The 1960s and 1970s marked a golden era for American chess with successes in the international arena and a growth of scholastic chess in the United States. In 1960, the U.S. team of William Lombardy, Charles Kalme, Raymond Weinstein, Anthony Saidy, Edmar Mednis, and Eliot Hearst defeated the Soviet Union in Leningrad to take home the gold medals in the 7th Student Olympiad. A few months later, the stars of this team joined forces with Bobby Fischer to finish second in the Leipzig Chess Olympiad. Fischer followed this up with a win in the 1962 Stockholm Interzonal, but it was only with another Interzonal victory eight years later in Palma de Mallorca that he was on his way to becoming world chess champion. When he accomplished this in 1972 US Chess Federation membership was going through the roof and would continue to climb, from 11,000 in 1968 to almost 60,000 six years later, a record that would not be broken for another 18 years.
During the late 1960s and early 1970s, new national competitions, including the U.S. Junior Chess Championship, the National High School Chess Championship, the National Junior High Chess Championship, and the National Elementary (K-6) Championship, were created, providing an arena for young players to compete and build their skills.

The 1970s also witnessed the rise of a new generation of American-born women who challenged Gisela Gresser and Mona May Karff’s 30-year dominance of U.S. Women’s Chess. Diane Saureide and Rachel Crotto, along with future US Chess President Ruth Haring, won the country’s top women’s chess competitions and represented the country on the global stage. In the 1979, Alicante, Spain, Interzonal, Diane Saureide had the best performance of any American female player from the 1930s to the early 1990s.
SP/5 Austin T. White, U.S. Army
1966 Armed Forces Chess Tournament Luncheon in Washington, D.C. (November 11, 1966)
Collection of the World Chess Hall of Fame
1960

President: Jerry Spann, Fred Cramer, Executive Director: Kenneth Harkness, Frank Brady

May 15 - 21
The first Armed Forces Championship is held in Washington, D.C. It ends in a tie for first place between Private 1st Class Arthur Feuerstein, Seine Area Command (France) U.S. Army, and Captain John Hudson, Chennault Air Force Base (Louisiana).

May 28 - 30
The U.S. Amateur Tournament is held at the Monterey Hotel in Asbury Park, NJ. Raoul Benedicto wins the tournament. Marguerite Fuchs wins the women’s tournament.

July 15 - August 2
The team of William Lombardy, Charles Kalme, Raymond Weinstein, Anthony Saidy, Edmar Mednis, and Eliot Hearst win the 7th Student Chess Olympiad held in Leningrad.

July 29 - August 5
The U.S. Junior Open Championship is held at the Log Cabin Chess Club in West Orange, NJ. Robin Ault wins the championship for the second year in a row.
August 8 – 19

The U.S. Open Championship is held in Saint Louis, MO, at the Hotel Sheraton-Jefferson at 415 N. Tucker Blvd. Robert Byrne wins the championship. Lisa Lane wins the Women’s Open.

Beginning of planning for the first U.S. Team Championship. Teams would come from US Chess affiliated clubs.

US Chess is reorganized and subdivided into eight geographical regions because of its growth. There will be twenty-four newly elected vice presidents in charge of the regions.

The Arpad Elo rating system is adopted at the Saint Louis U.S. Chess Open. Elo was twice the president of the American Chess Federation (1935-36), one of the predecessors of US Chess.
1960
President: Jerry Spann, Fred Cramer, Executive Director: Kenneth Harkness, Frank Brady

October 26 - November 9
The U.S. Olympiad team, led by Bobby Fischer and William Lombardy, takes second in the Leipzig Olympiad.

December
The U.S. Intercollegiate Chess Tournament is held at Princeton University. Columbia University wins the tournament.

December 18 - December 29
The U.S. Chess Championship takes place in New York at the Empire Hotel. Bobby Fischer wins for the fourth year in a row.
1961

President: Fred Cramer, Executive Director: Frank Brady

January

Chess Life is rebranded as a monthly magazine.

May 26 - 28

The U.S. Amateur Championship is held in Asbury Park, NJ. Edgar McCormick wins the championship. Greta Fuchs wins the women’s championship for the second year in a row (She won in May of 1960 under the name of Marguerite Fuchs).

July 6 - 7

Experts Championship is held in Miami Beach, FL, at the DiLido Hotel.

July 14 - 16

The first U.S. Team Chess Championship is held in Raleigh, NC, at the Sir Walter Hotel. The District of Columbia chess team wins the championship. Team members include Norman Whitaker, George Meyer, Kenneth Clayton, Ivan Romanenko, and Glenn Hartleb.
1961
President: Fred Cramer, Executive Director: Frank Brady

July 31 - August 5
The U.S. Junior Chess Open Championship is held in Dayton, OH, at the Biltmore Hotel and Robin Ault wins the event for the third time in a row.

August
Membership more than doubles (2100 to 4579) under the presidency of Jerry Spann. (1957-1960)

August 14 - 27
The U.S. Open Championship is held in San Francisco, CA, at the Sheraton-Palace Hotel. Pal Benko wins the championship.

December
The U.S. Intercollegiate Championship is held in Dayton, OH. Larry Gilden from the University of Maryland wins the championship.

December 17, 1961 - January 4, 1962
The U.S. Chess Championship is held at the Prince George Hotel in New York. Larry Evans wins the tournament.
1962

President: Fred Cramer, Executive Director: Joe Reinhardt

April 22 – May 6

The U.S. Women’s Championship is held in New York City at the Marshall and Manhattan Chess Clubs. Gisela Gresser wins the championship.

