

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. 9 September 1988

The Hammer

Months ahead, you start planning and working to make your BIG EVENT the best, the biggest, one that will satisfy everyone who participates.

A week before the BIG EVENT, you ask yourself: "Where did the time go? We're not ready! It's going to flop, but it's too late to cancel."

Two days into the BIG EVENT, you're exhausted, you get a few complaints about the way things are going, and you vow: "Never again -- never, never, never! Nothing's worth this."

Show us a tournament sponsor/director who hasn't gone through this personal agony and we'll give them an Oscar.


While that agony still lingered, after our 4th Annual Board Talk Tournament, we decided to find out, before we ruled out the 5th Annual, what we did right and what we did wrong. We offered participants the opportunity to give us input into designing our next tourney if, indeed, there would be one. We asked them some key questions and we share the responses because they could apply to your next BIG EVENT as well as ours -- and sharing is what our shuffleboard network is all about.

We went into this self-evaluation with some preconceived notions that got blown away. We share those, too, for your enlightenment. We asked:

"What did you like about the tournament?" (By the time we packed up to go home, we thought the only happy people were the winners of the events and door prizes. We were wrong.) Almost 100% of the respondents rated "strong competition, fellowship with old and new shuffleboard friends, good sportsmanship, well organized events, and good hosts who made them feel welcome and didn't inflate drink prices" as reasons they liked the tourney.

"What did you NOT like about the tournament?" (We thought too many events, too long hours and too high entry fees would be the major complaints.) 30% had no complaints; 45% said the early starts and late finishes were a problem; one said it should be closer to home; 15% said seating was a problem; one said play first available board instead of pre-assigned times and boards, and another said he missed the draw partner event but, at the same time, the tourney was too long.

(continued on page 10)

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Tourney Talk

Lembkes Take Black Cat's Sweathogs Doubles Title

The husband and wife team of Jolene and Roy Lembke of Bend, Oregon, won the annual Sweathogs Mixed Doubles Tournament at the Black Cat Tavern in Portland, Oregon, June 24-25.

Second place honors went to Ruthie Miles of Portland and Chris Bunch of Vancouver, Washington. Chris Foster and Mike DeAngelo, both of Portland, were a strong third.

An unusual feature of this tournament is that the man must shoot against the woman.

McFarland/Danke Win at New Oak

"Youth and skill triumphed over old age and treachery" at the July 16th tournament at The New Oak in LaHabra, California, reports Bob Brunskill. Ann McFarland and Chris Danke beat Rich (Bubba) Warren and Ray Cross to place first in a field of 20 players. Gregg McFarland and Frank Bentley finished third.

The Bob and Voon birthday tourney was a blind draw/double elimination event.

Lukas/Schulties/Todd Win at Ours & Your Place

Despite the summer heat and a thunderstorm, 14 shufflers shot in the Third Sunday Tournament at Ours & Your Place, Sudlersville, Maryland, on July 17.

In the mixed doubles tourney, first place went to John Lukas and Diane Schulties. Second place went to the tough competition of the day, Buddy Bramer and Joyce Pyle. Jim Sterling and Judith Iseman took third.

In the draw partner single elimination event, John Lukas and Scratch Todd were the winners.

"Our congenial hosts, Art and JoAnn Ware, provided snacks for all. It was great to have our friends, Jim and Pat Sterling, of Harrisburg, Pennsylvania, visit us again. Thanks to the shooters and spectators who made the day a success. For those of you who didn't make it, come see us in the months that follow," said tournament director Judith Iseman.

Kelly/Moore Win at Sports Arena

Twenty-six players vied for a pot of \$2350 in a blind draw tourney at the Sports Arena, Houston, Texas, on July 23. Earl Kelly of Dallas and Brenda Moore of San Antonio took top honors. Harvey Kidd of Houston and Hal St. Clair of San Antonio finished second with Johnny Ballard of Austin and Ramone Bolger of Houston in third place.

Seven States Represented at Blue Coat Tourneys

The men's singles and women's singles on July 29-31 and the draw-partner and bring-partner events on Aug. 5-7

(Continued on Page 5)



Shufflers' Notebook

*News and Views
from The World
of Shuffleboard*

Glen Wants to Know More

We just got back from the Corporate Image's Co-Ed/Pro-Am tourney in Fort Worth. I'm sorry to say I didn't place in either one. (See results in Tourney Talk.)

Janet Cook (first place in Co-Ed; third in Pro-Am) is becoming one of the best women players in our area, if not the best.

Thanks to Rosilyn, the new owner of the Corporate Image, for a great weekend of shuffleboard.

"We want to know" why a tournament goes real smooth until the finish or last match and then, because one player wants to draw for boards, he gets his way, which is not the way the rest of the players had to play. The board for the final match should be posted or flip should be posted. No exceptions! As long as there are players who look for loop holes in the structure, there will be disputes and disorder in our tournaments.

I say stick with the decision that you make at the beginning of the tournament, then play or forfeit!

Glen Davidson, Oklahoma City, Oklahoma

We got to meet Janet at our Board Talk Tourney and to watch her skillful play. Like you, we were very impressed. She's also a very gracious winner. After a match against Fritz Broka of Ohio, she said: "Fritzi is one super player. To beat her, you have played your best." Nice!

To Seed or Not to Seed

This letter has to do with taking the negative side to what I've read in The Board Talk recently on tournament seedings. While this way of doing things might be great for the top, established player, players without a big name, like my partner and me, have virtually no chance when we constantly would have to start with the tourney top dog, which is what would happen. Tournament seeding would definitely be a deterrent to any player trying to break in. Our chance of winning would definitely be enhanced by a lucky draw.

