

The Board Talk

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

Vol. 8, No. 12 December 1991

The Hammer

On the eve of our eighth anniversary, we feel the need to share some observations with you that could shape the future of shuffleboard. While we are, at this point, celebrating the comeback of our sport, we need to look back at some of the reasons for its demise a few decades ago. All of us want to avoid a replay of that tragedy.

What's happening in Russia right now may seem far away from The World of Shuffleboard. After all, are there any boards there? Not that we've heard about. But we can learn from what's going on there and what will emerge. It will be the innovators, those willing to invest in the future, that will move that country from Communism to the free enterprise system. The motivator that will take them there is the incentive of PROFIT!

If there's anything we have learned during these past eight years, it is that many shufflers think that profit is a four-letter word; unless, of course, that profit ends up in their pockets. Who cares what was invested to assure that profit? The director? The host? The board manufacturer or refinisher? The suppliers? The sponsoring association? Whoever, if they make a profit, they're the "bad guys" who don't deserve support because they're making money off the shufflers. How many people gloated when it appeared that the American Shuffleboard Company might be going down the drain? Too many, we think.

Members of The World of Shuffleboard are simply going to have to accept that profit is not a four-letter word. Whoever it is who has invested their money, time, dedication and creativity, they can only give so much to the game and then they're going to look at that bottom line to determine whether that investment is worthwhile. There were many in the late '50s who decided it was not worth the investment and the sport died.

We're one of the many entities (individuals as well as companies) that recognized a need and hoped to profit from the service or product they could supply to the sport and its players and made the necessary investment to supply that service or product. We're still in the giving stage because we're subsidized by our paying jobs, but that's not going to last forever. In the end, there will be profit or there won't be a Board Talk. Likewise, if there is not profit for all the support systems in shuffleboard, there won't be any and we're right back where we started from.

We hope during 1992 that, with your help, all of shuffleboard's support systems will thrive so the sport can, too.

George & Donna Wilber, Publishers

Merry Christmas!

Tourney Talk

Nelson/Allis Win Club Tavern's Shufflefest '91

Darrol Nelson and Jim Allis teamed up to take top honors at the Club Tavern's Shufflefest '91 in Springfield, Oregon, on Oct. 12-13. They came out of the loser's bracket (compliments of Sparky Williams and "Winston" Jim Cockrell) in another display of very fine shooting by both. Bruce Wechter and John Ressler came in second, with Sparky and Jim in third place.

All the players and guests thank Lisa for the nice banquet, and hosts Glen and Lisa Lindberg thank all for participating in this event.



Winners Jim Allis and Darrol Nelson (right), along with second place finishers Bruce Wechter and John Ressler.

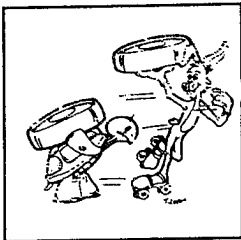
Lafayette Inn's Fall Classic Another Success

The East Coast clan of shuffleboard shooters gathered at the Lafayette Inn, Rising Sun, Maryland, on Oct. 25-27 for the beginning of the major tournament season. The players were greeted with a host of new improvements and all appreciate the efforts of the Renzo family in continuing to upgrade their facilities for the tournaments.

Friday night's draw partner event kicked off the weekend with some new names and some old ones showing up in the final money spots. First place went to Joyce Pyle, Church Hill, Md., and Chuck King, Dover, Del. Second place was taken by Johnny Gardner, Greensboro, Md., and Mark Grove, Millington, Del., with third place going to the Casula brothers, Richie from Newark, Del., and Don from Wilmington.

Leading the pack to the finish line and first place in Saturday morning's women's singles was the former Debbie Standiford (recently married and now Schuler) of Conowingo, Md. Second place was won by Joyce Pyle and third went to Judy Iseman, Chestertown, Md. "There were many good shooters and some very close games, so you could easily see other names here the next time," reports Dick Gorman.

(continued on page 5)



Shufflers' Notebook

News and Views
from The World
of Shuffleboard

Unhappy Unrecognized Winner

I don't know if it's because it was me or what, but our point standings year was over in August and I won. I've been playing tourneys for three years and I've always seen the winner get a trophy or a plaque and also recognition in The Board Talk. I received nothing. I spoke to some of my peers and Mickey Mickens said I could use his name. He thinks, along with me, that if I was a big name player, I would have gotten my recognition as I think I should have. I don't think we're all being treated fairly.

I'm not putting the blame on anybody, but if the shoe fits... I would like to see this published. No blame is going to you or The Board Talk.

Alvis Ramey, Perryville, Maryland

As so often happens in letters to the editor, yours gives us an opportunity to deliver a message to The World of Shuffleboard. First, we take some of the responsibility for not giving you the recognition you deserve. If we had paid reporters in your area, or could afford the luxury of being there ourselves when you earned this honor, there would be no problem. That simply is not the situation and won't be for some time yet. In the meantime, everybody has to be his/her own reporter and we invite, every month, that opportunity. And you can't be shy; sometimes, the only way we hear about the results of events is from someone who won! If nobody else is going to "toot their horn," they'll do it themselves, and we appreciate that.

