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# San Diego Tennis Hall of Fame

**Class of 2022**  
Induction Ceremony and Reception

**Saturday, October 1, 2022**  
**4:00 PM**

**Balboa Tennis Club**  
**2221 Morley Field Dr.**  
**San Diego, CA 92104**

**Master of Ceremonies, Jim Lackritz**

*SAN DIEGO TENNIS HALL OF FAME*  
*CLASS OF 2022*

**ALLISON BRADSHAW DENIKE**

*Junior Standout, College Great, World Class*

**DICK ENBERG (POSTHUMOUSLY)**

*Media*

**LORNIE KUHLE**

*Community Service, Coach*

**AMBER LIU**

*Junior Standout, College Great*

**JOHN MARTIN**

*Media*

**Todd Nelson**

*World Class, Teaching Pro*

**Elected to Enshrinement**

**Class of 2006**

Bill Bond  
Maureen Connolly Brinker  
Michael Chang  
Dodo Cheney  
Wilbur Folsom  
Jeanne Doyle Garrett  
William Scripps Kellogg  
Fred Kinne  
Ben Press  
Karen Hantze Susman

**Class of 2007**

Alex Gordon  
Pancho Segura  
William Stack  
Suella Steel  
Katherine Chabot Willette

**Class of 2008**

Franklin Johnson  
William J. Kellogg  
Jean Kremm  
James "Jim" Perley  
Brian Teacher

**Class of 2009**

George Barnes  
Robert D. Carrothers, Jr.  
Ed Collins  
Kelly Jones  
Dr. Homer Peabody

**Class of 2010**

Robert "Bob" Bacon  
Virginia M. Glass  
Robert "Bob" Perry  
Patricia Canning Todd  
Larry Willens

**Class of 2011**

Harper Ink, Sr.  
Angel Lopez  
Gretchen Magers  
Robert "Bobby" Riggs  
Valerie Ziegenfuss

**Class of 2012**

Roy Barth  
Terry Holladay  
Jerry Magee  
Marita Redondo  
Dick Roberson

**Class of 2014**

Stephen Avoyer  
Roland H. Brock  
Robert L. "Bob" Galloway  
Raquel Giscafne and  
Jane Stratton  
Lester Rollo Stoefen

**Class of 2016**

James "Chico" Hagey  
Leland Housman  
Kathy May  
Janet Newberry  
Walter Redondo

**Class of 2018**

Richard "Dick" Doss  
Eugene "Gene" Garrett  
Kristien Kemmer  
Rosalyn "Ros" Fairbank Nideffer  
David Sanderlin

**Class of 2020**

Cathie Anderson  
Arnold and Esther Belinsky  
Larry Belinsky  
Geoff Griffin  
Roz King



In November of 2005, the idea of having San Diego's own tennis Hall of Fame was presented at a San Diego District Board Meeting. The idea

was well received and subsequently, an exploratory committee was formed. After several meetings, the concept was officially outlined to the District Board, motioned, and then enthusiastically accepted. Bylaws were formed and a Selection Committee (SC) was appointed. There are six members of the Selection Committee (three serving two-year terms and three serving one-year terms).

Beginning with the San Diego Yearbook, published and issued in January 2006, nominations for potential inductees were opened to the general public. Additional posts were published in the San Diego Union-Tribune, the San Diego Tennis Reporter and the Southern California edition of Inside Tennis. Sixty-five (65) nominations later, while establishing a methodology in which to determine ten inductees for the Class of 2006, the Selection Committee agreed on ten individuals who left an indelible mark in San Diego's rich and abundant tennis history. The inductees were recognized in at least one or more of the following categories:

- World Class
- College Greats and Junior Stand-Outs
- Coaches, Teaching Pros, Teaching Instructor and Mentors
- Community Service, Philanthropy, Officiating and Media
- Senior Success

It was decided that the venue to present those selected to the SDTHOF would take place at an Induction Ceremony, to be held in conjunction with the annual San Diego District Tennis Championships. It was the hope that this would become an ongoing tradition.

And, finally, a permanent display located at the BTC Clubhouse was chosen to showcase memorabilia of the current year of inductees for the San Diego tennis community to enjoy and appreciate. San Diego has always been one of the greatest hot beds for tennis in the U.S. It is time to honor our champions of the game and preserve San Diego's tennis history for generations to come!

## **SAN DIEGO TENNIS HALL OF FAME SELECTION COMMITTEE**

***Dave Jaehnig (Chair)***

***Jim Kellogg***

***Ryan Redondo***

***Simon Shen***

***Sue Sprague***

***David Whitehead***

***Bios provided by:***

***David Whitehead***

***and***

***John Martin***



### Allison Bradshaw DeNike (1980 - )



Allison couldn't miss. She was born into a family of athletic legends on November 14, 1980. Her grandfather, George Ziegenfuss is in the San Diego State University Hall of Fame as a longtime basketball coach. Allison's mother, Valerie Ziegenfuss, was a founding player of what became the Women's Tennis Association (WTA).

