

*Leopolis Baseball Club  
Hall of Fame  
Inductees*



**July 16, 2017**

Hall of Fame Committee Members  
*Orlie Pederson - Chairman, Joe DeBaker - Secretary, Pete Kucksdorf,  
Tom Kristof, Rick Otto, Roger Peterson, and Bob Kristof*

## IN MEMORIAM

**Since our last HOF ceremony, we share in the heartache and loss of numerous family members and Bulldog supporters.**

Former Players: Jerry Ashenbrenner and Bill Zimdars

Spouses of former Players: Debbie Kristof and Bonnie Paisar

Moms of former players: Joyce Reminger and Helen Paisar

Other friends and family: Marsha DeBaker Milhorn, Dora Spiegel,  
Jan Papendorf, Donny Pleshek and John  
Brunner

**Thank you all for coming to the 2017 HOF Induction Ceremonies.**

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### **Welcome**

*Introduction of the Caroline Legion Color Guard*

*Introduction of the H. O. F. Committee*

*Wreath Laying – Moment of Silence*

*2017 Inductee Presentations*

*Closing*

*Let's all join in the singing of "God Bless America"*

Please join us for a Brat and Burger picnic lunch in the Shelter following the Ceremony!

## Memories

### *2004 Leopoldis Bulldogs*

Front Row L-R Tom Carroll, Dan Conradt, Jason Otto, Brandon Zahn, Jeff Blumreich, Kyle Hoffman, Tyler Schmidt, Gary Schick  
Back Row L-R Tom Kristof, Joe Prochaska, Brad Hanson, Craig Kamke, Mike Weatherwax, Bill Lohrentz, Todd Peterson  
Tom Kristof & Tyler Schmidt Managers. Bat Boy Ky Schmidt  
Missing Joe Kristof, Craig Rose



Tyler Schmidt and Billy Lohrentz



**LEOPOLIS BASEBALL  
HALL OF FAME**



**Peter Kucksdorf  
July 16, 2017**



## **Peter Kucksdorf**

Peter Kucksdorf started his baseball career in grade school & little league in the summers, coached by the likes of Swampy Steinke & Floyd Kristof. The little league teams were great, winning multiple championships. Peter comments “I was very lucky to have grown-up in a community like Leopolis. I remember a game where I struggled at the plate and the next day Doc Kristof gave me a bat he had cut out of a 1”X12” board telling me this would improve my chances of making contact with the ball. “

The next stage in Peters baseball career was Junior league where this activity bridged the gap between little league and high school baseball. At Marion High School in the 70’s, the coach was John Bartelt & conference titles were expected every year. Coach was a legend and Peter felt fortunate to play for him, playing third base throughout high school. Peter feels blessed to have played for Coach Bartelt, as he taught him many lessons that have served him well throughout his life.

Next came BABA and coaches Duane “Buckshot” Ashenbrenner followed by Bert Thiel. Peter played third base, some second base and even pitched a few games but most of his career was at first base. Peter felt the game played against Waupaca for the right to go to the Grand Championship was one of the best games he ever played in. Peter has many fond memories from those years. Peter batted just under .200 over a 15 year period with the Bulldogs.

The last stage began with running the Leopolis Little League for eleven years with his wife Judy, and they left it in great shape. Running the program meant everything from doing concessions to scheduling games, field manager, scheduling umps and of course coaching the games. Wife Judy made sure the details were covered so Peter would concentrate on coaching, and both did enjoy the boys & girls that played in the program.

Born Oct. 18, 1955 in Clintonville, to parents E.G.” Pete” & Joan Kucksdorf, making up a family of Five, sisters Kay, Judy, Mary Paul & and a brother Jack. Today Peter is married to his beautiful wife Judy and they have two wonderful sons, Stephen, married to Julie and they live in Wilton IA, & Ryan, married to Alyssa, live in Anoka MN. Today, Peter works for Walker Forge in Clintonville, helps out at the Leopolis Triathlon, and is a member of this Leopolis Baseball Hall of Fame Committee.

Peter notes: “I have been blessed by God to have had Baseball & this community in my life. All of the coaches have had a positive influence on my life. One of the things I like most about the game is that you need to be thinking about the next play & beyond before the ball is pitched. You must be prepared to make the correct decision depending on the result of the outcome between the pitcher & batter. But no matter the outcome you carry on.”

