

**UNITED
STATES
TABLE
TENNIS
HALL
OF
FAME**

**FIRST ANNUAL
AWARDS INDUCTION BANQUET**

**SUNDAY
DECEMBER 16, 1979**

**CAESARS PALACE
LAS VEGAS, NEVADA**

Autographs

WELCOME!

Thank you for attending the first annual United States Table Tennis Hall of Fame Induction Banquet.

Tonight we recognize and honor players, officials and contributors who have distinguished themselves by their outstanding play or contribution to the sport of Table Tennis in the United States.

The Board of Directors of the U.S.T.T.A. Hall of Fame wish to express their sincere appreciation to Caesars Palace and the Advertisers whose kind and generous co-operation have made this U.S.T.T.A. Hall of Fame Induction Banquet a reality.



Jimmy McClure

President
Board of Directors
U.S.T.T.A. Hall of Fame

UNITED STATES TABLE TENNIS

HALL OF FAME

ESTABLISHED FRIDAY, JUNE 29, 1979

... "to honor and recognize table tennis members and contributors who have distinguished themselves through their participation or contribution to the sport of table tennis in the United States."

Compiled from records, minutes, correspondence, periodicals and news releases by . . .

Leah "Ping" Neuberger and Tim Boggan

Edited by . . .

William R. Haid, Jimmy McClure, Sol Schiff

PROGRAM

Invocation *Del Sweeris*

Dinner 7:30 pm

Awards Program 8:30 pm

Toastmaster Neil Smyth

Master of Ceremonies Jack Howard

Guest Appearance..... Joe Louis

1966 Original Inductees (To be re-inducted)

Ruth Hughes Aarons

Jimmy McClure

Dick Miles

Leah Neuberger

Sol Schiff

1979 Inductees

Players..... Abe Berenbaum

Robert "Bud" Blattner

Emily Fuller

Dolores Probert Kuenz

Lou Pagliaro

Sally Green Prouty

Jessie "Jay" Purves

Marcus Schusheim

Officials..... Elmer F. Cinnater

Coleman Clark

Contributors Detroit

General Sportcraft Co., Ltd.

This Souvenir Program is made available to you as compliments of the advertisers in the program and the Hall of Fame Board.

