

# The Board Talk

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

Vol. 4 No. 3 March 1987

## The Hammer

Big and Texas — the two have almost become synonymous as natives of the Lone Star state have maintained for 150 years that whatever anyone else has, theirs is not only bigger, but better. It's an image that is reinforced each week by TV's J.R. Ewing and his oil-rich family.

After spending a week there for the Corporate Image's Washington's Birthday Extravaganza, we're not so sure it is just an image! It wasn't the classy Cadillacs in the parking lot outside the Corporate Image on Brentwood Stair Road in Ft. Worth that created that impression. It was the HUGE hospitality, the BIG hearts and the GIANTS of shuffleboard we found inside that made us glad we had come to Texas.

No finer hosts, we're sure, could be found anywhere in The World of Shuffleboard. We know, from experience, the great investment of human and financial resources it takes to prepare for and carry out such a tournament. A special Board Talk salute to everyone who made it happen:

Club manager Linda Cooper; directors Dave Williams, Bill Melton and Royce Hines; sponsorship directors Sharon Summers, Bonny Williams and Rosanna Melton; referees, judges and bracket coordinators Bobby Ellis, Richard Jackson, Bobby Williams, Rudy Wedgeworth, George Ostrom and Jodie Slack; Glen Davidson's Madge, who did everything that needed doing from hustling round robins to cleaning ashtrays; the waitresses and bartenders who were as pleasant and efficient as they were beautiful; the talented cook who must have traveled miles tracking down his ever-moving customers; and the enthusiastic auctioneers Bill Wooldridge and Joe Don who convinced us that Texas also has the deepest pockets!

And last but not least — all the participants and spectators — people who make up our World of Shuffleboard. What a great experience to meet and get acquainted with the folks who bear the names on our mailing list, and to visit with old and dear friends. We always did say they're a special breed and this trip proved that.

Not that they're all alike! Far from it. Some are fun-loving and boisterous; others are deadly serious. Some are opinionated and outspoken; others speak softly with reason and authority. Blend them all together and what do you get? A group of people who love their sport and are committed to making its future bright.

They're also a group of people, we found, who care about their Board Talk. That was a humbling, totally awesome experience and we thank you all!

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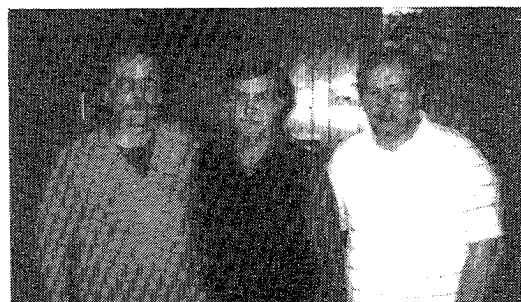
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## Tourney Talk

### Wysong/Mr. X Win at Beef's

Laird Wysong of Kimmel, Ind., and Mr. X of Anywhere, U.S.A., teamed up to take first place in the doubles tournament at Beef's in Kendallville, Ind., on Jan. 24. Second place honors went to Bill Baber and Ron Kuszmaul of Peru, Ind.

Mr. X says he will take any challengers on at Beef's Bar. To set up a match, call Beef at 219-347-9965.



Laird Wysong (left) and Mr. X (right) won the tourney at Beef's on Jan. 24. Ron Kuszmaul (center) and his partner Bill Baber finished second.

### Lucas/Walker Super Bowl Winners

The Diamond State VFW Post in Wilmington, Del., held a Super Bowl Extravaganza on Jan. 25 that included a real pig roast, super bowl party and a draw partner tournament.

"We also got 12 inches of snow during the day added to 10 inches that hadn't melted from two days before, so it limited participation," reports Dick Gorman. "But 20 good shooters showed up to hit the 28-foot board and the prize money was pretty good for such a short turnout."

The winning team from The Beachcomer was John Lucas and Charlie Walker. Second place went to Don Casula and Dick Gorman, also from the Beachcomer team. Ann Anderson and Steve from the Diamond State post took third.

"Super food and a great time," says Dick.

### Central Indiana Action

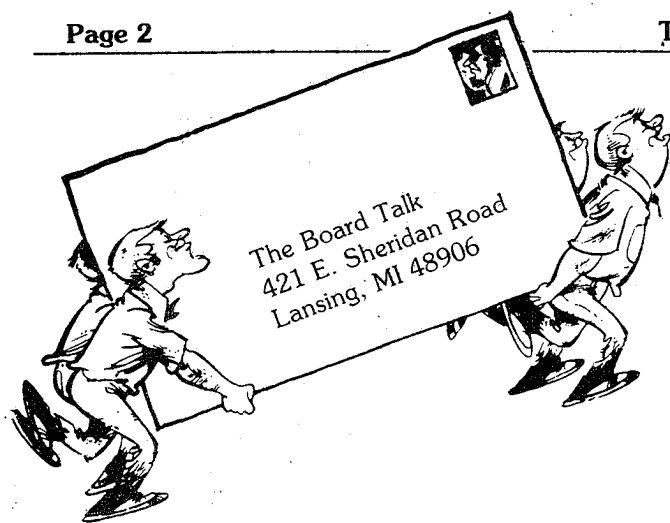
On Jan. 10 at the Sportsmen's Bar in Muncie, Tom and Bob Vorndran won with Greg Massie and Dave Welch in 2nd place; Jim Davis and Dave Flynn in 3rd, and Phil Rouse and Young Stocker finishing 4th. The pot was \$1830 with 24 teams.

On Jan. 17 at the Town Tavern in Summitville, Ron Welborn and Larry Massie won. Tom and Bob Vorndran were second with Phil Cline and Marisa Voorhis, third, and Young Stocker and George Schounce, fourth. The pot was \$1585 with 24 teams.

On Jan. 24 at the Palace Bar in Fairmount, 22 teams competed for \$1715. Jerry Warr and Bobby Voorhis won with Rick Stocker and Mel Sanders, 2nd; Dave Boaz and Rom Hennis, 3rd; Tom and Bob Vorndran, 4th.