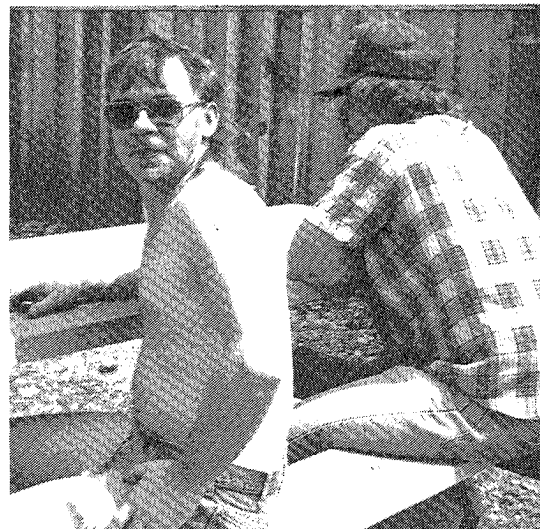
We're assuming that the shoe you want to pinch just a bit belongs to someone who contributes reports from the East Coast. Many times, he has stayed awake late at night after a grueling weekend to report the results in a style that needs little editing. For years, he has done this without reward to help revive the sport in your area. Plus, the work and time involved in keeping the stats for your point standings must be overwhelming! He's also had the initiative to promote our sport through his own area newsletter to shuffleboard establishments. Finally, as a distributor for a major shuffleboard supplier, he's getting some payback and we applaud that. (See

The Hammer.) Despite that payback, he still does more than he really has to do to keep the sport alive and growing.

As we understand it, the cost for the jackets (a lot warmer than a trophy) that go to the top point winners comes out of his own pocket. How many people in The World of Shuffleboard would do that?

We truly don't believe your lack of recognition has anything to do with not being a "big name" player. There isn't anything we'd rather report than a relative unknown beating the socks off those big name players. That's news!

We hope your letter and our response will stimulate others to report their achievements. We'd rather get half a dozen reports on a single happening than none at all.



We don't have any trophies, plaques or jackets in inventory, but here's your overdue recognition. Our only photo of you, Alvis, is from a nice, warm day during the Benedict's Classic tournament in Sherburne, New York, a few years ago. While the snow is flying and temperatures are plummeting, may it remind us that better days are ahead.

Mixed Shuffleboard Long-Lived Sport in New York

Mixed shuffleboard has been around the Moose Lodges of New York for the past 36 years. I don't know where the first three tournaments were held, but from there on I can recall.

When it all began, Charlie MacDonald was chairman of all sports. He was about 5'4", on the stocky side, a retired railroad man, on the bald side and his word was law. The mixed was chaired by Art Boice of Waverly and Peg King and Reeve Edwards of Elmira were committee. Charlie put me on the committee in 1959 in Johnson City, but Reeve and I didn't get to do anything for three years and we didn't get anything for it, but we showed up every time.

Then a tournament was held in Oneida in their old building and about 3 o'clock in the morning, a big fight erupted over a game. Reve and I were alone and neither of us knew didley about how to cope with this. Peg and Art were nowhere to be found. We learned in a hurry. Reeve eventually became chairman and made me secretary with Catherine Chesebro and Ray Phelps, committee.

— ATTENTION —

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(Use the form on page 15 to renew.)

Times changed, so did the committee, and in 1969 Elmer Seidel put me in as chairperson. I had as state sports chairmen: Art Boice, Waverly; Joe Delavon, Johnson City; Ross Catalfamo, Rochester; Elmer Seidel, Rochester; Nick Tartaglia, Rochester; Al Bosley, Niagara Falls; and Elliott Chaffee, Hornell.

The following people have served on the committee: Reeve Edwards, Elmira; Ray Phelps, Cortland; Catherine Chesebro, Oneida; Smokey Redman, Norwich; Jack Enders, Baldwinsville; Fred Darling, Binghamton; John Guzzey, Owego; Ellie Wheeler, Oneonta; Harriet Faye, Oneonta; Bruce Davidson, Sidney; Ray Stedwell, Cortland; Tret Nor-tup, Oneonta; Jim Pratt, Endicott; Leona Kinney, Johnson City. There have always been a consistent number of lodges represented in these tournaments, either 16 or 17.

Over the years, there have been very few real problems. That's saying a lot when you have 300 to 400 people playing that close in a short time, under pressure. It's a fun game and I hope it always stays that way.

Betty Hobbie, New York

We hope so, too, Betty! Thanks for this informative piece of shuffleboard history. When we read the report on your recent mixed tournament (see Tourney Talk), we thought that 36th annual must be a misprint. That's great consistency. You are all to be congratulated for your support of shuffleboard throughout the years.

A Salute to John McD

Most of us know John McDermott as one of the top shuffleboard players around today. One of the things I didn't know before attending the North American Championships in Reno is that he is as good at directing a tournament as he is a player. I'm sure John would say that directing and setting up a tournament is easy when you have good help like he had. Rick Boyer, Mike and Betty Melton, Gordy and Cheryl Collins spent the day and into the night of Oct. 28 uncrating and setting up the new Dynamo boards. Out of the 16 they set up, only one was a little off. Terry and Kathy Broka, Diana Hoffmann, Rob Kern and Rick Boyer did their jobs flawlessly as tournament officials.

It was a pleasure being a participant in the events.

