

The Board Talk

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

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The Hammer

This is one of those months when we'd like to use this space just to say a big "AMEN" to what all of our contributors have said, whether in the various columns, letters or ads. That would certainly be the easy way out at deadline time, but probably not very acceptable. So, in lieu of that, we encourage you to read every word of this issue. There are messages that will make you chuckle, others that may cause a lump in your throat, and lots of them are sure to get your adrenalin flowing in anticipation of the many exciting events that are in store for shuffleboarders in the weeks and months ahead.

We call special attention to the good news reported in The Shuffleboard Federation's column about their Reno tournament. This is the first time a major tournament has received this kind of monetary support and we should all give them a standing ovation. But, remember this important point: the decision to provide that support was based on the involvement of the amateurs. Like most of us, they realize that the credibility and viability of shuffleboard lies with the amateurs. So, it's vitally important to have good participation! Please help spread the word!

In the next issue will be our popular "Play Your Way Across the U.S.A." quarterly listing of shuffleboard establishments that are subscribers of The Board Talk. There will be a number of new ones on the list, but alas, there are also some that have been a part of our shuffleboard network who will not be on the list in May because they've neglected to renew their subscriptions. It's hard to believe that a business that benefits from the patronage of shuffleboard consumers would turn down the opportunity to get free national advertising four times a year, plus receive a Board Talk every month, for a mere \$15 a year investment. But it happens every quarter; we know not why.

If your favorite shuffleboard establishment isn't currently on the "Play Your Way" listing (check the February issue), ask them to consider becoming a part of our national network. To assure that they are on the next list, their subscription must be received by April 15.

We print a notice in every issue of The Board Talk reminding readers that if they move, they must notify us if they wish to continue receiving their Board Talk. When you notify the Post Office of your change of address, they will NOT forward your Board Talk or any other bulk rate mail, and they will NOT let us know you're moved. Your Board Talk keeps going to your old address (and probably getting dumped) because we don't know you've moved! It would help us, too, if you'd let us know just as soon as possible what your new address will be so you won't miss any issues. We're happy to

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Tourney Talk

Spickelmier/Talbert/Maxwell Win at T.G.'s

T.G.'s Place in Santa Clara, California, hosted a Presidents' Day Open over the Feb. 16-18 weekend, utilizing three boards and attracting 12 singles players and eight doubles teams to vie for a share of the nearly \$10,000 total prize fund.

Karl Spickelmier and Troy Talbert teamed up to take first place in the doubles event, with Billy Maxwell and A.Z. Turnbo taking second place honors. The local team of Rick Thomas and Ray Bayless finished in third spot.

In the singles event, top honors went to Bill Maxwell with an incredible shot in the 6th game over second place finisher Don Cox (this was a shootout!). Third place went to Fred Thumann.

"We thank bartender Stevie, Kathy, Sue and the girls for supplying an open buffet and service for the players and spectators over the two and a half-day event," says Rick Thomas of San Jose. "We would also like to give special recognition to A.Z. Turnbo for supplying a third board for this tournament, and thanks to Nelson Jennings, Paul Parks, Bob and the boys for delivering and setting up the board."

1st Great Lakes Mixed Shootout Attracts Record Participation

What may have been a record sign-up for a mixed doubles tournament in Michigan happened at Stober's Cocktail Lounge in Lansing on Feb. 16-17. Twenty-five teams were involved in the 1st Great Lakes Shootout Mixed Doubles Championships which featured Heidi Stober's famous buffets, Jerry Siebert as tournament director, Terri Tischler as entertainment director, and exciting, close games on the two boards.

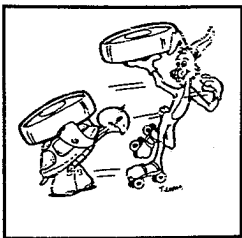
Taking home the biggest share of the winners' pot was the smooth-shooting team of Gail Schultz, Davisburg, and Bill Meyer, Sterling Heights. They had to beat tourney favorites John McDermott and Cheryl Collins of The Shuffleboard Federation to win the crown. Taking third place honors was the husband and wife team of Lee and Delores McDonald, Lansing.

Hilltop Inn Inaugurates 3-Day Tournaments

Frank Stezzi, owner of the Hilltop Inn, Fairhill, Maryland, is back with a revised management team and held his first of many 3-day tournaments on Feb. 22-24. "We should report that this staff can cook! They served a hot pasta dinner on Saturday and a chicken dinner on Sunday to all competitors, compliments of the management. Hats off to the management and the food preparers. It was really great and appreciated," reports Dick Gorman.

Friday night started off on this now two board (soon to be

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Shufflers' Notebook

News and Views
from The World
of Shuffleboard

Tulsa League Sets Pace

I hope the Tulsa Shuffleboard Association will be a pioneer in local league support for what The Board Talk is doing. The committee and owners of this league have adopted a new policy. Not only will all the officers of the league be subscribers to The Board Talk, but we are requesting all of our participating bars to be subscribers. As an incentive to subscribe, we will give them a discount equal to the annual fee of your newsletter. To go one step further, we will pay to enroll them for the first year, so that they can experience the only national shuffleboard publication that we know of.

Shuffleboard thrives on the support that it gets. The Board Talk has been supporting shuffleboard nationwide since its inception. I would challenge any and all other leagues around the country to match us. We are making a definite commitment to support the newsletter that has supported us. It seems a small price to pay for the contribution that you have made for the game and we would like you to know that all of the readers in Tulsa appreciate what you have done.

