

## The Board Talk

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

Vol. 9, No. 10

October 1992

Tourney Talk

## 29 Shufflers Benefit from Texas Mist U.S. Open Qualifiers

The Texas Mist, Austin, Texas "hotbed" for shuffleboard action, was the scene of two action-packed weekends during the month of August. Forty-five avid shufflers gathered to launch 98 entries in the U.S. Open Qualifier Tournaments. Players were striving for spots in the U.S. Open's Divisions I/II/III events.

Enthusiasm mounted quickly as eager competitors arrived early in the week and warmed up with their own contests. Opposition gazed in awe as the flamboyant Johnny Ballard of Houston lived up to his renowed reputation, winning three sizzling \$20 draws in one night!

Both tournaments demonstrated spectacular performances. True sportsmanship and superb skills of all participants generated shuffleboard action at its best. Breathtaking moments were common throughout the tournaments.

Division I singles saw popular Bobby Williams of Fort Worth nose out Don Valk of Austin in the finals. Third place went to Alfred Suarez, Austin, and Brian Walker of Houston was fourth.



Winners of the Division I Singles were Bobby Williams (center), 1st; Don Valk (left), 2nd; and Alfred Suarez, 3rd.

Taking first in the Division I Doubles were Johnny Ballard of Houston and Brenda Moore of San Antonio. In second place were Rusty Center, San Antonio, and Brian Walker, Houston. Third went to Gregg Tedford, Sonora, and Terry Moore, San Antonio. J.D. Sweet, Holland, and Steve Nelson, Austin, finished fourth.

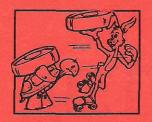
Division II/III Singles was highlighted when two members of the famed Melton clan of Davis, Oklahoma, finished first and second. The up and coming 22-year-old Billy defeated his sister, Lisa, in the finals. Ken Strong, Houston, finished third, and Robert Hurst Sr., Austin, was in fourth.

Division II/III Doubles honors went to Robert Hurst Sr. and Wanda Knox, both of Austin. Houstonites John Wiggs and Dale Williams captured second place, with Bill Harmon and Robert Hurst Jr., both of Austin, in third, and J.D. Sweet, Holland, and Stan Hiett, Fort Worth, in fourth.

"The Texas Mist extends special thanks to all who helped make the U.S. Qualifier Tournaments successful -- John McDermott and staff at The Shuffleboard Federation, Board Talk publishers George and Donna Wilber, organizer and director Ron Bowers of Austin, who worked harder, put forth more effort and sacrificed more time than anyone," said host Don McCurry. "Ron's assistants, Steve Nelson, Jim Grove, Rost Kaune, Tina Wade, all of Austin, and the one and only Rusty Center of San Antonio -- thank you all! Last, but by no means least, we thank all the participants. These are the most important of all; without dedicated players, great tournaments would not be possible."

McCurry, along with The World of Shuffleboard, congratulate the winners and wish the best of luck to everyone who won a berth in the U.S. Open. Qualifer winners of one or more entries were: Bobby Williams, Fort Worth; Don Valk, Austin;

(continued on page 4)



## Shufflers' Notebook

News and Views from the World of Shuffleboard

## **Bob Exchanges Darts for Pucks and Loves It; Their Loss, Our Gain**

I gave up the game of darts a few years back to join the shuffleboard world all of you play and enjoy. To be honest, I was a pretty good dart shooter when I played, but it wasn't much fun after a few years.

I have to admit I had a lot of talented shufflers to guide me in this sport, but I really had to push myself to reach their level. Practice was an everyday routine. Losing a couple hundred per month to people like Mickey Mickens, Stosh, Jerry Herrmann, Bill Lally, Meatball, Pete Burba and Tommy Schaeffer was beneficial to my becoming a better player. I took my lumps and came back fighting.

Needless to say, I have gotten my money back plus some. My wife Colleen and daughter Holly have two brand-new bicycles to prove it and, yes, I also have one. Joe Easter guided me and Mickey Mickens groomed me. The rest just took my money, but I do thank all of them for their time and insight. After two years of shuffleboard, I have come a long way and I will continue this effort as long as I can. The Philly people will continue to bring new shooters to the top, because the shooters I mentioned will always take the time to groom them.

John McDermott is a guy I admire the most because of his talent and his time devoted to the sport. Good luck, John, and to the rest of the shufflers, too.

"Watch out for Jerry Herrmann this year!"

Bob Morell, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

## -- ATTENTION --

If you have a red check below, it means your subscription has expired. To received the next issue, you must renew by the 15th of this month.

(Use the form on page 15 to renew.)

The great shuffleboard "teachers" that you mentioned, Bob, and the receptive "students" such as you, are the ones who will assure that our sport remains a viable, growing sport. We wish each young, eager shuffler in the U.S.A. and Canada, and places we still don't know about, had such a support system, both at home (because, as you said, it does take practice time) and in all the places where shuffleboard is played. We fully expect that the name of Bob Morell and his heroes will appear often on the pages of The Board Talk for many years to come.

### Doc Khan Rises to Glen's Challenge

I wholeheartedly support Glen Davidson's idea of The Board Talk "Revival." Since The Board Talk originates from Michigan, I feel we Michigan residents have a special obligation toward its continuing survival and longevity. In fact, we want it to thrive.

I pledge to sign up as many individuals and taverns as I can in this effort and I will make another pledge: Anyone in Michigan who wants to subscribe to The Board Talk and is not willing to pay the \$15 subscription fee, please send me a check for \$10 (A.A. Khan, 555 E. Deerfield Rd., Mt. Pleasant, MI 48858) and I will add the \$5.00 and subscribe to it for you. We need to revitalize this newsletter and need extraordinary measures to do so.

My limit in this offer is \$250. In other words, I will pay \$5 each for 50 new subscribers.