At the Silver Dollar in Noblesville on Jan. 31, Jerry Warr and Bobby V. won with Bobby Brown and Steve Hart in se-

(continued on page 4)



# Letters to the Editor

Michigan for our Board Talk tournament in July, you might just see some of your Canadian shuffleboard friends. They participated last year and we hope they will be here again this year.

## A Word from Woodie

Almost 80 miles west of St. Louis along Interstate 44 lies the little town of Sullivan. And in this little town is a VFW post led by quartermaster Al Bowlin and commander Bob Fry. These two men are doing a whale of a job.

Commander Fry runs a round robin shuffleboard tournament every Friday night and if players are not there by 7 p.m., chances are they will not get in the game because the bracket will be filled. Some of the most frequent players are Mary Shafferkoeller, Don Christopher, and Mr. and Mrs. Len Keslerson. If a player is lucky enough to draw one of these people as a partner, he will have a good chance of walking off with some of the prize money.

Fry is the type of person we shuffleboard players like to see in command. He has that special knack of pulling shuffleboard players in and he is one of the top players himself. You will be seeing names of other players from this VFW post in the future as subscribers of The Board Talk. These players were happy to hear there are people like George and Donna Wilber who are interested enough in shuffleboard to print the news. I'm sure The Board Talk will become quite a hit in this VFW post.

There are three or four other shuffleboards in this neck of the woods. One of the places you will find action is Ken's Bar in Bourbon. Shuffleboard is also quite popular in Springfield. According to Paul Casula, the game is booming in St. Louis, too. He said there are lots of taverns in line waiting to rent a board and that they are pulling boards out of taverns that show no interest and relocating them elsewhere.

I hope to get things going out here in the sticks where I am now retired. I'm looking into Springfield where they are holding tournaments with \$20 entry fees. There are some good players there.

I was in California over the Thanksgiving tournament at the Stagger Inn. I didn't play in the tourney but I teamed up with Al Stewart. He and I let some of those big boys know that a couple old has-beens could still hold their own.

Woodie Cockrum, Cuba, Missouri

*Good to hear from you again, Woodie, and to know you're still out there hustling shuffleboard and The Board Talk. We got to visit with Al and Von Stewart at The Corporate Image tournament. What great people they are!*

## Thanks for All

I just bought a shuffleboard table, complete with score keeper, from Al Stewart. Al did a very nice job with installation of the shuffleboard table in my home. My family all enjoy playing.

Thanks, Al — you did a great job!

Mr. and Mrs. Clarence Conzelman, Santa Ana, Calif.

*Al is a master in his profession and we're sure he will appreciate your salute.*

(continued on page 10)

## C.I.S.L. Action Going Strong

Shuffleboard is still going strong with 20 to 24 teams in the Central Indiana Shuffleboard League tournaments each Saturday. In a recent game, Marisa Voorhis and Phil Cline slew the giants — Bobby Voorhis and Jerry Warr. We were pleased to have Jim Long, Jerry Siebert, Reese Price and Larry Creakbaum come to Fairmount to play in one of our tourneys.

We have two men's teams and one women's team in the Grant County League this year. Two or three CISL players are talking about going to Papa's Pub & Grub in Warren, Michigan, for the qualifying tournament for P.T.'s Tournament of Winners.

Keep up the good work. We enjoy reading The Board Talk.

Charles (Bus) Voorhis, The Palace Bar, Fairmount, Ind.

*(We'll be at Papa's watching the action, Bus, and hope that Indiana does have some contenders there.)*

## Former Canadians Looking for Action

We received a copy of your newsletter from friends in Vancouver, Canada. We moved from there to Atlanta, Georgia, about a year ago when we got transferred. Len has played board for many years and then I got involved about three years ago. In Vancouver we had both long and short board leagues. Short board has provincial championships each year and also a Canadian Championship each year.

When we moved to Atlanta, we started looking for boards. Since we did not know anyone, it was very difficult. We finally found two — a short board at a bar called Scrooges and a long board at a neighborhood pub called the Brass Lantern. They do not have leagues, but they do have tournaments every week. We have met some great people there.

Do you have any information on any other players or boards in Georgia? We look forward to enjoying your newsletter.

Len and Lori Lockerby, Atlanta, Georgia

*First, we thank our good friends from Canada for steering you our way. You are our very first subscriber in Georgia so hopefully, this will be the start of a breakthrough into that state. You might tell Scrooges and the Brass Lantern that if they become subscribers, we will put them in our quarterly "Play Your Way Across the U.S.A." shuffleboard listing free of charge. That will give shuffleboarders traveling through Georgia the opportunity to stop in and play a game. Perhaps our readers will share any knowledge they may have of players and boards in your state. Welcome to our World of Shuffleboard, Len and Lori! If you come to*

# **Important Message from P.T. —**



**If you plan to play in the**

## **Tournament of Winners**

**March 20-22**

**Call 713-681-3852**

**and put your name on the players' list so we  
have enough boards to make this tournament  
run smoothly and successfully.**

**Play will begin at noon on Friday, March 20.  
Entry fees must be in by midnight  
Thursday, March 19.**

**All the "Big Chiefs" will be there!  
Don't miss the big pow-wow!**

## **P.T.'s Shuffleboard Alley**

**4324 W. 34th Street, Houston, Texas**

**Phone 713-681-3852**

## Tourney Talk *(continued from page 1)*

cond place. Emory Eccles and Tony Avery finished third, and Tom and Bob Vorndran came in fourth. The pot was \$1660 with 24 teams.

On Feb. 7 at the Triangle in Anderson, Rom Hennis and Dave Vorndran won. John Humes and Bobby V. took second place, with Dan Smith and Phil Crowder, third; Bruce Pennington and Dave Welch, fourth. Twenty-four teams participated with a pot of \$1335.

At Portland on Feb. 14, 15 teams played for \$1175. Glenn Newland and Marcia Brown finished first, with Jim DeWitt and Jim Caster in second place. Jerry Warr and Bobby V. came in third, with Young Stocker and Randy LeMaster in fourth.

