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Portland Boxing Club's May 2019 Newsletter.

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PORTLAND BOXING CLUB

1992 ★ MAKING CHAMPIONS & GOOD CITIZENS FOR 25 YEARS ★ 2017



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the Lawrence Exchange Club Charity Fight Night on April 20, 2019. Faria won by TKO in the second round. *Photo courtesy Kineo Photography.*

Lawrence Exchange Club Charity Fight Night

Portland Boxing Club's Wade Faria and Josniel Castro competed at the Lawrence Exchange Club's Charity Fight Night on Saturday April 20, 2019 at the Double Tree Hotel in Andover, MA.

PBC's Wade Faria, a novice class middleweight (165 lbs) of Portland, won by referee stopped competition (TKO) at 2:48 in the second round over William Maumann, of West Point, NY. Faria dominated Maumann, scoring knockdowns in the first and second round before the referee had seen enough and stopped the fight. In his three bouts as an amateur, Faria has scored nine standing eight counts/knockdowns.

PBC's Josniel Castro, an open class elite middleweight (165 lbs) of Westbrook, won by a 4-1 majority decision over Luca Botis, of West Point, NY. Castro was clearly the better and faster boxer, controlling the action with sharp combinations and good lateral movements for the entire fight. Castro was also awarded the "Outstanding Boxer of the Night" award.

Portland Boxing Club was happy to participate in this annual event where proceeds benefited the Lawrence Exchange Club which focuses its programs of service on Americanism, Community Service, Youth Programs and the Prevention of Child Abuse.

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Portland Boxing Club's Josniel Castro, left, and West Point's Luca Botis, right, at the Lawrence Exchange Club Charity Fight Night on April 20, 2019. Castro won by majority decision. *Photo courtesy Kineo Photography.*

Asphalt Needed

Going to the Portland Boxing Club isn't for the faint of heart. This doesn't just refer to stepping into the ring, it takes great skill, determination and maneuvering to traverse the road to the gym! The past several winters have been hard on the quarter mile long road and it is in desperate need of repair.

If you know of someone in the paving industry who has leftover asphalt after jobs, please put them in touch with us! The Portland Boxing Club (and all the members who travel the road there) would greatly appreciate any donations of asphalt. Maybe you only have enough to fill one or two of the potholes, but

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Please contact Bobby Russo at pbcboxing@maine.rr.com or 207-415-2872 for more information or if you may have some asphalt that could be donated.



Members of Portland Boxing Club's amateur boxing team Mario Wilborn, left, and Josniel Castro, right, sparring at the Portland Boxing Club. *Photo courtesy Kineo Photography.*

Volunteer Nutritionist Needed

You can't out train a bad diet! Maintaining fighting weight is one of the hardest challenges for many of Portland Boxing Club's amateur boxers and proper nutrition habits are essential to being a successful boxer. Portland

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maintaining a proper meal plan.

This would be a great opportunity for someone needing clinical hours finishing their training in a nutrition field! If you are interested in volunteering, please contact Bobby Russo at pbcboxing@maine.rr.com or 207-415-2872.



Nate Nappi (right) is coordinating Portland Boxing Club's social media campaign. He is seen here in the Novice Finals at the 2019 New England Golden Gloves. *Photo credit Kineo Photography.*

Portland Boxing Club Social Media

Portland Boxing Club is increasing the club's social media presence. As a non-profit organization, Portland Boxing Club relies heavily on sponsors and donations. Increased exposure through social media platforms such as Facebook and Instagram can help lead to more donation dollars for the club! The gym regularly posts photos and updates about our boxers and apparel available for instant purchase through our online store. Ordering your favorite Portland Boxing Club merchandise has never been easier!

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at www.facebook.com/portlandboxing and www.instagram.com/portlandboxing
We encourage you to tag the gym's accounts either on Instagram or Facebook for any boxing related post/pictures you post!



Professional boxer Casey Streeter laces up his shoes before getting into the ring at the Portland Boxing Club just six months after a log truck's grapple claw almost severed his leg. Streeter, 27, has trained at the gym since he was 12. *Photo courtesy Troy R. Bennett, Bangor Daily News.*

Maine Boxer Who Was Mangled By Log Truck Returns To The Ring

Laying at the bottom of the ditch, Casey Streeter thought he might die. Blood gushed from his leg, mangled by a log truck's grappling claw. While he tried to staunch the flood with his hand, Streeter's mind flew to his wife and two small children. He hoped he hadn't seen them for the last time.

