

# The Board Talk

The Board Talk is published by George & Donna Wilber  
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January 1995

## "55 & Older" Tourney Honors Frank Hepler

### Foytack/Martin are Winners

The Frank Hepler 55 and Older Tournament, named in honor of a popular Great Northwest shuffler who died of a heart attack last summer, was held at the Shamrock Tavern, Longview, Washington, on Nov. 25-27. The draw partner event attracted 14 teams. And the winners were....



....Tournament director Ed Foytack of Kelso and John Martin of Marysville. It was Ed's first tourney win.



Co-director Fred Linton and Sharon Morre, both of Kelso, took second-place honors.

The draw partner event and sponsor sale by auctioneer Fred (Firehouse) Johns netted a \$1,200 pot, which was split four ways.



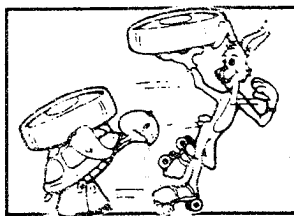
Winston Jim Cockrell of Winston, Oregon, and Ted Anstensen of Anacortes, Washington, were third-place finishers in the Frank Hepler 55 & Older Tournament.



Veteran Sherm Anderson of Burlington, Washington, and Mike O'Neill, a two-year player of Longview, took fourth place.

"Head bartender and head chef Bernice made something different than her usual chili this year," reports Ralph Duarte. "It was taco soup and before you turn your nose up, try it! It is so-so-so good. Yes, it did have beans in it. But the air wasn't too bad this year -- just a little smoke -- and, after all, it is a 55 and older tournament."

The next big event at the Shamrock is the 5th Annual Draw Partner Tournament on May 6-7. Watch for details in upcoming issues of *The Board Talk*.



# Shufflers' Notebook

News and Views  
from The World  
of Shuffleboard

## "SHOW-ME" STATE SHUFFLER SALUTES BALLOON INN

I look forward to *The Board Talk* each month and when I find or make time to read it, I feel like a part of something bigger than the local scene -- which, by the way, is alive and well. We now have "our own" table maker -- St. Louis Shuffle (Shaun Mullen).

I recently travelled West with my father, who is not a shuffleboard player but consented to stop and spend an hour or two at the Balloon Inn in Arvada, Colorado. I heartily recommend this place. I wish we had such a bar in St. Louis. They have two 22', well-taken-care-of boards, a nice, clean, friendly atmosphere. The clientele were hospitable, the food was good. I met Gwen, one of the owners, a good shooter and a nice person.

Please tell Troy Griffin, one of the several fine people I met at the Balloon Inn, that I do intend to send a "St. Louis Shuffle" shirt as promised (the shirts feature very nice graphics) as soon as Shaun orders up a new batch. Gwen was out of Balloon Inn shirts when I was there. I hope that is also rectified so that when I send a shirt to Troy, he can send one of theirs back as well.

We had to leave the Balloon Inn much too soon. I would have stayed all night if I could have. Heck, I didn't even get warmed up. Maybe next time...

I wish you continued success and many 4's.

Dan Kelly, St. Louis, Missouri

*We've had the pleasure of meeting Gwen and Ron at the PCSA tournaments in Las Vegas, but never the pleasure of visiting their establishment. Hopefully, we can do that now that we are "retired." They are great shuffleboard promoters and, as announced in last month's issue, are now sponsors of the "Rocky Mountain Renegades."*

*We appreciate your long-lasting support over the*

### — ATTENTION —

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years, Dan. While expanding *The World of Shuffleboard* is certainly important to us, it is **RETENTION** of those on our mailing list that keeps us going. Thank you for continuing to be part of our "population."

We're glad to hear that shuffleboard is alive and well in St. Louis, what we once considered one of the "hot-beds" of our sport. Sad to say, Missouri ranks near the bottom of our list of subscriber states, despite the efforts of Gene McLeod, who has been a key "hustler" for us, and long-time supporter, Woodie Cockrum. If you have any insight into the "why" of this, we'd appreciate it.

## NEW YEAR'S GREETINGS FROM THE DIXIE BELLE

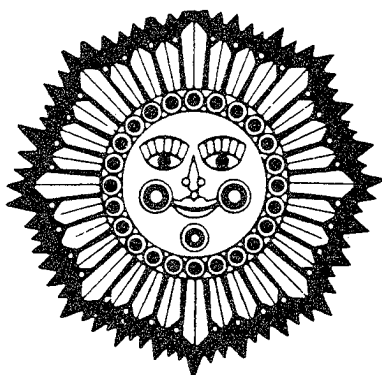
Happy New Year, everyone! I hope your holidays were wonderful. We at the Dixie Belle had a terrific season of good cheer, good friends, and great competition, starting with our Thanksgiving tournament (see results on Page 8). I had such a good time meeting all of you who came and participated -- players and guests. I was especially honored when Jolene Lembke called me over and introduced me to Balboa Ron who, I'm sure all of you know, writes the great Frisco Eddie series. Ron, thank you for taking time out to meet me and coming to play at the Dixie Belle. We'll see you again soon as we're headed for Las Vegas the end of this month.

Congratulations to Andy Smeder and Craig Amundson for coming in third place in the doubles against teams with a lot more experience. Way to go, guys! In the ABC, honorable mention goes to Jack Brown and Sandy Flood, C players with less than one year of shuffleboard experience and both from right here at the Dixie Belle.

After the excitement of Thanksgiving, Christmas was looking to be a little calm, but Wes and Eileen know how to spice up the season. They threw a Christmas bash. What a couple! We started out with the cocktail hour, then a huge potluck buffet. We have some excellent chefs among our customers and staff and not just the women -- these California men are as hot in the kitchen as they are on the shuffleboards. After dinner, there was a gift exchange, which is always a riot, more goodwill, Christmas carols with Karaoke and, of course, shuffleboard. It is always nice to celebrate the seasons with such good friends in a harmonious atmosphere.

News Years always comes in with a bang and this year will be no exception. I, however, am looking forward to the end of January and the beginning of the PCSA tournament in Las Vegas. I love Las Vegas any time and

(continued on Page 11)



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## Blade Scores "Hat Trick" at Michigan Open

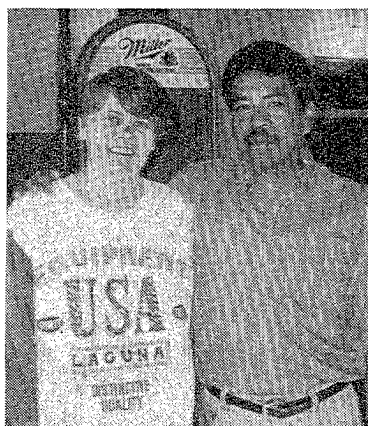
The 9th Annual State of Michigan Championships was hosted by Joe and Linda Coscarelli at Pasquale's Bar in Lansing, Nov. 25-27. There were 13 teams in the mixed doubles completion, 10 in the women's singles, 25 in the men's singles, and 14 teams in the bring partner event, with a total pot of \$6,840.

Frank Blade of St. Clair Shores proved he was Michigan's best by winning the three events for which he was eligible -- with wife Sandy taking the women's singles crown to make it a perfect weekend for the couple.

The two set the tone by teaming up to take top honors in Friday's mixed doubles.



"My hero!" says Sandy Blade to hubby Frank. "You're not so bad yourself, kid," says Frank to mixed doubles partner Sandy, who also won the women's singles.



Penny Cottrell of Waterford and J.R. Lopez of Lansing teamed up to take second place honors in the mixed doubles event.

Kay LeHenky and Dave Willett, both of Saginaw, were third-place winners. Finishing just out of the money in fourth were Bjerne Sunde of Madison Heights and Trish Tolsdorf of Waterford.



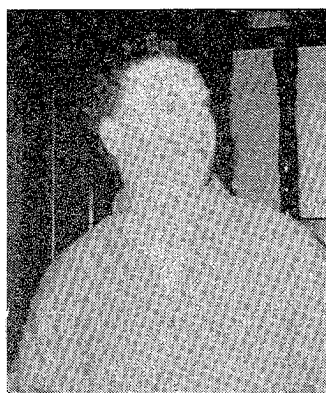
The women's and men's singles were played simultaneously on Saturday on the three boards.

Sandy Blade lost her first game, but came back to claim top honors in the field of 10 contenders in the women's singles. Trish Tolsdorf (winner of the 1994 Skip's/Board Talk draw partner tourney with Hoosier Larry Huffer) finished second, with Cassie Kern of Pontiac in third place.