### **Summy/Fleshmann Win at Keg**

Larrie Summy and PeeWee Fleshmann were winners of a doubles tourney held at the Keg Tavern in Leesburg, Ind., on Feb. 7 Skip Jackson and Larry Creakbaum took second place honors. Eleven teams entered the tourney.

### **Cunningham-Cameron/Kay-Grubbs Winners at Walt's**

At a doubles tournament at Walt's Bar on Feb. 7, Beverly Cunningham and Duke Cameron were the winners. Ed Stroble and Terri Tischler finished in second place with Chuck Hurst and Wayne Czuckaj in third.

On Feb. 8, Jamie Kay teamed up with Cass Grubbs to take first place. Jerry Siebert and George Wilber finished second.

### **Mays/Kelly/Nelson Tops in Corporate Image Tourney**

Defending champions Billy Mays and Earl Kelly of Texas kept their titles in the doubles tourney at The Corporate Image's Washington's Birthday Extravaganza, Feb. 10-16. Second place honors went to Bill Melton, Okla., and Dave Williams, Texas. John McDermott, Mich., and Karl Spickelmier, Calif., finished third, with Darrol Nelson, Oregon, and Billy Chiles, Calif. in fourth place. Eric Waldman, Calif., and "Portland Eddy" Graves of Texas were in fifth place. There were 21 teams entered in the doubles event.

Darrol Nelson of Oregon came out the victor in a field of 33 players in the singles event. In tough-fought battles that went the full three games, Glen Davidson, Okla., finished second; Bill Melton, third; and Don Cox, Calif., fourth.

The pot in this tournament was nearly \$47,000. (Read The Hammer and Texas Diary for more information on this big event.)

### **Niblett/Summers Win Eastern Shore Tourney**

A tournament sponsored by the Eastern Shore Shuffleboard League was held Feb. 14-15 in Harrington, Delaware. The tourney was played at Stone's Hotel and Oaks Tavern in Harrington and the Milford Tavern in Milford, with the drawings, auction and finals at the Harrington Moose Lodge. There were 12 teams entered and a pot of \$886.

The tourney was won by Rick Niblett and Jim Summers of Salisbury, Maryland. They have won all three tournaments sponsored by the ESSL this year. Chuck King and Wayne Tribbett finished second. Scratch Todd and John Lucas took third place with Dave Edwards and Gene Curry in fourth place.

### **Boyer/Templeton Win P.T.'s Seeded Draw**

Rick Boyer and Jim Templeton won the seeded draw at P.T.'s Shuffleboard Alley on Feb. 21. Taking second place honors were Billy Mays and Greg Sulak. Other finishers were Eddie Garrett and Brian Walker, 3rd; Rod Cameron and Terry Watkins, 4th; and Joe Spratt and Harry May, 5th.

### **Palms Tavern, Springfield, Oregon, March 13-15**

The Palms Tavern, 136 N. 4th St., Springfield, Oregon, will host a St. Patrick's Day tournament, March 13-15. The big event will feature \$10 to \$50 promotional round robins and a two-person team event at \$25 per person, double elimination. The team event will pay 60-30-10 with entry fee reimbursed for fourth place.

Tournament directors will be Bruce Wechter and Lee Vachter. For information, call Evie Wechter, 503-342-4196.

An added bonus — an Irish Stew Feed will be served Saturday, March 14, courtesy of your hostess, Joni James. The Palms is open 24 hours a day.

Last year's winners were Chuck Norris and Mike DeAngelo, 1st; Darrol Nelson and Karl Spickelmier, 2nd; Mike Pond and Dave Arndt, 3rd; and Billy Chiles and John McDermott, 4th.

### **\$100 Singles, P.T.'s, March 16-19**

You'll have an opportunity to win your entry fee to the big Tournament of Winners during P.T.'s \$100 singles, March 16-19. The winner of each day's tournament, which begins at 3 p.m., will win the \$1,000 entry fee for the March 20-22 Tournament of Winners. Any excess revenue from the \$100 singles will be added to the Tournament of Winners pot.

Remember, the Tournament of Winners has no auction, so sponsor your favorite champion.

For further information, contact P.T.'s Shuffleboard Alley, 4324 W. 34th St., Houston, Texas; phone 713-681-3852.

### **St. Pat's Day Tournament of Winners at P.T.'s**

P.T. of P.T.'s Shuffleboard Alley, Houston, Texas, will host a Tournament of Winners on March 20-22. It will be a big guaranteed \$36,000 regardless of number of entries event, singles only. Entry fee is \$1,000. Three out of five in the winner's bracket, two out of three in the loser's bracket, draw for position every round. Players cannot play two consecutive matches on same board.

The event will pay eight places: 1st, \$15,000; 2nd, \$7,500; 3rd, \$4,500; 4th, \$3,000; 5th, \$2,250; 6th, \$1,500; 7th, \$1,250; and 8th, \$1,000.

For further information, contact P.T., 713-681-3852. See ad in this issue and start making plans to participate in this big tourney.

