

The Board Talk

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

Vol. 13, No. 12

December 1996

The Federation's 7th Annual NASC is Blockbuster!

By George & Donna Wilber

- **Record Participation -- Record Pot**
- **Sol Lipkin "Officially" Inducted**
- **Bill Melton Honored**

The Shuffleboard Federation's 7th Annual North American Shuffleboard Championships at the Sands Regency Hotel Casino, Reno, Nevada, on Oct. 28-Nov. 3, was indeed a "blockbuster," with players from 16 states and Canada competing for a share of the record-setting pot of \$187,675 including the \$6,000 added by the Sands

Regency. And, thanks to the time-tested talents of director John McDermott, bracketeer Rob Kern, a host of helpers, and a supportive host location, this BIG event set a pattern of professionalism with very few "glitches" (all of which will be addressed in the 8th Annual NASC, already in the planning stages).

The roster of participants in both the pro and amateur (and in between) ranks read like a "Who's Who in Table Shuffleboard" listing and they filled nearly all of the 11 events, played on 18 boards, to capacity.

(continued on Page 8)

Nelson/Buhl Notch Another Win at Old Edison Inn

By Phil DePree

The Darrol Nelson/Doug Buhl juggernaut rolled into Edison, Washington, for an open doubles tournament at the Old Edison Inn on Sept. 14-15, and returned to Oregon with yet another victory.

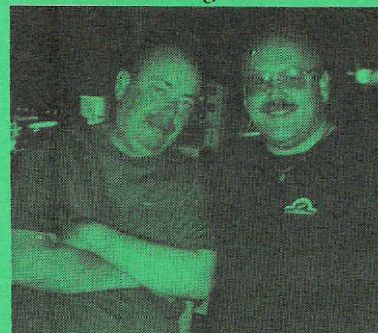
Locals Larry Sawyer and Sherm Anderson came out of the loser's bracket to hand Darrol and Doug a first-game loss, but the Oregonians then took two straight to seal the win in their first Edison tourney.

Art Green and Larry Pearson of Everett took third, with Jim "Caveman" Ward and Dave Arndt settling for

fourth. Tied for 5th were Marvin Wilbur and John Martin, and Danny McKinnon and Mike Thorpe.



(left to right) Runners-up Larry Sawyer and Sherm Anderson share the spotlight with victorious Darrol Nelson and Doug Buhl.



Art Green and Larry Pearson took third place in the Edison Inn's Doubles Tourney.

(continued on Page 24)

On the Inside.....

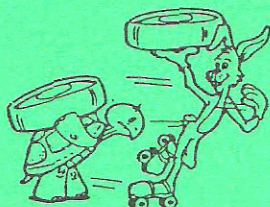
1st Annual East Coast Showdown.....Page 3

Glen Gives Holiday Thanks.....Page 7

Nebraska Shufflers Play for a "Greater Cause".....Page 14

Frisco Eddie and Lil are Back.....Page 20

Expectant Mom Keeps on Winning.....Page 26



Shufflers' Notebook

News and Views from The World of Shuffleboard

Bev Thanks Shufflin' Friends for Prayers for Daughter Michelle

Thanks to all of our shuffleboard friends who have been praying for my daughter, Michelle, who has brain cancer. Those prayers are being answered and she gets better every day. We are waiting to hear if she will be accepted as a candidate for Praton Therapy, a laser type treatment for encapsulated types of cancer. Everyone has been so caring through this past five months and we really appreciate all their thoughts.

We have moved back to Southern California and anyone can call or write us at 1003 Electric Ave., Seal Beach, CA 90740, 310-596-7688.

Bob and Bev Lukens, Seal Beach, California

This is just one more example of how caring The World of Shuffleboard really is whenever one of their members needs prayers, positive thoughts, and/or financial help. That has become a tradition of which we are very proud and offsets any negative publicity our sport suffers. When we were in Reno for the North American Championships, shufflers lined up to sign cards for Louise Freer of Pennsylvania and Chris Danke (a victim of a tragic accident). This was not unusual; it happens all the time because our World is made up of people who care about others -- and let them know they care. That can go a long way toward healing! Please let Michelle know that she has a nationwide network of support. Others who could use a cheerful note are: Von Stewart, Al's "childbride" who recently underwent some more heart repair, 11415 Cherrylee Dr., El Monte, CA 91732; Mary Rush, who recently lost her husband

--ATTENTION--

If you have a red check below, it means your subscription has expired. Use the form inside to renew NOW so you won't miss next month's issue!

Harold, a long-time shuffler, P.O. Box 206, Pine Hurst, TX 77362; Balboa Ron Schweikert, author of the popular "Frisco Eddie" series, recovering from surgery, 8301 W. Charleston Blvd. #1050, Las Vegas, NV 89117. And on a brighter note: Phil McGrew, 4989 Curtice Rd., Northwood, OH 43619, who recently reached the 50-year landmark; and Mr. and Mrs. Phil Skover, founder of The Shuffleboard Federation, who tied the knot in Reno just prior to the North American Championships, 41761 Onaway Dr., Northville, MI 48167. Whether you go to the Hallmark store or use those fund-raising cards you get in the mail, let these members of The World of Shuffleboard know you care!

An Update from our Irish Songbird, Joanie Millar...

I came home to Ireland to look after my Mother who was 82 on Nov. 22. She is doing pretty good -- a little loss of memory and hard of hearing (I've taken care of that; she now has a hearing aid.) She loves her garden and isn't very happy when Winter comes because she can't get out as much.

As for me, I'm doing pretty good. I do miss my shufflin' friends, but I know I will see them all again, maybe in Spring of 1998. My daughter Joanne is planning to marry then and start a family, so I know I will be part of that. But, for now, I just want to spend as much time with my Mum as I can.

If you see any of my shufflin' friends, please give them all my love and let them know I do miss them all very much -- Darrol Nelson, Jim Allis, Billy Mays, Bill Melton, Dave Arndt, Jim and Michelle Foran, Rick Gindt, Jim the Cop, John Martin, Russ Miller, Gordy Smith, Chuck Norris, Mike Thorpe, Doug Buhl, Don Stallsworth, Dan Hitt and many, many more. Just tell them Hi and not forgetting good, old George. Hope he's still shooting those weights.

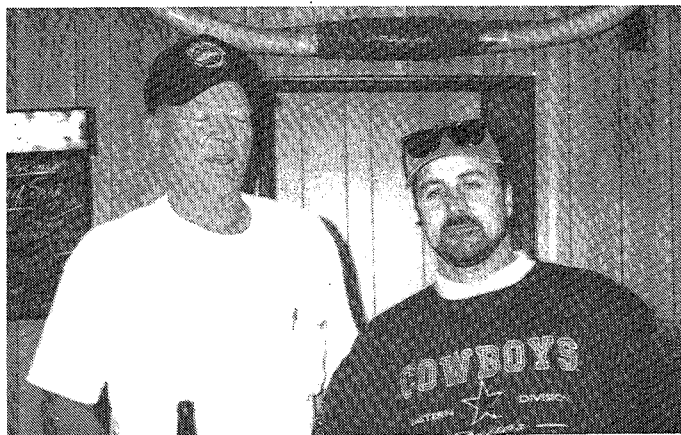
I have gotten myself into my Irish folk dancing again. My Auntie Sadie, who has been teaching for 50 years, is crippled with Rheumatoid Arthritis so I try to help her as much as I can. We have a team of adults, 12 of us, and we call ourselves "The Ballymena Cowboys." Lots of fun! As you can see, my life is a little different over here, but we do have lots of laughs. We have festivals that we compete in, the first one being in November in a town called "Carricfergus," so I will have pictures taken and send you one.

(continued on Page 16)

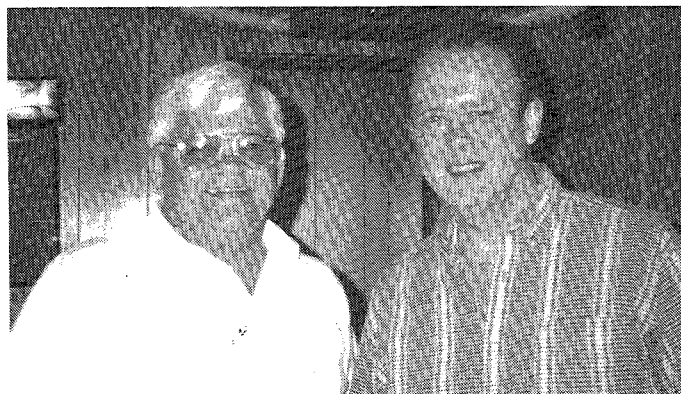
1st Annual East Coast Showdown a Success!

The 1st Annual East Coast Showdown was held on November 8-10 at Harvey's Place in Street, Maryland. Players from New York, Pennsylvania, Maryland, Delaware, and Texas (yes, Texas!!!) went to the "Showdown" for the opportunity to grab a chunk (or two or three) of a total pot worth over \$8,500.

Torrential rains, flash floods, and tornado watches slowed down the arrival of some folks for the kick-off event, the open draw, but it ended up starting on time. Forty players put up their \$25 entry fee to take a shot at the \$3300 up for grabs. In the wee hours of the morning, it was Steve Bennett of New York and Charlie Walker of Texas who took over half the pot by double-dipping Dick Smedberg of New York and Rick Niblett of Maryland. Third place was taken by Wayne Nichols of Maryland and Louise Freer of Pennsylvania, with Brenda Wallace of Maryland and host Harvey Comer in fourth. Jim Wallace and Lindsay Hall, both of Maryland, took the fifth and final money spot.



Texan Charlie Walker (left) and New Yorker Steve Bennett were winners of the open draw at the "Showdown."



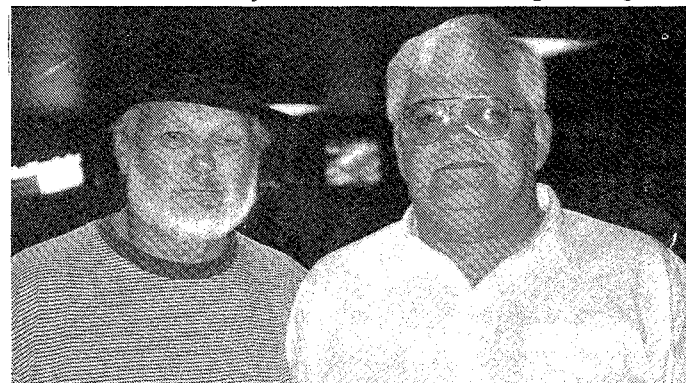
Rick Niblett (left) of Maryland and Dick Smedberg of New York took second place in the draw partner. Rick also finished second in the open doubles event.

Saturday was a better day weather-wise. The open doubles event had a smaller, though still very tough, field than Friday's event. Twelve teams put up the \$100 entry

entry fee to compete for a total pot of \$3,000. Lonzo Knight of Maryland and Doug Fridley of New York came out of the loser's bracket to take the biggest part of the pot. Second place went to Rick Niblett and Len Dell of Maryland, and the third and final money spot was taken by Al DiBella and Louise Freer of Pennsylvania. The event finished early enough for the regular Saturday night round robin (\$10 double elimination), as well as pricier single-elimination round robins for those who like bigger risks.



Doug Fridley (left) and Lonzo Knight (that's "Crash" peeking out of his shirt) were winners of the open doubles. Lonzo also finished second in the open singles.



Len Dell (wearing his lucky hat) and Rick Niblett finished second in the open doubles. Len also finished third in the open singles.



