

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. 1 January 1988

Hammer

We're pretty selfish about this space. Since the birth of The Board Talk, we've used it to share our personal concerns, ideas and hopes for the future of shuffleboard, and to pay tribute to those who have made special contributions to the sport.

Every now and then, however, along comes someone with a message that makes us "move over" and relinquish the soap box. Such is the case this month. But, first, we'd like to extend our sincere thanks to each and every one of you who have helped us enter this fifth year of The Board Talk with a spirit of optimism and continued commitment. We're confident that this landmark issue will make you realize that you're part of a very special network of very special people!

The Responsibilities of Champions

By Jeff Dugaw
Union Lake, Michigan

During the holiday season, it seems appropriate to mention the "gifts" of the really talented shuffleboard players across the country.

Talent is a word defined as: "A gift committed to one's trust to use and improve." Some who have it wear it with grace and dignity; others exploit it for selfish gain.

People with less talent look up to people with more. Society, in general, rewards special people whether they deserve it or not. People want to meet them, chat with them, pal around with them. They may have nothing in common with one another other than their love for the game.

The people want to know the champions' secrets. What they don't know is that the champions don't have the answers. They have no ideas why their left cross is better than all but a few. They don't know how they throw threes in crucial situations, while others go off the end. Self-confidence and good practice ethics certainly contribute to

(continued on page 11)



Happy New Year Shufflers!

Tourney Talk

King/Cox Win at Milford

Chuck King and Kenny Cox were the winners of the Milford (Delaware) open on Nov. 14-15. Rick Niblett and Jimmy Summers were second, followed by Scratch Todd and Eddie Kibler. First place paid \$675, second \$500 and third \$390. Gene and Rich thank everyone for coming.

Taylor/Cameron Win Sports Arena Anniversary Tourney

Warren Faulk celebrated his first anniversary at the Sports Arena in Houston, Texas, by staging a doubles tournament. First place honors went to Jim Taylor and Kelly Cameron, and second to Rod Cameron (Kelly's dad) and Chuck Lato. Third place went to two fighting gals — Sharon Finch and Diana Hagen, who lost in the semis, 15-14. Warren reports that even though they had to compete with the opening week of deer hunting season, they had a real good crowd.

Central Indiana Action

At the American Bar in Portland on Oct. 17, Ron Welborn and Larry Massie won, with Bob Vorndran and Dan Brookshire in second place. Deb Somers and Dennis Hawkins finished third with Bobby Voorhis and Jerry Warr in fourth place.

At the Town Tavern on Oct. 24, Ron and Larry continued their winning ways with Mike Waller and Blaine Yeagy in second, Scott Smith and Dave Boaz in third, and Rick and Young Stocker placing fourth.

At the Palace Bar on Nov. 7, the two board, double elimination tourney was won by Jerry Warr and Bobby Voorhis with Red Newland and Jim DeWitt in second place. Bob and Bobby Brown finished in third.

At Monty's Bar on Nov. 14, John Humes and Emmett Wilcox won with Tom and Bob Vorndran in second place, and Steve Skyler and Rom Hennis, third in this double elimination tourney.

Upcoming tourneys in January include The Palace Bar on Jan. 9 (317-948-9102); Monty's Bar on Jan. 16 (317-378-3602); and American Bar on Jan. 30 (219-726-9252).

King/Gardner Win at Harrington Moose

At the East Coast Moose tournament in Harrington, Delaware, on Nov. 28, first place honors went to Chuck King and Jack (Attack) Gardner. Second place went to Dallas Hayman and Scratch Todd, with Bob Johnson and Richard Foraker in third.

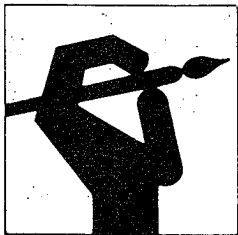
Roland Cashwell thanks everyone for participating and hopes for more teams next time.

McDermott/Ledford Winners at Stagger Inn

Twenty-four singles and 18 doubles teams participated in the exciting Thanksgiving weekend tournament at the Stag-

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Shufflers' Notebook

News and Views
from The World
of Shuffleboard

A Thank You From a Golden Puck Recipient

First off, let me say congratulations and thank you for The Board Talk. I'll bet over the last four years there were some questioning times (and maybe more to come). I want to thank you so much for your efforts because to all of us, you folks mean so much. You are our voice and we hear each other only because of you. Thank you for myself and all those others who mean to say thanks, but just don't find the means to do it. Salutes to you both.

Next, thanks for the Golden Puck. I arrived at the Lafayette Inn a little late Saturday — and I was greeted one after another by congratulations. That was really nice. Nelson Renzo had received his copy and had shown it to some of those there who hadn't received their copies yet. Proves that people do read The Board Talk when it arrives.

Thanks many times.

Dick Gorman, Wilmington, Delaware (Best Reporter of the Year)

Many thanks to you, Dick! There have been questioning times over the past four years — times when we asked each other — "Why are we doing this?" It's because of people like you who appreciate, understand, contribute and serve as Board Talk ambassadors throughout the year. It's because of people like you who took the time to say "thanks" that we enter our fifth year with a feeling that just maybe we've slain all the dragons that tried to keep us from our appointed task — developing a communications network that will put our sport "up" where it belongs.

