

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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September 1994

The Hammer

Your road-weary editors, after a 5,000-mile trek that took us across 14 different states, had to scramble to get this issue out when we returned home. The highlight of that long trip, of course, was the 5th Annual Grand Masters Plus/10th Annual Board Talk Shufflers' Reunion in Quilcene, Washington (see "Washington Diary" for details). Never have we been treated so royally!



Our congenial, hard-working Whistling Oyster hosts, Bill Bailey and Sandee Van Waggonen, made us glad we held our Board Talk Shufflers' Reunion with their Grand Masters Plus!

Bill and Sandee really went the extra mile by not only serving participants their traditional seafood spread on Saturday and Sunday, but also giving each a seashell with the name of the tournament, location and date printed on them as a keepsake. What a nice touch! And their whole crew gave us service with a smile.

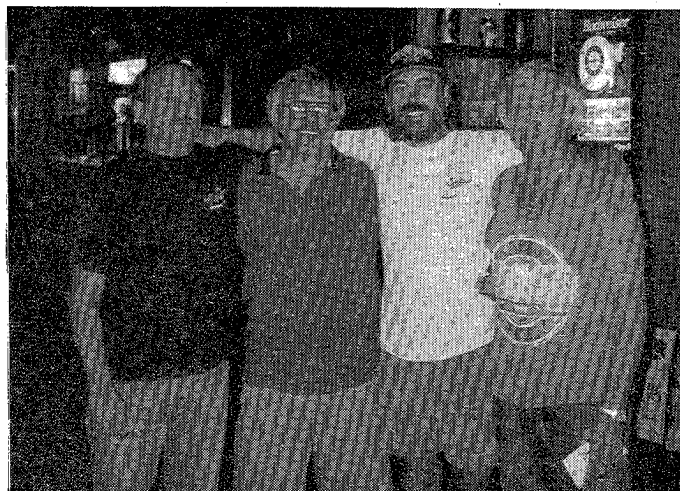
Thanks to those businesses that supported our printed tournament program, which listed the winners of our previous nine tournaments and included a brief history of shuffleboard, we were able to provide another dimension to this event -- a bevy of door prizes.

As always, the greatest experience was seeing old friends and making new ones. We appreciate every opportunity to put faces and personalities with the names on our mailing list. Thanks to all of you for extending the hand of friendship to us. As Chris Wayt of California says in this month's Notebook, the rewards of participating in this sport of ours are the friendships of so many great people, friendships that go beyond the game.

George & Donna Wilber, Publishers

Tourney Talk

Gindt/Foran Tops at Town Tavern



The top four finishers at the 6th Annual Shuffleboard Affair at the Town Tavern in Sequim, Washington, July 23-24, were (from left) Mike Waters and Jim Manders, 2nd place, and Rick Gindt and Jim Foran, 1st. (One of the things your editors learned during our stay in Quilcene was that Sequim is pronounced "Squim.")

Sharon Lee Maxwell Memorial Benefit Tourney is Big Success

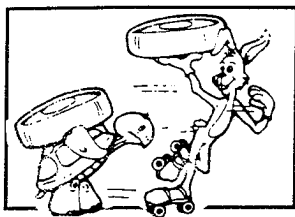
The recent Sharon Lee Maxwell Memorial Benefit Tournament, sponsored by friends of the Maxwells and the Pacific Coast Shuffleboard Federation, netted \$4,000 for a fund established for Billy's children, Jamie and Nicholas. Eleven teams (33 players) participated in the event, with entry fees going to the fund and the winners sharing the \$2,000 sponsorship sale pot. Those winners were: Bubba Warren, Jack Eichar, and Paul Weber, 1st; George Lucas, Bob Flake, and English John Goodwin, 2nd; Don Hughes, Paul Elliott, and Pearl, 3rd.

PSCS official Paul Weber thanks all who participated in the tournament and the raffle for 80 gifts, particularly the players at the Quilcene tournament.

Nelson/Lampley Winners of Acme Nationals

Winners of the 9th Annual Acme Nationals in Tacoma, Washington, June 18-19, were Oregon's

(continued on Page 4)



Shufflers' Notebook

News and Views
from The World
of Shuffleboard

Jolene Salutes a Talented Craftsman

This picture is the 1st place winners of the ABC draw event at the Dixie Belle's 4th of July tournament.



Leonard Dominick, Evelyn Hughes, and Rick Thomas were winners of the ABC draw event at the Dixie Belle's 4th of July tournament in Downey, California.

I especially want to tell you about Dominick. He has, for many years, made fine furniture, restored antiques, etc. He is not open to the public, just does this for designers and decorators. He plans to retire next year at 65 and do custom frames and boards for people's homes as well as for shuffleboard establishments. He has just restored an old Rockola and it is beautiful! (It's for sale for \$5,000.) He is a workaholic, just never stops working at his craft. I know that sometime soon, everyone will be familiar with Dominick Boards.

Jolene Lembke, Yucaipa, California

— 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 enclosed form to renew.)

Thanks for the photo, Jolene (results in last month's issue), and for your salute to Dominick. We wish him well in his new career as part of The World of Shuffleboard.

We Love Reno!

As usual, we had a marvelous time at the 1994 North American Shuffleboard Championships in Reno, Nevada.

Dot and I want to give a special thanks to CC's Sports Bar at the Ramada Inn in Anaheim, California, for sponsoring our Legends event.

In mid-July, when it became obvious I couldn't take a full team, Mary from CC's agreed to sponsor our Legend event. I wasn't able to successfully defend my 1993 award, but Dot sure made up for my shortcomings. After losing one of their first matches, she and her partner, Bill Woldridge, came out of the loser's bracket to make the finals, but were edged out by Jimmy (the Cop) Kumpula and Joe Hudson, to take second place.

Southern California players: you don't know what you are missing in Reno! What other tournament anywhere provides \$7000 added money? Let's all support the 1995 North American Shuffleboard Championships and increase the added money to \$17,500!

Tony Bastanchury, Garden Grove, California

We join your salute to CC's Sports Bar. There are shuffleboard establishments that pay lip-service to the sport and others like CC's that put their money where their mouth is! We salute you as well for being part of the limited contingency of players who participated in the North American Shuffleboard Championships in Reno and the 5th Annual Grand Masters Plus/10th Annual Board Talk Shufflers' Reunion in Quilcene, Washington. We couldn't do that this year because we had to drive (for several reasons), but we hope to hit them both next year. And you're right -- there is no other tournament that provides a guaranteed \$7000 added money with an opportunity for up to \$17,500. Shufflers who let this opportunity slip by may not get another chance!

Betty Carries On Shuffleboard Tradition

I recently participated in the Reno, Nevada, tournament and, due to the great team I was lucky enough to play on -- the Texas Tornadoes -- came in first place. This was my first large tournament that I played in. My husband, David Rickman, after an extreme illness this entire year, passed away July 4, 1994. Friends and relatives suggested that I go play in the tourney.

