

The Board Talk

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

Vol. 5, No. 12 December 1988

The Hammer

We're celebrating more than just the holiday season this month. We're a little more sentimental than usual because it's also our fifth birthday. The handful of faithfuls who have been around for those five years know how meaningful that landmark is to us.

We labored over something sort of special to say to mark the Christmas holiday and our birthday. Then, as the mail started coming in, it became evident that we didn't have to say anything. Others would speak the words that kept stumbling over the lumps in our throats and express the sentiments that were too illusive for us to set in hard copy.

You'll find them in the Christmas message from Mac of California, who knows how special the population of The World of Shuffleboard really is. He already knows that, but join us in letting him know how much that population has grown. Send him a Christmas card to let him know you care.

You'll find them in the words of Jerry Herrmann of Pennsylvania who tells how one person can make a difference in our World, a person determined that shuffleboard will not just survive -- but thrive!

You'll find them in the words of Jeff Dugaw of Michigan who reminds us to "accentuate the positive; eliminate the negative" -- a real Christmas message.

You'll find them in the story of Al and Von Stewart who know the true meaning of Christmas. The first time we published their story was the Christmas issue of 1984. We had 200 subscribers then; we didn't know if we'd make it through 1985. We did and we recognize that it wasn't just our persistence that made that happen; it was their prayers and yours, too.

So, very simply, a very Merry Christmas to all of you. You are special!

George & Donna Wilber, Publishers

Tourney Talk

89 Shooters at Ours & Yours Season Opener

The Season Opener on Sept. 9-11 at Ours & Your Place, Sudlersville, Maryland, attracted 89 shooters from six states. The tourney opened Friday night with 28 players drawing partners. This event was dominated by Delaware players with first place going to Chuck King of Dover and Skip Hammond of Milford. Delawarians Richie Casula and Richard Foreaker took second place, with third place earned by Donnie Casula of Newark and Doug Ammand of Milford.

In the women's singles, Judith Iseman of Chestertown took first place honors. Rosalie Kaufman of Queenstown, Maryland, came in second. "Thanks to all you brave souls who showed up, especially Jane Mierzepewski of Massachusetts," says tournament director Judith. "Hopefully, more of you will show up in January."

The bring your partner event had 22 teams participating with the "pros" taking first and second place. Mickey Baugh of Texas and Ed Galke of New York took first place, with John Lukas, Maryland, and Donnie Casula, Delaware, in second. Third place went to long-time shooter Jack Gardner, Greensboro, Maryland, teamed up with first-time shooter Kevin Husfelt. Dallas Hayman, Harrington, Del., and Tom Bernhard of Milford finished third.

Milt Benedict of Sherburne, New York, took top honors in the open singles. Ed Kibler, Henderson, Md., finished second, with Donnie Casula in third place.

Judith reports that this was her first solo attempt at running a full-scale weekend tournament and she thanks all the participants from Maryland, Delaware, Pennsylvania, Massachusetts, New York and Texas. "I couldn't have done it without Chuck (Mr. Auctioneer) King, Rosalie (cashier) Kaufman, tournament officials Scratch Todd, Jack Gardner and Ed Kibler, and draftsman Doug Ammand. Thanks also to our hosts, Art and JoAnn Ware, for their hospitality and great buffet. Ours & Your Place may be small but it's big on hospitality," Judith said.

Todd/Brown/Gardner/Iseman Win

Ours & Your Place's third Sunday tourney on Oct. 10 featured two events. Winners of the first were Scratch Todd of Denton, Md. and Gary Brown, Camden, Del. Mopey Hasson, Perryville, Md. and Jim Yank of Philadelphia took second place with hosts Art and JoAnn Ware in third.

The second tourney was won by Jack Gardner, Greensboro, Md. and Judith Iseman of Chestertown. Bucky Wallace of Sudlersville and Scratch Todd took second with Joyce Pyle, Church Hill, Md. and Buddy Brammer of Rising Sun in third.

*A red check here _____
means your subscription
has expired. Renew today!*

(continued on page 6)



Shufflers' Notebook

News and Views
from The World
of Shuffleboard

Cerwonka Keeps N.E. Philly League Alive

Lou (Poppa Lewie) Schmek formed the N.E. Philadelphia Wednesday Night Shuffleboard League in the early 60s and he was its president until his death in 1977. Over the years, some of the top players in the East played in it.

Around 1970, Jack Cerwonka joined the league with McCarron's Bar. Eventually, Jack served the league as its president and financial secretary-treasurer.

Over the first 15 years of the league, there were team changes and rule changes, but always teams waiting to join the league. There was also the Tuesday Night Greater Philadelphia League, with plenty of players for both leagues. Then, toward the end of the 70s and early 80s, shuffleboard started to die, along with some of its players. By 1986, there were no leagues in the N.E. area. I started a pro league on Monday nights. Jack and some others from the old league joined, but it was not the same.

Then in 1987, Jack, with a lot of help from Peggy Herrin and Lou's Sportsman's Bar (Lou sponsored two teams), joined by teams from Rhawnhurst Cafe, Sweeney's Irish Pub, Continental Post, and eventual league champs Stumble Inn, had a highly successful league and a great banquet.

Now this year, joined by new teams Instant Replay, Continental's second team, Pickles (home of the kings) Bar, and Mick's Cafe, which was in the league in its first 10 years and won many championships, is back with many of their original players, we have a good thing going.

Shuffleboard league play is making a good comeback in the N.E. area due to the dedicated work and love of the game from Jack Cerwonka. I take great privilege for everyone who knows Jack and plays shuffleboard in our league to say thanks to him.

Jerry Herrmann for the N.E. Shuffleboard League, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

We are very pleased to join in your salute to Jack. It is people like him who will not let this sport "die" ever again. We welcome several of the shuffleboard houses from your league to our network. Look for them, readers, in our next "Play Your Way Across the U.S.A." listing and stop in when you're in that area to thank them for their support of your sport.

Blue Coat Gets Top Rating From Woodie

Recently I took a travelling vacation. One of the items I made sure I had in my possession was my Board Talk with the "Play Your Way Across the U.S.A." listing. This directory came in real handy.

One of my stops was The Blue Coat Inn in Tulsa, Oklahoma. There I found a large group of Class A shuffleboard players. Many of those players could hold their

own playing with the rated players of The Shuffleboard Federation.

The owner, Tom Thixton, and manager, Patti Kay, both love shuffleboard. Patti is running a \$50 added draw partner round robin Wednesday and Friday nights.

I rate this tavern as being among the top shuffleboard houses in the U.S.A. The players are a bunch of non-violent, happy-go-lucky people with whom I enjoyed playing.

Thanks, Blue Coat Inn, for showing me a good time.

Woodie Cockrum, Cuba, Missouri

We know Tom and Patti and all the shufflers at The Blue Coat Inn will appreciate your tribute, Woodie. We haven't had the pleasure of visiting there yet, but we rate them among the Board Talk's top supporters in the country. We add our appreciation to yours.

