

ATHLETICS

8th Annual Joliet Catholic Academy's

HALL OF CHAMPIONS

PROGRAM

September 2, 2022

Class of 2022 Inductees

Ronald Boyter '67 • Dave Douglas '75 • Michael Grace '88 Annemarie Hickey '10 • Michael Kolodziej '02 Samantha (Tortorello'02) Haas Jared M. Voss '92 • Jeremy (J.R.) Zwierzynski '02

"Champions are not the ones

who always win races -

champions are the ones who get out there and try.

And try harder the next time. And even harder
the next time. 'Champion' is a state of mind. They
are devoted. They compete to best themselves as
much if not more than they compete to best others.

Champions are not just athletes." Simon Sinek



MISSION STATEMENT

The Joliet Catholic
Academy Hall of
Champions is committed
to recognizing the
outstanding achievements
of athletes and supporters
both in the world of
sports and in the local
community. The Hall
of Champions promotes
leadership, values,
character and faith
through athletics.

Members of the 2022 Hall of Champions
-Athletics

Ronald Boyter '67 Dave Douglas '75 Michael Grace '88 Annemarie Hickey '10 Michael Kolodziej '02 Samantha (Haas '02) Tortorello Jared Voss '92 Jeremy (J.R.) Zwierzynski '02 Good afternoon,

On behalf of the Joliet Catholic Academy administration, faculty, and staff, I would like to welcome everyone to our 8th Annual Hall of Champions for Athletics celebration-an event that calls attention to the greatness of our past athletes and coaches. This is an outstanding and memorable group of alumni!

First, congratulations to our inductees: Ronald Boyter, Dave Douglas, Michael Grace, Annemarie Hickey, Michael Kolodziej, Samantha (Tortorello) Haas, Jared Voss and Jeremy (J.R.) Zwierzynski. You represent the character, integrity, sportsmanship, passion, and purpose that make the JCA athletic program one of the finest in the entire country. We are proud and humbled to honor you.

Next, I would like to thank our Athletic Director, Jim O'Brien and our Director of Alumni Relations, Sue Bebar, for being co-chairmen of the Hall of Champions, as well as the work of the selection committee. Furthermore, I would like to thank Chris Voss, the Director of Special Events, and Associate Principal, Laura Pahl for organizing today's program. We could not have this event without the hard work and dedication of these talented people.

JCA is grateful to the people that have sponsored this event. The following businesses have been generous in their contributions: Adler Roofing & Sheet Metal, Inc. (Chris Adler), Brown & Brown of Illinois (Brent Wagner), Rathbun, Cservenyak & Kozol, LLC (Frank Cservenyak) and D'Arcy Motors (Terry D'Arcy).

Through the years, part of the vision of the school has been to recognize the best of the best of our historic Angels and Hilltoppers. You are the foundation of the greatness that exists in our student-athletes. You give them the inspiration and have set forth their direction-every practice, every game-to reach for the stars and walk away as champions.

We hope that you enjoy the festivities and thank you for joining our celebration of excellence!

Blessings,

Dr. Jeffrey R. Budz, President/ Principal

Toliet Catholic Academy 2022 HALL OF CHAMPIONS

PROGRAM 9:00 AM

Guests Arrive
Front Doors of JCA (off Larkin)
Continental Breakfast in IRC

9:30 AM

Tours Conducted by JCA Students Classroom Visits

10:30 AM

Mass Mary, Our Sister Chapel Fr. Brian Henden, O'Carm.

11:00 AM

Return to IRC Welcome - Jim O'Brien, Athletic Director

11:15 AM

Sister Peggy Quinn, O.S.F. - Blessing Luncheon Induction Ceremony in IRC

INDUCTEES

Ronald Boyter '67 Dave Douglas '75 Michael Grace '88 Annemarie Hickey '10 Michael Kolodziej '02 Samantha (Tortorello '02) Haas Jared M. Voss '92 Jeremy (JR) Zwierzynski '02





Ron Boyter was born in Los Angeles and grew up in Reno, Nevada. All the Boyters are athletes, all love sports with Ron possibly the most passionate among them. His wife Peggy says he

is a true sports' genius in his deep understanding of sports. Ron emulated his heroes, national icon John Wooden, Arizona hero Lute Olsen, and Reno coach Ken Munley, Ron's coach grades 6 through 9 in baseball and basketball. From Ken Munley he learned that sports teach an important lesson. In Coach Munley's words: One for all and all for one. This became Ron's motto for his own teams.

