

# The Board Talk

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April 1996

## It Was a "Perry" Good Day at Blinky's!

By Chance Michael

Blinky's Sports Cafe in Santa Clara, California, was again the site of its annual Presidents' Day tournament. However, in the end, this would prove to be different than its predecessors. It is a true rarity in any sport that a father and son can compete at a high level, and shuffleboard is no exception. To compete at that level at the same time is something special. And those lucky enough to have attended this tournament witnessed an unsurpassed achievement.

With the doubles getting underway Saturday morning, the field was vying for just over \$5,000 in prize money. In third place was the team of Dan Mourgos and George Camara. The always dangerous Dan and the continued comeback effort by George proved to be formidable in falling just short. The two teams featured in the final displayed different styles, however, past success as partners is perhaps the biggest difference between them. John "Squirrel" Fisher and Rich "Bubba" Warren have prospered at Blinky's and other locations over the years. Considered one of the tougher teams in the state, they always get respect both on and off the board.



The father and son team of Steve and Hal Perry, emotional over their doubles win, went on to take 1-2 in the singles.

The team of Hal Perry and Steve Perry is another story entirely. Not a perennial doubles team and winners of just one tournament, they have been criticized for not being able to play together. Two things seemed to be different from their previous outings: the maturity of Steve's game, and they appeared to be more comfortable playing together. Breezing through the winner's bracket without a loss, they appeared to be on a mission. After John and Bubba fought through the loser's side, we had ourselves a final. When the hard-fought match was over, it was Hal and Steve prevailing 2-1. It was an emotional scene for two very emotional players.

The exciting doubles gave way to the singles and it would not disappoint. The field chasing just over \$6,000 in prize money was tough from top to bottom. Looking at the bracket board, there were four players left in the winner's side, Hal Perry set to play Karl Spickelmier and Steve Perry going against Bubba Warren.

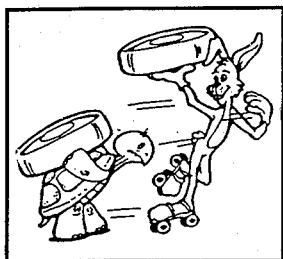
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### ON THE INSIDE.....

**Looking Back to 1988 --** Who were the winners of major tournaments in 1988? What were some of the significant happenings as recorded in The Board Talk back then?.....Pages 14-15

**Frisco Eddie's Revenge: The Return --** Tacoma Tim gives a cocky Frisco Eddie some tough lessons!.....Page 18

**"Super Senior" Dominates Florida Open --** A 74-year-old shuffler uses what he learned in minor league baseball to take both the singles and doubles shuffleboard championships. How did he do that?.....Page 28



# Shufflers' Notebook

News and Views  
from The World  
of Shuffleboard

## **To Unsigned Letter-Writer PCSA Critic from Zavalas: "We don't need or want troublemakers like you!"**

To all the people associated with the PCSA, we'd like to say that the jerk who wrote the letter at the Aladdin has no idea what he's talking about. The serious players in Nevada feel that all the people who work so hard all year long for the PCSA and the sport of shuffleboard are doing a great job. No organization is perfect and you can't please everyone all the time, but if you don't like the way things are run: Get out of the sport or go somewhere else! We don't need nor want troublemakers like you in our sport!

In the first place, if you had the nerve to write a letter like that, you should at least have the nerve to sign your name and talk face-to-face with the people you feel are in the wrong. The way you handled things was cowardly and a disgrace to the whole of us who feel that Paul, Joe, Marvel, Al, Karl, and everyone else involved with the Aladdin Extravaganza, are doing a great job. They work hard all year long so that we can have a great week of shuffleboard and we appreciate them more than we can say.

Great job, guys and gals, keep it up! If not for all the people at PCSA, the Aladdin would not be the success it is every year. And, we're really looking forward to next year!

Frank and Connie Zavala, Las Vegas, Nevada

*Like you, Frank and Connie, we were shocked that such charges would be leveled against an entity without the courage of a signature. We have a long-standing policy of not printing unsigned letters, so this one went in the trash!*

### **— ATTENTION —**

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



**Red Check**

**(Use the form inside to renew.)**

Therefore, those who did not participate in the PCSA's Extravaganza VIII will not know what we're talking about here -- and that's just as well, because nothing constructive would result from its publication. We also often use our editorial privilege of refusing to print criticism against specific tournament sponsors, whether local or national, for the same reason. No one knows, better than we, that you cannot please all the people all the time -- and we do make mistakes and, like a majority of tournament sponsors, we welcome and encourage face-to-face challenges, so we can make it better next time. We certainly aren't going to sit in a judgement seat and determine whether the writer had some legitimate complaints, and doing so in a public forum does nothing to further the growth of our sport.

In last month's issue, John McDermott of The Shuffleboard Federation, Inc., had some good advice: "If an individual believes that a particular tournament is not being run in a professional and/or ethical basis, it seems the appropriate response is to approach the person in charge and voice your concerns. Their response will tell you all you need to know. If they do not respond to your satisfaction (this does not necessarily mean agreeing with you), the most effective protest you can make is simply not to go to that tournament in the future.....There is certainly no shortage of tournament action these days. It's a free country -- take your business elsewhere." That advice was published before the PCSA tournament, so it was not in response to the unsigned letter, making it all the more credible. We endorse that advice.

## **A View From the Bottom.....**

**A pragmatic, subjective, pessimistic view and look at the future of shuffleboard:**

My early experience of growing up back East (Long Island, New York) fostered a lasting appreciation for the game because youngsters were permitted in taverns then with family adults. I can remember "messin'" with weights at about the age of six, and played my first regulation game while still in High School (16-17 years old; we had fake I.D.s).

The point being that young people have to be introduced to the game early. They get "hooked" on pool, darts and video games long before they ever see a shuffleboard. I feel we need to encourage the placement of boards where adolescents congregate, like youth centers, pool halls, YMCAs, and even churches and

*(continued on Page 9)*

## *Riley/Pittman Earn "Bragging Rights" in Missouri's Miller Lite 14th Annual Travelling Tournament at Longbranch, Springfield*

Jim Johnson's Longbranch Lounge hosted the Miller Lite 14th Annual Travelling Tournament in Springfield, Missouri, Feb. 23-24.



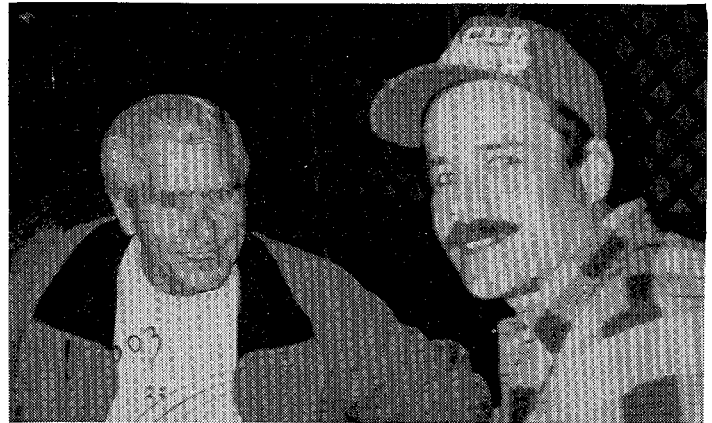
*Rick Pittman and Charlie Riley from the Pit Stop in Houston, Missouri, won this year's "bragging rights" by taking top honors in this annual event.*



*Brothers Jimmie and Jerry Dickens from the Longbranch took second place.*



*Miller rep and tournament director Mike Arthur (left) presents third place earnings to Mike Schmeets and Steve Boyer from the East Inn Tavern, Springfield.*



*Gene McLeod (left) from Licking and Chuck Muhlauser from St. Louis, took fourth place.*

Rounding out the top five was the team of Ron Fleming and Richie Sneed from the Glenstone Grill in Springfield.

Patt Satterfield and Woodie Cockrum share the history of this annual event:

"Each year, Mike Arthur travels with his Miller Lite tournament to a different tavern in the Springfield area. When the tournament started 14 years ago, the taverns would sponsor their top players in hopes of bringing the 'bragging rights' championship back to their tavern. As the tournament has grown each year, the invitation has opened up new blood from outside the city to make the outcome more unpredictable. With the Springfield players still having the first chance to enter, the added teams from outside the area have made this the largest yearly tournament in the state of Missouri."

They report that winners and losers all enjoyed the fun and spirit of the tournament.

The Longbranch, located at 2000 N. National in Springfield, will be the site of the 3rd Annual Missouri State Championship the weekend of July 19-20. Watch for details in upcoming issues.

### **CLASSIFIED ADS**

**SHUFFLERS WELCOME!** We're always glad to have shuffleboard players from near and far stop in for a game or two. P.M. Tavern, 1807 W. Lomita Blvd., Lomita, California, phone: 310-534-9211. A member of the national shuffleboard network!

**FOR RENT:** This space only \$5 for 25 words or less. Send your message to: The Board Talk, 421 E. Sheridan Rd., Lansing, MI 48906, by the 15th of the month.

## *Upcoming Events Across the Nation*

### Pennsylvania

## **J & C TO HOST MEMORIAL WEEKEND TOURNEY**

J & C Tavern, 6601 Lansdowne Ave. in Philadelphia, will host a Memorial Weekend Tournament. Events will include a \$10 open draw on Friday, May 24; an open doubles, \$25 per team, on May 25; an open singles, \$25 entry, on May 26, and a mixed draw, \$10 per person, on Memorial Day, May 27.

For further information, contact Jim Yank, 215-879-0840. J & C will also host their 2nd Annual Yankee Doodle Tournament July 4-7. Watch for details.

### Indiana

## **MISSISSINEWA TAVERN TO HOST DOUBLES, APRIL 13**

The Mississinewa Tavern, 125 W. Harris, Eaton, will host an open doubles on April 13. The sponsor sale for this double elimination tournament will start at 11 a.m., with play immediately following. Entry fee is \$20 per team and will be limited to the first 24 teams signed up. For information, contact host Arnold Cross, 317-396-9371.

## **1ST ANNUAL HALL OF FAME TOURNEY, BOURBON, MAY 4**

The 1st National Shuffleboard Hall of Fame Tournament will be staged at the 35th Annual Bourbon Spring Doubles, hosted by the American Legion Post 424 on May 4. Entry fee is \$50 per team. There will also be a \$20 draw partner event on Friday, May 3, sign-up at noon, sale at 12:30 p.m., with play immediately following. Also on the agenda for Friday are drawings at 8 p.m. for \$1,000, \$200, \$100 and \$50. Tickets for the drawings are \$10 each and will be on sale at the American Legion. Proceeds will be donated to the Hall of Fame.

Because of the magnitude of this "first," all entries MUST be in by April 27 -- absolutely no late entries will be accepted! Send to: American Legion Post 424, c/o Fritz Broka, 202 S. Main St., Bourbon, IN 46504.

For further information, contact Fritz at 219-858-2689. She'll also have lodging recommendations.

Enthusiasm for this event was running high at the PCSA Extravaganza VIII in Vegas, with reports of delegations coming to this tiny town in Indiana from all across the nation. If you haven't made plans yet to make a mark in shuffleboard history, do so now! It's going to be an historic happening -- and a fun one!

### Colorado

## **OPEN SINGLES AT BALLOON INN, APRIL 27-28**

The Balloon Inn, 6440 Wadsworth, Arvada, will hold an open singles on April 27-28, \$50 entry fee. The sale will be held on Friday, April 26, at 7 p.m., followed by open challenge on both boards. It's a best 2 out of 3, double elimination event and will pay three places. The tournament will be seeded according to the sale amount per player.

Also on the calendar is the 7th Annual Balloon Open Doubles, June 15-16, \$100 per team, best 2 out of 3, double elimination.

