



THE OLYMPIAN



LA2024 – A NEW GAMES FOR A NEW ERA

A Letter From Gary Hall, Sr.

U.S. Olympians and Paralympians Association President



Dear Olympians and Paralympians,

It was a magical weekend. More than 300 Olympians and Paralympians from winter and summer Olympic Games from 1948-2014, representing nearly every sport, along with friends and family members, assembled in Las Vegas Feb. 19-21 for an unforgettable reunion.

For three days, athletes reacquainted with teammates and/or met others for the first time and shared some of their favorite Olympic and Paralympic stories. Members beamed with pride as each one got up on stage and proudly announced his or her sport and years of competition. The camaraderie and enthusiasm for the Olympic and Paralympic movement reinforced our motto that we are Olympians and Paralympians for life – never former, never past.

The events and organization surrounding the reunion weekend, coordinated by Olympian Anne Cribbs (Swimming, 1960) and the reunion committee were superb. There were entertainment options with Cirque de Soleil, new Olympic and Paralympic documentaries that were seen for the first time, Olympic memorabilia from past Games that were given away, opportunities to document favorite Olympic and Paralympic moments on video, and some beautiful awards that were presented by the USOPA and the state of Nevada, courtesy of hosts former Lieutenant Governor Brian Krolicki and Mayor Anne Goodman. We were honored to have USOC CEO Scott Blackmun address the attendees at the gala celebration on Saturday evening.

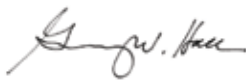
To honor our members and celebrate their accomplishments is an important part of the mission of the USOPA. The reunion is an extraordinary way of doing that, while rekindling the Olympic spirit within each of us. It is our hope to repeat the USOPA reunion every three years. It is simply too important not to have one during each quadrennial.

Additionally, the USOPA is expanding in the number of chapters and members served. Just this year, we have launched two new chapters. The first is in Minnesota under elected president Trina Radke. Minnesota has a large population of Olympians and Paralympians, and we are very excited about the potential for this new chapter. The second was started in San Diego, under elected president Erin Aldrich Shean. With the rapid growth of the So-Cal Olympians and Paralympians, this chapter needed to be divided into two in order to more effectively serve its members throughout this expansive area. Thanks are in order for former USOPA president Willie Banks for spearheading the formation of this new chapter.

More chapters that are in our sites for development soon include Louisiana, North and South Carolina, Wyoming and Alaska. Hopefully, before year's end we will have a few more new chapters formed in the USOPA.

Another goal of the USOPA is to broaden the resources of each of our USOPA chapters to help them function better. To do so, we are forming alliances with local sports commissions that can assist each chapter with administrative duties. I want to thank USOPA vice presidents Dick Fosbury and Judi Brown Clarke for heading the expansion and internal growth committees for our USOPA chapters. They are doing a brilliant job. Finally, as we prepare for the upcoming Olympic Games in Rio, let us all do what we can to help support Team USA. Let us also help to bring the Olympic and Paralympic Games back home with our bid to host the 2024 Games in Los Angeles.

Yours in Olympic spirit,



Gary Hall, Sr.



Members of the USOPA Executive Committee enjoyed a visit to the Andre Agassi College Preparatory Academy while in Las Vegas, for the USOPA Reunion 2016. The Athletes for Hope organization also complimented the visit with an AFH Empowerment Workshop. A special assembly with 200 Agassi Prep students was a great way to kick off a weekend of friendship and camaraderie.

Inside

- 2** A Letter from Gary Hall, Sr
- 4** LA 2024 News
- 6** World Olympians Association (WOA) and IOC Building Strong Partnership
- 9** ACE Mentor Network – Meet Angel Bovee
- 10** USOC Archives & Archivist News
- 12** Paralympian Tahl Leibovitz Story
- 14** USOPA REUNION 2016 a Big Success
- 18** Book Reviews
- 19** Rio USA House Update
- 20** In Honor
- 23** Milestones
- 24** In Memoriam
- 29** Liberty Mutual Benefits
- 30** Olympian & Paralympian Photo Highlights
- 32** U.S. Olympians & Paralympians Chapters

Cover image: LA 2024 bid leaders Mayor Eric Garcetti, Casey Wasserman and Janet Evans pose with representatives of the Athletes' Advisory Commission (Photo credit: LA 2024)



LOS ANGELES

CANDIDATE CITY OLYMPIC GAMES 2024



Giving athletes a voice in LA 2024's bid, the AAC will lead Athlete Town Halls in cities all over the United States, so that all Olympians and Paralympians can have the opportunity to share their feedback and aspirations regarding LA 2024's Games Plan.

LA 2024 Director of Athlete Relations and Vice Chair Janet Evans presents the Athletes' Advisory Commission at the USOC Media Summit

(Photo credit: LA 2024)



On March 8, Los Angeles 2024 announced 53 athletes who will serve on LA 2024's Athletes' Advisory Commission, ensuring the top American and international athletes in the U.S. are deeply involved in every aspect of its bid and helping to create a state-of-the-art, personalized experience for Olympic and Paralympic athletes in 2024.

Specifically, the AAC will review venues and help further develop the LA 2024 Games concept; provide broad communication and feedback across every activity of the bid; represent and promote the rights and interests of athletes in LA 2024's decision-making process; and support LA 2024 by promoting the positive values of sport and Olympism to youth across the country and the world.

Giving athletes a voice in LA 2024's bid, the AAC will lead Athlete Town Halls in cities all over the United States, so that all Olympians and Paralympians can have the opportunity to share their feedback and aspirations regarding LA 2024's Games plan. The LA 2024 AAC will use the Town Halls to establish open lines of communication with the extensive network of more than 10,000 Olympic and Paralympic alumni across all 50 states.



LA 2024

The LA 2024 Athletes' Advisory Commission members are:

Andre Agassi, Tennis
Chuck Aoki, Wheelchair Rugby
Sarah Attar, Track and Field
Howard Bach, Badminton
Candace Cable, Track and Field, Alpine and Nordic skiing
Tamara Christopherson, Canoe/Kayak
Bryan Clay, Track and Field
Nadia Comaneci, Gymnastics
Bart Conner, Gymnastics
Muffy Davis, Cycling, Alpine ski racing
Anita DeFrantz, Rowing
Landon Donovan, Soccer
Janet Evans, Swimming
Allyson Felix, Track and Field
Rickie Fowler, Golf
Lex Gillette, Track and Field
Paul Gonzales, Boxing
Steffi Graf, Tennis

Dawn Harper-Nelson, Track and Field
Cobi Jones, Soccer
Meb Keflezighi, Track and Field
Karch Kiraly, Beach Volleyball
Michelle Kwan, Figure Skating
Michael Johnson, Track and Field
Katie Ledecky, Swimming
Fabien Lefèvre, Canoe/Kayak
Carl Lewis, Track and Field
Carol Lewis-Zilli, Track and Field
Tara Lipinski, Figure Skating
Greg Louganis, Diving
Alex Morgan, Soccer
Ibtihaj Muhammad, Fencing
Alana Nichols, Wheelchair Basketball, Alpine skiing
Karen Norris, Swimming
Apolo Ohno, Speedskating
Chris Paul, Basketball

Aaron Peirsol, Swimming
Thiago Pereira, Swimming
Michael Phelps, Swimming
Amy Purdy, Snowboarding
Angela Ruggiero, Ice Hockey
John Register, Track and Field
Sarah Reinertsen, Track and Field
April Ross, Beach Volleyball
Sinjin Smith, Beach Volleyball
Matt Stutzman, Archery
Diana Taurasi, Basketball
Brenda Villa, Water Polo
Jarryd Wallace, Track and Field
Kerri Walsh Jennings, Beach Volleyball
Jordyn Wieber, Gymnastics
Venus Williams, Tennis
Trischa Zorn, Swimming

APPOINTMENTS CONFIRM CLOSER WORKING RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN IOC AND WOA



As part of an ongoing strategy to strengthen the working relationship between the **International Olympic Committee** and the **World Olympians Association**, the IOC has named five high-profile former athletes to represent the IOC on the WOA's Executive Committee, and the WOA has named a new representative on the IOC Athletes' Commission and two new members on the WOA Board to strengthen its continental representation.

Angela Ruggiero (Ice Hockey, USA), **Frank Fredericks** (Track and Field, Namibia), **Pernilla Wiberg** (Alpine Skiing, Sweden), **Natalie Cook** (Beach

Lausanne, January 28, 2016

Volleyball, Australia) and **Li Lingwei** (Badminton, China) have each been selected to serve on the WOA Board due to their extensive experience and great respect within the Olympic Movement. Their appointment by IOC President Thomas Bach marks an historic milestone for both organizations and underlines the close bond between the IOC and WOA.

Patrick Singleton (Luge/Skeleton, Bermuda) will take over as the WOA representative on the IOC Athletes' Commission for an initial term running through to the 2020 Olympic Games in Tokyo, when the current WOA representative **Amadou Dia Ba** (Track and Field, Senegal) finishes his term after the Olympic Games in Rio de Janeiro. **WOA President Joël Bouzou** has also appointed **Willie Banks** (Track and Field, USA) and **Mikako Kotani** (Synchronized Swimming, Japan) to extend the WOA Board's Continental representation.

The pathway towards the appointments

began at the June 2015 meeting of the IOC Executive Board, when the Board approved a plan for IOC representation on the WOA Executive Committee and greater integration at both a strategic and operational level of the WOA's management with the IOC administration.

