

National Wrestling Hall of Fame and Museum

Florida Chapter



NEWSLETTER

Volume 9, Issue 1

Summer 2025



The President's Podium

Gary Townsend, Class of 2015

President, NWHOF Florida Chapter

Next weekend we will induct seven individuals into the National Wrestling Hall of Fame Florida Chapter. Our Chapter's mission is the preservation of our state's history by recognizing and enshrining these seven individuals who have devoted their lives to the sport of wrestling. These individuals who dedicated all have proven themselves in development of our Florida Athletes by educating, building character, technique, and creating a competitive atmosphere. Florida has grown and matured some of the best high school and college wrestlers in the country. The credit for this success in part goes to the coaches, officials, and volunteers of the wrestling community.

Not only do we recognize the legions of Florida, but we also have a responsibility to preserve the history of Florida Wrestling. The Florida Chapter collects memorabilia and displaying the Florida Museum at the State Wrestling Championships and Honors Weekend. We also continue to support the development of girls wrestling.

All inductees past and present are the legends of wrestling, but they are also legends of the growth of Florida wrestling.

*Remember, when we do it, we do it with class,
for we are honoring the best of the best.*

Thank you,

Gary Townsend

In This Issue

President's Podium	- page 1
Spotlight on Alumni	- page 3
Meet the Class of 2025	- pages 4-10
Chapter Information	- page 11
NWHOF&M	- page 12

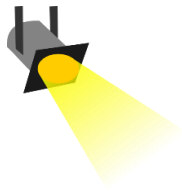
Florida Chapter Hall of Fame Weekend

August 22-23, 2025

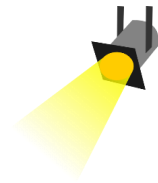
Honoring the Class of 2025

Tickets for the Friday evening Social, the Saturday morning Testimonial Breakfast, and the Saturday evening Induction Banquet must be purchased online by August 20th.

<https://nwhoffl.ticketspice.com/25fl>

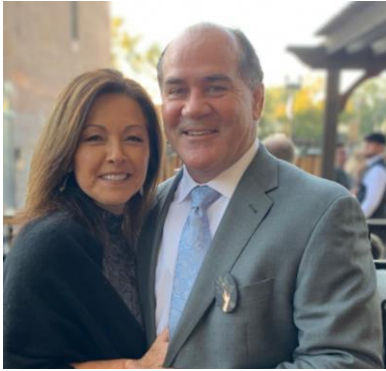


ALUMNI SPOTLIGHT



Doug Peters

Class of 2010



Doug Peters and Cathy Albert have been together for 16 years and have decided to officially merge their families sometime in the next six months. Doug has three adult children, Steven and twins David and Terra. David has a daughter, Aurora. Cathy has two adult children, Sara and Daniel, with six children between them.

Doug attended Lyman High School and graduated in 1976. He had quite an impressive wrestling career sporting a 130-4 record. He placed twice at the State Tournament, 3rd as a sophomore and 2nd as a senior. He was also named the AAU HOF High School Wrestler of the Year in 1976. He attended UCF after high school and graduated in 1980 and once again was named AAU HOF Wrestler of the Year.

Doug coached at Lake Mary High School where his teams have won 11 straight Conference, District, and Regional Championships. During his 42-year teaching career, he also coached football and golf and later served as Athletic Director. Doug credits a lot of his success to the parental support he was given. Doug's teams have also won the Seminole Athletic Conference every year from 1984-1990. This also resulted in him being named Conference and District Coach of the Year multiple times.

Doug retired in 2016 and sat out one year only to come back the next year and work with the Lake Mary Athletic Booster Club. He finally retired again 2024. He still hopes to get back and continue to help with the Rams wrestling program. Doug has also received the honor of being inducted into the Inaugural Lyman High School Hall of Fame in 2000 and the first class of the Lake Mary Hall of Fame in 2019.