I know when we hit the road to start playing, we will ardently avoid seeded tourneys!

Bob Moline, Omaha, Nebraska

There is a lot of controversy over this topic, Bob. Check Hammer for another viewpoint. Let's hear from others, too.

The State of Shuffleboard in Oklahoma

I started playing here in Tulsa, Oklahoma, when shuffleboard was in its heyday. In the early 50s and into the 60s, shuffleboard was at its peak. There were both men's and women's leagues and also a mixed league. Every tavern in town had a shuffleboard. A person could get a game any night of the week at any place in town.

Ah, the good ole' days.

And then the people who ran the league retired and no one else seemed interested in keeping it going. And then there was pool and the majority of the club owners went to the "fast quarter." Only a few club owners kept their shuffleboards and the sport and competition declined. Most of us who have seen the sport rise and fall will agree that the leagues are necessary for the sport to survive and flourish. However, the manner in which the leagues are run is as important as the leagues themselves.

On occasion, some people have attempted to restart the leagues and have been successful for a short period of time. However, these people all seem to be afflicted with this disease called "E.I.A." In the equine world it stands for Equine Infectious Anemia, more commonly known as Coggins Disease. In the shuffleboard world and particularly here in Tulsa, I.E.A. stands for Ego, Ignorance and Arrogance. This disease seems to be rampant, quite contagious, but most commonly found in people who have run the leagues or the "round robins." There is also an associated disease called "Roundrobinitis." When persons are afflicted with both diseases, the sport of shuffleboard is seriously threatened and could even be fatal.

After the end of league play a few years ago, it was determined there was a shortage of somewhere between \$1,000 and \$1,500. The decline was again inevitable.

And now, once again, the leagues are back. However, this time the disease seems stronger than ever. Incomplete by-laws and some crazy rules. Would you believe: 12 allowable timeouts per game? teaching beginners to play switch-hammer and playing frames? not allowing certain people to play? clubs with 18 foot boards can't play? etc. I could go on and on, but it would take up too much space.

There are some good rules, but rules are only as good as the attitudes of those enforcing them. Rules against cheating, gambling and profane and obscene language are no good unless it applies to everyone. To question the league leaders about anything has, in many cases, brought a tirade of profanities and obscenities on female as well as male. The leaders also scheduled a meeting at the time of the start of a round robin at a club so as to further enhance their importance by persuading the manager to delay the start until they got there. And why send \$2,000 to \$3,000 to Dallas, 300 miles away?

One financial statement was five months in preparation and seemed to be incomplete. Oh, well, as one director said, "Life is not fair." Another said, "I don't give a (bleep!)."

I hope the people of Tulsa are convinced that a league run by concerned players here would better serve the sport of shuffleboard, the players, club owners, and everyone else.

But all is not lost. Maybe the league directors would "allow" themselves to be replaced at the upcoming

"election." This would be of great benefit to the game. If not, then I believe a different league should be formed.

Do other parts of the country have these same problems? Or is this disease only prevalent here in Tulsa? Oh, well, it's one step forward and two steps backward, again.

So keep those good league items coming, folks. We need them -- and I'm envious.

Gary A. Moore, Tulsa Oklahoma

You have touched on a problem that is probably not as unique as it should be. There's no doubt that league play is the grassroots strength of this sport and we must keep it credible or we'll keep seeing the historical rise and fall of shuffleboard. We have some suggestions and we're certain others will, too.

First, there is no room in The World of Shuffleboard for that disease you so aptly describe as "E.I.A." To stamp out that disease, there are some segments of our "society" that have to step in and take responsibility -- and the power they have that they're evidently not using.

The people you're talking about number a handful -- right? What is that compared to the hundreds of people who make up your league? Will the majority stand back and continually elect those infected with EIA or will they elect, from the rank and file, those players who are dedicated to the sport and its future? Will they insist upon the appointment of a Grievance Committee to handle confrontations? Will they insist that the treasurer be bonded? And, will they hold a meeting with each shuffleboard club/tavern in the league and insist that they enforce what all responsible establishments do -- have stringent rules about no cheating, no profanity. By enforcement, we mean barring those individuals who break the rules.

The 18 foot boards? Well, we'd like to see the day when league and tournament play are on uniform boards, but let's not lock them out now, not until buying a "regulation" board is economically feasible for every shuffleboard establishment. Buying a board, and sometimes having to remodel to accommodate it, is a big investment. They have to know it's an investment that will pay off before they make it.

It appears you've got a serious problem in Tulsa. We suggest that you contact The Shuffleboard Federation, Inc., which has several times issued a plea for league information. They have the expertise and the resources and the commitment to the sport to help you.

Thankfully, for every E.I.A. infected person in The World of Shuffleboard, there's one like the man described in the next letter....

A Salute to Jessie

Recently, our league suffered the loss of one of our oldest members, Jessie Guizar, who passed away on August 9, 1988, at the age of 82.

While inquiring about how many years he'd been playing shuffleboard, the answers were the same: "He's just always been there."

His fellow team members at the Liberty Bar claim he taught them the game. They feel he was very instrumental in their advancement in the league standings.

