

## **Hall of Fame Induction-John Bushee-03-09-2012**

**It is an honor and privilege to present John Bushee for induction into the Florida Shuffleboard Association, Central District, Hall of Fame, under the Player category.**

**John was born and raised on a farm near the small town of Ossian in northeastern Indiana. During his school years and beyond, John helped his father and later his father-in-law with various farm duties.**

**John and his wife Irene, who was also a farm girl, were married in 1954 and bought their first farm in 1959 where they raised 5 wonderful children. In addition to raising cattle and crops, John held a second job as a deputy county surveyor, specializing in drainage. John retired from this occupation in 1987 and he and Irene purchased a home in Sebring and became snowbirds. This continued until 1995, at which time the Bushees rented out the farm and became full time residents of Florida.**

**It was during John`s first winter in Sebring while paddle boating on a canal leading to Little Lake Jackson that he met Virgil & Margarete Jacobs who were also from the same county in Indiana near Ossian and Fort Wayne. The Jacobs convinced John that he should try shuffleboard at the Sebring Tourist Club, now the Sebring Recreation Club. John soon became a competitive player and participated in many of the Central District tournaments. His most memorable match was in Winter Haven against Harold Kennedy. This was a consolation singles event when players practiced on both colors, lagged for choice of color and then played one game of 100 points. The game started at 9.00 a.m. and at one time Harold had 90+ points while John was still in the teens. However, John persevered and eventually won the match sometime after 2.00 p.m. John claims that this taught him to never give up even when it may appear impossible to win.**

**As many know, John is well known for his successful “suicide alley” scoring especially at Sebring and Avon Park. Over the years, John has won several times at these two clubs, but his Hall of Fame points came at various tournaments throughout the District. John has played in the District Masters on two occasions.**

**Not only is John known for his shuffling skills, but also as the “work horse” at the Sebring and Avon Park clubs. He seems to be a master of all trades; i.e. plumber, electrician, painter, roofer, gardener, janitor and of course a superior talent in maintaining shuffleboard courts and discs.**

**In addition to being a skilled shuffler, some of the words that best describe John are; honest, caring, thoughtful, understanding, reliable, and hard working.**

**Congratulations John on your induction.**

**Presentation of John by Max Tate, a past President of the Sebring Recreation Club. Induction performed at Winter Haven, Florida.**

