

# The Board Talk

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

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February 1994

## The Hammer

By the time you receive this issue in your mailbox, you may have already picked up a copy at the PCSA tournament in Las Vegas. If you did, would you do us a favor? Would you give that extra copy to a shuffling friend who may not be a subscriber? It's amazing how many people don't know that there is a newsletter devoted exclusively to their chosen sport. Help us spread the word....

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Our quarterly "Play Your Way Across the U.S.A." listing is in this issue and, as always, we encourage you to patronize these businesses and take a moment to simply say "thanks" for supporting your sport. If your favorite site is not on the map, urge them to join our national network. Shufflers really do use this listing in their travels and only one visit from one shuffler usually pays for that \$15 a year subscription fee.

Sad to say, we lost 19 of our shuffleboard sites between the last quarterly listing and this one (a warm welcome to our new ones). In most cases, we don't think that happened because they didn't care, but just because they didn't pay any attention to their "red checks." We hope you'll remind them to join again before the next listing in May (deadline: April 15).

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During the 10 years that we've staged The Board Talk's Annual Shufflers' Reunion Tournament, host sites have included Michigan, Indiana, Pennsylvania, and Oklahoma. Each has had some special things to offer in terms of facilities, area attractions, local participation, and particularly hosts and directors. It was our hope from the beginning that we could move that "reunion" around to different areas of The World of Shuffleboard, and we're excited about the opportunity we have this year....

We're pleased to announce that we will be joining with the Whistling Oyster's 5th Annual Grand Masters Plus Tournament in Quilcene, Washington, for our 10th Annual Board Talk Shufflers' Reunion on Aug. 3-7. That's been a very successful tournament with highly-acclaimed hosts and directors and we're looking forward to that adventure in what will be new territory for us. See inside pages for more information. Hope to see you then.

George & Donna Wilber, Publishers

## Tourney Talk

### Californians Turn Out for Brass Rail Saloon's "Another Tournament" in Vegas

A good-sized delegation from California -- Tony and Dottie Bastanchury, Kenny Varoon, Jim Anderson, Joe Muniz, Billy Maxwell, John McGinnis, Honda, and Wes Eades -- traveled to Las Vegas for the Brass Rail Saloon's "Another Tournament" in late October.

Joe and Billy made the trip worthwhile by taking first and second respectively in the singles. Local Rick Quigley finished in third place.

In the draw partner event, Brass Rail host Orie Munson and Lagging Larry Wagoneer took top honors, with hometown Roxie Quigley and Tony Bastanchury in second place.

In the bring your own partner tourney, it was (again) Lagging Larry, this time with Balboa Ron (author of the "Frisco Eddie" series). Connie Zavala and Orie Munson teamed up to take second.

"We were a bit disappointed in the local turnout, but all in all, we had a great time again. Tony and Dottie are very special people and we had a great time meeting them both," said Orie. "Now we are all looking forward to the big one on Feb. 1. We hope to see you all at the Aladdin."

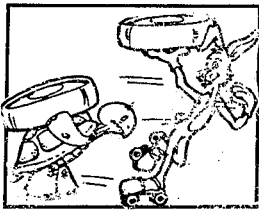
### Cothran/McLeod Tops at Steelville Country Club's Miller Lite Tournament

The Miller Lite Tournament at the Steelville (Missouri) Country Club attracted a full house Dec. 18, with 32 players trying for one of six trophies and other gifts donated by Miller Lite. The team of Larry Cothran and Gene McLeod took first place. Second went to Judy Pitts and Shirley Cothran, with Earl Wear and Cookie Locke in third place.

"Tim Lea, the representative for Miller Lite, always draws a good crowd," reports Woodie Cockrum. "He is always there and, in most cases, he joins in as a player. He also makes sure every player gets a gift.

"The tournament director, Mike Harthill, was more like a top sergeant trying to push 32 players through one evening on one shuffleboard, playing to the score of 21, using the long foul line and keep hammer. I'm sure he

*(continued on Page 4)*



# Shufflers' Notebook

News and Views  
from The World  
of Shuffleboard

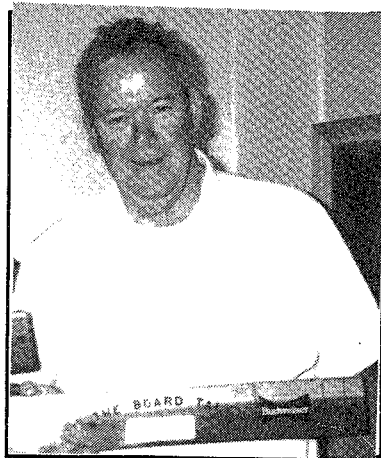
## Shuffleboard's "Big Man" is Gone

Our big man, Walter W. "Scratch" Todd succumbed to a heart attack on Dec. 16 at 57 years of age. For those of you who had the privilege of knowing Scratch here on the East Coast as well as those of you who met him at some of the national tournaments in the Midwest and Nevada, you will remember Scratch as the big man with a lot of inches and pounds, for he nearly was a giant physically.

The World of Shuffleboard knew him as one of the better players, winning more than his share as a competitor, captain of the first-place Greenwood Tavern team in the Eastern Shore Shuffleboard League, previous officer of two leagues, and contributor to league committees and as a director of many fine tournaments -- the last of which he directed the weekend before his death at the Harrington (Delaware) Moose Lodge. We will remember him for all of this.

But that is not why Scratch was a big man. As one regular shuffler said, "Scratch was always big enough to bend down to help anybody -- no matter with what -- but always to help another player or human being." Always willing with a suggestion, never said no -- maybe "I don't think so," but never "no."

One of the many trophies Scratch collected during his illustrious shuffleboard career was this one at the 7th Annual-Board Talk Shufflers' Reunion in Kulpville, Pa., over the 4th of July weekend in 1991.



