

# The Board Talk

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

Vol. 7, No. 9

September 1990

## The Hammer

We hope you enjoyed Phil McGrew's new column, "Ask the Pros," introduced in last month's Board Talk, as much as we did. We think it's a step in the right direction in making this publication of interest to amateurs. We hope everyone who is on our subscription list will give just a peek of this new feature to non-subscribers and encourage them to sign up.

Speaking very honestly, we're between a rock and a hard place. We knew from the start that we were a tournament newsletter, promoting the events and encouraging participation and reporting the results of those tournaments. That, plus being a vehicle for sharing information about the products and services our World of Shuffleboard needs and as a place where players from the East Coast could communicate with those on the West Coast and all points in between. And, even though we're well aware that the future of our sport lies with the league players, there's no way we can print the standings of the thousands of leagues that exist across the U.S.A. and Canada. We'd have a newsletter as thick as a phone book at a price nobody could afford!

So the struggle to produce a communications vehicle that will appeal to all members of The World of Shuffleboard continues...

That we have not yet reached that goal is evidenced by our mailing list. Sad to say, we are no further ahead in that respect than we were five years ago. The reason we're still in business is because of the recognition by tournament sponsors and shuffleboard product/services suppliers that The Board Talk is the most economical, effective way to reach their target audiences. If we depended upon our subscription revenue, we'd be long gone.

For example, are there really only 10 shufflers in Ohio? Six in that one-time "hot bed" of shuffleboard, Illinois? Eight in New Jersey? 19 in New York? 12 in Delaware? Six in Florida? One in Montana? If there are truly hundreds of thousands of shufflers across the U.S.A., where are they? Not on our mailing list!

We tried contests. True, blue shufflers tried hard to sign up subscribers to win a set of weights. It didn't work. Take Denny Busch, for example. He took the state of Nebraska and brought it from the bottom of the list to the top by signing up new subscribers; two years later, Nebraska is back near the bottom. Subscribers who signed up to help Denny win a set of weights evidently found nothing in The Board Talk to make them renew.

Hopefully, Phil's "Ask the Pros" will help. Dick Gorman has another idea. The Shuffleboard Federation's Top 20 ranked pro players has become a popular feature of The Board

*(continued on page 10)*

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

## Tourney Talk

### Baldwinsville Moose Club Hosts 8th New York State ISL Tourney

Record highs were set at the 8th New York State ISL tournament hosted by the Baldwinsville Moose Club in B'Ville, N.Y. on July 14-15 with 68 shufflers taking aim at over \$3,100 in cash prizes.

Saturday saw 32 shooters playing for \$1,450 in the draw partner event. The Fridley brothers, Dave and Doug Jr., teamed up to take the lion's share. Coming in second were the favorites, Steve Bennett from Sherburne and Jack Enders from B'Ville. Third spot went to Milt Benedict from Classic 101 in Sherburne and Dan Henderson from B'Ville (Dan is 2 for 2 in cashing in draw partner events at Baldwinsville Moose). Earning fourth place was the fine team of local John Canino and Earl Durgan from the Dew Drop Inn (cashing in his first event).

"The air-conditioned comfort and delicious buffet served by Jane Johnson and Charlie Organski, along with hot dogs to eat all day, provided players with a very pleasant experience," reports Doug Fridley Jr. "The B'Ville Moose is a great place for shuffleboard!"

The bring partner event on Sunday brought some surprises as Pam Draheim and Doug Fridley Jr. of the Dew Drop Inn took first place and half of the record \$1,680 purse. Coming in second with some fine 3-draws by Marv were Marv Smith and John Arndt of Amy's Checkered Flag in Waterloo. To get there, they had to get by the tough B'Ville team of Jack Enders and Al "Bundy" Smith, who took third. Coming in for fourth place prize money was the Dew Drop Inn team of Doug Fridley Sr. and Dave Fridley, getting there by beating out two very good Classic 101 teams from Sherburne.

Another fine buffet was served by Jane Johnson and the B'Ville Moose Club with Dan Henderson offering all players some grilled chicken halves to take home. "As usual, Yogi Rusavage did an excellent job organizing the charts and having the tournament run smoothly. Prize money was the best yet for our ISL tourneys and shows we are growing bigger and competition is getting great," said Doug.

### Mouton/Grady Win at Nite Cap

The Nite Cap Lounge in Houston, Texas, hosted a doubles tournament on July 21, with 24 of the best players in the area vying for a share of the \$2150 pot. Winners were Howard Mouton and John Grady. Second place honors went to Dale Koteris and Harry May, with Harvey Kidd and Stan Stinson in third place.