Glen's Curved Board Gets Support

Just a note on boards that break into the middle. I've been playing only four or five years but find "low" centered boards much more fun and testing. This type of shot made me learn a span thumb shot. A plain Jane straight or fall-off rail type board, I hope, is a thing of the past. Glen's got the right idea.

By the way, Howard and Lagging Lee Brady are now in the Dallas area to terrorize the local natives. Keep your sisters and daughters behind closed doors!

Dave Shuler, Houston, Texas

We appreciate your viewpoint on this issue, Dave. And we're sure Howard and Lee will appreciate your vote of confidence in their prowess.

A Personal Invitation

We all enjoy The Board Talk and know how hard you work at it.

I just finished reading Ray Miller's letter (Dec. issue, Notebook). He is a member of Kimmell Inn's entry in the Tri-County League. He is a class act! I'm proud to claim him as our league president, a teammate and my friend.

A reminder that our 6th Annual "Big Jim" Memorial tournament will be, as always, the first Saturday of March (5th), 1:30 p.m. auction time. Please let this serve as your personal invitation to join us. Such fine players as Jim Long, Jerry Knox, Pee Wee Fleshman, Bud Broka and Larry

Creakbaum are expected back again this year. The combination of nationally recognized names and outstanding local talent make this an exciting day.

Laird Wysong, Kimmell Inn, Kimmell, Indiana

Sounds like a fun event, Laird, and great competition! Hope you have a great turnout.

Ode to Billy

Remember Ode to Billy Joe by Bobbie Gentry a few years ago? Well, Sheila Cambron of the Dallas Chapter of U.S.S.A. Amateur League has penned an Ode to Billy Mays:

Shuffleboard is my game
and Billy Mays is my name.
I've played the game hard and long
hitting pucks is my music and song.
Some say he has "peculiar ways,"
but love to watch him when he plays.
He formed a league called U.S.S.A.
so others, like us, could learn to play.
So thanks to you, from one and all
Now we all have the shuffleboard call.
We spend our money and lots of time
to play like you, and it's one helluva climb.
Billy Mays is the shuffleboard man,
No one can beat him, they just think they can!

This little ditty was presented to Billy at our year-end banquet held at K.C.'s #2 on Northwest Highway on Nov. 21. If we had someone to set it to music, it would probably be a top 10.

Lajanna Story, Dallas, Texas

We bet someone will set it to music, Lajanna. A very fitting tribute indeed.

A Salute for the Stagger Inn Folks

We made it back from Bellflower and the Stagger Inn tournament. Ray Hogan, B.J. Criss and the crew all did a fantastic job of putting on a great tourney as well as a turkey feed. Al Stewart pulled the rails up on the boards and everyone was happy even though I got beat out early. The boards were in great shape. Al put in 14-16 hours a day working the boards. I think he lost 10 pounds over the weekend with all the work he did. Thanks, Al, great job!

Congratulations to John McDermott for another double win — singles and doubles. Also to Leroy Ledford for a repeat on the doubles. John and Leroy are the undisputed doubles champions of the Stagger Inn — two in a row!

It was a real pleasure to see Mexican Tommy Workman back in the action. He was the best player in California, if not the U.S., in the 60s and 70s — a great player and a credit to the game. Tom and Louie made them play good to win on the comeback trail.

Bob Goldsmith is another on the comeback trail. He says Ft. Worth, Texas, would be a good one to win. Good luck to Bobby on his comeback.

(continued on page 3)

Notebook *(continued from page 2)*

One more player I think deserves a lot of credit for putting all he had in the singles and has proved he has made it to the pro ranks, beating players like Darrol Nelson and John McDermott on his way to the first round winner in the singles. That's Al Pease. Although John beat him coming up from the loser's bracket, Al showed us he is now a true professional. Great playing, Al, keep it going! Chris Monahan and Al played great in the doubles also.

I hope everyone remembers George and Donna, King and Queen of Shuffleboard, on their holiday, Dec. 15. Happy Holidays to George and Donna from all of us in Oklahoma.

Madge and I went down to see Eddie Graves at Stringtown, Okla., where he is serving life in prison. He expressed that he would enjoy The Board Talk while there, so we are signing him up. If any of Eddie's friends are interested, his address is: Ed Graves #165521, P.O. Box 220, Stringtown, Okla. 74569.

I'm sure he would enjoy hearing from you. He says to say "hi" to everyone and to let T.A. know that he hoped he would get to go on one more road trip with him. That may be possible through a court appeal.

Glen Davidson, Oklahoma City, Okla.

Your letter is not just a tribute to the workers and players at the Stagger Inn tournament, to us (bless you!), or to a lonely player who has lost the right to participate in all the activities The World of Shuffleboard offers. It is a tribute to you, for your sensitivity, your caring, your dedication to our sport. We salute you! We hope Eddie enjoys his Board Talk and that he'll hear from many of the shuffleboard players across the country who know him.

What About the Women?

I would like to express my concern for the future of women shuffleboard players. After reading the flyer for the upcoming 3rd Annual Washington's Birthday Extravaganza, I see that there is not a women's tournament scheduled. I also remember back to the AquaFest tournament in Austin last August. They had a tournament for the women. Thank you! We were given one board, played single game double elimination (the open singles and doubles played 2 out of 3 double elimination). They started our tournament late so one player had to forfeit her games because of work.

