

# The Board Talk

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Vol. 15, No. 2

February 1998

## Tuxedos Optional at Houston Holiday Open!

By Don Meehan

On Dec. 29, 1997, during a lull in the shuffleboard action, Mahlon Nobles asked a friend what the weather was like outside. "Today is sunny and mild," came the casual reply. "Today? Hell, I mean this week!" Mahlon retorted. It turns out that Mahlon and his lovely wife, Linda, drove down from Dallas for the 2nd Annual Houston Holiday Open a little early -- Dec. 23 to be exact. They checked into the Houston Hilton Southwest, site of the tournament, got a deluxe room for the special tournament rate of \$49.95 and hadn't set foot outside the hotel since!

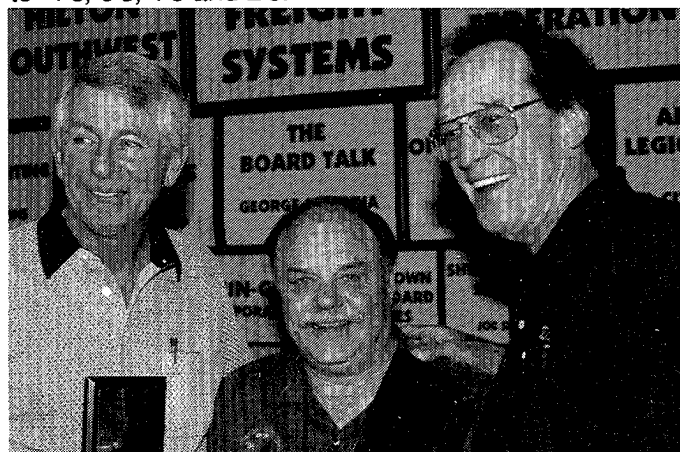
Indeed, what with bars, restaurants, and room service, exercise room, pool and sauna, the hotel made it easy to forget the world outside and concentrate on shuffleboard.

After an initial and successful premier last year at Danny's Sports Bar, organizers Jack Scott and Johnny Ballard decided to expand the tourney to a hotel venue. Twelve beautifully conditioned boards, along with ample seating for viewing and socializing, filled the Grand Ballroom. A fully-staffed bar and table-side food service complimented the scene.

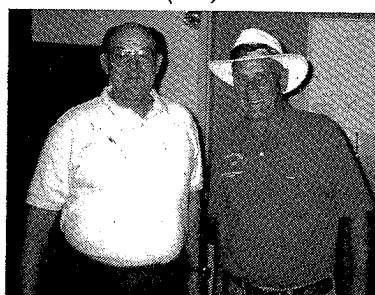
The tournament officially kicked off on Saturday, Dec. 27, with the first two of nine events to be played over four days -- an A/B draw and an open draw for 3's, 4's and 5's.



Hall of Famer Glen Davidson (left) and partner Terry Smith (right) are congratulated by sponsor Joe Spratt for taking first place in the A/B draw, which was open to -1's, 0's, 1's and 2's.



Houston Holiday Open organizer Jack Scott (center) congratulates A/B draw 2nd place finishers Ron Huddleston (left) and Ken Strong.



Co-director Johnny Ballard (right) and local Tom Milan took third in the A-B Draw.

### ON THE INSIDE:

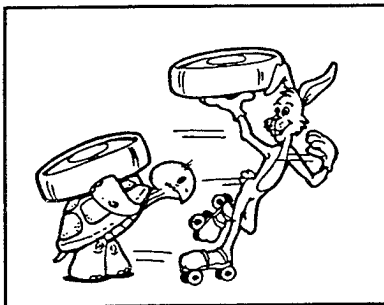
**MERRY CHRISTMAS!** It's not too late to celebrate, as you will see from contributions by Portland Eddie and Grady McGovern.....Page 14-15

**FRISCO EDDIE'S REVENGE** -- and revenge may be what he's looking for as he catches Lil in a compromising situation.....Page 18

**IN MEMORY OF SHUFFLERS PAST** -- a new opportunity..... Page 19

**FRANKIE'S SPORTS PUB** in Washington joins fans of the A-B-C Draw as a way to give new shufflers a positive experience and keep them coming back again.....Page 29

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# Shufflers' Notebook

*News and Views from The World of Shuffleboard*

## **From a Grateful Host of the Michigan Championships....**

For the last couple of years, we have wanted a first-class shuffleboard tournament to come to the Club Car, here in Durand (Michigan). It seemed that the harder we tried, the more problems we ran into. No one, on the state level, knew that we were here. It got to the point that we were convinced that we would have to be a nice place for local shufflers to come -- period!