Louise Freer and Al DiBella took third in the open doubles. Louise also finished third in the open draw and first in the open singles.

(continued on Page 29)

Upcoming Events Across the Nation

Texas

1ST ANNUAL HOUSTON HOLIDAY OPEN AT DANNY'S SPORTS BAR, DEC. 27-30

Holiday Cheers from Houston, Texas! Ho! Ho! Ho! For all those shuffleboard players looking for some holiday fun, you might want to step out from under the mistletoe, hang up your Christmas stockings, and head for Houston, Texas, and the 1st Annual Houston Holiday Open Shuffleboard Tournament, scheduled for Dec. 27-30 at Danny's Sports Bar and featuring events for players of all skill levels.

Play begins Friday noon with open draws for both Division I (\$50 entry) and Division II (\$25 entry) players. On Saturday, there will be a 4-person bring team event (\$125 per team). Also on Saturday, there will be a "leftover draw" (\$25 entry) for those players not participating in the team event. Sunday, there will be handicapped singles with added prize money. For Division I players, the entry fee will be \$100 and for Division II players, \$25. Monday's schedule includes

bring partner events for Division I players (\$150 per team) and Division II players (\$50 per team).

It has been almost 10 years since Houston has hosted a major tournament and it promises to be a good one!

According to Diana Hagen: "The number of shuffleboard players in Houston has really grown over the last few years, largely through the support of the many bar owners who now sponsor teams in league play or conduct weekly draws. We've been thinking about hosting a major tournament in Houston for some time, but with all the other events around the country, there was a lot of concern about potential conflicts. We know people like to spend their holidays visiting family and friends, but we still hope everyone will find the time to come to Houston. It's a great opportunity to enjoy some real Texas hospitality, meet new friends, renew old acquaintances, and play some shuffleboard. We have tried to include events for all skill levels so everyone interested in the game -- not just the top players -- will feel welcome."

Danny's Sports Bar (a new member of our Shuffleboard Directory) is located at 12126 Westheimer in Houston, in a large, commercial strip center so plenty of parking is available (but no hookups for campers).



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

- Boards (our own exclusive finish)
- Weights (shuffler's top choice)
- Products (try our American Lightning control speed wax)

**AMERICAN INTERNATIONAL
SHUFFLEBOARD CORPORATION**

308 Railroad Ave., Hackensack, NJ 07602
Phone: 1-800-598-2881 FAX: 1-201-488-0770

A new Red Roof Inn, scheduled to open in Early December, is located just down the street from Danny's and is providing discounts on rooms for tournament guests (\$34 for singles and \$39 for doubles). Danny's kitchen will be open from 9 a.m. to 2 a.m., and will provide a free lunch Saturday, Sunday and Monday.

Three Houston Bars are holding qualifying tournaments for this big event: Third Base on Nov. 23, Hunter's Pub on Dec. 7, and Way Out West, Dec. 15.

The Houston Shuffleboard Community is working to make this a memorable event. Along with the sale of sponsor shirts and other donations, there will be over \$1500 added to the pot.

For more information, contact Diana Hagen, 713-587-8084; Johnny Ballard, 713-922-1346; Jack Scott, 713-398-3999; or Dickie Wooten, 713-541-6134. Please post the enclosed flyer in your favorite shuffleboard site to spread the word about this first.

Nevada

PCSA EXTRAVAGANZA IX, SHOWBOAT, LAS VEGAS, JAN. 28-FEB. 2

The Pacific Coast Shuffleboard Association's 9th Annual Shuffleboard Extravaganza will be held at the Showboat Hotel & Casino in Las Vegas on Jan. 28 through Feb. 2. **Please note on the enclosed flyer that Dec. 31 is the deadline for entry and room reservations.** If you have someone special on your Christmas list, consider putting a gift certificate for this big event in their stocking.

There are six events on the agenda, beginning with a bring your partner amateur doubles, \$100 per team entry, on Tuesday, Jan. 28. The sale is set for 9 a.m., with play beginning at 10 a.m. That evening, the sale for the A-B Draw will start at 8 p.m., with play beginning at 8 a.m. Wednesday. Entry fee for the A-B Draw is \$50 per player. The sales for the pro singles and amateur team events will be held on Wednesday evening at 8 p.m.

The pro singles, \$300 entry, will start at 8 a.m. on Thursday, along with the Amateur Team Event, \$300 per team entry. The sales for the pro doubles and women's singles will start at 10 p.m. Thursday night.

The pro doubles, \$200 per team entry, will start at 8 a.m. Friday morning, with the pro singles finals scheduled for 1 p.m. The Women's singles, \$100 entry, will begin on Saturday morning at 8 a.m., with the amateur team finals set for 1 p.m.

The pro doubles and women's singles finals will be held on Sunday, Feb. 2.

The PCSA is accepting money for entries and room reservations now (the firm deadline for both is Dec. 31).

Rooms at the Showboat are \$53 per night (double occupancy) and must be made through the PCSA to qualify for participation in Extravaganza IX events.

Use the enclosed registration form to save your spot. For further information, call the PCSA at 310-926-2152.

Colorado

8TH ANNUAL SANTA CLASSIC OPEN DOUBLES, BALLOON INN, DEC. 14-15

The Balloon Inn, 6440 Wadsworth, Arvada, will host its 8th Annual Santa Classic Open Doubles on Dec. 14-15. Entry fee is \$100 per team and the format is best 2 out of 3, double elimination. The sale is scheduled for Friday, Dec. 13, at 8 p.m., followed by \$10 blind draws and open challenges. Competition starts at noon on Saturday and will continue at noon on Sunday. For further information, contact Gwen or Ron Vogt, 303-425-9823.

Indiana

SINGLES/DOUBLES AT LOCKER BAR, MARION, DEC. 7-8

The Locker Bar, 100 S. Branson in Marion will host a singles and doubles tournament on Dec. 7-8. Entry fee for the Saturday doubles is \$40 per team and \$20 for the Sunday singles. The Locker Bar is located just three blocks from the Holiday Inn and one mile from a brand new Western Luxury hotel next to the Mississinewa River. For information, call the Voorhis family at 317-662-0041.

OPEN DOUBLES AT GET-A- WAY, ANDERSON, DEC. 20-21

The Get-A-Way in Anderson will host an open doubles on Dec. 21, with a round robin on Friday night, Dec. 20, at 5 p.m. There will be drawings for Board Talk subscriptions so come on and have fun with us, says Ady Snyder. Sponsor sale is set for 11 a.m. on Saturday.

The winners in the Oct. 12 tournament were Bobby Voorhis and Glen Davidson (from Oklahoma). Second place went to Tom and Greg Massie, with Ray and Jeff McFadden in third place.

For further information, call Ady at the Get-A-Way on Thursdays from 4 to 8 p.m., 317-644-9454.

The Get-A-Way is located at 2322 Columbus Ave. in Anderson.

(continued on Page 12)

As The Puck Turns.....

By George & Donna Wilber

While the round-about trip from Lansing to O'Hare to Dallas/Ft. Worth to Reno and back the same route was filled with frustrations, the days we spent at the Sands Regency Hotel Casino for the 1996 North American Championships were thoroughly enjoyable. While George played and Donna prayed (and slept), we had the opportunity to visit with long-time friends and meet some new ones. We were thrilled to find that a very large majority of the participants were subscribers and appreciate those who came up and introduced themselves.

One of those long-time friends was Marv WilbUr from Washington. With his partner Jerry Ledent, he won the Division II Doubles. But all the next day, people came up to George WilbEr to congratulate him on his outstanding play (last names on the bracket board) and win! But Marv was good-natured about it.....



Marv Wilbur (with a u) had the last laugh because while George Wilber (with an e) got the congratulations, he got the trophy and winner's envelope!

To us, one of the highlights of the many at Reno was the recognition of two of our favorite people in The World of Shuffleboard -- and we treasure them both as long-time friends -- Sol Lipkin and Bill Melton.

While Sol had been inducted into the National Shuffleboard Hall of Fame several months ago, this "public" happening provided the opportunity to let him know that The World of Shuffleboard endorsed that induction. After he received his mini-shuffleboard trophy signifying his induction, he charmed his audience with remembrances of days gone by during his lifetime of service to our sport. During his response, he saluted The

Shuffleboard Federation for staging this event that attracted shufflers from across the U.S.A. and Canada, but also paid special tribute to the thousands of establishments and people who sponsor events, support leagues, and encourage participation of amateur players to preserve the future of the sport.

Sol Lipkin of the American Shuffleboard Co. (now American International) accepts his induction trophy from NSHF President Glen Davidson and Treasurer Bob Hunt. Other NSHF officials at the tournament were Hal Perry of California and Jim Foran of Washington.



Bill Melton of Oklahoma was the recipient of The Shuffleboard Federation's Sol Lipkin Award in recognition of his extraordinary contributions to the advancement of shuffleboard. What makes this particular award so meaningful is that it is not handed out on an annual basis, but awarded only to those people who have, indeed, made "extraordinary" contributions, like the person for whom it is named -- Sol Lipkin. Bill's award plaque read: *"To Bill Melton, for being one of our sport's greatest players and for realizing your responsibilities as such to give back to the game and never hesitating to do so. You are a champion in every sense of the word."*

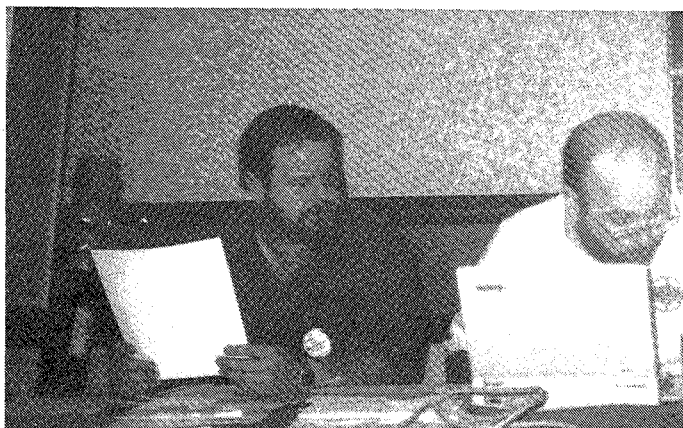


Phil Skover (left), founder of The Shuffleboard Federation; Sol Lipkin, for whom the award is named; and No. 1 fan and supporter, wife Roseanne, congratulate Bill on his well-deserved award. Three of Bill's and Roseanne's shuffleboard "kids" were present to see Dad accept his honor.

While a couple spoil sports protested the interruption in play for the awards ceremony, the rest of the huge

crowd, with their standing ovation and cheers, endorsed the selection of Bill Melton as a "champion in every sense of the word." We can only shout: "AMEN!"

We don't have any awards to pass out, but there are two guys who certainly deserve our salute -- John McDermott and Rob Kern, who worked around the clock to keep things at the 1996 North American Championships on track. Sure, there were some "glitches," like there are at every tournament, big or small, but they are always open to suggestions to make the next one better. We know, also, that it's not a one or two person job, and they had a great crew to give them the support they needed. What we would really like to salute John and Rob for is that they didn't play, and that had to be a big sacrifice. John, a pro player, and Rob, a good amateur, could likely have changed the standings with their participation, but they chose instead to make sure things went as smoothly as possible for the rest of the entrants.



Rob Kern and his bracket boards and John McDermott and his laptop computer at their work stations.

Job well done by the whole Shuffleboard Federation crew and the Sands Regency.

