



**UNITED
STATES
TABLE
TENNIS
HALL
OF
FAME**

**FOURTH ANNUAL
AWARDS INDUCTION BANQUET**

SUNDAY

JUNE 12, 1983

Dinner 7:30 p.m.

\$12.00 per person



Cash Bar 6:30 p.m.



Reservations please

TROPICANA
LAS VEGAS, NEVADA
MONTE CARLO ROOM

For your outstanding contributions, abilities, and service to the sport of table tennis, Detroit extends a warm congratulations on your induction into the Hall of Fame.



DIVISION OF MICHIGAN LADDER CO. 12 E. FOREST AVE. YPSILANTI, MICHIGAN 48197
(313) 482-5946

The Finest Name in Table Tennis Tables
Since 1928



SOLE U. S.  DISTRIBUTOR

*Congratulates all members of the
Table Tennis Hall of Fame.
Special best wishes to the
1983 Inductees.*

P.O. Box 147 • Wilson, North Carolina 27893 • (919) 291-8202

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 . . .

Bill Haid, Mary McIlwain and Jimmy McClure.

HALL OF FAME CEREMONIES ON TAPE

United States Table Tennis Annual Awards

Live On Tape

The fond memories of the old time greats are recorded in their own voice. The historical events, the proud moments, the warm feelings, the heartfelt emotions and the joy of all as recorded and MC'd by Jimmy McClure with comments by Mary McIlwain.

This tape is a value not measured by money but by the knowledge that Table Tennis is recognizing it's own greats.

To order tapes at \$10.00 each write:

Mary McIlwain
10210 Baseling 73
Alta Loma, Ca 91701
(714) 987-6144

WELCOME!

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

Tonight we recognize and honor athletes 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 the Tropicana and the Advertisers whose kind and generous cooperation have made this U.S.T.T.A. Hall of Fame Induction Banquet a reality.

The three previous award banquets were held during the winter at our U.S. National Championships. We are hopeful that this change in calendar dates will be more acceptable and enjoyable for all. This also allows our foreign visitors an opportunity to attend.



Jimmy McClure

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

This Souvenir Program is made available to you as compliments of the advertisers in the program and the Hall of Fame Board. We wish you a pleasant and memorable evening.

PROGRAM

Invocation.....	Mary McIlwain
Dinner.....	7:30 p.m.
Awards Program.....	8:30 p.m.
Introductions.....	Bill Haid, Executive Director
Toastmaster.....	Jack Gallaway, President and General Manager, Tropicana
Master of Ceremonies.....	Jimmy McClure, President H.O.F. Board of Directors
Guest Speaker.....	Neil Smyth, President Sands Hotel

1982 Inductees

Players.....	Bernice Charney Chotras Sharon Acton Valleri Bellini John Somael Dal Joon Lee
--------------	---

Buffet Dinner

<i>Assorted Relish Tray</i>	<i>Cucumber Salad</i>
<i>Tossed Chef's Salad Bowl</i>	<i>Jello Salad</i>
<i>Tomato and Avocado Tray</i>	<i>Fresh Fruit Salad</i>

<i>Beef Stroganoff</i>
<i>Seafood Newburg</i>
<i>Breast of Chicken with Madeira Sauce</i>
<i>Assorted Cold Meat and Cheese Platters</i>

<i>Saffron Rice</i>	<i>Glazed Baby Whole Carrots</i>
<i>Rissole Potatoes</i>	<i>Broccoli Polonaise</i>

<i>Peas with Mushrooms</i>
<i>Assorted French Pastries</i>
<i>Assorted Rolls and Bread</i>
<i>Coffee - Tea - Milk</i>

