

# The LPGA Teaching and Club Professionals: A History

# The Turn of the 21<sup>st</sup> Century to the Present – 2000-2009

#### The LPGA T&CP Hall of Fame



In October, 2000, The LPGA Teaching and Club Professionals established its **Hall of Fame** to honor teaching and club professional members for extraordinary membership service and leadership while contributing to the game of golf and the golf industry.

The inaugural class of six was officially inducted on Oct. 25 at the kickoff dinner for **Celebrating Women in Golf: An LPGA 50th** 

**Anniversary Event**, which was held at the World Golf Village from Oct. 25-28, as part of the LPGA's 50th anniversary celebration.

The inductees were: LPGA and LPGA T&CP Founders Patty Berg, Marilynn Smith, Shirley Spork, Louise Suggs and Betty Hicks and LPGA teaching legend, Peggy Kirk Bell.

In 2001, inductees included **Goldie Bateson**, **Ellen Griffin**, **Dr. DeDe Owens**, and **Joanne Winter**. **Ann Casey Johnstone** and **S. Annette Thompson** joined the honorees in 2004 and 2006, respectively.

On Saturday, September 12, 2009, **Kerry Graham, Lorraine Klippel**, **Pat Lange** and **Penny Zavichas** were honored with a reception and induction ceremony held at Kingsmill Resort & Spa in Williamsburg, Virginia.







# The National Education Program's Education Tracks

Also in 2003, **Benson** established **The LPGA Education and Research Advisory Board**, whose purpose was to review the National Education
Program's curriculum to ensure that it was the best in the industry and that
it reflected the needs of a changing membership, which included not only
golf teachers, but coaches and business leaders as well. Based on the
Advisory Board's recommendations, the **National Education Program Series** curriculum was expanded in 2006 to include coaching and managerial
leadership education. With the additional educational offerings, the LPGA
NEP now offers three specialty education tracks: **Teaching, Coaching and Managerial Leadership.** 

In 2008, the LPGA T&CP's very first NEP Managerial Leadership graduate, **Susan Helmerich**, was promoted to General Manager of EAGLE Golf Management Company due to the LPGA training she received. **Kelley Hester**, Head Women's Golf Coach at the University of Georgia, was the first Coaching track graduate. The Bulldogs finished third at the 2008 East Regional and entered the NCAA championships at No. 7 in the Golf World coaches' poll and No. 8 in both the Golfweek/Sagarin Performance Index and the Golfstat rankings.

# **LPGA Top 50 Teachers**



In 2007, **Nancy Henderson** was hired as the LPGA Executive Director, Teaching and Club Professionals, to direct the operations of the T&CP. As a T&CP member herself, Henderson was able to view LPGA practices from the member side as well.

One of the results was the LPGA's first-ever compilation of **The LPGA 50 Best Teachers List.** LPGA members were asked to rank their peers by voting for the top teachers in their sections. The list identified and recognized the best instructors in each of the five T&CP sections (Central, Midwest, Southeast, Northeast and Western).



## LPGA Top 50 Teachers - 2008-09



#### **Central Section**

Dr. Debra Crews, *Mesa, Ariz.*Betsy Cullen, *Sugar Land, Tex.*Amy Fox, *Mansfield, Tex.*Kathy Gook, *Phoenix, Ariz.*Peggy Gustafson, *Peoria, Ariz.*Sandy LaBauve, *Scottsdale, Ariz.*Lynn Marriott, *Phoenix, Ariz.*Kathy Murphy, *Phoenix, Ariz.*Penny Pulz, *Phoenix, Ariz.*Deb Vangellow, *Sugar Land, Tex.* 

#### **Northeast Section**

Troy Beck, *Glenn Dale, Md.*Rebecca Dengler, *West Chester, Penn.*Jane Frost, *Marstons Mills, Mass.*Lorraine Klippel, *Camp Hill, Penn.*Kelli Kostick, *New Durham, N.H.*Kammy Maxfeldt, *Norwalk, Conn.*Cindy Miller, *Silver Creek, N.Y.*Vicki Phillips, *Fairfax, Va..*Rita Slavetskas, *Hilton Head Island, S.C.*Suzy Whaley, *Farmington, Conn.* 

#### Western Section

Dana Bates, *Thousand Palms, Calif.*Judy Carls, *Huntington Beach, Calif.*Sally Dodge, *Pebble Beach, Calif.*Beverly Fergusson, *Carlsbad, Calif.*Judy Furst, *Palm Desert, Calif.*Sheri Hayes, *Carlsbad, Calif.*Patti Marquis, *Spokane, Wash.*Kathy O'Kelly, *Olympia, Wash.*Lynn Ralston, *Los Angeles, Calif.*Mardell Wilkins, *Mission Viejo, Calif.* 

#### **Midwest Section**

Molly Baney, West Chicago, III.
Nancy Bender, Valparaiso, Ind.
Patricia Butcher, Grand Rapids, Mich.
Laurel Dieken, Worthington, Ohio
Faith Egli, Mogadore, Ohio
Betty Kaufmann, Lake Forest, III.
Beverly Miller, Hillsboro, Mo.
Margie Muzik, Naperville, III.
Maria Palozola Long, St. Louis, Mo.
Nancy Quarcelino, Franklin, Tenn.

