



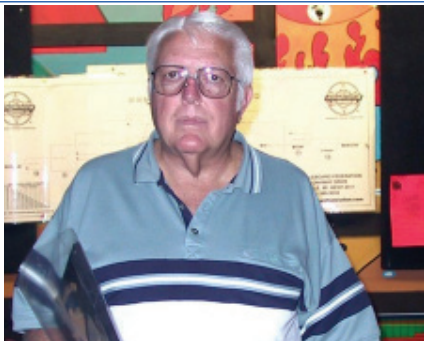
Southwest Open 2010

4th SW Open - Don Crall Award

Presented to...

BILL MELTON ON THURSDAY, JULY 1, 2010

History



Bill Melton

(photo above) to be presented the...
"4th Annual SW Open - Don Crall Award"

American Legion Post #73
Del City, Oklahoma
Thursday, July 1, 2010

Bill Melton has been playing shuffleboard for sixty-one years and has been amongst the elite few for most of that time. Although Bill is not one to seek the limelight, a quiet soft-spoken man, his shuffleboard record speaks for itself.

He was introduced to shuffleboard at the early age of 12 and has been slamming weights ever since. At the age of 12, Bill started collecting pop bottles for spending money. The local grocery store offered him 2 cents per bottle and the local bar where he lived in Pearson, Oklahoma offered him 3 cents per bottle, so he did the math and, of course, cashed in for the highest offer. The bar owner took a liking to Bill and invited him in to watch wrestling on television and their friendship blossomed. The bar had a shuffleboard in it and that is how Bill got started playing and loving the game. After the bar owner died, his wife took Bill to a store room and showed him every single pop bottle her husband had bought from Bill in those early years. The bar owner simply loved Bill and was helping him out as a young man while not letting him know about it.

Bill remains amongst the strongest supporters of shuffleboard not only in his home state of Oklahoma, but across the country. He is a mentor to many players and participates in local league play, helping develop the new upcoming "Pros". He is one of the top coaches in team events and loves to see players excel. He is a man of honesty and integrity in all that he does and has a wonderful family (with 8 or more family members in the Bowers' Ratings and more to come...).

Congratulations to Bill Melton for this most deserving "4th Annual Don Crall - SW Open Award." -- **Shuffleboard Community**

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Bill Melton History - 2004

Bill Melton was tagged the #1 Top Pro for the year of 2004

(view excerpt below)...

Bill Melton Tops in 2004

(excerpt from The Board Talk, Vol. 22, No. 1, February 2005, Pg. 7)

Like a fine wine some things only seem to get better with age. That label certainly describes 69 year-old Bill Melton who closed out an already impressive year with yet another pro singles title at the 2004 Houston Holiday Open this past December. In just nine tournaments in 2004, Bill finished in the money twenty-three times including eleven first place finishes and three pro-player MVP awards. Bill, already a member of the National and Oklahoma Shuffleboard Halls of Fame and long recognized as one of the best players in the history of the game had such a dominating year in 2004 that even Darrol Nelson acknowledged that Bill deserves to be considered the top player in the country.

"Bill was the best. Bill has always been a great competitor and an especially tough one for me to play. We've played some great matches over the years. Based on his record last year, I think he deserves to be recognized as the number one player in 2004".

..Darrol Nelson, Jan 2005

Other top pros such as Houston's Diana Hagen, who calls Bill, "the smartest player in the game," echo similar sentiments.

".....there is a lot more to shuffleboard than just banging weights. The ability to not only make a shot, but make the right shot... the strategy involved is what distinguishes truly great players, like Bill Melton. In 2004, whether it was singles, doubles or team events, Bill Melton was always in the money."

..Diana Hagen, Jan 2005

TESTIMONIALS

◆ Congratulations, Bill, for receiving the Don Crall Award that you so richly deserve. You're an inspiration for all shuffleboard players. When we first begin playing, we want to beat you. In later years, we just want to BE like you. Thanks for being such a great role model. -- **Pam Dowell (OK)**

◆ Bill, You're amazing and truly the best shuffleboard player. You continue to beat me but I'm afraid it's my mission to beat you. LOL. I told some of the people from Wynnewood that we are playing with the best player in the world and that if we didn't take advantage of it that it was our own fault. We love that you and Rozana are playing in Wynnewood and you have taught us and continue to teach us so much. Love Ya!
-- **Brenda & Chuck Williams (OK)**