Behind almost every male player, there is a female who likes to play, but knows she cannot compete with the professional men players yet. Now, you are probably going to say, let her play in the amateur tournaments. The sport has professional men and amateur men, so the sport should also have professional women players and amateur women players. How are we going to determine which women are professionals and which are amateurs if the sport doesn't have women's tournaments along with the men in large tournaments?

I also feel that for this sport to get the media attention that it deserves, the women have to be included. Along with the media attention comes big money sponsors, which means more money in the players' pockets. I'm sure a lot of you players would like to see the Corporate Image's tournament called the Miller Lite Open or any other sponsor's name that is putting up prize money. Sure, it's Washington's birthday,

(continued on page 14)



--- ALL YEAR LONG---

**Happy New Year
and Good Shuffling
in '88 — to all our
friends in The World
of Shuffleboard!**

**Don Casula
Dick Gorman
John Lukas**

“The East Coast Guys”

Tourney Talk *(continued from page 1)*

ger Inn in Bellflower, California. The trip to California was worth it for Michigan's John McDermott, who captured the doubles title with Leroy Ledford and the singles crown as well.

Giving Leroy and John a run for their money was the team of "Mexican Tommy" Workman and Louis (Lagging Louie) Lusero, both of California. Chris Monahan of California and Al Pease of Washington teamed up to take third place honors.

Al Pease also showed his stuff in the singles, taking second place, with Oregon's Darrol Nelson in third.

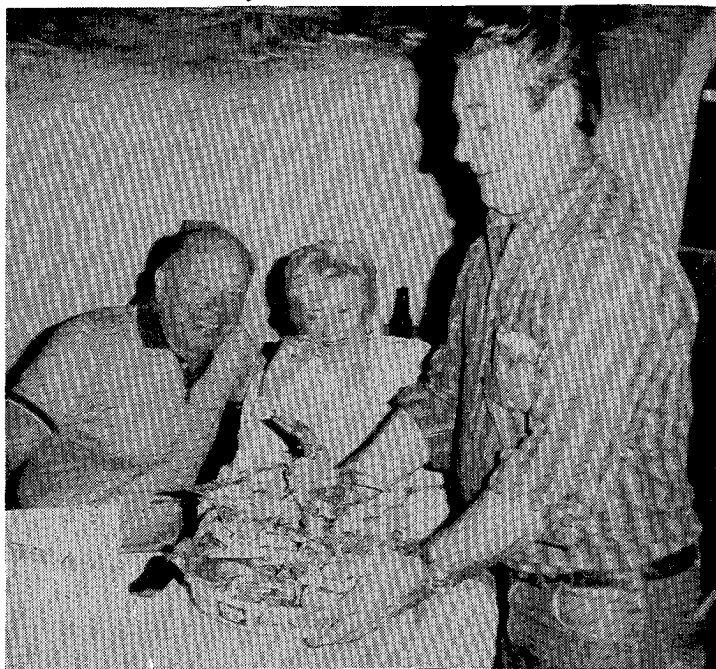
See Shuffler's Notebook and Who's Who in this issue for more details on this tournament.

Sech/McDaniels/Lukas Win at Lafayette Inn

The first Saturday of December (the 5th) saw 18 shooters show up for the monthly showdown. The draw partners double elimination event went to Sam Sech of Glasgow, Delaware, and Jim McDaniels of Street, Maryland, followed by Buddy Brammer and Tom Bernhard, local Rising Sun, Maryland, boys. Third place went to Don Casula of Wilmington, Delaware, and Lafayette host and owner Nelson Renzo.

The singles tournament with 19 participants was won by John Lukas of Millington, Maryland. Poncho Prevento, Northeast, Maryland, took second, with Mopey Hasson of Perryville, Maryland, in third place.

Tournament manager Judy Kilgore reports that the action is getting better every month and the Renzos continue to provide a great buffet with new kinds of food each month. Come on out for the next one — January 9, delayed because of the holidays.



Jimmy (the cop) Kumpula of Florida and Olga Kokolyk of Michigan admire one of Nelson Renzo's many specialties.

Doubles Sweepstakes, Ray's Place, Mishawaka, Indiana, Jan. 16

Ray's Place, 1213 E. Jefferson, Mishawaka, Indiana, will host their 1st Annual Sweepstakes Tournament on Jan. 16.

(continued on page 6)

**A sure cure
for those
Wintertime blahs
in
Rising Sun
Maryland!
Winter
Tournament
Lafayette Inn
Feb. 5-7**

Friday, Feb. 5 — Draw Partners

\$10 entry — Auction at 7 p.m.

Saturday, Feb. 6 — Women's Singles

\$10 entry — Auction at 10 a.m.

Saturday, Feb. 6 — Bring Partner

\$25 team entry — Auction at 2:30 p.m.

