

## FOREMAN & REDDING: HANOVER'S DYNAMIC DUO



*John Foreman and Ken Redding*

One of the great parlays in the Thunderhead Bowl and Grill Monday Morning Seniors league resides on the #5 team, known as "SCREW IT". Following lead-off member, Jeanne Bowers, is a twosome, each of whom in his early adulthood, initially served the United States military for 4 years. John Foreman and Ken Redding followed their 'defense stints' by dedicating their lives to keeping law and order in Carroll County for a combined 50 years in their separate stretches in the work force. Today, they're still 'more than a handful' with which to be reckoned on the lanes at Thunderhead.

Foreman grew up in Taneytown, Maryland, but moved to nearby

Hanover, Pennsylvania approximately 50 years ago. John served his country in the Marine Corps from 1974-1978. After finishing his service time, Foreman lived in California for a short while, but came back to the Maryland-Pennsylvania area in 1980.

John joined the Sheriff's department in the jurisdiction of Westminster in 1988, and was employed as a Correctional Officer for the Carroll County Detention Center for the 30 years to follow. The Sheriff's department, as it related to Foreman's work, was in charge of juvenile discipline. John's primary schedule was to be that of a 40-hour work week, but Foreman confesses that he put in a lot of overtime during his career. Although he maintained the title of Correctional Officer throughout his employment, his duties covered more than just one set of tasks. As he moved toward the latter stages of his career, Foreman officially settled in the Transportation department during his last two years with the Detention Center, in which he was in charge of transporting subjects to court and to special homes. John retired in 2018.

And speaking of transportation, John's "Pride and Joy" when it comes to traveling is 'something else' indeed. Foreman is the owner of a most impressive motorcycle – a Harley Davidson Ultra Classic, which carries the additional label of "Electric Glade". He and his brother often ride in pairs, with his sibling manning a Honda Gold Wing.

Now that he has time for the things that he enjoys, one of the diversions from the hustle and bustle of John's daily life is in the form of periodic hunting retreats. Approximately 4 to 5 times a year, Foreman enjoys visiting "D's Acres" in Tioga County, PA with friends in quests for bears and turkeys, although 'bagging game' isn't the ultimate focus of the excursions. For the past 10 to 15 years, John and his associates have been making these vacation treks, each of which usually encompasses a week at a time. John affirms that these vacations are geared more towards human bonding than anything else. He relates, "We mostly spend time at the cabin, enjoying brotherhood and friendship. We just have to get away from the rat race from time to time".

D's Acres is officially promoted as a recreational property with a cabin in North Central Pennsylvania, located in the mountains. The cabin sleeps 10+ with gas lighting throughout, 2 wood stoves, and an immaculate stone fireplace is located in the main family area. The property is a



*John's Classic "Electric Glade"*

hunter's or wildlife enthusiast's paradise with a good number of deer, turkey, and bear on the property. With D's Acres being located in the mountains, John says that the weather can be unpredictable at times, with significant changes sometimes occurring within a mere 5 minutes.

Foreman also has an appetite for music. His preferred taste is that of the 'Country' and 'Bluegrass' genres. He tends to have a preference for the female artists, but his appreciation is wide-ranging. John has lots of stories about his encounters with celebrities that could fill an entire book. For instance, he saw Tanya Tucker a few times at concerts, and on an occasion in York, PA, Tanya invited John's daughter up on the stage with her. Another occurrence with a celebrity took place at the Palomino Club (a steak restaurant), where he had a beer with Tom T. Hall. Also, he met Rhonda Vinson at the Gettysburg Bluegrass Festival and had the opportunity to interact with her. John states, "She's a wonderful person – real down-to-earth. A great gal."

John's favorite tunes are "Wait in the Truck", by Hardy Lainey Wilson, and "I'm Just Me" by Charlie Pride. In regard to bowling, Foreman was a late bloomer with taking up the duckpin game, as he started bowling about five years ago at the same time that he joined the Monday Morning Seniors league. John sports a high game of 147 with the small balls and pins.