### Tommy's Proteges Shine at Peanut House

The Peanut House in Bellflower, California, hosted their second amateur tournament on July 27-29. This time it was a bring your own partner, best two out of three, double elimination event.

*(continued on page 3)*



# Shufflers' Notebook

News and Views  
from The World  
of Shuffleboard

## Carol Says Thanks

It was a beautiful article that you wrote about Wayne, and I will keep it as a good memory for a long time.

I am writing to thank all the friends from the Michigan Open and The Federation's National Amateur Shuffleboard League for the beautiful floral arrangements, and the monies from the benefit tournaments that were held in honor of Wayne. Jerry and Sara Siebert handled the tournaments at Stober's in Lansing and they have our thanks.

Wayne really loved the challenge of shuffleboard. He liked meeting new people and seeing new parts of the country. He used to say that every time he went to a tournament, he learned something new.

I know that I have left out a lot of names of people who have contributed their love and support for our family, but please know that we will remember all of you.

Carol Reist and family, Lansing, Michigan

*Hopefully, someday we'll understand why we had to lose this man to whom we often pointed with pride and said: "This is the kind of person who makes us proud to be a part of the shuffleboard family." Maybe, just maybe, somebody was needed to teach the angels how to play shuffleboard. Or perhaps another good friend, Ed Estep, had searched Heaven in vain for somebody he could play with and God said: "I know a fellow who would be a great match for you." Let's think of them doing that. It helps ease the pain.*

## Too Many Don't Know About The Board Talk

Enclosed is my subscription renewal. I think The Board Talk is the biggest single reason that shuffleboard is growing in interest all over the country. Every club that I go to, I mention The Board Talk and it surprises me that people don't know about it. My last club was St. Kazimeir in Turners Falls, Mass. They mentioned they would be new subscribers.

Shuffleboard in Pittsfield is growing in leaps and bounds. We just finished a summer single league and we are in the process of purchasing another board for the fall league beginning in October. I think that will make the Polish Falcons the only club in New England with two new boards.

Dick Mierzejewski, President, Polish Falcons, Pittsfield, Mass.

*Our apologies for not putting St. Kazimier Society on the August "Play Your Way Across the U.S.A." listing. They'll be on the next one for sure! We didn't realize it was a shuffleboard establishment. Thanks so much for helping us spread the word about The Board Talk, Dick. It's people like you who keep us going!*

## Rudy Tells the Tale of Shuffleboard

We came to Stober's here to play,

So at this time, I have this to say:

We flirt with ladies, but they did not slap;

They are interesting -- we did not need to take a nap.

Heidi is the hostess of no compare,

I know you all are of this aware.

She is the finest in this land;

Her kindness and inner beauty have no end.

Why do we all love to play this game?

It can cause us sometimes so much ache and pain.

The strategy is set, the weights are in their place,

Now begins the struggle in a point to point race.

The battle goes on, tension shows in their face.

Who will win this match because everything is at stake?

The victor is crowned; he will be adored.

We thought he'd be vanquished on another board.

When we lose the match, we bow our heads in shame,

Then we swear revenge, and play another game.

We played and struggled, all day and night long,

So who can say this can't be wrong?

We love and abuse our partner, if tall or small,

When we play the game, we fight and argue,  
then try to win it all.

Any player who holds a weight so dear,

Will not take a dive when he hears a sneer.

We neglect our ladies, by day and by night,

Their patience with us is to our delight. We want  
from them always more and more loot,

They really should give us the deserving boot!

We have players who throw tantrums,

They get them only heaven knows from where.

That drives their partner and sponsor drinking,

And they put us often in despair.

To the end of this tournament that now is so near,

You have not lived yet unless Linda has  
served you a shot and a beer.

So when the time comes for us to say good bye,

Proudly remember the great match and time  
we had as time goes by.

I have to end this story before it gets out of hand,  
So let's play another game of shuffleboard, because  
this is the finest game in our great land.

Rudy Stober, Stober's Cocktail Lounge, Lansing, Michigan

*Anyone who has been fortunate enough to participate in a tournament at Stober's has been treated to Rudy's talent as a poet. We're happy to share that talent with those across our World of Shuffleboard.*

**The deadline for submitting news and views  
is the 15th of each month. Send to: THE  
BOARD TALK, 421 E. Sheridan, Lansing,  
MI 48906.**

## Tourney Talk (continued from page 1)

First place honors went to the team of Jay Kimble and Joanie Swenson. Second place went to two unknowns (until this weekend!) from Lomita, Bob Coke and Brian (Critter) Seney, with Vern Booth and Bob Brunskill finishing in third place.