Sunday, Feb. 7 — Open Singles

\$25 entry — Auction at 12 noon

**All games 15 pts., straight,
single game, double elimination.**

Open buffet for all participants

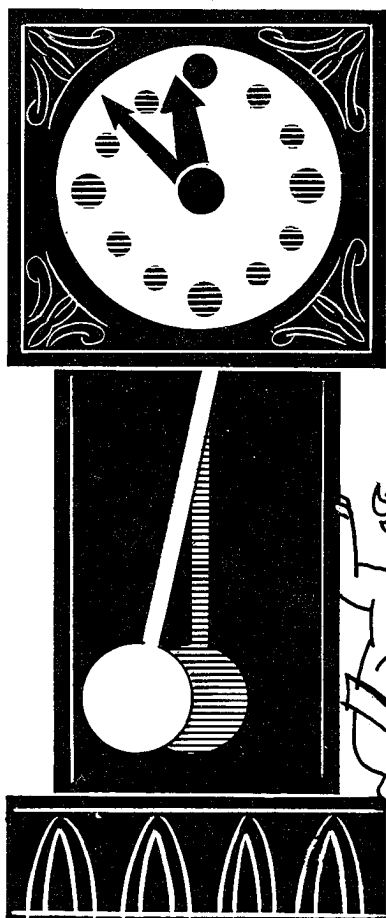
Jackets to all 1st place winners.

**Tournament Hosts: Pat & Nelson Renzo
301-658-9075**

**Tournament Director: Dick Gorman
302-994-0004**

Lafayette Inn

1524 Conowingo Rd., Rising Sun, MD 21911



Happy
New
Year...

Time is relentless, yet it is ever
kind to old friendships.

**3rd Annual
Washington's Birthday
SHUFFLEBOARD
EXTRAVAGANZA
Feb. 10-15, 1988**

presented by

Dave Williams, Bill Melton and Royce Hines

Doubles: 2 out of 3
Double Elimination \$400 per team entry

Singles: 2 out of 3
Double Elimination \$200 per player entry

Biggest Tournament of the New Year!

Entry Deadline: 7 p.m., Feb. 10

Auction for both events, Wednesday night, Feb. 10

**Singles start on Friday, Feb. 11
with Doubles following**

— Player meeting on Feb. 10 at noon —

Action All Week Prior to Tournament

— HOTELS NEARBY —

FOR INFORMATION, CALL:

Bill Melton — 405-369-2448

or Corporate Image — 817-451-0607

The Corporate Image

5418 Brentwood Stair Road

Fort Worth, Texas

Phone 817-451-0607

Tourney Talk *(continued from page 4)*

Entry fee for the doubles is \$40 per team with Ray's kicking in \$100 to the pot. Payoff is 50% - 50% - 12.5% - 12.5%, with jackets awarded to first and second place winners.

Ray's serves great meals so you won't have to search for a restaurant in the area to satisfy your hunger pangs.

For information, call 219-255-3903 and ask for Donna.

Budweiser Open, Jan. 15-17, Sudlersville, Md.

Ours & Your Place, Route 300, Sudlersville, Maryland, will host the first Budweiser Open on Jan. 15-17. Events include draw partners, \$10 entry; women's singles, \$10 entry; bring-partner, \$25 per team; and open singles, \$25 entry fee. Two boards, 15 point games, double elimination.

For information, call Ours & Your Place hosts Art or JoAnn Ware, 301-438-3743, or tournament director Dick Gorman, 301-994-0004.

Jerry D's Row Boat Open, Jan. 15-16

Susan and Jerry D invite shuffleboarders heading for the big tourney at the Showboat to stop at their Nostalgia Tavern, Dacona, Colorado, for a "Row Boat Open" on Jan. 15-16. It's a singles, double elimination, \$50 entry fee, and pays off five places. The auction will start at 6 p.m. Friday night.

See the ad in this issue and plan to participate.

U.S.S.A. World Championship Pro-Am Tourney, Showboat, Las Vegas, Jan. 21-24.

The Showboat Pavilion, Las Vegas, Nevada, will be the site of the U.S.S.A. Championship Tournament on Jan. 21-24. Action includes pro singles (\$435), women's singles (\$65), mixed doubles (\$70), 10-member amateur team event (\$825 per team) and open doubles (\$125). Entry fees include membership fees (one membership entitles you to enter all events) and the pro singles and 10-member amateur team event includes hotel.

Use the enclosed flyer to make your reservation.

Winter Tournament, Lafayette Inn, Rising Sun, Md., Feb. 5-7

The Lafayette Inn, 1524 Conowingo Rd., Rising Sun, Maryland, will host a Winter Tournament on Feb. 5-7.

A Draw Partner event with a \$10 per person entry fee, will kick off the action on Friday, Feb. 5. The drawing and bidding will start at 7 p.m. Limited to the first 30 sign-ups, with prizes for the first three places.

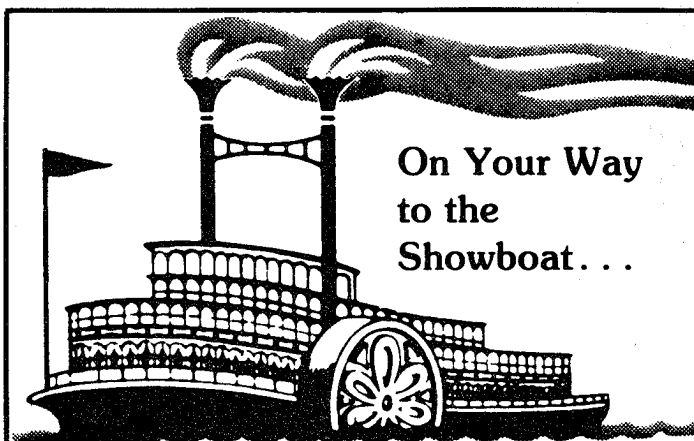
The Women's Singles will start at 10 a.m. on Saturday, Feb. 6. Entry fee is \$10 per person, limited to the first 20 players signed up and prizes awarded to the first three places.