Jessie was a teacher. Among other things, he never missed a chance to teach the meaning of "good

(continued on page 4)

1988 National Shuffleboard Calendar

Aug. 31-Sept. 5*

*Annual Labor Day Masters
Ace of Clubs, Marysville, California*

Sept. 2-5

*1st Annual Labor Day Tournament
Beef's Shamrock Bar, Waterloo, Indiana*

Sept. 9-11

*Season Opener
Ours & Your Place, Sudlersville, Maryland*

Sept. 23-25

*Genesee Open Tournament
Benedict's Classic "101", Sherburne, New York*

Sept. 24-25

*Annual Sweetheart Mixed Doubles
Fir Cone Tavern, Shelton, Washington*

Sept. 29-30, Oct. 1-2*

*Oklahoma City Fall Classic
Holiday Inn, Oklahoma City, Oklahoma*

Oct. 1

*Annual Fall Doubles
American Legion Post 424, Bourbon, Indiana*

Oct. 27-30*

*4th Annual Colorado Open
Holiday Inn, Denver, Colorado*

Oct. 28-30

*Annual Fall Tournament
Lafayette Inn, Rising Sun, Maryland*

Nov. 25-26

*Hoosier Holiday Happening
Palace Bar, Fairmount, Indiana
Town Tavern, Summitville, Indiana*

November*

*4th Annual Turkey Day Tourney
Stagger Inn, Bellflower, California*

Dec. 30-Jan. 2

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

January 12-16

*PCSA Shuffleboard Extravaganza
Showboat, Las Vegas, Nevada*

February

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

* Shuffleboard Federation Pro Tour

Notebook (continued from Page 3)

sportsmanship." He always met you with a glint of laughter in his eyes. It kind of made you wonder what he was up to. He loved to have fun -- and if you were with Jessie, you had fun!

Jessie is survived by his wife, children, and many, many friends who loved him, respected him, and will miss him.

Kathy Morgan, Interlakes Shuffleboard League, Oakland County, Michigan

A beautiful, well-deserved tribute, Kathy, one we know will be treasured by his wife, children and many, many friends. Aren't you glad you honored him at your league banquet this year? A lesson to others who sometimes wait until it's too late!

More on The Top Ten

As the sport of shuffleboard grows, so will grow the demand to know who the Top Ten players are. The Arbuckle Open used the Board Talk's Top Ten as a qualifying format for its tournament. The overall results were great! People knowing they would not be facing the "heavyweights" were more than willing to test their skills against everyone else -- thus, the birth of the "B" Tour. We asked The Board Talk to assist us in our quest for more "B" events.

However, some players felt they were unjustly declared ineligible because they had placed in a small tournament somewhere and ended up being ranked in the Top Ten!

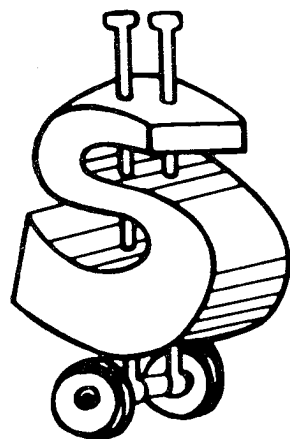
We are a professional sport; therefore, let's explore the possibility of ranking our players the same way other professional sports do -- by money won during the course of a year from RECOGNIZED tournaments.

The Board Talk could keep these stats or select from each division a volunteer to keep records of money paid out to the winners. This will not include sales money, only entry fees. To compensate this person, I suggest \$1.00 surcharge per person per event. They should also be required to attend a minimum of two recognized tournaments outside their home town per year to insure the minimum standards are being complied with.

Minimum standards should be similar to The Federation's and all tournaments should be advertised 30 days prior in The Board Talk.

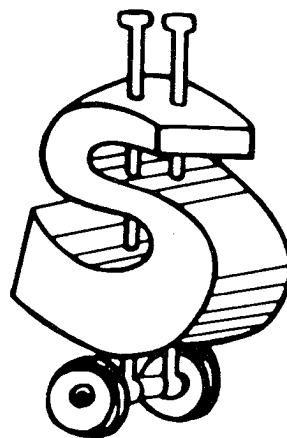
What we end up with are three touring events: Federation, A and B. Maximum amounts on entry fees must be set for A and B events. I suggest \$50 for B and \$100 for A per person per event.

These are only ideas I have formed after talking to many shufflers from north Texas and Oklahoma. This letter is in no way meant to be critical of The Board Talk's methods, for without you, we would still be a "back alley" game.



- *\$30 per team entry
- *Double Elimination
- *Four Boards
- *Food Available

The tournament every player can afford to enter..... Annual Fall Doubles October 1



....And bring home
the bacon!
Auction at 11 a.m. --
One of the biggest
in the Midwest!

American Legion Post 424

Bourbon, Indiana

Phone: 219-342-9125

Keep up the good work and let's try to figure out a way to start 1989 with the Top Ten money winners instead of a mythical Top Ten.

Alan Primrose, Davis, Oklahoma

You evidently have given this challenge some real thought, Alan, and we think you've come up with some great ideas. We're well aware that our system of ranking (working with less than complete information) is imperfect. We've probably gone too far in our efforts not to shut out those players who can't afford to travel or to pay the higher entry fees.

The Federation's system of money-won ranking works well because they have an unquestionable interpretation of "recognized" tournaments. That's something that has to be worked out for A and B.

We thank you for getting this dialogue started. Let's keep it going, readers.

P.S.: We really like your idea of advertising a tournament in The Board Talk 30 days in advance. Nothing frustrates us more than getting the notice of a tournament too late to publish it -- or getting the results of an event we didn't know was happening.

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.

Tourney Talk *(continued from page 1)*

drew players from Colorado, Indiana, Michigan, Missouri, Tennessee, Texas and Oklahoma to the Blue Coat Inn in Tulsa.

In the women's singles, 13 participants vied for a pot of \$2,018, with Evelyn Harris of Dallas taking first place honors. Rene Hart of Tahlequah finished second, with Carolyn Jones of Tulsa in third.

The men's singles had 18 entries and a total pot of \$2,410. Earl Kelly of Dallas won first place with Frank Bladergroen in second, and Mike Bruza of Tulsa in third place.

