

# The Board Talk

News and Views  
from the World  
of Shuffleboard

Vol. 2 No. 9

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

September 1985

## The Hammer

It's time for fall shuffleboard leagues throughout the United States and Canada to start their play. It's also the most frustrating time of year for me when I think about the future of shuffleboard.

I strongly believe that if shuffleboard is ever going to be recognized as a sport, such as bowling and golfing, it is imperative for us to organize, sanction every league everywhere and, most important, adopt one set of rules for everyone. Boards should be well-maintained and kept in good playing condition, with pucks in good condition as well, and adequate supplies on hand.

To make it fair for all teams, regardless of the league, a legitimate handicap system must be developed. It's what makes bowling and golf leagues thrive. The one suggested in The Hammer of the June issue may work or there may be other ideas.

Just think of the rewards for shuffleboarders if we were able to organize throughout the nation. We could then have our own genuine state tournaments and crown a champion in each state. From there we would pick a site for the nationals, compete in them and declare a national champ each year. We could keep records of teams and individual accomplishments and even create our own Hall of Fame for deserving players. This, I'm sure, is the way to attract sponsors. We must show them we are worthy of their sponsorship.

Share your thoughts on this subject with *The Board Talk*.

*George Wilber, Editor*

## Please share . . .

*We need your help in spreading the word about The Board Talk.*

*When you're finished with this issue, would you share it with another shuffleboarder and encourage them to subscribe? If you're keeping a file of Board Talks, we'll replace the copy you share.*

*George & Donna Wilber  
Publishers*

## Tourney Talk

### Fall Tournaments Set for Sport's Arena, Houston

The Sport's Arena Bar, 11528 Jones Road, Houston, Texas, has several tournaments on tap for this fall. On Sept. 14, a mixed tournament, \$50 entry fee, two-game loss, will pay 60%, 30%, 10%. Calcutta. Sign up before 3 p.m.; play starts at 4 p.m.

On Oct. 5, there will be a head-up tourney, \$100 draw, two-game loss, pays 60%, 30%, 10%. Calcutta. Play starts at 4 p.m. On Oct. 6, a singles is scheduled. \$200 entry fee, two-game loss, pays 60%, 30%, 10%. Calcutta.

On Oct. 13, a horseshollar 2-3 shootout is scheduled. \$100 entry fee, bring your own. Shoot four pucks each, 51 points. Pays 60%, 30%, 10%. Calcutta. Play starts at 4 p.m.

### Mixed Doubles, Lakeside, Sept. 14-15

The Lakeside, 9500 Elizabeth Road, Union Lake, Mich., will host a mixed doubles on Sept. 14-15. \$10 per team entry. Calcutta at 1 p.m. on Saturday. Call 313-698-4104.

### Doubles and Singles, Lake Orion, Sept. 21-22

The Wagon Wheel, 102 S. Broadway, Lake Orion, Mich., will host the state of Michigan doubles and singles tournament on Sept. 21-22. Double elimination. Doubles on Saturday, \$25 per team entry fee. Singles on Sunday, \$25 per player. For more information, call 313-693-6789.

### Philadelphia Doubles Set for Oct. 12-13-14

The Wissinoning Yacht Club, Delaware and Devereaux Roads, Philadelphia, Penn., will be the scene of a doubles tournament on Oct. 12, 13 and 14. Four boards. \$80 per team entry fee. Calcutta. Play starts Friday at 6 p.m. For information, call the Bridesburg Tavern, 215-537-0418 or 215-879-0840, or Jerry Herrmann, 215-831-8754.

### Doubles, Detroit, Nov. 2-3

The Dublin House, Detroit, Mich., will host a doubles tourney on Nov. 2 and 3. Three boards. \$50 per team entry fee. Best 2 of 3, double elimination. Calcutta. For more information, call 313-531-5590.

### Billy Takes Denver Honors

Billy Mays of Texas took first place in the tournament held at McCoys, Denver, Colo., on July 20-21. Hometown shuffleboarder Rick took second, with Glen Davis of Oklahoma in third place and Joe Muniz of California finishing fourth.

Board Talk editors thank Joe Muniz for telling Colorado players that they have a publication designed just for them!

### Nelson Wins Portland Singles and Doubles

Darrol Nelson of Eugene, Ore., took first place in the singles tournament at the Hot-N-Tot on July 20-22, and with his partner, Don Mitchell of Portland, also took first place in the doubles.

John Ryan of Portland and Charlie Gates of Tigard came in second in the doubles with the team of Frank Monarrez, Beaverton, and Mac Makarounis, Portland, in third.