It was the wee hours of Sunday morning before the field of 25 entries in the men's singles was pared down to two, with only a handful of faithful fans there to see (well, Sandy didn't exactly see it -- but she was there!) the outcome of the battle between Frank Blade and Chris Passariello of Bridgeport.



Men's singles champ Frank Blade and second-place finisher Chris Passariello congratulate each other as the "crowd" gives them a round of applause.



Jim Croom of Lansing, a highly-respected league player, but new to the tournament scene, took third place. A surprise finisher, he bought himself in the sponsor sale for the minimum bid, so he went home with two fat envelopes!

Favored Bjerne Sunde finished fourth and rounded out the winner's circle in the men's singles.

Bjerne and Frank (winners of the doubles tournament at Stober's Lounge, Lansing, in September) teamed up to take the bring partner event on Sunday. Lansing's Mark Holland and J.R. Lopez took second-place honors, with Slick and Betty Parrish of Waterford in third. Gene Gach of Milford and Rick Wright of Commerce finished in fourth place.





*It's been a highly-productive partnership for these two tough-to-beat shufflers -- Bjerne Sunde and Frank Blade, Michigan's 1994 bring partner champs.*

*Runners-up in the bring partner championships were Mark Holland and J.R. Lopez, both of Lansing.*



## WELL-DESERVED THANKS....

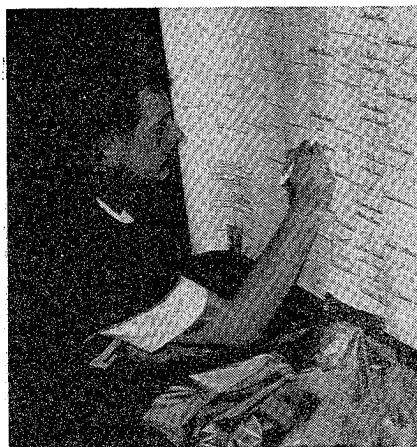
*Tournament Director George Wilber extends appreciation to cashier Betty Parrish, who has earned all those stars on her T-shirt, assistant cashier "Crazy Mary" Lisle, bookkeeper Donna Wilber.....*



*Thanks also to the hard-working and congenial host for the 1994 State of Michigan Championships, Joe Coscarelli, and his friendly staff....*



*A special salute to bracketeer Jeff Cottrell and all who volunteered their assistance in running the tournament. And thanks to all who participated in this year's event; "You're all champs in my book," says George.*



## ...AND CONGRATULATIONS TO:



*There was a good-sized delegation from the Saginaw area participating in the tournament, including Chuck Rickles and Lori Sullivan, who announced that they would be wed on December 30. Sincere best wishes for a long, happy life together, from BoardTalk editors George and Donna.*

## OVERHEARD ON THE SIDELINES....

Frank: "I missed eight weights that game!"

George: "So how did you win?"

Frank: "My opponent missed nine."

\*\*\*\*\*

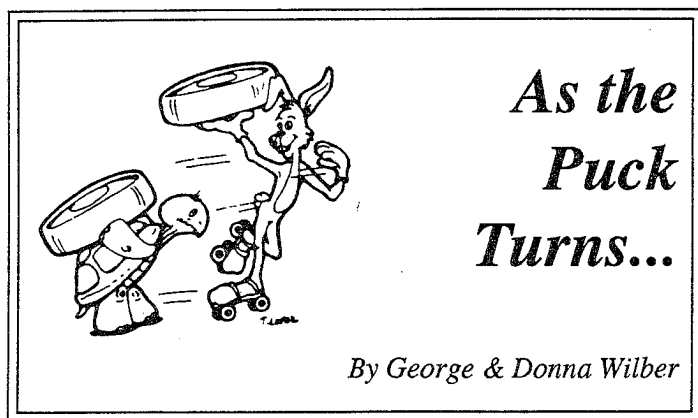
Mark: "I was doing great; then everything fell apart."

George: "When did that happen?"

Mark: "My second shot in the first frame."

\*\*\*\*\*

Bystander: "Who is that dirty old man taking a sex survey?"



As we enter our 12th year, we've made some format changes (thanks, Jim Manders, for your suggestions). We hope they meet with your approval. Your feedback is welcome.....

\*\*\*\*\*

....And, as we enter this New Year, we'd like to ask you a favor. When you read each issue of *The Board Talk*, please take note of those businesses that support our efforts through their advertising revenue. Whether it's a product, service, or upcoming tournament, let them know you appreciate their support. Remember, without that revenue, we wouldn't be able to bring you the news and views of The World of Shuffleboard each month.

\*\*\*\*\*

Your response to our offer of three free gift subscriptions for every tournament listed on our Calendar of Events has been enthusiastic. Because these subscriptions are awarded to committed shufflers, we're confident they will renew when their free year has run out. This promotion has been much more successful than previous efforts to expand our network through incentives like a set of weights or a board because potential winners signed up their friends and family members who had no interest whatsoever in our sport. Keep them coming! You can award them to whomever -- volunteer help, winners, drawings.

\*\*\*\*\*

John McDermott of The Shuffleboard Federation, Inc., has an idea worth pursuing. After waiting for three weeks to receive his December issue, he suggested that some shufflers would gladly pay to have their *Board Talk* mailed first class. If there's enough interest, we'll offer that, but be aware that it will cost you about \$10 a year more than the \$15 you're now paying. Let us know.

Dear Canadian Friends: For 11 years, we've been sending your *Board Talks* first-class because we didn't have a choice. Now that we're retired and have to depend upon Social Security and this publication for our income, and because your ranks are growing, effective this month, your subscriptions will be \$25 a year. That change is reflected on the subscription coupon. Those Canadian

subscribers who are in "good standing" will remain at the current rate until their subscriptions expire.

\*\*\*\*\*

A phone call from a local fraternal organization regarding the sale of their shuffleboard prompted us to start a dialogue about this issue. Why is it that the American Legion in Del City, Oklahoma, and the Bay Country Moose in Queenstown, Maryland, can be two of the favorite tournament sites in the U.S.A., while other clubs can't even handle local league play because members resent non-members enjoying their facilities? What are the differences? Is it state laws? Or simply the pressure from members? Let's hear from you about this issue and how you handle it.

\*\*\*\*\*

Another issue worthy of discussion is: "Are women's singles a thing of the past?" Most East Coast tournaments have discontinued them because of lack of participation. At our recent Michigan Open, we had a grand total of two women lined up at the registration table with money in hand. So, would we let these two ladies battle it out for the Michigan championship? Thanks to that determined, dedicated promoter, Betty Parrish, we ended up with a field of 10 women competing for the title. But not every area of The World of Shuffleboard has a Betty Parrish!

What's the problem and what's the answer? Do women simply lack the confidence to participate in tournaments or have they progressed in their skills enough to feel qualified to play with -- and against -- the men?

Let's hear from you on this issue.

\*\*\*\*\*

In next month's issue, we'll publish our quarterly "Play Your Way Across the U.S.A." listing of shuffleboard establishments which are subscribers of *The Board Talk*. To make sure your favorite shuffleboard site is on that map (and travelling shufflers do use it; see Dan Kelly's letter in Notebook), check to see if they are a subscriber in good standing. If not, sign them up so we receive the information before the 15th.

\*\*\*\*\*

We look forward to seeing many of you in Vegas at the P.C.S.A. tournament. Some of you we know; others are still just names on our mailing list. Please don't hesitate to come up and introduce yourselves.

\*\*\*\*\*

A shuffleboard family from Oakland County, Michigan, needs your prayers/good wishes during this holiday season. Shuffler Bob Marshall lost his 30-year-old son in October. A week later, his new wife, Judy, was involved in a head-on collision and is still in the hospital. Please send your cards and messages to Betty Parrish, 6621 Doyon Dr., Waterford, MI 48317, and she'll see that they get to the Marshall family. Let them know we care!

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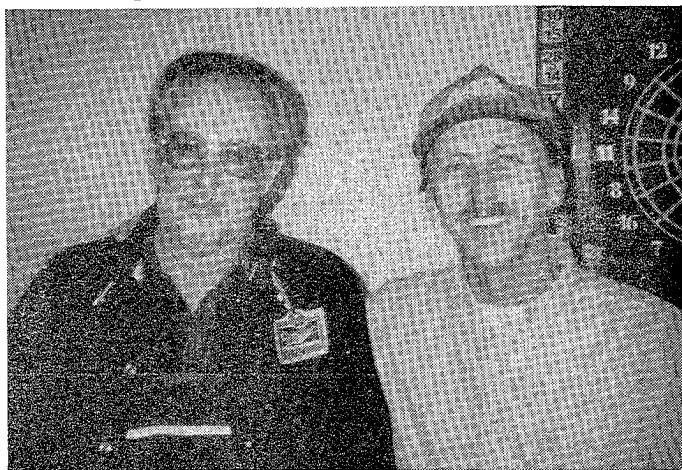
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## NORRIS/THORPE WINNERS AT TIM'S TIMBER TAVERN

Tim's Timber Tavern in Kelso, Washington, hosted its 1st Annual Open Doubles on Oct. 9-10. When the dust settled, it was Chuck Norris of Portland, Oregon, and Mike Thorpe of Washington, who took top honors.