The plan was ratified at the WOA's General Assembly in October last year with the passing of a new WOA constitution, which enabled this important change to take place. Since that time, the WOA has also seen its administration team relocated to the IOC headquarters in Lausanne, a further symbol of their advanced working relationship.

The announcement highlights the enhanced integration between the two organizations, and will ensure that the WOA and Olympians everywhere benefit from increased support through the alignment of the IOC's Olympic Agenda 2020 and its athlete support programs with the WOA's own work.

The WOA Executive Committee:

Joel Bouzou, President (*Modern Pentathlon, France*)

Anthony Ledgard, Secretary General

Patrick Singleton, Treasurer (*Luge/Skeleton, Bermuda*)

Alper Kasapoglu, Vice-President (*Athletics, Turkey*)

Amadou Dia Ba, Vice-President (*Athletics, Senegal*)

Willie Banks, Board Member (*Athletics, USA*)

Natalie Cook, IOC Appointed Board Member (*Beach Volleyball, Australia*)

Nadia Cruz, Board Member (*Swimming, Angola*)

Frank Fredericks, IOC Appointed Board Member (*Athletics, Namibia*)

Mikako Kotani, Board Member (*Synchronised Swimming, Japan*)

Tatyana Lebedeva, Board Member (*Athletics, Russia*)

Li Lingwei, IOC Appointed Board Member (*Badminton, China*)

Freida Nicholls, Board Member (*Athletics, Barbados*)

Angela Ruggiero, IOC Appointed Board Member (*Ice Hockey, USA*)

Malav Shroff, Board Member (*Sailing, India*)

Pernilla Wiberg, IOC Appointed Board Member (*Alpine Skiing, Sweden*)

Full bios of the new IOC representatives:

ANGELA RUGGIERO

Four-time Olympian (1998-2006) and Olympic ice hockey gold medallist, Angela has vast experience in sport administration as an IOC member, vice chair of the IOC Athletes' Commission, member of the United States Olympic Committee Board of Directors and World Anti-Doping Agency Foundation Board. Angela has previously held a position on the WOA Executive Committee as the IOC Athletes' Commission liaison.

FRANK FREDERICKS

Four-time Olympic silver medallist (100- and 200-meter), Frank has represented Namibia at three Olympic Games (1992, 1996 and 2004). He has been an IOC member since 2012, a former chair of the IOC Athletes' Commission and remains an influential member of the Olympic Movement.

PERNILLA WIBERG

Double Olympic gold medallist in alpine skiing, Pernilla is well known to the WOA as an active member and existing chair of the WOA Constitution Committee. Her service to sport and her fellow Olympians is widely respected. She is a former IOC member (2002-2010) and IOC Athletes' Commission member.

NATALIE COOK

Five-time Australian Olympian (1996-2012) and gold medal winner at the Sydney 2000 Olympic Games in beach volleyball, Natalie is up and coming within the Olympic Movement having been invited to join the WOA Executive Committee at the General Assembly in October as a representative of the Oceania region.

LI LINGWEI

Three-time world badminton champion (1983, 1985 and 1989) and IOC member for China, Li is a hugely experienced sports administrator. Among her many roles, she currently sits on the IOC Olympic Program and Olympic Solidarity Commissions. She is also a member of the executive board of the World Badminton Federation and the executive board of the Chinese Olympic Committee.

PATRICK SINGLETON

Three-time Olympian (1998, 2002 luge; 2006 skeleton), Patrick was the sole representative for Bermuda at the Nagano, Salt Lake City and Torino Olympic Games. He was the first Bermudian to win medals in any winter event. Patrick competed in seven world championships and earned 14 medals in luge and skeleton during his sporting career. Patrick was reelected last year as the WOA Treasurer after his successful re-engineering of the WOA's financial administration and accounting.

WILLIE BANKS

Three-time Olympian Willie Banks (1980, 1984 and 1988) held the world record in the triple jump for a decade. He was a crowd-pleasing athlete who is credited with originating the athletes' crowd handclap, which has now become the norm at meetings around the world. Willie was the president of the U.S. Olympians Association and is involved in various charities connected to sport and the Olympic Movement.

MIKAKO KOTANI

Double bronze medalist Mikako competed in the 1988 and 1992 Olympic Games as a synchronized swimmer representing Japan and was Japan's flag bearer at the Seoul Olympic Games. She was a member of the IOC Athletes Commission and Japanese Olympic Committee, and recently retired as the chair of the Olympic Council of Asia's Athletes Committee. Mikako was part of the successful Olympic bid presentation team for the 2020 Olympic Games, which were awarded to Tokyo.

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This is an exciting new chapter for the WOA and I am proud to welcome on board our new executive committee members. I am confident each will make a significant contribution to support the ongoing development of the WOA and the role of Olympians in society as we embark on the journey ahead.

We are grateful for the ongoing support from the IOC and believe that the increased integration of our two organizations in such a meaningful way will reap great rewards for Olympians and have a positive impact on their wellbeing at all stages of their lives. I would also like to thank Amadou for his sterling work as the WOA representative on the IOC Athletes Commission and I look forward to continuing working with him on the WOA Board. As we forge ever closer relationships with the IOC it is important that we continue to integrate ourselves within the IOC structures while retaining our independence,

which is why we have chosen our Treasurer Patrick Singleton, a very experienced and well-respected administrator and recent Olympic Games competitor, as our next representative on the IOC Athletes' Commission.

Willie Banks and Mikako Kotani are two highly respected and successful Olympians who have served sport and the Olympic Movement with honor and distinction since retiring from active competition, and will extend the WOA's continental representation as mandated by the newly updated WOA Constitution passed by the WOA General Assembly at the inaugural World Olympians Forum in Moscow at the end of last year.

**World Olympians Association
President, Joël Bouzou**

2015 was an important year in the history of the WOA. Following the successful World Olympians Forum in Moscow and the approval of the new WOA Constitution in October, I am very pleased to see that the integration of the WOA with the IOC is in its final stage.

Protecting and supporting clean athletes is one of the main pillars of Olympic Agenda 2020. In this respect, the WOA's integration with the IOC is another implementation of the recommendations of Olympic Agenda 2020, it is athletes and Olympians who should and will benefit from this close collaboration.

**International Olympic
Committee President,
Thomas Bach**



Fast-track your way into the Rio 2016 Olympians Reunion Centre by EY

The WOA is pleased to announce that pre-registration for the Olympians Reunion Centre by EY is now open. All Olympians travelling to Rio de Janeiro for this summer's Olympic Games are invited to pre-register online for their venue accreditation, which will mean faster entry into the exclusive venue.

The Olympians Reunion Centre by EY is a private drop-in club that will welcome Olympians (plus one guest) throughout the Games and act as a home away from home in the heart of Rio. Visitors can relax and enjoy free Wi-Fi, complimentary snacks and beverages, as well as live streaming of the Olympic Games in a space that has been specially designed with Olympians in mind.

Situated at the iconic Club de Regatas do Flamengo on the shores of Lagoa Rodrigo de Freitas and near the world famous Copacabana and Ipanema beaches, the Olympians Reunion Centre by EY will offer guests an unforgettable Olympic experience. It is also handily placed for Olympic transport routes and adjacent to the Olympic rowing and canoe venue. It will bring together Olympians of all generations within an informal environment to reunite with past acquaintances, form

new friendships and share their Olympic stories. The venue will also play host to a series of interesting and fun events and functions, as well as inspiring photographic installations celebrating Olympism.

Olympians can preregister at <http://olympians.org/rio-2016/> and enjoy the Rio 2016 Olympic Games in comfort and style. By registering in advance, you and one guest can gain priority access and avoid queues at the door.

During the Games, the WOA will also have a limited number of Olympic tickets available to allow groups of Olympians to attend Games sessions. The WOA will be organizing fun and exclusive outings from the Olympians Reunion Centre by EY to selected events where Olympians of all ages can get to know their fellow athletes, while watching the exciting Rio 2016 action live from the venue. Places will be limited and will be allocated on a first-come, first-served basis. We encourage Olympians going to Rio to both sign up for the Olympians Reunion Centre by EY and express their interest for a free ticket to a Games session on: <http://olympians.org/rio-2016/>

ANGEL BOVEE SHARES PERSONAL EXPERIENCES WITH ACE ATHLETES



As a member of the U.S. Olympic Committee's sponsor, Adecco Group, Angelique "Angel" Bovee draws upon personal insights, passion for the Olympic movement, and a driven work ethic to support the USOC's Athlete Career and Education program, and more notably, the scores of athletes the program serves. A self-proclaimed Jill of all trades, Angel's experience as a former world-class boxer and skilled professional across multiple industries contributes greatly to her ability to assist athletes with their professional development needs as they pursue dreams of Olympic /Paralympic gold.

Upon joining the Adecco Group's Athlete Career Program (ACP) in 2011, Angel has crafted a unique role that expands internationally. Accompanying her role as an athlete career coach in support of ACE, Angel works with the International Olympic Committee's ACP, which is also sponsored through the Adecco Group. This past summer she spoke at the IOC's 7th Annual ACP Forum in Lima, Peru, and attended the Sochi 2014 Olympic Winter Games as a representative of the IOC ACP. Angel was also featured in the IOC's Athlete Learning Gateway video modules, and also assisted in creating "Train the Trainer" videos for the IOC's ACP. The IOC's ACP is represented in 34 countries through Adecco, with the U.S. serving as one of the leading nations in job placements, services and number of athletes served.