### *.... Moving right along ....*

Like Foreman, the anchorman for the "Screw-It" team, Ken Redding, also resides in Hanover, PA. Although he is unassuming on the surface, Redding has quite an expansive background.

Ken was born in Baltimore, and started bowling sometime between the ages of 8 and 10. His first experiences with league play were with church leagues involving the duckpin game.

Redding went into the military after high school. After six months training at 'jump school' as a paratrooper, he was transferred to Okinawa. In his last year in the military, he was stationed in Vietnam.

In regard to the paratroopers, Redding was required to make at least one jump every three months to become enabled to receive an extra \$55.00 a month for his pay. Altogether, Ken made 24 jumps during his tenure in the service, including one jump in Vietnam, although it was not a 'combat' leap.



*Ken at Paratrooper Jump School*



*Returning home from Vietnam*

Upon returning home after his military service, Redding pursued a career in law enforcement, beginning in 1966 for the Baltimore County Police Department. During his 20 years with the department, he spent 6 years working undercover in the Narcotics division. While in uniform, Redding worked at the Garrison, Woodlawn, and Towson stations.

During his final 4 years of public service, Redding working in a specialized unit, known as "COPE", which stands for "Citizen Oriented Police Enforcement".

Throughout his career in law enforcement, Ken endured the labors of working in high-crime areas. During the winter months, he rode in police cars, and during the warmer weather of the summer, he was a motorcycle policeman. Throughout his entire duration, he only had to fire his revolver once while 'on the beat', which was in a situation of retaliation.

Ken retired from the police department in 1986 after 20 years on the force at the age of 43. But as a testimonial to his nature as a constant worker, Redding didn't stop to take a break nor to reflect on his accomplishments. On the Monday that followed his last day on the police force, which was on a Friday, Ken started his next career as a defense contractor for a firm called "AAI" at the Pentagon. The outfit was a manufacturing firm for different branches of the military, which also included the processing of individuals. Redding retired from AAI in 2009 after 23 years.

One amazing aspect of Ken's work career is that for a period of 30 years, in which the time between the police department and the defense contracting overlapped at a point, Redding traditionally worked both a





Ken, during Motorcycle season

full-time and part-time job, with the part-time employment relating to providing "Security".

In 2009, Ken joined the Monday Morning Seniors league and has since been a member. Always serious about his bowling, Ken stresses the importance of 'shooting your wood' on the 3rd ball. As a result, the game of duckpins, in

almost an appreciative manner, did latch onto Redding, presenting itself to such a willing host in what would seem like unlikely venues throughout the years. In high school in the late 1950s, Redding appeared on the TV show, "Pinbusters", where he was crowned the champion for a week. He started his league play experience with church leagues – a connection that stuck with Ken over the years. The bowling even followed him during his work career, as he has participated in leagues with the police department, and also for his AAI firm, which rolled at AMF/Fair Lanes Timonium. Redding's highest game reached the lofty score of 194.

Outside of the work environment, Ken undertook a most interesting hobby. He started a 'beer can' collection for his son, although

Ken did not drink. Over the years, this astonishing compilation has grown to a total of roughly 600 cans. The youthful Redding will be hitting a milestone next month, when he turns 80 years of age. Ken attributes his youthful appearance and physique to never having been a smoker or drinker.