There were 26 players in the open draw and a pot of \$1,891. Bobby Voorhis of Fairmount, Indiana, and Kenny Hawkes of Denver took first place honors. Bud Hillburn of Tulsa and Fred Compean of Denver finished second with Sam Sweatt and Larry Barthel of Tulsa in third place.

In the bring your partner event, the total pot was \$1,390, with top honors going to Sam Sweatt of Tulsa and Bobby Voorhis of Indiana. Steve Burkett of Tulsa and Steve Walker of Cushing took second place with Kenny Hawkes and Fred Compean of Denver in third.

"We at the Blue Coat would like to thank everyone who attended and invite them all back when we have our annual event in March," says hostess Patti Kay.

(continued on Page 8)

Hey - All You Pilgrims and Indians!

**Don't just sit there and get fat!
Wear off all those Thanksgiving
Day calories at our**



Hoosier Holiday Happening

Palace Bar:

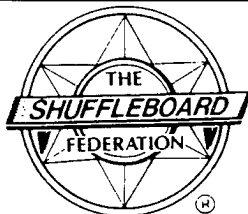
Fairmount, Indiana
Phone: 317-948-9102

**DOUBLES, Friday, Nov. 25, \$50 per team
Auction at noon, 3 boards
Single game, double elimination**

Town Tavern:

Summitville, Indiana
Phone: 317-536-2150

**SINGLES, Saturday, Nov. 26, \$50 entry
Auction at noon, 1 board
Single game, single elimination**



"Friendship Through Competition"

Player Policy Board Holds First Meeting

The Federation's Player Policy Board met twice for a total of about four hours at the U.S. Open in Austin, Texas. While many ideas were discussed, it was obvious that more time is needed than was available. Arrangements are being made to assemble the Policy Board members for a weekend in a non-tournament setting. The following is a list of topics discussed and decisions made.

1. Point Standings Money:

| | |
|---------------|---------------|
| 1st -- \$1200 | 6th -- \$500 |
| 2nd -- \$900 | 7th -- \$400 |
| 3rd -- \$800 | 8th -- \$350 |
| 4th -- \$700 | 9th -- \$300 |
| 5th -- \$600 | 10th -- \$250 |

2. Tournament Rules: The only rule which created any controversy was #9, concerning forfeit time in a tourney which uses pre-assigned starting times. It was decided to leave the rule as is -- game time will be forfeit time. In the future, the Federation will furnish a tournament clock.

3. Players Association: The formation of a Players Association was discussed and it was decided that a charge of \$10 per player per event would be a fair way to collect dues. This money would be used to provide tournament directors with money to compensate tournament officials. One official for each board is what was deemed necessary and both the \$10 surcharge and one official for each board will be requirements for 1989 Federation sanctioned tournaments.

4. Auction Buyers: It was also discussed that auction buyers have an obligation to help support the tournaments. A decision was made that 2% or \$500, whichever is larger, should be deducted from the total combined auction for all events. This will also be a requirement for Federation tournaments in 1989.

5. Points for Doubles Competition: Although a firm plan for doing so has not been established, it was decided that points would be awarded for doubles as well as singles for the 1989 tour.

6. Sliding Payoff Scale: Some changes were made in the way prize money will be distributed and these

changes will be effective beginning with the upcoming Fall Classic in Oklahoma City.

| | |
|-------------------|----------------------|
| 1 to 16 entries: | 56%-28%-16% |
| 17 to 23 entries: | 54%-26%-14%-6% |
| 24 to 32 entries: | 52%-24%-12%-6%-3%-3% |

7. Seeding: It was decided to postpone a decision on this issue at this time pending more feedback from the players. It is interesting to note that after two rounds in the winner's bracket at the U.S. Open, the top six seeds were in the loser's bracket.

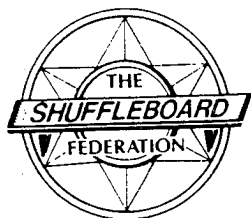
The establishment of the Player Policy Board is a major step forward for our sport, and one that is necessary to organize ourselves to the point where we have the credibility to sell it to corporate sponsors. The members of this group are giving their time, free of charge, to help us achieve our common goals: Bill Melton, Oklahoma, chr.; Gail Crane, Mich.; Bob Lewis, Ariz.; Brenda Moore, Tex.; Howard Mouton, Tex.; Hal Perry, Calif.; Jody Slack, Colo.; Karl Spickelmier, Calif.; and Bobby Voorhis, Ind.

They will only be as effective as you, the players, allow them to be. Until now, the Federation has received virtually no input from the players even though we ask for it in almost every article we write. Once again, we ask for your written ideas. They will be typed and forwarded to Policy Board members for their consideration.

Point Standings

| | | | | | |
|----------------|-----|-----|------------------|-----|-----|
| Darrol Nelson | (4) | 524 | John Myles | (5) | 165 |
| John McDermott | (5) | 401 | Sam Summers | (4) | 133 |
| Glen Davidson | (5) | 382 | Hal Perry | (4) | 132 |
| Donny Cox | (3) | 281 | Mickey Mickens | (1) | 117 |
| Bill Melton | (3) | 233 | Jim DeWitt | (1) | 114 |
| Bobby Voorhis | (5) | 278 | Bill Maxwell | (1) | 109 |
| Howard Mouton | (4) | 268 | Chris Danke | (3) | 107 |
| Earl Kelly | (4) | 223 | Karl Spickelmier | (3) | 107 |
| Eric Waldman | (4) | 217 | Fred Thurmann | (3) | 104 |
| David Williams | (3) | 202 | Bud Broka | (3) | 99 |
| Billy Mays | (3) | 199 | Lee McDonald | (2) | 94 |
| Glen Young | (3) | 180 | Arky Warren | (1) | 86 |
| Jim Allis | (4) | 176 | | | |