On our final day in Reno, George commented to the bartender in the shuffleboard room: "Well, this is the last day you'll have to contend with this crowd." Her response: "This has been one of the nicest, most fun, groups I've had the pleasure of serving!" George, a stickler for rewarding good service, whether it's a bartender, waitress, waiter, housekeeper, or Black Jack dealer, asked how the tips were. "Very generous," she replied. Speaks very well for the crowd we hang around with!

We applaud the Houston shuffleboard community for their team effort to stage a Holiday Open and encourage your support. You'll be glad you did! They're good people!

George & Donna Wilber, Publishers

SEASONS GREETINGS

*From the National Shuffleboard Hall of Fame
Board of Directors*

By Chairman Glen Davidson

This is the time of year when we all should count our blessings and take time to thank the people around us who have made things better. These are the people on my special thank list this year:

● **Donna and George** for their contributions and dedication to our sport.

● **John McDermott and Phil Skover** (The Shuffleboard Federation) for their never-quit attitude and for staging the biggest tournament ever as far as money goes. And thanks to them for requesting that Sol Lipkin be officially inducted at their tournament in Reno. An event like this will always be remembered and will be in the shuffleboard history books forever.

● **Fritzi Broka** for staging our 1st Hall of Fame Tournament and all the folks who helped make it happen.



Four of the six-member NSHF Board of Directors were present at the 1st Hall of Fame Tournament in Bourbon, Indiana: Jim Foran, Washington; Louise Freer, Pennsylvania; Larry Creakbaum, Indiana; and Glen Davidson, Oklahoma.

● All the members of the National Shuffleboard Hall of Fame Board with special thanks to **Larry Creakbaum** who is definitely giving something back to the game.

● **Ron and Sharon Huddleston, Don Crall, Dave Davidson** for staging the first Hall of Fame induction, **Cliff Goff** for his dedication and courage to get on with the program in Oklahoma and **Jimmy L** for his continuing support of shuffleboard players in Tulsa, **Bobby and David Williams** for their work in staging tournaments at the Gold Nugget in Arlington, Texas, and many others in Michigan, Indiana, Nebraska, and Missouri who have kept things going in the Midwest and are encouraging new participation there.

● **Jim Foran, Bill and Sandee** of the Whistling

(continued on Page 28)



Lots of Happy Champs at '96 NASC

Dan Hitt's team of Bob Lewis, Mike Rapp, Carl Roush, Coletta Stanley and Mike Redinger finished third. Taking fourth were Billy Maxwell's team of James Kennedy, Jolene Lembke, Paul Elliott, Jane Redinger, and Jim Cranos.

"The Pro/Am Draft Team Event was a tremendous success and it will be a permanent addition to the tournament," said Director John McDermott. "However, the issue of line-ups and partner assignments needs to be fine-tuned -- and will be."

(continued from Page 1)

Pro-Am Draft Team

The tournament kicked off with a Pro-Am Draft Team Event with 22 six-person teams participating (that's 132 players!) and was well-supported by the pros who served as captains: Bill Melton, Chuck Norris, David Williams, Hal Perry, Rick Boyer, Billy Maxwell, Sam Summers, Darrol Nelson, Ron Huddleston, Denny Busch, Rich Warren, Bob Shaw, Billy Melton, Diana Hagen, Bobby Williams, Jim Allis, Glen Davidson, Fred Thuman, Larry Pearson, Jim Foran, Johnny Ballard, and Dan Hitt.



Sam Summers (second from right) led his team of Dale Koteras, Texas; Flynt Preston, Texas; Jake Jacob, Canada; Madge Goff, Oklahoma; and Dale Law, New York (sponsored by Riverside) to victory. They split the 1st and 2nd place winnings with.....



Billy Melton's (second from left) team of Bob Stanley, Florida; Regina Smith, Pennsylvania; Bob Hunt, California; Bill Holley and Terry Gerard, Oklahoma.

Division II Doubles

There was a capacity 32 teams competing for a share of the Division II Doubles pot and it was the Washington team of Marv Wilbur and Jerry Ledent who took top honors.

Happy with their first-place finish were Marv Wilbur (left) and Jerry Ledent.



The Nebraska team of Jim Filkins and Jim Tanner took second place in the Division II Doubles.

And a happy Silvia Martinez and Flynt Preston of Texas took third place.

Finishing fourth were Jack Davis and Carlos Guzman of Texas. Ron Blalock and Tom Hendrix of Oklahoma, and Ray Boyett of Florida and Dale Law of New York tied for fifth and sixth spots.

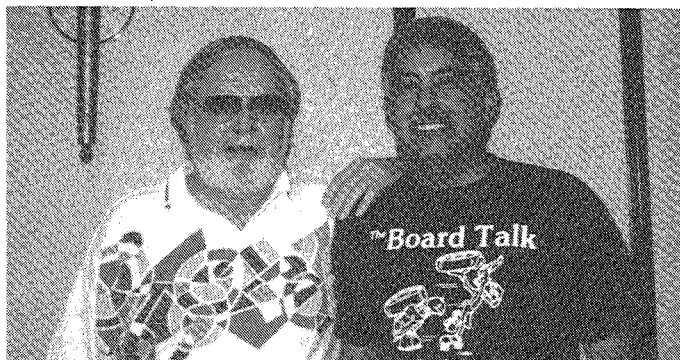


Pro/Division I Doubles

There were 58 of the nation's finest players signed up for the Pro/Division I Doubles and the finals for this competitive contest had the gallery sitting on the edges of their seats. It was Bill Melton of Oklahoma and Frank Blade of Michigan versus Glen Davidson of Oklahoma and Al Salazar of Arizona.....



"So, you want me to draw a 3 to end the suspense?" Frank asks Bill. "That would be good," says Bill. And so that's exactly what Frank did to beat.....



.....the valiant team of Glen Davidson of Oklahoma and Al Salazar of Arizona (nice shirt, Al!)



A last-minute sign-up in this event, Dave Arndt (left) and Kevin Larkin of Washington, ended up in third place.

Rick Gindt and Gary George of Washington finished in fourth place.

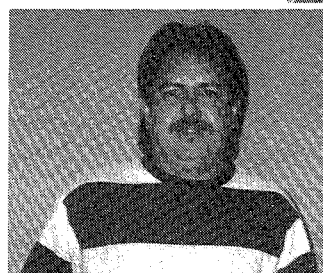
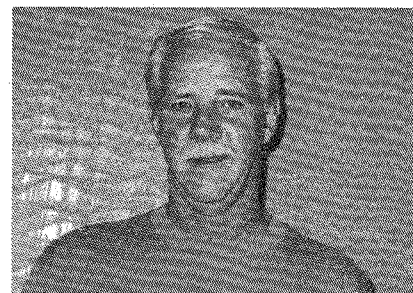


Tied for 5th and 6th were Billy Maxwell of California and Darrol Nelson of Oregon, and Pat Bayless and Nick Chaffin of California.

Division I Singles

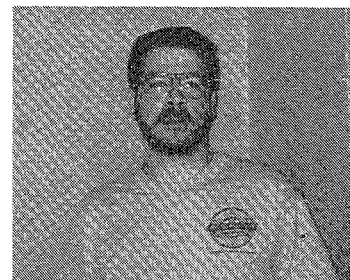
Once again, it was a sell-out crowd for the Division I Singles and again, it was a good mix of state representatives who went to the winner's circle to collect their earnings.

It was Johnny Wayne Crawford of Texas who took top honors in the Division I Singles.



John Cason of Oklahoma, the "Shuffleboard Virgin's" Shadow Man, took second place.

Michigan's Roland Metivier finished in third place.



Desi Guches of Oregon took fourth, with Al Pease of Washington and Bob Hunt of California in fifth and sixth spots.

Division II Singles

It was another "full house" -- 48 players in the Division II Singles -- and it was Carlos Guzman of Texas (sorry -- no photo available) who came out on top of this hefty field of contenders.



Rarely do you see the lovely Mary Koteris of Texas without a smile, but this was an especially happy grin as she collected winnings for taking second place in the field of 48!

"Give me five!" says Jake Jacob of British Columbia, Canada, as he accepts honors for finishing third.

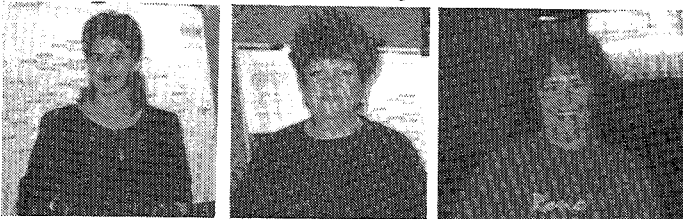


Florida's good-will ambassador Marty Allen took fourth place, with Mitch Melton and Bill Poole of Oklahoma tied for fifth and sixth.

(More NASC Results on Page 10)

Division II Ladies' Singles

Kim Parrish didn't really expect to travel from Michigan to Reno for the North American Championships. First, she was in the advanced stages of pregnancy; second, like most of us, money was in short supply. If it hadn't been for her No. 1 fan, mother-in-law Betty Parrish, who said "We can do it on a shoestring," she would have stayed home waiting for the blessed event to happen. Betty's faith in Kim paid off and she finished first in the Division II Ladies' Singles.



Kim Parrish (left) of Michigan finished first; Marilyn Roberts (center) of Arizona took second; Linda Steffenson of Washington (right) took third place.



Cindy Clark (left) of Arizona took fourth place. Melody Marine of Washington and Robin Powers of California finished 5th and 6th.

Pro Singles

Darrol Nelson of Oregon emerged the victor in the pro singles, with Frank Blade of Michigan taking second place honors. Dan Hitt of Washington finished third and Billy Melton of Oklahoma was fourth.

Darrol also earned the 1996 North American Champion title based on points earned in five events. Others in the top 10 point earners were: Johnny Wayne Crawford, Dan Hitt, Bobby Voorhis, Frank Blade, Carlos Guzman, Carl Roush, Regina Smith, Bob Hunt, and Billy Melton.



Director John McDermott reports that more than 20 players could have beat out Darrol for the title with a good showing in Deuces Wild, but did not stay for that final event.

Amateur Team Event

There were 17 six-person teams in the amateur team event and all used their creativity to win the name contest.



Phoenix Heat: Al Salazar, Bob Lewis, Marilyn Roberts, Alice Arredondo, Bob Shirley and Mickey Lewis, were the winners.



4 Easy Pieces & 2 Slugs: Lisa Freeman, Gwen Vogt, Ron Vogt, Morey Balins, Char Waugaman, and Gwyn Orsi, won second place -- and the name contest!

The Cliff Hangers (Rick Yingst, Cliff Goff, Bill Holley, Mitch Melton, Sharon Huddleston, and Pam Worsham) took third place. The Competition (Carl Roush, John Rostollan, Eric Hanson, Melody Marine, Rick Shaw, and Lisa Langston) finished fourth in their first time in the tournament. Tied for fifth and sixth were: Hudd's Duds (Ron Huddleston, Johnny Wayne Crawford, Carlos Guzman, Jack Davis, Angie Snyder, and Regina Smith), and The Puck Busters (Steve Floyd, Marion Bailey, Tony Soza, Patty Preymak, Sharon McDonald, and Wes Martin).