(continued on Page 7)

1994-95 Calendar of Shuffleboard Events

SEPTEMBER

Aug. 31-Sept. 5

Labor Day Texas Open
Texas Mist
Austin, Texas

Aug. 28-Sept. 5

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

Sept. 1-4

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

Sept. 2-5

6th Annual Labor Day
Weekend Tournament
Full House
Wynnewood, Oklahoma

Sept. 3-5

Labor Day Tournament
Mickey's Place
Henderson, Maryland

Sept. 10-11

4th Annual Skip's/Board Talk
Fall Tournament
Skip's Lounge
Houghton Lake, Michigan

Sept. 9-11

Fall Tournament
American Legion Post 876
Sherburne, New York

Sept. 17-18

4th Annual Draw Partners
Old Edison Inn
Edison, Washington

Sept. 24-25

Bring Partner Doubles
Stober's Lounge
Lansing, Michigan

Sept. 30-Oct. 2

3rd Annual Doubles
Shamrock Tavern
Longview, Washington

OCTOBER

Oct. 1

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

Oct. 8-9

1st Annual Open Doubles
Tim's Timber Tavern
Kelso, Washington

Oct. 8-9

19th Annual Octoberfest Bring
Partner Tourney
Corner Tavern
Bow, Washington

Oct. 29-30

1st Annual Draw Partners
Sportsman Tavern
Stanwood, Washington

Attention Tournament

Directors and Sponsors:

*It's never too early
to list your event on
the calendar!*

*It helps shufflers
plan their travel
itineraries.*

*Let them know well
in advance.*

*No tourney is too
small to be listed!*

*Let us help you
spread the word!*

NOVEMBER

Nov. 24-27

Annual Thanksgiving Weekend
Tournament
Pasquale's Bar
Lansing, Michigan

Nov. 24-27

2nd Annual Thanksgiving
Weekend Tournament
Dixie Belle
Downey, California

Nov. 24-27

10th Annual Thanksgiving
Classic
Gold Nugget Lounge
Arlington, Texas

Nov. 25-27

Frank Hepler 55 & Older
Draw Partner Tournament
Shamrock Tavern
Longview, Washington

DECEMBER

Dec. 10-11

Annual Christmas Tournament
Harrington Moose
Harrington, Delaware

JAN./FEB. 1995

Jan. 31-Feb. 5

PCSA Extravaganza VII
Alladin Hotel/Casino
Las Vegas, Nevada

JUNE 1995

June 17-18

Everett Invitational Tourney
Shotze's Rock-N-Roll
Everett, Washington

THE BOARD TALK

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

Tourney Talk *(continued from Page 1)*

legendary Darrol Nelson and Shelton, Washington's own Loren Lampley. They were closely followed by the newly-rejuvenated team of John Martin and Danny McKinnon from the Everett, Washington area. Third place honors went to Don Shaffer, a newcomer to the game from Seattle, and John Luhtala of Eatonville, Wash. Fourth, fifth and sixth places were won respectively by Al Pease and Rick Gindt, Doug Buhl and Mike Thorpe, Gary George and Dan Hitt.

"As always, Nancy Hiller and her staff ran their tails off to feed and serve the shuffleboard community," reports Ron Wicks of Tacoma. "Yet, with all the great friendship, playing, food and atmosphere, there was a damper on the occasion because this was an end to 12 years of great shuffleboard action at the Acme. So, with respect and appreciation, the Pacific Northwest shuffleboard players gave Nancy 12 long-stem roses (symbolizing 12 years of outstanding shuffleboard) and a heart-felt thank you.

"In talking with Nancy after the Nationals, she said she could not express in words her love, respect and gratitude. Nancy, we'll miss you!" said Ron.

Last Call for Houghton Lake!

It looks like there will be a record turnout for the 4th

Annual Skip's/Board Talk Fall Tournament at Houghton Lake, Michigan, Sept. 10-11. Action will start at noon on Saturday with a draw partner event (pros and 1 and 2 rated players will draw from the remaining registered players). \$20 per player entry fee. An open singles, \$40 per player, will be held on Sunday. Sponsor sales are scheduled for noon on each day. Round robins are on the agenda for Friday night, so plan to come early.

For information regarding the tournament, call George at *The Board Talk*, 517-371-2538; for lodging recommendations, call Skip at 517-422-5422.

1st Annual Open Doubles at Tim's Timber Tavern, Kelso, Washington, Oct. 8-9

Tim's Timber Tavern, 213 Allen St., Kelso, Washington, will host its first annual open doubles on Oct. 8-9, \$50 per team entry, double elimination, with sponsor sale at 11 a.m. Saturday. \$20 draw partners will start at 7 p.m. on Friday. Tournament directors will be Kevin Larkin and Doug Debois.

A feed is scheduled for Saturday night.

For further information, call 206-636-2627. Recommended lodging is the Kelso Inn, 206-636-4610.

Mark your calendars now for this first!

(Editor's Note: We stopped at Tim's Timber Tavern on our way home from Quilcene. It's a nice, roomy tavern with good food and Tim is a very friendly host!)



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4th Annual Draw Partners, Sept. 17-18, Old Edison Inn, Edison, Washington

The Old Edison Inn, Edison, Washington, will host its 4th Annual Draw Partners Tournament on Sept. 17-18. Play gets underway immediately following the draw and sponsor sale at 11 a.m. on Saturday.

The event is a double elimination, two out of three, 15 point games in the winner's bracket; single game of 17 in the loser's bracket. Entry fee is \$25 per person.

The usual door prizes (who will win the oysters?), complimentary feed Saturday, and Board Talk subscription giveaways will add to the pleasure of the last weekend of summer in the beautiful Skagit River Valley.

Last year's winners were Mike Waters and Larry Sawyer.

Some RV space (no hook-ups) is available and motels are plentiful in nearby Burlington and Mount Vernon.

Call tournament director Phil DePree (206-766-5301) or the Old Edison (766-6266) for information or to pre-register.

(Editor's Note: After several years as "pen pals," we finally had the opportunity to meet Phil at Quilcene. What a nice guy! His Old Edison Inn was one of our program advertisers that allowed us to award door prizes at the tournament. We -- and the winner-- appreciated that!)

Two Big Events on Tap at Shamrock Tavern, Longview, Washington

The 3rd Annual Doubles Tournament at the Shamrock Tavern in Longview, Washington, has been set for Sept. 30-Oct. 1, with the winners earning their entries for the big PCSA Extravaganza doubles event in Vegas. Darrol Nelson and Doug Buhl have been the winners for the past two years.

A "warm-up" \$20 draw partner event will be held on Friday night. The bring your own partner event, \$50 per team, will be held on Saturday and Sunday, with bidding starting at noon on Saturday, and play immediately following.

The second event at the Shamrock will be the "Frank Hepler 55 and Older Draw Partner Tournament" on Nov. 25-27. Frank, who had just turned 55, passed away recently and this tourney is being staged in his memory. There will be \$10 round robins on Friday night, with the tournament starting at noon on Saturday. Head chef and bartender Bernice will again make her famous chili.

There are motels within walking distance of the Shamrock. For information, call the tavern at 206-577-7774.

(Editor's Note: We also stopped at this large, clean [don't spit in the waste basket!] tavern to say "hello." While neither owner Jerry Berquist nor reporter Ralph

Duarte were there, we did meet a friendly bartender who gave us easy-to-follow directions to Tim's Timber Tavern. Kelso and Longview are neighbors, but clear directions are a boon for strangers like us.)

Fall Tourney at American Legion, Sherburne, New York, Sept. 9-11

American Legion Post 876 in Sherburne, New York, will host a fall tournament on Sept. 9-11. Events include a draw partner on Friday night, \$10 per person entry; a women's singles on Saturday, \$10 entry; a bring partner on Saturday, \$25 per team; and an open singles on Sunday, \$25 entry.

There will be five boards for tournament play, with a sixth available if needed. There's plenty of parking, nearby lodging, and a free buffet will be served for players on Saturday and Sunday.

Hopefully, you've already made your reservations because this tourney fills up fast. If you haven't, better call tournament director Milt or Betty Benedict at 607-674-4571 to see if there are any spots left.

27th Annual Fall Doubles, American Legion 424, Bourbon, Indiana, Oct. 1

One of the most popular shuffleboard events in the Midwest will be staged at the American Legion Post 424 in the tiny little town of Bourbon, Indiana, on Oct. 1. It's the 27th Annual Fall Doubles, \$50 per team. Sponsor sale starts at 8 p.m. on Friday, Sept. 30, with play starting at 9 a.m. on Saturday.

