

The Board Talk

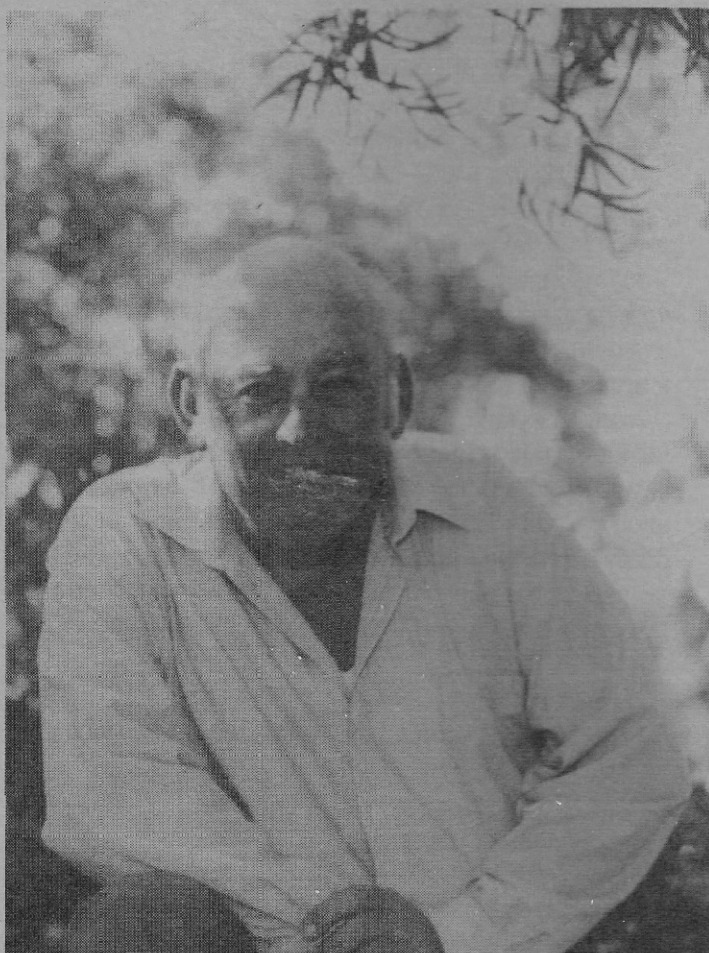
*The Board Talk is published by George & Donna Wilber
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Vol. 12, No. 10

October 1995

"PeeWee" Ramos Inducted into Shuffleboard Hall of Fame

Leonard "PeeWee" Ramos of California, noted for originating the Ramos Rules of Shuffleboard Play several years ago (and still used today in some form at tournaments across the U.S.A. and Canada), has been inducted into the National Shuffleboard Hall of Fame.



Leonard "PeeWee" Ramos

In his announcement of the induction of Ramos, NSHF Chairperson Glen Davidson said: "I have personally known PeeWee and Judy for well over 32 years. PeeWee has been a great supporter of this game for those 32-plus years. From San Diego, California, to Seattle, Washington, he has always been there. In 1970 he came to a tournament I was running in San Diego, the first in California. PeeWee, along with Hal Perry, won that one and many other tournaments such as those in Visalia, Yuba City, Marysville, and at the Black Cat in Portland. In addition to playing, PeeWee always pitched in as director or auctioneer.

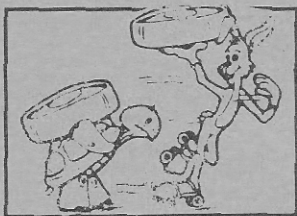
"PeeWee played with all the players around San Jose, such as Nicky Gomez, Ski, Big 'O' and Little 'O' and Bill Jennings. He also ran or co-directed tournaments at the Happy Hour for Bill Jennings in the '70s. He and his team traveled to Longview, Washington, for several years and played in the doubles and singles.

"In 1963, PeeWee was going to quit playing shuffleboard, but I was able to convince him not to quit -- and he's cussed at me for years for doing that! Just mentioning his name on the West Coast will immediately mean that shuffleboard will be the subject discussed. He was a great player, a very good tournament director, and a very loyal supporter of the game. I would consider him to be one of the greatest shuffleboard players of all time.

"The shuffleboard community is thankful for the opportunity to join together and honor him for his considerable achievements and contributions to The World of Shuffleboard," Glen said.

(Editor's Note: It is with a great deal of sadness that, after we received this good news, we must report the death of PeeWee. Hal Perry, a member of the National Shuffleboard Hall of Fame and a close friend of PeeWee, had the opportunity to tell him of his induction just before he passed away.

(continued on Page 7)



Shufflers' Notebook

News and Views
from The World
of Shuffleboard

Dick Gorman Responds to Ed Galke's Concerns....

Regarding Ed Galke's Notebook contribution in the June issue.....

First off, I met Ed Galke about 10 years ago and have a great deal of respect for his ability as a player, and he knows the game. I personally do not know anyone who has logged as many miles as he has playing shuffleboard. I also believe he is really interested in promoting shuffleboard and have never doubted his sincerity. However, he also knows that I have accepted some of his ideas and tried to incorporate them. I also disagree with some of his ideas from what I believe to be a practical viewpoint. So, let's look at his letter on a subject-by-subject basis.

I previously wrote a letter regarding my support for the Hall of Fame (September issue) and I think Ed now knows the forum for submitting nominations -- so we will close that subject now.

Cranking the Boards

I also believe that boards should be adjusted to their best quality. However, what is best quality? There are many boards available for play that don't have adjusters, so not much can be done. I am honestly surprised that many owners of boards -- bars, clubs and individuals -- don't even realize they exist. One company is currently selling new boards with or without adjusters. What do you do? We all know there are differences of opinion across the country for adjusting boards -- if that is what people want, let's promote the game -- not the rules.

I don't believe that boards should be changed for particular individuals for any type of play. I really don't think this happens as often as people are accused of. My own thoughts are: if you don't like the style that a board is maintained, don't expect, as a visitor, for it to be changed. Move on to boards you like. Owners of boards will change if there is local pressure, which is in the form

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of economics: no play, no business; poor boards, poor tournaments. Recently I visited a geographic area where I saw about 15 boards in the same condition. They sand the boards down to no finish, wipe them down with linseed oil, then shoot with speed regulator. They were having a great time. I left!

Rating Players

I, too, would like to see a system. I tried several ideas. Others have spent more time than I have. I think we all come to the same conclusion: it has the possibility of built-in bias. Secondly, it is absolutely time-consuming -- voluminous paperwork. Third, it would be extremely costly to maintain; who pays for it? I believe John McDermott (The Shuffleboard Federation, Inc.) can speak to this better than I from his experience. Total cooperation has to be in place for some extremely dedicated and compensated person to monitor this task on a current basis.

The Demise of Leagues

Real problem, if you are relating to the '40s, '50s and '60s. However, maybe not on Long Island, but elsewhere on the East Coast, shuffleboard leagues are expanding and adding new teams every year. A lot of the growth is a result of a VERY FEW people working very hard. If more of the advisors (those who talk more than they do) would help, the leagues might even be larger. I believe that the examples of excellent players as teams in his example are really examples of tournament entries. In tournaments, it does pose a problem. At Harvey's Place (Street, Maryland), the tournament participation is on the increase again because we have increased the number of payoff spots (got the idea from reading *The Board Talk* about PCSA -- thanks!). The only people who are not really happy with the payoff schedule are those who are the real strong players and teams. Before we started the higher number of payoff spots, attendance was going down.

Shuffleboard tournaments are for having a good time playing shuffleboard and expanding the game -- not to provide a few individuals with a second income.

Draw Partner Events

Draw partner events are popular (I never saw one with an entry fee less than \$10). The reason they are popular: no planning, just sign up, low entry fee, the chance to play with better players. I know that on some occasions where you have to cut off entries at a certain number

(continued on Page 11)

Skip's/Board Talk Fall Bash is Record-Breaker!

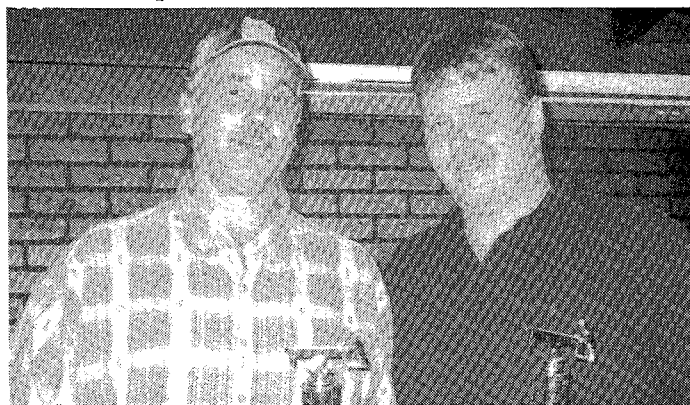
With 84 shufflers signed up for the draw partner and 36 in the open singles, all vying for a slice of the \$10,780 pie, the 5th Annual Skip's/Board Talk Fall Bash broke all of its previous records. Held at Skip's Lounge at Houghton Lake, Michigan's beautiful year-round vacation spot, the event attracted players from Colorado, Tennessee, Florida, Indiana, and all parts of Michigan. Outside, the September 9-10 weather was cool at night and warm during the day, but inside Skip's the action on the four boards was hot day and night!

The popular draw partner event, with the top players drawing from a pool of the least experienced players and the remaining participants drawing at random, has brought some new people to the winners' circle every year and this one was no exception. It was from that "middle ground" in the field of 42 teams that the victors emerged, Gary Young from Saginaw and Leo Daigle (who didn't let a painful toothache keep him from playing like a pro) from the Pontiac, Michigan area. They collected first-place trophies and jackets, along with some fat pay-off envelopes.



The 1995 draw partner champions are Gary Young and Leo Daigle of Michigan.

The next four money spots went to the top-rated players and their partners. John Tischler of Detroit and Ron Monville of Bay City (new to the tournament scene) took second place honors.



"Gentle Giant" John Tischler of Detroit drew newcomer Ron Monville of Bay City to take second place honors.

John McDermott of The Shuffleboard Federation (which donated the wax for the weekend) and Sarah Palmer of Saginaw finished third. Houghton Laker Ray Podeski had the thrill of playing with the famous Rick Boyer of Colorado to take fourth place. Tied for 5th and 6th places were Jeff Cottrell of Michigan and Pat Kuhn of Indiana (see Pat's letter), and Bill Kuebler (the cookie man) and Pat Calhoun, both of Michigan.



John McDermott, President of The Shuffleboard Federation, and Sarah Palmer of Saginaw took third place in the 42-team field of contenders in the draw partner event.

"Because He Believed in Me"

By Pat Kuhn, Indiana, 5th Place finisher with Jeff Cottrell in the Draw Partner Event

A great time was had by all present at this wonderful event. Terrific shuffleboard playing and some great fun went along with the fine Saturday afternoon luncheon provided by Skip and Carole.

I learned the most important reason for the A-B draws. The B's get a chance to learn from some really sensational players -- Rick Boyer, John McDermott, and some super player-coaches such as John Tischler and Jeff Cottrell.