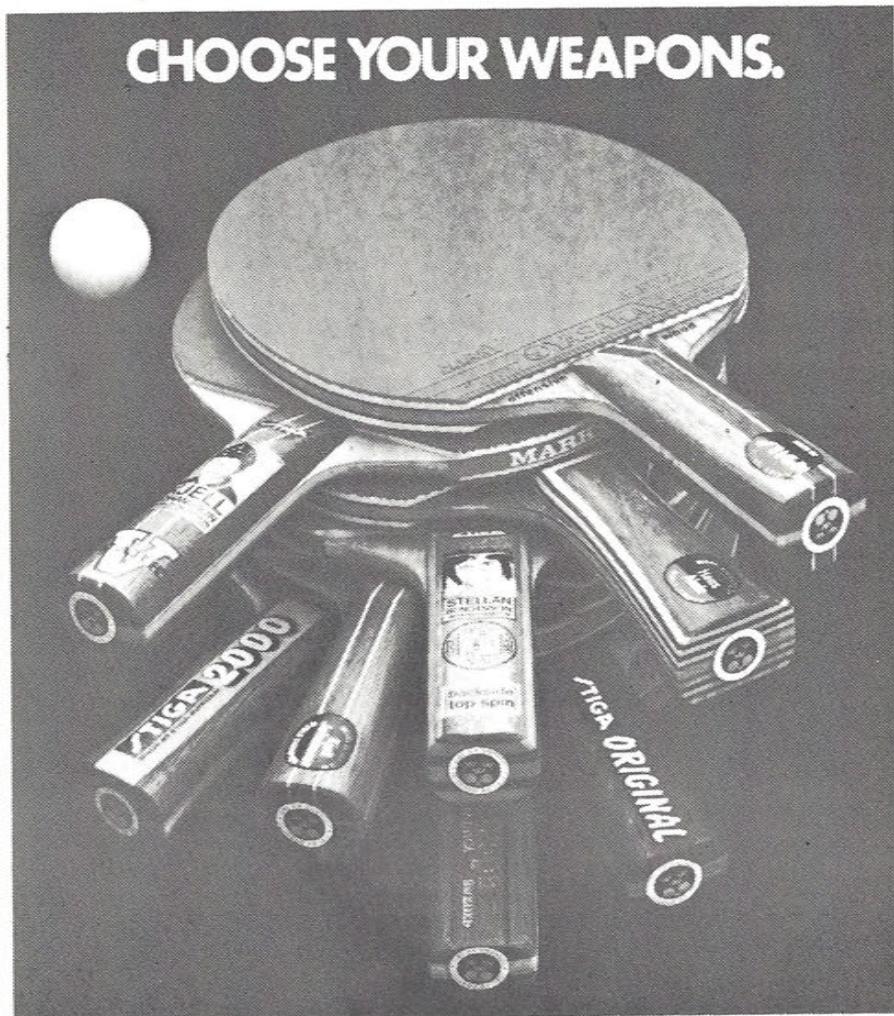
USTTA HALL OF FAME BOARD MEMBERS

President	Jimmy McClure <i>Indianapolis, Indiana</i>
Vice President	William R. Haid <i>St. Louis, Missouri</i>
Treasurer	John Read <i>Bloomington, Illinois</i>
Secretary	Steve Isaacson <i>Chicago, Illinois</i>
Ruth Aarons <i>Beverly Hills, Calif.</i>	Wally Gundlach <i>Marshfield, Mass.</i>
Tim Boggan <i>Merrick, New York</i>	Leah "Ping" Neuberger <i>New York, New York</i>
	Sol Schiff <i>New York, New York</i>

MENU

COLD:	Assorted Relishes Sliced Beefsteak Tomatoes Tossed Chef's Salad/Dressing Compote of Fresh Fruit Cold Cut Plate (Ham • Turkey • Roast Beef) Cole Slaw Potato Salad Assorted Cheese Board with Fresh Fruit
HOT:	Chicken Saute Chasseur Seafood Newberg Philadelphia Pepper Steak
DESSERT:	Christmas Dessert Mousse Rolls and Butter Coffee • Tea • Milk

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1966 HALL OF FAME INDUCTEES

On March 26, 1966 TENNIS Magazine paid honor to five members of the United States Table Tennis Association at the first induction to the U.S. Table Tennis Hall of Fame. The five Charter members inducted were; Ruth Hughes Aarons, Jimmy McClure, Dick Miles, Leah Neuberger and Sol Schiff. Steve Isaacson, a member of the USTTA and at that time associated with Tennis Magazine, was responsible for this initial founding; however the Hall of Fame was not continued nor were records kept.

With the reestablishment of the Hall of Fame, but under our own By-Laws, Constitution and Board of Directors, these five charter members are to be inducted.

PLAYERS



RUTH HUGHES AARONS Beverly Hills, Calif.

Charter Enshrinee - 1966

Represented U.S. in 2 World Championships • Winner World Women's Singles, 1936, 1937 • Winner Corbillon Cup 1937 • 3 British Titles • 9 U.S. National Titles • 2 U.S. Eastern Titles.

Ruth Aarons, a Stamford, Connecticut home town product, was known for her personification of grace and sang-froid, possessing that confidence and ability her opponents admired. Ruth was a fierce competitor with an unbelievable forehand never willing to settle for second best. She has never been defeated in a tournament. She still is the only American table tennis player who has won a World Singles title. Ruth was coached by Sandor Glancz her exhibition partner and Sam Silverman. Her mood and drive to always be a champion has carried into her life away from the tables to the promotion and direction in the field of entertainment thru Aarons Enterprises, Inc.



JIMMY McCLURE Indianapolis, Indiana

Charter Enshrinee - 1966

Represented U.S. in 7 World Championships • 4 World titles 1936, 1937, 1938 • Winner Swaythling Cup 1937 • 3 time World U.S. Captain • 6 U.S. National titles • 1 Canadian Championship • 1 U.S. Western title • 3 English Open titles • Represented U.S. to Canada 1947, 1949 • American Zone Champion

Jimmy McClure was considered the greatest competitor who ever played the game . . . he had a solid all-around game with a tremendous forehand . . . he played every point as if it was the match point. McClure ranked #1 in U.S.A. in 1936 won the World Doubles title in 3 consecutive championships. His success with the rackets carried over to tennis as a touring pro. For the last 25 years Jimmy has been a promoter and referee of the U.S. Open National Clay Court Tennis Championships. He has owned the Jimmy McClure Table Tennis Company for the past 39 years in which he has supported table tennis in the USA.