Sit up and take notice, shufflers, and read tournament director Fritzi Broka's lips: **all entries must be paid in full, with partners declared, by Sept. 26!** There is a 64-team limit, so don't come just expecting to get in at the last minute. At the Bourbon Spring Tourney, there were 64 teams, with some on the waiting list just hoping a team would drop out. Players from 14 states (as far west as California and as far east as New York) participated, with Bobby Voorhis of Indiana and Jimmy Allis of Washington taking top honors.

Send your entries to: American Legion Post 424, Bourbon, IN 46504, Att.: Fritzi Broka. For further information, call Fritzi at 219-858-2278.

19th Annual Octoberfest Tourney, Corner Tavern, Bow, Washington, Oct. 8-9

The Corner Tavern, 1255 Allan West Rd., Bow, Washington, will host its 19th Annual Octoberfest Tournament on Oct. 8-9. It's a bring partner event, \$50 per team entry fee.

For further information, call the Corner Tavern at 206-757-6113.

(continued on Page 8)

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Notebook *(continued from Page 2)*

My husband was the one who taught me how to play. He was an avid enthusiast who had played for 30-plus years, was team captain, and played as often as he could. We enjoyed playing very much.

Betty Rickman, Clovis, California

First, our heartfelt sympathy for the loss of David, Betty. We appreciated having him as part of our network for so many years and are glad that you have elected to remain on our mailing list. We believe he would be very proud of you for participating (and winning!) in the Reno tournament. Bless those friends and relatives who gave you the encouragement and courage to be part of the action and carry on the tradition that he left behind. We look forward to recording your name in The Board Talk during the years ahead. That will be a tribute to your "teacher."

A Welcome Tribute from Chris

My first copy of *The Board Talk* was presented to me by Joe Muniz, compliments of the Pacific Coast Shuffleboard Association, along with a one-year paid subscription. This happened at the PCSA Tournament in Las Vegas in February of 1993 and was contingent upon me paying for a second year, which I immediately did. I think *The Board Talk* is a wonderful publication and find myself looking forward to receiving each month's issue.

I can only imagine the time you folks spend to produce each publication, although I think I can appreciate the rewards of meeting and playing with so many great people in The World of Shuffleboard. During the two to three year period of time I've been learning to play the game, I have met some really great people and have developed friendships that go even beyond the game. That is the great reward for me, as I'm sure it is for you.

Thank you for your efforts to publish *The Board Talk* and for all the people who furnish the material. If the subscription price goes up, I'll be one of the first to send the additional amount.

Chris Wayt, Santa Clara, California

Every time we receive a letter like yours, Chris, we know why we've kept the midnight oil burning for 11 years and 9 months. After we retire from our other jobs in December, we may still be burning the midnight oil, but it will be by choice rather than necessity because we won't have to get up at 7 a.m. the next day

go earn those regular paychecks. And you're exactly right! The rewards of friendship with the population of The World of Shuffleboard can't be measured in monetary terms. That fact was reinforced with our recent trip to Washington for the 5th Annual Grand Masters/10th Annual Board Talk Shufflers' Reunion in Quilcene. Granted, we have some problems in our sport, just as any other, but we'd be willing to bet that there is none other where the majority of players respond to the personal agonies of members of their "family" like shufflers do. We've had so many examples of that, the most recent of which is the benefit for the children of Billy and Sharon Maxwell of California and the benefit to help pay the funeral expenses of Michigan shuffler Sue Spack.

We appreciate your willingness to pay extra if the subscription rate goes up. We hope that doesn't happen in the near future (we've only had one increase in our nearly 12 years). If advertising revenue from the tournament sponsors and shuffleboard suppliers who benefit from increased growth in our sport continues to grow, we hope that will offset the increased cost of printing and mailing. Once we have to depend upon Social Security and Board Talk income for our livelihood, we'll get a better handle on that.

We're glad, too, that you recognized the importance of our contributors. Without those contributions (which, we realize, is not always easy after coming home from a late night tournament and trying to beat the deadline), we wouldn't receive the welcome salute you give to us. Thank you!

News from the Dixie Belle

Our Southern California contingent of 22 invaded the Great Northwest Aug. 3-7 and participated in -- Joe Muniz and Paul Weber say -- a very well-run tournament. Our foursome of John Fisher, Ruthie Miles, Billy Chiles and Jim Kennedy took the first event in spite of Honorary Captain Joe Muniz's untimely absence. He, Chuck Norris and Sparky were out participating in another of the wonderful attractions in Quilcene, California, Cow Pasture Golf. Captain Joe didn't do as well as his team. And to drop just one more name, Billy Maxwell came in sixth in the singles and we here at the Dixie Belle are very proud of him.

Now, on to the important thing in life -- food! Each and every person I have spoken with is raving about The Whistling Oyster's seafood spread. Thanks to hosts Bill Bailey and Sandee Van Waggonen, plus all their staff, for making The 5th Grand Masters Plus/10th Board Talk Shufflers' Reunion such an enjoyable event to attend.

I'm looking forward to attending Blinky's (Santa Clara, California) Labor Day Tournament. Dixie Belle owners Wes and Eileen Eades, plus several of our D.B. party animals, will be there. Batten down the hatches, Blinky's,

(continued on Page 14)

Tourney Talk *(continued from Page 5)*

1st Annual Draw Partners, Sportsman Tavern, Stanwood, Washington, Oct. 29-30

The Sportsman Tavern, Stanwood, Washington, will host its 1st Annual Draw Partners "Shuffleboard Shootout" on Oct. 29-30. Entry fee is \$25 per player, with payouts of 50-25-15-10. The sponsor sale will start at 10 a.m. Saturday, with boards open for play on Friday.

The Sportsman has two good boards, with three others close by, and plenty of RV parking.

For information, call tournament director Murl Kindle, 206-652-5031, or the tavern, 206-629-3930.

(Editor's Note: We met these nice folks at Quilcene and signed them up as new subscribers. Welcome them to our shuffleboard network by participating in this tourney.)

2nd Annual Thanksgiving Weekend Tournament, Dixie Belle, Downey, California

This PCSA-sanctioned event is scheduled for Nov. 24-27 at the Dixie Belle, 9559 E. Imperial Hwy., Downey, California, and will include two events on four boards.

The first is a bring your own partner pro-am doubles, with ratings subject to approval by tournament directors. Entry fee is \$100 per team, limited to 16 teams, 2 out of 3 double elimination. Sponsor sale is set for Thursday, Nov. 24, 9 p.m., with play starting on Friday at 10 a.m.

The second event is an ABC draw, \$25 per player entry fee, limited to 60 players, also 2 out of 3, double elimination. Sponsor sale will be held Friday at 8 p.m. with play starting at noon on Saturday.

A complimentary buffet will be served on Saturday between 2 and 6 p.m.

For information, contact Debbie or Eileen at the Dixie Belle, 310-803-4943.

Please post the enclosed flyer in your favorite shuffleboard site to spread the word about this fun-filled tournament. (For how much fun, check Dixie Debbie's letter in Shufflers' Notebook!)

PCSA Extravaganza VII, Alladin Hotel/Casino, Las Vegas, Jan. 31-Feb. 5

The Pacific Coast Shuffleboard Association will once again host its Extravaganza (No. 7! How time flies when you're having fun!) at the Alladin Hotel/Casino in Las Vegas, Nevada. There are six events on the tentative agenda, including a bring your partner amateur draw, limited to 24 teams; an A-B draw, limited to 96 players; pro singles, limited to 32 players; amateur team (must have two women players), limit of 24 teams; women's singles, limited to 24 players; and open doubles, limit of 32 teams.