Megan and I decided that we are both lucky to have each other. Thank you for your comments.

### Doc Khan, Mt. Pleasant, Michigan

Your offer is very generous, Doc, and if Michigan shufflers don't respond to it, they're really missing out on a good bet! Like you, we assumed the Michigan players would be our top supporters, but one look at the map on our address panel will tell you that it's not the Water/Winter Wonderland that's on top -- it's California and that state also has the best retention level (that is, the current subscribers who renew on time). Certainly, the economy has been a factor in all states, but it's not the only factor. Could be that the majority of Michigan players are league players and not tournament players, so they're not interested in what's happening with their sport in other states or in national tourneys. We're

(continued on Page 6)

## Shuffleboard -- The Sport for Every Season 1992-1993 Calendar of Events

### OCTOBER 1992

#### Oct. 3

25th Annual Fall Doubles American Legion Post 424 Bourbon, Indiana

#### Oct. 9-11

3rd Annual Mixed Doubles Great Lakes Shootout Stober's Lounge Lansing, Michigan

#### Oct. 10-12

Annual Fall Doubles Corner Tavern Bow, Washington

#### Oct. 10-11

3rd Annual Shufflefest Club Tavern Springfield, Oregon

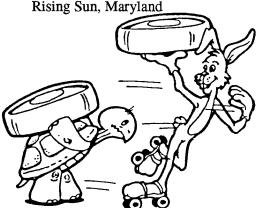
#### Oct. 17-18

Open Doubles Ram's Bar & Grill (formerly Papa's Pub & Grub) Warren, Michigan

#### Oct. 23-25

Fall Classic

Lafayette Inn Rising Sun, Maryland



### NOVEMBER 1992

#### Oct. 31-Nov. 1/Nov. 7-8

State of Indiana Championships D.J.'s Tavern Warsaw, Indiana

#### Nov. 9-15

SF North American Championships Sands Regency Reno, Nevada

#### Nov. 20-22

National Tournament Dew Drop Inn Waterloo, New York

#### Nov. 26-29

"Turkey Day" Tournament Corporate Image Fort Worth, Texas

#### Nov. 27-29

State of Michigan Championships McCabe's Lounge Saginaw, Michigan

#### Nov. 27-29

Annual Fall Tournament Stagger Inn Bellflower, California

## FEBRUARY 1993

#### Feb. 2-7

P.C.S.A. Shuffleboard Extravaganza V Alladin Hotel & Casino Las Vegas, Nevada

#### Feb. 12-14

Winter Board Talk Tournament Lafayette Inn Rising Sun, Maryland

### **MARCH 1993**

#### Mar. 12-15

Invitational Singles Tournment Lafayette Inn Rising Sun, Maryland

### **APRIL 1993**

#### **April 9-11**

Dick Gorman Spring Classic Lafayette Inn Rising Sun, Maryland

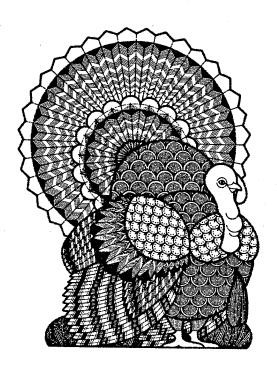
## Put your tournament on the calendar!

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## THE BOARD TALK



## "Turkey Day" Shuffleboard Tourney NOV. 26-29

at

## **Corporate Image**

5418 Brentwood Stair Rd. Fort Worth, Texas
--4 Boards--

THURSDAY:

Draw Partners, \$25 per person entry, single game, double elimination, sale at 7 p.m., with play immediately following. (No 2 pros can draw each other.)

FRIDAY:

\*Bring Your Partner, \$50 per person, 2 of 3, double elimination, limit 16 teams, sale at 7 p.m., with play immediately following. (No 2 pros can play together.)

**SATURDAY:** 

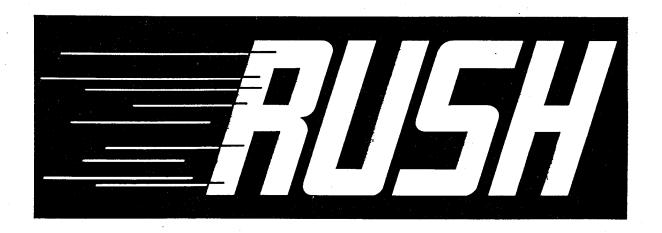
\*Singles, \$50 entry fee, 2 of 3, double elimination.

\*Mark 4, play to 15.

FOR INFORMATION: David Williams, 817-457-4468 or The Corporate Image, 817-451-0607

SHUFFLERS' TREAT: Thanksgiving Dinner served on Thursday, courtesy of The Corporate Image.





TO: SHUFFLERS ACROSS THE U.S.A. & CANADA

FROM: GLEN & LISA LINDBERG

THE CLUB TAVERN

420 MAIN STREET, SPRINGFIELD, OREGON

PHONE: 503-747-4466

RE: 3RD ANNUAL SHUFFLEFEST, OCT. 10-11

We cordially invite you to participate in our 3rd Annual Shufflefest on Oct. 10-11.

Our main event will be an Open Doubles on Saturday, Oct. 10, \$35 per player entry fee, double elimination. The Club Tavern will add \$20 per team in added money for this pot. Payoff will be 60-30-10.

Come early -- stay late. Round Robins are ongoing, as is Lisa's Kitchen, which features the best food in town. We have three excellent boards and great playing conditions. We cater to shufflers!

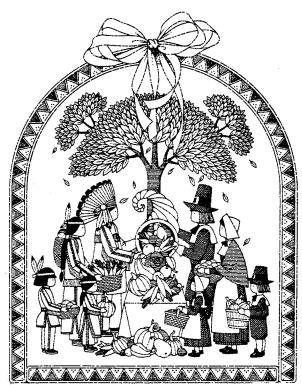
Bonus: Ask Glen about a special 2-night stay at the Quality Inn during the Vegas tourney. Worth looking into!