May 25 – 27

The U.S. Amateur Tournament is held at Asbury Park, NJ. Ben Greenwald and Dr. Max Cohen tie for first place in the tournament. Adele Goddard wins the Women’s Amateur Championship, and Jeffrey Harris, Walter Harris, and John Caban win the junior prizes.

August

The US Chess Federation’s first international masters ratings list is published, allowing American masters to have international tournaments rated, and their performances represented in their ratings.

August 6 – 10

The U.S. Junior Open Championship is held in Tucson, AZ, at the Ramada Inn. Larry Gilden wins the event.
1962

President: Fred Cramer, Executive Director: Joe Reinhardt

August 12 - 25

The U.S. Open Chess Championship is held in San Antonio, TX. Antonio Medina wins the championship. Kathryn Slater is the Women’s Open champion. Stephen Jones is the winner of the handicap scoring. The Women’s Handicap Prize goes to Adele Goddard.

The 1962 U.S. Open Chess Championship introduces an additional scoring system. There will be prizes based on the traditional score and separate scores based on handicaps. As in golf or bowling, these scores are based on how a player does according to their level. If they win against higher-ranked players, then they get more points.

September 21 - 23

The second annual U.S. Team Chess Championship is held in Takoma Park, MD, at Takoma Park Junior High School. The District of Columbia Chess Team wins the championship. The team includes U.S. Junior Champion Larry Gilden, as well as Hans Berliner, Herbert Avram, George Meyer, and Martin Stark.
1962

President: Fred Cramer, Executive Director: Joe Reinhardt

December 16, 1962 - January 3, 1963

The U.S. Chess Championship is held in New York City at the Henry Hudson Hotel. Bobby Fischer wins the championship for the fifth time.

December 26 - 29

The U.S. Intercollegiate Team Chess Championship is held at La Salle College Union Ballroom in Philadelphia, PA. Brooklyn College wins the championship.
Otto Rothschild
Jacqueline Piatigorsky with the Winners of the 1963 Piatigorsky Cup Tournament, Tigran Petrosian and Paul Keres (1963)
Collection of the World Chess Hall of Fame, gift of the family of Jacqueline Piatigorsky
1963

President: Fred Cramer, Ed Edmondson, Executive Director: Joe Reinhardt

January 6
Herman Helms, dean of American chess, passes away. Chess Life publishes his obituary and an article about Herman Helms’ life, accomplishments, and contributions to chess in the U.S.

April
Gisela Gresser becomes the first woman rated a master on the US Chess rating list. Walter Harris becomes the first African-American rated a master on the US Chess rating list.

May 30 – June 2
The U.S. Amateur Championship is held in Asbury Park, NJ, at the Express Motel. Kenneth Clayton wins the championship. Peter Irwin wins the junior prize, and Cecilia Rock wins the Women’s Championship.

July 2 – 27
The first Piatigorsky Cup tournament is held at the Ambassador Hotel in Los Angeles, CA, in July of 1963. Paul Keres and Tigran Petrosian tie for first.

August
Major Edmund Edmondson is elected the president of the US Chess Federation. He will serve for the next 3 years.
1963

President: Fred Cramer, Ed Edmondson, Executive Director: Joe Reinhardt

August 5 - 9
The U.S. Junior Open Championship is held at Pennsylvania State University in University Park, PA. Peter Irwin wins the tournament.

August 11 - 23
The U.S. Open Championship is held in Chicago, IL, at the Hotel Belmont. Grandmaster William Lombardy wins the championship.

December 15, 1963 - January 2, 1964
The U.S. Chess Championship is held in New York City at the Henry Hudson Hotel. Bobby Fischer makes history by becoming the first person to achieve a perfect score in the U.S. Chess Championship. This record still stands today.

December 26 - 30
The National Intercollegiate Chess Championship is held at Notre Dame University in Notre Dame, IN. Henry Davis from the University of Texas wins the championship.
1964

President: Ed Edmondson, Executive Director: Joe Reinhardt

April 24 – May 10
The U.S. Women’s Chess Championship is held in New York at the Henry Hudson Hotel. The Championship is won by Sonja Graf-Stevenson.

May 28 – 31
The U.S. Amateur Championship is held in Asbury Park, NJ, at the Empress Motel. Michael Hailparn wins the championship. The U.S. Women’s Amateur Champion is Zenaida Huber.

July 10 – 12
The U.S. Team Championship is held in Bethesda, MD, at Bethesda Youth Center. The U.S. Student Team wins the tournament as they prepare for their European trip.

August 10 – 14
The U.S. Junior Open Championship is held in Baltimore, MD, at Towson Teachers College. John Meyer wins the championship.
1964

President: Ed Edmondson, Executive Director: Joe Reinhardt

August 16 – 29

The U.S. Open Championship is held in Boston, MA, at the Sheraton–Plaza Hotel. Pal Benko wins the tournament. Kathryn Slater and Cecilia Rock win the Women’s Open.

November

Chess Life announces that there will be no U.S. Championship in 1964.

December 26 – 30

The U.S. Intercollegiate Team Championship is held in Los Angeles, CA, at the California State College. San Jose State College wins the championship.
1965

President: Ed Edmondson. Executive Director: Joe Reinhardt

February 7 - 13

The first National Open is held in Las Vegas, NV, at the Stardust Hotel. Samuel Reshevsky wins the tournament. Lina Grumette wins the Women’s Open.

March

Chess Life publishes an obituary for Sonja Graf-Stevenson, who died on March 6 in New York. The article talks about her life and chess accomplishments.