Dates, times and entry fees, along with room rates (you must be a registered guest of the Alladin to participate in the tournament), will be in the next issue of *The Board Talk*. In the meantime, please post the enclosed flyer in your favorite shuffleboard site to alert players of this upcoming event.

For further information, contact the PCSA at 310-926-2152.

Bring Partner Doubles, Stober's Cocktail Lounge, Lansing, Michigan, Sept. 24-25

The Stober Family -- Rudy, Heidi and Linda -- will host a bring your partner tournament at their shuffleboard establishment, 812 E. Michigan Ave., Lansing, Michigan, on Sept. 24-25. Entry fee is \$50 per team, with the sponsor sale starting at 1 p.m. Saturday and play immediately following. Play will be on Rudy's two in-house boards. Round robins and/or open play on Friday night. All drinks Friday night will be \$1.25 until closing.

"If you can't handle the tough action, don't show up," says tournament director George Wilber. "That probably means we won't get much action from Indiana and Ohio. But you other states feel free to show up."

For further information and/or to save your spot, call George at 517-371-2538, or Stober's Lounge, 517-487-4464. See ad in this issue and plan to participate in this fun-filled weekend tournament.

IMPORTANT NOTICE!

**All entries for the
27TH ANNUAL
BOURBON (INDIANA)
AMERICAN LEGION
FALL DOUBLES**

OCT. 1

\$50 PER TEAM

**must be paid in full (with
partners declared)
by Sept. 26!**

**Send entries to: American Legion 424,
Bourbon, IN 46504, Att.: Fritz Broka
Call: 219-858-2278**

Sunde/Chandler/Blade/Hershman Tops at Liberty Bar in Pontiac, Michigan

Bjerne Sunde and Chris Chandler teamed up to take top honors at the 1st Annual Mixed Doubles at the Liberty Bar in Pontiac, Michigan, on July 16-17. John Tischler and Cassie Kern took second place, with Jeff Cottrell and Lorene Barnes in third.

A memorial benefit for Sue Spack was also held this weekend, with Frank Blade and Jerry Hershman taking first place. Jeff Cottrell and Ken Gay finished second.

10th Annual Thanksgiving Classic at Gold Nugget, Arlington, Texas, Nov. 24-27

The Gold Nugget Club, 2602 W. Division, Arlington, Texas, will be the site for the 10th Annual Thanksgiving Classic Tournament on Nov. 24-27.

Action will start with a draw partner event on Thursday at 7:30, \$50 entry fee. Single game, double elimination, and no two pros or 0's may draw up.

On Friday, 7:30 p.m., the bring partner is scheduled to begin. \$100 per team, single game, double elimination, and no pros may play together.

On the agenda for Saturday at 5 p.m. is the draft team event, patterned after the successful one held at this year's Southwest Open. \$300 per 6-person team. Everyone from pros to 5's will play and the draft will be held in private so no one will know in what order they were picked. This event is double elimination, best of 9 games.

For information, contact David Williams, 817-451-9583, or Bobby Williams, 817-496-8972. Please post the enclosed flyer in your favorite shuffleboard site to help spread the word about this Thanksgiving weekend tournament.

Another Biggie at Dew Drop Inn, Waterloo, N.Y.

The Fridley family at the Dew Drop Inn in Waterloo, New York, hosted another successful National Shuffleboard Tournament on July 28-31, attracting players from as far away as Illinois, Michigan and Maryland.

"Thursday night brought 34 players to participate in our very popular round robins," reports Doug Fridley Jr. "This gives everyone a chance to practice on all four American boards before the tournament actually begins."

In the first round robin, it was two local Waterloo shooters who took first place, Rob Hummer (who got married Aug. 13) and Roger Smith Jr. (Marv's nephew). Second place went to Arlow (Big A) Johnson and Marv Smith, with third spot going to locals Bob Hanes and Theresa Gibson.

The second round robin was double the entry fee (\$10) with Earl Durgan and Bill (the Bandit) Andreas cashing in first. Second went to Rob Hummer (again) and Doug Fridley Jr., with Jane Johnson and Sharon Canino in third.

Friday night's open singles was once again a sell-out with some surprises. Taking first place and over half the better than \$2,000 prize money was Louise Freer of Philadelphia. Louise went undefeated to turn back Doug Fridley Jr., who finished second, and the always-tough Dick Losee of Poolville, NY, finishing third. Fourth went to Marv Smith, with fifth and final cash to Roy Schreiber of Baldwinsville, NY, who just edged out Jerry Hershman of Michigan.



Louise Freer of Pennsylvania took first place in the open singles, earning cash, a trophy and shirt from Old Milwaukee Beer. Second-place finisher Doug Fridley Jr. had to settle for an Old Milwaukee hat!

The turnout for Saturday morning's mixed doubles was light, but the competition was tough, Doug reports. Coming out of the losers' bracket to take first place trophies and shirts were Louise Freer (again!) and Lonzo Knight of Hagerstown, Maryland. Second money spot went to Kathy Francisco and Jerry Hershman of Michigan, with Arlow and Jane Johnson of New York in third.

Stepping into the winner's circle once again to collect first place trophies and shirts was Louise Freer along with partner, Lonzo Knight of Maryland, for taking top honors in the mixed doubles tournament.



The draw partner event was held Saturday afternoon with 34 players all hoping to catch a good draw. The pot was over \$2,000 and it was the surprise team of Jane Johnson and her partner, Theresa Gibson of Waterloo, taking first place cash and trophies. Although winning the first game in the finals, Sam Jones of Hagerstown and Terry Smith of Illinois settled for second. Taking third place were Butch (Hollywood) Kelly of Philadelphia and Louise Freer. Fourth and final money spot went

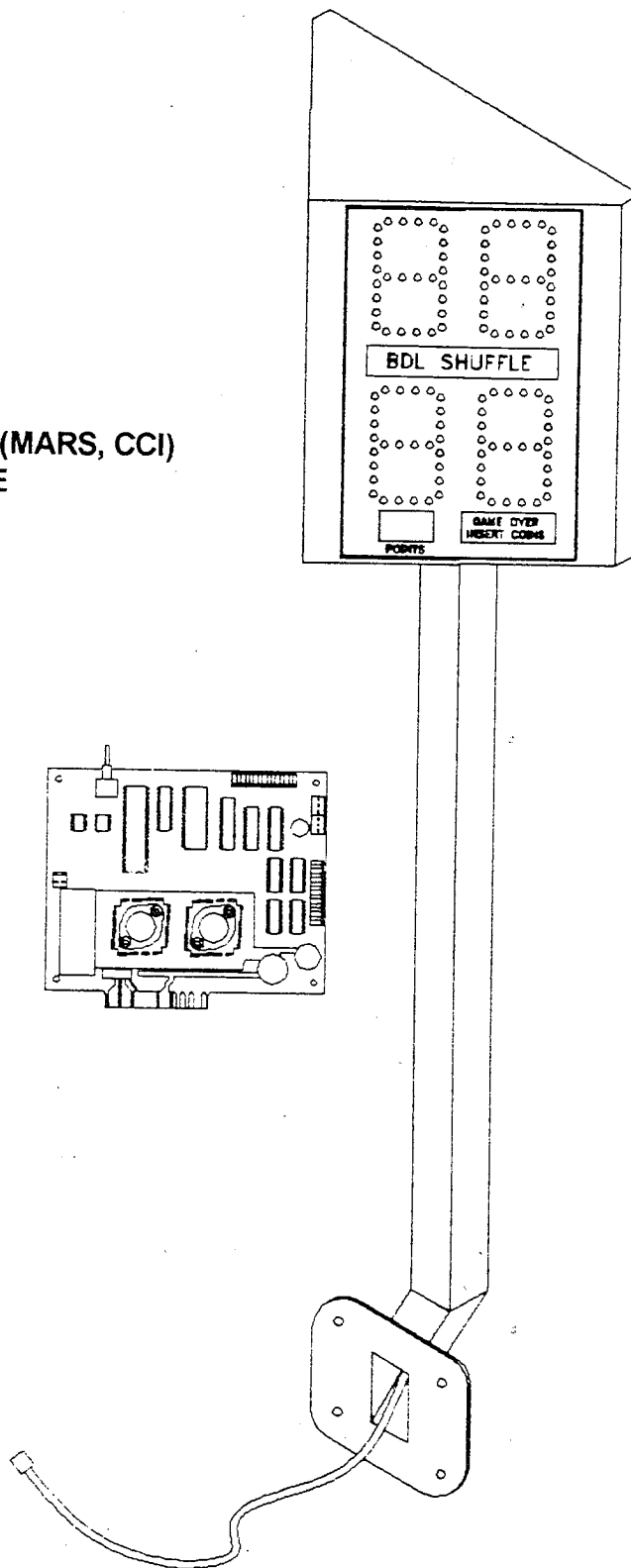
(continued on Page 21)