Then, he thought of his boxing career. If he lived, could he ever fight again?

Last week, Streeter, 27, got closer to an answer as he sparred in the ring for the first time since his accident, six months ago. It's an incremental, but important, step on the journey back to professional fighting for the four-time New England Golden Gloves winner.

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while training at the Portland Boxing Club at Morrill's Corner in Portland on Wednesday.

Bob Russo, owner of the club and his trainer since the age of 12, was beaming from behind the counter. "He'd box even if he was one-legged," said Russo.

Later, Streeter admitted that his reconstructed knee did ache a little — but insisted that wasn't going to stop him. His goal is to be ready for another pro fight at the boxing club's big annual event in November.

"I want to be a champion, win a title, no matter how long it takes me," said Streeter. "This hasn't changed my mind at all."

'I'm going to die'

Streeter, who lives in Raymond, was working his next-to-last day as an arborist when the accident happened on Aug. 1 of last year. He was due to start a new job as a corrections officer in just a few days.

He and a foreman were dragging logs out of a ditch in North Yarmouth. Streeter was in the ditch with a log chain. He wrapped one end of the chain around the felled tree trunk and was walking the other end up to the log truck's grapple — a claw on the end of an arm. The foreman operating the grapple couldn't see him.

That's when the grapple's metal fingers squeezed together.

"I felt the claw close and it sucked my leg in," said Streeter. "I heard my femur and my knee blow into a million pieces, and I watched my femur pop out of my leg. I grabbed my broken femur and shoved it back into where I thought it was supposed to be."

After the grapple removed a chunk of his right leg, Streeter collapsed and tumbled down into the ditch, getting wrapped up in the log chain as he went. Blood poured from the wound. The claw had missed his femoral artery by a quarter inch.

When the foreman realized something was wrong, he found Streeter at the bottom of the ditch.

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The foreman tried but he had no cell signal. So he ran to a nearby house, found someone and used their phone.

“I didn’t even know if I was going to live. I had all these thoughts of my kids, my wife, running through my head,” said Streeter. “I hadn’t seen them that morning [before I went to work] and I thought, this is how I’m going to end my life.”

Casey Streeter stands near the ring at the Portland Boxing Club last week, wrapping his hands before working out. The club has been Streeter's second home since he was 12.

Streeter kept his hands over the wound until the ambulance arrived. When he got to Maine Medical Center, doctors were at first unsure he’d be able to keep his lower leg, it was so mangled.

Lucky for Streeter, Dr. Matthew Camuso was working at the hospital that morning. Camuso is an orthopedic trauma surgeon with battlefield experience in Iraq. He was a naval officer with Bravo Surgical Company in Fallujah in 2004 and 2005. Bravo Company also has a nickname: “Cheaters of Death.”

“He told me I was going to be alright,” said Streeter, “that I wasn’t going to lose my leg.”

Camuso was true to his word. With the help of more than 20 metal pins and rods, Streeter said the doctor put his leg back together.

A hospital spokeswoman confirmed Camuso’s military service, but could not confirm that Streeter was a patient, citing patient confidentiality rules.

“Now I have titanium all through my leg, holding it together,” said Streeter. “It’ll be there the rest of my life.”

Recovery

As soon as he was out of surgery, his leg intact, Streeter knew what his goal was: “I said [to myself], no question, I am going to box again.”

years.

He had to have a bone graft taken from his hip, replacing the chunk the grapple took out of his femur. While doing that surgery, doctors discovered a serious infection that threatened his recovery. It had to be lanced, drained and treated with antibiotics.

Then came crutches and months of sometimes painful physical therapy. Streeter was also diagnosed with serious post traumatic stress disorder. He's still getting help for that.

"I spend a lot of days crying at home, having flashbacks," said Streeter.

Russo wasn't always so sure Streeter would ever make it back to the gym, let alone the ring.

"It just seemed like such a devastating injury, especially with him," said Russo. "A major component in his boxing style is his lateral movement."

In the ring, Streeter keeps moving. He uses his fast feet to tire his opponents. It's also his injured right leg that he pushes off on when throwing punches.

Russo, who lives and breathes boxing, has owned the Portland Boxing Club for 27 years. As a kid, he was a glove boy for the long-running Thursday night fights at the historic Portland Exposition Building. His uncle was the Maine Boxing Commissioner who oversaw the famous Muhammad Ali-Sonny Liston fight in Lewiston back in 1965.