Keep up the good work!

E.R. Smith III, Tulsa Shuffleboard Association

A simple "thank you" seems inadequate for what you're trying to do. If every league in the U.S.A. would extend this kind of support, we'd have no concerns about our future. Your participating bars are getting a good deal! Do they realize they get national exposure four times a year -- free -- in the "Play Your Way Across the U.S.A." listing with their subscription? They'd have to look hard for a greater advertising bargain than that. Bless you for your efforts.

A Tribute to Bill Jennings, Shuffleboard Pioneer

In the first week of March, a man was laid to rest. He was a man that older people in shuffleboard knew as a dear friend. To the younger people in our sport, he was known by his reputation of being a person who never said quit. His constant efforts in helping to get the game of shuffleboard started and then promoting the sport were unmatched.

But this was not the only thing this man did. He was dedicated to his family; his wife was his best friend; his children were the joy of his life. His priorities were in order. He had an influence on my life in my early days. Though in past years, he moved far away, he left his mark of unselfishness and love with all of us.

We will miss you, Bill Jennings, and we pray that your family's desires and goals continue in the direction in which you led them. Our sincere condolences go out to all of his loved ones.

I've put together a tribute to Bill on what his outlook on life was, an outlook I believe could benefit us all:

Living takes a lot of "growing up," but when you really get the hang of it, you can stub your toe and jump right up and tell

the world it didn't hurt a bit.

Though heartache is a bitter medicine that each of us must swallow, pretty soon we grow accustomed to the taste, and there are some who even learn to lick the spoon.

Living takes a lot of "growing up." Some things don't turn out the way we plan. If the mountain can't be climbed, then reach the other side the best way that you can.

Happiness is earned, not freely given, like silver coins within a beggar's cup. Life is played according to the rules, and living takes a lot of "growing up."

Thank you, Bill Jennings, for who you were.

Fred Thumann and Lois, Auburn, California

Thank you, Fred and Lois, for this beautiful tribute to a very special citizen of our World of Shuffleboard. We're sure his family will appreciate your sentiments. Let it also serve as a reminder to others to recognize those special people while they are still here to receive some small payback for all their efforts on behalf of our sport. Our pages are always open to recognition of those who go beyond the "call of duty" to promote shuffleboard.

Another Vote for Unlimited Entries

I enjoy your publication very much and look forward to receiving it each month. I know a lot of the people who are involved in this sport and enjoy going to some of the tournaments. Though I'm not a very good player, I do like to try once in awhile. I agree with Glen Davidson's letter in the February issue. When you start limiting the number of players (invitation only), this has got to hurt the sport. They're trying to make these tournaments exclusive and that's shutting other people out. How does a sport grow when you do that?

I understand some restrictions such as entry deadlines and increased entry fees. This in itself would limit the number of players. But don't leave out the many who support the few. Do you know of any sport that thrives without the backing of the general public?

E. G. Cook, Amarillo, Texas

We appreciate your support and viewpoints, E.G. We don't think there are any components of The World of Shuffleboard who would benefit by shutting out players. They all want growth and are striving for it in different ways. You have to recognize that even though shuffleboard is an "old man," it literally died and we're starting again from infancy. So we struggle in our attempts to progress from crawling to walking straight and tall. We're bound to make some mistakes along the way. But, all in all, we think the major promoters in the revival of our sport are doing a commendable job. Each is trying to provide opportunities for the pros, the amateurs, the seniors, the women, and now the semi-pros. Our point in the response to Glen's letter was that if anyone wants to participate in a particular tournament, they simply must show their commitment by advance registration. No other sport has grown without that commitment and neither can shuffleboard.

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The Hammer (continued from page 1)

send past copies to subscribers who have missed them, but with the recent postage increase, that can get to be an expensive proposition if we get 15 or 20 movers every month. It's important, too, to make sure your new address is complete and accurate. That's another "evil" of bulk mail. The Post Office will not deliver your Board Talk if there is anything incorrect or incomplete in the address we have for you. Thanks for your understanding and continued support.

George & Donna Wilber, Publishers

Tourney Talk (continued from page 1)

three) establishment with a draw partner event that wound up a little after 3 a.m. on Saturday. The final match was won by Len Dell, Bellcamp, Md. and Harold Matthews, Port Deposit, Md., giving them first place over second place finishers Dick Gorman, Wilmington, Del. and Alvis Ramey, Perryville, Md. Third place went to Jeff Frock, Rising Sun, Md. (first time in the money) and Dave Shewbridge, Elkton, Md.

Saturday morning, the bring partner event started and was assisted by nearby Wesley House which donated the use of their board for Saturday and Sunday to shoot out some of the loser's bracket. Tournament managers Chuck McKenzie, Alvis Ramey and Dave Shewbridge extend special thanks to John Wesley, proprietor of that fine eating establishment and owner of a new Playfair board. The dust cleared and time went on until the final winners were (again) Len Dell and Chuck King, Dover, Del. with second place going to Larry Kirk, Conowingo, Md. and Dan Tichnell, Elkton, Md. Third went to Don Casula, Wilmington, Del. and Dave Shewbridge, and fourth to John Lukas, Millington, Md. and Scratch Todd, Denton, Md.

Taking advantage of the popularity of the mixed doubles event, a full slate signed up for Sunday's activities, again with the assistance of the Wesley House. The action ended with winners Steph McNeil, Rising Sun, and Dave Shewbridge, with second place going to Wanda Farris, Dargen, Md. and Rick Greider, Colora, Md. Debbie Stanford, Conowingo, and Alvis Ramey finished third, with Patty Kline, Rising Sun (first time money winner), and Don Casula in fourth.