(continued on back page)

# Letters to the Editor



## Kansas Subscriber Lemon No Lemon!

I love your paper! It's the greatest thing to happen in the World of Shuffleboard! I don't play anymore, at least not in the true sense of the word "play." I live in Wichita, Kansas, and the people here just are not accustomed to playing the game like so many of your readers do. Many of them don't even know what a round robin is.

But my beef about the way shuffleboard is played here is not my reason for writing to you. My father who, by the way, is an old shuffleboarder himself, and I have a ceramic mug business and have a shop here in Wichita. We make mugs for retail, wholesale and custom. Both of us are interested in knowing what your rates would be to advertise in your paper for a nice 14-16 ounce mug with a really sharp shuffleboard logo (mail order).

At any rate, I'm subscribing to your paper. It's refreshing to at least read about shuffleboard. Early next year I plan on entering some tournaments. Omaha, Neb., is fairly close.

Looking forward to my next issue. I have Larry Tafoya to thank for turning me on to *The Board Talk*.

Brad A. Lemon, Wichita Muggers  
550 W. Central, Wichita, Kansas 67212

*Pardon the headline, Brad. We just couldn't resist! You can't imagine how excited we get when a new subscriber expresses an interest in advertising. We need this revenue to keep on delivering what you describe (bless you!) as the "greatest thing to happen in the World of Shuffleboard." Since we started publishing in January 1984, only two advertisers, Sun-Glo of New Jersey and A & M Amusement Service of California, have been consistent month-after-month supporters. Others have been loyal in responding to seasonal specials, but it's these two advertisers who placed their faith in a newborn, sometimes very wobbly, toddler that still has a ways to go before it's a profit-making venture.*

*So, pardon us too, Brad, for answering your letter publicly in the hope that other businesses that can capitalize on our very special audience will "listen" to this sales pitch.*

*What we recommend for you is a quarter-page ad with an order coupon in the October and November issues to promote special Christmas gifts (\$65 per ad) and then switch to a Shuffleboard Directory listing (\$12 per month or \$100 per year if paid in advance) as a reminder that shuffleboard mugs are great for birthdays and other special occasions. Because table shuffleboard is not a widely-recognized sport (see *The Hammer*), it's not likely that mugs such as you describe are easily available elsewhere.*

*We thank Larry Tafoya for sharing his Board Talk with you. Because he did, you have become our very first Kansas subscriber. Reaching shuffleboard players in all the states*

*has been a frustration for us because we don't know who or where they are. Consequently, we've had to depend upon people like Larry Tafoya of Arizona, Bill Melton of Oklahoma, the Lembkes and Wechters of Oregon, Karl Spickelmier of California, John Lukas of Maryland, Woodie Cockrum of Missouri, Jimmy Kumpula of Florida, and many other sharing people who believe enough in The Board Talk to spread the word. Until somebody comes up with a "master list" of all the shuffleboarders in the U.S., it will be a slow, painful process.*

*We could simply have said, "welcome aboard, Brad," but you offered us an opportunity we just couldn't let slip by. Thanks!*

## A New Florida Reporter — Thanks to Jimmy, the Cop!

I spoke to Jim (the Cop) Kumpula recently. We have met several times in the past couple years and have had some good games. On one occasion, he had a friend, Cass Grubbs (Michigan shuffleboarder), with him.

From what I understand, Titusville, Florida, must be the number one spot in this state for shuffleboard. Each winter we have a league, based on American Shuffleboard rules, comprised of 8 to 12 teams. The league has been around about 25 years. The Riveredge Tavern has won the past four years.

In September we will meet to organize play for the coming year. We should have about 10 teams. We have several good players and more learning all the time. For any players coming through Florida, this would be the place to stop.

Jim suggested that I serve as a reporter for Florida shuffleboard. This would interest me very much. Will be looking forward to your response.

Dave Macko, President  
North Brevard Shuffleboard League  
Titusville, Fla. 32780  
Phone 305-267-6171; Riveredge Tavern, 305-268-1088

*We are delighted to add a voice for shuffleboard in Florida and thank our good friend and Board Talk promoter Jimmy for making it happen. We know a lot of shuffleboarders go to Florida in the winter and will be glad to know about Titusville to help them avoid the trauma of shuffleboard withdrawal pains.*

## Three Cheers for The Shelter

Bob Brunskill of The Shelter (Placentia, Calif.) is right! (Editor's Note: See The Hammer editorial by Roy Lembke (June) and letter to the editor from Bob Brunskill (August).) He does run a handicap tournament every Saturday and it's a good one, too! All the tough players play in it. From the time he first started it, if the pot didn't amount to \$100, Bob made up the difference.

I asked him once how he happened to put in a shuffleboard because it was obvious that he was a new bar owner and didn't know much about the game. He said he put a sign up asking the patrons who wanted a shuffleboard to sign their names. He got 57 signatures.