In addition to her work experience, Angel walked the journey of a struggling

elite athlete in the 2000s as a world class boxer. She began her boxing pursuit with sights on competing in the 2004 Olympic Games, which was expected to be the first Olympic Games to include women's boxing. After carefully crafting a road map to get her atop the Olympic podium, she quit her job as a television producer, took out a personal loan, moved out of her apartment and into her car for six months to focus on full-time training. To fund her dream, she navigated a variety of jobs around her full-time training schedule.

Angel reflects back on those tough times, noting, "When I was boxing, I not only lived in my car for a period of time, but I had a host of part-time jobs to make ends meet. I worked as a personal trainer, National Park Ranger, certified pool operator and freelance video producer, just to name a few! My days would begin at 4:45 a.m. and complete after 9 p.m."

Angel's sacrifices paid off, as her trophy case displays a highly successful career, which includes earning three U.S national titles, a top-eight world ranking and a spot on two world teams. Despite her success, she missed her opportunity to compete in the Games as women's boxing was not included on the Olympic program until the London 2012 Olympic Games.

After completing her boxing career, Angel decided to take her fight outside the ring. In 2006, she was elected as the only female member on the USA Boxing Board of Directors, also serving as the Chair of the USAB Athlete Advisory Council where she tirelessly advocated for athletes until 2013. She has also been invited by various community groups to share her message of creating your personal reality through crafting a road map, risk-taking, resiliency, and redefinition;

life lessons she continues to learn throughout her fight, both in and out of the ring.

With ACE, Angel draws on her athletic and professional experiences to help elite athletes navigate the financial obstacles facing them, connecting them with part-time, flexible jobs for funding. Remembering her struggles as an athlete, she adds, "It is the hardest I ever worked, so I understand the struggle when an athlete comes into the program. Having a flexible job that can work around your travel and training schedule can be the difference between having to leave sport and being able to financially continue."

Angel remains passionate about providing resources to help athletes gain career experience and a paycheck while pursuing their dreams of gold.

"It is so rewarding to help others that are facing the same types of struggles I had as an athlete. Not only is competing at the highest level while working extremely challenging, the transition Olympic and Paralympic athletes have to face when they stop competing is often one of the toughest periods of time in their careers. Redefining yourself after reaching the pinnacle of your sporting career is a difficult process and many athletes experience a significant drop in self-esteem and feel a bit lost. The ACE program provides athletes with the tools and guidance to help make that transition a little easier, which keeps me passionate about my role and provides me with enormous job satisfaction."

Athletes should feel comforted knowing such a tough, spirited fighter has their back.

USOC ARCHIVES & ARCHIVIST NEWS

TERESA HEDGPETH, USOC ARCHIVIST & HISTORICAL STEWARD



Four of the Road to Rio Displays currently touring the United States. Artifacts included are from the Ernie Cunliffe Collection, Tim Curry Collection, Cy Young, Jr. Collection, Greta Neimanas Collection and Crawford Family U.S. Olympic Archives.

We are off on the Road to Rio! The Crawford Family U.S. Olympic Archives actively support the Rio 2016 Games via Olympic and Paralympic memorabilia displays by presenting our history inspiring fans throughout the U.S. As the countdown to Rio begins, The archives have already hit the road with five display cases of artifacts on the Road to Rio tour, as well as historic displays at the USOPA Reunion in Las Vegas, Media Summit in Los Angeles and three more exciting exhibits to come.

The Road to Rio exhibits are located in the rainforest trailer, which is specially designed to host the historic displays traveling throughout the United States prior to the Rio 2016 Olympic Games. Attendees at the tour stops have the unique opportunity to view artifacts from our archives, while immersing themselves in the Road to Rio experience this spring and summer. The USOPA Reunion in February afforded us another opportunity to

exhibit some of the Olympic artifacts housed in the Archives. In addition to the historic exhibit open Friday evening and Saturday morning of the reunion, attendees were also given a glimpse of the actual Crawford Family U.S. Olympic Archives with a presentation over breakfast on Saturday morning describing the collection in more depth and detail. Response from this event was tremendous with donations from our Olympians and Paralympians, as well as fans of the Olympic movement already coming into the archives.

Most recently, the archives traveled to Los Angeles and set up a historic

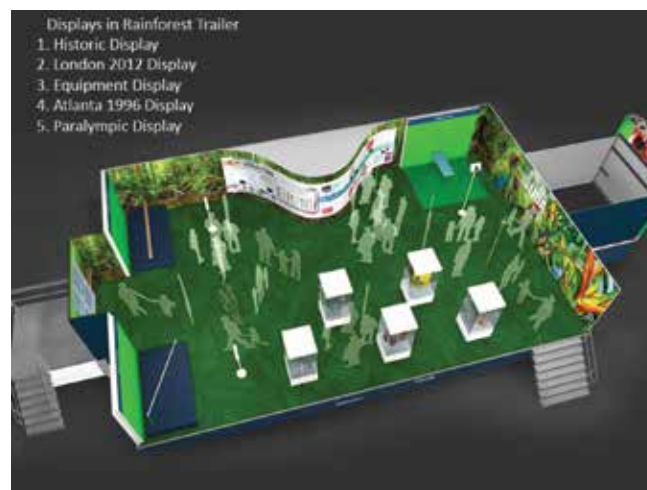
exhibit of Olympic memorabilia during the 2016 Team USA Media Summit for

As fantastic and diverse as these exhibits are, none of the displays would be possible without donations of your Olympic history to the Crawford Family U.S. Olympic Archives.

four days. This was the first time the archives were present at the Media Summit and proved to be a hit! Not

only did Olympic and Paralympic athletes view the display, but news outlets also took advantage of the opportunity to film the artifacts.

The exhibit focused on the Los Angeles



1932 and 1984 Olympic Games highlighting Los Angeles' historic ties to the Olympic Games. The display was made even more special by Michelle Dusserre-Farrell, 1984 silver medalist in women's gymnastics, who attended the reunion and after hearing about our upcoming exhibit in Los Angeles, loaned her 1984 gymnastics uniforms and other significant artifacts from her personal collection to us specifically for the event.

While at the Media Summit, we not only connected with Olympic hopefuls and the media, but also with current Olympians such as Kim Rhode, five-time Olympian in shooting, who donated a one-of-a-kind Kim Rhode pin to the archives on the spot.

Since the Crawford Family U.S. Olympic Archives is private and not open to the public, historic displays at the USOPA Reunion and Media Summit are vital in that they give us the opportunity to present our history to a greater audience. Moreover, Olympic artifacts are not static items; rather, each is linked to a particular Olympiad and quite often to a particular athlete. It is then that the history of the Olympic Games, and our Olympians and Paralympians comes to life. We present the history in a vital, tangible, three-dimensional manner that fans of the Olympic movement can relate to and be inspired by. In addition, we also have the opportunity to reconnect our athletes to their own history.

As fantastic and diverse as these exhibits are, none of the displays would be possible without your donations

to the Crawford Family U.S. Olympic Archives. Thank you for making this possible and realizing the importance of preserving the Olympic Movement in the United States, as well as your own history.



U.S. Olympian and Paralympian Association Reunion, 2016. Olympic Memorabilia Exhibit in the Tropicana Hilton. Not only did it showcase Olympic and Paralympic artifacts, it also proved to be a popular gathering place after registration Friday afternoon. Artifacts on display came from numerous collections within the Crawford Family U.S. Olympic Archives.



2016 Media Summit Olympic Memorabilia Display. Artifacts shown here on loan from Michelle Dusserre-Farrell.



Kim Rhode and Teri Hedgpeth. Photo by Jess Reyes. Kim Rhode created pin for London 2012 Olympic Games.



Road to Rio Equipment Display. Serena Williams' tennis shoe from the Tim Curry Collection, Crawford Family U.S. Olympic Archives.



ONCE HOMELESS PARALYMPIAN TAHL LEIBOVITZ EMBRACES NEW CAREER IN SOCIAL WORK WHILE TRAINING FOR RIO



Tahl Leibovitz
Athens 2004 Paralympic Games
Bronze medalist

USOC's Athlete Career and Education Program helps athletes like Leibovitz find meaningful careers beyond sport
By Caryn Maconi

As a teenager living on the streets of New York, Tahl Leibovitz found it difficult to imagine a very bright future. Leibovitz' parents, who struggled with substance abuse and mental illness, kicked him out of his home when he was 13. Unable to keep up his studies, he dropped out of middle school. Soon, to stay warm at night, the would-be seventh grader was sleeping on the city subways.

One day, Leibovitz wandered into the South Queens Boys and Girls Club to participate in a program for at-risk youth. There, he learned to play table tennis for the first time.

Though he didn't know it at the time, that experience would lead him down an extraordinary path.

Leibovitz quickly developed a talent for the sport of table tennis, and was soon entering domestic and international competitions. Still homeless, he split his time sleeping on the trains and practicing at the table tennis club.

In 1995, Leibovitz crossed paths with Chris Lehman, a coach of the U.S.

Paralympic Table Tennis Team. He learned that a condition he had lived with all his life – osteochondroma, characterized by sometimes-painful noncancerous bone tumors – could make him eligible to compete in Paralympic competitions.

The following year, he qualified to represent Team USA in table tennis at the Atlanta 1996 Paralympic Games – and won a gold medal.

As he began to take the sport more seriously, Leibovitz' future became a little brighter. He was finding success at the highest levels of table tennis, and yearned to be successful in other areas of his life as well.

Still without stable housing, Leibovitz worked toward his GED and enrolled at the local Queens College. Having never attended high school, he ultimately earned two bachelor's degrees in sociology and philosophy as well as a master's degree in urban affairs.

From there, he was admitted to the New York University Silver School of Social Work, where he earned a second master's degree in 2015.