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(Editor's Note: If you're enjoying Ron's Frisco Eddie series and cartoons, please let us know. It's his only "salary.")

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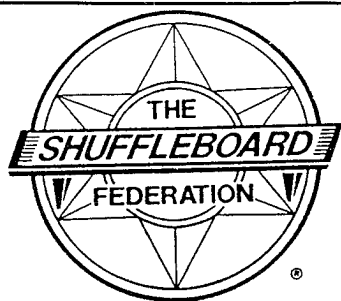
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I'M STILL LOOKING for pre-1993 American Shuffleboard Weights -- no response. What's a girl got to do to get some attention around here? Call Louise Freer at 215-661-0108.

ATTENTION DOTTIE HEMKIM! -- Take good care of yourself, so the next time we visit the Blue Goose in Port Orchard, Washington, you'll be there to welcome us! George & Donna

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. Send your ads so we receive them by the 15th of the month.

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RENO WRAP-UP

The 1994 North American Shuffleboard Championships are now history. In many respects, it was one of the biggest disappointments in the seven years we have been in business.

When we made the decision to move the tournament to the summer, we thought it was in the best interests of the game to do so. Putting six months between the two biggest tournaments seemed to make a lot of sense.

Unfortunately, the shuffleboard community did not respond by supporting the tournament the way they have in the past and, for a variety of reasons, attendance was way down.

Fortunately, we have an outstanding sponsor in the Sands Regency Hotel/Casino. They want to continue to host this event, but there will not be another opportunity for a summer-time tournament.

Despite the disappointing turnout, those who did attend had a great time and we want to thank them for their support, especially the first-time participants.

We very much appreciate the support of the three companies that supplied shuffleboard tables for the event: American International Shuffleboard, Gametime Corporation, and Bill Melton Shuffleboard Company.

We also want to recognize and thank those whose efforts helped make the tournament possible. So, on behalf of all the participants, a big heartfelt thank you goes to Mike Melton, Bettye Brantley, Rob and Cassie Kern, Rick Boyer, Billy Melton, Bob Jacobsen, Larry Pearson and David Wells. Also, a big thank you to Lisa Melton for another outstanding job on the trophies.

Although no definite plans have been made yet for the 1995 North American Championships, there are a couple of ideas that are receiving strong consideration.

The first is a draft style team event, similar to the one that Ron Huddleston and his people ran at their recent Southwest Open.

Basically, the way it works is that the best players are appointed as captains, and they pick the rest of their team via a draft.

The picking order flip-flops every round to ensure that the teams are as even as possible. For example, the captain who has the first pick in round one would have the last pick in the second round, and so on.

This format could go a long way toward achieving something that has always been a goal of ours -- putting on an event which every team has a chance to win.

Player feedback regarding this idea so far has been very supportive. It provides an opportunity for players who come by themselves or in small groups to play in the Team Event, and also gives them a chance to play for several days with a top player. Let us know what you think.

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FAX: 810-380-9305

Notebook *(continued from Page 7)*

Wes is a wild man!

While I'm in a traveling mood, I would also like to mention that I'll be in the Waterloo, New York, area the first week of October and will drop in at the Dew Drop Inn to visit the Fridley family. I'll be bringing greetings from several of their Southern California acquaintances plus a few Dixie Belle mementos. I'll give you a call for a more exact time so I can avoid missing you.

On a quieter note, the benefit tournament for the children of Billy Maxwell, whose mother met with an untimely death some months back, was a great success. Billy would like to thank everyone who participated and also everyone who has donated to the children's fund. If you missed the tournament and would like to donate, contact the P.C.S.A. in Bellflower, California.

November will be a very busy month here at the Dixie Belle. We're planning Turkey Shoots for Sundays and, of course, our Thanksgiving Extravaganza (see enclosed flyer) for Thanksgiving week. I'll be out at the front bar singing with the Karaoke and dancing to our live music plus, and I don't know how I fit this in between tending bar. If you need a break from the shuffleboard action in the Gallagher Room, come on up and join us in the front bar. Peanut Johnna and I, along with everyone else, will make you welcome.

Now, a couple of personals. It's sure good to see Charlie Adams throwing a few weights these days. Girls, he's looking good! Mike Galente knows he won't live down accidentally walking out with the Round Robin fund; but it's O.K., Mike; it will be your "claim to fame" for a long time to come. I would also like to thank Rich (Bubba) Warren, who just makes life a little nicer whenever he's around.

Remember, drop in at the Dixie Belle anytime for fun. Join our Thanksgiving Extravaganza for some serious fun.

Once again, along with Wes and Eileen Eades, we hope to see you soon.

Dixie Debbie, The Dixie Belle, Downey, California

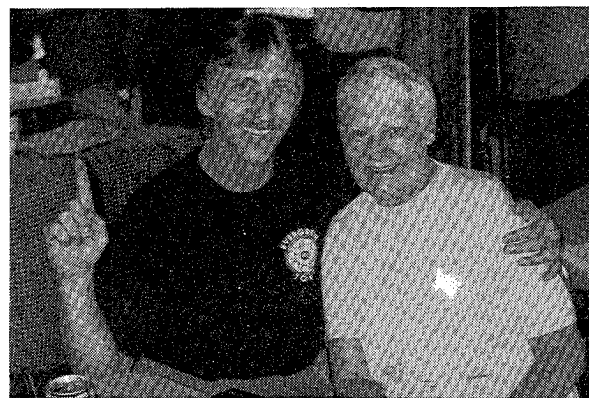
We enjoyed seeing your Southern California contingency in Quilcene (see Washington Diary). They supplied an added dimension to the action! And we certainly reinforce their rave reviews about Bill and Sandee's seafood spread; it was truly a seafood lover's dream come true. And we encourage others who were not able to participate in the Maxwell children's benefit tournament to make a contribution to this worthy cause (send checks to the PCSA, P.O. Box 8143, Bellflower, CA 90706, with a notation that it is for the Maxwell Children's Benefit). It was great to see Billy at Quilcene

and to see him shooting so well. We can assure you, he appreciates the support The World of Shuffleboard has shown to his kids (see Tourney Talk for results of tournament).

We can assure you, too, that you will enjoy your visit with the Fridley family. They'll welcome you with open arms, Debbie. And, while you're there, be sure to stop at the Sherburne American Legion and ask for Milt Benedict. If you're driving, be sure to use our Play Your Way Across the U.S.A. listing as a guide for places to stop along the way. Tell them The Board Talk sent you!