Winners Chuck Norris (left) and Mike Thorpe were also second-place finishers together at the PCSA-sponsored event at the Shamrock Tavern in Longview just a couple months earlier.

Darrol Nelson of Oregon and Dan Hitt of Spokane, Washington, took second place, with Jim Allis and Gary George, Vancouver, Washington, in third. John Hyatt of Kennewick, Washington, and Chuck (the puck) Kempton finished fourth.

"The Kelso American Legion Club had a record-setting weekend and asked me to thank all the players," reports tournament director Kevin Larkin.

The next event at Tim's will be a \$50 per team mixed doubles on Dec. 31-Jan. 1.

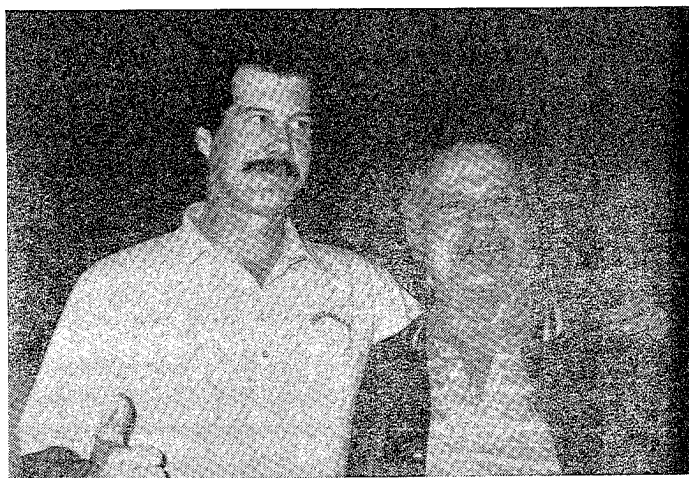
*(Editor's Note: Our regrets that we did not receive this report in time to promote the upcoming tournament. Readers, if you receive this issue in time, consider spending your New Year's Eve at this fun-filled event. Tim's was one of the "Play Your Way Across the U.S.A." subscriber establishments we visited last summer and it's a very nice place!)*

## WEST COAST PLAYERS GIVE THANKS AT DIXIE BELLE

There were no Pilgrims and very few Indians at the Thanksgiving weekend tournament at the Dixie Belle in Downey, California, but all participants were thankful for the warm hospitality of owners Wes and Eileen Eades, Dixie Debbie and the rest of the staff. And the winners of the 13-team field of contenders in the open doubles and the 17-team ABC draw competitors were particularly

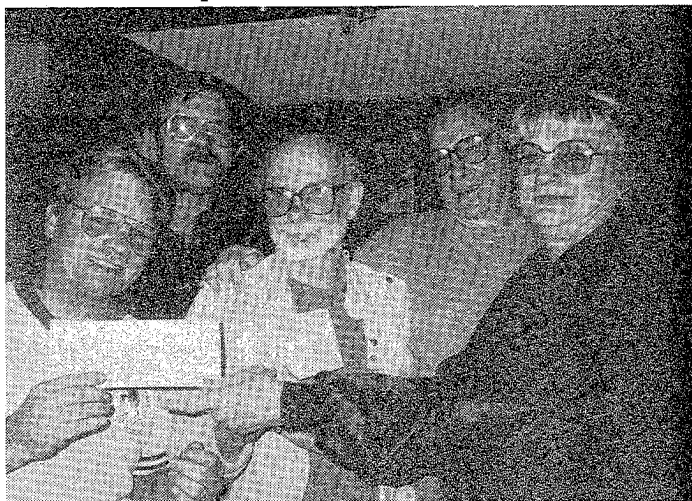
thankful, along with their sponsors, when they collected their fat envelopes.

In the open doubles, Ted Zariphes and Billy Maxwell teamed up to take top honors. PCSA officials Joe Muniz and Karl Spickelmier finished second, with Andy Smeder and Craig Amundson in third place.



*"Thumbs up!" for doubles winners Billy Maxwell and Ted Zariphes.*

The team of Pat Bayless, Leroy Waggoner and Jack Brown were winners the the ABC draw. John McGinnis, Dave Brennan and Frank Smith took second place honors. Billy Chiles, Gary Jones and Mike Galante finished third, with Paul Elliot, Bob Ruiz and Sandy Flood in fourth place.



*Dixie Belle owner Eileen Eades presents winners' envelopes to (from left) sponsor Gary Jones, ABC team members Jack Brown, Pat Bayless and Leroy Waggoner.*

"There are a few special people we'd like to thank: Karl and Bubba for bracketing; Jim (Just Too Much Fun) Anderson and Cadillac Joe for taking care of the boards; Joe Muniz for being a terrific Master of Ceremonies; Lou Lusero for that dynamite chile; Steve Floyd, owner of Mr. G's in Visalia and the entire Visalia entourage; Don Cox for coming in early and making the pre-tournament

*(continued on Page 19)*



## ***EAST COAST PLAYERS LIKE HARVEY'S NEW FORMAT***

The crowd that gathered at Harvey's Place in Street, Maryland, on Dec. 2-4, was responsive to the new event format developed by hosts Darlyne Belcher and Harvey Comer and tournament manager Dick Gorman to expand winning opportunities for inexperienced players.

"We were most happy with the beginning of the transition and the turnout," said Dick. "All said it was better than they had anticipated."

### **Freer/McManus Win Draw Partner**

Friday night was the usual draw partner event, with jackets going to the first place winners, special prizes to second and third, and money paid to the first six places.

First place went to Louise Freer, Lansdale, Pa., and her partner, first-time tournament winner ever, Dave McManus of Street. Second place went to Connie King, Northeast, Md., and Len Dell, Baltimore, with third going to Richard Foracker, Canterbury, Del., and Arlow Johnson, Jordan, N.Y.

Other winners were: Wendy Davis, Wilmington, Del., and Buddy Brammer, Rising Sun, Md., 4th; hostess Darlyne Belcher and Jane Johnson, Jordan, N.Y., 5th; and Richie Casula, Newark, Del., and Wayne Nichols, Conowingo, Md., 6th.

### **Herrmann/Yank Winning Partners**

Saturday's bring partner event (the women's singles has been dropped temporarily) once again drew a good crowd of contenders. This event also awarded jackets to the winners, special prizes to second and third places, and money to the top six teams.

Sporting those classy jackets and taking top money were winners Jerry Herrmann and Jim Yank of Philadelphia. Taking second place, after going all the way through the winner's bracket, were Chuck McKenzie, Port Deposit, Md., and Dave Shewbridge, Pasadena, Md., and third to those travelers from Jordan, New York, Jane and Arlow Johnson.

Other winners in the bring partner tourney were: Anthony Conch and Herb Forrester of Philadelphia, 4th; Judy Iseman, Chestertown, Md., and Len Dell, Baltimore, 5th; and (again) hostess Darlyne Belcher and Dave McManus, 6th.

### **Brammer/Ledford/Campbell/Ledford Winners of "Primary," "Second Chance"**

The Dec. 4th event was a first for Harvey's and the turnout exceeded attendance for Sunday events for some time. "Quite an accomplishment for a first-time trial," said Dick. The event is a draw partner with entrants

divided into two groups -- one the most skilled or experienced, the second the lesser skilled or experienced. Teams are formed by drawing one name from each "hat."

"It starts out like a regular draw partner tournament. After half of the teams have been eliminated, we start the 'Second Chance Event' with money passing through from the first event," Dick explained.

Winning the "primary" event and earning jackets and top prize money were Buddy Brammer, Rising Sun, and Andy Ledford, Street, first-time tournament winner. Second place went to first-time tourney entrant Debbie Harris of Perryville, Md., and Arlow Johnson of New York. Third prizes and money went to Dewey Shortridge, Bellair, Md., and director Dick Gorman, Wilmington, Del.

The "second chance" winners were Rex Campbell, Greensboro, Md., and father of the other first-place winner, Arnold Ledford, Whiteford, Md. Second place money was taken by Hilda Poling, Abbingtion, Md., and once again, Dave McManus.

