

The Board Talk

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

Vol. 10, No. 4

April 1993

The Hammer

On the back panel of this and every other issue of The Board Talk is a column of appreciation to our advertisers. We say in that column: "Your advertising support made this issue possible." That's not just a positive stroke to those who have paid money to get their message to you; it's the truth! The subscription fees, while vital to our operation, pay only a small portion of the expenses of publishing and mailing this newsletter. It's the advertising support that truly does "make this issue possible." Because it's a "standard" column, like the change of address form, it probably doesn't get the attention it deserves. We'd like to ask you a favor: Please check that column every month and do what you can to support those who are supporting your favorite sport.

If you buy a product from one of shuffleboard's suppliers/servicers that are listed there -- and in our Shuffleboard Directory -- tell them you appreciate their support. If you participate in a tournament that has been advertised in The Board Talk, take a minute to say "thanks" for your support. While we don't discriminate against any tournament location that decides to only use our "free" space on the calendar and Tourney Talk columns, we want those who do show their support with advertising dollars to know that they are special and appreciated by the people who participate. They already know we appreciate them; please let them know you do!

We totally support The Shuffleboard Federation's decision to focus on getting the amateurs organized through the NASL (check their last month's advertisement). Their efforts to gain sponsorship for shuffleboard such as other sports enjoy is our hope for the future of this sport. Please carefully consider their message that "The shuffleboard community will find that they have a lot of clout if we can all work together." Working together is what this "family" is all about, so let's do it! And, by the way, that endorsement is not because they are an advertiser; it's because we believe the future of shuffleboard and all of its support services lies with the league players.

George and Donna Wilber, Publishers

Tourney Talk

Danke/Wilson Winners of "Sweethearts" Tourney at Acme Tavern, Tacoma, Washington

The Acme Tavern's 16th annual Sweethearts Tournament was set in motion February 13-14 when 20 teams rallied for top honors in Tacoma, Washington. Six places were paid with \$1800 in sponsor sale money.

Steve Wilson from Anywhere, U.S.A., and Chris Danke of California took first place with Barbara Wochnick and Chuckles "Chuckie" Norris of Portland, Oregon, finishing second. Third place was won by Joanie Millar of Canada with her partner, Rickster Gindt of Tacoma. Fourth went to Michelle and Jim Foran of Tacoma, with fifth and sixth going to John Luhtala and Nancy Johansen from Graham and Port Orchard, Washington, and Gordy and Diane from Canada.

"A delicious buffet was provided by our hostess Nancy Hiller and others," reports Michelle Foran. "A big thank you to all for your efforts."

Lots of Action in Indiana!

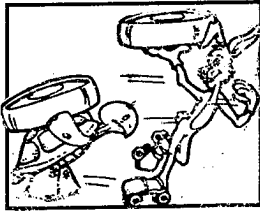
The Wolf Lake VFW in Wolf Lake, Indiana, had a single elimination doubles tourney on Feb. 13. Winners were Larry Vance and Bobby Brown Jr. Second place went to Greg and Tom Massey, and taking third and fourth place cash were Phil Ladd and Terry Dowell, and Jim Erdley and Fred Colen.

Lucky's Tavern in North Webster, Indiana, held a mixed doubles tourney on Feb. 20. There were 12 teams in the double elimination event. First place went to Jerry Knox and Carol Westerman (owner of the host tavern), second place went to Terry and Lasca Dowell, with third to Jim Long and Vicky Morgan, and fourth to Phil and Carol Ladd.

Lee's Inn in Albion, Indiana, held a double elimination tournament on Feb. 27. The winners were Larry Huffer and Paul Elliott, with Steve Blue and Larry Brown in second and Terry and Lasca Dowell in third place.

"If anyone tells you Indiana isn't a 'hotbed' for shuffleboard tournaments, consider this: virtually every Saturday since last August, there is one to be found in the Hoosier State," reports Larry Brown, owner of the Deer Park Inn, Fort Wayne.

(continued on Page 4)



Shufflers' Notebook

News and Views
from The World
of Shuffleboard

Thanks from Lois -- Revival Slogan Winner

I wish to thank Glen Davidson and everyone connected with the slogan contest for giving me the opportunity to enter. I am really proud of the set of weights and of the use of the slogan in so many areas of The Board Talk.

My thanks to George and Donna Wilber for making it so easy to write. Every word in the slogan is simply a reflection of what is represented and printed in The Board Talk. Hopefully, all players will soon recognize its value and become permanent subscribers. Keep it up, George and Donna, we all need you.

Lois Lambrecht, Tulsa, Oklahoma

Thank you, Lois, for a great slogan: "Places, Faces, Dates, Fates, News & Views -- Every player a winner with The Board Talk!" We'll continue to strive to fulfill that objective. And we hope you lag a lot of 4's with your new set of weights!

The Travelling Johnsons Prove Network Works

We would like to thank a few people who made our recent trip out west so enjoyable.

To all the people at "The Gas Log" who made our stay in Sacramento so much fun.