Gratuity and Tax Included

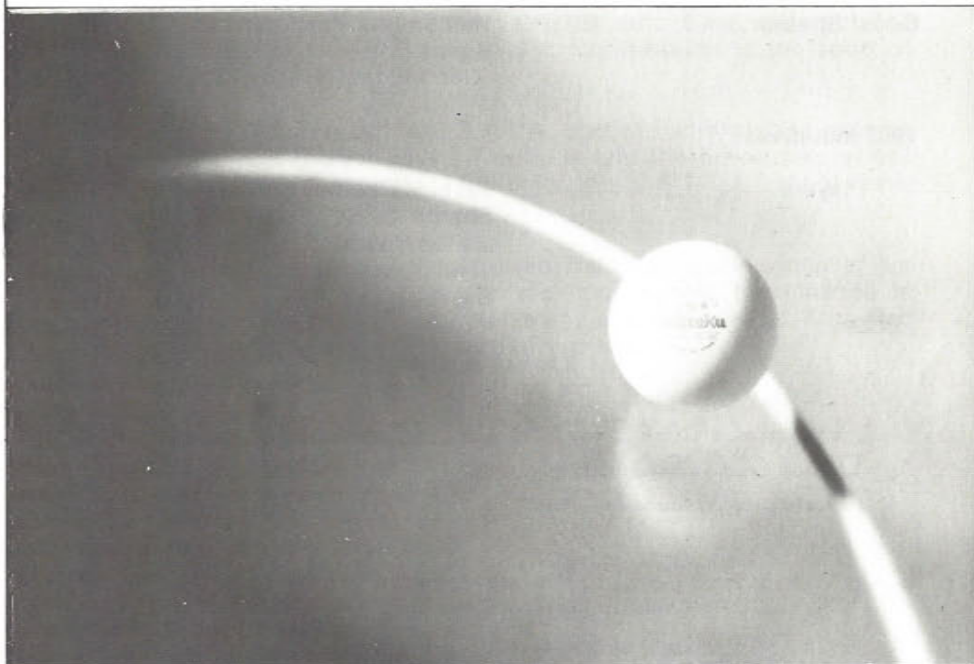
Nittaku®

TABLE TENNIS GOODS OF INTERNATIONAL FAME
Favorite of World Players

Official Ball for

The World Table Tennis Championships

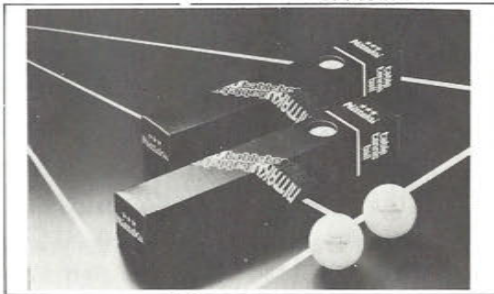
The 31st 1971, Nagoya The 33rd 1975, Calcutta
The 35th 1979, Pyongyang The 36th 1981, Novi Sad
The 37th 1983, Tokyo



U.S. Open Table Tennis Championships

Houston 1976
Hollywood 1977
Oklahoma 1978
Fort Worth 1980
Princeton 1981
Detroit 1982
Las Vegas 1983

OFFICIAL 3-STAR



NIPPON TAKKYU CO., LTD.
Tokyo, Japan.

USTTA Celebrates
50th
Anniversary

1933 - 1983



Fifty years ago in June 1933 the United States Table Tennis Association was organized and launched into the world of sports. Fifty years in which our mode of travel went from the Model T Ford to the sleek Corvette... from the prop to the jet plane... from 6 days to 6 hours crossing the ocean... from hand-pull adding machines to the calculator... from hard rubber to inverted sponge rubber faced paddles and competitive wear slacks to the comfortable shorts. How interesting to now review some facts of 50 years ago. Did you know that...

- nine state table tennis associations joined the USTTA within a three month period of the charter organization.
- the Detroit and Hock Table Tennis companies advertised in nearly every issue of Table Tennis Topics 50 years ago and they still are regular advertisers.
- Sol Schiff was described by Table Tennis Topics as a slightly built, left-handed sixteen year old redhead with a fiery brand of tactics.
- the USTTA banned the use of the knuckle-spin service.
- the USTTA membership dues were .25 per year.
- the Associated Press, United Press International and International News Service all banned the word "ping pong", as it was unfair free advertising for the owner (Parker Brothers) of this trademark name.
- the discussion continued concerning the switch from the USTTA's "bullet Ball" (46 grains) to the European light weight ball (37 grains).
- as of April 1934, less than one year after the USTTA organized, membership had grown to 1002 and 11 states.