A Christmas Message From Mac

I have been reading your shuffleboard newsletter, The Board Talk, for about 5 years, always passed down from friends. Earlier this year, a good friend of mine, Brian Mulhollan, had a year's subscription sent to me as a gift. What a gift! Thank you again, Brian!

Your Board Talk has shown me that there are many, many people in this world who love shuffleboard as I do and always have. I have been able to read about some old friends I haven't seen in years and am glad that they are well and still playing.

I like your "Play Your Way Across the U.S.A." list. Boy, what I would have given for that a few years ago and, if my health continues to get better, I plan on putting it to use yet.

Last Christmas Eve, I had to go into the hospital and soon after found out that I had prostate cancer. The doctor said I had maybe two days to live. My wife called a couple of my shuffleboard buddies in Orange County (about 50 miles away) and told them about my condition. From that day to this day, shuffleboard people have been coming to visit, calling, sending flowers and cards.

Many of my friends and shuffleboard players just wanting to help another player held a shuffleboard tournament, potluck and auction, in my behalf at the Covered Wagon in Anaheim, California. Then some of them came to the hospital and gave my wife and me all the proceeds from the tournament. We all watched a video of the tournament which they had made and gave to us.

Friends like this are hard to find today, but shuffleboard people are a different breed. We love you and thank you.

I am doing much better at the present time and got to play my first shuffleboard this year last Thursday. A friend of mine, Neal Rose, who loves the game as much as I do, gave me a ride to the Covered Wagon and along with a lot of my other

friends, we played a little and had a lot of fun. I hope to be able to do it again soon.

Mac Ausbrooks (just an average player who loves the game 100%), Riverside, California

Thank you, Mac, for a beautiful Christmas message to The World of Shuffleboard. We hope others will join us in one gigantic coast to coast prayer that you will soon enjoy complete recovery and be able to make full use of that list! We don't usually do this, but we're going to print your full address so those special people out there on our mailing list can send you a Christmas message: Mac Ausbrooks, 4339 Pacific Ave., Riverside, CA 92509.

Another Member Needs Our Prayers

I would like to introduce Carl and Lolly Guidici of Reno, Nevada, to your shuffleboard network. Carl was the No. 1 man in selling and operating shuffleboards in northern Nevada for so many years. I have been doing his board work for over 20 years and I don't know how long he was in business before that.

Carl had to turn his business over to his son because he had a heart attack. Von and I became such good friends with the Guidicis over the years. We were saddened to get the news of his health. I called to see how he was feeling and to tell him our prayers are with him and to "talk shop." I was telling him about the big tournament in Las Vegas. He said if he was able, he is going to make it to Vegas.

I would like for the shuffleboard family to hope, wish, or pray -- or all three -- that he will make it to the Showboat.

Al Stewart, A & M Amusement Service, El Monte, California

Like Al says -- hope, wish or pray -- that we will see Carl at the Las Vegas tourney. And to show him what our shuffleboard family is all about, send your best wishes to him at: 700 Casazza Drive, Reno, NV 89502. That's what Christmas is all about! See you in Vegas, Carl.

Stop That!

A while back, The Board Talk published an article of mine concerning a problem between two of our men's teams during league play. My intent was two-fold: to show how foolish violence is and to prod the men's league into enacting legislation to prevent this sort of thing in the future. I don't know if either of those things were accomplished, but one thing I fear did come of that piece. I am afraid it was the beginning of a rash of negative articles from various parts of the country.

This airing of dirty laundry is boring to read and no doubt disgusting to publish. I don't want to read about whether this person thinks that person is a jerk or not. Who cares? Because I feel partially responsible for this trend in negative publicity, I'd like to be one of the ones to stop it.

First, I'd like to apologize for my part in this nasty business and, second, to assure that in the future it won't happen again. If I can't think of something informative, amusing, or upbeat to write about, I'm just going to shut up. I suggest that all the poison pens out there do the same.

Why do people read The Board Talk? I think it's because of letters such as the one sent in by the Richards of Arizona about the hospitality they received in the bar in Washington. Made me want to jump in my car and drive over for a beer (a mere 3,000 mile trek). Or the public tributes to Rudy Stober and Mexican Tommy Workman. Enjoyable reading and positive contributions to The World of Shuffleboard. We need more of this. After all, if I want to be bummed out, I'll watch network television.

(continued on page 6)

1988 National Shuffleboard Calendar

Dec. 30-Jan. 1

*New Year's Tourney
The Palace Bar, Fairmount, Indiana*

Dec. 30-Jan. 2

*New Year's Tourney
Black Cat, Portland, Oregon*

Dec. 31

*New Year's Tourney
D.J.'s, Warsaw, Indiana*

Jan. 6-8

*Rowboat Open
Jerry D's, Dacona, Colorado*

January 12-16*

*PCSA Shuffleboard Extravaganza
Showboat, Las Vegas, Nevada*

Jan. 13-15

*Winter Tournament
Ours & Your Place, Sudlersville, Md.*

February 10-12

*Annual Lafayette Inn/Board Talk Tourney
Lafayette Inn, Rising Sun, Maryland*

Feb. 16-20*

*4th Washington's Birthday Tourney
Holiday Inn, Dallas/Ft. Worth Airport*

March 3-5

*Second Annual Tournament
Blue Coat Inn, Tulsa, Oklahoma*

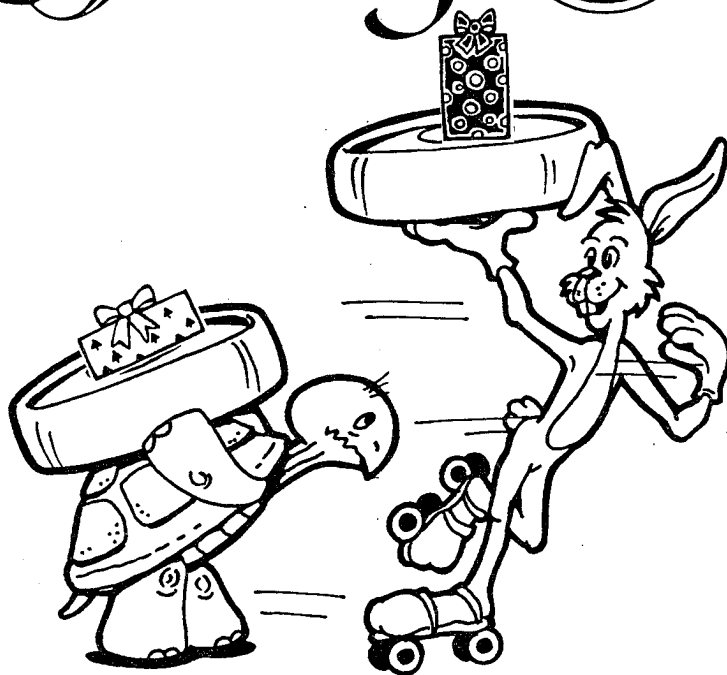
March 17-20*

*Great Arizona Open
Phoenix, Arizona*

***Shuffleboard Federation Pro Tour**



Holiday Cheer



George & Norma Silber

THE BOARD TALK

Welcome, Japan, to The World of Shuffleboard

A big white limousine in the parking lot at Beef's Shamrock Bar in Waterloo, Indiana, is not something you see every day of the week. Neither was what was going on inside the bar an everyday occurrence. It was a special day in the lives of Beef and Marge, owners of the Shamrock; PeeWee Fleshman, a local shuffler who took a half-day off work for the occasion; Brian Crowl, president of Playfair Shuffleboard Co. in Fort Wayne, Indiana; and three Japanese visitors who were a long way from their home in Tokyo.