A typical day would find Ron hopping on his bicycle, his baseball glove looped over the handlebar, riding off to find a game. Love for baseball and basketball led Reno Ron to hone skills and become a fierce competitor. As a Freshman at Bishop Manogue High School, Ron was:

- · Elected Freshman Class president
- · Leading scorer in the Jr. Varsity Basketball team
- · Won the Nevada Conference high school batting title
- · A member of the Varsity Baseball team
- · One of two freshmen to earn a varsity letter

The summer after freshman year, Ron played with the local All-Star Baseball team, before abruptly having to move to Joliet with his family.

Starting his sophomore year at Joliet Catholic High School was a challenge for Ron. Teams were forged and bonded Freshman year, making it tough to find his place. But with the support of teachers, coaches, and teammates, Ron became an active player in basketball, baseball and football for Catholic High. Coach Gillespie was among his favorites as were Jim Gannon and Tony Janc. Matt Laurich, his coach and math teacher, inspired Ron to pursue a teaching and counseling career. Fellow player Bob Ivnik became his best and life-long friend. Teammates Pat Mudron, Bobbie Gillespie, Tom Farnsworth, Jim Adamic and Dick Dempsey left lasting memories of Joliet. Ron was the first student athlete in Catholic High history to be named 1st team All-Conference in three sports (football, basketball and baseball) in one year, his senior year, in the Class of 1967.

Ron accepted a sports scholarship to play both basketball and baseball at Cochise College in Douglas, Arizona, earning 4 varsity letters, 2 in basketball and 2 in baseball. At Cochise Ron found two great loves: the Arizona desert and the beloved Carole Ann Ulrich. The prettiest girl on campus, Carole became Ron's best friend and steadfast partner for 20 years. They matriculated to Northern Arizona University to finish their BA's, married in 1971, in 1972 had son Scott. Ron no longer played college ball but loved playing intramural sports and serving as a dormitory head. Transformed from a player to a coach, he received his Masters in High School Counseling from NAU. Sadly, his wife Carole left them too soon after a long illness at age 36, just as Scott was about to start high school. Her influence and love lives on.

Ron's career spanned 34 years at Sahuarita High School, in a little rural town outside of Tucson. He coached Mustang basketball, baseball, football and golf. He served as both Vice Principal and then College Counselor. These days he often runs into former students and their parents, whose respect and affection continues. Blessed to coach son Scott, who went on to teach and coach at Sahuarita, Scott married his soulmate Mary Jo, first a kindergarten teacher and now Director of Curriculum in the district. Scott coached his son Kaden, just graduated from Sahuarita High School, soon to begin college at Grand Canyon University in Phoenix. The legacy continues.

Titles and stats attest to the success Coach Ronald Boyter experienced at Sahuarita. The data cannot reveal the humble man, a gifted athlete, coach, teacher, and devoted family man.

Living now in Green Valley, Arizona, a retirement community adjacent to Sahuarita, married 9 years to his high school sweetheart Peggy DeChecko, Ron is busy with golf and swimming, still enjoying the monsoons in his desert home of 50 years. Congratulations to Ron Boyter on a life well-lived.



Dave Douglas

Dave Douglas has been employed at Joliet Catholic High School and Joliet Catholic Academy since 1985. Over an incredible 37-year coaching career, Douglas has been a part of ten IHSA Football State Championship coaching staffs ('87, '90, '99, '00,

'01, '03, '04, '07, '18, '21) and three IHSA State Runner-Up staffs ('96, '09, '11). Douglas served as a lower-level assistant head football coach from '85 to '86 and joined head coach Jim Boyter's varsity staff in 1987. From 1989 until 2012, he served as the offensive line coach for head coaches Bob Stone and Dan Sharp. In 2013, Douglas was elevated to associate head coach and has served in that capacity until now under current head coach Jake Jaworski.