Throughout his studies, Leibovitz has continued improving on the table tennis court – and today, he has the distinction



of being a four-time U.S. Paralympian and the defending gold medalist from the London 2012 Games.

With his exceptional athletic and educational resumes, Leibovitz always knew there would be more to his life than table tennis.

Motivated by his personal hardships and the substance abuse struggles of his family and several friends, Leibovitz became passionate about pursuing a career in social work.

He reached out to the USOC's Athlete Career and Education Program, designed to support U.S. athletes as they plan for success beyond sport.

Launched in 2014 with the expertise of the USOC's career services sponsor Adecco, the ACE Program has provided more than 1,000 athletes with job placement and professional development support over the past two years.

Through regular meetings with Adecco career coach Angel Bovee, Leibovitz learned the basics of resume building, interviewing and networking.

"Tahl was the dream athlete. He came to us with an impressive set of credentials, and the only thing he didn't have was a lot of job experience," Bovee said. "Through the ACE Program he received help creating his resume and cover letter, practice sessions with his interviewing skills and job placement assistance.

"We sent him a variety of open jobs and helped him network with the agencies he completed his internships with, his school career center and his peers. Ultimately Tahl was very coachable and put in the work necessary to get a position he wanted."

Leibovitz recently landed a full-time position at Western Queens Recovery Services, where he works as a substance abuse counselor.

"It's been pretty awesome," Leibovitz said. "I have flexible hours and I start a little later in the day, so I can do my physical training in the morning and practice table tennis at night. My training is more focused – now I'm doing less training, but it has more value and I'm getting more out of it."

Already qualified for the 2016 Paralympic Team, Leibovitz recently competed at the U.S. Olympic Trials. He made it to the round of 16 before dropping a match

to the eventual tournament champion.

Bovee, Leibovitz' career counselor through the ACE Program, is a former elite boxer who knows the difficulties of balancing a career outside of sport.

"I had to face a transition just like all these athletes have to face," Bovee said. "Most athletes, I would say, do not plan it. They transition out because of injury, age, or maybe because they can't perform up to that level anymore, so they always go through a very difficult psychological transition. One of the goals of the ACE Program is to help make that transition easier for athletes." Bovee explained that a typical ACE session differs for each athlete, but could include anything from building a LinkedIn profile to enrolling in a course in entrepreneurial skills.

"Most athletes compete for 10-20 years, and one of the goals of the ACE program is to make sure they are prepared for the next 40," Bovee said. "I call us case managers, because we connect the dots between the network, the resources and the athlete."

The program provides access to more than 3,000 online classes and webinars, which run the gamut from salary negotiation to formal certifications in professional skills.

ACE staff work directly with USOC sponsors and other companies who have a special interest in hiring athletes, while also helping athletes identify connections within their own networks. "We always try to sell the fact that athletes are top performers in their sport, but they can also be top performers in the workplace," Bovee said. "The soft skills they have – determination, problem-solving skills, teamwork mentality – that make them

successful in sport are the very same skills that will make them successful in a job."

The ACE Program has been evolving and expanding ever since its 2014 launch, thanks in part to a \$2.75 million investment from the U.S. Olympic and Paralympic Foundation. In 2015 alone, the program successfully placed 241 athletes in stable jobs.

"I think what's most important is that when the USOC offers programs like this, they are really seeing the anatomy of an athlete, and not just someone who is there to win medals," Leibovitz said. "I think it's a really positive program because the USOC is investing time and effort and energy into another dimension of their athletes, which is their life after their athletic career."

The ACE Program is working on several key initiatives for 2016, including an online mentoring program in which athletes can speak one-on-one with top industry executives in a variety of fields. To donate or learn more about the ACE Program, please contact Blanton Jones at Blanton.jones@usoc.org.



Tahl Leibovitz
Toronto 2015 Parapan American Games
Gold medalist

BY THE NUMBERS:

YEARS:

From 1948 – 2014 every Olympic year was represented

ATTENDEES:

Summer Sports: 247
(no archery, soccer or triathlon)

Winter Sports: 41
(no skeleton)

Paralympians: 29
Guests: 192

STATES:

37 States represented

CHAPTER PRESIDENTS:

17 of the 26 Chapter Presidents attended

LEADERSHIP/ USOPA BOARD:

All officers attended, plus three past presidents

REUNION COMMITTEE:

All Reunion Committee members attended



REUNION2016

USOPA REUNION 2016 A BIG SUCCESS

More than 300 U.S. Olympians and Paralympians from all Games years gathered at Las Vegas' renowned Tropicana Hotel from Feb. 19-22 to celebrate the 2016 U.S. Olympians and Paralympians Reunion.

The event, hosted by the USOPA, was an opportunity for U.S. Olympians and Paralympians to rekindle old friendships with teammates, make new connections with fellow athletes across multiple generations and celebrate the power of the Olympic spirit.

The three-day reunion featured a gala dinner, Olympic memorabilia presentation, youth sport clinics, and an athlete panel. Most importantly, the event offered the chance for U.S. Olympians and Paralympians across all sports and years to come together, foster new friendships and celebrate the unique experience of representing the United States at the Olympic and Paralympic Games.

THANKS TO EVERYONE WHO PLAYED A PART IN THE SUCCESS OF THIS REUNION...SEE YOU IN 2019!

THE REUNION 2016 PLANNING COMMITTEE INCLUDED:

Willie Banks (*Track & Field, 1980, 1984, 1988*), Event Chair

Anne Warner Cribbs (*Swimming, 1960*), Event Producer

Joey Cheek (*Speedskating, 2002, 2006*)

Micki King (*Diving, 1968, 1972*)

Tom Lough (*Modern Pentathlon, 1968*)

Susie Paxton (*Fencing, 1996*)

John Register (*Paralympic Swimming, 1996; Paralympic Track & Field, 2000*)

Cindy Stinger (*Team Handball, 1984, 1988, 1992*)

Eli Wolff (*Paralympic Soccer, 1996, 2004*)

IMPORTANT DETAILS

Important note: Please check your hotel bill from the Tropicana to see if you were charged \$28.00 per day for a resort fee. If you were, please email acenturion@tropiv.com and this charge will be refunded to your credit card. You will be charged the \$9.99 plus tax per day fee as outlined in our agreement with the Tropicana.

About the silver coin:

The commemorative silver coin presented to you at the gala dinner by reunion co-chair and former Lt.

Governor Brian Krolicki was struck by the Northwest Territorial Mint in Nevada and comes with a certificate of authenticity. There were only 300 of these special reunion coins created, each containing our motto "Once an Olympian, always an Olympian. Never former, never past."

About the photos:

Christine Taylor from the USOC alumni office will be sending you a link to the photos taken by Tom Kimmell (reunion photographer). If you have photos you

wish to share, please email them to Christine.Taylor@usoc.org.

About the directory:

If you signed the release form (and checked the box) to have your information shared with other reunion attendees, Christine Taylor has distributed the directory. Thanks to everyone who played a part in the success of this reunion...see you in 2019!



1. From left: USOPA Alumni Relations Specialist Christine Taylor, John Naber (swimming, 1976) and USOPA Manager Diane Simpson (rhythmic gymnastics, 1988, 1992) accepts the award on behalf of Adolph Kiefer (swimming, 1936).

2. From left: Jackie Joyner Kersee (track & field, 1984, '88, '92, '96), Dr. Edwin Moses (track & field, 1976, '80, '84, '88), Dr. John Carlos (track & field, 1968), Bob Beamon (track & field, 1968) and Harrison Dillard (track & field, 1948, '52)

3. Greg Louganis (diving, 1976, '80, '84, '88) and USOC CEO Scott Blackmun

4. Dr. Tommie Smith (track & field, 1968), John Register (Paralympic swimming, 1996, Paralympic track & field, 2000) and Dr. John Carlos (track & field, 1968)

5. Beth Livingston (Paralympic skiing, 2002), Bill Toomey (track & field, 1968) and Candace Cable (Paralympic track & field and alpine skiing, 1980, '88, '92, '94, '96, '98, '02, '06)

6. John Naber (swimming, 1976) presents the Louis Zamperini Lifetime Achievement Award. Diane Simpson (rhythmic gymnastics, 1988, 1992) accepts the award on behalf of Adolph Kiefer (swimming, 1936).

7. Misty May-Treanor (volleyball, 2000, '04, '08, '12), Debbie Green (volleyball, 1980, '84), Tayyiba Haneef-Park (volleyball, 2004, '08, '12) and Paula Weishoff (volleyball, 1984, '92, '96, '12)

8. Co-producer Herb Douglas (track & field, 1948) discusses the film, "The Renaissance Period of The African American In Sports", and introduces a panel of prominent African-American U.S. Olympians

9. USOPA President Gary Hall, Sr. (swimming, 1968, 1972) addresses the crowd

10. Theresa Andrews (swimming, 1984) and Karen Oldham (track & field, 1956, 1960)

All Reunion photos by: Tom Kimmell

USOPA REUNION 2016





photos by: Tom Kimmell

SEE YOU IN 2019!

BOOK REVIEWS

Jeff Farrell, My Olympic Story: Rome 1960



This book might well have been suitably called “A Profile in Courage” or “Find a Way,” if those titles had not already been preempted by John F. Kennedy and

Diana Nyad. This is a story of an athlete who had the “courage” to “find a way” to victory after a stunning and untimely setback that was entirely unexpected.