"The new format was enjoyed by all who participated," said Dick. "They thought it was one of the fairest and most balanced tournaments they had participated in."

Hosts Darlyne and Harvey extend special congratulations to the two local, first-time tournament winners, Dave ManManus and Andy Ledford. Also special congratulations to overall tournament winners, Arlow and Jane Johnson.

The next weekend tournament at Harvey's is scheduled for March 3-5. Another upcoming event is the 11th Annual Board Talk Shufflers' Reunion at Harvey's in June. Call Harvey or Darlyne, 410-836-8881 for reservations and information on all tournaments.

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## OKLAHOMA SHUFFLERS CELEBRATE VETERANS' DAY IN DEL CITY

The American Legion Post 73 in Del City, Oklahoma, held a shuffleboard get-together over Veterans' Day, with 45 players participating in the open draw and 3-person draft event.

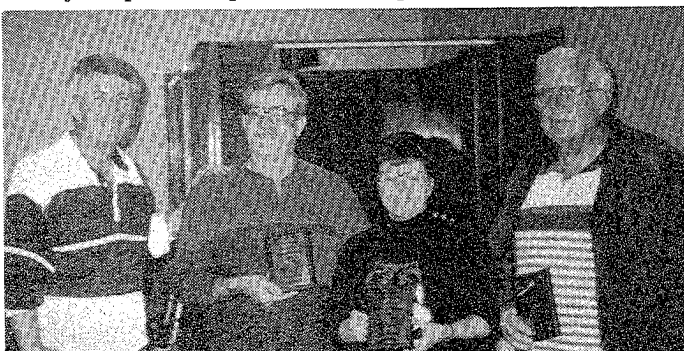


*Danny Hersom (left) and Ron Huddleston took top honors in the draw partner event. Janet Weidner and Bill Holley took second place, with Johnny Wayne and Ron Blalock in third place.*

"The 3-person draft fielded 12 teams and started off with all teams beginning at the same time on the six boards," reports Ron Huddleston. "Fortunately, I drafted two players determined to win, Debbie Bowers and D.G. Lane."



*Debbie Bowers, Ron Huddleston, and D.G. Lane collect their first-place trophies in the 3-person draft.*



*Ron congratulates second-place finishers Ron Bowers, Lois Lambert (Board Talk slogan winner) and Bill Melton.*

Third place honors went to Rena Hendrix's team of Ken Storch and Jimmy L.

"The format was 4 of 7 games and, once again, the draft method provided parity in all the teams, with most sessions going the full seven games," Ron said.

## WEAVER/DURGAN WIN PRO-AM AT DEW DROP INN

The Dew Drop Inn, Waterloo, New York, hosted a "Pro"-Am tournament on Nov. 19. It was a bring partner event and a "pro" was classified as any player who finished first in a national tournament on the East Coast within the past three years.



*Leroy Weaver (left) and Earl Durgan were winners of the Dew Drop Inn's Pro-Am tournament.*

Second place honors went to Doug Fridley Sr. and Bill Andreas, with Bob Cornell and Theresa Gibson in third place.

"Although the turnout was light, everyone had a great time and Denise Cooley prepared a hot buffet for everyone, while Connie Labella bartended all the thirsty shufflers," report hosts Doug Sr. and Doug Jr.

The next big National Open at the Dew Drop Inn will be April 7-9, with four events over three days.

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## Notebook *(continued from Page 2)*

with so many shufflers in the same area, it should be very exciting. I know our teams will be stirring up their share with our main "Animal," Wes Eades, leading the way. We'll see you there!

While we're talking travel, it's not too early to start planning summer vacation. Southern California is a great destination and July is a great time to be there. It also just happens to be when the Dixie Belle has its annual 4th of July tournament -- open singles, open doubles, ABC draw and more fun than a "barrel of new, speckled pups." Also for those fans and cheering sections who might want a break from the action, we have shopping and other great amusements nearby. Plan now to join the fun.

Along with Wes, Eileen and the entire staff of the Dixie Belle, I wish each and every one a happy, healthy and prosperous New Year.

Dixie Debbie, The Dixie Belle, Downey, California

*Thanks for giving recognition to author/cartoonist Balboa Ron. He certainly deserves it! Each month, when his next episode arrives (always well ahead of the deadline, which we appreciate), we resist the temptation to "sneak a peek" until we actually typeset his copy so it's fresh and exciting. Then, we can hardly wait for the next one*

*Happy New Year to you folks! We look forward to seeing you in Vegas.*

### THANKS FROM CLAIRE...

Many thanks to my shuffling friends for caring, beautiful cards and such wonderful tributes to Mickey. God bless you all!

Claire Mickens, Mt. Laurel, New Jersey

*And God bless you and your family, Claire. We know this will be a difficult Holiday for you, but take heart in what your friend, Judy Gartland, said last month: "We all know that he is 'Up There' with Art Ware and Scratch Todd playing shuffleboard with the 'Big Man,' yelling 'Father, Son and Holy Spirit to the baseline.'" You will be in our prayers (and those of so many in The World of Shuffleboard) this Holiday season.*

### A TRIBUTE TO TONY COMA

A long-time shuffleboard player, Tony Coma, from the Eastern Delco League in Delaware County, Pennsylvania, passed away on Dec. 5, 1994. He suffered from a lengthy, debilitating illness, but through it all, he

managed to continue to play the game of shuffleboard. He was a well-known, respected, and well-liked figure in shuffleboard in the Southeastern Pennsylvania area.

Shuffleboard was not his only sporting interest. He coached various youth teams and was a teacher for 38 years. He was inducted into the Delaware County Hall of Fame in 1991 and wrote two books on horse-racing as well.

A memorial service will be held on Jan. 28, 1995. Memorial contributions for an athletic scholarship can be sent to: Bob Thornton, Box 531, Wayne, PA 19087.

Louise Freer, Lansdale, Pennsylvania

*Our modest contribution for the Tony Coma Memorial Scholarship is on its way, Louise, and we hope it will be joined by other shufflers who would like to make a difference in the life of some young athlete. Tony is a reflection of the kind of people who make up our world, and that makes us very proud.*

## CLASSIFIED ADS

**NOTICE WASHINGTON:** This is Pennsylvania. I was in Delaware when you called and now I can't seem to reach you. Hope to see you in Nevada.

**SHUFFLEBOARDS FOR SALE:** Three full 22-footers. Two newly-refinished by the Meltons of Oklahoma (home of Lion's Barry Sanders), and one Playfair board barely used (played on by very old ladies). For information, call George Wilber, 517-371-2538.

**WANTED:** Got some product or service to sell? Remember, shufflers have a life beyond shuffleboard. They buy cars, RVs, TVs, VCRs, PCs, look for bargains in airline tickets, etc. etc. It only costs \$5 for 25 words or less to advertise in the classified section. If you haven't sold what you have to sell, try us! Send, along with your check to cover costs, before the 15th of each month.

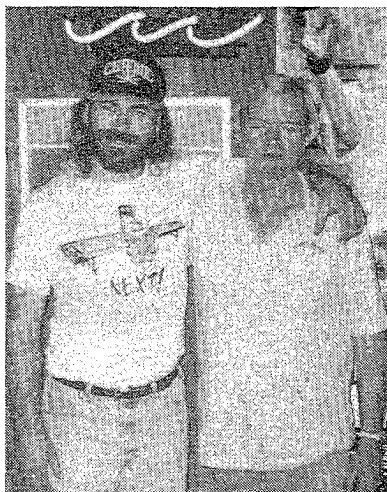
**THE BOARD TALK**  
**421 E. Sheridan Rd.**  
**Lansing, MI 48906**  
**Phone: 517-371-2538**

## NELSON/ALLIS TAKE BZ'S 1ST THANKSGIVING DOUBLES

BZ's Sports Bar & Grill in Seattle, Washington, hosted its 1st Annual Thanksgiving Tournament over the holiday weekend, and Darrol Nelson of Oregon and Jim Allis of Longview, Wash., added another notch to their belts by taking top honors.