These games are the best way for B or less (newer) players to go to "school." Confidence and enthusiasm were key lessons passed on by Jeff and John. Hey, guys, how about opening a school for shuffleboard? The "A" players are all good instructors. Goofs, mistakes! The "B" players moan as they step away from the board and pray for a better shot next time or even another game.

Some "A's" grumbled at losing because of the expense and some "B's" grumble that the "A's" were too bossy or helpful. But I learned from my partner, Jeff Cottrell, that we play as a team, and helping a scared, shaky "B" partner builds confidence and wins games and helps do things like - make lags on a tough board easier with the game on the board. Thanks a million, Jeff!

He told me I could do it, so I did. He believed in me, so I did, too!

(continued on Page 14)

Upcoming Events Across the Nation

Nevada

NORTH AMERICAN CHAMPIONSHIPS, SANDS REGENCY, RENO, OCT. 30-NOV. 5

If you haven't already made your reservations for the 1995 North American Shuffleboard Championships, scheduled for Oct. 30-Nov. 5 at the Sands Regency Hotel in Reno, don't delay any longer. Entries received after Oct. 16 are subject to a \$5 per event penalty. Use the flyer in last month's issue to register. And make your room reservations (all participants must be registered guests of the Sands Regency by calling 1-800-648-3553 and tell them your group code number is SHU1029.

Updated information regarding this big event has been published in every issue for the past several months. If you're a new subscriber and may be interested in participating, call John McDermott at The Shuffleboard Federation, 810-380-9300, for information regarding the various events and to check whether spots are still available.

Note that the Sands Regency Hotel & Casino will be adding at least \$6,000 to the prize monies and up to \$13,000 depending on the turnout. John reports that several first-time participants have registered and they will be pleased with both the beautiful facilities and the smooth-running event.

PCSA EXTRAVAGANZA VIII, ALADDIN, LAS VEGAS, JAN. 30-FEB. 4

There will be six events on the agenda for the PCSA's Extravaganza VIII at the Aladdin Hotel & Casino in Las Vegas on Jan. 30-Feb. 4. Check the enclosed flyer for details and use the form to save your spot. Remember, unless you are a local resident, you must be a registered guest at the Aladdin -- and make your room reservations through the PCSA -- in order to participate in the tournament.

If you have questions, contact the PCSA, 310-926-2152.

Washington

2ND ANNUAL DRAW PARTNERS, SPORTSMAN TAVERN, STANWOOD, OCT. 28-29

The Sportsman Tavern in downtown Stanwood will host its 2nd Annual Draw Partners on Oct. 28-29. Entry fee is \$25 per team. The sponsor sale is scheduled for 10 a.m.

Saturday, with open boards on Friday night. The Sportsman Tavern has two good boards and plenty of RV parking. "Come one, come all, and have a great time," says host Murl Kindle.

For further information, call Murl at 360-652-5031 or Danny McKinnon, 360-659-4664.

5TH ANNUAL PCSA OPEN DOUBLES, SHAMROCK TAVERN, LONGVIEW, OCT. 21-22

The 5th Annual PCSA Open Doubles will be held at the Shamrock Tavern, 1131 15th St. in Longview, Washington, on Oct. 21-22. Entry fee is \$50 per team. \$10 per team will be added to the pot and the Pacific Coast Shuffleboard Association will award entries in the 1996 PCSA Extravaganza doubles in Las Vegas to the winners. Payoff will be 55-30-10-5.

The sponsor sale will start at noon on Saturday. Round robins on Friday night starting at 7 p.m. A highlight of the weekend will again be Bernice's chili.

For information, call the Shamrock, 360-577-7444.

Indiana

3RD ANNUAL BEEF'S SERIES OF FIVE OPENS OCT. 21

Building on a record of success of the previous two years, Beef's, 550 S. Main, Kendallville, Indiana, has scheduled the 3rd Annual Series of Five open doubles, with the first set for Oct. 21. In this unique shuffleboard action promotion, the first four teams to place highest in the series of five matches vie for a percentage of the \$2,000 added money to the entry pot, compliments of Playfair, Inc. and Dale Gushman. In addition to this incentive, "Poor Beef" awards winner's jackets to the first-place finishers of each of the five series, and (new this year) JoAnn and Floyd Stein of Triple Crown will be giving away a set of weights at each tournament.

Entry for each of the double elimination series is \$40 per team, with sponsor sale at 11 a.m. and play on two boards. First-place finishers take 50 percent of the pot and are awarded four points; second, 30 percent and three points; third, 15 percent and 2 points; fourth, 5 percent and 1 point. Another new feature this year: you will receive one point for every event you participate in!

Your hosts, Beef and Marge, recommend lodging at the Economy Inn, 219-347-3500; or the Days Inn, 219-347-5263.

The second in the series will be Nov. 18, followed by Jan. 20, Feb. 17, and March 23.

In addition to the Series of Five, Beef's will host an open doubles on New Year's Eve, Dec. 30, 1995, \$40 per team entry with sale at 11 a.m., and an open singles on April 27, 1996, \$50 entry with sale at 11 a.m.

For further information, call Beef or Marge at 219-347-9965.

DOUBLES AT MISSISSINEWA TAVERN, EATON, APRIL 13

The Mississinewa (you don't have to pronounce it to participate!) Tavern, 125 W. Harris St., Eaton, Indiana, will host a doubles tournament on April 13. Entry is \$20 for this double elimination event, played on two boards. The sponsor sale starts at 11 a.m. with play immediately following.

Watch for a flyer in an upcoming issue and, in the meantime, mark your calendars for this fun event, which will be limited to the first 24 teams signed up. For further information, contact Arnold Cross at 317-396-9371.

*Spread the Good Word About
Your Events Through The Board Talk!*

Maryland

HARVEY'S PLACE '95-'96 SEASON OPENS OCT. 13-15

Harvey's Place in Street, Maryland, has set its schedule of events for the 1995-96 shuffleboard year. The opener will be on Oct. 13-15. Each of the tournaments will include a draw partner on Friday nights, with drawings at 6:30 p.m., \$12 per person entry; a bring partner on Saturdays, with drawings at 1 p.m., \$30 entry fee; and a "second chance" amateur draw on Sundays, drawing at noon, \$12 per person entry.

The remaining tournaments are scheduled for Dec. 1-3, March 2-4, and April 12-14.

For further information, contact Harvey at 410-836-8881, or Dick Gorman at 302-994-0004.

Texas

THANKSGIVING CLASSIC, GOLD NUGGET, ARLINGTON, NOV. 23-26

The Gold Nugget Club, 2602 W. Division, Arlington, will host its 11th Annual Thanksgiving Classic on Nov. 23

(continued on Page 26)

GAMETIME SHUFFLEBOARD INTRODUCES....

(Black) ●4-3-2-1
Novice to Intermediate Player
(Red) ●3-2-1
Expert/Pro Player

1	
1	2
2	3
3	4

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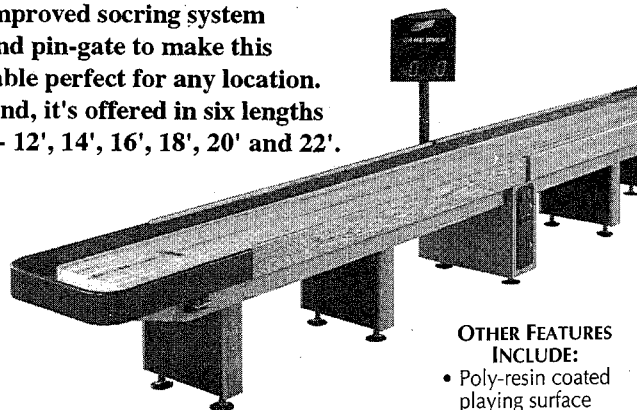
All boards are now available with 4-3-2-1 scoring. Old playfields can be refinished to accommodate this new score system.

"The new score system allows novice and pro players to compete equally in every frame. If the game is tied 13 to 13, the novice player has an equal chance to score and win."

--Bob Shaw, Fort Worth, Texas

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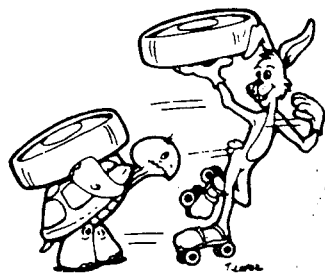
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As the Puck Turns...

By George & Donna Wilber

There's seldom -- if ever -- an issue of *The Board Talk* that doesn't reflect the importance of VOLUNTEERS to the continued growth of shuffleboard. We're more aware of that this month than ever, having just finished our 5th Annual Skip's/Board Talk Fall Bash, where those volunteers played a vital role in its success. Of all the other events reported in this issue across the USA and Canada, we're certain none occurred without those people who expect no compensation for their contributions.

We're a member of our local Eagles and in the August issue of their publication, they paid tribute to those volunteers, so we're going to "borrow" that from them:

Why be a Volunteer?

*Not for money, not for fame;
Not for any personal gain.
But just for love of fellowman,
To lend a helping hand.*

*Just to give a tithe of self,
Something you can't buy with wealth.
Not for medals won with pride,
But for that feeling inside.*

*It's for that reward deep in your heart,
And feeling that you've been a part
Of helping others, far and near,
That makes you a volunteer!*

Sad to say, there are a lot of people who do not recognize the importance of volunteers to the events they enjoy. They just come in, thinking "somebody" is making big bucks and that their every need should be catered to. On the other hand, there are some real pros, in every sense of the word, who do recognize the role of volunteers and "reward" them, not only with verbal thanks, but with a "tip" from their winnings. That's real class and you know who we're talking about!

Every month should be "Volunteer Appreciation

Month," but let's make October an annual time to celebrate volunteerism and make a special effort to say thanks to those who contribute their time and talents to make shuffleboard grow.

News of a benefit tournament for Jason Parker, seriously-ill son of "Gentleman" Don Parker, arrived after we had gone to press with the September issue, so we couldn't give that important event editorial support. It was a draw partner and 6-person team event held on Sept. 29-30 at the Gold Nugget in Arlington, Texas (see results in next issue). Host Tom furnished a free fish fry and raffles and auctions were held for many donated prizes. We salute Tom, along with Tammy Denson and David Williams, for arranging this worthwhile effort.

Even though you may have missed the event, it's not too late to send donations. Send yours to The Gold Nugget, 2602 W. Division, Arlington, TX 76012, and note that it's for the Jason Parker Benefit.

Readers seemed to enjoy the "you know you're getting older when" list in last month's "As the Puck Turns" column. One sent us her confession:

"Remember, old folks are worth a fortune, with silver in their hair, gold in their teeth, stones in their kidneys, lead in their feet, and gas in their stomachs. I have become a little older since I saw you last and a few changes have come into my life since then. Frankly, I have become quite a frivolous old gal.

"I am seeing five gentlemen every day. As soon as I wake up, Will Power helps me out of bed. Then I go to see John. Then Charlie Horse comes along and, when he is here, to takes a lot of time and attention. When he leaves, Arthur Ritis shows up and stays the rest of the day. He doesn't like to stay in one place very long, so he takes me from joint to joint. After such a busy day, I'm really tired and glad to go to bed with Ben Gay. What a life!

"The preacher stopped by the other day. He said at my age I should be thinking about the hereafter. I told him: 'Oh, I do that all the time. No matter where I am, in the parlor, upstairs, in the kitchen, or down in the basement, I ask myself -- now, what am I here after?'"