In Bellflower, California, all the people at The Stagger Inn, Jim Anderson, Cadillac Joe, Bubba. A special thanks to Rick Boyer, who helped us out when our van broke down. To Jack and Johnna Eichar who invited us into their home for Thanksgiving dinner. What a treat for New Yorkers to have dinner out on the patio!

To The Deluxe Bar and The Brass Rail in Las Vegas for letting us play in their Friday night and Sunday round robins.

Last, but not least, to The Board Talk for helping us find a lot of places to play shuffleboard.

Arlow and Jane Johnson, Jordan, New York

— ATTENTION —

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

_____ Red Check

(Use the form on enclosed flyer to renew.)

Thanks for letting us know, Arlow and Jane, that the shuffleboard network is working. We hope all travelling shufflers experience the great hospitality you did. When we published the results of The Stagger Inn tournament in the February issue, with first place honors in the A-B draw going to Bubba Warren and Arlow Johnson, we thought could that be New York Arlow? Glad to learn that it was!

Glen Visits Portland Eddie; Continues Board Talk National Crusade

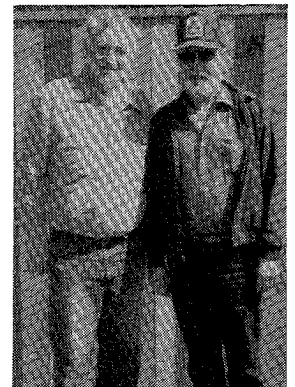
Many of you remember Portland Eddie, one of the greatest shuffleboard players of all time. I went to see him recently and after six years, he still has hope. He asks about all of you and would love to be in on some of the action. Hopefully, he will get to play some of us in the near future.

Eddie was always a pleasant fellow, never any arguments with any of the players. He travelled the U.S.A. playing shuffleboard and became known as "Portland Eddie." Right now, Eddie is sitting on the sidelines recovering from a big 4 on the negative side. If any of you would like to write to Ed, here is his address: Ed Graves #165-521, P.O. Box 220, Stringtown, OK 74569. I'm sure he would enjoy some mail. So far, Madge and I and Fred Washington are his only visitors. Remember, except for the grace of God, this could be you.

After the big Board Talk revival, I'm ready to start our National Connection grassroots program. I just talked to Doc Khan and he is ready, so let's go. All of you read in the February issue of The Board Talk in Shufflers' Notebook, all the states that are now in our family. Some of you will know someone in one of the missing states. Send their names to me; I will do the rest. It's that simple. That will be our first step. Doc will have some other ideas we can work on. Let's call this "Shuffleboard Connection's Final Frontier." When we're through with this promotion, we will be connected to all 50 states. Sounds good, huh? Watch future issues for the next step. Do your share. We can have the greatest newsletter in the U.S.A. with everyone working together. Let's do it!

Glen Davidson, Box 117, Tupelo, OK 74572

(continued on Page 6)



Shuffleboard — The Sport for Every Season

1993 Calendar of Events

APRIL 1993

April 2-4

King of the Hill Tourney
Jerry D's
Dacono, Colorado

April 2-4

Spring Tournament
Harvey's Place
Street, Maryland

April 9-11

Dick Gorman Spring Classic
Lafayette Inn
Rising Sun, Maryland

April 17-18

17th Mud Bay Masters
Buzz's Tavern
Olympia, Washington

April 24-25

1st Annual Shuffleboard Classic
BZ's Sports Bar & Grill
Seattle, Washington

MAY 1993

May 1

41st Annual Spring Tournament
American Legion Post 424
Bourbon, Indiana

May 7-9

Spring Weekend Tournament
Bay Country Moose Lodge 831
Queenstown, Maryland

May 28-31

7th Annual Arbuckle Open
American Legion Post 73
Del City, Oklahoma

May 29-31

3rd Memorial Day Classic
Blinky's Sports Cafe
Santa Clara, California

May 29-30

12th Annual Memorial Tourney
Litz's Tavern
Spokane, Washington

JUNE 1993

June 19-20

Silver Anniversary Doubles
Pasquale's Bar
Lansing, Michigan

JULY 1993

July 2-5

9th Annual Board Talk
Shufflers Reunion
American Legion Post 73
Del City, Oklahoma

July 2-5

Houston Independence Tourney
Houston, Texas

SEPTEMBER 1993

Sept. 3-5

Crazy Canucks
Labor Day Weekend Tourney
Canada

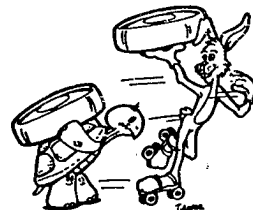
Sept. 4-6

3rd Annual Labor Day Classic
T.G.'s Place
Santa Clara, California

NOVEMBER 1993

Nov. 8-14

North American Championships
Sands Regency Hotel/Casino
Reno, Nevada



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THE BOARD TALK

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Tourney Talk *(continued from Page 1)*

On March 6, Portside Lounge host Tony Bryant had his first one in the Fort Wayne Fish of Stroh Restaurant with 21 teams vying for over \$2300 and some of the toughest players in the state on hand. "Competition was tough!" reports Larry.