## **Missing!**

*Was news of shuffleboard action in your state missing in this issue of The Board Talk? Become a part of a national communications system for shuffleboarders. Send notice of tournaments, results of tournaments, news and views about the sport to: The Board Talk, 421 E. Sheridan Road, Lansing, Mich. 48906, by the 15th of each month.*

— Please Post —

# Weekly Shuffleboard Tournaments

Every Tuesday, 7:00 p.m. — Singles — \$5.00 Draw

Every Thursday, 7:00 p.m. — Doubles — \$5.00 Draw

Last Tuesday of the Month — Singles — \$20.00 Draw

Last Wednesday of the Month — Ladies Tournament — \$5.00

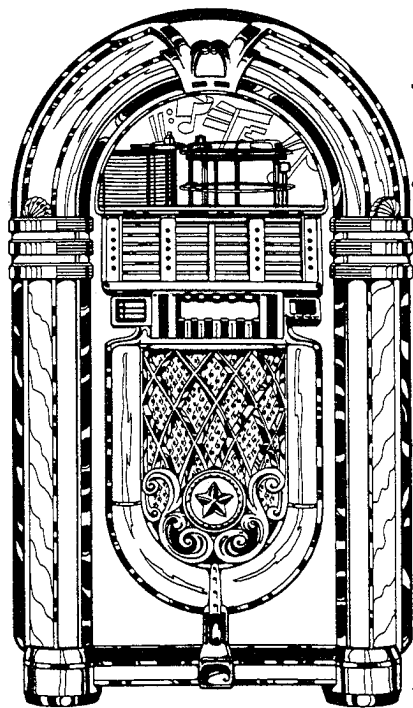
All Tournaments Pay 60-30-10

We welcome shuffleboard players from —

- Jack's Cowboy Bar — Cheyenne, Wyoming
- Kimball, Nebraska
- Longmont, Boulder & Denver, Colorado

All registered players get one free drink

Top 16 money winners' final playoff on April Fool's Day



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## Jerry D's

## Nostalgia Tavern

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Dacono, Colorado Phone: 303-833-3469

We also have Bocci Ball & Horseshoes

Your Hosts: Susan & Jerry D.

## 1987 National Shuffleboard Calendar

**March 13-15**

3rd Annual St. Patrick's Day Tournament  
Palms Tavern, Springfield, Oregon

**March 20-22**

St. Patrick's Day Tournament of Winners  
P.T.'s, Houston, Texas

**May 22-25**

Memorial Day Tournament  
Ace of Clubs, Marysville, California

**May 22-25**

Michigan-Playfair Open  
Location to be announced

**May 22-25**

2nd Annual Memorial Day Tournament  
P.T.'s Shuffleboard Alley, Houston, Texas

**July 3-5**

3rd Annual Board Talk Tournament  
Log Cabin Bar, Howell, Michigan

**Sept. 4-7**

Labor Day Tournament  
Ace of Clubs, Marysville, California

**Oct. 9**

2nd Annual Mega-Bucks Tournament  
P.T.'s Shuffleboard Alley, Houston, Texas

## A Message from Doc . . .

To Bill and Kim of Golden, Colorado  
Who play at weekly  
shuffleboard tournaments

at

Jerry D's Tavern, Dacono, Colorado

Fair play is the American way,

You have to win by skill.

And when you lose, you have to pay,

My dear friends, Kim and Bill

So if you insist on stalking a player

And watch him battle and tough it,

You will never learn to play it fair,

So to you I say, "Stuff it!"

Doc Khan

Cheyenne, Wyoming

# Great Shuffleboard Action!

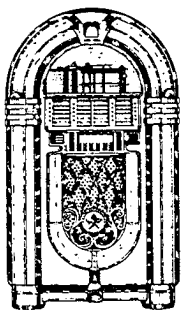
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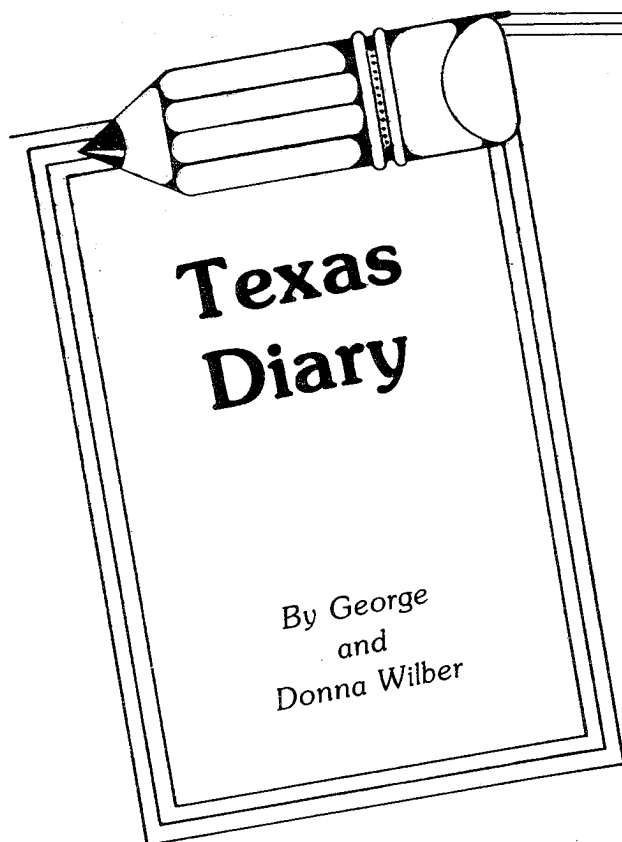
1942 Jukebox plays oldies but goodies!



## Jerry D's Nostalgia Tavern

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Dacono, Colorado Phone: 303-833-3469

We also have Bocci Ball & Horseshoes      Your Hosts: Susan & Jerry D.



From California to Delaware, Oregon to Florida, and places in between, shuffleboarders gathered at The Corporate Image in Ft. Worth, Texas, Feb. 10-16, for one of the biggest events of the year. Billed as a "Shuffleboard Extravaganza," it lived up to its name with players vying for a pot of nearly \$47,000.

While the "official" tourney didn't start until Friday the 13th, there was plenty of action all week long on the four Bill Melton boards. Owner Dave Williams had broken through a wall to add another room for the anticipated crowd giving ample room and pleasant surroundings for spectators and players. Depending upon your financial situation, you could play a friendly game for a drink, participate in \$20 or \$50 round robins or dare for much higher stakes (which some did!).

### **Organized Shuffleboard: Pipedream or Possibility?**

Interested shuffleboarders took a break from the boards Thursday afternoon to discuss if, how and when their sport could get organized nationally so it can enjoy the same recognition and sponsor support as other sports.

The meeting had excellent representation of a cross-section of The World of Shuffleboard — geographically, professional and amateur, bar owners and players, and even currently existing organizations. Everyone knew going in that reaching a consensus of opinion would be difficult, but most also recognized the value of organizing and that the time was right to start acting instead of just talking.