"Crazy Canucks" Make it Party Time at Edison Inn

"It was a weekend that will be remembered for good sportsmanship, good shooting, good food, good friendship and most of all, good God! Joanie's going home! Now, we know how the Crazy Canucks got their name," reports Sherm Anderson of Edison, Washington. That's how he summed up the 6th Annual Mixed Doubles Tournament at the Old Edison Inn in Edison, March 2-3, and it was an event he called "the best yet."

Seventeen teams played for \$1700 in this two-day party and it was exactly that. The Canadians stayed overnight with locals who probably haven't recovered yet. "Do these people ever sleep?" asks Sherm.

Joanie Millar and her partner, Terry Burns, of Vancouver, B.C., came through the loser's bracket to down Cindy Mehler of Bellingham, Wash. and Larry Sawyer, Anacortes, Wash. in the finals. Paulette Lin of Puyallup, Wash. and Loren Lampley of Shelton, Wash. finished a strong third. Fourth

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1991 National Shuffleboard Calendar

April 12-14

Harvey's Spring Tournament
Harvey's Place, Street, Maryland

April 19-21

Spring Classic
Lafayette Inn, Rising Sun, Maryland

April 24-28

Formerly Washington's Birthday
Corporate Image, Fort Worth, Texas

May 10-12

Eastern Maryland Shuffleboard Tournament
Glenn's Tavern, Funkstown, Maryland

***May 22-27**

Michigan Open
Holiday Inn Conference Center,
Lansing, Michigan

May 23-27

5th Annual Arbuckle Open
Prim's Wagon Wheel, Wynnewood, Oklahoma

May 24-27

13th Annual Northern California Memorial
Day Tournament
Ace of Clubs, Marysville, California

May 25-27

Memorial Weekend Tournament
The Club Tavern, Springfield, Oregon

***July 3-7**

Board Talk Reunion Tournament
Holiday Inn, Lansdale, Pennsylvania

July 3-7

Annual 4th of July Tournament
Ted Z's Best Little Wherehouse,
Temecula, California

***Aug. 29 - Sept. 2**

U.S. Open
Howard Johnson Plaza Hotel, Austin, Texas
North American Championships
Las Vegas, Nevada

Aug. 30 - Sept. 2

Annual Labor Day Tournament
Ace of Clubs, Marysville, California

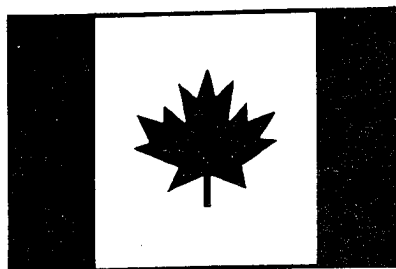
***Oct. 30 - Nov. 3**

North American Championships
Sands Regency Hotel, Reno, Nevada

Nov. 3-4

1st Annual Open
ANAF 68, Vancouver, B.C., Canada

***Shuffleboard Federation Pro Tour**

Notebook (continued from page 2)

"Moments to Remember" from Irish Joanie

On February Eve in Vegas Town, the day we tore the shuffleboards down. We will have those moments to remember.

The quiet walk, the noisy fun, the shuffleboard games that we almost won. We will have those moments to remember.

When winter turns to summer and the present disappears, the laughter we were glad to share will echo through the years.

Though other nights and other days may find us gone our separate ways, we will have those moments to remember.

On behalf of all the Canadian players who participated in the P.C.S.A. Shuffleboard Extravaganza III in Las Vegas, and our spectators, I am sure I won't be out of line in saying that we all had a wonderful, exciting, fun-filled, brilliant six days and nights at the Showboat.

We are very proud of our players. In each event that we entered, we got into the money. So, that was just another step up the ladder. Next year, we will get a little closer to that first place spot.

However, money isn't the name of the game. It helps if you can win a little back to help pay the expenses, but is certainly is not everything. No shuffleboard player can buy friends and to me, friendship is the key word in this sport. We met old friends from the past three years and we made a lot of new friends in 1991. God love you all and keep on shufflin'.

On behalf of the two Canadian teams, we would just like to take our hats off to the guys and gals who organized this tournament. They did one hellava job. Keep up the good work; we'll be back next year.

I have talked to a lot of our players and we all feel that the highlight of the tournament was definitely the mixed doubles. Us -- the "wee" amateurs -- being able to stand at the end of a shuffleboard table beside a pro, lady or man it didn't matter, to play against them or with them as some of our players did, was the thrill of a lifetime. Gordy Smith, who had the honor of playing with Brenda Moore, Darlene Docile who had the honor of playing with Darrol Nelson and did come into the money. Terry wasn't so lucky. He had to put up with me, but we were delighted to play against Diana Hagen and Dave Arndt, and also Chris Danke and Leroy Ledford, and the great Billy Mays and Jane and many more.

Maybe it doesn't mean anything to the pros, but for us amateurs, this was definitely the highlight of the whole tournament. Bill Melton, Dave Williams, Billy Mays, Darrol Nelson and all the rest of you pros, God bless you all and I hope you will continue to have a mixed doubles event next year. Chris, Diana, Brenda, Cheryl, Joanie, Diana Hoffman, Ruthie Miles and all of you gals, please keep coming. Vegas would be nothing if you weren't there. Hope to see all of you next year.