A Bring Your Own Partner tourney will start with a 2:30 p.m. auction on Saturday, Feb. 6. Entry fee is \$25 per team, limited to the first 40 teams signed up. Prizes awarded to the first six places.

The grand finale will be an Open Singles on Sunday, Feb. 7, with drawing and bidding scheduled for 12 noon. Entry fee is \$25 per person with limit at the first 30 entries. Prizes will go to the first six place finishers.

All games are 15 points, straight, single game, double elimination. Jackets will be presented to all first place winners. Tournament hosts Pat and Nelson Renzo will provide an open buffet to all participants.

(continued on page 11)



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



JANUARY 15-16, 1988

Auction 6 p.m. Friday

(Jerry D's is just 25 miles north of Denver on I-25 to Dacona, Ft. Lupton exit, no. 235, two miles east on Hwy. 52.)

Singles: \$50 entry fee
Double Elimination
Pays 5 places

For More Information Call:

Jody Slack 303-973-6529

George Ostrom 303-455-0023

Jerry Denovellis 303-833-3469
or 833-3959

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Jerry D's Nostalgia Tavern

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



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The Shuffleboard Federation, Inc.

To everyone in The World of Shuffleboard, the Federation hopes that the Holiday Season has been good to you this year. It is a time of year to be thankful for what we have, and also to reflect back on the previous year, as well as to plan for the year ahead. As The Board Talk does on occasion, we would like to give a brief history or review of what the Federation is, our progress to date and our goals for the future.

Our first appearance in The Board Talk was July 1987. In that issue, we stated that it is our intention to promote, and increase public awareness of, amateur and professional shuffleboard for both men and women. We are pleased to have made progress in both the amateur and pro ranks.

On the pro side, we have helped to coordinate a series of tournaments which will be played by a standard set of rules. These rules represent the best ideas of players all over the country for the past 20 years. Special recognition goes out to the Northern California players in general, and Pee Wee Ramos in particular, for their contributions in this area. We are pleased to announce that we have added another event to the 1988 tour. The Palace Bar in Fairmount, Indiana, will host a tourney on April 22-23-24. This brings the number of events to nine and the player's point money to \$4500.00.

On the amateur side, we are very pleased to announce that for the first time in shuffleboard history, a major national sponsor will be involved in a shuffleboard event. As of press time, we are waiting to have some legal questions answered on the wording of a formal announcement to make sure we do not violate the strict anti-inducement laws of the Texas Liquor Control Board. Even though the sponsor's name will have to remain anonymous, we have permission to talk about the tournament itself.

The Texas Amateur Team Tourney will include 64 teams (six starters and up to four subs). There will be 32 teams from Dallas and 32 from Houston. They will play a best 5 of 9 elimination tourney. The top team from each city will win a brand new shuffleboard table and will meet in a match with media coverage for the championship.

When the Federation was formed by Phil Skover and John McDermott, we knew a professional in the sports marketing area would be essential to finding a national sponsor. In November, we announced the arrival of Joe Falvey, former executive director of the Michigan section of the Professional Golf Association. It did not take long before this move started to pay dividends as Joe has put together the Texas Amateur Tournament shortly after joining us.

Joe will be in Fort Worth for the Washington's Birthday Tournament, which is the kick-off for our 1988 pro tour.

He is looking forward to meeting all the people he has read about in The Board Talk. Joe will address all the players who choose to attend a players' meeting at which we will finalize rules and format for 1988.

Everywhere we have travelled in recent months, we have gotten verbal support for what we are trying to accomplish. We want to thank everyone for their kind words, but also to let shuffleboard players everywhere know that the more support we have from you, the faster we can secure some of the long overdue recognition for the game. So, once again, we ask players everywhere to put aside politics of the past and let's put on a show of strength and unity for the potential sponsors who have started to take notice.

Point Standings Revision

One of the problems that has confronted us is that not all players have the same opportunity to travel and we wish to recognize players who show consistent excellence. Therefore, we have a new formula which will work for everyone. This is not carved in stone, and all suggestions are welcome. The formula will be finalized at the Corporate Image prior to the start of the tournament.

The points awarded will be the same as previously announced — 100 points for 1st place, 75 points for 2nd, 50 for 3rd, 25 for 4th, 15 points for 5th and 6th, 10 points for 7th and 8th. In addition, one point will be awarded for each player in the tournament and one point for each match won. Awards will be made based on your top five finishes. A minimum of five events is therefore necessary. Of these five, at least three must be outside your division. The Board Talk's divisions will be used. We hope that this is an equitable formula and, as always, your input is welcome.

Last, but not least, the Shuffleboard Federation will be coming out with a line of products in the near future and some of the profits from sales of these products will be donated to the players' fund. If you are interested in becoming a distributor, please write us.

Happy Holidays!