◆ Bill Melton is more than deserving of this award or any other award associated with shuffleboard. Bill has been a great ambassador for the game of shuffleboard. He's not only a great player, but a good sportsman also. We hope he plays for many more years, because its always a pleasure to beat him. But that doesn't happen very often! Best wishes Bill!
-- **Bob & Deb Voorhis (IN)**

◆ Bill is a tall, quiet man who will kick your butt in a heartbeat. He shares his knowledge and is a huge promoter of shuffleboard. Bill greatly deserves this award and I am honored to know him.
-- **Kay Nelson (TX)**

◆ I was very happy to hear that Bill Melton was going to be the recipient of the 2010 Don Crall Award. Don learned so much from Bill over the years. It is hard to imagine that the Southwest Open could have become such a large, successful tournament without Bill's support and guidance. I know from my conversations with Don over the years that he held Bill in very high regard and was always grateful for Bill's many contributions to the Legion and the Southwest Open. Congratulations Bill on this well deserved honor.
-- **John McDermott (MI)**

◆ We have know Bill Melton for quite some time now. He is the best Shuffleboard player that we know, and we love to watch him play, you always know he is thinking ahead and that he is getting ready to make some kind of fantastic shot on you, he loves the game and is always willing to help anybody that wants to know how to play. Thank you Bill for everything you have done for Shuffleboard and for being a friend. Congratulations, you deserve this award.
--**Jean & David Renfro (OK)**

◆ Congratulations to Bill Melton for his selection to win the Don Crall Award this year. Bill has been one of the best players in our game ever since we met in the latter 1970's. What makes Bill unique to me is that throughout the years he has seemed to get better and better all the time. Most of the top players, myself included, seem to reach a peak and then begin a slow decline. I have the utmost respect for Bill. He is a great player, a good person, and I'm proud to call him my friend. Thanks for the memories Bill! Keep Pluggin! -- **Darrol Nelson (OR)**

◆ When I first met Bill, John and I just started playing shuffleboard. We went to a tournament in Las Vegas. Brian Dial came up to me and said there's Bill Melton and I said "Bill Who?". Brian told me he was the Best Player in Shuffleboard. Sure then I got to know Bill and he is the #1 Player and a very good friend.
-- **Jett and John Williamson (OK)**

◆ Congratulations Bill, you are the best in our sport and deserve this award. I started playing the game in 1985 and never enjoyed anything as much as I enjoyed watching you, Darrol and Billy play the game. I set my goal at that time to learn this sport and to be as smart a player as you are. Keep playing so other players can learn from you too. -- **Diana Hagen (TX)**



TESTIMONIALS (CONTINUED)



◆ In my opinion, Bill Melton is the greatest all round shuffleboard player I have ever know or heard of. Not only his playing ability is as good as it gets, but his honor and prominence in the sport are untouchable.

From the very beginning of the Bowers Rating System, Bill has always been available to help Debbie and I with the ratings. We have always sought his advice on our journey to get the player's ratings as close as possible.

He has always been the best example of good sportsmanship. The very first tournament I ever entered was Austin's "US Open" shuffleboard tournament in 1991. Bill got very lucky and drew me as a partner in the Pro Am. I hopped all my opponent's weights my first frame, then threw my hammer off. Bill never gives up, with patience, advice, and his great shooting, we came in second anyway. All players should use him as an example of a what a great shuffleboard player should be.

-- **Ron Bowers (TX)**

◆ Bill, it's tough enough on the way to the top, but staying there is even tougher. Doing it as a player as well as a leader and mentor, shows the distinct difference in you. Thanks for the years, and many more to come of showing us the way.

-- **Dave Shewbridge (MD)**

◆ Oh my God!!! I'll bet the amount of testimonials coming in will be larger than the Bible!!! If any new shuffleboard players asked us about the game and the people who play it, we would tell them to emulate Mr. Bill Melton. That would insure the showmanship, professionalism and integrity of the game, for all future generations to enjoy. Congratulations Bill.

