



THE CALIFORNIA SHUFFLEBOARD HALL OF FAME

Induction Ceremony Honoring

Wes & Eileen Eades

Presented at

Elks Lodge
Downey, California

November 28, 2009

CALIFORNIA SHUFFLEBOARD HALL OF FAME INDUCTION CEREMONY FOR

Wes & Eileen Eades

SATURDAY, November 28, 2009

HOSTED BY
Downey California Elks Lodge
11233 S. Woodruff Ave
Downey, CA

Master of Ceremonies.....Tim O'Brien
Director CSHOF

Guest Speakers.....Bob Davidson

Chris Brown

Evie Maxwell

Vern Booth

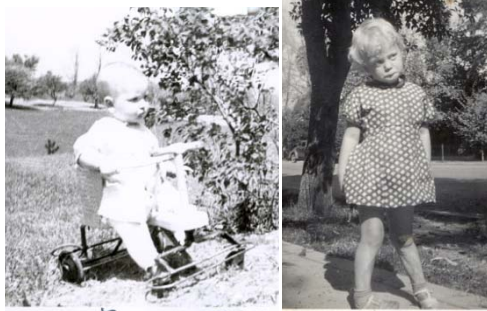
Wincie Stoops

Induction and Award Presentation.....Jim Martin
President CSHOF

Acceptance of Award.....Wes and Eileen Eades

Wes & Eileen Eades

Wes Eades was born and raised in Sherman, a small town in upstate New York. He joined the Navy in 1954, and served for 4 years. Eileen was born in Elgin, Nebraska, but moved to California the following year. Her family moved to Bell Gardens in 1940.



Wes

Eileen

Towards the end of his service, Wes was stationed in Long Beach, Ca. He became friends with fellow seaman Bob Albee, who had grown up in nearby Bell Gardens. Albee had two sisters, one of them was Eileen. Bob's parents welcomed many of their son's shipmates on liberty and Wes was one of them. As Eileen recalls: "Wes just came in through the back door and that is when we met. My parents were wonderful and caring people and more than happy to offer our home to the sailors on weekends."



Wes & Eileen at their wedding along with Eileen's brother Bob Allbee and sister Pat Sult.

Wes and Eileen married in 1959. They settled in Bellflower where the couple has lived for 46 years. Their son Steve starred in football at Bellflower High School and went on to earn a scholarship at Southern Methodist University in Texas. Steve played with future NFL Hall of Famer Eric Dickerson. Steve now lives in Dallas, TX, and has a 2 ½ yr old son.

Wes attended Cerritos College for 2 years. He also took special classes in the Non-Destructive testing field. Eileen worked in the accounting department of a large grocery store chain while Wes started a small manufacturing company, Orbit Testing, geared to the large aerospace industry in Southern California.



In 1990, Wes and Eileen purchased the Dixie Belle Restaurant in Downey, Ca. It featured good food and a cocktail lounge that was very popular with the locals. Eileen retired from her job and ran the business while Wes gave the establishment its personality. On most afternoons a patron could enter the Dixie Belle and be greeted to the sound of roaring laughter as Wes would hold court with several friends and customers at the center bar. Some of the most amazing stories, jokes and tales could be heard and the laughter so loud that it must have made the residents who lived above the bar wonder what was in the drinks.

According to Bob Davidson: "The old expression, the first liar doesn't have a chance, best describes some afternoons. Wes is truly one of the most unforgettable personalities this scribe has ever had the privilege of knowing. Together Wes and Eileen created one of the truly great restaurant/bars in Southern California."

In 1992, history was made when Wes and Eileen remodeled the restaurant's banquet room into a shuffleboard palace that featured four boards and a back room bar. They named the room after a very good friend who had unexpectedly passed, and it became known as "The Danny Gallagher Room". They started with a board from George Lucas, and then soon added 3 more from Jay Kimble.

Shuffleboard soon became popular with the local patrons and several new players developed their skills learning from some of Southern California's best players. One of those new players was Ms. Chris Brown who has gone on to be a top lady players and key tournament director. The Dixie Belle soon became the place to be on the West Coast for shuffleboard action.