For information, call hosts Ron or Gwen Vogt, 303-425-9823.

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Washington

## PACIFIC NORTHWEST CHAMPIONSHIPS, WHISTLING OYSTER, QUILCENE, MAY 10-12

The Whistling Oyster Tavern in Quilcene, home of the Grand Masters Plus, will host the Pacific Northwest Championships on May 10-12. This open event will include a mixed doubles draw, \$50 per team, on Friday, May 10, single game double elimination, beginning at noon, no sale; an open doubles, \$100 per team, and a women's singles, \$50 entry, played simultaneously on Saturday and Sunday, with sales at noon and play immediately following. The doubles and women's singles will be 2 out of 3 in the winners bracket, 21 points in the losers bracket, with \$500 added.

The Whistling Oyster, which has five in-house boards, will provide a "humongus" Mexican feed on Saturday and Sunday free to all participants.

Lodging is limited so be sure to reserve your spots early. RV parking is available in the famous, fun-filled Whistling Oyster "pit" or: Maple Grove, 360-765-3410; Bayshore, 360-796-4220; Quilcene Hotel, 360-765-3447.

For further information, call Bill Bailey at 360-765-9508 or 360-765-3436. Please post the enclosed flyer in your favorite shuffleboard site.

## \$500 ADDED TO SHAMROCK'S DRAW PARTNER, MAY 4-5

The Shamrock Tavern, 1131 15th, Longview, will host its 6th Annual Draw Partners on May 4-5. Entry fee is \$20 per player and the Shamrock will add \$500 to the pot. Sponsor sale is scheduled for noon on May 4, with play immediately following.

There will be a \$10 round robin on Friday night, May 3, starting at 7 p.m.

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

## 2ND ANNUAL EVERETT INVITATIONAL AT SHOTZE'S, JUNE 15-16

Shotze's Rack 'N Roll, 9602 Evergreen Way, Everett, will host its 2nd Annual Everett Invitational Tournament on June 15-16. It will be a bring your own partner event, \$50 per team entry, with \$200 added money guaranteed and \$500 if over 20 teams participate.

The format will be 2 out of 3 in the winners' bracket and single game 17 points in the loser's bracket. Sponsor sale is scheduled for Saturday at 10 a.m. with play following. Come early for \$10 draw partners on Friday night.

Check the enclosed flyer regarding all of Shotze's many special features as a tournament site.

For further information, contact tournament director John Martin, 206-513-1053 or 206-453-9727.

Last year's invitational attracted 24 teams, with Darrol Nelson and Doug Buhl the top winners.

## \$1,000 ADDED TO 4TH ANNUAL CLASSIC, BZ'S, BURIEN, APRIL 19-21

BZ's Sports Bar & Grill, 17730 Des Moines Memorial Drive, Burien, will add \$1,000 to their 4th Annual Shuffleboard Classic on April 19-21. Entry fee for the doubles event is \$50 a team, double elimination, 2 out of 3 in the winner's bracket. Four boards will be used and the sponsor sale is scheduled for Saturday, 11 a.m. (Jim Foran, auctioneer), with play immediately following. The winners split will be 52-24-12-6-3-3.

On Friday night, April 19, 7 p.m., a \$20 draw partner, single elimination, is on the schedule.

For information, contact Craig at BZ's, 206-243-6018, or Jim Foran, 206-474-2724.

Please post the enclosed flyer in your favorite shuffleboard site as soon as you receive this newsletter.

## 15TH ANNUAL LILAC CITY MEMORIAL TOURNAMENT, LITZ'S, SPOKANE

The Evergreen Shuffleboard Association and Litz's Pub & Eatery, E. 204 Ermina, Spokane, invite you to participate in the 15th Annual Lilac City Memorial Weekend Tournament, May 23-26.

Events start Thursday noon with an open singles, \$50 entry, double elimination. A single elimination draw partner, \$25 per player, starts at 6 p.m. Friday.

An open doubles, \$50 per team, double elimination, is on the agenda Saturday and Sunday. Sponsor sale will be held at 10 p.m. Friday, May 24, and no entries will be accepted after that. \$500 to \$800 will be added.

There will be a barbeque on Saturday, raffles for shuffleboard jacket, and door prizes. Litz's has plenty of RV parking, but no hookups.

For information, call Mike Pond, 509-921-8010, or Dan Hitt, 509-489-4877.

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## *The Shuffleboard Federation's John McDermott Responds to Current Issues*

We would like to address several issues brought up in the March issue by Ray Boyett, Ed Galke and George Wilber.

Regarding Ray's comments on extended shot guidelines: Ray, I am glad you remember bringing this question to my attention at the tournament. I am disappointed, however, that you do not remember the answer. You are incorrect in stating that there is no firm rule on this. There is a firm rule, and those rules were posted. It is Rule #16, which states: *"The following criteria must be met for a shot to be a legal delivery: one foot must be on the ground and both feet must be behind the deuce line when the weight is delivered. Penalty for violation shall be the loss of that shot. Any weight(s) which have been knocked off or moved shall be replaced (in their original position)."*

As far as your other suggestion that in my spare time I come up with a more comprehensive set of rules for player approval, we have always felt that the players should have the responsibility of determining the rules. This was the whole reason for the Player Policy Board. I would, however, love to hear from anyone who has suggestions on rules that need to be added or modified. I will put any such suggestions on paper and submit them to the players for their approval.

Anyone who would like a copy of our current Tournament Rules, please send a self-addressed, stamped envelope and a check for \$2.00 to The Shuffleboard Federation, 41761 Onaway Drive, Northville, MI 48167-2411.

I could probably write a response to the issues raised by Ed Galke that would fill this entire issue. However, because space is limited, here is the condensed version of our thoughts on the following subjects:

**Ratings:** Back in 1991, we developed a rating system that works as follows: Pros-1, the top five percent in the amateur ranks are "0", the next fifteen percent are rated "1", the next twenty percent are rated "2", the next twenty percent are rated "3", the next twenty percent are rated "4" and the bottom twenty percent are rated "5". Several years ago, Ron and Debbie Bowers of Austin, Texas, organized a rating committee that used that criteria to rate players in the Texas/Oklahoma area. Since they began, both the size of the committee and the number of rated players have grown. They now have ratings on several hundred players from about a dozen states. We would love to see other parts of the country get involved and believe it would be very good for the game.

**Demographics:** Believe it or not, Ed, we are in total agreement with you on this one. Potential sponsors make decisions based on the make-up of the group, and

as such, expect you to know the average age of the participants, the percentage of men and women, how often they play, etc. Because of this, we periodically pass out questionnaires that ask these kind of questions to participants. There were several that you included that we have not. They will be added to our form the next time we do this. Because there was apparently not enough space in The Board Talk to include your form, I have not seen it and would appreciate it if you would send me a copy.

**Bad Boards:** Nothing hurts our sport more than the fact there is so much sub-par equipment out there. Unfortunately, there are no easy answers to this problem. The large majority of all the shuffleboard tables in this country are owned by vending companies, not by the bar owner. Sad to say, shuffleboards are not a very popular item with vending companies. The reasons are pretty simple. These companies have a limited amount of money to spend on new equipment. For the price of a new shuffleboard, they can have two pool tables or three electronic dart machines, both of which will take in more quarters.

Back when shuffleboard was played using a frames format instead of points, a game took only about a third of the time that it takes to play a 15-point game. Consequently, shuffleboard held its own very well in terms of earnings. Realistically speaking, shuffleboard is probably not going back to frames, which means that the only way we are going to see any substantial improvement is if shuffleboards become much more lucrative and can bring in the same type of revenues as the other coin-operated equipment.

For all the players who want better playing conditions, how many would be willing to see the price per game increased to \$2 to \$3 a game to make this possible? We are pretty sure we know the answer to this one already.

**Board Speed and Lagging:** We definitely agree with you on the fact that boards need to be laggable and fairly close in speed from both ends. In a bar tournament, there is no excuse for having one end that is twice as fast as the other. In a major tournament, in which the boards are all brought in for the event, that is going to happen sometimes.

Anyone who has spent any time leveling shuffleboards can tell you that getting the speed consistent from both ends is a lot tougher than adjusting the side-to-side level. An interesting situation arose in Reno regarding my concerns on this subject. If you have a board that is downhill from one end, the person who has the hammer at that end is going to have an extremely tough time keeping up with the person lagging the other end. This turns the

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**35th Annual Bourbon Spring Doubles  
1st Annual Shuffleboard Hall of Fame Doubles**

**National Shuffleboard  
Hall of Fame**

**SATURDAY, MAY 4, 1996**

**\$50 per team entry fee**

**Sale: Friday, 8:30 p.m.**

***DEADLINE: All entries MUST be in by April 27. Absolutely no late entries can be taken due to the magnitude of this tournament! Send to: American Legion Post 424, c/o Fritz Broka, 202 S. Main St., Bourbon, IN 46504.***

**\$20 DRAW PARTNERS ON FRIDAY, MAY 3**

**Sign-up at Noon, sale at 12:30 p.m., with play immediately following.**

**-- FIVE IN-HOUSE BOARDS --**

**One board may be added depending upon number of entries.**

***DRAWINGS! \$1,000 - \$200 - \$100 - \$50***

***Drawings held 8 p.m. Friday, May 3. Tickets may be purchased from the American Legion or Fritz Broka for \$10 per ticket.***

**PROCEEDS TO NATIONAL SHUFFLEBOARD HALL OF FAME!**

**Bar will open at noon on Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday prior to tournament, and 8 a.m. on Thursday, Friday and Saturday.**

***For further information, contact Tournament Director Fritz Broka: 219-858-2689***

**AMERICAN LEGION POST 424**

**202 S. Main Street, Bourbon, Indiana**

**Phone: 219-342-8100**

**Notebook** (continued from Page 2)

motels/hotels. I know that many shufflers stay at motels/hotels. Why not start making some subtle demands for a board in these establishments? I know for a fact that Port Orchard's (Washington) Holiday Inn during a recent tournament sure could have used a practice board that would have seen a lot of play. So, when you make a reservation, ask if they have a board. If not, ask if they would like one.

I know that some of us know where there are boards lying around that could be set up and used. A small interested group from each area/tavern could get involved in fostering the sport this way. BZ's has just such a plank that could possibly be set up in a local bowling alley, and local age group competition could be encouraged, with awards (trophies) presented from the play money received. A private group at the Fir Cone (Vern and D.J.) did a magnificent job recently on a "salvage" board and thanks to them and Mel, it's being played on.

How many good young players who have stayed with the game (gotten addicted) can you think of in the last five years. I can only think of one -- Dan Hitt. What's going to happen in the next five or 10 years when the good older guys quit? Who will you be playing with then -- yourself -- on video?

Ladies and gentlemen, you have to organize and actively promote this noble sport; otherwise:

**The Present State:** Good players hook up with other good players and rookies feel they don't have a snowball's chance; well, just maybe. Realistically, I'd have a heck of a time beating Dan and Darrol at the Fir Cone Masters. Just how many times do you think I'll put up \$30 for that opportunity? Well, you know what they say: I may be stupid, but I'm not dumb.

Many more (are there any?) A-B draws, handicap, and 5 point board formats must be used to equalize the competition, or are the good guys really afraid of being beaten by a rookie? Your answer is not to me, but rather to the sport and future of shuffleboard.

My most enjoyable and most equalized tournament occurred about six years ago at the Black Cat's Sweathog's event (handicap), and there has been nothing like it since, and I've never played a 5 point board. Also, I think seeding should be considered, and a novice team should not have to play a top team right out of the blocks.

I've been informed that California uses a novel approach to the equalization: they use an entry fee scale according to skill. And how about a couple of Rookie Tournaments (like state)? You good guys could get a weekend off sometime and get some much-needed rest. A.A.U. and N.C.A.A. both use a multi-division system.

