

The Board Talk

Published monthly by George & Donna Wilber, 421 E. Sheridan Rd., Lansing, MI 48906 Phone: 517-371-2538

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August 1996

Southwest Open is Big Record-Setter!

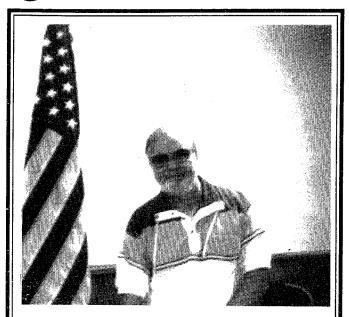
- Record Participation/Pot
- ●Glen Davidson Inducted into Hall of Fame
- David Williams Earns MVP Title

By Ron Huddleston

There were several records set during the Southwest Open at the American Legion Post 73 in Del City, Oklahoma, over the 4th of July weekend: (1) a 21-board tournament; (2) 71 entries in the open singles, 33 entries in the beginner/pretty good singles, and 21 teams in the draft team event; (3) total participation of 166 players and a record-breaking pot; (4) a wedding held during the tournament; (5) the virst MVP award and accompanying monies; and (6) the first formal Shuffleboard Hall of Fame induction.

Even Mother Nature realized how hot the action was as she set record temperatures outside. Thank goodness for air conditioning as we were still able to hold it to 78 degrees inside!

Your response (almost doubled in size from last year) tells us we are doing something right, and your (continued on Page 24)



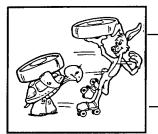
GLEN INDUCTED -- In a moving, professionally produced presentation, Glen Davidson was inducted into the National Shuffleboard Hall of Fame, a highlight of the Southwest Open..

ON THE INSIDE:



A STAR-SPANGLED GRAND FINALE
(left) to the 4th Annual Dixie Belle 4th of
July Tournament and 12th annual Board
Talk Shufflers' Reunion! Board Talk Editors
George and Donna Wilber and Dixie Belle
owners Wes and Eileen Eades congratulate
Darrol Nelson and Rick Gindt on their
doubles win. (Photo by Marilyn
McCracken.) Story on Page 3.

FRISCO EDDIE has some second thoughts about abondoning his road trip with Lil and going home to the Blue Moon and Shelli.....Page 18



Shufflers' Notebook

News and Views from The World of Shuffleboard

''Shuffleboard Virgin's'' Views on Southwest Open: It's Heaven!

A lot of you folks will remember an old country western song called "Hillbilly Heaven." Well, the week of the 4th of July, I dreamed I went to Shuffleboard Heaven at the American Legion in Del City, Oklahoma, for the Southwest Open tournament. Oh, what a beautiful sight. The floors, sparking like diamonds and gold, were complimented with freshly-painted walls of mauve and vanilla. The interior of the building was very comfortable due to the efficient ventilation and air conditioning.

Shuffleboards stretched nearly as far as the eye could see -- 21 boards! Wonderful food and drink angels were there to fulfill our every wish. Shuffleboard angels Ron and Sharon Huddleston were at the Pearly Gates to register everyone from 23 states and St. Thomas, Virgin Islands. I looked around in total awe of Shuffleboard Heaven. I saw the good players, the great players, and the great, great players! Then I saw some who are a legend in their own time, along with one or two who are legends in their own minds!

I dreamed I drew Sam Summers, Diana Hagen, Bill Melton, Glen Davidson, Janet Weidner, Gwyn Orsi, or Rena Fleming in every event. Then I woke up and they were all there along with many more such as Bill Melton's kids -- Billy, Lisa, Mike and Mitch -- Sally and Cliff Goff, Billy Mays, John McDermott, John Cason (better known to me as "the shadow"), Alan Primrose, Johnny Ballard, Johnny Wayne Crawford, Brenda Watts, Dave Davidson, Jerry Henson (who gave me an idea for part of this story), and a nice gal named Tammy Denson.

Last, but not least, Bill Holley who said: "Sue, you may be a better writer than you are a shuffleboard player."

Now I may have had, in my dreams, all the legends

— ATTENTION —

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Red Check

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as my draw partners, but again, when I woke up, I had a dream of a guy named Greg Hixson, Richardson, Texas, for my draw partner. Greg carried me all the way to 7th place in the "pretty goods." That is higher than I have ever been before and I was so happy. I would be glad to partner up with him in the next tournament because I know the experience that I gained in this one will serve to make me better and allow me to do better next time.

The induction into the National Shuffleboard Hall of Fame for our own Glen Davidson, who is a regular at Bristol Station, was a tearful heavenly delight. Also, the wedding of the young couple was just celestial and the bride looked like an angel. Thank you, Don Crall, for hosting the best tournament I've ever been to. Also, many thanks to Sharon and Ron Huddleston for a well-run tournament.

In closing, hello to my friends who have helped me so much from Bristol Station in Midwest City, Oklahoma (they may have a tournament soon), and all the guys and gals at the Cock of the Walk Friends Club in Oklahoma City, and my friends from Wynnewood, Oklahoma, and Austin, Texas.

Sue Lewis, Midwest City, Oklahoma

Thanks for another delightful participant viewpoint on a major tournament, Sue. We look forward to your next. However, with the experience you are gaining on the tournament scene, your "virgin" status is in jeopardy! With your creativity, we know you'll come up with something unique as an alternative description of yourself.

Salute to Southwest Open Organizers from Alan Primrose

I just returned from the Southwest Open in Del City, Oklahoma. It was a very impressive and well-organized event.

To be able to include the induction ceremony of Glen Davidson into the National Shuffleboard Hall of Fame, perform a wedding, and still have a seven-event tournament, took a lot of hard work. The American Legion building is really a first-class facility and the camping sites Don Crall added to the park helped many of us who otherwise may not have been able to attend the entire tournament. Ron and Sharon Huddleston, Don Crall, and all the people who donated their time, money,

(continued on Page 10)

Dixie Belle Rolls Out Red Carpet for 12th Annual Board Talk Reunion

By George & Donna Wilber



Michigan, Indiana, Pennsylvania, Maryland, Oklahoma, Washington -- all small-town American sites for the annual Board Talk Shufflers' Reunion during the past 11 years. Now, we were headed for the "big-time"

California, where the freeways and fast-track "diamond" lanes filled our hearts with trepidation.

Thankfully, these two home-town "kids" had friends who knew how to negotiate those twists and turns and how to get us to our destination -- Al and Von Stewart of A & M Amusement Service in El Monte. After hours of waiting, they loaded us and our luggage and took us to our appointed places -- the Downey Inn and The Dixie Belle.

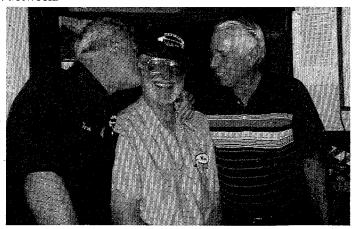
Our first glimpse of The Dixie Belle made us do a double-take. Here it was a 107 degrees in the shade and there was this man with an overcoat, scarf and stocking cap, going in the back entrance. Seems he often makes an "appearance" in various attire -- sometimes in top hat and tails, other times with shoes of different pairs, or a shirt with only one sleeve. He's a "regular" at the Dixie Belle, a professional during his work hours, "different" when he comes to the popular shuffleboard hang-out. It made us feel right at home; Lansing's shuffleboard community has its share of "characters," too.

The back entrance led us to the famous Gallagher Room, devoted to our favorite sport. Named in memory of another Dixie Belle regular, Danny Gallagher, a good golfer who was just learning shuffleboard when he died, the room features four good boards, its own bar, and efficient use of space, with long, narrow islands for spectators and convenience corners for players.

This room was not always a shuffleboard "haven." Originally used as a banquet room, it would often sit in darkness for days at a time. A total waste of space, decided Dixie Belle customer Jay Kimble, who suggested to owners Wes and Eileen Eades that a much more profitable use would be as a shuffleboard room. It didn't take much effort on Jay's part to convince them that this was, indeed, a good idea. Working day and night, Wes and another talented Dixie Belle regular, Dorty Counterman, built a bar (for which they had to get a separate license), the islands and the convenience corners. With

help of Jay, Leonard Dominick and Chuck Kimbrough, and the Pacific Coast Shuffleboard Association, three, then four, boards were installed. Area shufflers, in 1993, were "hungry" for a base of action, and with the enthusiastic and talented promotional efforts of Joanie Swenson, the investment began paying off from the very start. Today, you'll find shuffleboard action nearly every day of the week from Sunday "meat shoots" to league action, round robins, and a women's only night.

That decision, made just weeks before the Dixie Belle's 1st Annual 4th of July tournament in 1993, is one that Wes and Eileen have never regretted. "Shuffleboard has been good for us," said Wes, who admits he didn't know anything about shuffleboard until this point in time. "Everyone here is part of our shuffleboard 'family,' from Bellflower Bruce (who frequently stops by in one of his previously-owned Dinah Shore or Dean Martin Rolls Royces and orders an "open bar" on his tab) to Al Stewart who just 'stops by' to adjust the boards, to the kids who wash the dishes in the kitchen, and everyone in between."



Showing their affection for affable host Wes Eades (center) is Vern Booth and Jay Kimble. "You'll never find any 'cliques' at The Dixie Belle", said Jay, "because we're all a part of family."

We're suffering from jet lag and we're hungry. We make the short trip from the Gallagher Room to the Dixie Belle's Restaurant and it's worth the trip! From an unlimited menu that lists everything from hamburgs to lobster and steak, we choose liver and onions, the ultimate test of any worthwhile dining experience. A wise choice! And we find that there is life beyond shuffleboard as Joanie Swenson leads the way in line dancing.

Tomorrow, the reason we're here will begin..... (continued on Page 8)

Upcoming Events Across the Nation

California

6TH LABOR DAY TOURNEY, BLINKY'S, SANTA CLARA, AUG. 25-SEPT. 2

Blinky's, 3145 El Camino Real, Santa Clara, will host its 6th Annual Labor Day Tournament on Aug. 25-Sept. 2. The week-long event will start on Sunday, Aug. 25, with a "Champagne & Roses" ladies' doubles draw, \$10 per person entry, starting at 2 p.m. An amateur doubles draw, \$10 per entry, is on the agenda for Monday at 6 p.m., with an amateur singles, \$10 entry, on Tuesday at 6 p.m. An ABC Draw, \$20 per person entry, will start at 6 p.m. on Wednesday. All these events are single game, double elimination.

The sponsor sale for the pro doubles, \$100 per person entry, is scheduled for Friday at 7 p.m. with play starting on Saturday at 9 a.m. That evening, a barbecue will be served from 6 to 8 p.m., along with the sponsor sale for the pro singles, \$100 entry. The pro singles play will start at 9 a.m. on Sunday, Sept. 1. Format for these two pro events will be 2 out of 3, double elimination.

For further information, contact tournament directors Rick Thomas, 408-578-0822, or Nelson Jennings, 408-381-0874 (pager). Please post the enclosed flyer in your favorite shuffleboard site.

"BIRTHDAY BASH" AT THE DIXIE BELLE, DOWNEY, SEPT. 20-21, \$500 ADDED!

A "Birthday Bash" celebrating the births of two popular Dixie Bellers, Chris Brown and Dixie Debbie, will be held on Sept. 20-21 at The Dixie Belle, 9559 E. Imperial Hwy. in Downey, site of the recent 12th Annual Board Talk Shufflers' Reunion. Entry fee for the amateur mixed doubles event is \$25 per person, with sponsor sale on Friday at 8 p.m. and play beginning on Saturday at 10 a.m. Please note from the enclosed flyer that \$500 is being added to the pot.