Woodie Cockrum, Cuba, Missouri

Your words will be music to John's ears, Woodie. Thanks! John's dedication to the future of the game is admirable, and his team of helpers just can't get enough applause. They are the greatest!

Early Deadline!

Because of the Holidays, the deadline for the January issue will be December 13.

1991-92 National Shuffleboard Calendar

Dec. 14-15

*2nd Annual Santa Classic
Balloon Inn, Arvada, Colorado*

Dec. 31

*4th Annual New Year's Eve Doubles
D.J.'s Bar, Warsaw, Indiana*

Jan. 4-5

*Open Doubles
Club Tavern, Springfield, Oregon*

Jan. 17-19

*National Open
Dew Drop Inn, Waterloo, New York*

Jan. 29 - Feb. 2, 1992

*PCSA Extravaganza IV
Showboat, Las Vegas, Nevada*

Feb. 7-9

*Winter Board Talk Tourney
Lafayette Inn, Rising Sun, Maryland*

March 13-16

*Invitational Singles
Lafayette Inn, Rising Sun, Maryland*

March

*Great Arizona Open
Phoenix, Arizona*

March

*Annual Mixed Doubles
Old Edison Inn, Edison, Washington*

April 24-26

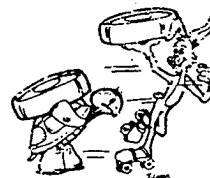
*Spring Classic
Lafayette Inn, Rising Sun, Maryland*

May 29-31

*Memorial Day Singles & Doubles
Club Tavern, Springfield, Oregon*

Aug. 30-Sept. 2

*Labor Day Singles & Doubles
Club Tavern, Springfield, Oregon*



Put your tournament on the calendar!

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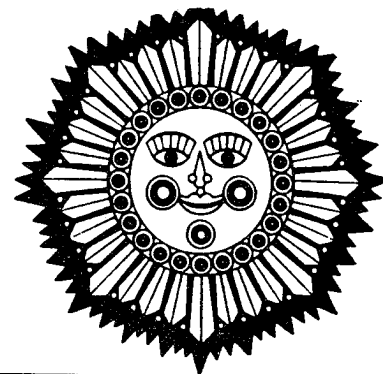
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Tourney Talk (continued from page 1)

Saturday afternoon was the beginning of the bring partner event with some real high-priced teams vying for top honors. "Everybody knew that daylight savings time was going to give them an extra hour so they were in no hurry," said Dick. When the smoke cleared, Chuck King and his partner, Rick Niblett, Salisbury, Md., came out of the loser's bracket and were victorious over their rivals to take first place. Second place went to Stosh Chimeleski, Philadelphia, and Mickey Mickens, Mt. Laurel, New Jersey, with third going to Bob Davis, Hockessin, Del., and Larry Kirk, Conowingo. Fourth place was taken by Sam Jones, Boonesboro, Md., and Lonzo Knight, Sharpsburg, Md., with fifth going to Alvis Ramey, Perryville, Md., and Jim Wallace, Port Deposit, Md. Sixth and final money spot went to Johnny Gardner and Mark Grove.

A sold-out open singles was on the agenda for Sunday and a strong group was ready to play at high noon. With money being paid to only the top four spots, the competition was cautious from the beginning, Dick reports. Standing off all competitors was Mickey Mickens with second place honors going to Len Dell, Belcamp, Md. Third place was won by Scratch Todd, Denton, Md., with fourth going to Stosh Chimeleski, with many other shooters playing some of the best games of their lives.

"The Lafayette Inn tournament schedule is in full swing now and the point battle is also," Dick said. "Tops in the women's division for the weekend was Joyce Pyle and the men's division leader was Chuck King. Once again, Pat and Nelson Renzo provided their well-known hospitality and issue an open invitation to all shooters to join the gang. Check your September Board Talk for the full schedule."

Voorhis/Knox/Long Tops in Indiana Championships

There were 26 singles and 13 doubles teams participating in the 3rd Annual Indiana Championships at D.J.'s Bar in Warsaw, Indiana, Oct. 26-27. Bobby Voorhis took the singles crown for 1991 and Jim Long and Jerry Knox earned the doubles title for this year.

Second place in the singles went to Steve Hart, with Buddy Broka in third. Debbie Voorhis had to beat some of "big, bad boys" to take fourth place.

Steve Hart took another second with his partner, Larry Vance, in the doubles. Third went to Mike Kuntz and Dennis Kinsey, with Jim Yard and Richard Sellers in fourth.

There was over \$5,000 in the championship pot for 1991.

4th Annual New Year's Eve Tourney at D.J.'s

Karen and Phil Heinzman invite you to kick out 1991 and welcome 1992 at their 4th Annual New Year's Eve Shuffleboard Tournament at D.J.'s Bar, 1360 W. Center St., Warsaw, Indiana, on Tuesday, Dec. 31. It's a bring partner event, \$30 per team, double elimination, and pays four places. The auction will start at 1 p.m., with the doors open at 10 a.m.

A complimentary bottle of champagne will be provided to all entrants to help celebrate the new year.

To reserve your spot, call Phil or Karen at 219-269-1913. See ad in this issue and plan to spend New Year's Eve shuffling in 1992 at D.J.'s Bar.

