



*Paul Thomas*

1977

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PAUL THOMAS

PROMOTER CATEGORY

Paul Thomas, (husband of Lorraine), started pitching horseshoes in 1958, and because of the successful progress of his wife, recognized the fun involved for her, and so decided to try to establish a women's league for the benefit of other women in the Lockport area. Much to his surprise, it quickly "caught on", and very soon, Lockport was boasting of one of the largest women's leagues in the County.

Serving first as president of the men's league, he soon found he had double duties by organizing the women. Then in 1966 he was elected president of the N. Y. State Association and ran a very successful State tournament for the first time in Lockport. He again served in this capacity in 1975 and 1976 when two more successful State tournaments were ran in the city of Lockport.

The present handicapp system for the Lockport leagues were set up by Paul, and have proven to be very popular in the City tournaments under his direction.

As spokesman for the leagues, he was instrumental in getting the City to install additional courts to accommodate the increased interest in the sport, and even though other officers may be elected in their leagues, Paul is the one they still rely on for opinions on everything from scoring, to rules of play.

A supervisor of machine design for the Harrison Radiator Division, he is also past master of the Red Jacket Lodge #646 of Lockport. He is also past chairman of troop I committee, Boy Scouts of America, and past master of John Hodge Lodge of Perfection. A member of the Baptist Church, and treasurer of the Glenwood Cemetery Association. Truly, Paul can be considered a promoter in every undertaking, in sports or in civic movements alike, and a real credit to our sport.

It is beleived by the committee that Paul will be a welcome member of the New York State Hall of Fame, by every member of the association.