

Hall calls eight new inductees

HALL OF FAMERS. Eight new faces were added to the Brampton Sports Hall of Fame on Wednesday evening. Inducted were, from left, Tiffany Elliott, Bill Cowie, Mike Aikens (for the late Gary Aikens), Troy Cordingley, George Burrows (in front), Chris Terry, James Quinn and Ashley Greenhalgh.

Photo by SAMANTHA CUSIMANO



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Eight new names were added to the Brampton Sports Hall of Fame on Wednesday evening in a special ceremony at the Pearson Convention Centre.

Joining the Hall of Fame in the Athletes category were Troy Cordingley, Tiffany Elliott, Ashley Greenhalgh, James Quinn and Chris Terry. In the Builders' category Bill Cowie and Gary Aikens, posthumously, have been added. George Burrows was inducted into the Veterans category. Find below a copy of the bios that will hang in the Hall of Fame at the Brampton Powerade Centre for all to see.

GARY AIKENS

(Posthumously 1937-2007)

Gary Aikens was a mentor and leader. Since he moving to Brampton in 1968, Gary was an active volunteer throughout the City. He contributed countless hours to the community and youth through his involvement, and successfully applied the experience he gained into building team support and structure. Gary was a member of the Brampton Sports Hall of Fame Committee from 1996 to 1999, and was involved in sports as a builder for twenty-eight years.

Gary guided the amalgamation of the Chinguacousy Minor Lacrosse Association with the Brampton Minor Lacrosse Association in the mid 1970's. He served in various capacities including President, Manager and Coach with the Brampton Minor Lacrosse Association from 1971 to 1985.

Gary was the General Manager of the Bramalea Blues Junior B Hockey team from 1987 to 1991, and again in 1995. In 1988 the team was the Ontario finalist. He was a Manager, Coach and volunteer for Chinguacousy Minor Hockey from 1972 to 1986. In addition, he was Manager of the 1985-86 Chinguacousy Major Midget AAA Hockey Provincial Championship team.

Gary helped to organize and oversee a Men's Slo-Pitch League in Bramalea for over forty years. Gary won a Brampton Civic Award in 1983 with the Brampton Excelsiors Lacrosse Bantam team. He accepted the Ron Able Award (Top Manager of Chinguacousy Minor Hockey Association) while managing the Chinguacousy Pee Wee team in 1981. He was voted a Metro Junior B Hockey All Star Coach for two consecutive years.

Gary is remembered as someone whose passion and love for sports and the community was unconditional. As a coach, manager and volunteer for countless championship teams, Gary will be recognized for years to come through his 2010 induction as a Builder into the Brampton Sports Hall of Fame.

GEORGE BURROWS

George moved to Brampton at the very tender age of one month in 1918, and began playing goal for Brampton Minor Field Lacrosse at the age of eight. He has been a motivational and inspirational person in the Brampton community his entire life.

George played goal for the Brampton Minor Field Lacrosse team from 1926 to 1932, and then played goal in Brampton Minor Box Lacrosse from the very first year it was developed in 1932 to 1936. He managed to play three different box lacrosse games in three different cities all in one day!

In 1938, while still playing an active role in lacrosse, George helped Jim McCutcheon found the Brampton Minor Hockey Association (BMHA). He managed the BMHA Juvenile Hockey All Stars in 1939. In total, he refereed, coached and managed in the BMHA for twenty years. During that time, he was President of BMHA from 1953 to 1954. George is a Life Member in the Brampton Youth Hockey Association.

In 1941, George joined the Air Force and used his athletic experience to play for the Air Force team to raise money for the war effort. In 1946, he helped Jim Clevely and Billy Evans begin the Lakeshore Minor Lacrosse Association. In addition, he drove players to games and refereed without the expectation of compensation.

George has refereed in the Ontario Lacrosse Association for about 20 years.

He helped start the Old Timers' Lacrosse Association in Brampton with Pete Barnett, and he was given a Life Membership. They donated money to the Brampton Minor Lacrosse Association every year until it disbanded, at which time they donated \$1,500 for lacrosse sticks for veterans in Afghanistan.

One of his most memorable highlights this year has been facing off the ball at the Toronto Rock Professional Lacrosse game at the Air Canada Centre in Toronto on behalf of Canadian veterans everywhere.

George is still very active. When George is not busy promoting minor hockey or lacrosse, he volunteers his time driving patients to medical appointments and helping out at his Branch 15 Legion, and the Masonic Lodge. His proud family just can't keep him down, or keep up with him for that matter, even at age 92.

TROY CORDINGLEY

As an athlete, Troy Cordingley noticeably demonstrated a love and understanding for lacrosse.

Playing offensive forward, he displayed creative moves.

Troy was a leader by example, as he practiced ethics and fair play.

Troy won two Mann Cups while playing forward for the Brampton Major Excelsiors in 1992 and 1993 in the Ontario Lacrosse Association (OLA).

He won a scoring title in 1995 and two Mann Cups in 1995 and 1996, playing forward as a part of the Six Nations Chiefs, at the Major OLA level.