Larry Creakbaum and Larry Summy edged out Larry Brown and Steve Blue to claim first place. Greg and Tom Massie took third, with Jim Yard and Richard Sellers rounding out the top four.

"Anybody curious about future Indiana tournament locations, just call me any week night at 219-432-8966. See you soon," says Larry Brown.

Voorhis/Boaz Win at Bourbon

Thirty teams vied for a total pot of \$5800 in the 7th Annual Winter Doubles Tournament at the American Legion In Bourbon, Indiana, on January 16. Coming out on top of the field were Bobby Voorhis and Dave Boaz of Indiana, with second place honors going to Beef Camp and Larry Summy. Third place went to brothers Tom and Greg Massie, with Jim Long and Jerry Knox in fourth.

The American Legion and tournament director Fritz Broka thank all the people who supported this tournament.

17th Mud Bay Masters at Buzz's Tavern, April 17-18, Olympia, Washington

Billed as the "longest running tournament in the USA," Buzz's Tavern in Olympia, Washington, announces their 17th Annual Mud Bay Masters on April 17-18. Entry fee for this doubles tourney is \$50 per team with sponsor sale at noon on Saturday. Payout is 55-30-10-5.

Winners of the 1st Masters were Don Henning and Cliff Walker; winners of last year's tourney were Darrol Nelson and Loren Lampley. Who will it be this year? It could be you!

For information, call Buzz's Tavern, 866-8335.

41st Annual at Bourbon, May 1

Whoops, Buzz's; here's one to challenge you for the "longest running tourney" title -- the 41st Annual Spring Doubles Tournament at the American Legion in Bourbon, Indiana! This one is set for May 1, with sponsor sale starting at 10 a.m. and play immediately following on the four permanent boards.

"Anyone can play and the pros don't always win," says tournament director Fritz Broka. "Last fall's tournament had 52 teams and a total pot of \$13,500. Hope to see more than the usual five states represented at this one," Fritz said.

Entry fee is \$40 per team and can be mailed to American Legion Post 424, Bourbon, Indiana 46504, Attention Fritz Broka. No refunds on entries after April 24. This one fills up fast, so get your entries in now.

Memorial Weekend Action at Litz's Tavern, Spokane, Washington

Litz's Tavern, E. 204 Ermina, Spokane, Washington, will again be hosting the 12th Annual Memorial Shuffleboard Tournament on May 29-30. Owner Gary has moved into a new and larger tavern, just a few blocks from his old place, reports tournament director Marv White.

"To welcome the shuffleboard players to his new bar, he will be adding \$500 to the tournament, along with a third board to accommodate the players," Marv said.

Entry fee for this tourney will be \$50 per team, best 2 of 3, double elimination, and will pay six places. The sponsor sale will be held on Friday night, 10 p.m. If you are unable to be there by that time, please call and make arrangements. Play begins at 10 a.m. on Saturday with a big tavern feed on Saturday night. Lots of R. V. parking available.

For more information, call Litz's Tavern, 509-326-9690, or 509-233-2719.

BZ's 1st Annual Classic, April 24-25, Seattle

Please welcome BZ's Sports Bar & Grill to the tournament scene by participating in their 1st Annual Shuffleboard Classic on April 24-25. BZ's is located at 17730 Des Moines Memorial Drive in Seattle, Washington.

Entry fee for this doubles event is \$50 per team, with a 52-24-12-6-3-3 payoff, double elimination, 2 out of 3 in the winner's bracket. The sponsor sale will start at 11 a.m. on Saturday, but plan to come early for the draw partner tourney on Friday night, \$20 per person.

BZ's has three boards. Dinner will be served on Saturday night.

For information regarding the tourney and/or for lodging recommendations, call Cheryl at BZ's, 206-234-6018, or tournament director Jim Foran, 206-474-2724.

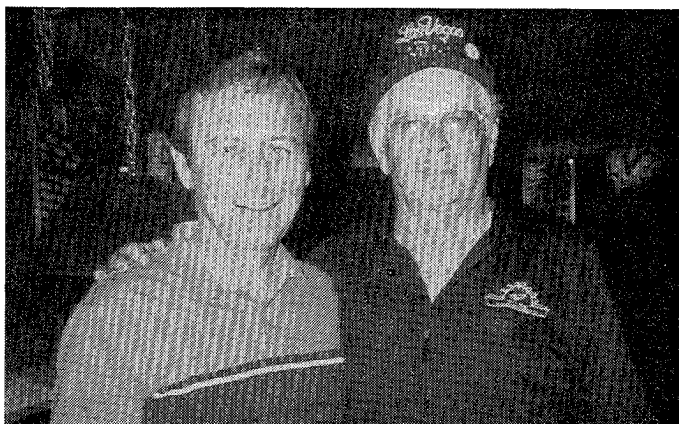
Wechter/Buhl Take Masters Title at Fir Cone

The Fir Cone Tavern in Shelton, Washington, "The Home of Hospitality," hosted its 12th Annual Northwest Masters Tournament on Feb. 27-28. Twenty-nine teams from Seattle, Tacoma, Longview, Edison, Bow, Hoquiam, Tolo, Medford, Springfield, Portland, and British Columbia, vied for a total pot of nearly \$4,000.

