

Up Close and Personal

The Class of 2025 - Inductees into the VILLAGES BILLIARDS HALL of FAME

Part #1

Induction Ceremony: ***SUPER SATURDAY***,
February 8th, 11 am, La Hacienda Center



DON “Preacher” FEENEY

- > Resident - Village of Santa Domingo
- > Hometown / State - Joliet, Illinois
- > Favorite Fame - Carom Billiards, 14.1
- > Billiards Mentor - Pete Kramer
- > Created & Initiated - The Villages Snooker League
 - Numerous instructional billiards tapes
 - Author of instructional lesson programs for Pool & Billiards magazine
 - Lesson & enrichment programs in The Villages for 20+ years
- > Achievements - Referred to as the “Dean of Billiards” in The Villages
 - Professor “emeritus” of the Lifelong Learning College in The Villages
 - Two (2) time winner at the International Snooker Championships
 - Technical Consultant “Color of Money” Movie (With Tom Cruise & Paul Newman)
 - 1st Place in the first Classic Cup in 1981
 - Official / referee on numerous national / international tournaments
- > Length of residence - 22 years
- > Wife - Audrey
- > Favorite Activities - Golf, Bowling, Bridge
- > Nick Name - the “Preacher”

DEBBIE CLIFFORD

- > Resident - Mission Hills
- > Home Town - Massena, N.Y.
- > Favorite Game - * BALL & 9 BALL
- > Billiards Mentor - Fred Caprio
- > Created & Initiated - Numerous fund raising and activities for billiards events in The Villages
- > Achievements - 1st LADIES CUP Team Captain ; Decision to “step down” after numerous years of participating to provide opportunities to other players
 - Following the example of icon Jeanette Lee, Deb continued to play, on a very high level, despite several years of debilitating medical situations
 - Very enthusiastic and active supporter of numerous billiards activities and events in The Villages
 - Essential contributions to numerous billiards activities (planning and development, concessions, etc.)
- > Length of residence - 23 Years
- > Partner - Ron
- > Current Activities - Pool is my Passion

Up Close and Personal

The Class of 2025 - Inductees into the Part #2

VILLAGES BILLIARDS HALL of FAME

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SHERRY ALEXANDER

- > Resident - Village of Woodbury
- > Length of Residence - 23 years
- > Hometown & State - Burlington, IA.
- > Husband - Richard
- > Favorite Billiards Game - 9 BALL
- > Billiards Mentor in The Villages - Billy Schmidt, George Drew
- > Current Activity - Caregiving for husband Richard (limited play in 8/9 BALL league)
- > Created & Initiated - Created Ladies Billiards Association in 2007
 - Ladies Handicap League (now led by Janet Lockhart)
 - 9 BALL league (now led by Lynne Burke)
 - Mixed Doubles 8 BALL Tournament (now led by Ginger Eng)
 - North / South 8/9 BALL VETERANS Tournament
 - Multiple Recreation Leagues
 - VPP 8 BALL Tournament (now led by Stan Martin)
 - Big 9 BALL Tournament (now led by Brian Bedford)
 - "Billiard Buzz" Newsletter
- > Achievements - Brought Billiards into the STATE SENIOR GAMES
 - Professional Exhibitions (Monica Webb, Helena Thornfeldt, Allison Fisher)
 - Partner, and won, with Jeanette Lee at the Hard Rock WPBA Pro-Am in 2007

FRED CAPRIO

- > Resident - Village of Hemingway
- > Length of Residence - 15 years
- > Hometown & State - Hoboken, N.J.
- > Wife - Rose
- > Favorite Game - 14.1 Straight Pool
- > Nick Name - Jersey Boy
- > Mentor - Angelo "Geal" Caprio
- > Current Activities - All types of cue sports, pickle ball, softball, bowling
- > Achievements - Mentoring fellow players especially LADIES CUP players
 - FEENEY CUP Captain
 - Lead for the Advanced 14.1 League
 - Active participant and supporter of numerous billiards programs including VBC events & activities, tournaments (Senior Games, BCA, Al Parker, Hickey League)

Up Close and Personal

Part #3

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GALE BELLEW

- > Resident - Village of Del Mar
- > Home State - Maine
- > Favorite Game - 8 BALL
- > Current Activities - Coach for novice players, various 8 BALL singles and team leagues, member of LADIES CUP team.
- > Created & Initiated - Fashion Buyer & proprietor of a wedding shop business in Maine
 - Managed the Animal Fiber Arts Exhibition Hall at the largest Agricultural Fair in Maine for v25 years
 - Appointed as CHAIR of the WVBC - Women of the Villages Billiards Club tasked with initiating and growing women's participation in billiards
 - Created numerous VBC activities and events including tournaments, leagues, member Appreciation Dinner and gifts, Pro-shop sales open houses and sales events
 - Initiated numerous fund raising and inter-action events and activities including concession and merchandising opportunities
 - Initiated Invitational Tournament program to compliment the FEENEY CUP and LADIES CUP events
- > Achievements - Current President of the VBC - One of the largest billiards Club in the country
 - Maintains and provides leadership for the VBC - BOD and Club membership
 - Management of the successful VBC Pro Shop program
 - Manages growing VBC membership and continuing financial stability
 - Management of the Maine Mitten Project and Crochet Coral Reef Project