For information on the tournament, lodging recommendations, and/or to save your spot, call Eileen Eades or Jim Anderson at the Dixie Belle, 310-80-DIXIE, or 310-803-4943. A guaranteed good time!

GAMETIME SHUFFLEBOARD INTRODUCES....

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

1

2

3

4

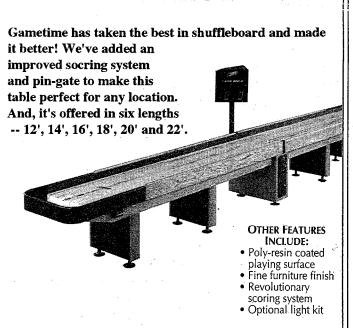
....A new concept that allows "quicker play" and "instant handicap scoring."

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

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

--Bob Shaw, Fort Worth, Texas

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Oklahoma

1ST LABOR DAY TOURNEY, ACTION LOUNGE, BROKEN ARROW, AUG. 30-SEPT. 2

"Y'all come!" invites host Bud Hillburn to the Action Lounge's 1st Annual Labor Day Tournament on Aug. 30-Sept. 2. The Action Lounge is located on the Southwest corner of 81st and 145th in Broken Arrow. There will be a one-time \$5 registration fee for the three events on the schedule.

Entries for the first event, a draw partner with \$20 entry fee, must be in by 7 p.m. on Friday, Aug. 30. A bring-partner tournament, \$50 entry fee, is on the agenda for Saturday. The Bowers 1996 handicap rating system will be used for this event. On Sunday, Sept. 1, there will be a bring-partner sweetheart doubles draw, \$40 per team.

All events are single game, double elimination, and trophies will be awarded for each. Free food will be served on Saturday and Sunday.

For further information and/or to save your spot, call Bud at 918-258-1773. Lodging recommendations and travel information are listed on the enclosed flyer. Please post in your favorite shuffleboard site to spread the word about this fun event.

LABOR DAY TOURNEY AT FULL HOUSE, WYNNEWOOD, AUG. 30-SEPT. 2

The 8th Annual Labor Day Weekend Tournament at the Full House, 111 W. Robert S. Kerr St., Wynnewood, will be held on Aug. 30-Sept. 2. Five events are on the schedule and will be played on five or six boards. All are single game, double elimination events.

Action will start on Friday, Aug. 30, 7 p.m., with a ladies' singles, \$10 entry. A men's handicap singles will start on Saturday, 10 a.m., \$20 entry. At 6 p.m. on Saturday, there will be a sweetheart draw, \$20 entry.

On Sunday, 11 a.m., there will be a draw partner event, \$20 entry, with no pros, 0's or 1's allowed to draw up (Bowers rating system used). The grand finale, set for Monday at 1 p.m., will be a handicap bring-partner event, \$50 per team.

For information and/or to save your spot, call Pat or Don Kinard, your Full House hosts, 405-665-2715. Better yet, send in your entries (\$5 per person registration fee covers all events) to: The Full House, 111 W. Robert S. Kerr St., Wynnewood, OK 73098.

Please post the enclosed flyer in your favorite shuffleboard site.

Texas

TEXAS OPEN ANNOUNCES CHANGE IN FORMAT.....

Due to considerable input by many players, the sponsors of the Texas Open at the Gold Nugget, Arlington, Texas, Aug. 28-Sept. 2, have decided to divide the Thursday open draw into two separate tournaments. One will be for -1's, 0's, 1's and 2's with no two pros able to draw up, and the other will be for 3's, 4's and 5's. Entry fees for pros through 2's will be \$50; beginners and Just Pretty Goods will be \$25.

On Friday, the singles will be split as well. Prosthrough 2's will be graduated entry fee and a separate tournament for 3's through 5's with a \$25 entry, single game, double elimination.

On Saturday, the doubles format will be the same: pros through 2's, with a separate tourney for 3's, 4's and 5's with a \$25 blind draw and sale.

On Sunday, "the biggest and best draft team event in the history of this planet," according to Bobby Williams.

If you posted last month's flyer in your favorite shuffleboard site, please replace it with the one enclosed in this issue.

For further information, contact Tom Johnson, 817-277-4029; Bobby Williams, 817-265-1045, or David Williams, 817-451-9583.

Washington

"FAREWELL TO SUMMER" TOURNEY AT OLD EDISON INN, SEPT. 14-15

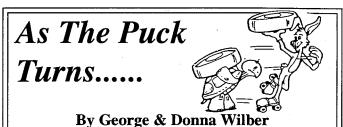
The Old Edison Inn, Edison, will host its 2nd Annual "Farewell to Summer" open doubles tournament on Sept. 14-15. Entry is \$50 per team for the double elimination event, with play beginning immediately following the 11 a.m. sponsor sale on Saturday.

Owners Mini and Sandy will once again add money to the pot in proportion to the turnout and also provide a super feed on Saturday. Other attractions, including the usual -- and often unusual -- door prizes, and the laidback country atmosphere of rural Edison, should make for a fun-filled weekend.

For information on lodging, RV parking, etc., contact Phil DePree at the Edison, 360-766-6266 or 766-5301. Co-director will be Russ (the Colonel) Miller.

'Last year's winners of this event were Dan Hitt and Jeff Adams.

(continued on Page 12)



The problem of having a two-person "staff" for The Board Talk is that there's nobody to fill in the gap when one of those two people falls victim to illness, which is the case this month. It was a major set-back and we ask your indulgence as we may arrive a few days late and without our usual August "Play Your Way Across the U.S.A." listing. We'll start a new "cycle" in September and every establishment will still get their 4-times-a-year listing. Hopefully, that will give those businesses who have ignored their red checks an opportunity to get back into good standing and be listed on the next "map."

We've always been intrigued with the success of the ABC Draw events in California and a few other places, but now that we've participated in one at the Dixie Belle, we're confirmed believers. In fact, our usual A-B Draw at the Skip's/Board Talk Fall Bash this year will be changed to an ABC Draw.

We endorse that approach, not only because it expands the World of Shuffleboard with an opportunity for a new player to play with those with more experience, it also serves as a great "ice-breaker" to bond shufflers from all locations and/or level of play.



"A" player and captain Paul Parks (center) drew two "unknowns" -- George Wilber of Michigan and Michelle Foran of Washington. Under his guidance, they finished fourth in a field of 19 teams.

Paul had no idea of what his challenge was, except that neither George nor Michelle had ever played in an ABC Draw before. Both assured him that he was "the boss" and they would follow his instructions. Paul was not a "big talker" and it took a few games before the communication between the team members began. By the end of the tournament, George and Michelle felt they had made a new friend -- and we hope he did, too.

As journalists, we try very hard to maintain our objectivity in covering various events. However, there are times when our personal experiences have an impact and we defend that in terms of adding "heart" to those reports. Such was the fund-raising efforts of The Dixie Belle for the "Potter's Wheel" facility for mentally-disabled patients. We have a daughter who is profoundly menatlly-disabled, so naturally, we supported that cause and salute them for their efforts. She is also blind, so our hearts reached out to Blinky.....



Blinky and Barbara were among the gallery at the Dixie Belle over the 4th of July weekend.

In our innocence, we had always thought that Blinky wore dark glasses because he was "cool." It wasn't until this "reunion" that we learned that Dick Arreger is indeed blind. We listened to stories of how he tends bar in the morning shift and trusts his customers to give him the proper amount. We're looking forward to doing a special feature on Blinky with the help of some of his regulars.

Nicknames have always been a part of shuffleboard history and Al Stewart shared some with George: Safeway Harry, 3-Finger Troy, Long Beach Jim, Raggity Don, Jerky George, Freddie the Dane, Two-Hanger Jerry, Balboa Ron, Kid Trey Ace, Firehouse Larry, Frank the

Fireman, Kansas Kid, Choke Artist Charlie, Lagging Larry, Texas Billy, Shotgun Kelly, Waxy Joe, T-Bird Ed, Red Baron Larry, Freehand Bob, Freeloader Freddie, Kid Spooks, Overhaul Clyde, Little General, Cadillac Glen, Kenny the Hat, Skinny Winny Jacker.

If you can identify these characters, send them to Al Stewart, A & M Amusement Service, 2354 Mountain View, El Monte, CA 91732. He'll let us know who earns a year's subscription to The Board Talk.

Most of these names are from the early '50s, but we're starting an entirely new "dictionary." Today, we've got "Cave Man," "The Machine," "Firehouse Freddie," and most recently, "Asphalt D.K." If you've got some contributions to the new nickname dictionary, send them to The Board Talk along with the person's real name and perhaps something about how they earned their nicknames. We'll start a Shuffleboard Nickname Trivia Game.

A printed program has become a traditional part of our annual Board Talk Shufflers' Reunions. It contains listings of winners from the previous years and a place to record winners of the current reunion, as well as the history of shuffleboard, going back all the way to 15th Century England. It records the introduction of the sport in the U.S. and how it made its way across the country. "In 1904, Gentleman Jim Corbett, an avid player, had a tavern owner named Croll install a table in his Alamedia, California, pub. Doc Croll, his son, claimed it was the first shuffleboard in that part of the country."

Little did we expect that during our visit to the Dixie Belle we would meet a descendant of "Gentleman Jim," John Corbett, the talented photographer who works with local artist, Marilyn McCracken. We don't know who was more excited -- us or him! (Thanks, Marilyn, for the autographed John Wayne. Our sister-in-law thought she'd died and gone to heaven!)

It is through advertising revenue that we are able to provide the printed program and door prizes each year. For the 12th Reunion, we thank the following: A & M Amusement Service, Pacific Coast Shuffleboard Association, The Shuffleboard Federation, Bob Lewis & Son Shuffleboards & Supplies, and AKW Properties. Mary and Larry Brown of Deer Park Tavern, Fort Wayne, Indiana, also contributed t-shirts for door prizes.

Speaking of t-shirts.....the Dixie Belle has a limited number still available. In a very attractive design, the Board Talk logo turtle and hare are playing shuffleboard with the Dixie Bellers against a background of the American flag. For information on available styles, colors and sizes, call Dixie Debbie: 310-80-DIXIE or 310-803-4943.

Our sincere congratulations to Glen Davidson on his induction into the National Shuffleboard Hall of Fame and to five other Okies who were honored with NSHF awards at the Southwest Open: Don Crall, Alan Primrose, Cliff Goff, and Ron and Sharon Huddleston.



Don Crall, the man who makes it all happen at the American Legion Post 73 in Del City, Oklahoma, proudly shows off his award.

The World of Shuffleboard has suffered some tremendous losses since we published the last issue of The Board Talk. Just before leaving for California, we mourned the death of a good friend of ours, Bob Gross, sports editor for the *Lansing State Journal*. Revered by the entire state's sports community for his coverage of high school athletics, admired for his service as president of the Greater Lansing Shuffleboard League, and loved as a person and fellow shuffler, Bob was the victim of a horrible crime and we have yet to recover from that loss.

When we arrived at the Dixie Belle, there were a couple of signs honoring the memories of local shuffleboard promoter Leonard Dominick and Washington legend Truman Adams. Jim Foran, Washington player and member of the National Shuffleboard Hall of Fame, sent us this tribute to Adams, also a victim of violent crime:

T.A., a former player and good friend to many, was taken from us a few weeks ago. T.A. quit playing several years back, but when he was playing, he was one of the best money and tournament players around. T.A. ran the first big money tournament at the Black Cat Tavern in Portland, Oregon, where he personally guaranteed \$10,000 in prize money -- and it was there.

