



SW OPEN 2008 DON CRALLAWARD

Presented to...

GERALD WOOD ON THURSDAY, JULY 3, 2008



Gerald Wood (pictured above) received the 2nd Don Crall SW Open Award during the SW Open 2008 tournament held at the American Legion Post #73 in Del City, Oklahoma on Thursday, July 3, 2008

History

Gerald Wood of Stratford/Wynnewood, Oklahoma started his "Shuffleboard Life" in Stratford, Oklahoma at Weldon Lamberts' Bar. When he first started playing he had to play against some of the best players of the game. As time passed and several games later, he has become a very strong competitor of the sport. When the Shuffleboard World lost Pat Kinard, prior owner of the Full House Bar in Wynnewood, Oklahoma, Gerald took over as owner/operator and continues with the "Kinard Traditions". He is a strong promoter of the game, a teacher and mentor to new players, a devoted father and family man, and a true friend to all.

Gerald started helping Don Crall with the SW Open several years ago, volunteering to help with anything he could do. He helped with sponsor sales, brackets, and filling the cans with wax, and never expecting anything in return. When Don Crall passed away, Gerald has continued to help the American Legion Post #73 with not only the SW Open, but with the other smaller tournaments too. He has become one of Oklahoma's strongest promoters and supporters of the game of shuffleboard.

Congratulations to Gerald Wood for this most deserving "2nd Don Crall - SW Open Award."

History	1
Testimonials	2-4
Testimonials/Memories	5
American Legion Letter	6

TESTIMONIALS



◆ I met Gerald in the early 90's at my very first tournament. I was scared to death, but Gerald (like everyone else in

Wynnewood) was encouraging and kind to a newcomer. I've come to know him through the years as a terrific competitor, a tireless promoter of shuffleboard, a devoted father and all-around good person. He's always a classy player and truly deserves this recognition. Congratulations, Gerald!

--**Pam Dowell**

◆ Gerald is a lifetime shuffleboard player and promoter. He always goes above and beyond to make sure everyone has a chance to play, even if that means that he has to sit out. He continues to promote the longest running shuffleboard league in Oklahoma and promotes all tournaments. Not only is Gerald a good player and promoter, he is also a good friend to us. CONGRATULATIONS GERALD YOU DESERVE IT, WE LOVE YOU!

--**Brenda & Chuck Williams**

◆ It makes me smile to know Gerald Wood's endless efforts and skills has not gone unnoticed. He is constantly promoting this game we love so much. Congratulations!

--**Shirley Hopkins (Hoppy)**

◆ When John and I first met Gerald, I had just opened Jetts Club. We did not know anyone. Gerald started coming up to our club and got us started playing shuffleboard. We played every Sunday and met our shuffleboard family. They would come from everywhere, Davis, Stratford, Wynnewood, Del City, Seminole, Tulsa, Texas and Arkansas. Gerald got us started and we love you for it. He is Mr. Shuffleboard. "Our Hat is off to you Gerald Wood." Love You,

--**Jett and John Williamson**

◆ You know you have lot of friends in your life time. But there are very few true friends and I can say Gerald Wood has always been a true friend to me. If you need someone to talk to, he is there, if you have a problem, he is there. If you need to know anything about shuffleboard, he is there to help you. I always know when he needs me to work or do some shuffleboard papers for him because he will come to me and say, "Jean you know I love you, and I will say "What do you need me to do Gerald"? Gerald Wood has done more for Shuffleboard then most people will every know, and he really loves the game. So I say to you Gerald "Thanks for always being a true friend, and a big fan of Shuffleboard." You deserve this award for everything you have done for shuffleboard and for just being you. We love you, --**Jean & David Renfro**

◆ I have known Gerald all my life. We grew up just across the creek from each other. My brothers and I played with Gerald and his brothers and sisters when we were children. He was raised in a very loving home. He comes from a large family.

I can remember when I could beat him pretty bad playing shuffleboard. Many nights he left Weldon's bar in Stratford so upset to have lost a game, but he persisted in playing the game and is now one of many promoters of the game; both in holding tournaments and playing in every event he can possibly play in. We appreciate what he has done in Wynnewood, by giving the locals a place to play, and enjoying the game and the company. Thanks Gerald you deserve this award. --**Lynn and Nancy Tice**

TESTIMONIALS (CONTINUED)



◆ Nobody is more deserving than Gerald. He has been a real asset to the game. I am unable to leave this thriving metropolis of Cleburne, Texas until Thursday, July 3rd so I will probably miss the presentation, but I am certainly pleased for him. I would ask you to pass something on to him, but the banter between Gerald and I is way too X-rated, so I will just wait until I get to see him myself. **--Alan Cobb**

◆ Gerald Wood! What more can you say about a true ambassador to the game we love. This ole cowboy rides into town ready for action with both guns a blazin. If you need a little help with your tournament he's got answers; and if you need a partner he'll ride for your brand like it was his own.