His offensive lines have paved the way for one of the most formidable rushing attacks in IHSA history. The 2007 Hilltoppers set an IHSA record with 6,609 rushing yards in a season. He's coached offensive lines that produced two of the top 20 most total yards in a season in IHSA history (6,651 yards in 2007; 6,590 yards in 2011. The Hilltopper rushing attack also holds the single-game IHSA State Championship game rushing record with 747 yards on 64 attempts in 2011. The Hilltoppers routinely send multiple offensive lineman to the collegiate ranks, with over 100 former Douglas proteges continuing their careers at the NCAA, NAIA, or NJCAA levels.

Douglas' career in education began as a math teacher at Custer Park Grade School in Braidwood in 1980. He joined the math department at Joliet Catholic High School in 1985. Throughout the years he has served in a variety of capacities, most recently as Assistant Athletic Director.

Not only has Douglas enjoyed a storied coaching career in football for the Hilltoppers, his service to the JCHS, St. Francis Academy, and JCA athletic departments may be unmatched in school history. Douglas has served as head girls basketball coach, sophomore head baseball coach, varsity badminton coach, and most notably head softball coach over this 37-year career at the three schools (JCHS and SFA combined to form Joliet Catholic Academy in 1990).

Douglas guided the JCA Angels softball program from 1990 to 2016, posting a 527-367 overall record. The Angels won nine regional titles, reached a sectional final and won 20 or more games in 16 of his 26 seasons at the helm. He passed the reigns over to fellow JCA Assistant Athletic Director and Tina Kinsella in 2016.

Douglas credits several Hall of Famers that he had the opportunity to work with throughout his career including Gordie Gillespie, Bob Voss, Carl Hunckler, Mel Deskin, Bob Stone, and Dan Sharp.



Mike Grace

Mike Grace is a 1988 JCA graduate and former professional baseball player with over 3 years of MLB service time. Grace was a 10th round draft pick of the Philadelphia Phillies in 1991, and he had a highly successful 4-3 record with a 1.65 ERA in Class A ball that year.

In the final week of the '91 season, Grace suffered a career threatening injury that sidelined him for 2 seasons, a period over which he endured 4 elbow surgeries. Grace returned to action in '94, and the '95 season was a breakout year for him.

During the '95 season, Grace had a combined 15-6 record with a 3.34 ERA in Class AA/AAA, and he was named "Pitcher of the Year" for the '95 Eastern League Champions Reading Phillies. He was called up to Philadelphia in August and earned his 1st MLB win with a 1-0 victory over the LA Dodgers on September 5th.

Grace won his first 6 decisions to start the '96 season, a stretch that included a 19 inning scoreless streak and pitching his 1st complete game shutout with a 6-0 victory of the defending world champion Atlanta Braves. On June 2nd, Grace's bid to make the All-Star team fell short, as he suffered a season ending injury that concluded his '96 campaign with a respectable 7-2 record & 3.49 ERA.

Grace recovered and returned to Philadelphia late in the '97 season, and in his second game back he threw a complete game shutout over the NY Yankees with a 5-0 victory, a game in which he faced the minimum of 27 batters. That game proved to be the pinnacle of his career, as the cumulative effect of his injuries deteriorated his physical skills. He pitched his last MLB game on Oct 1st, 1999, and finished his MLB career with a modest 16-16 record & 4.96 ERA.



Samantha (Tortorello) Haas

Sam Tortorello graduated in 2002 from Joliet Catholic Academy. Tortorello, a three-year Varsity starter, led Angel Volleyball to a Regional Championship in 2001 and was named the Chicago Sun Times 2001 Player of the Year. Sam went on to play at Penn State University where she led the Nittany Lions to three Big Ten Championships. During her Big Ten career, she earned accolades of 2002 Big Ten Freshman of the Year, 2005 Big Ten Player of the Year, 3-Time AVCA All American and a 2-Time Honda Sports Award Finalist. Sam graduated from Penn State in 2006 with her Bachelor's Degree in Communications, Arts and Sciences, with a minor in Business. After Penn State, she continued her volleyball career as a member of the 2006 USA Volleyball National Team.

Sam is currently the Executive Director of the Team Ream Foundation, a non-profit entity, which provides funds to financially disadvantaged families battling cancer in Central Pennsylvania. Today, Sam resides in Wheaton, Illinois with her husband, Jason, two-year old son, Ford, and expecting their second child in the coming weeks.