Friday nights were reserved for some of the best local and professional players to congregate for action on the bar's fast shuffleboards. It was here on Friday nights that the bar gained its reputation as the "Shuffleboard Palace." Friday night was the biggest night at the Dixie Belle, but Saturday night also grew as round robins



were organized and played throughout the afternoons and well into the evening hours. In fact, if a player wanted some action anytime during the week, all he needed to do is show up in the back room and he would usually be accommodated.

Wes and Eileen knew that they also had to bring in the new players that the sport was attracting. Tuesday night became a fun league night – created to develop the skills of several new players. They were divided into equal teams based on skill and the league soon became the talk of the Dixie Belle. Soon after, Chris Brown and Eileen created an even more relaxed Wednesday night Ladies' League and more women players began enjoying the game without the pressure of the Tuesday night league.

Sundays were originally titled the Tournament of Champions, then later became a weekly "Meat Shoot" that saw players vying for steaks in single-game elimination, draw tournaments. The meat shoots drew as many as 30 players on some weekends and became a ritual for many of the local players.

Later, with so many Southern California players traveling to Reno, NV in late October for a national tournament sponsored by the Shuffleboard Federation, Wes and Eileen began the "Road to Reno" tournament at the Dixie Belle. It replaced the Sunday meat shoots during the late summer months. Winners of the weekly tournaments earned points with the ultimate prize of an all expenses paid trip to the Reno national tournament.

But, it wasn't the weekly league, the meat shoot or the daily afternoon action the bar's back room that earned the Dixie Belle its reputation in the shuffleboard world. Wes and Eileen also hosted many major west coast tournaments that featured some of the best shuffleboard players in the country, including the nation's number one rated player, Darrol Nelson. These tournaments lasted three and sometimes four days as many of the best players arrived a day early to get some time on the tournament boards. These big tournaments were usually held during holiday weekends and became legendary due to the competitive atmosphere that was created in the Dixie Belle's back room. The friendly owners always featured a barbecue for their out-of-town guests as well as their customers and local players. The practice became so popular that it was soon

duplicated at other west coast tournaments. Here again, both of their warmth and wonderful personalities shined the brightest and was reflected in the high caliber of their employees.

In February 1996, Wes and Eileen were honored by the PCSA for "Their continual, enthusiastic support of the game of shuffleboard." Later that year, their annual 4th of July tournament was chosen to host the 12th Annual Board Talk Shuffler's Reunion. An international event, players came from Canada, Michigan, Washington, Oregon, Indiana and Arizona, as well as Northern, Central and Southern California.

Wes and Eileen have always mentioned the many friends that they have met through their shuffleboard experiences. They have traveled to Oregon, Washington, Arizona, Nevada and Indiana in support of other tournaments. At each stop they have met and made life-time friends. Following retirement, they purchased a motor home and have continued to make friends through their membership in the Elks. They have traveled across the country, stopping at Elks' Lodges and visiting friends and relatives along the way. Recently, Wes was named "Elk of the Year" by his lodge in Downey. Eileen especially enjoys their travels as it allows her the time to be close to the couple's grandchildren in Texas.



In January, the couple celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary. On that date, Wes was released from the Veteran's Hospital in Long Beach following major surgery. As Eileen recalls, "It was our special day and it felt so good to be taking Wes home. Without a doubt, the best anniversary present that I have ever received."

By Bob Davidson

Wes & Eileen, 2009

TRIBUTES

Anyone who has spent any length of time around Wes Eades fast becomes familiar with his unique sense of humor and his multitude of sayings. "Hi-Ho Paint, Let's Get Where We Ain't," certainly comes to one's mind when thinking of Wesley. One of my favorite stories indirectly involves Wes and demonstrates his unforgettable sense of humor.