Then, on that late summer day, George and Donna Wilber of The Board Talk, along with another nice couple from nearby Owosso, came and asked if we would like to host the state championship tournament. We were elated. The Club Car shuffleboard teams (six of them) didn't know what to expect. Some had never seen a good tournament, but were very supportive. They volunteered their time and efforts to make it a success. They brought food, chipped in money for the expensive shrimp, and did the cooking themselves. It was fun to see our group come together to put on a great feed. After it was over, a sense of pride ran through all of us. I could not have hired or bought the type of meal that they did -- voluntarily.

As for the tournament itself, it was great! Never have I seen a group spend the whole weekend together, in heated competition, without a single problem.

Oh, sure, there was the usual cockiness of a person trying to psych himself. Sometimes it got on other people's nerves and I remember hoping for a miss because of it. Isn't it fun to watch how each individual prepares himself to get beat?

There were some surprises as to the winners.

## **--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!

Certainly, the Club Car shooters are much more aware of how little we know about this game. None of us were around to see even the third round, but none of us were disappointed. We had so much fun that there is talk of trying again in an upcoming tournament in Saginaw.

Thanks again to those who made this fun weekend available to the Durand community. Thanks to all participants and winners. We hope all enjoyed their stay here. The Club Car shooters will get better, so we hope to do it again -- soon.

Dennis Bittner, Owner/Host, Club Car Lounge,  
Durand, Michigan

*Your patience has paid off, Dennis. Thanks to your hospitality and fine facilities, the support of your patrons and the entire community, and the enthusiastic response of participants, The Shuffleboard Federation, Inc., and The Board Talk, co-sponsors of the 1998 Michigan Championships, have decided that the Club Car Lounge will be a repeat site. This decision has received the "blessing" of former hosts, Dave Willett of McCabe's in Saginaw, and Mike Papa of Wetlands in Royal Oak, both of whom participated in Durand. That says a lot for the commitment of Dave and Mike to the growth of shuffleboard because, as you well know, shufflers are great consumers and their support of your site for 1998 means lost revenue to them. You can repay that selflessness by encouraging your shufflers to support upcoming events at Wetlands and McCabe's. Thanks to the leadership of The Shuffleboard Federation, those events are rated, "equal opportunity," tournaments, giving your lesser experienced players a good chance to go home winners.*

*To all tournament hosts: we can't emphasize strongly enough how important it is to support your "neighbors" (The World of Shuffleboard notices). Check the Calendar before setting a tournament date so you're not competing against another. Then, get yours listed early (6 months in advance is NOT too early), and use your locals as ambassadors to promote participation by supporting other events.*

## **Publication Content Information**

*The Board Talk reserves the right to reject any advertising or editorial contributions that the publishers deem unacceptable, either because of objectionable material or inconsistency with the newsletter's general editorial and advertising policies.*

## A "Ho-Ho-Ho" Time at Balloon Inn's Santa Classic

The Balloon Inn in Arvada, Colorado, hosted its 9th Annual Santa Classic Tournament on Dec. 11-14. The "halls" were decked with boughs of holly, Christmas stockings and twinkling lights for the festive holiday event.