DICK MILES

New York, New York

Charter Enshrinee - 1966

Represented U.S. in 7 World Championships • 1 World title 1948 • 17 U.S. National Open titles • 11 U.S. Eastern titles • Represented New York which won 5 Intercities • 2 Canadian Championships • 1 English Open Championship.



Dick Miles' decision, early in life, to choose a career between "Tea Table Tennis," "Stickball," or "Golf" led to his fame as a table tennis champion. Lou Pagliaro's technique had a great influence on Miles' game. In 1945, at 19, Dick became one of the youngest players ever to win the U.S. men's singles title. Victories came through his ability to stop his opponent's offensive with his great backhand and forehand chop. Dick has been associated with Sports Illustrated and ABC Wide World of Sports for many years. He is president of the Dick Miles Company in New York and distributor of table tennis equipment bearing his name.

LEAH NEUBERGER

New York, New York

Charter Enshrinee - 1966

Represented U.S. in 8 World Championships • 1 World title 1956 • 2 Maccabiah Games titles • 1 English Open title • 41 Canadian Championships • 31 U.S. National titles • 39 U.S. Eastern titles • 12 U.S. Western titles • Represented New York in 13 Intercities



Leah "Ping" Neuberger, a native of Ohio who made good in a big way by winning more championship titles than any woman table tennis player in America. Her achievements as a player and her beautiful style, have distinguished her as one of the all time greats. Leah accompanied the Canadian Table Tennis Team to China in 1971, making her the first American table tennis player to visit China. This remarkable woman is the official Historienne of the USTTA and her invaluable contributions have aided in many USTTA publications.

SOL SCHIFF

Bronx, New York

Charter Enshrinee - 1966

Represented U.S. in 8 World Championships • 3 World titles 1935, 1937, 1938 • Winner of Swaythling Cup 1937 • NPC Captain 1963 U.S. Team to Worlds • 28 Canadian titles • 1 English title • 32 U.S. Nat'l titles • 26 U.S. Eastern titles • 2 Western titles • Represented New York which won 8 Intercities



Sol Schiff, known as "Mr. Table Tennis," has been actively playing table tennis for over 50 years and has been involved with the USTTA since its beginning in 1933. Sol was the outstanding player on the 1937 Men's victorious Swaythling Cup Team as he displayed the best offense in the world. He has been one of the foremost exhibition players in table tennis. Sol has performed before royalty and traveled with national sports and movie celebrities. Schiff, the president of the USTTA, with his vast experience in the sport, has proven invaluable as the organization's leader. Sol Schiff's table tennis company, distributor of equipment bearing his name, is a long-time supporter of the USTTA.

1979 HALL OF FAME INDUCTEES

For their contribution to the sport of table tennis, the Board of Directors of this now established Hall of Fame, is proud to induct this new group of eight players, two officials, and two contributors at this first annual awards banquet.

ABE BERENBAUM

New York, NY



Enshrined - 1979

Represented U.S. in 1937 World Championship • 1937 winner Swaythling Cup • 1 English Open title • 2 U.S. National titles • 2 U.S. Eastern titles • Represented New York that won 5 Intercity Championships.

Abe Berenbaum, Manhattan's bespectacled slender southpaw iron man, was a gentleman of few words who did his talking with his attack game and stonewall defense. Abe earned early success as he displayed the heaviest backhand chop of all players. He then developed a devastating attack style that eventually took him to a World's title. He was most emphatic that concentration on each point in a game is the difference between a good player and a champion.

ROBERT "BUD" BLATTNER

St. Louis, Missouri



Enshrined - 1979

Represented U.S. in 2 World Championships • 3 World Championship titles • 1937 winner Swaythling Cup • 1 English Open title • 2 U.S. National Open titles • Represented St. Louis in 3 Intercity Championships.

Bud Blattner has had an active athletic career for more than 40 years. He has twice won the Junior Davis Cup Tennis Championship of the mid-west. He and Jimmy McClure won the World's doubles title in 1936 and 1937. Bud was noted for his fierce cross forehand shots, clever drop shots, and blasting smashes. Agility and speed then played a big part in his baseball career with the Cardinals, Giants, and Phillies. Bud served for three and a half years with the Navy during World War II. Then came 26 years of baseball play-by-play broadcasting and 8 years of basketball broadcasting. Seventeen years ago Blattner conceived and developed the "Buddy Fund," which has acquired and distributed more than \$1,000,000 in athletic equipment made available to more than 12,000 youths.