- 2001 Chicago Sun Times Player of the Year
- 2002 Big Ten Freshman of the Year
- 2005 Big Ten Player of the Year
- 2003, 2004, 2005 AVCA All-American
- 2006 USA Volleyball National Team Member



Annemarie Hickey

Annemarie is in her seventh season in 2022 with the Wisconsin Volleyball staff, with the defensive standout and captain having returned to the program in 2016 as the team's technical coordinator.

Hickey is responsible for data collection and analysis, developing game plans for all opponents, live-coding matches while providing in-game tactical adjustment. She utilizes cutting-edge statistical analysis from practice and match play to identify areas for team/individual improvement. Hickey assists in a coaching capacity on-court during practices for small-group tutoring and position training. She's a diligent performance analyst with five years of experience in organizing dashboards, reports and data collection.

Annemarie was a four-year letter winner for the Badgers from 2010-13. She served as a team tri-captain in 2013, aiding UW to an appearance in the NCAA championship match. Hickey ranks third on Wisconsin's career digs record list with 1,849 digs, and tied for second in average with 3.98 digs per set.

She graduated from UW in 2014 with a bachelor's degree in sociology and spent the 2014-15 season as the Badgers' volunteer assistant coach, before transitioning into the technical coordinator role.

Annemarie has had the opportunity to work with USA Volleyball indoor national team serving in capacities such as:

- Monitoring and collecting of performance data/athlete tracking, conducting in-depth analyses of the world's top teams to provide Olympic-level insight and trends, building custom dashboards to enable coaches the ability to manage interests and planning;
- Provides detailed reports prior to matches with key metrics, captures and distributes video footage during tournaments for USAV staff.



Michael Kolodziej

Michael Kolodziej is a 2002 JCA graduate who went on to play football at the University of Michigan from 2002-2006.

After redshirting his first year, Michael saw significant playing time as redshirt freshman. Michael started his redshirt sophomore season as the starting left tackle and would eventually be the starting left tackle the same year in the Rose Bowl against the University of Texas, in which Michael graded out at a 98%, his best game of his career.

Michael sustained a neurological head injury in 2005 and was sidelined for a few months, but fought his way back on the field as the starting right tackle. During training camp heading into his final season, Michael, once again, sustained what doctors thought again to be another neurological head unjust and he had to cut his football career short.

Michael finished his career as 3-year letterman, 2-time Big Ten champion, and his team earned 3 Rose Bowl appearances.



Jared Voss

Jared Voss is entering his 25th season as the Head Baseball Coach at Joliet Catholic Academy. During his tenure as Head Baseball Coach. the Hilltoppers have gone 591-243-3, an average of 24 wins per year with three State Championships: '08, '09 '22: 2 State Runner-Up Finishes: '00, '04; 1 State 3rd Place Finish: '08, and 1 State 4th Place Finish: '10. During this time JCA has also won 6 Super-Sectional Titles, 7 Sectional Championships, 14 Regional Championships, 8 ESCC Titles, 1 IHSBCA Runner-Up Finish: '12, 2 IHSBCA Semi-Finalist Appearances: '03, '05; overall 11 Elite-8 appearances, spring and summer included. Joliet Catholic also won the 2014 IHSBCA State Summer Title, going a perfect 20-0 in the process. He has coached 150 players and counting who have gone on to collegiate careers, twelve former players have played professionally, and one (Joe Benson) has reached the Major Leagues. For his leadership, Voss has been named the Class 3A Coach of the Year twice: '09, '13; IHSBCA Area Coach of the Year four times: '00, '04, '08, '10; IHSBCA Summer Coach of the Year: '14; eight -time ESCC Coach of the Year: '08, '09, '11, '12, '14, '17, '18, '19.

In the spring of 2022, Rylan Bannon became the ninth former JCA player to reach the major leagues, following Jack Perconte, Bill Gullickson, Mark Grant, Mike Grace, Sean Bergman, Chris Michalak, Kevin Cameron, and Joe Benson. Every player except Benson, Perconte, and Bannon are pitchers.

Jared was inducted into the 2015 Illinois High School Baseball Coaches Association and the 2019 East Suburban Catholic Conference Halls of Fame for achievement and accomplishment in coaching high school baseball.

Jared resides in Naperville with his wife Allyson and their daughter Lyla. He is currently JCA's Director of Admissions.