I hope to see many of you on Nov. 1-3 at the first Canadian Open Long Board Championship ever to be held in Canada. We will have flyers ready to go in an upcoming issue of The

Board Talk so keep looking. We are checking into hotel prices and we are also going to billet players to different homes to save some bucks. So, if you are sure you are coming, please let me know as soon as possible. First come, first served. You've got six months to plan and believe me, that's not too long. More information to follow on the tournament. Good place to come and do some Christmas shopping! Start saving your nickels and dimes and quarters. It's amazing how they add up.

Cheerio and God bless you all!

Your ever-loving Crazy Irish friend, Joanie Millar, 109-8720 Landsdowne Rd., Richmond, B.C. Canada V6X1B9

You and your "Crazy Canuck" team members made a multitude of friends in Vegas, Joanie. We know the P.C.S.A. officials who worked so hard to make this event a success will appreciate your kind words. We encourage all members of The World of Shuffleboard to support your November event with their participation.

East Coast Top Ten

East Coast shuffleboard promoter Dick Gorman uses a value point system based on tournament finishes to determine top players in that area. In open singles and women's singles, players get one full point times position finished in reverse order; i.e., if you finish first in a 25 entry field, you get 25 points and if you finished 25th, you get one point. For bring partner and mixed doubles, it's 75 percent of a point times position finished in reverse order; i.e., if you finish first in a 36 team entry field, you get 27 points and if you finish 36th, you get 3/4 of a point. Points are awarded to both team members. In draw partner events, you get 50 percent of a point times position finished in reverse order and again, points are awarded to both team members. The top ten standings as of March 15 were:

Men's Standings

Position	Name	Points
1.	Alvis Ramey, Perryville, Md.	270.75
2.	Butch Kelly, Springfield, Pa.	198.25
3.	Chuck King, Dover, Del.	196.25
4.	Dick Gorman, Wilmington, Del.	188.25
5.	Len Dell, Belcamp, Md.	182.25
6.	Poncho Prevento, Elkton, Md.	176.50
7.	Lonzo Knight, Sharpsburg, Md.	168.00
8.	Don Casula, Wilmington, Del.	153.75
9.	John Lukas, Millington, Md.	133.50
10.	Steve Bennett, Sherburne, N.Y.	128.00

Women's Standings

Position	Name	Points
1.	Judy Iseman, Chestertown, Md.	179.75
2.	Steph McNeil, Rising Sun, Md.	148.25
3.	Joyce Pyle, Church Hill, Md.	137.75
4.	Rita Yank, Philadelphia, Pa.	137.50
5.	Wanda Farris, Dargan, Md.	130.25
6.	Brenda Wallace, Port Deposit, Md.	125.50
7.	Judy Gartland, Philadelphia, Pa.	120.25
8.	Mary Wagner, Milford, Del.	93.00
9.	Carol Hampton, Charlestown, Md.	92.50
10.	Debbie Brown, Rising Sun, Md.	89.25

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Tourney Talk (continued from page 3)

place, eliminated by the Canucks by one point, were Diana Madsen of North Vancouver, B.C. and Sherm Anderson.

Door prizes, drawings, and a great oyster stew and Italian noodle feed kept the crowd busy in this little (population 90) town by the sea in Northwest Washington. For those who stayed for the money presentation, they were serenaded by Irish-born Joanie's renditions of "Irish Eyes are Smiling" and "Danny Boy."

"This tournament grows every year and enables everyone to meet our neighbors from Canada," says Sherm. "And rumors aside, they aren't as wild and crazy as you've heard. They're worse!"

The "Crazy Canucks" Invitational coming up in Vancouver in November should be a real dandy. Let's make a real effort to support this first-time tourney. It would be a great way to keep our "family" together, Sherm suggests.

Forrester/Prevento Win Lafayette Tune-Up

A beautiful spring-like day greeted 40 shooters as they arrived at the Lafayette Inn in Rising Sun, Maryland, on March 2 for the first of the month draw partner event. This event becomes more popular all the time (40 people for the last two months) for an afternoon shootout on the four in-house boards.

"The Invitational Singles on March 8-10 probably prompted attendance for this one as many travelers drove over 100 miles to participate and to enjoy hosts Pat and Nelson Renzo's hospitality and afternoon buffet," reports Dick Gorman.

First place went to Herb Forrester of Holmes, Pennsylvania and Poncho (ain't half-bad) Prevento, Port Deposit, Md., with second place honors going to Brenda Wallace of Port Deposit and Joe Williams, Ridley Park, Pa. Paul Casula of St. Louis, Missouri, and Chuck McKenzie of Port Deposit took third. "If your readers think Port Deposit is a big place -- wrong!" says Dick. "One street and maybe 1500 people."

Buddy Wins Draw Partner on His Own!

There were 23 players signed up for the Invitational Blind Draw Tournament at Papa's Pub & Grub in Warren, Michigan, on March 2, so there was one player left over after the draw, Buddy Broka of Bourbon, Indiana. Buddy had the option of paying for a partner he didn't have and walking both ends. He took that option and won the tournament!

Taking second place honors were Cheryl Collins of Davisburg, Mich. and Terry Broka (Buddy's brother), Toledo, Ohio, with John Tischler and Rick Boyer of Detroit in third place.

Niblett Wins Invitational Singles at Lafayette Inn

Annually in March, the Lafayette Inn in Rising Sun, Maryland, attempts to have a "real" singles championship at the home of four in-house boards. This year's tournament was held March 8-10 with invitations issued to the current best known shooters on the East Coast and an open invitation to the top shooters from any place in the U.S.A. The result -- 32 top shooters for some real top competition!