## — ATTENTION —

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\_\_\_\_\_ Red Check

(Use the enclosed form to renew.)

I, like Scratch, ran a few tournaments -- and we didn't always agree on everything. But he never said, "that's not the way to do it," he always said, "that is another way to do it." When I had what I thought were some tough calls (or vice versa) on an event that may have happened at a tournament and it called for an on-the-spot decision, I often went to Scratch for his counsel because I respected his opinion highly. Scratch was undoubtedly one of the finest gentlemen in the sport, possessing the qualities of equality, fairness, honesty and respect -- always. He brought the quality of integrity to our game which we all know we need.

We, friends of shuffleboard, say thanks for having known Scratch Todd and so long and God be with you.

Dick Gorman, Wilmington, Delaware

To your eloquent eulogy to this fine man, we can only say "Amen!" Scratch participated in several of our Board Talk Shufflers' Reunion Tournaments (see photo), but the one we remember the most vividly was the 6th annual in 1990. An unprecedented 120 players turned out for this event held at Skip's Lounge and Northway Lanes in Houghton Lake, Michigan. Back and forth across the busy intersection the players trooped between the two locations all weekend long with hardly a word of complaint, even though they may have just ordered a drink -- certainly no complaints from Scratch. We believe he made friends with every one of those 120 players. His great sportsmanship and gentle nature made him a winner on and off the boards. That year, he tied for 7th and 8th in a field of 44 contenders in the men's singles, and his team of Judy Iseman, JoAnn Ware and Len Dell took third in the four-person team event. We're sure his team mates will file that weekend along with many other fond memories shared with this "gentle giant."

## Another Vote for A.Z.'s Way of Thinking

I agree totally with A.Z. Turnbo's comments appearing in the November Board Talk. The 15 point, switch hammer, short foul line, is one of the greatest games ever. Let's not tinker with it and let's make everything else second to it.

Also, I know we are going to get some poor boards in some tournaments, so I would at least like to see 2 of 3 double elimination.

Nicholas J. Chaffin, Roseville, California

We appreciate all the feedback we've gotten from A.Z.'s letter. That's what Notebook is all about -- a healthy exchange of views. Thanks, Nicholas!

# 1994 Calendar of Shuffleboard Events

## **FEBRUARY**

### **Feb. 1-6**

PCSA Extravaganza VI  
Alladin Hotel/Casino  
Las Vegas, Nevada

### **Feb. 12-13**

8th Annual Valentines Tourney  
O'Connor's Pub & Grill  
Warsaw, Indiana

### **Feb. 12-13**

17th Annual Sweetheart  
Mixed Doubles  
Acme Tavern  
Tacoma, Washington

### **Feb. 18-20**

Presidents' Day Tournament  
Blinky's Sports Cafe  
Santa Clara, California

### **Feb. 18-20**

Everybody's Tournament  
Texas Mist  
Austin, Texas

### **Feb. 19**

4th of 5-Series Doubles  
Beef's  
Kendallville, Indiana

### **Feb. 26**

Winter Doubles  
American Legion Post 424  
Bourbon, Indiana

## **MARCH**

### **March 11-13**

Annual Beaver Bowl  
Jerry D's Nostalgia Tavern  
Dacono, Colorado

### **March 17-20**

St. Pat's Weekend Tourney  
Dew Drop Inn  
Waterloo, New York

### **March 18-20**

Annual Spring Tourney  
Jimmy L's  
Tulsa, Oklahoma

### **March 19**

5th and Final 5-Series Doubles  
Beef's  
Kendallville, Indiana

### **March 19-20**

9th Annual Mixed Doubles  
Old Edison Inn  
Edison, Washington

## **MAY**

### **May 7**

33rd Annual Spring Doubles  
American Legion Post 424  
Bourbon, Indiana

### **May 13-15**

4-Event Tournament  
Harvey's Place  
Street, Maryland

### **May 20-22**

Spring Tournament  
Glenn's Tavern  
Funkstown, Maryland

### **May 20-22**

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

### **May 27-30**

Memorial Weekend Tournament  
Blinky's Sports Cafe  
Santa Clara, California

## **JUNE**

### **June 10-12**

4-Event Tournament  
Harvey's Place  
Street, Maryland

### **June 18-19**

8th Annual Nationals  
Acme Tavern  
Tacoma, Washington

## **JULY**

### **July 1-4**

3rd Annual Southwest Open  
American Legion Post 73  
Del City, Oklahoma

### **July 26-31**

The Shuffleboard Federation's  
North American Championships  
Sands Regency Hotel/Casino  
Reno, Nevada

## **AUGUST**

### **Aug. 3-7**

5th Annual Grand Masters Plus  
10th Annual Board Talk  
Shuffler's Reunion  
Whistling Oyster Tavern  
Quilcene, Washington

### **Aug. 12-14**

3 Day/3-Event Tourney  
Bay Country Moose 831  
Queenstown, Maryland

### **Aug. 26-28**

Summer Tournament  
Glenn's Tavern  
Funkstown, Maryland

## **SEPTEMBER**

### **Sept. 1-5**

Labor Day Tournament  
Blinky's Sports Cafe  
Santa Clara, California

### **Sept. 2-4**

Crazy Canucks Annual Labor  
Day Tournament  
AN & AF Unit 68  
Vancouver, B.C., Canada

## **OCTOBER**

### **Oct. 1**

27th Annual Fall Doubles  
American Legion Post 424  
Bourbon, Indiana

## **THE BOARD TALK**

421 E. Sheridan Rd., Lansing, MI 48906; Phone: 517-371-2538

## **Tourney Talk** *(continued from Page 1)*

will try to install the official shuffleboard rules to get away from those long games. Either that or order breakfast sent in. I'm sure this will turn into an annual holiday event. Question is -- what happens if all the regulars show up? I know of six to eight players who were not there," said Woodie.