Bruce Wechter and Doug Buhl (who won the title 10 years ago) took the Masters crown, with Al Pease and Dave Arndt taking second place honors. Rick Gindt and Jim Allis finished third, with Ron Buckley and Mike

DeAngelo in fourth place.

Fir Cone Tavern owner Buddy Smith thanks everyone for participating and a special thanks to tournament directors Bill Shanahan and Vern Gonzales. "All the shuffleboard players thank Buddy for the hospitality and the great buffet," reports Evie Wechter.



Doug Buhl (left) and Bruce Wechter took top honors at the Fir Cone Tavern's 12th Annual Masters Tournament.

Spring Tourney, Bay Country Moose Lodge 831, Queenstown, Maryland, May 7-9

The Bay Country Moose Lodge #831 in Queenstown, Maryland, will host a three-event tournament on May 7-9. Action will start on Friday night, May 7, with a draw partner event, \$10 per person, with sponsor sale at 6:30 p.m. Limited to the first 30 paid sign-ups, the event will

pay three places. Saturday will feature a bring your own partner tourney, \$25 per team, starting with the sponsor sale at 11 a.m., limited to the first 30 teams paid, and paying six places. The popular mixed doubles event is on Sunday's agenda, \$25 per team entry, limited to the first 20 teams paid and paying four places.

All games are 15 points, straight, single game, double elimination. The Bay Country Moose has three boards and will serve food on Saturday and Sunday.

For more information, contact the Lodge at 410-827-9832 or tournament director Terry Gertz, 410-827-6755.

This tournament will fill up fast, so use the enclosed flyer to make your reservations soon.

**Snow Uninvited Guest at Glenn's Tavern
"Goodbye to Winter" Tourney**

It was supposed to be a "Goodbye to Winter" celebration at Glenn's Tavern in Funkstown, Maryland, March 5-7, but winter wasn't ready to leave yet! Some shufflers had to travel through snow and ugly weather to get there, and Ray Boyett from Homestead, Florida, took time out from rebuilding his home after the hurricane to participate.

Winners of Friday night's draw partner event, which drew 15 teams, were local favorite Lonzo Knight of Dargan, Md., with his partner Al DiBella of Philadelphia, Pa. Second place went to Johnny Gardner, Sudlersville, Md., and Dick Gorman, Wilmington, Del. Ray Boyett

(continued on Page 12)



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Del City, Oklahoma***

JULY 2-5

"Make it a TRUE reunion!"

Watch for details in next month's Board Talk

Notebook *(continued from Page 2)*

Thanks for the update on Portland Eddie, Glen. We hope receiving The Board Talk in his mail once a month has kept him in touch with The World of Shuffleboard and a little less lonely. The first time we met Eddie was at the very first major national tournament we covered for The Board Talk. It was the World Championship Tournament at the Showboat in Las Vegas in January of 1984, where he earned second place honors (Darrol Nelson was first; Doug Buhl was third; and K.D. Makarounis "Mac the Greek" was fourth). We were impressed then and hope to see him compete again during our tenure.

We appreciate, more than we can say, your continued efforts to make The Board Talk a nationwide communications network for shufflers. As you promised, here is your partner Doc Khan's ideas to make that happen....

Doc Khan: "I Have A Dream" **(A Long-Term Agenda for the Board Talk Revival)**

I have a dream that one day we will mobilize dozens, if not hundreds, of Shuffleboard Ambassadors, spread throughout the length and breadth of these United States promoting the game and The Board Talk.

I want to present some ideas for the consideration of all those who love this game and feel it in their blood. Please do not mock my grandiose ideas and show some indulgence as every success story starts with a dream which has a chance to become reality with methodical planning, sincerity of effort, and sheer persistence and diligence.

Lessons Learned from Revival Effort

As I travelled to different states and was running around all over Hell and Creation trying to spread the gospel of The Board Talk (I covered some 10,000 miles and signed up people and taverns from Florida to California, and from North Carolina to Wyoming, in addition to covering a large part of Michigan), I found things that sometimes amazed me, sometimes saddened me, and most of the time disgusted me.

The positive thing is that there are literally hundreds upon hundreds of boards out there.

Condition of the Boards -- Promotion Through Friendship

In every bar, sure enough, there were players, but no one was playing. The reason? The boards were in

terrible shape -- scratched up, rough, and almost unplayable. Instead of getting an attitude, I volunteered to fix it. I brought in silicone spray -- you should have seen their faces after a couple of treatments with that Magic Spray. I told them about mixing ultra-speed with brown or white lightning, how to use the wrench to even out the surface (but not too much 'cause Travis Anderson used to say, Doc, we don't want no rail-riders).