-- **Gwyn Orsi & Mike Richardson (CO)**

◆ Be it a Hobby, Sport, Profession or whatever, you must have people like "Bill Melton"! We could use a lot more like him. -- **Greg Hixson (TX)**

◆ Congrats Bill!!! Well I guess you will have to make room in the trophy case for yet another well deserved award. Bill you are truly an inspiration for all up and coming as to how the game is suppose to be played, but more importantly how a true pro is suppose to act. I can't think of anyone more suited for this award than yourself. I also would like to thank you for all the help you have given me over the years like spreading the word about our K.C. tournament and attending it several times or advice on pouring boards or things i could have done differently after beating me in a game (after the game of course) or who not to pick in the drafting room in Reno (only to pick them the very next pick). Well you did say never trust anyone in a drafting room, I seem to remember. Looking forward to seeing you at future tournaments and again congratulations. You deserve it. -- **Mark Gray (MO)**

◆ Mr. Bill is deserving of any award connected with shuffleboard. His name is forever etched in shuffleboard history. Bill has been a top *Pro* for a long time and shows no sign of letting up.

-- **Sheryl Cockerill (IN)**

◆ I first heard of Bill Melton in 1959 and finally met him in 1963. Since then we have traveled all over the country and I even went on his honeymoon with him. When Bill told Rozanne they were going on a road trip she thought he was going to take her on a cruise. She had no idea what she was in for. Bill thinks Billy Melton was named after him but he is really named after me, his Uncle Billy. Besides I bought him his first diapers when he came home from the hospital. Bill has brought a lot to our sport and will continue to as long as he is playing. Congratulations Bill.

-- **Billy Mays (TX)**

◆ **Ode To A Hero...** Bill Melton has been an inspiration for all new players and older players. Not only does he show how to play the game with style, Bill can mess up every once in a while and he can do that with style also. He is truly "My Hero". -- **Gerald Wood (OK)**

TESTIMONIALS (CONTINUED)

◆ Bill Melton is without a doubt the “Living Legend” for the sport we all love to play. He can out last the youngest of players in a tournament marathon, winning close to 100% of the time. He has traveled to more tournaments than most players. He is one of the greatest supporters of the game, not just in playing but also purchasing a lot of calcuttas and teaching other players. If you want to see just how good he is and just how much you still need to learn, ask him to play you a game. He doesn't ever disappoint a partner. He shows up ready to play and gives each game his complete attention. Bill, you deserve this award for all you have done. The goal of all players is to be as good as you are.

-- **Rick Jones (OK)**

◆ Bill Melton to me and players here in Nebraska is a first class player, a gentleman, and a teacher. He is an asset to the shuffleboard community at all levels of play. Everyone should feel fortunate to have the chance to play with him, against him, or just to watch him play.

I remember in the Del City tournament back in late 90's. I was watching a game Bill was playing and he missed a 3 with his hammer and lost the game. Then I put my foot in my mouth and told him “I don't feel so bad, because I just did the same thing”. He just looked at me funny and walked away.

Bill is a very deserving person and he has many more games left to be played.

-- **Marty Shepard (NE)**

◆ I remember one tournament the first time I drew up with Bill in an AB Pro Draw. I felt so honored until I had to pony up my part of the sponsor sale. Of course we played with Bill's weights. My first shot did not make it half way down the board. That's when Bill tells me his weights may be a little slower. We didn't win but I loved playing with Billa GREAT player, sportsman and gentleman.

-- **James Cummings (TX)**

◆ “Simply the Best!” -- **Robert L. Hoffman (TX)**

◆ Congratulations Bill: You have been a great supporter of not only this tournament but of the entire shuffleboard community. I was told when I first started playing that if I wanted to learn how to play the game the right way, I should just watch you play. They were right. I was also very fortunate to be asked by you to play in several tournaments early in my career. The nuances and lessons of the game I was able to pick up from playing with you were instrumental in the growth of my game. I could not have had a better mentor even if you didn't realize at the time how much you were helping me. You showed me how a pro plays with class and dignity. When I walk out of the draft room everybody I talk to wants to know what team they are on and every one of them hopes they are on your team. They all know that playing with you is the best way to learn how to play this game. If this isn't the ultimate testimonial to your legacy I don't know what is. -- **Jim Payne (MO)**

◆ Bill was playing strong when I first started about 30 years ago and still is. I loved to watch him play. He always seemed to be in total control of himself. I learned a lot about the game by just watching, which I did a lot of at first. I respect his ability to mentally and physically execute the game at the style and level he does. Bill is by far the BEST player of all time. HE IS #1. Always has been and still is the best and most consistent. It has been a real pleasure playing the game with Bill. I feel privileged to have played as his partner and/or teammate. It was a great experience (of course, winning always is) of which I will never forget. May he have many more years to take our money. Good luck and good health to you Bill.

