

# The Encless The Journal of the Museum of Polo and Hall of Fame Vol. 14 No. 1 • January 2012 The Class of 2012

Museum's Hall Of Fame Honors New Inductees For 2012

## FEBRUARY 17th, 2012

adies, it's time to get out those gorgeous evening gowns and gentlemen, dust off those tuxedos - the 23rd Annual Hall of Fame Dinner and Awards Gala is set to take place on Friday, February 17th at the Museum of Polo and Hall of Fame, so mark it on your calendars and make your reservations early. It is sure to be another fantastic evening and we hope you will join us to celebrate the induction of the latest inductees who will join the many distinguished individuals in the polo Hall of Fame. The Board of Directors of the Museum of Polo and Hall of Fame is proud to announce the pending induction of:

James P. "Jimmy" Mills - Posthumous Hall of Fame Award Carlos Gracida - Living Hall of Fame Award Alfred G. "Herbie" Pennell - Posthumous Iglehart Award George Alexander - Living Iglehart Award Brown Fern, owned by Mike Phipps - Horses to Remember Chips Royal, owned by Bob Beveridge - Horses to Remember

We are very happy to welcome back returning sponsors for the Hall of Fame Dinner, Mark and Melissa Ganzi, Grand Champions Polo Club, International Polo Club Palm Beach, Jan Pamela Polo Team, Barbara Uskup and sponsor for the wine and spirits Robert Lipman, Lipman Brothers, Inc., Brown-Forman Corp. and we welcome new sponsors this year, Skey Johnston's Everglades Polo Club and Tito's Handmade Vodka.

The Hall of Fame Awards Dinner and Silent Auction is the most important fundraising event for the Museum each year and we hope you will all join us in honoring the inductees this year and help support your Museum a 501 (c) 3, not-for-profit organization. Tickets are \$200.00 each (tax deductible portion \$100.00).

We would also welcome Silent Auction Items if you have something you would like to donate - Contact Brenda Lynn at the Museum of Polo, (561) 969-3210 or (561) 969-7015, e-mail: polomuseum@att. net for further details, information, reservations or donations.

## HALL OF FAME INDUCTEES

#### JAMES P. "JIMMY" MILLS **Posthumous Inductee**



Born in 1909, Mills was one of the bright stars during the "hey day" of polo in the 1930s. Mills lead his Yale Team to Intercollegiate Indoor Championships in 1931 and 1932. Rated 8 goals at age 25, his major American Tournament wins included the 1933 U.S. Open with Aurora, the Monty Waterbury Cup in both 1933 and 1936 and the Junior Championship (now known as the Silver Cup) in 1929 and 1933, and he played on winning East team in 1934 East-West series. He was

selected as the reserve for the Cup of the Americans team for 1932 and

the Westchester Cup team in 1936. In England, he won the Hurlingham Champion Cup, the Roehampton Open Cup, the Coronation Cup, and the Ranelagh Novice's Cup.

In 1933 when he won the Monty Waterbury Cup with Aurora, they upset a squad that included Tommy Hitchcock and two members of the International Team. He further distinguished himself in the 1934 East-West matches, a shocker that saw Mills win with a young team of "kids" against the heavily favored foursome of Cecil Smith, Eric Pedley, Aiden Roarke and Elmer Boeseke. His much celebrated career was cut short when he developed debilitating spinal arthritis at the age of 37 (1945). Forced to give up polo, he then dedicated himself to producing race horses. Mills died in 1987 at age 78.

#### **CARLOS GRACIDA Living Inductee**



Born in 1960, Carlos first reached a 10 Goal handicap in 1985. He has been a fierce competitor and dominating force in American polo evidenced by an amazing record of major American Tournament Wins that include: the U.S Open Championship in 1982, 1984, 1985, '87, '88, '91, '92, and '94, and 2003, the C. V. Whitney in 1997, 2001, and 2004, the USPA Gold Cup in 1980, the Silver Cup in 1980 and 81; the 1998 Monty Waterbury Cup, the World, North American, Chairman's, Inter-Circuit and Barrantes cups, and the Rolex. He has also amassed an incredible

International record, winning tournaments too numerous to list in England, France, Mexico and Argentina. Carlos is the only player to have taken the American, Argentine and British Open Championships in the same year. He was awarded the Seymour Knox Award for MVP of the U.S. Open in 1985, '88, '91, '92, and 1994. His ponies Calasa, Oca and Que Linda were awarded the Hartman Trophy.

