

David Del Vecchio

Fortieth Annual Hall of Fame Awards Induction Banquet



Betty Henry Link

***at the* Los Angeles TTA, in partnership with the Si & Patty Wasserman Junior and Open Championships**

Thursday, Nov. 6, 2025, 6-9PM

Presented by Major League Table Tennis



Stellan Bengtsson

Program

- Master of Ceremonies: Derek May
- Inductee: **Betty Henry Link** (Athlete) Presenter: Brad Balmer
- Inductee: **David Del Vecchio** (Contributor) Presenter: Joseph Wells
- Inductee: **Stellan Bengtsson** (Contributor) Presenter: Christian Lillieroos

  (*Stellan was honored at the 2024 banquet but was unable to attend due to travel concerns.)*
- Mark Matthews Lifetime Achievement Award: **Connie Sweeris** Presenter: Donna Sakai

Mark Matthews Lifetime Achievement Award

PAST WINNERS

1999	Bobby Gusikoff
2000	Sol Schiff
2001	Jimmy McClure
2002	Dick Miles
2003	Marty Reisman
2004	J. Rufford Harrison
2005	Leah Thall Neuberger & Thelma "Tybie" Thall Sommer
2006	Joseph R. "Tim" Boggan
2007	George Braithwaite
2008	Danny Seemiller
2009	Houshang Bozorgzadeh
2010	Fred Danner
2011	Mal Anderson
2012	Dick Evans
2013	Yvonne Kronlage
2014	Donna Sakai
2015	Si Wasserman
2017	Dell Sweeris
2018	Larry Hodges
2019	Richard Hicks
2021	David Sakai
2024	Patty Martinez Kahn
2025	Connie Sweeris



Connie Sweeris

The United States Table Tennis Hall of Fame (HOF) is independent of USA Table Tennis (USATT). The HOF does not represent USATT. The HOF and USATT are both registered 501c3 organizations with separate management and separate finances.

Connie Sweeris – Mark Matthews Lifetime Achievement Award

This year's Mark Matthews Lifetime Achievement Award proudly honors Connie Sweeris, whose exceptional contributions to table tennis span nearly seven decades.



Connie Sweeris (right) with Ding Ning of China (3-time World Singles Champion, Olympic Singles Gold Medalist), at a Ping-Pong Diplomacy Anniversary Gala with picture of Connie shaking hands with Chinese Premier Chou Enlai during 1971's Ping-Pong Diplomacy.

Connie has remained a dominant national and international player, winning open and age-group singles and doubles titles continuously from 1956 through 2024. She was one of the original members of the historic Ping-Pong Diplomacy Team that reshaped international sports relations. Connie has consistently supported and participated in annual Ping-Pong Diplomacy celebrations, upholding the sport's legacy of international friendship.

Alongside her husband, Dell Sweeris, Connie was instrumental in hosting and organizing the 2010, 2012, and 2014 U.S. Open Championships in Grand Rapids, Michigan. Her lifetime commitment to playing, promoting, and supporting table tennis across generations embodies the essence of this prestigious award.

Betty Henry Link – Athlete

A true pioneer in American table tennis, Betty Henry Link made history at the 1938 World Table Tennis Championships, winning a bronze medal in Women's Singles at just 15 years and 10 months old – a record that still stands as the youngest singles medalist in World Championship history.

A native of South Bend, Indiana, Betty trained under the legendary John Varga, quickly rising to prominence as one of the most formidable players of her era. Her remarkable skill, competitive spirit, and trailblazing success on the world stage made her an inspiration for generations of American players. Tragically, her career and life were cut short when she passed away at the age of 22, but her legacy as one of the sport's all-time greats continues to shine.



Good Luck and Bon Voyage, Betty.

BETTY HENRY.

Packing for a sojourn to the table tennis tours. Betty Henry, 15-year-old pride of South Bend's table tennis followers, leaves for Indianapolis today where she will join Jimmy McClure and other members of the United States team which will compete in the world championships in London, England, this month. The group will leave Indianapolis for New York city Monday, where it will board the Acquitania for London Wednesday. Betty is shown packing a few of the things she will take with her to the big tournament. —Photo by Tribune Staff Photographer.

Caption from photo: Packing for a sojourn to the table tennis tours. Betty Henry, 15-year-old pride of South Bend's table tennis followers, leaves for Indianapolis today where she will join Jimmy McClure and other members of the United States team which will compete in the world championships in London, England this month. The group will leave Indianapolis for New York city Monday, where it will board the Acquitania for London Wednesday. Betty is shown packing a few of the things she will take with her to the big tournament. -Photo by Tribune Staff Photographer.

