

Bobby Goldsmith

MAJOR ACCOMPLISHMENTS

1st Place twice in Tulare County Championship (1964-1978) at "The Hut" and "Mr. G's"

Sportsmanship Trophy at Sacramento State Tournament (took 3 teams - two men's & two women's teams)

2nd Place in the 1968 California State Championships

1st Place (twice) Major Doubles Tournaments at "Mr. G's" between 1970 & 1978 partnered with Jack Ahern and then Tommie Thompkins

2nd Place Open Doubles with sister Robbie at "Mr. G's" between 1970 & 1978

1st Place Doubles at the "Peanut House" with son Warren Goldsmith

California Shuffleboard Hall of Fame Inductee, May 23, 1998

CONTRIBUTIONS AS A PROMOTER

1964-1978 Promoted the Tulare County Championship Doubles & Singles Tournaments

1968 Promoted the California State Championship tournament

1967 Took 3 teams to the California State Tournament at the Fairgrounds in Sacramento

1967-1978 Always had a 9-Man Team for the annual match with Les & Lu's Club in Dinuba

1970-1978 Mr. G's promoted the annual Thanksgiving Tournament open to the world and Bobby always guaranteed \$2K, but had so many participants he never had to make it good. He promoted out-of-town players from North & South by guaranteeing action on weekends.

Table Shuffleboard Association

February 28, 2003

The Table Shuffleboard Association's Board of Directors and the shuffleboard community, friends, and family proudly present the TSA Shuffleboard Hall of Fame Induction Award to Bobby Goldsmith on this 28th day of February 2003!

-- TSA Directors, Table Shuffleboard Association, Inc.

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Bobby Goldsmith

Table Shuffleboard Association

Hall of Fame Induction

February 28, 2003 - TSA HOF Inductee Ceremony

The Board Talk Open 2003 - Las Vegas, Nevada

Bobby Goldsmith



Bobby Goldsmith (nka "Mr. G") was born in Marmaduke, Arkansas, but when he was seven years old, someone told his father, "Go West, young man!"... So, the family packed up and moved west.

Bobby says if you have ever seen the movie "Grapes of Wrath" that it depicted his family perfectly. The only difference was, the old truck in

the movie made it all the way to California, but the Goldsmith's truck didn't. It gave up the ghost in Kingman, Arizona. So, the family sold all their belongings and they put Bobby's little sister, Robbie, and his mother on a train and Bobby and his dad hitchhiked from Kingman to Visalia and settled two miles from "Mr. G's" current spot.

Bobby Goldsmith

Bobby Goldsmith TSA HOF (con't.)

Through the years, Bobby has been involved in a wide variety of interests. He played semi-pro baseball, raised a few horses, raised a whole lot of pigs, did a few rodeo shows as a calf roper, fought a whole lot of roosters, and collected old Cadillacs, clocks and antique guns.

In 1964, Bobby bought a bar, the Hut, which had a 17' shuffleboard in it. When his customers went down the road to play on a regulation length board, he quickly learned that his was not regulation size. So, out went a wall and Bobby extended the building. Thus, began the long story of the game of shuffleboard for Bobby Goldsmith and that's when his days of regulation shuffleboard began!

It was common occurrence for Bobby to set up sessions at the old Hut and later at Mr. G's. Many great players graced the door there, where they always knew there would be action. Just to name a few: Bob Miles, Glen Davidson, Rod Cameron, Glen Young, Troy Tolbert, Leroy Ledford, Hal Perry, Big Norm, Cable Car Dennis, Billy Mays, Portland Eddy, Pee Wee Ramos, A.Z. Turnbo, Billy Chiles, the list goes on and on.

Through the years, the game of shuffleboard has given Bobby many thrills, such as

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playing Billy Mays for 26 hours straight, and best of all, *winning!* Bobby never kidded himself into thinking that he was the player that Billy was, but, as he says, "I was, for one day!"

Bobby's family is, and has been for many years involved in shuffleboard. His dad, "Curly," was the horse collar player. His mom did a lot of cooking for the players when they came to town. His sister Robbie plays the game like a real trooper. Son Warren and son-in-law Russ play. His wife Charlene and daughter Leslie also play, but they like it best in the rooting section.

A serious heart problem has curtailed Bobby's active shuffleboard playing, but nothing has lessened his love for shuffleboard. His heart will always be with the game and the many friends and associates that he has become so close to through all his years in shuffleboard.

Bobby feels the big tournaments in Reno and Las Vegas have been a godsend to the game. It is his hope that they will continue to unite the players in a great sport that deserves recognition. It was once said that for ten years, Bobby was the glue that held the players together in California and he loved every minute of it.



TSA HOF

Bobby Goldsmith TSA HOF (con't.)

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MEMORY LANE (con't.)



Billy Mays (above)
1969 World Champion



L-R: (above)
Sparky & Billy Mays



California State 1968 Women's Team - 1st Place Champions (above)
L-R: Robbie Gann (Bobby's sister), Charlene Goldsmith (Bobby's wife), and Donna Wood, Joyce Ferguson
(4 of the 6 -Person Women's Team from the "HUT")

Bobby Goldsmith

Bobby Goldsmith TSA HOF (con't.)