### PHILIP IGLEHART AWARD RECIPIENT

# ALFRED G. "HERBIE" PENNELL

**Posthumous Recipient** 



Affectionately known as "Herbie", Pennell was the consummate horseman and professional polo club manager having managed clubs such as Blind Brook, Meadowbrook, Squadron A Armory. He was in his most recent years the long-term manager of Palm Beach Polo and Country Club, the mecca of polo in the 1970's and 80's.

A pioneering mentor to many aspiring polo club managers "Herbie" was the glue that held a great many players and clubs together over his many years managing both small and

Herbie on left side

Continued on page 2

Hall of Fame Induction Celebration Friday Feb 17th 2012

Don't miss this historic event.

## **PHILIP IGLEHART AWARD CONTINUED**

Continued from page 1

large clubs. He started and sustained hundreds of people in polo and was generous with his time and support to people from all walks of life. His club management style added continuity to many polo playing areas and eras and he was a prime source of horses for both new and highly handicapped players.

Pennell was handicapped at 6 Outdoors and 8 Indoors and won numerous USPA and club events that include winning the Indoor Twelve Goal in 1955, the Delegates and Monty Waterbury Cups in 1956, the U.S. Arena Chairman's Cup (formerly Arena 12-goal and Jr. Championship) six times (1950, '55, '57, '63,'64,'65 ), three Senior Championships (formerly Class A) in 1952, 1956, 1957, the 1952 Inter-circuit Cup (Formerly 12-goal), and the 1948 Chairman's Cup (Formerly 12-goal). Herb passed away in 2000 at the age of 79.

#### GEORGE ALEXANDER JR. **Living Recipient**



George has dedicated a huge part of his life to polo for well over 30 years. He served as a Central Circuit Governor and later served as the Executive Director of the USPA, as a member of the Executive and other Committees, served as a Governor at Large for many years, has been a Past Chairman of the Interscholastics and is currently serving as the chairman of the Rules Committee and as a member of the Board of the PTF. As Patron of the Lake Run Team, he has competed throughout the Central, Mid-States and the Florida- Caribbean

Circuits. Losing an eye in a Polo accident 20 years ago didn't slow him down in his love of and commitment to the sport.

He was the recipient of the Hugo Dalmar Award in 2005. George and his hitch of Clydesdales perform every Sunday during the Sarasota Polo Club Season and at the Annual Outback 40 Goal Challenge and at the USPA Open.

## **FUEL YOUR PASSION FOR POLO!**

Experience the History ~ the Tradition ~ the Thrill of the Sport.

When in South Florida, we invite you to visit the Museum of Polo and Hall of Fame, a non-profit educational center created to preserve the history and tradition that surrounds the sport of polo.

Open Monday – Friday from 10:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m. in polo season (January – April) on Saturdays, from 10:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.Admission is free, donations are appreciated.

## **HORSES TO REMEMBER**

#### **BROWN FERN** Before Hartman Award Established (1964 and before)



Foaled in 1929 Brown Fern was a gray (yes, gray) American thoroughbred gelding, originally bred to race by Mrs. Isabel Dodge Sloan of Brookmead stable. Failing to make a stir on the race track he was later sold to Michael Phipps. According to the great horseman Tommy Glynn, "....in his new role as a polo performer, Brown Fern became a sensation." After only two seasons in

polo, Brown Fern, played by the great 10-Goaler Stewart Iglehart, turned in two excellent periods a game for the winning U.S. team of the 1936 International matches with Great Britain. He played with distinction in the 1937 U.S. Open Final for Phipps, and again in the 1939 Internationals as a mount for Phipps. Brown Fern's performance was recounted and extolled in numerous publications at that time, and it was the consensus of the experts of the day that "Brown Fern was not only the best pony in the winning team but the best brought on the field by either side." Further it was said, "he has become a magnificent polo pony, and his services were of untold value to the team. Brown Fern was always doing his bit at the crucial moment of the chukkers in which he was engaged, and it is not too much to say that his performance was sensational. .... Altogether he is a pony which America can be proud to have bred."