EMILY FULLER

Bethlehem, Pennsylvania



Enshrined - 1979

Represented U.S. in 1937 World Championships • 1937 winner Corbillon Cup • 5 U.S. National titles • 6 U.S. Eastern titles • 1 U.S. Western title.

Emily Fuller received her schooling at a Seminary in Pennsylvania, her table tennis coaching in California and her voice training in New York. She won her first tournament in 1933, was coached by Sol Schiff and Sam Silverman and became a World champion in 1937, then retired in 1940. She was a favorite of spectators, a friend of players, and an extremely popular champion. Her classic beauty and quiet dignity, her rhythmic tennis strokes and footwork, all added charm to every tournament she entered. Emily is now deceased.

DELORES PROBERT KUENZ

St. Marys, Mo.

Enshrined - 1979

Represented U.S. in 1937 World Championship • 1937 winner Corbillon Cup • Represented U.S. in 1 English Open • 3 U.S. National titles • 2 U.S. Western titles • Represented St. Louis in 1 Intercity.



Dolores Kuenz, with a perfect 9-0 record against the most representative field of women players in this country, earned first right to accompany Ruth Aarons to Vienna where the U.S. team won the World's title and the Corbillon Cup. Dolores' big weapon was an aggressive forehand and backhand offensive. She dropped out of national competition in 1939 to start and raise her family of five. Dolores now has switched to the tennis and volleyball courts for weekly activity.

LOUIS PAGLIARO

Staten Island, New York

Enshrined - 1979

Represented U.S. in 2 World Championships • U.S. Team Captain to Canada 1953 • 4 U.S. National Open titles • 4 U.S. Eastern titles • Represented New York winning 7 Intercity Championships.



Lou Pagliaro, the "Mighty-Mite," standing 5 foot 2 and normally carrying 115 pounds, was a graduate of the Boys Club of New York. He owned a fearful devastating attack that drove his opponents and the crowds wild. "Paggy" was agile as a squirrel and felt his small stature was to his advantage as his eyes were close to the level of the table. Lou's solid game did not need much luck, yet he always wore his wife's ring for luck in tournament play. Pagliaro was noted in the beginning for his tremendous forehand but never reached the top until he gave up his offense and concentrated on developing the defense which brought him his fame and titles.

SALLY GREEN PROUTY

Northfield, Illinois

Enshrined - 1979

Represented U.S. in 1955 World Championships • Represented U.S. in 1 English Open and 1 German Open • 13 U.S. National titles • 1 U.S. Western title • Represented Illinois in 4 Intercity Championships.



Sally Green, a dark haired beauty, whose home town was originally St. Louis, Mo., began her career at 13 playing table tennis to loosen up her back she had sprained while diving. Her coach and father, also an excellent table tennis player, helped Sally develop a strong offensive game by competing against men. Sally, known for her fighting competitive spirit, always kept her first and second fingers of her left hand crossed as she played, as a symbol of luck. Her five consecutive U.S. Women's Single titles still stands. Sally stated that the greatest prize she ever acquired from table tennis was her husband Carlton Prouty.

1979 Hall of Fame - Continued
Players



JESSIE "JAY" PURVES Madison, Wisconsin

Enshrined - 1979

Represented U.S. in 2 World Championships • 1936 - Corbillon Cup 5-1 • 1937 Winner Corbillon Cup • Represented U.S. in 1937 English Open • 1 U.S. National title • 1 U.S. Western title • Represented Chicago in 1 Intercity Championship.

Jay Purves always left an impression that she was a player of considerable pluck and tenacity who was continually striving to increase her stroke and playing technique. Jay's perseverance was a strong factor in her ability and her pleasant personality added the balance to her success. Miss Purves died January 13, 1979.



MARCUS SCHUSSHEIM New York, New York

Enshrined - 1979

Represented U.S. in 1934 World Championships • 2 U.S. National titles.

Mark Schussheim won the first American Zone elimination tournament in 1933 and earned the right to be the first American table tennis player to represent the U.S. in the 1934 World Championships held in Paris. His all around game, good defense, cat-like reflexes earned him the nick name "Marvelous Mark." He was the first player to win the Parker Brothers National Ping Pong Championship in 1931 and the first player to win the USTTA National Championships.

