorating the Bangor Auditorium called Stephanie one of Maine's top-five girls high school basketball players ever to play in the auditorium. Please welcome one of Maine's all-time bests – Schenck's own Stephanie Carter Thompson and her husband Darrick.

The Inaugural Class of the Schenck High School *Hall of Fame* will be inducted on Saturday, July 14, 2018. They will be honored at a breakfast at Schenck High School, ride in the Summerfest Parade, and be formally inducted following the parade in the big tent at the Opal Myrick Park. A more detailed write-up of each inductee along with a picture will be published in a booklet and will hang on the Wall of Fame at Schenck High School. Details on times will be available later in the spring. Thank you for helping us honor our inductees this evening."