As for family activities, he enjoys spending time with his and Cathy's grandkids. They support these seven in a variety of activities. Doug and Cathy like going to the beach and taking an occasional trip to the Virgin Islands. Doug also enjoys playing golf and playing pickleball with Cathy.

"What counts is not the things that happen, but what we do with them."

-- Annie Ernaux, *Quotes from Nice News*



Lifetime Service to Wrestling

Given in recognition of 20 years or more of dedication to the development of leadership and citizenship in the youth through the sport of wrestling.

Terry Brockland was born in South Miami. Growing up, he loved reading about and playing sports. He read every sports book in the local library and played sports daily with his neighborhood friends. He played organized baseball as a youth and had fun with it. He was introduced to wrestling during the summer after his 6th grade year and fell in love with the sport. Terry was never a good athlete but worked hard to achieve successes and enjoyed participating each year until graduating. After practices during his senior year, he attended the junior high practices to help the coach and to get in extra work. This is where his coaching service began.

While pursuing a biology degree at the University of South Florida, he played collegiate rugby and wrestled at the club level. After college, Terry became a science teacher, first at Hillsborough High School where he helped Coach Mark Yost with the wrestling program. This renewed his passion for the sport and encouraged him to transfer to a school where he could teach and coach. Terry moved to Buchanan Jr. High School where he helped with the football team and coached the track team for seven years. He learned under a great mentor named Steve Randolph. From Steve, Terry learned what positive motivation was and how to use it to encourage athletes.



When Sickles High School opened in 1997, he was hired as the head wrestling coach and relished the opportunity to coach the sport. He has been their wrestling coach since then. During his coaching career at Sickles, Terry has had the opportunity to work with Hall of Fame coach Gerald Brisco, who has been a mentor to him to this day. Over the last 28 years as the wrestling coach at Sickles, Terry has had the opportunity to work with, teach, and

learn from over 40 coaches and he hopes he has passed on to them some of the wisdom that he has picked up along the way.

Coach Brockland's teaching career comes first and he is proud to have multiple athletes attend military academies and high academic institutions. During his time as a teacher, Terry does his best to always be there for his athletes and students. During his 37 years of teaching, he has only called in sick once and never misses wrestling functions. He does his best to lead by example.

Terry met and married the love of his life, Barbara, a great volunteer and supporter of him, his students and athletes, and a dedicated volunteer throughout his career. She has guided him through thick and thin. They have a son named Adam who grew up playing sports and participating in Boy Scouts. Terry and his wife have supported his various sporting adventures and activities as band parents, PTA members, and sporting adventures. Adam made the rank of Eagle Scout and is presently working his way through school.

Terry is honored to be considered and even more honored to be selected to enter the National Wrestling Hall of Fame. His goal has always been to help the next generation achieve their goals. He is also honored to work and have worked with so many young students and athletes on their journeys. He is thankful for the various people who have given him the opportunity to teach and coach, to the members of the Hall of Fame committee for doing what they do, and to the other coaches for their contributions to the youth of America.

Frank Edward Fuder graduated from Marianna High School with a football scholarship to Memphis State University (1964-1968). While there, Frank met and married Susan and they had a son, Todd. In 1969, Frank played semi-pro football. He earned his Bachelor of Education in 1971. That same year, he began his coaching career at North Cobb High School in Georgia.

From 1972-1977, he coached football, baseball, and wrestling at Campbell High School in Smyrna, GA. He coached the first wrestling match he ever witnessed! As he tells it: "I didn't know a single thing about the sport of wrestling, but I was an athlete, and I knew how to train. So, I got the kids in shape and the kids taught me how to wrestle. I was fortunate to have a handful of experienced Seniors that first year who were willing and able to teach me the sport. And I was willing to learn from my athletes, which I believe was key to finding success early as a coach in the sport of wrestling." Frank was honored as the North Georgia Coach of the Year in 1976 and 1977. From 1977-1981, Coach Fuder was the Athletic Director, Head Football, Head Wrestling, and Assistant Track Coach at Osborne HS in Marietta, GA. During Frank's nine years in Georgia, his dual meet record was 53-41-2, with 13 State medalists and multiple champions.