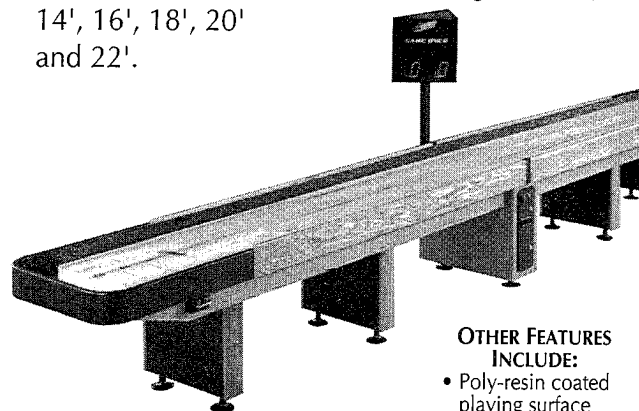
The point is that if the good shuffleboard players in every town and city took a little time to visit the neglected bars with terrible boards and gently helped them straighten out their situation, you will not only make a lot of friends, but increase the number of boards you can play on. If all the good players only congregated in their special bar, to

(continued on Page 10)

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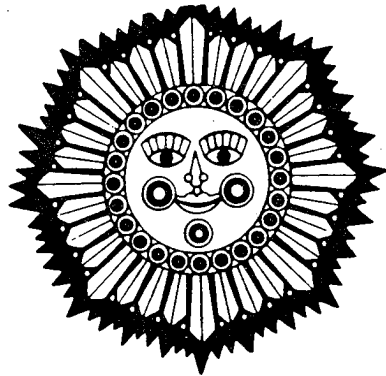


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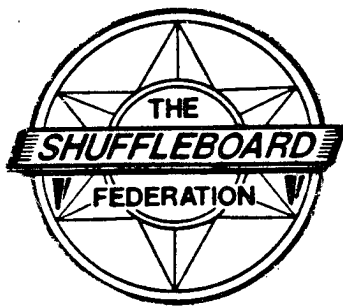
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RENO TOURNEY

Look for a flyer and entry form for the 1993 **NORTH AMERICAN SHUFFLEBOARD CHAMPIONSHIPS™** in the May issue of The Board Talk. The tournament will have a couple of events that we did not have last year, including a Ladies Singles.

As many of you are aware, we have developed a new game that can be played on a shuffleboard table which is specifically designed for league play and also works very well in a tournament format. It is a fast exciting game which you will be able to try first hand at the Reno tourney. We will be running a special draw partner event using the new game, you can expect some added money for this event to spice things up a little. More about the "new game" and the accompanying league program later in this article.

NEW PROS FOR 1993

A number of players who have distinguished themselves in the Division I play in the past two years will be making the jump to the pro ranks for the North American Championships. Join us in congratulating our new pros - Johnny Ballard, Denny Busch, Gordy Collins, Diana Hagen, Dale Koterak, John Lukas, Billy Melton, Bob Shaw and Don Valk.

There will also be a change in the distribution of prize money for pro events. Based on player feedback, these changes may be instituted in the other divisions. We will be expanding the number of places to be paid on the entry fee money as well as any money that may be added to the event, auction money payout will remain the same.

At the recent P.C.S.A. tourney the pro team event was very enjoyable for the spectators and we assume for the players as well. If there is sufficient interest, we will add one to the Reno tournament. If any of you pros are interested in playing, or if you have any suggestions on format (4 out of 7 or 5 out of 9; single or double elimination; 11 or 15 point games) let us know. We need to make a decision on whether or not to go ahead with this event by June 30.

LEAGUE PROGRAM BREAKING NEW GROUND

Over the last few months we have outlined some of the details on a league program as well as some background information on the workings of the coin operated game industry, the national league programs for the other tavern sports, and how those two relate to each other.

The new league program we have started for vending companies is getting an enthusiastic response within the industry. We are excited to announce that major vending companies in six states Illinois Michigan, Ohio, Minnesota, Nevada and Texas are starting new leagues under the program. We expect the new program to be active in fifteen states by this fall.

In the March issue of The Board Talk we reported that we were asking the three major shuffleboard manufacturers, American International, Dynamo Home Products and The Playfair Group - to support our league promotion.

Each of these companies has expressed interest and asked for more details. We recently sent additional information to each of them and will be discussing the subject in further detail with them soon. The electronic dart manufacturers provide joint support for the national league programs and the results have been fantastic. More information about this in the next issue of The Board Talk.

THE NEW GAME

The interest of the manufacturers in the league program is based on the fact that it is structured so that it is attractive for their customers, which are vending companies. One of the reasons leagues fail is that politics can ruin the fun for the players. With most leagues being run by players and bar owners it is nearly impossible to keep the politics out.

We believe that one of the biggest reasons why the national dart, pinball and pool league programs have grown so large so fast is the involvement of the vending companies. The financial backing provided by the vendors association has been a big boost, but just as important has been their ability to eliminate a lot of the normal league politics.

Computer programs now exist that will do all of the administrative work of running a league, including scheduling, standings, team and player handicapping, etc. With the vending company taking over the administration it leaves the players free to play and have fun.

Furthermore, the fact that the vendors are in their locations every week to make collections, insures that the league standings and schedules get posted. The vendor is completely neutral, each of the bars is a customer, and therefore they want everyone to do well.