**The Leopolis Baseball Club is honored to Induct Peter into the Leopolis Baseball Hall of Fame.**

**LEOPOLIS BASEBALL  
HALL OF FAME**



**Tyler Schmidt  
July 16, 2017**

## **Tyler Schmidt**

At an early age, a boy named Tyler Schmidt picked up a baseball and bat and headed to a ball field wherever he was. Born June 6, 1976 in Shawano, to parents Corny and Gayle Schmidt, he is the youngest of 8 brothers and sisters - Maureen, Joann, Ray, Jim(Porky), Eileen, Danny, and Eric

Tyler grew up in the Pella/Leopolis Area until 1988...then moved to Shawano, where he lives today with his wife Heather, and kids Ky (20), Emma (18), Carter (14), Anderson (9), Ainsley (6)

Tyler played Baseball all 4 years and a year of Basketball for Shawano High School, lettering in Baseball. He helped Shawano High Qualify for the State High School Baseball tourney in 1994. He Also:

- Helped Shawano Legion qualify for State Legion Tourney 1992-1994
- Helped Shawano Legion win Class A State Legion Title 1994 (1st ever title for Shawano)
- Was Named State Legion MVP 1994

Tyler attended the University Of Wisconsin - Stevens Point and married his high school sweetheart, Miss Heather Boldt in August of 1997

Tyler's Bulldog Career spanned roughly 1989 – 2008, batting .222 and was an active Pitcher, Second Base, and Outfielder, playing with the likes of Jim Carroll, Kelly Thiel, Greg Carroll, Jeff Sousek, and Todd Peterson under the direction of manager Steve Conradt.

The 1995 Season sticks out to this generation...Lots of great games...Culminating in the Granny in Menominee. Memorable games include a First Win at 14 yrs old vs Gresham. A Complete Game! (Al Quinney let his bat go in 4th at bat after 4th Strikeout of the day), and a Makeup game played in Marion vs Tilleda where Tyler hit his one and only BABA homerun over centerfield. Going to the bar in Little Falls after a victory over the loggers and playing continuously on the Jukebox "throw another log on the fire"

Today Tyler works for City of Shawano as a Landfill Operator (21+ years) and in all that free time, he is President of Shawano School Board, President of Shawano Boys Hoops Basketball Program, Helps coach son Anderson's 9U baseball team, is a constant supporter of all the activities that 5 kids get into...Track, Cross Country, Basketball, Wrestling, Dance, Gymnastics, etc...Never a dull moment. Our family is very active and always on the go.

**The Leopolis Baseball Club is honored to Induct Tyler into the Leopolis Baseball Hall of Fame.**

# **LEOPOLIS BASEBALL HALL OF FAME**



**Billy Lohrentz**  
**July 16, 2017**



## **Billy Lohrentz**

Billy Lohrentz was born in July of 1968 to parents Lorraine and the late Walter Lohrentz, Billy has four brothers and two sisters, and grew up in Pella, where he continues to live today and enjoys his life working the family farm as his chosen profession.

Billy's baseball career took a while to get going. After a short stint playing little league with friends and brothers in Marion for John Bartlet's Little League team, Billy had Farm work to do and that was always first priority. When Billy got to High School, Coach Bartelt tried to get him to come out for baseball, but knew farming had to come first.

Then one day, Orlie Pederson contacted Billy when he was like 17 years old, to come play ball for the Leopolis Bulldogs, joining a group of talented players, including Matt and Adam Lorge, Joe Prochaska, John Twaroski, fellow 2017 HOF Inductee Tyler Schmidt, Todd Peterson, Tom Kristof and others. When others moved on, Billy stuck it out in Leopolis, where everyone remembers Billy as being unselfish and willing to do anything or play anywhere he was needed.

A number of people can remember Billy at every position, except catching and he concurs. "I don't ever remember getting down behind the plate"

Again, a number of fans remember the Chants from the grandstand, or maybe Fred Zimmerman by the beer stand... "Bring Billy in", as for some reason Billy had the knack of pitching in such a way to get batters out. It wasn't an overwhelming speed, but a well thought about pitch between catchers like Greg Carroll or Craig Kamke.

Billy batted at a .225 pace over some 20 plus seasons. Billy remembers hitting two home runs in one of the Coldest games ever played, in Bowler one year.

Today, the Bulldogs were fortunate to talk Billy off the farm field again, to come help manage the 2017 Bulldog squad.

**The Leopolis Baseball Club is honored to Induct Billy into the Leopolis Baseball Hall of Fame.**

**LEOPOLIS BASEBALL  
HALL OF FAME**



**Carol Peterson  
July 16, 2017  
FAN**

## **FAN**

### **Carol Peterson**

Known as BOOSTER CAROL, Carol Peterson has been the important figure in the Leopolis Booster Club scene since its inception. Carol spends long days and sleepless nights in organizing the Easter Egg Hunt, The Kid's Free Fishing day, The July 4<sup>th</sup> Triathlon activities, Shotgun Bowling at the Tober Farm, Cooking at the Caroline Colorama, arranging Santas Visit to Leopolis and delivering Fruit, Candy and Care packs to the elderly. She acts as Treasurer of Leopolis Booster Club.

Born June 18, 1938 in Oshkosh to parents Berwyn and Elizabeth Ryckman, Carol joined a family of 6 brothers and 8 sisters. At the age of 13, the family moved to a farm in the town of Richmond, and went to Shawano High School graduating in 1956.