It's been a long time since we've had a change in our Top Shuffleboard States, listed each month on the back page. This month, we do: Thanks to the efforts of Sam Summers, Oklahoma moved into the No. 5 spot, displacing Indiana.

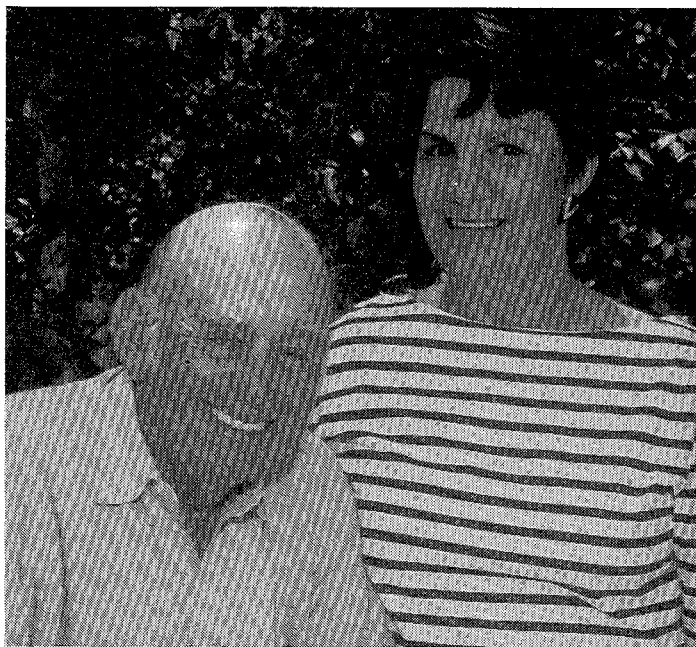
**GIVE A VOLUNTEER A HUG (OR A PAT ON
THE BACK) THIS MONTH!**

G & D

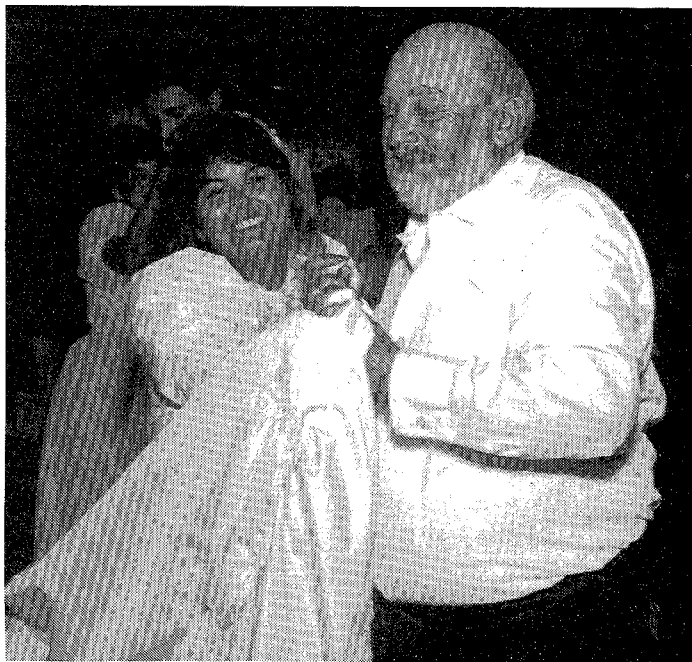
"PeeWee" Ramos Inducted

(continued from Page 1)

Please join us in sending your messages of sympathy to Judy Ramos, 14395 Columbet Ave., San Martin, CA. Consider, too, making a contribution to the National Shuffleboard Hall of Fame in memory of PeeWee. Send to: NSHF Secretary Louise Freer, 189 Barry Ave., Lansdale, PA 19446.)



PeeWee and his wife Judy. In the '80s, PeeWee was honored by The Shuffleboard Federation for developing the Ramos shuffleboard rules and for his lifelong dedication to the game.



Another beautiful member of the Ramos family is Kathy, shown here dancing with Dad at her 1985 wedding. Other children he leaves behind are Joe, Jim and Roseanne.

National Shuffleboard Hall of Fame

We have lost a great shuffleboard player and promoter with the passing of PeeWee Ramos. He deserves to be with Earl Kelly, Bob Miles and Mickey Mickens in the National Shuffleboard Hall of Fame. Our deepest sympathy goes out to Judy and the family of my dear friend. May he rest in peace.

This month's "profile" of our National Shuffleboard Hall of Fame Board of Directors is none other than the Red Baron himself -- Larry Creakbaum of Indiana. Larry has been around this game for 30-40 years and, as far as I know, he is the only player to fly his own plane to and from a tournament.

Larry has won his share of tournaments. He has played with partners like Jim Long, Emmett Wilcox, Bjerne Sunde, Batman, Bobby Voorhis, Dave Boaz, Steve Blue and many more. He won the singles at Houghton Lake two years in a row, recently just before turning 60. Believe me, after 60, it gets harder and harder to win one.

As far as promoting and supporting the game, he has been everywhere there has been a tournament and he's played in all of them. I think he will be a great representative for the Hall of Fame, as well as representing all the players in his area.

Next month, we'll spotlight Hal Perry of California.

Glen Davidson, Chairman, National Shuffleboard Hall of Fame, 9021 Moon St., Midwest City, OK 73141

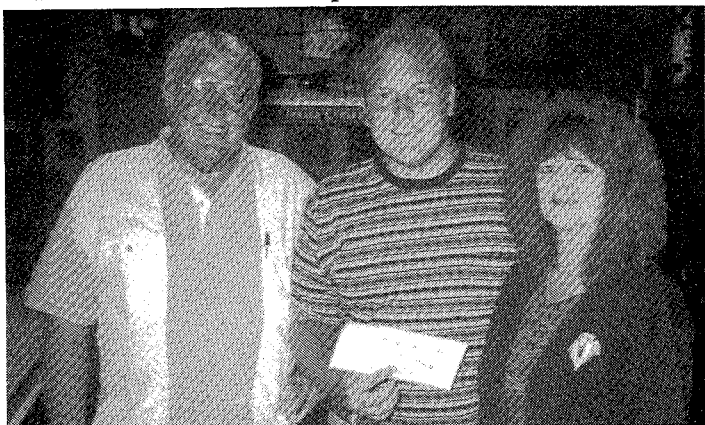
**Support the
National Shuffleboard
Hall of Fame
with your ideas and
your financial contributions.**

Send to:

**Louise Freer, Secretary
National Shuffleboard Hall of Fame
189 Barry Ave., Lansdale PA 19446**

Meltons Tops in Balloon Inn's 6th Annual Open

That powerhouse father-son team from Davis, Oklahoma -- Bill and Billy Melton -- made another profitable trip to Arvada, Colorado, in June to take top honors in the Balloon Inn's 6th Annual Open.



Bill and Billy Melton accept the fattest envelope in the \$3700 pot from hostess Gwen Vogt.



Homestaters Dennis Bird and Grady McGovern don't look too unhappy with their second-place finish....



Third-place finishers Kenny Reeves and Dave Cowan look a little less exhuburant!

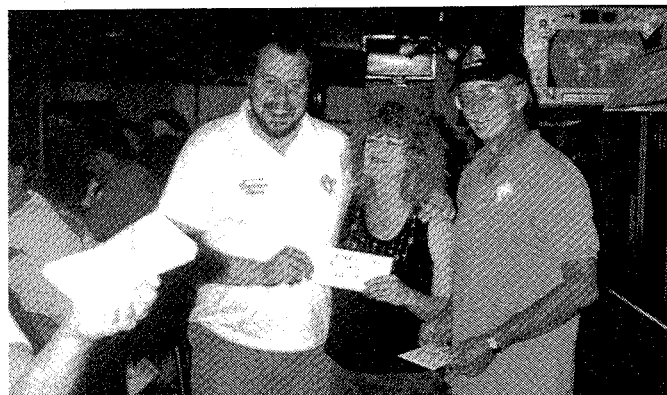
"Thanks to all the participants, especially the out-of-staters Bill and Billy Melton of Oklahoma, and Gwyn Orsi, Joel and Char Rahn of Nebraska," said hosts Ron

and Gwen Vogt.

Vogt/Slack Win Mixed Draw

With only six women from Colorado, four from Nebraska, and two from Nevada, showing up for the Balloon Inn Ladies Tournament in August, the event was changed to a mixed blind draw, decided by a vote of the women.

With a purse of \$3,000, Colorado came through, but it was not an easy task....



Host Ron Vogt presents the top prize money to wife Gwen and Jody Slack.



Oh, Yeh! It's worth the trip to Colorado, says 2nd place winner Gwyn Orsi of Nebraska, to partner Len Schremmer.

Lisa Freeman and Jorge Esteve finished in third, with Vicki Simant and Fred Compean on fourth place.

"Thanks to all the men for making this a fun tournament," said Qwen. "And special thanks to those out of staters again who supported us: Gwen Orsi, Lisa Freeman, Gina Freeman, Vicki Simantz, and Larry Laws of Omaha, Nebraska; and Connie and Frank Zavala and Audra and Bill Schooley of Las Vegas, Nevada. Hope you ladies enjoy your sweaters. Ron didn't plan on the men shooting. Maybe next time, guys!"

(Editor's Note: See reaction of participation in your tournament from the Las Vegas visitors on Page 11.)

ANAF Post 68 Site of '96 ESA Tournament; Will Add \$1,000!

The ANAF Post 68, host of the annual Crazy Canucks Labor Day weekend tournament, Vancouver, British Columbia, will be the site of the Evergreen Shuffleboard Association's first tournament on Jan. 21-22, 1996. ESA Secretary Jim Manders reports that a drawing of potential sites was held at the Whistling Oyster's Grand Masters Plus in August, with the ANAF the first drawn from the "pea box." ANAF representative Gordie Smith was not present when the draw was made, but when he did arrive, he announced that the Legion would add at least \$1,000 to the ESA's '96 tour for the right to hold the tournament.

"Because we had already chosen the Legion as our tournament site, we graciously accepted their offer," Jim said.

The format for the big event, as decided by players at an association meeting, will be a draw partners doubles, \$50 per person entry, with no sponsor sale. To be eligible to compete, 1996 dues must be paid.

In other ESA action, Ralph Duarte has agreed to be a director from Southwest Washington and Tom Henry is a director at-large.

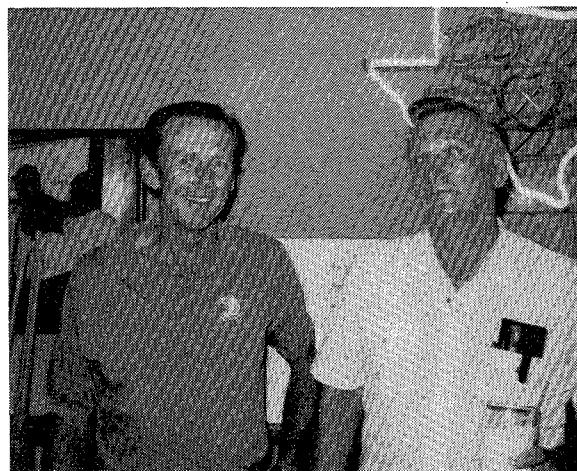
For information about the ESA, which serves players and sponsors in the Pacific Northwest, contact Jim Manders, 415 W. Spruce St., Sequim, WA 98382; phone 360-683-4799.