-- **Carolyn Jones (OK)**

◆ Bill, I would do anything you ask except I won't swat at the bees down by the creek with that boat paddle. Congratulations Bill, we love you!

-- **Fred Boyd and Cindy Demory (TX)**



TESTIMONIALS (CONTINUED)



◆ When asked to write a testimonial about Bill Melton, to say the least I was hesitant... "how dare I?" I'd be much more comfortable writing to him than about him, and I'm certainly not qualified to write any thing "for" him.

Mr. Bill Melton. Above all else Bill is a winner, in shuffleboard and in life. Years ago, he, better than anyone before or since, figured out what we in the shuffleboard family would all like to know; how to win. He already knew all the shots, and I dare say better than anyone with very few, if any, exceptions. But he added the strategy to the game that had before been missing.

We all seem to have some idea of those "things" that give you the best chance of winning, but that's likely because of Bill's guidance through the years. If you think you learned those basics from someone else...they probably learned from Bill or someone who learned it from someone who learned it from Mr. Bill Melton...maybe only by watching, or maybe by being beaten by him so many times that they decided to pay attention.

There's never been a better overall player nor, in my opinion, a better overall man. We've known each other for about 35 years through a mutual friendship with the William's family. He and David, and consequently, their entire families have become a family and I've been fortunate enough to tag along, much to my benefit.

Bill's promotion of our sport is hardly comprehensible to a lot of our players. When you go to one of the "BIG" tournaments, or even a well run local weekly robin, Bill's hand is present. There's even a good chance you're playing on one of the many, many boards he built. While writing this I actually thought about what shuffleboard would be if there were never a Bill Melton. The answer was pretty quick coming, and not so cheerful. I probably wouldn't know most of you nor had the pleasure of our friendly competition. To be honest...the sport might not even be around. Because Bill was in the "Shuffleboard Business" he did probably more than anyone you'll ever meet to make sure more people were introduced to the pleasure of playing the game.

I could never be prouder, or more fortunate, than to feel comfortable saying Mr. Bill Melton is a friend of mine. -- **Jack Davis (TX)**

◆ Bill Melton has been in my life, even before I met him. My dad and Bill traveled and played shuffleboard together long before I was even aware of the game. Dad told me that Bill would be the best in the game someday and he is. For all of us who play, our goal is to be as good as Bill. Very few players have reached that goal.

I drink a little when I play (haha), but you never see Bill drinking when playing. He comes ready and plays like it is his regular job. He is probably one of the smartest players that ever threw a weight. He is always willing to help the lesser players, to improve their game, and will tell us exactly what we are doing wrong and what we did right.

As a man, a husband, a father, a grandfather, and a friend, you can't beat him. He and his wife, Rozana, have supported this game in every way possible. Bill you deserve this award and Joyce and I are proud and lucky to have known you and to be included in your circle of friends and now to be able to see you get this acknowledgment of your achievements in the sport you love so well.

-- **Ronnie & Joyce Gamble (OK)**

◆ We'll never forget the first time we really met Bill at the Texas Mist. He brought in 4 tournament loaner boards and we bought a board from him (and they weren't even for sell, but we talked him into it). He delivered the cradle we picked and Mike & Betty came back a couple weeks later and delivered/installed a plank. We love our "Melton" board.

Bill is such a great player and coach. Whether playing with or against Bill, we always enjoy it and learn something. Now that we live in Oklahoma, we are fortunate to see and play with Bill and Rozana on a weekly basis. Recently, I (Lynda) drew up with Bill in Del City and despite me as a handicap we nabbed a 1st place. Thanks Bill for all you do for the game! You are one of the best mentors and promoters of shuffleboard. A man of honesty, integrity and skill (what a package!). Congrats!