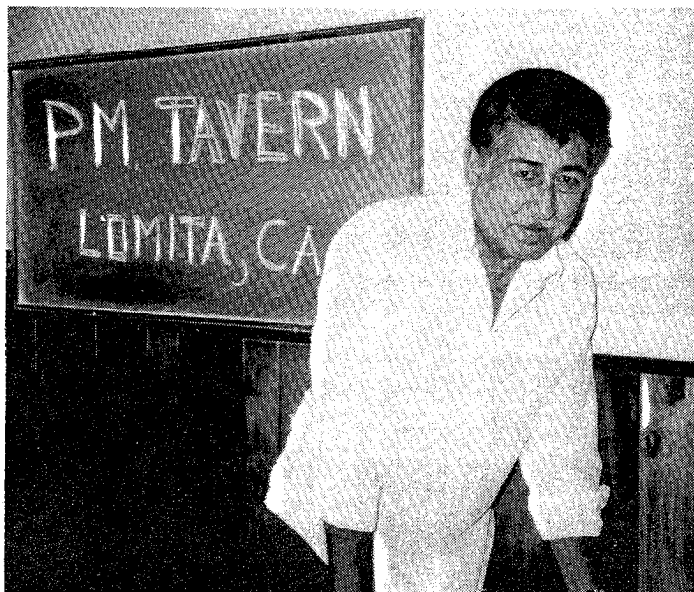
Joe Falvey, Phil Skover, John McDermott
Shuffleboard Federation, Inc.
41761 Onaway Drive, Northville, MI 48167

“Mexican Tommy” Workman — Grand Old Master

By Louis L. Lusero
Carson, California

The name “Mexican Tommy” Workman is synonymous with Shuffleboard. Some old-timers say Workman invented the sport of shuffleboard; that is probably not true. Some say he invented the “short weight” game; that is also probably not true.

What is probable truth is that Tommy Workman undoubtedly perfected the short weight game and, for several years during the 50s and 60s, Mr. Tom “Mexican Tommy” Workman was Mr. Shuffleboard — teacher, player, gentleman.



“Mexican Tommy” Workman

Many of today’s “big names” in shuffleboard are well aware of Tommy’s proud history. Darrol Nelson of Oregon remembers him as the first “road player” he ever knew. California’s Billy Chiles credits him with “teaching me more about the game than any other man.” Billy Mays of Texas and Glen Davidson of Oklahoma speak of his expertise on the boards with great respect.

Over the years, countless men and women, young and old, have benefitted from Tommy’s teaching. He could see their potential and took them under his wing, sharing his knowledge of the basics and strategy.

Tommy has always been a true gentleman. He never raises his voice and it is not unusual for him, after he’s won a match, to show his opponent what he could have done to beat him. He gives of his time and his talent, to the younger players especially, because he wants the sport not only to survive, but to grow.

Tommy is 55 years old, one of six children, born in Riverside, California. He is the father of seven children, three boys and four girls. He currently lives in Wilmington, California, and has been a longshoreman for the past 24 years.

He began playing shuffleboard at the Homeport Bar in Wilmington. He says he vividly remembers that his very first shuffleboard tournament match was against the legendary Bob Miles, the then reigning world champion. No storybook ending to this tale, though, because Tommy lost the match. That was in 1953.

It was later that “Mexican Tommy” emerged as the dominant player of his era and eventually became a legend in his own time.

A few years ago, a motorcycle accident, complicated by a work accident, left Tommy with two broken wrists, a seriously broken ankle and a broken tailbone. The Grand Old Master steadfastly refused to compete in recent major tournaments because he would not play unless he believed he could once again play at the level of excellence worthy of the game. Said another way, Tommy did not want to embarrass himself or the sport.

On Thanksgiving week-end, 1987, Mexican Tommy entered the doubles competition at the Stagger Inn in Bellflower, California. Those of us who were there were given the unique privilege of taking a trip back in time. Tommy played his heart out. He finished second in the tournament — and Leroy Ledford and John McDermott almost became the answer to a trivia question.

His strong finish in this big tourney gave Tommy the recognition he so richly deserves. He proved that he is still a force to be reckoned with in The World of Shuffleboard.

Tommy is well-known on the West Coast as the greatest finesse player the game has ever seen. The mere mention of his name brings recollections of Tommy’s many triumphs of years gone by. Everyone who knows him loves him and shares my belief that he belongs in Shuffleboard’s Hall of Fame.

Welcome back, Tommy. The game has missed you.

(Editor’s Note: Articles on people who have made special contributions to The World of Shuffleboard are welcome. Send them to: The Board Talk, 421 E. Sheridan, Lansing, MI 48906, and enclose a photo, if possible.)

Happy New Year!



The Board Talk's Top 50 Players in the U.S.

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. John Lukas, Md.
2. Chuck King, Del.
3. Scratch Todd, Md.
4. Don Casula, Del.
5. Stosh Chmielewski, Pa.
6. Dick Gorman, Del.
7. Wayne Nichols
8. Poncho Prevento, Md.
9. Ed Galke, N.Y.
10. Mickey Mickens, N.J.

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

1. Darrol Nelson, Oregon
2. Leroy Ledford, Calif.
3. Don Cox, Calif.
4. Karl Spickelmier, Calif.
5. Billy Chiles, Calif.
6. Eric Waldman, Calif.
7. Al Pease, Wash.
8. Jim Allis, Wash.
9. Bill Maxwell, Calif.
10. Tom Workman, Calif.