OFFICIALS

Recognition of USTTA members, other than tournament players, who have distinguished themselves by their contribution to the sport of table tennis in the USA, is through the category of "Officials."



ELMER F. CINNATER Los Angeles, California

Enshrined - 1979

Elmer Cinnater's introduction to table tennis began in the 30's when he and his nephew played with a new gift of 4 sandpaper paddles. He formed the St. Louis District Ping Pong Association serving as president for several years. Elmer helped in forming the USTTA serving as treasurer and then as president from 1946 to 1951. In 1937 he was selected to act as non-playing captain and USTTA delegate at the World Championships in Baden, Austria. Not only did his great team of stars win the Swaythling and Corbillon Cups, they also won three titles of the English Open and were finalists in all events entered. Formerly of St. Louis, Elmer now resides in Los Angeles and for the past 21 years has managed the Union Oil Center Federal Credit Union.

COLEMAN CLARK

Wilmette, Illinois

Enshrined - 1979



Coleman "Cokey" Clark was a graduate of the University of Chicago where he starred in football and basketball, and was playing Captain of the Big 10 Championship Tennis Team. He was accepted internationally in the 30's and 40's as an authority on table tennis. "Cokey," whose nickname originates from his desire for Coca Cola, had captured 2 national Ping-Pong titles, however he was most noted as an international professional exhibition player. Clark toured the nation with such greats as Aarons, Barna, Bellak, Cook, Fields, Glancz, Price, and Schiff. This was the "Golden Age" of table tennis exhibitions, played before large crowds. Cokey was one of the co-signers of the original USTTA Charter. Mr. Clark died on January 26, 1977.

CONTRIBUTORS

Players and officials alone do not make up the sport of table tennis. The directors of the Hall of Fame realize the importance of recognizing companies whose sponsorship is the foundation for building success. The Hall of Fame is proud to acknowledge two such worthy contributors to this cause.



Founded in 1928, this new firm produced the first table approved by the United States Table Tennis Association. Their "Detroit A" tables have been used in more tournaments in the USA than any other single table over this span of 51 years. Their tables have also been used at half-time during the Harlem Globe Trotters basketball games for table tennis exhibitions.

The Detroit has supported USTTA sanctioned tournaments and have advertised in Table Tennis Topics magazine since the founding of the USTTA in 1933.

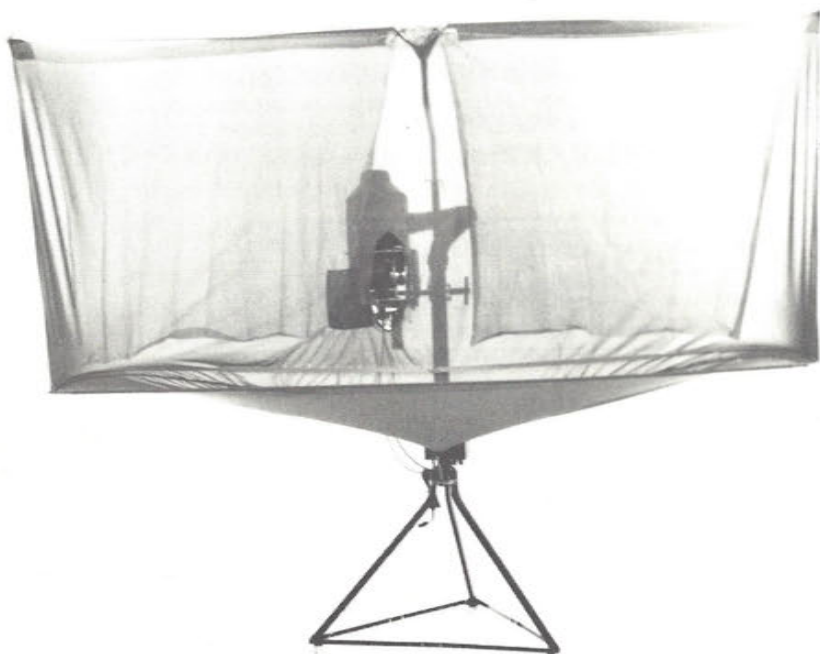


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Table tennis and the United States Table Tennis Association have received the support of General Sportcraft since the inception of the USTTA in 1933. They have also encouraged and actively supported table tennis at the collegiate level by means of sponsorship of the Association College Unions-International (ACU-I).