While the group didn't emerge from that smoke-filled room with an organization charter in hand, they did take a few tentative steps which they hope will bring shuffleboard closer to being an organized sport. And while participants didn't come to a final decision on how it should be accomplished, the call for "good sportsmanship" on the part of everyone involved in shuffleboard was unanimous.

A committee, headed by John McDermott of Michigan and composed of Darrol Nelson, Oregon; Bill Melton, Okla.; Karl Spickelmier, Calif.; Jodie Slack, Colo.; P.T.,

Texas; Don Casula or Dick Gorman, Dela.; and George Wilber of The Board Talk, will develop a plan to submit to members of The World of Shuffleboard to gain their input.

Objectives discussed included uniformity of tournament rules so players know what to expect regardless of location; development of association chapters in each state; sanctioning of players; and sponsorship of at least four major sanctioned tournaments per year — one in each of the four divisions. These association-sponsored tournaments would be held in hotels with "neutral" boards rather than in bars.

What would this mean to the tournaments that have become a tradition for The Corporate Image, The Ace of Clubs, P.T.'s, Stagger Inn, The Board Talk and others? They won't be affected unless the sponsors wish to have their tournaments sanctioned by the association. It is hoped that the incentives for being sanctioned will make that happen.

Ideas for sanction fees for players ranged from \$3 to \$100 per year and a split fee system — one fee for amateurs and another for professionals. How to make the distinction between an amateur and a pro, which is often a fine line, remained unsolved.

Other topics of discussion included required advance registration for tournaments with 25% of the entry fee (transferrable if necessary) submitted two weeks in advance with a time line and percentage for refunds; paid seating for spectators; the need for incorporation as a non-profit association, and bonding of a treasurer when elected.

Not discussed was a name for the new association. Its founders will have to take into consideration that there already exists a U.S. Shuffleboard Association, a Professional Shuffleboard Association, and an American Shuffleboard Association. To this point, the sport has been so fragmented that there may be more with names unknown. They hope that whatever the name, it will someday have the same recognition and acceptance as the PGA, ABC and NFL.

In upcoming issues of The Board Talk, watch for suggested uniform tournament rules and other committee proposals and send your reaction and ideas to the editors.

### **West Vs. Midwest: Battle of the Divisions**

In a battle that went down to the last lag of the 9th game, the West beat the Midwest in a battle of the divisions that followed the meeting. Both teams gave spectators plenty to cheer about in the doubles competition.

In the first match, Midwesterners Dave Williams and Bill Melton beat the dynamic Western duo of Billy Chiles and Darrol Nelson. The Midwest made it a 2-0 match when Billy Mays and Sam Summers took the second game from Leroy Ledford and Don Cox. Then the West evened things up with two consecutive wins — Fred Thumann and John McDermott over Glen Davidson and Bob White, and the Cox-Ledford team beating Melton and Williams.

The Mays-Summers team tipped the scales in the Midwest's favor 3-2 with a win over Thumann and McDermott. Making it a 3-3 tie were Chiles and Nelson beating White and Davidson.

A tough match between Thumann-McDermott and Melton-Williams resulted in a victory for the Midwest. That 4-3 edge was erased by a Chiles-Nelson win over Mays and Summers.

In an exciting tie-breaker game, the Cox-Ledford team brought victory to the West with a close 15-14 win over White and Davidson. Leroy lagged the winning three and

## The Board Talks's Top 40 Players in the U.S.A.

**ATLANTIC DIVISION:** *Maine, Vermont, New Hampshire, New York, Pennsylvania, Massachusetts, Connecticut, Rhode Island, New Jersey, Maryland, Delaware, West Virginia, Virginia, North and South Carolinas, Georgia, Florida*

1. Mickey Mickens, N.J.
2. John Lucas, Md.
3. Don Casula, Del.
4. Joe Kardos
5. Scratch Todd, Md.
6. Chuck King
7. Dick Gorman, Del.
8. Joe Tomchik, N.J.
9. Rick Niblett
10. Jimmy Summers

**MID-EAST DIVISION:** *Michigan, Ohio, Kentucky, Tennessee, Alabama, Indiana, Wisconsin, Illinois, Missouri, Arkansas, Mississippi, Louisiana, Iowa, Minnesota*

1. John McDermott, Mich.
2. Lee McDonald, Mich.
3. Jr. Lopez, Mich.
4. Dave Boaz, Ind.
5. Bobby Voorhis, Ind.
6. Jerry Siebert, Mich.
7. Jerry Knox, Ind.
8. Jim Long, Ind.
9. Neil Fetter, Mich.
10. Larry Creakbaum, Ind.

**PACIFIC DIVISION:** *Idaho, Washington, Oregon, Nevada, California, Utah, Arizona, Alaska, Hawaii*

1. Darrol Nelson, Oregon
2. Billy Chiles, Calif.
3. Karl Spickelmier, Calif.
4. Don Cox, Calif.
5. Leroy Ledford, Calif.
6. Eric Waldman, Calif.
7. Joe Muniz, Calif.
8. Ted Z, Calif.
9. Fred Thumann, Calif.
10. Doug Buhl, Calif.

**MID-WEST DIVISION:** *North Dakota, South Dakota, Nebraska, Kansas, Oklahoma, Texas, New Mexico, Colorado, Wyoming, Montana*

1. Billy Mays, Texas
2. Bill Melton, Okla.
3. Glen Davidson, Okla.
4. Howard Mouton, Texas
5. Dave Williams, Texas
6. Earl Kelly, Texas
7. Ed Graves, Okla.
8. Rich Boyer, Texas
9. Sam Summers, Okla.
10. Bob White, Texas

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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.



was mobbed by his team mates. His comment after repairing his bent glasses and wiping the blood off his chin: "I was determined not to come up short."