It was Bob's and Critter's first tournament and Joanie reports that on Saturday morning, after they beat the tourney favorites Vern B. and Bob B., a few eyes were opened. "Come to find out, the two young guys were taught by none other than Tommy Workman," said Joanie. "As Tommy said, the two kids are still learning and have a ways to go. But for their first tournament, they did great!"

When it came down to the finals, Bob and Critter played Jay and Joanie, beating them to guarantee themselves at least second place. Jay and Joanie then played Vern and Bob, beating them to come back and bump heads with Bob and Critter. Jay and Joanie took the first match, which now gave both teams one loss. The final match went all three games and with a few luck shots, the house team of Jay and Joanie won.

Over the weekend tournament, the Peanut House gave any player who put a four on the board a free drink. Twenty-six of these were awarded!

"I would like to thank Rich (Bubba) Warren for his help in running the tournament, to Joe Muniz for his great gift of gab running the auction, which gave us a total prize money of over \$3,000, and the Peanut House for the great barbecue," said Joanie. "Thanks to all the others who helped. Everyone had a great time."

The Peanut House will hold their second annual Fall Classic Thanksgiving Amateur Tournament on Nov. 22-25 and hope to see you there.

### Nelson/Allis Take Title at Whistling Oyster's First

The first annual shuffleboard tournament at the Whistling Oyster Tavern in Quilcene, Washington, on Aug. 4-5, attracted 40 of what owner Bill Bailey calls "the strongest players I've ever seen in many years at any of the Northwest tournaments."

Darrol Nelson of Oregon and Jimmy Allis of Washington teamed up and made it through the winner's bracket until they met up with Jim Foran and Rick Gindt, both of Washington. Jim and Rick came out ahead with a two out of three win to put Darrol and Jimmy in the loser's bracket. But you can never keep a great team down for long, Bill reports. They lost their first game to Bill and his partner, Mike Waters, but came back again for a second try to win first place. They came back strong to take a hard-fought first place, with a well-deserved second by Jim Foran and Rick Gindt. Bill and Mike played well to take a hard-earned third, with Sherm Anderson and Ron Wicks taking fourth.

The Whistling Oyster served an outstanding seafood buffet for everyone on Saturday and Sunday, plus a Sunday morning breakfast.

Bill said he was pleased with the tournament and all of the great players who showed up from as far away as Jimmy Kum-pula of Detroit, Michigan, a long-time friend of Bill's. The Whistling Oyster is planning another tournament in November or December (date to be announced soon). If this winter tourney is anything close to the August event, don't miss it!

"We'd like to say many thanks to the kind people who

(continued on page 4)

## 1990 National Shuffleboard Calendar

**Sept. 21-23**

*Benedict's Classic Open*

*Benedict's Classic, Sherburne, New York*

**\*Sept. 26-30**

*1st North American Shuffleboard Championships*

*Sahara Hotel & Casino, Las Vegas, Nevada*

**Oct. 13-14**

*1st Annual Open Doubles*

*The Club Tavern, Springfield, Oregon*

**Oct. 26-28**

*Fall Classic*

*Lafayette Inn, Rising Sun, Maryland*

**Nov. 3-4**

*Tournament*

*Spot Tavern, Pacific Beach, Washington*

**Nov. 16-18**

*Harvey's Thanksgiving Shootout*

*Harvey's, Street, Maryland*

**\*Nov. 22-25**

*6th Annual Turkey Day Tourney*

*San Diego, California*

**Nov. 22-25**

*2nd Annual Fall Classic Thanksgiving*

*Amateur Tournament*

*The Peanut House, Bellflower, California*

**\*Nov. 22-26**

*2nd Annual East Coast Extravaganza*

*Philadelphia, Pennsylvania*

**Jan. 30-Feb. 3, 1991**

*P.C.S.A. Shuffleboard Extravaganza III*

*Las Vegas, Nevada*

**\*Shuffleboard Federation Pro Tour**

## **Tourney Talk** (continued from page 3)

helped make this tournament so successful," said Bill and his partner, Sandee Van Wagenen. "Thanks to Clark Kenny, Jim Foran, Marvin, Buddy, Helen, Thais, Bill and Jeanie, Patty, Mary, Linda, Nancy, Jenny and so many more. If we have forgotten anyone, our apologies. We would also like to thank so many good friends who attended and cheered on the players, such as Nancy Hiller from the Acme Tavern, Gordon and Linda from the Corner Tavern, Cathy Davidson from Bergy's Tavern and many more."