So, how did Woodie do? "I got shot down in time to get a good night's sleep," he reports.

### **8th Annual Valentine's Weekend Tournament, Feb. 12-13, O'Connor's Pub & Grill**

O'Connor's Pub & Grill (formerly DJ's), 1360 W. Center St., Warsaw, Indiana, will host their 8th Annual Valentine's Weekend Tournament on Feb. 12-13. Events will include an open doubles on Saturday, \$20 per team, with sale at noon, and a Sweetheart mixed doubles on Sunday, \$20 per team, sale at noon. For information, call Mikel at 219-269-1913.

### **9th Annual Mixed Doubles, Old Edison Inn, March 19-20, Edison, Washington**

The Old Edison Inn, Edison, Washington, will hold its 9th Annual Mixed Doubles Tournament on March 19-20. Entry is \$50 per team and added money and number of

places paid will depend on entries. This fun event usually attracts about 20 pairs, with great participation from their "Crazy Canuck" friends from just north of Edison.

The tourney will get underway on Saturday immediately following the sponsor sale, which starts at 11 a.m. The format is 2 out of 3 (15 point games) in the winner's bracket, and single games to 17 in the loser's bracket. The usual complimentary feed will be provided on Saturday evening, with oysters and other door prizes to be given away throughout the weekend.

Last year's winners were Rosa White and Al Pease.

For information regarding the tournament and/or lodging advice, contact director Phil DePree, 204-766-6266 or 766-5301.

### **CANCELLATION:**

The open doubles tournament scheduled for the Port Side Lounge in Fort Wayne, Indiana, on Feb. 12 has been cancelled. Watch The Board Talk for rescheduling information.

### **Annual Winter Doubles, Bourbon American Legion, Feb. 26**

That popular tournament site, the American Legion Post 424 in Bourbon, Indiana, will host its annual Winter Doubles Tournament on Feb. 26. These Bourbon events always attract the best from across the country, so "hot"



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competition and great fellowship are guaranteed.

Entry fee is \$40 per team and the sale starts at 10 a.m. sharp. The American Legion has five in-house boards.

For further information, contact Fritz Broka at 219-835-2278. Suggested lodging: Plymouth Motel 6, 219-935-5911; Super 8 Motel Plymouth, 1-800-800-8000; Motel 6 Warsaw, 219-267-3900; or Dollar Inn Warsaw, 219-267-3344.

### **Whistling Oyster 5th Annual Grand Masters Plus/10th Annual Board Talk Shufflers' Reunion, Quilcene, Washington, Aug. 3-7**

Two successful annual tournaments, the Whistling Oyster's Grand Masters Plus and The Board Talk Shufflers' Reunion, will join hands for one REALLY BIG ONE in Quilcene, Washington, on Aug. 3-7.

Four events, played on five in-house boards, are on the tentative schedule: a mixed doubles on Wednesday, \$100 per team; open singles on Thursday, \$100 entry; draw partner on Friday, \$25 entry; and the Grand Masters, \$150 per team, on Saturday and Sunday. There will be a sizeable chunk of change added to the pot. 100 percent payback, with sponsor sales for the Grand Masters only, double elimination in the winner's bracket, 21 points in the loser's bracket.

As usual, the Whistling Oyster, located at 20251 Hiway 101, will serve their FREE seafood buffet (worth the trip in itself, former participants report) and breakfasts will be available on Saturday and Sunday.

This is definitely not a metropolitan area, folks, so it's important to make your room reservations early. There is one motel within walking distance of the Whistling Oyster (Maple Grove Motel, 1-206-765-3410) and another just nine miles away (Bay Shore Motel, 1-206-796-4220). In addition, the Whistling Oyster has plenty of R.V. parking (hosts Bill Bailey and Sandee Van Waggoner report that last year 22 RVs and tenters took advantage of their campgrounds). There are also fire pits, picnic tables, horseshow pits, a helio pad, and a marina.

Watch the next issue for further details. In the meantime, mark your calendars now.

"Because joining the Whistling Oyster's Grand Masters Plus means our tournament will be a month later than our traditional 4th of July weekend, we encourage shufflers to participate in the 3rd Annual Southwest Open, July 1-4, at the American Legion Post 73 in Del City, Oklahoma, our great hosts for last year's Board Talk Tournament, and the North American Championships in Reno, July 26-31, before travelling to Washington," said Board Talk Editors George and Donna Wilber.

For further information, contact Bill Bailey, 206-765-3436; or tournament directors, Jim Foran, 206-474-2724, and Marv White, 509-233-2719.

### **4th Annual Presidents' Day Tourney, Feb. 19-20, Blinky's Sports Cafe, Santa Clara, California**

Blinky's Sports Cafe, 3145 El Camino Real, Santa Clara, California, will host their 4th Annual Presidents' Day Shuffleboard Tournament on Feb. 19-20. Events include a doubles on Saturday, \$100 per team, and a singles on Sunday, \$50 entry. Sponsor sale for both events will take place Friday, Feb. 18, at 8 p.m. All games are 2 out of 3, double elimination, played on four of A.Z. Turnbo's boards.

Motel accommodations are located nearby, and Blinky's has ample parking and good food. For information, call Rick Thomas, 408-578-0822.

Post the enclosed flyer in your favorite shuffleboard site to help spread the word about this fun tournament.

### **Slack/Anderson Win Thriller at Balloon Inn**

The 4th Annual Santa Classic, held at the Balloon Inn in Arvada, Colorado, on Dec. 10-12, ended in dramatic fashion. With both teams having lost one match, the contest went all the way to the third and final game. Down 14 to 11 with two deep weights working against him, Jody Slack unleashed a great right-handed lag that ended up hanging off the end of the board. It brought the entire bar to their feet, and after all the "oohs" and "ahhs" had died down, Jody and his partner, Travis Anderson, collected a fistful of dollars that totaled \$2700, reports Mabel LaChappel.