This event was a real crowd-pleaser with opportunities to cheer on your division representatives and to "put your money where your mouth is." Let's hope that a "Battle of the Divisions" can become a part of every major tournament agenda and that there will be sufficient participation to have all four divisions in the running for national recognition.

### An Awesome Auction!

The "Battle of the Divisions" was followed by the auction for both doubles and singles events and ended up being an exciting event in itself. Auctioneers Bill Wooldridge and Joe Don had the hyped-up crowd digging deep into their pockets to bid for sponsorship of the well-known, a hometown favorite, or a little-known "darkhorse." The result was a big auction pot of nearly \$38,000.

High in the doubles bidding were Billy Chiles (Calif.) and Darrol Nelson (Oregon); Bill Melton (Okla.) and Dave Williams (Texas); Glen Davidson (Okla.) and Rick Boyer (Texas); Leroy Ledford and Don Cox (Calif.); Billy Mays and Earl Kelly (Texas); John McDermott (Mich.) and Karl Spickelmier (Calif.); Sam Summers (Okla.) and Howard Mouton (Texas).

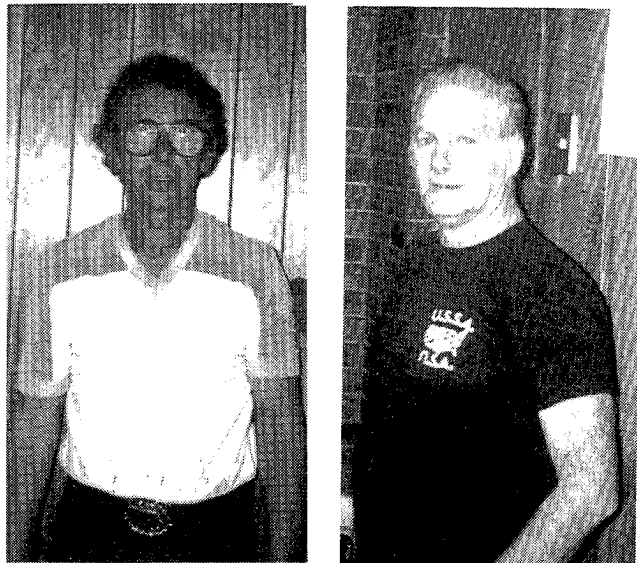
In the singles, Darrol Nelson, Billy Mays, Billy Chiles, Leroy Ledford, Bill Melton, Glen Davidson, Don Cox, John McDermott and Dave Williams brought the highest bids.

### Defending Champs Retain Doubles Title

Whoever said shuffleboard wasn't an exciting spectator sport had never seen the best players in the nation bump heads. The gallery was lined up six deep, some standing on chairs to get a peek at the action.

Billy Mays and Earl Kelly of Texas, last year's champions, kept their title in a tough bout against challengers Bill Melton, Okla., and Corporate Image host Dave Williams. Bill and Dave were the only unbeaten team in the 21-team field until Billy and Earl wiped out that distinction with two consecutive wins.

John McDermott (Mich.) and Karl Spickelmier (Calif.) beat favorites Darrol Nelson (Oregon) and Billy Chiles (Calif.) to assure themselves third place. Eric Waldman (Calif.) and "Portland Eddy" Graves (Texas) finished in fifth spot.



Billy Mays (left) and Earl Kelly kept their title intact, winning over the 31-field of contenders in the doubles.

### Nelson Earns Top Rating

The Board Talk's top-rated player in the Pacific Division, Darrol Nelson of Oregon, and Bill Melton of Oklahoma, second-rated player in the Midwest Division, met in the singles event as the only two unbeaten participants in the field of 33. It took three games for Darrol to put Bill in the loser's bracket and that set the pace for the remaining brackets, each match going the full three games to determine the championship.

Glen Davidson, Okla., third-rated player in the Midwest Division, beat seventh-rated David Williams of Texas. Glen met Don Cox, Calif., after Don beat Glen Young of Arizona. Davidson emerged the victor of that match to take on the formidable Bill Melton. Glen won leaving Bill to pick up the not-too-chintzy third place pot.

That put Glen and Darrol head to head for the championship. It was 6 a.m. Tuesday, Feb. 17, when Darrol finally claimed his crown. He'd met the best and come out the victor. He'd earned his top rating and a whole lot more!



Darrol Nelson earned his No. 1 rating by winning the singles over 32 other top players.



Glen Davidson (with his No. 1 fan, Madge) took second place in an exciting, tough-fought singles event.

### A Place for Women in National Tournaments?

The "giants" of shuffleboard don't scare Chris Monahan of California or Diane Hagen of Texas. The lone women entered in the tournament, both have the confidence it takes to challenge their male counterparts on the boards.

A relatively new player, Chris has taken the game seriously and the already high regard local players held for her ability spread to all participants in this national tourney. That she was a force to be reckoned with became evident as she defeated her first two challengers in the singles, "Tall Don" Baker of Texas and Bud Hillburn of Oklahoma. In her third match, Don Cox of California had his work cut out for him to finally defeat Chris. "She is tough!" Don said.

It took big Sam Summers of Oklahoma to knock Chris out of the running and it took three games to do that. Sam didn't underestimate the ability of the determined Chris and played tough to win the match.

Chris would like to see a national tournament for women, perhaps with qualifying local tourneys to help finance their participation. Such a tournament, she believes, should be set up the same as any other major event with an auction that would make it worthwhile for the women to participate. She's working on getting women in her own local area in-

(continued on page 8)

## Texas Diary *(continued from page 7)*

terested in shuffleboard as a competitive sport rather than just a social activity.

Two of those "giants" of shuffleboard — Darrol Nelson and Karl Spickelmier — see no sex barriers in shuffleboard. "It's all a matter of ability," said Darrol. "I see no reason why they can't compete with the men."



Don't let that sweet smile fool you! Chris Monahan is one tough lady, determined to make her mark in The World of Shuffleboard.

Karl, who cheered Chris from the sidelines in each of her games, said that being a woman player can have its advantages. "Sometimes the men don't take a woman player seriously. By the time they realize what they're up against, she's beaten them," he said.