"Our biggest disappointment of the tournament was that there were only 17 teams in the Amateur Team Event," said McDermott. "The continued expansion of the Bowers player ratings should help. While we are very receptive to suggestions (and very few things are etched in stone), there is one change that will not be made. There were several people who suggested that we drop the number of women required on the team from two down to one. From Day One, it has been one of our top priorities to bring more ladies into the game and we are certainly not going to make any changes that would hamper that

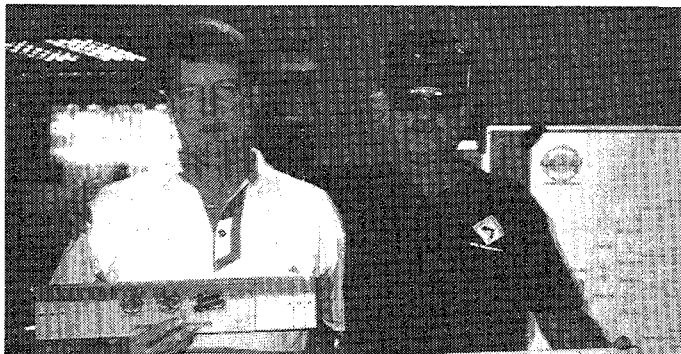
progress that is being made in that area. This year, for the first time, the Division II Ladies' Singles was full, with a waiting list. We hope to be able to expand that event for next year. So, if you couldn't get a team together because you could not find a second lady for your team, here is a little advice: take one of the ladies in your area who is interested in the game and teach her to play."

Pro Draw

In the Pro Draw event, Denny Busch of Nebraska drew Karl Spickelmier of California to take first place. Diana Hagen of Texas and Bobby Voorhis of Indiana took second.

Legends Draw

There were 14 teams in the Legends Draw (and we were surprised at how many "youngsters" qualified for that event). And the winners were....



Gordy Smith of Canada (right) and his partner, Nels Anderson of Washington, winners of the Legends Draw.



Ray Boyett (left) of Florida, and Nick Chaffin of California took second place honors.

Finishing third were Andy Brorsen of California and Marty Allen of Florida.

Deuces Wild

This is a *crazy* game and a good way to wrap up the tournament. Those who chose not to enter missed a fun event and a last chance to win the Champion award. Tied for first place was the team of Bobby Voorhis, Jerry Ledent, Dan McKinnen, and Steve Burkett, and the team of Denny Busch, Gregg McFarland, Jackie Anderson, and Jim Kennedy. Tied for third was the team of Mike Thorpe, Ray Boyett, Nels Anderson and Carl Rouch, and the team of Darrol Nelson, Rick Brock, Rick Shaw, and Ken Wochnick.

Thanks from The Director

North American Shuffleboard Championships Director John McDermott of The Shuffleboard Federation, pleased (and tired) after staging the largest ever in terms of participation and prize money, had a long list of thank-yous:

"There are so many people to thank, it is hard to know where to start. Obviously, without the players, there is no tournament. Just as obvious is the fact that there is no tournament without boards. Once you get that far, it takes a small group of people, putting in 16-hour days for a week or more, to make it all come together. On behalf of all participants, we extend our sincere thanks and appreciation to Bob Lewis and A.Z. Turnbo for furnishing the 18 boards used in this tournament. Based on player feedback, they were the best group of boards we have ever had.

"Working under incredibly demanding conditions, our world-class set-up-and-take-down crew had 18 boards ready in time for the first event. Because we once again followed the chess tournament, which once again ran late, the installation process didn't get started until 1:30 Monday morning. With the first event starting a mere 12 hours later, their work was unprecedented. Take a bow: Lyndon Baize, Rick Boyer, Lou Decker, Kory Hungerford, Kevin Larkin, Bob and Mickey Lewis, Skip McCaslin, Sam Summers, A.Z. Turnbo and Rich Warren.

"Based on player feedback, our participants think as highly of our officials as we do. Rob Kern is the glue that holds everything together. His reputation as the world's best bracket man continues to grow. The other three officials pull double duty. Before they had a chance to recover from the grueling job of setting up the boards, Lyndon Baize, Kory Hungerford, and Skip McCaslin were back at it, spraying and waxing boards from early in the morning until late at night. Long before most players were up in the morning (or in bed from the previous day) Rick Boyer, Skip McCaslin and Rich Warren were cleaning and polishing the boards and vacuuming the gutters. These people take pride in what they do and make our goal of making this the 'ultimate players' tournament' possible.

"Handling the sponsor sale money is one of the most important tasks of the entire tournament and we hope everyone appreciates the Sharons (Huddleston and Summers) as much as we do. They flawlessly handled more than \$140,000 in auction monies.

"Lisa Melton once again provided the trophies which everyone is so fond of. We were disappointed that her schedule did not allow her to attend the tournament and we hope to see her in 1997.

(continued on Page 12)

Upcoming Events (continued from Page 5)**3RD ANNUAL WINTER OPEN
DOUBLES, CHANCE'S 'R',
MUNCIE, JANUARY 11**

Chances 'R', 3421 S. Walnut, Muncie, Indiana, will host the 3rd Annual Winter Open Doubles on Jan. 11. The double elimination event will start following the 11 a.m. sponsor sale. Entry fee is \$40 per team and payout will be 50/30/15/5 for 16 teams or more.

Steve Hart and Bob Brown will co-direct the tournament and your hosts are Bob and Karen Schounce, 317-384-0855.

Please post the enclosed flyer in your favorite shuffleboard site.

Washington**6TH ANNUAL DRAW
PARTNER, OLD EDISON INN,
EDISON, DEC. 14-15**

The Old Edison Inn, Edison, Washington, will hold a draw partner tournament on Dec. 14-15. Entry fee for the double elimination event is \$25 per player, with added

money depending on the turnout. Tournament directors will be Russ Miller and Phil DePree.

Some RV parking is available, and there are plenty of motels in nearby Burlington and Mount Vernon.

For more information, call the Edison Inn during the day at 360-766-6266.

Thanks from John (cont. from Page 11)

"In an effort to put on the best tournament in the world, we managed to rack up nearly \$17,000 in expenses. So, even though the large turnout ensured that we would finally be in the black this year, our co-sponsors played a big part of that success. They plunked down \$100 each for one of the beautifully embroidered, limited edition NASC co-sponsor shirts. Those co-sponsors were: Johnny Wayne Crawford, Dave Arndt, Jerry Berquist, Frank Blade, Darrol Nelson, Mike Papa, Regina Smith, and Sam Summers. Thank you all so much. There are a few co-sponsor shirts left. Please contact The Shuffleboard Federation if you are interested.

"Thanks to everyone who attended, especially the state of Washington with a total of 46 players! Happy Holidays everyone. We'll see you next year," John concluded.

**GAMETIME SHUFFLEBOARD
INTRODUCES....**

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

1

1 2

2 3

3 4

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

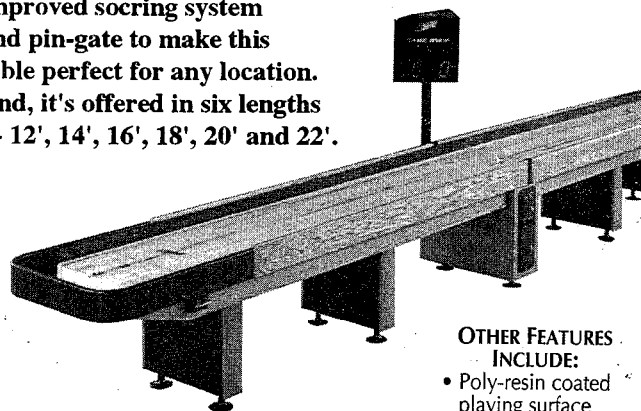
All boards are now available with 4-3-2-1 scoring. Old playfields can be refinished to accommodate this new score system.

"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

Take Your Best Shot!

Gametime has taken the best in shuffleboard and made it better! We've added an improved scoring system and pin-gate to make this table perfect for any location. And, it's offered in six lengths -- 12', 14', 16', 18', 20' and 22'.

**OTHER FEATURES
INCLUDE:**

- Poly-resin coated playing surface
- Fine furniture finish
- Revolutionary scoring system
- Optional light kit

We refinish all brands of shuffleboard. Call for details.

GAMETIME

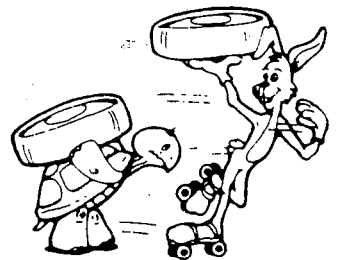
7100 Burns, North Richland Hills, Texas 76118; Phone: 817-284-3499 FAX: 817-595-1506

*To all our friends
throughout the
wonderful World of
Shuffleboard, we hope
your Christmas stockings
are filled with love and
joy, peace and
prosperity!*



*We thank you for your
gifts of friendship and
continued support!*

*George & Donna Wilber
Publishers*



THE BOARD TALK

421 E. Sheridan Road, Lansing, Michigan 48906

Phone: 517-371-2538

Cowans Win at Balloon Inn

Dave and Gail Cowan were on their way for a week of elk hunting and decided to stop by the Balloon Inn, Arvada, Colorado, for a game of shuffleboard. A mixed doubles tournament was scheduled for that October weekend at the Balloon and the pressure was on for them to stay and play -- but hunting for the Cowans is right up there on their priority list with shuffleboard.

However, hostess Gwen Vogt reports, come about midnight and a few drinks and they decided to stay. Lucky for them they did as they took the biggest share of the \$1400 pot.



The elk can wait, Dave and Gail Cowan decided, and won the mixed doubles at Balloon Inn.



Host Ron Vogt presents the second-place envelope to Jody Slack and Gwen Vogt.

George Ostrom and Char Waugaman took third place. The next event at the Balloon Inn is the 8th Annual Santa Claus Classic open doubles on Dec. 14-15, followed by a mixed doubles bring partner on Jan. 16-18. For information, call Gwen or Ron at 303-425-9823.

Huffer/Johnson 1st at Lucky's

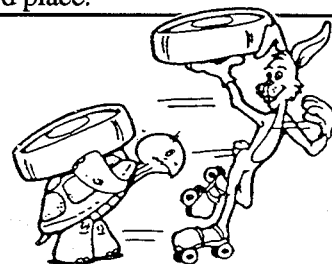
Larry Huffer and Mike Johnson took first place in a doubles tournament at Lucky's Tavern, N. Webster, Indiana, on Oct. 26. Jim Long and Steve Blue finished second, with Terry Dowell and John Cowen in third.

"This was one of the best tournaments I've had in a long time," reports hostess Carol Westerman.

Losee/Sawyer Win at Riverside

There were 32 players entered in the "limited calcutta" tournament at the Riverside Hotel, Earlville, New York, on Oct. 5. Dick Losee and Riverside owner Roger Sawyer finished first, with Dale Law and Dick Carpenter taking second place honors. Ralph Barker and Tim Southworth finished in third place.

A Board Talk Holiday Salute to Nebraska....



Nebraska Plays for Cystic Fibrosis -- "A Greater Cause"

By Annie Sloger

Each year, players from around the state of Nebraska gather together to show that winning for yourself isn't always the most important thing. Sometimes winning for a greater cause is just as important -- our cause being the Cystic Fibrosis Foundation.

The tournament, held Oct. 25-26, is an A-B Draw, held at three bars, all within a mile radius of each other. The bars that are always used are: Sideline, owned by Len Walsky; Harold's, owned by Harold Newbanks; and the My Way, owned by Kevin Higbee.