The 10-team tournament also provided several entertaining games from the team of Gene Davis and Fred Compean, who came through the losers bracket to finish in second place and claim \$1300 in runner-up money.

Gwynette Orsi and Denny Busch finished third with Ron Hurney and Kenny Hawkes in fourth.

Host Gwen and Ron Vogt thank all participants and spectators, particularly those from out of state, Karl Spickelmier from California and Denny and Gwyn from Nebraska.

Bigger and better tournaments still to come; stayed tuned to your Board Talk for information on future events at the Balloon Inn.

### **Another Big One at Dew Drop Inn**

A national tournament, sponsored by Pabst Blue Ribbon Beer and Owasco Beverage, was held at the Dew Drop Inn, Waterloo, New York, on Nov. 4-7. Players shot for over \$6,500 in money, jackets and trophies.

Action started with a round robin on Thursday with 28 players participating, enabling out-of-towners an opportunity to learn the four in-house boards.

Friday was the day for the popular open singles. Coming out on top, after being beaten the first game

*(continued on Page 6)*

## Tourney Talk *(continued from Page 5)*

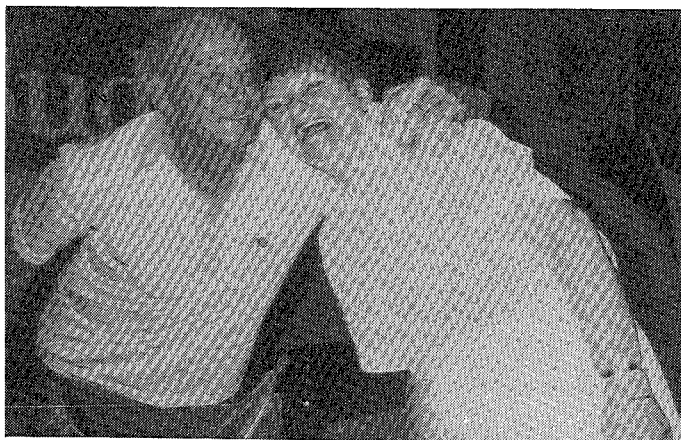
in the finals, was the always-tough Steve Bennett from Sherburne, N.Y. He won half of the nearly \$2,000 pot, plus a trophy and jacket.



*Accepting his first-place open singles trophy from tournament director Doug Fridley Jr. is Steve Bennett (right).*

Second place went to Tom Mierzejewski of Millis, Massachusetts, an improving player of the future, who gave Steve all he could handle. Third and final cash spot went to local favorite, Doug Fridley Jr.

Nine teams competed for prizes totalling nearly \$900 in Saturday's mixed doubles. Arlow and Jane Johnson (known as The Traveling Johnsons) from Jordan, New York, took first place. Second place went to Marv Smith from Waterloo and Tracie Fridley. Third spot was taken by Steve Bennett and Joan ("I beat Earl!") Durgan from Port Gibson, N.Y.



*Jane and Arlow Johnson (the Travelling Johnsons) congratulate each other on their mixed doubles win.*

There were 36 players hoping for a lucky draw in Saturday's draw partner event. It ended with 18 teams vying for over \$1600 in prize money, plus a shot at a beautiful trophy and jacket.

Tourney favorites Russ Reynolds from Sherburne,

N.Y., and Doug Fridley Jr. had to settle for second as Dave Fridley and his partner, Tom Mierzejewski shot very tough to take first place. Third went to the team of Jane Johnson and Earl Durgan with fourth and final money spot going to John Scott from Syracuse, N.Y., and Steve Bennett.



*A happy Tom Mierzejewski (left) and Dave Fridley show off their first-place draw partner trophies.*

Sunday brought a number of the toughest teams to play in the bring partner event. Fifteen teams shot for \$2,000 in cash and prizes. Going two games in the finals with the last game being close all the way, it was Tom Mierzejewski (his second win) and Doug Fridley Jr. coming out on top (Doug finally won the jacket he wanted all weekend). Second place went to the very tough team of Milt Benedict of Sherburne and Dick Losee of Poolville, N.Y. Third went to defending champs, John Canino and Roy Schreiber, both from Baldwinsville, N.Y.

Elsie Fridley once again prepared a feast for all shufflers and guests -- ham, roast beef, and all the trimmings. "I've been told by a number of people that Mom's cooking more than covers the cost of the tournament entry fee," said Doug Jr.

"Special thanks to Pabst Blue Ribbon Beer and Owasco Beverage for sponsoring the tournament. Without them, our beautiful jackets and trophies could not be. Thanks to the people involved in making this tourney a success: Elsie for her wonderful home cooking, our bartenders Jeanie Brewer and Ken Gross, auctioneer Steve Bennett, Marv Smith for taking over the microphone and announcing teams and winners when I got busy, John (the Judge) Pearson and Dee Cooley for handing the raffles. We look forward to having you participate in our next tournament on March 17-21," Doug said. (Check the enclosed flyer for details.)



### Creakbaum/Melton Take Beef's Second in Series of Five Doubles

Larry Creakbaum of Indiana and Lisa Melton of Oklahoma teamed up to take first place in the second of Beef's Series of Five Doubles tournaments in Kendallville, Indiana, on Nov. 20. Larry Vance and Rick Royal took second place honors, with Jim Long and Jerry Knox in third, and PeeWee Fleischman and Ray Miller in fourth.

At the end of two tourneys, there are some ties in the point standings for the \$2,000 added pot by Playfair Shuffleboard and Dale Gushman. Tied with four points are Larry and Lisa, Bobby Voorhis and Dave Boaz, and Larry Vance and Rick Royal. Larry Huffer and Steve Blue have stacked up three points. Buddy and Fritz Broka and Jim Long and Jerry Knox each have scored two points, and PeeWee Fleishman and Ray Miller have one point.