The USTTA is to be congratulated on its 50 years of growth. Table Tennis is now included in the 1988 Olympics to be held in Seoul, South Korea, the 1983 Pan American Games to be held in Caracas, Venezuela, and has its national headquarters at the Olympic Training Center in Colorado Springs, Colorado. The USTTA is ranked 13th in the World competition in the International Federation of 126 affiliated nations.

Anniversary souvenirs available at USTTA booth.

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

1981 USTTA HALL OF FAME BOARD MEMBERS

President.....	Jimmy McClure <i>Indianapolis, Indiana</i>
Executive Vice President	Steve Isaacson <i>Chicago, Illinois</i>
Vice President	William Haid <i>Colorado Springs, Colorado</i>
Treasurer	John Read <i>Bloomington, Illinois</i>
Secretary.....	Donna Newell <i>Chicago, Illinois</i>
Tim Boggan <i>Merrick, New York</i>	Sol Schiff <i>Bronx, New York</i>
Wally Gundlach <i>Marchfield, Massachusetts</i>	Mildred Shahian <i>Park Ridge, Illinois</i>
George Hendry <i>St. Louis, Missouri</i>	

1983 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 five players, at this fourth annual awards banquet.;

PLAYERS

BERNICE CHARNEY CHOTRAS

(Deceased)

New York City, New York

Enshrined 1983



Bernice Charney came to the forefront in 1944 when she was ranked number 5 in the National Rankings. In 1946 she surprised nearly every one by winning the National Singles Title. She did not play in enough tournaments to be ranked but went to the finals of the National Singles. For the next two years she played only in tournaments in or near her home in New York City. She then dropped out of sight when she married and started raising a family.

She started playing again in 1961 under her married name of Chotras. She again surprises the table tennis world by capturing her second National Singles Title in 1963. Again she disappeared from the scene but came back in 1966 to reach the finals of the National Singles. She played her last major tournament match in 1968 and was ranked 3rd Nationally. She was runner-up twice in National Womens Doubles in 1962 and 1963.

Although she only stood a little over 5 feet tall, she was a giant among the finest women players in the history of the sport in United States. Her record of winning National Singles Titles 17 years apart will probably stand forever.

Mrs. Chotras passed away several years ago but she will always be remembered for her tenacious style of play and her quiet and pleasant personality on and off of the table.

SHARON ACTON

San Francisco, California

Enshrined 1983



Sharon Acton is one of the seven women in table tennis history who won the national triple crown. Known as the "hat trick", she captured first in women's singles, doubles, and mixed doubles in 1960. Just the year before, at age 18, she had been a member of the U.S. team to the World Championships at Dortmund, Germany.

Sharon's natural athletic ability and determination to win were evident in elementary school and before she was a teenager she was encouraged to play at the California Table Tennis Center. Proprietor, Sy Wassenman, immediately saw her potential and she became his prize pupil. At 14, playing in her first big tournament, she reached the finals of women's singles at the Pacific Coast Open. A year later she recorded a 19-2 record at the National Team Championships in Chicago. By 16, she was playing exhibitions for the U.S. State Department.

Sharon is a graduate of California State Beach and lives in San Francisco. She is teaching physical education, including table tennis, at Woodrow Wilson High School.



VALLERI BELLINI *Long Beach, California*

Enshrined 1983

Vallerie Bellini did not begin playing competitive table tennis until 1955 when she was a teacher at West Athens Grammar School in Los Angeles, California. However, she adapted so well to the game that within 11 months she won the Most Valuable Player Award at the National Team Championships where she compiled an impressive 17-1 record, losing only to the all time great U.S. Champion, Leah Neuberger. Her remarkable play enabled her California Team to win the women's title that year.

In 1964, Valleri won the Women's National Singles Championship after having been a finalist in 1960 and 1963. Her national doubles record is even more extraordinary as she was a finalist nine years consecutively from 1957-1964. Six of those years she was co-champion in doubles. During that same period she was continuously ranked in the top six in women's singles.

Valleri's quick rise to the top is a rare table tennis success story and attests to her power of positive thinking and confidence in her ability. As a player, she possessed a unique combination of touch, patience, drive and self control.

Valleri retired after the birth of her daughter who is now 17. Together they are now two of the top square dancers in the U.S.