More Shufflers Qualify at Frank's Club and Texas Mist for Texas Open

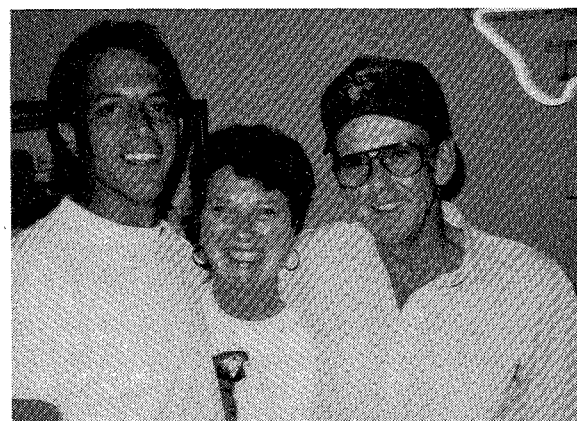
Two more qualifiers have been held for the Texas Open since the one reported in last month's issue at Time Out #2 Sports Bar in Houston (won by Diana Hagen).

Frank's Club, Houston, hosted a handicap qualifying tournament for 2's, 3's, 4's and 5's on July 28. Out of 22 players, Mary Koteras came in first, with Adele Keith in second place. Danny Oglitree finished third, with Bill Rice in fourth place. Mike, the new owner of Frank's Club, added an extra \$100 to the pot, and also purchased two sponsor shirts for first and second places to help sponsor the Texas Open, scheduled for the Labor Day weekend at Texas Mist in Austin.

The Texas Mist also held a qualifier. The A/B draw attracted 24 contenders, with first place going to Robert Hurst Sr. and David Porterfield of Austin. Second place went to Robert Hurst Jr. (his own Dad beat him) and Dewayne Wilkins of Austin. Third place went to tournament director Ron Bowers and up-and-coming shuffler Lynda French.



Robert Hurst Sr. and David Porterfield won the A/B Draw qualifier at Texas Mist.



In the Long Shot Singles qualifier, first place went to Tony Fiumara of Austin, second to David Porterfield, and third to sweetheart singles winner for the past two years, Connie Culver.

There were 14 entries in the Long Shot Draw, with first place going to Robert Hurst Sr. and his partner Tom French (Robert Jr. did not play in this one). Ron Bowers and Lyndon Baize finished second, with Donnie Sonnier and Hank Shores in third place.

"We would like to thank all of those who participated in this tournament, especially those from out-of-town, Flynt Preston of Houston and Neil Garver of Corpus Christi," said directors Ron and Debbie Bowers.

"We would also like to take this opportunity to thank Don McCurry for all his past work. Don sold out his share of the Texas Mist a few months ago. We really didn't realize just how much work he did for us shuffleboard players (for instance, writing this article for *The Board Talk*). He is surely missed by all of us," said Ron and Debbie.

(Editor's Note: We extend a very strong "second" to your tribute to Don. He was one of our strongest supporters and he's remained a part of the "family" through his own subscription, so we haven't lost him!)

Notebook *(continued from Page 2)*

because of time constraints, there have been travelers of some distance who have not made the cut-off list. A telephone call and arrival on time would have prevented this. Enough said. The argument has often been made: "I travelled all this way to play. You let local players in. That's not right. I am better than them." The last time I looked, all entry money was the same color and oftentimes these "local" players signed up a week or two in advance. We need new players in the game; let's not shut them out.

Using Today's Technology

Sounds like an outstanding idea. A couple of drawbacks: equipment, money and time.

In Conclusion....

Ed is a dedicated, excellent shuffleboard player. I am happy that at least he takes time to express his ideas, even if everybody doesn't agree with them. I hope that others will use your Notebook column to bring their ideas to the front. Between all of us, we can bring the game back to its former popularity.

Dick Gorman, Wilmington, Delaware

Although Ed's letter prompted a lot of verbal feedback,

yours and Deb Bowers (July issue) were the only written responses we received, Dick. We join you in encouraging others to share their views in this column.

Another Salute to Balloon Inn!

We would like to thank Ron and Gwen for all their hospitality at the Balloon Inn (check the Shuffleboard Directory -- that's in Arvada, Colorado) the weekend of Aug. 11-13. Even though we didn't have enough ladies' teams to show up for the "Ladies Only Bring Partner" tournament, they went out of their way to make everything very enjoyable for all the women who did show up.

We ended up having a blind draw with 12 of the top male players in Colorado, Nevada, and we're not sure where else, but they were all really great people.

There were two ladies' teams from Omaha, Nebraska, and we all had a great time. We met some really nice people and made some great friends. We would also like to compliment the bartenders at the Balloon Inn; they were great!

Saturday and Sunday, Gwen and Ron put out some of the best food we've ever had at a tournament!

We wish we could have stayed to see who won the money, but we had to catch a plane for home. Thanks, Ron and Gwen, and all the people at the Balloon Inn who made our stay in Arvada so enjoyable. We'll look forward to seeing you all at the Aladdin next year.

Frank & Connie Zavala
Bill & Audrey Schooley
Las Vegas, Nevada

We've never heard anything but good reports about this shuffleboard location and hope someday to visit the Balloon Inn ourselves. Thanks for paying tribute to one of our faithful supporters!

Bill English Remembers Bob Miles as His Hero, Role Model...

Bill was saddened to read about Bob Miles' death in a recent issue of *The Board Talk*. He had talked with Bobby, Bob's former wife, on several occasions in this past year. Bill asked me to select an appropriate card to send to Bobby. I was touched by the message he wrote to her and wanted to share the contents of same with you:

"Reading Balboa Ron's tribute to Bob Miles brought a lump to my throat and a tear to my eyes, but it also brought many, many fond memories of my years of association with Bob. He was truly a champion and a gentleman. He was my hero, role model and mentor. It was truly great that he was chosen as our first inductee

(continued on Page 12)

CLASSIFIED ADS

FOR SALE: VHS VIDEO OF P.C.S.A. 1995 LAS VEGAS TOURNAMENT. Mail \$15.00 check or money order to: Jim Martin, 293 South Leandro Street, Anaheim Hills, CA 92807.

FREE: Mickey Mickens Memorial printed program available at no charge. Just send \$1 for each program to cover postage to: The Board Talk, 421 E. Sheridan Rd., Lansing, MI 48906.

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

Notebook (continued from Page 11)

into our Hall of Fame. It was especially nice of you, Bobby, to enable Bob to spend his last days around the shuffleboard you provided him.

"Goodbye, Bob -- May you rest in peace and God Bless You.

"Your friend, Bill"

As you know, Bill lives a pretty restrictive life style. One of the highlights of the month is reading *The Board Talk*. He always reads articles aloud to me that he finds especially interesting. You are providing a great resource for all shuffleboard players from coast to coast. Keep up the great news publication....it means a lot to us!

Bonnie English, Loveland, Colorado

We hope Bill won't mind that we share his beautiful message about Bob with The World of Shuffleboard. There are many others who echo his sentiments. We hope, too, that shufflers will brighten Bill's days with a note now and then: Bill English, 2000 Maple Dr. #62, Loveland, CO 80537.

A Treasured Letter From a Long-time Subscriber and Friend....

I just wanted to write to thank you for all the years of enjoyable news and reading.

On my desk is every edition of *The Board Talk*! The stack sits about one foot high. Vol. 1 No. 1 of *The Board Talk*, you wrote: "I think we're blazing a trail with Board Talk. This may be the first professional shuffleboard newsletter in the nation -- or at least in Michigan. I know for sure, it's our first one..." Well, George and Donna, you certainly blazed a trail!

In the first newsletter, you also wrote: "We have two daughters, two grandsons, two broken-down vehicles, and two shuffleboard passions: (1) to publish a successful shuffleboard newsletter, and (2) to try to make all of Michigan's shuffleboard leagues uniform in scoring and handicapping so we can have our own all-Michigan shuffleboard tournament."

Well, little did you guys know that in 11 years, *The Board Talk* would go from two pages to my latest edition of 28 pages! It reaches not only Michigan, but the North American continent!

There is no question, George and Donna, for all you have accomplished for table shuffleboard, you have an everlasting place in the National Shuffleboard Hall of Fame!

Michael Tobin, Redford, Michigan

Wow! Anytime we get discouraged, we'll just read your letter, Mike, and keep on plugging away. We learned later, of course, that we were not the "first" (American Shuffleboard Company published one for several years), but it was certainly a "first" for us. Don't give us too much credit, though. If it hadn't been for people like you who have supported us throughout our nearly 12 years, those "passions" would never have been realized. As long as we're in YOUR "Shuffleboard Hall of Fame," Mike, that's all we ask for. Thank you! Thank you! Thank you!

Glen on the Mend....

On Aug. 24, 10 a.m., at Midwest City, Oklahoma, I went under the knife for lung surgery. I woke up at noon with a lot of stitches and hurting pretty bad. The tumor was not malignant and so far I'm recouping pretty good.

It was a real pleasure to hear from Doc Khan (Sept. issue). I was wondering when he was going to pop up somewhere. Are you ready for another project, Doc? We need you. You just might see me coming up the road any time. Hi to Megan and the boys.

I thank all the shufflers at J & C's for their hospitality. I thought the South and Midwest were tops in hospitality until I went to Philly. They showed me the real red carpet treatment as well as the city itself. I will never forget that experience. Thanks to a great bunch of real down-to-earth people. That was just a great tourney. I had almost forgotten about the local tournaments -- real fun! Yank Sr. has done a real job on the younger players there. You're all great! I'm gonna beat Mike Kennedy the next trip.

Glen Davidson, Midwest City, Oklahoma

We heard about your surgery at our Houghton Lake tournament, Glen, and are glad to hear you're on the mend. Fritz Broka circulated a card there and we hope the good wishes of the many shufflers who signed it will speed your recovery. If others would like Glen to know you're wishing him well, send your messages to him at 9021 Moon St., Midwest City, OK 73141.

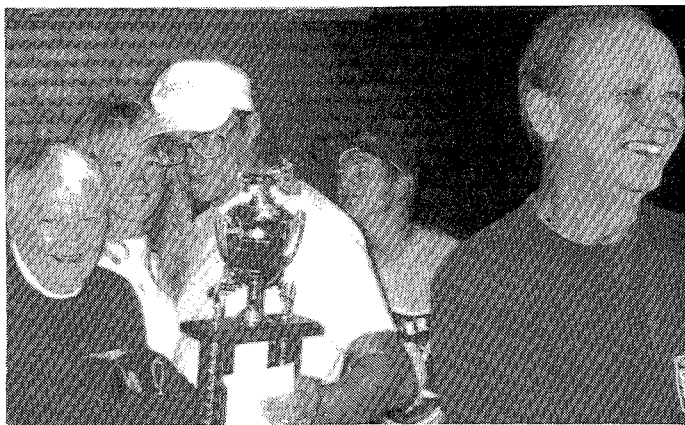
CANAM Tour Plans Underway

On August 27, we had our fun return match with our U.S.A. friends at the ANAF 68 in Vancouver (the first held in Washington on March 5). Again, there were 36 U.S.A. and 36 Canadian players. We played under the same format of one U.S. player and one Canadian as partners. We had the draw for partners and then draw for teams and only two people played together who played last time. We ended up making more new friends and having

(continued on Page 25)

Rick Boyer Tops 36 Player Field in Skip's/Board Talk Fall Bash Singles

(continued from Page 3)



Host Skip Sliwa (right) applauds Denver visitor Rick Boyer, winner of the open singles, flanked by Board Talk Editor Donna Wilber and Colorado friend Annette Gausman, as he collects his trophy, jacket and first-place envelope. He kept the envelope, but left his trophy at a nearby news stand the next morning, retrieved by John Tischler.

