

The ENDLESS CHUKKER



Special Edition | Spring 2026

Record Crowd Enjoys 37th Annual Hall of Fame Induction Ceremony



The historic 37th annual Polo Hall of Fame Awards Dinner celebrating the legends of the sport was a huge success. An eclectic collection of prominent figures, ranging from Polo Hall of Famers to titans in the horse racing industry, business, movies and the arts, were among the record-setting guests attending the iconic event on Friday night (Feb. 13) at the Museum of Polo in Lake Worth, Florida. And for the first time, the PTF Player of the Year awards were included in the ceremonies.

Hall of Fame Award – Peter M. Brant

Peter Brant established the powerhouse White Birch organization, setting a new standard of excellence in American high-goal polo for more than thirty-five years beginning in 1979. His leadership and vision elevated the competitive landscape and encouraged other teams to develop and maintain fully professional operations that shaped the modern era. White Birch captured thirty-one tournaments rated at twenty-six goals or higher, including twelve USPA Gold Cup titles, five World Cup crowns, seven International Opens, five C.V. Whitney Cups, and five Monty Waterbury victories. Their dominance culminated in winning the 2005 U.S. Open. As a player, Brant achieved a seven-goal handicap, ranking among the highest-rated amateurs in modern polo history.



Peter Brant and wife Stephanie Seymour

Grant Ganzi, Museum of Polo Chairman Marty Cregg, Melissa Ganzi, Marc Ganzi, Riley Ganzi



Iglehart Award – Melissa Ganzi

Since beginning polo in 2000, she has advanced its growth through her stewardship of Grand Champions and Aspen Valley Polo Clubs and her steadfast support of junior, women's, international, and inclusive initiatives. A generous philanthropist, Melissa has championed the Polo Training Foundation, the Museum of Polo, Work to Ride and numerous other charitable endeavors. As an accomplished competitor, she has succeeded at all goal levels, earning victories in multiple high-goal tournaments. Her leadership includes service on the USPA Governor and her continued work as President of the Polo Training Foundation and Museum of Polo, promoting the sport's lasting advancement.

Hall of Fame Award - Billy Stevens



Charlie Stevens, Ruth Stevens, Natasha Stevens, Jim Stevens

A towering figure in American arena polo, **Billy Stevens** sustained an exceptional 8-goal arena handicap for thirteen years, a testament to his skill and competitive spirit. Over a remarkable six-decade career concluding with his retirement in 2004, he earned admiration for his consistency, resilience, and exemplary sportsmanship. Stevens compiled an extraordinary record across 6-goal to 20-goal levels, highlighted by consecutive U.S. Open Arena titles in 1980 and 1981, the 14-goal Continental Cup in 1975 and 1976, the 20-goal North American Cup in 1976, and the National 12-goal Arena championship in 1959. His enduring influence and distinguished achievements leaves a lasting legacy throughout the country and beyond for generations of players and fans alike.

Iglehart Award - Clint Nangle



Accepting the award on her fathers' behalf was Dana Scott (pictured to the right) with her son Sam Scott.



Clint Nangle will always be remembered as a caring, dignified, and deeply respected champion of the sport. A natural-born left-hander, he began playing polo at Myopia in 1962 and became known for his positivity, integrity, and unwavering commitment to improving the game. He served more than twenty years as a USPA Governor, including a decade as the first elected Governor of the Florida/Caribbean Circuit, guiding the region through strong and sustained growth. He also contributed significantly to improving administration and competitive structure. Nangle founded and chaired the USPA Equine Welfare Committee, advancing essential standards for horse care, safety, and responsible stewardship across the sport.

Hall of Fame Award - Elisabeth “Pansy” Ireland Poe



Lori Curtis, Whitney White, Nancy Ireland Stahl, Lori Everett

Elisabeth “Pansy” Ireland Poe was a trailblazing pioneer who, in 1925, unofficially became the first woman to obtain a handicap rating from the USPA. Standing only five feet tall, Pansy competed fearlessly on both grass and arena fields, consistently proving herself a formidable opponent to her male counterparts. Determined to play at the highest level, she boldly registered with the USPA under the initials P.E. Ireland and was granted a handicap. When officials later discovered she was a woman, she was ejected from the association. Undeterred, Pansy continued to compete and went on to help pioneer the United States Women’s Polo Association, shaping opportunities for future generations of female players.