Troy received "Top Scorer MVP" and "1st All Star" while playing forward for the Coquitlam Junior A Adanacs.

In 1994, Troy played with Team Canada at the World Field Lacrosse Championships and brought home a bronze medal. He also played in two National Lacrosse League Championships with the Buffalo Bandits. Troy played with the Brampton Junior A Excelsior team for five years. He was named the "Lacrosse Boy of Canada" and "National Midget Lacrosse MVP" in 1983.

Troy's undying passion for lacrosse is also the reason for his successful coaching career. He began as an assistant coach for the Buffalo Bandits with head coach Darris Kilgour in 2003. He is a former head coach for the Brooklin Redmen and he coached the Brampton Excelsiors to the 2008 and 2009 Mann Cup.

In his second year of professional level head coaching with the Calgary Roughnecks, Troy was named the National Lacrosse League (NLL) "Coach of the Year". He led his team to a league best season, a 2009 NLL Champions Cup victory and finished top overall in the 2009 NLL playoffs. In July 2009, Troy was named head coach of the Toronto Rock Lacrosse Club.

To top it off, Troy was one of six finalists for the NLL Hall of Fame Class of 2010. Troy has played alongside and against many notable players in the sport of lacrosse, including John Tavares, Jim Veltman, Paul Gait, Gary Gait and Darris Kilgour.

BILL COWIE

Bill Cowie has helped organize year-round community sports opportunities for the citizens of Brampton for over thirty-two years. He has been involved in various charities' sporting events in curling, golf, bowling and slo-pitch. He has won numerous team awards in hockey, volleyball and slo-pitch. He also received many municipal and affiliated organization recognitions, including a City of Brampton 10-year Long Term Service Citizens Award. He is also an Inductee of the Slo-Pitch Ontario Association Hall of Fame as a Founder.

Bill successfully helped revive three failing sports organizations, and also founded three new adult sport leagues in Brampton, namely Brampton Madoc Softball in 1978, Brampton Volleyball in 1981 and Twin B's Slo-Pitch League in 1982. He is currently President of the Brampton Volleyball and Twin B's Slo-Pitch Leagues. The Brampton Volleyball League was once credited as being the second largest league in North America and the largest in Canada. In 1995, the Twin B's Slo-Pitch League had 165 teams, making it the largest Slo-Pitch League in North America.

Bill became an active member of the Chinguacousy Girls Minor Softball Association in 1979. He held a number of positions on its board, including Vice President of House League, House & All Star Coach and Equipment Manager. He was also the founder of the Peanut Division. Bill coached the 1995-96 North Park Secondary School girls softball team. He also played in the Madoc Men's Hockey League from 1971 to 1972, and the Madoc Men's Fastpitch League from 1972 to 1981. Finally, Bill co-founded the Brampton Ontario Sport Spectacular (B.O.S.S.) Slo-Pitch Tournament as a part of the organizing committee, and has assisted with the tournament ever since.

Bill served as a member of the Brampton City Council for nine years. He is currently a Councillor in the Township of Amaranth and a small business owner.

TIFFANY ELLIOTT

Tiffany started skating at the age of four and began synchronized skating at the age of nine. She has been a member of Skate Canada Brampton-Chinguacousy (formerly known as the Brampton Figure Skating Club) for 20 years and has completed her freeskate, dance, skills and interpretive tests to make her a Quadruple Gold Medalist. Even higher than that, Tiffany has achieved Diamond Dance status.

In 2009 Tiffany competed with the NEXXICE senior women's synchronized skating team in Zagreb, Croatia. The team won gold, making them the World Title champions against 23 other teams from 18 countries. The NEXXICE athletes also made history as the first Canadians to earn this prestigious honor in the ten year history of the world championships, and for setting a record in their sport with a combined score of 223.58. She travelled with her teammate and best friend, Ashley Greenhalgh, to Burlington and Kitchener three to four times per week to practice for this big competition.

The NEXXICE team conquered the 2009 Canadian Synchronized Skating National Championships that qualified them for the world championships. She also won the Canadian National Championships in 2003 as a part of the junior team.

Tiffany helped to coach Brampton's Junior Gold Ice Team to two Canadian National Championships and a 2nd and 4th place finish at worlds in 2007 and 2008.

Tiffany has worked for the City of Brampton since the age of sixteen as a lifeguard, swimming instructor and gardener. She won the "Best Garden in a Roadside Bed for Dixie-Bovaird Southwest", proving that this world champion is truly multi-talented.

Amidst competitive training and coaching, Tiffany graduated with distinction from McMaster University with an undergraduate degree in History and Political Science. She still coaches figure skating at Skate Canada Brampton-Chinguacousy and has volunteered as a skating judge. Tiffany is currently pursuing a Master of Arts (MA) in Canadian History at Queen's University.

ASHLEY GREENHALGH

Ashley Greenhalgh is a high performance athlete who has lived her entire life in the same Brampton house.

Ashley began skating at the age of two on the Major Oaks outdoor pond.