In 1981, Frank began teaching and coaching at Bay High in Panama City, FL, where he coached football, wrestling, and boys and girls cross country. His Florida dual meet record was 194-41-2, with 25 State Medalists and multiple champions. Coach Fuder spent 22 seasons coaching wrestling in Florida. In his 194 wins during 18 years



at Bay High, he never had a losing season. He was four-time Northwest Florida Coach of the Year (1993, 94, 97, and 98), dual meet record of 247-82-4, 12 County, seven District, and four Regional team championships, 60 state qualifiers, 31 placers, nine runners-up, six champions, and six Top Ten team finishes.

Frank retired from coaching in 1999, and teaching in 2008. He returned 2013-2017 to help his son start North Bay Haven Charter Academy's wrestling program.

Brian K. Jones grew up in Rainelle, West Virginia. He attended Greenbrier West High School where he played football, wrestled, and ran track. During Brian's high school career, he was voted first team All-Southern in football, and was a state placer in both wrestling and track. After high school, Brian attended Glenville State University where he was a starter on the football team and earned his B.A. in Education. Brian was then selected as a graduate assistant where he earned his M.S. in Exercise Physiology at West Virginia University.

Brian began his coaching and officiating career under the tutelage of his former high school coach. After one season, Brian was named Head Wrestling Coach at Greenbrier West. During the next seven years, he kept up the tradition of Greenbrier West with three top ten team finishes.

In 1990, Brian arrived at Mariner High School as the Head Wrestling Coach and Assistant Football Coach. During his time at Mariner, he led the Tritons to two district titles, three conference titles, earned two conference coach of the year awards, and coached Mariner's first state champion. In addition to wrestling, Brian started his fourteen-year FHSAA officiating career and helped the football team win three district titles.

Brian next coached at Estero High School where the wrestling team won two district titles and two conference titles. Brian was also the Defensive Coach for the football team until taking over as the head coach for football.

Brian's last stop was starting the wrestling program at Island Coast High School where he guided the wrestling team to a district title, and coached their first state placer. He also started the girls' program and coached the team's first girls' state finalist. As the football team's Offensive Coach, they earned three district titles and one state semi-final appearance. After football, Brian took over the boys' and girls' bowling teams and help guide them to four boys' district titles and four girls' district titles, and also coached Lee County's first 300 bowler.

Brian recently retired from 43 years of teaching. His coaching career records 434 dual meet wins, 41 state qualifiers, 25 state placers and two state champions, in addition to 22 years of officiating wrestling.

Family is most important in Brian's life. He and his wife, Kim, have been married for 25 years and raised two amazing sons, Tanner and Chase.



Michael Lee Madry is a military veteran, St Petersburg native, graduate of St Petersburg High School, St Petersburg College, and the University of South Florida. While on active duty in the military, Madry served five tours of combat between the Republic of Panama and Desert Shield-Desert Storm, earning multiple service medals of distinction. After discharge from the military, Madry worked in Medical Administration at Bay Pines VA Hospital. He was a Director for Pinellas County Veteran Services and retired as a Veteran Service Officer.

Michael's wrestling career began in 9th grade under SPHS's Hall of Fame Coach Max Loden. Michael held the school record for takedowns, was a Team Captain, 3x All-conference, and an FHSAA State Finalist in 1982.

Michael earned a scholarship to Lincoln College with Coach Rex Branum, and later transferred to Trenton State College with Coach David Icenhower. As a freshman wrestling for Lincoln, Michael placed 2nd in the St Louis Open and NJCAA National Qualifier. While wrestling for DIII Trenton State College, he was an NCAA National qualifier and earned two NCAA DIII National Championship Team rings in 1984 and 1985. In the service, Michael was on the All-Army Wrestling Team. Michael was an All-Army National Champion, All-Armed Forces National Champion, and US Open Sr. National Greco-Roman All-American. Before being deployed to Desert Shield-Desert Storm, he had qualified for the USA Sr. Greco-Roman World Team Trials and Military World Championship. Madry credits his former coaches, all Hall of Famers, for his successful career.

