

## 1999-Leo Bratland, Danville



Leo Bratland Began his pitching career at the age of 14. He has been an active pitcher, organizer, league director, local club president, promoter, well you get the idea. Whatever it takes to keep horseshoes growing, Leo either has done it or is doing it.

He and a handful of pitchers in the Danville area formed the Danville Club, converting 3 shuffleboard courts to full size horseshoe courts. His club has grown steadily and now has 20 full cement walkways complete with lights. If there are ever any questions from court layout to handicap play to legal shoe weight, Leo is the first person called on for the "official" answer. Leo is the primary reason The Annual Danville Open Tournament is the success it is today. The last Danville Open featured World Champion Alan Francis and wife Amy, Walter Ray Williams Jr. Art Tyson and several other top ranked pitchers

Leo has served as an Illinois delegate at the World Convention on many occasions and is a regular at the State membership meeting held each year, offering his insights and leadership wherever needed. He is now and has been for several years the Chairman of the Hall of Fame Committee. His election to this honor was done behind his back and without his knowledge, and it was great to see him squirm when we announced his election.