**To all participants of the
5th Annual Grand Masters/
10th Annual Board Talk
Shufflers' Reunion....**

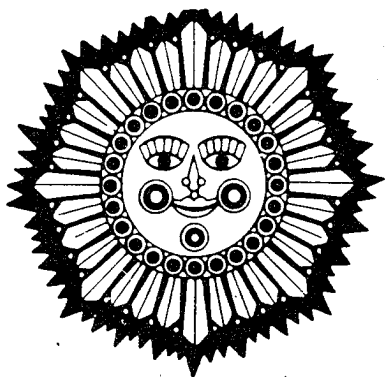
**You are
truly the
"sunshine"
of our lives.**



Yes, you are No. 1, Mike Thorpe of Seattle, Washington, along with all other participants

**Thanks to all of you
for EVERYTHING!**

**George & Donna Wilber
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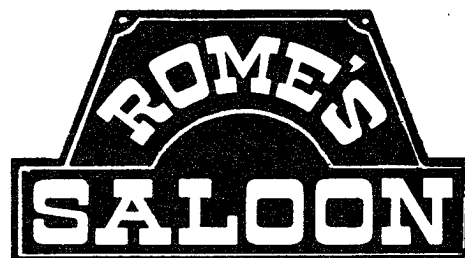
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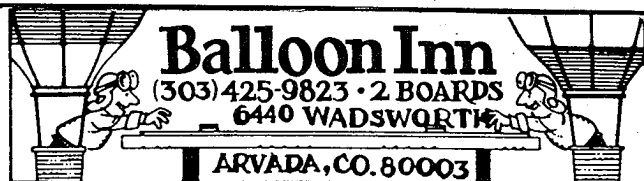
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Long Beach Lil had just made Eddie a proposition. She wanted to take Eddie on the road with her.... "for a year or so." Shelli had listened to the whole thing patiently. She felt she was forced to take a stand then, after she heard the complete proposal.

Shelli got up and walked, rather quickly, to Lil's side of the table. Lil started to get up, but then sat back down when it appeared that Shelli wasn't going to become a "physical" threat. Shelli stood between Lil and Eddie, and began to let her thoughts in the matter be known. She spoke in a very deliberate and icy voice: "Now, you look into my eyes, Lil -- and listen carefully. There isn't going to be any 'road trip,' or ANY of the trash you've been putting out here! Eddie and I have some things worked out, and they're based on his staying on at the Blue Moonand staying here with ME! His future is here, and we've made a lot of plans. You're not gonna come in here and try to bust 'em up. Do you understand what I'm telling you?"

Lil kept up the eye contact as she replied: "Look, I'm not trying to split you guys up, or anything like that. Hell, if you insisted, we could probably even take you along. You could be part of the hustle."

"You just don't get it, do you?" said Shelli. "I have a good job, and Eddie has a good future here with Bob. We've got things worked out here -- and you can take your 'hustle' and stick it where the sun doesn't shine."

She turned to Eddie then and said: "Look, Champ, I'm going to leave now. You know where I stand on this. If you're interested in any more of the stuff she's putting out, then stay here and take in some more of it. If not, then pick it up and let's go home."

Eddie hesitated for a moment, but then got on his feet. He said to Lil: "Shelli here is a pretty strong-willed gal, and I like that -- but so am I. Let Bob know where you're staying. I'll give this thing some thought in the meantime."

Lil replied: "That sounds good to me, Eddie." Then, with a haughty smile on her face, she looked at Shelli and said: "It was nice to meet you; I hope you'll think this over, too -- in a positive way." You could freeze a live volcano with the stares they gave each other.

Shelli and Eddie left then, without any further conversation. Lil was thinking that she had made a pretty good pitch as she watched them walk out the door. She also knew she had a very strong opponent to overcome in Shelli. Her mind didn't skip a beat as she turned to the

only player who wasn't in the game yet. She placed her hand on his and said: "Bob, I really need to talk to you..."
(Continued next month)

REMINDER!

***The deadline for the Oct. 1 Bourbon
Tournament is Sept. 26.***

***Entry fees with partners declared
must be submitted by that date!***

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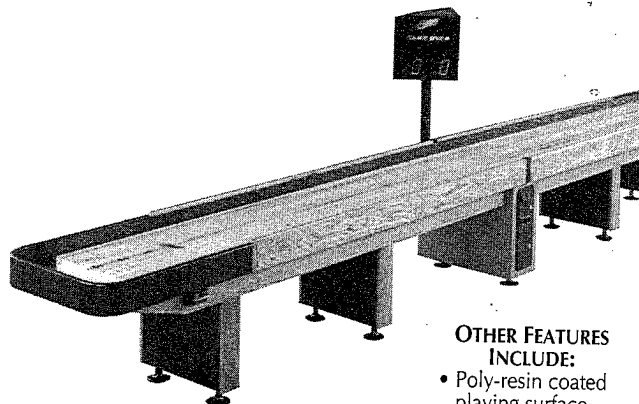
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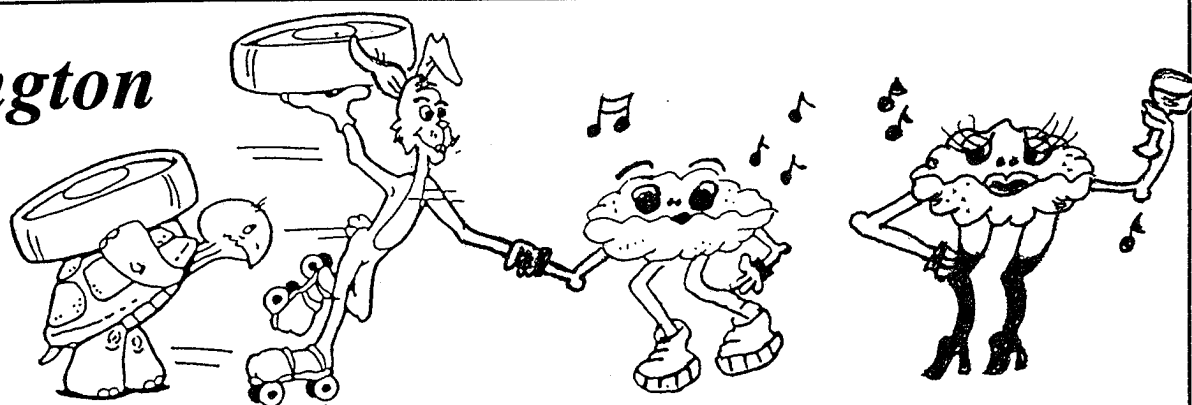
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Washington Diary

By
George & Donna
Wilber



Do oysters really whistle? We travelled 2500 miles to Quilcene, Washington, to find out and never did -- for sure. Some of the locals said: "but of course!" Others said, "well, if you listen hard enough," and a few said "nah!" While we were on this research expedition, we enjoyed the 5th Annual Grand Masters Plus/10th Annual Board Talk Shufflers' Reunion Tournament at the Whistling Oyster Tavern -- and what a great event it was, from beginning to end!

We left Lansing, Michigan, about midnight on Wednesday, July 27, drove 20+ hours to Deadwood, South Dakota, where we spent the night. Then, through the awesome (and sometimes intimidating) mountains to Butte, Montana, our next overnight stop. By Friday afternoon, we had crossed the Washington state line, and arrived in Seattle that evening to take the Ferry across Puget Sound to Bremerton. There, we stopped to pay a visit to a new subscriber tavern, the Fuzzy Navel. Owner Patty Stultz was out of town on business, but Debbie gave us directions to nearby Port Orchard, home of a long-time subscriber tavern, the Blue Goose.

The Blue Goose has two good, fast boards and lots of friendly patrons. We missed owners Dee and Larry Hudson and faithful subscribers Gene and Vera Brown, and Dottie Hemkin, who is recovering from a by-pass operation, but there was a nice note from Dee waiting for us when we got back home.



