

2009 Senior Tributes

These 7 graduates swam a combined 92 years for Hallowell, with most of them swimming in 100 meets or more over these past 14 years. During this time, Hallowell won 8 division titles, including the penultimate Division A championship crown in 2004.

DJ Carswell & Shannon Krehbiel

DJ & Shannon returned home to Hallowell this year after spending the past year at college, DJ at Auburn University and Shannon at the University of Maryland. While competing in their final year of MCSL competition this year, they also served as preteam coaches, team choreographers, head cheerleaders and lead dancers in all team skits. It's truly hard to imagine a halftime performance without them but hopefully they'll keep coaching so we won't have to. Thanks for returning one more year.

Connor Gorman

Connor Gorman is the official Dara Torres of Hallowell. Just when you think he's too old to join, he returns after a 5 year retirement for his final year of eligibility to compete amongst the league's fastest group of 15-18 boys and earn a spot in today's meet.

Conner's first stint with the Hurricanes began in 1996 at the age of 6. He was an instant contributor to the team's meteoric rise through MCSL, qualifying for individual and relay all stars several times in his early years. In 2001, he teamed with fellow graduates Katie, Blair & Brady to reign as the 9-10 mixed free relay champions. Once Hallowell captured the Division A Trophy in 2004, the entire Gorman clan decided to retire on top, not to be seen again until this year.

Connor graduated in 2008 from Good Counsel High School, where he played football and lacrosse for 2 years, was a member of the National Honor Society and otherwise known for general merry making.

In the fall, he returns for his sophomore year to that other college in Virginia – the one with the really ugly color combination – where he's studying business management.

Connor it was a pleasure having you and your family back as part of our team this year, even if you are dokie hokie. It's not easy to come back after being out of the water for 5 years, but you and Dara both make it look easy.

Blair Webb

By joining Hallowell in 2000, Blair and her family succumbed to the ultimate peer pressure. Her swimming career actually began with the Argyle Alligators, a member of the Country Club Swim and Dive League at the age of 5. Her success at Argyle led her to begin swimming with RMSC as a mini, which is where she

met Coach Jessica and many of her fellow Hallowell graduates and their families and quickly came to realize that her swimming career wouldn't be complete without joining Hallowell and swimming in the MCSL.

Blair quickly made her mark on the team and the league by breaking the 8 & under MCSL breaststroke record right here in Hallowell pool that same year. That was one of many records Blair has broken through the years--she currently holds 20 out of 25 team records for girls events, and has a top 3 time in the other 5 events. And that's just our record board. But perhaps Blair is best known on all of her teams as the one you want anchoring your relay. She has mounted incredible relay comebacks in PVS, MCSL, high school and country club meets, proving to other teams time and again that no lead is safe when Blair is the anchor.

In addition to swimming for Hallowell, RMSC and Argyle all these years, Blair was a 4-year member of the Good Counsel Lady Falcons, serving as co-captain her senior year. She competed all four years in the DC high school Metros meet, as well as the National Catholic High School meet, where she was a two-time champion in 2009. At Good Counsel, Blair also was a member of the National Honor Society, a Xaverian leader, PVS Scholar and Maryland State Scholar.

She leaves in September to become a Quaker at the University of Pennsylvania in Philadelphia, where she plans to study finance and accounting. Word has it she may be using her swim talents next summer as a beach lifeguard in Bethany, though we're hoping she'll succumb to one more year of peer pressure and return next year. If not, Hallowell would also like to thank her parents Jim and Lori for their many years of service, especially the wonderful parent parties they have hosted through the years.

Katie Murray

Katie joined the team in 1999 at the age of 7 and quickly became one of Hallowell's "frequent flyers." During her 11 years with the team, she qualified for All-stars and the Coaches Invitational Long Course event numerous times, predominantly in the fly events, where she also set many new team time standards along the way. She was a participant in several Hallowell champion relays, including 2001 as mentioned earlier with Conner and in the 9-10 mixed free champion again in 2002 along with fellow graduates Blair and Frankie, and in 2004, set a new MCSL record in the 11-12 mixed free relay with Blair, and teammates Eric Conrad and Michael Anderson.

At age 8, Katie began swimming for RMSC in Olney, moving up the ranks through Minis, Juniors, the National Development Group and onto the National Training Group where she trains today. She was a 4-year participant and metros qualifier for the Good Counsel swim team, serving as co-captain her senior year. No matter what team she was competing for, you could count on Katie to swim with a smile on her face and to be seen on deck cheering on her teammates.

At Good Counsel, Katie also was a member of the National Honor Society, selected an Xaverian Leader, PVS Scholar Athlete, All Scholastic Scholar and a Cigna Society Scholar.