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

1. John McDermott, Mich.
2. Bobby Voorhis, Ind.
3. Lee McDonald, Mich.
4. Larry Massie, Ind.
5. Bud Broka, Oh.
6. Jerry Knox, Ind.
7. Jim Long, Ind.
8. Ron Wilburn, Ind.
9. Jerry Warr, Ind.
10. Wayne Reist, Mich.

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

1. Bill Melton, Okla.
2. Billy Mays, Texas
3. Sam Summers, Okla.
4. Earl Kelly, Texas
5. Dave Williams, Texas
6. Howard Mouton, Texas
7. Glen Davidson, Okla.
8. Rick Boyer, Texas
9. Lee Brady, Texas
10. Glenn Young

TOP 10 WOMEN PLAYERS IN THE U.S.A.

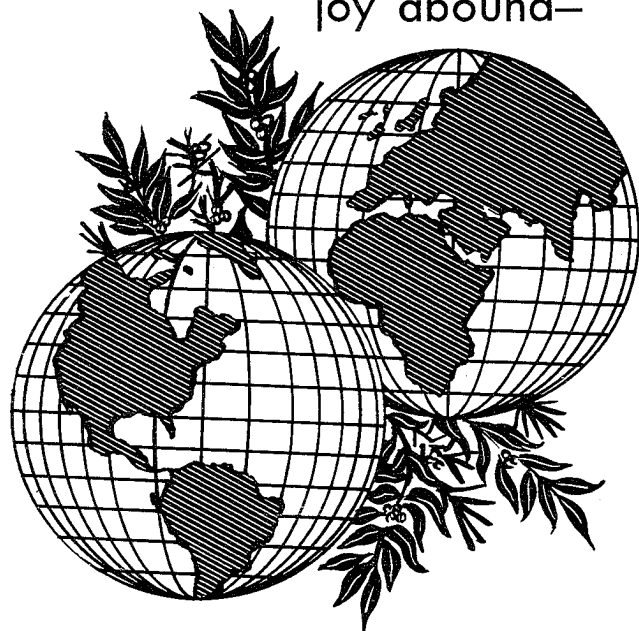
NOTE: Ratings in this category are based on limited information. Your input is invited.

- | | |
|-----------------------------|-------------------------|
| 1. Chris Monahan, Calif. | 6. Fritz Broka, Ohio |
| 2. Diana Hagen, Texas. | 7. Deb Somers, Ind. |
| 3. Cheryl Collins, Mich. | 8. Marcia Brown, Ind. |
| 4. Georjean Monnarrez, Ore. | 9. Mary Ann Watson, Pa. |
| 5. Peggy Richards, Ariz. | 10. Sharon Finch, Texas |

NOTICE

You can earn a new set of weights by signing up 25 **NEW** (not renewals) subscribers. Send names, **COMPLETE** addresses and checks to: **THE BOARD TALK, 421 E. Sheridan Rd., Lansing, MI 48906.**

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Tourney Talk *(continued from page 6)*

Advance registration is strongly suggested. Contact the Renzos, 301-658-9075, or tournament manager Dick Gorman, 302-994-0004.

See ad in this issue and plan to participate.

Washington's Birthday Extravaganza, Corporate Image, Feb. 8-15

The Corporate Image, Fort Worth, Texas, will sponsor their 3rd Annual Washington's Birthday Shuffleboard Extravaganza, Feb. 8-15. Last year, the singles and doubles events totaled \$45,500 in prizes and auction, and this year's events are expected to exceed that amount.

Tournament play will start on Thursday, Feb. 11, with the singles. Entries must be in by 7 p.m. on Feb. 10. The sale for both events will take place on the 10th. Because of lack of understanding regarding seeding, the tournament directors have decided not to seed players. However, this will be a topic of discussion at a players' meeting scheduled for Feb. 10 at noon.

Request your vacation time and plan to participate in this big event. For information, call Bill Melton, 405-369-2448, or the Corporate Image, 817-451-0607, and ask for Dave Williams or Linda Cooper.

Draw/Bring Partner Events at Bluecoat Inn, Tulsa, Okla., March 18-20

The Bluecoat Inn in Tulsa, Oklahoma, will host a shuffleboard shootout on March 18-20. A \$50 per person draw tournament will start at 7:30 p.m. on Friday with a \$100 per person bring-your-own-partner event following on Saturday. Both tourneys are double elimination.

The Bluecoat will add \$250 to the bring-your-partner pot. 60% - 30% - 10% split for first, second, and third. Auctions will be held prior to the tournaments.

Tournament directors are Sam Sweatt, 918-446-0597 (or 665-1930), and Bill Melton, 405-369-2448. Tournament hosts will be Tom Thinton and Patti Kay, 918-742-1014.

The Bluecoat Inn is located at 4930 S. Yorktown, between Peoria and Lewis on the north side of Highway 44 by the French Quarter apartments.

Hammer *(continued from page 1)*

their success, but the single biggest factor is that they are "gifted."

Do the talented people have an obligation to the less talented people? Yes, they do. They are the ambassadors of the sport whether they want to be or not. They should be gracious whether winning or losing. They should have that extra few words for the strangers in the crowd. They should leave a favorable impression on waitresses and hotel staff. In other words, make people believe you really are special.

So, ladies and gentlemen, remember to count your blessings and shoulder the responsibilities that come with being "gifted."

Happy New Year!

Thank you, Jeff! May all the "gifted" out there in The World of Shuffleboard take note of your message. The article in this issue about Tommy Workman will assure you that

the "gift" he has been given is being used as you so eloquently suggest.