One evening several years ago and long after Wes and Eileen had sold the Dixie Belle, my wife Susie and I were enjoying drinks at a local lounge. I should add that my wife Susie worked for Wes and Eileen for the seven years that they owned the Dixie Belle and had known them for a number of years prior to that. That meant she had spent a considerable amount of time with the couple that we honor today. While we were enjoying ourselves Susie suddenly exclaimed, "I am so blue since my Peter went to Dublin." For a moment I was stunned and so were the people around us. I had never heard the expression before. But after a minute, I soon realized that the saying could only be attributed back to Wesley. All of a sudden I had a mental picture of Wes saying, "I am so blue since my Peter went to Dublin." It was quite a moment and everyone in our group, who were completely caught off guard, laughed. I realized that not only was my wife fondly referred to by them as their "daughter" but, that she had paid her dues hanging out with Wes and Eileen. In a strange sort of way it made me so proud to be married to Susie. Who better to imitate in life than Wes?

One of my favorite stories as told by Wes involved a trip back home to New York in their early years of marriage. Wes tells it proudly and it involves Eileen and Wes's mother on a trip downtown to the city closest to their farm. As they walked on the sidewalk of the city's main street, Eileen created a few minor traffic accidents after creating stares from some of the locals, who were no doubt struck by her style and grace. Naturally, Eileen was embarrassed by it all.

I know there will be plenty of stories told today about Wes, Eileen and the Dixie Belle. Some may not be suited for print of course, but nonetheless funny. And I also know that there will be more than a few tears shed rejoicing on what this amazing couple has contributed to the sport of shuffleboard. I also know I look forward to hearing from their many friends today and can almost guarantee that Tim O'Brien and others will bring the house down with their memories of the Dixie Belle and this wonderful couple.

Whenever shuffleboard players congregate to play this wonderful game, it almost goes without saying that the Dixie Belle and Wes and Eileen's names are mentioned in reverence. For the older group of players who remember the action of the place, and the new players who have only been told about it, the Dixie Belle is a legend. It can now take its rightful place of honor with two of the best people I have ever known.

Susie and I would personally like to thank the California Shuffleboard Hall of Fame for induction Wes and Eileen into their exclusive and prestigious body. Both of these warm and generous people are all too deserving of their place among the other recipients of this honor.

Bob and Susie Davidson

Wes & Eileen were without a doubt, the most vital catalyst of Tournament Shuffleboard in California's golden decade. Those tournaments at the Dixie were completely unparalleled and will always stand as a very special time in my life. I am sure that everyone looks back at those tournaments and wishes that it was like that today. I heartily applaud their induction into the California Shuffleboard Hall of Fame.

John Fisher



George Wilber, Eileen, John Fisher, Donna Wilber, Dan Hitt & Wes

I would just like to say that Wes & Eileen are two of the greatest people I've ever met, in or out of shuffleboard. Whenever we went to their establishment they treated us like family even from the very first time we met them.

**Well deserved honor, congratulations you two.
With Love & respect,**

**Frank & Connie Zavala
Las Vegas, NV**

Two of the best people we have ever met. Glad to call them our friends.

We meet Wes & Eileen at the good old Dixie Belle and felt comfortable around them immediately they always make you feel like you are truly loved and belong with them. Love to hear Wes tell his stories and hear him laugh. Hearing him call out for more Dirty Water kills me. He always said " Nurse" and that means he is ready for another Dirty Water. Just in case you don't know. That would be Bourbon & Water. Eileen, what a talker. She can keep going 90 miles a minute and never take a breath. Love you Eileen you are the best thanks for always being there for me.

God bless you both we love you a bunch,
Gary & Susie Jones

Of all the years that I hung around shuffleboard bars, my best memories are of the Dixie Belle when you guys were in charge--sort of. Personally, most of the time I thought the inmates were in charge. Your hospitality was the best. The shuffleboard was great, the food was great, and occasionally we had an extra V.O. or two?? None of these things would have been possible without two wonderful hosts.

Thanks for the memories

Jim Allis

When Wes and Eileen first brought Shuffleboard into the Dixie Belle, I personally thought they were crazy. Yes, it made good business sense to utilize the 'Back Room' for something other than banquets, but these people were not the usual types that came into the Belle. Little did I realize that Wes and Eileen were not going to be happy with just putting boards into the Belle. The 'Front Room' became almost deserted as one by one we were swept up and brought into the 'Back Room' to become players. And were Wes and Eileen content with that? Hell no! League started. Tournaments were held. Ladies Night began.