This year, 30 players entered the tournament for an entry fee of \$10 per person. The league donates \$100 for purchases made for a silent auction, which raised \$301. The players only receive one-third of the entry fee back, with two-thirds going to Cystic Fibrosis. Many people also donated funds with the three bar owners matching one-half of the total pot. This year, with the silent auction, entry fees, donations, and the bar owner contributions, approximately \$800 was raised for Cystic Fibrosis.

Trophies were awarded to the top four places. This year's winners were: Don Zahm and Harold Newbanks, 1st; Charles Busch and Chris Rathbun, 2nd; Jim Keller and Len Walsky, 3rd; Darrel Chaney and Trudy Zimmerman, 4th.

(continued on Page 28)



*This year, don't fill those
Stockings with Candy
Canes....
Fill them with Pecan Goodies
instead!
It's a gift anyone on your
Christmas list will love!
Christmas shopping made
easy by Pecan Producers, Inc.*

*All prices include shipping and handling in the
48 contiguous United States.*

Shelled Pecans:

Pecan Pieces, 3# Box, \$24.95 #100
Pecan Pieces, 5# Box, \$38.95 #105
Pecan Halves, 3# Box, \$25.95 #110
Pecan Halves, 5# Box, \$39.95 #115

Bag of Pecans:

A 5# red net bag filled with fresh
papershell pecans, \$17.95 #200

Bag of Pecans Plus

The above plus a cracker and
Baker's Tool, \$33.95 #205

Hand Painted Wooden Box

Filled with 2-1/2 # of fresh papershell
pecans (state whether for male or
female recipient), \$27.95 #210

Antique Maple Sap Bucket

A genuine Vermont maple sap
bucket filled with 10# of fresh
papershell pecans, a pecan cracker,
and a Baker's tool. It's everything
you need for "goodie getting."
\$79.95 #220

Baker's Box

1# Pecan Halves, 1# Pecan Pieces, 1#
Sliced Almonds, 1# English Walnuts,
\$28.95 #300

Pecan Party Tin

12 oz. Praline Pecans, 12 oz. Roasted
& Salted Pecans, 12 oz. Cinnamon
Toasted Pecans, 12 oz. Chocolate
Coated Pecans, \$30.95 #400

Mixed Party Tin

1# Natural Pistachios, 1# Hot &
Spicy Peanuts, 1# Chocolate Deluxe
Mix, 1# Roasted & Salted Whole
Cashews, \$29.95 #450

Chocolaholic Tin

1# Chocolate Covered Pecans, 1#
Chocolate Covered Peanuts, 1#
Chocolate Covered Almonds, 1#
Chocolate Covered Deluxe Mix,
\$31.95 #475

Homemade Pecan Fudge Box Sampler

A sampler box of several flavors of
fudge, heavily laden with pecans.
Weight approximately 1# (also
available in sucrose free, sweetened
with fructose), \$10.95 #500

One Flavor Pecan Fudge Box

A 12 oz. box of one flavor fudge,
heavily laden with pecans: Chocolate
Pecan, Vanilla Pecan, Chocolate
Chip Peanut Butter with Pecans,
Rocky Road, Pumpkin Pecan,
Divinity Pecan (available in sucrose
free, sweetened with fructose:
Chocolate Pecan, Vanilla Pecan,
Pumpkin Pecan, Peanut Butter
Chocolate), \$14.95 #550

*Special orders will be accepted for
fudge without pecans.*



PECAN PRODUCERS, INC.

3000 Arlington, Ada, Oklahoma 74820 Att.: Dave Davidson
Orders: 1-800-288-6551 FAX 1-405-332-7499 Phone: 1-405-332-7881
Write or call to place your order. We accept Visa and MasterCard.
Quantity Discounts available.

More Notebook *(continued from Page 2)*

Would you be so kind to send me an article that was in one of The Board Talks about when you hit the Golden Years -- all about Arthur Itis, Gall Bladder, Charlie Horse. It was such a comical little poem.

God bless you and love always.

Joanie Millar, 57 Chichester Park Central, Ballymena, Co. Antrim, Northern Ireland BT424BE

How good to hear from you, Joanie! We published your postcard to the Forans in last month's issue and we're sure your many friends will be grateful for this update. We look forward to receiving that photo. Here is a reprint of that article you requested:

Remember, old folks are worth a fortune, with silver in their hair, gold in their teeth, stones in their kidneys, lead in their feet, and gas in their stomachs. I have become a little older since I saw you last and a few changes have come into my life since then. Frankly, I have become quite a frivolous old gal. I am seeing five gentlemen every day. As Soon as I wake up, Will Power helps me out of bed. Then I go to see John. Then Charlie Horse comes along and, when he is here, he takes a lot of time and attention. When he leaves, Arthur Ritis shows up and stays the rest of the day. He doesn't like to stay in one place very long, so he takes me from joint to joint. After such a busy day, I'm really tired and glad to go to bed with Ben Gay. What a life! The preacher stopped by the other day. He said at my age I should be thinking about the hereafter. I told him: "Oh, I do that all the time. No matter where I am -- in the parlor, upstairs, in the kitchen, or down in the basement, I ask myself -- now, what am I here after?"

Welcome Back, Bill & Betty!

As former owners of the Majestic Bar, located at 156 Oakland Ave., Pontiac, Michigan, we were subscribers to The Board Talk for many years. We sold the bar almost two years ago to Don and Charlee. Bill still plays on the Majestic Bar men's shuffleboard team.

The Board Talk came to the bar recently and after we read it, we realized we missed receiving it. Therefore, we are re-subscribing again.

Your News & Views are Welcome!

**Deadline for each issue is
the 15th of the month. Send to:**

The Board Talk

421 E. Sheridan, Lansing, MI 48906

We owned the bar for 24 years and it has been in our family for approximately 47 years. It has always had a shuffleboard table and teams. Don and Charlee have four teams this year, two men's and two women's. As bar owners, they have worked hard to promote the leagues.

Bill & Betty Berryman, 162 W. Strathmore Ave.,
Pontiac, MI 48340; phone 810-335-7469

We're sure your old patrons/friends will be glad to know that you're still an integral part of The World of Shuffleboard. We appreciate the Majestic Bar's support of shuffleboard and The Board Talk with their subscription and listing in the Shuffleboard Directory.

The Board Talk: "A Legend in its Own Time"

Thank you for the privilege of subscribing to The Board Talk for another year. I can say, without a doubt, the effort, knowledge and enthusiasm of your publication touches the lives of all of us here in St. Louis and surrounding areas. The Board Talk articles and calendar of events has been a key media source in the promotion and growth of shuffleboard in the Missouri region, and more importantly, The World of Shuffleboard nationwide has been introduced to stimulate and peak our interests for the future.

The Board Talk has become a legend in its own time.

Doug Zurmuellen, St. Louis, Missouri

Thank you, Doug, for a wonderful Board Talk 13th Anniversary message! Your sentiments were echoed several times during the recent North American Championships in Reno and each time, we got choked up with emotion and elation. However, we can't take credit for what YOU and other supporters do to keep this publication going. If readers didn't support us with their subscriptions, if tournament directors/sponsors didn't let us know of their upcoming events and the results of those events, if product/association/service entities and tournament sites didn't advertise, there would be no Board Talk! Emotion and Elation keep our spirits up -- but in tough economic reality, it is the support system that keeps us going and growing! We thank YOU and the rest of our support system for the privilege of bringing this newsletter to you each month.

Meeting Sol Highlight for Ralph

Outside of the great tournament that John McDermott ran (North American Championships) and the great playing of all the shuffleboard players in Reno, meeting

December 27-30, 1996

HOUSTON HOLIDAY OPEN

Hosted by the Houston Shuffleboard Community

8 EVENTS - ALL LEVELS ** ADDED PRIZE \$\$ ** 7 BOARDS

(A Great Christmas Gift: Sponsor Shirts, Entry Fees, & Motel Gift Certificates)

Friday 12/27 - *Division I* (-1, 0, 1 and 2's) **Open Draw:** \$50 entry fee. (-1 and 0's may not play together); *Division II* (3, 4, and 5's) **Open Draw:** \$25 entry fee.

Saturday 12/28 - **4 Person Bring Team** (Team ratings must add to 6 or more points and must include one female player): \$120 entry fee per team. (2 out of 3/ double elimination).
Leftover Draw - Handicapped: \$25 entry fee.

Sunday 12/29 - *Division I* (-1, 0, 1 and 2's) **Handicapped Singles:** \$100 entry fee.
Division II (3, 4, and 5's) **Handicapped Singles:** \$25 entry fee.

Monday 12/30 - *Division I* **Bring Partner** (Team ratings must add to 1 or more points): \$150 entry fee per team; *Division II* **Bring Partner - Handicapped** (Team ratings must add to 5 or more points): \$50 entry fee per team.

Danny's Sports Bar Located at 12126 Westheimer; Ph. (713) 558-8693

\$10 Registration Fee (Sign-up by 12:00; Auction 12:30)

All Events Single Game/Double Elimination (ex. Team)

Bowers Rating System in Effect

Free Lunch Saturday, Sunday and Monday

New Red Roof Inn at Westheimer & Beltway 8

- Special Rate \$34/single; \$39/double; 1 (800) 843-7663

For more Information contact:

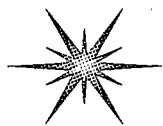
Diana Hagen (713) 587-8084

Johnny B. (713) 922-1346

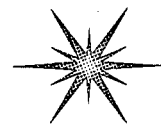
Jack Scott (713) 398-3999

Dickie Wooten (713) 541-6134

Mail Fees to: Houston Holiday Open c/o Diana Hagen, 3459 Garden Grove Dr., Houston, Tx. 77066

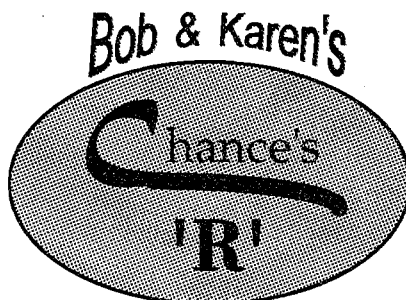
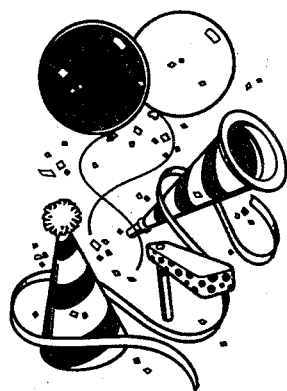


3rd Annual Winter
OPEN DOUBLES



Shuffleboard Tournament

At



3421 S. Walnut
Muncie, IN
(317) 284-0855



JANUARY 11, 1997

FOUR BOARDS - DOUBLE ELIMINATION

Sponsor Sale at 11:00 A.M.