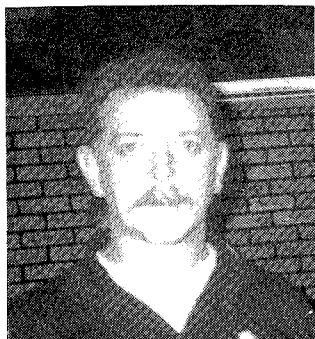


Second-place finisher Frank Blade of Michigan tells Board Talk George that if he'd only been allowed practice shots, things would have been different.....

....while Jim Long of Indiana, says I don't care -- just show me a good time and third-place is fine with me! And he did have a good time!



Jeff Cottrell of Michigan found time to serve as an official, a teacher (see Pat Kuhn's letter on Page 3), and still take fourth place in the singles.



Bernie Sunde of Michigan, last year's singles champ, and John Tischler, tied for 5th and 6th places.

Because of the growing popularity of this event, hosts

Skip and Board Talk George are already negotiating for a fifth board, so play can be the full 15, rather than mark 4. Watch future issues for details on the 6th Annual Skip's/Board Talk Fall Bash.

On The Sidelines.....



On hand to watch their Dad win the singles were Rick Boyer's two handsome sons, John and Mark, both of Michigan



While Cass Grubbs of Florida takes a nap, Houghton Laker Mary Cooley bid four times as much on "Red Baron" Larry Creakbaum than she did her husband Jerry; Mike Tobin tells one of his no-punch-line jokes to official John Tischler -- and the good times rolled on into the night..

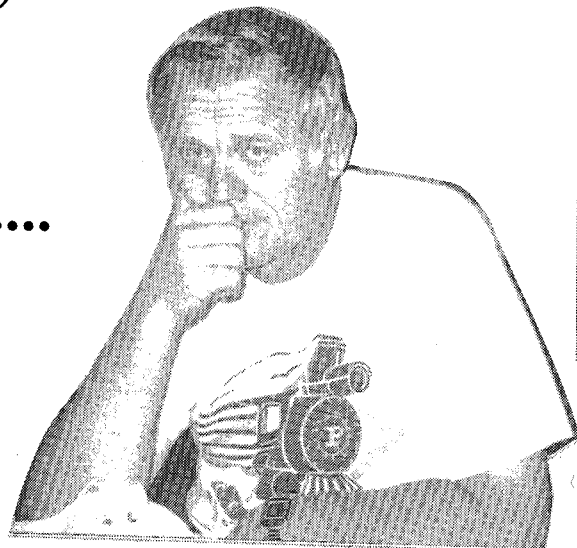


And all the while, the cool, calm director/bracketeer Rob Kern kept things on an even keel. George & Donna thank Rob, Jeff and Penny Cottrell, John Tisch, and Skip and Carole and their crew, for another great event!

To All Participants of the 5th Annual Skip's/Board Talk Tournament:

*Whether you took
a trophy.....*

or not.....



We think ALL of you are winners!

*We applaud you for your
good sportsmanship, your
competitiveness, your
friendliness, and your
fun-loving spirit! Thanks
for making this a great
weekend of shuffleboard
at Houghton Lake.....*



We look forward to seeing you again!

Special thanks to The Shuffleboard Federation, Inc., for furnishing the wax, to Northway Lounge for loaning us a board, and to George & Donna for another great tournament.

Carole & Skip Sliwa

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Phone: 517-422-5631

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Another Successful Tournament at Sherburne American Legion

One of the most popular tournament sites on the East Coast, the Sherburne American Legion in Sherburne, New York, hosted its annual fall tournament on Sept. 8-12. The weather had started to cool, the leaves were just beginning to turn, and the scenery in this beautiful section of New York is breathtaking. It's hard to believe that people would willingly choose to remain inside in such an idyllic setting -- or maybe not. The tempting thought of grabbing some of the over \$8700 in available prize money can usually keep people inside and playing rather than enjoying the great outdoors! It was also a good opportunity to see old friends from far away as people from Delaware, Indiana (wonder who that could be), Maryland, New York, and Pennsylvania gathered to compete in one or more of the four events held that weekend.

Action started on Friday night with an open draw. Twenty teams vied for a total pot of over \$2100 and, in the end, it was Dennis Leehive and Earl Durgan, both of New York, who finished first, with Barbara Brammer of Maryland and Doug Fridley Jr. of New York finishing second. Third place was taken by the strong team of Len Dell and Buddy Bramer, both of Maryland; and in fourth place were John Arndt of New York and Sam Jones of Maryland.

Early on Saturday morning, a good-sized crowd (for the ungodly hour of 9 a.m.) gathered to compete in the mixed doubles. Twelve strong teams competed for \$1350 and it was Jane Johnson and Steve Bennett who came out of the loser's bracket to take first place. Sharon and John Canino placed second, and Doug Fridley Jr. and "Ki" finished third (New Yorkers all).

Saturday afternoon's bring partner event was slightly delayed for two reasons: the mixed doubles ran over schedule, and, more importantly, so that the tournament participants could relax and enjoy a bountiful buffet of pit-barbecued chicken with all the trimmings. Twenty teams brought the total pot to over \$3500. Dale Law and Roy Schreiber, both of New York, teamed up only the day before and showed that they were indeed a very strong team by running the winner's bracket, but it was Louise Freer of Pennsylvania and Bob White of New York who finished first. Third place was taken by Buddy Bramer and Dick Gorman, Delaware; and in fourth place were Russ Reynolds and Jeff Davies of New York.

Sunday's singles event also got a later start than advertised, with one of the singles players being kind enough to administer "wake-up" calls to some of the other players. Thirteen players competed for a total pot of almost \$1800, and this time, it was Lonzo Knight of Maryland who finished on top. Len Dell finished a strong

second, and Doug Fridley Jr. took the last money spot.

According to tournament director Milt Benedict, there were 55 people entered in four different events for a total of 117 entrants. Milt says that though there were a good number of people who traveled in from different states, the local players did a good job of supporting this tournament as well. Shuffleboard is alive, well, and thriving in Sherburne and surrounding areas, he said. He also notes that the American Legion, host of this event, has an in-house league that boasts 24 teams of 2 players on each team -- "almost a whole town in that part of New York," says city girl Louise Freer -- and many other nearby places have in-house and traveling leagues as well.

The Benedict family -- Milt, Betty and Debbie -- did their usual excellent job of running the tournament. They thank the excellent staff at the Legion for their assistance as well as the players who pitched in to run the auctions: Steve Bennett on Friday night, Chuck King on Saturday afternoon, and Doug Fridley Jr. on Saturday morning and also on Sunday. They cordially invite you to attend their next tournament. Watch *The Board Talk* for upcoming dates and details.

Losee/Law Winners at Riverside

Roger Sawyer hosted a bring partner tournament at the Riverside Hotel in Earlville, New York, on Aug. 26. Ten teams vied for a pot of over \$1500. Dick Losee of Poolville and Dale Law of Sherburne won two games in the finals to finish first.



Dale Law (left) and Dick Losee (right), shown with host Roger Sawyer, were winners of the bring partner event.

Doug Fridley Jr. and Rob Hummer, both of Waterloo, finished second, with Marv Smith and John Arndt, also of Waterloo, taking third place.

Two round robins were held on Friday night. Winners of the first were Dale Law and Ki Prosser of Sherburne, with Earl Durgan of Port Gibson and Bob Steiner of Earlville taking second. In the second round robin, Joan Durgan of Port Gibson and Doug Fridley Jr. captured

(continued on Page 20)

Frisco Eddie's Revenge: The Return

A series by Balboa Ron Schweikert

(In last month's episode, Frisco Eddie and Lil had made their getaway from the Horses Head Saloon, but they were being pursued by Dollar Dan and his flunkies.)

On Lil's advice, Eddie took a look in his rear-view mirrors, and sure enough, there was a black Jaguar behind them. Eddie proceeded to check things out then by making some fast turns on the side-streets. As Lil had predicted, the Jaguar showed up again! Lil's "kind-of" Texas accent wasn't by accident, as she had grown up in the Dallas/Ft. Worth area, and she knew this part of the city pretty well. As a result, she took over as navigator and began to direct their route. After a great deal of hairy maneuvering, they felt they had lost them.

As she was guiding Eddie in their "escape-and-evasion," she came up with another strategy. She said: "Here's how we better do this, Champ. Let's go directly to the airport and skip the motel. We're travelling light anyway and we have all our important stuff with us. We can afford to buy a lot of new clothes for \$10,000! We can call the motel and have them charge the room to my credit card. When we get to the airport, we can just leave the car in front. I'll make out a note and leave it in the front seat so the rental place will get it back. We have an open-ended reservation so we'll take the first flight available, and let that become our next stop. East or West -- it doesn't matter."

Eddie was driving down a back-street now, and was mulling over the plan. Then, just before he came to a cross-street, and without warning, an oversized pickup with bulls' horns mounted on its front pulled into the cross-section and came to a full stop! Eddie hollered out: "We're going to hit this jerk!" In a flash, Lil noticed a gun-rack in the rear window of the cab and also the double-barrel shotgun that was pointed directly at them! She hollered out to Eddie: "Don't stop! Make a hard right, and drive up the sidewalk of the street he came in on!"

Eddie made a screeching turn, just before they would have hit the pickup. As they banged over the curb, they heard what was either a shotgun blast, or one of their tires blowing out. The car was still running O.K. as they made their escape though, so they figured it must have been the guy in the pickup.

What they didn't know was that Dollar Dan had alerted the pick-up man by car phone to set up this trap and that he was still somewhere behind them. After they got back on the road, Lil shouted out for Eddie to make a right-hand turn, which would lead them to the freeway and to the airport. Eddie remarked: "Hey, this is getting way out of hand here! What the hell is going on?"

Lil replied: "You can relax some now; once we get on the freeway, we should lose them. Just take it easy. The airport is only a little ways off, and then we'll be out of here and looking down at this place, and laughing our asses off! It ain't no big thing, my man; just keep that hammer down and we'll be A-OK."

Eddie's thought process was whirling now. He was thinking that if this was what shuffleboard hustling was all about, he better get back to his bartending at the Blue Moon and take up creative cross-stitching or something as a sideline. Here he was, turning onto a freeway at 90 miles an hour, with a whole army of pissed-off Texans on his rear-end, and Lil is talking about how they're going to be laughing soon! He was really hoping that first flight out would be to San Francisco!