JOHN SOMAEL *New York City, New York*

Enshrined 1983

John first appeared on the national scene in 1943 when he was ranked 7th and went on to be ranked in the first 10 Nationally 13 times during a

span of 18 years.

In 1944 he played in the famous match in the finals of the Nationals against Les Lowry when he came back from 20-10 down to capture the National Championships. In 1945 he lost in the finals of the National Singles, a feat that he repeated twice more in 1954 and 1955.

He won the National Doubles in 1945 and 1953 and was runner-up in 1946 and 1952. He was a member of the United States Team in the World Championships in 1951, 1954 and 1955.

Early in his career he married Pauline Robinson, formally from England an outstanding table tennis player who was ranked Nationally several times.

John possessed on the finest defensive games of all time and combined this with quick hits of both his forehand and backhand. He was one of the hardest workers the game has known with a never say die spirit. Several players had more spectacular games but none were as consistent over a span of 20 years. He certainly has made his mark in our sport and truly deserves his induction into the Hall of Fame.

DAL-JOON LEE *Las Vegas, Nevada*

Enshrined 1983

Represented the United States in 5 World Championships...U.S. Open Men's Singles Champion 1968, 1969, 1970, 1971, 1972, 1973...U.S. Open Men's Double Champion 1969, 1970, 1971, 1972...U.S. Open Mixed Doubles Champion 1969...U.S. Closed over 40 Singles Champion 1980, 1982.



"D.J." has dominated table tennis in two different countries. After being the Korean National Champion, D.J. moved to the United States where he won six successive U.S. Open Singles Championships. That's a record that, as of yet, stands unchallenged. D.J. played over 300 consecutive sanctioned tournament matches without a loss to a U.S. player. No other American has better evidence, that he mastered both the theory and practice of modern table tennis. His style of play and sportsmanship have both inspired and influenced table tennis players all over the U.S. Not only is D.J. a revered player but is a respected coach. D.J. moved into the senior class three years ago yet he still ranks in the top 20 in the United States. D.J. Lee is married to He-Ja a beautiful and previously America's No. 1 Woman Champion. They were blessed with a lovely girl two years ago, Mira Janet.

1981 HALL OF FAME INDUCTEES

On December 20, 1981, the United States Table Tennis Hall of Fame was proud to induct this new group of five players, two officials and two contributors at this third annual awards banquet in honor of their contributions to Table Tennis in the United States.



(Left to right) Tim Boggan, (accepting award for Reba Monness,) Jack Galloway, (Toastmaster and Vice President Tropicana Hotel), Tibor Hazi, Bernie Bukiet, Jimmy McClure (accepting award for Otto Ek), Gary West for Harvard Table Tennis, Neil Smyth (accepted for Mary Reisman).

1981 INDUCTEES

Players Bernie Bukiet
Tibor Hazi
Erwin Klein
Reba Monness
Marty Reisman

Officials Otto F.J. Ek
Carl Zeisberg

Contributors . . P. Becker and Co.
Harvard Table Tennis Co.

1980 HALL OF FAME INDUCTEES

On December 14, 1980 the United States Table Tennis Hall of Fame inducted those shown and listed below in honor of their contributions to Table Tennis in the United States.



(left to right) Sol Schiff, (accepting award for Peggy McLean Folke), George Hendry, (accepting award for Bill Price), Neil Smyth, Sr. Vice President Caesars Palace (Toastmaster of the Banquet), Thelma "Tybie" Sommer, Bill Haid, George Shein, Steve Isaacson, Marv Leff, (accepting award for Laszlo Bellak), Bill Gunn, Mildred Shahian, Bill Holzrichter, and Jimmy McClure (accepting award for John Varga).

Unable to attend: Laszlo Bellak, Peggy McLean Folke and Bill Price.

Deceased: John Varga.

1980 Inductees

Players . . . Laszlo Bellak
Peggy McLean Folke
William C. Holzrichter
Mildred R. Shahian
Thelma "Tybie" Sommer

Officials William A. Gunn
George Schein

Contributors . . William R. Price
John Varga (deceased)

1966 and 1979 HALL OF FAME INDUCTEES

On December 16, 1979 the United States Table Tennis Hall of Fame inducted those shown and listed below in honor of their contributions to Table Tennis in the United States.