The tournament started with a Friday night draw partner event which paid almost \$2500 to the top three teams. The lion's share of the pot and Lafayette Inn winner's jackets went to Mickey Mickens, Mt. Laurel, New Jersey and Rick Niblett, Salisbury, Md. Fighting hard and taking second place were

Mark Grove, Millington, Md. and Dave Shewbridge, Elkton, Md., followed by third place finishers Don Casula, Wilmington, Del. and Eddie Kibler, Henderson, Md.

Saturday was the gathering of the clan for the big one -- 32 players vying for the nearly \$6,000 in the invitational singles. The final game and first place was won by Rick Niblett, owner of Rick's Place, Salisbury, Md., followed by Bobby Voorhis of Fairmount, Indiana. Alvis Ramey of Perryville finished in third place and fourth went to Doug Fridley Jr. of Waterloo, New York, who recently returned to the tournament circuit and is really welcomed back. The playoff for fifth and sixth places went to Chuck King, Dover, Del. and Beef Camp of Hicksville, Ohio. Seventh and eighth places were shared by Jerry Herrmann of Philadelphia and Mickey Mickens.

The weekend concluded with a mixed doubles event on Sunday which raised the total payout for the three days to over \$10,000, a profitable weekend for players attending from nine states and as far away as Missouri, Ohio, Indiana, New Hampshire and New York. Winners of the mixed doubles were Peggy Herin and Jerry Herrmann, both of Philadelphia, taking first place by coming out of the other bracket and winning two straight to give second place to Debbie Brown of Rising Sun and Alvis Ramey. Third place was won by Judy Iseman, Chestertown, Md. and Len Dell, Belcamp, Md., with the final money spot going to Debbie Standiford, Conowingo, Md. and Butch Kelly, Springfield, Pa.

"The weekend was a sellout again," said Dick Gorman. "All spots were paid and reserved about a week in advance, which is becoming more and more of a necessity to insure being a participant. As usual, Pat and Nelson Renzo continue to make shufflers feel at home as they once again provided a hot buffet to participants. Most people commented positively about the remodeling that is going on at the Lafayette Inn. It's a major project and is really shaping up nicely with a lot more room and comfort for tournament participants."

Harvey's Spring Tournament, April 12-14

Harvey's, 3403 Conowingo Rd., Street, Maryland, will host a Spring Tournament on April 12-14. Action will start on Friday night with a draw partner event, \$10 entry fee, limited to the first 30 paid sign-ups. A women's singles is on the Saturday schedule beginning at 9:30 a.m. \$10 entry, limited to the first 16 paid sign-ups. The bring your partner event starts Saturday at 1 p.m., \$25 per team, limited to the first 32 teams paid. On Sunday noon, the mixed doubles will start. \$25 per team entry fee, limited to the first 24 paid sign-ups.

You may register for any or all events. Advance registration is strongly urged and must be accompanied by entry fees. All games 15 points, straight, single game, double elimination.

For information, contact host Harvey Comer, 301-836-8881; or tournament assistance Dick Gorman, 302-994-0004.

Western Maryland Tourney, Glenn's Tavern, May 10-12

Glenn's Tavern, Funkstown, Maryland, will host the Western Maryland Shuffleboard Tournament on May 10-12. Events will include a draw partner, \$10 entry fee, limited to 26 players, on Friday; bring your partner, \$25 per team, limit of 32 teams, on Saturday; and an open singles, \$20 entry, limit of 24 players, on Sunday. Glenn's Tavern has three boards.

(continued on page 10)

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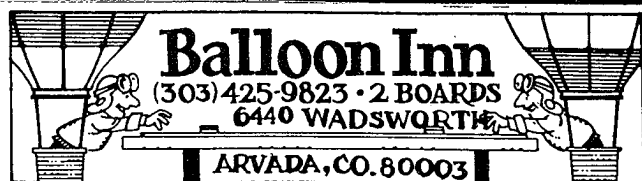
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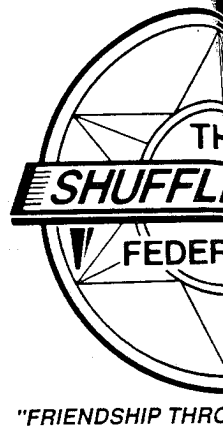
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WE ARE PROUD TO ANNOUNCE WHAT WE HOPE WILL BE THE \$\$\$ BIGGEST \$\$\$ TOURNAMENT IN THE HISTORY OF SHUFFLEBOARD.

THE SHUFFLEBOARD FEDERATION, INC. HAS SIGNED A CONTRACT WITH THE SANDS REGENCY HOTEL & CASINO IN RENO, NEVADA, TO HOST THE 1991 NORTH AMERICAN SHUFFLEBOARD CHAMPIONSHIPS.

AMONG THE MANY HIGHLIGHTS IS \$7000 TO \$14,000 IN ADDED MONEY (SEE OPPOSITE PAGE FOR BREAKDOWN). THE DATES FOR THIS BIG EVENT ARE OCTOBER 30 - NOVEMBER 3, 1991.

SHUFFLEBOARD PLAYERS HAVE OFTEN SAID, AND RIGHTFULLY SO, THAT OUR SPORT DESERVES MORE ATTENTION FROM SPONSORS.