#### **Southeast Section**

Julie Cole, *Charlotte, N.C.*Jennifer Cully, *Tierra Verde, Fla.*Marie-Claire De Bortoli, *Port St. Lucie, Fla.*Debbie O'Connell, *Palm City, Fla.*Gale Peterson, *St. Simons Island, Ga.*Carol Preisinger, *Johns Island, S.C.*Dana Rader, *Charlotte, N.C.*Lynn Stellman, *Palm City, Fla.*Donna White, *West Palm Beach, Fla.*Teresa Zamboni, *Port Orange, Fla.* 



# The LPGA Front Row Experience



The brainchild of past LPGA Southeast Section President, Lynn Stellman, the LPGA Front Row Experience premiered at the Kraft-Nabisco Championship in April 2006 and has become one of the T&CP's most sought-after programs. The program offers fans the unique opportunity to get inside the ropes of LPGA Tour events to test equipment and receive a free 10-minute lesson from an LPGA Teaching Professional right on the tournament driving range. It creates a win/win situation: fans get a unique "experience" from the "front row" of tournaments and LPGA Teaching Professionals gain exposure to golfers from their locales who want to improve their skills.

In 2009, the program was expanded to include Duramed FUTURES Tour events as well as LPGA Tournaments. In the first half of 2009, over 5,000 minutes of free lessons were given by 42 LPGA Teaching Professionals who donated their time to instruct. Over a dozen fans have contacted LPGA Headquarters requesting more lessons. The Front Row Experience has proven to be both a unique and successful program for promoting LPGA Teaching Professionals, supporting event sponsors, and pleasing LPGA fans.

# The Nancy Lopez Golf Achievement Award

This award was created by the LPGA T&CP in 2007 and is given to an LPGA professional who emulates qualities valued by **Nancy Lopez**: Leadership; Passion; Giving; and Approachability. **Debbie O'Connell**, a 16-year LPGA T&CP member, was the recipient of the first-ever Nancy Lopez Golf Achievement Award for giving back to the game in the spirit of Nancy Lopez. **Troy Beck** received the award in 2008 and **Patti Benson** in 2009.









**Troy Beck** 



Patti Benson



## **A New Membership Classification**

In 2009, the **LPGA "ONE" Initiative** program was introduced and will continue until 2011. It offers LPGA Tour members "ONE" free year of membership in the LPGA T&CP as a Class A-T professional and allows members to participate in T&CP tournaments and educational programs. At the end of the free year of membership, participants have two options:

- They may either remain a dual Tour and T&CP member with all of the benefits and **not** be obligated to complete any of the education or testing, or
- they may choose to go through the education and testing and become a **certified** teaching professional, manager or coach.

As of July 2009, 15 Tour members have taken advantage of the initiative to become T&CP A-T members, joining the 66 former Tour players who are now T&CP members and 42 who are dual Tour/T&CP members.





# **Her-story**

In 2003, a proposed amendment to the LPGA T&CP Constitution that would allow men to become members was voted down by the membership. Thus, the LPGA T&CP history remains "her-story."



# LPGA Founders at the LPGA 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration

Top Row, I to r: Marilynn Smith, Marlene Hagge, Alice Bauer, Betty Jameson, Louise Suggs Bottom Row, I to r: Bettye Danoff, Patty Berg, Shirley Spork Not pictured, deceased: Helen Dettweiler, Helen Hicks, Opal Hill, Sally Sessions, Babe Zaharias



### Past National Presidents - 2000s

Patti Benson 2002-present Nora McGuire 2000-2001

### The Ellen Griffin Rolex Award - 2000s

| 2000 | Dr. Gary Wiren          |
|------|-------------------------|
| 2001 | Penny Zavichas          |
| 2002 | <b>Annette Thompson</b> |
| 2003 | Dr. Barbara B. Smith    |
| 2004 | Marge Burns             |
| 2005 | Pat Lange               |
| 2006 | Donna White             |
| 2007 | Betsy Cullen            |
| 2008 | Lynn Marriott           |
| 2009 | Kay McMahon             |

### **Teacher of the Year Award Winners – 2000s**

| 2000 | Nancy Quarcelino        |
|------|-------------------------|
| 2001 | Kathy Murphy            |
| 2002 | Krista Dunton           |
| 2003 | Nancy Bender            |
| 2004 | Rosey Bartlett          |
| 2005 | Marie Claire De Bartoli |
| 2006 | Cheryl Anderson         |
| 2007 | Teresa Zamboni          |
| 2008 | Karen Palacios-Jansen   |
| 2009 | Rita Reasons            |