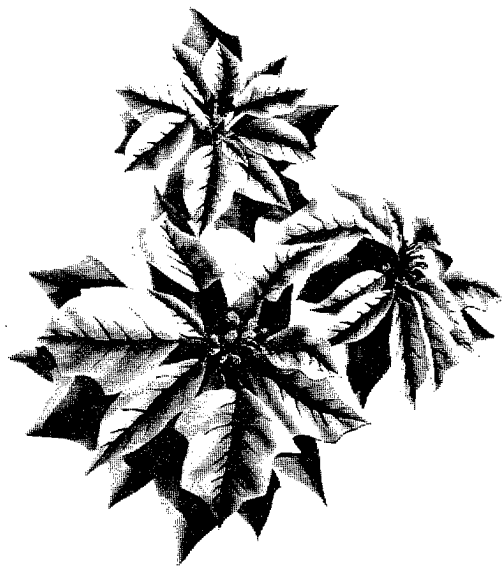
Noboru Sugamura and two of his associates had been at a trade show in Chicago. They had purchased three 16 foot shuffleboards from Brian. But, they didn't understand the game; they didn't know how to care for and prep the boards they had bought; and they didn't know how to run a tournament. Brian suggested they visit the Shamrock Bar to learn about those things -- and they did.

"PeeWee and Beef showed them the strategy of the game and how to care for the board. I showed them how to set up a tournament," said Marge. "It was a great afternoon. They apologized for asking 'silly questions.' I told them there were no silly questions when you're learning the game. They're hoping to get shuffleboard started in Tokyo. They'd never seen the game played before and I think we broke the language barrier. They were there to learn how to play and how to promote the game in their country and I hope we helped."

Why 16 foot boards instead of the generally-accepted 22 foot boards in American play? Simply because of space limitations. Space is a precious commodity in Japan.

The Board Talk has extended the fellowship of shufflers from coast to coast across the U.S.A., across the border to Canada, and now across the ocean to Japan. Welcome, Japan, to our World of Shuffleboard. It's a very special place and we're glad you're a part of it!

Greetings



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Notebook *(continued from page 3)*

Why can't we get some of the top players around the country to send in articles? Darrol Nelson of Oregon and Gene Gach of Michigan come to mind. Both literate, interesting people with no doubt reams of tales from the forefront. If just one person from each of the 35 saloons that decided not to renew their subscriptions would have sent in something -- friendly and/or interesting -- you wouldn't have disappointed our leaders, George and Donna Wilber. Do we want this to be a successful publication or not? I've made my decision. Now, you make yours.

Jeff Dugaw, Union Lake, Michigan

Thank you, Jeff! You said, from a reader's viewpoint, what we have tried to say, but you've given it credibility. And, we don't think of ourselves as leaders, but as followers, of the World of Shuffleboard. We hope they're going in your direction. Like you, we wanted to make that 3,000 mile trip out to Washington to meet those nice people at the Corner Tavern and maybe someday, we can. In the meantime, we have this space through which to join hands across the U.S.A. and Canada and we, like you, want that handshake to be filled with good, constructive, special fellowship. Thank you and Merry Christmas!

Tourney Talk *(continued from page 1)*

Anderson/Lampley Win at Yakima Pub

Nels Anderson and Loren Lampley of Shelton, Washington, were winners of the 1st Annual Octoberfest Masters Tournament at the Yakima Pub in Tacoma, Washington, Oct. 22-23.

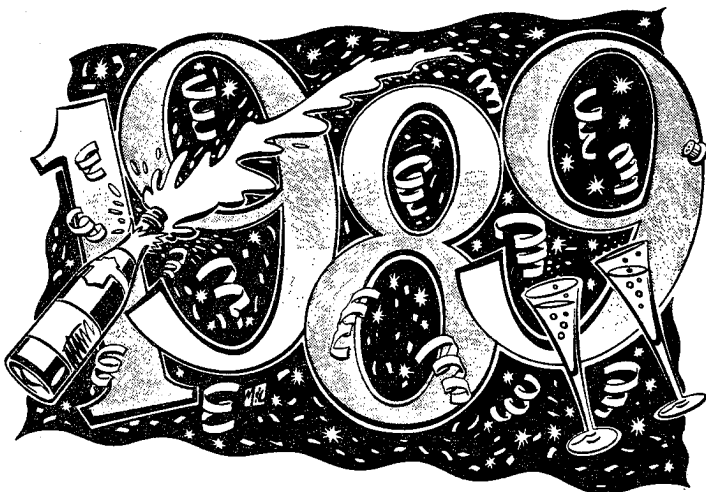
Al Pease and Dave Arndt of Shelton took second place honors, with Chuck Norris and Frank Monnarrez of Portland, Oregon, in third.

McGrew/Gach/Broka Win at Lakeside

Winners of the "constant action" tournament at the Lakeside Lounge, Union Lake, Mich., Oct. 28-30, were Phil McGrew and Gene Gach of Michigan in the doubles and Terry Broka of Ohio in the singles.

Other winners were O.B. Brimm and Jeff Cottrell taking second place honors in the doubles, with Lee McDonald and Jim Stockmaster in third place. J.R. Lopez captured second place in the singles with Lee McDonald in third.

There was a big pot for this tournament -- \$6,180! Both tourneys ran at the same time with players participating in both on two boards, running "without a hitch," reports director Phil McGrew, with great reception by all players and spectators involved.



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Phil extends special thanks to Kathy Broka for the great help in running the tournament, to Kathy and Dennis Wilson for serving as auctioneers, to Jim Stockmaster for board preparations, to Emmanuel and Mary for being great hosts, to Don Perry for coming all the way from New York to participate in the tourney, to Budweiser for the beautiful trophies, and to all the players for their spirit of cooperation.

Lafayette Inn's Fall Classic Another Sell-Out

One hundred fifty-two entries from five states spent Halloween weekend in Rising Sun, Maryland, for the Lafayette Inn's Fall Classic. It was "trick or treat" as they played in four single game double elimination events and divided up just over \$13,500. Everyone listed in the Atlantic Division's Top Ten was registered and it was a tournament where some new leaders emerged.

Friday night's draw partner event was sold out two weeks in advance and the 36 entrants divided up over \$2800. First place went to Doug Fridley, Jr. of Waterloo, New York and Burr Miller, Milford, Del. Don Casula, Wilmington, Del. and Bob Hall of Rising Sun took second place honors with Mopey Hasson, Perryville, Md. and Ray Herrmann of Philadelphia in third.

