

ART VOGEL INDUCTED BY HENRY STRONG. 2008 03 08.

It is a privilege for me to stand before you today and talk about Art "The Bulldog" Vogel of the Zephyrhills Shuffleboard Club.

Art married his lovely wife Erma in June 1980 and lives in Andover, Ohio in the summer. He has been playing shuffleboard for 22 years and besides playing in Florida, he plays in Akron, Canton and Lakeside, Ohio. Each of us who has played with or against Art knows that he earned his nick name by being a fierce competitor on the courts. If he was your opponent it was clear he was doing all he could to beat you and if he was your partner you could always count on him to fight to the end.

Art never gives up; think about it. He went 53 weeks to earn that last point! Even though we knew that "The Bulldog" would do it, when he finally did get that last point, it set off a wild celebration at his home Club. (See pic in margin).

Art has had many partners but has played most of his tournaments with long time friend and fellow "hall of famer", George Darwin. Art is a great Champion as attested to by all the points he has earned; he has played the "Masters" as an amateur and three times as a Pro. Art; the Community of Zephyrhills, your Club and all of us who get to play with you on a regular basis are proud of you.

It is with great honor and pride that I present Art Vogel for induction into the Florida Shuffleboard Central District "Hall of Fame". HENRY STRONG.

Art's Remarks

Thank you Henry, you are so flattering!

It's been a long road to get to this point; who would think a Dry Cleaner who worked all those years in Ohio just to get to retirement would have a chance to stand here today! If it weren't for all of you who were my partners through the years it wouldn't have happened. Thank you all for putting up with me. Like probably most of you I didn't know Shuffleboard existed until I retired and moved to Florida. I started out just playing around while my wife recovered from knee replacement surgery 22 years ago; finally I won something and I was hooked. What a great game. I lost my wife but I found Irma; what a blessing and she has put up with my travel all these years. Thank you Irma.

I want you to know that my church was the first to think I was great, every Sunday they sing to me "How Great Thou Art"! EVERYONE, Lets sing! Thank you all for this great honor.

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