Watch future issues of The Board Talk for news on how Chris, Diane and other women in The World of Shuffleboard will fare in their efforts to be recognized as serious players.

### From the Sidelines

Enie, Meenie, Minie, Mo — which board do I watch? Whichever one you selected in this tourney, you saw a real class act. We'd like to pay tribute not only to those who placed, but also to:

—Chris Monahan, Calif., who dared to be the only female in the singles field of giants and made them all sit up and take notice.

—John Myles of Michigan who showed The World of Shuffleboard that he can do with one arm what many can't do with two.

—Jerry and Sharon Miller of the Ace of Clubs, Marysville, Calif., who nurture and support their players all the way.

—Billy Mays of Texas who showed humor and good sportsmanship when he said: "I'm still No. 1 — first in the doubles, first in The Board Talk ratings, and first to get beat in the singles!"

### Stop the Presses!

The name of the new national shuffleboard organization is the American Shuffleboard Federation.

## Formula for Success:

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Satisfied Shufflers = Increased Profits  
for Owners*



*Shufflers Deserve the Best!  
American Delivers the Best!*

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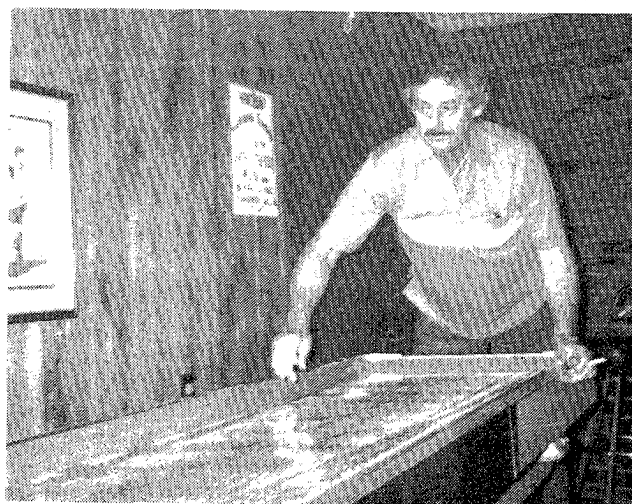
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From The Corporate Image  
in Ft. Worth, Texas...

Greetings to Hunter White  
Aboard the USS John F. Kennedy

We Miss You!

Dad and Shari



Dad Bob White lags a three!

## Shuffleboard Directory

Patronize these shuffleboard businesses and establishments

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under new management*

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### Log Cabin Bar

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### Palace Bar

*Grant County's Men's & Women's Shuffleboard Champions*

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### George's Shuffleboard Supplies/Service

*TLC for Your Board*

421 E. Sheridan Road, Lansing, Mich. 517-371-2538

### This Space for Sale

*\$12 per month — \$100 per year*

Call 517-371-2538 to reserve your space

## More Letters *(continued from page 2)*

### Doc Makes Plea for Common Courtesy in Shuffleboard

Recently I had an unpleasant experience of being harrassed while shooting the final game of a singles tournament. I still managed to win the title but was annoyed enough to send a special message which appears elsewhere in this issue (see ad on page 5). That prompted me to write an article on Common Courtesies of Shuffleboard.

I also met some great shuffleboard people on my recent trips to Oregon and Las Vegas. In Cottage Grove, Oregon, I met Howard Jackson. We played some games and later went to Springfield where I met Walt Morris, Glen Lindberg and Bob Howard.

Las Vegas has more than 40 shuffleboards but I sensed some frustration among the players because of lack of organization. Frank Zavala at Duffy's voiced his concern in this regard. I also met Jim Nugent and Dan there. My gracious host was Jim Golden. We then went to Deluxe Liquors. I met Mary and Laura of the women's league. We also played at Cal's. I missed Russel and Craig, two great players. Frank is trying to contact all establishments so they can subscribe to The Board Talk.

Recently, 10 players from Dacono and Longmont, Colo., came to Cheyenne and we had some great games.

As I travel around these glorious United States, I usually end up in an establishment where shuffleboard is played. Time and again, I have sadly noticed that outside of the professionals, a majority of the players do not observe even the most basic common courtesies of the game. In fact, quite the opposite! I respect the local ways and usually shut up. Nevertheless, it is annoying. As an ordinary player but lover of the game, I suggest a few common courtesies:

- Do not pile heaps of wax on the playing surface during the game.
- Do not wipe off powder with your hand or sleeve.
- Do not remove pucks without letting your opponent check the score.
- Do not punch someone else's score.
- Do not go clear across the board and punch your partner's score.
- After you have finished shooting, please step away from the board to give your opponent plenty of room to shoot. Don't crowd him/her.
- Do not talk to a player while he is shooting or harrass him in any other way.
- When playing a game, please stay and play. Do not always be gone when it's your turn to shoot. Don't be making phone calls or hustling women during the game. Remember, there are others waiting to play.
- Do not play pool and shuffleboard at the same time (sounds incredible but, believe me, some people do that).
- Do not hold a cigarette or drink in one hand while shooting. Ashes get mixed with the wax and drinks get spilled.

Doc Khan, Cheyenne, Wyoming

We thank you for your ad and your article, Doc, and hope those who are guilty of such poor sportsmanship will recognize and correct their shortcomings. Such conduct hurts the sport and must be dealt with if shuffleboard is ever to gain the recognition it deserves. The problem is intensified because a large majority of shuffleboard play takes place in taverns. Those who are discourteous by nature usually become more so after they've had a few drinks.

In addition to your common sense/common courtesy suggestions, we call readers' attention to the Official Rules and Regulations for Table Shuffleboard Team and League Play from the American Shuffleboard Leagues, Inc. (also approved for tournament play) that deal with this issue:

A. All generally accepted rules of good sportsmanship and good conduct will apply at all times.

B. It is to be considered common courtsey for each player to step back from the board after he delivers a weight in order to give his opponent freedom of the board in every respect, with no interference while shooting.