As a closing thought, consider contacting a curling

(Canada), lawn bowling (N.W.), or bacci ball (East) club and hold a shuffleboard meet just for them. We just might encourage a religious convert and local TV may just cover some highlights. PR, PR, PR....

In reiteration then -- more A/B draws, handicaps, 5 point play, prorated entry on skill, seeding, and more boards for the youth of America (Clinton's midnight shuffleboard).

Unless more younger players are brought into the game and its future encouraged, I'm afraid it may go the way of the dinosaur.

Also, that not buying back your minimum calcutta rule is going to be tested soon. Think about it.

Dennis H. MacPherson, Seattle, Washington (with contributions from Dan Hitt, John and Minda Mull, Mike Thorpe and Mike Waters)

*Thanks for sharing your ideas for getting youth involved in our sport, Dennis, and we look forward to the responses you will surely get from your Notebook contribution. In the meantime, allow us to set the record straight: there are more A-B and A-B-C draws and handicap tournaments now than there ever has been during the 12-plus years we've been publishing this newsletter -- and most of these are sponsored and/or supported by the so-called "good guys" -- illustrating their commitment to the future of shuffleboard. For example, check Page 21 for information on Ron Huddleston's handicap tournament in Oklahoma this month (he's one of those "good guys" as are others on the growing list of sponsors who hold events specifically aimed at encouraging involvement of beginners/amateurs and other non-pros).*

**Heartfelt Thanks.....**

The family of Gail Ann Jones acknowledges with grateful appreciation the donations given at the shuffleboard tournament at Huddles in Pembroke Pines (Florida). Gail's children and her mother....

Kevin and Stephanie Jones  
Catherine (Kay) Tripp  
Mims, Florida

*Gail Ann, daughter of Florida shuffler Kay, was murdered in Georgia the day after Christmas. There was no insurance. Kay is now raising Gail's two children. We salute the participants of the Florida Open for opening their hearts and wallets for this worthy cause.*

*You will be glad to learn, readers, that an arrest has been made in this tragic, senseless crime that robbed Kay of a beloved daughter and Kevin and Stephanie of a loving mother.*



**Upcoming Events** *(continued from Page 5)***New York****NATIONAL TOURNAMENT AT DEW DROP INN, APRIL 11-14**

Join the Fridley Family for an action-packed weekend of shuffleboard, good food and fellowship at the Dew Drop Inn, 37 Virginia St., Waterloo, April 11-14. A \$10 round robin is on the agenda Thursday night; open singles on Friday, \$20 entry; mixed doubles, \$20 entry, and open draw, \$10, on Saturday; and a bring partner, \$30 per team, on Sunday.

For further information, call Doug Fridley Jr. at the Dew Drop Inn, 315-539-5729.

**MONEY ADDED TO RIVERSIDE TOURNAMENT, EARLVILLE, MAY 24-26**

The Riverside Hotel in Earlville, New York, will host a tournament on May 24-26 (changed from May 10-12), with play on four boards. Events include round robins on Friday, 7 p.m. sharp, with an open singles on Saturday, \$30 entry, with sale at 9 a.m. Draw partners, \$15 entry, will start on Saturday following the sale at 1 p.m.

For the open doubles, \$30 entry fee, starting with the sale at 11:30 on Sunday, host Roger Sawyer will pay the entry fee for the first four out-of-state teams to sign up, plus add an additional \$100 to the entry pot for first-place finishers.

For further information and/or to sign up, call Roger at the Riverside, 315-691-3081, or Dale Law at 607-674-6580.

**Maryland****THREE-EVENT TOURNEY AT RIVER INN, WILLIAMSPORT, APRIL 19-21**

The River Inn, 119 N. Conococheague St., Williamsport, will host a three-event tournament on April 19-21. Events include a \$10 draw partner on Friday night; a bring partner tournament on Saturday, \$25 per team; and an open singles on Sunday, \$25 entry.

This is the East Coast's newest shuffleboard site and offers a shuffleboard room with three or more boards, a horseshoe bar, dining room, dance hall, and lots of parking space. Owners are Glen Arvin, formerly with Glen's Tavern in Funkstown, and Danny Koontz.

The next event at the River Inn is on May 17-19. See the ad in this issue for other monthly tournament dates.

For information, call Glen at 301-223-7072.

**Missouri****BRING PARTNER AT TOP'S, ST. LOUIS, APRIL 19-20**

Top's, That Other Place Saloon, 2817 Watson St., St. Louis (see listing in Shuffleboard Directory), will host a double elimination bring partner tournament on April 19-20. Entry fee is \$40 per team, limited to 32 teams. Sponsor sale starts at 7 p.m. Friday, with play beginning shortly after. Payoff will be 50-30-15-5.

For further information, call Top's, 314-645-4033. See Calendar of Events for other upcoming tournaments.

**2ND ANNUAL DOUBLES, COCKRUM'S 50TH, AT SONNY BOY'S, JUNE 7-8**

Sonny Boy's, 121 Main St., Cuba, will add \$100 to the pot for their bring partner event on June 7-8. This event will also mark the 50th Anniversary of Woodie and Jean Cockrum of Cuba, long-time promoters of shuffleboard and *The Board Talk*.

For further information about this 2nd annual event, call Sonny Boy's at 314-885-9981.

**Ohio****2ND ANNUAL TOLEDO OPEN, AVON'S LOCAL 14, APRIL 5-7**

Avon's Local 14, 5411 Jackman Rd., Toledo, will host the 2nd Annual Toledo Open on April 5-7. An A-B draw is on the schedule for Friday night, with sponsor sale at 6:30, \$20 per person entry fee, limited to the first 24 paid teams.

Sponsor sale for the open doubles will be held at 11 a.m. Saturday, with play immediately following, \$50 per team entry fee. Following conclusion of the open doubles, the sale for the open singles will start, with play immediately after. \$40 entry fee. Play will be cut off at 1 a.m. and begin again at 10 a.m. Sunday.

For lodging suggestions, call Avon's, 419-472-6978. For tournament information, contact director Fritz Broka, 219-858-2689.

***More Upcoming Events  
on Page 21***

## ***Royal/Blue Winners at Sportsman's***

Sixteen teams competed in a double elimination doubles tournament at the Sportsman's Lounge in Muncie, Indiana, on Feb. 24, with Rick Royal and Steve Blue taking the lion's share of the \$2,000 pot. Second place went to Bob and Deb Voorhis, third to Brian Collins and Larry Brown, and fourth to Greg and Tom Massie.

Winners of the three free subscriptions to *The Board Talk* were: Jim Davis, Jim Long (*Editor's note: Oh, no -- not again!*), and Steve Blue.

The next double elimination tournament at the Sportsman's Lounge will be on May 11 and host Rudy Parris will once again be adding an extra \$100 to the tournament payout. For information, call the Sportsman's Lounge, 317-289-0701.

## ***Brown/Huffer Tops at Deer Park's Mixed Doubles***

Larry Huffer of Leesburg and Mary Brown of Fort Wayne were winners of a mixed doubles tournament at the Deer Park Tavern, Fort Wayne, Indiana, on Feb. 24. They won after losing the first game in the finals to Terry Dowell, with his left hand in a cast, and Missy Rube of Bourbon. Beef Camp (Beef's, Kendallville) and Izzy Black of Albion took third place.

This was the first tournament conducted by Mary Brown, 1995 Indiana women's singles champ, and she reports it was a good learning experience. "Thanks to Margie Camp, Pat Kuhn and Dale Gushman for their help, and to everyone who participated," Mary said.

## ***Mays/Hauchins Big Winners at Gold Nugget***

The Gold Nugget in Arlington, Texas, hosted a three day, two event tournament, Feb. 23-25, with 18 teams in the A/B draw and 24 participants in the "handicapped by rating" singles, competing for a total pot of over \$10,000.

Billy Mays and Bob Hauchins were winners of the single game, double elimination A/B draw. Bill Melton and Randy Rogers took second place honors, with Johnny Wayne Crawford and C.W. Walker in third place.

The handicapped by rating singles, with participants ranging from 4's through -1's, was a 2 out of 3, double elimination format. Billy Mays took first place, with Bill Melton in second and Billy Melton in third.

"We wish to commend owner Tom Johnson and his fine staff for yet another enjoyable tournament at the Gold Nugget," reports Joy Huitt. "Special thanks to Bill Wooldridge and Denny Busch for helping run the sales

and brackets during these events. High 5's also to Ray Hornbuckle for cooking the Cajun crawdad feast on Saturday."

The Gold Nugget welcomes shufflers to participate in their \$5 handicapped by rating tournaments on Friday nights and their \$20 round robins almost nightly.

"Hope to see you there," said Joy.

## ***Those Massie Boys Still Top Beef's Series of Five!***

Beef's in Kendallville, Indiana, hosted the fourth in Beef's Series of Five on Feb. 17, with Greg and Tom Massie taking first to retain their lead. They double-dipped Jim Stockmaster and Gene Newman, who settled for second. Bobby and Deb Voorhis finished third, with Jim Long and Larry Creakbaum in fourth place.

The standings (up to the last in the series on March 23 -- see report next month) were: Greg and Tom Massie, 21 points; Jim Long and Larry Creakbaum, 14; Steve Hart and Jerry Knox, 11; Jim Stockmaster, 11; Beef and Greg Broka, 9; Gene Newman, 9.

At stake in the series is a share of \$2,000 added money courtesy of Playfair and Dale Gushman.

Please note that the open singles scheduled for April 27 has been postponed. Watch future issues for news on other action at Beef's.

## ***March Comes in Like a Lion at Harvey's Place!***

The third in a series of four tournaments was held at Harvey's Place, Street, Maryland, on March 1-3, when Old Man Winter dumped yet another dose of snow to the already record-producing accumulations of 1996. That didn't deter the record-setting number of shooters who signed up for the draw partner event on Friday night. Due to the record entries, they finished at 5:30 Saturday morning!

The event had seven places paying off with the green stuff and jackets to first-place finishers, Don Casula of Wilmington, Del., and Jim McDaniels, Darlington, Md. Finishing a close second were Judy Iseman, Chestertown, Md., and Butch Kelly, Springfield, Pa. Other winners were: George Chamberlin, Perryville, Md., and Lindsay Hall, Baltimore, 3rd; Richie Casula, Newark, Del., and Len Dell, Baltimore, 4th; Louise Freer, Lansdale, Pa., and Brenda Wallace, Port Deposit, Md., 5th; Calvin Grace, Street, and Al Pinner, Glen Burnie, Md., 6th; and the final money spot of near to \$100 went to Willis Long, Darlington, and Rick Niblett, Saulsbury, Md.

(continued on Page 17)

# National Shuffleboard Hall of Fame

## From the Chairman of the Board:

I think the tide is turning with more people getting interested in the Hall of Fame and more positive feedback. That's great! Keep those cards and letters coming.

Fred Thumann, AZ Turnbo and Billy Chiles are some of the players who are now involved in the state of California Hall of Fame committees. Welcome aboard, men! I hope we can get all the players you send us in the Hall of Fame; with all the criteria met, it can be done.

The tournament in Bourbon, Indiana, in May will probably be the largest doubles event ever in the history of the game. So, I say everybody get a partner and join us. We have all members of the NSHF Board of Directors coming and we will hold a meeting at 10 a.m. on Friday, May 3.

Remember, everyone send their inductee applications in with all the criteria to our secretary, Louise Freer, so we can go to work getting them processed.

See you all at Bourbon on May 4.