-- **Tom & Lynda French (OK)**

TESTIMONIALS (CONTINUED)

◆ The first time I met Bill was in 1982 at the Photo Finish Bar in Oklahoma City. A few of us was playing frames and in walked Bill with a suit case of weights, wanting to play a robin. I had never played robins before and didn't know who he was. I asked a lady "Who is that?" and she told me that he was the best shuffleboard player in the world. We'll he drew me as his partner and I played just bad enough to help him loose. I guess that was the first of many ass chewing I have received from him and they have continued up to and including the Memorial Tournament in Wynnewood this year when I was using my thumb shot. He told me again, that I was 2 for 0 and to put that thumb in my pocket and leave it there. All joking aside, I knew back then and still know that he truly is the best player ever and like most players, we all want to be as good as he is. Bill you are an asset for all of us who play the game. You set a standard we all strive towards, even if we don't always take your suggestions (ha ha). You have supported this sport in every way possible. You have probably attended more tournaments in the U.S. than any other player. You are always available if help is needed with boards, wax, instructions on the game, and coaching upcoming players with your mass knowledge of the game. Congratulations for the Don Crall Award. You are the Oklahoma Pro, but better yet, you are Shuffleboard's #1 Pro.

-- **ET Jenson (OK)**

◆ I can't think of anyone more deserving of this great award than Mr. Bill Melton. I've known Bill for 19 years and there is no doubt that he is the best at this sport. I am truly honored to have had the privilege to play with Bill many times (I am sure way more than he wanted) it goes to show his great talent always finding a way to win with me.

There is only one way to say you are the best, and I am blessed to have had Bill as a partner, teacher and a Friend. Congratulations Bill you are truly a legend to this game. -- **Sally Phillips (OK)**

◆ One of my first recollections of you Bill, is watching you at the Corporate Image in Texas. We drove down there just to watch, it was great. One of my coolest memories was getting to play for the finals in the Women's Singles in Las Vegas and you were right there on the next table playing for the finals of the Men's Singles. My outcome was better than yours though. (he he)

Everyone has always respected you as a player and every time anyone looks at a bracket their first thought is where is Bill and do I have to play him first. You know me, that never mattered. I kinda liked playing you because it brought out the better player in me. I will never forget the match in Del City when we were on our third game and it was 6 to 6 and I went out with your help of course.

I am so proud to have you represent our state as being our pro. I have learned so much watching and playing you. You deserve this award, because you have given so much to shuffleboard. I love you Bill and I especially love that cute little wife Rozana. I'm glad to see her having fun playing now. -- **Rena Fleming (OK)**

◆ My 1st major tournament was the Board Talk Open in Las Vegas. I was a "4" then, pretty nervous and in awe of all the Pro players. I was on Flynt Preston's 6 person draft team and in the first game, Flynt told me which end to go to and Bill Melton was occupying the same end. WHOA.....my knees were shaking but he made me feel so calm and at ease. Of course, they won the match. Bill Melton is one of the "greatest players" and most admired Pros. He is very encouraging to beginners. Congratulations on the Don Crall award! -- **Darlene Cummings (TX)**



TESTIMONIALS (CONTINUED) & "MEMORIES"



◆ I first met Bill and Rozana Melton in 1973 at a bar in OKC. He was playing Shuffleboard at the Rainbow. I was playing some shuffleboard and thought I knew how, until I watched him. The next time I can remember was in Texas at the Corporate Image where Bill and David Williams were playing partners and beating everyone, in fact, I believe they won that tournament for years. Bill is a true gentleman and a great teacher and supporter of the game. If all new players would just follow him around and watch him play, listen to what he has to say about the game, ask questions or if you would like a real lesson, challenge him yourself. It would be a lesson well learned. I can remember watching him play in a tournament against other good players where he was on five and his opponent was on 12 and he came back and won. Not many players can do that.

He is the smartest player to ever throw a puck and the one regret I have is that Bill and I have never lived close enough to play with or against each other on a regular basis. I can still learn so much from him.

Congratulations Bill, for being awarded the Don Crall Award. You deserve it, You are the Best. You have set the standard for all players of this sport and I hope to see you playing for many more years.

-- **Steve Walker (OK)**

◆ Bill Melton is one of the true greats of the game of Shuffleboard. His accomplishments in the sport are well documented. I could spend hours talking about them, instead I would like to talk about Bill Melton the person. Bill is one of the most caring people I know. To talk about Bill, I believe you have to include his lovely wife Rozana. They have opened their house to many shufflers, asking nothing in return. Bill puts his "family" in the name of Shuffleboard. I am truly blessed to know him and to call him "friend." -- **Stevie Burkett (OK)**

◆ In Reno, I was on Bill Melton's team. It was a 6 person team. We are in the main hall. Score for teams is tied. We need to win one more game. It's my shot, my last shot. The other team has a 3 on the board. It's imperative that I hit that weight. It's covered well. Mr. Bill Melton comes to me and tells me to do a free hand shot and let it go around and stick that weight. Without thinking, it was Mr. Bill Melton telling me the shot, I did it. I had never thrown a free hand shot, let alone a free hand in a major competition. I was so excited that I told Mr. Bill Melton that shot deserves 2 hugs. His response, "no, only one." Thanks for great advice and being kind to a player who was just starting to play. I think that you are a great player.