Together, Allison's mother and grandfather started her off playing tennis when she was six at the Helix South Tennis Club, where her mother taught. Allison took to tennis like a bee to honey. At age 13, she began taking lessons from noted coach and SDTHOF inductee, Ed Collins. Allison's athletic promise continued to grow and blossom under his tutelage.

Allison's athleticism and mental toughness quickly lifted her into national junior tennis prominence. She played the national tournaments in every junior age group.

Allison graduated from Patrick Henry High School in 1998 undefeated in team matches. Not surprising, considering she was also the #1 junior in Southern California and #5 in the nation. Allison was selected to represent SoCal in the annual Maze Cup, and was named San Diego's Athlete of the Year.

Allison's competitive nature never interfered with her on-court cordial demeanor. For two straight years she won the USTA's Evelyn Houseman Sportsmanship award.

Allison accepted a tennis scholarship offer from Arizona State University. Before enrolling, she and partner Abigail Spears won the National Girls 18s doubles title, thereby earning an entry to play the US Open. For two years, Allison played #1 singles and doubles at ASU.

In 2000, Allison turned professional. She credits her mother as a constant source of advice and guidance about life as a professional tennis player.

During Allison's professional career, she rose to a world ranking of #102, including victories over top 50 players such as Barbara Schett (#22) and Sarah Pitkowski (#46). She won the ITF Hilton Head Island tournament title in 2000. Allison balanced her singles events by playing doubles and winning two ITF doubles titles.

Finally, Allison found life on the tour an ordeal. She retired from the tour in 2004. Returning home, Allison became an instructor at the Lake Murray Tennis Club.

In 2008, Allison accepted the position of teaching pro at the reputable Rancho Santa Fe Tennis Club. Her tennis knowledge and positive teaching methods earned her rave reviews from both her students and her pro colleagues. In 2012, to acknowledge her outstanding skills, Allison was awarded the prestigious "Pro of the Year" award.

Allison, husband, attorney Scott DeNike, and their children Matthew and Ashley make their home in Mira Mesa.

### Todd Nelson (1961 - )



Todd took the long way to a home in beautiful San Diego and a career in tennis. He was born in The Dalles, Oregon; but as an infant, his family migrated south to California. At age 9, Todd's family moved down to San Diego, settling in the Rancho Peñasquitos area.

As a young athlete growing up in San Diego, Todd spent time playing pop Warner football, little league baseball, tennis, and running track. But it was his remarkable tennis skills that sent him soaring into the higher ranks of tennis.

Todd played tennis for Mt. Carmel High School. However, it was playing for Grossmont community college, where his hard work began to pay dividends. Todd caught the eye of the Arizona State University

Tennis Coach, who awarded him a full scholarship.

In 1981, after four successful years playing college tennis for Arizona State, Nelson fulfilled his dream of turning professional. On tour, Nelson's aggressive serve and volley style made him a formidable opponent in both singles and doubles.

Over Nelson's 14 years on the tour, he lists singles victories over some of pro tennis's biggest names: Stefan Edberg of Sweden, Yannick Noah and Guy Forget of France, Andres Gomez of Ecuador, Pat Cash and John Fitzgerald of Australia, and Peter Fleming of the United States (winner of 52 doubles titles with John McEnroe).

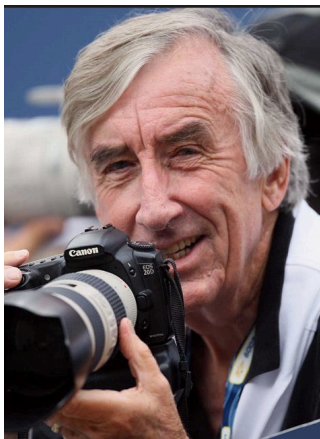
In singles, Nelson's ranking rose to 58<sup>th</sup> in the world; in doubles, his semifinal appearances at Wimbledon and the U.S. Open pushed his ranking to 48<sup>th</sup>.

Nelson retired from playing professional tennis in 1995. He played the world's best players in over 35 countries, competing in more than 40 grand Slam tournaments, and some 300 plus ATP tour tournaments and challenger tournaments worldwide.

Nelson lives with his wife Sonja, and currently is a highly respected teaching professional at the Rancho Valencia resort in Rancho Santa Fe.

Todd calls his career as a teaching professional a way to provide students his "experience, tennis knowledge, love and passion for the game with thousands of students across all levels of play."

## John Martin (1938 - )



John's journey into the world of tennis began in New York City, where he was born December 3, 1938. John's parents grew concerned about crime in the city. When John was three, they packed up the family and moved to Pacific Beach.