April 24 - May 8

The U.S. Women’s Chess Championship is held at the Henry Hudson Hotel in New York. Gisela Gresser wins the tournament.

May

Mikhail Botvinnik’s article “A Robot Chess Player” appears in Chess Life. The article discusses the development of computer chess. Due to the limited ability of the programs, he speculates that computers will not be able to learn the nuances to play against grandmasters.

May 28 - 31

The U.S. Amateur Championship is held in New York City at the Henry Hudson Hotel. Frank Street wins the championship. Eclesia “Jo” Cestone wins the Women’s Amateur Championship.
1965

President: Ed Edmondson, Executive Director: Joe Reinhardt

July 16 - 21
The U.S. Junior Open Championship is held at Northeastern University in Boston, MA. William Martz wins the championship.

July 24 - August 6
The U.S. Open Chess Championship is held in San Juan, Puerto Rico, at the University of Puerto Rico. Pal Benko and William Lombardy are the co-champions. Kathryn Slater and Mary Bain are co-champions of the U.S. Women’s Open Chess Championship.

November 25 - 28
The first American Open is held in Santa Monica, CA, at the Club del Mar. Pal Benko wins the Open. The Women’s champion is Lina Grumette.

December 12 - 30
The U.S. Chess Championship is held in New York at the Henry Hudson Hotel. The championship is won by Bobby Fischer, gaining him his seventh title.

December 26 - 30
The U.S. Intercollegiate Championship is held at Fordham University in New York. The champion is Marc Yoffie from the City College of New York. Kate Sillars wins the women’s prize.
1966

President: Ed Edmondson, Marshall Roland, Executive Director: Joe Reinhardt, Ed Edmondson

February 27 - March 4
The National Open is held in Las Vegas, NV, at the Stardust Hotel. The Open is won by Pal Benko. Jacqueline Piatigorsky wins the Women’s Open.

April 23 - May 11
The U.S. Women’s Championship and Interzonal is held at the Henry Hudson Hotel in New York City. Gisela Gresser and Lisa Lane tie for the championship.

May 27 - 30
The U.S. Amateur Championship is held at the Henry Hudson Hotel in New York City. Thomas Lux wins the championship.

June 20 - 26
The first U.S. Junior Championship (Invitational) is held at the Henry Hudson Hotel in New York City. Walter Browne wins the championship. In the years that the World Junior Championship is held (odd numbered years), the winner will be the U.S. representative at the tournament and get their expenses to go to the international tournament paid.
1966

President: Ed Edmondson, Marshall Roland, Executive Director: Joe Reinhardt, Ed Edmondson

Jul y 10 - 15
The U.S. Junior Open Championship is held at the University of Minnesota in Minneapolis, MN. Charles Alden wins the championship in an upset.

July 17 - August 15
The second and final Piatigorsky Cup is held at the Miramar Hotel in Santa Monica, CA. Boris Spassky wins the championship, edging out Bobby Fischer by ½ of a point. The tournament is the strongest tournament held on American soil until the 2014 Sinquefield Cup.

August 14 - 26
The U.S. Open Chess Championship is held in Seattle, WA, at the Seattle Center grounds. Robert Byrne and Pal Benko tie for the championship. Mary Bain wins the U.S. Women’s Open Chess Championship.

September
Chess Life celebrates its 20th anniversary.
1966

President: Ed Edmondson, Marshall Roland, Executive Director: Joe Reinhardt, Ed Edmondson

October 23 - November 20
Bobby Fischer leads the American Olympiad Team to second place at the 1966 Chess Olympiad, which is held in Havana, Cuba.

November 24 - 27
The American Open is held in Santa Monica, CA, at the Club del Mar. Larry Kaufman wins the tournament. Lina Grumette wins the American Women’s Open.

December
Burt Hochberg begins a record 13-year run as editor of Chess Life.

December 11 - 31
The U.S. Chess Championship is held in New York City. Bobby Fischer wins his 8th title.

December 26 - 30
The U.S. Intercollegiate Championship is held at Penn State. It is open to teams of four and to individuals. The Massachusetts Institute of Technology wins the team championship, and John Meyer from Yale wins the individual championship.
1967

President: Marshall Rohland, Executive Director: Ed Edmondson

January 21 - 23
The Massachusetts Amateur Championship makes history as the first time a computer plays chess against people under regular tournament conditions. The games played by the computer in the tournament are used as research material for work being done at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT).

April 20
A scholastic chess tournament is organized by the Bronx School District. The event takes place during a school day and includes 300 students from elementary, middle, and high schools.

April 29 - May 5
The U.S. Women’s Chess Championship is held at the Henry Hudson Hotel in New York City. Gisela Gresser wins her eighth championship.

May 27 - 30
The U.S. Amateur Championship is held in Philadelphia, PA, at the Warwick Hotel. Ron Lohrman wins the championship. Rachel Guinan wins the women’s championship.
1967

President: Marshall Rohland, Executive Director: Ed Edmondson

July 10 - 16
The U.S. Junior Championship (Invitational) is held at the Henry Hudson Hotel in New York City. Salvatore Matera wins the championship and entry to the World Junior Championship with all expenses paid. That event will be held in Jerusalem, Israel, in August.

August
US Chess membership climbs to 9,943.

August 7 - 11
The U.S. Junior Open Championship is held at the College Inn in Raleigh, NC. Alan Rufty and David Lane win the Open.