Glen Davidson, President, Chairman of the Board  
(new address) 3218 Cragg St., Midwest City, OK 73150;  
phone 405-733-4430

## From the Secretary:

The second annual meeting of the NSHF took place during the PCSA Extravaganza in Las Vegas. There was a lot of ground to cover and many decisions to be made, but we feel considerable progress has been made. Highlights of that meeting are as follows:

The Board recognizes that there are many, many players who deserve recognition and induction into the NSHF. However, there are priorities that we have determined that take precedence over all others. There are many "old time players" who need immediate recognition because they are either "not around" any more, or won't be around as long as the many fine, deserving, younger players. Therefore, the Board has adopted a temporary rule that only players over the age of 60 will be considered for induction into the NSHF. Once all those players have been recognized and inducted, this temporary rule will be dropped.

The Board resolved to compile a list of such players by each board member and move on them as quickly as possible, hopefully at our next meeting at the 1st Annual Hall of Fame Tournament in Bourbon, Indiana, in May.

Since the members of the Board are so geographically diverse, it is hoped that we will be able to compile an accurate, complete list of deserving "old timers." If you would like to suggest someone, please contact me or the Board member in your part of the country.

Because of the amount of ground we needed to cover at the meeting, annual elections of board members were postponed until the May Hall of Fame Tournament in Bourbon.

A good amount of time was spent on the application process. One of the determinations made was that incomplete applications cannot be accepted for consideration for induction into NSHF. The required petition and complete history enables the board to determine qualifications of the player. Without either of the two components, the application will not be considered.

It is very easy for any individual to inform the NSHF of someone to induct. And, while we do not want to make it hard to nominate someone, there must be more effort put forth to indicate one's conviction that the nominated person truly deserves induction. If the nominated person is not worth the effort of gathering petition signatures and documenting complete history, then the belief is that person's nomination is not strong enough.

This may sound harsh or overbearing, but the burden of this nomination cannot (at this point) be placed solely on the Board of the NSHF. In addition, the NSHF has received some complaints about being petitioned to sign a player's nomination when, in fact, they do not wish to do so, but feel pressured to sign. The petition should be signed only by people who are convinced the nominated person truly deserves induction into the NSHF.

The Board strongly feels that this conviction is an important component of the application process. Upon completion of the induction of all worthy over-60 players, an application fee will be required as an accompaniment to the petition and history. This application fee serves two purposes. First, and most important, it is an indication of the conviction of the petitioners that they strongly believe a person should be nominated into the NSHF. Consider how easy it is to sign something you may or may not know what it is, versus making a small donation along with your signature. Obviously, one is more likely to be convinced someone is deserving of induction when willing to financially support it.

Second, the NSHF has a long-term goal of acquiring a permanent location to house its shuffleboard history. This requires money, and it is necessary to employ various methods of fund-raising to achieve that goal.

Lastly, the NSHF is in the process of designing an official logo. We look forward to sharing it with The Shuffleboard World shortly. In addition we will continue

(continued on Page 19)

# Looking Back.....

## 1988



*Editor's Note: To mark our 12 years of publication, we started this new column in December, highlighting the winners of past major tournaments. These lists will include only those that were reported to THE BOARD TALK. This month.....1988.*

### ●Black Cat's New Year's, Portland, Oregon

#### Singles:

- 1st -- John McDermott, Michigan
- 2nd -- Galen Gaunce, Oregon
- 3rd -- Doug Taylor, Washington
- 4th -- Chris Monahan, California

#### Doubles:

- 1st -- Frank Monarrez, Chuck Norris, Oregon
- 2nd -- Karl Spickelmier, Eric Waldman, Calif.;
- 3rd -- Galen Gaunce, Oregon; Jim Allis, Wash.
- 4th -- John McDermott, Mi.; Ron Harralson, Calif.

### ●Showboat, Las Vegas, Nevada, Jan. 23-24

#### Singles:

- 1st -- Grady McGovern, Colorado
- 2nd -- Earl Kelly, Texas
- 3rd -- Clark Kenny, Washington

#### Women's Singles:

- 1st -- Chris Danke, California
- 2nd -- Brenda Moore, Texas
- 3rd -- Tammy Denson, Texas

### ●Arizona Open, Dunes II, Phoenix, March 18-20

#### Singles:

- 1st -- Donny Cox, California
- 2nd -- Glen Young, Arkansas
- 3rd -- Joe Muniz, California

#### Doubles:

- 1st -- Glen Young, Ark.; Howard Mouton, Texas
- 2nd -- Glen Davidson, Okla.; Hal Perry, Calif.
- 3rd -- Karl Spickelmier, Troy Talbert, Calif.

### ●Palace Bar, Fairmount, Indiana, April 20-24

#### Singles:

- 1st -- Earl Kelly, Texas
- 2nd -- Glen Davidson, Oklahoma
- 3rd -- Bobby Voorhis, Indiana

#### Doubles:

- 1st -- Bill Melton, Sam Summers, Oklahoma
- 2nd -- Glen Davidson, Okla.; Bud Broka, Ohio
- 3rd -- Dave Boaz, Rick Stocker, Indiana

#### Women's Singles:

- 1st -- Marcia Brown, Indiana
- 2nd -- Fritzi Broka, Ohio

### ●Bourbon Spring Doubles, American Legion, May 7

- 1st -- Glen Davidson, Okla.; Lee McDonald, Mich.
- 2nd -- John Humes, Steve Hart, Indiana
- 3rd -- Dave Boaz, Rick Stocker, Indiana
- 4th -- Jim Long, Jerry Knox, Indiana

### ●Michigan Open, Southfield Holiday Inn, May 26-30

#### Singles:

- 1st -- Bill Melton, Oklahoma
- 2nd -- Billy Mays, Texas
- 3rd -- John McDermott, Michigan

#### Doubles:

- 1st -- Billy Mays, Earl Kelly, Texas
- 2nd -- Bill Melton, Sam Summers, Oklahoma
- 3rd -- Bud Broka, Ohio; Howard Mouton, Texas

#### Women's Singles:

- 1st -- Gail Crane, Michigan
- 2nd -- Peggy Richards, Arizona
- 3rd -- Brenda Moore, Texas

### ●4th Annual Board Talk Shufflers' Reunion, Beef's Shamrock Bar, Waterloo, Indiana, July 1-4

#### Singles:

- 1st -- Darrol Nelson, Oregon
- 2nd -- Mickey Mickens, New Jersey
- 3rd -- Howard Mouton, Texas
- 4th -- Jim DeWitt, Indiana

#### Doubles:

- 1st -- Bobby Voorhis, Jerry Warr, Indiana
- 2nd -- Darrol Nelson, Or.; Mickey Mickens, N.J.
- 3rd -- Don Casula, Del.; John Lukas, Maryland

#### Women's Singles:

- 1st -- Debbie Somers, Indiana
- 2nd -- Rita Yank, Pennsylvania
- 3rd -- Cheryl Collins, Michigan

#### Mixed Doubles:

- 1st -- Howard Mouton, Janet Cook, Texas
- 2nd -- Buddy and Fritzi Broka, Ohio
- 3rd -- Diana Hagen, David Williams, Texas

### ●Ted Z's 4th of July, Temecula, California

#### Singles:

- 1st -- Don Cox, California
- 2nd -- Billy Maxwell, California
- 3rd -- Glen Young, Arkansas

**NEXT MONTH: Who were the "headliners" in 1989? Will YOUR name be there?**

**Doubles:**

- 1st -- Don Cox, Calif.; Glen Davidson, Okla.
- 2nd -- Eric Waldman, Calif.; Glen Young, Ark.
- 3rd -- Sparky Sparkman, Joe Muniz, California

**●Ace of Clubs Labor Day, Marysville, California****Singles:**

- 1st -- Don Cox, California
- 2nd -- David Williams, Texas
- 3rd -- Glen Young, Arkansas
- 4th -- Rick Boyer, Texas
- 5th (tied) -- John McDermott, Mich.; Howard

Mouton, Texas

**Doubles:**

- 1st -- Eric Waldman, Fred Thuman, California
- 2nd -- Glen Davidson, Okla.; Leroy Ledford, Cal.
- 3rd -- Glen Young, Ark.; Don Cox, Calif.
- 4th -- John McDermott, Mich.; Jim Allis, Wash.

**Other Significant Happenings in 1988:**

January -- "**Mexican Tommy**" Workman of California is honored as the "Grand Old Master" of shuffleboard in an article by **Lou Lusero**. He is remembered by many of the "big names" in the sport as a "teacher, player and gentleman." In The Board Talk's "Top 50 Players in the U.S.," **John Lukas** of Maryland is No. 1 in the Atlantic Division, **Darrol Nelson** of Oregon in the Pacific Division, **John McDermott** of Michigan in the Mid-East, **Bill Melton** of Oklahoma in the Mid-West, and **Chris Monahan** of California in the Women's.

February -- Called an "illegal alien from the Planet of Texas," **Rick Boyer** is deemed ineligible to participate in the Michigan Open on a residency ruling. The "Play Your Way Across the U.S.A." listing has expanded to 138 places in 20 states. **Billy Mays** and **Bill Moore** of Texas hold a fund-raiser at the Silver Bullet in Dallas to benefit the 23-year-old daughter of Dee Ross-Humphries, Susan Linebaugh, who was in a coma for 17 days as the result of an auto accident.

March -- The Shuffleboard Federation, Inc. announces the results of its point standings, based on event finishes, matches won and number of players participating in their Pro Tour tournament schedule. **Glen Davidson** of Oklahoma leads with **John McDermott** of Michigan, **Eric Waldman** of California, and **Howard Mouton** of Texas following. Board Talk editors travel to Arizona to lend support to their 1st Open in Phoenix, only to find out that support wasn't needed -- 38 in the singles and 19 teams in the doubles. Three lone women -- **Chris Danke** of California, **Diana Hagen** of Texas, and **Peggy Richards** of Arizona -- compete with the best. **Bellflower Bruce** captures the hearts of all the women in attendance by presenting each with a red rose.

April -- The Shuffleboard Federation announces that **Bill Melton** of Oklahoma will head its Player Policy Board to develop uniform rules and formats for tournaments. The Board Talk temporarily discontinues its Top Player Ratings because of criticism.

May -- The Board Talk announces that effective January of 1989, subscription fees will be raised to \$15 a year due to increased mailing and printing costs.

June -- The Top Player Ratings are back, with more player input. Top players were: **Mickey Mickens**, New Jersey, Atlantic Division; **Don Cox**, California, Pacific Division; **Glen Davidson**, Oklahoma, Midwest Division; **Glen Young**, Arkansas, Mideast Division; and **Diana Hagen**, Texas, Women's Division.

July -- A big attraction at the Board Talk's 4th Annual Shufflers' Reunion at Beef's Shamrock Bar in Waterloo, Indiana, is a 33 ft. 8 inch board, billed as the longest in existence. Special guest, **Al Stewart** of A & M Amusement Service, El Monte, California, recalled playing on a 32-footer in San Diego in 1949. The Shuffleboard Federation announces the selection of players to serve with chairman **Bill Melton** on the Player Policy Board: **Gail Crane**, Michigan; **Bob Lewis**, Arizona; **Brenda Moore**, Texas; **Howard Mouton**, Texas; **Hal Perry**, California; **Jody Slack**, Colorado; **Karl Spickelmier**, California; **Bobby Voorhis**, Indiana.

September -- Results of a player evaluation of the Board Talks's Shufflers' Reunion are tabulated. Almost 100% of the respondents rated "strong competition, fellowship with old and new shuffleboard friends, good sportsmanship, well-organized events, and good hosts who made them feel welcome and didn't inflate drink prices" as reasons they liked the tourney.

December -- **Beef and Marge Camp**, owners of the Shamrock Bar in Waterloo, Indiana, and **PeeWee Fleshman**, a local player, and **Brian Crawl**, president of the Playfair Shuffleboard Company in Fort Wayne, Ind., host three Japanese visitors to show them how to play the game. They purchased three 16-foot boards from Playfair. Why 16-footers instead of the regulation 22-foot boards? Simply because of space restrictions in Japan; space is a precious commodity in Japan. The World of Shuffleboard has now gone "international."