### **LPGA Professional of the Year Award Winners – 2000s**

| Linda Nevatt                 |
|------------------------------|
| Donna White                  |
| J. Kristy Vik                |
| Janet Phillips               |
| Susan Roll                   |
| Holly Juergens               |
| Dawne Kortgaard/Lisa Masters |
| Debbie O'Connell             |
| Nancy Henderson              |
| Cathy Jo Johnson             |
|                              |

### **LPGA Coach of the Year Award Winners – 2000s**

| 2009 | Kelley Hester                                    | University of Georgia, Athens, GA                          |  |
|------|--|--|--|
| 2008 | Michelle Melia                                   | Fairleigh Dickinson University, Teaneck, NJ                |  |
| 2007 | Maria Lopez                                      | Embry Riddle Aeronautical University,<br>Daytona Beach, FL |  |
| 2006 | Janet Bolle-Carl                                 | University of Cincinnati, Cincinnati, OH                   |  |
| 2005 | Shelly Haywood University of Arizona, Tuscon, AZ |  |  |
| 2004 | Sally Austin                                     | University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill, NC              |  |
| 2003 | Nancy McDaniel                                   | University of California at Berkeley                       |  |
| 2002 | Jackie Booth                                     | University of New Mexico                                   |  |
| 2001 | Dianne Dailey                                    | Wake Forest University                                     |  |
| 2000 | Nancy Lewis                                      | San Jose State University                                  |  |
|      |  |  |  |

# The LPGA Team Championship - 2000s

| Year | Championship Division              | Senior Division                         | Tournament Site                           |
|------|------------------------------------|---|---|
| 2009 | Malia Folquet &<br>Bobbi Salmon    |   | Palm Valley Country Club, Palm Desert, CA |
| 2008 | Angela Aulenti &<br>Kammy Maxfeldt |   | Palm Valley Country Club, Palm Desert, CA |
| 2007 | Julie Hennessy &<br>Marjorie Jones |   | Palm Valley Country Club, Palm Desert, CA |
| 2006 | Karen Davies &<br>Lisa DePaulo     | Karyn Dunphy &<br>Julie Lynd            | Sandia Golf Club, Albuquerque, NM         |
| 2005 | Dana Dormann &<br>Laura Witvoet    | Karyn Dunphy &<br>Julie Lynd            | Carmel Valley Ranch, Carmel, CA           |
| 2004 | Dede Cusimano &<br>Mary Enright    | Leslie Van Syckle &<br>Lorraine Klippel | Carmel Valley Ranch, Carmel, CA           |
| 2003 | Dede Cusimano &<br>Mary Enright    | Patty Snyder &<br>Mardell Wilkins       | The Legacy Golf Resort, Phoenix, AZ       |
| 2002 | Stephanie Comstock & Lisa DePaulo  | Patty Snyder &<br>Mardell Wilkins       | The Legacy Golf Resort, Phoenix, AZ       |
| 2001 | Robyn Frantz &<br>Lee Huntley      | Patty Snyder &<br>Mardell Wilkins       | Heritage Palms Golf Club, Indio, CA       |
| 2000 | Marci Bozarth &<br>Piper Wagner    | Leslie Van Syckle &<br>Lorraine Klippel | Heritage Palms Golf Club, Indio, CA       |

# The LPGA T&CP National Championship – 2000s

| Date | Championship Division | Senior Division | Tournament Site                               |
|------|-----------------------|-----------------|---|
| 2009 | Jean Bartholomew      | Dede Cusimano   | Kingsmill Resort & Spa, Williamsburg, VA      |
| 2008 | Laura Shanahan-Rowe   | Linda Nevatt    | Pinehurst No. 8, Village of Pinehurst, NC     |
| 2007 | Lisa DePaulo          | Angela Aulenti  | Pinehurst No. 8, Village of Pinehurst, NC     |
| 2006 | Karen Davies          | Judy Furst      | Pinehurst No. 8, Village of Pinehurst, NC     |
| 2005 | Dana Dormann          | Linda Groover   | Slammer and Squire, St. Augustine, FL         |
| 2004 | Cindy Miller          | Linda Groover   | LPGA International; Daytona Beach, FL         |
| 2003 | Dede Cusimano         | Carla Glasgow   | LPGA International; Daytona Beach, FL         |
| 2002 | Suzy Whaley           | M.J. Smith      | Mid Pines Inn & Golf Club; Southern Pines, NC |
| 2001 | Julie Hennessy        | Vicki Phillips  | Mid Pines Inn & Golf Club; Southern Pines, NC |
| 2000 | Connie Baker          | Robyn Frantz    | Mid Pines Inn & Golf Club; Southern Pines, NC |