

**Induction Ceremony
for**

Emmett Wilcox

**Into the
Indiana
Shuffleboard
Hall of Fame**

1998 Bourbon Spring Doubles

American

Legion Post #424

Bourbon, Indiana

May 1, 1998

Agenda

<i>Welcome.....</i>	<i>Terry Dowell</i>
<i>Hall of Fame Overview.....</i>	<i>Larry Creakbaum</i>
<i>National Hall of Fame Representative.....</i>	<i>Glen Davidson</i>
<i>Background of Emmet Wilcox.....</i>	<i>Jim Long</i>
<i>Presentation.....</i>	<i>Terry Dowell</i>
<i>Acceptance.....</i>	<i>Emmett Wilcox</i>
<i>Closing.....</i>	<i>Terry Dowell</i>

(over)

Emmett

Born December 26, 1927

Started playing shuffleboard approximately 50 years ago. His most memorable win was at Bourbon in 1959. He received a 4" trophy and half of \$280 which included the Calcutta.

Known not only for his excellent play, but for his sharp wit, players in the Midwest respected him greatly. He never tried to hustle. He would walk into a tavern and say, "Call your best players, I'm here to win money".

In the early 60's lessons from Emmett were \$1.00 each. He said advise was free, but lessons cost, that way you would always remember them. By the way, beer was a quarter and a game was a dime. Then, in the late 60's shuffleboard took a down turn. You could drive out a tank of gas just to find a game for a beer.

In the early 70's things got better for shuffleboard players. Emmett and I were working in Southern Indiana. We found a board in a crossroads of town. The bartender said, if we wanted to play he would stick up for us. Then he started to rub it with a block of paraffin, we didn't play. They did have something Emmett wanted, a set of the original rules by Rock-O-La on how to play. They wouldn't sell them and I wouldn't steal them, so he left disappointed.

Later in the 70's players were in abundance, and lessons had gone to \$5.00 and more if he could get it. Along with the new players came another of his witticisms, "Show me a good loser and I'll show you a loser".

The 80's brought better players and bigger pots and he still won more than his fair share. By the late 80's his interest in playing had dropped a little, but his interest in improving the game had peaked. By the early 90's he was polishing weights so a player could get the most out of them. He then built a new style climatic that would permit you to change one side of a board, but not the other side. Next, he built an indicator with which you could tell how much of a valley or crown a board had in it. Another if his ideas came into being a couple of years ago, thanks in part to the Federation for their cooperation in building titanium weights. He had the idea about ten years ago, but didn't have access to the right components. Now he proudly displays his set of gold weights every time he plays. As proud as he is of those weights, he is even more so of the players he helped along the way. So if you are ever in Central Indiana playing a game, and happen to make a bad shot or two and hear someone say, "Boy, I wish he made \$1,000 a week and played me for \$500, we would both make a good living", you just met Mr. Wilcox.

Your student and friend, Bill

Players Comments

"Set the standard of play in our area over 30 years ago", Jim Long

"Tough Enough!!", Dave Boaz

"The Obvious first choice", Terry Dowell

"Friend and Teacher", Steve Hart

"Old reliable from Day One", Bob Brown

"Great teacher of the game", Dave Vorndran