Geneva Team Tops in New York Tourney

The Rome Moose Lodge was host to the New York State Moose Association Men's Shuffleboard Tournament on Sept. (continued on page 7)



**Karen & Phil
invite you to their**

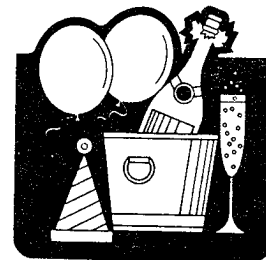
4th Annual New Year's Eve Shuffleboard Tourney Tuesday, December 31

**\$30 per team – Bring Your Partner
Sale – 1:00 p.m.**

(Doors open at 10:00 a.m.)

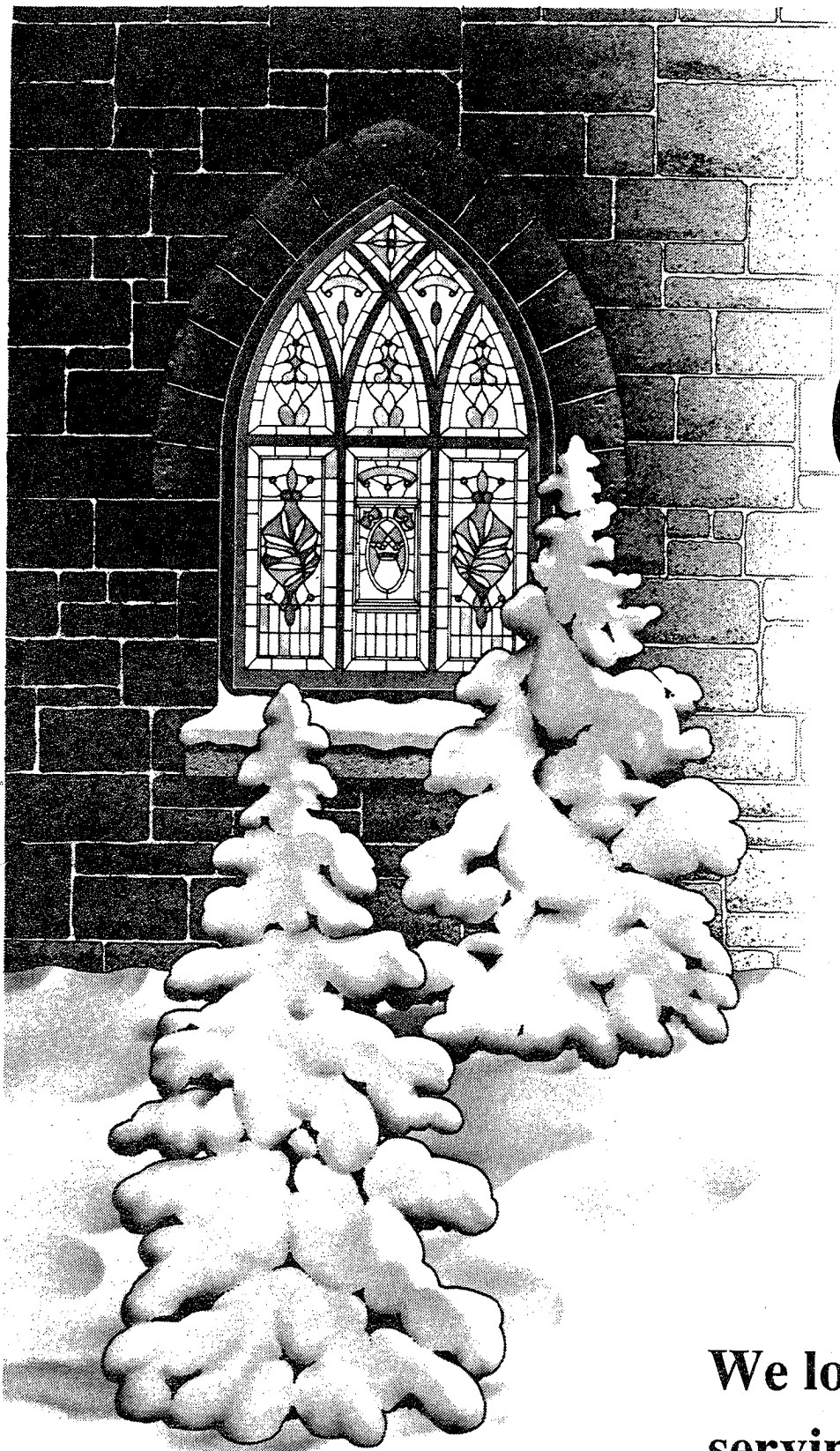
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Tourney Talk (continued from page 5)

13-15. Over 230 shuffleboard players from 23 different Moose Lodges participated.

Winning this 10-man team event, played best 2 of 3 on each of five boards with the winning team the first to bring in three boards each match, was the team shooting for Geneva Moose Club from Geneva, New York. The players were John Arndt, Howard Arndt, David Fridley, Doug Fridley Jr., Doug Fridley Sr., Earl Durgan, Gail Hayes, Arlow Johnson, Bob Smith and Marv Smith.

Second place went to Baldwinsville Moose Lodge.



Winners of the New York State Moose Men's Tournament was the Geneva Team.