Leading into the Olympic trials that were to begin on August 2, 1960, there was no faster freestyle sprinter in the world than Jeff Farrell. Then disaster struck. In the early morning of July 27, Farrell woke up with severe abdominal pains and collapsed in the bathroom of a hotel in Detroit. This book tells what happened in the 10 days following Farrell’s operation to have his appendix removed, a serious surgery that would have put an end to the dreams of most normal athletes — but not Jeff Farrell’s. Through the first 10 of the nineteen chapters, the story is told by alternating accounts of the days Farrell spent in the hospital recovering with looks back at the road to success he had followed to get him to this peak point in his swimming career.

Anyone who knows what hard work it takes to excel in this sport cannot help being inspired by Farrell’s story, but this is also a book that should provide inspiration for competitors in all sports.

For a much fuller review of this book, see <http://www.swimmingworldmagazine.com/news/book-review-of-jeff-farrells-my-olympic-story-rome-1960/>

Order Jeff’s book from sales@vintageteampress.com

Celebrating Minnesota Gold

by Patrick “Packy” Mader



Athletics have played a significant role in the lives and history of the people of Minnesota. Minnesota Gold features the compelling stories of 57 athletes as they

pursued their dreams and persevered in their effort to realize their dream of competing on the world stage: the Olympic Games, World Championships, and World Cup events. Author Patrick Mader shares the memorable conversations he had with these fascinating men and women representing a wide range of eras (1948 – 2014), a variety of sports, and the diverse geography of the state. The nonfiction book is 400 pages in length, is meticulously researched, and profusely illustrated. Included are several gold medalists: WNBA playmaker Lindsay Whalen, 1980 Miracle on Ice scorer Buzz Schneider, athletic soccer goalkeeper Briana Scurry, and swimming star Tom Malchow. While the in-person conversations the author had with the athletes focuses on their athletic achievements, their lives and challenges are also shared with the reader. Inclusive, the book also has profiles on Native American hockey legend Henry Boucha and African-American athletes in team and individual sports.

Acclaimed broadcasters Dave Mona, Joe Schmit, and Don Shelby endorse the book as well as respected former University of Minnesota Athletic Director Joel Maturi and former USA Hockey president Walter Bush, Jr.

After learning about these remarkable athletes, you will believe they are truly Minnesota gold.

The book is available through the author at www.patrickmader.com, the publisher at www.itascabooks.com, Barnes & Noble Bookstores, and Amazon. Retail price for the coffee table book is \$39.95.

Munich to Montreal

by Casey Converse



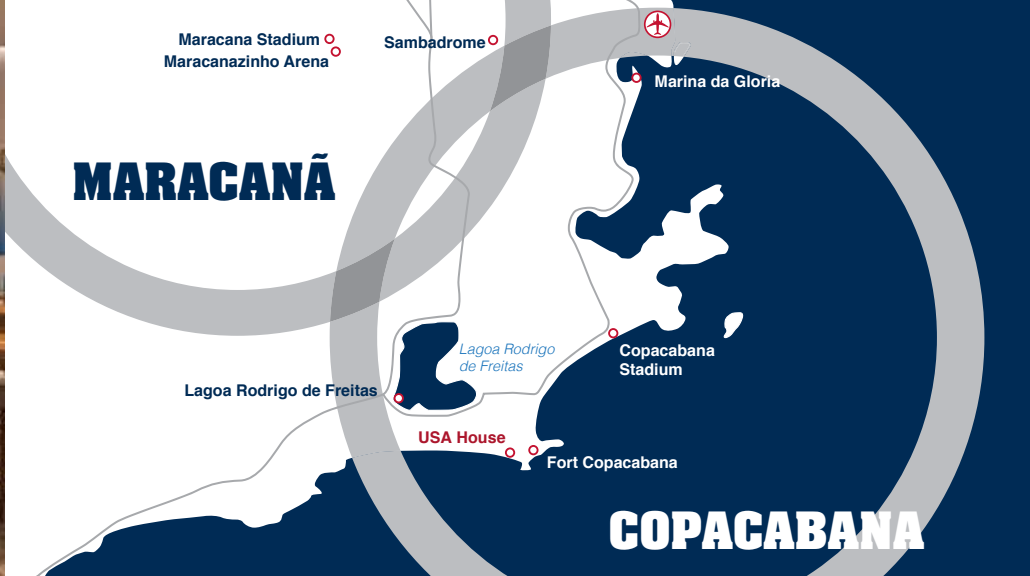
It has been called the greatest untold story of the Olympic Games. It’s a true tale of athletics as Cold War proxy battle, systematic steroid doping and an

improbable comeback.

Munich to Montreal is a deeper look at one of the most revolutionary and tumultuous periods in Olympic swimming history. The interval between the Munich 1972 Games and the Montreal 1976 Games saw the introduction of the first “technical” swimsuits for women and the overnight transformation of swim training brought about by the introduction of simple, functional swim goggles.

During this period, America’s top female swimmers struggled to remain competitive with the East Germans before the widespread implementation of Title IX provided them scholarships, professional coaching and the opportunity to continue their careers in college.

This book is available at Amazon.com



Dates of Operation:
August 5- 21, 2016

House Hours of Operation:
10:00am – 12:00am

Team USA Shop
 Hours of Operation:
10:00am – 10:00pm

Cost to purchase
 additional day passes:
\$300 USD each

Cost for Child Pass
 (12 and under):
\$75 USD each

JOIN US IN RIO AT USA HOUSE

The Rio 2016 Olympic Games are just around the corner. As you finalize your travel arrangements, please include USA House on your itinerary. As alumni, every registered Olympian and Paralympian will receive an all access pass to USA House, valid August 5-21. You will also receive two day passes for guests.

Here is a quick glance at this year's USA House:

Located on Iconic Ipanema Beach at the Colégio São Paulo, Av. Vieira Souto, 22 – Ipanema, Rio de Janeiro - RJ, 22420-000, Brazil. USA House will serve as the hub of the USOC's Hospitality operation, featuring all day dining and beverage services, live Olympic Games coverage, Order of Ikkos ceremonies and much more.

#GO TEAM USA



Please confirm your attendance by emailing Christine Taylor at: christine.taylor@usoc.org with your name, sport, years and dates of arrival/departure.

Access passes can be picked up at the USA House Registration Desk starting August 5th. To use your two one-day guest passes you will need to register your guests at the front desk.

ALUMNI IN HONOR

The 2016 USA Gymnastics Hall Of Fame Class has been announced by USA Gymnastics

The list includes: Ron Galimore, Paul Hamm, Alicia Sacramone, Julie Zetlin, Valeri Liukin and Jurek Pol. Additionally, George Hery will receive the lifetime achievement award.

The Hall of Fame induction ceremony will be held during the 2016 U.S. Olympic Team Trials – Women's Gymnastics on July 9.

Seven individuals representing five different gymnastics disciplines comprise the 2016 class of inductees. The four Olympic athletes and two coaches include athletes Ron Galimore of Indianapolis (men's gymnastics), Paul Hamm of Glen Ellyn, Ill. (men's gymnastics), Alicia Sacramone of Ft. Lauderdale, Fla. (women's gymnastics), and Julie Zetlin of Los Angeles (rhythmic gymnastics) and coaches Valeri Liukin of Parker, Texas (women's gymnastics coach), and Jurek Pol of Slidell, La. (acrobatic gymnastics coach). George Hery of Fallbrook, Calif., will receive the Lifetime Achievement Award for his efforts in trampoline and tumbling. The induction ceremony is slated for Saturday, July 9, during the 2016 U.S. Olympic Team Trials – Women's Gymnastics and USA Gymnastics National Congress and Trade Show in San Jose, Calif.

"Each of these individuals has had a significant impact on our sport and contributed in a number of different

ways," said Steve Penny, president of USA Gymnastics. "Congratulations to the inductees."



Ron Galimore, men's gymnastics

Galimore, one of the country's top gymnasts, was a member of the 1980 U.S. Olympic Gymnastics Team, the first African-American to make a U.S. Olympic Gymnastics Team. He was the first four-year NCAA national gymnastics champion and earned the first perfect 10 at an NCAA National Championships. While at Iowa State University, where he graduated with a bachelor of arts degree in speech, Galimore was a 12-time All-American and was named Athlete of the Year in 1981. A member of the U.S. Men's National Gymnastics Team from 1977-81, he holds the record for most U.S. national vault titles at four and is tied for the record of three national floor exercise titles. After finishing his education at Iowa State and retiring from competition, Galimore participated in two touring gymnastics shows/competitions sponsored by Madison Square Garden, served as the assistant coach for Iowa State and worked for ABC during the 1984 Olympic Games. Galimore was the founder and athletic director of the Ron Galimore Athlete Training Center in Tallahassee, Fla., from 1985-94, and a project manager for Marketing

and Financial Management, a firm that specialized in sports marketing from 1984-85. Currently, Galimore is the chief operating officer of USA Gymnastics and he resides in Indianapolis with his wife, Loree.



Paul Hamm, men's gymnastics

Hamm was the first U.S. man to win the world and Olympic all-around titles, ultimately garnering a total of three Olympic and five world medals. A two-time Olympian, Hamm won the all-around gold at the Athens 2004 Olympic Games. He also aided the U.S. men in bringing home the team silver medal, the U.S. men's first Olympic team medal since 1984, and went on to earn the horizontal bar silver medal. In 2003, Hamm won the world all-around title, a first for the U.S. men, and the floor exercise gold, as well as helped the men earn the team silver medal. His other world medals were the 2001 team silver and the 2002 floor exercise bronze. Also, Hamm accumulated three U.S. all-around titles (2002-04), along with two U.S. crowns each for floor exercise, pommel horse and horizontal bar, and one vault title. He also won the 2008 American Cup and the all-around title at three Pacific Rim Championships, along with several other individual and team medals. Hamm was a member of the 2000 U.S. Olympic Team, where he and his

ALUMNI IN HONOR (continued)

brother, Morgan, made history as the first twins to compete on the same Olympic team in gymnastics. Hamm began his career at the Swiss Turners Gymnastics Academy and trained for the 2004 Olympic Games at Ohio State University, where he earned a degree in accounting in 2007. He currently resides in Glen Ellyn, Ill., and coaches at Premier Gymnastics..