The new game we have for shuffleboard is the focal point of the league program for the vending companies. It is fast and exciting which make it appealing for players. The fact that the game is fast helps the vendor because two to three times as many games can be played in a night and that makes the shuffleboard table a little more profitable. We believe that this is the right direction for shuffleboard to go in order to attract a major sponsor. Don't be left out of the action, join the N.A.S.L.™ family.

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41761 Onaway Drive, Northville, MI 48167

Phone: 313-380-9300

"FRIENDSHIP THROUGH COMPETITION"

Notebook (continued from Page 6)

the point of neglecting others, this game is not going to spread and expand as it could.

Once you have won over these new places and helped them with playing techniques, I always try to help a free hand shooter with the rail-shot technique instead of what Billy Mays used to say: "Doc, a guy who passes the puck and is a free-hand shooter should be taken outside and shot in public."

I have used this technique of improving people's tables in at least 20 bars in Michigan and I can play there anytime and I am not only welcomed, but their players have quadrupled.

Of course, when this has been accomplished, you can also sign them up for The Board Talk.

If Board Talk Ambassadors started doing this just in their own neighborhoods and towns, we will be able to show significant results.

Would it then be possible to sign up 40 new members in every state, thus getting 1,000 new subscribers? You bet! If it is done with love and friendship and sincerity, without bragging and intimidation and encouraging the young, the new, the novice to have better boards and play better games.

Annual Recognition Awards

Revival should be a continuing crusade with annual recognition of all who have toiled. This ceremony can be held in Las Vegas every year.

Shuffleboard Celebrities Must Help

We have so many big name shuffleboard players -- the celebrities -- who must promote the game because of their position. I am in awe of people like Bill Melton and Bobby Voorhis and the Brokas -- how well they play and how consistently they win.

Imagine an ordinary, regular tavern who gets one of these guys to come in and work on their board and help their players. The numbers of great players are nearly endless. I give you a few examples.

Buddy Brammer, Billy Chiles, Billy Mays, Dick Gorman, Butch Kelly, Sam Summers, Bubba Warren, Bjernie Sunde, Diane Hagen, Don Cox, Steve Wilson, Brenda Moore, Travis Anderson, Cheryl Collins, Chuck Norris, Jerry Siebert, Jody Slack, Bellflower Bruce, Joe Nino, George Ostrum, Doug Buhl, Darrol Nelson, One-Arm John Myles, Jolene Lembke, Al Stewart, Madge Goff, Don Valk, Morrie Estes, Harvey Comer, Butch Kelly, John McDermott, Ted Z, and on and on and on, the list is endless.

If each of these great players took it upon themselves to help other lesser known players, encouraged them, and taught them and got them going, they will all be burying their noses in The Board Talk just to see their names or a picture. The people I signed up got so excited when they

saw the name of their tavern in the "Play Your Way Across the U.S.A." They were showing it to everybody. "Doc put us in there and we are now known all over this country."

If these shuffleboard celebrities -- and believe me, some of these are giants in the game -- did a little autograph signing and attracted crowds, this game can spread like wildfire.

An 800 Number

When we get the 1,000 new subscribers, I request that The Board Talk should get an 800 number so that people can call in freely for an exchange of ideas.

A Personal Note

I went to Ft. Meyer, Florida, and played at The Barnstormer Lounge. Lots of action -- good players like Chris and son Steve, and Mel. The bartenders Billie and Louis keep the board in good shape. Now they also know about the silicone spray.

I rented a car and drove 300 miles to spend three days with Jimmy the Cop in S. Daytona. He has a lovely condo. He talked me into playing the Monday night doubles draw partner tourney at O'Malley's Bar (It's no longer on Broadway and they changed the name to International Speedway). I drew Bill (Easy Rider) and we won the tournament.

Tuesday Jimmy and I drove 200 miles round trip and visited about 10 different board places. Jimmy has done what I have outlined in the main body of this letter. He has introduced silicone spray to O'Malley's and they are having much better play and almost four tournaments a week.

In Titusville at Sam's Place -- lots of tournaments. Cass was visiting from Detroit and Jimmy, Cass and I played "walk the board" all day. I did not shame myself, beating both of them while walking.

We also stopped at establishments that no longer have a board, said a small prayer and left a dandelion on the spot.

Back in Daytona on Wednesday, I played in a singles tournament at O'Malleys and in the semi-finals lost to Jimmy 15-14, who then lost to Roger in the finals, 15-14. Roger and Donna are great players as well as great promoters. I also met Rose (Chop Suey), a very competitive newcomer; Jeff Dunn, the bar manager, keeps the game going full tilt. The owner, Jimmy Hoffa, very generously adds personal money to every pot and enjoys the action.

I have also discovered a delightful new bar in Lake Odessa, Michigan, near Grand Rapids. It's the Pump Room, 16 miles southwest of Ionia off I-96. They are Board Talk subscribers and have started to use the silicone spray with great improvement in their board. They have many good players and have been holding regular tournaments (mixed doubles on Saturday).

The bartender is a sweet but stern lady named Sue. Players are Larry Kidder, Doug and Marita Stowell, Randy Spitzley, Ken Ost, Dave Smithwick (Ben Franklin) and Tom (Witch) Hazel.

