

The Board Talk

News and Views
from the World
of Shuffleboard

Vol. 2 No. 4

The Board Talk is published by George & Donna Wilber, 421 E. Sheridan Road, Lansing, Michigan 48906; phone 517-371-2538.

April 1985

The Hammer

Guest Editorial by Phil McGrew, Toledo, Ohio

Over the years, the largest contributing factor to the decline of the game of shuffleboard has been the deterioration of playing conditions. Nothing can be more discouraging to a new player trying to learn how to play this sometimes frustrating, always challenging, game of ours than to run up against worn-out boards, worn-out weights and tables jammed up against walls.

We, as players, must help the owners realize that in order to keep the sport of shuffleboard growing, we must have the top-notch playing conditions that make this game fun to play. We should teach anyone who will listen the benefits of using paste wax, corner waxing and waxing after each and every game. It's these basic procedures performed religiously that add to the life of a playing surface and to the level of skill at which the game can be played.

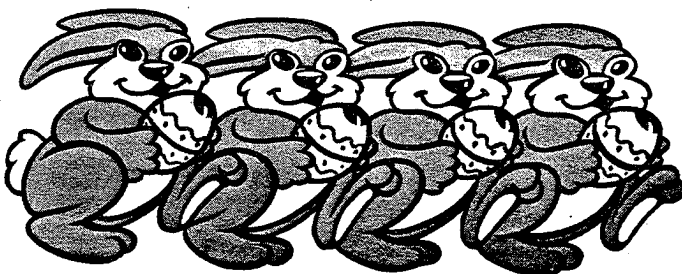
We need boards positioned with enough room that every player is free to use his or her own style without ramming into walls, tables, chairs or people. Playing surfaces that have good speed and realistic drifts are important. I believe you should be able to run both rails and shoot both crosses without any shot being an automatic, or for all practical purposes, impossible. Good pucks that, if thrown the same speed, won't stop four or five feet short of one another or leave large trails through the surface wax are vital to good play.

These are the types of conditions needed if our game is to grow. It is our responsibility as players to educate the owners to the fact that if they want our business, they will have to invest the small amount of time and money that is required to make our game playable in its top form at their establishments. As all of us know, when shuffleboard players show up, they are still around when they bark, "Last call!"

Through the years, top playing conditions will mean more people playing the game, will produce more \$\$ for the owners, and will provide more fun for shuffleboard addicts everywhere.

HAPPY EASTER

From Your Board Talk Staff. . .



George

Donna

Cathy

Mickey

Tourney Talk

Shop Stop, Lansing, Mich., April 6

The Shop Stop, 114 Clare St., Lansing, will host a mixed doubles tournament on April 6. Entry fee is \$10 per team with 100% payback. Pays four places, plus an added incentive to shoot your best game — throw a hammer hanger and get \$1.00 off your next drink. Auction starts at 12:30 p.m.

To make your reservations, call 517-482-7228.

Edgewood Inn, Bellflower, Calif., April 12-14

The Edgewood will host a singles tournament, best two of three, double elimination, on April 12, 13 & 14. The Edgewood, located at 10122 E. Rosecrans Blvd. in Bellflower, has two boards and some of the best shuffleboarders in the nation.

Entry fee is \$100, which must be received by April 12 — no late entries accepted. Playing times and boards will be posted prior to play. Player sponsorship will be Friday, April 12, at midnight.

Tournament directors for this event are Karl Spickelmier, phone 213-456-8906, and Joe Muniz, 213-926-3714.

Hostess Nite Club, Toledo, Ohio, April 13

The Toledo Shuffleboard Club and the Hostess Nite Club will sponsor a doubles tournament at the Hostess, Toledo, on April 13. It's double elimination on two boards, with \$25 per team entry fee.

The tourney will be limited to the first 24 teams paid. Entries may be sent to Hostess Nite Club, 1401 Starr Ave., Toledo, Ohio 43605, phone 419-698-9251.