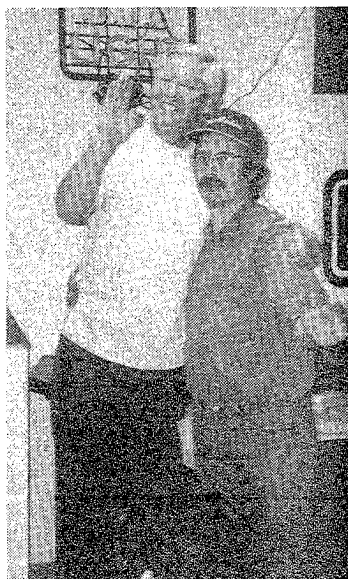
*Taking first place in BZ's 1st Annual Thanksgiving Tournament was the team of Darrol Nelson and Jim Allis.*



*Rick Gindt (left) and Jim Foran of Tacoma took second place.*

*The reason Jim is "taking a nap" is because he ran the tournament. Hostess Cheryl Sherwood extends special thanks to Jim for doing that and for showing her the "Foran Shuffle."*

*Finishing in third place were John Luhtala of Eatonville and Don Schaeffer of Seattle. Cheryl thanks all the shufflers who participated and sends Holiday Season greetings to The World of Shuffleboard.*



*Looking not too unhappy with fourth place winnings were Dave Arndt (left) of Tacoma and Gordy Smith of Canada.*



Mark your calendars now for the next big event at BZ's, 17730 Des Moines Memorial Drive, Seattle, on April 22-23 -- the 3rd Annual Bring Your Partner.

## 10th ANNUAL MIXED DOUBLES, OLD EDISON INN, MARCH 11-12

The Old Edison Inn in Edison, Washington, will host its 10th Annual Mixed Doubles Tournament on March 11-12. Entry is \$50 per team for the double elimination event on the two Edison boards. Play will begin immediately following the 11 a.m. sponsor sale on Saturday, with winner's bracket 2-out-of-3, 15 point games, and single 17-point games in the loser's bracket.

"Lots of door prizes, complimentary chow on Saturday, Board Talk subscription give-aways, and loads of fun for all are guaranteed," says tournament director Phil DePree.

New owners "Mini" Calomino and Sandy Stanley will sweeten the pot and invite past participants and newcomers alike to join in the fun. Some RV space is available and motels are plentiful in the nearby Burlington-Mt. Vernon area.

Last year's winners were Chris Danke and Steve Wilson. Will they try for a repeat?

For further information, contact Phil at the Old Edison Inn, \*206-766-6266, or \*206-766-5301. (\*Area code schedule to change to 360 sometime early in 1995.)

### REMINDER!

*News and views, ads and calendar dates, must be received by the 15th of each month for publication in the next issue.*

*Send to:*

**THE BOARD TALK**

**421 E. Sheridan Rd., Lansing, MI 48906**



## SCRATCH TODD MEMORIAL HELD AT HARRINGTON MOOSE

A memorial tournament honoring the "Big Man," Scratch Todd, who passed away the week after he directed the tournament last year, was held at the Harrington Moose, Harrington, Delaware, Dec. 8-10. New director Dick Gorman said he considered it a great honor to be chosen to follow someone who did so much for the game of shuffleboard.

An unusual start for Friday night's activities was a bring partner "horsecollar" double elimination tournament, which was won by the strong team of Rick Niblett and Jim Sommers of Salisbury, Md., followed by the Long Island, New York, team of Ed Galke and Dick Smedberg. Third and final money spot went to Joyce Pyle of Churchill, Md., and Mary Wagner, Milford, Del.

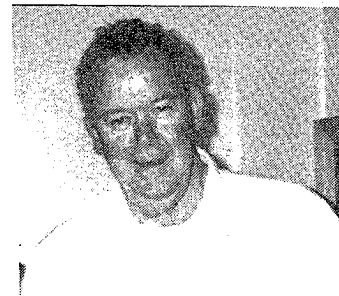
Saturday's event, which lasted all day and well into the evening on the three in-house boards was a draw partner event for a pot that exceeded \$100 per team. First place went to local Moose member Dallas Hayman from Harrington, Del., and Lonzo Knight, Sharpsburg, Md. Second place money was taken after two final games by Louise Freer, Lansdale, Pa., and Dick Gorman, Wilmington, Del. Third place went to Jason "The Mason" Chisenhall, Milford, Del. (first-time money finisher) and hostess (and best cook around) Mary Wagner. Taking the final money

spot was local Johnny Gardner of Harrington and Larry Scott of Middletown, Del.

The big event was Sunday's bring partner. Taking first place all the way through the winners bracket were Len Dell, Baltimore, Md., and Eddie Kibler, Henderson, Md., with second place going to Johnny Gardner and Dallas Hayman. Third money spot went to the travelling team from Hagerstown, Lonzo Knight and Jim Snyder. Fourth and final money spot went to Rick Niblett and Jim Sommers.

"It was a great weekend, thanks to the hospitality of the Hagerstown Moose, lodge manager Bunny Lawton, and bar manager Sue," Dick reports. "Added to their hospitality was tournament organizer and best cook we know of on the Eastern shore, Mary Wagner. It was all in memory of Scratch Todd and we still miss the 'big guy.'"

*Scratch Todd, fondly remembered by East Coast shufflers and others across The World of Shuffleboard.*



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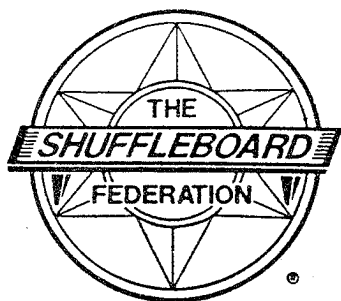
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**TOURNAMENT CHARTS:**

Running tournaments is easy with a set of our 34" X 49" laminated, erasable and reusable bracket charts. They can be used for single or double elimination events and have a built-in bye table. A must for tournament competition! Save a trip to the store by ordering a set of four multi-color erasable markers.

**RULE BOOKS:**

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**WALL CARDS:**

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## HOT ACTION AT WETLANDS' 1ST ANNUAL HOLIDAY CLASSIC

More than 50 players participated in the 1st Annual Holiday Classic at Wetlands Bar & Grill in Royal Oak, Michigan in December. The A/B draw was sold out and the field included a number of tournament novices, to the

delight of owner Mike Papa and The Shuffleboard Federation, which promoted the three-event tournament.

Hoosier Buddy Broka teamed up with local player Gene Gach to take first place in the draw, going undefeated in the process. They beat out second place finishers Sandy Blade and Reggie Surfus, who finished second by avenging an earlier loss to Bob Kingston and John McDermott, who finished third.

The singles and doubles events were run using the "constant action" format developed by Phil McGrew of Toledo, Ohio. Under this format, the two events are played simultaneously by alternating back and forth between the two events (one round of games in the singles, then one round in the doubles, etc.). With bracketeer Rob Kern at the helm, everything ran smooth, as expected.

The hotly-contested singles finals went the distance, ending when Frank Blade, down 13-12, lagged a three to win the tournament. John McDermott finished second, beating out Ricky Royal ("watch out for this guy, who a few weeks ago, came out of the loser's bracket to beat Bobby Voorhis in the singles final of the Indiana State Championships," said John. *(Editor's Note: Sorry, no report from that event. Watch the February issue for results.)*)

In the doubles, it was Neil Fetter and John McDermott in the top spot, ahead of Jeff Cottrell and Ken Gay, who they also beat in the winner's bracket finals. Jeff and Ken got to the finals with a dramatic come-from-behind win against Buddy Broka and Ricky Royal.

Look for the flyer in next month's issue of *The Board Talk* for complete dates and information on Wetlands' 1995 tournament schedule.

## '95 NORTH AMERICAN CHAMPIONSHIPS WILL RETURN TO SANDS REGENCY!

The 1995 North American Shuffleboard Championships will return to the Sands Regency Hotel/Casino in Reno, Nevada, for a week of non-stop action, October 30-November 5.

Events will include singles and doubles for Pros, Division I and Division II players, plus a Ladies' Singles, Draw Partner, a draft style team event, Deuces Wild, and the Legends Draw.

Full details are not yet available, but you can expect a sizeable chunk of added money once again from the sponsor, Sands Regency Hotel/Casino, and 16 new shuffleboards. More information will be in the February issue of *The Board Talk*.