Shuffleboard Federation, Inc.
41761 Onaway Drive
Northville, MI 48168
Phone: 313-344-9666



"Friendship Through Competition"

CONGRATULATIONS U.S. OPEN WINNERS

- Singles: 1st David Williams
2nd Darrol Nelson
3rd Howard Mouton
- Doubles: 1st Jim Allis and Darrol Nelson
2nd Eric Waldman and Sam Summers
3rd Hal Perry and Howard Mouton
- Women's: 1st Chris Danke
2nd Diana Hagen
3rd Rene Hart

Special thanks to all those who donated their time to help set up the boards and keep the tournament running smoothly:

| | |
|-----------------|----------------|
| Ramone Bolger | John Smith |
| Nick Richartz | Max Holland |
| Lucky Lecklider | Dan Gunter |
| Joe Roden | Johnny Ballard |
| Jim Grove | Ken Strong |

Thank you to our co-sponsors:

American Shuffleboard Company
Cindy and Brad Caskey
Jimmy Crippen (Crippen Sheet Metal)
Glen Davidson
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Tony Howard
International Portrait Studio (Sam Lindsey)
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Bill Melton
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Dan Raley
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George Semple
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Jody Slack

The Shuffleboard Federation
Sportsman Ice House (Brenda and Terry Moore)
Sparky Sparkman
Springhill Bar
Ken Strong
Alfred Suarez
The Board Talk
Timeout Lounge
Toad (John Smith)
Aggie Valk
Bill Peterson
Eric Waldman

And thanks to Don Valk for once again providing an absolutely first class facility, and for working night and day to insure a good, well-run tournament.

PLEASE SUPPORT THESE UPCOMING FEDERATION EVENTS

1st Annual Oklahoma City Fall Classic
Sept. 29-30, Oct. 1-2
Holiday Inn North
I-35 at 122nd St., Oklahoma City, Oklahoma
Phone: 405-478-0400
See enclosed flyer

3rd Annual Colorado Open
October 27-30
Holiday Inn Southeast
9009 E. Arapahoe, Denver, Colorado
Phone: 303-790-1421
See enclosed flyer

4th Annual Turkey Day Tourney
Stagger Inn
9108 Alondra Blvd., Bellflower, California
Boards provided courtesy of Al Stewart

Note: We are putting together our 1989 schedule. If you are interested in hosting a pro event, which requires a \$500 donation to the Players' Fund, please contact us. We also will be sanctioning events not on the pro tour for a \$50 sanctioning fee. Anyone interested in having the Federation help promote a tournament in your area, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Shuffleboard Directory

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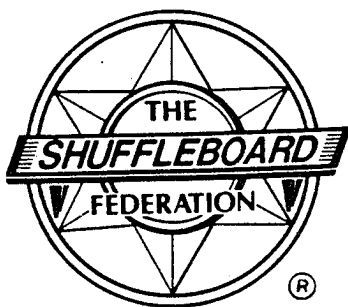
5393 E. Grand River, Howell, Mich. 517-546-6741

Rome's Saloon

Two Good Shuffleboards

785 W. Mississippi, Denver, Colo.

303-778-9976



The Shuffleboard Federation
and
Bill Melton and Sam Summers
present the
1st Annual

**OKLAHOMA CITY
FALL CLASSIC
Sept. 29-30, Oct. 1-2**

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2 of 3, double elimination**

4 Boards - Courtesy of Bill Melton

**Auctions at 7 p.m., Sept. 29, play immediately after
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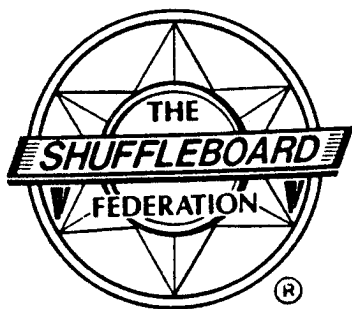
NOTE: You must be a registered guest to participate if you are not an Oklahoma City resident. Special tournament rates -- \$38 per night, tax included, for 2 double bed or king-size single.

For information, call:

Shuffleboard Federation, Inc.: 313-344-9666

Bill Melton: 405-369-2448

Sam Summers: 405-843-9991



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Jody Slack
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4th Annual

COLORADO OPEN Oct. 27-30

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WOMEN'S SINGLES -- \$75 per player
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Auctions at 8 p.m., Oct. 26

NOTE: You must be a registered guest to participate if you are not a Denver resident.
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For information, call:

Shuffleboard Federation, Inc.: 313-344-9666

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Name _____

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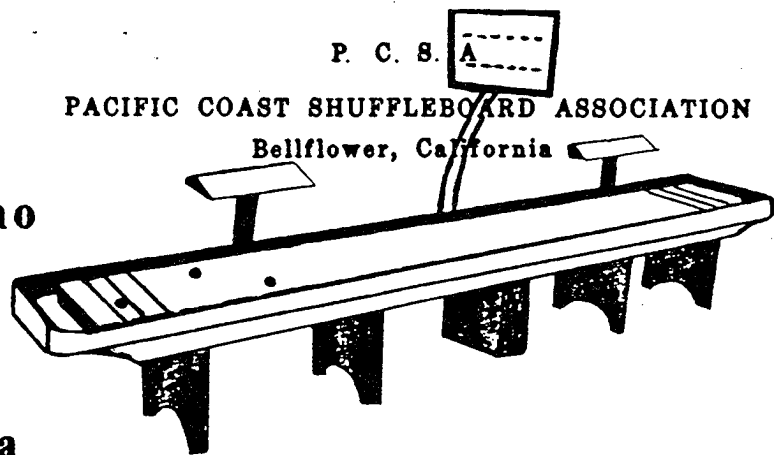
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WOMEN'S SINGLES - \$110.00 entry fee, includes \$10.00 P.C.S.A. membership fee.
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OPEN DOUBLES - \$220.00 entry fee, includes \$10.00 P.C.S.A. membership fee per player. Payoff to be determined by number of entrants.