In 1991, Michael began coaching at Gibbs High School, where he helped train the school's first state champion, Damon Baldwin. He later continued coaching at his Alma Mater as an assistant coach with Coach Samuel Pruitt, (2023). Madry was also an assistant coach on the World Class Wrestling Club led by Coach Bob Walker (2003).

In 2005, Michael began a 20-year career as a wrestling official with the Sunshine Officials Association, where he currently serves on the board as a "Member at Large." In 2021, SOA honored his dedication and service with the "Most Valuable Official" award. As a FHSAA Official and FAWA (USA Wrestling) Official he has officiated more than 10 State championships between FHSAA and FAWA (Folkstyle, Freestyle and Greco-Roman Championships). In addition, he has officiated numerous District, Regional, and National tournaments.

In 2019, Madry decided to compete again, representing Team USA in the Masters World Championships. He earned a Bronze Medal in Greco-Roman at the tournament in Tbilisi Georgia 2019, and, in 2021, he earned a World Silver Medal in Freestyle in Loutraki, Greece.

Michael is very grateful for his opportunity for service in the sport of wrestling





Jonathan Vogt began his lifetime dedication to the sport of wrestling in the 3rd grade. He was coached by Bren Hayak in Chatfield, MN, where he participated in AAU competitions and was on the state-qualifying high school team. Jonathan continued wrestling when his family moved to South Florida. At Miramar High, coached by John Ellis, he won 2 County Championships, 3 District Championships, 2 Regional Championships and a State Championship.

In 1982, Jonathan became a member of the Columbia University wrestling team under Hall of Fame coach Ron Russo. Jon was named first-team All-Ivy for the 1985-86 Season and graduated from Columbia with a Bachelor's Degree in Civil Engineering.

Jonathan transitioned to coaching after college as an assistant to Coach Joe Jiovenetta at Miramar High and became head coach in 1988. He began officiating in 1989 and, over the span of 36 years, has officiated 34 Regional tournaments, 13 FHSAA State Championships, and has been president of the BCAA Officials Association for the past 15 years.

Jonathan's professional career parallels his commitment to wrestling and his belief that giving back creates a stronger community. He has worked as a civil servant for 39 years, formerly at the City of Hollywood and currently at the Town of Davie.

Jonathan would like to thank his coaches and Hall of Fame referees Rick Tucci, Chuck Almeida, and Bob Madge. These individuals' character, commitment to the sport of wrestling and mentorship of young people inspired him to give back to a sport that continues to give to so many. He would also like to thank his family for their love and support, especially his wife Elizabeth and daughter Ashley.

Jeremy Walton has been a registered FHSAA official for the sport of wrestling as a member of SOA Wrestling serving Pinellas, Manatee, and Sarasota counties since the 2002-2003 season. His wrestling journey began in November 1992 as a sophomore at Pinellas Park High School where he began wrestling under Hall of Fame coach David Mauger. Immediately, a love for the sport was developed and a tenacious work ethic flourished to give him success on the mat.

Jeremy was selected as the *2016 FHSAA Official of the Year*. He also received the *2018 NFHS Florida Official of the Year* award. However, the crowning honor was the *2019 NFHS National Distinguished Official of the Year* award that is awarded to only one male and female official in all sports in the United States. Jeremy's proficiency as a mat official earned him over 25 regional and 16 state championship assignments.



Jeremy has served as the Head Wrestling Official for Florida since 2022. His responsibilities encompass training, evaluating, state series assignments, rules' interpretations, and serving as the Head Official at all State Championships. He was also the president of his local officials' association for six years prior to his time as Florida's Head Official and was the association's vice president and training officer for the seven years prior to his time as president. He consistently worked to bring innovative and successful leadership to facilitate a healthy organization which is well-respected in Florida, and has been the keynote presenter at several annual state rules clinics.

