



**Table Shuffleboard Association, Inc.**

TABLE SHUFFLEBOARD ASSOCIATION, INC

October 31, 2008

The Table Shuffleboard Association's Board of Directors, TSA Associate shuffleboard community, friends and family proudly present the Hall of Fame Induction Award to Fred Thumann on this 31st day of October 2008.

**TSA** Board of Directors & Associate Members

Table Shuffleboard Association, Inc.

Table Shuffleboard Association Inc.  
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Also, special thanks to Lorraine Bingham-Olson for helping with information from the California Shuffleboard HOF Inductee Booklet. Thanks Lorraine!!

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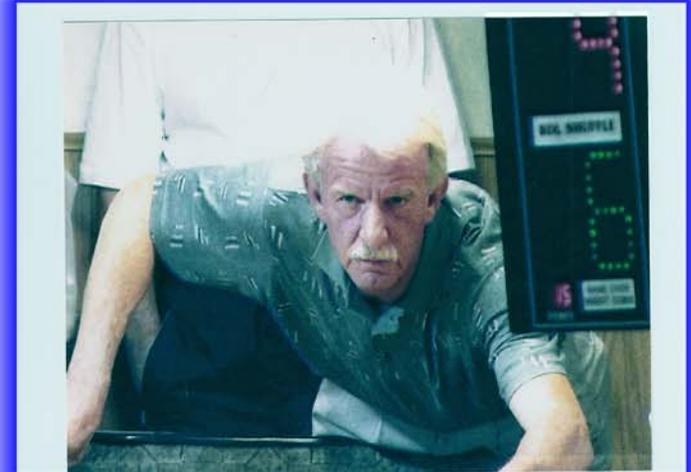
# Fred Thumann

Table Shuffleboard Association

Hall of Fame Induction

October 31, 2008

TSA Hall Of Fame INDUCTEE CEREMONY



**California Hall of Fame Inductee**  
**TSA Hall of Fame Inductee**



**Fred Thumann, Family and Friends**

Frederich H. Thumann was born June 11, 1945. He lived in Auburn California with his "Best Friend" and business partner Lois McCabe. Fred and Lois were self-employed 35 years before Fred passed away of cancer on January 27, 2005.

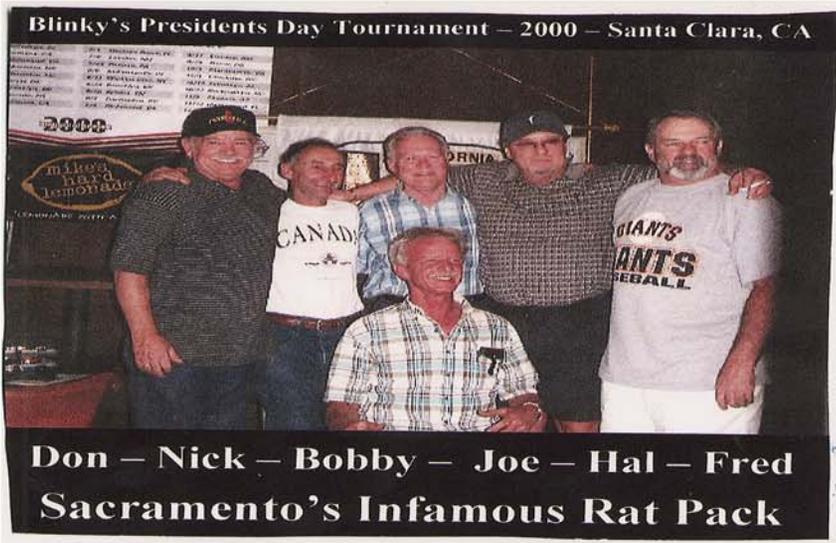
Fred's family includes a son in California and a daughter in Texas. He also had two stepsons, one stepdaughter, five step grandchildren, two step great grandchildren and loving father and mother-in-law.



Fred Thumann, Lois McCabe and Steve Fisher - Reno 2001



Fred and Buddy 2004  
Buddy passed 11-2004 and Fred in January 2005. Both were very ill in this picture with cancer. These two were inseparable.



**October 31, 2008**

cut-up and make people laugh. He knew what made his partners tick. Brought them to the edge which brought the best out in every one of them.

Fred Thumann was a great player period. To the Shuffleboard Family he is deeply missed. DAVID KEITHAHN

Freddie is the most loving, caring and giving person with a heart bigger than the game itself, and a lust for life that knew no bounds. The word "NO" was never part of his vocabulary. If anyone needed anything, he went of of his way to provide it. Freddie was a beacon of light in my life, that I miss more than I can say. He and Lois's friendship meant so much to both him and me. We were blessed to be included in their never-ending circle of friends.