SECURING OUTSIDE SPONSORSHIP HAS LONG BEEN ONE OF OUR PRINCIPAL GOALS. THE NORTH AMERICAN CHAMPIONSHIPS PROVIDE AN OPPORTUNITY AND A CHALLENGE TO THE ENTIRE SHUFFLEBOARD COMMUNITY.

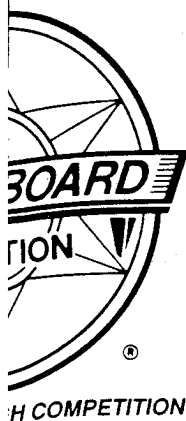
WITH THE KIND OF MONEY BEING PUT UP AT THIS TOURNAMENT, OTHER POTENTIAL SPONSORS WILL BE WATCHING CLOSELY. A SUCCESSFUL TOURNAMENT IN RENO WILL GIVE US THE KIND OF AMMUNITY WE NEED TO GO AFTER THOSE SPONSORSHIP DOLLARS.

IF YOU TRULY BELIEVE THAT SHUFFLEBOARD IS THE GREAT GAME THAT WE DO AND WANT TO SEE IT GROW, DO NOT LET THIS OPPORTUNITY SLIP AWAY. THIS IS NOT JUST A TOURNAMENT -- IT IS AN OPP-ORTUNITY.

MARK OCTOBER 30 THROUGH NOVEMBER 3 ON YOUR CALENDAR AND BE THERE.

FULL DETAILS, INCLUDING A TOLL-FREE NUMBER TO MAKE FLIGHT RESERVATIONS WITH A GROUP DISCOUNT, AND A REGISTRATION FORM, WILL BE IN THE MAY ISSUE OF THE BOARD TALK.

FOR MORE INFORMATION, CALL THE SHUFFLEBOARD FEDERATION, INC.: 313-344-9666.



**NORTH AMERICAN CHAMPIONSHIPS
OCTOBER 30 – NOVEMBER 3
SANDS REGENCY HOTEL
RENO, NEVADA**

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PRO SINGLES \$1,000 PER PLAYER
LADIES' SINGLES \$100 PER PLAYER
PRO DOUBLES (DRAW) \$100 PER PLAYER**

**N.A.S.L. TEAM EVENT \$300 PER TEAM
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SEMI PRO DOUBLES \$100 PER TEAM
MIXED DOUBLES DRAW \$25 PER PLAYER
LEGENDS DRAW \$50 PER PLAYER**

**ADDED MONEY FOR THE NORTH AMERICAN
SHUFFLEBOARD CHAMPIONSHIPS™**

EVENT	GUARANTEED ADDED MONEY	WITH 24 TEAMS*	WITH 32 TEAMS*
PRO SINGLES	\$2,500.00	\$3,750.00	\$5,000.00
AMATEUR TEAM EVENT	\$2,500.00	\$3,750.00	\$5,000.00
LADIES' SINGLES	\$ 500.00	\$ 750.00	\$1,000.00
LEGENDS DRAW	\$ 500.00	\$ 750.00	\$1,000.00
SEMI-PRO SINGLES	\$ 500.00	\$ 750.00	\$1,000.00
SEMI-PRO DOUBLES	\$ 500.00	\$ 750.00	\$1,000.00

*IN THE N.A.S.L.™ TEAM EVENT

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ISSUE OF THE BOARD TALK**

Tourney Talk (continued from page 6)

For information, contact your hosts, Glenn and Carmen, 301-739-2559. See ad in this issue and plan to participate.

13th Annual Memorial Day Tourney at Ace of Clubs

The Ace of Clubs, 328 I St., Marysville, California, will host Northern California's 13th Annual Memorial Day Shuffleboard Tournament on May 24-27. There will be six boards, four for tournament play and two for open play or practice. Entry fees are \$200 per team for the doubles and \$150 for the singles, two out of three, double elimination. You may use your own weights! The sponsor sale for both events will be Friday, May 24, 8 p.m. with doubles starting Saturday morning.

The entry fees and sponsor sales will pay: 1-16 entries, 3 places, 60-30-10; 17-20 entries, 4 places, 58-28-10-4; 21-32 entries, 6 places, 56-26-10-4-2-2.

For lodging, hosts Sharon and Jerry Miller suggest: Best Western, Yuba City, 916-674-8824; Econo Lodge, Marysville, 916-742-8586; Motor Lodge, Marysville, 916-743-1531; Oxbow, Marysville, 916-742-8238.

For further information, contact Sharon or Jerry at 916-743-6885 or Fred Thumann.

Bucher/Dowell Win at Pierceton Legion

The Pierceton Legion, Pierceton, Indiana, hosted a doubles tournament on Feb. 23. Winners were Jr. Bucher, Milford, and Lasca Dowell, Claypool. Second place honors went to Terry Dowell, Claypool, and Phil Ladd, Kimmell, with Fred Hathaway and Don Drudge, both from Pierceton, finishing third.

Balloon Inn Action Surfaces Winners

The Balloon Inn, Arvada, Colorado, hosts a "Tournament of Champions" every Saturday night for 16 weeks. Each player receives X amount of points each week, and then the top 16 players have a shoot-off at the end. The shoot-off happened on Jan. 26 with a purse of over \$2300. The winners were: Jody Slack, 1st; Gene Davis, 2nd; and Tom Henry, 3rd.

The Sweetheart Open was once again a big success. Nine ladies' teams participated for a pot of \$2,000. Winners were Linda Moody and Gwen Vogt, with Nancy Kelly and

Grethren Duncan in second, and Kathi Lloyd and Jeanette Henry in third place.