<u>Tournament Directors:</u> Tournament Directors this year will be Jim Reed, 503-688-0158, and Bob Perkins, 503-747-4426. Please call them for details and/or to save your spot.

<u>Suggested Lodging:</u> Here are some ideas -- Sutton Motel, 503-746-6261; Black Angus, 503-342-1243; Village Inn, 503-747-4546; Pacific 9, 503-726-9266; Motel 6, 503-687-2395; Motel 6, 503-741-1105.

We look forward to seeing you at The Club Tavern in Springfield, Oregon, over this special weekend.

This is your personal invitation to come join all the shufflin' Pilgrims and Indians who will be gathering at Glenn's Tavern in Funkstown, Maryland for the......



## Western Maryland Thanksgiving Weekend Shuffleboard Shootout NOV. 27-29

### Schedule:

Friday Night -- Draw Partners -- \$10 per person Saturday -- Bring Partners -- \$25 per team Sunday -- Open Singles -- \$20 per person

For Information, call Glenn at 301-739-5025 or 301-733-7916

## Glenn's Tavern

2 W. Baltimore St. Funkstown, Maryland Phone: 301-739-5025



All Michigan Shufflers are invited to play in the

## 8th Annual State of Michigan Shuffleboard Tournament

-- NOV. 27-28-29 --

## M.J. McCabe's Lounge 54 E. Morley Drive, Saginaw

East off I-75, (approx. 3/4 mi.) Exit 149A

4 Boards -- Double Elimination in Each Event -- Trophies for all 1st and 2nd Place Finishers -- Sponsor sales for all events

### **Events:**

<u>1st Flight Tournament</u> (this is a first ever flight added to the tournament for players of compatible abilities to compete): Men's Singles, \$15 entry; Women's Singles, \$15 entry; Open Doubles, \$30 per team; Mixed Doubles, \$30 per team (Note: each event must have at least 10 entries or it may be cancelled).

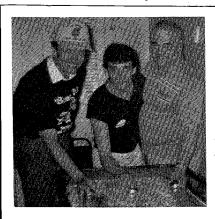
<u>Championship Flight:</u> Men's Singles, \$25 entry; Women's Singles, \$25 entry; Open Doubles, \$50 per team; Mixed Doubles, \$50 per team.

--DEADLINE DATE FOR SIGN-UPS: NOV. 20--Use the entry form on reverse side

Starting Time: Friday, Nov. 27, Noon, Men's and Women's Singles, Both flights to start at the same time. (Scheduling subject to change.)

RECOMMENDED LODGING: The nearby Quality Inn (Phone: 517-753-2461) is offering special shufflers' rates for this event, \$40 plus tax for double bed room (maximum 4 people to a room). Reservations must be made by Nov. 15! To receive the special rate, tell them you are with the McCabe's shuffleboard tournament.

NOTE: Breakfasts available at McCabe's on Friday and Saturday, 7 a.m.



"The Fridley Family" invites you to the

## National Shuffleboard Tournament at

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37 Virginia St., Waterloo, New York Phone: 315-539-9520

Nov. 20-22

## FRIDAY, NOV. 20 -- OPEN SINGLES

Entry fee, \$20 per person, drawing and bidding at 6 p.m., with play immediately following; limited to first 16 paid sign-ups, prizes to first four places.

#### SATURDAY, NOV. 21 -- MIXED DOUBLES

Entry fee, \$20 per team, drawing and bidding at 9:15 a.m., with play immediately following; limited to first 16 paid sign-ups, prizes to first three places.

#### SATURDAY, NOV. 21 -- DRAW PARTNERS

Entry fee, \$10 per person, drawing and bidding at 2 p.m., with play immediately following, limited to first 40 paid entries, prizes to first four places.

### **SUNDAY, NOV. 22 -- BRING PARTNER**

Entry fee, \$30 per team, drawing and bidding at 12 noon, with play immediately following, limited to first 24 paid teams, payouts 1 in 4.

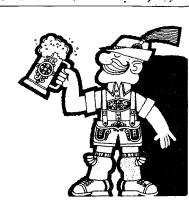
ALL GAMES 15 POINTS STRAIGHT, SINGLE GAME, DOUBLE ELIMINATION. OPEN BUFFET TO ALL PARTICIPANTS. ADVANCE REGISTRATION SUGGESTED AND MUST BE ACCOMPANIED WITH ENTRY FEES.

TOURNAMENT HOSTS: Doug and Elsie Fridley, 315-539-9520; Doug Fridley Jr., 315-539-8326. All play is on four boards. Buffet served in Shuffleboard Banquet Room.

#### **REGISTRATION FORM**

Open Singles Mixed Doubles Draw Partner Bring Partner

<del></del>	
Name:	Phone:
Address:	
Mixed Doubles Partner:	
Bring Partner'sName:	
	ND TO: DEW DROP INN, 37 VIRGINIA ST.,
WATERLOO NV 13165	,



## Tourney Talk (continued from page 1)

Alfred Suarez, Austin; Brian Walker, Houston; Johnny Ballard, Houston; Brenda Moore, San Antonio; Rusty Center, San Antonio; Gregg Tedford, Sonora; Terry Moore, San Antonio; J.D. Sweet, Holland; Steve Nelson, Austin; Billy Melton, Davis, OK; Lisa Melton, Davis, OK; Ken Strong, Houston; Robert Hurst Sr., Austin; Robert Hurst Jr., Austin; Mike Baker, Houston; Wanda Knox, Austin; John Wiggs, Houston; Bill Harmon, Austin; Stan Hiett, Fort Worth; Casey Nulligan, Austin; Don Waddell, Austin; Pam Harden, San Antonio; Donnie Sonnier, Austin; Ronnie McMann, San Antonio; David Sexton, San Antonio, Andy Bryant, San Antonio.