August 13 - 25
The U.S. Open Chess Championship is held in Atlanta, GA, at the Atlanta American Motor Hotel. Pal Benko wins the Open. Mary Bain wins the Women’s Open.
1967

President: Marshall Rohland, Executive Director: Ed Edmondson

November 1
The US Chess office moves outside of New York City for the first time. Its new location will be in Newburgh, NY.

November 23 - 26
The American Open is held in Santa Monica, CA, at the Hotel Miramar. Anthony Saidy wins the Open.

December 26 - 30
The U.S. Intercollegiate Team and Individual Championships are held at the Stevens Center at Stevens Institute in Hoboken, NJ. The University of California, Berkeley, wins the team championship, and Carl Wagner, from MIT, wins the individual championship.
ICCF
Hans Berliner’s International Correspondence Chess Federation World Chess Championship Medal (1968)
Collection of the World Chess Hall of Fame, gift of Carl Ebeling
1968

President: Marshall Rohland, Executive Director: Ed Edmondson

January 31
Hans Berliner becomes the first American to win the World Correspondence Chess Championship.

March 24 - 29
The National Open is held at Sahara Tahoe Hotel in Stateline, NV, on Lake Tahoe. Pal Benko wins the tournament.

May 30 - June 2
The U.S. Amateur Championship is held in Philadelphia, PA, at the Warwick Hotel. Stephen Jones and Michael Shahade are co-champions. Greta Olssen wins the Women’s Amateur Open.

July 14 - 31
The U.S. Chess Championship is held at the Empire Hotel in New York City. Larry Evans wins the championship.

July 15 - 22
The U.S. Junior Championship Invitational is held at the Empire Hotel in New York City. Greg DeFotis and Norman Weinstein are co-champions.
1968
President: Marshall Rohland, Executive Director: Ed Edmondson

August 5 – 9
The U.S. Junior Open is held at the Case Institute of Technology in Cleveland, OH. John Anderson and Steve Stoyko are co-champions.

August 11 – 23
The U.S. Open is held at Snowmass-at-Aspen, CO. Bent Larson wins the Open, and Marilyn Koput wins the Women’s Open.

November 23 – 26
The 4th American Open is held in Santa Monica, CA. James Lazos wins the championship.

December 26 – 30
The U.S. Intercollegiate Team Championship is held at the University of Chicago. The University of Chicago wins the championship.
1969

President: Marshall Rohland, Dr. Leroy Dubeck, Executive Director: Col. Ed Edmondson

April 11 – 13
The first National High School Championship is held in New York City at the Hotel McAlpin. This tournament is both individual and team. John Watson wins the championship, and Gompers–LT from Chicago wins the team championship.

The U.S. Intercollegiate Individual Championship is also held in New York City at the Hotel McAlpin. Andrew Soltis of City College of New York wins the championship.

May 30 – June 1
The U.S. Amateur Championship is held in Philadelphia, PA, at the Warwick Hotel. Kimball Nedved wins the championship and Greta Olsson wins the women’s championship.

June 15 – 30
The U.S. Women’s Championship and Interzonal is held at the Hotel McAlpin in New York City. Gisela Gresser wins the championship.

June 23 – 30
The U.S. Junior Championship (Invitational) is held in New York City at the Hotel McAlpin. Kenneth Rogoff wins the championship and will be the U.S. representative at the World Junior Chess Championship in Stockholm, Sweden.
1969

President: Marshall Rohland, Dr. Leroy Dubeck, Executive Director: Col. Ed Edmondson

August 1 – 5
The U.S. Junior Open Championship is held in Boston at Northeastern University. Lawrence Day wins the championship.

August 10 – 22
The U.S. Open is held in Lincoln, NE, at the Hotel Lincoln. Pal Benko wins the open, and Eva Aronson wins the Women’s Open.

November 27 – 30
The American Open is held in Santa Monica, CA. Ray Martin wins the open and Greta Olsson wins the women’s open.

November 30 – December 17
The U.S. Championship is held at the Group Health Insurance Building in New York City. Samuel Reshevsky wins the championship.
1970

President: Dr. Leroy DubecK, Executive Director: Col. Ed Edmondson

March 1 - 6
The National Open is held in Sparks, NV, at John Ascuaga's Nugget. Larry Evans and Arthur Bisguier win the open. Anita Gross wins the women's open.

April 3 - 5
The National High School Championship is held in New York City at the Hotel McAlpin. Brookline High School wins the team championship, and John Cline wins the individual championship.

May 29 - 31
The U.S. Amateur Championship is held in Chicago, IL, at the Shoreland Hotel.

July
The U.S. Junior Championship (Invitational) is held at the Hotel McAlpin in New York. Kenneth Rogoff wins the tournament for the second year in a row.

July 27 - 31
The U.S. Junior Open Championship is held in Minneapolis, MN, at Augsburg College. John Geanakoplos wins the championship.
1970

President: Dr. Leroy Dubek, Executive Director: Col. Ed Edmondson

August 4 - 20
The U.S. Student Team, consisting of Kenneth Rogoff, Andrew Soltis, Mike Senkiewicz, Richard Verber, James Tarjan, and Marc Yoffie takes first in the 17th Annual World Student Team Championship.

August 9 - 22
The U.S. Open is held at the Parker House Hotel in Boston, MA. Bent Larsen wins the open, and Marilyn Koput wins the women's open.

August 31 - September 2
The first-ever U.S. Computer Chess Championship is held in New York City. Programming for chess has improved greatly since the first computerized game in 1967. The computers used at the event were developed by universities and corporations.