## SEASON'S GREETINGS!



*Out with  
the old...*

*In with  
the new....*

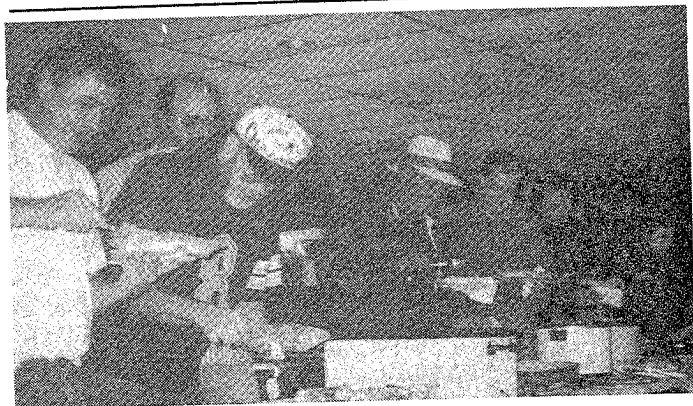


*We wish you a 1995 filled with  
shuffleboard fun and achievements!*

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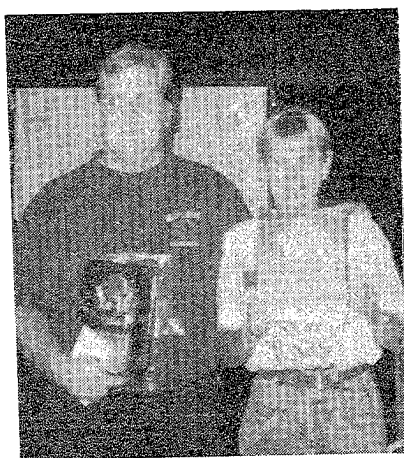
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## GOLD NUGGET PROVES "EVERYTHING'S BIG" IN TEXAS!



A 20-foot table laden with Thanksgiving food and desserts was just one of the many attractions at the Gold Nugget Club's 10th Annual Thanksgiving Classic on Nov. 24-27 in Arlington, Texas.

Over \$25,000 in prize money, a 20-foot table heavily-laden with tasty treats, six new in-house boards -- plus super competition and great sportsmanship -- were reasons why the Gold Nugget Club, 2602 W. Division, Arlington, Texas, proved that "everything is BIG in Texas!"



Winners of the draw partner event were Billy Melton and Debbie Bowers. Bob Shaw and Brenda Watts took second, with Don Valk and Lee McDaniel in third.

Rick Boyer (right) and Eddie Woods took top honors in the bring partner event. Johnny Ballard and Steve Burkett took second, with Don Valk and Alfred Suarez in third.



Eddie Woods and Rick Boyer

The draft team event, which drew 48 players, went to Ron Huddleston's team of David White, Keith Findley, Steve Burkett, Diana Milligan and Betty Rickman.



Ron Huddleston (right), originator of the draft team event, congratulates his winning team.

Taking second place honors in the team event were Johnny Wayne, Lisa Melton, Tom Johnson, Sharon Huddleston, Vicki Winchester, and Susie McCormick. In third place was the team of David Williams, Bill Wooldridge, Betty Baumgardner, Vicki Russell, Lee McDaniel, and Debby Martin.

Bill Brody, host of the Gold Nugget, who is trying to build the shuffleboard mecca of the U.S.A. with his six boards, thanks all participants, fans, and the people who helped run this great tournament.

## OKLAHOMA SETS STATE CHAMPIONSHIP, JAN. 13-14

The Oklahoma State Shuffleboard Championship Tournament will be held at the American Legion Post 73, 5000 S.E. 24th, Del City, on January 13-14. Events will include an open draw on Friday night, 7:30, \$25 entry fee; men's championship and ladies' championship held simultaneously on Saturday at 3 p.m., each \$20 entry. All events will be single game, double elimination. There will be a \$5.00 registration fee. Play will be on six boards.

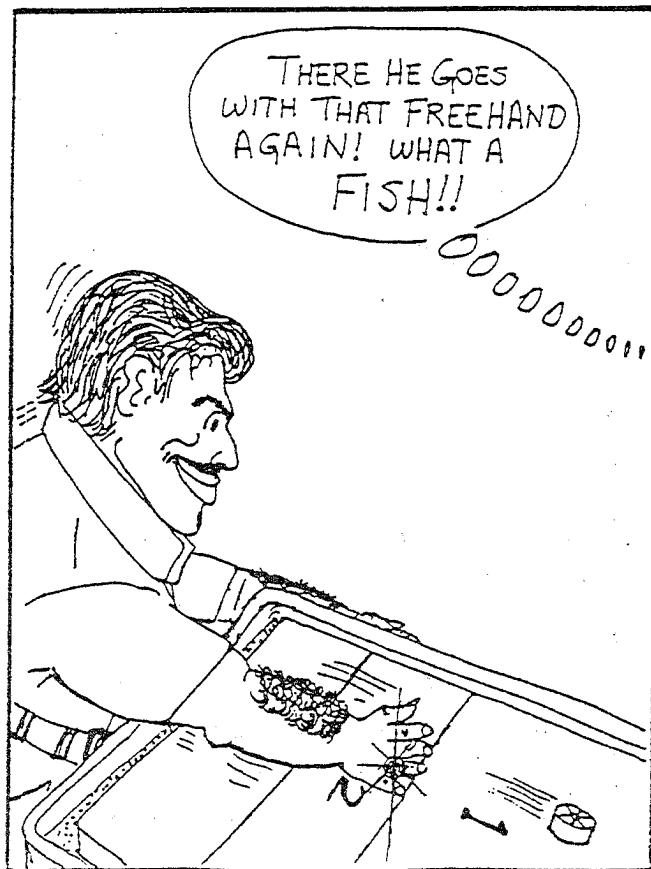
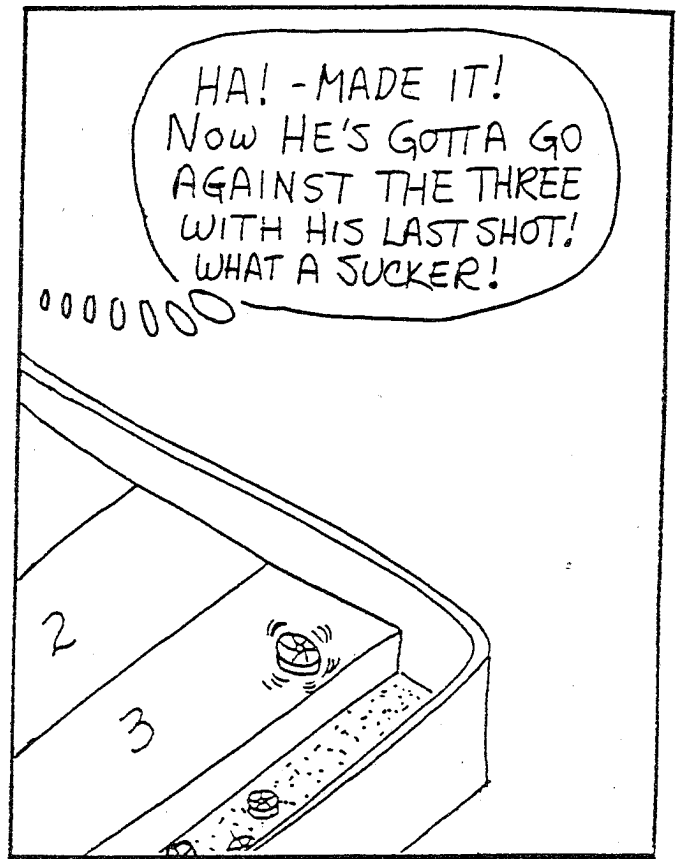
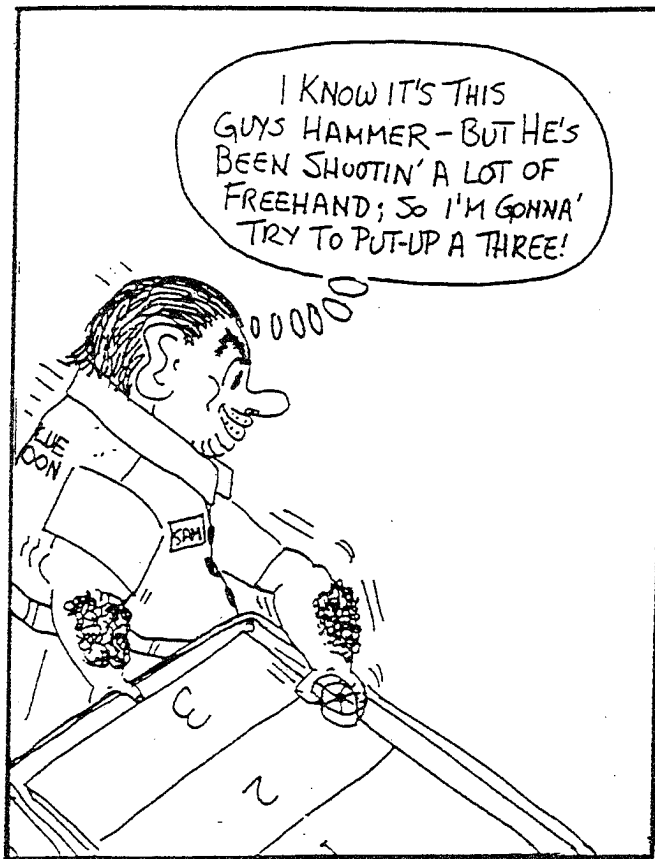
This tournament is open to Oklahoma residents only.