Jeremy was born in Syracuse, New York, to Tony and Laurie Walton in 1977. His family moved to Pinellas County in Florida in 1979 where they have remained. Jeremy married his wife, Erin, in 2000, and they have two adult children, Devon and Claire. The family has many fond memories of traveling to events over the years watching him officiate.

Jeremy considers it a great privilege to be a high school wrestling official and to be involved in a sport he cherishes. After over two decades, he continues to humbly strive every year to be a top-level official who puts forth his best effort on the mat. Leading the state and his local officials' association has also been a great source of pride as he intentionally seeks to equip the next generation of officials. The relationships built with officials, coaches, athletes, and others through his time on the mat has been the greatest joy to him. Jeremy believes in treating everyone with respect through recognizing the inherent value, worth, importance, and dignity of the individual. This is displayed through his leadership and his efforts as a wrestling official

~ HONOR ~ PRESERVE ~ RECOGNIZE ~ INSPIRE ~

Medal of Courage

*Presented to a wrestler
or former wrestler
who overcame fear for his
own life to protect others*

Christopher Brent Hixon was born on February 25, 1968, in Easton, Pennsylvania. He attended Easton High School before graduating from Pleasant Valley High School in Brodheadsville, PA. During high school, Chris participated in football, wrestling, and track, earning the Spirit Award for his leadership and dedication to Pleasant Valley sports and his fellow athletes.

After graduating, Chris enlisted in the United States Navy in July 1986 and transitioned to the United States Naval Reserves in 1992. Throughout his military career, he excelled as a Machinist's Mate First Class Petty Officer. While serving aboard the *USS San Diego*, he was deployed to the Persian Gulf during Operations Desert Shield and Desert Storm. In the Reserves, his roles included assignments with Naval Security Forces and Mobile Dive and Salvage. He retired on October 1, 2013, after five years of active duty and 22 years in the Reserves—totaling 27 honorable years of service to his country.

Chris served as a Campus Monitor and Athletic Director at Blanche Ely High School, South Broward High School and Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School. During his tenure as Athletic Director, he received numerous honors, including the 2007 FIAAA Wayne Taylor Distinguished Service (Meritorious) Award, the 2008 National Interscholastic Athletic Administrators Association State Award of Merit, and the 2017 Broward County Athletic Association Athletic Director of the Year Award. Posthumously, he was inducted into the Broward County Wrestling Hall of Fame and co-awarded the 2018 ESPY for Best Coach.

Beyond his administrative roles, Chris was a dedicated volunteer coach in softball, cross country, volleyball, and wrestling, often stepping in when teams lacked a coach. Wrestling was his greatest passion, and he volunteered as a wrestling coach throughout his career at Fort Lauderdale High, Blanche Ely High, South Broward High, and Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School.

In 1990, Chris married Debra, and together they had two sons, Thomas and Corey. Chris was deeply committed to his family, country, friends, colleagues, athletes, and students. He never hesitated to lend a helping hand to anyone in need. On February 14, 2018, Chris died as he lived—a hero. He bravely ran into the 1200 Building at Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School to confront the shooter and protect students and staff, tragically losing his life in the process. He embodied the motto: *"If not me, then who."*



About the Florida Chapter

The Florida Chapter for the National Wrestling Hall of Fame was established in 2000.

Our mailing address is:

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ON FACEBOOK:

The mission of the Florida Chapter of the National Wrestling Hall of Fame is to pay tribute to those coaches, officials, and contributors who represent the best qualities of what the sport of wrestling has to offer and who share those characteristics with young people day in and day out.



MORE THAN A MUSEUM
it is an experience!

**America's shrine to the sport of wrestling, the
National Wrestling Hall of Fame & Museum has the largest
collection of wrestling artifacts and memorabilia in the world!**



Stillwater, Oklahoma



**State Chapter
Induction Banquets**



Waterloo, Iowa

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