C. The Grievance Committee of the league (or could be tournament officials) shall, by majority vote, have the power to disqualify and bar from further league (or tournament) play any member or team who disregards the accepted and normal courtesies in any way implied herein; or for unsportsmanlike conduct; or for misconduct of any nature which may be considered detrimental to the well-being of other participants and spectators or injurious to the reputation of the league.

The foregoing shall, in part, be construed to mean that no audible comments, remarks or unsportsmanlike gestures shall be made before or during a shot. Violation of this common courtesy will be subject to a minimum penalty of forfeiture of one match point from the total match points.

### Action in Harrisburg, Pennsylvania

Although we live in Harrisburg, Pa., we were introduced to shuffleboard by John Barrow at the Rendezvous Inn in Perryville, Maryland, because we own a boat and camper in that area.

During 1985, we traveled four hours round trip to watch the Rendezvous play their league games and in 1986, we both joined the league and we are still traveling to Perryville every Tuesday.

We felt we had to play more than once a week to be competitive and we searched for a board in the Harrisburg area. The only one we found was at the Lawton Legion, Post #998, 4700 Derry Street. In December of 1986, we decided to start an "in-house" league and presented our ideas to post commander Jerry Patrick. It was approved and we posted a sign for interested players. Within two weeks, we had over 30 names. We held a meeting and formed an A and B team and voted Jim Sterling and Don Koppenhaver captains and Pat Sterling as treasurer.

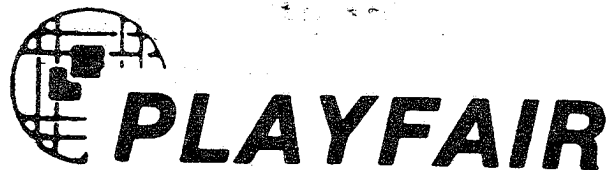
We are now in our seventh week and the enthusiasm is great. We have a terrific bunch of men and women who make it a lot of fun. The Lawton Legion has been very cooperative and has even opened the kitchen on Monday nights to serve the players. But a lot of the success of this league, and we're sure many other leagues, is due to the enthusiasm of The Board Talk. Keep up your good work and thanks for your support.

If any of you players come to our area, please stop at the Lawton Legion for a game!

Jim and Pat Sterling, Harrisburg, Pa.

Congratulations, Jim and Pat! It's dedicated people like you who are increasing the population of The World of Shuffleboard. The Lawton Legion sounds like a great place to stop for a game. Tell them about our quarterly Play Your Way Across the U.S.A. listing. They may wish to join our shuffleboard network.

*(continued on page 12)*



# Michigan Open

**May 22-25**

## Six Quality Boards

- 4 Tournament — 2 Open
- At least \$2,000 added money —
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- 2 out of 3 double elimination
- Doubles \$250 per team —
- 2 out of 3 double elimination
- Women's Singles — \$100

First — 50%   Second — 25%   Third — 15%   Fourth — 10%

## American Shuffleboard Federation Rules

- Tournament will be held in a hotel
- location to be announced soon —

Stay Tuned to The Board Talk for further details.  
For now, mark your calendars for this big event.

## The Hammer

(continued from page 1)

We have a tie this month for honored recruiters: Doc Khan of Cheyenne, Wyoming, who has enlisted 21 new subscribers since December, plus hustled some ads as well, and Billy Moore of Big Spring, Texas, who handed over 10 paid subscribers to us at The Corporate Image.

Doc is getting some well-deserved recognition for his promotion of the game by the Cowboy Bar in Cheyenne. They have erected a lighted, double-faced sign, 8 X 3 foot, that can be seen for miles and proclaims: "Doc's Shuffleboard." Let's hear it for Doc and the Cowboy Bar!

Billy will be gaining recognition in future issues of The Board Talk when we begin publishing his series of profiles of the many faces in The World of Shuffleboard.

\*\*\*\*\*

A warm welcome to our new subscribers:

Scratch Todd, Md.  
Craig Smith, Ill.  
Gary Schneider, Neb.  
Bill Kelter, Col.  
Ed Hunter, Wyo.  
Robert Gann, Mich.  
T. Kevin Macurdy, Col.  
Linda Sisco, Md.  
Carl Daly, Mich.  
Charlie Boese, Oregon  
John Ryan, Pa.  
Mike Donnelly, Col.

Mary Dellabella, Col.  
Richard Jackson, Tex.  
Glenn Young, Ariz.  
Don Cox, Cal.  
Marvin Boyles, Tex.  
Roy Thornton, Tex.  
Cheryl Walker, Tex.  
A.L. Moore, Okla.  
Wayne Chester, Tex.  
J.G. Tally, Tex.  
Jim Monroe, Tex.  
Clarence Conzelman, Cal.

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Hal Perry, Cal.  
Jay Huert, Col.  
Brad Byker, Ill.  
Ron Ness, Pa.  
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The Beachcomer, Charlestown, Md.  
Papa's Pub & Grub, Warren, Mich.  
Prospect Cafe & Trophy Room, Prospect, Oregon  
Scoreboard Saloon, Grand Rapids, Mich.  
Pastime Lunch, Inc., Bryan, Ohio  
Keg Tavern, Leesburg, Ind.

David Glantz, Wyo.  
Orlando Martinez, Wyo.  
Len & Lori Lockerby, Ga.  
Wayne Czuchaj, Mich.  
Mike Bruza, Okla.

George and Donna Wilber  
Publishers

## More Letters (continued from page 10)

### Action in Tulsa

The hottest shuffleboard locations in Tulsa are: The Wheeler Dealer, 4311 E. 31st St., and Jimmy L's, 9520 E. 11th St. Rumor has it that the Wheeler Dealer is planning to hold a tourney in the next couple of months. Look for flyers in your mailbox.

Keep up the good work of putting shuffleboard news out. Sam Sweatt, Tulsa, Okla.

Thanks, Sam. Tell the Wheeler Dealer to consider The Board Talk as a good way to attract players to their tourney.

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