By the time this issue goes to press, the third in the series will have been played on Jan. 22, so the standings may have changed. The fourth event is scheduled for Feb. 19 and the fifth on March 19, so you still have time to challenge. For information, call Beef or Marge at 219-347-9965. Singles are scheduled after each doubles tourney on Sunday.

Beef's New Year's Eve doubles tourney was won by Jim DeWitt and Dave Welsh, with Bobby Voorhis and Dave Boaz in second. Host Beef teamed up with Jim Stockmaster of Ohio to take third.

Beef and Marge look forward to seeing you in Vegas. Talk to them about the "series of five."

## CLASSIFIED ADS

**WANTED:** A set of American Shuffleboard weights (pre-1993) in "brand new" condition. Call Louise Freer at 215-661-0108 if you have a set to sell.

**APRIL 15TH** is on the horizon. Are you ready for the IRS? If not, we recommend Jim Hoffman, Inlet Tax Service, 771 Pendergrass Ave., Murrells Inlet, S.C. 29576; phone 803-651-3944. He's The Board Talk's Tax Man!

**WANTED:** Do you have a special message to deliver, a product or service to sell? If so, it only costs \$5 for 25 words or less in *The Board Talk's* classified section. Get it started!

**THE BOARD TALK**

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### Dixie Belle, Downey, California, Joins World of Shuffleboard Tourney Action

The Dixie Belle, 9559 E. Imperial Hwy., Downey, California, hosted their 1st Annual Thanksgiving Weekend Tournament with two events on the schedule. The first event was an open doubles with 14 teams vying for a total pot of \$3600. First place honors went to Billy Chiles and Rick Boyer, with Karl Spickelmier and Joe Muniz in second, and Ted Z and Billy Maxwell in third place.

The second event was a 3-person team with 15 teams playing for total prize money of \$2500. First place (again) went to Billy Chiles and partners Dot Bastanchury and Pearl Minard. Second place honors went to Jim Kennedy, Kathleen Wisdom and Bill Duncan, with Chuck Kimbrough, Bob Ruiz, and Les Burdette finishing third. Tony Bastanchury, Bud Taylor and Lisa Taylor took fourth place.

"Special thanks to Bubba for his help in running the tournament and to everyone else for their support," reports Joanie Swenson. "Dixie Belle now has four boards at all times. A special thanks to owners Wes and Eileen who have gone out of their way to make all the shuffleboard players feel welcome."

### Lots of Winners at Lafayette Inn!

The Lafayette Inn, Rising Sun, Maryland, is a popular spot on the East Coast for tournament action. "Hosts Nelson and Pat Renzo have established a tournament schedule that appeals to all levels of shooters," reports Louise Freer of Pennsylvania. A draw partner event (no auction) is held on the first Saturday of every month, in addition to the larger, three-event tournaments and mixed doubles tournaments held during the fall, winter and spring months. Results of recent tournaments include:

Fall Classic, Oct. 22-24 -- Draw partner: Louise Freer and Mike Renzo, 1st; Dick Gorman and Len Dell, 2nd; Bob Voorhis and Elgin Grant, 3rd. Bring partner: Bob Voorhis and Beef Camp, 1st; Chuck King and Mickey Mickens, 2nd. Open singles: Bob Voorhis, 1st; Beef Camp, 2nd; Chuck King, 3rd.

Mixed Doubles, Nov. 7 -- Judy Iseman and Len Dell, 1st; Louise Freer and Chuck King, 2nd.

Mixed Doubles, Dec. 5 -- Judy Iseman and Len Dell, 1st; Louise Freer and Chuck King, 2nd.

### King/Gardner/Dell/Kibler Tops at Delaware's Harrington Moose

The Harrington Moose in Harrington, Delaware, hosted its annual winter tournament on Dec. 11-12. Events included a draw partner on Saturday and a bring partner on Sunday, with many of the participants coming in on Friday night to warm up with the weekly horsecollar tourney.

(continued on Page 12)

# **Frisco Eddie's Revenge: The Return**

*A series by Balboa Ron Schweikert  
Las Vegas, Nevada*

*(Editor's Note: In the November, December 1993 and January 1994 issues, we reprinted Balboa Ron's short stories about a shuffler named Frisco Eddie, originally published in The Board Talk back in 1985. We're pleased now to continue that series with "The Return." If you run into Ron at the P.C.S.A. Las Vegas tournament, take a moment to tell him you enjoy reading about Frisco Eddie; it's the only "pay" he gets!)*

After Frisco Eddie walked out of the Blue Moon Lounge that Sunday morning, he was reflecting on whether or not it would be a good idea to pursue a full-time career playing shuffleboard. He had just beaten "Big Al," and he was weighing the pros and cons of becoming a "hustler" on a permanent basis.

Eddie gave the idea a great deal of thought. He had a girlfriend to think about also....one that he might even ask to marry some day. It wouldn't be fair to shut her out. His girl (Shelli) wasn't too keen on the prospect of Eddie being on the road all the time. He had a good job at the Blue Moon, and it was expected that someday soon he would even be made a partner in the business, and eventually become sole owner.

He finally decided to just "hang-on" for awhile, and let the action come to him in the local area. If he was going to be able to hit *all* the tournaments, and hustle on the side also, he'd have to travel a lot. He would be on the road too much, in fact, to establish himself at the Blue Moon. Shelli was happy; the owner of the Blue Moon (Bob) was happy; Eddie was happy, and all was going just fine.

Just fine, that is, until a very pretty gal walked into the bar one Friday night. Her name was Lillian, but to the shuffleboard world her "handle" was "Long Beach Lil." Eddie didn't know it then, but all his plans....were about to change.

"Long Beach Lil" was a dead giveaway as she strolled to the far end of the bar, near the rear exit. Her gaze shifted between the shuffleboard and on Eddie. The fact that she was carrying an expensive weight-case raised some eyebrows at the bar.