They don't make them like Gerald much anymore, they are few and far between. Whether it's lagging that 3 to win a game, or listening to your excuse for hopping that last weight; Gerald's always there to pat your back, offer a little advice or celebrate that win.

Gerald Wood has got a little "hard bark" on him, but when you know him like I do you're proud to call him a friend.

CONGRATULATIONS, Gerald! Carol Jean & I wish you the very best!!! Anytime you need us we're just a phone call away. **--Rick & Carol Pittman**

◆ Congratulations Gerald on a well deserved award. It has been your devotion, honesty, and good temperament to shuffleboard that keeps us playing.

--Hoot & Peggy Hodge

◆ Gerald, when we were asked to write something nice about you, our words were "How could we say anything bad?". You are a super great guy, always ready and willing to help anyone and always with a great big smile and hug. We are honored to call you our friend. Many thanks to you for all the things you have done to help us and shuffleboard there past years. You are very deserving of this award. We Love you, **--Tony & Joyce Pelton**

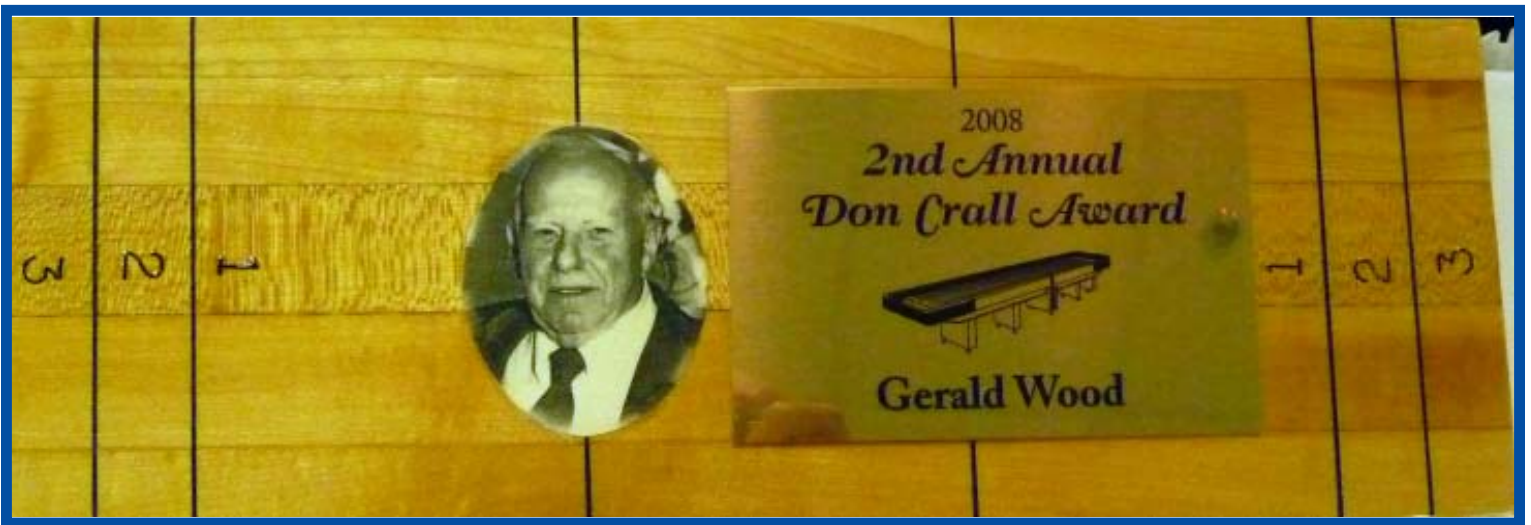
◆ I've come to know Gerald as a wonderful father first, then as a hell of a player and dedicated promoter of our sport. He's always ready to help out in any situation, most times without being asked. If he sees something that needs doing, he just does it without seeking recognition or thanks. Whether he's hosting a tournament at the *Full House* or visiting an out-of-town event, everyone knows you can count on Gerald to pitch in and help things run smoothly.