Players will be assessed the \$10.00 P.C.S.A. membership fee
ONE TIME ONLY regardless of number of events entered.

REGISTRATION DEADLINE IS THURSDAY, DECEMBER 15, 1988

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Additional nites available at \$30.00 per night, double occupancy.

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FOR MORE INFORMATION, CONTACT:

Joe Muniz
213/ 926-3714

Lou Lusero
213/ 830-7600, x362
213/ 513-6486 (home)

**MORE DETAILS IN FUTURE ISSUES OF
"THE BOARDTALK"**

Tourney Talk *(continued from page 5)*

Williams/Williams/Mouton/Cook Win Corporate Image Honors

The best players in the southwest came to Fort Worth to play in the Corporate Image's annual regional Pro-Am/Co-Ed tournament.

In the Co-Ed, which had 13 teams, Howard Mouton of Dallas and Janet Cook of Amarillo went undefeated for first place in this 2 out of 3 double elimination tournament. Bobby Williams of Fort Worth and Sandy Jenkins of Dallas defeated Sam Summers of Oklahoma City and Brenda Moore of San Antonio in a super match for second place.

In the Pro-Am, David and Bobby Williams of Fort Worth won first place the hard way, having to come through the loser's bracket and then double dip Billy Mays and Frank Blade of Dallas who finished second. Howard Mouton and Janet Cook came in third.

Tourney participants report a great job by Linda Cooper and Rudy Wedgeworth in running the tournament, with help from Bonny Williams and Roseanna Melton.

Indiana Team Tops in Ray's Place Team Event

In a "down to the last shot" tourney at Ray's Place, Mishawaka, Indiana, on July 30, an Indiana team took top honors in the 6-man team event. The winning team was sponsored by the Town Tavern in Summitville. Giving them a run for their money was a team sponsored by Stober's Lounge, Lansing, Mich.

Hershman/Sweeney/Sunde/McGrew Win at Dillinger's

The tough team of Jerry Hershman of Utica and Marie Sweeney of Lake Orion took top honors in the mixed doubles tourney at Dillinger's Saloon in Oxford on

August 13. Bev Armsdon and Jim Kelsey finished second, with Jamie Kay of Detroit and O.B. Brimm of Utica in third place.

In the open doubles event, Bjerne Sunde of Madison Heights and Phil McGrew of Pontiac teamed up to take first place. Jerry Hershman and Marie Sweeney finished second, with O.B. Brimm and Jim Kelsey in third place.

Coale/Zeke Win at Diamond State

Buddy Coale and Zeke finished first in a field of 13 teams in a draw partner tournament at Diamond State VFW, Wilmington, Delaware, on August 13. Second place honors went to Frank and Mark Grove, and in third place were long-time Wilmington shooters Rocky Rybicki and Fuzzy Shires. Food was furnished by the club.

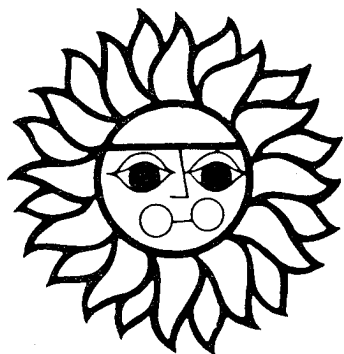
"Anyone who wants to try a 28 foot board and likes to eat should try to make a tourney at Diamond State," said Bob Hall. "We have an annual tournament on Super Bowl Sunday in February with a pig roast."

Williams/Nelson/Allis/Danke Take U.S. Open Titles

David Williams of Texas took top honors in the open singles at the U.S. Open in Austin, Texas, August 9-14. Darrol Nelson of Oregon took second with Howard Mouton of Texas in third place.

In the open doubles, the team of Jim Allis of Washington and Darrol Nelson of Oregon took first place. Eric Waldman of California and Sam Summers of Oklahoma teamed up to take second place honors, with Hal Perry of California and Howard Mouton of Texas in third.

In the women's singles, Chris Danke of California took first place. Diana Hagen of Texas took second place honors, with Rene Hart of Oklahoma in third place.

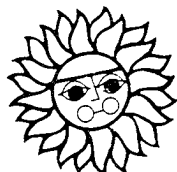


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Season Opener at Ours & Your Place, Sept. 9-11

Art and JoAnn Ware will host a Season Opener Tournament at Ours & Your Place, Sudlersville, Maryland, on Sept. 9-11.

Action will start on Friday night with a draw partner event, \$10 entry fee, 24 player limit. A women's singles, \$15 entry, 12 player limit, is scheduled for Saturday at 9 a.m., with a bring your partner event, \$25 entry, 24 team limit, at 1 p.m. On Sunday, the open singles, \$25 entry, 20 player limit, will start at noon. All events are single game, double elimination, on two boards.

For information, call JoAnn at Ours & Your Place, 301-438-3743. Tournament director is Judith Iseman, 301-778-5754.

"Summer will be over and it's time to get back into the swing of things," says Judith. "What could be better practice than a tournament to get in shape for league play? Come and join us."

Oklahoma City Fall Classic, Sept. 29-Oct. 2

The Shuffleboard Federation, Bill Melton and Sam Summers will host the 1st Annual Oklahoma City Fall Classic at the Holiday Inn in Oklahoma City on Sept. 29-30, Oct. 1-2.