T.A. used to live in Tacoma and he and I were very good friends. We shared a lot of good memories. I remember one time after he moved away, he came back to visit. Some of the players were getting on him to play some money games. Truman hadn't played in a long time, so he kept joking around and refusing. He said he didn't want to take their money 'cause they couldn't play a lick anyway. Even if he hadn't played in years, he could beat them. They jokingly called him a chicken, afraid to lose some money. Finally, Truman had enough. He and I went to the nearest cocktail lounge and had ourselves a couple of drinks. We went back to Max and Dick's Tavern and proceeded to relieve Ron Webster and Marty Campbell of all their money. Just goes to show you, some players never lose their touch.

Every now and then, Webster, Campbell and I laugh about that day.

T.A. was also very generous. One day, he said to me, "Jim, isn't there a big tournament in Vegas this week?" I say, "Ya, why?" "Let's go. I'll pay your way." He gathered up four or five other people and we're on our way to Vegas. It was the first PCSA Tournament at the Showboat.

Truman was quite a character if you knew him well. I guess you might have dubbed him as a crowd-pleaser. He made most everyone feel special.

I will miss T.A. -- his great laugh and our good times!

Thanks, Jim, for your great T.A. tribute.

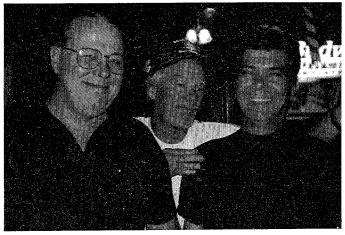
Dixie Belle (continued from Page 3)

Booth/Nino Winners of Amateur Doubles

With a full field of 16 teams and a total pot of over \$3300, hometown favorites Vern Booth (who would do anything to get his picture in The Board Talk) and Joe Nino were the winners.



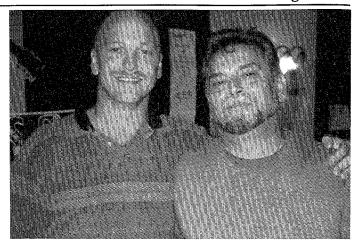
Vern Booth (right) and Joe Nino were winners of the Amateur Doubles.



Jack Eichar (former owner of the Peanut House) and Bob Ruiz (right) took second-place honors. The guy in the background tried to make a trade with George -- his dog for Donna -- but George convinced him he had neglected to get Donna's shots before they left Michigan.



Well, O.K., says Don Hughes (right), as he collects third place monies with partner Chuck Kimbrough.



Warren Goldsmith of Visalia (left) had a family cheering section as he took fourth with partner Tony Soza.

Joanie Swenson Takes Women's Title

Clearly a "house" favorite (and why not?) in the field of 16 women's players was local Joanie Swenson, who took the biggest share of the over \$2100 pot in this event.



Joanie Swenson
shows off her 1st
place women's
singles plaque
awarded
by the Pacific Coast
Shuffleboard
Association.

Kathy Thomas of San Jose didn't make it easy for Joanie as she fought valiantly to take second-place honors.

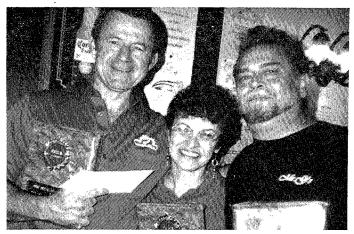




Local Sandy Flood
(left) and Pat
Preymak of Canada
took third and fourth
places in the women's
singles.

Floyd/Soza/Preymak Win A-B-C Draw

There were 57 shufflers signed up to participate in the A-B-C Draw. The 19 teams vied for a total pot of over \$5,000.



Steve Floyd (left) and Tony Soza of California and Pat Preymak of Canada show off their first-place trophies, which were donated by the PCSA.

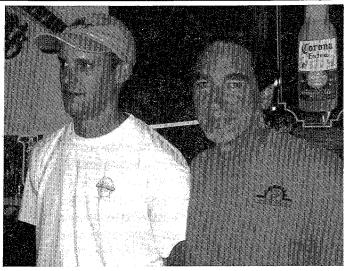


Rich Miller (left) and Dan Hitt of Washington and Mary Brown of Indiana took second-place honors.

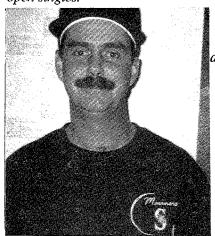
Other teams finishing in the money were: Dan Mourgas, Gary Jones and Jim Linton, California, 3rd; Paul Parks, California, Michelle Foran, Washington, and George Wilber, Michigan, 4th; Rick Thomas, Bob Ruiz and Ruby Bowen, California, 5th; and Dave Arndt, Washington, Bob Brunskill and Gloria Duron, California, 6th.

Darrol Nelson Tops in Singles

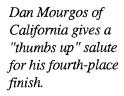
A field of 32 tough players from California, the Pacific Northwest, Indiana, Arizona and Michigan competed for a piece of the singles "pie" totalling over \$13,000. In a crowd-pleasing exhibition of skill, strategy and concentration, Darrol Nelson of Oregon and Dan Hitt of Washington demonstrated why they are two of the top professionals in the nation. In the end, it was Darrol who prevailed over Dan to take top honors.

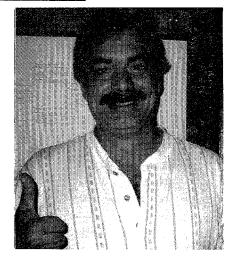


Darrol Nelson (right) and Dan Hitt were top winners in the open singles.



The scrappy, determined John Fisher of California took third-place honors.





Also in the money were fifth through eighth place finishers Billy Maxwell, Gregg McFarland, Bubba Warren, and Paul Elliott, all of California.

Nelson/Gindt Take Doubles Title

The 20 teams in the open doubles provided spectators with plenty of thrills in a "Grand Finale" to top off the 12th Annual Shufflers' Reunion at the Dixie Belle.

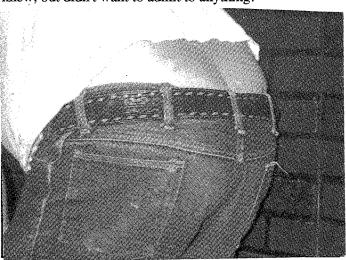
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Alan Primrose Salutes (cont. from Page 2)

and help, deserve all our praise. Efforts like this is what will bring shuffleboard out of the dark ages and into respectability.

Congratulations to Glen Davidson -- a very deserving honor. Glen is one of the very few "pros" who has ever taken the time to give me a few tips along the way. About five years ago in Las Vegas, Glen mentioned the work I had been doing with leagues, and my tournament. I am sure he was instrumental in the "Achievement" award I received from the Shuffleboard Hall of Fame. Thank you, Glen!! To be recognized and not criticized is very rewarding.

Bettye Brantley was the first to call me and identify C.W. Walker's buns. Mike Melton is wondering how she knew. Don't worry, Mike, three or four other women also knew, but didn't want to admit to anything!



Bettye Brantley wins a year's subscription to The Board Talk for identifying C.W. Walker's "buns."

Alan Primrose, Prim's Wagon Wheel Wynnewood, Oklahoma

Congratulations to you on your well-deserved "Achievement" award, Al! You are one of those who is leading shuffleboard "out of the dark ages and into respectability." We heartily add our kudos to Glen for his induction. As far as we are concerned, his efforts to finally turn the Shuffleboard Hall of Fame from a dream to reality, earned him that great honor, regardless of what he achieved "on the boards." As soon as the NSHF Board has completed its mission of honoring those over-65, we hope there will be a movement to induct the other five volunteer directors who currently serve in that thankless position. While we were in California, we had the opportunity to visit with Vice-President Hal Perry and Treasurer/CEO Bob Hunt, as well as "off the record" interviews with critics. It is just amazing (and frustrating) to discover the misunderstandings and misinterpretations of the NSHF's

goals/objectives, despite the efforts of the Board and ours in helping to communicate those to the general population of The World of Shuffleboard! Most would rather sit on the sidelines and grumble than take an active part in the induction process. For example, the "brilliant" idea of having state committees involved was surfaced! (This was an early approach suggested by the Board and a few have responded). The fact that these directors have withstood the unwarranted criticism, the apathy, the misunderstandings, and not one has yet resigned in total disgust, illustrates their commitment and fortitude. There will be a new NSHF Board someday, but there will only be one "first" and they deserve our gratitude. Next time you see one of those directors, give them a hug and tell them The Board Talk sent you!

During our interviews with some of the "oldtimers" in California, we surfaced one of the major challenges faced by the board in their decision-making process of who in the "over 65" category is worthy of induction. We have to realize that we're dealing with two, very different, "worlds" of shuffleboard. Yesterday, players were judged mainly by their achievements "on the road" and how many challengers they were able to beat. There was no real organization, no discipline, no rules. It was mainly an "every man for himself" situation. Today, in our more organized, disciplined sport, players/promoters are judged not just on their prowess on the boards, but what they have done to contribute to the growth of table shuffleboard. There are some, like Glen, who clearly made the transition from Yesterday to Today, and a few others. However, the board has a difficult task in using the measuring stick of the times to determine who is worthy. We wish them well.

A "Pro" Salute to Ron & Sharon

Thank you, Ron and Sharon, for another very enjoyable Southwest Open Tournament. The facility and the operation thereof is surpassed by no other tournament! Through your tireless efforts only, the tournament was a huge success. The people from this area loved it!

David Williams, Fort Worth, Texas

We know that your salute will provide Ron and Sharon with the incentive to "do it again" next year. Congratulations, David, on your MVP award!

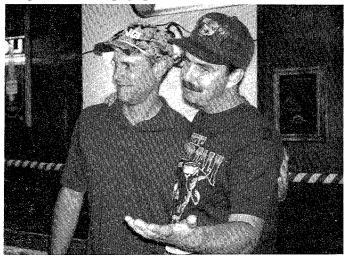
Dixie Debbie's and Jan's Views on the ''Shufflers' Reunion''

Greetings from Southern California! We'd like to thank those of you who recently visited the Dixie Belle for the Board Talk's 12th Annual Shufflers' Reunion

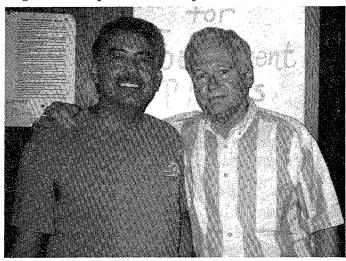
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Shufflers' Reunion (continued from Page 9)

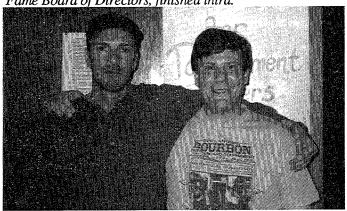
Taking the lion's share of the nearly \$12,000 pot were Rick Gindt of Washington and Darrol Nelson of Oregon (see front-page photo).



Dan Hitt of Washington and John Fisher of California, two young stars who make the future of shuffleboard look bright, teamed up to take second place honors.



Al Salazar (left) of Arizona and partner Bob Hunt of California, member of the National Shuffleboard Hall of Fame Board of Directors, finished third.



Steve Perry (left) and Paul Elliott, both of California, earned the No. 4 spot.

Finishing fifth and sixth were Paul Parks and Rick Thomas, Paul Weber and Joe Nino, all of California.