ENTRY - \$40.00 / TEAM

Payout - 50 - 30 - 15 - 5 (16 Teams or More)

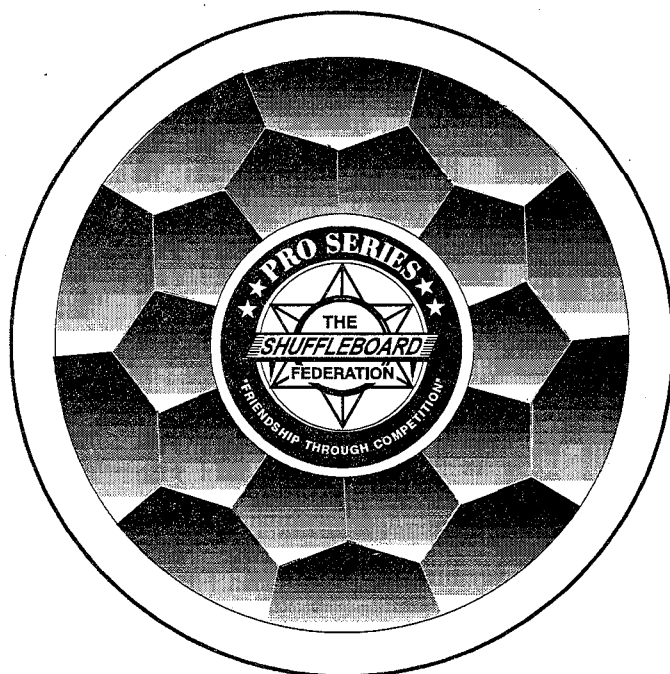
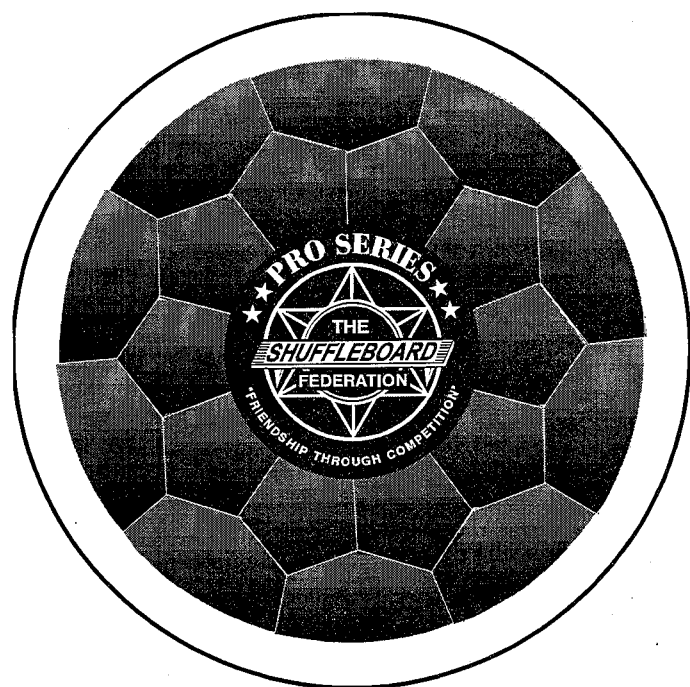
NO BYPASS - FIRST AVAILABLE BOARD

Free Drawings for Board Talk Subscriptions

Hosts: Bob & Karen Schounce (317) 284-0855

Co-Directors: Steve Hart & Bob Brown

Introducing: **The Pro Series**



The new standard in shuffleboard weights.

Brought to you by the only company with the expertise to do so, The Shuffleboard Federation.

Absolutely guaranteed to be the most consistent set of weights you have ever owned. You've never seen, or played, with anything like them - nothing else is even close. Elevate your game, play like a pro.

Now shipping Christmas orders. For information call:

(800) 380-3033

The Pacific Coast Shuffleboard Association

proudly presents

Shuffleboard Extravaganza IX

at the



Hotel & Casino, Las Vegas

Six Events: January 28 thru February 2, 1997

- Tue., Jan. 28** Auction 9 am. Bring your Partner Amateur Doubles, \$100 per team, play starts at 10:00 am. Limit 48 teams.
Auction of A-B Draw at 8 pm.
- Wed., Jan. 29** A-B Draw, \$50 per player. Limit 128 players, play begins at 8:00 am.
Auction Pro Singles and Amateur Team at 8 pm.
- Thu., Jan. 30** Pro Singles, \$300 entry. Limited to 32 players, play begins at 8 am.
Amateur Team (must have 2 women players) \$300 per Team, Limit 28 Teams,
play begins at 8:00 am.
Auction of Pro Doubles - Women's Singles at 10:00 pm.
- Fri., Jan. 31** Pro Doubles, \$200 per team, Limit 32 Teams, play begins at 8 am.
Pro Singles Finals 1:00 pm
- Sat., Feb. 1** Womens Singles, \$100 Entry, Limited to 24 players, play begins 8 am.
Amateur Team Finals 1:00 pm
- Sun., Feb. 2** Pro Double & Womens Singles Finals

Times subject to change due to players' response.

- One-time \$15 Registration Fee covers all events!
- The PCSA is accepting money for Entry and Room Reservations NOW!! **All Money must be in by Dec. 31, 1996!!!** Rooms \$53 per night, maximum double occupancy.
- Room reservations must be made through the PCSA to qualify to participate in Extravaganza IX events.
- You must be a registered guest of the Showboat Hotel unless you live locally.

PCSA REPS
Joe Muniz
Karl Spickelmier
Paul Weber

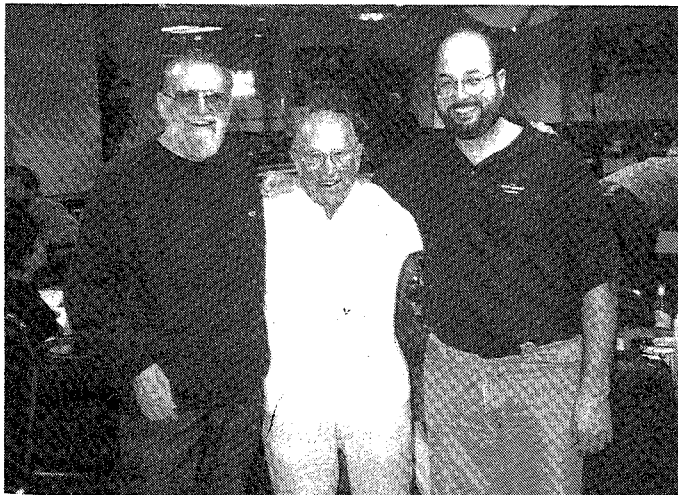


PCSA
P.O.Box 8143
Bellflower, CA 90706
(310) 926-2152

Sol Lipkin was the highlight for me. After talking to Sol, what money I lost meant nothing anymore! I only wish I would have had a tape recorder with me at the time. He was so nice and polite, I just couldn't believe it. I know Sol has many a story to tell and if we live long enough, I'm going to get to visit with him again. I hope it's soon.

Ralph Duarte, Kelso, Washington

We agree with you on both counts, Ralph -- It was a great tournament and Sol is a great gentleman worthy of induction into the National Shuffleboard Hall of Fame. We first met Sol in 1984 at the first "national" tournament we covered in Las Vegas and recorded some of his stories in Vol. 1, No. 2 issue of The Board Talk. A couple months later, we journeyed to New Jersey for a visit at the American Shuffleboard Company where he was serving as sales manager. Our major purpose for that long trip was to take a "sick" 14-foot board from a senior citizens housing complex in Lansing, Michigan, to see if it could be saved. The "diagnosis" by ASC determined that it was beyond repair, but those great folks loaded a brand-new board in our rickety old van to take back to Friendship Manor where residents were mourning the loss of their weekly "Shuffle Night." They were delighted with their new board, but worried about how they were going to pay for it. We did, too! They didn't have any money and neither did we, but George told them not to worry until we got an invoice. Then we received word that there would be no invoice and we celebrated with those senior citizens at an appreciation dinner, after which George gave them tips on the care of their new board, rules of the game, and some playing techniques. It was heartwarming to watch those 90 year old enthusiasts take that advice so seriously. This is just one of the many, many things that Sol Lipkin has done to earn himself the honor of being inducted into the Hall of Fame!



Ralph Duarte (left) proudly poses with Sol Lipkin and John McDermott in Reno.

A Word About Bill and Bonnie

Just a note to those who know Bill and Bonnie English..... They always stop at the Balloon Inn when we have a tournament to see everyone. They are doing good. They would enjoy pictures and/or hearing from you. Their address is Bill & Bonnie English, 2000 Maple Dr., Apt. 62, Ft. Collins, CO 80538.

Gwen Vogt, The Balloon Inn, Arvada, Colorado

Thanks for sending the photo, Gwen. We've corresponded with Bill and Bonnie and talked to them on the phone, but this is the first time we got to see what they look like. They look as good as they sound!



Bill and Bonnie English with shufflin' friends Kenny Hawkes, Grady McGovern, and Rick Boyer.

Thanks from Louise....

My heartfelt thanks to all of my wonderful friends attending the tournament in Reno (everyone I spoke to said it was absolutely the best Reno tournament ever) who took the time to send get-well wishes to me. I really appreciate the lovely card and even lovelier thoughts that everyone was kind enough to send my way. It truly touched my heart and brightened my day. It makes me feel grateful that I am so lucky to consider so many fine people my friends. It also proves to me, yet again, that shuffleboard people are the best people!!!

Louise Freer, Lansdale, Pennsylvania

To those of you who were not in Reno to sign Louise's get-well card, if you'd like to send her your best wishes, her address is: 189 Barry Ave., Lansdale, PA 19446. We really missed you in Reno, Louise! Our best wishes for a speedy recovery. We agree with you that "shuffleboard people are the best people." During the 13 years that we've served them with this publication, that description has not changed and, we believe, never will.

Cameron/Hagen Win SKYKING A-B Draw at 2-K's

The biggest tournament of the year for 2-K's Bar & Grill, Houston, Texas, took place on Sept. 21 with 44 players participating in a double elimination A-B draw. The event was sponsored by Skyking Freight Systems with an upfront purse of \$1,000 plus an extra \$200 "bounty" for Harvey Kidd's birthday.

"Then, they really got into the spirit of things by purchasing a few calcuttas. Yeah, Skyking!" said 2-K's Manager Kim Logan. "Thanks to Harvey Kidd's expert auctioneering, the total pot rose to a healthy \$6,940. Thanks, Harvey!"

The first birthday bounty of \$100 was won by Jimmy Griffin and Rod Rodriguez against Harvey Kidd and his partner, Ronnie Moore. The second bounty game was a really tough one, but Harvey and Ronnie tucked their tails and gave it up to Ann Nguyen and Tom Milan.

The big winners of the day were Tree Cameron and Diana Hagen. Sammy Stringer and Brian Walker took second place. Lilly Kidd and Eugene Peach finished in third place, with Andrea Gray and Mike Baker in fourth.

"Probably one of the most memorable games was when Johnny Wayne and Clay Moore played Lilly Kidd and Eugene Peach," Kim reports. "All Johnny and Clay had to do was win the last game to get fourth place, but Lilly and Eugene not only outplayed them, they also pushed Andrea and Mike into fourth.

"All in all, it was a great tournament with many memories, a lot of new friends made, and fun was had by all.

Hoosiers (finally) Capture Bourbon Doubles Crown

The 29th Annual Fall Bourbon Doubles Tournament, held at the American Legion 424 in Bourbon, Indiana, on Oct. 5, attracted 46 players from Texas, Oklahoma, Ohio, Michigan and Indiana, competing for prizes totalling over \$6,000.

For the past several years, it has been the strong teams from Oklahoma and Texas which have captured the crown for this event. "But this year, we're proud to give the victory crown and title to the Indiana team of Bourbon's very own 'pro in his own right,' Buddy Broka and his super-tough partner, Mikel Johnson from Leesburg, who both fought hard to win this championship," said tournament director Bill Niswonger.