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UNITED STATES TABLE TENNIS HALL OF FAME ORGANIZATION

Steve Isaacson, a member of the USTTA for many years and associated with "Tennis Magazine", worked diligently to start a Hall of Fame for table tennis in 1966. At a tennis banquet, five table tennis players were inducted into the newly formed United States Table Tennis Hall of Fame. These five were selected from seven names submitted for election. Those inducted on March 26, 1966 were, Dick Miles, Sol Schiff, Jimmy McClure, Ruth Aarons and Leah Neuberger. After this initial induction, the Hall of Fame was not continued.

Bill Haid, Executive Director for the USTTA took action at the winter E.C. meeting at Caesars Palace on December 21, 1978 and through much discussion, received the approval of the E.C. to re-establish the Hall of Fame but with little expenses to be incurred by the USTTA.

Prior to the 1979 summer meeting held in New York, Bill researched and then wrote up by-laws and a constitution and selected eight USTTA members to serve on the Board of Directors. These eight were notified of a special meeting to be held, Friday, June 29, at the Nassau Veterans Memorial Coliseum in NY where the U.S. Open was in progress. (See the minutes of the first USTTA Hall of Fame meeting.)

At this meeting, officers were elected, each element of the by-laws and constitution was discussed and rewritten and committee chairmen were selected. A charter for the organization will be recorded in the state of Illinois, the home state of John Read our Treasurer. The Hall of Fame officers and members elected were:

President	- Jimmy McClure	Secretary	- Steve Isaacson
Vice President	- Bill Haid	Treasurer	- John Read

Other Board Members:

Ruth Hughes Aarons		Wally Gundlach
Tim Boggan	Sol Schiff	Leah "Ping" Neuberger

We have developed a series of qualifications for each of three categories; player, contributor, and officials.

The following committees then were established and chairmen appointed;

Screening Committee	- Chairman - Leah "Ping" Neuberger
Publicity Committee	- Chairman - Wally Gundlach
Banquet and Awards	- Chairman - Bill Haid
Treasurer	- Chairman - John Read

The Screening Committee composed of Leah "Ping" Neuberger, Chairman, John Read, Tim Boggan, Wally Gundlach, and Sol Schiff established a preliminary list of 24 players, 10 contributors, and 14 officials from which the Screening Committee submitted a final list of 8 players, 2 contributors, and 2 officials to the Hall of Fame Board of Directors.

The Board of Directors reviewed the list of names submitted by the Screening Committee and approved the twelve to be inducted at the first annual United

States Table Tennis Hall of Fame award banquet. They are as follows:

PLAYERS

1. Abe Berenbaum
2. Robert "Bud" Blattner
3. Emily Fuller
4. Dolores Probert Kuenz
5. Louis Pagliaro
6. Sally Green Prouty
7. Jessie "Jay" Purves
8. Marcus Schussheim

OFFICIALS

1. Elmer F. Cinnater
2. Coleman Clark

CONTRIBUTORS

1. The Detroitier
2. General Sportcraft Co., Ltd.

Arrangements were made with Neil Smyth, Vice President of Caesars Palace to have the first award dinner at Caesars Palace on December 16, 1979 with ceremonies and a buffet dinner.

Jimmy McClure, President of the Hall of Fame has approved the appointment of Jack Howard as Master of Ceremonies for the banquet and Neil Smyth as Toastmaster.

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MINUTES OF THE FIRST USTTA HALL OF FAME MEETING

Nassau Veterans Memorial Coliseum, Long Island, NY
Friday, June 29, 1979,

The meeting was called to order by Bill Haid at 2:00 pm. Those in attendance were; Sol Schiff, Jimmy McClure, Wally Gundlach, Leah "Ping" Neuberger, John Read, and Bill Haid. Absent was Steve Isaacson. Tim Boggan arrived at 2:45 pm.

Haid explained why he personally selected each of those persons to the Board. Leah Neuberger suggested we appoint Ruth Aarons to the Board. Haid suggested the last addition to be placed on the Hall of Fame Board after his induction this December, should be Elmer Cinnater.

Gundlach suggested we follow the agenda draft, mailed to each board member by Haid. The constitution and by-laws as written by Bill Haid were reviewed point by point, rewritten and approved by all at the meeting.

Neuberger read list of candidates to be inducted, as submitted to Board by Nominating Committee, for approval. The twelve were approved.

The meeting was adjourned at 5:45 pm.

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our sincere

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And Every Member*

Ruth S. Arons

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