Iglehart Award for 2025 - Joe Casey Sr.



Joe Casey Sr., helped set the standard for large-scale professional polo management. In the 1960s, while working in Tulsa for John T. Oxley, he oversaw the horses for a high-goal team, managed the breeding operation, and played on Oxley’s teams, demonstrating both exceptional skill and keen horsemanship. Casey was also among the first Americans to travel to Argentina in search of top-quality horses, a practice that soon became essential to high-goal polo in the United States. Known for generously sharing his knowledge, he guided numerous young players. On the field, Casey’s achievements include winning the 1970 British Gold Cup with Boca Raton, the 1966 12-goal with Tulsa, and the 1981 Bronze Trophy and Inter-Circuit titles, also with Tulsa.

Horses To Remember - Citroen



Citroen was an outstanding athlete winning the top honors in Argentina where he was bred, before coming to the United States. The stunning chestnut gelding was then purchased by Robert Lehman who paid top price at auction. Citroen continued his outstanding play and winning major awards, including being judged best polo pony in the 1930 and 1931 National Polo Pony Society Show, a rare feat for a gelding in a very competitive field of remarkable ponies. Citroen was played by Hall of Famer Eric Pedley en route to victory in the 1930 Westchester Cup.

L-R: Chairman Marty Cregg with Robert “Robin” Lehman and Daughter Morgan Lehman who accepted the award on behalf of grandfather Robert Lehman, owner of Citroen



Horses to Remember- Longpocket



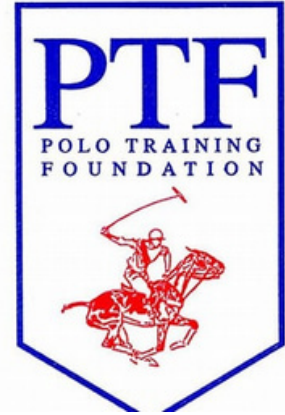
Wendy Hollander and her son George Mulcahy accepting award for Longpocket

Longpocket

Billy Mulcahy’s raw-boned and wiry Australian thoroughbred carried numerous high-goalers throughout his career, including Memo Gracida, Esteban Panelo, Piki Alberdi, Juni Crotto, and Mike Azzaro. Sturdy and rock-steady with a big chest carrying a huge heart, Longpocket will long be remembered for his always dependable play, highlighted by performing for three out of seven hard-fought chukkers in the epic 80-goal match in California in 1990.



Annual Polo Training Foundation awards for Interscholastic and Intercollegiate players of the year



This year's Hall of Fame Induction Ceremony featured the Annual Polo Training Foundation awards for interscholastic and intercollegiate players. Four players were recognized this year. They were joined on stage by Chairman of the PTF Melissa Ganzi, President Tony Coppola, and Vice-President Gill Johnston. Also in attendance was PTF Executive Director Jennifer Mcleavy, Secretary Leighton Jordan, and treasurer Joe Kozlik.



PTF Player of the Year award recipients (l to r): Joe Bob Lequerica, Alana Benz. Kylie Beard and Zak Coleman



Alana Benz, winner of the Intercollegiate Daniel J. Wallace, Jr. Female player of the Year award with Coach Lou Lopez.



