

TODAY'S HEROES, TOMORROW'S LEADERS

**137TH
ANNUAL MEETING**



**BOYS & GIRLS CLUB
OF WORCESTER**

Performance by InDaZone

Board of Directors Annual Meeting, Kristine Bostek, Board President

State of the Club, Liz Hamilton, CEO

Presenting Sponsor Remarks, Kimberly Salmon, The Hanover Insurance

Thank You to our Local and State Officials

Recognition of our Members of the Month

Recognition of our Youth of the Year, Mercedes S

College Scholarship Distribution

Fund A Need

Alumni Hall of Fame

Keynote: Jack Bassick

Honoring past Alumni Hall of Fame - Joseph Ruseckas

Alumni Hall of Fame- Jim Buonomo, Nypro (retired)

Alumni Hall of Fame- Anthony Tivnan, Magellan Jets

Alumni Hall of Fame- Douglas Safford, Wyman Gordon Company (posthumously)

Community Awards

Francis Pisegna Volunteer Award - Dennis O'Leary

Foundation for the Future Award - Fred Harris Daniels Foundation

Foundation for the Future Award - DCU for Kids Foundation

ALUMNI HALL OF FAME INDUCTEES

JIM BUONOMO



Jim grew up on Worcester's Grafton Hill. He has many fond memories of times spent at Friendly House and the Ionic Ave. Boy's Club. Jim feels strongly about giving back to the community. An article in the "Community Advocate" noted that Jim "worked tirelessly through the years to make" wherever he called home "a better place to live and work." Both Jim's parents worked multiple jobs and were able to purchase their own home in Shrewsbury, where Jim attended Shrewsbury High School. After graduation he matriculated to University of Massachusetts Amherst where he earned his BA and his MBA from the Isenberg School of Management at UMass Amherst. Much of Jim's professional career was spent at Nypro, a provider of custom precision plastics manufacturing solutions. Jim traveled frequently to Asia, India and China, building the company's presence in each locale. Jim spent the last six years of his time at Nypro as the company's CFO. Jim and his wife, Paula, have participated in and supported many community and educational institutions as well as food assistance programs in Shrewsbury, Worcester and beyond. Jim is a former member of the Board of Trustees of the UMass system and currently serves on the Boards of Fallon Health, the UMass Amherst Foundation and the Nypro Foundation. Jim and Paula have been financial supporters of the Boys & Girls Club of Worcester for over a decade. In addition, they have provided their valued good counsel whenever it was needed.

ANTHONY TIVNAN



Anthony Tivnan, a College Hill native, remembers heading to the Boy's Club back in the late 80's when he was a student at Worcester Central Catholic. He spent time playing basketball (which he would continue later at Holy Name Central Catholic High School), running around the track and boxing (which he later put to good use for a charity boxing event benefiting cancer research). After Anthony completed pilot school at Alpha One Flight School in Plymouth, he, his cousin and a friend formed a start-up company in 2008. That start-up became the award-winning Magellan Jets, a private jet-travel company that connects jet owners/companies with people looking to fly privately anywhere in the country. Anthony became President in 2009 and has helped Magellan reach astounding heights in term of sales and recognition because of the company's safety-first culture, innovative company template and world class service. Anthony speaks frequently, at colleges and conferences alike, about his experiences in the aviation industry, as an entrepreneur and as the leader of a start-up that evolved into a thriving business.

ALUMNI HALL OF FAME INDUCTEES



DOUGLAS SAFFORD

Douglas Paul "Doug" Safford spent his youth in Worcester, honing the athletic skills that would make him a star on the football field and the hardwood. Doug attended the Boy's Club where he frequented the Lincoln Square and the Ionic Ave. Clubhouses. His passion for sports shone brightly as he excelled in basketball and football, leaving a lasting legacy at Holy Name Central Catholic High School. In 1973, when Doug was a sophomore, the Holy Name Boys' Basketball team won the state championship, the first team from Central Mass ever to do so. After Holy Name came Nichols College, where Doug won the '75-'76 Gary McNulty Award for "Outstanding Male Freshman Athlete" and was later named to the "Nichols College Men's Basketball All-Time Roster." Post graduation from Nichols, Doug became an inspector at Wyman Gordon Company, while still enjoying his time in men's leagues and the Brotherhood Flag Football Team. When he retired, Doug moved to North Carolina. Golf had become a passion for him and now he could play three seasons of the year, mostly at the Goldsboro Municipal Golf Course. Sadly, this induction is a posthumous honor as Doug passed away in his home on July 22, 2025. Doug's legacy of involvement with the Boys & Girls Club of Worcester continues with his daughter, Professor Jennifer Safford. Jen has been a Club Corporator for many years and manages the partnership between the Youth Worker Training Institute at Clark University (an effort to develop participants' youth-work skills) and the Boys & Girls Club of Worcester (where participants meet weekly for training).