It was a miracle that they didn't get pulled over as Eddie kept the speed up on the freeway. He didn't notice anyone on their tail as he slowed to turn off on the airport entrance street. They pulled up in front of the "Departing Flights" area. Lil had left her note in the front seat for the rental car agency, and they both jumped out and made a beeline for the front doors. They hit the first counter they came to inside. It was Northwest Airlines. Luck was with them as they found an open line with a clerk waiting. Lil presented her pre-paid tickets to the clerk and said: "I can't explain, but we need the first flight out of here, to either Denver, Michigan, Oklahoma, Washington, Indiana, Or Florida. If you don't have any of those open, book us to Alaska -- just anywhere away from here!"

The clerk started a computer search then, as Eddie was packing back and forth and checking the entrance doors. It seemed like an eternity, but was actually in only a minute or two that the clerk said: "The first thing open is one of our flights and its destination is Seattle, Washington. I doubt if you can make it, though; it departs from Gate C-3 in five minutes!" Lil said: "We'll take it!" The clerk told them to make a run for it, and she would flash their confirmation to the check-in desk at the gate.

They both started running through the huge airport, then toward their gate. Before they got to the security check station, Lil hollered to Eddie that she had to stop for a second and for him to go on ahead. He didn't argue, and kept on going. Lil then slipped into the women's restroom. She was only in there a few seconds and came out with a little less weight in her purse than when she went in. She had gotten rid of her nickle-plated 356 Deringer! When they got to Gate C-3, the last call had been given, and they were closing the entrance ramp door! Eddie hollered out: "Hold it," and they did, allowing them to board. It was close....too close!

They found their seats, and both of them let out a giant sigh of relief! Lil started laughing then, as the 727 began to back away from its parking berth. Eddie had the window seat, and looking out, he spotted something unreal. He told Lil she better stop laughing and check out what he was looking at. In one of the terminal windows, they saw two men -- the Ape Man and Dollar Dan, the Money Man! Dan had his fist in the air and Lil was sure she saw him mouthing the words: "This is not over, Lil, you #%\$@*+!!!"

What kind of adventures will be in store for Frisco Eddie and Lil in Washington? Will Dollar Dan track them down to carry out his threat? Don't miss the next episode in the November issue.

Author Balboa Ron thanks Beef and Marge Camp (Beef's, Kendallville, Indiana) for their response to his series. Also, a note with a subscription renewal from one of our faithful supporters in San Antonio, Texas, stated: "I look forward to reading The Board Talk each month, especially Frisco Eddie's Revenge." If you're enjoying Ron's series and/or have story ideas for him, write: Balboa Ron Schweikert, 8301 W. Charleston Blvd. #1050, Las Vegas, NV 89117.

Full House Labor Day Tourney "Biggest and Best"

In what hostess Pat Kinard called the "biggest and best tournaments we've had," players from several states vied for a total pot of nearly \$14,000 in the Full House's 7th Annual Labor Day Tournament in Wynnewood, Oklahoma.

In the women's singles, the winner was Pat herself, with Nancy Tice of Pauls Valley, Ok. in second and Lisa Melton of Davis, Ok. in third place.

Dave Davidson of Oklahoma took top honors in the men's handicap singles, with Ken Storck, also of Oklahoma in second, and Gene McLeod of Missouri in third place.

In the Sweetheart draw, it was Ken Storck and Lisa Melton who took first place. Gerald Wood of Stratford and Evelyn Harris of Dallas Texas captured second place, with Keith Oyler and Vicky Carter, both of Oklahoma, finishing third.

Billy Melton of Davis and Gene McLeod won top spot in the open draw. Bill Holly of Oklahoma and Eddie Wood of Fort Worth took second place honors, with Skip McCaskill of Wynnewood and Lisa Melton in third place.

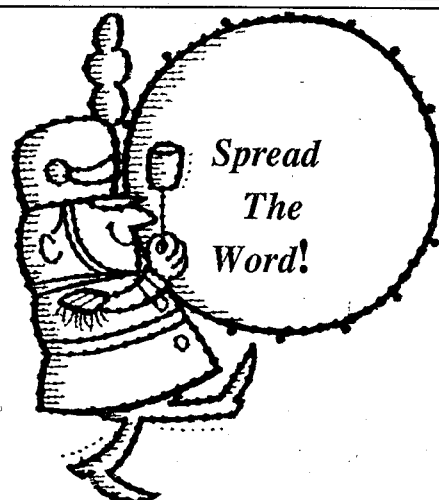
Another member of the Melton clan, Mitch, teamed up with Bobby Wright of Dallas to take first place in the bring your partner handicap event. Evelyn Harris and

Lisa Melton finished second, with Joe Dickerson of Davis and Jerry Davenport of Wynnewood in third place.

"I would like to recognize Gene McLeod from Licking, Missouri," said Pat. "He was sponsored by Sonny Boys Tavern in Cuba, Missouri. Gene's son, Mark, and his wife Shannon also competed in all the events. Barry Pipkin from Houston, Missouri, also attended. These people were new to our tournament and we hope to see more of them. Congratulations to all the winners and welcome back next year."

(Editor's Note: Readers, please check Pat's letter in Shufflers' Notebook on Page 28 for some interesting background information on this event.)

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Riverside Tourney (cont. from Page 16)
first place, with Rob Hummer and Brian Loundsbury of Earlville taking second.



Doug Fridley Jr. and Rob Hummer took second place in the bring partner event at the Riverside.

The Riverside Hotel will host a doubles tournament on Oct. 28, with round robins on Friday night. Roger hopes to have a third board for this event. For further information, contact Roger Sawyer at 315-691-3081 or Dale Law at 607-674-6850.

Muehlhauser/Hart Tops at Ulena's Tavern First Tourney

On Aug. 11-12, Ulena's Tavern, one of the newest members from St. Louis, Missouri, to join the Board Talk family, held its 1st Annual Shuffleboard Shootout. With 18 teams from around the state and over \$1500 in prize money, this was the biggest tournament in St. Louis.

Chuck Muehlhauser and Charley Hart took top honors with Dan Kelly and Fred Love in second place. Dennis Bullock and Steve LaRose finished third, with Dan Neaf and Jill Hajek in fourth place.

Ulena's Tavern thanks CocaCola, along with Paramount Liquors and Lohr Distributors for their fine donations.

"All the players would like to add a special thanks to Ulena's Tavern for their great hospitality, which helped in making this first tournament such a success," said Jim, Donna and Chuck Dunn.

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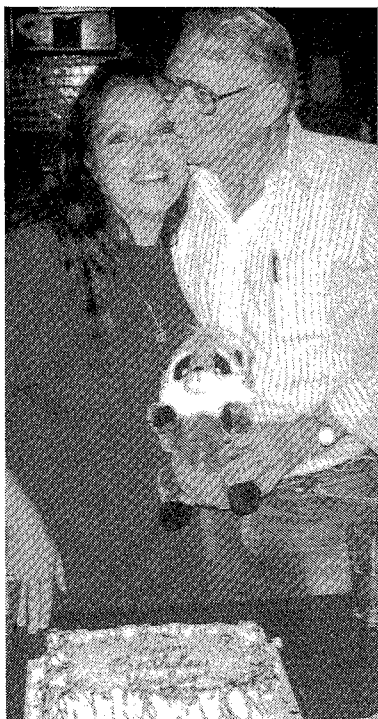
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Texas Open Draws 104 Contenders to Austin

There was a bunch of action at the Texas Mist in Austin, Texas, over the Labor Day weekend, as a total of 104 players vied for the 60 trophies that were handed out at the annual Texas Open.

The action started on Wednesday with Bill Wooldridge (Wolley Bully) celebrating his 65th birthday by taking first place with his partner Rena Hendrix in the Sweetheart Draw.



Wolley Bully gives Sweetheart Draw partner Rena Hendrix a peck on the cheek for helping him celebrate his 65th birthday with a first place win. Note the Panda bear and birthday cake that added to the celebration. Second place finishers were Mary Koteras and Dave Davidson, and third went to Diana Hagen and Ronnie McMahn.



Thursday's Pro-Am draw brought the rain with a few leaks, but Steve Luttrell and Mike Melton won first place anyway. Hiana Hagen and Tom French took second place, with Johnny Ballard and Rost Kaune in third.



Thursday's Open Draw went to Brian Walker and Ronnie McMahn. Rick Yingst and Brenda Watts took second place honors, and Rena Hendrix and Gary Kennedy finished third.

There were 60 shooters in Friday's singles events.

Bill Melton was the winner of Friday's "Hot Shot" singles.

Diana Hagen took second, with Dale Koteras in third place.



John Cason and Steve Luttrell were first in the "Leftover Boys" draw. Rick Yingst and Lyndon Baize took second, with Joe Land and David Porterfield in third.

*(continued on
Page 24)*

1995 Calendar of Shuffleboard Events

OCTOBER

Oct. 7

28th Annual Fall Doubles
American Legion Post 424
Bourbon, Indiana

Oct. 7-8

Octoberfest Doubles Tourney
Corner Tavern
Bow, Washington

Oct. 7-9

Columbus Day Tournament
American Legion Post 73
Del City, Oklahoma

Oct. 13-14

Three-Event Tournament
Harvey's Place
Street, Maryland

Oct. 14-15

Mixed Doubles Bring Partner
Balloon Inn
Arvada, Colorado

Oct. 21

1st in Series of Five
Beef's
Kendallville, Indiana

Oct. 21

"Best of Philly" Series
Bring Partner Event #5
Philadelphia Area

Oct. 21-22

Ladies' Singles/Draw Partner
Wetlands Bar & Grill
Royal Oak, Michigan

Oct. 21-22

PCSA Open Doubles
Shamrock Tavern
Longview, Washington

Oct. 28-29

2nd Annual Draw Partners
Sportsman Tavern
Stanwood, Washington

Oct. 28

Doubles Tournament
Riverside Hotel
Earlville, New York

HOW MUCH DOES IT COST?

We frequently get calls asking how much it costs to have a tournament listed on the Calendar of Events. It doesn't cost one cent! This space is brought to The World of Shuffleboard courtesy of The Board Talk.

However, we do encourage tournament directors/sponsors to consider buying a flyer (professionally-designed and typeset) at the modest cost of \$100 for single, \$150 for double. Ask any advertiser: It pays to advertise in The Board Talk!

If you are developing your own flyers, having them printed and mailed, compare the cost of your limited circulation vs. the cost of spreading the word about your event across the U.S.A. and Canada.

Remember, too, that it is because some tournament sponsors decide to go that route that we are able to give you this FREE space!

Don't let them carry the full load!

*George & Donna Wilber
Publishers
THE BOARD TALK*

NOVEMBER

Oct. 30-Nov. 5

North American Championships
Sands Regency
Reno, Nevada

Nov. 4

Open Doubles
Sportsman's Lounge
Muncie, Indiana

Nov. 11

Bourbon Singles Championship
American Legion Post 424
Bourbon, Indiana

Nov. 18

2nd in Series of Five
Beef's
Kendallville, Indiana

Nov. 23-26

11th Annual Thanks Classic
Gold Nugget Club
Arlington, Texas

Nov. 23-26

3rd Annual Thanksgiving
Weekend Tournament
The Dixie Belle
Downey, California

REMINDER!