And the Road Trips! Wes decides he wants to go to Mr. G's for a Saturday and the next thing you know Eileen has talked twenty of us into going. Wes wants to go to Ruthie's in Blythe, and the next thing I know I'm travelling down there with 8 guys – Eileen didn't have to go since she had "daughter" to keep an eye on Papa. Put Wes and Joe M. together and the next thing you know 21 of us are travelling to Indiana. It didn't matter that the Dixie Belle was nearly emptied out and not doing much business these weekends – when Wes and Eileen were ready for a "Road Trip" they took all their customers with them if they could.



But Wes wasn't the only one with 'ideas'. I'd only been playing about six months when Eileen noticed a lot of the ladies not playing in Round Robins or League because they felt they weren't good enough or got comments like "Do I have to play with *her*?" So she came and talked to me about it. Next thing I knew I was running Ladies Night on Wednesdays. A lot of the ladies in our area that still play got started playing back then. Eileen was always in the background when shuffleboard was going on. But

she made sure the players had food to eat, a place to sleep, a shoulder to cry on, or just someone to talk to. She was the Organizer. She took care of whatever you needed, whether it was at the Belle or on the Road.

When the Dixie Belle finally closed, I thought I was going to be able to 'retire' from running shuffleboard tournaments and leagues. But then Wes and Eileen joined the Elks. It took Wes two years to get regulation boards in there. And we were up and playing again!

Wes may not be the best player in the country (although there's nobody he can't beat on any given day), and Eileen may not even play (well, okay, we don't let her because she gets too emotional), but I guarantee that Shuffleboard would not be the same in California if this couple hadn't embraced it with the enthusiasm they did.

Chris Brown (#1 daughter!)

Wow! What better 2 people can you ask for? I first met Wes and Eileen at the Wandering Women's tournament in Downey CA, 2008. They met the entire Indiana crew of 8 at LAX and there was never a dull moment for the rest of the week. Wes made sure we were never thirsty and gave us all a first class ride in the Cadillac. Eileen gave Carol Westerman, Vicki Morgan, and me an all day tour of sunny Southern California.

I didn't see either one of them play shuffleboard because their number one priority that week was to make sure all the women would have a fabulous week. And we sure did!! They are such wonderful people and I sure hope our paths will cross again! Congratulations to the both of you.

Taya Keesling
Indiana



July 1996 – Board Talk Reunion.
George Wilber, Eileen, Donna Wilber, Rick Gindt,
Wes, Darrol Nelson.

Wes & Eileen are two of the greatest people in shuffleboard! We first met them when they had the Dixie Belle in 1996, at the Board Talk reunion tournament. We have never felt more welcome going out of town - it was great. They are both so deserving of this Congrats to you both!!

Larry & Mary Brown

What a wonderful, loving, giving, caring couple. Every time I hear their names or see them, it immediately puts a smile on my face!

I have so many stories I could tell, but this one is priceless! I met Wes (Fred) and Eileen when they first opened the Dixie Belle. I had heard of DB and decided to stop by on a Friday after work, (wearing a short black dress). A woman (Eileen) was sitting at the bar and two men (Wes & Jim Anderson) were playing shuffleboard (it was really dead that night) and Chuck K was sitting at a long table (the only familiar face I knew). Eileen left. Wes asked if I wanted to play shuffleboard and I said sure. He made sure that I played at his end so he could watch me bend over the board. The game starting, I walked over to his end of the board, and not trusting anyone with their name on their shirt asked what his name was and he immediately answered "Fred". He then asked me my name and I responded "Annie". We played several games and I really enjoyed DB and the company.

The next day I talked to John McGinnis and mentioned where I went and who I met, and he laughed and said who I met was not named Fred, but Wes and they owned the Dixie Belle. That was embarrassing.