*Help write the history of  
shuffleboard for 1996 by  
participating in the 1st  
Annual Shuffleboard Hall of  
Fame Tournament in Bourbon,  
Indiana, on May 4!*

## ***Bowers/Fiumara Winners of Texas Mist's "Top 16" Qualifier***

The Texas Mist, Austin, Texas, hosted a "Top 16" tournament on March 2. In order to qualify for this event, participants went through 12 weeks of playing \$10 open draws on Saturday nights. Each participant received one point for showing up, two points for placing second, and three points for first place finishes.

"It was a lot of fun getting to the final day and we had a lot of young and eager players participate almost every Saturday," reports Debbie Bowers. "All but one of the top 16 players showed up for the event. Fortunately, we had a couple of eager, non-qualifying players hanging around, so the next in line proceeded in the 'no-show' place."

Winners were Debbie and her partner, Tony Fiumara, but it was a fight to the finish. Debbie and Tony were put into the loser's bracket by Robert Hurst Sr. and Bill Moody, and then had to play Alfred Suarez and Rose Kaune with a tied score of 14. Luckily, Tony had the hammer and got that most valuable one point to win the game. Then it was on to Board 3 to beat Hurst and Moody, and the same for a close match on Board 2.



*Tony Fiumara and Debbie Bowers give victory smiles for being the tops of the "Top 16" at Texas Mist.*

Robert Hurst Sr. and Bill Moody took second place honors, with Alfred Suarez and Rost Kaune in third, and Robert Hurst Jr. and Lyndon Baize in fourth place.

The Texas Mist added \$650 to the pot, making for a total purse of \$1,400.

***Share your good news with  
The World of Shuffleboard  
through the pages of  
THE BOARD TALK!***

*Contributions must be received by the 15th of the month*

## ***Snyder/Greer Take First at Syd's Bar Bring Partner***

Ady Snyder and Doyle Greer of Noblesville came out of the loser's bracket to take first place in the 2nd Annual Bring Partner Tournament at Syd's Bar, Noblesville, Indiana. Taking second were Rude Dog and David Buckner of the Hog House Inn, Ingalls.

Syd's Bar, 808 Logan St., Noblesville, will host its 1st Annual "I Didn't Win Bourbon" open singles on May 11 at noon. Entry fee is \$30 with sponsor sale and double elimination.

For information call Butch Thomas, 317-773-4748, or Syd's, 317-773-6132.

## ***Zurmuehler/Sabourin Tops at Top's***

Doug Zurmuehler and Jerry Sabourin topped the field of contenders in the first ever "Spring Fever" bring partner tournament at Top's, That Other Place Saloon, in St. Louis, Missouri, on March 8-9.

Gene McLeod and Dennis Bullock took second place honors, with Chuck Muehlhauser and Charlie Hart in third.

## ***Three-Way Tie in "Best of Philly"***

The fifth and final "Best of Philly" series was held at J & C's Tavern in West Philadelphia on Feb. 17. Fourteen teams represented Northeast and Southwest Philadelphia, Delaware and Montgomery counties, making this tournament the most successful of the series.

"It was the goal of the Best of Philly series to promote interest in shuffleboard and tournaments, and we think we achieved that goal," said director Louise Freer.

The winners at the end of the day were: Tom Schaefer and Pete Burba, N.E. Philadelphia, 1st; Jim Yank Sr., West Philadelphia, and Judy Gartland, N.E. Philadelphia, 2nd; Bob Mangaro and Bill Pollock, Delaware County, 3rd.

At the completion of the series, the final point standings (out of a possible 15) were:

Tied for first with 7 points -- Anthony Conch, Louise Freer and Jim Yank Sr.; 2nd -- Jim Yank Jr. with 6 points; 3rd -- Joe Williams with 4 points; tied for 4th with 3 points each -- Kevin Brown, Ben Evans Jr. and Joe Orfanelli; tied for 5th with 2 points -- Joe Fraeling and Judy Gartland; tied for 6th with 1 point -- John Hummel and Mike Kennedy.

"The directors thank J & C's owner Joe Orfanelli for his generous help to the series, and Joe Williams, Al DiBella, and Jim Yank Sr. for their help with the boards, brackets, and officiating," said Louise.



## Harvey's Place *(continued from Page 12)*

Saturday's bring partner had a current record number of entries and went into the early hours of the next day. Coming out of the loser's bracket to take first place were Len Dell and Rick Niblett, who beat the strong local team of Jims -- McDaniels and Wallace. Third place went to the "silent team" of Bob Davis, Landenburg, Pa., and Frank Ouly, Newark. Others in the winner's circle were: Wendy Davis and Dick Gorman, both of Wilmington, 4th; Butch Kelly and Joe Williams, Ridley Park, Pa., 5th; Curtis Dean (first time to the payoff table) and Steph McNeil, Rising Sun, 6th; and Lindsay Hall and Jim Yank Jr., Philadelphia, 7th.

Sunday's crowd was a near record for the second chance draw, which Dick Gorman reports appears to be increasing in popularity. "It is bringing new people to the tournament scene and we see them enter other events after testing the waters. This time we added a limited calcutta which was well accepted and increased the distribution of pays by about four-fold," he said.

Winners of the championship bracket and jackets were Chuck Fiedler, first time tournament winner from Marlton, New Jersey, and Lindsay Hall. Second place went to Tom Hartenstein, Charlestown, Md., and Joyce

Pyle, Church Hill, Md. Third and final money spot in the upper bracket went to new tournament player Curtis Dean of Rising Sun and Willis Long, Darlington. The second chance bracket was won by hostess Darlyne Belcher and Brenda Wallace. After two final games, Carol Hampton, Charlestown, and Arlo Johnson, Jordan, New York, took the other payoff spot.

The big point winner (best consistent shooter) for the weekend was Jim McDaniel. The quest for the total point leader for the year will continue at the next and final event on April 12-14. For reservations, call Darlyne or Harvey at 410-836-8881. "You all come!" said Dick.

## YANK ISSUES CALL FOR INPUT ON STATE TOURNEY!

East Coast shuffleboard promoter Jim Yank would like feedback from Pennsylvania shufflers regarding interest in holding a state tournament over the Thanksgiving weekend. He would also like the advice of directors of other state tournaments regarding format, etc.

Give Jim your input: call or write Jim Yank, 753 N. 64th St., Philadelphia PA 19151; phone 215-879-0840. He'll appreciate hearing from you!

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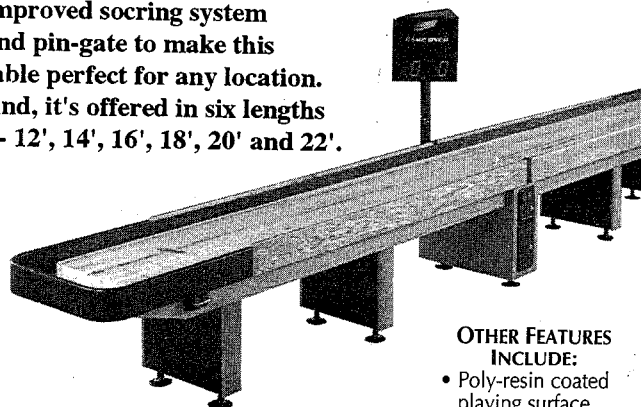
*"The new score system allows novice and pro players to compete equally in every frame. If the game is tied 13 to 13, the novice player has an equal chance to score and win."*

--Bob Shaw, Fort Worth, Texas

	1
1	2
2	3
3	4

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## Frisko Eddie's Revenge: The Return

*A series by Balboa Ron Schweikert*

*(In last month's episode, "Tacoma Tim" shared the story of the "Mystery Shuffleboard Man" with Frisko Eddie and Lil at his home in a little town outside of Tacoma called Puyallup.)*

The war stories, coupled with the scotch whiskey, were beginning to take their toll. Tacoma Tim said: "I suggest we think about maybe going out for a good dinner." But then he added: "Before that, though, I want to show you guys something I'm pretty proud of. Follow me!"

They went through an adjoining door and entered a wonderfully-appointed Game Room. In the center of the room was its focal point -- a magnificent looking shuffleboard! The walls were decorated with a wide variety of sporting items. They included framed photos of sports figures (some of which were autographed), many trophies, and a whole bunch of other memorabilia. Eddie's response was: "Wow! I've never seen a set-up like this before! Would you show us around a little, Tim?"

Eddie and Lil were both very impressed and they spent some time looking around the room and asking questions. It took a while because Tim had to give a little rundown on each item they asked about. There were several shuffleboard trophies, many of which had Tim's name on them. Obviously, he had been quite a competitor in his day (Eddie assumed that he couldn't play too well now due to his age).

After they had a good look around, they began to check out Tim's board. He had several sets of weights on one end of the table, so you could practice without having to go back and forth so often. They found that the table was in really good shape, and was also a good "lagging" board.

They were still drinking and laughing as they casually shot the weights back and forth. Then Eddie made a remark: "Yo, Tim, by the looks of it, you used to shoot a pretty good game in the old days. Do you still play any?" Tim replied: "Well, I can still shoot a little; I'm not completely washed up yet, young man." Then Eddie laughingly said: "I'll tell you what. I'll spot you five points, and even give you the first hammer, and we'll just try a game. O.K.?"

Tim was smiling as he replied: "Young man, I think the scotch whiskey is talking louder than you are right now. Why don't we just save it for later." Eddie came back with: "I thought you wanted to see me in action. Well, here I am -- ready to go!"

Now, Lil was taking all of this in. She was cracking up inside! She knew Eddie was quite smashed after drinking so heavily. She decided to just sit back and watch this thing run its course.

Over Tim's objections, Eddie proceeded to wipe the board down, while making remarks like "don't worry, I won't go too hard on you, and you don't have to be concerned about being embarrassed or anything like that."

Tim's shuffleboard setup was complete, with a scoreboard and all. He even had a little can of quarters by the scoreboard. After Eddie had waxed the board, he put two of them in the slot and then said: "O.K., my man, let's get it on!" He marked up five points for the blue and without hesitating lagged a very deep 1 right-cross, which was a few inches off the left rail. Then he said: "O.K., it's all yours, Mr. Tim. How about we play to see who pays for that dinner we're gonna' have later on?"

Before he made his first shot, Tim once again asked Eddie: "Are you really sure you want to go through with this?" Eddie laughingly said: "You better believe I do, Mr. Tim" (and gave Lil a little wink with his right eye as he said it).

On Tim's first weight, he shot a right-cross lag, which wrapped around Eddie's 1 into a short 3. Eddie hollered: "What a lucky shot; that's not going to happen again!" Eddie didn't think he had room to go around and follow Tim's weight, so he went for the combo. He caught his own weight on the right side -- it was a hit-and-go. Eddie laughed again, then mumbled something about "that'll never happen again either."

On Tim's second weight, instead of covering up, he lagged a left-cross which rode the rail and was also a short 3. Eddie was getting a little baffled now. He slammed down another shot of scotch before he approached the board. He announced: "I'm gonna' stick that left cross, my man, and give you something to shoot at!" He sized it up and then gently shot the left-cross. It looked good at first, but he barely missed the spot where the rail carried straight, and the drift took it to the left -- and he was off the board!

Now Tim had two 3's on the table. On his third weight, again, instead of covering, he lagged a deep 3, which was dead-center. It was almost a four! Eddie wasn't laughing now, but Lil was. She commented: "What do you plan to do now, 'Mr. 5-Point Frisko'?" Eddie sneered at her and said: "I will stick the deep one in the center." He shot a "thumber" this time and, indeed, he stuck it head-on. It appeared that Eddie's weight was barely in front of the other two 3's. Eddie was laughing again then as he said: "We know about your lag, Mr. Tim, but let's see if you can hit a weight."