Geneva Moose Tops Again

The Oneida Moose Lodge was host to the 36th Annual New York State Mixed Shuffleboard Tournament on Oct. 17-20. Over 400 players representing 40 teams from Moose Clubs around New York competed in this annual event. Games were played on five boards with teams consisting of five men and five women. Men must shoot against women from the opposing team and vice versa. Best 2 of 3 games were played on each of five boards with the team winning three boards first wins the match.

In first place, it was the Geneva Moose Club from Geneva, New York. The players were: John Arndt and Tracie Fridley, Elsie Fridley and Marv Smith, Samantha Chilson and David Fridley, Arlo Johnson and Cheryl Bates, June Loucks and Howard Arndt, with "super subs" Doug Fridley Sr. and Doug Fridley Jr., and Noel Marales and Denise Cooley.

Second place went to the fine team from Johnson City.



And in the Annual Mixed tournament, it was once again the Geneva team.

National Open at Dew Drop Inn, Jan. 17-19

The Dew Drop Inn in Waterloo, New York, will host a National Open Shuffleboard Tournament on Jan. 17-19. Four one-day events will be played on four boards. Events include an open singles, \$20 entry, starting at 6:30 p.m. on Friday, Jan. 17; a mixed doubles, \$10 per person, on Saturday, 9:15 a.m.; a draw partner, \$10 per person, on Saturday, 2 p.m.; and a bring your partner, \$25 per team, on Sunday at 11 a.m.

For information, call Doug or Elsie Fridley, 315-539-9520, or Doug Fridley Jr., 315-539-8326. Use the enclosed flyer to make your advance registrations. This one will fill up fast!

Orsi/Worley Win "Witches Open"

Gwynette Orsi and Maggie Worley made the trip from Omaha, Nebraska, to Arvada, Colorado, to capture top honors at the Balloon Inn's annual "Witches Open" in October. They came out ahead of a field of eight teams vying for a \$1650 pot.

Second Annual Santa Classic at Balloon Inn

The Second Annual Santa Classic will be held at the Balloon Inn, 6440 Wadsworth Blvd., Arvada, Colorado, on Dec. 14-15. It's an open doubles, \$100 per team, double elimination, best 2 of 3, played on two boards. The auction is scheduled for Friday, Dec. 13, at 8 p.m., with play starting Saturday at 2 p.m. sharp. The entry deadline is Friday at 7 p.m.

For information, contact the folks at the Balloon Inn, 303-425-9823. See ad in this issue and plan to participate in this fun event.

(continued on page 11)



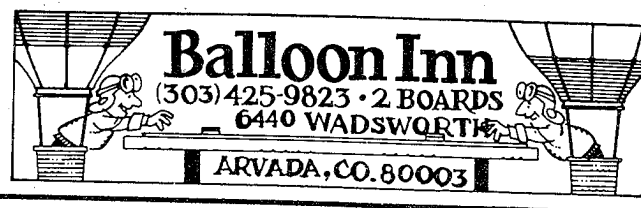
**2nd Annual
Santa
Classic
Dec. 14-15
Open Doubles
\$100 per team**

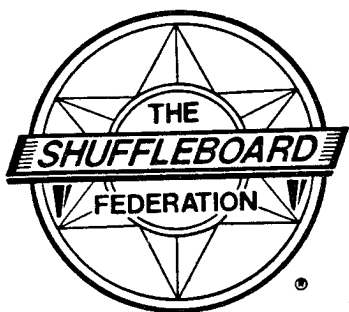
Auction: Friday, Dec. 13, 8 p.m.

Entry Deadline: Friday, Dec. 13, 7 p.m.

Double Elimination – Best 2 of 3

— TWO BOARDS —





IT'S BEEN A GREAT YEAR

As 1991 draws to a close and people are celebrating the Holidays, we have a few reasons to do a little celebrating ourselves.

- The 1991 Grand Slam National Tour finished with a bang in Reno at the NORTH AMERICAN SHUFFLEBOARD CHAMPIONSHIPS, which featured \$10,500 in added money.
- The Semi-Pro Division was a huge success.
- Our weights are finally completed and were well-received at their public debut in Reno.
- The new format for N.A.S.L. Team Events is working great and the future of the N.A.S.L. League Program looks very promising.
- Sales of our products, which finance our promotional work, are up significantly for the third straight year.

All told, we are very pleased with the progress that was made this year, and are equally optimistic that 1992 is going to be even better. We think that most of the shuffleboard community has come to realize how important it is to the future of the sport that we continue to attract new players, and are aware that the N.A.S.L. Team Events have been largely responsible for the new players who are now involved in tournament play.

As we see it, the key to continued growth is the promotion of leagues and tournaments using a format that gives every participant a chance to win. Proof of this theory can be found by looking at two of the most successful sports of our time, which are golf and bowling. The popularity that these sports now enjoy is a direct result of the handicap systems they instituted some years ago.

The continued development of our N.A.S.L. League Program and the handicap system, and the addition of Division II and Division III events at our major tournaments, is going to establish the momentum necessary for the sport of tabletop shuffleboard to achieve the level of popularity which we know is possible.

In order to speed up this process, we need the help of everyone reading this article. We feel we have done an

excellent job in rating the players for the N.A.S.L. Team Events, but we know that we can do an even better job in less time if we had more statistical information.

You can help by doing two things -- making sure that the results of every tournament you play in are reported to The Board Talk, and asking the tournament director to send a copy of the bracket board to The Shuffleboard Federation. This additional information will be especially helpful in making decisions on players who are borderline cases.