Well, it was a few weeks later when I saw "Fred" and Eileen at CC's for a tournament. I didn't know that Eileen was trying to say hi to me and I wasn't responding. She couldn't understand why I wouldn't answer her when she called me "Annie". When I told her my real name and the story behind it, we had the biggest laugh.

Congratulations! Love you Wes (Fred) and Eileen,
Linda Wright



Eileen and Wes



Ben & Wes



Wes & Al Salazar



Hal & Steve Perry, Wes



Wes and Steve Floyd

Congratulations Wes and Eileen for being inducted in to the California Shuffleboard Hall of Fame. The Dixie Belle in Downey became the Mecca for the game of shuffleboard in Southern California and it wasn't by magic but by two people who had a love and passion for the game and its players; from round robins, leagues, meat shoots, regional tournament to supporting the game around the country.

They also were instrumental in helping those in need by running countless fundraisers and benefit tournaments

throughout the years. This seemed to be a natural part of their character. As Jimmy Anderson would say during a tournament as he looked around, "Isn't this great? Isn't this wonderful?" Yes, it was, Wes and Eileen. Thanks for all you've done and again,



Wes & Tim O'Brien

Congratulations! Tim O'Brien

Shortly after I started playing shuffleboard I had the good fortune to stop by the Dixie Bell and check out the place. Eileen immediately treated me like I was family and when I met Wes that evening I felt like maybe I actually was a long lost relative! What a beautiful couple! Although they were great with all the customers they made a special commitment to ALL the shuffleboard players.

"The" back room was the place to be! Lots of action and good bartending as well as good 'ole conversation. It was plain to see that Wes and Eileen had the respect of all who met them and rightfully so. I'm happy to say that I am one of the people who respect them for all they have done for shuffleboard but more importantly for who they are. Congratulations on your induction into the CA SB Hall of fame.

Very warm regards, Chris Wayt

Wes and Eileen:

What a great time we all had in "SHUFFLEBOARD HEAVEN". The Dixie Belle and everyone who worked there are truly missed by the shuffleboard family.

Wes, we all know you are not just a "pretty face," and there must be someone out there who "wants your body".

Eileen, you are not the "meanest white woman in captivity," just the most patient.

You two enjoy your new home on wheels. I'm sure if you keep traveling and looking long enough, Wes may someday meet a stranger.

Congratulations,
Vern Booth

Wes and Eileen embraced the world of shuffleboard and made the Dixie Belle into the best shuffleboard venue ever. They ran a class operation and were wonderful hosts and became great life-long friends.

Congratulations, Wes and Eileen!
John McGinnis



John McGinnis with Eileen

I have never met another person as full of life as Wes. I swear, you could drop him in the middle of the Mojave Desert and he would find a way to have fun and stir up some kind of trouble. This is why he is so well accepted throughout the shuffleboard community. If you never did get the chance to be blessed with his antics at the Dixie Belle or the many other establishments throughout the area, you don't know what you have missed.

When the sport of shuffleboard was winding down and seemed bleak, it was Wes and Eileen that stepped to the plate and rekindled our sport by starting the one and only true shuffleboard heaven, the Dixie Belle. With the personality of Wes and the sweet, "I wanna help" attitude of Eileen, the Dixie Belle was the hottest place for action on the West Coast. Not only was the shuffleboard action great, but the food was some of the best too. Both Eileen and Wes were always supportive when it came to improving our little bit of heaven.

Wes and Eileen will be traveling in the coming months in their newly purchased RV and I wish them the very best and happy trails. Welcome to the California Shuffleboard Hall of Fame. Congratulation, you are both very deserving of this honor.

Sincerely,
Jim Martin
Pres CSHOF

Eileen and Wes, the Dixie Belle had the best setup for food, music and shuffleboard. Thank you for everything you have done over the years. You deserve this induction.

Jim Wheeler

All though I have not known them long or well, I enjoy seeing their faces every time there is a tournament. Congratulations.