"Saturday morning was brightened by sunshine and 14 of the fairer sex competing in a women's singles event," reports Dick Gorman. "Sometimes it is hard to see after a long Friday night, but these 14 women could brighten anyone's vision, particularly when you watch them shoot on four different boards." First place was won by Judy Gartland of Philadelphia; second place honors went to Helen Fuller, Sherburne, N.Y., and third was taken by Mary Lou Thompson, Dover, Del.

Thirty-seven teams squared off on Saturday afternoon in the bring partners event and 73 games later, six teams divided up almost \$5500. First place went to first-time tournament winners Gator Abbott and Ace Wettington, both from Milford. Second place was won by Stosh Chemeleski and Tom Schaeffer, both of Philadelphia. Third place was taken by George Chamberlin and Mopey Hasson from Perryville. John Finnerty, owner of Finn's Inn in Palmyra, New York, and Doug Fridley Jr. of Dew Drop Inn, Waterloo, New York (both new places on the Play Your Way Across the U.S.A. list) took fourth place. Fifth place went to brothers Ray and Ron Herrmann of Philadelphia, and sixth place to Steve Bennett and Dennis Brown of Sherburne, N.Y.

Sunday's open singles sold out with 30 players vying for just over \$4100. Another Herrmann -- Jerry -- from Philadelphia lasted to take first place, followed by a new tournament shooter, Leonad Dell of Baltimore. Third place was won by Rick Niblett, Salisbury, Md.; fourth to Doug Fridley Jr.; fifth to Ron Herrmann of Philadelphia; and sixth to Poncho Prevento from Port Deposit, Md.

The tournament saw prizes divided up among players from four of the five states represented and, as usual, Pat and Nelson Renzo reduced bar prices during the tournament hours as well as provided hot buffets both Saturday and Sunday.

The next major tournament at Lafayette Inn will be The Board Talk Winter Tournament on Feb. 10-11-12. Watch your Board Talk for details, but mark your calendars now. Lafayette Inn holds a first Sunday of the month tourney and has mixed doubles tourneys scheduled for Dec. 4 and Jan. 22.

Summers/McDermott/Nelson/Hagen Win at Colorado Open

There was a good mixture of familiar and new names in the winners' circle at the 4th Annual Colorado Open in Denver, Oct. 27-30.

Taking top honors in the doubles were Sam Summers of Oklahoma and John McDermott of Michigan. Hal Perry of California and Diana Hagen of Texas finished second, with Don Valk of Texas and Paul Macarrone of Florida in third place.

Darrol Nelson of Oregon captured the singles title, with John McDermott in second place, and Bob Lewis of Arizona in third place.

In the women's singles, the winner was Diana Hagen. (As we went to press, we did not have the second and third place winners. Watch next month's issue.)

Susan D. of Jerry D's Nostalgia Tavern in Dacona, Col., sends congratulations to Jody Slack and Bill Kelter for running a great tourney. Even though she didn't place, she enjoyed playing with the professionals.

Wilcox/Hart Tops at First & Last Stop

Emmett Wilcox and Steve Hart of Anderson, Indiana, took top honors at the Frist & Last Stop's 4th annual doubles tournament in Kendallville, Indiana, on Oct. 29.

(continued on page 11)

World Series of Shuffleboard

Dec. 30 - Jan. 2

Singles: \$50

Doubles: \$100 Team

Three Boards

Best 2 of 3 - Double Elimination

Auction on Friday, Dec. 30

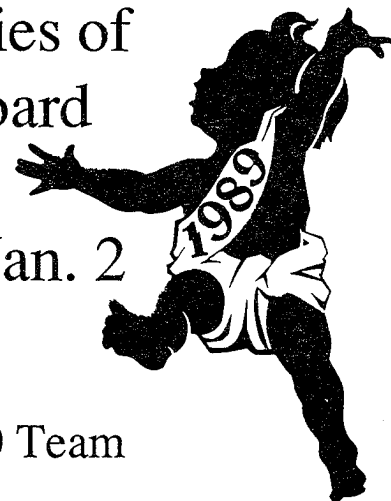
Play starts Saturday, Dec. 31

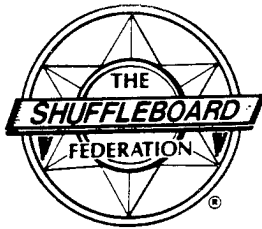
- Gala New Year's Eve Party -

Black Cat Tavern

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Phone: 503-235-3571





"Friendship through Competition"

CALENDAR

December 2-4: 5th Annual State of Michigan doubles tourney,
Papa's Pub and Grub

December 9-11: 5th Annual State of Michigan singles tourney,
Papa's Pub and Grub

January 12-16: P.C.S.A. Shuffleboard Extravaganza
Showboat Hotel, Las Vegas, Nevada

February 16-20: 4th Annual Washington's Birthday tourney
Holiday Inn, Dallas/Fot Worth Airport

March 16-19: 2nd Annual Greater Arizona Open
Howard Johnson Plaza Hotel, Phoenix, Arizona

April 20-23: Hoosier Classic

May 25-29: 3rd Annual Michigan/Playfair Open
Holiday Inn, Bloomfield Hills, Michigan

This is a new section which will be a regular feature listing all Federation sanctioned events.

Point Standings As of 11-7-88

1. Darrol Nelson	(5)	650
2. John McDermott	(5)	528
3. Don Cox	(5)	445
4. Glen Davidson	(5)	404
5. David Williams	(5)	381
6. Bobby Voorhis	(5)	330
7. Howard Mouton	(5)	325
8. Bill Melton	(5)	283
9. Glen Young	(4)	275
10. Eric Waldman	(5)	252
11. Earl Kelly	(4)	226
12. Jim Allis	(5)	208
13. Sam Summers	(5)	183
14. Hal Perry	(5)	180
15. Karl Spickelmier	(5)	174
16. Rick Boyer	(5)	173
17. John Myles	(5)	165
18. Chris Danke	(4)	143
19. Fred Thumann	(4)	136
20. Leroy Ledford	(4)	124

As 1988 draws to a close, we would like to recap some of the highlights, as well as to recognize and thank some of the people who have been instrumental in making this year successful for The Federation and the World of Shuffleboard.

In February, before the start of David Williams' Washington's Birthday tourney, there was a players' meeting. At tht meeting, Federation co-founder Phil Skover stated, "It is going to take all of us working together to continue to move our sport forward." Well, a lot of us worked together in 1988. The completion of the first year of the tour is a big step forward for shuffleboard and The Shuffleboard Federation is proud to be part of it. All of us who love shuffleboard can be proud of the credibility the sport has earned in the past year.

One of the major hurdles we faced in 1988 was to get enough boards to each tournament to make them run smoothly. That burden was lifted from our shoulders by Al Stewart, A & M Amusement Service; Sol Lipkin, American Shuffleboard Co.; Brian Crowl, Playfair Shuffleboard Co.; and Bill and Mike Melton. All provided boards to The Federation and we would like to extend a sincere thank you, not only from The Federation, but on behalf of all the players who participated in these tournaments.