After she sat down, Eddie asked, "What'll you have?" Lillian sized Eddie up and then stated very simply (in a low and lusty kind of Texas drawl), "Everything you've got, Eddie." Eddie was taken back for a moment, but he kept on looking into her eyes. Lil was a thing to behold; she had dark brown hair, was about five feet, seven

inches tall (with a knock-out body), and piercing blue eyes....and the eyes were on Eddie.

Eddie asked, "Seems you know my name -- now, what's yours?" "Lil," she replied. "Well, it sure is good to meet you. Nice case you have there," said Eddie. Then Lil said, "I heard about your action, Eddie. How did you manage to luck-out against 'Big Al' and his crowd?" "Wasn't much *luck* to it -- I just shot-their-eyes-out," Eddie replied. She countered with: "My eyes are on you right now, Eddie. Would you like to try to shoot them out, too?" Their gazes were locked as Eddie hollered out, "Hey, Bob, take over, O.K.? I've got a live one here!"

After the board was waxed, and they each had some practice shots, Eddie said, "How hard do you want to make this on yourself, Lil?" Lil replied, "As hard as it can get, Eddie. Let's start for a hundred a game and build up from there. O.K.?" Eddie's anxiety level went up a little, and he had mixed emotions as he put the quarters in. He thought, "This is either too good to be true....or too true to be good."

---

*Which will it be, readers: too good to be true -- or too true to be good? Read the next chapter of "Frisco Eddie's Revenge -- the Return" in the next issue of The Board Talk. This is better than the soaps!*

---

## **Notebook** *(continued from Page 2)*

### **Al Speaks Up for "Behind-the-Scenes" Workers**

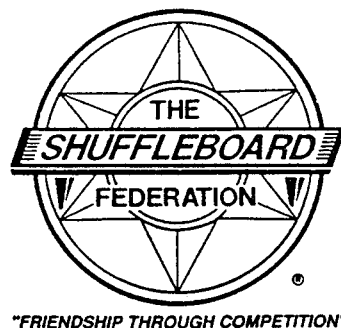
In response to Tony Bastanchury's letter in last month's issue: Tony, I listened to you grumbling in Reno and I didn't say anything, but when I saw the letter in The Board Talk, that was too much. I know the rooms that are not in the tower (at the Aladdin) are not handy, but they are clean and comfortable. So sorry your room was not upgraded in Reno. I guess they didn't know you were coming! I know you are used to going first-class because I have seen you playing in the local beer bars. Von and I were raised and live so near the poverty line, we thought the rooms were super nice.

Now, about your other complaint to me in Reno about moving from the Showboat to the Aladdin. Let's pretend you are helping set up the boards at the Showboat. We are trying to get the truck to the outside hoist which is the only way to get the boards to the second floor. We get behind the cars that are unloading their luggage. When you get through that, you might have to wait until the linen truck unloads the clean linen and takes it up and brings the dirty linen down.

But just maybe you can't unload yet. The big party they had last night -- they had to bring the folding chairs and tables and any other thing they take up and down the hoist. Like I said, that is the only way to the second floor.

*(continued on Page 14)*





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## Tourney Talk *(continued from Page 7)*

Saturday morning's draw partner event had 14 teams, with the field fairly well matched up. In the end, Chuck King and Johnny Gardner finished in first place; Eddie Kibler and Scratch Todd placed second, with Dallas Hayman and Joyce Pyle in third.

Sunday's bring partner event also had 14 teams. Len Dell and Eddie Kibler finished first; Mickey Mickens and Chuck King placed second; and Dallas Hayman and Buddy Bramer took third place.

"There were participants from five states, but tournament directors Scratch Todd and Mary Wagner made a special mention about the strong local participation," reports Louise Freer. "Often, they say, local shooters feel intimidated by the 'heavy hitters' (tournament regulars) and don't sign up. Happily, this was not the case, and we all hope this trend will continue and grow."

Louise says this tournament was exceptionally well-run by Scratch Todd (his last before his untimely death on Dec. 16) and Mary Wagner. "Mary thanks all the people who pitched in to help things run smoothly, including Joyce Pyle, Judy Iseman, Wendy Davis and Joanne Ware for help with the bracketing and money collection; and Chuck King for his assistance in running the auction. In addition to her director's duties, Mary cooked a delicious hot buffet both days," Louise said.

### Culver Wins 2nd All-Ladies Tourney at Texas Mist

Austin ladies wore out all opposition as they finished first, second and third in an all-ladies singles, double elimination tournament hosted by the Texas Mist on Dec. 11. Connie Culver found the right touch as she defeated Wanda Knox in the finals. Debbie Bowers finished third.

"This was the second all-ladies tournament held at the Mist and we're looking forward to having more in the future," said host Don McCurry. "Everyone had a great time, including the 'boys.' They managed to borrow one of the three boards before the conclusion of the tournament and had a few games of their own.

"The ladies are to be congratulated on their efforts and the excellent food they prepared for the crowd. Thank you very much!" said Don.



*Winners of the all-ladies singles tournament at the Texas Mist (Austin, Texas) were: (left to right) Wanda Knox, 2nd; Debbie Bowers, 3rd; and Connie Culver, 1st place.*

### Brown/Elliot Winners at Portside Lounge

The Portside Lounge in Fort Wayne, Indiana, hosted its third tournament on Dec. 18 with a little over \$600 up for grabs. First place was taken by Larry Brown and Paul Elliot, with Lasca and Terry Dowell taking second place honors.

"Congratulations to the winners and a big thanks to all the kind people who showed up," said host Tony Bryant.

The Feb. 12 tournament that was scheduled at the Portside on Feb. 12 has been cancelled due to O'Connor's Pub & Grill Annual Sweetheart Tournament on the same day. This tournament may be rescheduled at a later date.