The Dixie Bellers: The Hosts with the Mosts

Members of the Dixie Belle "family" went all-out to make their guests welcome during the long 4th of July weekend. Every afternoon a spread of "goodies" was laid out for shufflers and spectators and on Saturday, a huge feast was served in the parking lot. Proceeds from drink sales during this special event were donated to the Potter's Wheel, a facility in Arizona for mentally handicapped adults. This is a favorite charity of The Dixie Belle and other events throughout the year, such as a golf tournament, raise funds for the worthwhile cause, spearheaded by Tim O'Brien.



When Dixie Beller Jim Anderson isn't tending bar, he and "Cadillac Joe" take great pride in keeping the four boards in tip-top shape, and just doing whatever else needs to be done. Jim does pour one mean drink, testifies Board Talk Editor George Wilber.

Wes and Eileen are quick to acknowledge how important the support of the PCSA is to their World of Shuffleboard. Throughout the "reunion," Paul Weber, Bubba Warren, Karl Spickelmier, and Joe Muniz were on the job to make things run smoothly.

The Eades and other Dixie Bellers make every effort to support shuffleboard events by attending as many tournaments as possible, such as the PCSA Extravaganzas in Las Vegas, Blinky's in California, Bourbon in Indiana, Whistling Oyster in Washington, and the recent Bill Gibbs Memorial in Arizona.

While Wes has a more "visible" role in the operation (did you see his photo of the "mermaid" he caught on a recent fishing expedition?), Eileen is clearly "The Boss" at the Dixie Belle. For 35 years, Wes has been involved in an aerospace inspection lab, a full-time job in itself. His role at the Dixie Belle is to spread good-will to all customers and to serve as janitor.

"On a good day, I get to carry out the trash," he said.

Upcoming Events (continued from Page 5)

Washington

ANNUAL DOUBLES AT SHAMROCK, LONGVIEW, OCT. 19-20

Winners of this annual doubles event (better known as the Nelson/Buhl Tournament) at the Shamrock Tavern, Longview, on Oct. 19-20 will get their entry fee paid in the PCSA Extravaganza IX doubles in Las Vegas, Jan. 28-Feb. 2. Entry fee is \$50 per player with the bar adding \$10 per player, and payoff will be 55-30-10-5. Food will be served on Saturday and Sunday and there are lots of nearby lodging, plus some RV parking at the Shamrock.

For information, call 360-577-7444.

New York

SHERBURNE AMERICAN LEGION TOURNEY, SEPT. 6-8

The American Legion in Sherburne will host a 3-event tournament on Sept. 6-8. The first event will be a draw partner, \$15 per person entry, on Friday, Sept. 6. A bring partner, \$30 per team, will start on Saturday at 1 p.m. An open singles, \$25 entry, will be held on Sunday starting at 11 a.m. All events are single game, double elimination.

Entries are limited so advance registration is advised. Send checks to tournament director Milt Benedict, R.D.#1, Box 99A, Sherburne, NY 13460.

For further information, contact Milt at 607-674-4571, or the American Legion, 607-674-9201.

\$500 ADDED AT RIVERSIDE, EARLVILLE, OCT. 11-13

There will be three events, plus round robins, on the agenda for participants in the Oct. 11-13 tournament hosted by the Riverside Hotel in Earlville. The single game, double elimination events will be played on four boards and host Roger Sawyer will add \$500 to the bring partner tournament.

Round robins will be held on Friday starting at 7 p.m., with singles starting at 10 a.m. on Saturday. A draw partner is scheduled for Saturday at 3 p.m., with the bring partner starting at 11:30 a.m. on Sunday.

For information, call Roger at 315-691-3081, or Dale Law, 607-674-6580.

Maryland

GRAND OPENING AT RIVER INN, WILLIAMSPORT, AUG. 16-18

The River Inn, 119 N. Conococheague St., Williamsport, will host a grand opening 3-event tournament on Aug. 16-18. In addition to the three events, there will be a special cook-out and dancing at this new East Coast shuffleboard site.

Events include a \$10 draw partner on Friday night; a bring partner on Saturday, \$25 per team; and an open singles on Sunday, \$25 entry.

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

Watch next month's issue for flyer on 1996-97 Schedule of Events at Harvey's Place, Street, Maryland!

Michigan

DRAFT TEAM EVENT AT WETLANDS, ROYAL OAK, AUG. 23-25

Most shuffleboard players in Michigan don't play much in the summer. This second annual draft team even at the Wetlands Bar & Grill, 1008 N. Woodward Ave., Royal Oak, on Aug. 23-25, will give everyone a chance to get their game back in shape before all of the big fall tournaments.

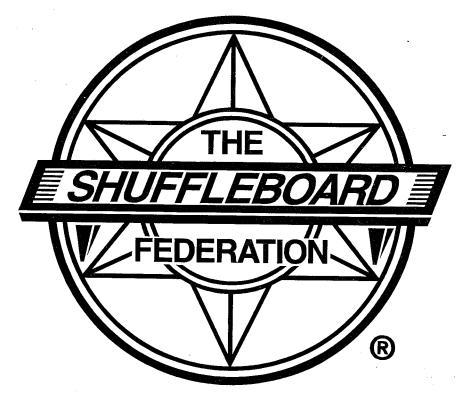
The area's top players will serve as captains for this six-person team event. This format gives everybody a legitimate chance to win. Anyone who has ever played in a team event knows how intense and exciting they can be. If you have not played in one of these events yet, you don't know what you are missing.

Entry fee is only \$25 per player. If you have questions call The Shuffleboard Federation at 810-380-9300.

6TH ANNUAL SKIP'S/BOARD TALK FALL BASH, HOUGHTON LAKE, SEPT. 6-8

There has been a slight change in the format for the 6th Annual Fall Bash at Skip's Lounge, Houghton Lake, on Sept. 6-8. The first event, scheduled for Saturday (following the sale for both the draw and the singles at 10 a.m.), will be an ABC Draw instead of an A-B Draw.

(continued on Page 14



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Upcoming Events (continued from Page 12)

Entry fee remains at \$20 per person. The open singles, which starts on Sunday, is \$40 per player. Both events are single game, double elimination, and may be mark 4, play to 15, depending upon number of entries.

Tournament information, including an explanation of the ABC Draw, may be obtained by calling George at The Board Talk, 517-371-2538. It would help bracketeer and tournament director Rob Kern if you would make your reservations in advance (use enclosed flyer).

Houghton Lake is the heart of Michigan's Water Wonderland and while you're not playing, you can enjoy many area attractions. For lodging and/or camping recommendations, call Skip at 517-422-5631. If you've never participated in one of these super-fun Fall Bashes, you just don't know what you're missing!

Indiana

FULL SCHEDULE OF EVENTS ON HOOSIER FALL CALENDAR

The Get-A-Way, 2322 Columbus Ave., Anderson, will host an open doubles on Sept. 7, \$40 per team. Sale is set for 11 a.m. on Saturday. Call 317-644-9454.

Amvets Post 26, 939 S. Bradway in Pendleton, will hold a two-event tournament on Sept. 14-15. The first event will be an open doubles, \$40 per team, with sponsor sale at 11 a.m. on Saturday. On Sunday, the 2nd Annual "Over 50 Senior Doubles" with a \$40 per team entry, will be held, with sale at 11 a.m. Call 317-778-7224.

The Locker Bar, 100 S. Branson St.; Marion, will host a doubles and singles tournament on Sept. 21-22. Entry fee for the Saturday doubles is \$40 per team and \$20 for the Sunday singles. For information, call Bus Voorhis at 317-662-0041.

Chances R in Muncie will host the Indiana State Championships on Nov. 29-Dec. 1. The four events are an open singles, \$20 entry; open doubles, \$50 per team; mixed doubles, \$20 per team, and women's singles, \$15 entry. Call Bob or Karen at 317-284-0855.

<u>Missouri</u>

BARBARA'S TO HOST SOUTHWEST MISSOUR INVITATIONAL, SEPT. 27-28

Barbara's Beer Garden & Lounge, 2109 N. Glenstone in Springfield, will host the Southwest

Missouri Invitational on Sept. 27-28. It will be a double elimination bring your own partner event, \$25 per team entry fee (must be paid by Sept. 1). There is a 20-team limit so send your entries now to: Barbara's Beer Garden, 2109 N. Glenstone, Springfield, MO 65803.

Recommended lodging for this event are the Skyline Motel, 417-866-4356, or Maple, 417-865-5566.

For further information, call Barbara's, 417-866-9871.

Nevada

NORTH AMERICAN CHAMPIONSHIPS, SANDS REGENCY, RENO, OCT. 28-NOV. 3

For only the second time since this tournament began seven years ago, Jim Filkins of Lincoln, Nebraska, was not the first person to sign up (he was the second). This year, that distinction belongs to Marty Allen of West Palm Beach, Florida. If you have not already sent in your entry formj, don't wait too much longer. Many -- if not all -- of the events are expected to be full before the tournament.

The most frequently asked question so far has been: what time does the Pro-Am Draft Team Event start? The answer is 2 p.m. on Monday, Oct. 28. It is easy to understand why people are excited about this event. It gives them a chance to play for a day and a half on a team captained by one of the best players in the world. Remember, there is a limit of 144 players for this event. If you want to play in it and have not yet sent in your registration, you are in danger of being shut out.

The Amateur Six-Person Team Event is also generating a lot of interest. Don't forget about the \$200 prize for the team with the best name. Between \$3,000 and \$7,000 is being added to this event, provided there are at least 24 teams. The format for both team events is best five out of nine, double elimination, with the match played on three boards. There will be no deviation from that format. Depending on the number of teams, either one or both of the team events may have 11-point games. These are the only two events in which that is a possibility.

Many people are saving money by taking advantage of "package deals" that include airfare and a room at the Sands Regency. We know of approximately 100 people who have already done so. Of course, as we are sure everyone knows already, all participants must be registered guests of the Sands Regency Hotel. If you are thinking about purchasing a package, it is highly

(continued on Page 16)



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Upcoming Events (continued from Page 14)

recommended that you do so as soon as possible. There are a limited number available and they tend to sell out well in advance. For more information, contact a travel agent or the Vacation Department of the following airlines: American (800-321-2121), Delta (800-872-8876), Northwest (800-727-1111), Reno Air (800-736-6747), Southwest (800-423-5683), TWA (800-438-2929), or United (800-328-6877). Please note that there are usually one or two airlines in each area that offer these packages, so it may be easier to go through a travel agent.

Here are just a few of the reasons why there is so much excitement in the shuffleboard community about the 1996 North American Championships: Our host/sponsor, the Sands Regency Hotel Casino. In addition to providing up to \$15,000 in added money, they have a great facility with 1,000 rooms in three towers - so everybody gets a great room. Everyone is eligible for five events, which are being played on 18 boards. Plenty of great spectator seating surrounds the spacious "players only" playing area (both of which are served by cocktail waitresses).

The tournament staff ensures that everything runs like clockwork. Bracketing is flawlessly handled by Rob Kern. Full-time board waxers Lyndon Baize and Kory Hungerford, supplemented by a couple of "part timers," make sure you never have to search for someone to take care of your board. The Shuffleboard Federation's favorite auctioneer, Bill Wooldridge, will once again handle those duties and he promises to pronounce everyone's name correctly this year.