Sweetheart Open winners: (left to right) were Jeanette Henry, Kathi Lloyd, Grethren Duncan, Nancy Kelly, Linda Moody and Gwen Vogt.

The Balloon Inn will host a mixed doubles and bring your own partner tourney, \$50 per team, on April 6-7. The auction is scheduled for April 5 at 8 p.m.

Spring Classic at Lafayette Inn, April 19-21

The annual Spring Classic at the Lafayette Inn, 1524 Conowingo Rd., Rising Sun, Maryland, will feature four big events: a draw partner on Friday night, a women's singles on Saturday morning, a bring your own partner on Saturday afternoon, and an open singles on Sunday. Single game, double elimination with play on four boards.

This one will fill up fast. If you haven't got your reservations in yet, better call hosts Pat and Nelson Renzo, 301-658-9075, or tournament director Dick Gorman, 302-994-0004, to see if there are any spots left.

Fort Worth Tourney, April 24-28

What was formerly the popular Washington's Birthday tournament is now scheduled for April 24-28 and will feature
(continued on page 12)



Prim's Wagon Wheel

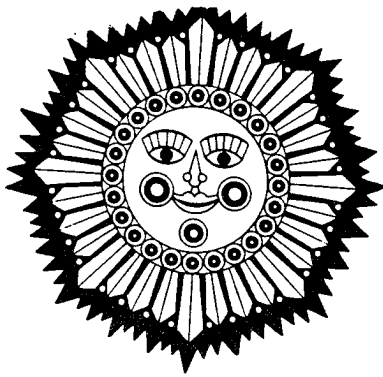
Hwy. 77 North, Wynnewood, Oklahoma
Phone: 405-665-2566

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5th Annual Arbuckle Open

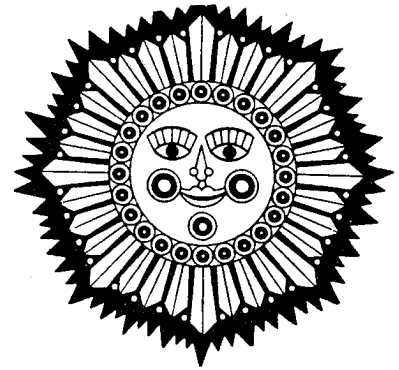
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Tourney Talk (continued from page 10)

a singles with \$300 entry; doubles, \$200 per player; and an amateur singles, \$100 entry. All are 2 of 3, double elimination. Site for the tourney will be the Corporate Image, 5418 Brentwood Stair Rd., Fort Worth, Texas. The auction for the open singles will be Wednesday night with play starting on Thursday morning. Sales for the doubles and amateur singles will be Friday at about 7 p.m. or whenever the open singles are completed, with play starting immediately following the auction.

For further information, or to save your spot, call Dave Williams, 817-457-4468 or 817-451-9583.

5th Annual Michigan Open, May 22-27

The first hit of The Shuffleboard Federation's Grand Slam will be the 5th Annual Michigan Open, held this year at the Holiday Inn Conference Center, Lansing, Mich. Events include an invitational pro singles, \$500; invitational pro doubles, \$100 per player; pro-am draw partner, \$25 per player; semi-pro draw partners, \$25 per player; semi-pro singles, \$50 per player; semi-pro doubles, \$50 per player; and an N.A.S.L. team event, \$150 per team. Registration deadline is May 15.

For information, call The Shuffleboard Federation: 313-344-9666.

5th Annual Arbuckle Open, May 23-27

That Oklahoma tournament that's been growing by leaps and bounds since it first started will be another big one this year. The 5th Annual Arbuckle Open is scheduled for May 23-27 in Wynnewood, Oklahoma. We don't have information at deadline time on the various events, but there are sure to be

some of the usual favorites from past years, with perhaps some new wrinkles.

Call Alan Primrose at Prim's Wagon Wheel for details, 405-665-2566, and watch the next issue of The Board Talk for a complete agenda.

Annual 4th of July Tourney at Ted Z's, July 3-7

Ted Z's annual 4th of July tournament at his Best Little Wherehouse, Temecula, California, is set for July 3-7. This is always a fun-filled weekend with lots of competitive play. For details, call Ted at 714-676-3770.

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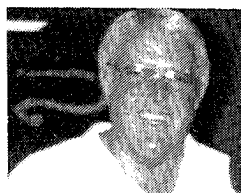


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Ask the Pros

By Phil McGrew



Bill Melton



Bobby Voorhis



Sam Summers

Question: Do you believe it is important for a player to learn multiple grips and releases, and why?

Sam Summers: Yes, definitely the span-shot! Whether you belong to a league, play in tournaments, or just bar-hop on Friday night, you encounter boards with different characteristics. Even players with good rail shots and accurate cross-boards at times find the span-shot the more appropriate for the situation.

Span-shots, also known as finger or thumb shots, can be useful weapons both on offense and defense. Becoming comfortable with this type of shot will improve your confidence and your game on all boards. The top board (free-hand) release can also be a useful tool.

A word of caution: don't learn these "gimmick" shots at the expense of your basic shots. Good playing!

Bill Melton: Yes, I think it is very important for players to have multiple releases with both hands. Since all boards have some curve to them, it is to the player's advantage to be able to try the various angles to find the best way to hit and stick weights. All of my kids use a wide variety of releases to their advantage. I believe it is better for a player to learn all the releases right from the start.