The next "Play Your Way Across the U.S.A." listing will be in the next issue.

Is your tournament site or favorite playing place on the map? If not, sign them up before Oct. 15.

THE BOARD TALK

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

1995-96 Calendar of Shuffleboard Events

Nov. 24-26

10th Annual State of Michigan Championships
Wetlands Bar & Grill
Royal Oak, Michigan

Nov. 25-26

55 & Over Draw Partners
Shamrock
Longview, Washington

Nov. 24-26

Doubles Tournament
BZ's Sports Bar
Seattle, Washington

Nov. 24-26

1st Annual State of Florida Championships
Our Place and Sam's Place
Titusville, Florida

Nov. 24-26

7th Annual State of Indiana Championships
Chances R
Muncie, Indiana

DECEMBER

Dec. 1-3

Three-Event Tournament
Harvey's Place
Street, Maryland

Dec. 9

"Best of Philly" Series
Singles Event
Philadelphia Area

Dec. 16-17

6th Annual Santa Classic
Open Doubles
Balloon Inn
Arvada, Colorado

Dec. 30

Open Doubles
Beef's
Kendallville, Indiana

Dec. 31-Jan. 2

New Year's Extravaganza
Winnipeg Hotel
Winnipeg, Manitoba, Canada

JANUARY, 1996

Jan. 20

Third in Series of Five
Beef's
Kendallville, Indiana

FEBRUARY

Jan. 30-Feb. 4

PCSA Extravaganza VIII
Aladdin Hotel/Casino
Las Vegas, Nevada

Feb. 17

Fourth in Series of Five
Beef's
Kendallville, Indiana

Feb. 24

Open Doubles
Sportsman's Lounge
Muncie, Indiana

MARCH

March 2-4

Three-Event Tournament
Harvey's Place
Street, Maryland

March 23

Fifth in the Series of Five
Beef's
Kendallville, Indiana

APRIL

April 12-14

Three-Event Tournament
Harvey's Place
Street, Maryland

April 13

Doubles Tournament
Mississinewa Tavern
Eaton, Indiana

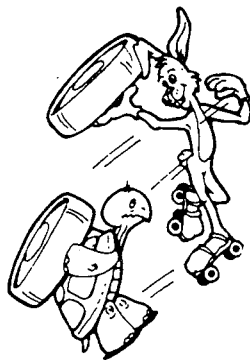
April 27

Open Singles
Beef's
Kendallville, Indiana

MAY

May 11

Open Doubles
Sportsman's Lounge
Muncie, Indiana



FREE!
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THE BOARD TALK
to every event listed on this
calendar available upon request.
Call George or Donna
517-371-2538

Texas Open *(continued from Page 21)*

In the "Long Shot" singles, Silvia Martinez (right) took top honors. Other finishers were Mike Renick, 2nd; Jim Griffin, 3rd; Ronnie McMahn, 4th; Tom Johnson and Bill Rice, 5th and 6th.



Saturday's "Hot Shot" bring partners wasn't a good day for the pros. First place winners were Rick Yingst and John Cason of Tulsa (both rated 1's). Ken Strong and Brian Walker of Houston (also rated 1's) finished second, with third place going to Brenda Moore of San Antonio and Bobby Williams of Fort Worth (both rated 0's).

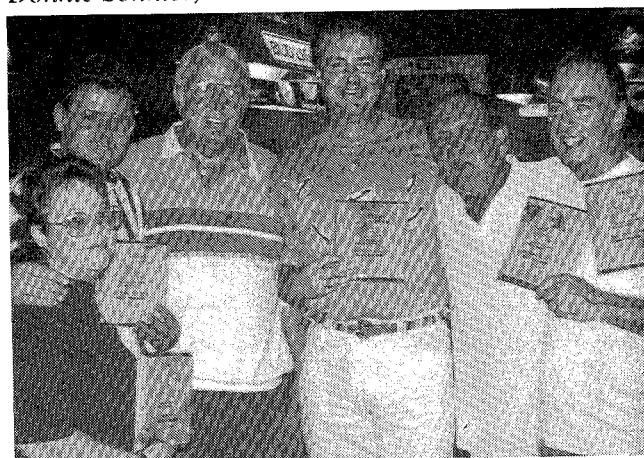
"We appreciate Brenda Moore coming to our tournament and sharing thoughts and moments with the many, many friends of her late husband, Terry Moore, who just recently passed away," said tourney directors Ron and Debbie Bowers. "Terry will always be a major factor in the history of Texas shuffleboard and we will all miss him very much."

Saturday's "Long Shot" draw was won by Mary Koteris and Frank Huffman, with Tonny Flumara and Gary Nelson in second place. Jim Griffin and Jack Davis took third.

Sunday and Monday brought the 6-Person Draft Team event. It was the Meltons -- Mike and Bill -- from Davis, Oklahoma, who led their teams to first and second place spots.



Winners of the Draft Team event were: Mike Melton, captain; Ron Bowers, Austin; Ken Strong, Houston; Robert Hurst Sr., Austin; Jack Scott, Houston, and Donnie Sonnier, Austin.



Taking second place honors were: Bill Melton, captain; Tina Wade, Austin; Gregg Tedford, Sonora; Flynt Preston, Houston; DeWayne Wilkins, Austin; and Neil Garvin, Corpus Christi.

Leading the third place team to the winner's circle was Diana Hagen of Houston. Her team members were Brian Walker, Jimbo Grove, Adele Keith, Cindy Yarbrough and Angie Snyder.

"This was our third year for the Texas Open and even though we made some mistakes and has some electrical problems, 99 percent of our players seemed to have a good time. Out of 104 players, we had 48 of them take home part of the pots," said Ron and Debbie.

"Thanks again to our sponsors and volunteers (see enclosed flyer), with a special thanks to Don McCurry who sold his share of the Texas Mist months ago, but came to the Texas Open strictly as a helper, totalling

(continued on Page 27)

Notebook *(continued from Page 12)*

another great day. We again played the best out of 9.

On July 1st weekend, I went to the doubles tournament at Stanwood, Washington. Just down the street at the Boxcar Tavern, I met the owners, Norm and Debbie. They talked about joining us next time and Russ (Miller) and I agreed to include them. Then, at our fun tournament, which Russ and I are now calling the CANAM Tour, I met John Troia from Everett and he asked if they could join our tour. He told me they have three taverns that will come to play. Russ and I decided to have a meeting with Norm, Myrl and John in January '96 to plan six trips -- three in the U.S.A. and three in Canada, which would involve 20 teams and two buses. Everybody who was round when we talked was very excited and can't wait until we put it together.

Gordie Smith, Coq. , British Columbia, Canada

We're excited, too, and think this "hands across the border" shuffleboard effort is a wonderful idea. Please keep us updated so we can share the good news with The World of Shuffleboard.

News From The Dixie Belle....

I can't believe summer is over and autumn has begin -- time for pumpkins, harvest moons, ghosts, goblins and Thanksgiving tournaments. The Dixie Belle will be hosting our annual Thanksgiving weekend tournament, plus our Sunday Turkey Shoots which are always a good time. If you are going to be in this area ny time during November, call for event scheduling, then plan to join us. We love company!

I want to take time here to mention Chris Brown. Chris is one of our women players and also my friend for over 20 years. She started playing shuffleboard about two years ago when The Dixie Belle first brought in the boards. She is n active participant in almost all of our tournaments as is her husband Jack. She is smart, witty, a hard worker, helpful, kind, sometimes sarcastic, and always a great person to call friend. She is becoming a prized partner for tournaments and also in our Sunday Meat Shoots where she and her partners have won the last two. She is one of The Dixie Belle's quietest, yet best, promoters of shuffleboard and I'd like to thank her for this and for being my friend for so long.

We have been busy here at the Dixie Belle the last couple months. In August, we had the Paul Weber Sweetheart Tournament. As you may surmise, it was a bring your partner mixed doubles and a lot of fun. Maybe just a little dissension among "sweethearts" here and there, but all that led to the kissing and making up and, after all, what are sweethearts for? The winners vying for a pot of just over \$2,000 were Rich (Bubba) Warren and Jolene Lembke. In second place were Karl Spickelmier and Bibi, owner of the Edgewood in Bellflower. In third place was the father/

daughter team of Joe Muniz and Lisa Taylor. Congratulations to all the winners and thanks to all who participated in the "Exquisite" Mr. Paul Weber's first Sweetheart Tournament, especially thanks to you, Paul.

On to September (my birthday month and also Chris Brown's who is four days older than I) and our Labor Day ABC Draw. It was a small tournament as they go, with eight teams vying for just under \$2,000, but some of the nicest players in Southern California.



Vern Booth, Joanie Swenson, and Jack J. Brown took first place honors in the ABC Draw.



Billy Duncan, Anna Brunskill, and Leroy Waggoner took second place.

Taking third place were Bob Brunskill and his "harem," Pearl and Chris Brown. Not only did he lead his harem to third place, he also took care of bracketing and helped keep the tournament running smoothly. Nice job, Bob!

CC's Sports Bar, Anaheim, Calif. (see Shuffleboard Directory), was well-represented and we thank the players who came from Orange County to participate in this event. As Paul W. would say: "You're all sweethearts!"

As always, I hope to see everyone soon, whether here, Vegas, Bourbon, Quilcene or wherever shuffleboard may take us. It is always good to see special friends and special people.

Dixie Debbie, The Dixie Belle, Downey, California

Upcoming Events *(continued from Page 5)*

through Nov. 26. Action on nine boards will start with previous weekend round robins and continue until Thanksgiving dinner is served on Thursday at 2 p.m.

The first event will be a draw partner, \$50 entry, starting at 7 p.m. Single game, double elimination, with no two pros or O's allowed to draw each other.

On Friday at 7 p.m., the bring partner event will start, \$100 per team, 2 out of 3, double elimination if time allows. In this event, pros must play with players rated 1 or above.

The final event will be a 6-person draft team tournament, best five out of nine games, double elimination, starting at 4 p.m. on Saturday. Entry fee is \$300 per team.

There will be sponsor sales for all three events.

For further information, contact Dave Williams, 817-451-9583 or Tom at the Gold Nugget, 817-277-4029.

Florida

1ST STATE OF FLORIDA CHAMPIONSHIPS, TITUSVILLE, NOV. 24-26

The city of Titusville will be the site of the 1st Annual "Florida Residents Only" Championships. All of the four scheduled events are single game, double elimination, and 15 point games. Entry fee is \$10 per person per event and the schedule is as follows:

Friday, Nov. 24 - Women's Singles at Sam's Place, 1 p.m.

Friday, Nov. 24 - Men's Singles at Our Place Saloon, 12:30 p.m.

Saturday, Nov. 25 - Open Doubles at Our Place Saloon, 11 a.m.

Sunday, Nov. 26 -- Mixed Doubles at Our Place Saloon, 11 a.m.

All payoffs in the four events are based and formulated on the number of entries. In addition, sponsor sales are slated for the Men's Singles and Open Doubles events only.

"We thank, in advance, Sam and Wanda Fitzwater of Sam's Place and Sandi and Emmett Griner of Our Place Saloon for the use of their shuffleboard establishments," said Florida Table Shuffleboard Association official Marty Allen. "Their support is greatly appreciated."