Russo's facility is not a boxing-themed health club. It's an old-school boxing gym. The floor is concrete, the walls are brick. There's no air conditioning and not much heat. While talking, Russo is interrupted every three minutes by a loud bell going off, simulating boxing rounds for workouts.

Below the speed bags, in red and black hand-painted letters, reads: Boxing is not just a sport, it's my life. Every boxer in the gym must face those words while punching the bags.

"I wrote those," said gym assistant Skip Neales, a slightly humped older man

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Streeter first showed back up at the gym — his second home — on Jan. 7. That was only four months after his accident and a few weeks off his crutches. He started working out, getting back into shape, sometimes alone. Russo gave him his own key to the gym.

“It just seemed like a big long shot that he’d ever be back,” said Russo, still looking at Streeter with some wonder. “But here he is, amazingly.”

On Friday, Streeter sparred with Brandon Berry, a fighter out of West Forks with 15 professional wins. Streeter beat Berry three times when they were still amateurs.

“I didn’t notice any difference today — and there should be” said Berry. “He’s right where he left off. His speed is perfect. He’s a class act. What a story.”

Motivation

Streeter — who used to fight under the surname Kramlich — had 50 amateur fights before Russo allowed him to turn pro in 2014. Since then, the super welterweight has been successful, winning nine, losing one and fighting another to a draw.

“He beat Ray Olivera Jr. in Rhode Island — a real upset,” said Russo. “He was on a roll.”

It was the high-ranked Olivera’s first loss. That’s part of what made Streeter’s accident so heartbreaking: He was on his way up in the boxing world and it’s a long way back.

For Streeter, it’s his family that keeps him going. He said his wife, Abby, is his biggest fan.

“My wife, my kids, they’re what motivate me. I think about them,” said Streeter. “I want to give my kids things that I didn’t have. I want big fights, to make good money, to provide a good life for them.”

He’s not ready to fight just yet but has his eyes set on November.

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When the newspaper interview came to an end, Streeter got up to go finish his workout. Just then, the gym assistant Nealer shuffled by with cleaning spray bottle in his hand.

“The big guy just wasn’t ready for you, that’s all,” he said, both offhanded and sagelike.

“Yeah, absolutely not,” said Streeter, not missing a beat. “I have more work to do.”

With that, he walked over to the heavy bag and started throwing punches.

This article by Troy R. Bennet first appeared in the [Bangor Daily News](#) on April 22, 2019. Reprinted with permission.

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Portland Boxing Club's Head Coach Bobby Russo, Josniel Castro, Wade Faria, Anthony Riga and Assistant Coach Ivan Papkee (left to right) at the Lawrence Exchange Club Charity Fight Night in Andover, MA on April 20, 2019. *Photo courtesy Durward Ferland.*

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The American Association for the Improvement of Boxing, Inc. (AAIB) is awarding scholarships to assist with tuition expenses and associated educational expenses, such as books. Applicants must be current or former amateur boxers in the United States, accepted by an accredited college or university, willing to authorize release of their school transcripts, and sponsored by a current AAIB Member.

Applicants are evaluated in the three areas of academic achievement, athletic achievement, community involvement, and need. Consideration is given in the area of community involvement to students who have after school jobs or family obligations. The AAIB Scholarship Committee determines winners after a careful review of all the applications. Applications for 2019 are due by May 31, 2019.

For more information, visit: <https://aaib.squarespace.com/scholarship>

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Saturday, May 4th, 2019



LOCATION

**109 HILLSIDE AVE, UNIT J
LONDONDERRY, NH 03053**





TIME

**DOORS & BAR OPEN AT 6:00 PM
SHOW STARTS AT 7:00 PM**



**GENERAL ADMISSION : \$20
CASH BAR ONLY! NO CREDIT CARDS**

TICKETS & INFORMATION

**For information about show & tickets: (603) 845-3773
For information about matches or to enter boxers,
contact Melissa: 617-372-2334**

www.thriveresults.com | e-mail: thriveresults@gmail.com

Upcoming Events

Thrive V

Portland Boxing Club amateur boxers will be competing at Thrive V on Saturday, May 4, 2019. Doors open at 6:00 pm and bouts start at 7:00 pm at the Thrive Boxing and Martial Arts Center in Londonderry, NH.