*Hostess Gwen Vogt gives singles winner Morey Balins a congratulatory hug and an envelope with the biggest share of the \$1600 pot in the first event.*

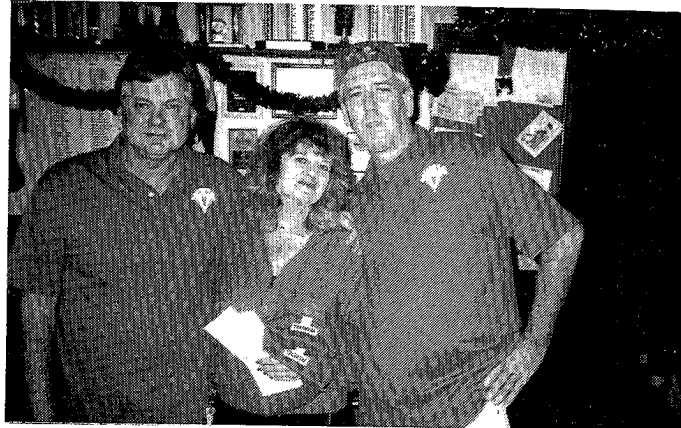


*Mr. Rick Boyer (left) took second in the Santa Classic singles. Joining Gwen in congratulating Rick was visitor John McDermott of The Shuffleboard Federation, who was in the area for the Dave and Buster's grand opening in Denver (four American boards) and for a mini-vacation.*



*And the legendary Travis Anderson took third place in the singles.*

There were nine teams vying for a share of the \$2400 pot in the doubles. Morey Balins scored a repeat first for the weekend, this time with partner Grady McGovern. Settling for second were Jody "Ho" Slack and Rick Boyer, with Dave "Teddy Bear" Cowan and Gene Davis in third place.



*Taking first place in the doubles were Morey Balins and Grady McGovern.*



*Jody "Ho" Slack and Rick "Mr." Boyer took second.*



*Dave "Teddy Bear" Cowan and Gene Davis took third.*

## Upcoming Events Across the Nation

### Florida

#### 5TH ANNUAL FLORIDA OPEN, SNUGGERY, PALM BEACH, MARCH 27-29

The 5th Annual Florida Open will be hosted by the Snuggery Bar & Grille, 2556 PGA Blvd., Palm Beach, on March 27-29. This event promises to be another great Southeast "shootout" and shufflers from across the nation and Canada are invited to participate.

Action will start on Friday with a draw partner, \$25 entry fee. An open bring partner doubles is scheduled for Saturday, \$100 per team entry. The grand finale will be an open singles on Sunday, \$50 entry fee.

For further information, call Marty Allen, 561-471-4053. Check the flyer in last month's issue for more details.

### SPREAD THE WORD!

*Tell The World of Shuffleboard about upcoming events at your site. Send details to: The Board Talk, 503 E. Sheridan Rd., Lansing, MI 48906. Must be received by the 15th of the month.*

### Texas

#### PRESIDENTS' DAY TOURNEY, GOLD NUGGET, ARLINGTON, FEB. 12-15

The Gold Nugget, 2602 W. Division St., Arlington, will host a Presidents' Day Tournament, Feb. 12-15.

Action will start on Thursday, Feb. 12 at 7 p.m. with a Div. I and II singles. Entry fees for Div. I are: pros, \$100; 0's, \$50; 1's, \$25; and 2's, \$15. This event is 2 out of 3, double elimination. Entry fee for Div. II (3's, 4's and 5's) is \$15, single game, double elimination.

On Friday the 13th, a draw partner for Div. I and II starts at 7 p.m. Entry for Div. I is \$30 per player and \$15 for Div. II. Single game, double elimination for both. No pros or 0's may draw up.

A 6-person draft team event is on the schedule for Saturday at 1 p.m. Entry fee is \$200 per team, 4 out of 7, double elimination.

On Sunday will be bring partner events for Div. I, \$75 per team entry, and Division II, \$30 per team, starting at 1 p.m. In Div. I, pros must play with a 2 or higher, 0's with 1 or higher; 2 out of 3 if time permits.