To top it all of, there is the North American Champion contest. If you are an average player, your chances of winning it are just as good as those of a pro. Everyone earns points based on their performance in each of the five eligible events they enter. The top three players in each division (Pro, Division I and Division II) will divide \$1,800. The top finisher overall will be recognized as the 1996 North American Champion and will win the Grand Prize -- a free jacuzzi suite for seven nights at the 1997 tournament. The retail value of this prize is more than \$1,500.

How many more reasons do you need? Don't get shut out! Send in your registration form today (enclosed flyer). For more information, call The Shuffleboard Federation, 810-380-9300.

Canada

6TH ANNUAL CANUCKS LABOR DAY TOURNEY

The AN & AF Unit #68, 1837 Main Street, Vancouver, B.C., will once again host the annual Crazy Canucks Labor Day Weekend Tournament on Aug. 29-Sept. 1.

Action will start on Thursday, Aug. 29, with the "Winston Jim" open draw doubles, \$20 (Canadian) per person entry fee. Entries for this event close at 6 p.m.

Entries for the open singles, \$50 (Canadian) entry, close at 5 p.m. Friday, with sale at 5:30 p.m. and play immediately following.

The sale for the open doubles is set for Saturday at 10 a.m., with a start time of 11 a.m. Entry fee is \$100 (Canadian funds) per team and \$1,000 will be added to the entry pot.

Mail your entries to Marg Okum, 4103 Welwyn St., Vancouver, B.C. V5N-3Z1. If you have questions, call Marg at 604-872-5373. See enclosed flyer for lodging recommendations.

Support our Canadian friends with your participation in this fun-filled weekend.

Deuces Wild at Wetlands "Just Plain Wild!"

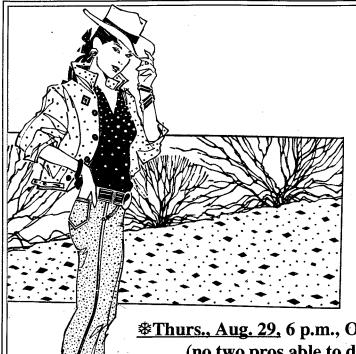
The 2nd Annual Deuces Wild Tournament at the Wetlands Bar & Grill, Royal Oak, Michigan, on June 14-16, featured all of the highs and lows that people have come to expect at such an event. The shot-making included some that were incredible, a few that were terrible, some that were exhilerating and, yes, a good many that were just plain WILD!

"One of the great things about Deuces Wild is that beginners have a chance to shine that they rarely get in a game of standard shuffleboard," said John McDermott of The Shuffleboard Federation, Inc. "This was certainly the case as first-timers Doug Kemling, Judy Lee and Tracey Stanley played on teams that made it to the finals. All three were steady and made significant contriutions to their respective teams. Judy had six games in which she scored in double figures, Tracy had quite a few good games and failed to score in only two of her 18 games. Doug twice had a score of 14. Only three higher scores were posted for the tournament."

Winners were the team of Frank Blade, Doug Kemling, Bob Kingston and John Myles. Second went to Jeff Cottrell, Judy Lee, Chris Lemieux and Tracey Stanley. The team of Tricia Cavanaugh, Rob Donahue, Mike Papa and Debbie Turk took third place, while fourth place went to John "Pappy" Chamberlain, Frank Edelin, John McDermott and Dennis Perrin.

Wetlands Bar & Grill will hosts it 3rd Annual Deuces Wild Tournament in June of 1997, and will have a Deuces Wild League in place beginning later this year.

More Event Results on Page 19.



Format Changes for the

1996 Texas Open AUG. 28-SEPT. 2

**Wed., Aug. 28, 7 p.m., (Event #1) CO-ED DRAW and (Event #2) LEFT OVER GUYS DRAW, \$25 entry, single game, double elimination

<u>Thurs., Aug. 29, 6 p.m., OPEN DRAWS, (Event #1) -1's, O's, 1's & 2's, (no two pros able to draw up) \$50 entry; (Event #2) 3's and above, \$25 entry, single game, double elimination**</u>

<u>\$\pi\text{Fri., Aug. 30, 2 p.m., SINGLES (Event #1), graduated entries:</u> \$150 pros, \$125 0's, \$100 1's, \$75 2's, 2 out of 3, double elimination; (Event #2) 3's and above, \$25 entry, single game, double elimination.

*Sat., Aug. 31, 3 p.m., (Event #1) BRING-PARTNER DOUBLES, \$150 per team, single game, double elimination. Pros must play with a "2" or higher; 0's must play with a "1" or higher; (Event #2) BLIND DRAW for 3's and above, \$25 entry.

Sun., Sept. 1, 6-PERSON DRAFT TEAM EVENT, 5 out of 9, double elimination. Everyone plays in this event, no matter what your rating.

Sunday, Sept. 2, Final of Team Event and Round Robins

12 Boards -- Plenty available daily for matches and round robins after elimination from events.

FOOD SERVED SATURDAY & SUNDAY!

--One-time \$10 registration fee--

FOR INFORMATION: Call Tom Johnson, 817-277-4029; Bobby Williams, 817-265-1045, or David Williams, 817-451-9583

Gold Nugget Club

2602 W. Division, Arlington, Texas 76012

Phone: 817-277-4029

8th Annual Labor Day Weekend Tournament Aug. 30 - Sept. 2, 1996

Friday, Aug. 30:

Ladies' Singles, \$10 entry, 7 p.m.

Saturday, Aug. 31:

Men's Handicap Singles, \$20 entry, 10 a.m.

Saturday, Aug. 31:

Sweetheart Draw, \$20 entry, 6 p.m.

Sunday, Sept. 1:

Draw Partners, \$20 entry, 11 a.m. (no pros, 0's or 1's can draw up)

Monday, Sept. 2:

Handicap Bring Your Own Partner, \$50 per team, 1 p.m.

All events single game, double elimination. Southwest Open ratings used for handicap. 5 or 6 boards available. Expanded space!

-- \$5 per person registration fee --

Sign-ups must be in by times stated. Sales start at times listed, with games immediately following. Payouts determined by number of entries. Early sign-ups and registration encouraged. Mail to:



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6TH ANNUAL TOURNAMENT

Aug. 29-Sept. 1

--\$1,000 added!--

"Winston Jim" Open Draw Doubles, Aug. 29

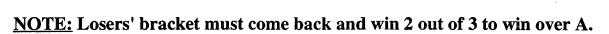
\$20 Canadian entry fee, entries close at 6 p.m., start time at 6:30 p.m.

Singles, Aug. 30

\$50 Canadian entry fee; entries close at 5 p.m.; sale at 5:30 p.m., play immediately following.

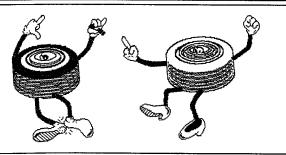
Doubles, Aug. 31, \$1000 added

\$100 Canadian per team entry fee; sale at 10 a.m., 11 a.m. start.



<u>ACCOMMODATIONS:</u> Biltmore Motor Hotel, 395 Kingsway, 1-604-872-5252 or FAX 874-3003; City Centre Motel, 2111 Main St., 1-604-876-7166 or FAX 876-6727

Mail entries (Canadian Funds) to: Marg Okum, 4103 Welwyn St., Vancouver, B.C. V5N-3Z1 Phone: 604-872-5373



AN & AF CLUB

1837 Main St., Vancouver, B.C.; Phone: 604-874-8911 or 874-8977

Blinky's 6th Annual

Labor Day Week Shuffleboard Tournament Aug. 25-Sept. 2, 1996

Sunday, Aug. 25, 2 p.m.: "CHAMPAGNE & ROSES" LADIES DOUBLES DRAW, \$10 entry fee, single game, double elimination

Monday, Aug. 26, 6 p.m.: AMATEUR DOUBLES DRAW, \$10 entry, single game, double elimination

Tuesday, Aug. 27, 6 p.m.: AMATEUR SINGLES, \$10 entry, single game, double elimination

Wednesday, Aug. 28, 6 p.m.: ABC DRAW, \$20 entry, single game, double elimination

Friday, Aug. 30, 7 p.m.: Sponsor Sale for Pro Doubles

Saturday, Aug. 31, 9 a.m.: PRO DOUBLES, \$100 per person, 2 out of 3, double elimination

Saturday, Aug. 31, 6-8 p.m.: BBQ and Sponsor Sale for Pro Singles

Sunday, Sept. 1, 9 a.m.: PRO SINGLES, \$100 entry, 2 out of 3, double elimination

FOR INFORMATION, call Rick Thomas, 408-578-0822, or Nelson Jennings, 408-381-0874 (pager)

Motel Accomodations nearby, ample parking, good food! Advance registration suggested and must be accompanied with entry fees.

BLINKY'S SPORTS CAFE

3145 El Camino Real, Santa Clara, California 95051

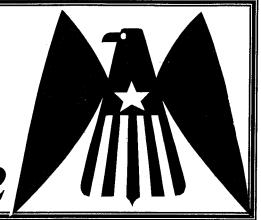
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Your Hosts: Dick & Barbara Aregger



BUD HILLBURN SAYS: "Y'ALL COME!" TO HIS...

1st Annual LABOR DAY TOURNAMENT August 30-September 2



One-Time \$5 Registration Fee



FRIDAY, AUG. 30 -- DRAW PARTNERS, \$20

entry, Single game, double elimination. Entries must be in by 7 p.m.



SATURDAY, AUG. 31 -- BRING PARTNER,

\$50 per team entry, Bowers 1996 shuffleboard players' handicap rating system will be used. Single game, double elimination.



SUNDAY, SEPT. 1 -- BRING PARTNER SWEETHEART DRAW, \$40 per team entry.

Single game, double elimination.

--Trophies awarded in all events!-FREE FOOD SATURDAY AND SUNDAY

3 in-house boards -- clean facilities -- friendly folks!

RECOMMENDED LODGING: Holiday Inn, 918-258-7085; Comfort Inn, 918-258-8585;

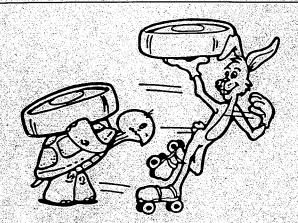
Econo Lodge, 918-258-6617 or 1-800-55 Econo

FOR FURTHER TRAVEL INFORMATION: Aspen Travel, 860 S. Aspen, Broken Arrow, OK 74012; phone 918-258-6443 or 1-800-380-6443 and ask for Tammy

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Phone: 918-258-1773



6th Annual Skip's Board Talk Fall Bash!

SEPTEMBER 6-8

FROUND ROBINS FRIDAY NIGHT!

\$20 per player

(Each 3-person team will have an A, B, and C player. A player will serve as captain. PLEASE SIGN UP BY FRIDAY AT 9 P.M. TO ALLOW FOR RATINGS.)

Open Singles, Sunday, Noon sharp, \$40 per player

Depending upon number of entries, may be mark 4, play to 15
Single game -- double elimination for both events

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Frisco Eddie's Revenge: The Return

A series by Balboa Ron Schweikert

(In last month's episode, after Long Beach Lil, Tacoma Tim and Frisco Eddie thought they would fall victims to Dollar Dan's revenge, Eddie made the decision that he was OUT and would return home on the first available flight.)

Everyone in the room was left speechless. Eddie finally broke the silence. He looked at Tim and said: "Could I please have the keys to the rental car? I'm going back to San Francisco on the first flight out." Tim knowingly gave him the keys and said: "Nice to have met you, Eddie."

Eddie look straight at Lil then. They looked long and hard into each other's eyes, but not a word was spoken. It seemed as though they had a "mental" conversation....and a clear understanding was there.