Today he has two boards and has turned out to be a good player himself. He promotes the game well and has gotten a lot of good players to participate in his tournaments. The Shelter deserves *The Board Talk's* national recognition.

*(continued on back page)*

# Best Place in the U.S. for Shuffleboard Action

## **HOT-N-TOT**

**736 N. Lombard, Portland, Oregon**

**Phone 503-289-4711**

*Nominated by Evie Wechter*

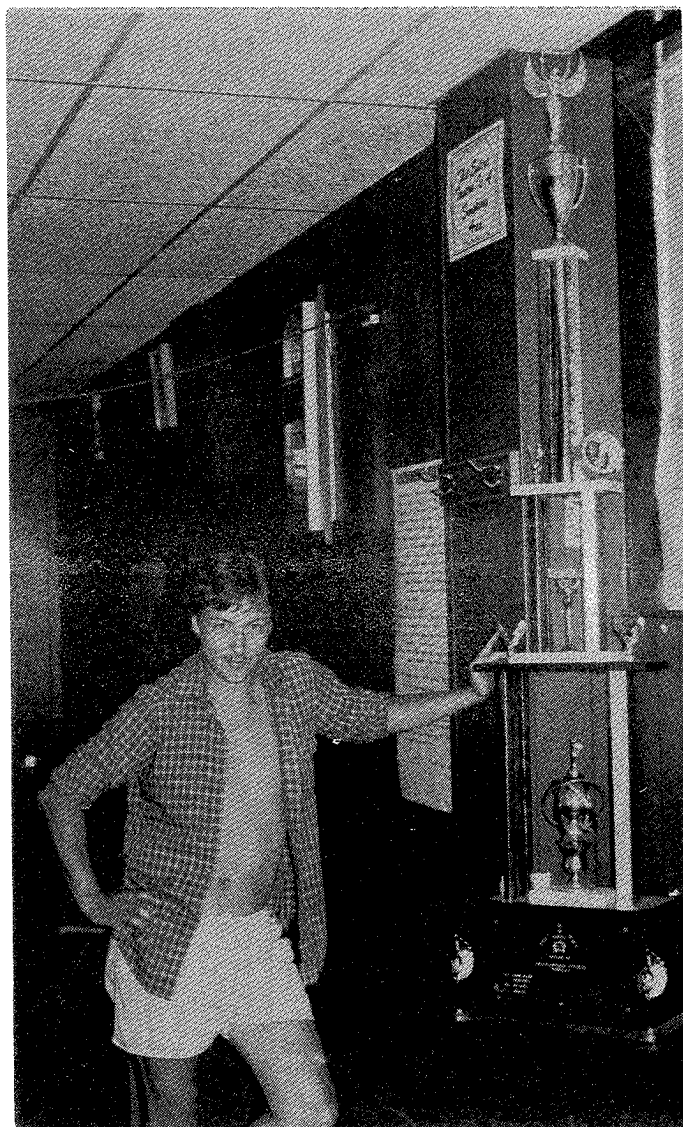
The Hot-N-Tot Tavern is one of the biggest taverns in the northeast part of Portland. This section lies nestled between the west hills and the Willamette River. On a clear day, you can see Mt. Adams, Mt. Hood, Mt. Rainier, Mt. Jefferson, Mt. St. Helen, Three Sisters and the great peaks of the Cascades.

For those who plan on traveling to Portland, Ore., stop by the Hot-N-Tot and enjoy the fine food and fun people. Owner Betty Wolf can introduce you to her two shuffleboard teams and tell you where the action is at 16 other taverns that are in the Northeast Rivergate Shuffleboard League. League action is every Thursday night.

The Hot-N-Tot sponsors an annual shuffleboard tourna-

ment once a year, attracting shuffleboard players from California, Washington and Oregon with its four fast boards. This tourney was started in 1983 with winners Darrol Nelson and Don Mitchell. In 1984, Joe Lavin and Jim Allis were winners, and in 1985, Nelson and Mitchell repeated their winning ways. All of these names have been engraved on the world's largest shuffleboard trophy. World champion Galen Gaunce sold his trophy in 1983 to the Hot-N-Tot and now it's a home trophy for everyone to enjoy. It stands 7 feet, 4 inches tall.

The players and fans who gather each year for the tournament all enjoy staying at the Viking Motel. It's not too far from the Hot-N-Tot. Everyone visits and takes a cool dip in the pool when they're not playing. Just a short walk from the tavern is a city park where you can enjoy the beautiful rose gardens. Just sit and enjoy the view of the mountains and relax in between your shuffleboard games.