Valeri Liukin, women's gymnastics coach

Liukin is a co-founder and owner of WOGA. He coached Nastia Liukin, who won the 2008 Olympic all-around title, and has five Olympic and nine world medals to her credit; Rebecca Bross, who has six world medals; Katelyn Ohashi, who has five U.S. junior titles, including the 2011 all-around crown and Vanessa Atler, who won the team gold and vault bronze medals at the 2000 Pacific Alliance Championships. His coaching accomplishments and accolades include: U.S. national team coach, 1998-2011; International Coach of the Year, 2002, 2004; International Gymnastics Hall of Fame, 2005; USA Gymnastics Coach of the Year, 2006; U.S. Pan American team head coach, 2007; 2008 U.S. Olympic Gymnastics Team coach and 2009 International Gymnastics Coach of the Year. As an athlete, Liukin was a member of the Soviet national team from 1985-92.

During his career, he won two gold and two silver medals at the 1988 Olympic Games; five gold medals at the 1990 Goodwill Games, and two gold and one bronze medal at the 1987 and 1991 world championships. He was also the first gymnast to perform a triple back flip on floor and has a horizontal bar skill named after him. Liukin is currently the director of elite developmental athletes for USA Gymnastics women's program and resides in Parker, Texas, with his wife, Anna.



Jurek Pol, acrobatic gymnastics coach

A pioneer in sports acrobatics since 1976, Pol led his athletes to 20 U.S. championships appearances and 52 national titles. He was a member of the coaching staff at nine world championships, bringing home a total of six world medals. Additionally, Pol served as the head U.S. coach for the 1982-83, 1986-88 and 1990 world championships. Pol also served as a board member of the U.S. Sports Acrobatics Federation, which merged with USA Gymnastics in 2002; a national superior judge, and a member of the Technical and International Relations Committee. He authored the first compulsory competitive program for acrobatic gymnastics and was

inducted into the Sports Acrobatics Hall of Fame in 2001. As an athlete, Pol was the Polish national trampoline champion in 1970 and won the 1978 U.S. men's pair title with David Nordman. Currently, he is the head acrobatic coach at Gymnastics Plus and a physical and biological science teacher in the local school system in Slidell, La., where he resides with his wife, Melanie.



Alicia Sacramone, women's gymnastics

Sacramone won 10 career world medals, the second highest total by a U.S. gymnast, and was the team captain of the silver-medal team at the 2008 Olympic Games. Her world medal count includes four gold, four silver and two bronze: gold – team (2007, 2011), floor exercise (2005) and vault (2010); silver – team (2006, 2010), vault (2006) and floor exercise (2007) and bronze – vault (2005, 2007). Sacramone helped Team USA to its first-ever team gold medal on foreign soil in 2007 and was a member of the 2011 gold-medal winning world championships team. Sacramone holds the U.S. record for the most individual vault titles with a total of six vault crowns. She won the U.S. balance beam title in 2011 and the floor exercise gold in 2005-06. Sacramone, who trained at Brestyan's

ALUMNI IN HONOR (continued)

American Gymnastics, retired from competitive gymnastics after the 2012 trials. She remains active in the sport as a coach, choreographer, clinician and NCAA gymnastics commentator. Sacramone currently resides in Ft. Lauderdale, Fla., with her husband, Brady Quinn.



Julie Zetlin, rhythmic gymnastics

A 2012 Olympian, Zetlin won 10 U.S. titles from 2005-12. Her national championship victories included the 2010 all-around title; rope in 2005; hoop in 2005 and 2010; clubs in 2005 and 2006; ribbon in 2007, 2010 and 2012, and ball in 2010. In addition to the 2012 Olympic Games, Zetlin represented the U.S. internationally as a member of five world championships teams. She earned the all-around, ribbon and ball gold medals at the 2012 Pacific Rim Championships. In 2011, she claimed the all-around title, along with the gold medal in ball and ribbon and the silver medal in hoop at the 2011 Pan American Games. In 2010, Zetlin became the first U.S. woman to advance to the world championships all-around finals since 2003. During the 2010 Pan Am Championships, she won the all-around, rope and ball titles, helped the U.S. to team silver and earned a bronze medal for ribbon. At

the 2010 Chicago Cup, Zetlin was the silver medalist in the all-around for the second straight year, as well as won the gold medal for ribbon and the silver for rope, hoop and ball. She trained at Capital Rhythmics. Zetlin, who resides in Los Angeles, is currently a student at the American Jewish University working toward a degree in literature, communications and media. Upon graduation in 2017, she would like to pursue a career in entertainment media. She remains active within the sport as a coach at La Ritmica.



George Hery, trampoline and tumbling, Lifetime Achievement

Hery turned an interest in gymnastics into a lifelong passion and became one of trampoline's greatest innovators. In 1960, Hery earned a scholarship to the University of Iowa, where he enjoyed a successful collegiate career winning the 1964 NCAA Championships vault title and Big 10 crowns on floor and vault. He won the 1964 World Professional Trampoline Championships, becoming the first trampoline athlete to successfully compete a triple back in competition. Following his athletic career, Hery began his journey as an educator working under the tutelage of George

Nissen, recognized as the inventor of the modern trampoline. Over the next 50 years, Hery led clinics and demonstrations while pioneering new and safer equipment for the sport. His innovations include the double mini-trampoline and the addition of the coil springboard for vault. Hery owned gyms in New Jersey and Nevada and authored numerous educational articles for trampoline and tumbling. Hery now lives in Fallbrook, California, and continues to coach, judge and lead clinics around the country.

International Swimming Hall Of Fame Announces The Class Of 2016

FORT LAUDERDALE - The International Swimming Hall of Fame, recognized by FINA, the international governing body for the Olympic aquatic sports, has announced the names of 16 athletes, coaches, contributors, pioneers and one team - representing six aquatic disciplines (swimming, open water swimming, marathon swimming, synchronized swimming, diving and water polo) from eleven different nations, who will be honored during ISHOF's 52nd Annual Honors Weekend, June 3-5, in Santa Clara, California.

"This is an exceptional class of honorees and one of the largest classes in recent years," said Camillo Cametti, of Verona, Italy, chairman of ISHOF's International Selection Committee. "It will also mark the first time in ISHOF's history that we will recognize an entire team in the sport of water polo, but

ALUMNI IN HONOR (continued)

what a team - the three time Olympic champions from Hungary. This class also includes many stars well known in their own countries and around the world, and five pioneers, who have long been overlooked for their accomplishments.”

“This is truly a great class and I want to personally congratulate all honorees and thank Mr. Cametti and the selection

committee for their commitment to honor the best in our sports,” said Donna de Varona, ISHOF’s chairman of the board. “We recognize that this was a difficult task, particularly this year, as the committee started with more than 175 nominees from all over the world and many exceptional candidates did not make the final list.”

The ISHOF class of 2016 includes

swimmers Aaron Peirsol (USA), Camille Muffat (FRA) and Dara Torres (USA); open water swimmer Larisa Ilchenko (RUS); Divers Dmitry Sautin (RUS) and Guo Jingjing (CHN); synchronized swimmer Yelena Azarova (RUS); water polo players including seven members of the 2000-2008 Hungarian Olympic water polo team ; marathon swimmers Desmond Robert “Des” Renford (AUS) and Monique Wildschut (NED); swimming coach Bob Bowman (USA); contributor Sir Peter Heatly (GBR); pioneers Simeon Boychenko (RUS), Horst Gorlitz (GRD/ITA/FRG), Frank Gorman (USA), Hilda James (GBR) and Leonid Meshkov (RUS).

<http://www.teamusa.org/News/2015/December/17/United-States-Olympic-Endowment-Announces-2015-Award-Winners>



Aaron Peirsol



Dara Torres



Camille Muffat



Swimming Coach Bob Bowman



Chris Soule (bobsled and skeleton, 2002, 2006) and his wife Masako Konishi are the proud parents of Sebastian Soule. Sebastian was born on February 20, 2016, weighing 7lbs 6oz and measuring 21 inches.

MILESTONES

ALUMNI IN MEMORIAM



Howard Roy Buxton

(Biathlon Official)

Howard Buxton passed away on January 15, 2016, at age 84.

On October 12, 1957 he married Mary Eileen Ahinger and the two were happily married for more than 58 years. Howard was passionate about his responsibility to community, serving on many boards and in other volunteer positions throughout his life. Perhaps the pinnacle of his community service was his role as town moderator for 40 years.

Howard had a distinguished military career in the U.S. Army. In 1973, Howard was tasked with moving the U.S. Army biathlon training facility from Alaska to Vermont. With this, Howard began a relationship with the sport of biathlon that would last for more than 30 years. Through his work with the U.S. biathlon team, Howard served as president of the U.S. Biathlon Association, head of the National Biathlon Federation and as a delegate to the U.S. Olympic Committee. He had the honor of participating as an official in four Olympic Winter Games and served as the biathlon chief of competition for the 1980 Games in Lake Placid and the U.S. Olympic Team chef de mission for the 1994 Games in Lillehammer, Norway.