Blue Goose regulars Guy Earl and Eddie McHilliard made us feel important by asking us to autograph our tournament program! Guy later dropped in at the Whistling Oyster to watch some of the tournament action.

Port Orchard was such a quaint little resort town right on the Sinclair Inlet of Puget Sound that we decided to stay two nights in a nice motel there to rest up before travelling the 45 minutes to Quilcene.

We arrived at our destination on Monday morning.... Quilcene: population 600, located about a mile off another Puget Sound inlet, at the foot of a national forest, with mountains in the background. We checked in at the Maple Grove Motel (where you can't see the maples for the pines), which would be our home away from home for the next seven days.

Maple Grove Motel owner Cal and his constant companion, Samantha, became our good friends during our stay in Quilcene.



Our first greeting at the Whistling Oyster Tavern came from our good friend Billy Chiles of California, then owners and gracious hosts, Bill Bailey and Sandy Van Waggonen. The Whistling Oyster is home for five well-maintained boards year-around, with two of them sporting silk-screened scoring boards with the W.O. logo by Paul Biederman of San Jose, California, one of our regular Board Talk advertisers.

Back of the tavern is a ravine, ringed with trees and berry bushes and sporting horseshoe pits, picnic tables and fire pits. When we first arrived, there were just a couple of RVs staked out -- early-arrivals Don and Donna Cox of California and Glen Davidson and Madge Goff of Oklahoma. By the time the tournament started on Wednesday, it looked like a crowded, but comfortable community. The weather was kind throughout the week and the late-night action in that cozy shuffleboard community was as intense as it was "upstairs" in the tavern.



Dozens of RVs made for a friendly shuffleboard community at the Whistling Oyster.

L.A. Invaders Win 4-Person Team Event

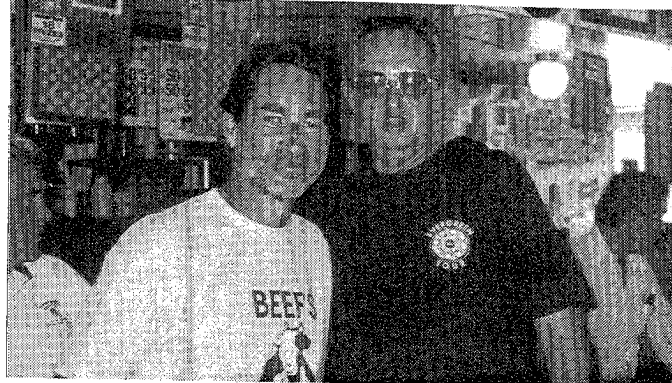
The first event of the tournament was the 4-Person Team Event, with 16 teams vying for a \$2,000 pot. Coming out on top was the L.A. Invaders team: John Fisher, Billy Chiles and Jim Kennedy of California, and Ruthie Miles of Oregon. Taking second place honors was the Dream Team: Jim and Michelle Foran, Rich Gindt and Mike Waters, all of Washington. The Four Play team consisting of John Luhtala, Nancy Johannsen, Don Shaffer and Jeff Adams, also of Washington, finished third. Three Short Fat Guys and a Canuck (we should have given prizes for creative names!) -- Gary George and Jim Allis of Washington, Don Cox of California, and Diane Madsen of Canada -- took fourth place.



The 4-Person Team Event winners were Billy Chiles, Ruthie Miles, John Fisher and Jim Kennedy.

Darrol Retains Singles Crown

With 28 entries in the singles and a pot of \$10,130 at stake, this was a hard-fought event from the start on Thursday to the finals on Saturday morning. Chuck Norris of Oregon tried valiantly to steal the title Darrol Nelson has captured in previous years, but Darrol emerged the victor.



Darrol Nelson (left), winner of the singles, with second-place finisher Chuck Norris.

Taking third place honors in the singles was an impressive young player, Dan Hitt of Washington, with veteran Don Cox of California in fourth. Another tough young competitor, Mike Thorpe of Washington, came in fifth, with Billy Maxwell of California in sixth place.

Co-Champs for Open Draw Event

There was a full field of 64 players in the open draw, with bracketeer Dick Martell and a couple others dropping out to accommodate the 32-team bracket board, vying for a share of the \$1800 pot. Due to time constraints, the top two teams agreed to share first-place honors: Dave Davidson of Oklahoma and Bob Shirley of Washington, and Ed Olson and Jim Manders, also of Washington.



Sharing top honors in the draw were (from left): Dave Davidson, Bob Shirley, Jim Manders and Ed Olson.

(continued on Page 20)

Washington Diary (continued from Page 19)

Darrol Nelson and partner Larry Sawyer of Washington took third place honors. Others in the winners' circle were: Jim Thornton and Ron Wicks, 4th; Jeff Adams and John Luhtala, Ken Wochnick and Dick Doak, 5th and 6th; Dan Hitt and Dottie Bastanchury, Don Cox and Jim Buhl ("don't call me Doug's little brother"), 7th and 8th.

Buhl/Wilson Capture Grand Masters Title

There were 28 teams competing for the Grand Masters title and a share of the \$12,675 pot (bringing the total for the tourney to \$26,605, with \$2000 added to the entry pot by Whistling Oyster and \$500 by The Board Talk).

Veterans Glen Davidson of Oklahoma and Don Cox of California came into the finals undefeated to meet Doug Buhl of Oregon and Steve Wilson of Washington, who had come out of the losers' bracket. When the dust finally settled late Sunday night, it was Doug and Steve who accepted the winner's trophy.



Doug Buhl (left) and Steve Wilson share kudos after winning the Grand Masters.

"We simply ran out of steam," said Glen when the grueling match was over.

Taking third place honors were Mike Pond and Marv White of Washington, with Jim Allis and Darrol Nelson in fourth place. Finishing fifth and sixth were Al Pease and Mike Waters, Ed Olson and Pat Van Cleve, all of Washington.

The Vitally Important Support System

No tournament of this size runs so smoothly without a lot of work before, during, and after the event itself. That burden rested on the shoulders of hosts Bill and Sandee, tournement directors Jim Foran and Marv White, bracketeer Dick Martell, all of the Whistling Oyster crew (even some "locals" who volunteered their services), the Wilbur brothers who answered the call for the seafood for that awesome buffet spread, the women who pitched in to

help Sandee prepare that spread.....the list goes on and on. Bless them all!



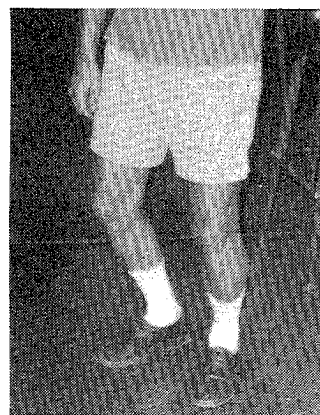
Jim Foran and Marv White helped Bill Bailey keep the tourney running smoothly, along with bracketeer Dick Martell. Behind the scenes action was directed by hard-working and talented Sandee Van Waggonen.

Appreciation to Door Prize Contributors

Door prizes purchased with a portion of the advertising revenue in our traditional printed tournament program (and others this year) included: a super size ice chest from The Shuffleboard Federation, an electric fryer from Triple Crown (who also furnished the wax for this tourney), camper lanterns from United Distributors, a coffee maker from our Board Talk printer Colonial Printing, a packet of video tapes from Port Angeles Distributors, a calculator from Sports Plaza, a camper lunch kit from Old Edison Inn, a soft cooler from Tolo Tavern, fruit mugs from Maple Grove Motel, T-shirts and caps from BZ's Sports Bar, caps from Don Crall, manager of the Del City American Legion, who came all the way from Oklahoma with buddy Dave Davidson, subscriptions from *The Board Talk*....