Buddy and Mikel won the winner's bracket by beating the tough team of Texas pro Bob Shaw and Oklahoma pro Billy Melton. Not ready to head back home too soon, Bob and Billy beat two of Indiana's best, Bobby Voorhis and Terry Dowell, to meet and beat Broka and Johnson in their first game. "Bob and Billy seemed to have this game

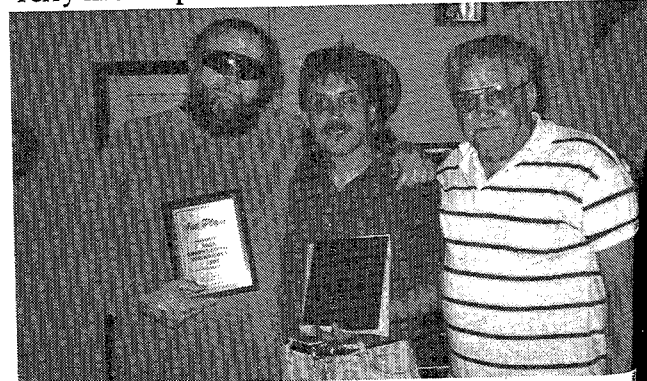
"Some of the other players in attendance were: Jorge Galvan, Pat and Lee Stout, Sue Griffin, Mary and Dale Koteras, Rod Cameron, Johnny Ballard and, of course, Billy Mays kept the party atmosphere going with his effortless sense of humor," said Kim.



(right to left) Florence (Tree) Cameron and Diana Hagen were winners of the A-B Draw, with Sammy Stringer and Brian Walker taking second place honors

The 2-K's thank everyone who donated their time and services to make this tournament a success, especially Ronnie and Mahlon Moore, and all the people at Skyking Freight Systems.

in the bag, until Buddy broke loose with some of the most finessing shots seen in a tournament in a long time," said Bill. Bob and Billy settled for second, with Bobby and Terry in third place.



Tournament Director Bill Niswonger (right) presents top honors to Buddy Broka and Mikel Johnson. Bill thanks Mike Koontz, Larry Creakbaum and the Bourbon Legion Committee for helping make this event a success

HOLIDAY SPECIALS

FROM

TRIPLE CROWN SHUFFLEBOARD SUPPLIES, INC.

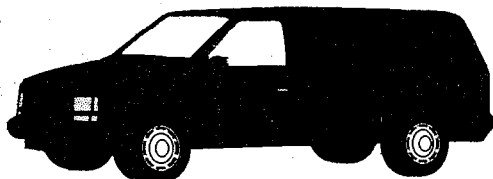
Don't wait until the last minute to do your holiday shopping. Take advantage of these great bargains now!

**BUY A SET OF TRIPLE CROWN WEIGHTS FOR ONLY
\$127.20 AND GET A FREE CARRYING CASE.**

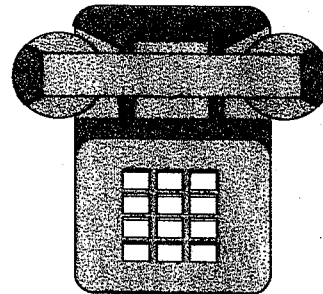
**TRIPLE CROWN WATCHES AND T-SHIRTS ALSO
AVAILABLE, CALL FOR DETAILS.**

**EXTRA LARGE LAMINATED TOURNAMENT CHARTS
(28" X 39")
SAVE 15% ON EVERY CHART ORDERED !!!**

**INVENTORY REDUCTION !
SAVE 15% ON EVERY ORDER OF OUR EXCLUSIVE
YELLOW ICE III +**



SAME DAY SHIPPING



**CALL & ASK ABOUT OUR NEW
& USED SHUFFLEBOARDS**

FOR OTHER QUALITY PRODUCTS CALL US AT OUR TOLL FREE NUMBER:

1-800-827-0316

Frisco Eddie's Revenge: The Return

A series by Balboa Ron Schweikert

(In the last episode, after Eddie had returned to Tacoma Tim's, before flying back home, to give Lil her share of the \$10,000 they won in Texas, the relationship between the two "business partners" suddenly changed. They became lovers and Eddie decided to stay with Lil instead of returning home to The Blue Moon and Shelley. We left them at the kitchen table, after Tim's satisfying breakfast, holding hands and staring into each other's eyes.....)

Lil and Eddie were still staring into each other's eyes as Tim broke the spell by saying: "I hate to break up this moment of bliss, but I was kind of interested in what your plans might be."

Lil replied: "Our main plans right now are just to try and stay happy -- and keep out of trouble! We discussed things a little, and we plan to scout around the Northwest area for awhile and then fly back to L.A. We may just go by car after that and take in some of the sights along the way." Eddie added: "Hey, it'll be kind of like one of those 'Honeymoon' trips; right, Lil?" Lil looked at him and said: "Eddie, it'll be however you want it to be. O.K.?"

Tim said he thought the plan sounded pretty good and then proceeded to fill them in on what he knew about the current action in the Washington/Oregon areas. He told them what he thought they should watch out for. He specifically stated who they shouldn't try to go up against so as not to blow Eddie's cover.

After they all pitched in to clean up the breakfast dishes, Lil and Eddie went to their room and packed their bags. Tim had offered to take them to a few of the local spots before they took off on their own.

The sun was shining brightly as they loaded their bags into Tim's Bronco. They could clearly see the brilliance of Mount Ranier with the sun shining down on its snow-covered peaks. It was beautiful.

After they had started to drive, Tim began to relate a tale about his brother. It seems his brother, whose name was Gary, used to be in the service and was stationed at Fort Lewis, which was off to their left.

He told the story this way: "Now, Gary was a pilot at Fort Lewis and he used to fly 'fixed-wing' aircraft out of there in the mid-'60s. They flew mostly U-8's and T-42's, where were twin-engine, gas-driven, four-seaters. Gary also used to write prose about his experiences as a pilot, and I'll try to tell it to you the way he wrote it. O.K.?"

They both said to "carry on" and he did: "The piece I liked best was titled 'The Two Problems of Great Northwest Flying' and it went this way....."

"Flying airplanes is fun -- but not always...in the old days. If you're flying from Tacoma to Yakima, you had

problems. One was the weather: for the first two-thirds of the way, you'd be in the clouds and the rain, or the hail, or ice and snow -- and sometimes all of the above.

"By itself, that's no big thing -- but there happens to be a rather large rock in the way. It's called Mount Ranier.

"When we flew to the south of it (in those days), there was no radar. Halfway around the rock, you couldn't talk to anyone (on the ground), and the instruments would get shaky, and so would my co-pilot.

"Now, you never knew for sure exactly just how close you were to that 14,383 foot giant. I'd curse that rock because I knew for sure that one day.....it would send me to hell!

"They'd put us in a holding pattern at the SE side of that rock, and the mixed snow, rain, and hail would actually put dents in the aircraft at times.

"After they would finally give us our 'let-down' clearance, we could begin our descent -- and just like clockwork, we'd break out into the clear!

"Everything would be temporarily forgotten then, until our SECOND big problem would arise. In 10 minutes we'd be on the ground and have to figure out if we were going to have ham, bacon or sausage with our eggs....at the Flight Deck Cafe."

After a short hesitation, Lil and Eddie let out a good chuckle. They had now reached I-5, and Tim asked them: "O.K., guys -- which way do you want to turn? There's action on either side. Make your choice....and let's let the shuffleboard action begin!"

--TO BE CONTINUED NEXT MONTH--

*(There are a lot of readers who know exactly where this point of decision is and will be interested in **which** way, **who** do they meet, and **what** will be the outcome of that action and **why**. While the characters and activity in Frisco Eddie are fictional, they are based on real life! We're glad to report that Balboa Ron is on the mend after his recent hospitalization. Your cards and good wishes will help speed his recovery: Balboa Ron Schweikert, 8301 W. Charleston Blvd. #1050, Las Vegas, NV 89117. Hopefully, Ron will be at the PCSA Extravaganza at the Showboat in Vegas and we encourage participants to take a moment to tell him you appreciate his contributions to shuffleboard through this series. Your appreciation is the only compensation he receives for the hours and hours he devotes to this series. Thanks, Glen Davidson, for including him on your "Thank List" on Page 7.)*

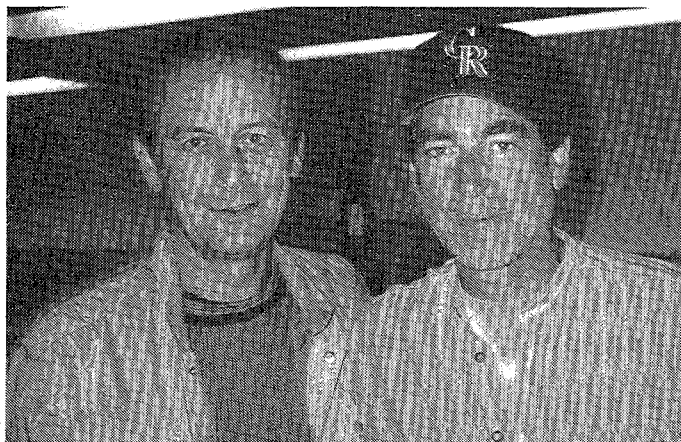
Edison Inn Doubles *(cont. from Page 1)*

As usual, the participants raved about the super feed (Cajun-style seafood gumbo), the many door prizes, and the friendly atmosphere of rural Edison. Thanks to the owners, Mini and Sandy, for their support of shuffleboard; also the great bar crew, with special kudos to my pals, Russ Miller and Sherm Anderson, who did so much I was unable to do.

The next event at Edison is the 6th Annual Draw Partner tourney on Dec. 14-15.

Darrol & Doug Duo Make It Six in a Row at Shamrock

For the past five years, the Shamrock Tavern in Longview, Washington, has sponsored a doubles tournament with the big prize being entry into the Pacific Coast Shuffleboard Association's doubles event in Las Vegas. And, for the past five years, Darrol Nelson and Doug Buhl of Oregon have been the winners. No. 6, held on Oct. 19-20, was no exception as the dynamic duo once again earned that coveted prize.



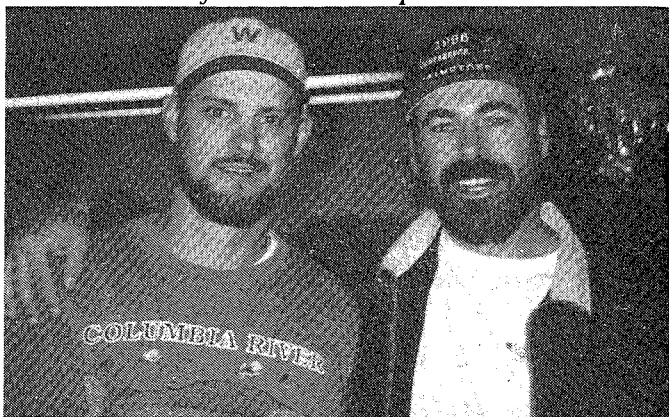
Doug and Darrol did it again! "Not only are these two great players, they are nice guys -- Hall of Fame contenders," according to reporter Ralph Duarte.



Larry Pearson (let's do it this way) of Washington and Chuck Norris of Oregon took second place honors.



Al Pease (left -- looking livelier than he did in Reno) and Dave Arndt finished in third place.



Dan Hitt (left) and Rick Gindt of Washington placed fourth.



Shamrock owner Jerry Berquist (left) was presented a photo plaque for his outstanding promotion of shuffleboard by local player Tom Henry.

The 25 teams vying for a pot of over \$4,000 (plus the PCSA Doubles entry) made it the biggest ever. Bernice's chili and spaghetti served on Saturday and Sunday were again a big hit with participants.