It must be said that Freddie was the craziest person I have ever had the pleasure of knowing and he brought it out in me, which was more than a little scary. Demented is another word that comes to mind, what other pro would ask a 2-rated player to play in the pro doubles in Reno? But he did, and what it did for my game and my confidence in my game, I will be eternally grateful to Freddie for. I could never have wanted for a better partner, and it was more than fun, it was probably the best time I have ever had playing the game. Of course I was black and blue for a week after, but it was well worth it. In Freddie's eyes I could be great and in my eyes he always was and will be. I miss him..... LORRAINE (aka Hurricane) OLSON



**QUOTE FROM LOIS**  
"Always willing to help. Enjoyed putting the boards together"

In the 1980's shuffleboard came to San Jose again. This was a bar called Blinky's. I had the privilege of having Fred as a partner on four different occasions in tourney play. Fred and I played well together, he understood what to expect from me and I thought the world of him and his ability to play board. Darrol Nelson has five first place check marks from this tournament. Fred and I have three of the second place check marks that go with them.

Fred Thumann was not only a great shuffleboard player, Fred Thumann was my friend. Fred Thumann was a man. NELSON JENNINGS.

.....You always knew you were going to see him (Fred) play well but you never knew what was going to happen along the way. We miss you old buddy. Your name lives on. Congratulations on your induction into the National Shuffleboard Hall of Fame. You were a great promoter, player and friend. You are missed. JIM FORAN



**October 31, 2008**

I met Fred Thumann in the late 70's when I first began playing California tournaments. In my opinion, Fred more than deserves recognition in our National Hall of Fame simply on the merit of play. Fred was a great player with an incredible pair of hands. I have played against him enough times to know what I am talking about.

One vivid memory I won't forget was at one of the Showboat tournaments in Las Vegas. Fred, who was playing with Billy Mays, made some fantastic shots and won the tournament. This is a vivid memory because Jimmy Allis and I were their opponents.

Fred was also a wonderful promoter and ambassador for our game.

God Bless You Fred,  
**DARROL NELSON**

When I think of Fred Thumann, I think of a great shuffleboard player. I know he was a great money player and he won many tournaments over the years. But even more than that, what I think of is this. He was a great defensive player, probably one of the best ever, he was a great doubles player, and he would often seem to make the clutch shot that would make the difference in the outcome of a game or match.

I learned a lot from watching Fred play. For example, how he approached the game. I remember observing his play one day, and I suddenly realized that when he was in a tough situation he was never considering *whether* he could make the shot, he was always figuring out *how* to make the shot. His attitude was "this is the outcome I want, how will I do it?"

The one thing that makes shuffleboard more interesting to play than other games such as pool or bowling or even golf is the aspect of defense.

Fred was one of the best defensive players ever. This made him an incredible doubles player. He knew his strength was as a defensive player, and he used that strength to feed his partner the hammer and give his partner (and his team) the opportunity to win. That is not to say that he was not a great singles player because he was, but he was most impressive as a doubles player.

Fred certainly wore his emotions on his sleeve and you could see in him that exceptional will to win that all great players have. And he would produce. As great a defensive player as he was, he always seemed to get into a situation where at the important point in the game or match he would need a big lag and most of the time he would come through.

Fred will always be remembered for some goofy antics, but the one thing that was really annoying to me was his ability to go several months without touching a weight and then walk into a room full of players who play almost daily and win the tournament. Damn it! How did he do that?

These are just a few of the things that come to mind when remembering Fred Thumann; a fabulous player and worthy addition to the National Shuffleboard Hall of Fame. **DAN MOURGOS**

Fred Thumann was a great player. He had two of the best hands in shuffleboard. Fred was a session player mostly, played tournaments, and played a lot of doubles. Fred played with Hal Perry, Don Cox, Joe Hudson, Nick Chaffin, Bob Hunt and others. Fred would make you laugh and talk your ear off while taking your money. He knew how to make his partners play better. Ask Joe Hudson. Fred would get Joe so worked up, sometimes to the point Joe couldn't see straight. Then he would back off. With other players like Hal and Donny, he would



Fred entertaining at any given tournament!



**Quote from Lois**

"Freddie 2003"

"If he wasn't playing shuffleboard he was fishing. Work came first with him - then the above."

**Fred Thumann Shuffleboard Accomplishments**

Due to uncontrollable circumstances, most of the records of Fred's Tournament wins were lost.

Some wins uncovered by Lorraine Bingham-Olson and TSA are listed.

1976 - 1st Place, World Team Championships, Longview Washington.

TEAM: Hal Perry, Don Cox, Leroy Ledford, Billy Mays, Joe Hudson & Fred Thumann

1977 - 1st Place - Memorial Day Tournament at the "Auburn Club" in Auburn, CA.