Jeremy (J.R.) Zwierzynski

2006: Started all 11 games after making the switch from linebacker to tight end in the spring... was a very dominant run-blocker who paved the way for Herb's Donaldson's 128.8 rushing yards per game and 6.1 yards per carry... earned an average blocking grade of 91.1 percent during conference games... caught 17 passes for 213 yards... had seven catches for 90 yards against Illinois State and four catches for 61 yards two games later against Indiana State... earned honorable mention all-region honors from the Football Gazette... named to the Gateway Conference All-Newcomer Team.

2002-05 (Penn State): Redshirted in 2002... played in eight games as a sophomore in 2003... appeared in every game of the 2004 and 2005 season, primarily on special teams... was the top backup at outside linebacker to All-American honoree Paul Posluszny earned Academic All-Big Ten honors in 2004...

High School Was the 2001 Illinois Gatorade Player of the Year... won the High School Butkus Award and was a finalist for the High School Heisman... was first-team USA Today All-American and also a U.S. Army, Tom Lemming and PrepStar All-American... served as team captain and was named team MVP... earned all-area and all-conference honors, and was the Catholic Metro Player of the Year... led Joliet Catholic to three state titles... rushed for 5,073 yards and 59 touchdowns in his career, breaking a school record held by Tampa Bay Buccaneers? fullback Mike Alstott... as a senior, he rushed for more than 2,220 yards and scored 39 touchdowns, recording a pair of consecutive 300-yard efforts... played in the 2002 All-American Bowl.

Son of Russ and Marianne Zwierzynski... born October 16, 1983... Brother Jay Zwierzynski (JCA "99) Sister Jaime Zwierzynski (JCA ""07) Earned bachelor's degree in business administration from Penn

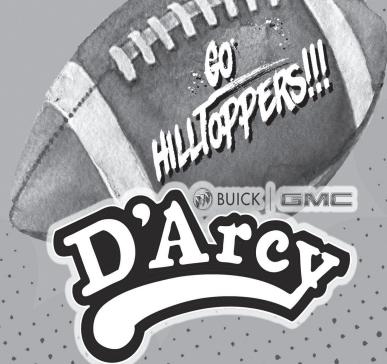
State in 2006, finishing with a 3.280 GPA.

Resides in Rochester, Michigan with wife (Lindsey PSU grad "06) and two children Jade (daughter)and Zane (son). Currently working in medical sales at Belimed Infection Control as a Senior Account Executive. Where I have continuously met my sales targets and earned Presidents Club awards the past two consecutive years.

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Wishes JCA Football & All their Fans a GREAT 2022 Season!







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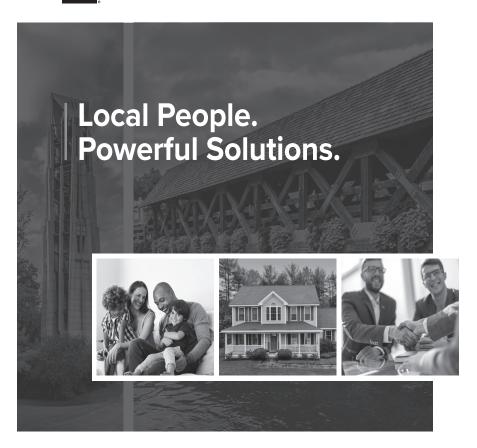


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- · 23.5 Average ACT Score over the last 5 years
- 26.4 Average ACT Score for the top 50% of class over the last 5 years
- 29.5 Average ACT Score for Honors Program students over the last 5 years
- Over \$18 million in scholarship funds offered to the Class of 2022

A Tradition of Athletic Excellence

- 36 State or National Championships
- 93% of Students Participate in Extra-Curricular Activities
- 63 Former/Current Professional Athletes
- 30% of the Class of 2022 Playing a Sport in College

JOIN US AT OPEN HOUSE

Sunday, November 6 • 10 a.m. to 12 p.m. Thursday, November 10 • 6:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m.





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THINK AGAIN!

Scholarships range from \$500 to over \$14,000 through the JCA Endowment, Catholic Education Foundation, and Empower Illinois Tax Credit Scholarships

7th and 8th graders
Super Shadow Day
Monday, October 10

Schedule a Shadow Visit or Private Family Tour Today! Online Registration Available.