HONORING PAST ALUMNI HALL OF FAME



JOSEPH RUSECKAS

Joe, a 2001 Hall of Fame inductee, learned how to fly at the Worcester Airport and was a pilot during World War II for the Army Air Corps. In 1948 David Clark Company, a firm in Worcester that focused on the development and manufacture of high-altitude suits worn by pilots and astronauts, hired Joe. Over the next 38 years Joe had a hand in the development and fielding of almost every pressure suit manufactured by the company. We think of Joe especially today, as David Clark, the company he helped succeed, prosper and endure, provided the orange "Orion Crew Survival System" suits worn by the four astronauts of the Artemis II crew in April.

COMMUNITY AWARDS

FRAN PISEGNA VOLUNTEER AWARD

DENNIS O'LEARY



Dennis O'Leary embodies the spirit of the Francis Piseгна Award through his lifelong commitment to the Boys & Girls Club, generous support, and belief in the power of opportunity for young people.

As the recipient of the 6th Annual Francis Piseгна Award, Dennis is recognized for his outstanding volunteerism and leadership. For more than five years, he has served on the Board of Directors, helping guide the organization's future through his work on the Facilities Committee and as Chair of the Architectural Design Committee for the proposed Great Brook Valley Clubhouse.

A former Club kid at the Ionic Avenue Clubhouse, Dennis credits the Boys & Girls Club with many of his favorite childhood memories. His personal connection to the Club continues to inspire his dedication today. Alongside his wife, Wendy, Dennis has generously supported the Club's capital campaign and other key initiatives, helping ensure future generations have access to the same opportunities that shaped his life. From Club kid to community leader, Dennis's journey is a powerful example of the lasting impact of the Boys & Girls Club. His leadership, generosity, and passion make him a truly deserving recipient of this honor.

FOUNDATION FOR THE FUTURE AWARD



**The Fred Harris
Daniels Foundation**



Be a Summer Hero

Every summer, the Boys & Girls Club of Worcester provides a safe, engaging space where youth can learn, grow, and thrive through enriching programs, mentorship, and life-changing opportunities.

Donations can be made online at bgcworchester.org/donate

\$3,000–\$11,000 | Sponsor a Field Trip

Field trips expose youth to new experiences, spark curiosity, and create lasting memories. For many of our members, these trips are their only opportunity to travel outside of Worcester.

- \$11,000 – Six Flags New England
- \$6,000 – Mystic Aquarium (Outreach Sites)
- \$5,000 – Museum of Science, Boston (Outreach Sites)
- \$4,500 – Southwick Zoo (2– Harrington & Outreach Sites)
- \$3,500 – Roller Kingdom (2– Harrington & Outreach Sites)
- \$2,500 – Trout Brook (Outreach Sites)
- \$2,500 – Survivor Week at Camp Laurel Wood

\$7,500 | Expand Access to Swim Safety

Provides **life-saving swim instruction for 150 youth** this summer, helping ensure every child has the skills and confidence to stay safe in and around water. Drowning is one of the leading causes of death for children in the United States—making swim education not just enriching, but essential.

\$3,500 | Sponsor a Summer Teen Job

Supports **eight weeks of employment for one teen**, including training, mentoring, and 20+ hours of work per week. These opportunities help teens build skills, earn income, and stay engaged during critical out-of-school time.

\$1,500 | Sponsor Meals for 100 Youth

Provides **1 week of lunches in Kid’s Café**. With **1 in 4 children in Worcester facing food insecurity**, this support ensures youth are nourished and ready to learn & play.

\$500 | Sponsor a Themed Summer Week

Themed weeks transform summer into meaningful learning experiences by blending fun with skill-building. Youth develop social connections, explore new ideas, and gain confidence in a supportive environment. Brings programming to life through engaging themed experiences such as:

- Disney Week
- Community Heroes Week
- Friendship & Kindness Week
- Great Futures Week
- “We Got Talent” Week
- America’s 250th Birthday Celebration

\$350 | Sponsor a Campership

Covers the **true weekly cost of one child’s summer experience**, including swim instruction, athletics, arts, and outdoor activities. While families pay just \$40/week, the actual cost is \$350—your support bridges that gap.

\$100 | Sponsor 2 Club Memberships or 10 Teen Memberships

Provides **two youth with year-round access** to programs including athletics, arts, academic support, job readiness, and Kid’s Café.

Provides **10 teen memberships**, ensuring teens have access to a safe space, workforce readiness programs, and leadership opportunities.

GREAT FUTURES START **HERE.**



BOYS & GIRLS CLUB
OF WORCESTER



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