November 26 - 29
The American Open is held in Santa Monica, CA, at the Miramar Hotel. Robert Byrne wins the open, and Mabel Burlingame is the top woman in the competition.
1971

President: Dr. Leroy Dubeck, Executive Director: Col. Ed Edmondson

February 20 - 12
The U.S. Team Championship is held in Westfield, NJ, at the Westfield YMCA. The Franklin Mercantile Team from Philadelphia, PA, wins the championship.

March 7 - 12
The National Open is held in Sparks, NV, at John Ascuaga’s Nugget.

April 2 - 4
The National High School Championship is held in New York City at the Hotel McAlpin. Stuyvesant from New York City wins the team championship, and Larry Christiansen from Riverside, CA, wins the individual championship.

May 16 – June 1
Bobby Fischer defeats Mark Taimanov 6–0 in Vancouver, British Columbia, in the first round of the Candidates Matches.

May 29 – 31
The U.S. Amateur Championship is held in Philadelphia, PA, at the Benjamin Franklin Hotel. Clarence Kalenian wins the tournament, and Adele Goddard wins the Women’s Amateur Championship.
1971

President: Dr. Leroy Duback, Executive Director: Col. Ed Edmondson

June 21 - 27
The U.S. Junior Championship (Invitational) is held in Newburgh, NY. Kenneth Rogoff and Greg DeFotis win the championship.

July 6 - 20
Bobby Fischer defeats Bent Larsen 6-0 in Denver to advance to the finals of the Candidates Matches.

August 1 - 5
The U.S. Junior Open Championship is held at Park Haviland Hotel in Portland, OR. Peter Bijiasas and John MacPhail tie for the championship.

August 8 - 20
The U.S. Open is held in Ventura, CA. Walter Browne & Larry Evans are co-champions.

September 30 - October 26
Bobby Fischer defeats Tigran Petrosian 6 ½-2 ½ in Buenos Aires, Argentina, earning the right to face Boris Spassky for the title of World Champion.

November 25 - 28
The American Open is held in Santa Monica, CA, and hosted by the Santa Monica Chess Club. Carl Pilnick wins the open, and Greta Olsson wins the women’s open.
St. Petersburg Times and Evening Independent
Competitors in the 1972, St. Petersburg, Florida, U.S. Women’s Chess Championship (1972)
Collection of the World Chess Hall of Fame, gift of the family of Jacqueline Patigorsky
1972

The U.S. Championship for the Blind is held at the National Institute of Health in Bethesda, MD. Dr. James Slagle wins the championship.

March 5 - 10

The National Open is held at John Ascuaga’s Nugget in Sparks, NV. Walter Browne and Lewis Levy are co-champions.

April 7 - 9

The National High School Championship is held in New York City at the Hotel McAlpin. Evanston High School from Illinois wins the team championship, and Craig Barnes wins the individual championship.

April 13 - May 15

The U.S. Championship and Interzonal Tournament is held in New York City at the Group Health Insurance Building. Robert Byrne, Lubomir Kavalek, and Samuel Reshevsky tie for first.
April 15 - 16
The United States Team Championship is held at the Hotel Adelphia in Philadelphia, PA. Penn State and Temple University win the championship.

May 26 - 29
The U.S. Amateur Championship is held in New York City at the Hotel McAlpin. Ed Vano wins the championship.

May 28 - June 11
Marilyn Braun and Eva Aronson tie for first in the U.S. Women's Chess Championship held in St. Petersburg, FL.

June
The U.S. Women's Championship is held in St. Petersburg, FL. Marilyn Braun and Eva Aronson are co-champions.
1972

President: Dr. Leroy Dubeck, Frank Skoff. Executive Director: Col. Ed Edmondson

June 19 - 25
The U.S. Junior Championship (Invitational) is held in Los Angeles, CA. Craig Chellstorp wins the championship.

July 11 - September 1
Bobby Fischer defeats Boris Spassky 12½-8½ in Reykjavik, Iceland, to become the eleventh World Chess Champion.

July 31 - August 4
The U.S. Junior Open Championship is held in St. Paul, MN, at the College of St. Thomas. Jon Frankle and Jon Jacobs are co-champions.

August 13 - 25
The U.S. Open is held in Atlantic City, NJ, at the Hotel Shelbourne. Walter Browne wins the Open, and Ruth Donnelly wins the women’s Open.

November 23 - 26
The American Open is held in Santa Monica, CA. Larry Remlinger wins the open. Diane Savereide wins the women’s open.
1973

President: Frank Skoff, Executive Director: Col. Ed Edmondson

February 3 – 11
Playoffs for the 1972 U.S. Championship are held at the LaSalle Hotel in Chicago. Competitors include Robert Byrne, Samuel Reshevsky, and Lubomir Kavalek. Robert Byrne wins the championship.

March 11 – 16
The National Open is held at the Stardust Hotel in Las Vegas, NV. Walter Browne, Laszlo Szabo, and James Tarjan end in a three-way tie for the championship.

April 7 – 8
The U.S. Team Championship is held at Cedar Crest College in Allentown, PA. The "Independent" Chess Team wins the championship. The team consists of Edgar McCormick (captain), Steve Pozarek, Ed Allen, and Charles Adkins.