### GAMETIME SHUFFLEBOARD INTRODUCES....

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(Red) ●3-2-1  
Expert/Pro Player

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1	2
2	3
3	4

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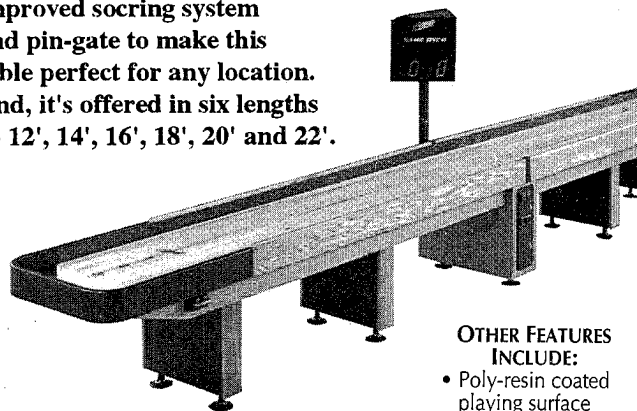
All boards are now available with 4-3-2-1 scoring. Old playfields can be refinished to accommodate this new score system.

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

--Bob Shaw, Fort Worth, Texas

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The format for Div. II is single game, double elimination.

A one-time \$10 registration fee will be charged.

For further information, contact David Williams at 817-451-9583 or 817-473-4029; Bobby Williams at 817-496-8972 or 817-265-7045; Bob and Cindy Houchin at 817-277-4029 or 817-295-9488.

## **HANDICAP TOURNAMENT, TAZ COUNTRY, PFLUGERVILLE, MARCH 6-8**

Taz Country, 1406 F.M. 1825 (Three Points Shopping Center), Pflugerville, will host a 3-event handicap tournament on March 6-8. An open draw, \$30 entry fee, single elimination, is scheduled for Friday, March 6, 8 p.m. A bring partner, \$50 per person entry, double elimination, will start at 1 p.m. on Saturday. The final event is a singles, \$50 entry, double elimination, starting at 1 p.m. on Sunday.

There are no restrictions on who may partner with who; 5 and 4 rated players will play with a 3 handicap. All events are 15 points, single game and there will be sales on Saturday and Sunday. Taz Country hosts Gene and Sarah will serve food on Saturday and offer special drink prices during the tournament.

For information, call Ron or Debbie Bowers, 512-835-7256 or 512-459-1264. Suggested lodging is the Rodeway Inn in Round Rock, 512-246-0055.

## **2ND SPRING FLING, MOTHERS PIZZA, CORPUS CHRISTI, MARCH 20-22**

The 2nd Annual Spring Fling Tournament at Mothers Pizza, 12135 Leopard St., Corpus Christi, is scheduled for March 20-22. Events include an A/B handicap draw partner on Friday, March 20, 7 p.m., \$25 per player entry, single elimination. On Saturday at 1 p.m., there will be a 4-person team event, 2 out of 3, double elimination, \$25 per player entry. A "Player's Choice" event will be held on Sunday starting at noon. When players sign up on Friday and Saturday, they will select their choice of play for Sunday, \$10 entry fee.

For further information, contact Mothers Pizza, 512-241-8500, or Neil Garvin, 512-854-3632.

### Indiana

## **DOUBLES AT GETAWAY, ANDERSON, MARCH 7**

The Getaway Lounge, 2332 Columbus Ave. in Anderson will host a doubles tournament on

March 7. Entry fee is \$40 per team with the house kicking in \$100. The double elimination event will be played on two boards and will pay four places. The sponsor sale starts at 11 a.m. with play immediately following. Come early for Friday night's blind draw at 7 p.m. with a \$200 guarantee.

Bernie and Steve Henderson are owners of the Getaway and invite shufflers to participate in their weekly Thursday blind draws at 6:30 p.m., \$200 guaranteed. They are also known for their delicious 10 oz. New York strip dinners for only \$7.95.

For more information on the March 7 doubles, call the Getaway at 765-644-9454.

### California

## **PRESIDENTS' DAY TOURNAMENT, BLINKY'S, SANTA CLARA, FEB. 8-16**

The 7th Annual Presidents' Day Tournament will be held at Blinky's, 3145 El Camino Real in Santa Clara, Feb. 8-16.

The first event is the Champagne & Roses ladies' doubles draw, \$10 entry, at 1 p.m. on Sunday, Feb. 8. The amateur doubles draw, \$20 entry, is on Monday, Feb. 9, at 6 p.m., followed by the amateur singles, \$20 entry, at 6 p.m. on Tuesday, Feb. 10. All these events are single game, double elimination.