For information, contact Ron Huddleston, 405-843-1615, or Don Crall, 405-677-9393.

(Editor's Note: Congratulations, Oklahoma! In response to our "As the Puck Turns" column last month, Florida shuffleboard promoter Marty Allen responded: "A national shuffleboard tournament composed of state shuffleboard champions is a dream worthy to strive for, and to have the exact same dates nationwide for the individual state championships is just absolutely perfect. Go for it -- and you may count the state of Florida in." They have developed a State Charter for the Florida (Table) Shuffleboard Association, with goals and objectives and appointed a 10-member committee to represent and serve the various districts and areas within the state. We believe it will be of value to other states and will share it in next month's Board Talk.)



***HAPPY NEW YEAR FROM....***  
**SHUFFLIN' SAM**



# *Frisco Eddie's Revenge: The Return*

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

*(In last month's episode, Eddie followed through on his commitment to go "on the road" with Long Beach Lil. When he arrived at the L.A.X. Airport, he got more than he bargained for when Lil gave him a very warm welcome. "This is either too good to be true -- or too true to be good," he thought. He felt like he had one foot in Heaven -- but the other one felt pretty hot!.)*

Eddie and Lil finally got out of the airport. On the drive over to Lil's place, she gave Eddie a brief outline of what her travel plan was for the trip. She said she didn't want him to play in L.A. She wanted to save that for last. Her plan would take them first to Texas, then Michigan. From there, they would then try the East, or double back to Washington/Oregon, and work their way down the West Coast.

There was an "airfare war" on at that time and they had a very good bankroll between them, so Lil decided to fly, and then rent cars at their destinations. She had already booked their first two legs: to Dallas/Fort Worth, and Michigan. They would leave in the morning.

After they got to Lil's place, a spacious condo in Long Beach, Eddie settled in a little. He stowed his gear in the guest bedroom. Lil fixed them a drink then and they relaxed in her comfortably laid-out living room. Her whole place was really nice. They made plans to take a swim, and a spa later that evening. Lil reaffirmed that she didn't want Eddie even near a shuffleboard in the L.A. area before they left; that would come later. She wanted him to get the experience of the trip first. She also explained that the P.C.S.A. tournament in Las Vegas would be coming up, just about the time their trip would end. That was the big one!

Later, they went to a nice restaurant for dinner. Eddie was starting to relax and enjoy himself. After they got home, Lil suggested they change clothes and take that swim they had talked about.

Lil wore a robe to the pool and, when she took it off, Eddie saw what a knockout shape she really had. He knew then how strong a challenge it was going to be to remain faithful to Shelli.

There was a slight chill in the air, so the heated pool really felt good. After they swam for a while, they decided to try the steaming spa. They were close then, and Lil began to tell Eddie a little bit about her past. She said she was divorced, and was left with a comfortable settlement. She worked only when she wanted to -- as an accountant. She went on to say her "ex" owned a string of successful bars and restaurants in the city, and his name was Tony

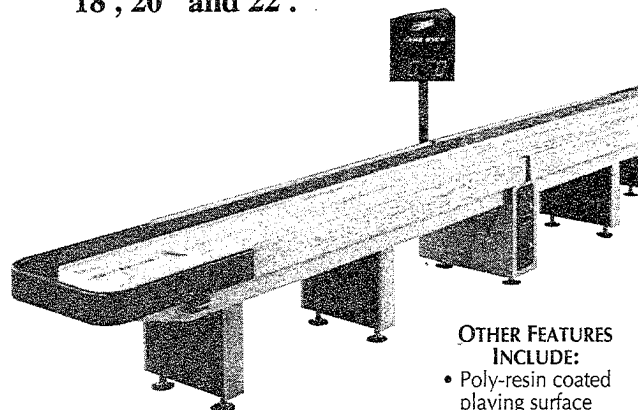
Russo. She said she had to be a little careful because he was very jealous -- and also very "connected."

It turned out to be a very fine night. They both focussed on the trip and the rest of their discussion was centered on their plans. This was fine with Eddie. He felt that if Lil would have come on strong at this point -- all his other plans may not have meant anything. She stuck to business...for reasons that Eddie would learn later.

In the morning, Lil called and arranged for a cab to take them to the airport. On the drive over, Eddie thought about how things were going so far. Not bad, really. In

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fact, he felt that it couldn't be better even if he had planned things himself.

The check-in and boarding went smoothly after they arrived. The sun was shining brightly as the plane broke ground and they began their climb-out. After they levelled out, and the flight attendant brought them their breakfast trays, Lil began to brief Eddie about the hustle. She began to explain some of the secret things, as she had promised (but she wanted them airborne and underway first). She started by asking him a question.

"Eddie, what's the difference between a hustler and a good 'con-man'?" Eddie replied: "Well, I always thought they were the same." Lil answered by saying: "No, wrong answer, Champ. The difference between the two is that the hustler has to leave town right away, after the deal goes down. But a good con-man -- now, he can stick around as long as he wants to, because he's so slick, the 'marks' can't even figure out what went down." She went on: "Now, we're 'hustlers,' Eddie, and we're going to have to move fast after we do our thing."

Then she asked him some more questions: "Have you ever heard of something called 'Tar-tar' -- or what effect common table salt can have on a game? Or how about a scam called the 'double-bet,' or 'push-bet,' Eddie?"

Eddie was baffled again and said so. Lil replied: "Well, O.K., my man -- here's how it works....."

---

*How does it work? Tune in to the next episode of Frisco Eddie's Revenge: The Return, in the February issue to find out. And, remember, when you see Balboa Ron at the PCSA Tournament in Vegas, please tell him how much you enjoy his Frisco Eddie series.*

---

## **DIXIE BELLE TOURNEY**

*(Continued from Page 8)*

competition just a little more interesting. Then, there was Freddy Thumann; Freddy just gives a whole new meaning to the word fun," said Dixie Debbie.

"Last, but not least, we thank each and every player who participated in our Thanksgiving tournament." *(See more news from Dixie Debbie in Notebook.)*

## **CHANCE'S "R" 1ST ANNUAL OPEN DOUBLES, JAN. 14**

Chance's "R," 3421 S. Walnut, Muncie, Indiana, will host its 1st Annual Open Doubles on Jan. 14. \$50 per team entry fee, with a limit of 64 teams. The double elimination event will be played on four boards and the payout will be 50-30-15-5.

The sponsor sale will start at 11 a.m., with play immediately following. Play will stop at 2 a.m. Sunday morning and will resume at noon if necessary.

For information, call hosts Bob and Karen Schounce, 317-284-0855; or tournament directors Steve Hart, 317-485-4368; Bob Brown Sr., 219-726-9408.

## **3-EVENT TOURNEY AT STICK'S, JAN. 20-22**

Stick's Billiards, 13201 Pond Springs Rd., Austin, Texas, will host a three-event tournament on Jan. 20-22.

Action will start Friday night with an open draw, \$10 entry fee, single game, single elimination, limited to 32 entries. At noon on Saturday, the bring partner event will start, \$60 per team entry and no pros and 0's may be partners. Single game, double elimination, limited to 16 teams. Stick's will add \$250 to this pot.

Sunday's event will be an A/B draw, \$20 per person entry, starting at noon, single game, single elimination. Pros, semi-pros and 1's will be rated A's; 2's, 3's and 4's as B's.

For information, contact Nonie at Stick's, 512-335-9177.

## **HUDDLE'S 2ND ANNUAL FLORIDA OPEN, MAR. 25-26**

The 2nd Annual Florida Open will again be held at the Huddle's Sports Cafe, 7100 Pines Blvd., Pembroke Pines, Florida. Saturday is a bring partner doubles competition with a \$50 per team entry fee. Sunday is the singles competition and a \$50 per player entry fee. Both events are single game, double elimination, with sponsor sales prior to each.

Be sure to come early and participate in the open board play and draw partner jackpots all day and all night.

For directions, lodging recommendations, and registration information, contact host Charlie Fisher at 305-985-8382, or Marty Allen at 407-471-4053.

Watch for a flyer in the February issue and post it at your favorite shuffleboard site to spread the word about this big event.