Mo Harley

What GREAT people these two are. I met Wes and Eileen while I was attending the ladies tournament in Downey CA. They did everything they could to make this stay memorable. Wes and Eileen could not do enough it seemed. I will always remember the two of them. I feel blessed to have met Wes and Eileen.

Sandy & Glen Tubbs
Kansas City, Mo

Wes and Eileen,
Congratulations for being inducted into the CSHOF. You deserve it for the fine work you've done over the years. Best of luck to you both in the future.

Ted and Erlene Z

Wes and Eileen Eades are two exceptionally admirable individuals, selfless and always contributing to all who come their way. Exemplary members of the Downey Elks, a nonprofit that raises funds to provide services to the handicapped children at Rancho Los Amigos Rehabilitation Hospital. Very good friends of mine and very well known in the Shuffleboard World as past owners of the "Best Shuffleboard House" in Southern California, "The Dixie Bell."

It is an honor and a privilege to be the first to say "Congratulations, a very well deserved award!"

Joe Muniz

One of my early memories of Shuffleboard was from the Dixie Bell. Wes and Eileen are very gracious hosts. Wes, you have an incredulous laugh and great sense of humor. I have had such great times jawing back and forth with you. Eileen, you have always been very kind to me. You are such a gentle soul and I have enjoyed being around both of you. I have enjoyed your company and am grateful to both of you for your contribution to our sport and your continued support of the game. Congratulations to both of you. You are well deserving of this honor.

Jeff Posthumus

Wes and Eileen helped to keep shuffleboard alive and well in southern California. Starting with one board and expanding to as many as six for the 4th of July tournament, their Dixie Belle became the premiere shuffleboard destination in California. They continue to promote the game at the Elks lodge in Downey, and remain like family to us and many others.

Congratulations and love to you both,

Billy and Evie Maxwell



Billy Maxwell and Wes

Congratulations Wes and Eileen.

Everybody in the nation knew about the Dixie Belle. It brought players together and only 2 places in California had that kind of notoriety at that time; the Dixie Belle and Blinky's. When you walked through the doors it was like playing at home. What a great place to play! Not since the Dixie Belle has there been a place in So Cal to bring the top players together, period.

The Dixie Belle brought us all together as a shuffleboard family. Yes, everybody was family!! Congrats again.

David Keithahn



Gloria and Wes



Wes & Freddy Thuman

From the first time they came to a shuffleboard tournament at CC's Sports Bar in Anaheim, CA they fell in love with the game of shuffleboard and have embraced all nuances of the game and the people playing the games. When they owned the Dixie Belle in Downey, CA they built a special room just for shuffleboard players. To this day we still talk about the fun we had in that back room.

Wes & Eileen are two very special people and certainly deserve to be honored for their support of the game of shuffleboard.

Bob & Bev Lukens

Wes and Eileen Eades have been devoted to the development of shuffleboarders for as many years as we have known them. They were instrumental in starting new players to the game at the infamous Dixie Belle, having league playing during the week, which allowed many new players to learn and play. The tournaments that were held at the Dixie Belle were first class and enjoyable to all that played.

They were not only our host and hostess with the mostest they became family to us all. Their years of devotion to the game and the players has never wavered and we are honored to be a part of this indoctrination.

Wes's "if you want my body and you think I'm sexy is legendary to all the ladies, while Eileen's what can't get up can't get out, truly says it all. We love you guys and congratulations to you both.

Garry & Sandi Gareau

Thank you both so much for ALL that you do for me and so many others. You two are always there to help with whoever might need it. Your generosity is amazing, whether it is with donations, encouraging words, helping hands, a hug or many laughs.



Michele Lamos and Wes

Thank you both sooo much.

Love you both,
Michele Lamos

November, the time for giving thanks. I have a few things I give thanks for that most of the time I don't think about. Hot and cold running water... right in the house! Electricity. A stove that doesn't require hauling wood to run. More importantly I give thanks for family and friends. I give thanks for them each and every day. This brings me to the reason I am sitting here with my feet up writing.

My friends and part of the family of my heart Wes and Eileen Eades. Wes and Eileen used to stop into a little place in Downey called the Dixie Belle, where I at one time was conned into working but, that's another story.