Last year we went through every issue of The Board Talk, all the way back to January 1984, and recorded the results of every tournament ever listed. This has given us information on more than 1200 players. With your help we will collect information on many more in 1992.

We are looking forward to the day when we have enough information that we can rate the players on a scale of 0 through 10. When that day comes, our goal of promoting events that every team has a chance to win will be within our reach, and the subsequent growth in our sport will surpass anything ever seen in the shuffleboard community.

When we introduced the Semi-Pro Division this year, the response was very positive. Among the comments that we heard on a frequent basis was that there are a lot more Semi Pros than Pros. As we develop Division II and Division III events, the same principle applies -- for every Semi Pro, there are thousands of less talented players.

Hopefully the Semi Pro players will show more vision than the Pros did. Every Semi Pro player has an obligation to the sport to help get these new players involved and teach them the basics. The sense of accomplishment these players feel as they improve is what will keep them hooked.

We would like to salute two players who are making this happen in their area -- John Fisher and Rich "Bubba" Warren. These two are available one night every week at Amatos in Huntington Beach, California, to help the novice players. If more players follow their example, our sport will grow that much faster and everyone will reap the benefits.

In closing we would like to express our sincere thanks to all of the people who have supported our efforts this past year. This goes for our long-time supporters and especially to the new comers. With all of us working together, the future of our sport becomes more promising every day.

Happy Holidays to everyone from Phil, John, Cheryl, Diana, and Kathy. Look for complete details on our 1992 Schedule in the January 1992 issue of The Board Talk.

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Tourney Talk (continued from page 7)

Start Your New Year at the Club Tavern

The popular shuffleboard tournament site, the Club Tavern in Springfield, Oregon, will host an open doubles on Jan. 4-5. \$80 per team entry will pay 60-30-10. It's double elimination with winners bracket 2 out of 3 to 15 points, and the loser's bracket 1 game to 17 points. The auction will start at 10 a.m. on Saturday, Jan. 4, with play immediately following.

The Club Tavern has three of the best boards in one location on the West Coast, plus a clean, comfortable bar with great home-cooking by Lisa. Try it; you'll like it!

For more information or to save your spot, call tournament directors Fred Linton, 503-741-2991, or Doug DeBois, 503-397-5076. Please help spread the word by posting the enclosed flyer in your favorite shuffleboard establishment.

PCSA Update

Hurry! Hurry! Hurry!

As we go to press, they are filling up fast for the PCSA's Extravaganza IV, scheduled for Jan. 29-Feb. 2 at the Showboat in Las Vegas, Nevada.

If you missed the Dec. 1 deadline, call to see if there's a spot left for you. It should be an exciting event for players and spectators alike. There are five events: pro singles, women's singles, pro doubles, mixed doubles, and amateur teams. (See flyer in this issue for details and use it to make your reservations.)

To check if there is still room for you, call Joe or Marvel Muniz, 213-926-2152 or 213-926-3714.

See you in Vegas!

Crazy Canucks First Tourney Big Success

The Crazy Canucks 1st Annual Tournament came to an end on Nov. 4, with the last puck thrown by Darrol Nelson at 12:35 a.m. Darrol lagged a two to beat out Jim Allis in the singles, 15-13. "Excellent playing by two great guys," said Joanie Millar.

"Our tournament was a great success and everyone had a wonderful time -- 10 boards in all, 37 entries in the singles and 33 in the doubles. The total purse in the singles event was \$7,030 and the doubles was \$7,725 -- not bad for our first time ever," Joanie reports.

"They came from far and near, as far away as California -- Joe Muniz, Bob and Anna Brunskill, and Billy Maxwell. On behalf of everyone at AN & AF Unit 68, it was a pleasure having all of you. You will see by the winners and all the way down to sixth place, they drove for miles to be here," she said.

In the winner's circle for the singles were: Darrol Nelson, Springfield, Oregon, 1st; Jim Allis, Longview, Washington, 2nd; Chuck Norris, Portland, Oregon, 3rd; Mike Waters, Tacoma, Washington, 4th; Don Mitchell, Portland, Oregon, 5th; and Ken Wochnick, Portland, Oregon, 6th.

Doubles winners were Darrol Nelson and Jim Allis, with Rick Gindt of Washington and Eric Waldman, Montana, taking second place honors. Bob Shirley of Washington and Ken Wochnick of Oregon finished third. Other winners were Dick Heflin and Doug DeBois of Oregon, 4th; Jim Winston and Dick Doaks, Washington, 5th; and Gordy Smith and John (Golden Arm) of Canada.

"I would like to take this opportunity to thank Bill Weir, the president of AN & AF Unit 68 and all his staff for the wonderful, warm hospitality that each and everyone of us received. A million thanks to Marg O'Kum and her good man,

Bill, for all the hard work they put into this tournament to make it the success that it was. Also a million thanks to Gordy Smith for getting it organized and a big thank you to Brian Burchinsky and his lovely wife, Loraine, for getting the draw done and all the games started," said Joanie.

"Most of all, thanks to the men who showed up night after night to pick up those heavy boards and take them from one club to the other and get them all up and ready for play, then take them all apart and return them back to their own clubs and set up again. I'm not going to mention their names because there are so many of them, but I do hope when they read this, they will know who I am talking about. On behalf of Gordy Smith and me, we thank you a million times over for a hard job well done.