David Del Vecchio – Contributor



Photo by Bruce Liu

For over a decade, David Del Vecchio has been the backbone of table tennis video broadcasting in the United States, revolutionizing how the sport is shared with players, fans, and the broader sports community. Single-handedly directing and streaming major events for USATT until the 2020 Olympic Trials, David's work ensured that top-level competition reached a worldwide audience. His contributions include:

- Directed and streamed major events including US Nationals, US Open, US Olympic Trials, North American Olympic Trials, North American Cup, America's Team Championship, North American Team Championships, NCTTA National Championships, California State Championships, and multiple USOC and USOPC events. Placed USATT and NCTTA at the forefront of video streaming among smaller Olympic sports, matching ITTF production quality at minimal cost.
- 2020 US Olympic Trials – Recorded every single match for entire tournament, with eight cameras covering eight tables for four days. Secured a $120,000-per-year Google Ad grant for USATT, enhancing visibility and engagement with table tennis nationally.
- Served as a former USATT Board Member and as Chairman of the USATT Leagues Advisory Committee. Served as NCTTA Treasurer and Board Member plus ran and organized multiple major tournaments and initiatives. Currently spearheading and supporting LA Ping-Pong Schools League.

Stellan Bengtsson – Contributor



Stellan with wife and fellow Hall of Famer Angelita Rosal Bengtsson

Originally from Sweden, Stellan solidified his position in table tennis history with his triumph in Men's Singles at the 1971 World Table Tennis Championships. Transitioning seamlessly from player to coach, Stellan is an eminent figure in the sport. His dedication to mentoring players, including members of the US Para Table Tennis Team, has significantly contributed to the sport's global development. Stellan's influence extends beyond his championship victories; his innovative coaching methods and steadfast support have empowered incalculable individuals to realize their full potential in the sport. Notably, Stellan's commitment to advancing US table tennis is exemplified by his hospitality, as he graciously opened his home to future two-time US Olympian Jimmy Butler, providing invaluable guidance and support. His coaching has positively impacted countless US National Team members and everyday tournament players, leaving an enduring legacy of excellence both on and off the table.



Stellan at 2012 coaching camp in San Diego.
Back: Keith Evans, Stellan Bengtsson, Daniel Rosenfeld, Alexander Xue, Angie Bengtsson.
Front: Jenson Van Emburgh, Ian Seidenfeld, Eric Pattison.

United States Table Tennis Hall of Fame INDUCTEES

Players

*AARONS, Ruth Hughes`.....1966
ACTON, Sharon 1983
BANH, Tawny 2014
*BASS Jr., Norman 2018
*BELLAK, Laszlo 1980
BELLINI, Valleri Smith 1983
BENGTSSON, Angelita Rosal....1996
*BERENBAUM, Abe 1979
BHUSHAN, Insook 1993
*BLATTNER, Robert "Bud" 1979
BOGGAN, Eric 2003
BOGGAN, Scott 2001
*BRAITHWAITE, George 1989
BROOKS, Kenneth 2023
BUI, Quang 2011
*BUKIET, Bernard 1981
*BURNS, Charles "Chuck" 1984
BUTLER, Jim 2011
*CARTLAND, Douglas 1984
CHENG, Yinghua 2000
*CHOTRAS, Bernice Charney....1983
*COWAN, Glenn 2024
*CLOUTHER, Mae 1984
DAWIDOWICZ, Kasia 2006
*DeFRANCESCO, Sebastian.....2020
*DEMPSEY, Mike 2002
ELLIOTT, Aili 2018
FENG, Amy 2010
FIELDS, Bobby 1988
*FOLKE, Peggy McLean 1980
FONTAINE, Pam.....2020
*FULLER, Emily 1979
GAO, Jun 2009
GEE, Diana 2009
GEE, Lisa 2014
GUIILLEN, Ray 2007
*GUSIKOFF, Bobby 1984
*HAWTHORN, Davida 1994
*HAZI, Tibor 1981
*HEITNER, Sydney 1997
*HENDRY, George 1984
*HICKS, Richard 2001
HOARFROST, Judy Bochenski ..1997
*HOLZRICHTER, William C.....1980
*HOWARD, Jack 1994
*ICHKOFF, Peggy 1987
*JACOBSON, Jimmy 1985
JAIN, Ashu.....2023
JOHNSON, Jennifer 2012
KAMINSKY, Barbara Chaimson1985
KIMBLE, Alice Green 1995
*KLEIN, Erwin 1981
*KUENZ, Dolores Probert 1979
*LEE, Dal-Joon 1983
LEE, He-ja 1984
LEIBOVITZ, Tahl 2015
*LINK, Betty Henry.....2025
LUPULESKU, Ilija 2008
MALEK, Attila 2000
MARTINEZ KAHN, Patty 1993
MASTERS, Brian 2010
*MATTHEWS (Schussheim), Mark1979
*McCLURE, Jimmy 1966
*MILES, Dick 1966
*MONASTERIAL, Marcy 2017
*MONNESS, Reba 1981
NAROTAM, Dhiren 2018
*NASH, Garrett Gray 1991
*NEUBERGER, Leah 1966
NGUYEN, KHOA 2006
OWENS, Eric 2015
O'DOUGHERTY, Sheila 2014
O'NEILL, Sean 2007
*PAGLIARO, Lou 1979
*PECORA, DANNY 2006
*PINNER, Edward 1985
*PROUTY, Sally Green 1979
*PURVES, Jessie "Jay" 1979
RALSTON, Michael.....2019
RATHER, Jasna 2011
*REISMAN, Marty 1981
*RESEK, Errol 2012
SAKAI, David 2004
SAKAI, Donna Chaimson 1996
*SCHIFF, Sol 1966
SEEMILLER, Danny 1995
SEEMILLER, Ricky 1998
SEIDENFELD, Mitch 2010
*SHAHIAN, Mildred 1980
*SHIPMAN, Mildred Wilkinson.1984
SOLTESZ, Olga 2007
*SOMAEL, John 1983
*SOMAEL, Pauline Robinson 1991
*SOMMER, Thelma "Tybie" 1980
STOCKWELL, Wendy Hicks 1994
*SUSSMAN, Cy 1985
SWEERIS, Connie 1987
SWEERIS, Dell 1987
SWEERIS, Todd 2013
*TANNEHILL, John 2005
TEEKAVEERAKIT, Chartchai...2008
TERRANOVA, Terese 2013
VAN DE WALLE, Norbert 2004
VOUNG, Lan 2012
WANG, Chen 2015
WANG, Wei 2002
WILSON, Sharlene Krizman 1997
YIP, Lily 2004
ZHUANG, David 2003