May 4 – 6
The U.S. Scholastic Championship is held at the LaSalle Hotel in Chicago, IL. The event is broken down into the National High School Championship, the National High School Novice Championship, and the National Junior High Championship, as well as team championships for high school or junior high school. There are 1,074 participants, which at the time is the largest chess tournament ever held in the United States. Larry Christiansen wins the high school championship, Evanston Township High School wins the team championship, and Michael Rohde wins the Junior High Championship.
1973

President: Frank Skoff, Executive Director: Col. Ed Edmondson

May 26 - 28
The U.S. Amateur Championship is held in Philadelphia, PA, at the Benjamin Franklin Hotel. Robert Szendro and Paul Jacklyn are co-champions.

June 16 - 27
The First US Chess International Tournament, the Gambone-Leight Invitational, is held at the Crossroad Hotel in Norristown, PA. Kenneth Rogoff wins in a tie breaker.

June 22 - 28
The United States Junior Championship (Invitational) is held at the Sheraton Palace Hotel in San Francisco. Larry Christensen wins the championship and earns the right to compete in the World Junior Championship in Teesside, England.

August
Membership in the US Chess Federation jumps from 30,844 to 59,250, the largest increase ever, thanks to the “Fischer Boom.”
1973
President: Frank Skoff, Executive Director: Col. Ed Edmondson

August 6 - 10
The U.S. Junior Open Championship is held in Milwaukee, WI, at the University of Wisconsin. Michael Wierzbicki, John Stopa, and Charles Brenner tie for first place.

August 12 - 24
The U.S. Open is held at the LaSalle Hotel in Chicago, IL. Norman Weinstein wins the Open in a tie-breaker.

September 1 - 3
The U.S. Championship for the Blind is held at the National Institute of Health in Bethesda, MD. John Manetta wins the championship.

September 9 - 27
The U.S. Chess Championship is held in El Paso, TX, at the Hotel Paso del Norte. Lubomir Kavalek and John Greve are co-champions.

November 22 - 25
The American Open is held at the Miramar Hotel in Santa Monica, CA. James Tarjan wins the open. Manelica Gimdalf wins the women’s competition.
1974

President: Frank Skoff, Executive Director: Col. Ed Edmondson

February 16 - 17
The U.S. Team Championship is held at the Shelborne Hotel in Atlantic City, NJ. Temple University wins the championship with a team consisting of Mike Pastor, Bruce Rind, Harvey Badlow, and Joe Schwing.

March 17 - 22
The National Open is held at the Stardust Hotel in Las Vegas, NV. Arthur Bisguier wins the open.

April 19 - 20
The U.S. Scholastic Championships are held at the Hotel McAlpine in New York. Michael Rohde wins the individual High School Championship, and Evanston Township wins the Team Championship.

April 27 - May 4
Mona May Karff wins the last of her seven U.S. Women’s Championship, 36 years after her first.

May 24 - 27
The U.S. Amateur Championship is held in Atlantic City, NJ, at the Dennis-Shelburne Hotel. Bruce Rind wins the championship.
1974

President: Frank Skoff, Executive Director: Col. Ed Edmondson

June 25 – July 1
The U.S. Junior Championship Invitational is held in Philadelphia. Larry Christensen and Peter Winston are co-champions.

July 13 – August 1
The U.S. Championship is held in Chicago, IL, at the LaSalle Hotel. Walter Browne wins the championship.

August 5 – 9
The U.S. Junior Open Championship is held in Lancaster, PA, in the Benjamin Franklin Hall of Franklin and Marshall College. Spencer Lucas wins the open.

August 11 – 23
The U.S. Open is held in New York City at the Statler Hilton Hotel. Pal Benko and Vlastimil Hort are co-champions.

November 28 – December 1
The American Open is held in Santa Monica, CA. Kim Commons and Peter Biyiasas win the tournament. Diane Savereide wins the top women’s prize.
U.S. Women's Chess Champion Diane Savereide
Photographer Unknown (July 31, 1975)
Collection of the World Chess Hall of Fame
February 15 - 16
The U.S. Team Championship is held at the Shelburne Hotel in Atlantic City, NJ. The Garden State Chess Association Allstars are the champions. The team consists of Ken Regan, John Fedorowicz, Edward Babinski, and Tyler Cowen.

March 2 - 7
The National Open is held at the Stardust Hotel in Las Vegas, NV. Pal Benko wins the tournament on tie-break.

April 18 - 20
The U.S. Scholastic Championships are held at the Hotel McAlpine in New York City. John Fedorowicz from Piscataway High School wins the individual championship, and the University High School of Los Angeles wins the team championship. The team members included Ron Frasco, Randolph Schain, Gil Berman, and Joseph Schwartz.

May 23 - 26
The U.S. Amateur Chess Championship is held at Arizona State University in Tempe, AZ. Frank A. Metz and Tom Nelson are co-champions, and Christine Hendrickson is the women’s champion.

June 7 - 30
The U.S. Championship is held in Oberlin, OH, in the Seeley G. Mudd Learning Center on the campus of Oberlin College. Walter Browne wins the championship.
1975

President: Frank Skoff, George Koltanowski, Executive Director: Col. Ed Edmondson

June 24 - 30
The U.S. Junior Championship (Invitational) is held in Norristown, PA. Larry Christiansen wins for the third year in a row.

July 12 - 27
The U.S. Women's Championship and FIDE Zonal is held at the Plankinton Hotel in Milwaukee, WI. Diane Savereide wins the championship.

August 4 - 8
The U.S. Junior Open Championship is held in San Diego, CA, at the San Diego State University Conference Center. Donald Reents wins the open.

August 10 - 22
The U.S. Open is held at the Lincoln Hilton Hotel in Lincoln, NE. William Lombardy and Pal Benko are co-champions. Ruth Cardoso is the women’s open champion.