-- **Rene Roberts (TX)**

◆ Bill Melton receiving the Don Crall Award... Bill, I guess this is the only award you had yet to receive. Already a member of the Oklahoma State Hall of Fame, National Shuffleboard Hall of Fame and recipient of the Sol Lipkin Award.

Oklahoma is fortunate to be represented by Bill Melton. A class act, he has done so much for Oklahoma, as well as national shuffleboard. Bill is one of the greatest players to ever play this game. He has helped players understand the right way to play.

Bill and Billy Mays were my mentors: teaching how to make and adjust boards, as well as understanding the major rules and how the rules came into existence.. Bill you are so deserving of the award!

It has been a pleasure knowing Bill and the entire Melton family. I love Bill and the whole family. Congratulations Bill!

-- **Johnny Wayne Crawford (TX)**

TESTIMONIALS (CONTINUED) & MEMORIES

◆ I met Bill in the 70's in a tavern in Ft. Worth, Texas when he came in to hustle me. In our match he saw enough potential in my ability that he ask me to be his partner in the World Series of Shuffleboard in Portland, Oregon.

Well, we won that tournament and it was shown on local television with narration by Billy Mays and Bill English which many of you have laughed at our interview and attire.

However, we formed a partnership and friendship that has endured for 35 years and we have won on many pro doubles championships along the way;

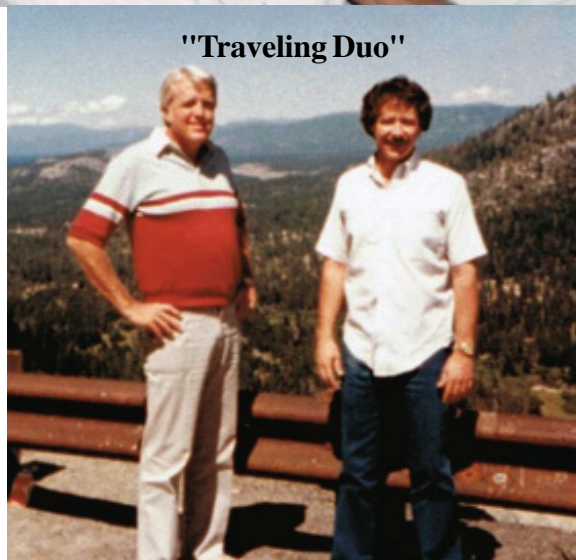
Congratulations on this well deserved honor to my partner and best friend.

-- **David Williams, Sr. (TX)**

◆ This award is a fitting tribute to one of the all time greats of shuffleboard, Not only is Bill just an awesome player, he is also one of the games biggest promoters and supporters. I've played with and against Bill for 35 years and his approach to the game is to win with any and all his talents but to do so with integrity and sportsmanship. We've played at sleazy dives where you had to check your pistol at the door to the gaudy showplaces in Reno and Vegas and all the places in between. Everywhere he goes he is respected. One of the all time great partner duos was Bill and David Williams. They won tournaments all over the country.

However, you can not honor Bill without also honoring his wonderful wife Rozana who has been there through trial and triumph! They've thrown parties, welcomed shuffleboard players into their home, and loaned countless monies to down and out players with little chance of repayment. We consider the Melton and Williams as one family with Rozana leading our way. Congratulations Bill on this well deserved award!

-- **Bobby & Jeri Williams (TX)**



Bobby Williams (left) and Bill Melton took top honors in



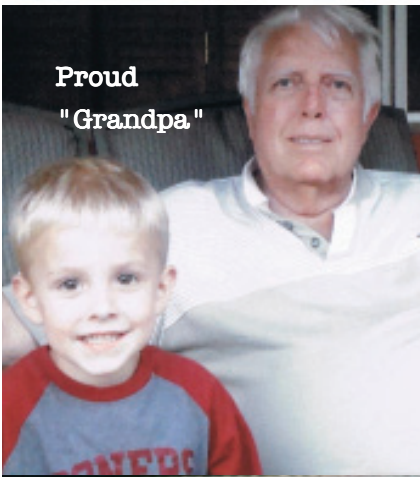
MEMORIES...