The ABC draw, \$20 per person, will be held on Wednesday and Thursday, starting at 6 p.m. The format will be 2 out of 3, double elimination.

Sponsor sale for the pro doubles is set for 7:30 p.m. Friday, Feb. 13, with play beginning at 9 a.m. on Saturday, \$75 per person entry fee. A barbecue will be served on Saturday from 5 to 7 p.m., with the sale for pro singles also on the schedule. The singles may start on Saturday night. Otherwise, it will start at 9 a.m. Sunday, Feb. 15. Entry fee is \$75 and both the pro doubles and singles will be 2 out of 3, double elimination.

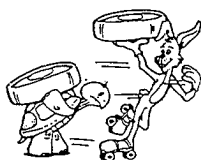
For more information, contact Rick Thomas, 408-578-0822.

## **SWEETHEART DOUBLES PLUS AT DIXIE BELLE, DOWNEY, FEB. 13-15**

The Dixie Belle, 9559 E. Imperial Highway, Downey, will host a Bring Your Own Sweetheart Doubles Tournament on Feb. 13-15. Combined ratings must total 2.0+ and play will be 2 out of 3, double elimination. Entry fee is \$50 per team. The

*(continued on Page 10)*

## As The Puck Turns.....



By George & Donna Wilber

It's frustrating to receive such great contributions, which really should have been in our Christmas issue, and because of printers and Post Office deliveries, we have to use the February issue to share those messages. That's not all bad because we should celebrate Christmas all year long. We call your attention to Notebook on pages 14-15 for Grady McGovern's "The Night Ron Met Rudolph" and a poignant letter from "Portland Eddie" Graves, written from a prison in Oklahoma. You'll be doing us a great service if you respond to either or both of these contributions. Celebrate Christmas in February by letting these two people know you appreciated their special perspectives on Holiday '97.

\*\*\*\*\*

When we reprinted the 1984 Al Stewart tribute last month, we didn't know that he would be inducted into the California Shuffleboard Hall of Fame this month. The induction will take place at The Dixie Belle's Sweetheart Tournament on Feb. 14 (how appropriate because both he and Von are sweethearts). If you can't be there, we urge you to send your messages of congratulations and/or testimonies to the chairperson of the California Shuffleboard Hall of Fame, Jolene Lembke, 11050 Bryant Rd., #45, Yucaipa, CA 92399, or directly to Al at 11415 Cherrylee Dr., El Monte, CA 91732. A lot of lives have been touched by this great, giving man in The World of Shuffleboard, so let's all "shower" him and Von with messages of good will.

\*\*\*\*\*

We salute the Pennsylvania State Championship Committee for their very classy printed program to commemorate their "first." They worked hard to secure paid advertising in the program and used the proceeds to purchase trophies for the winners. We urge other states to follow their example. Not only does it give advertisers an opportunity to reach a key audience, it also provides participants with a lasting memento. If you'd like a copy of the program to see if it would work in your state, contact Louise Freer, 189 Barry Ave., Lansdale, PA 19446.

\*\*\*\*\*

Don't forget our New Year's resolution noted in last month's issue: to assure that you receive your Board Talk in a timely manner, we are going to be firm with our 15th of each month deadline to receive material for the next issue.

D & G

## Bring Your Own Sweetheart Doubles FEBRUARY 13-15



Combined ratings must total 2.0+

Entry fee: \$50 per team

2 out of 3, double elimination

Sponsor Sale: Feb. 13, 8 p.m.