#### CHIPS ROYAL

#### Horses after Hartman Award Established (1965 and after)

The great, game mare Chips Royal was the winner of the 1973 Hartman



Award for best playing pony of the U.S. Open and was owned and played by Robert D. Beveridge. Not many horses played by nonprofessionals have earned that honor. Chips was started by Wayne Brown who thought she was 'fabulous" and she was later purchased by Beveridge. According to Bob, there was very little "training" involved. Chips was a complete natural, ....even when she was green. Handy, smooth and fast she just loved to play and had a wonderful temperament too. What set her apart

from the rest was that Chips could "read" a horse coming to her, make her calculations, and move a horse half again as big as she was out of the way with just pure smarts. She could outrun everything and keep on doing it. Bob said he remembers her "running belly down and then stick her tail in the ground and just waiting—with her front feet patting the ground—for the next signal."

Bob also recalls Chips being sick and going to the vet early in her career. On the way home from recovering, a board broke in the trailer and Chip's leg hit the pavement. The veterinarian thought she was finished—so mangled was her leg. She was turned out and they watched in wonder as she seemed to get a little bit better every day. Remarkably, Bob started her back up and she went on to win the highest honor—Best Playing Pony in the U.S. Open.



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The Museum of Polo is available to host special occasions and meetings. Please contact the Executive Director for details.



## **EXCITING NEW EXHIBITS TO FEATURE LATEST ACQUISITIONS**

We are pleased to report that the Museum of Polo exhibits are having a "facelift". The timeline wall has been totally revamped and new exhibits added. This year's highlighted club story will be Myopia Polo Club and the history of the C.V. Whitney Cup is the featured tournament.

Also on display will be some very important and newly acquired artifacts that include exciting pieces from the Allan Forbes Collection and the fabulous Alexander Pope Bronze.

#### **The Allan Forbes Collection**

In the year 1900 Allan Forbes from the Dedham Polo Club won the Polo Association Championship played at Prospect Park, New York against much higher rated teams from Myopia, Meadow Brook, and Westchester, a feat of which he and his team were enormously proud. This past July the Museum was fortunate to acquire his magnificent sterling polo trophy mounted on a base of antlers that was awarded from that match as well as the ball which scored the winning goal; Allan had it mounted as an inkwell, and had engraved on it a poem about the match.

The Museum also acquired a "polo" chair with carved mallets and balls forming the back, which one of Allan's teammates had commissioned for him in 1895, as well as a large bronze plaque given to him by the Dedham Polo Club in 1906 for his dedication to the game, and an important collection of his scrap books.

Born in Massachusetts in 1874, Allan Forbes became a highly successful banker, author, antiques collector, philanthropist and sportsman. Rated at 7 goals, he was regarded by his contemporaries as the greatest # 1 to have ever played the game of polo.

#### The Pope Bronze "Polo Pony and Rider"

In September of this year an impressive work of art by the famous American artist, Alexander Pope found a new home at the Museum of Polo. A superb example of early American bronze, this work is from between 1878 - 1890. It depicts a mounted player on a polo pony and there is some evidence to suggest that the player is James Gordon Bennett. Other authorities are of the opinion that it is Foxhall Keene. Either way, it depicts an important personality in American polo and is a significant addition to the collection housed at the Museum of Polo. The fact that it is numbered 1 and is in near perfect condition only enhances its value.

Pope was best known as an animal painter but he also worked in sculpture. His bronzes are very rare since they were done early in his career - after about 1900 he turned almost exclusively to painting.

We hope you will stop by the Museum and enjoy our new exhibits and artifacts. The Museum is open Monday - Friday, 10:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m., and during polo season January – April, on Saturdays from 10:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.