### **Crawford/Jakes Winners at Nite Cap Lounge**

There were 20 players participating in the doubles tournament at the Nite Cap Lounge in Houston, Texas, on August 4. First place went to Jim Crawford and Johnny Jakes, with Howard Mouton and Brian Walker in second. Lee Brady and Tom Milan finished in third place. A total of \$1,725 in prize money was enjoyed by the winners.

### **Benedict's 101 Classic Open, Sept. 21-23**

Have you signed up yet for the Classic Open at Benedict's 101 Classic in Sherburne, New York on Sept. 21-23? If not, better do so now. This one will fill up fast! There's four events on the schedule: draw partner, \$10 person; women's singles, \$10; bring partner, \$25 per team; and open singles, \$25. All events are 15 points, straight, single game, double elimination. Benedict's has four regulation size boards.

For lodging, there's the Sherburne Motel, 607-674-5511; Sherburne Inn, 607-674-6021; Grove Park, 607-334-2251; Overlook Bed & Breakfast, 607-674-9435; or Jerome Valowski Bed & Breakfast, 607-674-6531.

Send your tournament registration, with paid entry fees, to: Benedict's 101 Classic, 20 Classic St., Sherburne, NY 13460.

Questions? Call Milt or Betty at 607-674-4571 or 607-674-9717; or tournament director Dick Gorman, 302-994-0004.

### **Club Tavern to Host Open Doubles, Oct. 13-14**

The Club Tavern, 420 Main St., Springfield, Oregon, will host its first annual open doubles on Oct. 13-14. \$50 per team entry fee, with a 60-25-10-5 payout, double elimination. The auction will start at 11 a.m. on Oct. 13. The Club Tavern offers excellent playing conditions.

For lodging, hosts Lisa and Glenn Lindberg suggest the Pacific "9" Motel (503-726-9266) or Motel "6" (503-687-2395), or R.V. parking is available.

For further information about this event, contact tournament directors Sam Gott, 503-726-0314; Fred Linton, 503-741-2991; or Lisa or Glenn at the Club Tavern, 503-747-4466.

### **P.C.S.A. Extravaganza III, Las Vegas, Jan. 30-Feb. 3**

December 1st seems like a long way off, but it's not that far when you consider what you have to do between now and then. That's the deadline for both the registration for the P.C.S.A.'s Extravaganza III and to make your room reservation at the Showboat Hotel/Casino in Las Vegas. First, request your vacation time so you can be there Jan. 30 through Feb. 3. Then, get your team(s) lined up for the five events: mixed doubles, pro singles, women's singles, pro doubles, and 8-member amateur team event. Next, collect the bucks and send in your reservation fees. Start shopping for special travel offers to Las Vegas and get your flights booked.

There's a double-page flyer in this issue with all the information about entries and dates of the events, along with a registration and room reservation form. Don't delay. Do it now! If you have any questions, call the P.C.S.A., 213-926-2152.

(continued on page 8)

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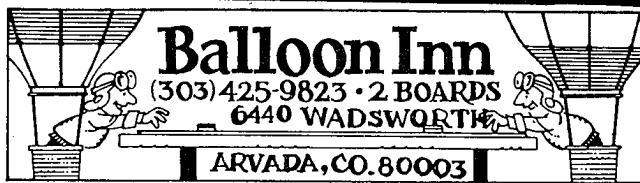
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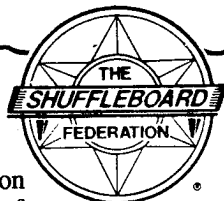
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# IT'S TOO BAD



## 1990 Point Standings: Open Division

A couple weeks ago, we were forced to make a decision that we have almost made a number of times over the last few years. Due to the lack of cooperation from the players in the area of sending their deposits and making their room reservations, we cancelled the 1990 Nebraska Open.

It's too bad this had to happen. The Nebraska Open last year was a tremendous success, and we were confident that this year's tournament would have been successful as well. The problem was that while we felt good about the tournament, we just cannot do the kind of job we would like to without a better idea of the turnout.

Decisions on how many boards to bring, how many officials we need to hire, and starting ties are based on the number of players we expect to attend a particular event.

On numerous occasions, we have mentioned the need for cooperation from the players in the area of deposits but notifying us in advance seems to be too much trouble.

In addition to the reasons we listed previously regarding why it is so important to us for players to send their deposits, there are some major financial concerns at stake as well.