Officials/Contributors

*AKI, Shonie 1997
ANDERSON, Mal 1997
BENGTSSON, Stellan 2024
BOGGAN, Joseph R. "Tim" 1985
BOZORGZADEH, Houshang 1987
BROOKS, Sharon Frant 2019
*BUTLER, Richard 2014
*CINNATER, Elmer F. 1979
*CLARK, Coleman 1979
DANNER, Fred 1993
DAVIS, Dennis 2023
DEL VECCHIO, David.....2025
DETROITER 1979
DILLON, Wendell 2007
*EK, Otto F. J. 1981
EVANS, Richard "Dick" 1998
FOX, Bob 2009
GHEORGHE, Teodor "Doru" 2018
GENERAL Sportcraft Co.....1979
*GREEN, Bob 2000
*GROSS, Sanford 1991
*GUNN, William A. 1980
*HARRISON, J. Rufford 1984
HARVARD Table Tennis Co.....1981
*HOCK, Bernard 1984
*HODGE, Bill 2008
HODGES, Larry 2003
*HOEY, Chuck 2008
HUANG, Tongsheng "Jack" 2015
IBRAHIM, Azmy 2010
ISAACSON, Steve 1994
*JOHNSON, Dean 2015
*KENNEDY, Gus 2012
KRONLAGE, Yvonne 1994
*LAWRENCE, Herwald 1996
*LEE, Y.C. 1999
LEPARULO, Willy.....2023
LI Ai, Henan 2018
LI, Zhenshi 2019
LILLIEROOS, Christian 2020
MARTIN, Bowie Sr. 2017
McAFEE, Richard 2005
*McILWAIN, Mary 1994
McQUEEN Jim 2011
*MILLER, Tom 2001
*MOSKOWITZ, Manny 1994
*NEWGARDEN, Joe 2007
NIPPON Takkyu Co.....1988
*P. BECKER and Co.....1981
*PRAGER, Marty 2005
PREISS, Scott 2017
*PRICE, William R. 1980
*READ, John 1989
*SCHEIN, George 1980
*SCOTT, Dr. Michael 1999
*SMYTH, Neil 1996
*STEENHOVEN, Graham 1988
TAMASU Co. 1987
TAYLOR, Dennis 2024
TINYSZIN, Roman.....2020
*VARGA, John 1980
WALK, Bill 2010
*WASSERMAN, Si 2006
*ZEISBERG, Carl 1981
Deceased

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U.S. Table Tennis Hall of Fame!

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The U.S. Table Tennis Hall of Fame, founded in 1979, is an independent non-profit whose mission is to identify and honor outstanding athletes and contributors to the sport of Table Tennis in the United States.

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