Next on the list are all the individuals who took a chance on us in our first year of the tour, our tournament directors: David Williams, Joni Jones (Palm Tavern), the Voorhis family, Beef and Marge Camp (Beef's Shamrock Bar), Don Valk, Jerry and Sharon, Fred and Lois (Ace of Clubs), Bill Melton and Sam Summers, Jody Slack and Bill Kelper, Al and Von Stewart, Ray and Chris Hogan (Stagger Inn). The Federation wishes to recognize these individuals and establishments for their support. These people are the heroes of the 1988 tour for pledging their time, money, and moral support to making the 1988 tour a success.

The benefits of that support will be in the spotlight at the upcoming Las Vegas tourney when the top ten players receive their checks in a special presentation. Our sincere congratulations to Darrol Nelson of Oregon for clinching the points title for 1988!

Player Policy Board

The formation of this group of nine players is maybe the most significant happening of 1988. We now have a system in place that allows the players who support our tournaments the opportunity to have some input as to how they are run. In terms of credibility for the sport of shuffleboard, this is a tremendous step in the right direction. We would like to extend our very sincere appreciation to Bill Melton for agreeing to be chairperson of this committee. Bill's fellow



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Happy
Holidays



Happy
Holidays



Happy
Holidays



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Happy
Holidays

Policy Board members are: Gail Crane, Bob Lewis, Brenda Moore, Howard Mouton, Hal Perry, Jody Slack, Karl Spickelmier and Bobby Voorhis.

The Player Policy Board will meet again prior to the Las Vegas tourney. We know that most shuffleboard players have opinions and suggestions on how to make our tournaments better. We often hear great ideas from someone while at a tournament, only to forget them by the time we get home. When the Policy Board meets in January, they will be reviewing the existing rules as well as discussing new ones. If you have a good idea, be proud of it. Write it down and send it to the Player Policy Board, c/o The Shuffleboard Federation.

Thank you, Policy Board members, for your help in 1988 and thank you in advance for your help in 1989.

Amateur Leagues

The Federation very much appreciates the people who took the time to write us about their leagues. We now have information on leagues with a combined membership of well over 10,000 players. We will be devoting a lot of time in the next year to the amateur side of the sport and hopefully in the fall of 1989 will have the first national amateur league in place. For those of you who participate in league play, take a few minutes and write us about your league. Don't wait for someone else to do it.

Women's Tour

Another top priority for 1989 is the development of a women's tour, complete with point standings and awards for the top players. All of you ladies who participated in some of our women's events in 1988 have a stake in this so don't be shy. Help us to help you and send us your ideas on this subject.

The Biggest Thank You of All

Where would this game be right now were it not for The Board Talk? The opportunity for communication that George and Donna Wilber have provided has been the major spark in bringing shuffleboard out of the dark ages. Congratulations on your first five years.

Let's make December Board Talk Appreciation Month. If everyone who enjoys reading their Board Talk each month bought a subscription for someone else as a Christmas present, we could double the number of subscribers. This would make the difference between just getting by and being able to go out and attend the tournaments. Everyone who loves this game has benefitted from George and Donna's efforts. Put something back into the game and buy that extra subscription today.

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-- PLEASE POST --

**Start your 1989
Shuffleboard Year
here:**

D.J.'s Bar

1360 W. Center Street
Warsaw, Indiana 46580

**New Year's Eve Tourney
December 31, 1988
Bring Your Partner
\$20 per team**

Auction at 2 p.m. -- Doors open at 10 a.m.

**-- Complimentary bottle of champagne with each entry --
Two Boards -- Open Sundays**

**For information, call 219-269-1913
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**Draw partner, single elimination, every Monday night!
Only bar in Kosciusko County with two boards!**

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4th Annual Washington's Birthday Tournament Feb. 16-20, 1989

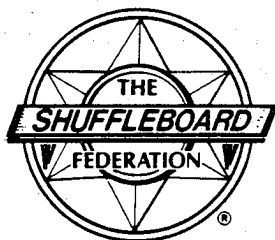
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Dallas/Ft. Worth Airport, West Location, Bedford, Texas

Call 817-267-3181 for room reservations

(You must stay at the Holiday to participate in the tournament if you are a non-resident.
Free transportation from the airport furnished by Holiday Inn.)

Presented by: Dave Williams, Bill Melton & The Shuffleboard Federation



Doubles: \$400 per team
Singles: \$200 per player
Both 2 of 3, double elimination

Auction and starting times to be announced.

Get your reservations in early for
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Call The Shuffleboard Federation: 313-344-9666



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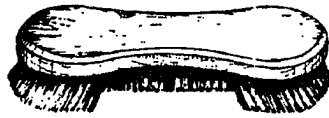
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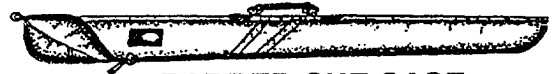
\$3.75/each

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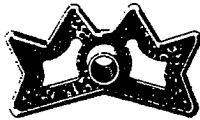
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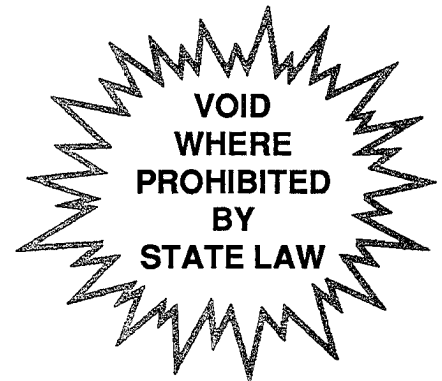
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BREAK OPEN TICKETS	TICKET SELLING PRICE	PROFIT PER DEAL	DEALS PER CASE	CASE PRICE
Bankers Century 13	1.00	95.00	12	95.00
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CALL NOW FOR MORE DETAILS!