When we sign a contract with a hotel, we are often required to guarantee them a certain number of rooms in order for the ballroom space we use for the tournament to be provided rent-free. The hotel will block that number of rooms for our participants and hold them until a pre-determined cut-off date, which is usually two or three weeks prior to the event.

In the case of the Nebraska Open, the tournament was to start on August 30 and the cut-off date for room reservations was August 16. After the cut-off date, the hotel can sell the rooms to anyone they wish. In this particular situation, the University of Nebraska is playing their first football game the same weekend as the tournament and there was a waiting list for rooms all over the city of Lincoln, which was also the site of the Nebraska Open.

We were thus in a situation where even if the turnout was outstanding, there were not going to be any rooms available for our participants anyway, and we were facing a bill of \$2,000 in ballroom rental charges.

In the past, we just went ahead and took the losses. We knew that the idea of pre-registration was new to most of the shuffleboard community and it would take some time for them to get into the habit of signing up in advance.

Well, sad to say, the Nebraska Open was the straw that broke the camel's back. We have invested enough of our time, efforts, money and patience trying to make our point on this issue.

In the future, our events will continue to have a cut-off date. The difference is that when that cut-off date arrives, if there are not enough people signed up, the event will be cancelled. It is too bad that the players had to force us into this position. The shuffleboard community often complains about the lack of sponsorship money in the game. Maybe the problem really is that the game is not ready to be recognized in that fashion. Maybe we are ahead of our time in trying to organize and promote this wonderful game that we and you love.

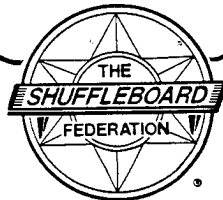
There are a lot of maybes. The only thing that is certain is that it is the players' hammer and they will determine whether we continue to spend our time and money on promoting tournaments for them, or whether we just promote our leagues and supply business and wonder what might have been.

Our 1991 schedule will be out soon and you will have the opportunity to decide what direction the game will take -- forward or reverse.

| Rank | Player's Name  | Total Points |
|------|----------------|--------------|
| 1.   | Sam Summers    | 565          |
| 2.   | Bill Melton    | 399          |
| 3.   | Glen Davidson  | 318          |
| 4.   | Bobby Voorhis  | 307          |
| 5.   | Frank Blade    | 273          |
| 6.   | Dale Koteras   | 248          |
| 7.   | John McDermott | 242 1/2      |
| 8.   | Earl Kelly     | 239 1/2      |
| 9.   | David Williams | 239 1/2      |
| 10.  | Johnny Ballard | 184          |
| 11.  | Chuck Norris   | 163          |
| 12.  | Billy Mays     | 147          |
| 13.  | Howard Mouton  | 138          |
| 14.  | Darrol Nelson  | 116          |
| 15.  | Billy Chiles   | 112          |
| 16.  | Bud Hilburn    | 103 1/2      |
| 17.  | Tony Howard    | 102          |
| 18.  | Gordy Collins  | 101          |
| 19.  | Diana Hagen    | 91           |
| 20.  | Eric Waldman   | 87           |

## 1990 Point Standings: Ladies' Division

| Rank | Player's Name   | Total Points |
|------|-----------------|--------------|
| 1.   | Diana Hagen     | 561          |
| 2.   | Brenda Moore    | 389 1/2      |
| 3.   | Janet Weidner   | 166          |
| 4.   | Cheryl Collins  | 117          |
| 5.   | Mary Koteras    | 112          |
| 6.   | Peggie Richards | 98           |
| 7.   | Debbie Voorhis  | 93 1/2       |
| 8.   | Sharon Finch    | 79           |
| 9.   | Val Borja       | 68           |
| 10.  | Gail Schultz    | 54 1/2       |
| 11.  | Carolyn Jones   | 51           |
| 12.  | Fritzi Broka    | 50           |
| 13.  | Chris Danke     | 46           |
| 14.  | Marilyn Roberts | 30           |
| 15.  | Gwynette Orsi   | 30           |
| 16.  | Evelyn Harris   | 29           |
| 17.  | Diana Hofmann   | 28           |
| 18.  | Sandy Blade     | 27           |
| 19.  | Deniece Addison | 27           |
| 20.  | Cindy Clark     | 25           |



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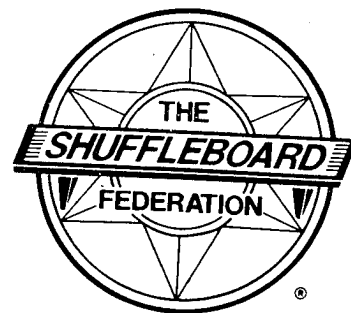
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# **EAST COAST EXTRAVAGANZA**