PRO DOUBLES PARTNER: Joe Hudson

1st Place Las Vegas Showboat Tournament

Las Vegas' NV

PRO DOUBLES PARTNER: Billy Mays

Sponsor Paul Weber

2nd Places include:

1977 World Serial of Shuffleboard- Pro Doubles Partner

Joe Hudson; 2000 President's Day Tournament "Binky's" - Pro Doubles Partner Nelson

Jennings; 2002 President's Day Tournament - Pro Doubles Partner Al Salazar

8 - 2nd places with Don Cox as his partner in over 30 years of playing.



.....In the 1960's and 1970's there were more players at all skill levels than today. In order for a player to challenge a top pro (road players, we call them) in a money session, one had to have serious internal fortitude, money, time and heart, as well as talent. As a young player in those days, Fred did challenge the pros and prevailed. He became a top pro player in his own right. The transition from a session player to a tournament player was very difficult and not many were successful at it. Fred was. He was a great player in both venues.....

THE SACRAMENTO RAT PACK

HAL PERRY, NICK CHAFFIN, BOB HUNT, FRED THUMANN, DON COX,  
JOE HUDSON



I guess I could start by saying that when I first met Freddy we were at a classy place called the Auburn Club. At that time Fred was a great bowler, somehow he got lured into playing shuffleboard, a great financial move. It was too long ago for me to remember what year that was, but I think probably mid 70's. Of all the people who were playing good in those days, I always thought Freddy had the smoothest release I ever saw, and I started up here with Galen and Truman and Bob Miles and Ed Graves. Those guys were great, but Freddy's stroke was as good or better. In the day, Fred always competed against the best, like Hal and Leroy PeeWee, to mention a few, and was successful. This was before shuffleboard tournaments as we know them now. Then, tournaments were a reason for players to get together and try to stay up for a whole weekend and maybe make a couple dollars. As tournaments have evolved to where they are now, Freddy also changed into a great tournament player. There are probably lots of situations I can't remember but one that does come to mind was Las Vegas when Freddy and Billy Mays beat Darrol and me in the finals. Fred made shots in that match to beat us that I will never forget. All we could do was shake his hand and say "great game." If anybody deserves to be in the Hall of Fame, it is Fred Thumann. Freddy was a great shuffleboard player and more, a great human being.

Like I said when Freddy passed away, " It ain't ever going to be the same'. JIM ALLIS

It seems like I spent twenty years of my life playing against Fred Thumann & Hal Perry in either sessions or tournaments. This, I believe makes me an expert on Fred's game in the early years. Believe me; his game level of play was strong enough to put him at the top, with all the other great players of the time. He had two great hands which made him one of the best doubles players in the country. He also was a great competitor with the heart of a lion. I'd say he had a true "love of the game." Perhaps that is why he *never* would give up. No matter how things were going. Fred was a great promoter, but an even better player. Rest well old friend. Everyone misses you! BILL MELTON

When I first met Freddy, in the 80's, like everyone else, I noticed he was a bit different to put it mildly. Through the years we became friends, and I learned he wanted nothing more than to make his friends laugh and be happy. Whatever it took was worth it to him. He paid a price for this. He was known for his antics and his shuffleboard play went unnoticed, except by the people who knew him best.

Freddy was as good a player as there was in his day, and if you take a look at who was playing then, that is quite a testament. In the years before the Board Talk, there were few major tournaments, but Freddy won his share. In the early years of the Board Talk, a top ten list for each area of the country was compiled for each issue. Freddy was on the initial list and stayed there. When the Shuffleboard Federation began rating players and expanded to the West Coast, Freddy had a -1 rating. When the Shuffleboard Federation Ratings merged with the Bowers Rating System, Freddy was rated a -1, which never dropped while he was alive.

I personally played with him and against him. He deserves consideration for the National Table Shuffleboard Hall of Fame. He was and still is an original Pro.

AL SALAZAR

It is certainly my recommendation that Freddie should be inducted into the National Shuffleboard Hall of Fame as a player. He was one of the most competitive players to ever play the game. Melton and I have spent countless hours playing Fred and Hal Perry, usually to a standstill. Truly a gentleman and a tremendous gift to the game.

DAVID WILLIAMS SR.

I knew Fred Thumann for nineteen years. During that time I played with him and against him on a number of occasions. Fred was a great player who had all the shots. A great span shot with both hands contributed to his excellent board play. I think he was especially good at hitting and sliding weights and was also a good lagger. He was also fearless and had more heart than just about anyone I ever met. In addition to being a strong tournament player, he also excelled at long all day/all night session play.

JOHN MCDERMOTT

FREDDIE THUMANN...what a shuffleboard player! Freddie was a great promoter of the game. He was always there when the calcuttas were run, whether at The Ace of Clubs in Marysville or any of the other California locations. He also provided much of the entertainment. As wild and crazy as he was, he was also very sincere and genuine.

RONALD HARRELSON