Eileen worked second shift in the Safeway offices doing, I believe, payroll. She and a few of her cohorts liked to stop in after a hard night of accounting and have a couple of relaxing drinks, listen to a little music, hash over the night's work and chat about family and friends. Eileen was a sweetheart then as she is now. Who knew this lovely woman was the same one that Wild Man Wes called "The Meanest Woman In Captivity"?

Now, as we all know, time goes on and things have a tendency to change.

Wes had a successful business, Orbit Testing, and Eileen was retiring from Safeway. Eileen decided to go to work for Wes and their path looked straight ahead. Now I can't say that Eileen going to work for Wes had anything at all to do with their turn in the road (side bars make the story amusing) but that turn in their road took them into owning the Dixie Belle.

The Dixie Belle was a great place. Bar with music and dancing. A restaurant with great food. A banquet room that was mostly wasted space. No Front Bar/Back Bar then.

Now one fine day, there was Wes innocently sitting at the bar when in came a blue eyed trouble maker... okay, okay it was a wrangler named Jay who sat down beside Wes and as they talked and wrangled, Jay convinced Wes and Eileen that a couple of Shuffleboards were a good idea for that wasted space in the back of the Dixie Belle. Wes and Eileen talked it over and the Back Bar at the Dixie Belle was born.

Word went around about a new place to play shuffleboard. Good boards. Well maintained boards (thank you Jimmy Anderson). A place where the owners were great people and welcomed the players. Wes and Eileen made everyone feel and know they were welcome. Wes started playing shuffleboard which made playing

at the Belle even more fun. Wes and Eileen encouraged friendly competition \$\$\$\$. They encouraged round robins and leagues where new players could compete and join in the fun. Some of these "new" players are our A and B players now.

Shuffleboard was rolling, banging and lagging at the Belle.

That first year there were some players who knew they were hot. The Vegas tournament was coming up and it was time to go and win some of that dough. Down from the northwest blew in a few players also headed for Vegas. They had heard about the Dixie Belle. They came looking to pad their pockets before they hit the Strip. They found the action. They padded their pockets with winnings. It only happened once. The players at the Belle kept playing and some of the new players paid their dues to the pros and a few became pros themselves. Wes and Eileen stood behind them. Wes played them and Eileen fed them. Evie, Jimmy and I partied out with them even though we were technically working. Everyone was having such a good time it was like not working at all.

Wes and Eileen went on to run many tournaments at the Dixie Belle Fourth of July, Thanksgiving, Board Talk f Reunion and more. Then they traveled to other tournaments. Vegas, Bourbon, Visalia, Quilcene, Exeter, The Wandering Women's and more.

Everywhere they went they promoted good will through Shuffleboard. Everywhere they went they made more friends through Shuffleboard.



Paul Weber & Dixie Debbie

I am thankful Wes and Eileen have opened their hearts and included me in their lives. I am also thankful they opened their hearts to Shuffleboard players and friends. I am a better person to know them and I believe Shuffleboard, because of them, has been enriched.

Wes and Eileen I Love You.

Debbie Merhoff
AKA Dixie Debbie



The Dixie Belle 4th of July tournaments were the best times ever! They were large enough to matter, but just small enough to be able to get to know everyone there. Some of the best and/or craziest matches I've seen were there: the ABC team down 14 to 1 who came back and won; the Pro doubles match that went 14 to 14 for seven frames. It seemed anything was possible there.

You two are just about the nicest people ever and created a wonderful atmosphere to compete in!

Congratulations!

Kathy Thomas



We want to thank Wes & Eileen for all the wonderful memories at the Shuffleboard Tournaments at the Dixie Belle. Also, we will never forget the great time we had when they came up to Quilcene, Washington for the tournament at the Whistling Oyster. Congratulations!

Bob & Lois Shirley

Wes and Eileen,

Congratulations on your induction into the CSHOF. You have been great supporters and promoters of the game and this is an honor you truly deserve. Once again Congrats!!!

Dave and Marlene Brennan