Along with so many other traits that good men are known for, if Gerald calls you a friend... you know the term means something and that he can always be trusted to honor that title. We, in the shuffleboard family, are all fortunate to have made his acquaintance and I'm sure I speak for that entire family when I offer a heart felt congratulations. Gerald, you are the most deserving of an award that stands out exactly for the kind of player and friend we've all come to know and love.

--Jack Davis

◆ Hats off to Gerald Wood. Sandy and myself are glad to have got to know Gerald. What a fine person he is. Gerald is a great supporter of shuffleboard and that is what we need to continue to grow in this shuffleboard world. Thanks Gerald for being our friend and congrats on the Don Crall Award.

--Glen & Sandy Tubbs



◆ In my opinion, Gerald Wood is the number one shuffleboard supporter in Oklahoma. He has the best tournaments of anyone in the shuffleboard world. He is a big promoter with leagues and with bringing in new players. His biggest concern about his tournaments is that he worries about having too many people show up. He is an outstanding father. When Pat Kinard passed away, he picked up the slack and continued with the tournaments. People all over the shuffleboard world copy his tournaments, he has brought the handicap to a new level. He is honest and the fat one-eyed guy does the best job of anybody. **--Bill Melton**

◆ We first met Gerald at the SW Open in Del City. Don and Pat Kinard were also some of Don Crall's Del City 4th of July competitors back then, and we fell for them as if we had the same blood running through our veins. Then, we lost Pat a few years later and Don being the stand up guy that he is, still came to Del City to play the game he loved. It seemed to me that when his health started to fail, he wanted someone to take hold of what he and Pat held true to their HEART and carry out what they wanted their place to be when they were gone... so he sold his other love (his bar) to Gerald Wood. Gerald has a heart as big as the Kinard's and they knew their bar would be in good hands.

Although we have not yet made it to your club (with my (Julie) 5 years of problems), buddy come hell or high water we ARE going to make it. You truly are a big hearted guy that has supported encouraged us both on our game to stay with it and play hard... Don Crall was a CHAMP in our book, and you my friend are too. No one is more deserving.

Your Friends,

-- Julie Hartman & Charlie Riley

◆ I first met dear Gerald at Del City several years ago in the draw partner event. I was very excited to draw a deuce and a cute guy to boot. Anyway, our first game was very traumatic for me as this was my first big tournament and my very first game. Needless to say I gave up 7 huge points on my very first frame. I remember saying to Gerald that I really had played this game before, it just didn't look like it.

Well, we went to the losers bracket, won a couple of games, then lost out. I would not have blamed Gerald for never speaking to me again; but as you would have it, he became a great friend in spite of it all. He is a great promoter and teacher of this crazy game we all play.

I really hate that Gary and I can't be there. We think of Gerald often and congratulate him on this well-deserved recognition. **--Kay Nelson**





Memory Lane... "From Past to Present"

Gerald, I (Ronnie) had a vision last night. Ole Willie Came to see me. He wants you to know that you are very deserving of this award. He is proud of you, his protege, for becoming the best "Oklahoma Shuffleboard Promoter"; the best "Tournament Director"; and a dedicated "mentor" for new players; and also, for all the help you donate to the Southwest Open tournament and other shuffleboard events at the American Legion; and for being such a great dad and friend to all.

Ole Goose and I agree with the "Old Maroon," but we liked it a lot better when we could beat you at the game on a regular basis. Now, it's a real challenge, Gerald Dean!

One more thing, no matter what happens in life and play, don't go jumping off the Old Wannett Bridge. Congratulations!! -- **Ronnie Gamble & "Goose"**



Tired Director



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AMERICAN LEGION POST 73
5000 SE 24TH
DEL CITY, OK
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Gerald has been a great friend and supporter of all the tournaments here at the American Legion. I had the pleasure of meeting Gerald several years ago when I was working a tournament here for Don Crall. I knew then that he was a gentleman and soon to be a good friend.

Gerald was always here to help Don with the Auctions and anything else that Don needed during the tournaments.

When Don passed away and the rumors started that Shuffleboard would be no more here at the legion Gerald stepped up and said yes the tournaments would still go on. He took Norm and gave him great advice on what needed to be done. Gerald I thank you for all the advice you gave Norm and yes he did pass a little on to me. When Norm got so sick it was Gerald that called and said do NOT worry about the Fall Heartland Tournament that he would come up and run it. Again thank you. After Norm passed away it was Gerald that called and told me not to worry things would be ok and he was here for the tournaments and anything I needed.

It gives me great pleasure to present the Don Crall Award for the year 2008 to Gerald Wood.

Debbie Allinder
Commander,
American Legion Post 73

For God and Country