Lewiston Fight Night

Portland Boxing Club amateur boxers will be competing at Lewiston Fight Night on Saturday, May 25, 2019. Bouts start at 5:00 pm at the Longley Elementary School in Lewiston, ME.

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Jake LaMotta Framed Auto...

\$200 ~~\$220~~

1 in Stock



Micky Ward and Dicky Eklund...

\$100

1 in Stock

New Items Listed in the Portland Boxing Club Boxing Memorabilia and Collectables store include this autographed Jake LaMotta photograph with certificate of authenticity and a medicine ball autographed by Micky Ward and Dicky Eklund when they were at a Day One event in Portland, Maine.

Boxing Collectables and Memorabilia

Portland Boxing Club now has boxing collectables and memorabilia available for sale on-line. Current items listed include autographed boxing gloves from famous boxers such as Micky Ward, Dicky Eklund, Muhammad Ali, Jake LaMotta and Gerry Cooney along with local favorites such as Liz Leddy and Russell Lamour. Other items include vintage boxing magazines such as The Ring, KO Magazine, Boxing Illustrated and World Boxing from 1978 to 1992. Keep checking back as additional items are being added regularly.

Donations of boxing collectables and memorabilia are being accepted if you have items that you would like to contribute. "We have heard from people who want to make sure their collection goes to a good cause and from people who have been collecting for years and don't know what to do with their items. We will photograph them, research their value and offer them for sale to help PBC raise money," states Portland Boxing Club's President and Head Coach Bob Russo. All proceeds raised from the sale of these items go to supporting Portland Boxing Club's amateur boxing program.

The Boxing Collectables and Memorabilia page can be seen at

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T-SHIRT
from \$12.00



PERFORMANCE TANK TOPS
\$19.00 \$24.00

Check out the updated images of the Portland Boxing Club clothing in our on-line store. Plan ahead for summer - order your Portland Boxing Club tank tops and t-shirts now!

[PBC On-Line Store](#)

Portland Boxing Club's on-line store has a wide selection of merchandise featuring the Portland Boxing Club logo. These make great gifts for the hard-to-buy-for boxer or boxing fan in your life!

Spring Sale

Get ready for warmer weather! T-shirts are on sale starting at \$12. Boxing glove pendant necklaces are on sale for \$10. Special Limited Edition Portland Boxing Club KO Hot Sauce is on sale for \$5.

Check out these and the other store items at: [On-line Store](#)

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Help Support the Portland Boxing Club

Join the Red Corner Club! It is a great way to show your boxing pride and support the Portland Boxing Club. For an annual tax deductible donation of \$100 or greater, you can join this exclusive club of Portland Boxing Club supporters. The Red Corner Club is open to anyone who wants to support the Portland Boxing Club, including current and past members, boxing team alumni, fans and community supporters.

Benefits include: Portland Boxing Club Shirt with the Red Corner Club member logo, Recognition in Upcoming Souvenir Programs, Recognition in Portland Boxing Club Newsletters and Recognition at Portland Boxing Club Events.

Memberships can also be given as a gift! [Click here for more information and to join the Red Corner Club](#)

Red Corner Club Members

Thank you to the following new members of the Red Corner Club:

Gerry Zarrilli
Nicholas Lavigne

Thank you to the following members for renewing their Red Corner Club membership:

Alan Freedman

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Support Portland Boxing Club every time you shop on Amazon! **Select Portland Boxing Club as your charity** then when time you shop on Amazon, go to smile.amazon.com and Portland Boxing Club will receive a portion of the purchase price.

You shop. Amazon gives.
Click here to shop and Amazon.com will make a donation to us!

Membership

If you haven't been into the Portland Boxing Club recently, we welcome you to rejoin! If you are an active member, refer your friends! Membership information and Saturday boot camp information is available on our website.

[Membership Information](#)

PORTLAND BOXING CLUB
PORTLAND, MAINE CLUB
1992 - MAKING CHAMPIONS & GOOD CITIZENS FOR 25 YEARS - 2017

25 YEARS

WEEKLY SCHEDULE

MONDAY - FRIDAY	OPEN GYM 5:00 PM - 8:00 PM
FRIDAY	STRENGTH AND CONDITIONING 5:30 PM
SATURDAY	OPEN GYM 12:00 PM - 3:00 PM
SATURDAY	DROP IN CLASS 2:00 PM \$10.00

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