"Also to my dear old friend, Don McAlpine in Victoria who found four long boards for us when we were in despair. We knew six boards weren't enough but Don came through once again. Where would we be without him? He's 80 years of age, but he'd better live another 80. Thank you, Don, and all your helpers.

"Also thanks to Unit 20 for loaning us their board, and to Fred Baumbach and Marg Brice for their boards. It's people like these who make it all possible. Also, thanks to Hazel and her staff in the kitchen for the excellent meals. The Saturday night supper for the players was roast beef dinner or baked B.C. salmon -- absolutely delicious.

"We've also got to thank Marty Atkinson for all the raffle prizes he bought for our raffles and Elaine Hill and all the girls who sold raffle tickets, and all those who wiped and waxed boards. There's no end to the thank you's, but I must come to a close by saying thank you, Marvin White, for your help on the master draw sheet. I'd also like to thank the P.C.S.A. for their donation of \$100. I am sure I've left someone out, but they will have to forgive me," Joanie said.

"Our tournament came to a beautiful end with everyone singing at the Raroke. Marg O'Kum had all the American girls and men in her choir singing their hearts out. Terry Burns sang a few songs, also Mitch Mitchell and yours truly. Mitch did the American National Anthem and I followed up with the Canada anthem. It was a wonderful ending for our tournament. (Editor's Note: This must have been a very moving experience. We got a call from Jim Cockrell in Washington who had all sorts of good things to say about your tournament, Joanie, and especially this moment of comradarie and sharing. Maybe you can make this a tradition at your tournament.)

"Next year, I think we will need 16 boards. We will be having a meeting within the next two weeks to decide if we are going to hold it the same time next year. Some folks would like to have it earlier. So we will see," she concluded.

Joanie also sends a special message to Joe Muniz: "I hope you are feeling better. If you would have let me rub your chest, you would have been well in no time at all."

Renzo Wins at Lafayette Inn

Host and sponsor of shuffleboard tournaments at Lafayette Inn, Rising Sun, Maryland, finally found enough time to shoot a complete event. Nelson Renzo is usually so busy running around making sure his guests are enjoying this shuffleboard facility that he doesn't have time to pay real attention to his personal game, reports Dick Gorman. But in the draw partner first Saturday of the month tournament on Nov. 1, Nelson teamed up with Dave Shewbridge of Elkton, Maryland, to beat all comers and take first place. Second place was taken by Dick Gorman, Wilmington, Delaware, and Mike Robinson,

(continued on page 13)

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Tourney Talk (continued from page 11)

Wildwood, New Jersey, with third place going to Jimmy Barr of Rising Sun and Lindsay Hall, Baltimore, Md.

The full house of players also enjoyed a spread made available by Nelson before he shot his final winning game.

Broka/Broka/Stockmaster Win in Toledo

Jugg's Tavern, 5119 Jackman Rd., Toledo, Ohio, hosted the 1st Annual Ohio Shoot-Out on Oct. 19-20. A field of tough contenders turned out for this big event in T-Town and owner Joe J. was a popular host.

Buddy Broka from Indiana came out of the loser's bracket to take top honors in the singles, beating out Michigan's J.R. Lopez. Bernie Sunde, also of Michigan, took third place.

Another Broka brother, Greg of Ohio, and his partner Jim Stockmaster of Michigan topped the field of competitors in the doubles. Phil McGrew and Bernie Sunde of Michigan took second place, with John McDermott of Michigan and Bobby Voorhis of Indiana in third. Glen Davidson came all the way from Oklahoma, making some productive stops along the way, and teamed up with Buddy Broka to take fourth. (Another Broka brother, Terry, finished 17th.)

Editor's Note: Popular tournament director Kathy Broka is recovering from major surgery. A card from shufflers across the nation will surely speed her recovery. Please send a note to Kathy: 52 Birkhead, Toledo, OH 43608.

Reno Tourney a Rousing Success

What a finish to a great year this was for The Shuffleboard Federation's 1991 Grand Slam, one which left the participants talking eagerly about next year's event.

There is one issue director John McDermott wants to address -- the Semi Pro Draw. "We intended for the limit on this event to be 32 players, not 32 teams as we mistakenly listed on the flyer. As part of the final preparations for the tournament, the schedule and starting and finishing times for all the events were reviewed. It was not until this time, about 10 days prior to the tournament, that we discovered this mistake," said John. "With the Semi Pro Singles and Ladies Singles starting the next day, we opted to change the Semi Pro Draw to single elimination, which allowed us to finish that event a little after midnight as opposed to finishing it at approximately 5 a.m., as would have been the case had we left the event double elimination. We apologize for the mistake and are happy that the rest of the tournament was, in our minds, the best tournament we have ever run."

There were 24 teams in the N.A.S.L. Team Event, which put it at the bonus level in terms of added money. "On behalf of everyone who attended, thanks to the Sands Regency Hotel & Casino for the \$10,500 they added to the tournament, which was distributed amongst five of the events," John said. "Leading the way was the N.A.S.L. Team Event with \$7,500 in added money, which was distributed among the 24 teams that entered, with each team winning back at least \$150."