Shown above is a part of the "Beer Can Collection"

### Last Week's Brain Teaser Answers

## WHICH OF EACH GROUP DOES NOT BELONG WITH THE REST?

1. Plum
2. Peach
3. Cherry
4. Banana
5. Mango

①

*Fruits with a pit*

1. Hour
2. Mend
3. Read
4. Pale
5. Steel

②

*Homonyms: Words that can sound the same, but are spelled different*

1. Appaloosa
2. Palomino
3. Albatross
4. Mustang
5. Percheron

③

*Types of Horses*

1. Beatles
2. Beach Boys
3. Kinks
4. Rolling Stones
5. The Animals

④

*"British Invasion" Groups*

1. Woody Woodpecker
2. Yogi Bear
3. Foghorn Leghorn
4. Tweety Bird
5. Barney Rubble

⑤

*Characters voiced by Mel Blanc, at one point*

1. Get Smart
2. I Dream of Jeannie
3. McHales' Navy
4. Sgt. Bilko
5. Gomer Pyle USMC

⑥

*TV Shows relating to military*

1. Hammer
2. Gavel
3. Mallet
4. Chisel

⑦

*Tools used for banging*

1. Occipital
2. Fibula
3. Femur
4. Tibia

⑧

*Bones in the leg*

**BONUS:** *From "Columbo"*

⑨

1. Asphalt
2. Uncle
3. Delight
4. Leave

*Ethnic terms: "Dutch Uncle" "Turkish Delight" "French Leave"*

## PETANQUE: THE FRENCH VERSION OF BOCCE BALL



*The lobbing technique in Petanque*

In this edition of SpareTalk, we'll discuss a game that is popular in France, as well as numerous other locations in the world—the game of Petanque. The main difference between bocce and lawn bowling vs. Petanque is that in the prior two variations, balls are normally rolled, while in Petanque, the balls are primarily thrown, but with a backspin technique similar to that of the French Canadian version of the rubberband duckpin game. 'Rolling a ball' is allowed, but not done nearly as often as the 'lobbing' motion — an arc that oftentimes in high-profile stadium competition reaches a loft of 12-15 feet in height.

This game of boules, otherwise known as Pétanque, is perhaps the sport that is closest to French hearts. Similar to British lawn bowling or Italian bocce, the French version is traditionally played with metallic balls on a dirt or fine gravel surface, mostly outdoors. Like our bowling alleys, the local 'bowladrome' is a social focal point for gatherings in southern France.

The object of the game is to

throw your balls, usually with somewhat of an arched backspin so that they land closer to the small object ball (cochonnet) than those of your opponent, or strike and drive the object ball toward your other balls and away from your opponent's. Unless you've played, or seen the game played, it's difficult to grasp the concept of the reason for using backspin on a dirt surface. The backspin effect almost makes the game more like horseshoes than bowling.

Tournament play is extremely fascinating. Accuracy is of paramount importance in the game of petanque.

Only one team gets points per round, and the teams play as many rounds as it takes to arrive at 13 points. The first team to achieve a score of 13 wins.

In competition, you can either play 1 vs. 1 (3 balls per player); 2 vs. 2 (3 balls per player); or 3 vs. 3 (2 balls per player). The teams flip a coin to see who starts. The starting team draws a circle in the ground, then throws the target ball, or cochonnet, out to a distance of 6 to 10 meters. The starting team then throws its first ball, trying to get as close as possible to the cochonnet. Then the 2nd team's player stands in

the circle, and tries to get its team's ball closer to the cochonnet than the opposing team. As mentioned earlier, a common strategy is to aim at the opposing team's ball to knock it away from the object ball. If a team does get a ball closer than any of its opponents, it's called "having the point", and then the opposing team has to take the field and then attempt to get a ball closer to the cochonnet. The team which does not have the closest ball to this target ball keeps throwing balls until either they get closest, or until they run out of balls to throw.

When all balls are thrown, only the balls of the one team that are closest to the cochonnet are added to the running score. For example, if team A "has the point" and has 2 of its 3 balls closest to the cochonnet than any of the opposing team's balls, then team A gets 2 points added to their score for the round.

The team which "had the point" in a previous round starts the new round, drawing a circle around the position of the cochonnet and uses that as the new throwing circle. There can be lots of strategy used when playing Petanque. Defensive "walls" of balls in front of the cochonnet may block an opponent from "getting the point".