You could say John's introduction to tennis was the product of divine intervention. While a student at St. Brigid's grammar school in Pacific Beach, young John was approached by Sister Mary Helen, the school's principal. She informed John that he and two classmates would be representing the school in the annual Harper Ink Memorial tennis tournament.

Since neither John nor his friends played tennis, they owned none of the equipment (racquets, balls, etc.). John and his new colleagues hurried down to the Pacific Beach Recreation Center to check out some racquets and balls, take them out onto the metal net courts, and figure out how to use them. They each lost quickly. Despite their losses, John and his buddies found a love for the sport.

John's tennis game grew strong under the watchful eye of mentor and fellow SDTHOF member Fred Kinne. Although he considers his tennis achievements as "modest," John played for St. Augustine High School and San Diego State University.

At SDSU, John majored in journalism. Again, as editor, Fred Kinne guided his development by hiring John first as a stringer and then a cub reporter for the San Diego Union-Tribune. John's talent enabled him to spend 10 years as a newspaper reporter and editor at the Union-Tribune, Augusta Chronicle and *The New York Times* in Paris and 35 years as a television journalist for KCRA in Sacramento, and ABC News in New York and Washington. All the while, John competed in his age divisions.

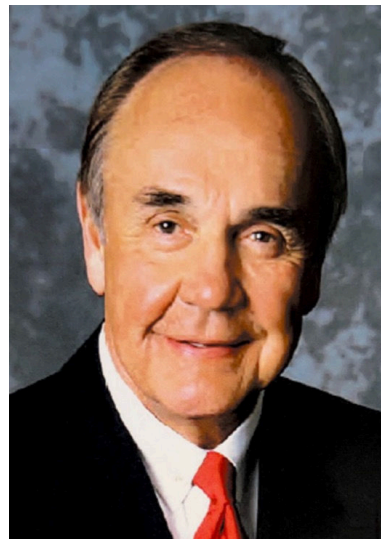
John's love of tennis led him to apply his journalistic skills to reporting on the sport. In 1965, John interviewed Rene Lacoste in Paris about his new racquet design. That revolutionary design later became the Wilson T2000.

John retired in 2002 and accepted a position teaching national reporting at the Columbia University Graduate School of Journalism. At the same time, he began a career as a freelance tennis reporter and photographer covering the Australian Open, the French Open, Wimbledon, and the US Open.

John founded *Aztec Tennis Reporter* in 1999 and *World Tennis Gazette* in 2008. In 2009, *The New York Times* asked John to write stories for its online blog. John contributed upwards of 100 tennis stories. In 2009, John wrote "A Death In Tennis," recounting the tale of Bob Carrothers, San Diego's gifted national junior champion and SDTHOF member who died tragically at age 18 in a car accident.

John and his wife, Katherine Fitzhugh split time between New York City and San Diego..

## Dick Enberg (1935 - 2017)



Dick Enberg's voice and observations were a gift to the many worlds of sports for more than forty years.

Beginning in 1975, when he joined NBC, he reported an incalculable number of sports games in tennis, football, basketball, baseball, golf, boxing, horse racing, and Olympic competitions. Often, he described the action play-by-play and minute-by-minute. He covered the full spectrum of amateur, collegiate, and professional sports.

What first endeared him to San Diego's tennis world was his yearly presence at Wimbledon and the French Open, U.S. Open, and Australian Open Championships.

According to Wikipedia, "As NBC's voice of the Wimbledon Tennis Championships... alongside Bud Collins and later John McEnroe... Enberg regularly concluded the network's two-week coverage with appropriate observations (illustrated) by a montage of video clips."

As a broadcaster, Enberg was renowned for his ability to reflect in a warm and poignant manner.

For ESPN, his tennis commentary was called "Enberg Moments," at Roland Garros, the French Open's hallowed ground. At Wimbledon, he dined regularly at NBC Sports' long-popular "Breakfast at Wimbledon."

"Being on the hallowed grounds of Wimbledon helped make Dick fall in love with tennis even more," said Barbara Enberg, his widow. "In 1981, Dick replaced Bud (Collins) as the play-by-play announcer. But Dick was always indebted to Bud for his support, friendship, and encyclopedic knowledge of the game. Dick was officially hooked on tennis!"

Enberg's personal affection for tennis began in the late 1970s playing with friends at a club in Los Angeles. It grew even stronger in 1983 when the couple married and moved to Rancho Santa Fe, where they bought a house and built their own court.

"It was something he was very passionate about," said Ms Enberg, who began taking lessons at the Rancho Santa Fe Tennis Club.