**November 22-25**



## **EVENTS:**

**Draw Partners:** Thursday, Nov. 22, \$25 per player  
**Open Singles:** Starts Friday, Nov. 23, \$100 per player  
**Mixed Doubles:** Starts Friday, Nov. 23, \$50 per player  
**Open Doubles:** Starts Saturday, Nov. 24, \$100 per player

## **WHERE:**

**George Washington Lodge**  
(20 minutes from downtown Philadelphia.  
Room rates \$35 per night, plus tax, for 1-4 people.)

**Participants must stay at the George Washington Lodge.**

**Complete details in the October issue of Board Talk.**

**For more information, contact  
The Shuffleboard Federation, 313-344-9666**

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**Reserve my spot for the East Coast Extravaganza:**

Name \_\_\_\_\_

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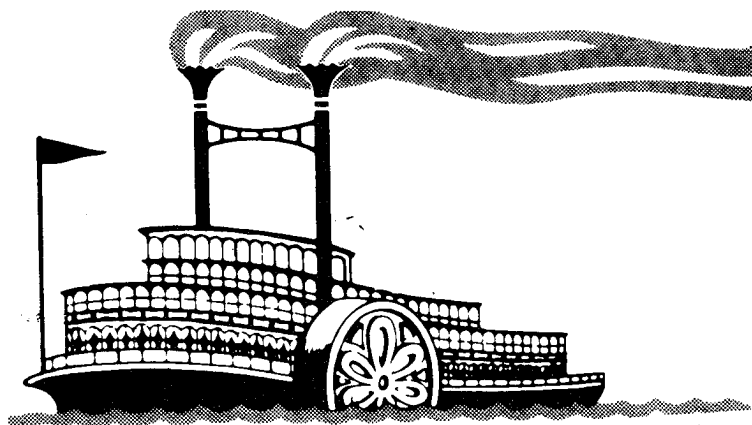
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**Jan. 30 thru Feb. 3, 1991**  
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**Sponsorship Sale For Mixed Doubles Tues., Jan. 29**

**MIXED DOUBLES**

\$120 Entry Fee includes \$10 P.C.S.A. Registration Fee.  
Limit 24 teams.

**Sponsorship Sale for Pro Singles & Women's Singles Wed., Jan 30**

**PRO SINGLES**

\$310 Entry Fee includes \$10 P.C.S.A. Registration Fee.  
Event starts Thurs., Jan. 31. Limit 32 Players

**WOMEN'S SINGLES**

\$110 Entry Fee includes \$10 P.C.S.A. Registration Fee.  
Event starts Thurs., Jan. 31. Limit 32 Players

**Sponsorship Sale For Pro Doubles & Amateur Team Thurs., Jan. 31**

**PRO DOUBLES**

\$220 Entry Fee includes \$10 P.C.S.A. Registration Fee  
per player. Event starts Fri., Feb. 1. Limit 32 Teams

**8 MEMBER AMATEUR  
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Event starts Fri., Feb. 1. Limit 28 Teams (8 Member  
Amateur team must have 2 women players)

**\*Please note – Due to scheduling conflicts, anyone playing in Amateur Team Event will be ineligible for Pro Singles and Doubles. Women players playing in Women's Singles are not eligible for Pro Singles due to scheduling.**

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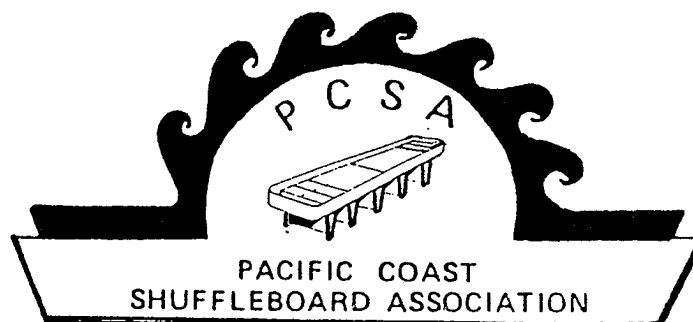
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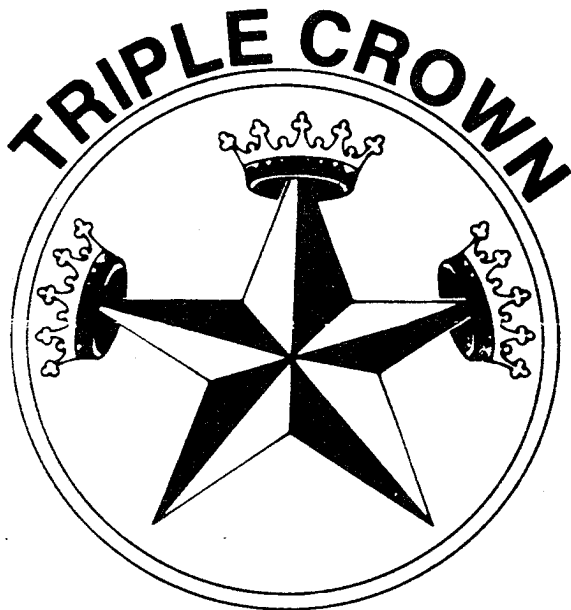
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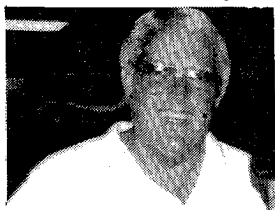
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## Ask the Pros

