

**SURVEY**

**Hoteliers' Hall of Achievement  
Recipients 2005**



**GEOFFREY GELARDI**

**LANESBOROUGH**

A third-generation hotelier, he has been running The Lanesborough, a prestigious London property, since 1990 and is also vice president, Europe, of St. Regis Hotels & Resorts. He is known for his loyalty to staff and employees, as well as for his understanding of the importance of service and personal contact in the luxury market. He knows how vital it is to generate a return on investment and has consistently made this hotel a financial success.

**FOUR SEASONS**

**CHRISTOPHER HUNSBERGER**



Persistence has paid off for this hotelier. More than 20 years after being denied employment at the Four Seasons Hotel Washington DC, he returned and became GM of this premier property and a regional vice president of Four Seasons Hotels and Resorts. He has now spent some 23 years with Four Seasons and has led many of its hotels throughout North America. He is known for his consistency, reliability, and work ethic, which have brought all the properties he has overseen to new heights.



**PAUL LEONE**

**BREAKERS**

In a time when the bottom line is such a major focus in the industry, this C.P.A.-turned-hotelier has a keen ability to secure financial results and build customer loyalty. He understands that staff and customers are the greatest assets of The Breakers (Palm Beach, Florida), and is dedicated to the highest standards of conduct and performance. He is known as an approachable leader and spends the necessary time with his people in order to ensure the continued success of this historic, Italian Renaissance-style property.

**PENINSULA**

**NIKLAUS LEUENBERGER**



There is no substitute for experience, and with more than 30 years in the industry, this hotelier is able to handle any situation. He has spent much of his career in Asia and understands the importance of customer service and loyalty. He joined Peninsula Hotels in 1980 and has led the luxurious Peninsula New York since 1992. He knows the intricacies of the city and also knows well those VIPs who travel around the world and make it a point to stay with him when visiting Manhattan.



**JOHN SEGRETI**

**PALACE**

After holding several senior posts in Asia with Shangri-La Hotels and Resorts, including chief operating officer, he joined the 897-room New York Palace in 2003 and is bringing the property to new heights of success and notoriety. He has the expertise and experience as well as the international relationships to make this hotel a top place to stay in town.

*For the past 10 years, we have asked our readers, the heads of the travel departments at major corporations, and leaders in the hotel and airline industries: Who are the best hotel executives?*

*Each year, we have published the results of that poll, and through the years some names have been consistently rated at the top for different reasons. Some run large, internationally famous hotels, while others run small, boutique hotels with equally fine service.*

*Because of this continued record of excellence, we created a Hall of Achievement to honor those dedicated hoteliers who have truly become legends in their field. To the left are this year's inductees; below is a listing of the past members of the Hoteliers' Hall of Achievement.*

**HONORED MEMBERS OF THE  
HALL OF ACHIEVEMENT**

**RAYMOND N. BICKSON**

**STAN BROMLEY**

**DENNIS A. CLARKE**

**DAVID J. COLELLA**

**RICHARD J. COTTER**

**ALBERTO DEL HOYO**

**TERENCE R. HOLMES**

**MANFRED J. AND CHRISTINA HÖRGER**

**BERNARD LACKNER**

**PHILIPPE LEOBOEF**

**DIDIER LE CALVEZ**

**YOUNG-IL LEE**

**ERIC O. LONG**

**CARLOS LOPES**

**MARIA RAZUMICH-ZEC**

**GUENTER H. RICHTER**

**NATALE RUSCONI**

**GILES SHEPARD**

**MARCO TORRIANI**

**KURT WACHTVEITL**

L E A D E R S

SURVEY

Who Are the Best Hoteliers?

Each year we ask a panel of our readers, comprised of executives in the travel industry, the CEOs of major worldwide companies, and high government officials, to give their opinions of the best hoteliers. This year, the following (listed in alphabetical order) have been chosen as the 10 best because of their dedication and records of accomplishment. They consistently appear among the top 10, as do the hotels they respectively oversee.



SUKHOTHAI  
**GEORGE BENNEY**  
THE SUKHOTHAI BANGKOK



HARBOR COURT  
**WERNER KUNZ**  
HARBOR COURT HOTEL, BALTIMORE



MARK HOPKINS  
**CAMPBELL BLACK**  
INTERCONTINENTAL MARK HOPKINS SAN FRANCISCO



CONRAD BANGKOK  
**GREGORY MEADOWS**  
CONRAD BANGKOK



DORCHESTER  
**CHRISTOPHER COWDRAY**  
THE DORCHESTER, LONDON



FOUR SEASONS  
**CHRISTOPH SCHMIDINGER**  
FOUR SEASONS HOTEL NEW YORK



NIKKO  
**JOHN HUTAR**  
HOTEL NIKKO SAN FRANCISCO



LONDON HILTON  
**MICHAEL SHEPHERD**  
LONDON HILTON



HUNTINGTON  
**GAIL ISONO**  
THE HUNTINGTON, SAN FRANCISCO



BARCLAY  
**FRANK VAN DER POST**  
INTERCONTINENTAL THE BARCLAY NEW YORK