**This young, unidentified shuffleboard hopeful dreams of one day having his name engraved on the world's largest shuffleboard trophy, which makes its home at the Hot-N-Tot.**

## **Part II**

### **Frisco Eddie's Revenge**

**By Balboa Ron, Las Vegas, Nevada**

*(Editor's Note: In our last issue, Frisco Eddie had a vivid dream of beating the "biggies." This month, he gets the chance to make that dream come true.)*

It was late Saturday night when Eddie completed his shift as bartender at the Blue Moon Lounge. He had graduated from his position as "swamper." The former bartender, Mike, had taught him all he knew about the job before he suddenly passed away.

Eddie had also graduated in shuffleboard. His constant practice and devotion to the game had earned him that right. Eddie's game had now improved beyond the scope of the local players, with few exceptions. There remained but two or three players that offered a challenge.

The prospect of beating the out-of-town "hustlers" preyed on his mind, however. Eddie saw the hustlers come and go occasionally. He felt his play was now improved enough that he had a chance against most of them.

One thing the hustlers all had in common was: "go for the juggler," "never wise up a chump or give a sucker a break." They shied away from the "beer games," preferring to go for the big bucks. Eddie had contemplated taking on the next big-time player who walked into the Blue Moon. Tonight he would get his chance; Big Al and Two-Hanger Fred strolled in the front door.

"We've been hearing a lot about you, Eddie . . . Starting to get good, huh?" said Big Al. "How about we see just how good you are."

Eddie hesitated for a moment; he knew this was the biggest challenge of his life. "O.K.," he replied, "but no walking the board against the two of you."

Big Al smiled knowingly and said, "Let's get our quarters in, kid. This is where you go to school."

The bar seemed to get a little quieter and darker on that Saturday night as Eddie approached the shuffleboard. Someday is here, thought Eddie.

(To be continued)

## Tourney Talk (continued)

Placing second in the singles was Mac Makarounis, and Joe Lavin of Marysville, California, took third.

Hot-N-Tot's owner, Betty Wolf, is planning a women's tourney in the near future. Watch *The Board Talk* for further details.

### Siebert/Kern Win Lansing Doubles

McCleer's Saloon owners Jerry & Gloria McCoy hosted a doubles tournament on Aug. 10. Jerry Siebert of Lansing and Cassie Kern of Pontiac took first place. J. R. Lopez, Lansing, and Jamie Hoffman, Detroit, came in second, and Jerry Hirschmann and Marie Sweeney of Lake Orion took third place honors.

McCleer's is located at 910 W. Saginaw in Lansing, Mich.



McCleer's Saloon hosts Jerry and Gloria McCoy congratulate the winners of their doubles tournament, Cassie Kern and Jerry Siebert.

**A red check here \_\_\_\_\_  
means your subscription  
has expired. Don't miss  
the next issue — renew  
your subscription today!**

## Subscribe Today!

Enclosed is my check for \$10.00. Please send  
*The Board Talk* to:

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_

State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code \_\_\_\_\_

Mail with your check or money order for \$10, made payable to *The Board Talk*, to: *The Board Talk*, 421 E. Sheridan Road, Lansing, Mich. 48906.

## Letters to the Editor (continued)

On another subject, LeRoy Waggoner, a friend of ours from West Covina, Calif., visited us for a week recently. He's a well-known shuffleboard player and used to work for Al Stewart (A & M Amusement, El Monte, Calif.). He is also Balboa Ron's best friend.

Jolene Lembke, Oregon Reporter

*We're happy to give The Shelter some more recognition. Watch future issues. Good things will be happening at that location.*

(EDITOR'S NOTE: Viewpoints on the game of shuffleboard are welcomed and encouraged. Send us your views by the 20th of the month.)

## New and Used Shuffleboards

### COMPLETE SERVICE

#### American Shuffleboard & Sun Glo Supplies Waxes — Polishes — Weights — Caps

Repair and replacement parts available for scoring machines and carriages, including carpeting for gutters, push buttons and rings, leg adjusters, etc.

*If your board needs some TLC, call "Dr. George."  
He cares!*

#### George's Shuffleboard Supplies & Service

421 East Sheridan Road, Lansing, Michigan 48906

Phone 517-371-2538

### A & M Amusement Service

Shuffleboards • Service • Supplies • Since 1959

- Frame Building
- Playing Field Refinishing
- Score Unit Repair
- All Parts Replacement
- Weights, Waxes
- Delivery Anywhere!

**For Experience, Integrity and Care —  
You Can't Beat Al Stewart!**

2354 Mountain View, El Monte, California

Business — 818-444-3790

Home — 818-442-5183

### Sun Glo Corp.

Manufacturers of Shuffleboard Supplies since 1935

111 Heckel St., Belleville, N.J. 07109

201-759-4474

### This Space For Sale

\$12 per month, \$100 per year

Call The Board Talk

517-371-2538