(left to right) Dave Phillips, (accepting award for General Sportcraft Co., Ltd.), Sol Schiff, Ruth Hughes Aarons, Sally Green Prouty, Elmer F. Cinnater, Dolores Probert Kuenz, Robert "Bud" Blattner, Marcus (Schusheim) Matthews, Lou Pagliaro, Robert Nissly, Pres. The Detroit Co., Jimmy McClure, Neil Smyth, Sr. Vice President Caesars Palace (Toastmaster of the Banquet)

Unable to attend: Dick Miles, Leah Neuberger, Abe Berenbaum

Deceased: Emily Fuller, Jessie "Jay" Purves, Coleman Clark

1966 Original Inductees

Ruth Hughes Aarons
Jimmy McClure

Sol Schiff

Dick Miles
Leah Neuberger

1979 Inductees

Players . . . Abe Berenbaum
Robert "Bud" Blattner
Emily Fuller
Dolores Probert Kuenz
Lou Pagliaro
Sally Green Prouty
Jessie "Jay" Purves
Marcus (Schusheim) Matthews

Officials Elmer F. Cinnater
Coleman Clark

Contributors . . . Detroit
General Sportcraft
Co., Ltd.

HALL OF FAME BOOSTER CLUB

At the 1981 National Closed Championships the Hall of Fame Board of Directors initiated the Hall of Fame Boosters Club. Four classes of yearly membership were adopted.

1. Bronze member \$10.00 per year
2. Silver member \$25.00 per year
3. Gold member \$50.00 per year
4. Diamond member \$100.00 per year

The money is being used to help with the inductees hospitality, pay for awards and to help subsidize the cost of the Awards Banquet tickets.

Bronze

Jim West

Silver

Tim Boggan
Dan Robbins

GOLD

Bill Atkinson	Mrs. Mark Matthews
Bill Haid	Jimmy McClure
George Hendry	Mrs. Jimmy McClure
Steve Isaacson	Dr. F.S. Morest
Paul Jackson	Stanley J. Robens
Mark Matthews	William Steinle

Diamond

Butterfly	Sitco
Indian Industries	Sportcraft.
Joola	Stiga
Martin-Kilpatrick	Yasaka

The Hall of Fame Board of Directors and the Inductees sincerely appreciate your support and hope that we can count on your continued annual membership. We also hope that many more Table Tennis players and manufacturers will help to honor our Hall of Fame Inductees by joining the Hall of Fame Boosters Club.

Membership dues may be sent to: Hall of Fame Booster Club
%Jimmy McClure
7127 Williams Creek Drive
Indianapolis, Indiana 46240

GOLDEN AWARD

The United States Table Tennis Association and the Hall of Fame Board of Directors take pride in announcing the Golden Award. This award shall be given each year to any player who has devoted 50 years of play and service to the Sport of Table Tennis.

The Charter Class of players who have been connected with the Sport since 1933 are:

Lazlo Bellak	Bernard Hock	Manny Moskowitz
Yoshio Fushimi	Sam Hoffner	Mayo Rae Rolph Roy
Bill Gunn	John G. Kauderer	George Schein
Tibor Hazi	Jimmy McClure	Sol Schiff

The United States Table Tennis Association and the Hall of Fame Board of Directors are extremely proud of these players and look forward to their continued participation in the Sport for many more years. Any player who has been associated with our Sport for 50 years or know of any one that has, please contact Jimmy McClure so that we can add their name to this honored group.

TROPICANA®

A Ramada® Resort and Casino



RESTAURANTS



**MANAGEMENT
MESSAGES**



SHOPPING



**SHOWS/
ENTERTAINMENT**



**TROPICANA
AFTER DARK**



**TROPICANA
COUNTRY CLUB
LAS VEGAS**



**UNITED STATES
TABLE TENNIS
ASSOCIATION**



EVENTS

*The Staff
and
Management
of the
TROPICANA
proudly
Congratulate
the*

**United States
Table Tennis
Association**

*on their
50th*

*Anniversary
Wish the best*

*to all
1983*

H. O. F. Inductees