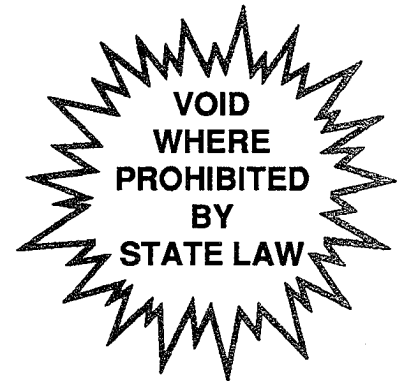
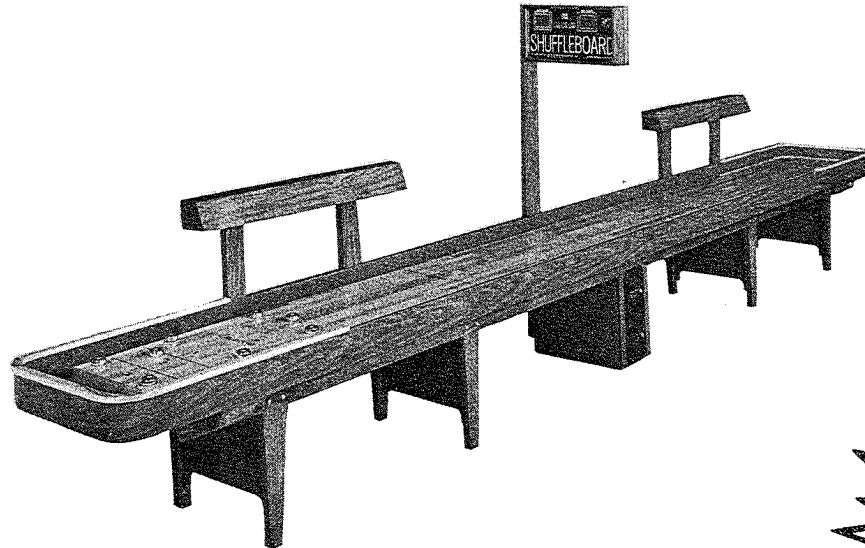
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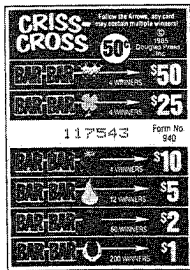
Takes In: 2016 @ 50¢ \$1008.00

PAYS OUT:

1 @ \$52.00	\$52.00
3 @ \$50.00	150.00
1 @ \$26.00	26.00
3 @ \$25.00	75.00
1 @ \$11.00	11.00
3 @ \$10.00	30.00
1 @ \$ 7.00	7.00
11 @ \$ 5.00	55.00
11 @ \$ 4.00	44.00
25 @ \$ 3.00	75.00
58 @ \$ 2.00	116.00
79 @ \$ 1.00	79.00
197 CARDS PAY	\$720.00
GROSS PROFIT PER SET	\$288.00

PROFIT PER DEAL = \$288.00

\$288 x 12 FREE DEALS = \$3456.00



BANKERS CLUB

Takes in: 480 Cards @ \$1.00 \$480.00

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1 @ \$100.00	\$100.00
2 @ \$ 20.00	40.00
2 @ \$ 15.00	30.00
6 @ \$ 10.00	60.00
8 @ \$ 5.00	40.00
10 @ \$ 3.00	30.00
17 @ \$ 2.00	34.00
51 @ \$ 1.00	51.00
TOTAL PAYOUT	\$385.00
GROSS PROFIT PER SET	\$95.00

PROFIT PER DEAL = \$95.00

\$95 x 36 FREE DEALS = \$3420.00



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And the best part is that your club will have the finest shuffleboard made — a steady money earner for many years to come. Each shuffleboard comes complete with all accessories needed to play shuffleboard. They are shipped freight collect, F.O.B. Fort Wayne, IN at 1,000 pounds each.

CALL NOW FOR MORE DETAILS!



More to Celebrate Than 29 Years in Business

'Twas the day before Christmas and in bars across the nation, people were toasting each other with glasses held high and hustling to get one more game of shuffleboard in before Christmas Eve closing.

That will be the scene in a lot of bars in just a few short weeks and many of us will be there when it happens. One person in The World of Shuffleboard who won't be there is Al Stewart, owner-operator of A & M Amusement Service, El Monte, California, for the past 29 years.

Not that Al doesn't have a lot to celebrate: a successful business, a vocation he loves and a wife he describes as "the sweetest thing God ever created." But the former shuffleboard hustler won't be celebrating with a drink. Instead, he and his "partner, friend and wife," Von, will celebrate Christ's birthday in church that evening. It's been that way for 12 years now, since Al and Von became "born again" Christians.

Before that, the Stewarts didn't have much reason to celebrate. Booze and shuffleboard hustling had taken their toll. Drunken fights threatened their marriage; Al's shuffleboard refinishing business was on the brink of failure because of lack of attention. But all that changed and, according to Al, "Thanks to God, He saved our marriage and our business."

So how does a born-again Christian reconcile his "new life" with a business where 99% of his work is in bars? Isn't there a "conflict of interest"?

"Absolutely none," Al said. "I'm completely at ease with what I do and how I live. I made up my mind from the first that I would not preach to those people sitting in the bars. I've had some people who knew me before and have asked me about the change. I'm more than happy to tell them how it all came about, but I don't throw it at them. Now the people who used to bring me a scotch and water or bottle of Coors come up with a cup of coffee."

Learning Through "Trial and Error"

Al got into the shuffleboard business by "pure coincidence." He was working for an insulation company when his shuffleboard hustler partner, Freddy Anderson, broke off a key in the money box and asked Al to go to Los Angeles with him to pick up a screw lock from the American Shuffleboard Company.

"While I was there, a couple people called and wanted shuffleboards moved from one bar to another. I told John Weiss, who was the West Coast manager for American Shuffleboard, that I had a pick-up and could handle it. That's how I started -- just moving boards," Al said.

Then came the demand for refinishing the boards. Since he had neither the facilities nor the expertise to do that, he hauled them to San Bernadino, had them refinished there, picked them up 8 to 10 days later and then delivered them. There had to be a better way, he thought.

"I quit my other job, rented a building, got all the sanders and spray guns and started from scratch, knowing nothing. I opened the shop in 1962. I was dumb, green," he said. "The first board I refinished was so slow, you practically had to hit the weight with a golf club to get it to the other end of the board. I did seven boards in San Diego and had to redo them all because the paint peeled off.

"It was trial and error for a period there, but I just kept

working at it. But I loved it and I still do. I love to get those old boards and when I get them fixed up all nice and pretty and someone asks, 'is that a new board?' -- that really does something to me," Al said. "I've built up a pretty good reputation and I'm proud of that."

Al refinishes boards in nine western states and has gone as far as 1,700 miles to Idaho. He averages more than eight refinishing jobs a month.

Al's stepson, Harold, better known as Bear, works with him and Al looks forward to the day when he can step back and let Bear be the shuffleboard man of A & M Amusement Service.

And what will Al do when Bear takes over? "I'm gonna work on my cars. I've got a couple Thunderbirds and I like to polish them up and drive them around town," he said.

The Biggest Change is Speed

Al has seen a lot of changes in shuffleboard during the 29 years he's been in business and since 1949 when he first started playing.

"The biggest change is speed. They want them faster, faster, faster. We never used to use any silicone or magic glaze. We just used regular powdered wax. Then they came up with what we call half-and-half, then they went to the American speed. Now they've gone to the super-glide which is a can of roller bearings and they've got all kinds of silicone, Pledge, and everything else to put on the boards that you can imagine.

"They want the boards faster and straighter and you can't have both. You have to throw the weight so slow that any type of imperfection in the board is going to show. With the slower wax we used in the old days, you had to throw it so hard to get it down there, you didn't notice any of the hooks or crooks in the boards."