Two additional shuffleboard establishments will be held in reserve and a "shuttle service" plan on an "if needed" basis. Area representatives of the Florida Table Shuffleboard Association will coordinate and officiate this state tournament. They are: Dave Macko, Cass Grubbs, Bill Pelletier, and Jimmy "The Cop" Kumpula.

If you have any questions on rules and regulations, or lodging, addresses and directions, please contact Marty Allen, 407-471-4053.

California

THANKSGIVING TOURNEY AT DIXIE BELLE, DOWNEY, NOV. 23-26

The Dixie Belle, 9559 E. Imperial Hwy., Downey, will host its 3rd Annual Thanksgiving Weekend Tournament on Nov. 23-26. The PCSA-sanctioned events will include an open doubles, \$100 per team, 2 out of 3, double elimination, and an ABC Draw, \$25 per player entry, also 2 out of 3, double elimination.

The sale for the open doubles is set for Thursday, 9 p.m., with play starting Friday at 10 a.m. The sale for the ABC draw will be Friday at 8 p.m. with play starting on Saturday at noon.

Thanksgiving dinner will be available and a complimentary buffet will be served on Saturday from 2 to 6 p.m.

Watch for a flyer with complete details in the November issue. In the meantime, if you have questions or want to save your spot early, contact Jim or Eileen at the Dixie Belle, 310-803-4943.

ADDITIONS TO "PLAY YOUR WAY" LISTING....

Shuffleboard establishments which have joined (or rejoined) the network this month (after publication of the "Play Your Way Across the U.S.A." listing in the August issue) include the following:

Maryland: K & M's Dead End Tavern, 881 VA Ave., Hagerstown 21740

Missouri: Devonshire Inn, 4601 S. Kingshighway Blvd., St. Louis 63109

River City Pub, 7906 Gravois, St. Louis 63123

Nevada: Deluxe Liquors Tavern, 2810 E. Lake Mead Blvd., N. Las Vegas 89130; phone 702-649-0825

Washington: Bridge Bender Tavern, 85 Catlin St., Kelso 98626; phone 360-636-1641

Clarifications/Corrections:

Texas: The address for the Sante Fe Club in Rockport is 2701 N. Highway 35, phone number is 512-790-7564. The address for the Time Out #2 Sports Bar is Webster 77598.

Please make these corrections on your August "Play Your Way Across the U.S.A." listing, stop in while you're in the area to welcome them to the shuffleboard network.

The next "Play Your Way Across the U.S.A." listing will be published in the November issue. If your favorite shuffleboard site is not on the map, sign them up today. Their \$15 subscription fee entitles them to a quarterly, free-of-charge listing. New sites must be received by Oct. 15.

Those sites that are without phone numbers may want to consider that addition. Travelling shufflers like to call ahead!

Texas Open *(continued from Page 24)*

up to 120 hours FREE labor. Special thanks to Tina Wade, who took vacation time to work for FREE, and thanks to Rost Kaune for all of his help and taking the pictures and also Lyndon Baize who came after having oral surgery only hours before he helped move the shuffleboards upstairs," said the Bowers.



(From left to right) Ron Bowers, Don McCurry, Tina Wade, Debbie Bowers and Rost Kaune, after working all week and getting the boards downstairs.

(Editor's Note: Please see our salute to volunteers in "As the Puck Turns" and celebrate October as "Volunteer Appreciation Month.")

Wetlands 1st Team Event has Unusual Competition

The 1st Annual Six-Person Team Event was held at the Wetlands Bar & Grill in Royal Oak, Michigan, on the weekend of Aug. 18. When the dates for this event were selected, no one was aware of the fact that the first annual "Woodward Avenue Dream Cruise" was scheduled for the same weekend.

For those of you who are not from Michigan, Woodward Avenue was the first paved road in North America. It runs from downtown Detroit to Pontiac, Michigan, and has been the infamous location of many a drag race.

Being the "Motor City," Detroiters have always had a love affair with cars, and many thousands participated by bring out their vintage autos to cruise Woodward Avenue. Wetlands was one of the official stops and tournament participants were treated to the sight of a row of mint condition old Corvettes in front of the bar when the local Corvette Club showed up in

force. They were joined by everything from '55 Chevies to Rolls Royces from the '20s.

Meanwhile, inside the bar, it was the team of Steve Auten, J.R. Lopez, Patty McDonald, John McDermott, Mike Papa, and George Wilber that finished on top.

"The turnout was smaller than expected, mainly due to the perfect weather and the Dream Cruise, which made it hard to get within a mile of the bar," said John McDermott of The Shuffleboard Federation, Inc. "Look for this event to be moved to the winter or spring in 1996."

More Upcoming Events.....

Michigan

WETLANDS TO HOST STATE OF MICHIGAN CHAMPIONSHIPS

Bragging rights for the next year will be at stake on Thanksgiving weekend as the Wetlands Bar & Grill in Royal Oak plays host to this 10th annual tournament. Events will include doubles, mixed doubles, and men's and ladies' singles. Hartfield Lanes will host some of the competition if the turnout is too large for Wetlands to accommodate.

For more information, call or write The Shuffleboard Federation, 41761 Onaway Drive, Northville, MI 48167-2411, 810-380-9300.

Washington

OCTOBERFEST '95 AT CORNER TAVERN, BOW, OCT. 7-8

The Corner Tavern, 1255 Allen West Rd., Bow, Washington, will host Octoberfest '95 on Oct. 7-8. It will be a double elimination doubles event, \$50 per team, with five places paid if over 16 teams are signed up. It will be 2 out of 3 in the winner's bracket, with 17 points in the loser's bracket. Bidding will start at 11 a.m. on Saturday, but come for the \$20 draw partners on Friday night, 7 p.m.

There is plenty of RV parking and nearby motels. For information, call Steve or Nancy Hudson at the Corner Tavern, 360-757-6113.

A buffet will be served on both Saturday and Sunday.

More Notebook.....**Pat Kinard Salutes Shuffleboard Players' Sportsmanship***Pat Kinard, Host of the Full House*

I deeply appreciate all the players, customers, and my staff for their participation in our 7th Annual Labor Day Tournament. I couldn't have asked for nicer people and I hope they enjoyed themselves as much as we did.

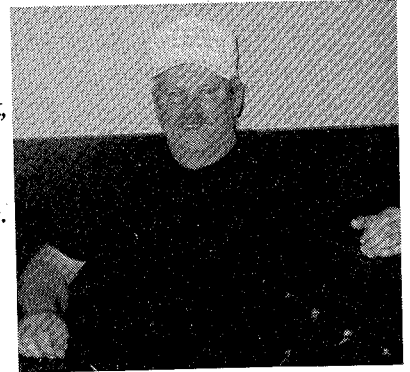
Since I've always had an open tournament and am limited on space, this was the first year I had two events handicapped. I can't thank the 1's and 0's enough for their participation. We have so many players who are 2's, 3's and 4's who don't participate because they feel they don't have a chance. They actually had the opportunity to learn strategy and play against really good players without having a negative attitude before they ever threw a puck.

Everyone seemed to think it was fair and evened things out. I will probably continue this format. I have three house boards and when Mike Melton brings me another board just before my tournament, I always have him reset my house boards so my local players cannot have a home advantage. I don't think you learn tournament play if all your local players know every shot on the board.

When problems arise, I try to settle it with the parties involved to everyone's satisfaction. I had three or four problems this year that my players helped me resolve. For example, in the Handicap Partner's event, I had a player who wasn't there on time to play. This couple was scheduled to play Ron Blalock and Tom Hendrix. I told Ron to tell me when 15 minutes were up and it would be a forfeit. Ron and Tom felt bad for the person who was waiting on his partner and for the people who bought them in the sponsor sale. They

also had to handicap these people 4 points. I was doing the bracket boards and the absent player showed up. He was 20 minutes late. I approached Ron and Tom and told them I'd mark in their forfeit. They both said no. They played the game. I was impressed with that kind of sportsmanship.

Tom Hendrix, who along with his partner Ron Blalock, gave up a forfeit in the name of good sportsmanship.



Another instance was the Sweetheart Draw. A man and woman signed up together, drew different partners. We had the sale and these two people left. We called and they had decided not to play and said to drop them out. The other players graciously consented to let the man and woman who were without partners to play together. Fortunately, the absent man had bought him and his partner so the other buyer transferred his bid to the new couple and no one complained.

I run dart and pool leagues and there's just no comparison to shuffleboard players when it comes to good sportsmanship. I love all of you. I could never run my tournament without the support and advice of the experienced players.

Pat Kinard, The Full House, Wynnewood, Oklahoma

Having just completed our annual tournament a week after yours, Pat, we certainly say "amen" to your salute to the experienced players who are so willing to help make a tournament smooth-running and contribute their expertise to the less experienced players.

Ron's First "Whoops!"

I would like to apologize to the organizers of the Bourbon Tournament for scheduling the Columbus Day Tournament at the Del City American Legion the same weekend. It was certainly not intentional and we were under the assumption that it was a week after Bourbon. Our tournament will just be a small local one with six boards, rather than our usual 12, and

we wish the Bourbon tournament the very best.

Ron Huddleston, Oklahoma City, Oklahoma

We apologize, too, Ron, for not alerting you that there was a conflict. We have a lot of excuses for that, but frankly, we don't worry about that as much as we used to. We've found that there can be tournaments in Indiana, Oklahoma and Washington on the same weekend, without any loss of participation because The World of Shuffleboard is expanding. And, because this is the first mistake you ever made since we've known you, we're certain you will be forgiven.

A Salute to Canadian Neighbors.....

Bill Wier, manager of the AN & AF Club in Vancouver, B.C., site of the "Crazy Canucks" tournament, Marg Okum, the lady who makes it all happen, and the whole gang, were wonderful hosts. They treated their U.S.A. neighbors just great!

Jim Cockrell, Winston, Oregon

That doesn't surprise us at all, Jim. Watch for results of this event in the next issue.

Fatal Error!

Unless your computer has given you this message, you don't know what true terror is!

For the past several months, we have used a number of excuses for errors -- the illness and death of George's Dad, the care of Donna's terminally-ill Mom. Now, we have a new one: On deadline day, after we had set 25 pages of type (in between conducting the biggest tournament ever at Skip's Lounge in Houghton Lake and freezing when the furnace in our mini-Winnie refused to work), the computer blurts out this message: "Cannot open file. Fatal error! An error has occurred in your application....."

So, what does that mean? It means that those 25 pages cannot be corrected and edited. It means that the "holes" will be filled with paste-ins. It means we'll be a few days late in delivery to the printer and, consequently, to the Post Office and ultimately to you.

So, once again, here we are on bended knee, begging your forgiveness for typos, uneven margins, etc. etc.

In the meantime, if there is anyone out there who can live with "fatal errors," make us an offer!

George & Donna Wilber, Publishers
The Board Talk

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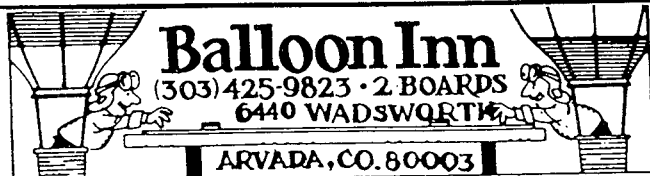
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