### 12th Annual Sweetheart Tournament, Acme Tavern, Tacoma, Washington, Feb. 12-13

The Acme Tavern (two good shuffleboards and one crazy redhead), 1310 Tacoma Ave., Tacoma, Washington, will host its 17th Annual Sweetheart Mixed Doubles Tournament on Feb. 12-13. \$30 entry fee with six payouts: 52-24-12-6-3-3. Sponsor sale is scheduled for Feb. 12 at noon. Directors will be Jim Foran and Rick Gindt.

Recommended lodging is the Travelers Inn, 3100 Pacific Hwy E. Phone toll-free, 1-800-633-8300, or local, 922-9520, to make your reservations.

For information, call the Acme Tavern, 206-272-1892.

### National Tournament, Dew Drop Inn, Waterloo, New York, March 17-20

There are five big events on the schedule for the National Shuffleboard Tournament at the Dew Drop Inn, Waterloo, New York, March 17-20. Check the enclosed flyer for details and use it to make your reservations. This tourney will fill up fast so make them early!

As usual, this event will include those delicious buffets prepared by hostess Elsie Fridley and served in the Dew Drop Inn's shuffleboard banquet room.

For information, call the Fridley family at 315-539-1346.

### Jimmy L's Spring Tourney, March 18-20, Tulsa, Oklahoma

The Spring Tournament at Jimmy L's, 9520 E. 11th St., Tulsa, Oklahoma, will feature an open draw on Friday, \$50 entry, and a pro-am bring on Saturday, \$100 per person entry. A \$10 registration fee will be charged, covering both events. Play will be on four in-house boards and there will be 100 percent payout.

For further information, call Cliff Goff, 918-664-9573. Please post the enclosed flyer in your favorite shuffleboard site and plan to participate in this event.

*(continued on Page 14)*

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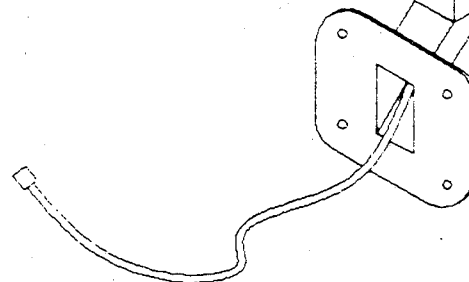
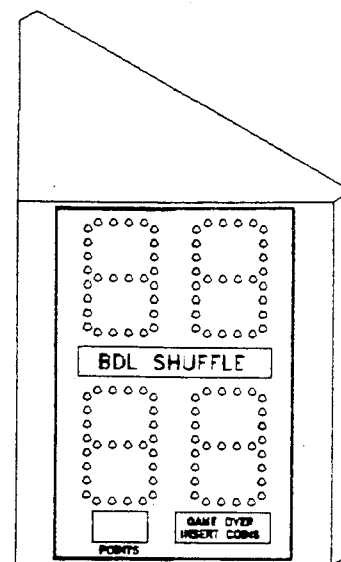
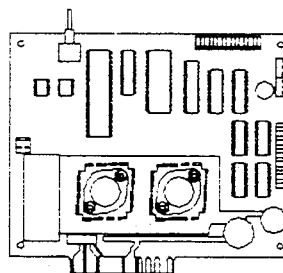
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## **Tourney Talk** *(continued from Page 12)*

### **7th Annual Beaver Bowl at Jerry D's, Dacono, Colorado, March 11-13; 4th Annual King of the Hill, May 20-22**

There's always a good time at Jerry D's Nostalgia Tavern, 604 8th St. on Hwy. 52 in Dacono, Colorado, and these two events will be no exception.

The Beaver Bowl on March 11-13 will be for women only, but men can come to watch and maybe to buy. It's a blind draw, \$25 entry per person, double elimination. Any player who eliminates defending champion Grethen Duncan will get a \$50 bonus! If time allows, there will be a singles tourney as well.

The King of the Hill is a singles, \$100 entry fee, winner-take-all, double elimination. Auction money will pay three places and the second place winner will get \$200. Rick Boyer is the defending champion in this event.

For information, call Jerry or Susan at 303-833-3486 or 833-3959.

### **Acme Tavern 8th Annual Nationals, Tacoma, Washington, June 18-19**

Mark your calendars now and start planning for the 8th Annual Nationals at the Acme Tavern, 1310 Tacoma Avenue, Tacoma, Washington, on June 18-19. It's a doubles event, \$50 entry fee, double elimination, paying six places: 52-24-12-6-3-3. A complimentary tavern feed will be served on Saturday at 5 p.m.

Recommended lodging is the Travelers Inn, 1-800-633-8300. Tournament directors will be Jim Foran and Rick Gindt.

For further information, call the Acme Tavern, 206-272-1892.

### **CORRECTION:**

In last month's report on The Shuffleboard Federation's North American Championships, Tammy Denson of Texas and Bobby Voorhis of Indiana were listed as winners of the A-B Draw Partner event. The REAL winners were Rick Boyer of California and Brenda Watts of Oklahoma, with Tammy and Bobby in second place. Apologies and congratulations to Rick and Brenda!

Speaking of the North American Championships, be sure to note the announcement in The Federation's ad this month -- a new date: July 26-31 -- and the same popular site: the Sands Regency Hotel/Casino in Reno, Nevada.

### **REMINDER!**

*Your News and Views are welcome.*

*Send to The Board Talk  
before the 15th of each month.*

## **Notebook** *(continued from Page 8)*

Now that you have the use of the hoist, you unload the truck and in order to take the hoist up, you have to turn the boards on edge to get them from the hoist into the building, down the hallway on edge into the set-up room. You have six or eight guys putting out a lot of very hard labor.

Now that everything is over and everyone has gone back home, you and I and the other workers can go to work taking everything down that one outside hoist. At the Aladdin, if you looked at the south end of the building where the boards are, you can see a 20-foot door. We pull the truck up the ramp and inside the building, unload onto the dolly and take them anyplace in the room.