Tim was very casual throughout this whole thing and he just smiled back at Eddie. He sized up the weight and then let go a left-hand thumb shot. Tim's weight

caught Eddie's on its left side, taking it off the board...then sliding into a 4! That was it! With the 5-point spot, and the 10 points on the table, it was over!

Eddie had a look of total disbelief on his face. He was actually sick to his stomach. He sat down then and reached for another drink. Lil and Tim came over then, and Tim gave him a few words of wisdom: "Three things were wrong here, Eddie. The first is that drink you have in your hand. Lil told me you learned how to play this game sober. You have to keep it that way. On the other hand, someone who learned to shoot while he was drinking can't hardly hit a weight when he's sober! The second thing is that you never spot someone you haven't seen shoot any points and especially, and this is number three -- on his own board! I'll admit that I shot a little over my head, too, but you can expect that. I know every inch of this table!"

Eddie nodded his lowered head then. He wasn't feeling too good. Then Lil remarked: "You just went to school, Champ. Remember what you've learned." She turned to Tim then and asked: Is that good steak house that was near here still there?" Tim told her it sure was and as they started for the door, he added: "The steaks are great and so is their coffee." He put his arms around both of them after they got out the door and said: "I think I'll have that giant fillet they serve there. It's pretty expensive, but who cares? Right, Eddie?"

They all got into the rental car, but Tim took the driver's seat as he had the least to drink. As they drove off from the house, they were all too "mellow" to notice a pair of headlights that turned on behind them. They were busy laughing and talking -- as those headlights stayed right with them on every turn.....

*Who's tailing them? Maybe someone from their recent past who vowed revenge....Don't miss next month's episode of "Frisco Eddie's Revenge" by Balboa Ron Schweikert. If you have comments/story ideas, or just want to tell Ron you're enjoying his monthly contribution to this newsletter, write him at 8301 W. Charleston Blvd.# 1050, Las Vegas, NV 89117. Your positive feedback is the only "pay" he receives.*

### **NSHF Report** (continued from Page 13)

expand on the ideas and points mentioned in this article in future issues. As always, your comments and suggestions are valuable to us and we encourage you to share them with us.

The Board wishes to thank all the individuals and companies that have supported the NSHF financially. Because of them, the NSHF can become a dream realized.

Louise Freer, Secretary, 189 Barry Ave., Lansdale, PA 19446; phone: 215-661-0108

***For the best in shufflin' fun and fellowship, mark your calendars now and join us:***

- April 19-21
- May 17-19
- June 14-16
- July 19-21
- August 16-18
- September 20-22
- October 18-20
- November 15-17

***All tournaments include Friday night draw partner, \$10 per person; Saturday bring partner, \$25 per team; Sunday singles, \$25 entry.***

***The East Coast's newest shuffleboard site offers:***

- Shuffleboard Room with 3 or more boards
- Horseshoe Bar
- Dining Room
- Dance Hall
- Lots of parking space

# RIVER INN

119 N. Conococheague St.  
Williamsport, Maryland  
Phone: 301-223-7072

***Your Hosts: Glen Arvin & Danny Koontz***

**More Notebook** (continued from Page 9)**New Yorkers Enjoy Florida Open**

Jeff Davies and I participated in the Florida Open at Huddles Sports Cafe in February and had a great time and met a lot of friendly players.

We were very impressed by the quality of play by Pete, a 75-year-old who won the singles and bring partner. Congratulations, Pete, on your superb play!

I would like to return to the Florida Open next year, but would like to see another board at the tournament. This should help get additional teams to enter the events.

The week following the tournament, we played at Sunrise Inn and Our Place Saloon (we located these places through *The Board Talk*; keep up the good work, George and Donna!) and met more players and exchanged ideas on promoting shuffleboard. Hope to see you all next year and will be looking for your names in upcoming issues of *The Board Talk*.

Dale J. Law, Sherburne, New York

*We're delighted to hear that your trip to Florida was worthwhile, Dale. There are some dedicated folks down there who are investing a lot of time and effort to promote shuffleboard and we predict that the next Florida Open will be bigger and better! It's visitors like you and Jeff who will make them realize their efforts are finally paying off. Supporting each other's tournaments paves the way to a strong and healthy World of Shuffleboard.*

**Isolated Vermont Shuffler Aching for Tournament Action**

I have been a subscriber of *The Board Talk* for about 10 months now, courtesy of Ed Galke, and I look forward to receiving it each month. I really enjoy the articles and tournament results and other information.

And, for me, it is the only contact I have with the shuffleboard community. Living in Vermont, which is not exactly a hotbed for shuffleboard, I am isolated from any challenging competition. To get a decent game, I travel to upper New York State every Sunday for league play, and have been doing so for 20 years.

I would love to travel for tournament play, but it is difficult to find a partner from this area who is comfortable with this caliber of play. Also, I have no idea where I fit in as far as ratings go, and need the experience of tournament play to realize this.

If anyone is interested in taking a chance on me, I'd be more than willing to travel for tournaments.

Pat Brennan, 9 Tanglewood Dr., Colchester VT 05446; phone 802-863-3773 or 802-863-2830.

*Only a dedicated shuffler would travel that far for 20 years for shuffleboard action and we can't imagine anyone not being interested in taking a "chance" on you, Pat. We've got a couple ideas of where to start: Since you're "untested" in tournament waters, consider participating in some of the many tournaments on the East Coast that have draw partner events (check the Calendar of Events and Upcoming Events column). Spring is coming and it's a great time to travel to parts of New York (see preceding letter), Pennsylvania and Maryland, where tournament action is hot and friendly! Not only will you have a great time, you'll also be establishing a reputation as a serious competitor and won't have any problem finding a partner to travel to other parts of the U.S.A. and Canada. Keep us posted!*

**Pennsylvania League News**

The 4th and 5th Fire District Shuffleboard League successfully completed its second year with the Colwyn Fire Co. "A" team hosting their own "B" team to retain the league championship. The Colwyn "B" team earned its place in the finals after a regular season fifth-place finish by winning two playoff rounds against teams that had finished higher than they.

The big news for this travel league of six teams is that two new teams will be added for the 1996-97 year, bringing the total to eight and a ninth team has expressed a strong interest and is searching for a tenth to come into the FDSL. Quite a second year for this new effort!

All-Stars from the two largest travel leagues in Southeastern Pennsylvania met on March 9 for the first time to shoot a nine game match. Eastern Delco Shuffleboard League (EDSL) All Stars traveled to "R" Place in Southwest Philadelphia, the location selected by the Southwest Shuffleboard League (SWSL) All Stars.

By a total of five points, SWSL won the first three games and began to think "rout" of their opponents from the more junior EDSL. EDSL countered in the fourth game with a very strong team to take that one handily and used that momentum to deadlock the match at three games each. SWSL took the seventh game and EDSL the eighth to set up the ninth.

Each league put up a ninth game pairing of a seasoned shooter with a younger All-Star. A break here, a miss there, and a lag in the color and SWSL had sealed a win to take the match.

All agreed, a great day for shuffleboard in this area. Thanks to "R" Place for their hospitality and for asking to do this again.

Jim Wolf, Berwyn, Pennsylvania

*Congratulations, Jim, for your role in expanding The World of Shuffleboard.*

## **Upcoming Events** *(continued from Page 11)*

### Oklahoma

## **HANDICAP TOURNEY, AMERICAN LEGION, DEL CITY, APRIL 19-21**

A full-handicapped draw partner and bring partner tournament (using the 1996 Bower's Rating System) will be held on April 19-21 at the American Legion 73 in Del City, Oklahoma.

Entry fee for the single game, double elimination events will be \$25 for each. The draw partner will start at 7 p.m. Friday, with the bring partner beginning after conclusion of the draw.

Full handicap means if a 1 and a 2 draw up (equals 3) and play a 3 and a 4 team (equals 7), the higher handicap team gets a 4-point spot, flip for the hammer and begin play.

For further information, call Ron Huddleston, 405-843-1615.

## **10TH ARBUCKLE OPEN, MAY 23-27, PRIM'S WAGON WHEEL, WYNNEWOOD**

This Memorial Day weekend, May 23-27, will mark a decade of the Arbuckle Open, which has grown in popularity every year. Big No. 10, at Prim's Wagon Wheel, Hwy. 77 North, Wynnewood, will start with a Sweetheart Draw, \$25 per person, on Thursday, with sale at 7:30 p.m. The next event will be an open draw on Friday, \$25 per person, with sale at 7:30 p.m.

Division I (\$50 entry) and II (\$25 entry) singles are scheduled for Saturday, with Division I (\$100 team) and Division II (\$50 per team) on Sunday. Division I events are open to 0 and 1 rated players; Division II events are open to 2 and above rated players.

Monday, Memorial Day, will be open for event finishes and/or time to travel back home.

Advance entries are recommended and should be mailed to Alan Primrose, Box 332, Davis OK 73030. For information, call Al at 405-665-2566.

Please post the enclosed flyer in your favorite shuffleboard site.

### **REMINDER:**

*All copy for THE BOARD TALK must  
be received by the 15th of each month.*

### Arizona

## **BILL GIBBS MEMORIAL TOURNEY, YOUNGTOWN SPORTS BAR, APRIL 26-28**

A tournament honoring the memory of the late Bill Gibbs, popular Arizona shuffler who died July 26, 1995, at the age of 47, will be held April 26-28 at the Youngtown Sports Bar, 12006 N. 111th Ave. in Youngtown, Arizona.

Events will include an A-B draw, \$10 per person entry, on Friday, April 26, at 7 p.m.; an A-B-C draw, \$30 per team, on Saturday at 10 a.m.; and an open doubles, \$50 per person, starting at 6 p.m. Saturday. Finals for the open doubles and A-B-C draw will start on Sunday at 10 a.m.

For lodging and/or tournament information, contact any of the following friends of Bill Gibbs:

Clay Chance, 602-972-7046; Alice Arredondo, 602-849-1845; or Bob Lewis, 602-242-6782.

Youngtown is located about 11 miles from downtown Phoenix, and the tournament site has four boards.

Please post the enclosed flyer in your favorite shuffleboard site to spread the word about this memorial tournament.

### Michigan

## **1ST ANNUAL SPRING TOURNAMENT, WETLANDS, ROYAL OAK, APRIL 19-21**

The Wetlands Bar & Grill, 1008 N. Woodward Ave., Royal Oak, will host its first Spring Tournament on April 19-21. Events include a mixed doubles, \$20 per player; a ladies' singles, \$20 entry; and a men's singles, \$40 entry. Sponsor sale for the mixed doubles will be held on Friday, 7 p.m., with play immediately following. Sales for the singles events, which will be played simultaneously, will be held on Saturday, 2 p.m., with play following.

For further information, contact The Shuffleboard Federation, Inc., 810-380-9300, or the Wetlands, 810-543-2626.

### Nevada

## **NORTH AMERICAN CHAMPIONSHIPS, RENO**

The 7th Annual Tournament will return to the Sands Regency Hotel/Casino Oct. 28-Nov. 3. Check the May issue for complete details.