Her swimming career will continue at ACC-rival Boston College this September, where she plans to study Arts & Sciences. After that, we certainly hope to see Katie on deck here at Hallowell next summer to close out her MCSL career. In the meantime, Katie, we'll see you at ACC's!

Frankie Suthard

Frankie joined Hallowell in 1995, but let's face it, he really didn't have a choice as his 4 older sisters were on the team and his mother was probably already a team rep. Another one of Hallowell's frequent flyers, Frankie earned his first of several appearances in the Coaches Invitational Long Course and All Star events at age 8.

During his 14 years with Hallowell, you could count on Frankie to attack every single race, giving everything he has. He also has proven himself again and again to be the consummate teammate. He's known to be the first to bring a towel to the end of your lane when your suit rips during your race; he can do the absolute best breath-holding Brad Coyle imitation when leading the Hail Hallowell cheer; and, even when not truly in swim shape, he can knock out just the right 50 fly relay split that your team needs to beat out the competition. As a founding member of the 4WR group, Frankie is also famous in these parts for making teammates lawns look as if they've been hit by a snowstorm in July. Perhaps the 4WR will go on a reunion tour sometime before the season is over.

In addition to swimming for Hallowell, Frankie swam RMSC for 10 years, and was a participant in both the National Development and Advanced Senior Groups. He also swam for Sherwood High School for 2 years before donning cleats and becoming a soccer star, both for Sherwood and county club teams. A natural athlete, Frankie demonstrated the same natural leadership qualities on dry land as we've always admired at the pool.

Frankie graduated from Sherwood High School this year and in September will become a Pirate, as he enrolls at East Carolina University.

Now to be clear, Frankie has another year of MCSL eligibility. However, on the off chance that he does not return next summer, it's impossible to not take this opportunity to acknowledge the tremendous contributions of Angie & Greg Suthard. Angie has been Hallowell's team rep for forever – and I mean that literally. No one could possibly know the thousands of hours she has spent coordinating the details of this team, dating back to the pre-automation days when she would spend hours each week simply filling out the entry cards for each and every swimmer in each and every race. She has attended dozens of MCSL meetings throughout the years, efficiently meet managed numerous

divisionals and relay carnivals and quietly tended to the many details of running a team this size. Anyone who has worked closely with Angie soon learns two things about her: that she has the most generous of hearts and that she can survive on less sleep than any other living creature in the world. Greg has been a quiet and vital contributor as well, including being our top parking attendant and balloon picker-upper, and performing all other duties as assigned by Angie.

To the entire Suthard clan – you’ve made an indelible impression on our team. It’s hard to imagine Hallowell without you.

Brady Fox

Brady joined the team in 1996 at the encouragement of team parent Dave Krehbiel and former coach Marsha Cruscio after they watched him win his 5 & under kickboard race at a Lake Hallowell Popsicle meet – he stuck out because he was the one not using a kickboard. In 1997, at age 6, he qualified to swim in his first divisionals meet when Hallowell was in Division M, and has gone on to swim in every divisionals since. He has competed in 11 straight Coaches Invitational Long Course meets, setting a few meet records along the way, in addition to qualifying for every Individual All Star meets since age 8. This summer will mark his 12th straight opportunity to represent Hallowell as a member of at least one All-Star Relay, always one of his favorite meets. Last year, Brady had perhaps the best double-double in MCSL history, setting 3 league individual records at divisionals, followed by 2 more league records the following week at Individual All-stars.

In his younger days, Brady demonstrated talent out of the water as well, performing Swimming USA and Mambo No. 5 as a member of the Hallowell Boys in the team’s annual talent show. He and Frankie’s participation in the famous Hallowell God skit is legendary, and Brady is even rumored to have made an appearance as Chicken Man at a Flower Valley Meet a few years ago, performing a near-famous belly flop into their well. There may still be some chicken feathers in their pool drain.

Outside of Hallowell, Brady competed for RMSC for the past 11 years, Argyle Country Club for 5 years and for Georgetown Prep for 4 years. He also had the honor of participating on the U.S. Junior National Team in Australia in 2008 and was the first Hurricane to qualify to swim at U.S. Olympic Trials. Brady graduated from Prep this spring, and now heads to the University of Virginia to further his athletic and academic careers while pursuing a career in business.

To Frankie, Katie, & Blair – you know we’d like nothing more than to have you guys back next year. To all of our graduates – your impact on this team is measured in much more than points, ribbons or trophies. I’m sure everyone here would agree that it has been an indescribable pleasure to watch you compete in the water and perform on the pool deck. You will be greatly missed.