Many compliments were received regarding the layout -- with rest rooms right next to the tournament area, a 24-hour restaurant, bar, slot machines and keno counter, all within 50 feet of the ballroom. The players had everything at their finger tips and could save their energy for playing. The Sands Regency made sure the tournament area was well-staffed by providing waitresses, keno runners, and plenty of porters to keep the

(Continued on page 14)



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Tourney Talk (continued from page 13)

room clean. The players and spectators also appreciated the very reasonable drink prices.

"We want to thank everyone who participated in this year's tournament and let everyone know that we will announce the dates for next year's tournament, which will be bigger and better," John said. "To the people who filled out the survey forms, we want you to know we appreciate you taking the time to do so. Your input helps us to continue to improve our tournaments. Based on your comments, we will have a tough time improving on this tournament."

Participants rated the various components of the tournament on a scale from 1 to 5, which 5 being the best. The results were: tournament rules, 4.6522; entry fees, 4.6977; playing conditions, 4.6596; scheduling of players, 4.4186; format for N.A.S.L. Team Event, 4.6047; location of tournament, 4.3958; appearance, cleanliness of hotel, 4.6739; services at hotel, 4.3913; courtesy of hotel employees, 4.3333; shuffleboard wax used, 4.6522; weights used, 4.7021; speed of boards, 4.3478; appearance of boards, 4.8043; levelness of playing surface, 4.0213; quality of boards, 4.3778.

"As much as we appreciate the very high marks we received, we want to make sure that all the members of our 'A TEAM' get the credit they deserve for making everything run as well as it did: the set-up and take-down crew -- Rick Boyer, Gordy Collins, Mike Melton, Rich Warren, Keystone Cushion & Cue, Reno Game Sales, and Tip Top Amusements; tournament officials Rick Boyer, Kathy Broka, Terry Broka, Diana Hofmann and Rob Kern. Special thanks to Dynamo Corporation which provided the 16 shuffleboards used for the tournaments; Barbara Woodward at the Sands Regency for all her efforts; Rowe International and Tip Top Amusements for providing the free play ROWE CD 100 JUKEBOX. Everyone knows how important music is at a shuffleboard tournament and being able to play as many songs as you wanted at no charge on the No. 1 Jukebox in the industry for the last two years was a treat for everyone," John said.



Showing off their cash as top winners in the N.A.S.L. Team Event are members of the Rogues Gallery, Fort Worth, Texas: (left to right) Bob Shaw, Fort Worth; Larry Cooper, Fort Worth; Bettye Brantley, Davis, Oklahoma; Tammy Denson, Dallas, Texas; Lisa Melton, Davis; and Bobby Williams, Fort Worth.

(Editor's Note: While UPS traces the whereabouts of the missing Reno tournament bracket boards, various participants have helped us partially reconstruct the results. We and The Shuffleboard Federation apologize to those who are not listed. There will be a complete list of winners in next month's Board Talk.)

In the doubles, Sam Sweatt and Mark Foust of Oklahoma double-dipped the undefeated Bill Meyer and Bernie Sunde of Michigan, much to the disappointment of a large contingency from the Water Winter Wonderland state and to the delight of the Okie fans. Bobby Williams and Bill Wooldridge of Texas placed third.

Cheryl Collins of Michigan and Rich (Bubba) Warren of California were winners of the mixed doubles event. They beat Diana Hagen of Texas and her partner, with Kathy Broka of Ohio and Lonnie Pfost of Oklahoma in third.

Shirley Robertson of Oklahoma won the crown in the women's singles with Gwynette Orsi of Nebraska taking second place honors and Debbie Voorhis of Indiana in third.

Bob Shaw of Fort Worth, Texas, was winner of the singles event, with Don Valk of Austin, Texas, settling for second.

In the semi-pro draw, Gail Schults of Michigan and Lenny Dell of Maryland were the winning team.

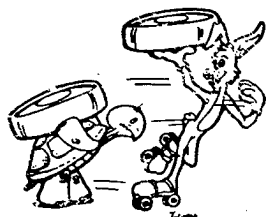
The pictured Rogues Gallery team were winners of the popular team event.

We were unable to discover the winners of the Legends event. Top billing for you next month.



**Merry Christmas and
Happy New Year to all
our Shuffleboard Friends!**

**From Bill and Myra Meyer
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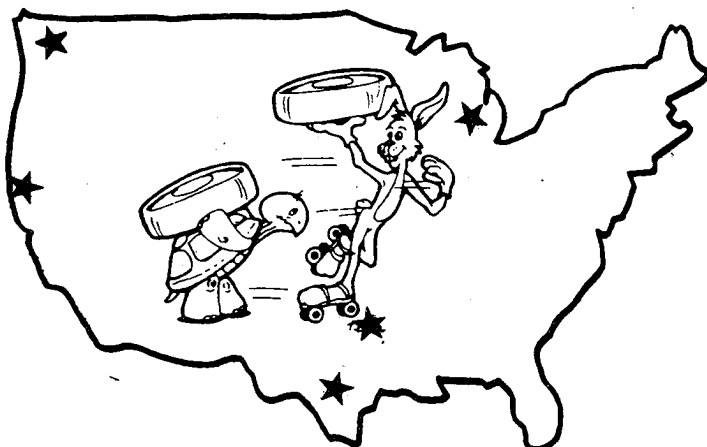
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