By Phil McGrew



**Bill Melton**



**John McDermott**



**Sam Summers**



**Bobby Voorhis**

**Question: Is the placement of a shuffleboard player's feet (footwork) important and, if so, why?**

**Bobby Voorhis:** It's important to feel comfortable when addressing the board and foot placement is where you start. Most shooters stand slightly bent at the knees with their shooting hand foot ahead of the other. When shooting rails, try moving to the opposite side of the board and squaring up more to the board. On crosses, say right-cross, move to the right side more and move the right foot ahead of the left. Balance is all important and foot placement is where you start.

**Sam Summers:** A tough question. There is no one single way of positioning one's feet that would be comfortable and effective for all players. Nor is one set position right for all shots for the same player. Give the following suggestions some thought:

1. Wear comfortable footwear with non-skid soles.
2. Be comfortable in your stance, with your weight distributed evenly on both feet.
3. Positioning your shooting foot just to the outside of the cradle's round corner will allow your hip to move slightly forward on release, thus not restricting upper body movement.
4. Sometimes, a tight rail shot becomes easier if you position your shooting foot more directly behind the cradle. This allows you to hold the weight into the rail.
5. Find the way that is you and practice it until it is automatic. The last worry you need while shooting in a game is -- are my feet in the right place?
6. Finally, as you approach a more "mature" age, the most important footwork may be what position your feet are in when NOT shooting!

**Bill Melton:** If they are in legal position and it feels good -- shoot away!

**John McDermott:** If you watch the top players, there seems to be no limit to the different stances you will see. I guess the only advice I have is that if you are shooting right-handed, the right foot should be forward; if you are shooting left-handed, the left foot should be forward.

Other than that, the only important thing is that you be comfortable. Of course, the only way for something to be comfort-

able for you relates back to the advice given by Bill Melton, Sam Summers and Bobby Voorhis in last month's column: practice, practice, practice!

**Guest Panelist: Cheryl Collins**

Our guest panelist this month is Cheryl Collins of Michigan. Cheryl, long-known as one of the top shuffleboard players in the nation, is celebrating yet another big win. She recently won The Board Talk's 6th Annual women's singles championship in Houghton Lake,



Michigan. If that wasn't enough, she teamed up with husband Gordie (a very fine player himself) to capture second in the open doubles.

Cheryl began playing shuffleboard with a group of friends who used to stop at a local shuffleboard bar. Even though the whole group shot freehand only, she found the game to be a lot of fun. When she began working at that very same tavern, she found herself showing up at work two or three hours early just to get in a couple of games of "Board." By then, the shuffleboard "hook" was firmly embedded.

This winner of many local as well as national tournaments credits Bud Broka and long-time partner John McDermott with having the most beneficial influence on her game. "I used to love to sit with Buddy at tournaments while he would call a play-by-play of the games. He would tell me the correct shot the player should try or what was wrong with the shot selection the player chose," said Cheryl. She also credits Greg and Terry Broka for some solid advice.

The former national ladies' champion feels if new players get involved in local leagues and take part in round robins, they will soon gain the confidence to enter some local tournaments. "Don't be afraid to ask some advice from the better players in your area, and practice, play and compete as much as possible," she said.

Hats off to a fine player and great competitor!

## Tourney Talk (continued from page 4)

### Blade/Collins/Voorhis Tops at Lakeside

Frank Blade of Texas came to Michigan to take the singles title at the Lakeside Lounge in Union Lake, Aug. 4-5. Bobby Voorhis of Indiana took second place honors with Jerry Knox of Indiana in third. Local O.B. Brimm finished fourth.