Carol met her husband, our 2006 Bulldog Hall of Famer Roger Peterson, at a dance at the county park on Shawano Lake. They will be married 62 years on August 4<sup>th</sup>. Carol and Rogers children are: Sharon Helms, Barbara Carley, Roger Peterson Jr., Todd Peterson as well as 7 grandchildren, 3 great grandchildren

Carol worked as a bookkeeper for Stiers Hardware, Kucksdorf Construction and Jims Feed & Seed, retiring at the age of 62.

Carol is Treasurer of St. John Church Leopolis---Treasurer Ladies Aid, Advisory Member of TULP and Secretary of St. John Cemetery assoc.

Carol is a Member of Leopolis Fish & Game worked a number of years at Shawano Fair stand, and goes to most of the games for Leopolis Bulldogs, along with Little league when the boys were playing, and watching the Girls playing softball. In the old days, she remembers the wives of the ball players worked the beer stand during ballgames, when Roger was playing or coaching.

Carol loves to garden, bake goodies for the family & Church events, going to ball games, bowling in a ladies' afternoon league in Shawano and knitting.

**The Leopolis Baseball Club is honored to Induct Carol into the Leopolis Baseball Hall of Fame.**

# PAST LEOPOLIS BASEBALL HALL OF FAME INDUCTEES

*with year of induction*

|                                  |      |                                     |      |
|----------------------------------|------|-------------------------------------|------|
| 1946 Championship Team           | 2003 | Paiser, Arlie (Fan)                 | 2006 |
|                                  |      | Paiser, Harold                      | 2009 |
| Ashenbrenner, Duane "Buckshot"   | 2004 | Pederson, Orlin and Shirley (Fan)   | 2004 |
|                                  |      | Pederson, Orle                      | 2014 |
| Brunner, Albert "A.N."           | 2003 | Peterson, Carol (Fan)               | 2017 |
| Brunner, Emereth                 | 2014 | Peterson, Roger                     | 2006 |
|                                  |      | Pevonka, Orv                        | 2010 |
| Carroll, Gregg                   | 2013 |                                     |      |
| Carroll, Jim                     | 2011 | Reminger, John Jr                   | 2011 |
| Carroll, Leland and Sabina (Fan) | 2010 |                                     |      |
| Carroll, Pat                     | 2014 | Sazama, John                        | 2009 |
| Carroll, Thomas                  | 2015 | Sazama, Stanley                     | 2013 |
| Cervany, George                  | 2006 | Schultz, Jerry                      | 2007 |
| Clement, Frank                   | 2007 | Schmidt, Tyler                      | 2017 |
| Conradt, Marshall                | 2005 | Schmidt, Warren (Fan/Ump)           | 2015 |
| Conradt, Steve                   | 2013 | Sousek, Alex                        | 2003 |
|                                  |      | Sousek, Jeff                        | 2016 |
|                                  |      | Sousek, Milan                       | 2015 |
| DeBaker, Joe (Fan)               | 2014 | Sousek, Victor                      | 2015 |
|                                  |      | Stefl, Ty                           | 2004 |
| Heinl, Bob                       | 2011 | Steinke, Allen "Swamy"              | 2003 |
| Hoffman, Todd                    | 2012 | Steinke, Melvin "Butch"             | 2004 |
| Huebner, Wally                   | 2003 | Stezenski, Joe                      | 2004 |
| Kazda, Pat                       | 2008 |                                     |      |
| Kresl, Matt                      | 2006 | Thiel, Art                          | 2003 |
| Kristof, Allen Sr.               | 2004 | Thiel, Bert                         | 2004 |
| Kristof, Carol and Rita (Fan)    | 2007 | Thiel, Brian                        | 2012 |
| Kristof, Floyd                   | 2003 | Thiel, Kelly                        | 2010 |
| Kristof, Frank and Bonnie (Fan)  | 2016 | Thiel, Kevin                        | 2008 |
| Kristof, Jim                     | 2013 |                                     |      |
| Kristof, Peter                   | 2007 | Vierbicher, Roland "Red"            | 2005 |
| Kristof, Steve                   | 2005 |                                     |      |
| Kristof, Tom Sr.                 | 2003 | Westphal, Orville                   | 2010 |
| Kristof, Veronica (Fan)          | 2008 |                                     |      |
| Kucksdorf, Peter                 | 2017 | Zimdars, Ron                        | 2009 |
|                                  |      | Zimdars, Bill, Sylvia, Shelly (Fan) | 2011 |
| Lohrentz, Billy                  | 2017 |                                     |      |
| Messherschmidt, Art (Fan)        | 2004 |                                     |      |
| Mitchell, William "Billy"        | 2005 |                                     |      |
| Otto, Rick                       | 2008 |                                     |      |
| Otto, Vern "Nails" (Fan)         | 2005 |                                     |      |