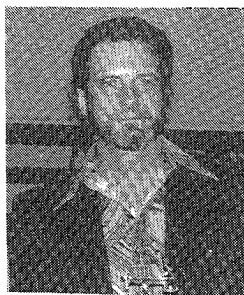
Bobby Voorhis: Absolutely! Most tourney boards have rails that come in. You need to develop a finger-spread or wide thumb shot to hide or hit weights tucked behind a shorter weight. It's a very good gamble offensively if you can make the shot or a lifesaver if you can clear an opponent's gamble shot and stick. The idea is to spread the weight off the rail and shoot it to the rail, then let it drift back in.

These shots sure come in handy occasionally. The same thing goes for some freehand shots. Some boards are natural freehand lagging boards. Sometimes the only good gamble between two weights is a freehand shot. These shots take a lot of practice but occasionally they pay big dividends.

Guest Player: Jerry Siebert

How did you get started playing shuffleboard?

In 1968 I saw a guy beat another guy out of \$20 and I was hooked. I shot my first weight when I was 29. I started taking it seriously at 46 and wish I were younger. I've been sober for six years now and playing the



game is more exciting. I really get into the game. It's great when you win. I am still learning to play sober; it takes time. The biggest thrill of all was winning that first tournament sober. You wouldn't believe the feeling. What a high!

What player or players have had the most beneficial influence on your game and how?

Nobody really influenced me, but I have had the opportunity of living in Michigan to watch play and compete with Bobby Voorhis, John McDermott, John Tischler, Jim Long, Buddy Broka, and a whole lot more. In the long run, it helps to play the best. Everybody I've ever competed against or played with has been an influence one way or another.

If you could change one thing about today's shuffleboard, what would that be and why?

To open shuffleboard parlors across the nation to get 17 and 18 year olds playing. I know shuffleboard is a bar game, but I would like to see young people between 14 and 20 years old playing this game. Then when they get to be 21, watch out! I would like someday to see shuffleboard an Olympic sport.

What one bit of advice would you give to a beginning shuffleboard player?

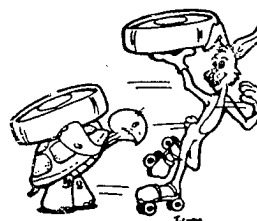
Always keep learning. Develop your own style. Make it a point to watch certain players and practice a lot.

Where's YOUR Name? It could be there!



Share your news and views with shufflers across the nation. Join the network!

Deadline: Must be received by the 15th of each month.



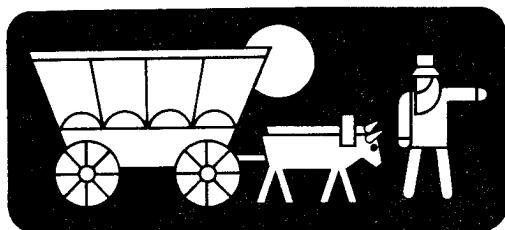
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5th Annual Arbuckle Shuffleboard Tourney

May 23-27

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— Full Schedule in next month's Board Talk —



Prim's Wagon Wheel
Hwy. 77 North, Wynnewood, Oklahoma
Phone: 405-665-2566

BUDWEISER

INTERLAKES SHUFFLEBOARD LEAGUE NEWS Oakland County, Michigan

The Interlakes Shuffleboard League and Budweiser have our winners for the Muscular Dystrophy Tournament held to raise money for this fine charity. In first place were John Tischler and Gordie Collins, with Michelle Turner and Bruce Stogdill in second. All other winners were: Phil McGrew and Cheryl Collins, Vic Matteson and Betty Parrish, Steve Morris and June DeLisle, Vicky Gohl and Laurene Barnes, Frank Parrish and O.B. Brimm, Sher Blessing and Dan Demcik, Janet Shannon and Joey Hooks. All the participants played for prizes, but that didn't hold back the tough competition held at the Liberty Bar on March 3.

Congratulations to the men's singles finalists: Ted Johnson, Kevin Gass, Steve Wellman, Jim Kelsey, John Tischler, Jerry Bryant, John Leach, and Gordie Collins. The finals will be held April 7 at the Majestic.

Cheryl Collins, Secretary/Treasurer



These are all the people who raised \$1,050 for Muscular Dystrophy.

Men's League Standings

Lakeside I	243
Dillinger's	239 1/2
Liberty	206 1/2
Wagon Wheel I	205
Lakeside II	187 1/2
Glengary Inn	185 1/2
O'Brady's	180 1/2
Prues	169
Victor's	169
Wagon Wheel II	166
Majestic	159

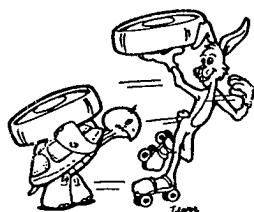
Women's Final Standings

Lakeside Ladies	186 1/2
Dillinger's Dames	176 1/2
Wagon Wheel I	158 1/2
Lakeside Bometts	154 1/2
Victor's	137
Bachelor I	130
Wagon Wheel II	127 1/2
Majestic	123
Prue's	113 1/2
Pontiac Lake Inn	102
Four Seasons	70

Mixed League Standings

Lakeside I	76
Majestic	52
Liberty	51 1/2
Lakeside II	49 1/2
O'Brady's	48
Prue's	44

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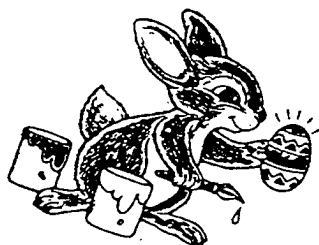
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