Play begins at noon on Feb. 14



**SPECIAL!**  
*Al Stewart  
induction into  
the California  
Hall of Fame  
FEB. 14  
Congratulations  
to Al and his  
"child-bride"  
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## Brown/Kalamarski Break Martin's "55 & Over" Record

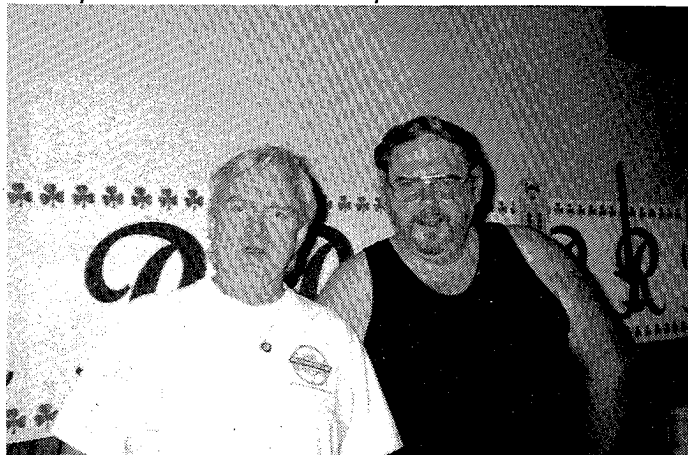
For the past four years, the Shamrock Tavern in Longview, Washington, has hosted a "55 and Over" Tournament. John Martin won the event three years in a row, each time with a different partner. That record was broken this year as Vera Brown and Steve Kalamarski took top honors in a field of 22 teams.



*"We did it!" Vera Brown and Steve Kalamarski celebrate their win at the Shamrock's 55 & Over Tournament.*



*Reigning champ John Martin (left) and Gary Thompson settled for second place honors.*



*Hall of Famer Jim Foran (left) and Dean Mako finished in third place.*



*Frank Powers and Billy Powell finished fourth.*

Other winners were Mike Waters and Dennis McPherson, Dick Doaks and Ken Heflin, 5th and 6th.

"Bernice's chili was good and the air so-so," reports Ralph Duarte. "Jerry Berquist (Shamrock owner) and I thank the organizers of two tournaments we recently attended. BZ's in Seattle, their A-B tournament was well run and they were very nice to all of us, and Frankie's Sports Pub in Olympia, many thanks. Keep up the good work."

Check the calendar for upcoming events at The Shamrock.

## Lots of Winners at Dew Drop

The Dew Drop Inn, Waterloo, New York, hosted a three-event tournament on Dec. 5-7.

Winner of Friday night's singles was Ken VanZile of Sherburne, New York, with John Pearson of Waterloo in second and Rob Hummer, also of Waterloo, in third place.

Saturday's draw partner event was won by John Arndt and Rick Meyer, with Dale Law and Bob Brooks taking second place honors. Sharon Canino and Dave Pelow took third place.

The bring partner was on Sunday and Rob Hummer and Dale Law took the biggest share of the pot. John Arndt and Earl Durgan finished second, with John Pearson and Cotey in third place.

The next big event at the Dew Drop Inn is a three-event tournament on April 3-5.

## A "First" for Market Street....

The Market Street Cafe in Charlestown, Maryland, held its first tournament recently, with a first-time director, and some first-time winners.

Veteran Chuck King of Greenwood, Delaware, and local Joe Baker (first-time winner) drew each other to take top spot in Friday night's draw partner with limited calcutta event (held to get new shooters

*(continued on Page 8)*

## **Market Street** *(continued from Page 7)*

involved in the game). Second place honors went to locals Keith Leonard and Gayle Jacobi (another first), with third going to local Connie King and Joyce Pyle of Sudlersville, Md.

Saturday brought out players of all caliber from the tri-state area of Delaware, Maryland and Pennsylvania, for the bring partner event. Chuck King collected another first, this time with partner Rick Niblett of Salisbury. Second went to Al DiBella of Philadelphia and Buddy Brammer of Rising Sun, Maryland. Third was taken by Philadelphians Jim Yank and Jim Wolf.

Judy Iseman of Chestertown and Len Dell of Baltimore took the biggest share of the pot in Sunday's mixed doubles. Second went to Joyce Pyle and Curtis Dean, and third to Connie King and Chuck King (no relation).