Eddie gathered up his travel bag then and started to leave. Just as he began to open the door, Lil spoke: "Maybe I'll see you around?" Eddie turned and said: "Yah, right -- maybe," and he was gone.

One the drive to the airport, Eddie was thinking about how close he came -- but he was also thinking about how great it was going to be to get back home to Shelli and the Blue Moon. Indeed, he had a lot of thoughts going through his head.

He didn't know why, but he began to reflect on some of the things Tim had told him. He had been beaten by Tim very badly because he was halfway "smashed" and also because it was Tim's board. He made a mental note that he'd surely lay off the booze when he had any serious competition.

He also recalled Tim's response when he asked him why he didn't compete in the big tournaments any more. Tim had explained that, in like manner, if you had learned to play the game while you were drinking (as Tim had) and also competed that way, you virtually lost most of your skills if you tried to play sober!

Tim had told him that in addition to that, you couldn't just sign up for a tournament and expect to play ANY kind of a game (under any circumstance) if you had a long lay-off from serious competition.

Tim had revealed a true story about how he had tried to give it "one last shot" in a big tournament on the West Coast a few years back. He said that he not only didn't shoot good -- he didn't shoot at all! Eddie vividly recalled the look on his face as he explained how he had "frozen-up" completely. He told of how embarrassing it had been for him. But, even worse was the humility and remorse he felt because he had let his partners down so badly, that they didn't stand a chance. He said he actually had nightmares over that experience! So, the "big time" was

over for him. He had finished by saying that he still enjoyed a little "local" action, and that the game of shuffleboard would always be there for him.

Eddie made a mental note to remember ALL of Tim's advice. He also had a smattering of thoughts about all of the things Lil had told him -- some of it good -- and some of it very bad.

He was almost at the airport now, and he started thinking about home again and how swell things were going to be. He turned off the highway then onto the airport entrance road. He found the car rental entrance and pulled in. After he had paid to top-off the tank and the remaining charges, he started to make his way to the "Departing Flights" area.

Fortunately, he didn't have far to walk and he was close to the Northwest counter after he got inside. He figured that his quickest way to get home would probably be with Northwest. He waited in line for a short time and then it was his turn to arrange for his flight home.

The ticket agent looked at Eddie and, seeing he didn't show her a ticket, said: "What's your destination, sir?" Eddie looked at her but didn't reply. He had a wierd look on his face. The agent asked him once again: "Could I please have your destination, sir?"

Eddie's mind was whirling a thousand miles a second now, and he couldn't reply -- because he had just remembered something. Lil had given HIM the \$10,000 they had won in Texas, because she felt it would be safer that way. It was inside the travel bag he held in his right hand!

Eddie was finally able to mumble something to the agent that sounded like: "I'll, uh, have to move out of line. Uh, I have to think a little."

He moved back and took a nearby seat in the waiting area. He placed the bag on his lap and folded his arms over it. He realized then that he didn't have a LITTLE thinking to do.....He had a lot!

Will Eddie return the \$10,000 to Lil or will he go through with his plans to return to San Francisco? Don't miss the next exciting episode.

Attention Readers:

If you are enjoying Balboa Ron's ''Frisco Eddie'' series, please let him know. Your feedback is the only ''pay'' he receives! Balboa Ron Schweikert 8301 W. Charleston Blvd. #1050

Las Vegas, NV 89117

Melton/Mays Win at Balloon Inn

Billy Melton of Oklahoma and Billy Mays of Texas were winners of the 7th Annual Balloon Open at the Balloon Inn, Arvada, Colorado, on June 15-16. Finishing second were Dave Cowan and George Ostrom of Colorado, with Gwyn Orsi and Denny Busch of Nebraska in third place.



Balloon Inn hostess Gwen Vogt (front center) congratulates winners (front row) Denny Busch and Gwyn Orsi, (back row) George Ostrom, Dave Cowan, Billy Melton and Billy Mays.

"Thanks to everyone who participated in the 7th Annual Balloon Open, especially out-of-staters Gwyn Orsi, Denny Busch, Billy Melton, Billy Mays, Bob Perry and Frank Smith," said Gwen.

The next event at the Balloon Inn is the Pro-Am Draw on Aug. 23-25. For information, call Gwen or Ron at 303-425-9823.

Baird/Gerard Win at Cadillac Ranch

Gilbert Baird of Houston, Texas, and Terry Gerard of Claremore, Oklahoma, were winners of the double elimination tournament at Cadillac Ranch in Humble, Texas, on May 18. Sky King Freight Systems sweetened the pot with a \$400 donation, making the purse total over \$5,000.

Second place honors went to Diana Hagen of Houston and Tom French of Austin, with Eugene Peach of Houston and Lynda French of Austin in third. Bill Rice and Sue Griffin, both of Houston, finished fourth.

"Needless to say, Houston was well-represented and Austin came out smelling like a rose, thanks to Tom and Lynda French," reports Ronnie Moore.

Oklahoma Guests Win at Tops

Fred Washington and Bud Hillburn of Oklahoma topped the field at Top's bring partner event in St. Louis, Missouri, on June 21-22. Second place went to the team of locals Jerry Sabourin and Doug Zurmuehlen. Third

place finishers were Terry Dowell of Indiana and Chuck Muehlhauser, with fourth going to the team of Super Sam and Paul Casula.

"Special thanks to the out-of-state participants, including the Indiana team of Steve Blue and Mike Johnson," said Jerry.

The next event at Top's is an A-B Blind Draw on Aug. 16-17. See Top's listing in the Shuffleboard Directory.

"Biggest Yet" at Tolo Tavern

The Tolo Tavern in Central Point, Oregon, hosted its biggest singles and doubles tournament over the Memorial Day weekend.

Friday night's draw partner event saw Lee Gifford of Eagle Point, Oregon, and Larry Balzer of Central Point come out of the loser's bracket to defeat Jet Henry of Longview, Washington, and Jim Reed of Springfield, Oregon. Fred Linton of Kelso and Tom Henry of Longview took third, with Dick Heflin of Ranier, Oregon, and Whitey Craven of Central Point in fourth.



Kevin Larkin of Longview came out on top of a field of 26 shufflers in Saturday's singles.

Lyle Larson of Gold Hill, Oregon, took second, with Steve Fisher of Winston in third, and Doug Debois of Ranier in fourth.

On Sunday, Desi Guches and Mike Kinney, both of Central Point, took first place in the doubles. Lee Gifford and Larry Balzer were second, with Don Stallsworth of Rogue River and Doug Debois in third. Butch Robinson of Rogue River and Kevin Callaway of Winston finished fourth.

"Thanks to hosts Pat and Leroy Burkhart and all their helpers for a great tournament and a fantastic steak and chicken barbeque on Saturday," said reporter Sherry Allen.

THANKS!

Woodie & Jean Cockrum of Missouri thank all shufflers who remembered them on their 50th Wedding Anniversary.

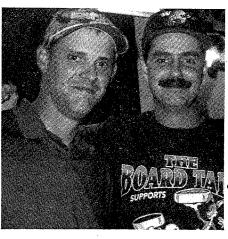
More Notebook (continued from Page 10)

combined with our 4th Annual July 4th Tournament. We had a fine time! It is always good to see friends we have met through the wonderful World of Shuffleboard. What an exceptional group of people. I have found in my limited travel a very tightly-knit group with many differing opinions and lifestyles able to accept and respect each other through their mutual interest in the great game of shuffleboard.

George and Donna, how can the shuffleboard community thank you enough for your years of dedication to this wonderful sport? You have brought people, through The Board Talk, from across the nation together. In my opinion, the 4th of July was the perfect time to hold your reunion, given all you have inadvertently done for the closer understanding of some of our fellow Americans.

Jan Manes is one of the Dixie Belle's newer players. Some of you will remember her from Las Vegas selling shirts and pins. Some of you saw her participating in the Bourbon Spring Tournament. Jan was a participant and a spectator this July 4th and wanted to combine her comments into this note. Being the lazy creature that I am, I said "sure, write a lot, please." So, without further ado, here's Jan.....

I just want to say I spent six of the most fun-filled days I've had in a long time and it all happened at the Dixie Belle's 4th of July Tournament/Board Talk Shufflers' Reunion. I've played shuffleboard now for about a year. I've been to Vegas and Indiana, but I really got my feet wet in this tournament. I played in the women's singles and the ABC Draw. I didn't win any prizes for my shuffleboard play, but I didn't get taken out as fast as I did in Bourbon, so maybe I've improved. I did win a set of weights in the door prize drawing and my thanks to John McDermott of The Shuffleboard Federation.



Board Talk Editor
George Wilber
congratules Jan for
winning the set of
weights donated by
The Shuffleboard
Federation. Jan
was one happy
camper and expects
great things from
those weights.

I feel richer for having participated in this tournament, not only for the shuffleboard play itself, but I saw friends I had met before and met a lot of new ones I hope to see again in the near future.

Debbie kept me busy selling shirts and I helped out whenever needed, but I made sure to take time to watch a lot of shuffleboard. I watched the women's singles finals with Joanie Swenson and Kathy Thomas battling it out. Congratulations to Joanie, one of our local women, for the win and to Kathy for second place. That was exciting but I have to say the most thrilling was when Dan Hitt and John Fisher played in the finals against Darrol Nelson and Rick (Ackmut) Gindt. My heart was beating fast when one of the games went to 14-14 and the hammer changed several times before John and Dan took the game. It went six games, with excitement all the way, before we knew the winner of the doubles. Thanks, guys, for a great tournament.

The fun didn't quite end there. A round of drinks from the winners and we all went out front for Karaoke and a little celebrating. Darrol was not only celebrating his win, but his birthday, so he treated us to a rendition of "I Feel Good" while Wet and Wild Rick did his James Brown impression on the dance floor. "Sinful Cindy" treated Darrol to a few bumps and grinds (all G-rated, of course) while doing a little of Madonna's "Hanky Panky" and the look on Darrol's face was worth a mint as she gyrated around him. After that, he loosened right up and became part of the show dancing and having a great time with all of us. For all you shufflers out there, Darrol is not just a Machine." He is also, as I'm sure most of you know, a very nice person.

Thanks to all who made this tournament so special: Donna, George, Wes, Eileen, Paul Weber, Joe Muniz, Dixie Debbie, Evie, Jim Anderson, Karl, Bubba, and many more. I love you and shuffleboard! -- Jan

What more can I say about the tournament other than I hope to see you all here next year, if not before. The Dixie Belle always has something going on. On August 11, we will be celebrating our head party animal Wes's birthday. We will be having a giant meat shoot with extra prizes in his honor. There will be live music and Karaoke and tons of fun for Wes's 60th. Come join us if you can. Also coming up on Sept. 20-21, Chris Brown's and Dixie Debbie's Birthday Bash tournament is on the agenda. See the flyer for details and come join the fun.

Until next time, along with Wes and Eileen, we wish you good shuffling.

Dixie Debbie, The Dixie Belle, Downey, California

Thanks, Dixie Debbie and Jan, for your kind words and a report on some of the action we missed. Wish we had been able to attend that post-tournament party! Maybe next time.... Happy Birthday, Wes, Chris and Debbie. May you have many, many more. And thanks to you and all the Dixie Bellers for your great hospitality!

West Coast Ratings Progressing

As everyone who read the last issue knows, an effort was recently undertaken to put together ratings for several hundred players from Arizona, California, Canada, Oregon and Washington. Nineteen players from those areas have agreed to act as "raters." We had hoped to have the results tabulated in time for this issue, but are still waiting on the Post Office to deliver a couple of lists. These ratings will be used to determine eligibility for the various events and for team ratings at the 1996 North American Championships in Reno. By the time you read this, we should have that information and the results available. If you are trying to put together a team for Reno, please feel free to call The Shuffleboard Federation at 810-380-9300 to get the ratings of the players you are considering.