May 1988 be a special year for all of us!

George & Donna Wilber
Publishers



A Toast To All Shufflers Everywhere



Our best wishes
for a happy,
happy holiday.

Playfair Shuffleboard Company, Inc.

7021 Bluffton Rd., Fort Wayne, Indiana 46819

Phone 219-747-7288 • Brian Crowl, President

1988 National Shuffleboard Calendar

Dec. 31 Jan. 3

World Series of Shuffleboard
Black Cat Tavern, Portland, Oregon

Jan. 15-16

Row Boat Open
Jerry D's, Dacona, Colorado

Jan. 16

1st Annual Sweepstakes
Ray's Place, Mishawaka, Ind.

Jan. 15-17

1st Budweiser Open
Ours & Your Place, Sudlersville, Md.

Jan. 20-25

U.S.S.A. Tournament
Showboat, Las Vegas, Nevada

Feb. 5-7

Winter Tournament
Lafayette Inn, Rising Sun, Maryland

Feb. 8-15

3rd Annual Washington's Birthday Tourney
Corporate Image, Ft. Worth, Texas

March 5

6th Annual "Big Jim" Memorial
Kimmel Inn, Kimmel, Indiana

March 18-20

St. Patrick's Day Classic
Palm Tavern, Springfield, Oregon

March 18-20

Draw/Bring Your Partner
Bluecoat Inn, Tulsa, Oklahoma

April 8-10

Spring Classic
Lafayette Inn, Rising Sun, Maryland

May

2nd Annual Michigan Open

July

4th Annual Board Talk Tournament

August

U.S. Open
Austin, Texas

October

Ft. Worth/Dallas Area

Oct.-Nov.

3rd Annual Colorado Open

November

4th Annual Turkey Day Tourney
Stagger Inn, California



**To all our subscribers
across the U.S.A. and
Canada, we hope 1988
will be your best year
yet!**

George & Donna

The Board Talk

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Shuffleboard Directory

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Notebook *(continued from page 3)*

but George isn't kicking in any prize money for the players.

It has taken shuffleboard a lot of time to get where it is today, and I don't want to see the women have to start back in the dark ages. There might only be 12-13 show up for the first few tournaments, but when the rest see the competition and money to be won, it will grow.

As long as even a few of us women keep putting our money in the "open" singles when there isn't a women's tournament, they will continue to omit a women's tournament. How many of you women have ever met a man who thought you could beat him at the game of shuffleboard? The men love it when we put our money up against theirs. I wish we could all work together and get this sport to the level it deserves for both the men and the women.

The Board Talk has been doing a great job promoting the sport and they deserve one of their own Golden Puck awards — The Best Sports Publication.

Fritzi Broka, Toledo, Ohio

We believe there are many women players out there who feel as you do, Fritzi, and tournament organizers had better take heed.

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.

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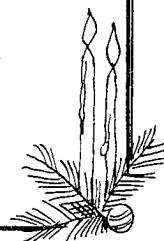
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to a bright New Year
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Send details to *The Board Talk*, 421 E. Sheridan Road, Lansing, Mich. 48906, along with check for proper amount, by the 15th of the month preceding issue in which you want your ad to appear.

Interlakes Shuffleboard League News/Standings

The Interlakes Shuffleboard League is proud to announce that we are now being sponsored by Budweiser. With the new year approaching, we're very excited about our new venture with Budweiser — not only for our league, but for shuffleboard players all across the U.S. and Canada, as we are finally being recognized as the worthwhile organizations we know ourselves to be.

We'd like to take this opportunity to thank Frank Daichendt, president of the Interlakes Men's League, his wife Wanda Daichendt, and Bill Vincent from Hubert Distributors for the hard work and dedication put forth into

this project.

Happy New Year to All!

Cheryl Collins and Kathy Morgan

Tidbits

Karen McAlpine and Chris Moore are partners for Victors, and have a winning streak of 21 games in a row. Congratulations and keep it going!

Standings as of 12/10/87

Men's League

Wagon Wheel I	202½
Lakeside I	192½
Majestic	186½
Victors	160½
Lakeside II	146½
Wagon Wheel II	139½
Bachelors	138½
O'Brady's	138½
Liberty	137½
Prues	109
Bob & Elmers	100½
Charlies Roost	86
Catalina Lanes	63
Oxbow Lake	42

Women's League

Lakeside I	114
Wagon Wheel I	110
Lakeside II	102½
Wagon Wheel II	83
Sports Page	81
Victors	74
Liberty	72½
Majestic	71½
Bachelors I	67½
O'Brady's	61½
Charlie's Roost	57
Catalina Lanes	39





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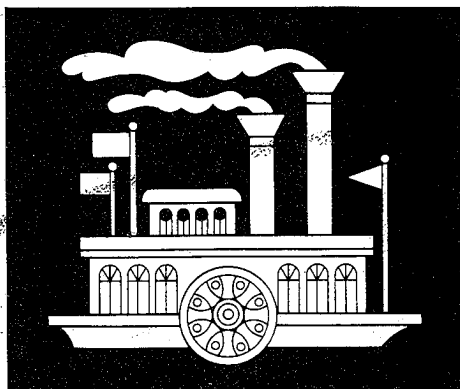
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