Winners of the Division I Doubles were Johnny Ballard and Brenda Moore (center), with Rusty Center and Brian Walker (left) in second, and Terry Moore and Greg Tedford in third.



Sibling rivalry at its best -- Billy Melton taking a bittersweet win over his sister Lisa in the Division II/III Singles event.



Division II/III Doubles winners were Wanda Knox and Robert Hurst Sr. (center), with John Wiggs and Dale Williams (right) in second, and Bill Harman and Robert Hurst Jr. in third.



Texas Mist U.S. Open Qualifier Tournament Director Ron Bowers and his wife Debbie did a great job! (More Tourney Talk on page 8)

## Attention Shufflers:

Next month's issue of The Board Talk will contain our quarterly "Play Your Way Across the U.S.A." Make sure your favorite shuffleboard sites are included. Sign them up as subscribers before Oct. 15 and send to: The Board Talk, 421 E. Sheridan Rd., Lansing, MI 48906.

George & Donna Wilber, Publishers

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## Notebook (continued from Page 2)

going to try to deal with that problem in the years ahead, not only in Michigan, but in other states. We also are finding that some shufflers are just learning about this publication. At our recent tournament in Houghton Lake, we met some nice people from Flint, "virgin territory" to us, and now they're going to spread the word there.

To our readers who don't know who "Doc" Khan is, he's been a supporter of The Board Talk for many years. He was our very first astronaut shuffler and our first 7-year subscriber. The reason he is known as "Doc" is because he is a doctor. His "pedigree" is long: Lt. Col., M.D., M.C., F.S., U.S.A.F. 187th Tactical Airlift Squadran," etc., etc. He's the example we point to when people believe that only "bar bums" belong to The World of Shuffleboard. He and Megan are a "class act" and we think they're both lucky to have each other (see last month's issue).

By the way, Doc, one of Donna's associates visited the Alden Bar during his vacation and reports it is everything you said it was. They said one customer offered the owners \$8,000 for their shuffleboard and they said "no way." Wow! Does that say something about the kind of people who are a part of our shuffleboard network?

### Glen Re-Issues Challenge!

The time has come to join in the campaign to sign up new subscribers to The Board Talk. I think you all remember the event that happened a few years ago when people all across the U.S.A. joined hands as if forming a chain from Washington State to San Diego to Florida to Maine to support a cause, a very worthwhile cause. I say if the U.S.A. can join in on a worthwhile event like that, think of all the poeple that were aware of this and joined in to make it work. Are we any different? We are Americans and Americans are the greatest people in the world to come to the aid of any worthwhile cause or any body. So I say, let's form this chain all the way acros the U.S.A. and Canada, too.

A chain is only as strong as its weakest link, so let's all start in our own neighborhood to make this bond the strongest of all. Remember, only YOU can make it happen. If people tell you they have no money, then take up a collection for them. There are a lot of excuses: "I can't read, I'm moving, I read someone else's." Can you imagine a shuffleboard player saying I can't afford it when you just saw them play a \$10 round robin? Don't accept that for an answer. There is no excuse. If they want to join in with us and be a part of the greatest people on earth, then we welcome them. If not, let them try joining some of those other organizations that charge

from \$100 to \$500 for their magazines and whatever else they have to offer.

Doc Khan, U.S.A.F. Lt. Col., is not only a player, he has supported shuffleboard wholeheartedly for many years, as well as promoting the game in his area. wherever that may be. I consider it a privilege and an honor to have Doc in our ranks. What other sport can you think of that has a Lt. Col. participating in a real competitive game with you and you don't even have to say "sir," just lag a three and say "nice game, Doc." Doc has agreed to help us with our drive for subscribers. I wholeheartedly support him in his efforts and endorse whatever his endeavors. To all of you, read his article and pitch in and help this revival get going.

Doc, we need a real military slogan for our campaign. Kathy Broka, I'm sure you could come up with one. Joni, let's hear from you and the others in California. Let's also hear from Canada. And Houston, I'm sure old Howard or Diana could come up with a real dandy. We may have to have a vote for the best one.

Remember the old saying: If we don't hang together, we will surely hang alone. Maybe it's not that final, but it's something to think about!

Glen Davidson, Box 117, Tupelo, OK 74572; phone: 405-845-2307.

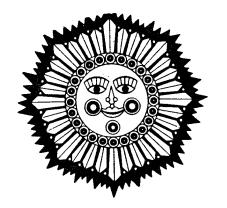
Your initial challenge is already working, Glen. Nationally-acclaimed bracketeer Rob Kern brought three new subscribers back from the U.S. Open and here in Michigan, Slick Parrish vows he's going to take top honors. We'll start running a list in next month's issue crediting subscription solicitors. If you've got a slogan to contribute, send it to Glen. We'll let him be the judge!

### Attention Shufflers:

The World of Shuffleboard lost one of its favorite citizens recently with the passing of Dick Keener. Not only was Dick a great shuffleboard competitor, he was also always a gentleman and a friend. Please join us in extending sympathy for this great loss through messages to his family. Send to: Dick Keener's Family, 5083 Drayton Rd., Clarkston, MI 48346.

Thank you.

George & Donna Wilber, Publishers The Board Talk



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## Tourney Talk (continued from page 4)

## Norris Scores Two 1sts at Crazy Canucks Tourney; George Joins Him at the Top

Another successful Crazy Canucks Tournament was held at the A.N.A.F. Unit 68 in Vancouver, B.C. on Sept. 4-6. There were 32 entries in the singles and 26 in the doubles.