Glen Davidson is coming up from Oklahoma to spend five days with me on April 25 before heading out to Bourbon, Indiana.

I wish the best of the future to The Board Talk. Hope my dream comes true.

Just remember: just like we can't fix the budget deficit by concentrating on the millionaires and ignoring the middle class where the money is, similarly we cannot spread shuffleboard far and wide by paying homage to only the great players and ignoring the common man in a common bar who likes to play. We must nurture those people because we are the chosen ones.

Long live The Board Talk!

Doc Khan, Mt. Pleasant, Michigan

We say "amen" to your many creative ideas, Doc. Very frankly, when you and Glen started this revival, we had our reservations. We learned, from past promotions, that people got "conned" into signing up for The Board Talk simply because a member of their family or a friend was trying to earn a prize. Then, they'd drop out, never to be heard from again because they weren't players who cared about what was happening in The World of Shuffleboard. Maintenance is a key word in our business and we're delighted that you and Glen and the others involved in the "revival" are signing up true shufflers who will continue to be a part of our network -- as long as we serve their interests. Serving their interests means focusing on their accomplishments -- not just those "chosen few" who win the big-time titles.

We hope you and Glen and whoever else signs up new subscribers will assure them that the columns of The Board Talk are open to their achievements -- big or small. To us, the winners of a mixed doubles at a shuffleboard bar in Lake Odessa, Michigan, are just as important as the winners of a big national tournament in Las Vegas.

We're glad to hear the "Play Your Way Across the U.S.A." listing is being well-received. Maybe some day, we can afford to run that listing every month instead of just quarterly.

We're also glad to tell you that MOST of the celebrities you mentioned are doing as you suggested. The idea of autographs may be new to them -- but not a bad idea!

Our sincere appreciation for the continued efforts of you and Glen for a national grassroots network of shufflers. We believe we will make your dream come true!

(P.S.: So that's where Jimmy Hoffa is!)

PCSA Update

What a great tournament! The spectacular participation by all is the key to our success year after year. We would like to thank everyone involved in making this tournament one of the the best. A tournament is only as good as its help and we have the best!

Plans for next year are already underway. Next year the tournament will basically be the same. A few changes in the state event are being considered. In next year's negotiations with the hotel, we will attempt to get all of the rooms in the tower. We apologize to those of you who did not have a room in the tower this year. The Aladdin Hotel had no idea as to what kind of group we have and the number of people involved, so we were new to them and they were new to us.

I would like to remind everyone that the Crap Table Caper is out of hand -- but I love it! We started with \$34,000 and finished with a fabulous \$74,000. Something else that we started out with was not lucky enough to return home. I'm referring to two sets of weights. If anyone has information as to where these weights could be, please contact the PCSA. If the person who has them would please return them, or send a check to us for \$100, no questions will be asked. Events like this ruin it for the others in tournaments to come.

Once again, we would like to thank everyone, but special thanks need to go to the following: Sun Glo for the wax and three sets of weights, Triple Crown for the silicone and sponsoring a team, Al Stewart and A.Z. Turnbo for board set-up, Bellflower Bruce for caps, Beef Camp for weight measurer, Sparky for the special shirts, The Board Talk for free subscriptions, The Broka Clan for everything, and Fritz Broka for the leather weight case.

The PCSA can't seem to thank everyone enough, but once again, THANK YOU ALL from the entire PCSA staff.

Joe Muniz, PCSA, P.O. Box 8143, Bellflower, CA 90706

We join in your salute to all the people who made this tournament a success. While location in the tower will certainly bring participants closer to the shuffleboard room, we have to say a word of thanks to the Alladin bellman who accompanied us to our room. It was way, way, far away from everything, and when he noticed Donna limping from her recent broken ankle, he quickly arranged for a room that, while not in the tower, was still much closer to the action. That was very much appreciated! We're listing the PCSA address and hope that your weights will soon make their way home. It's really disappointing to find that, in that fine group of people, there was a "clinker" that would take advantage!

Tourney Talk *(continued from Page 5)*

made his long trek from Florida worthwhile by taking third with his partner Don Casula of Wilmington.

There were 11 teams in Saturday's bring partner event, with John Lucas of Millington, Md., and Bunky Gertz of Grasonville, Md., coming out on top. Second place went to Johnny Gardner and Don Casula, third to Alan Heuer, Boonsboro, Md., and Ray Boyett, and fourth place to Jim Snyder, Williamsport, Md. and Charlie Hawkins of Hagerstown.

Local favorite Sam Jones of Boonsboro was winner of Sunday's singles event. Alan Heuer took second place honors, with Johnny Gardner in third place.

"Owner and host of the tavern, John Thomas, provided us with good meals once again, and Linda Jones prepared all the food, as she has for several tournaments," said tourney participants. "We thank John for the event and special thanks to Linda for her hard work."

50/50 Team Wins PCSA Amateur Team Title



Here are the happy winners of the PCSA's Extravaganza V amateur team event in Las Vegas in February: (front row) Diane Hofmann, Ohio; (second row) Deb Voorhis, Indiana; Kathy Broka, Ohio; Gail Schultz, Michigan; (back row) Gene McLeod, Missouri; Bill Meyer, Michigan; Bob Schultz, Michigan; and Bjerne Sunde, Michigan. (Thanks to Vivian Sunde for this photo and to Marge Camp for the doubles photo in last month's Board Talk!)