Newly Weds!



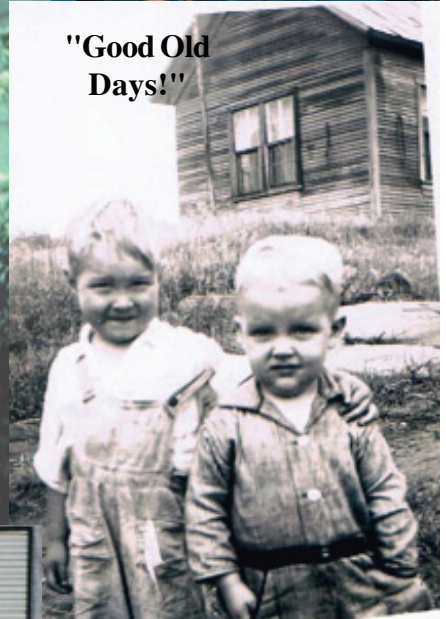
Melton "Boys"



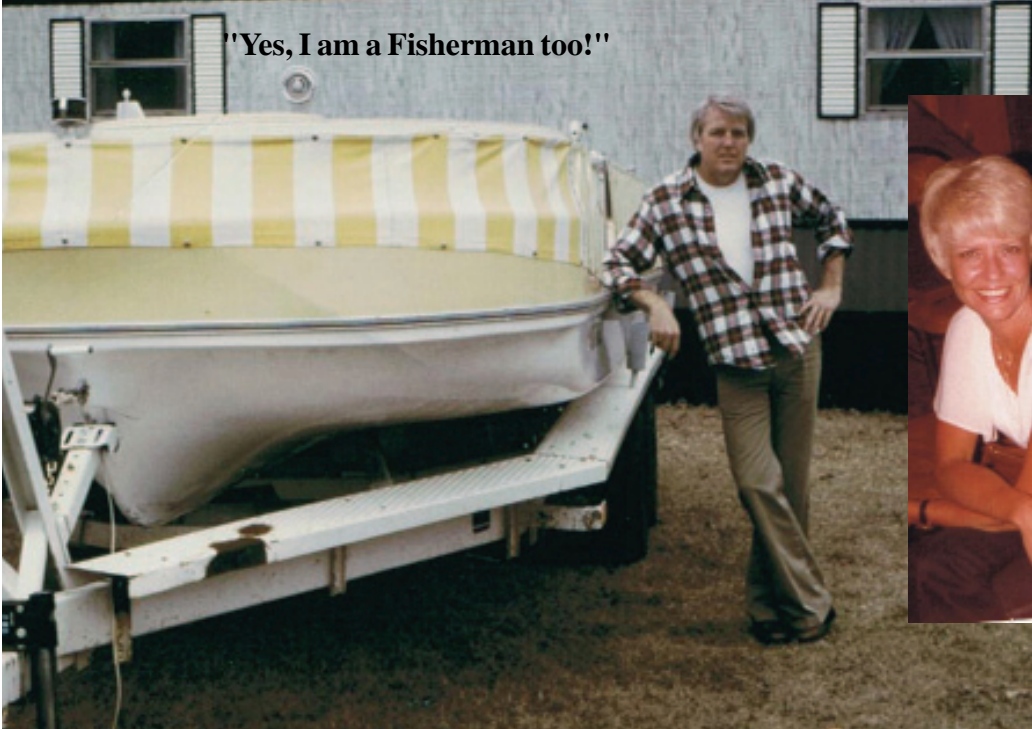
Proud "Grandpa"



"What a Mom!"



"Good Old Days!"