Despite his many involvements and accomplishments, Howard's true passion was a small place in the Northeast Kingdom of Vermont. In 1954, alongside his best friends and family,

Howard helped create a family legacy that endures to this day. He enjoyed hunting, fishing, logging, lumbering, tinkering, and spending time with those who have shared his passions and stewardship of this very special place.

Howard is survived by his wife Eileen; his sons Clint and wife Margaret, their children Mike and his fiancée Sarah Hamilton, Katie and Lindsay; Toby and wife Brenda, their children Sarah and Mary; Chuck of Richmond; his sister Vivian Curtin of Buckley, Washington; his brother Robert and wife Patricia of Ennis, Montana; his nieces, nephews, other relatives and close friends. Howard was preceded in death by his parents and brother-in-law, John Curtin.



Ronald Emerson Crawford

(Water Polo, 1960, 1964, 1968)

Ronald Crawford passed away on December 20, 2015, at age 76.

At an early age Ron had a profound passion for swimming and water polo. He attended Long Beach City College and graduated from Long Beach State, where his teams won college championships and he earned All-American honors for water polo in 1962 and 1963. He was a three-time Olympian as a proud member of the 1960, 1964 and 1968 U.S. men's water polo teams, as well as a member of the U.S. Pan American teams in 1963 and 1967, and was considered the No. 1 player in the nation during the 1960s. Ron won two medals with the U.S. team in the Pan

American Games (silver in 1963 and gold in 1967) and a silver medal as the U.S. coach at the Maccabiah Games. He was later inducted into the USA Water Polo Hall of Fame in 1977 and became the first American inducted into the International Hall of Fame in 1983.

Ron's love of the water was not solely in a pool as he loved the beach and became a Los Angeles County Recurrent Lifeguard in 1962 and proudly served for more than 40 years. During his years as a lifeguard, Ron spent more than 20 years as the director of the Junior Lifeguard Program and the International Surf Festival.

He also served in the U.S. Army from 1964-1965. His passion for the game of water polo and his skillful ability to teach came together when he became a coach and teacher at Beverly Hills High School in 1966. For 35 years he coached water polo and swimming, and was an inspiration and mentor to many young athletes.

Ron is survived by his loving wife Lynn; son Matt (Stacie); daughter Kelli Grant (Doug); step-children Catherine Weaver-Lee (Terry), Caryn Orrell (Jeffery), Terry Weaver (Shawna); sister Judy Thompson; niece Heidi White (Steve); his seven grandchildren Kyle, Chelsea, Savannah, Karlie, Kelsie, Courtney and Allison, and his two grandnieces Skylar and Taylor.

ALUMNI IN MEMORIAM (continued)



Howard Edward Davis, Jr.
(Boxing, 1976)

Howard Davis, Jr., passed away on December 30, 2015, at age 59.

In the 1976 Olympic Games, Davis was voted the outstanding boxer. He was considered by many to be better than Sugar Ray Leonard on the star-studded team that also included Michael and Leon Spinks. As a pro, his career never matched his Olympic exploits.

His mother died three days before the Montreal Games began, and he considered withdrawing from competition. Instead he stayed, and he dedicated his lightweight gold medal to his mother's memory.

"It was devastating," Davis told the New York Post. "But I remembered her pointing her finger in my face and telling me, 'You better win the gold medal.' 'I wasn't going to be denied; there was no way I was going to lose.'"

After a 17-year pro boxing career, which featured three title fights, Davis moved in the 1990s from fighting to training, from boxing to mixed martial arts and in 2003 he relocated from New York to South Florida. Davis later became an MMA promoter and five years ago founded Fight Time Promotions with his wife. He trained many top MMA fighters, including Chuck Liddell.

Davis continued to offer coaching advice even as a promoter, heading into the locker room after a bout in his suit to sit

with a bloodied fighter and talk about boxing techniques.

Along with his wife Karla Guadamuz-Davis and their five-year-old daughter Samiha, Davis is survived by daughters and sons Diarra, Anika, Howard Davis III, Amira, Dyah, Imaan, Yazmeen, Maryuum, Kamalli, Bryce, and his brothers William, Kenneth, Sylvester, Eric and sisters Shirley, Catherine, Cheryl, Kisha and Debby.



Michael "Mike" D. English
(Shooting, 1983, 1987 Pan Am Games)

Michael English passed away on January 26, 2016, at age 54.

Mike graduated from Regis University in Colorado Springs, Colorado, and Parkwood High School in Joplin, Missouri. He loved anything outdoors and was an avid hunter and fisherman. He was passionate about the Olympic Movement and fierce in his love and dedication to putting the athlete first. Most importantly, he wanted to be the best father, husband, son and brother he could be and a friend to all.

He was always there to listen and offer one of his many quotes.

English was a 10-year member of the U.S. Shooting national team from 1978 to 1988, and was a resident athlete at the Colorado Springs Olympic Training Center from 1981-1986. A five-time national champion in running target, English earned a gold medal at the 1981 world championships, bronze at the 1983

world moving target championships, gold and bronze at the 1983 Pan American Games, gold and bronze at the 1985 Championship of the Americas, bronze at the 1986 Moscow Invitational, gold at the 1987 Pan American Games, and gold and silver at the 1988 Sweden Invitational.

In April 2001, English became president and chairman of the board of USA Shooting, Inc. He previously served as the USA Shooting's vice president and Athletes' Advisory Council representative (1996-2000), and was an athlete director on the USA Shooting board of directors (1988-1996).

In 2004, English began a career at the U.S. Olympic Committee, where he would become the director of the Colorado Springs Olympic Training Center (CSOTC). In 2009, English became the USOC's chief of sport performance. Most recently, he was serving as a board member for the Midway USA Foundation.

Mike leaves behind his wife Ana English (Hogrefe); daughter Amber and son Joshua; mother Shirley; brother Butch (Kim, Dustin, Megan) English; several aunts and uncles, and all his in-laws, nephews, nieces, cousins and many friends that he considered family.



Jack Frailey
(Rowing Coach, 1968)

Jack Frailey passed away on January 7, 2016, at age 90.

ALUMNI IN MEMORIAM (continued)

Raised and educated in Flushing, New York, he graduated from Flushing High School. At age 16, Jack entered the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, where he earned engineers, bachelor, and two master of science degrees in aeronautical engineering in 1944, 1947 and 1954.. While an MIT undergraduate, he designed a fighter plane that is still in use today. Jack honorably served his country in the United States Navy during World War II and earned the rank of Lieutenant, JG.

In 1962, Jack joined MIT and held positions such as special assistant to the provost, director of student financial aid and head rowing coach. His last position before retiring in 1998 was as director in the office of registration and student financial services.

His true love was crew and his greatest gift to oarsmen was his steadfast and zealous coaching and mentoring. His contributions to rowing went beyond the boundaries of MIT.

Jack was a member, president and later chairman of the board of the USRowing board of directors, and president of the National Association of Amateur Oarsmen. His recognitions include the highest honor when he was inducted into the USRowing Hall of Fame for conspicuous service to its community. He received the Jack Kelly award in 1992 for superior achievements in rowing. Jack served as chairman of the U.S. Olympic Rowing Committee and its head manager. In 2008, he received the Henry B. Kane 24' Award for his accomplishments in fundraising for his much-loved MIT. He also invented a patented rowing simulator.

In addition to rowing, Jack excelled at virtually anything to which he applied his mind and body. He enjoyed skiing, music, singing – especially in a Concord barbershop quartet – photography, gardening and travel. An avid writer,

his works appeared in The Oarsmen magazine, Milwaukee Journal, Christian Science Monitor, Boston Globe, Official NBC Olympic Program and the American Rowing Magazine.

Jack and his family were members of the Hodge Podge Lodge, where they enjoyed skiing with friends at Mount Sunapee. His travels in Europe were often to follow international crew regattas. When each of his boys turned 16, he took them on a two-week trip to Europe.

Jack leaves his wife of 24 years, Jean (Carlson) Frailey; his sons Peter Frailey (Laurie) of Westford, Massachusetts, and Richard Frailey (Lee Ellyn) of Spokane, Washington; his grandchildren, Jamie, Tyler, Reed and Alexandra; Jean's children Jonathan I. Rich (Barbara) of Dallas, Texas, David C. Rich (Scott Smith) of Maplewood, New Jersey, and Terri L. Neville (Robert) of Harvard, Massachusetts; Jean's grandchildren Andrew, Allison, Benjamin, Riley and Jean.

Jack is predeceased by his siblings Charles Frailey and Dorothy Fuller.



William "Bill" Johnson
(Skiing, 1984)

William "Bill" Johnson passed away on January 21, 2016, at age 55.

Bill won the downhill at the Sarajevo 1984 Olympics and became the first American to capture gold in alpine skiing's marquee event. He was also the first American male to win an Olympic

gold in any alpine event. He became an iconic figure to many Americans by predicting he would win Olympic gold.

Johnson tried to make a comeback ahead of the 2002 Winter Olympic Games at the age of 40, but crashed in a downhill training run in 2001. He sustained a traumatic brain injury that erased nearly a decade of memories. He had to learn how to walk, talk and eat again.

Johnson made steady improvement over the years, even returning to the slopes for recreation. But his health deteriorated again because of strokes, and he spent his last years in the assisted living center near Portland.

Johnson, who was born in Los Angeles, grew up racing at Bogus Basin, Idaho, and Mt. Hood, Oregon.

Caught stealing cars as a teenager, the judge gave him a choice: attend ski school or head to jail. So he went to Mission Ridge Ski Academy in Washington, where he developed his talent.

