

# CENTER COURT

Newsletter of the

## Connecticut Women's Basketball Hall of Fame

DATE: March 2005

Ann Fariss, Executive Director/Founder  
Louise Albrecht, Treasurer/Founder/Membership  
Linda Wooster, Secretary/Founder  
Lee Franzman, Nominating Chairperson  
Brenda Reilly, Founder (Posthumus)  
Laura Degennaro Raftery, Board Member/Scribner

Tony Candido, Fund Raising Chairperson/Founder  
Lynn Spagnesi, Computer Consultant  
Jean Hunt, Historian/Archivist  
Marge Dolan, Board Member  
Pat Nicol, Editor, *Center Court*

**EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR NEWS.....** On behalf of our Executive Board, I thank you for your support of the Connecticut Women's Basketball Hall of Fame. It has been an honor and privilege for me to serve as Executive Director. No one ever serves as President of any organization without tremendous support from many people. I would like to take this opportunity to publicly thank a few of the many: Louise Albrecht, Linda Wooster, Lee Franzman, Tony Candido, Jean Hunt, Pat Nicol, Lynn Spagnesi, Marge Dolan, and Laura Degennaro Raftery.

While we are very proud of the **CWBHF** achievements over the past seventeen (17) years, there still remains an even greater job to do. We do not want to become complacent, and the next 17 years will be a challenge.

This year we will be celebrating our 18<sup>th</sup> anniversary, and we want you to be a part of the celebration. We are working on a strategic plan for the future and want you to be involved. With your help, I believe we can accomplish our goal of honoring the past, celebrating the present and embracing our future. If you have any suggestions, please forward them to me at the address listed later in this newsletter.

Mark your calendars and join us on April 20<sup>th</sup> to celebrate those who have given so much to girls and women's basketball in the State of Connecticut. Please plan on visiting the home of the **CWBHF** at Central Connecticut State University. Thank you so much.....

Ann V. Fariss  
PHD

**DRIBBLE...** As mentioned, the Connecticut Women's Basketball Hall of Fame will be celebrating its 18<sup>th</sup> year and sixth of the new millennium on Wednesday, April 20, 2005 at 500 Blake Street Café in New Haven. Our 17<sup>th</sup> annual celebration "taps off" at 6:00 p.m. with a cash bar, followed by dinner and our induction ceremony. As you remember, this event is a wonderful opportunity to reminisce and renew old friendships, meet some new friends and recognize those individuals who have laid the foundation and continue to promote and support athletic opportunities that presently exist for so many Connecticut women. The evening will also serve to honor seven outstanding new individuals who have assisted tremendously in bringing acclaim, honor and distinction to the sport of women's basketball in our state. As always, we welcome your input and support throughout the year, and especially your attendance at our banquet to acknowledge those special people who have contributed so much. We hope to see you on the 20th.

.....Please be advised that your tickets will not be mailed to you. You may pick up your tickets at the door upon arrival on April 20.

### 2005 Inductees...

Mr. Dave Maloney-----High School Coach  
Ms .Lauri Kulo-Mathieu----- High School Player  
Ms. Willie Roze----- College Player  
Ms. Diane Nolan ----- College Coach  
Ms. Judy Deeb----- Referee  
Ms. Carol Stiff-----Honorary

**For information and reservations concerning this year's celebration, please contact Ann Fariss at 76 W. Hillside Ave., Stratford, CT 06615 (Tel: 203-378-6581) or e-mail [TTHECHARN@AOL.COM](mailto:TTHECHARN@AOL.COM)**

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**Savor The Evening Forever:** If you would like to purchase pictures of the evening's festivities you can purchase on line at [www.barbaraellen.com](http://www.barbaraellen.com) - Click on gallery...special events ..... hall of fame. The photos will be available within 5 days of the banquet and will stay on the site for 30 days.

**Picking Your Brain:** The Hall of Fame Committee welcomes your suggestions of the names of those individuals, past and present, who have been trend setters or pioneers in the promotion/support of CT women's basketball. We realize there are many unsung heroes out there and we wish to recognize their efforts.

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**In Memory....** To keep her passion for excellence alive, the Connecticut Women's Basketball Hall of Fame will once again proudly announce the recipient of the **Brenda Reilly Memorial High School Award** . This award is given annually to the outstanding high school girls' basketball team in the State of Connecticut. A selection committee comprised of members of the Executive Board of the Hall of Fame selects the high school using specific criteria. The coach of the selected team, as well as a team representative, will be the guests of the Hall of Fame during our annual banquet. This award is in honor of Dr. Brenda Reilly, Associate Athletic Director of Central Connecticut State University and one of the founders of the Connecticut Women's Basketball Hall of Fame. The recipient of this year's **Brenda Reilly Memorial High school award** will be announced at the Hall of Fame Banquet.

**In Addition:** The **Brenda Reilly Youth Camp Scholarship** will be awarded to a young girl to attend a summer basketball camp in Connecticut. The camp selected will rotate throughout the State of Connecticut and the recipient and her parents or guardian will be the guests of the CWBBHF at our annual banquet. The **Northwest Basketball Camp** of Coach **Candy Perez** , located in Windsor, CT has been selected for the 2005 scholarship recipient.

**Home for the Hall:** As you may know, the Hall of Fame/Brenda Reilly Gallery has found a home. The Hall is permanently housed in the lobby of Kaiser Gymnasium on the campus of Central Connecticut State University. The designated area is ideal as it will be visible to all who come through the doors. Visitors will be treated to the history of the great events, athletic achievements and individuals who have contributed to the unprecedented success of Connecticut women's basketball.. A very special thanks to Ann Fariss, Louise Albrecht and the Central Connecticut Administration for their efforts in turning a dream into reality. We encourage you to visit this outstanding tribute to the sport we love so dearly. . ([Images From "THE HALL"](#))

**Reminder: Tune in to the CWBHOF website.....** Through the outstanding efforts of Lynn Spagnesi, our website continues to provide the "history" of the organization, pictures and biographies of all Hall of Fame Inductees, the CWBHF constitution, a page on the banquet's ceremony, the committee members, newsletters, upcoming events and much, much more. This informative site is a great resource for those wishing to learn about the history and development of Women's Basketball in the state of Connecticut. You are invited to join us at <http://ctwomensbasketballhalloffame.com>

**Recipients:** The Financial recipients from the highly successful 2004 Reilly Golf Tournament were the women's Sports Foundation, CCSU Women's Athletic Scholarship Program and the CWBHF. If you would care to donate items for the prizes or be a sponsor of this worthy event, please let us know.

**Contribution to the Cause.....**The **CWBHF** Committee is determined to provide maximum service to/for Connecticut Women's Basketball. To give you the best we have to give and to stay abreast with the increasing demands of operating our initiatives, we would welcome any financial contributions to defray our operating costs. **CWBHF** is a **Section 501c(3) TAX ORGANIZATION**. Certain Contributions to **CWBHF** may be deductible to the person making the contribution. The **CWBHF** recommends that a person consult with his/her legal advisors as to the deductibility of the donation. If interested in donating, please contact Louise Albrecht at 203.256.0930. Thank You!