

Service to Youth

2003 - LAURA BORCHARDT: Laura has spent most of her professional time teaching and coaching gymnastics in Lubbock with her husband Wally. She has coached high school team, she has coached Special Olympic Team. It is her involvement with the Special Olympics that we are honoring Laura. She has been the Gymnastics venue director at the last several Special Olympics State Games, held annually at various locations in the state. As such, she is responsible for the scheduling of athletes, as well as checking out the venue for the games. Laura recently returned from the Special Olympic World Games in Dublin, Ireland, where she coached the Texas Delegation. For the past several years Laura has presented the finer points of coaching special athletes at GAT Conventions. She has touched the lives of many very special gymnasts. We are pleased to present Laura with our Service to Youth Award.

Gold Honor

2003 - VALERI LIUKIN: Coach of Carly Patterson and Holly Vise

2003 - KEVIN MAZEIKA: 2003 WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP MEN'S TEAM COACH; USA SILVER Medal Men's Team

2003 - HOLLY VISE: 2003 World Championships; Tied for Gold Medal on Uneven Bars, Member of Gold Medal Team; WOGA; Coached by Evgeny Marchenko, Valeri Liukin.

2003 - EVGENY MARCHENKO: 2003 WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP WOMEN'S TEAM COACH; First ever USA GOLD Medal for Women's Team at Worlds.

2003 - CARLY PATTERSON: 2003 World Championships; Silver Medal In All Around, Member Of Gold Medal Team; WOGA; Coached by Evgeny Marchenko, Valeri Liukin.

Special Honor

2003 - DANIEL FURNEY: University of Oklahoma; 2003 Nissen Emery Award Winner; team captain, 2002 and 2003; 2003 NCAA All-Around and Parallel Bar National Champion; Conference Gymnast of the Year and All Around Conference Champion; Set NCAA scoring record in All-Around (56.5); NCAA Gymnast of the Week 4 times; tied Bart Conner for most All America Honors (9) at OU; holds school record on Vault, Parallel Bars, High Bar, and All Around; Academic All American and conference All Academic Team; trained at Alamo Gymnastics Center in San Antonio, coached by Yuejin Sun.

Distinguished Service

2003 - JUERGEN ACHTERMANN: Humble, Texas : Juergen started his gymnastics coaching career in 1977. He competed for Rowland's (where he earned a USGF State Champion Title), for Humble High School, and for Texas A&M University. He has been a judge of both men's and women's gymnastics and this year marks the beginning of his 22nd year as the coach of boys and girls at Humble High School. He opened Juergen's Gymnastics Academy in Humble in 1986. Currently he continues to coach at Humble High School as well as at his club; he is the USAG Women's State Chairman as well as the President of the Texas High School Coaches Association. GAT is pleased to present the Distinguished Service Award to Juergen.

2003 - CORI RIZZO: Austin, Texas : After receiving her Bachelors and Masters Degrees from the University of Illinois, Cori coached high school boys and girls gymnastics teams for ten years before moving to Texas. Once in Texas, she directed a preschool gymnastics program and managed a leotard business. Cori has been a women's gymnastics judge for over 30 years, earning an Elite rating

in 1980 and a Brevet in 1993. She has judged numerous local meets in Texas in addition to judging the Championships of the USA , the Senior Pan American Championships, the Swiss Cup and DTB Cup. She served as the Texas USAG Women's director from 1992 through 1997 and is currently the USAG Region III Chairman. For her many countless hours dedicated to the young gymnasts of Texas , GAT is pleased to present Cori with the Distinguished Service Award.

2003 - BETH GARDNER: Round Rock, Texas : A graduate of Texas A&M University , Beth has an extensive background in preschool gymnastics, is a gym owner, and one of the authors and directors of the GAT Instructor Training Program (ITP). She has represented USAG as a Nat. KAT and MELPD Instructor as well as serving as a USAG Congress presenter. She has written articles which have been published in Technique Magazine including topics covering preschool and boys gymnastics. Beth has been an active member of the GAT board for the past several years. Beth is a deserving recipient of the GAT Distinguished Service Award.

2003 - ANNETTE THOMAS: Austin , Texas : Annette was the very first, the original instructor, of the GAT Instructor Training Program (ITP) and co-authored the text for that program. She served numerous times as clinician at GAT Conventions, and served as clinician at the 1998 and 1999 KAT/MELPD program at the USA Gymnastics National Congresses. Annette is program director and, for the past 13 years or so, events coordinator at Capital Gymnastics, touching the lives of many young gymnasts in Texas . She has taught and coached gymnastics for over 20 years. We are pleased to present Annette with the Distinguished Service Award.

THE HONORARY LIFE MEMBERSHIP AWARD

2003 - DEBBIE WILLIAMS: Bedford , Texas : Debbie earned her degree in Physical Education from the University of Texas . She participated in gymnastics and cheerleading while in high school and college. Currently she is a Health teacher and gymnastics coach at L. D. Bell High School , where she has also served as student council sponsor, senior class sponsor, and was elected as a PTA life member. As a high school gymnastics coach, Debbie's teams have won more team titles than any other coach in the history of the Texas High School Gymnastics Coaches Association State Championships. She has co-hosted 14 Texas High School Gymnastics Meets and the first National High School Gymnastics Meet where she coached the Girls Team Texas that won the meet. Her high school gymnastics team have won numerous district and regional championships. In addition, she hosted the American Classic Meet and other State and Regional Junior Olympic meets as well as served as volunteer at the World Championships in Fort Worth , the American Cup and Mixed Pairs, the Goodwill Games in New York and the Olympic Games in Atlanta . Debbie has been selected as Regional High School Coach of the year, State High School Coach of the Year, and National High School Coach of the Year. . GAT is pleased to present our 2003 Honorary Life Member: Debbie Williams.