Three additional raters have been added since the article that appeared in the July issue. They are Paul Elliott from Southern California, Don Stallsworth from Rogue River, Oregon, and Marv White, Spokane, Washington. Thanks again to everyone who has taken the time to participate in this project. While there are bound to be players who should have been rated higher and some who should be rated lower, this is far better than what we had before. Over the next few years, the ratings will become more and more accurate, and everyone is going to benefit.

If anyone knows of a good software program for managing this type of data, Ron and Debbie Bowers ("authors" of the Bowers Rating System) would probably like to hear from you. Two tournaments which rely on the Bowers' ratings are Alan Primrose's Arbuckle Open and the Southwest Open, which Ron and Sharon Huddleston do a great job with. Those individuals are currently trying to solve problems related to having more players than they can handle. This is a problem most tournaments would love to be burdened with! While these huge turnouts certainly say a lot about the people who put them on, they are also quite a testimonial to the value of the ratings.

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

Once again, we add our salute to Ron and Debbie and those volunteers who are serving as "raters," as well as you for helping to expand a valuable tool to those across the U.S.A. and Canada.

While we were at the Dixie Belle, we met a "whiiz" who made us realize how computer-illiterate we are and may be able to help find a software program. His name is George Main, a new subscriber from Saratoga, California. George: if you can help, give John a call.



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Nelson/Gindt Team Up to Take Shotze's '96 Title

Shotze's Rack 'N Roll Lounge in Everett, Washington, hosted its 2nd Annual Open Doubles on June 15-16, and while participation was down from last year, the event attracted "virtaully all the top players with some very tight competition," reports director John Martin.

No team was undefeated, with Chuck Norris of Oregon and Jim Allis of Washington coming through the loser's bracket to win the first 2 out of 3 game match against Darrol Nelson of Oregon and Rick Gindt of Washington, only to fall short by two points in the third game of the second set.

Locals Larry Pearson, who brought old-timer Art Green out to practice and team up with, took third place honors. The "wizard" Dave Arndt and Al Pease finished fourth.

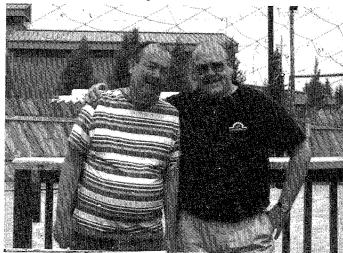
These four teams shared a total purse of \$3,170 and all of the players enjoyed the excellent facilities and beautiful scenery each evening "even if we didn't have the Budweiser girls this year," said John. "It sure is tough to concentrate on shuffleboard with lots of beautiful women walking by."



Darrol Nelson (left) and Rick Gindt took top honors in Shotze's 2nd Annual Doubles.



Jim Allis (right) and Chuck Norris took second place.



"Retired" Art Green and Larry Pearson took third place.



Al Pease (left) and Dave Arndt took fourth place.

"Participation was down this year from 24 teams to 15 teams, showing that even shuffleboarders have limited funds and money," reports John. "Another tournament was slipped in just one week ahead in the same player pool and it hurt both tournaments. The Evergreen Shuffleboard Association held at meeting on Saturday morning and overwhelmingly voted to limit each sponsor to one tournament per year for Association points and all tournaments to be scheduled no closer than two weeks apart. All sponsors can have as many local tournaments as they desire, but they won't be promoted by the Association unless they adhere to the two-week rule. This should increase participation and prize money for the benefit of players and sponsors alike."

Shotze's was chosen by the players to host the Washington State Singles and Doubles Championships on Aug. 16-18.

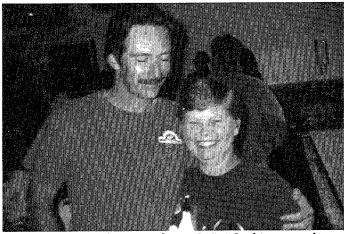
(Editor's Note: We're glad to hear that the ESA has resolved this issue; it certainly shows the value of united action for the good of the sport. We enjoy the ESA Newsletter; it's worth every penny of our membership dues!)

Forans Take Mixed Doubles Title at Shamrock Tavern

There were 21 teams entered in the 1st Mixed Doubles Tournament at the Shamrock Tavern in Longview, Washington, on June 22-23. "There could have been more teams, but not enough women, which tells us that we've got to get them back into the game," reports Ralph Duarte. The pot was \$3500.



Jim and Michelle Foran took first-place honors.



Kevin Larkin and Dru Endsworth finished in second.

D.K. (is that "Asphalt"?) and Linda took third place, with Dave Arndt and Hazel Thorpe in fourth.

"There was chili, baked fish and spaghetti and they left me not one drop," says Ralph.

New York State Championships are "Great Success"

The New York State Championships, held at the Dew Drop Inn in Waterloo on June 20-23 was a "great success," reports John Arndt.

Action started on Thursday with a draw partner and \$1400 in prize money. Winners were Doug Fridley Jr. of Waterloo and John Canino of Balwinsville. Earl Durgan and Dick Losee finished second, with John Arndt and

Dale Law in third place. Friday's mixed doubles, with a \$9(0) pot, was taken by Doug Fridley Jr. and Theresa Gibson. New shooters at the Dew Drop and great players, Pete Cummings and Pauline Rock from Plattsburgh, took second place, with Jane and Arlow Johnson in third.



Pete Cummings and Pauline Rock took second place honors in the mixed doubles at the New York State Championships.

Rob Hummer and Doug
Fridley Jr. were winners of
the bring partner event,
taking a lion's share of the
\$1500 pot. Steve Bennett and
Bob White took second place
honors, with Milt Benedict
and Dick Losee in third, and
Tom Lattenhauer and Ken
VanZile in fourth place.



Sunday was the women's and men's singles. Dew Drop Inn hostess Tracie Fridley took the women's title, with Theresa Gibson in second place. In the men's singles, Doug Fridley Jr. came out of the loser's bracket to win. John Arndt took second place, with Pat Brennan of Plattsburg in third place.





Tracie Fridley was winner of the women's singles. Pat Brennan finished third in the men's singles.

'On July 6, a draw partner event at the Dew Drop Inn was won by Doug Fridley Jr. and Donna Butera from Baldwinsville. John Canino and John Pearson finished second, with Tom Lattenhauer and Dave Pelow in third, and Earl Durgan and Bob Cornell in fourth place.

Southwest Open (cont. from Page 1)

response to shortening the draft event with points told me I did it wrong. We certainly listen to the players and will have a playeff same part year.



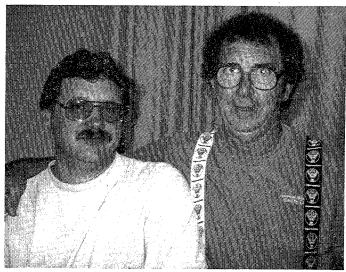
The week started off with a warm-up event Tuesday night, won by the Oklahoma team of (left to right) Mitch, Billy, Lisa, and Bill Melton, when they double-dipped the Indiana team of Bobby Voorhis, Larry Creakbaum, Beef Camp, and Dave Boaz.



Placing third was the Houston team of (left to right) Dale and Mary Koteras, Johnny Ballard and Diana Hagen.

Wednesday night brought us the actual opening event of the tournament, an open singles with handicap entry fee. Thankfully we had prepared a 128-entry bracket, as 71 players signed in to test their skills against players from all over the Midwest. This year's event was won by the legendary Billy Mays of Texas when when he double-dipped Bobby Voorhis of Indiana in the winner's bracket. Coming in third was David Williams of Texas.

Thursday rolled in and now a draw partner for Beginner/Pretty Good players with 58 entries, and also an open draw partner for the more experienced players with 70 entries.



Billy Mays (right) and Bobby Voorhis finished first and second in the open singles.

It sounds crazy to call the win by Brenda Moore of Texas and Gwyn Orsi of Nebraska a minor upset as good as they play, but when you consider that all of the pros east of the Rockies, except Frank Blade, were entered, it was no small feat. Ditto that comment for the team of Dave Boaz of Indiana and Cliff Goff of Oklahoma, who took the women to a second game in the winner's bracket.



(Left to right) Dave Boaz, Cliff Goff, Gwyn Orsi and Brenda Moore, winners of the open draw partner event.

Placing third were John McDermott of Michigan and Keith Oyler of Oklahoma.

Winners of the Beginner/Pretty Good event were Mark Melton and Randy Rogers, 1st; Woodie Cockrum and Pam Worsham, a first-time tournament player, 2nd; and Randy Middleton and Dave Fleming, 3rd.

Even though the action had been non-stop since Tuesday night, we took an hour break Friday evening for a free bar-b-que chicken dinner. Host Don Crall tells me we charcoaled 240 pounds of chicken. While everyone was enjoying their meal, a very emotional induction of Glen Davidson into the NSHF took place.

Glen's Induction: "A Thrill of a Lifetime....." The Oklahoma Hall of

Fame Committee, under the leadership of Cliff Goff, set a very high standard for future inductions into the National Shuffleboard Hall of Fame with their professionally-produced presentation that featured a combination of live entertainment and video productions highlighting the achievements of Glen Davidson. The committee tapped the resources of their own community -- the talented singer Kelly Bartow, a Music Express representative who hosts Karaoke shows at the Holiday Inn East in Midwest City, and Alan Martin of Toastmasters International Mid-Del Club #2257 (and a novice shuffler), who served as Master of Ceremonies and video producer. These two professionals took Cliff Goff's nomination of Glen Davidson and wove it into a presentation that brought lumps to the throats of even the toughest shuffleboard player participating in the Southwest Open.

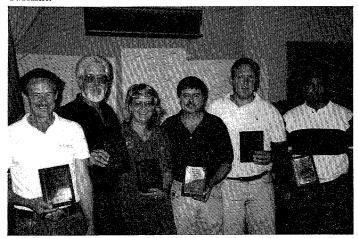
Cliff saluted Glen for being "one of the top ambassadors of our sport in the world." In addition to a long list of wins that dated back to 1971 that were printed in a very classy program, Cliff cited Glen for his role as a teacher and promoter. "Glen has been promoting the game of shuffleboard by starting leagues, directing tournaments, playing professionally, or anything else to do with shuffleoard most of his life," said Cliff. Over 60 signatures were secured by the state committee to nominate Glen into the Hall of Fame. NSHF Director Larry Creakbaum (alias "The Red Baron") of Indiana was there to help make it happen.

In his acceptance speech, Glen reflected not on his own achievements, but on his hopes for the National Shuffleboard Hall of Fame. "My dream is to see that anyone who gave something back to the game is recognized," he said. "With your help, we'll not only get all these worthy people inducted, but we'll have a home for all the history and artifacts of this sport."

You can help make this a dream come true. A video of Glen Davidson's induction into the Hall of Fame is available for \$50. All of the money, except actual expenses, will be donated to the Hall of Fame. Send your requests to Glen Davidson, 3220 Cragg St., Oklahoma City, OK 73150.

As Glen danced off the stage with his partner, Madge Goff, he reflected: "This is a thrill of a lifetime for me. There were always a few who would say it couldn't be done or shouldn't be done. But there were always enough to encourage me to grow and keep going."