Chuck Norris of Portland, Oregon, took top honors in the singles, followed by Doug Buhl of Springfield, Oregon, in second, and Jim Allis of Longview, Washington, in third place. Darrol Nelson of Eugene, Oregon, finished fourth, with Fred Jones of Longview in fifth, and Billy Mays of Dallas, Texas, in sixth.

Norris captured another first in the doubles with his partner, Gary George of Oregon. And Doug Buhl earned another second for the weekend with his partner, Don (Mitch) Mitchell of Oregon. A couple of those Crazy Canucks, Brian Burchynsky and Terry Burns of Vancouver, took third place. Other money winners were: Fred Johns and Ken Wochnick of Washington and Oregon, fourth; Lewis Smolinski and Ron Curtis, Vancouver, fifth; and Darrol Nelson and Jim Allis, sixth.

This was Chuck's first double win of the year, and Mitch's fourth consecutive runner-up finish of the year.

In other reported action: Ken Wochnick beat Jim Allis in the belly button contest (Ken's was the brownest and roundest); Dave Arndt won for the least amount of wax in his ears; Mitch for the longest hair; Terry Burns for needing a taller t-shirt; Winston Jim for not buying a drink the whole tournament; and Barb Wochnick from Portland and Joanie Millar of Canada beat Doug Debois of Oregon and Lorne Lampley of Washington. A special notice: Carol Norris has her corner back at 2nd & Main. The total amount turned over to Winston Jim for Sunday was \$1.42. (And you wonder why they're called the Crazy Canucks?)

"Special thanks to Jim Foran for running our calcutta for us with Mitch's able help. They are a fantastic pair of auctioneers," reports tournament organizer Marg Okum. "Thanks to everyone, too numerous to mention, for all their help, from board moving to leveling to scorekeeping and any other job they were asked to do. It was really nice to see old friends and to make some new ones. Hope to see everyone next year."

## Lots of Winners at Dew Drop Inn

The Dew Drop Inn in Waterloo, centrally located in the beautiful Finger Lakes Region of upstate New York, was host to their 5th National Tournament on June 18-20, sponsored by Pabst Blue Ribbon Beer. Players came from six different states to compete and the competition and talent were great, reports Doug Fridley Jr.

In Friday night's sold-out open singles event, John (One-Arm) Myles made his trip from Michigan with Jimmy (The Cop) Kumpula worthwhile by taking the first place jacket and trophy home. Turned back to second was local favorite Dave Fridley who beat John in the first game of the finals. Dick Losee from Pollville, N.Y., took third spot, with Alvis Ramey of Perryville, Maryland, earning fourth place cash.



Doug Fridley Sr. (left) and Pabst Blue Ribbon representative Phil Cavali (right) present a trophy and jacket to Open Singles Champ John Myles of Michigan.

A bounty was run on each player with one-third coming from the entry money and two-thirds coming from the auction pot. Doug Fridley Sr. was the "bounty hunter" and handled all the payouts for each bounty. Over \$2,500 went to those players cashing in this event.

On Saturday morning, the mixed doubles tournament was held with Dave and Sammi Fridley from the Dew Drop Inn taking first place jackets and trophies over the very tough second place team of Marv Smith and Pam Draheim, both from Waterloo. "Dave and Sammi have recently gotten married and are expecting in the fall," Doug reports. "Good luck to both of you and the money you won will help." Taking third place cash for the mixed doubles were Steve Bennett from Sherburne, N.Y. and Anne Farnham from Norwich, N.Y.



It's a family affair as Elsie and Doug Fridley Sr. present trophies to Sammi and Dave Fridley, winners of the mixed doubles.

Saturday afternoon saw 30 players sign up for the Open Draw Partner event with some interesting results. Tourney favorites Steve Bennett and Ken VanZile Sr. failed to cash in on the \$1500 pot! Taking first place were the surprise team of Marv Smith and Jane Johnson

from Jordan, N.Y. This was Jane's first major tournament win. Earning second place were Bob (The Teacher) Cornell and Doug Fridley Jr. from Waterloo. Third place earnings went to Mr. Don Perry of Cortland, N.Y. and John Myles, with Lonzo Knight, Hagerstown, Maryland, and Sammi Fridley cashing in fourth place.



Hosts Elsie and Doug Fridley Sr. present jackets and trophies to Open Draw winners Jane Johnson and Marv Smith.

On Sunday, the Bring Partner event attracted many tough entries vying for a pot of nearly \$2500. A bounty was again run on all teams. Local favorites Dave Fridley and Doug Fridley Jr. failed to cash as did out-of-town favorites Dick Losee and Russ Reynolds from Sherburne. Taking home first place trophies and jackets with some excellent clutch shots were Steve Bennett and Bob White from Sherburne. This was Bob's first major tournament win. "It was long overdue and I'm sure we will see his name more often in the future," reports Doug Jr. Steve and Bob had to win two tough matches in the finals against Alvis Ramey and John Myles before turning them back to second. Third place honors went to Marv Smith and Don Perry, with Jimmy Kumpula and John Arndt of Waterloo in fourth place.



Bring Partner Champs Steve Bennett and Bob White collect their jackets and trophies from Elsie and Doug.

"Elsie Fridley is again to be commended for the superb buffet served to all on Saturday afternoon in the shuffle-board banquet room. Munchies were served throughout the day with vegetables and dip, chicken wings, and Elsie's famous pepper jam with crackers," said Doug Jr. "Overall, it was our best tournament ever and is growing each time. We are planning our next National Tournament

on November 20, 21, 22. This will again include four major event with round robins to be run Nov. 19."

See the enclosed flyer and plan now to attend the Dew Drop's 6th National Tournament.