Zak Coleman winner of the Intercollegiate Stephen A. Orthwein Male player of the Year award. Pictured with his mother Sarah Coleman and father Dan Coleman



Joe Bob Lequerica, Interscholastic Russel A. Sheldon Male Player of the year award recipient pictured with family and Coach Mark Prinsloo



Kylie Beard Interscholastic Lynn Thompson Female Player of the Year award recipient pictured with mother Jennifer Beard and father Jonathan Beard



Museum Vice President Tony Coppola with Susan Shelly



President and CEO of USPA Global Michael Prince with wife Amanda Prince



Nacho and Delfina Figueras



Marty Cregg, Leighton Jordan, Julian Schnabel and Louise Kugelberg



Ornela March, Riley Ganzi, Rebel Wilson, Melissa and Marc Ganzi



Richard Groves, George DuPont, Donna Rosman



Daragh Calandroni, Pablo Calandroni, Peter Brant, Elly Brien, Alberto (Naca) Nicora



Grant Ganzi with Michelle Marshall



Adolfo and Maria Cambiaso



Scott and Terri Devon

JOIN US NEXT YEAR - February 12, 2027 Hall of Fame Induction Ceremony

Memo and Meghan Gracida



Lindsey Ebersbach and Mike Carney



Board Member Don Dufresne with Maria Garcia



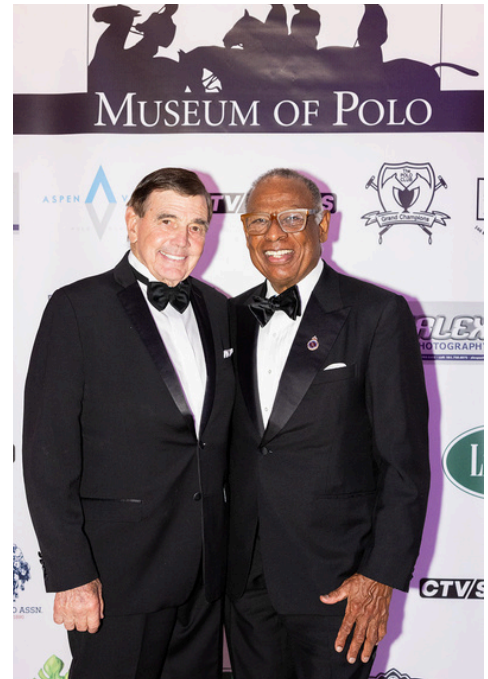


Above - Iglehart recipient Melissa Ganzi celebrating with friends and family

Right- Pat Nesbitt and Board Member Madison Richardson

Left- 2019 Gauntlet of Polo Champion Matias 'Colo' Gonzalez with Abigail Bryant.

Below- Board Member and Sponsor Olexa Celina celebrates with family





Peter Brant accepts his Hall of Fame award



Brook and Sally Johnson



Gill Johnston, Leighton Jordan, and Annabelle Garrett



Daren Fogel and daughter Eliza Fogel

All photos courtesy of Krystal Zaskey Photography and Alex Pacheco photography



Riley, Melissa, and Marc Ganzi



Elena Corsano with Hugh Wilton



Olexa Celine, Jennifer Charleston,
and Miguel Sanchez



Angelo Sabino, Rebecca Cohen, Carol Cohen-Hodess,
and Blake Hodess

Visit the Museum

The Museum of Polo and Hall of Fame is the only one in the world solely dedicated to preserving and sharing the history and traditions of the sport of polo and is the home of the Hall of Fame. It was founded by a small group of polo players in the US led by Philip Iglehart and Leverett Miller who believed the sport would benefit from an effort to uphold its history and safeguard its iconic treasures. Currently, the Museum is a rich repository of physical treasures which displays a few highlights from its exceptional collection of rare trophies, artwork, and artifacts. Moreover, it is also the caretaker of many significant trophies such as the U.S. Open Trophy, Gold and Silver Cups, owned by the USPA, and the Triple Crown of Polo Trophy owned by The Ganzi Family, to name a few. In addition to the members of the Hall of Fame, the Museum also celebrates the hundreds of clubs, intercollegiate and interscholastic polo, men's, women's, and children's participation at all levels of skill. Although polo is played year-round, the high-goal season in Palm Beach County, from January through April, is considered the best in the world. During the season over President's Day weekend, the Museum celebrates and honors heroes of the sport, past, and living during the Hall of Fame Gala Ceremony. From the spark in Philip's eye to its current grandeur, the Museum has become the premier destination for those interested in learning about the sport and its legacy.

**Help support our mission to
preserve the history and
legacy of Polo!**



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**The Museum of Polo
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