As soon as the feast and induction were over, we drafted our teams and the action started again. This is where I erred by trying to shorten the time required for the event with total points used as tie-breakers. It was still fair to all teams, but obviously not the prefered format.



Winning the draft team event were (left to right): Bobby Kimbro, Rick Jones, Lynda French, Tom French, Billy Melton, and Fred Boyd.



Second place went to (left to right): Brenda Watts, Shari Faust, Denny Meharg, David Williams, Jack Davis, and Bob Houchin.

Third place was taken by Diana Hagen's team of Mitch Melton, Sally Goff, Jerry Sabourin, Don Kinnard, and Olga Vaughn.

Saturday evening arrived and now it was time for the wedding ceremony for two Fort Worth players, Bo Hyman and Terri Lowry. We had not planned to stop the draft team action as were were just about right on time, but wouldn't you know? Bo was shooting well and his team was one of the four still in the running, so we stopped the play for an hour and proceeded with the wedding. We understand Bo didn't shoot as well in the following session. Were you still nervous or just distracted, Bo? Anyway, congratulations to Bo and Terri Hyman.

Southwest Open (cont. from Page 25)



"I now pronounce you husband and wife," so Bo and Terri Hyman begin their life together in an unusual setting, the Southwest Open Shuffleboard Tournament.

Saturday night and time to start three different events at the same time -- the open bring partner, the 2-rated singles and the beginner/pretty good singles. Coming through a very tough open bring partner were Brenda Moore (again) and Brian Walker by double-dipping the partner play of Billy Mays and Rick Jones. Third place went to Dale Koteras and Johnny Ballard.



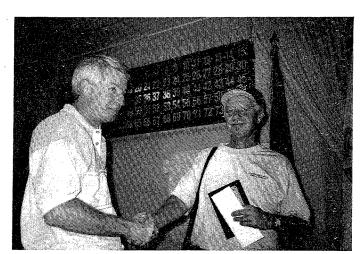
Brenda Moore and Brian Walker doubledipped Rick Jones and Billy Mays to take the open bring partner event.



The 2-rated singles produced another double dip as Mitch Melton (éenter) came through the loser's bracket to knock out Jim Kennedy (left) to take first place. Third place went to Randy Nusser of Nebraska.



In the beginner/pretty good singles, it was another double-dip as Jeri Billard (center) came through to knock Billy Poole (right) into second place. A very good beginner player from the Houston area, Jack Scott (left) finished in third place.



David Williams earned the MVP title and point moneies at the '96 Southwest Open.

David Williams' name has only been mentioned one time up to now, but he placed in the top eight of all four events he entered and won this year's MVP plaque and the added money that went with it. Brenda Moore's two firsts gained her second place.



Missouri visitors (left to right): Jim Dunn, Jerry Sabourin, Donna Dunn, Chuck Muehlhauser, and Doug Zurmuehlen, will be back again next year.

Sunday afternoon and everything is winding down. Over 1,000 games of shuffleboard have been played and you would think everyone would have had enough play for one week. Not true, as the robins start and continue on the two boards in the bar while we start breaking down the tables in the ballroom. The last game was completed at 1 a.m. Monday morning.

Special thanks to to John McDermott and The Shuffleboard Federation for the silicone and wax. We went through 1-1/2 cases of silicone and 16 buckets of wax.

A great tournament, friendly people, nice pots, not too much waiting between games, and an excellent facitity. We hope you enjoyed your shuffleboard vacation as much as Don, Sharon, myself, and a bunch of good Okies, hoped you would as we prepared for it.

(Editor's Note: So, O.K., folks....What are you going to do for an encore? Our sincere congratulations for another great event!)

More Notebook

As promised, here are a couple of photos of the best looking couple at the Dixie Belle. I want to see it in The Board Talk -- just block Karl out of the background.



We really enjoyed the Shufflers' Reunion. How long do we have to wait for another one in Southern California?

Vern Booth, Modeska, California

Thanks, Vern. It's been a long time since we've been called the "best looking couple." How long do you have to wait for our return? Well, we've already announced that the 13th reunion will be in Indiana and the 14th in Texas. After that, who knows? The first step is to get a written invitation (we didn't get one for the first several years!) and then we'll go from there on the decision-making process. You were wonderful hosts and we're looking forward to the day when we don't have to wait for a "reunion" to return to the Dixie Belle. Just make sure Al and Von are there to "escort" us!

A Message from the Editors....

We apologize for being a little late with this month's issue. First, one-half (that's one of two) of the editorial staff came home from California with a serious kidney ailment, and then, just as we were "mourning" with John McDermott of The Shuffleboard Federation over the "crash" of his system, we did the same. What this means to you, other than being a few days late, is that two of our regular features, the "Play Your Way Across the U.S.A." listing and the "Looking Back" column will be delayed until next month. We appreciate your patience. Please take this time to contact your favorite shuffleboard site to see if they're in good standing. Right now, we're in danger of losing a number of them because they have not responded to their "red checks."

Help Us Help You....

Because we cannot be at every tournament to cover the action, we depend heavily upon your reports and appreciate your contributions. Here are a few tips:

- (1) Be as timely as possible. Send your reports in as soon as your event is completed. The deadline for each issue is the 15th of the month. However, if we receive it on the 16th, you're likely to get good placement in the next issue.
- (2) Make sure the names of the winners are spelled correctly and are complete. People have a "thing" about their names and when they see it in print, they want it to be correct. We know! Our name is Wilber; yet 9 out of 10 times, people spell it Wilbur. No matter what nice things you have to say about them, it's diluted because you didn't care enough to spell it right!
- (3) Whenever possible, list the town and state of your winners. They're as proud of where they live as they are of their name.
- (4) Be sure to list the date of the event you're reporting on.
- (5) If you provide photos, please make sure they are sharp -- better to be on the light side than the dark -- and don't use Polaroids!
- (6) Don't be shy about listing yourself as the reporter and providing your viewpoints on the action. That adds "color" to an event that your audience will appreciate.
- (7) Don't worry about grammar and punctuation. That's what we're here for!

George & Donna Wilber, Publishers

1996-97 CALENDAR OF SHUFFLEBOARD EVENTS

AUGUST

July 31-Aug. 4

7th Annual Grand Masters Whistling Oyster Cocktail Lounge Quilcene, Washington

Aug. 2-4

Summer National Tournament Dew Drop Inn Waterloo, New York

Aug. 2-4

Rudy Stober Memorial Tourney Stober's Cocktail Lounge Lansing, Michigan

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

Open Singles/Doubles American Legion Bourbon, Indiana

Aug. 16-18

Grand Opening Tournament The River Inn Williamsport, Maryland

Aug. 23-25

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

Aug. 23-25

Pro-Am Draw Partner Balloon Inn Arvada, Colorado

Aug. 25-Sept. 2

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

Aug. 28-Sept. 2

Texas Open
The Gold Nugget
Arlington, Texas

Aug. 30-Sept. 2

8th Annual Labor Day Tourney Full House

Wynnewood, Oklahoma

Aug. 30-Sept. 2

1st Annual Labor Day Tourney Action Lounge

Broken Arrow, Oklahoma

Aug. 30-Sept. 1

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

SEPTEMBER

Sept. 6-8

6th Annual Skip's/Board Talk Fall Bash Skip's Lounge

Houghton Lake, Michigan

Sept. 6-8

3-Event Tournament American Legion Sherburne, New York

Sept. 7

Open Doubles Get-A-Way Anderson, Indiana

Sept. 14

Open Doubles Syd's Bar Noblesville, Indiana

Sept. 14-15

2nd Annual "Farewell to Summer" Open Doubles Old Edison Inn Edison, Washington

Sept. 14-15

Open Doubles/Over 50 Senior Doubles Amvets Post 26 Pendleton, Indiana

Sept. 20-22

2nd Annual ABC Draw Wetlands Bar & Grill Royal Oak, Michigan Sept. 21-22

Singles/Doubles Tournament Locker Bar

Marion, Indiana

Sept. 20-22

3-Event Tournament
The River Inn

Williamsport, Maryland

Sept. 20-21

Chris Brown/Dixie Debbie Birthday Bash Mixed Doubles The Dixie Belle Downey, California

Sept. 27-28

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

Sept. 27-28

Southwest Missouri Invitational Barbara's Beer Garden & Lounge Springfield, Missouri

OCTOBER

Oct. 5

Annual Fall Bourbon Doubles American Legion 424 Bourbon, Indiana

Oct. 11-13

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

Oct. 11-13

3-Event Tournament Harvey's Place Street, Maryland

Oct. 12

Open Singles
Syd's Bar
Noblesville India

Noblesville, Indiana

Oct. 11-13

3-Event Tournament Riverside Hotel Earlville, New York

Oct. 18-19

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

1996-97 CALENDAR OF SHUFFLEBOARD EVENTS

Oct. 18-20

3-Event Tournament The River Inn

Williamsport, Maryland

Oct. 18-20

Bring Partner Mixed Doubles Balloon Inn Arvada, Colorado

Oct. 19-20

Bring Partner Tournament Shamrock Tavern Longview, Washington

Oct. 25-27

1st East Coast Showdown Harvey's Place Street, Maryland

Oct. 28-Nov. 3

7th Annual North American Championships 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 Saloon St. Louis, Missouri

Nov. 15-17

3-Event Tournament The River Inn Williamsport, Maryland

Nov. 16-17

Draw/Bring Partner Tourney Dew Drop Inn Waterloo, New York

Nov. 28-Dec. 1

11th Annual State of Michigan Championships McCabe's, Saginaw, Michigan

Nov. 29-Dec. 1

Indiana State Championships Chances R

Muncie, Indiana

Nov. 30-Dec. 1

Over 55 Tournament Shamrock Tavern Longview, Washington

DECEMBER

Dec. 6-8

3-Event Tournament Harvey's Place Street, Maryland

Dec. 7-8

Singles/Doubles Tournament Locker Bar Marion, Indiana

Dec. 14

Open Doubles Syd's Bar Noblesville, Indiana

Dec. 14-15

8th Santa Classic Doubles Balloon Inn Arvada, Colorado

Dec. 20-21

Christmas Holiday Tournament Top's, That Other Place Saloon St. Louis, Missouri

<u>JANUARY, 1997</u>

Jan. 28-Feb. 2

PCSA Extravaganza IX The Showboat Las Vegas, Nevada

FEBRUARY, 1997

Feb. 21-23

16th Annual Masters Fir Cone Tavern Shelton, Washington

APRIL 1997

April 11-13

3-Event Tournament Harvey's Place Street, Maryland

MAY 1997

May 3

36th Annual Spring Doubles American Legion 424 Bourbon, Indiana

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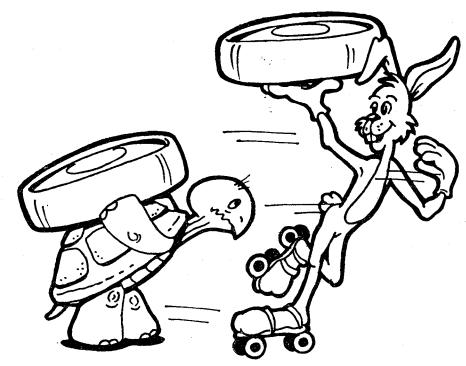
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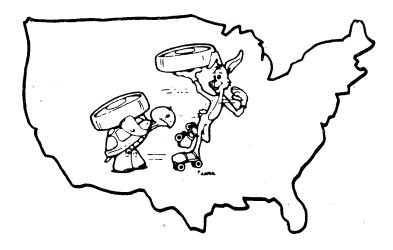
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