#### Nelson/Buhl Tops at Club Tavern

A very strong, talented group of shufflers participated in this year's Memorial Day Tournament at the Club Tavern, Springfield, Oregon. In the Open Singles, the scoreboard reads like a "Who's Who in Shuffleboard in the Great Northwest," with Darrol Nelson taking top honors, Doug Buhl in second, Chuck Norris in third, and Jim Allis in fourth. Darrol and Doug teamed up to capture the doubles crown, with Chuck Norris and Doug DeBois in second place. Jim Allis and Steve Fisher finished third, and Honk Hunter and Sam Gott took fourth place.

"My sincere apologies to all the players, especially the winners, for neglecting to report these tournament results earlier," said host Glen Lindberg. "From the number of complaints I've received, it appears that The Board Talk has a lot of faithful readers out here!" (Good news to Editors George and Donna!)

The Club Tavern is hosting their 3rd Annual Shufflefest on Oct. 10-11. Check the enclosed flyer and spread the word (quickly!) about this fun tournament. Note that there are some specials, such as The Club Tavern adding \$20 per team to the pot, and a chance to win a special 2-night stay at the Quality Inn during the Vegas tourney.

## "Turkey Day" Tourney at Corporate Image, Nov. 26-29, Fort Worth, Texas

The Corporate Image, 5418 Brentwood Stair Rd., Fort Worth, Texas, will host their annual "Turkey Day" Shuffleboard Tournament on Nov. 26-29. In addition to three big events -- a draw partner on Thursday, a bring your partner on Friday, and a singles on Saturday, there will be a complimentary Thanksgiving Day dinner served on Thursday.

Please post the enclosed flyer in your favorite shuffleboard establishment and mark your calendars now to attend this traditional event.

### For Michigan Shufflers Only

The 8th Annual State of Michigan Shuffleboard Tournament is scheduled for Nov. 27-29 at McCabe's Lounge, 54 E. Morley Drive, Saginaw. There will be four boards for this event which includes, for the first time this year, a 1st Flight Tournament, as well as a Championship Flight, to give players of compatible abilities an opportunity to compete.

Events in both flights include a men's singles, women's singles, open doubles, and mixed doubles. Flyers with full details are being sent to Michigan shufflers and Michigan shuffleboard sites on the map. For information, call George at The Board Talk, 517-371-2538.

(continued on page 14)



## "FRIENDSHIP THROUGH COMPETITION"

#### U.S. OPEN A BIG SUCCESS

Once again Don Valk put on a first class show for all of the participants in his 7th annual U.S. Open. The tournament marked the debut of Division II/III Singles & Doubles competition, which included many players who had never attended the tournament before. There were many exciting matches in the new division, which was full more than a month before the tournament.

The strong support for Division II/III will translate into an increased limit on the number of players for these events as well as more boards being assigned to accommodate them.

When Don ran the first U.S. Open on four boards in 1986, there were only three taverns with shuffleboard tables in the city of Austin. His tireless efforts in promoting shuffleboard has helped make Austin, Texas a thriving shuffleboard community that now has more than thirty locations with shuffleboards.

Another person who deserves some recognition is Texas Mist Owner, Don McCurry. Don runs draw partner tournaments 2-3 nights a week and often adds money to the pot. For the past two years, he has sponsored two teams in the N.A.S.L.™ Team Event at the U.S. Open. Because most of the Austin players have only been playing a couple of years and have little tournament experience, they have taken their share of lumps at the U.S. Open. Therefore, it was a thrill for many of the people at the tournament, including teams they had beat, to see a Texas Mist team win the N.A.S.L.™ Team Event.

Our congratulations to the members of the Texas Mist Troubleshooters and to Don McCurry, who we understand was smiling like a proud new father when his team brought the special carved glass first place trophy to him after the tournament. Picture from the tournament and a complete list of the winners, can be found in the Tourney Talk section of this issue.

Don Valk would like to recognize the following people for their support of the U.S. Open: Jim Crawford, Ken Strong, Bill Moody, Alfred Suarez, Dwight Hamilton, Kay Klaevemann, Ron Bowers, Jim Grove, Bobby White, Bill Peterson, Tony Howard, Morrie Estes, Aggie Valk, Rost Kaune, Tina Wade, Frank Badali of the Third Base Lounge in Houston, Ron Vogt of the Balloon Inn in Colorado, Jody Slack, Dave Cowan, Bill Melton, Bob Shaw, David Williams, John Wiggs, Mary Koteras.

## **RENO TOURNEY FILLING FAST**

THERE ARE STILL A FEW SPOTS IN THE SINGLES, DOUBLES, AND DRAW PARTNER EVENTS FOR BOTH DIVISIONS AT THE 1992 NORTH AMERICAN SHUFFLEBOARD CHAMPIONSHIPS™. SPOTS ARE ALSO OPEN IN THE N.A.S.L.™ TEAM EVENT WHICH INCLUDES \$5,000 IN ADDED MONEY, AND THE PRO EVENTS.

THE TOURNAMENT IS ONCE AGAIN BEING HELD AT THE SANDS REGENCY HOTEL & CASINO, WHICH IS ADDING AT LEAST \$7,500.00 TO THE TOURNAMENT.

WE ARE CLOSING IN ON BONUS LEVEL #1, WHICH INCREASES THE ADDED MONEY FROM \$7,500.00 TO \$11,250.00. THIS BONUS KICKS IN IF WE GET 24 TEAMS IN THE N.A.S.L.™ TEAM EVENT.

FROM THERE IT IS ONLY A SMALL JUMP TO HIT BONUS LEVEL #2, WHICH WILL PUSH THE ADDED MONEY TO A WHOPPING \$16,500.00. THAT WOULD CERTAINLY BE SOMETHING THE ENTIRE SHUFFLEBOARD COMMUNITY COULD TRULY BE PROUD OF.

