

The Board Talk

Published Monthly by Tom & Lynda French
12710 Red Deer Pass, Austin, TX 78729-6436

E-Mail: lynda@jump.net Phone: 512-250-0327 Cell: 512-636-0327 FAX: 512-250-0327

Vol. 20, No. 4

APRIL 2003

Board Talk Open 2003

Bobby Goldsmith's TSA National Hall of Fame Induction Ceremony Was Outstanding!!

On Friday, February 28, 2003 Bobby Goldsmith was inducted into the TSA National Hall of Fame during the Board Talk Open 2003 tournament held at the Plaza Hotel/Casino in Las Vegas Nevada. The ceremony and testimonials were outstanding. The ceremony was opened by TSA President, Don Valk. TSA Directors participating in the ceremony were Officers: Don Valk (Pres.) , Al Salazar (VP), Ray Boyett (Treas.), Lynda French (Sec.) and TSA Directors: Larry Creakbaum, Cliff Goff, Hal Perry and Harvey Kidd. Hal Perry, Freddie Johns, Troy Tolbert and Joe Scott were among those giving touching testimonials. Joe Scott (Bobby Goldsmith's nephew who is a professional musician and song writer) then sang two great songs (one especially written about his uncle's life and shuffleboard career and one patriotic song he wrote about the 911 tragedy). Bobby was presented his award trophy and expressed his gratitude to: TSA Hall of Fame sponsor, Jolene Lemke; all who signed the nomination petition; all TSA Directors; all attendees; and a very special thanks to all his family and friends who have stood behind him through his life and shuffleboard career; and giving a special thanks to his loving, understanding wife.

Don Valk (TSA President) Presents Bobby's Trophy Award...



BOBBY GOLDSMITH'S SHUFFLEBOARD CAREER AND MISCELLANEOUS "MEMORABLE MOMENTS"

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 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.

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.

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Bobby Goldsmith's TSA HOF Induction ... (Continued from Page 1)

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, and the list goes on and on.

Through the years, the game of shuffleboard has given Bobby many thrills, such as 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 Gann plays the game like a real trooper. Son Warren Goldsmith and son-in-law Russ Langton play. In fact, Bobby and Russ teamed up in the Bring Partner event during the Board Talk Open 2003 tournament and played quite well [Editors Comment from Tom French: "They did a good job of beating me and my partner in this event... it was a great honor to play with them eventhough they beat us!"]. His wife Charlene and daughter Leslie also play, but they like it best in the rooting section.

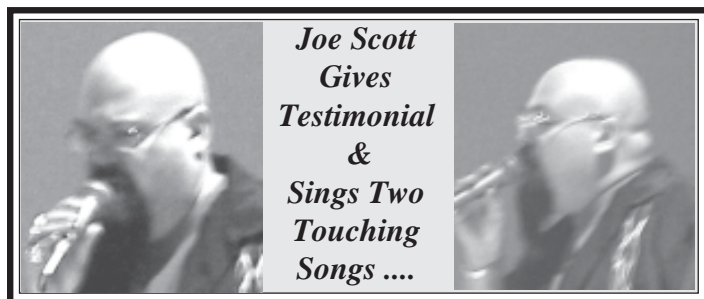
A serious heart problem has curtailed Bobby's active shuffleboard playing, but nothing has lessened his love for shuffleboard. His heart will always be with the game and the many friends and associates that he has become so close to through all his years in shuffleboard.

Bobby feels the big tournaments in Las Vegas and Reno 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 (and still does)!

Testimonials, Thanks, & Congrats Given...



"Congratulations Bobby From All Your Family, Friends, & Shuffleboard Extended Family!"



Joe Scott Gives Testimonial & Sings Two Touching Songs

Bobby Goldsmith's TSA HOF Induction... (Misc. Photos - Continued from Page 8)