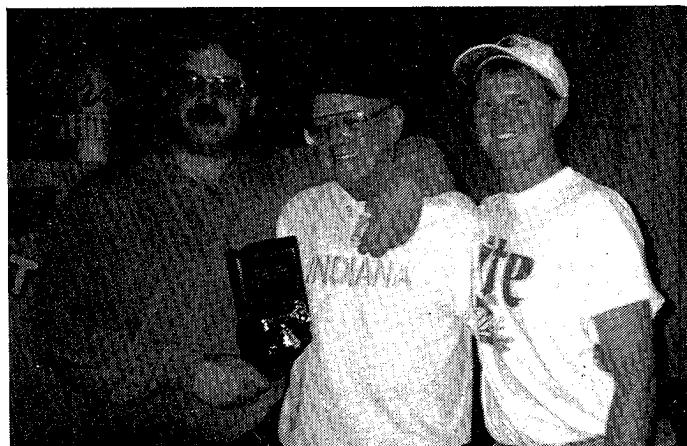
Chuck King was a three-time placer, and Joyce Pyle and Connie King were two-time placers in this tournament.

"Thanks to all the people who invested their hard work and long hours to help make this tournament a success," said reporter Carol Hampton. "Kudos to first-time director Russ Smith, who presented a long stem rose to all the ladies in the tournament on Saturday night. And thanks to new owners, Bobbie and Chip, for their fine southern hospitality and the great dinners served Saturday and Sunday.

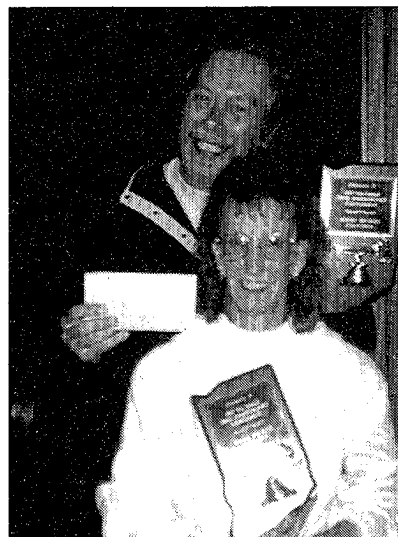
"Stay tuned for more news from here in the future," Carol said.

## **P.S. to Indiana State Championships...**

The following are photos and information received after last month's report on the Indiana state tournament.



Winners of the singles were (left to right) Bobby Voorhis, 1st; Bobby Schounce, host of Chances "R," 3rd; Ricky Royal, 2nd place. Other winners were Buddy Broka, 4th; Ady Snyder, 5th; Greg Massie, 6th.



Mary and Larry Brown were winners of the Indiana State Championship mixed doubles event. Bob and Deb Voorhis took second place, with Terry Dowell and Pam Worsham in third.

Also unreported last month, Dave Boaz and Glen Ingram finished fifth in the open doubles, and Steve Hart and John Humes were sixth.

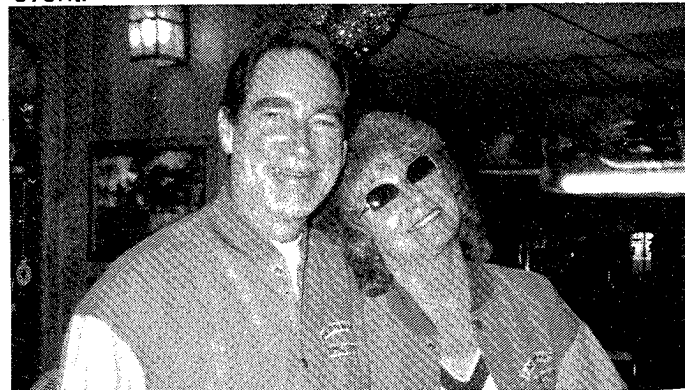
The total pot of nearly \$15,000 set a new record for the Hoosier's state championship.

## **Marine/Hitt Tops in Tim's Mixed Doubles Event**

There were 22 teams in the mixed doubles tournament at Tim's Timber Tavern, Kelso, Washington, on Dec. 27-28.