## **3RD OF BEEF'S SERIES OF 5 SET FOR JAN. 21**

Beef's in Kendallville, Indiana, will host its 3rd in the Series of 5 tournaments on Jan. 21. Entry is \$40, with sales at 11 a.m. Payback is 50%-4 points; 2nd, 30%, 3 points; 3rd, 15%, 2 points; and 4th, 5%, 1 point. At stake is a \$2000 pot at the end of the series. For information, call Beef or Marge at 219-347-9965.

Last we heard, Bobby Voorhis and Dave Boaz were leading the field of contenders. But that could change!

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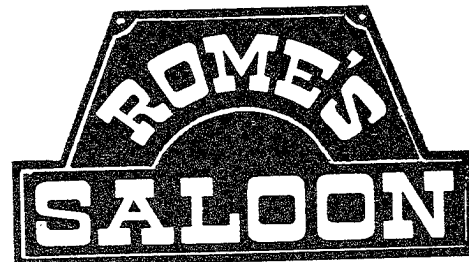
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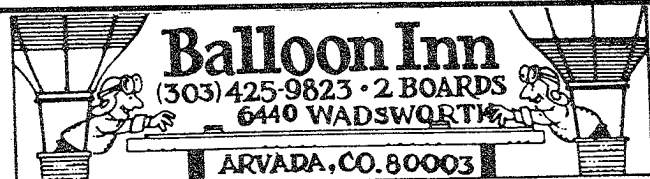
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# *1994-95 Calendar of Shuffleboard Events*

## **DECEMBER**

### **Dec. 31**

New Year's Eve Doubles  
Beef's  
Kendallville, Indiana

### **Dec. 31-Jan. 1**

Mixed Doubles  
Tim's Timber Tavern  
Kelso, Washington

## **JAN./FEB. 1995**

### **Jan. 13-14**

Oklahoma State Championship  
American Legion 73  
Del City, Oklahoma

### **Jan. 14**

1st Annual Open Doubles  
Chance's "R"  
Muncie, Indiana

### **Jan. 20-22**

3-Event Tournament  
Sticks Billiards  
Austin, Texas

### **Jan. 21**

3rd in Series of 5 Doubles  
Beef's  
Kendallville, Indiana

### **Jan. 28-29**

Pro-Am Draw/Bring Partner  
Mickey's Place  
Henderson, Maryland

### **Jan. 31-Feb. 5**

PCSA Extravaganza VII  
Alladin Hotel/Casino  
Las Vegas, Nevada

### **Feb. 18-19**

Sweetheart Tournament  
Blue Goose  
Port Orchard, Washington

### **Feb. 18**

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

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

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

## **MARCH 1995**

### **March 3-5**

3-Event Tournament  
Harvey's Place  
Street, Maryland

### **March 11-12**

10th Annual Mixed Doubles  
Old Edison Inn  
Edison, Washington

### **March 18-19**

Shuffleboard Affair Doubles  
Town Tavern  
Sequim, Washington

### **March 25-26**

2nd Annual Florida Open  
Huddle's Sports Cafe  
Pembroke Pines, Florida

### **March 25**

5th in Series of 5 Doubles  
Beef's  
Kendallville, Indiana

## **APRIL 1995**

### **April 7-9**

4-Event Nationals  
Dew Drop Inn  
Waterloo, New York

### **April 14-16**

Spring Tournament  
Harvey's Place  
Street, Maryland

### **April 22-24**

3rd Annual Bring Partner  
BZ's Sports Bar & Grill  
Seattle, Washington

### **April 29**

Open Singles  
Beef's  
Kendallville, Indiana

## **MAY 1995**

### **May 6-7**

5th Annual Draw Partners  
Shamrock Tavern  
Longview, Washington

### **May 19-21**

Spring Tournament  
Glenn's Tavern  
Funkstown, Maryland

### **May 27-29**

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

## **JUNE 1995**

### **June 12-18**

11th Annual Board Talk  
Shufflers' Reunion/Mickey  
Mickens Memorial Tourney  
Harvey's Place  
Street, Maryland

### **June 17-18**

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

*List your tournament  
well in advance!*

*Travelling shufflers use  
this calendar to  
plan their itineraries.*

*Send your information to:*

**THE BOARD TALK**  
**421 E. Sheridan Rd.**  
**Lansing, MI 48906**

*No charge for listings,  
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*See information on Page 23.*

## **THE BOARD TALK**

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

# 1994-95 Calendar of Shuffleboard Events

## JULY 1995

July 1-4

4th of July Tourney

Dixie Belle

Downey, California

July 1-4

4th Annual Southwest Open

American Legion Post 73

Del City, Oklahoma

July 22-23

Singles Tournament

Town Tavern

Sequim, Washington

## AUGUST 1995

Aug. 3-6

6th Annual Grand Masters Plus

Whistling Oyster Tavern

Quilcene, Washington

Aug. 4-6

4-Event Nationals

Dew Drop Inn

Waterloo, New York

Aug. 11-12

Summertime Tournament

Bay Country Moose 831

Queenstown, Maryland

Aug. 27 - Sept. 4

Labor Day Week Tourney

Blinky's Sports Cafe

Santa Clara, California

Aug. 31-Sept. 3

Crazy Canucks Annual Labor

Day Weekend Tournament

AN & AF

Vancouver, Canada

## OCT./NOV. 1995

Oct. 30-Nov. 5

North American Championships

Sands Regency Hotel/Casino

Reno, Nevada

*Three free gift subscriptions to THE BOARD TALK available upon request for every event listed on this calendar. Call 517-371-2538.*

*Start your New Shufflin' Year off right  
at*

### **STICK'S BILLIARDS**

13201 Pond Springs Rd., Austin, Texas

**JANUARY 20-21-22**

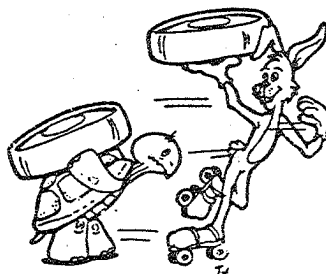
☒ **Fri., Jan. 20, 8 p.m.: Open Draw**, \$10 entry, single game, single elimination, 15 pts., 32 limit

☒ **Sat., Jan. 21, noon: Bring Partner**, \$60 per team entry, no pros and O's as partners, single game, double elimination, 16 team limit --\$250 added to pot!--

☒ **Sun., Jan. 22, noon: A/B Draw**, \$20 entry, single game, double elimination; A's: pros, semi-pros and 1's; B's: 2's, 3's and 4's

*For information, call Nonie, 512-335-9177*

**HAPPY NEW YEAR  
TO ALL OUR SHUFFLIN' FRIENDS  
ACROSS THE U.S.A. AND CANADA**



*Whether you're a Turtle  
or a Hare....*

*We wish you health and  
happiness, peace and  
prosperity!*

**GEORGE & DONNA  
THE BOARD TALK**

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- ★ Triple Crown Shuffleboard Supplies
- ★ Gametime
- ★ Pacific Coast Shuffleboard Association
- ★ Harvey's Place
- ★ Bubba's Place
- ★ Del City American Legion 73
- ★ Sticks Billiards
- ★ Shuffleboard Directory Businesses

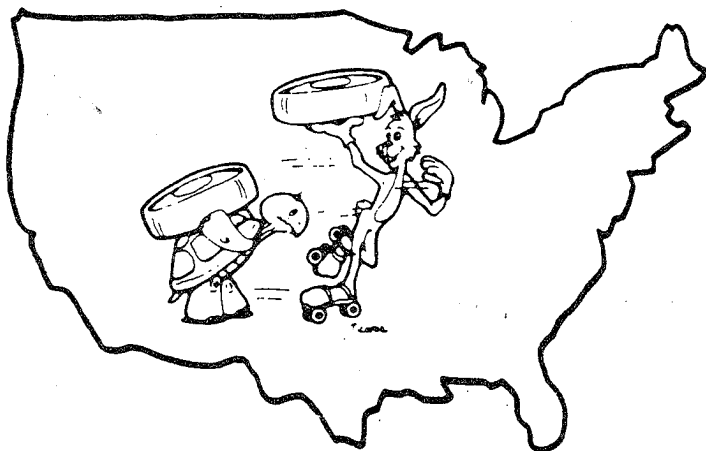
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George & Donna Wilber, THE BOARD TALK

## The Board Talk

421 E. Sheridan Road  
Lansing, Michigan 48906

### The Nation's Top Shuffleboard States:



- #1 — California
- #2 — Michigan
- #3 — Texas

- #4 — Washington
- #5 — Oklahoma
- #6 — Indiana

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