Al believes the game of shuffleboard is, without a doubt, on the upswing. "It died out in the 60s when the pool tables came in. Nobody was promoting shuffleboard then. They stuck the boards in a room, sometimes the back room, and just let them set. It picked up a little in the mid-60s, then died out again and stayed pretty low until about nine years ago. The past few years, I've been busy, busy, busy," he said.

A Career High Point

One of the high points of Al's 29-year career happened when he rented a board to Warner Brothers movie studio for "Police Academy Two." Al got to deliver the board on location, a bar set up in a warehouse in downtown Los Angeles.

"That was quite an experience -- to think that I was going to have a board in a movie that would be shown all over the country. It didn't show much, you had to really look hard to see it, but it was there," he said.

A more recent highpoint in the Stewart's life was announced by Al during a phone conversation with The Board Talk editors just prior to putting this issue to press. "Von has just become a great grandmother," Al said.

When you see Al at the Showboat in Las Vegas in January, be sure to congratulate him on Von's achievement! And when you see Von, congratulate her for tolerating Al's 'sense of humor all these many years!

Best Place in the U.S.A for Shuffling Action

I Nominate Ours & Your Place, Sudlersville, Maryland: Judith Iseman

Whether it's your vacation, a long weekend or you're just out cruisin,' stop by Ours & Your Place, Sudlersville, Maryland. You'll be sure to find a shuffleboard game and great hospitality.

In August, my good friends, Mike Kennedy and Mary Ann Watson of Philadelphia, called me and said they were going on vacation and wanted to spend it going around shooting shuffleboard with their friends in Maryland and Delaware. As it turned out, they got as far as Ours & Your Place.

They showed up Friday evening and found enough players to shoot until closing time. Saturday was no different. There were round robins from 9 a.m. until closing with players like Art and JoAnn Ware, Scratch Todd, Ed Kibler, John Lukas, Mickey Baugh, Buddy Brammer and Jack Gardner, just to mention a few.

On Sunday, Mike and Mary Ann were guests on a fishing trip that JoAnn Ware takes her Ours & Your shuffleboard team on every year.

On Tuesday, Mike and Mary Ann had to return home but were back the following weekend for more shuffleboard action and they brought Jim and Rita Yank with them. Both of these couples were in our Season Opener Tournament. Jim and Rita have been back since for the weekend and our Third Sunday Tournament.

Mickey Baugh heard about Ours & Your Place and came looking for some action before he knew about our September tournament. He found a partner, Ed Galke of New York, and signed up in the Season Opener Tourney, winning first place in the bring your partner event.

Mopey Hasson stops by now and then on a Saturday, usually followed by George and JoAnn.

Anytime a tournament is coming up, Ed Kibler is a regular on weekends practicing. Ed also just shows up looking for a game now and then just like Jack Gardner and so many others.

Don't forget Ours & Your Place is the home of John Lukas, one great shuffler! Another great shuffler, Scratch Todd, is usually around.

The third Sunday of every month, Ours & Yours has a \$5.00 draw partner tournament with auction.. If you're looking for something to do on a Sunday afternoon, come and join the fun. If enough men and women are present, we draw for mixed teams.

So, fellow shufflers, don't miss the action at my favorite shuffling establishment, Ours & Your Place, Sudlersville, Maryland. We have three boards, lots of action and lots of fun.

Come see us soon.

.....
Editor's Note: If you have a nomination for "Best Place in the U.S.A. for Shuffling Action," send it to The Board Talk, 421 E. Sheridan Rd., Lansing, MI 48906.



Tournament

Jan. 13 - 15

Draw Partners: \$10 per person
Women's Singles: \$15 per person
Bring Partner: \$25 per team
Open Singles: \$25 per player

-- Sat.-Sun. Buffet for all participants --
Advance registration urged!

Ours & Your Place

Your Hosts: Art & Joann Ware
Sudlersville, Maryland 301-438-3743

Tourney Talk *(continued from page 7)*

Second place went to Danny Smith and Greg Mackey of Summitville, Ind. Both of the top teams are from the Town Tavern in Summitville.

Sixteen teams participated in the tourney and hostess/owner Pat reports that three-quarters of the top players in the area participated. "The games were close and all good people participated. Lots of good playing and to watch was fantastic," she said.

First and Last Stop will host another tournament in February. Watch for details.

Ziggy/Bernie Tops at Harold's Lounge

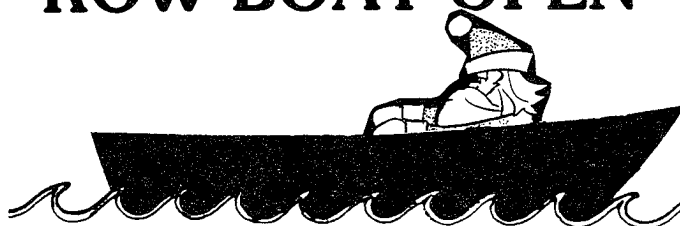
Local Ziggy Konuszewski and Bernie Sunde of the Detroit area teamed up to take top honors at the doubles tournament at Harold's Lounge in Saginaw, Mich. on Nov. 5. Second place honors went to Phil McGrew and Jim Stockmaster of Pontiac, with third place taken by Jimmy "the cop" Kumpula of Detroit/Florida and host Dale DeWaard.

Dale would like to thank all participants who came to the event, especially Randy and Tom who came from Marion,

(continued on page 12)



Catch the action at
**JERRY D'S
ROW BOAT OPEN**



January 6-7-8, 1989

Auction on Friday
Stop in and make some
extra money for Vegas!

Singles: \$50 entry fee
Double elimination
One board - first
come, first serve

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**Jerry D's
Nostalgia
Tavern**

604 8th Street on Hwy. 52
Dacona, Colorado 303-833-3469

Tourney Talk (continued from page 11)

Ohio, to play in their first tourney. He also thanks Phil McGrew who assisted as auctioneer.

Dale plans another tournament in the spring and will try to generate more local interest to assure out-of-towners a better turnout.

First-Timers Win at Beef's

Scott Smith and Brent of Summitville took first place in their first "big" tournament ever at Beef's Shamrock Bar in Waterloo, Indiana on Nov. 5. They beat out 19 other teams to take the title and their share of the \$1800 pot.

Second place went to Don (Perrion) Perry of New York and Mark Champion of Albion, Indiana.

Cockrum/Fitzgerald Win at S.S. Wharf

Woodie Cockrum of Cuba, Missouri, and D. Fitzgerald of Florissant, Mo., were winners of the annual St. Louis Metro Invitational at the S.S. Wharf Lounge on Nov. 5. Second place winners were W. Wiedman of Granite City, Illinois, and Doug Zurmueller of Florissant.

Among the other contenders were Paul Casula, John Lorts and Steven Stevens, all of the St. Louis area.

If you haven't visited the S.S. Wharf, you should. It's St. Louis's shuffleboard hot spot and a fun place to go. Check the Shuffleboard Directory for details.

Lawrence/Cameron Win at Sports Arena

Twenty enthusiastic shufflers showed up to help Warren Faulk celebrate his second anniversary at the Sports Arena Club in Houston, Texas, on Nov. 11-13.