## Additions to "Play Your Way Across the U.S.A."

The following shuffleboard establishments have joined (or rejoined) The Board Talk's national network after publication of the "Play Your Way Across the U.S.A." listing in February. Please add them to your current list, stop in and thank them for their support of shuffleboard:

**California:** Martin's Lounge, 1828 Main St., Santa Clara 95050; phone: 408-243-7976

P.M. Tabern, 1807 W. Lomita Blvd., Lomita 90717; phone: 310-534-9211

**Florida:** The Islander Package & Lounge, 43 ViaDeLuna, Pensacola Beach 32561; phone: 904-932-3741

**Iowa:** Vets' Club, Waukon 52172; phone: 319-568-2530

**Missouri:** Uncle Bently's, 4141 S. Fremont, Springfield 65804

**Nebraska:** Piccolo's Bar, 13328 Millard Ave., Omaha 68137; phone: 402-895-9988

All Nation's Brewhouse, 1830 N. 72 St., Omaha 68114; phone: 402-393-6220

**Nevada:** Messin Around Lounge, 2740 E. Lake

Mead, North Las Vegas 89030; phone: 702-642-7848

**Texas:** Nick's Place, 2713 Rockyridge, Houston 77063; phone: 713-780-8338

Duke's Tavern, 1010 So. Mason Rd. "C", Katy (Houston area) 77450; phone: 713-392-5886

Point After North, 601 Cross Timber #108, Flow Mound 75028; Phone: 214-539-1717

**Correction for Indiana:** The phone number for Sportsman's Lounge in Muncie is: 317-289-0701.

The next quarterly listing will be published in May

### ***A TEENY-WEENY \$15 INVESTMENT***

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***FREE listing in our***

***"Play Your Way Across the USA"***

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*Carrying on the tradition of quality you expect from the shuffleboard experts.*

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## **AMERICAN INTERNATIONAL SHUFFLEBOARD CORPORATION**

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## "Perry" Good Day *(continued from Page 1)*

In two of the best matches of the tournament, it was Hal defeating Karl and Steve getting by Bubba. In their own rendition of "can you top that?" it was Steve and Hal set to play for the winner's bracket, with Steve coming out on top. That would set up a rematch of Hal and Karl, and again it was Hal getting by in another very good match. Fourth place went to a player whose singles game has been tremendous in the last year and a half, Bubba Warren, and another great tournament for third place victor, Karl Spickelmier.

So it was Hal and Steve finding themselves in the final again -- this time on opposite sides. Hal had the much better stroke the first match, winning two straight under the 2 out of 3 format. Steve's stroke would return just in time with change of boards for the second match. In a laggers' duel, it was son getting a couple more lags than dad to take the crown. It was Steve's second straight Presidents' Day title and appeared to be bittersweet. However, in the end, both finalists seemed happy with the other's accomplishment. It was a very sentimental scene with many tears shed by the players and spectators alike, all knowing that what happened over this weekend is not likely to be repeated any time soon. There was a sense that nothing could have been better for the game.



*Karl Spickelmier and Bubba Warren, victims of the star-destined Perrys, settled for third and fourth in the singles.*

Like many of the tournaments before, owners Dick and Barbara Arreger seemed to have an inside track on the players. Netting the top two teams in the doubles, and first, third and fourth in the singles, it proved to be a very profitable weekend for the hosts.

Before the pro events, the amateurs had a chance to show off their stuff in a very good week of play. Monday started it all with the ladies' draw. In the end, it was the team of Raxanne S. and Rene T. in first, with Shari B. and Teresa M. in second. Third place went to Kathy Thomas and owner Barbara Arreger, and fourth to Loraine O. and Sheri G. "It should be noted that the ladies had a great time and put on some very competitive matches," reports tournament director Rick Thomas.

The very tough amateur singles was on the slate for Tuesday. It was no shock to find the final pitting Dale Pirlot against Chris Wayt. Both players have been in just about every final of the amateur events since their inception. In making strong bids for pro status, it was Chris defeating Dale to take the title. Grabbing third place was Hayward's Larry G.

Wednesday was time for the amateur draw and finally coming out of the loser's bracket to win it all were Pete and Jay L. The new-team-to-beat Kathy Thomas and Barbara Arreger took second, with Teresa M. and Rene T. in third place.

Like all tournaments, there are many people who make it happen and deserve to be thanked: owners and hosts Dick and Barbara Arreger for putting on the event and being very supportive of the players and the game (you guys are the best!); Nelson Jennings for doing such a great job on the sponsor sale; Rick Thomas for running the tournament and taking care of the boards, even if it means at 2 o'clock in the morning; A.Z. Turnbo for the great boards; Kathy Thomas and Stevie Parks for taking care of the money and all the paperwork; Karl Spickelmier for running the brackets; all the locals who help out wherever they can -- Dale Pirlot, Chris Wayt, Skip McCaslin; Paul Parks, Dan Mourgos, and the quack master Ted Fowler; all the out-of-town players who continue to support this tournament -- Hal Perry, Nick Chaffin, Bubba Warren, John Fisher, Karl Spickelmier, Steve Floyd, Tony Sosa, Steve Perry, George Camara, and last but not least, Freddie "I Love Friskies" Thuma. Finally, to the entire staff at Blinky's for putting up with the players and doing such a great job, and to anybody that may have been forgotten -- thank you!

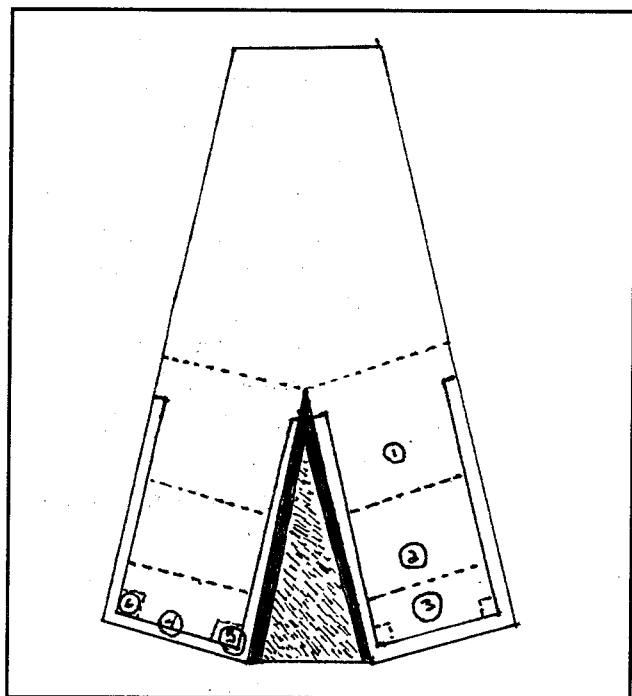
In parting, I want to share something that the always quotable Ted Fowler said. When asked what he thought the object of the game of shuffleboard was, Ted replied: "Not to lose your money before two o'clock."



*Move over, Bill and Billy Melton. Here comes Hal and Steve Perry.*

# ***Introducing the Revolutionary New "Angleboard"!***

*With all the thrills and competition of regulation shuffleboard, but built to whatever your space limitations may be.....*



## **Market Potential Unlimited.....**

I have tested this board -- I have two in the bar at the bowling center which my wife and I own, and everyone is thrilled with it!

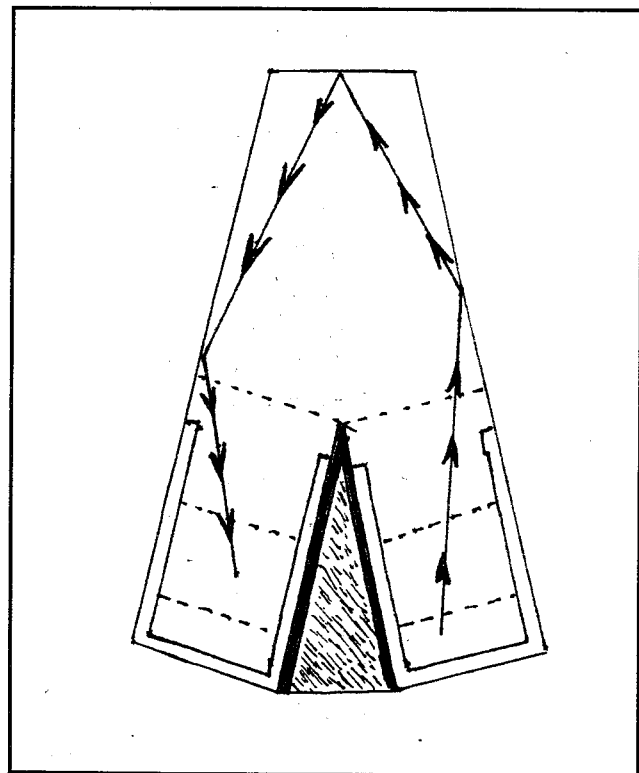
I have been guessing at some numbers, which I do not think are too optimistic.....

I would guesstimate there are 300,000 to 350,000 bars, taverns, etc. in the United States, with less than 50,000 shuffleboards in those locations. I would guesstimate there are 5 million homes in the U.S. that have recreation rooms, but not more than 50 to 100 shuffleboards in private homes.

This board can be built in various sizes to make it marketable to the home, bar and tournament market. I anticipate that 100,000 Angleboards could be sold within 10 years and possibly 500,000 within 15 years.

## **Wanted: Manufacturer/Investors**

I am interested in finding a manufacturer for this board. Let me hear from you, as well as suppliers of pucks and wax, plus anyone who might be interested in investing in this board.



# **A. R. ALFORD**

4100 Wolflin, Amarillo, TX 79102

Phone: 806-352-5681    FAX: 806-352-5741

# 1996 CALENDAR OF SHUFFLEBOARD EVENTS

## **APRIL**

### **April 5-7**

2nd Annual Toledo Open  
Avon Local 14  
Toledo, Ohio

### **April 11-14**

National Spring Tournament  
Dew Drop Inn  
Waterloo, New York

### **April 12-14**

3-Event Tournament  
Harvey's Place  
Street, Maryland

### **April 13**

Doubles Tournament  
Mississinewa Tavern  
Eaton, Indiana

### **April 13**

Open Singles  
Syd's Bar  
Noblesville, Indiana

### **April 12-14**

3-Event Tournament  
Harvey's Place  
Street, Maryland

### **April 13**

Doubles Tournament  
Mississinewa Tavern  
Eaton, Indiana

### **April 19-21**

4th Annual Classic  
BZ's Bar & Grill  
Burien, Washington

### **April 19-21**

3-Event Tournament  
The River Inn  
Williamsport, Maryland

### **April 19-21**

1st Annual Mixed, Men's &  
Ladies' Singles  
Wetlands Bar & Grill  
Royal Oak, Michigan

### **April 19-21**

Oklahoma Handicap Tournament  
American Legion Post 73  
Del City, Oklahoma

### **April 19-20**

Bring Partner Tournament  
Top's, That Other Place Saloon  
St. Louis, Missouri

### **April 26-28**

Bill Gibbs Memorial Tourney  
Youngtown Sports Bar  
Youngtown, Arizona

### **April 27-28**

Open Singles  
Balloon Inn  
Arvada, Colorado

## **MAY**

### **May 4**

1st Hall of Fame Doubles/35th  
Annual Bourbon Spring Doubles  
American Legion 424  
Bourbon, Indiana

### **May 4-5**

6th Annual Draw Partner  
Shamrock Tavern  
Longview, Washington

### **May 10-12**

Pacific Northwest Championships  
Whistling Oyster Tavern  
Quilcene, Washington

### **May 11**

Open Doubles  
Sportsman's Lounge  
Muncie, Indiana

### **May 11**

Open Singles  
Syd's Bar  
Noblesville, Indiana

### **May 17-18**

Bring Partner Championships  
Top's, That Other Place Saloon  
St. Louis, Missouri

### **May 17-19**

3-Event Tournament  
The River Inn  
Williamsport, Maryland

### **May 20-27**

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

### **May 23-26**

15th Lilac City Memorial  
Litz's Pub & Eatery  
Spokane, Washington

### **May 23-27**

10th Annual Arbuckle Open  
Prim's Wagon Wheel  
Wynnewood, Oklahoma

### **May 24-26**

1st Annual Memorial Tourney  
Riverside Hotel  
Earlville, New York

### **May 24-27**

3rd Annual Memorial Tourney  
Wetlands Bar & Grill  
Royal Oak, Michigan

### **May 24-27**

Memorial Weekend Tourney  
J & C Tavern  
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