Upcoming events at the Shamrock include: Draw Partners on May 3-4, Mixed Doubles on June 21-22, and the PCSA/Shamrock "Nelson/Buhl" Doubles on Oct. 18-19.

Dunns, Hartman/Bouse Tops at Sonny Boys "Double-Dipper"

Sonny Boys in Cuba, Missouri, sponsored their first "double dipper" tournament on Oct. 18-19 and attracted 28 teams vying for a share of the \$2,230 pot. Director Woodie Cockrum reports that Friday's 3's, 4's and 5's event took top billing.

"I took a page from Ron Huddleston's book, used a little of Ron and Debbie Bowers' rating system (and mine), and with an A-B Draw we had a well-balanced 13 team event," Woodie said. "Any team could have won. About half of the players were local and brought their own cheering section. Most of them had never seen a shuffleboard tournament before. I stuck a cigarette butt in each ear and went on with my work."

First place in this event went to Julie Hartman of Houston, Missouri, and Pete Bouse of Cuba. Ernie Hamilton of Springfield and Richard Hemme of Cuba took second place honors, with "Senior Citizen Queen" Georgia Williams of Steelville and Mike Moran of Arkansas finishing third.

In Saturday's bring your own partner event, Jim and Donna Dunn of St. Louis took first place without a defeat. Second went to Chuck Muehlhauser and Charley Hart, also of St. Louis. Third was won by a couple of top players from Indiana, Mikel Johnson and Ady Snyder.

"Thanks to our sponsors, Grellner Distributors for the trophies, The Shuffleboard Federation for the wax and silicone, to Sonny Boys for the added money and for sponsoring a team. A special thanks to Chuck Muehlhauser for all his help and for furnishing his own personal weights as house weights for the second board, and to Mick Moran, Rick Pittman, Charlie Riley, Mike Harthill, Terry Gregory and Jim Stanley for their outstanding help," said Woodie.

Kim Parrish Keeps on Winning!

That little bundle of joy that Kim Parrish (White Lake, Michigan) has been carrying around The World of Shuffleboard for the past several months hasn't deterred her playing ability. In fact, when his time comes, he may just pop out of the womb waving a trophy! Kim finished second with husband Frank in the Rudy Stober Memorial Tournament in August, then followed up by earning two firsts and a third at the "Women's Weekend" held Oct. 11-13 at Wetlands Bar & Grill in Royal Oak, Michigan. (She didn't know it then, but these "battles of the boards" would prepare her for competition -- and victory -- in the North American Championships in Reno, Nevada.)

The Women's Weekend at Wetlands, sponsored by The Shuffleboard Federation, has been gaining in popularity and this year attracted a powerful contingency

from the East -- Louise Freer, Judy Gartland, Rita Yank, Mary Reilly and Linda Marshall of Pennsylvania and Judy Iseman of Maryland.

In the first event on Friday night, a draw partner, Judy Lee and Kim Parrish were the winners. Kris Chandler and Judy Gartland took second place honors. Penny Cottrell and Louise Freer finished third.

Penny Cottrell and Debbie Turk won Saturday's doubles event, with Louise Freer and Judy Iseman in second, and Betty and Kim Parrish in third place.

In the singles event that started on Sunday and ended at 3:15 a.m. Monday morning, Kim Parrish emerged the victor, with Sher Blessing taking second. Judy Gartland finished third, with Louise Freer in fourth place.



Kim Parrish (left) won the singles crown this year, with Sher Blessing taking second place honors. Kim also finished first in the draw partner event and third in the doubles.



Penny Cottrell (left) and Debbie Turk were winners of the 1996 Wetlands Women's Weekend Doubles.



Making sure that the 26 ladies who participated in this year's annual event had a good time were host Mike Papa and Tracie.

Glen Gives Thanks *(cont. from Page 7)*

Oyster, members of the Evergreen Shuffleboard Association and others in the Pacific Northwest for keeping action going there.

● **Wes and Eileen Eades and all the Dixie Bellers** (special thanks to **Jim Anderson and Bubba Warren** for their dedication), **Blinky's, A.Z Turnbo, Rick Thomas, Nelson Jennings** and many others who keep things going on the West Coast.

● **Dick Gorman and Harvey Comer** of Maryland/Delaware, **Jim and Rita Yank** of Pennsylvania, **Marty Allen and Ray Boyett** of Florida, the **Fridleys, the Benedicts and Dale Law** of New York, and others who are promoting the growth of shuffleboard on the East Coast.

Without the work and dedication of these people, shuffleboard would fade out and they deserve our thanks.

● **Balboa Ron Schweikert**, author of the "Frisco Eddie" series. Only a shuffleboard player with dedication and who gives something back to the game could do this. I encourage all of you to take just a minute to send a card of thanks to Ron. *(Editor's Note: See address on Page 2.)*

I say to all of you: count your blessings and appreciate all the people around you. This game is going to make it to the Big Time! Support your own state Hall of Fame.

I really enjoyed the tourney at the Sands Regency in Reno. I got to spend a few moments with World Champion Darrol Nelson. He put on an exhibition of excellence to beat Frank Blade in the singles. He's a great champ and it gives me great enjoyment to know and have a friend like Darrol. I told Frank: "Most people who play Darrol Nelson are real happy to finish second." Al Salazar and I had the pleasure of beating Darrol and Billy Maxwell. Nothing personal, gentlemen, but it sure felt good!

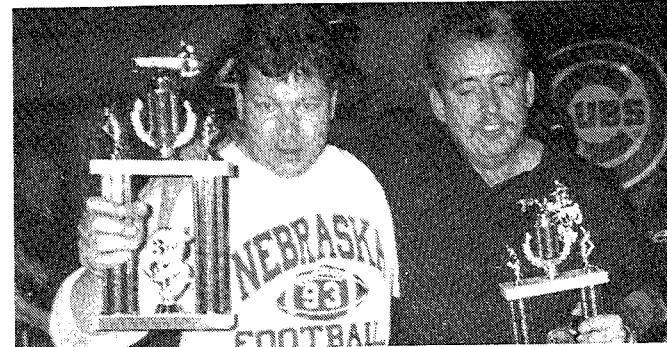
"A Greater Cause" *(cont. from Page 14)*



Harold Newbanks and Don Zahm were winners of Nebraska's 1996 Cystic Fibrosis Tournament.



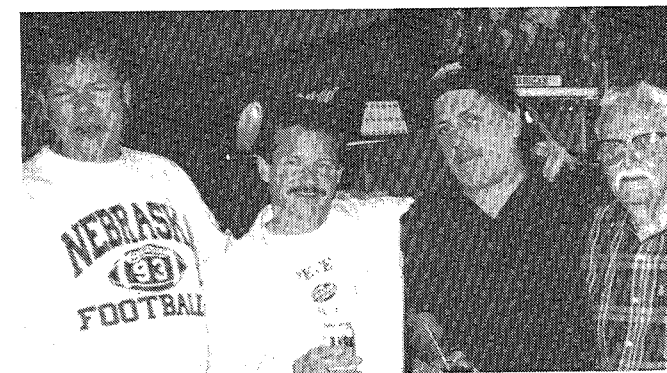
Chris Rathbun and Chuck Busch took second-place honors.



Len Walsky and Jim Keller finished third.



Trudy Zimmerman and Darrel Chaney took fourth.



The real heroes of this worthy event -- bar owners Len Walsky, Kevin Higbee, Harold Newbanks Jr. and Sr.

Special thanks to Bill and Dru Frederick for the great effort they put forth to make the silent auction most successful. Thanks to Don Zahm and Jim Keller and all the other players who donated their time and money for this great cause -- another successful year for the Cystic Fibrosis Foundation and the pride of Nebraska.

East Showdown *(continued from Page 3)*

Sunday's singles (\$50 entry) saw 14 players -- and not a few hangovers -- competing for a total pot of \$2,300. At the end of the evening, the results were: Louise Freer, 1st; Lonzo Knight, 2nd; and Len Dell in the 3rd and final money spot. There was plenty of action afterwards for the die-hard shuffleboard players, too.

"Showdown" tournament directors Dave Shewbridge and Louise Freer thank the many players who supported this event. "Without each and every player, it couldn't have been the success that it was," said Dave.

"An enormous amount of gratitude goes to Doug Fridley of New York, who traveled many hours and proceeded to work tirelessly to help make the tournament run smoothly," Louise reports. "His excellent skills as auctioneer in all three events certainly showed up in the results of the total pots, and we'd also like to thank him for his help in taking care of the boards and the brackets. Thanks also to Judith Iseman for her help in running the brackets; Joyce Pyle for her usual excellent assistance, and also to the many other people who helped out in many different ways. Special thanks to our hosts, Harvey Comer and Darlyne Belcher, who provided their support and (more importantly?) the delicious food for the players in Saturday's and Sunday's events. Thanks also to Charlie and Sam Walker from Texas for wandering by at an

opportune time. It was a pleasure to have visitors from the great state of Texas! And, since Charlie finished first in the draw, they ended up going back home after their vacation with a bonus!

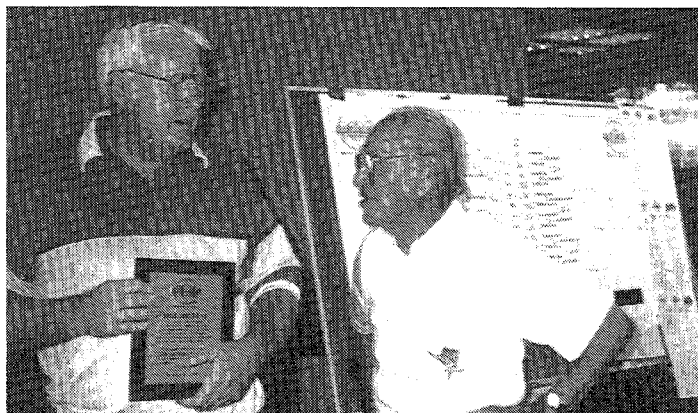
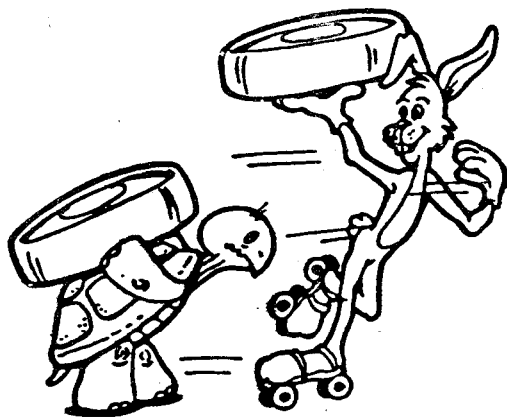
"Even though this event is called an 'East Coast Showdown,' we encourage participation from players in ALL states. Harvey's Place has four fast boards (with more available), ample elbow room, and excellent food. This particular event also has slightly higher entry fees and a one-in-four payout to encourage the out-of-towners to come and visit. Come and see for yourself: it's the kind of place where people go out of their way to make you feel comfortable," Louise said.

Harvey's Place will be hosting its next 3-event tournament on Dec. 6-8, and again on Feb. 18-March 2. A date has not yet been set for the next "Showdown," but Dave and Louise are certainly interested in people's opinions and feedback. Let them know!

***Your News & Views are Welcome!
Deadline is the 15th of each month
for inclusion in the next issue.***

***Send to: The Board Talk
421 E. Sheridan Rd., Lansing, MI 48906***

A Board Talk Salute to.....



Bill Melton and Sol Lipkin!

In our "book," you are the greatest!

***George & Donna Wilber
The Board Talk***