8th graders

Pre-High School Placement Test Saturday, October 8

High School Placement Test Saturday, December 3

Heritage Award Application Due Saturday, December 3

Jared Voss, Director of Admissions jvoss@jca-online.org

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 15 9 A.M. SHOTGUN START COG HILL COLF & COUNTRY CLUB LEMONT, ILLINOIS SFA-DLS-JCHS-JCA ALUMNI & FRIENDS GOLF OUTING PRESENTED BY BUSEY BANK

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Questions? Contact Sue Bebar at sbebar@jca-online.org or register at www.jca-online.org/golf-classic/



ATHLETICS

JOLIET CATHOLIC ACADEMY IS PROUD TO RECOGNIZE ALUMNI, COACHES, AND SUPPORTERS FOR OUTSTANDING CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE ATHLETIC PROGRAM AT THE SCHOOL. THEIR COMMITMENT, ACHIEVEMENT AND SENSE OF SPORTSMANSHIP SET THE STANDARD FOR THE YOUNG ATHLETES WHO FOLLOW IN THEIR FOOTSTEPS TODAY.

ATHLETICS CLASS OF 2022 CHAMPIONS INDUCTEES

Ronald Boyter '67 | Dave Douglas '75 | Michael Grace '88 Annemarie Hickey '10 | Michael Kolodziej '02 | Samantha (Tortorello '02) Haas Jared M. Voss '92 | Jeremy (J.R.) Zwierzynski '02

Class of 2021

Matt Cimo '79 Mike Goolsby '00 Tony Jane (Legacy Award) Christine Scheibe

Class of 2018

Coby Fleener '07 Chris Michalak '89 Kelly Murphy '08 Samantha (Quigley '06) Smith Jack Schimanski

Andrew Matichak '53 (Legacy Award) Bill Sticklen '43 (Legacy Award)

Class of 2017

Patricia Carbery '82 Emily Marino '97 Larry McKeon '68 Dan Sharp '74 Dave Sims '80

<u>Class of 2019</u>

Sean Bergman '88 Mary (Will '74) Jaworski John Piazza '79 Mark Sopko '00 Christine Toscas '85 Wayne Vercellotti '53 (Legacy Award)

Class of 2016

Jane Condon '75
Patrick Mudron '67
Mark Parker '76
Jack Perconte '72
Pat Sullivan '61
John Carroll (Legacy Award)

Class of 2015

Mike Alstott '92 Terry Gannon '81 Mark Grant '81 Tippy Madarik '40 (Legacy Award) Liz (Tortorello '88) Nelson

Class of 2014

Gordie Gillespie Bill Gullickson '77 Allie Quigley '04 Jim Stefanich '59 (Legacy Award) Tom Thaver '79

The Angel and Hilltopper Prayer

Almighty God whose authority is over all and whose love never fails, make me aware of your presence and faithful to your will.

Keep me true to my best self, helping me to live with character and integrity so that I can face my family, my friends, my Angel sisters, and my Hilltopper brothers without shame or fear.

Grant me the loyalty to be proficient in my studies and in training as a student-athlete.

Give me the will to do the work of an Angel and Hilltopper and to accept my share of responsibilities with energy and enthusiasm.

Keep me loyal and faithful to my teachers and coaches and to the tasks they and my Angel sisters and Hilltopper brothers have entrusted to me.

Make me considerate of those who look to me for leadership.

Help me wear the emblem of Joliet Catholic Academy with dignity, and let it remind me daily of the tradition which I must uphold.

If I am inclined to doubt, steady my faith.

If I am tempted, make me strong to resist.

If I should miss the mark, give me courage to try again.

Through the intercession of Mary, the Queen of Carmel, and St. Francis of Assisi, give me wisdom by which I may understand your answer to my prayer.

Grant this prayer through Christ our Lord.

Amen.

Special Thanks...

Selection Committee:

Jim O'Brien, Chair
Sue Bebar, Co-Chair
Debbie Dispenza, Secretary
Dick Goss
Jim Borello
Ryan Quigley
Bill Scheibe
Tina Kinsella

Event Champions:

Jose Lopez & Staff - Set-Up Service Brian Jones - Video Production Michelle Jankowski - Bella Cucina Catering Joyce Nahorski - Graphics & Program