And the winners of these door prizes, drawn from a Bingo "whirly wheel," were: Lois Shirley, John Luhtala, Marv White, Steve Wilson, Michelle Foran, Steve Wilson, Mike Pond, Rosa White, Ken Wochnick, Kathy Cook, John Rostollan, Gary Orcutt, Sheree Cleven, Sharon McDonnell, Bubba Warren, Sue Miller, and Paul Major.

On the Sidelines.....



Whose knees are these? Identify them and you'll receive a year's subscription to The Board Talk. We gave John Lukas of Maryland the title of "best buns" at the Bourbon Tourney (we found your look-alike in Washington, John). Now, put a face on these "best knees"!

Bill Bailey Gives Salutes

Whistling Oyster host Bill Bailey (see front page photo) realizes running a successful tournament is by no means a one-man job and, at the risk one always takes of leaving someone out, he thanks those who played a key role in this year's event. "Thanks to all our bartenders and waitresses -- Crissy, Kim, Frank, Lori, Rose, Thais, Carrie and Billie from the Acme Tavern, who helped us out. They really did a great job! I can't say enough good things about my co-directors, Jim Foran and Marv White, and talented bracketeer Dick Martell. We were grateful to Marv and Claude Wilbur who, at a last minute notice, went out and caught fresh fish for our buffet (instead of the frozen we usually have) and one of our local people who stayed up all night and day to smoke the salmon, and Joanne and Floyd from Triple Crown for furnishing the wax," Bill said.

"Most of all, my partner Sandee, who worked so hard before and during the tournament with all the bookwork and the cooking. I couldn't do it without her -- not just this tournament, but all year around.

"On a scale of 1 to 10, I would rate this tournament a '10', thanks to all these people and the participants, who were just great! And, last, but not least, thanks to George and Donna. They have an open invitation to come back any time," he said.

Thanks, Bill! We will be back -- but maybe next time we'll fly...

Tourney Talk *(continued from Page 9)*

to John Myles of Michigan and Marv Smith.



(Left) Jane Johnson and Theresa Gibson, winners of the draw partners at the Dew Drop Inn, and (right) Dick Losee and Jeff Davies, winners of the bring partner.

Sunday's bring partner event had 15 teams taking aim at the \$2,000+ purse. Tournament favorites Dick Losee and Jeff Davies didn't disappoint as they went undefeated and took home first place. Second went to Marv Smith and Jimmy Fowler, with Steve Bennett and Bob White, both of Sherburne, N.Y. in third.

"Check *The Board Talk* for our next tournament coming up in the near future," said Doug. "If you haven't been to a Dew Drop Inn tournament, you're missing out on a lot of fun and action. Anyone can win!"

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WELCOMES SHUFFLEBOARD TO

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The Shuffleboard Federation Honors Bob Miles as First Hall of Fame Inductee at North American Championships

A highlight of the North American Championships, held at the Sands Regency Hotel Casino, Reno, Nevada, on July 25-31, was a presentation by The Shuffleboard Federation, honoring Bob Miles as the first inductee in the Shuffleboard Hall of Fame. While Bob could not be present at the ceremony, the plaque shown here was presented to him by his shuffler friends.

Top finishers in the various events of the 1994 North American Championships were:

A-B Draw -- Glen Davidson and Sheriff Hallberg; Chris Danke and Bob Jacobsen; Doug Buhl and Lisa Melton; Joe Spielman and Larry Pearson

Division I Singles -- Bobby Williams, Joe Spielman, Paul Parks, Bob Hunt

Division II Singles -- Larry Pearson, Charlie Busch, Ron Bowers, Leroy Burkhart

Ladies' Singles -- Viola Reaves, Penny Cottrell, Debbie Bowers, Pat Burkhart

Division I Doubles -- Steve Wilson and Chris Danke; Dan Mourgos and Steve Perry; Mike and Billy Melton; Johnny Ballard and Bobby Williams

Division II Doubles -- Bob Jacobsen and Larry Pearson; Leroy Burkhart and Butch Robinson; Jim Filkins and Jim Tanner; Bill Wooldridge and Tom Clubb

Pro Singles -- Bill Melton, Darrol Nelson, Doug Buhl, Bob Shaw

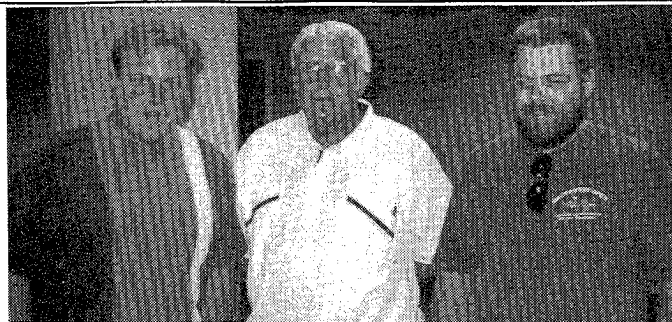
Pro/Division I Doubles -- Rick Boyer and Billy Melton; Bill Melton and Bobby Williams; Mike Melton and Bob Hunt; Bob Shaw and Joe Hudson

Team Event -- TEXAS TORNADOS (Sheriff Hallberg, Ron Bowers, Debbie Bowers, Betty Rickman, Tom Clubb, Bill Wooldridge); BUCKLEY'S CATCH SPORTS PUB (Alice Arredondo, Marily Roberts, Bob Meyers, Al Stechmesser, Mike Reddinger, Ron Buckley); TOLO TAVERN (Leroy Burkhart, Pat Burkhart, Don Stallworth, Butch Robinson, Viola Reaves, Larry Balzer); DUNES LOUNGE (Bob Jacobsen, Larry Pearson, Jim Filkins, Phil Gardner, Sue Hubenthal, Cindy Clark)

Legends Draw -- Joe Hudson and Jim Kumpula; Bill Wooldridge and Dot Bastanchury; Dick Gorman and Marty Allen; Lloyd Coffelt and Mike Reddinger

"A lot of thanks should go to John McDermott for a well-run tournament," said Washington's Ralph Duarte. "Thanks, also, to Rob and Cassie Kern for their good job on the brackets and waxing boards. We owe Rob a dinner, maybe in Vegas!"

(See *Shuffleboard Federation column and Notebook* for more comments on this event.)



"They kept it in the family," says Ralph. Bill Melton won the pro singles; in the Pro/Division I Doubles, Billy and partner Rick Boyer took 1st, Bill and partner Bobby Williams took 2nd, and Mike and partner Bob Hunt took 3rd. In the A-B Draw, Lisa Melton and partner Doug Buhl took 3rd. (Photo courtesy of Ralph Duarte)



Bob Miles

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The Shuffleboard Federation
July 30, 1994

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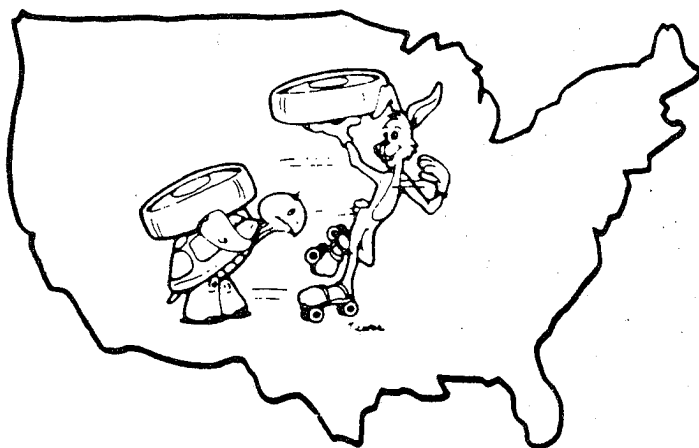
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