## **JUNE**

### **June 7-8**

2nd Annual Bring Partner  
Sonny Boy's  
Cuba, Missouri

### **June 8**

Open Doubles  
Syd's Bar  
Noblesville, Indiana

### **June 14-16**

2nd Annual Deuces Wild  
Wetlands Bar & Grill  
Royal Oak, Michigan

### **June 14-16**

3-Event Tournament  
The River Inn  
Williamsport, Maryland

### **June 15-16**

7th Annual Open Doubles  
Balloon Inn  
Arvada, Colorado

### **June 15-16**

2nd Annual Everett Invitation  
Shotze's Rack 'N Roll  
Everett, Washington

# 1996 CALENDAR OF SHUFFLEBOARD EVENTS

## June 21-22

Hangover Drag Partner  
Top's, That Other Place Saloon  
St. Louis, Missouri

## June 21-23

New York State Championships  
Dew Drop Inn  
Waterloo, New York

## JULY

### July 2-7

Southwest Open  
American Legion Post 73  
Del City, Oklahoma

### July 2-7

4th Annual 4th of July/12th  
Board Talk Reunion  
The Dixie Belle  
Downey, California

### July 4-7

2nd Annual Yankee Doodle  
J & C Tavern  
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

### July 6-7

Arndt-Fridley Tournament  
Dew Drop Inn  
Waterloo, New York

### July 13

Open Doubles  
Syd's Bar  
Noblesville, Indiana

### July 19-20

Missouri State Championships  
Longbranch Lounge  
Springfield, Missouri

### July 19-21

3-Event Tournament  
The River Inn  
Williamsport, Maryland

### July 26-27

Hangover Drag Partner  
Top's, That Other Place  
St. Louis, Missouri

## AUGUST

### July 31-Aug. 4

7th Annual Grand Masters  
Whistling Oyster Tavern  
Quilcene, Washington

## Aug. 2-4

Summer National Tournament  
Dew Drop Inn  
Waterloo, New York

## Aug. 10

Open Singles  
Syd's Bar  
Noblesville, Indiana

## Aug. 16-17

A-B Blind Draw  
Top's, That Other Place Saloon  
St. Louis, Missouri

## Aug. 16-18

3-Event Tournament  
The River Inn  
Williamsport, Maryland

## Aug. 23-25

2nd Annual 6-Person Team  
Wetlands Bar & Grill  
Royal Oak, Michigan

## Aug. 25 - Sept. 2

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

## Aug. 30-Sept. 2

8th Annual Labor Day Tourney  
Full House  
Wynnewood, Oklahoma

## Aug. 30-Sept. 1

6th Annual Crazy Canucks  
Labor Day Tournament  
AN & AF #68  
Vancouver, B.C., Canada

## SEPTEMBER

### Sept. 5-8

6th Annual Skip's/Board Talk  
Skip's Lounge  
Houghton Lake, Michigan

### Sept. 14

Open Doubles  
Syd's Bar  
Noblesville, Indiana

### Sept. 20-22

2nd Annual ABC Draw  
Wetlands Bar & Grill  
Royal Oak, Michigan

## Sept. 20-22

3-Event Tournament  
The River Inn  
Williamsport, Maryland

## Sept. 27-28

Bring Partner Champions  
Top's, That Other Place Saloon  
St. Louis, Missouri

## OCTOBER

### Oct. 11-13

2nd Annual Ladies' Weekend  
Wetlands Bar & Grill  
Royal Oak, Michigan

### Oct. 12

Open Singles  
Syd's Bar  
Noblesville, Indiana

### Oct. 18-19

Pre-Halloween Bring Partner  
Top's, That Other Place  
St. Louis, Missouri

### Oct. 18-20

3-Event Tournament  
The River Inn  
Williamsport, Maryland

### Oct. 19-20

Bring Partner Tournament  
Shamrock Tavern  
Longview, Washington

### Oct. 28-Nov. 3

7th Annual North American  
Sands Regency Hotel Casino  
Reno, Nevada

## NOVEMBER

### Nov. 9

Open Singles  
Syd's Bar  
Noblesville, Indiana

### Nov. 15-16

Pre-Thanksgiving Bring Partner  
Top's, That Other Place  
St. Louis, Missouri

### Nov. 15-17

3-Event Tournament  
The River Inn  
Williamsport, Maryland

## "Super Senior" Pete O'Neill Dominates Florida Open

Pete O'Neill, 74-year-old local, was the star of the show at the 3rd Annual Florida Open, held at Huddles Sports Cafe, Pembroke Pines, on February 16-18. It was a clean sweep for the "super senior," who took top honors in the singles championship and, with partner Lonzo Knight of Maryland, finished first in the doubles championship.



(Left to right) Lonzo Knight of Sharpsburg, Maryland, and Pete O'Neill, Pembroke Pines, winners of the doubles championship; Jimmy Kumpula, South Daytona, and Alvis Ramey, Sanford, Florida, 2nd place; Jeff Davies and Dale Law, Sherburne, New York, 3rd place (see Notebook for salute from Dale).



Another first place trophy for Pete (left), winner of the singles championship. Marty Allen (center) took second place, and Jeff Davies came from New York to take home third place honors.

Bob Stanley and Larry Regina of West Palm Beach finished fourth in the doubles, and Ray Boyett of Homestead, Florida, took fourth in the singles.

"Thanks to Chris Boyett for the sponsor sales and Dale Law for the bracket boards. Super jobs!" said director Marty Allen. "Thanks to Ray Boyett and his wonderful computer for the professional looking rules and regulations format. And thanks to all the participating players and to Charlie Fisher and his Huddles Sports Cafe staff.

"A salute to the Riverside Hotel, Earlville, New York. You can be proud of your two representatives, Dale Law and Jeff Davies. Good luck with your May tournament (see Upcoming Events). Also, congratulations to the 'Miami Subs' of North Palm Beach for sponsoring Colletta Stanley. Good choice, George," said Marty.



New York visitors Jeff Davies and Dale Law visit with Alvis Ramey about his efforts to promote shuffleboard in Florida. Marty reports that Sanford, Florida, now has a shuffleboard establishment, thanks, in part, to Alvis, Dear Ray, and Jim Phillips.

What about the 4th Annual Florida Open? According to Marty: "No more 'Frigid February' -- maybe 'March Madness' or 'April Showers' next year!"

## Profile: The Wizard of Pembroke Pines, Pete O'Neill

By Marty Allen

Our 3rd Annual Florida Open turned out to be very special. One of the nicest guys and a class act all the way won the singles champions and was part of the winning doubles championship.

At age 74, "Super Senior" Pete O'Neill stays young by playing in an in-house shuffleboard league two nights a week. He's also a mentor, teacher and instructor. Along with Chris Boyett and Charlie Fisher, he is helping to develop shuffleboard at Huddles Sports Cafe in Pembroke Pines, Florida.

The first thing you notice about Pete playing

shuffleboard is his great release and follow-through and, in my opinion, this is the main reason he is still so competitive. I'm curious by nature, so I asked Pete who had taught him such a great shuffleboard release. Pete smiled and said: "Let me tell you a little story." Well, as Pete's story unfolded, I was amazed. This is a baseball story and you may recognize some of the names mentioned. It's important to understand that the story timeframe takes place in the late 1940s. The following is my condensed version of Pete's classic tale:

"Well," Pete begins, "I was in the Brooklyn Dodgers' Minor League Farm System at Nashua, New Hampshire, in the New England League. Fuzzy Bavis was our general manager. Walter Alston played first base and was our player-manager. Don Newcombe was one of our hot pitching prospects but was a little wild and was working on his control. His best pitch at the time was a 'brush back' pitch."

Pete laughs and pounds the table top in remembrance. "Roy Campanella was our catcher. Roy had a rifle of an arm but his throws to second base tended to sail a little. In fact, if you were sitting in the grandstands, you might think, at times, that Roy and our center fielder were playing catch."

Here I interrupt Pete to ask what he was working on in the minors. Pete smiles and says: "I was a south-paw pitcher with pretty good control and I was working on keeping the ball low. You know, Roy was great with all pitchers and he was a regular chatterbox during a game. But Roy would tell all of his pitchers -- 'forget the chatter; you concentrate only on my signal and where I want the ball. Nothing else.' After one of my better games, Roy put his arm around me and said: 'Pete, you know what I like about your pitching? I like your good control and balance, but what I like most is your great release and great follow-through.'"

Well, Pete had thrown me a curve ball, but the point is a correlation does exist between baseball and shuffleboard.

Pete is a master story teller and I wish I had time to tell you about how "Pete Learns Shuffleboard in Baltimore, Maryland, 1946" and his "Conference at the Pitching Mound" tale. Well, maybe next year....

Pete, you're a "major leaguer" now and we all love you. Congratulations! I'm going over now to my "home board" and practice my follow-through. Us minor leaguers are always working on something.

*(Editor's Note: Please don't wait until next year to share Pete's tales. You've piqued our curiosity, particularly how, where, and who taught him how to play shuffleboard in Baltimore, Maryland. We bet we have some '40s players on our mailing list who would like to take credit for that! "Player Profiles" are welcome any time and until we're free to track them down ourselves, we appreciate contributions.)*

## McDermott Responds *(cont. from Page 6)*

whole game into a hammer control contest and, you are right, the less-experienced player has even less of a chance to win. It also makes the coin flip a lot more important than it should be. If you win the hammer and the game starts from the better lagging end, it is a tremendous advantage.

In order to minimize the possibility of this happening, we decided that all the games would start at the same end. Because the format was two out of three, the thinking behind our decision was that if there was a board with a decided lagging advantage, at least both players would get a chance to have this advantage for one game. Much to my surprise, the players were very much opposed to doing it that way and we dropped the idea.

As far as your views on the draw lag, we are in total disagreement with you on this one. Part of what makes shuffleboard a great game is that there are so many different aspects -- hitting, sticking, sliding, lagging, are all important. Equally important is lagging defense. Watching top players play each other is a thing of beauty. If you let any good player lag in the same place every time, you are in for a long day (if you are doing it in a tournament, it will be a short day). Watching them try to force their opponent to lag in different areas through the use of short weights, or a deep one in their favorite lag spot, is one of the most intriguing aspects of our sport. Certainly, these players would have no trouble adapting to a game that did not require all the other skills such as keep hammer, frames format. The real question is why would anyone want to. To me, your version of shuffleboard sounds like golf without chipping and putting. If anyone feels that they need to improve their lag so they can compete in the modern era, we recommend you spend some time playing Deuces Wild or Horsecollar.

The fact that shuffleboard is much more of a finesse game now than it was when you learned is the primary reason why so many women are playing shuffleboard these days. It also is a major factor in making shuffleboard quite possibly the ultimate unisex sport. To go back to the style of play you advocate would cause players to head for the exits.

**Dear George:** As you know from our many conversations over the years on the subject of players wiping the weights on their shirts, I strongly disagree with your views. Perhaps the time has come to turn this from a private difference of opinion into a public discussion, kind of a shuffleboard version of point-counter point.

John McDermott, The Shuffleboard Federation, Inc.  
Northville, Michigan

*(Because of our unusual amount of reports/contributions this month, we are forced to delay the point-counter point discussion between John and George until next month)*



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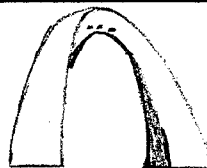
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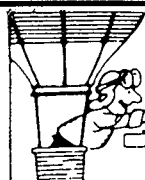
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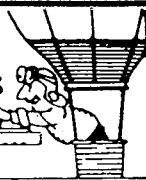


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