The calcutta starts at noon sharp. First place pays 50% plus trophy; 2nd, 25%; 3rd, 15% and 4th, 10%.

Zack's, Long View, Wash., April 20

Zack's, 1321 Commerce, Long View, Wash., will host a doubles tournament on April 20. Entry fee is \$25 and will pay 60% for 1st place, 30% for 2nd, and 10% for 3rd.

Tournament directors are Don (D.K.) Kerr, phone 206-425-3933, and Rich Miller, 206-577-9065.

Come join the fun — 24 hour action at Zack's!

Tolo Tavern, Central Point, Oregon, May 25-27

The Rogue Valley Annual Memorial Day team event, double elimination, will be held at Tolo Tavern, 7878 Blackwell Road, Central Point, on May 25-26-27. Entry fee is \$50 per team. Trophies and cash will be awarded for first, second and third places.

Tolo is located off interstate I-5, north of Medford, Ore., and has three fast boards, parking for RVs and is open 24 hours a day. For more information, call 503-664-2656.

Board Talk Tourney — Something for Everyone!

A pig roast, horseshoe competition, an awards banquet, entertainment, and lots and lots of shuffleboard action will be part of *The Board Talk's* first annual national shuffleboard tournament in Howell, Mich., on July 4-5-6-7. Howell is located halfway between Lansing and Detroit with

(continued on page 3)

Letters to the Editor



A New Voice from Arizona

There is currently a great deal of shuffleboard activity in Arizona, mainly in the Phoenix-Tempe area. Three leagues consisting of 25 teams play on Tuesday nights and one league of six teams plays on Thursday nights.

For the coming season, Bob O'Conner will be hosting and sponsoring a unique three-man team league at his "That Place" tavern on 16th Street.

The recently concluded league held a team playoff and the winners were: 1st place, Peggy Richards and Bob O'Conner; 2nd, Ken Bowers and Jimmy Lee; 3rd, Bob Thompson and Carol Bakeman; 4th, Tommy Hernandez and Ted Behene. \$1,500 was distributed.

Gil Aragon and Bill Gibbs are holding round robins for \$10 and \$20 a person at the Mis Que on 43rd Avenue.

Eric Walden recently called to say that he and Karl Spickelmier and Ted Z (California) would be out to test the Arizona group soon. We'll be ready!

Larry Tafoya, Phoenix, Arizona

Shuffleboard Growing in Florida

We now have about nine taverns in the area here with boards. I guess Florida has been playing the game of horse-collar for so long that the newer players don't seem to get started playing the regulation game.

Traveling around Florida the last few years, I found only one town in the state that has a regular shuffleboard league with rules of play like we have in Michigan. That town is Titusville, on the east coast, just south of Daytona Beach. I dropped over there recently and they have added a few more teams this year. The River's Edge Tavern has two teams and were leading the league with Teams #1 and #2, followed closely by Sam's Place in third position. I think the River's Edge team has been the winner in the league for the past few years.

I had a call recently from Jim Rolland (Batman) from Tampa. I guess he was there with his partner, "Massey," and Bob Brown, owner of the American Bar in Portland, Ind. I had given the Batman the names of a few places in Tampa, but guess the only action they found was horse-collar.

They stopped by this area one night and we met at a new tavern called Regency Pub, located on #19 just a couple miles north of here in the Regency Square shopping mall. The owners, Artie and Mark, are getting into regular shuffleboard play and welcome any players from out of state who may be in the area on vacation. We had a nice evening of playing the regular game and I guess the one player who impressed the Indiana fellows was a player who is from Niles, Mich., and lives down here now. I know Jim Long and the players around Niles remember him. His name is Marshall "Pug" Thompson. He only has one arm and is one of the best I've seen.

Would enjoy seeing any players who may be down this way on vacation.