WE ONLY NEED THIRTY TWO TEAMS IN THE N.A.S.L.™ TEAM EVENT TO GET THERE, SO IF YOU CAN'T COME FOR THE WHOLE WEEK TRY AND COME FOR A FEW DAYS TO PARTICIPATE IN THE TEAM EVENT.

FOR MORE INFORMATION ABOUT THE NORTH AMERICAN CHAMPIONSHIPS, CALL (313) 380-9300.

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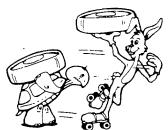
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## A BOARD TALK SALUTE!

Sincere appreciation from George & Donna to:

- \*\*Carole & Skip Sliwa and the Capable and Friendly Skip's Lounge Crew
- \*\*Budweiser for trophies and jackets
- \*\*Our indispensable support system: Rob Kern, John Tischler and Betty Parrish
- \*\*A Host of Volunteers
- \*\*All Players & Spectators

for all you did to help make the 2nd Annual Skip's/Board Talk Tournament another success!

# Another Sell-Out for 2nd Annual Skip's/Board Talk Fall Tourney

A "no-fail" recipe for a successful shuffleboard tournament:

- --50+ avid shufflers
- --Same amount of super-interested spectators
- -- 2 congenial hosts and their dedicated crew
- -- 1 supportive Budweiser distributor
- -- 1 nationally-renowned bracketeer
- --1 official who can prep a board and play on another board at the same time without missing a beat
- --1 auction cashier who comes out on the dollar every time
- --1 community that welcomes out-of-towners with open arms
- --Several courageous, deep-pocketed auction investors (Berts or Burts preferred ingredients)

Add a dash of unpaid volunteers who invest their time and talents to the total effort. Blend together with 3 days of crisp, good-sleeping nights and sunshiny days. Bake in a moderate oven of Michigan's vacation paradise for the same amount of time. (Option: It will increase your success if you have a small landing strip in your backyard to accommodate Indiana players who have their own planes.) Serve to everyone's delight!

It was this no-fail recipe that served up a generous portion of tasty treats for every participant in the 2nd Annual Skip's/Board Talk Fall Tournament at Skip's Lounge, Houghton Lake, Michigan, on Sept. 12-13. There was a pot of \$6540, plus trophies and Budweiser jackets that 50 players in the draw partner event and 25 in the singles, vied for during the action-packed weekend.

In the draw partner event, tournament host Slip Sliwa drew Frank Parrish of Auburn Hills, Mich., to take first place. Frank's Dad, Slick, and his partner, the venerable Bjerne Sunde of Madison Heights, took second place honors, and prompted suggestions that next year's event be renamed the Skip's/Board Talk/Parrish Tournament (Mom Betty -- who served as this year's auction cashier -- won first place last year with partner Tom Meagher). J.R. Lopez of Lansing, and local Jerry Cooley took third place, with Houghton Laker Mike Kunik and Jackie Dunn of Oxford, Mich., in fourth.

In the singles tournament, the fly-in from Indianapolis, Indiana, to the small landing strip in Skip's backyard, paid off in gas money for Larry Creakbaum (his passenger, another shuffleboard legend, Jim Long of Osceola, Indiana, had to have his white knuckles pried off the seat after Larry's smooth landing on the "postage-sized" landing strip). Larry beat out local favorite and new-to-the-major-tournament-scene Jim Podeski. The

wiry, energetic "senior" of the local shuffleboard scene had some particularly supportive fans in the big crowd, Mary Cooley and Sally Terwillinger, who purchased Podeski for a paltry \$35 and went laughing all the way to the bank on Monday morning. J.R. Lopez took home another third place, his second for the weekend, and John Myles of Livonia, Mich., took fourth place.

While host Skip was on his drive toward the drawpartner crown, Carole Sliwa received even more plaudits for her buffet on Saturday afternoon.

Skip and Carole, George and Donna, thank all participants for making this another great tournament. Plans are already underway to make the 3rd Annual Skip's/Board Talk Fall Tournament an even bigger and better event with four boards to accommodate broader participation from not only Michigan, but maybe more fly-ins from other states! Special thanks to bracketeer Rob Kern, official John Tischler, both of whom again went beyond the call of duty, all the volunteer workers who pitched in when help was needed, Skip's Lounge staff, Budweiser for the trophies and jackets, and last, but not least, all the "locals" who made your visitors feel at home.

#### Overheard From the Sidelines

Bert Lowe: I have no problem bidding; I'll just take off with the auction money (just kidding, Bert!).

Everbody There: Damn! I was going to bid on Jim Podeski!

Jim Long: (Larry Creakbaum's flying partner on Monday morning after Larry's singles win) Now he insists I carry his luggage!

**George Wilber:** I can make 1 if my partner can make 14.

**Jim Long:** We all know your partner (Sarah Palmer) will make 14; she's worried about you making 1 (that's exactly how it happened).

**Bill Howes:** (on P.A. system) Free drinks from Skip for everyone who shows up at noon on Sunday.

Skip Sliwa: (also on P.A. system) Hurry over to Bill's Party Store across the street for your free case of beer.

Jimmy the Cop: (on hustling a bet on Wilber vs. Lopez) I've watched this guy Wilber play a lot and he's really kicking a--. You'll probably want him so I'll take Lopez.

Betty Parrish: I wish me and my family had better luck at this tournament.

## Get the most for your money!





IT'S EASY! All you have to do is fly from Indianapolis, Indiana, to Skip's backyard, says Larry Creakbaum......



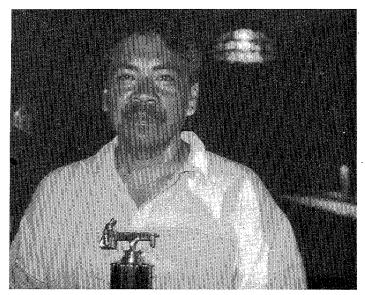
...Then you get your good friend, Jim Long, to hold up the barbed wire fence, go into Skip's, sign up and.....