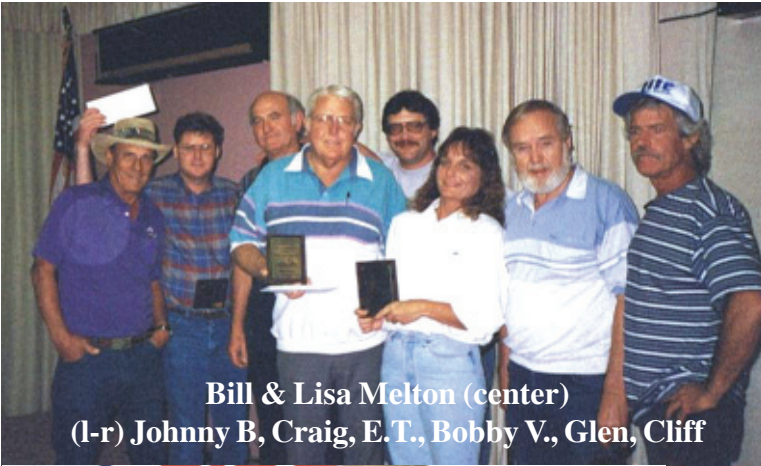


"Yes, I am a Fisherman too!"



"Winner was.... Mr. Bill"

MEMORIES...



Bill & Lisa Melton (center)
(l-r) Johnny B, Craig, E.T., Bobby V., Glen, Cliff



"Board Talk
George"



LISA 2nd
MELTON place



Mike
1st



Mens Singles
1st

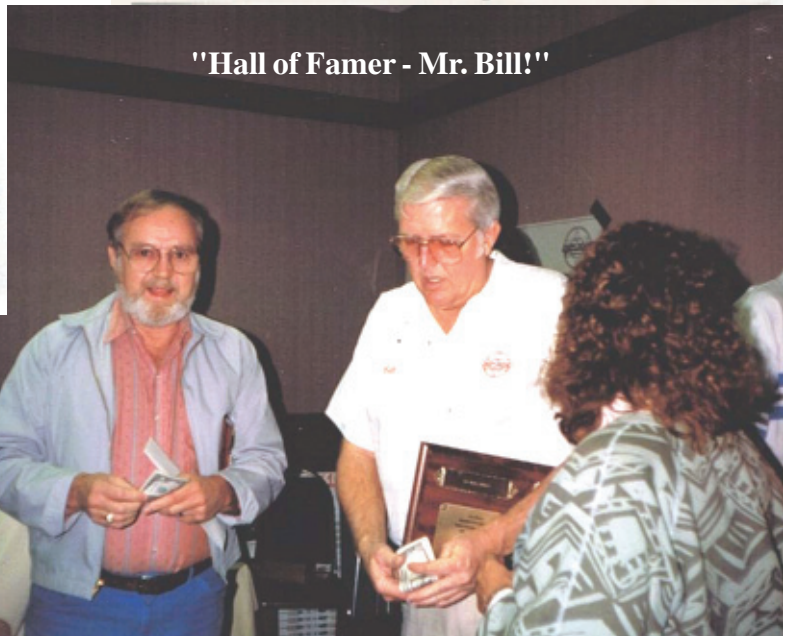
"A Family of
Melton Shufflers!"

Meltons Tops in Ballooi

That powerhouse father-son team from Davis, Oklahoma -- Bill and Billy Melton -- made another profitable trip to Arvada, Colorado, in June to take top honors in the Balloon Inn's 6th Annual Open.



Bill and Billy Melton accept the fattest envelope in the \$3700 pot from hostess Gwen Vogt.



"Hall of Famer - Mr. Bill!"



"Full House (Gerald)
presents to winners...
Bill & Brenda"





"Congrats & Thanks from the American Legion Post #73"



FROM THE COMMANDER'S DESK



AMERICAN LEGION POST 73, DEL CITY, OK

P.O. Box 15073

5000 SE 24th St., Del City, OK 73115-5073

PH: 405-670-9128, 405-670-9120 FAX: 405-604-3090

We, the Del City American Legion Post #73, want to formally thank you and congratulate you Bill, for all that you have done to help with our shuffleboard activities over these many years. You are always available for advice, guidance, and support of our efforts, while not expecting anything in return.

Being a constant promoter of our *Heartland Handicap Tournaments* and one of the longest running supporters of the *4th of July Southwest Open* has benefited all players, including our newer ones, who by observing your professionalism and expert play and your excellent coaching and mentoring, has influenced their desires to learn and excel in this sport. Your knowledge of the boards and how they should be cared for, the wax, the rules and regulations, and anything else we need help with, has insured we are doing everything we can to make these activities the best possible for all players who come to have a good game and lots of fun.

It gives us great pleasure to present the *2010 4th Annual Don Crall Award* to you, Bill Melton, Oklahoma's Living Legend and the #1 Pro of Table Shuffleboard!

Sincerely,

Frank James, American Legion 73 Commander