In the \$50 draw, George Lawrence and Kelly Cameron of Houston, Texas, took top honors. Second place went to Don Valk and Joe Roden of Austin, with Terry Moore of San Antonio and Billy Mays of Dallas in third.

There weren't enough players for the scheduled \$200 bring your partner, so the participants played draw tourneys all day and all night and appeared to have a very good time, reports Warren.

New Year's Tourney at D.J.'s, Warsaw, Indiana

A complimentary bottle of champagne will go to each entry in the bring your partner tourney at D.J.'s, 1360 W. Center St., Warsaw, Indiana, on Saturday, Dec. 31. Entry fee is \$20 per team, double elimination, first open board. The auction starts at 2 p.m. but doors will open at 10 a.m.

D.J.'s has two boards and is open on Sundays.

For information about this tourney, call hosts Phil and Karen Heinzman, 219-269-1913. See ad in this issue, post the enclosed flyer in your favorite house, and plan to participate in this fun event.

World Series at Black Cat, Portland, Oregon

The World Series of Shuffleboard will be held at the Black Cat Tavern, 8230 S.E. 13th, Portland, Oregon, on Dec. 30-31, Jan. 1-2.

Doubles is \$100 per team entry fee; \$50 for singles. Best 2 of 3, double elimination on three boards. The auctions are scheduled for Friday, Dec. 30, with play starting on Saturday. Payoff is 60-60 for first place, 25-25 for second; 10-15 for third; and 5 for fourth (entry only).

A gala New Year's Eve party will be held with snacks, favors, noise makers and a buffet. Boards will be open to paid entries only from Thursday noon on.

(continued on page 13)

Winter Tourney

Doubles: \$20 per team
Double Elimination

JAN. 21

Auction at 11 a.m.
4 Boards Available

- FISH FRY -

For information, call Mike Koontz, 219-498-6625

AMERICAN LEGION 424
Bourbon, Indiana 219-342-9125

Tourney Talk *(continued from page 12)*

To make your reservations, or for more information, call 503-235-3571.

New Year's Eve Tourney, Palace Bar

The Voorhis family will host a New Year's tournament at the Palace Bar, 121 S. Main, Fairmount, Indiana, on Dec. 30-Jan. 1. The doubles, \$40 entry fee, will start right after the auction at 9 p.m. Friday. The auction for the singles, \$20 entry fee, will be held at 4 p.m. on Saturday. Both events are single game, double elimination, on three or four boards, depending on number of entries.

For information, or to save your spot, call 317-948-9102.

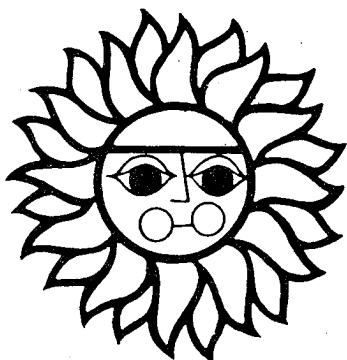
Rowboat Open, Jerry D's, Jan. 6-8

On your way to the big extravaganza at the Showboat in Las Vegas, be sure to stop at Jerry D's Nostalgia Tavern in Dacona, Colorado, for the "Rowboat Open" on Jan. 6, 7 and 8. Earn some extra spending money for Vegas in the singles tourney, \$50 entry fee, double elimination. Auction on Friday night with a professional auctioneer to fill the pot! Free lunch on Saturday for all participants.

Jerry says, "Sorry, only one board so it's first come, first serve. But it's a Bobby V board and a good one!" (Jerry and Susan enjoyed having Bobby spend the weekend when he was in Colorado.)

For information, call 303-833-3469 or 303-833-3959. See ad in this issue and plan to stop by Jerry D's.

(continued on page 16)

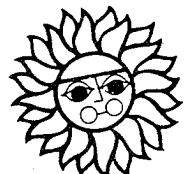


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Log Cabin Bar

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Rome's Saloon

Two Good Shuffleboards

785 W. Mississippi, Denver, Colo. 303-778-9976

Tourney Talk (continued from page 13)

PCSA Tourney, Showboat, Las Vegas, Jan. 13-16

This event promises to be the biggest one of the year with participants from throughout the U.S. and Canada. The 8-person amateur team event, in particular, is attracting phenomenal response. If you don't get your registration in NOW, with paid entries, you may be watching from the sidelines. No entries received after Dec. 15 can be guaranteed room reservations or a spot in the event. Entry fee for the amateur team event is \$740 per team which includes four rooms for three nights and four days, PCSA membership fee of \$80 per team and entry fee of \$300. The open singles is \$370 and includes two nights and three days lodging, PCSA membership fees and \$300 entry fee. The women's singles is \$110 which includes \$10 membership fee. The open doubles is \$220 and includes \$10 PCSA fee per player. Players will be assessed the \$10 PCSA membership fee one time only regardless of the number of events entered. Send cashier's check or money order to P.C.S.A., P.O. Box 8143, Bellflower, CA 90706. For information, call Joe Munniz, 213-926-3714, or Lou Lusero, 213-830-7600, Ext. 362, or 213-513-6486. **Winter Tournament at Ours & Your Place, Jan. 13-15** Ours & Your Place, Sudlersville, Maryland, will host a Winter Tournament on Jan. 13-15. All one-day tourneys on three boards, 15 point, straight, single game, double elimination. A draw partner event, \$10 entry fee, is scheduled for

The Board Talk
421 E. Sheridan Road
Lansing, Michigan 48906



Gerald Siebert
1128 Kelsey
Lansing, MI 48910

Friday the 13th. Auction at 7 p.m. with play immediately following. Limited to the first 24 sign-ups. On Saturday morning, a women's singles, \$25 entry fee, is on the agenda. Auction at 9 a.m., limited to first 12 players. A bring your partner tourney will be held on Saturday afternoon, \$25 per team entry. Auction at 1 p.m., limited to 24 teams. An open singles, \$25 entry fee, will start with the auction at noon on Sunday. Limited to the first 20 players. Advance registration is urged because this one fills up in a hurry. Call your tournament hosts, Art and JoAnn Ware, 301-438,3743, or tournament director Judith Iseman, 301-778-5754. **4th Annual Washington's Birthday Tourney** Here's the news you've been waiting for! That popular Washington's Birthday Tournament in Texas is set for Feb. 16-20, presented this year by Dave Williams, Bill Melton, and The Shuffleboard Federation. The site for this big event is the Holiday Inn, Dallas/Ft. Worth Airport, west location, in Bedford, Texas. Entry fee for the doubles is \$400 per team, \$200 for the singles. Both events are 2 of 3, double elimination. Auction and starting times will be announced in upcoming issues. To make your room reservations, call 817-267-3181. If you are a non-resident, you must stay at the Holiday Inn to participate in the tournament. Free transportation from the airport to the hotel will be furnished by Holiday Inn. For information about the tournament, call The Shuffleboard Federation, 313-344-9666.

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