Houston Independence Tourney, July 2-5

The Houston Independence Tournament will be held on July 2-5 in Houston, Texas. Events will include a \$100 singles, 2 out of 3 double elimination, and other events. Boards will be available for round-robin play Thursday evening, July 1.

Watch for details in upcoming Board Talk issues. In the meantime, call Ken Strong, 713-488-2902.

Reminder: The deadline for News, Views and Advertisements in The Board Talk is the 15th of each month.

7th Annual Arbuckle Open, American Legion Post 73, Del City, Oklahoma, May 28-31

The popular Arbuckle Open, that has been growing since its inception seven years ago, will move to new, spacious facilities at the American Legion Post 73 in Del City, Oklahoma, over the 1993 Memorial Day weekend, May 28-31. The site will be the only thing that has changed. The agenda will again feature events for everyone in The World of Shuffleboard at affordable fees, great fun and great competition.

The new site will offer easy access to airports and lodging, good food, 12 boards, and places to park your RVs under shady trees. Watch next month for further details. In the meantime, call Al Primrose at 405-665-2566.

Maxwell/Tolbert Top Winners of Presidents' Day Tourney at T.G.'s/Blinky's Sports Cafe

This year's weather-plagued Presidents' Day Tournament at T.G.'s Place in Santa Clara, California, became a testament to the ingenuity and sheer tenacity of dedicated shuffleboard players, reports Rick Thomas. Santa Clara was in the midst of a severe storm when the out-of-towners started arriving for practice and pot games on Thursday night. A large power outage didn't faze Nelson Jennings, who along with "Stupid Steve," went to his shop and obtained a generator and four flood lights to keep things going until the power was restored.

"By Friday, T.G.'s Place had suffered severe roof and water damage," Rick said. "Thanks to the generosity of T.G.'s owners, Jim and Betty Hutton, the two shuffleboards were moved to Blinky's Sports Cafe, one mile away, so that the tournament could continue. Thanks to Nelson Jennings for all of his work on the move, along with Bob Patton, who loaned his truck to the effort, and Bill Maxwell, Dennis Lear, David Roarke, Fred Thuman and Steve Luttrull. We would also like to give a great big thanks to Blinky's owners, Dick and Barbara Aregger, for accepting and putting up with us die-hards. Blinky's crew -- bartenders, cocktail waitresses, and Clancey the Cook, took good care of us. Thanks also to Dan Mourgos, Dale Perot, Pat Bayless and Steve, who helped with clearing and waxing the boards and to Jerry Webster for his support. Thanks, too, to the players without whose patience and assistance the weekend could not have happened."

The total prize money for the three-day open doubles and singles events was \$7,700 with 18 singles and 10 doubles teams. Winner of the singles was Bill Maxwell, with Don Cox taking second place honors. Loren Maxhim finished third, with Nelson Jennings in fourth place. In the doubles, Bill Maxwell and Troy Tolbert took first, with Rick Thomas and Nelson Jennings in second, and Don Cox and Jim Allis in third place.

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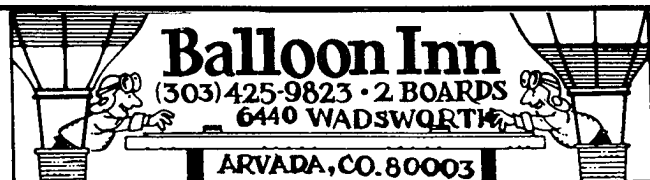
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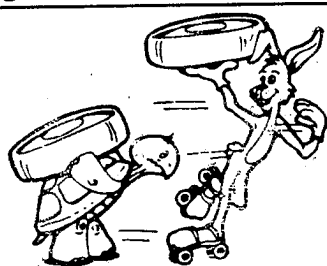
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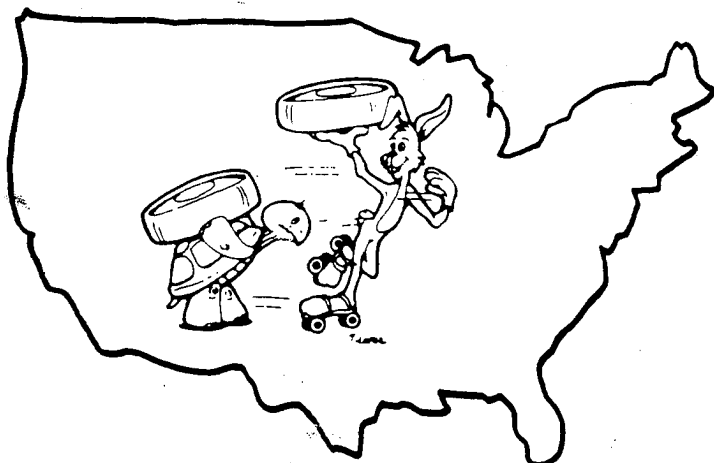
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