## **FUNDRAISING AND EVENTS**

f I ake a moment and think about what the Museum means to the sport of polo. Without it, where would the historic treasures that tell the story of polo be and what condition would they be in?

It is the mission of the Museum of Polo to seek out, collect and preserve the things that represent the history and tradition of our sport for the generations of the future. We are very proud of what we have accomplished so far. During the last year we have been able to find, rescue and restore many artifacts and art treasures that have great importance even outside the realm of polo. We have been able to install new exhibits and continue to build our library and media resources. We also regularly engage in educational tours and programs and have hosted school field trips and visits from special interest groups such as Girl and Boy Scouts, 4-H, special needs children, civic groups, nursing homes and more.

Without donations, these things would not be possible. The Museum of Polo is YOUR museum, so, please, help support our work that is so important to polo with your donation today.

### Fundraising Event at **Grand Champions Polo Club**

Our thanks to Marc and Melissa Ganzi and Grand Champions Polo Club for holding another great fundraising event for the Museum for the final of the USPA National 20 Goal Cup they threw a fabulous luncheon to benefit the Museum of Polo and Hall of Fame. It was a perfect combination of gorgeous weather, fantastic polo and a delicious way to raise funds and awareness for the Museum.

If you would like to contribute, please send your tax-deductible contributions now. We welcome gifts of cash, securities or other negotiable instruments and items of historic significance for our collectins. For further details, please call the Museum at (561) 969-3210. Please make checks payable to: The Museum of Polo and send to 9011 Lake Worth Road, Lake Worth, FL 33467.

The Museum of Polo is a 501 (c) 3, notfor-profit, educational organization. We exist solely through the generous donations of our contributors. Thank you for your support.

## **REMEMBERING IGLEHART AWARD WINNER 2005 WALT "PAPA" KUHN**

As we were going to press we received the sad news that Walt "Papa" Kuhn passed away on January 3,2012 after a long illness. A wake and services were held in his hometown of Naperville, Illinois.

Born on the family farm on South Washington Street in Naperville in June 1924, Walt "Papa" Kuhn, also known to some as "Junie", was a



beloved and colorful figure in the world of polo. In 2005 he was honored at the Museum of Polo & Hall of Fame with the Philip Iglehart award for outstanding lifetime contributions to the sport. His plaque reads:

Walt "Papa" Kuhn contributed a lifetime of devotion to the sport of polo through his longstanding efforts as a mentor of numerous players who sought his training and guidance in learning how to play the game of polo. For 30 years, his Fairlane Farms locations in both Illinois and Florida allowed many players a simple and affordable way to become part of the polo world. He is credited with starting the youth polo tournament at Palm Beach Polo & Country Club and the original Carlos Avendano tournament. Along with his wife, Shirley, and his three poloplaying sons, and the sacrifices of a non-polo playing sister and fourth brother, Walt built a fine family reputation for training people from all walks of life without regard for money or prestige. Always a presence fieldside in matches both high- and low-goal, Walt continued to encourage new generations of players with his infectious laugh and hearty smile.



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## **WALK OF FAME BRICKS - A Great Gift Idea**

We are now taking orders for the latest phase of the Walk of Fame Brick installation.

Please contact Brenda at the Museum to reserve your place in polo history with a brick in the Museum's Walk of Fame.

There is also a special area designated for Intercollegiate/Interscholastic recognition.

For further details, call Brenda (561) 969-3210, fax: (561) 964-8299, e-mail: polomuseum@att.net.

Bricks are \$250.00 each – size is 8 x 8 and allows up to 4 lines, from 14 – 18 characters per line.



## **Brick Order Form**

Yes! I would like to purchase a brick to be placed in the "WALK OF FAME"



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No. of Bricks:	\$ 250.00 each	Enclosed is my check for \$		
Name:				
Contact Address: _				
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	(Note: Brick size	is 8" x 8". Bricks will be installed	as we complete orders for 50 bricks.)	
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(For additional bricks, please type or print using same format on back or any blank paper. Thank you.)