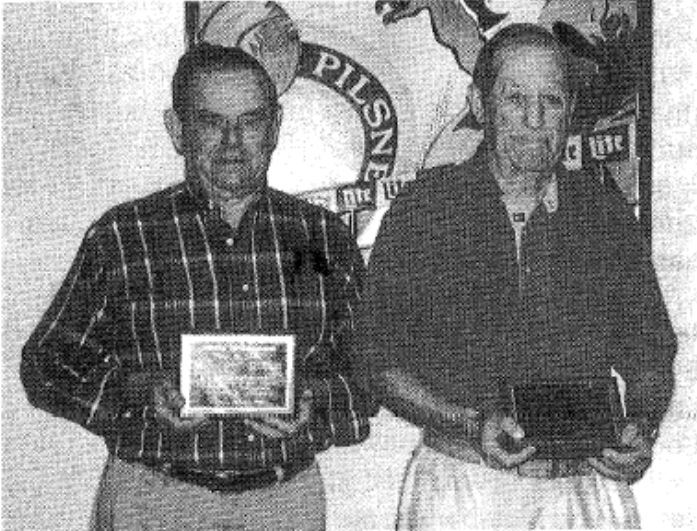


"Doc" and "Skip" Inducted

Following the draw partner event on Friday evening, George "Doc" Slabaugh and Dale "Skip" Jackson were inducted into the Indiana Shuffleboard Hall of Fame.



Skip Jackson (left) and Doc Slabaugh proudly accept their Hall of Fame plaques.

"Considering me for recognition is a great honor. I am flattered," said Doc. "In 50 years of playing shuffleboard, I've seen many changes -- short board, long board, free hand to cross board. Now we are allowed to sprinkle the board while shooting, play to 15 and even with our own weights. Forty years ago, we played for \$10 for the winners and a 6-pack of beer for the runners-up. It seemed like the entry fee of \$1.00 was a lot to ask of players then. I have helped start many leagues and encouraged a lot of younger players and female shooters. Playing shuffleboard is a great way to meet new friends, gain self-respect and have fun. I want to thank Seward Harman, Roy Bessinger, the Knox Brothers, Lowell Gard and many, many more."

Skip started playing on the first board put upstairs at the Bourbon American Legion in 1957. His first win came with Charlie Thompson uptown at Sam's in 1960. Dale played in Mishawaka where he met Jim Long. Several years later a foursome was formed of Jerry Knox, Larry Creakbaum, Jim Long and Skip. They were hard to beat and didn't

miss many tournaments. Together they travelled to Albion, Fort Wayne, Peru, Logansport and many other places.

Skip has played between 700 and 800 games in 39 years. During this time, he received many trophies and met many wonderful people. In 1989 he started going to Las Vegas for the Shuffleboard Championships. In September of 1999, at the Sahara, he and his partner took third place in the North American Championships Legends Doubles. Skip has stopped playing in tournaments, but still enjoys the game and plays a little for fun. He still knows hit to hit, stick and lag!

Player Comments on the Inductees

(Doc Slabaugh) "Congratulations, Doc. You've been a great player for many years and this honor is truly deserved." -- Butch Thomas

"A good player -- plays to win every time." -- Bill Niswonger

"Bourbon is synonymous with shuffleboard in Indiana.... Thanks, Doc!" -- Terry Dowell

(Skip Jackson) "My friend always and a heck of a player. Congratulations." -- Bill Niswonger

"An original player -- one of a kind." -- Terry Dowell

"Congratulations, Skip! This couldn't happen to a better guy. Thanks for being a wonderful friend and a great shuffleboard partner." -- Jerry Knox

Thanks to all the American Legion bartenders who kept our glasses full. Special thanks to host Bill Niswonger and director Terry Dowell.

*Mike ("Kentucky Flash") and Susie Halstead
Reporting for The Board Talk*