Jim (the Cop) Kumpula
New Port Richey, Florida
813-849-7200

Send your shuffleboard news and views to The Board Talk, 421 E. Sheridan Road, Lansing, Mich. 48906. The deadline is the 20th of each month.

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Tourney Talk (continued)

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If you haven't entered this event on your calendars yet, do so now. This is your tournament and you can help write the script. Use the coupon in this issue to "cast your vote" for activities you'd like to see on the agenda. If there's enough interest in a particular event, we'll schedule it.

We'll keep a mailing list of those who respond and mail information on the tournament as it's available.

Hide Away, Rod's Pour House Anderson, Ind., April 20

These neighboring bars on 8th Street in Anderson will host a doubles tournament on April 20. 100% payback to first four places. Limited to 32 teams. \$100 has been added to the pot by sponsors. Practice open at 8 a.m., Calcutta starts at 1 p.m. Entry fee, \$20 per team. For information or to make your reservation, call Steve Hart, 317-643-6562, or Bill Fee at Rod's, 317-644-1477.

Palace Bar, Fairmont, Ind., April 27

The Palace Bar in Fairmont will sponsor a doubles tourney, best two out of three, single elimination, on April 27. Twenty team limit, \$25 per team entry fee. Two boards. For information, call Bob Voorhis, 317-948-9102.

Triangle Bar, Anderson, Ind., May 11

A women's singles tournament will be held May 11 at the Triangle Bar in Anderson. Best 2 of 3, single elimination, 100% payback to top four teams. Calcutta at 12 noon. Two boards. Entry fee, \$10 per person. Limited to 20 players. Send entries (payable to Triangle Bar) to Steve Hart, 4503

Princeton Dr., Anderson, Ind. 46014, phone 317-643-6562. Entries must be received by May 5.

Stober's Lounge, Lansing, Mich., July 13-14

A pro doubles, bring-your-own-partner, double elimination tournament has been scheduled for Stober's Cocktail Lounge, Lansing, on July 13-14. The tournament will be limited to the first 25 teams paid. Mail checks or money orders (\$20 per team) to Jerry Siebert, 1128 Kelsey, Lansing, Mich. 48910.

The calcutta will start at noon on July 13. Calcutta and entry fee monies will be split 60% for 1st, 30% for 2nd and 10% for third. A donation of \$400 will be added to the 1st place entry fee. Trophies will be awarded to first and second place winners.

Host Rudy Stober invites any shuffleboarder in the U.S. and Canada to compete against the best players from Michigan, Indiana and Ohio. Stober's Lounge, Art's Bar and McCleer's Saloon, all in Lansing, are known as having the best competition in Central Michigan, according to Rudy.

Every Participant a Winner at Palms, Springfield, Ore.



The St. Pat's Tourney at the Palms Steak House and Tavern, Springfield, attracted 32 of the top players from Northern California, Oregon and Washington. Emerging from the loser's bracket to take first place were Jim Allis of Seattle and Jim Foran of Tacoma. Two local players, Darrell Nelson

and Sparky Williams took second over Don (D.K.) Kerr of Long View, Wash. and Gary Singer of Portland.

Other top finishers were: Chuck Norris and Mickey Byers, Joe Lavin and Doug Buhl, Mack Makarounis and Charlie Gates.

Palms owner, Joni Jones (pictured above), described by Oregon reporter Jolene Lembke as "one sweet hostess," served tourney participants with an appropriate St. Pat's dinner of Irish stew, green salad and garlic bread. Hats and shirts were also presented to players and *The Board Talk* presented a year's subscription to the first place winners.

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- ★ Sign up 10 new subscribers win a free year's subscription to *The Board Talk*
- ★ Sign up 15 new subscribers, win \$25 cash
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**July 4-7
Howell, Michigan**

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- Mixed Doubles
- Women's Match
- Six-person regional "Who's the Best in the Nation" competition
- Singles
- Doubles
- Team Event

Other (please specify): _____

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Address: _____

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