LARRY BERG

- > Resident - Village of Mallory Square
- > Home Town - Cicero, Indiana
- > Favorite Game - 8 BALL, One Pocket, Bank Pool
- > Length of residence -21 years
- > Wife - Joyce
- > Nick Name - Hoosier Boy
- > Current Activities - Golf, Woodworking
- > Created & Initiated - Muti-year director of multi-center Mixed Doubles League
- > Achievements - 2 time Captain of the FEENEY CUP ; 14 year player
 - Coach & mentor for many years and the Ladies Invitational Teams
 - Hamilton County HS Basketball Hall of Fame

Up Close and Personal

Part #4

The Class of 2025 - Inductees into the VILLAGES BILLIARDS HALL of FAME

Induction Ceremony - ***SUPER SATURDAY***

Saturday, February 8th, 11 am



PHILIP De ANGELO

- > Resident - Virginia Trace & The LOFTS, Brownwood
- > Length of Residence - 9 years
- > Hometown & State - Trenton, N.J.
- > Wife - Caroline
- > Favorite Game - 14.1 Straight Pool
- > Nick Name - The Colonel
- > Billiards Mentors - Don Feeney, Tom Weldon
- > Current Activities - Music
- > Created
 - FEENEY CUP & LADIES CUP
 - & - Florida Billiards Expo
- Initiated:
 - VBHOF - Villagers Billiards Hall of Fame
 - The Villages Lifelong Learning College Enrichment Program
 - Initiation of The Villages APA League, Travel Teams, Snooker League, 14.1 Leagues, TFC - Tournaments for Champions
 - Social Events - Billiards Cruise, Bus trips, *Rockin Oldies Nite, Gangs of N.Y., Johnny Rockets Sweetheart Nite, Participation - Christmas Parade*
 - Other - Honor Flight Affiliation, VBC Business Sponsors, *RAC em' Newsletter*
 - Introduced Table Shuffleboard to The Villages at the Eisenhower Center
- > Achievements - Past President VBC - Villages Billiards Club
 - Past President The Villages CIC - Community Improvement Council
 - Commission - Kentucky Colonel by the State of Kentucky
 - Music Educator - University & High School
 - Past President - IAFEC - International Association of Family Entertainment Centers
 - V/P/ Managing Partner - United Skates of America (Ice & Roller Skating Centers)
 - Senior V/P Marketing & Promotion - Six Flags of America

ROCCO MANORITI

- > Resident - Village of Amelia
- > Length of Residence - 17 years
- > Hometown & State - Fryeburg, ME.
- > Wife - Irene
- > Favorite Game - 14.1
- > Nick-name- The "Butcher"
- > Billiards Mentor - Don Feeney
- > Current Activities - Teaching, Love of Music, Studying Italian language
- > Created & Initiated - Co-founder of The Villages FEENEY CUP
- > Achievements - 1st FEENEY CUP Captain ; LADIES CUP BOD
 - Professor at The Villages Lifelong Learning College
 - Teacher and mentor to numerous Villagers for the past 15 years
 - Personal: Honor of having dinner with billiards icon Willie Mosconi

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Part #5

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RICHARD ROSS

- > Residence - Village of Amelia
- > Hometown / State - Wilbraham, MA, Buffalo, N.Y.
- > Nick Name - Mr. Safety
- > Favorite Games - 9 BALL, One Pocket, 14.1, 3-6-9, 8 BALL Couples
- > Leadership - FEENEY CUP Captain ; LADIES CUP Coach ; Invitational Cup Coach
 - Private and group Coach and Mentor in The Villages
- > Achievements - Recognized by Commonwealth of MA., being inducted into the New England Pool & Billiards Hall of Fame in 2013.
 - Featured in Sports Illustrated "Faces in the Crowd", and, TV and Radio in MA., and, print publications in numerous States and in the Billiards News.
 - United States Amateur Champion (back to back) - 1995 & 1996
 - Instrumental in securing Title Sponsorship funding, for major VBC events, from Parady Financial Group
 - Won over 700 local / national level tournaments
 - Consecutive run of 183 in 14.1 Pool
 - Professional opponents include Irving Crane, Mike Sigel, Earl Strickland, Jim Rempe, Mike Massey, Jeanette Lee, Steve Mizerak, Tony Robles, Corey Deuel, Boston Shorty, Grady Matthews, Tom Kennedy.
- Length of Residence - 7 years
- Wife - Nancy
- Mentor - Danny De Liberto

BILL & WENDY LORD

- > Resident - Village of Ashland
- > Home Town - Minneapolis, MN.
- > Favorite Game - (Wendy) 8 BALL & 9 BALL
- > Billiards Mentor - Bill Lord (Bob Supino)
- > Achievements - (Bill & Wendy) - Original Members of the VBC in 2005
 - Bill - Coach & Enrichment Mentor - The Villages Life Long Learning College
 - Coach of the year 2015
 - Created and directed Night Golf outings for VBC members
 - Active and supporter of numerous billiards activities in The Villages
 - Best Santa Claus ever at VBC Christmas events
 - Wendy - Multi-year positions as Secretary / Treasurer of the Villages Billiards Club
 - Co-ordinator of the FEENEY & LADIES CUP, Invitationals, APT Tournaments
 - Active and supporter of numerous billiards activities in The Villages
- > Length of residence - 20 years
- > Husband /Wife - Bill and Wendy
- > (Bill) 14.1, 8 BALL & 9 BALL
- > Billiards Mentor - Wendy (Bill Lord)