The action-packed agenda will include an open doubles with \$300 per team entry fee and an open singles at \$150 per player. Both events will be 2 of 3, double elimination.

Auctions for both events are scheduled for 7 p.m. on Sept. 29 with play immediately following. A \$50 draw is scheduled for Thursday night.

The Holiday Inn is located at I-35 and 122nd St. in Oklahoma City. Call 405-478-0400 to make reservations. Be sure to tell them you are a participant in this tourney. Special rates for participants are \$38 per night, tax included, for two double bed or king-size single rooms. You must be a registered guest to participate in the tournament if you are not an Oklahoma City resident.

For information, call the Federation, 313-344-9666; Bill Melton, 405-369-2448; or Sam Summers, 405-843-9991.

Please post the enclosed flyer in your favorite shuffleboard site.

Annual Bourbon Fall Doubles, Oct. 1

The popular Fall Doubles Tournament at the American Legion Post 424 in Bourbon, Indiana, is scheduled for Oct. 1. \$30 per team entry fee, double elimination, four boards. This tourney has become a tradition and attracts lots of players and buyers in the auction. The people at the American Legion have also earned the reputation for running a smooth tourney and putting on a good food spread.

The auction will start at 11 a.m. For information, call the American Legion, 219-342-9125. See ad in this issue and plan to participate.

Colorado Open, Oct. 27-30

The Shuffleboard Federation and Jody Slack will host the 4th Annual Colorado Open at the Holiday Inn, Denver, Colorado, on Oct. 27-30.

Events will include an open doubles, \$200 per team; an open singles, \$150 per player, and a women's singles, \$75 entry fee. All events are 2 of 3, double elimination. Auctions for all events will be at 8 p.m. on Oct. 26. The

open doubles will be held on Thursday and Friday. The women's singles, on two boards, are scheduled for Friday and Saturday, and the open singles for Saturday and Sunday.

The Holiday Inn is located on I-25 at Araphahoe Rd. in Denver. Call 303-790-1421 to make your reservations. Special tournament rates (be sure to indicate you are a participant) are \$42 per night. You must be a registered guest to participate in the tournament if you are not a Denver resident. Free transportation from the airport to the Holiday Inn.

For information, call the Shuffleboard Federation, 313-344-9666, or Jody Slack, 303-973-6529.

Please post the enclosed flyer in your favorite shuffleboard establishment and plan now to participate in this big one.

Hoosier Holiday Happening, Nov. 25-26

The Palace Bar in Fairmount, Indiana, and the Town Tavern in Summitville, will co-host a Hoosier Holiday Happening over the Thanksgiving weekend.

Join the Voorhis family on Friday, Nov. 25, for a doubles tournament, \$50 per team entry. Three boards,

(continued on page 12)

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Hammer (continued from page 1)

"What are your ideas for improvement?" (We didn't know what to expect from this question.) All events should be 2 of 3, double elimination; more boards (we had four); no pre-assigned times; lower entry fees; higher entry fees; all players should be Board Talk subscribers; have auction on Thursday night; better ventilation; if pre-assigned times are used, players should be there a half-hour before.

"What are your thoughts on:

Seeding of players?" (On this one, they responded about the way we expected.) 46% said no; 23% said yes; and 31% said they didn't know enough about it to vote. It's a subject that needs some discussion and David Williams of Texas made some good points in his evaluation:

"I think the seeding of players is a definite necessity to the future of tournaments. It's unfortunate that without sponsors we must depend on the auction to have a decent purse. However, until we reach the time that we don't need the auction, I feel seeding is necessary. For instance, in your recent tournament, Darrol Nelson, John McDermott, Bobby Voorhis, Howard Mouton and myself made up almost 3/4 of the auction in a 32-person field, and we could have all been in the same bracket. All other sporting event tournaments are seeded, such as tennis, basketball, and even the NFL playoffs. It seems to me that it is no disadvantage to the 'weaker' players, for they very well could knock out a Nelson-type player. However, if not seeded, they may have to play a Mays or Melton next. If

they were seeded, they would be in the opposite bracket. Also, if not seeded, it could immediately put one of the strong players in the loser's bracket. If everyone completely understood the method, I don't think there would be that much opposition."

"A separate women's event?" (Because all the other events are open to women and a separate event adds to the already full schedule, we thought the majority -- especially the men -- would say to drop it.) 70% said there should be a separate women's event; 8% said no because women play as well as the men; and 22% had no opinion or were open-minded on the subject. One said the event should be after the open singles; another said it should be before all other events.

"Entry fees for the various events?" (We charged \$150 for open singles; \$150 for open doubles; \$50 for women's singles and \$50 for mixed doubles. We thought they'd say to lower the fees.) 62% said they were O.K.; 23% said some events should be higher; and 15% said they should be lower.

We also gave players an opportunity to make "other comments." Space doesn't allow us to print all those, but we'd like to let those players who responded know that there will be a 5th Annual Board Talk Tournament because of their positive reinforcement. Bless you all!

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We share the results of this survey -- not because we're the experts -- but because we had a good cross section of players, geographically and professionally. And, because the players had to spend their own 25¢ to respond, they're the ones who want a voice in the next tournament they participate in -- the movers and shakers in The World of Shuffleboard. Their opinions, we believe, reflect the thinking of players who will participate in your next tournament.

We remind you of a couple opportunities to give national exposure to people and/or places that make our World of Shuffleboard so special.

One is the opportunity to convince players from across the U.S.A. and Canada that they ought to come

(continued on page 12)

Shufflers Do More than Just Shuffle...