Gordie Collins and Bobby V. teamed up to take the biggest share of the pot in the doubles. Tournament Director Phil McGrew and Neil Fetter, both of Michigan, took second place. Jim Long of Indiana and Jim Stockmaster of Michigan finished third, with Frank Blade and Bernie Sunde of Michigan in fourth.

### North American Shuffleboard Championships, Las Vegas, Sept. 26-30

The Shuffleboard Federation, Inc., is delighted to announce that Dynamo Corporation, Inc. will be sponsoring the 1990 North American Shuffleboard Championships at the Sahara Hotel/Casino in Las Vegas, September 26-30.

Dynamo is a 17-year-old company that manufactures pool tables, air hockey tables, foosball games and video games. They also sponsor the largest pool league in the world, the Busch pool league, and the American Air Hockey Association. They are one of the largest manufacturers in the world of amusement games and The Federation hopes that players everywhere will join us in welcoming them to the shuffleboard community.

**Hammer** (continued from page 1)

Talk. Readers turn to it when their issues arrive in the mail to see who they should emulate and who they think they could beat if they just had the chance. Dick suggests a similar standings by area, something we tried but discontinued because we weren't really qualified to be the judges of who's the best. He has a tried-and-true method of determining who is best on the East Coast and we're going to start running his standings. We're looking for volunteers in other parts of the country to do the same. Maybe seeing their names in print would stimulate some of those non-subscribers to become a part of our network.

The Shuffleboard Federation's Player Policy Board, all committed supporters of The Board Talk, thought making being a subscriber part of the criteria of participating in their tournaments would help. It didn't. And, in a way, we're glad. We were uncomfortable with the idea of "forcing" anyone to be a subscriber. We want them to WANT to be!

We know that our "Play Your Way Across the U.S.A." quarterly listing may be one of the problems. Shuffleboard establishments gladly pay the \$15 subscription fee to be on that list that has proved it works. They also gladly share their issues of The Board Talk with the 10 or 20 shufflers who read those issues while they spend \$15 or more on drinks. We're not about to eliminate that shuffleboard network member-benefit because it does work so well. But we do encourage the subscribers on that special listing to tell those freeloaders to buy their own copy! We loved the note we got recently from a Washington shuffler who told us: "I got tired of running down to the bar every day when The Board Talk was due and decided to get my own subscription." We need more of his kind!

We are less than five years away from giving up the full-time jobs that allow us to publish The Board Talk. Between

now and then, we have to decide how to make the publication a viable retirement venture that can eventually be passed along to our grandsons, let it die, or sell it to someone who has a secret formula. We've invested almost seven years to make it viable and we won't give up easily. Any ideas you have are welcome!

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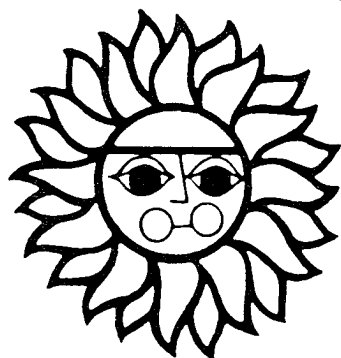
If somebody says to you: "I subscribed to The Board Talk but I haven't gotten one in several months," ask them a couple questions: (1) Have you moved since you subscribed? (2) Did you notify The Board Talk of that change of address? If they say "yes" to No. 1 and "no" to No. 2, that's the reason. With our bulk mailing permit, when a subscriber moves, they must use the form that's on the back page of every issue to let us know. The Post Office will not forward bulk mail. We keep sending them out to the former address and they eventually get dumped. If they haven't moved, ask them: "Did you give The Board Talk your complete address?" Without that, those issues go the same route as the movers who don't let us know. Addresses for bulk mail must be complete, including apartment numbers if you have one.

\*\*\*\*\*

We have subscribers who are not satisfied with the bulk mail delivery and ask, "Why can't you charge extra and send them first class?" Because first class mail is determined by weight and The Board Talk's size fluctuates from month to month, so we can't set a rate. For example, the July issue cost 75 cents to mail first-class; the August issue cost almost \$1.00 because it was 24 pages plus flyers. What will it be next month? We have no idea!

We're investigating the possibility of a second-class permit which should help some in delivery. We'll keep you posted.

George & Donna Wilber, Publishers

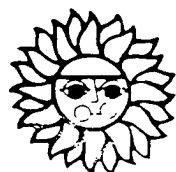


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