With her husband's heavy travel schedule, she said, "we often had a 'home tennis match' on a Monday or Tuesday afternoon, followed by a casual dinner with our families. Tennis was our number one social activity" and the basis of the couple's shared "mutual love of tennis!"

"Dick did not have time for the commitment of joining a men's tennis league, but none-the-less, he was very competitive when he did play," said Ms Enberg.



## Lornie Kuhle (1944 - )



Lornie Kuhle's legacy appears all across the landscape of tennis. Among his most important examples of skill and versatility:

The world men's professional tennis tour, where Kuhl spent five years as a traveling coach and practice partner for Jimmy Connors.

The 1973 Battle of the Sexes, when Kuhle coached Bobby Riggs in his epic match against Billie Jean King in the Houston Astrodome, Kuhle helped promote the event and served as a consultant for the 2017 movie, coaching actor Steve Carell in his portrayal of Bobby Riggs.

The Billie Jean King Girls National 16s and 18s Championships, which Kuhle directs and organizes operations and funding

for the USTA. The Tennis Channel now televises the finals and describes the event as Where Champions Are Made.

The MGM Grand Hotel Tennis Club in Las Vegas, where Kuhle served 45 years as Tennis Director.

The Easter Bowl Junior Championships, for which Kuhle took ownership. Under his control of operations and fundraising for the USTA, the result is the tournament is often described as the Super Bowl of junior tennis.

The Bobby Riggs Tennis Club and Museum in Encinitas, which Kuhle opened and developed beginning in 1995.

The Illinois State High School Tennis Championships, where Kuhle placed third in singles in 1962.

The NAIA National Team Championship, where Kuhle led his Pan American University tennis team to victory in 1964 and 1965.

The 2004 USTA Senior Father/Daughter Hardcourt Doubles Championship, won by Kuhle and his daughter Jennifer.

A top 10 USTA Men's Doubles ranking, which Kuhle earned with Tom Edlefsen.

In the 1960s Kuhle moved to San Diego to coach Chico Hagey, who won the National Boy's Singles title at Kalamazoo in 1971, gained a Stanford University tennis scholarship, and became a US Open competitor. and San Diego Tennis Hall of Fame Inductee.

World Team Tennis, for which Kuhle coached the Los Angeles Strings.

Lornie is proud of his long-term relationship with Childhelp Merv Griffin Village, a residential treatment center for abused children in Beaumont, Texas. Through his tournaments, Lornie's efforts have raised over \$1 million for this worthy cause.

## Amber Liu (1984 - )



Amber Liu was born July 6, 1984 in Santa Monica, CA. When she was one year old, her parents moved to Mt. Helix in La Mesa, CA after her father took a position as an anesthesiologist at Sharp Grossmont Hospital.

Amber began playing tennis when her Auntie Patty would take her to play at Lake Murray Tennis Club. She took a liking to it, Amber began to take lessons at Singing Hills Tennis Center with Katrina (Crawford) Failla. As Amber's skills increased, she spent time learning from a who's who of local instructors: Walter Redondo, Greg Failla, Jim Ault, Skip Redondo, and Gretchen Rush.

While attending school at Francis Parker, Amber mercilessly schooled the nation's junior girls on the finer points of tennis. Some of her many

accomplishments:

- Nationally ranked Top 10 in the 14s and 16s.
- Nationally ranked #1 in the 18s.
- USTA Super National Hard Courts Champion, 2001.
- Winner, Girls 18s North American Championships, 2001.
- Member: USTA World Junior Tennis, World Youth Cup, Sunshine/Connelly Cup.
- After graduation from Francis Parker, Amber matriculated at prestigious Stanford University on a tennis scholarship. Her results on the court are stellar:
- All-American each of her four years
- Led her Cardinal team to three straight NCAA team championship
- Was NCAA Singles Champion not once, but twice, 2003 and 2004.
- Intercollegiate Tennis Association (ITA) Rookie of the Year, and Player of the Year 2003.
- Selected to compete on the ITA All Star Team in Japan in 2003.
- Honda Award Winner for tennis, as ITA National Player of the Year, 2004.
- NCAA Doubles Finalist with Anne Yelsey, 2005.
- ITA National Senior Player of the Year, 2006.

During her four years at Stanford, Amber not only was a highly decorated tennis player, she was a standout student who won academic honors on her way to a degree in economics. Her dedication to her academic work earned her an internship at Goldman Sachs in NY.

However, Amber deferred her job offer and turned professional. Coached by her future husband and fellow SDTHOF member, Michael Chang, she joined the WTA tour. Amber ended her rise up the rankings at #241 when she chose to marry and start a family.

Amber retired from professional tennis in 2008 and married Michael that same year. She now spends her time taking care of their three beautiful children, Lani, Maile, and Micah, and serves as a Director for Michael's charitable foundation.

This fairytale family makes their home in Orange County, CA.