



**1994 WHPA Hall of Fame Inductee
FELIX KUBLY**

"Horseshoe Pitching is a Game of Friendship."

Felix Kubly was born August 2, 1914 on a farm a few miles north of Rice Lake in Wisconsin. In March of 1922 his parents moved to a farm south of Watertown. He had five brothers and three sisters. He helped on the farm and belonged to the 185th Cavalry for three years. On October 22, 1938 Felix and Doris were married. They have three sons, one daughter, nine grandchildren and three great grandsons. Kubly has been retired for 22 years from Motor Transport working there as a semi truck driver for 30 years.

In September, 1949, Felix took his family to visit his wife's parents in Fort Atkinson. A celebration was going on at Jones Park where Felix seen horseshoe pitching for the first time. He really got the bug to learn what it was all about. Some of the pitchers he talked to that day were Carl Pfeffer of Milwaukee and Joe Maddon of Waukesha. Joe inspired him and even came to his home in Watertown to teach him. By 1951 he bought two pairs of horseshoes and two stakes.

There were three courts at Riverside Park in Watertown where he got together with some fellows to pitch on Monday nights. It was not organized. Then in 1956, he and a friend went to the Wisconsin State Fair Horseshoe Tournament, but, they didn't do so good. In those days everyone had to qualify by pitching 100 shoes. Going back each year, Felix won his first trophy in 1958 in Class C. He was in Classes C, B and A at the State Fair through 1971, the last year a horseshoe tournament was held at the Fair.

In 1968, Kubly was asked by the City Park and Recreation Department to organize horseshoes for the Watertown City League. He and others built six courts at the park with clay and lights. The league is in existence today in 1994. Felix also played in the Tri-County Horseshoe League from 1959 through 1986. Over the years he purchased 131 pairs of Ohio O's for himself and other pitchers.

In 1974 while talking to horseshoe players about the need of a site for the State Championship for 1975, Kubly told them he would run the State Tournament at Watertown. Ralph Maylahn helped him in setting up the tournament for 104 players that year.

Felix's other interests include bowling, dart baseball and he recently started to play his accordion again.

The Wisconsin Horseshoe Pitchers Association is pleased to present this 1994 Hall of Fame Award to one who has shown so many others the pleasure of this sport.