February 28, 2003 Las Vegas, NV

TESTIMONIALS (con't.)

Bobby, No one knows more than I do how much you deserve this recognition and I also know how proud and humble you are to receive it.

-- Your Devoted Wife,
Charlene

My brother, Bobby, has always been my mentor, confidant, and the person I most admire. His endless promotion of shuffleboard, especially in California, is responsible for it's popularity today. No one ever loved the game more!! No one was ever more serving of this honor, and he is so proud. Although "Father Time" is catching up with him and his game isn't QUITE what it used to be, he can truly say "I REMEMBER WHEN." -- Robbie Gann

Bobby, No one knows more than I do how much you deserve this recognition and I also know how proud and humble you are to receive it.

-- Your Devoted Wife,
Charlene

I have admired Bobby Goldsmith's participation and promotion of table shuffleboard for many years, he will be long remembered by many. I only wish those who have passed on could be here to share this honor with him. I'd like to thank Don Valk and all Officers, Directors, and members of the TSA HOF for recognizing Bobby with this honor. -- Jolene Lembke

Over the years, the game of shuffleboard and Bobby Goldsmith have become synonymous. He was not only one of the better players in California, but also a great promoter of the game in the State of California.

Truly one of the class acts of shuffleboard, his induction in the TSA National Hall of Fame was a given in light of the many contributions he made to the game.

Congratulations should also be given to his wonderful wife, Charlene. Like most good men, there is someone behind it all that makes honors like these possible.

I would like to personally thank you, Bobby, for the "Hut" and "Mr. G's." I can't tell you how much I enjoyed competing both with and against you for the past forty years.



TSA HOF

Bobby Goldsmith TSA HOF (con't.)

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TESTIMONIALS (con't.)

Certainly, many of my highlights and lowlights happened in good ole Visalia, where you played such an important role. Along with giving me a place to compete, you treated me with respect, win or lose. It is for these reasons, and so many more, that I will enjoy the honor you are receiving almost as much as you and your family.

-- A friend for life,
Hal Perry

MEMORY LANE



N. California Team (1968) L-R Front: Hal Perry & Cable Car Dennis;
L-R Back: Unk., Norm Phillips, Unk., Leroy Ledford



Hal Perry (left)
1968 State Tournament

Bobby Goldsmith

Bobby Goldsmith TSA HOF (con't.) February 28, 2003 Las Vegas, NV

MEMORY LANE (con't.)



Bobby Goldsmith at "Mr. G's" (above)



Bobby Goldsmith California Shuffleboard Hall of Fame (above)
May 23, 1998 CSHOF Ceremony
Tipping His Hat to the Crowd (photo to the left)
Pictured with Joanie Swenson (photo to the right)

TSA HOF

Bobby Goldsmith TSA HOF (con't.) February 28, 2003 Las Vegas, NV

TESTIMONIALS

Bob Goldsmith, the most dedicated shuffleboard player that I know and most dedicated loyal supporter of the game is also a very big hearted person.

The only problem playing "honest Bob" is, if you can beat him, you best do it quickly. He's good for 4 or 5 games, then he pulls up his dress Khakis, puts on his hat and says, "boy, I've got to go." He has to tell a funny story and say goodbye to everyone along his way out. When he makes a technical shot he might say, "that will kill corn knee high" or "I am as good as I have to be or want to be."

Bob has been my good close friend so many years that I don't want to say because that depresses me and makes me feel over the hill and on my way out.

Bob likes a flat playing surface. A drifting board causes him to scratch his head. A free handed shot scares him to death. I enjoy it when I can circle his wagon and hide behind his shallow deuce, or make a hard rock combo, slide behind his weight and steal the game. He, very often, hits his hand with his left fist and says "damn you, Marion, no shot is safe on these crooked boards." "Mr. G" had a saying, "I'll guarantee you a minimum \$100 win if you can beat our

locals." To name a few: Leroy Ledford, \$50 Hal Perry, Freight Train Norm, Texas Billy, Glen Davidson, Pee Wee Meek, Jungle Jim, Cadillac Gloen, Mexican Tommy, the Less and Lu players, Freddie Thuman, 3-Fingered Troy, Billy Mays, and Billy Chiles.

I would like to thank the executives of the Hall of Fame for seeing the dedicated quality in the man we call "Mr. G" and a special thanks to our gal Jolene Lembke.

-- Marion S. Bailey

Bobby (Hey Kid), Congratulations on your induction into the TSA National Hall of Fame. I am proud to be able to say you are my "father-in-law."
-- Russ Lankton

Bobby ("Dad"), I've grown up hearing names like Bob Miles, Billy Mays, AZ Turnbo, Glen Davidson, Troy Tolbert, etc. and awaken many mornings to have breakfast with them and hear all the shuffleboard stories.

I felt my "Dad" was the heart beat of shuffleboard in our area and he was also a dedicated man to his family and community. I have always been proud of everything he has accomplished and this honor is the icing on the cake. "I love you, Dad."
-- Leslie