And take the Singles crown over 24 other contenders. A fat envelope, a big trophy, a Budweiser jacket, easy.....



...Except for that persistent local, Jim Podeski, and his fans, Mary and Sally, who gave Larry a run for the pot.

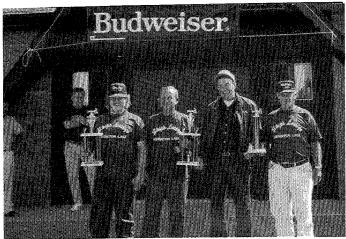


J.R. Lopez of Lansing collected a third place trophy in the singles and another in the draw partner.



John Myles (left) took fourth place in the singles and gets tapped by his friend Gene Gach for a \$20 loan.

## Tourney Talk (continued from page 15)

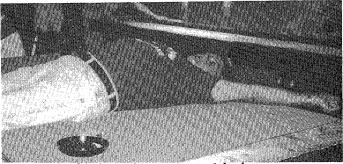


First and second place winners of the draw partner event were (from left): Frank Parrish, Skip Sliwa, 1st; Bjerne Sunde and Slick Parrish, 2nd.





(Left) J.R. Lopez of Lansing and Jerry Cooley of Houghton Lake finished third and (right) Mike Kunik of Houghton Lake and Jackie Dunn of Oxford took fourth in a field of 25 teams.



This pool table looks like a nice soft bed to me, says Slick Parrish, one of the 50 players in the draw partner.



Three guys in striped hats kept things going: George Wilber, John Tischler, and Rob Kern.

## Don & Donna Cox Benefit Tourney on the Drawing Board

Fred and Lois Thumann are planning a benefit tournament for Don and Donna Cox, who lost their home in a tragic fire on Mother's Day. As we go to press, plans have not been finalized; however, it will be at T.G.'s in Santa Clara, California, sometime in November or December. Please watch for details in the November Board Talk. At this point, the Coxes are still without a home; they're experiencing hassles with their insurance company; and the bills are piling up. We hope our World of Shuffleboard will respond to the problems of one of their own as they have done in the past.

In the meantime, if you'd like to contact the tournament organizers and hosts with your ideas, questions and information, call Fred and Lois at 916-885-2312, or T.G.'s, 408-246-1498.

### Last Call for Reno: Sign Up NOW!

Please read The Shuffleboard Federation column on page 10, which outlines what's at stake, money-wise, for the number of entries participating. The flyer for the big 1992 North American Championships, Nov. 10-15, at the Sands Regency Hotel & Casino in Reno, Nevada, is included in this issue. Note that the deadline for all other than pro events is Oct. 23. By the time you receive this issue, that's just around the corner! So, sign up now and help reach that ultimate \$16,500 added money.

For information, call The Shuffleboard Federation, Inc., 313-380-9300.

## Time to Make Plans for P.C.S.A.'s Extravaganza V, Las Vegas, Feb. 2-7

December 15 may seem like a long way off, but if you plan to participate in the P.C.S.A.'s Extravaganza V at the Aladdin Hotel & Casino in Las Vegas, Nevada, Feb. 2-7, now is the time to start making some decisions and forming your teams.

There's a complete listing of details, plus entry forms, included on a flyer in this issue. Check it out! Note that something new has been added: a six-member pro team event representing their respective states. If you've ever wondered how your state's top players would stack up against another state's top players, here's the chance to find out.

Questions? Call the PCSA at 310-926-2152.

### Host of Winners at U.S. Open

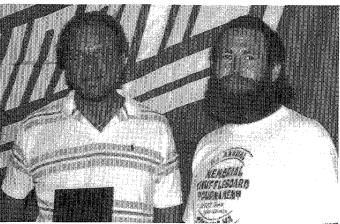
Don Valk's 7th Annual U.S. Open in Austin, Texas, was another big success this year, with many new players participating for the first time. The big event was held at the Howard Johnson Hotel on Sept. 2-7.



Winner of the Division I Singles was Bob Shaw. Gordie Collins finished second, with Ron Huddleston in third.



Winners of the Division I Doubles, Johnny Ballard and Brenda Moore, beat out Mike Melton and Bobby Williams for the title.



Dale Koteras and Dave Cowan beat out Jim Crawford and host Don Valk in the Division I Draw event.



Billy Melton overcame Dale Williams, 2nd, and Ron Huddleston, 3rd, to take the Division II/III Singles title.



David Sexton and Andy Bryant were winners of the Division II/III Doubles. In second were Mike Baker and Billy Melton, with Mary Koteras and Ty Migliore in third.



Steve Nelson and J.D. Sweet beat out Mary and Gil Koteras to take top honors in the Division II/III Draw.



Winners of the N.A.S.L. Team Event were the Texas Mist Troubleshooters: (back row): Gregg Tedford, Johnny Ballard, Bill Moody, Ron Bowers, (front row) Tina Wade, and Diana Milligan.

Second place finishers in the N.A.S.L. Team Event were the Freelands Laggers: Jim Crawford, William Hallberg, Mary Koteras, Sharon Finch, Tony Howard, and Ty Migliore. Taking third place honors was The Three Shooters team of Bettye Brantley, Billy Melton, Bobby Williams, Gary Kennedy, Lisa Melton and Gary Williams.

In the Pro Singles event, the head of the Melton clan, Bill Melton, finished first, with his good friend and always a contender, Sam Summers, in second place. Attention Individual Shufflers, Shuffleboard Establishment Owners, Service and Supply Providers, Associations and Leagues:

We'd like to have you consider an option to sending Christmas and New Years greetings to your shuffling friends and customers by the traditional method. With postage rates today, that traditional method can be very costly!

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We and our subscribers thank you!

George and Donna Wilber, Publishers THE BOARD TALK

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