They buy homes, boats, swimming pools, travel trailers, cars, trucks, whatever other consumers buy. They need services, they travel -- probably more than the average consumer -- and they need lodging, food, and airline tickets or gas and oil.

Stop and think: What have you got that shufflers need? Then buy a classified ad in The Board Talk. Only \$2.00 for 25 words or less, 10 cents for every additional word over 25. Send advertising message, with check payable to The Board Talk, by the 15th of the month to: The Board Talk, 421 E. Sheridan Road, Lansing, Mich. 48906.

THE BOARD TALK'S TOP 50 PLAYERS IN THE U.S.A.

ATLANTIC DIVISION:

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

1. John Lukas, MD
2. Mickey Mickens, NJ
3. Scratch Todd, MD
4. Don Casula, DE
5. Dallas Hayman, DE
6. Bill Lally, PA
7. Stosh Chmielewski, PA
8. Chuck King, DE
9. Tom Bernhard, MD
10. Milt Benedict, NY

PACIFIC DIVISION:

Idaho, Washington, Oregon, Nevada, California, Utah, Arizona, Alaska, Hawaii

1. Darrol Nelson, OR
2. Don Cox, CA
3. Eric Waldman, CA
4. Hal Perry, CA
5. Jim Allis, WA
6. Bill Maxwell, CA
7. Karl Spickelmier, CA
8. Joe Muniz, CA
9. Al Pease, WA
10. Billy Chiles, CA

MID-EAST DIVISION:

Michigan, Ohio, Kentucky, Tennessee, Alabama, Indiana, Wisconsin, Illinois, Missouri, Arkansas, Mississippi, Louisiana, Iowa, Minnesota

1. Bobby Voorhis, IN
2. John McDermott, MI
3. Glenn Young, ARK
4. Buddy Broka, OH
5. Jim Long, IN
6. Lee McDonald, MI
7. Dave Boaz, IN
8. Jim DeWitt, IN
9. Jerry Warr, IN
10. Bjerne Sunde, MI

MID-WEST DIVISION:

North Dakota, South Dakota, Nebraska, Kansas, Oklahoma, Texas, New Mexico, Colorado, Wyoming, Montana

1. Howard Mouton, TX
2. Dave Williams, TX
3. Billy Mays, TX
4. Sam Summers, OK
5. Glen Davidson, OK
6. Bill Melton, OK
7. Earl Kelly, TX
8. Diana Hagen, TX
9. Sam Sweatt, OK
10. Janet Cook, TX

WOMEN: Nationwide

- | | |
|-----------------------|-----------------------|
| 1. Diana Hagen, TX | 6. Debbie Somers, IN |
| 2. Janet Cook, TX | 7. Cheryl Collins, MI |
| 3. Chris Danke, CA | 8. Fritz Broka, OH |
| 4. Brenda Moore, TX | 9. Rita Yank, PA |
| 5. Peggy Richards, AR | 10. Rene Hart, OK |

Criteria for selection of Top 50: (1) you must play (you may be the best player in the country, but if you don't play in tourneys, you won't be rated); (2) singles events will receive stronger consideration than doubles, mixed doubles, draw partner or 6-person team events; (3) stronger tournaments will receive more consideration than lesser ones; (4) in most divisions, player talent is so close an upgrading of 5 or 6 positions from one number to the next will not be unusual.

NOTICE

On January 1, 1989, our subscription rate will increase from \$10 to \$15 per year. Renew now, whether your subscription is due or not, and save \$5.00

Tourney Talk *(continued from page 9)*

single game double elimination, auction at noon. For information, call 317-948-9102.

The next day, take a short hop over to Summitville for a singles tourney at the Town Tavern. \$50 entry fee, single game single elimination, on one board. Auction at noon. For information, call 317-536-2150.

See ad in this issue and plan to attend.

P.C.S.A. Shuffleboard Extravaganza, Las Vegas, Jan. 12-16

The Showboat Hotel and Casino in Las Vegas, Nevada, will be the site of the Pacific Coast Shuffleboard Association's "Shuffleboard Extravaganza" on January 12-16, 1989.

Events will include an open singles, a women's singles, 8-member amateur team event and an open doubles. Check the enclosed flyer for entry fees. You may also use the reverse side of the flyer to make your reservation for this extravaganza. Registration deadline is December 15.

For information, call Joe Muniz, 213-926-3714, or Lou Lusero, 213-830-7600, Ext. 362, or 213-513-6486.

Watch future issues of The Board Talk for updates but, in the meantime, plan your winter vacation around this big event.

Hammer *(continued from page 11)*

visit your favorite shuffleboard establishment. Tell us what's so special about it. Tell us about your boards, your local competition, the house specialties, some suggestions on where players should stay if they do come, if there are other boards in the area, and what are some area attractions for members of a shuffler's family who don't play.

Another is the opportunity to pay public tribute to a person who has made special contributions to The World of Shuffleboard. This could be a player or a non-player -- anyone who has gone the "extra mile" to make shuffleboard the great sport that it is today. We've published two such tributes -- one by Lansing State Journal sports writer Bob Gross about Rudy Stober, and the other by Louis Lusero of California about Mexican Tommy Workman. Not only do these people deserve such recognition, shufflers like to read about what others have done.

Send your "nominations" for these special places and/or people to: The Board Talk, 421 E. Sheridan Rd., Lansing, MI 48906. Please, don't hesitate because you don't think you can write well enough to be published. Just make it from the heart and we'll handle the grammar, punctuation, spelling and continuity. Enclose a photo of your nominee, if possible; black and white is best, a sharp color will do. Include your phone number in case we have questions.

Let's hear from you!

George and Donna Wilber, Publishers

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