At three years of age, she skated every day with her mom who was a Learn to Skate instructor with the City of Brampton. She excelled at the sport, and at six years of age she graduated to the Brampton Figure Skating Club (now known as Skate Canada Brampton-Chinguacousy) where she was coached by Debbi Elliott and Wendy Coats of the Gold Ice Synchronized Skating teams.

In 2009 Ashley Greenhalgh competed with the NEXXICE senior women's synchronized skating team in Zagreb, Croatia. The team won gold, making them the World Title champions against twenty-three other teams from eighteen countries. The NEXXICE athletes also made history as the first Canadians to earn this prestigious honor in the ten year history of the World Championships, and for setting a record in their sport with a combined score of 223.58. She travelled with her teammate and best friend, Tiffany Elliott, to Burlington and Kitchener three to four times per week to practice for this big competition. At the age of eight, Ashley joined the Brampton Littlest Angels Juvenile Synchronized Skating Team on the end of the line, and truly was the littlest angel.

She was chosen to skate as a part of a competitive pairs team and the young couple began a very successful climb, representing the Skate Canada Brampton Skating Club for five years in three national championships.

Ashley became a Quadruple Gold medalist in singles skating and was awarded the skating club's prestigious Natalie Munn Award in her last year of high school. Ashley set her sights on developing her Synchronized Skating passion again with Brampton's Gold Ice, where they won the Canadian Championships and an international competition in Prague, Czech Republic in 2003. She attended her first World Championships in Zagreb Croatia in 2004 with Fusion Skating Team, placing 6th overall.

A graduate of McMaster University, Ashley has volunteered her time to teach learn to skate lessons for the City of Brampton, in addition to coaching and judging for Skate Canada Brampton. Ashley was a volunteer coach with the Gold Ice Synchronized Skating team this past season and is currently a mentor coach of her first pairs team.

Ashley's success in skating is largely credited to the support and love of her family, and her dedication to the Brampton community is a family affair.

CHRIS TERRY

Chris Terry is an exceptional athlete who began skating at the age of three and who has excelled in the sport of hockey since he was five years old. He achieved his childhood goal of becoming a professional hockey player through hard work, perseverance and dedication. In addition to ice hockey, Chris plays inline hockey and has played for eight successful seasons for the Brampton Radicals. In August 2009, Chris was a member of Team Canada which played at the Federation of International Roller Sports (FIRS) World Inline Hockey Championships in Varese, Italy. The team won the Silver Medal in the Senior Men's Division. Chris currently plays hockey in the American Hockey League as a left winger for the New York Albany River Rats (an affiliate of the Carolina Hurricanes). He played left wing for the Plymouth Whalers who won the 2006-07 Ontario Hockey League (OHL) Championship and then represented the OHL at the Memorial Cup. Chris had the opportunity to represent Team Ontario at the World Under-17 Tournament and was invited to two additional Team Canada camps. Chris also played centre/wing for the Markham Islanders from 2004 to 2005.

In Chris' final minor hockey year the team participated in the OHL Showcase Tournament and won the bronze medal. Chris was recognized as the "Tournament MVP".

As captain of the Plymouth Whalers, Chris led the team in community involvement.

He volunteered with and taught Learn to Skate classes, visited schools regularly to help students, and volunteered with camps and clinics. He was the most requested player from the community.

Chris received the "Dan Snyder Memorial Trophy" in 2009 as the OHL's Humanitarian of the Year. Also in 2009 Chris was the inaugural recipient of the OHL "Mickey Renaud Captain's Trophy" for leadership on and off the ice. While playing for the Plymouth Whalers, Chris achieved "Top scorer on team", "Team MVP award", "2nd highest scorer in the OHL" and

Team Captain.

Born and raised in Brampton, Chris' sports career has been largely influenced and supported by his parents and sister. Chris' passion and love for hockey are attributed to his father and paternal grandparents (who played active roles in Chinguacousy Minor Hockey), while his commitment to the community can be credited to his mother and maternal grandparents.

JAMES QUINN

Starting in 1970, Jim played all his minor hockey and lacrosse in Brampton where he captained teams to numerous provincial championships in both sports.

As a 15 year old he moved on to play junior hockey with the Dixie Beehives.

He was named Rookie of the Year for the Tier II Junior A club and became a high draft pick of the Kitchener Rangers of the OHL, where he played from 1981 to 1984.

In 1982 Jim was on the OHL and Memorial Cup championship team and was a teammate of NHL Hall of Famers Scott Stevens and Al MacInnis.

In the 1983-84 season, Jim was an OHL all-star and all scholastic team member.

He captained the Rangers to a record setting season; including the longest winning streak in major junior history, an OHL regular season championship and helping the team to its second Memorial Cup finals in three years.

Shortly after his junior career Jim went to medical school at the University of Western Ontario where he graduated with honors.

While in medical school, Jim led the Mustangs to two CIAU finals, was an OUAA all-star and had numerous appearances with the Canadian national team as they prepared for the 1988 Olympics.

Jim now lives in California, where he is a Professor of Surgery at Stanford University.