George Koltanowski is elected to be US Chess president for a three-year term.

November 27 - December 1
The American Open is held in Santa Monica, CA, at the Miramar Hotel. Kim Commons and Peter Biyiasas are co-champions.
Kim Commons, Larry Evans, Robert Byrne, Lubomir Kavalek, Bill Goichberg, & William Lombardy at the Haifa, Israel, Chess Olympiad
Photographer Unknown (1976)
Collection of the World Chess Hall of Fame
1976

President: George Koltanowski, Executive Director: Col. Ed Edmondson

February 14 - 15
The U.S. Team Championship is held in Atlantic City, NJ. The Garden State Chess Association four wins the championship with a team consisting of Ken Regan, John Fedorowicz, Captain Tony Cottell, Tyler Cowen, and Michael Wilder.

February 29 - March 5
The National Open is held in Las Vegas, NV. Tony Miles and Ed Formanek tie for first place.

April 1
The US Chess office moves from Newburgh, NY to New Windsor, NY, where it remains for the next thirty years.

April 30 - May 2
The National High School Open is held in Cleveland, OH. Washington High School from Two Rivers, WI, wins both the team and individual titles.
May
The U.S. Amateur Championship is held in Atlanta, GA, at the Royal Coach Motor Inn. Laszlo Ficsor wins the championship.

June 20 - 26
The U.S. Junior Championship (Invitational) is held in Memphis, TN. Mark Diesen and Michael Rohde are co-champions.

July 11 - 25
The U.S. Women’s Championship is held in Teton Village, WY. Diane Saweride wins the championship and defends her title.

August 9 - 13
Steven Odendahl wins the U.S. Junior Open Championship held in Storrs, CT.
1976

President: George Koltanowski, Executive Director: Col. Ed Edmondson

August 15 – 27
The U.S. Open is held in Fairfax, VA. Anatoly Lein and Leonid Shamkovich are co-champions. The top woman is Diane Savereide.

October 9
The United States celebrates its first National Chess Day. A copy of an official letter from President Ford is on page 491 of the September 1976 issue. National Chess Day 1976 was set aside as a day to honor the game, conduct a membership drive, and celebrate the bicentennial.

October 26 – November 10
The U.S. Olympiad team consisting of Robert Byrne, Lubomir Kavalek, Larry Evans, James Tarjan, William Lombardy, and Kim Commons wins the Chess Olympiad held in Haifa, Israel.

November 25 – 28
The American Open is held in Santa Monica, CA. Yasser Seirawan wins the championship in a tiebreaker between himself, Dr. John Pike, and Walter Browne.
“See you there!”

'77 U.S. Open

August 7-19
Carrousel Inn
Columbus, Ohio

Dave Wolford

Promotional Card and Calendar for the 1977 U.S. Open Chess Championship in Columbus, Ohio (August 7-19, 1977)
Collection of the World Chess Hall of Fame, gift of John Donaldson
1977
President: George Koltanowski, Executive Director: Col. Ed Edmondson, Martin Morrison

February 19 - 21
The U.S. Team Championship is held in Atlantic City, NJ, at the Shelburne Hotel. The team “Mahko Ornst” wins the championship. The team consisted of Damian Dottin, Sunil Weeramantry, Jasper Chin, and Doug Brown.

March
Ed Edmondson steps down as Executive Director of the US Chess Federation. Martin Morrison will be his successor.

March 12 - 16
The National Open is held in Mobile, AL. Jaime Sunye Neto wins the championship.

May 7 - 8
The National Junior High School Championship is held in San Clemente, CA. Perry Youngsworth wins the individual championship, and Robert Vaux School from PA wins the team championship.

May 13 - 15
The National High School Championship is held in Cleveland, OH, at the Bond Court Hotel. Jim Thibault wins the individual championship, and Burlington, VT, wins the team championship.
1977

President: George Koltanowski, Executive Director: Col. Ed Edmondson, Martin Morrison

May 28 - 30
The U.S. Championship for the Blind is held in Westfield, NJ. Dr. James Slagle wins the championship.

May 28 - 30
The U.S. Amateur Championship is held at Kimmel Hall at Syracuse University in Syracuse, NY. Thomas Sweeney won in the open division, while David Reynolds won the amateur title.

July 25 - 29
The U.S. Junior Open Championship is held at New Mexico University in Las Cruces, NM. Tom Brown and Alan Anderson tie for first.

August 7 - 19
The U.S. Open Chess Championship is held at the Carrousel Inn in Columbus, OH. Leonid Shamkovich, Andy Soltis, and Tim Taylor tie for the championship, and Leonid Shamkovich wins the championship.
1977

President: George Koltanowski, Executive Director: Col. Ed Edmondson, Martin Morrison

August 27 - September 2
The U.S. Junior Championship (Invitational) is held at the Denver Petroleum Club in Denver, CO. John Fedorowicz and Kenneth Regan are co-champions.

September 25 - October 14
The U.S. Chess Championship is held in Mentor, OH. Walter Browne wins his sixth and final title.

October 8
The second annual National Chess Day takes place. The event is focused on awareness and membership building.

November 24 - 27
The American Open Chess Tournament is held in Santa Monica, CA, at the Los Angeles Hilton Hotel. John Peters and Cicero Braga are co-champions.

December 26 - 30
The Saint Louis University Chess Club and Intercollegiate Chess League of America host the Pan-American Intercollegiate Team Championship is in Saint Louis, MO.
1978

President: George Koltanowski, Exec. Directors: Martin Morrison, George Cunningham, Richard Meyerson

February 18 - 20
The U.S. Team Championship is held at the Empress Hotel in Asbury Park, NJ.