In 1993, it was raining so when we were loading (my trailer and A.Z.'s), it was nice to be able to load and tie down and cover the load without getting wet. You might not know it was raining. You (and others) were home, on your way home, or in your outhouse sleeping.

It would be nice if people would show just a little consideration for what others go through to set up all the boards for them to enjoy.

Von and I were very happy with our rooms in both Las Vegas and Reno.

Al Stewart, El Monte, California

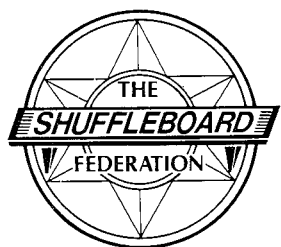
*There is no way anyone who has not experienced what you have in setting up boards for a major tournament can truly appreciate the challenging, back-breaking work involved. We've been there; we do! And we're delighted that someone has focussed on some of the work that goes on behind the scenes. Hopefully, someone will do the same for some other people involved in running a tournament, such as those who agonize over who is actually going to show up and take the rooms that have been reserved and paid for (like Marvel Muniz as this is written) and those who take in and pay out huge sums of money, praying that the books will balance.*

*Like you, we were not at all unhappy with our room at the Aladdin last year. We heard a lot of complaints about not being in the tower, but we were more than satisfied with our "off-the-beaten-path" room. In fact, we'd be delighted with exactly the same one this year. With Donna on crutches, we really appreciated the staff's concern in getting us as close as possible to the main floor. If we had to stop and rest at a one-armed bandit on our way to the shuffleboard room, no big problem!*

*In fairness to Tony, we think he meant to express his gratitude for their anniversary "upgrade" in Reno rather than complaining about subsequent facilities.*

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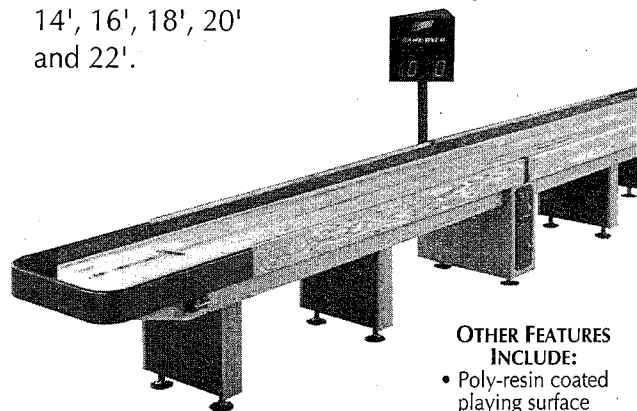
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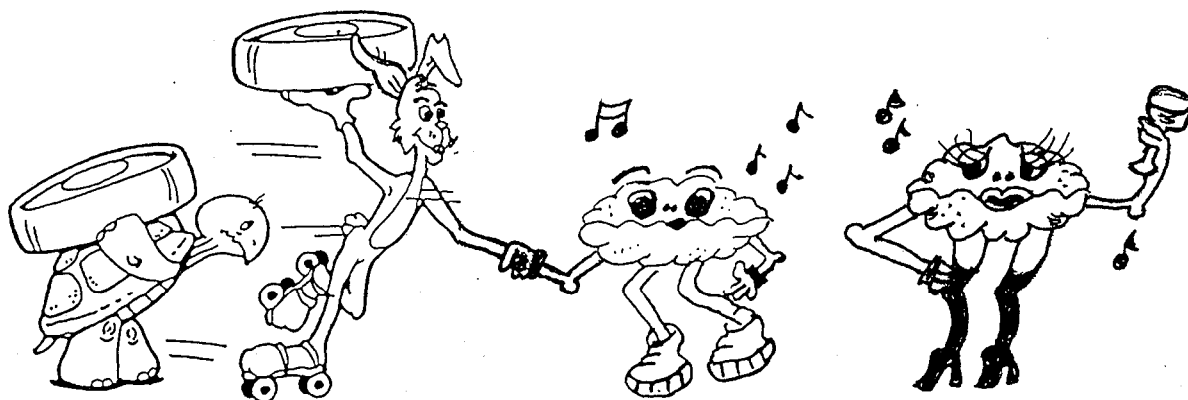


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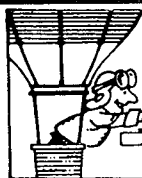
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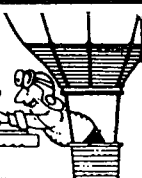


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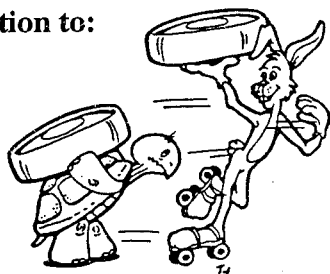
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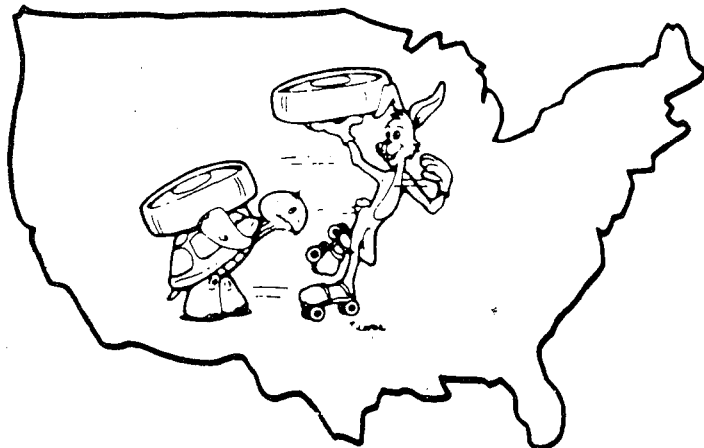
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George & Donna Wilber, THE BOARD TALK

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