Johnson established himself on the global scene when he won the Lauberhorn downhill in Wengen, Switzerland, in 1984 in his second year on the world cup circuit. A month later, Johnson went to Sarajevo and cockily predicted that he would win, annoying his European rivals. He came through, beating silver medalist Peter Mueller of Switzerland by 0.27 of a second.

Johnson won twice more on the world cup circuit in 1984 in Aspen and Whistler, but never stepped on the podium again. He went through knee and back injuries that curtailed his career and prevented him from defending his title at the Calgary 1988 Games.

Bill is survived by two sons.

ALUMNI IN MEMORIAM (continued)



Clyde Lovellette

(Basketball, 1952)

Clyde Lovellette passed away on March 9, 2016, at age 86.

In a 1952 NCAA championship game, Lovellette scored 33 points and grabbed 17 rebounds to lead Kansas to an 80-63 win over St. John's. Also in 1952, Lovellette and six fellow Jayhawks helped lead Team USA to the gold medal over the Soviets at the Helsinki Olympic Games

He ranks as the fourth all-time leading scorer in KU history with 1,979 career points, and as the No. 10 all-time leading rebounder with 813.

Lovellette was elected to the Naismith Memorial Basketball Hall of Fame in May 1988 and the College Basketball Hall of Fame in 2012.

In a 1987 interview with the Star Tribune, Lovellette said, "My strength was I could shoot, I was strong, I was not going to be intimidated and I was so mean. I caused a lot of controversy as far as roughness goes. I took my lumps and gave them."

His 12-year NBA career began with Minneapolis after the Lakers chose him at the bottom of the first round with the ninth pick in the 1952 draft. He would have gone sooner, but Lovellette announced he was going to join an AAU team called the Phillips 66ers and not turn pro. So every team passed him up except for the Lakers. He joined the team the following season as George Mikan's

backup, when the Lakers won the NBA title, their fourth in five years.

In four seasons with the Lakers, he averaged 17.2 points and 11.2 rebounds per game. He twice led the team in scoring, with averages of 21 and 20.8 points.

Lovellette then went to Cincinnati for one season and St. Louis for four before becoming a Celtic for two seasons. Both years in Boston earned him NBA championships. He played 704 regular season games and averaged 17.0 points and 9.5 rebounds per game.

Soon after retirement, he twice was elected sheriff of Vigo County, Indiana, which includes his hometown of Terre Haute.

"I was always playing cops and robbers, or cowboys and Indians as a boy and dreaming about being a law enforcement officer," he said in the 1987 interview.



John "Jack" Riley

(Ice Hockey Coach, 1960)

John "Jack" Riley passed away on February 3, 2016, at age 95.

Jack guided the U.S. to its first Olympic gold medal in ice hockey at the 1960 Olympic Games in Squaw Valley. It was a startling victory that came 20 years before coach Herb Brooks, the last player cut by Riley in 1960, led the "Miracle on Ice" triumph by the U.S. at the Lake Placid 1980 Games. The Squaw Valley gold medal was dubbed "The Forgotten

Miracle" in a documentary.

"He lived a great life, and although he is known as a hockey coach to many people, he was a great husband, father, grandfather and friend to all," said son Brian Riley, the current Army hockey coach.

Jack compiled a 542-343-20 record at West Point during a 36-year college coaching career that started in 1950, transforming the Black Knights into an eastern power. He led the Black Knights to 29 winning seasons, including a school record 28 victories during the 1983-84 season.

He was the NCAA coach of the year in 1957 and 1960. When he retired in 1986, Riley was second all-time in NCAA victories and currently ranks 18th.

"He did have a little bit of an Irish temper at the rink and on the golf course," Brian Riley said. "He was a fierce competitor. He did not like to lose, but at home he was a softie."

In 1986 and 2002, Jack won the Lester Patrick Award for outstanding service to U.S. hockey. He was elected to the United States Hockey Hall of Fame in 1979 and was inducted into the International Hockey Hall of Fame in 1998. He also was a member of the Army Sports Hall of Fame's inaugural class in 2004.

Riley is survived by four sons, a daughter, a brother and nine grandchildren. He was predeceased by his wife Maureen in 1989.

ALUMNI IN MEMORIAM (continued)



William "Bill" Stowe

(Rowing, 1964)

William "Bill" Stowe passed away on February 8, 2016, at age 75.

Bill matriculated at the Kent School in 1954 where he began a long and distinguished career in rowing. After his first taste of international rowing at the Henley Regatta in 1958, Bill went on to the School of Hotel Administration at Cornell University where he stroked and captained an undefeated 1959 freshman heavyweight crew that went on to win the 1962 IRA Championships, a victory memorialized on the cover of *Sports Illustrated*. He was a member of Psi Upsilon fraternity and the Sphinx Head Society.

As a lieutenant in the United States Navy, Bill rowed for the Club Nautique in Saigon, Vietnam, while running the Naval Officer's Club before returning stateside to join the Vesper Boat Club, where he trained for the 1964 Olympic Games. He stroked the crew to victory at trials and then to the gold medal in Tokyo, Japan. The row to victory of the Vesper Eight is the subject of Bill's book, *ALL TOGETHER: The Formidable Journey to the Gold with the 1964 Crew*, written and published in 2005.

Following the Olympic Games, Bill continued his rowing career as rowing coach at St. Joseph's University and in 1967 accepted the head coach position at Columbia University. He went on to introduce rowing to the United States Coast Guard Academy as head coach from 1971-1985. In addition to a short

stint as sports information director, he coached the Cadets in defeating Yale University and winning the Dad Vails the following year. He also coached the Litchfield Rowing Association to numerous youth national championships from 1968 through 1971, as well as the maverick Blood Street Sculls in the 1970s. Bill was selected as the ABC television rowing commentator for the 1968 and 1972 Olympic Games alongside Howard Cossell. He served on the board of directors of the National Association of Amateur Oarsmen, USRowing's predecessor. He was chairman of the publicity committee and is remembered for his work on the rowing safety committee, which established standard procedures demonstrated in a video required for rowing organizations to follow. Bill married Ann Parsons in 1983 and together they had a son, William Parsons Stowe. In 1986 he completed an MBA at the Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute and continued to work for the Coast Guard Academy fundraising for the CGA Foundation. Bill's development career continued when he moved the family to Lake Placid in 1990 to work first for the Olympic Regional Development Association followed by hospice and then St. Joseph's Rehabilitation Center. On January 1, 2000, at midnight he married Barbara Kellogg on the frozen surface of Big Wolf Lake, New York.

In his "retirement" Bill devoted his time and leadership to multiple community organizations serving as President of the Ledyard, Connecticut, rotary club from 1989-1990, and co-founding the Lake Placid, New York, rotary club in 1994 where he twice served as president. An avid Rotarian, he spearheaded the Great Adirondack Outdoor Rendezvous weekend that served as an antecedent to numerous antique shows as well as Potato Gleaning, and he supported Polio Plus awareness and fundraising with the Iron Lung, bike-a-thons and walk-a-thons including his own personal journey on foot from Lake Placid to Tupper Lake. He originated the River

Road Ironman aid station where for over a decade runners could touch the 1964 Olympic gold medal. Fellow Rotarians describe Bill as someone who was, "always smiling and stressed having fun." Those who participated in his annual Christmas Day soccer game and bonfire might agree.

Bill is a member of the Athletic Hall of Fame at Kent School, Cornell University, the United States Coast Guard Academy, the Helms Hall of Fame, National Rowing Hall of Fame and the International Rowing Hall of Fame. He served as the president of the National Rowing Foundation where he is a trustee, and he is a director of Philadelphia's annual Aberdeen Dad Vail Regatta where he served as regatta ombudsman for many years. In 2011, he was the inaugural recipient of the Jack Kelly Golden Oars Award for superior achievements in rowing, service to amateur athletics and success in a chosen profession.

He is survived by wife Barbara Kellogg Stowe; son William P. Stowe of Hudson, New York; brothers Denby Stowe of Buffalo, New York and Michael Stowe of Jupiter, Florida; step-children Susanne H. Frensley (Chip) of Nashville, Tennessee, and Jack Herndon (Nina) of Millbrae, California. His brother the late Allen Stowe (Wendy) of Vero Beach, Florida, pre-deceased him. He also has six grandchildren: Paige Seals; Eliza Frensley and Katherine Frensley; Caroline Herndon, Ian Herndon and Alexandra Herndon.

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OLYMPIAN & PARALYMPIAN

PHOTO Highlights



- 1.** While at the U.S. National Figure Skating Championships in St Paul, the Olympic Ice Dance Medalists for the U.S. gathered for the first time. They are L to R:

Charlie White and Meryl Davis - 2014, gold

Ben Agosto and Tanith Belbin (White) - 2006, silver

Jim Millns and Colleen O'Connor (Towill) - 1976, bronze

- 2.** Congratulations to the newly formed U.S. Olympians & Paralympians – Minnesota Chapter members who gather on January 22, 2016 and formally became the 26th chapter of the USOPA. The Executive Team is led by Katrina Radke (swimming, 1988); Jason Hedstrand (speed skating, 2002); Virg Luken (swimming, 1964) and Matt Laue (nordic combined, 1992)
- 3.** Bonny Warner Simi (luge, 1984, 1988, 1992) who became interested in luge when she was chosen to carry the Olympic Torch during the torch run for the 1980 Lake Placid Games and was a pilot for United Airlines is now serving as President at Jet Blue Technology Ventures and is launching a new subsidiary in Silicon Valley to find and help develop new technology ventures in travel and hospitality sectors. We are incredibly proud of all that Bonny has accomplished and continues to achieve.



2



3

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