March 19 - 23
The National Open is held in Charleston, SC, at the Francis Marion Hotel. Arthur Bisguier wins the open.

April 7 - 9
The National High School Championship is held in Philadelphia, PA. George Small wins the championship.

April 29 - 30
The National Junior High Championship is held in Minneapolis, MN. Joel Benjamin comes in first with a perfect 8-0.

May 13 - 14
The National Elementary School Championship is held in Atlanta, GA. Joe Longen and Stephen Tierney are co-champions.
1978

President: George Koltanowski, Exec. Directors: Martin Morrison, George Cunningham, Richard Meyerson

May 27 - 29
The U.S. Amateur Championship is held in Wichita, KS, at the Holiday Inn-Plaza. Alan Piper wins the championship.

June 4 - 26
The U.S. Championship is held at Ambassador College in Pasadena, CA. Lubosh Kavalek wins the championship.

June 18 - 25
The U.S. Junior Championship (Invitational) is held at Memphis State University in Memphis, TN. Yasser Seirawan wins first place on tiebreak over Paul Whitehead and John Fedorowicz.

July 8 - 24
The U.S. Women’s Chess Championship and FIDE Zonal is held in Rochester, NY, at the Nazareth College of Rochester. Rachel Crotto and Diane Savereide are co-champions and qualified to compete in the Women’s World Chess Championship.
1978

President: George Koltanowski, Exec. Directors: Martin Morrison, George Cunningham, Richard Meyerson

July 31 – August 4
The U.S. Junior Open Championship is held at the University of Washington in Seattle, WA. Yasser Seirawan wins.

August 6 – 18
The U.S. Open Chess Championship is held in Phoenix, AZ, at the Phoenix Civic Plaza. Joseph Mark Bradford wins the Open. Gary Sperling is elected US Chess president.

September 7 – 13
The U.S. Armed Forces Championship is held in Washington, D.C, at the American Legion Hall of Flags. The Air Force team wins the championship.

October 7
The third national chess day is held. A copy of a letter about the event from Vice President Walter Mondale is published on page 467 of the September 1978 issue of Chess Life.
1978

President: George Koltanowski, Exec. Directors: Martin Morrison, George Cunningham, Richard Meyerson

October 25 - November 7
The U.S. team consisting of Lubomir Kavalek, Walter Browne, Anatoly Lein, Robert Byrne, James Tarjan, and William Lombardy takes team bronze in the 1978 Buenos Aires, Argentina, Chess Olympiad.

November 23 - 26
The American Open Chess Tournament is held in Santa Monica, CA. Paul Whitehead and David Strauss are co-champions.

December 26 - 30
The U.S. Intercollegiate Team Championship is held in Chicago, IL. Yale University’s “A” team wins the championship.
1979

President: Gary Sperling, Executive Director: Dr. Gerry Dullea

April

*Chess Life* publishes an announcement of the formation of Silent Chess by the National Association of the Deaf, which will begin sponsoring tournaments.

April 28 – 29

The National Elementary School Championship is held in Minneapolis, MN, at the Curtis Hotel. Tim Radermacher wins the individual championship, and Lincoln Elementary School, Minnesota, wins the team championship.

May 4 – 6

The National High School Championship is held in Philadelphia, PA. James Rizzitano wins the individual tournament, and Corvallis High School, OR, wins the team championship.

May 5 – 6

The National Junior High School Chess Championship is held in Philadelphia, PA. David Griego wins the individual championship. Vaux Junior High, Pennsylvania, wins the team championship.
1979

President: Gary Sperling, Executive Director: Dr. Gerry Dullea

May 26 – 28
The U.S. Amateur Chess Championship is held in Cherry Hill, NJ, at the Cherry Hill Inn. Milton Danon wins the championship.

June 17 – 26
Yasser Seirawan wins the U.S. Junior Chess Championship (Invitational) held in Hollywood, CA.

July 8 – 22
The U.S. Women’s Chess Championship is held in Los Angeles, CA. Rachel Crotto wins the tournament.

July 14 – 15
The U.S. Junior Open Championship is held at Michigan State University in East Lansing, MI. Jay Whitehead wins the competition.
1979

President: Gary Sperling, Executive Director: Dr. Gerry Dulles

July 29 – August 11

The U.S. Open Chess Championship is held at the Chicago Palmer House Hotel in Chicago, IL. Florin Gheorghiu wins the open.

August

Frank Skoff pens “National Chess in the United States” for Chess Life. Written to commemorate the 40th anniversary of US Chess, this article details the history of national chess organizations in the United States, beginning before the US Chess Federation, and explaining the original organizations.

September 12 – 19

The U.S. Armed Forces Chess Championship is held in Washington, D.C., at the American Legion’s Hall of Flags. Army wins the championship. The team is led by Army Specialist Michael E. Fletcher.
1979

President: Gary Sperling, Executive Director: Dr. Gerry Dullea

October 20 - November 11
The Women’s Interzonal Tournament is held in Alicante, Spain. Diane Savereide turns in an exceptional performance, the best of any American female player from the 1930s to the early 1990s. Savereide’s result of 11-6 earns her a fifth place finish (she was initially seeded 12th), and she scores 3½ out of 5 against her Soviet counterparts.

November 22 - 25
The 15th American Open is held in Santa Monica, CA. Perry Youngworth wins.

December 26 - 30
The U.S. Intercollegiate Team Championship is held at the University of Southern California.