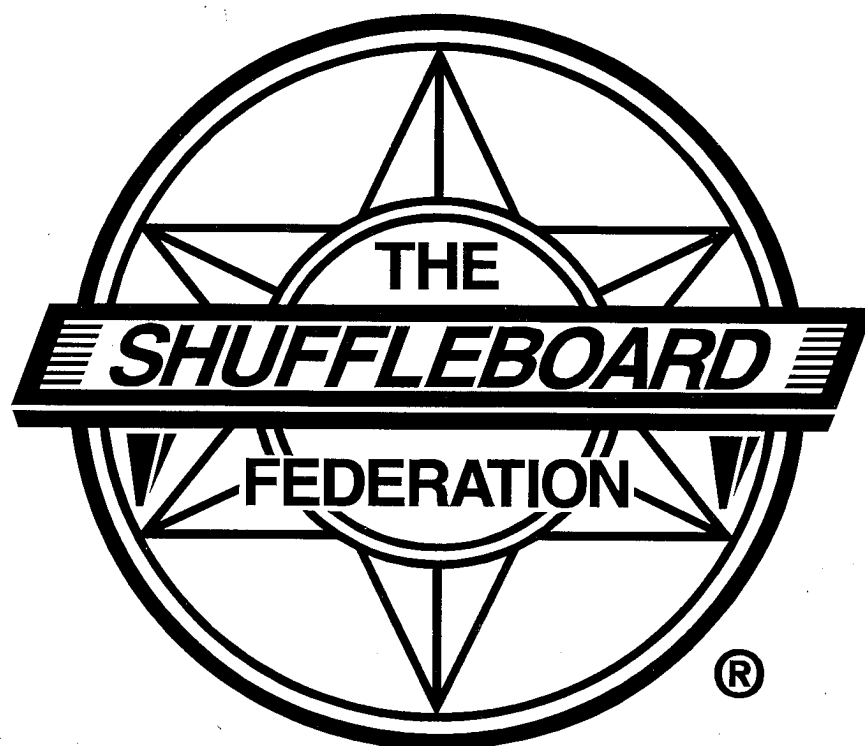


Dan Hitt and Melody Marine were winners of the big event.



Darrol Nelson and Michelle Foran took second place. *(continued on Page 10)*





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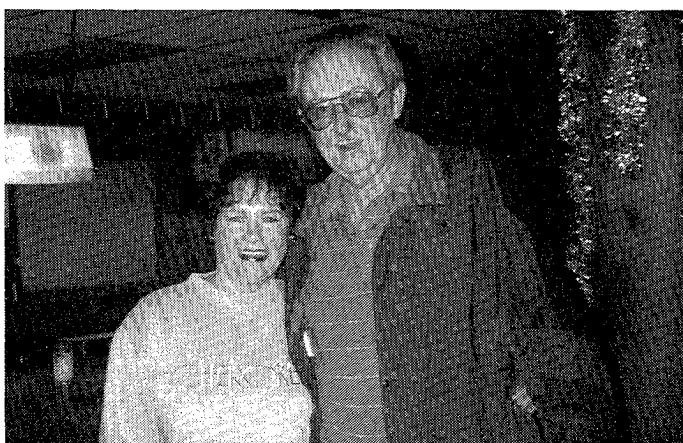
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**Tim's Mixed** (continued from Page 8)

*Dave Arndt and Cheri Schnarrs took third place.*



*Chuck Norris and Linda Steffenson took fourth in the field of 22 teams.*

"I want Dave Arndt to know I really appreciated all of his help throughout the weekend," said director Maradee Thomas (Maude). "Without his help and the help of others this past year, things wouldn't have gone as smoothly as they have. Jim Foran has also helped a lot. They are good teachers and I'm learning. A special thank you to everyone who has participated in our tournaments. I have enjoyed meeting all of you. Hope to see everyone again at the July, September and December tournaments in 1998."

*(Editor's Note: We urge you to get your events on the calendar soon, Maude.)*

---

### **THANK YOU!**

*Gene McLeod thanks all those who contributed to his drive to supply funds for Ron & Debbie Bowers to continue their national rating system.*

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**Tell the World of Shuffleboard About the Events at "Your Place." Deadline for receiving reports is the 15th of each month. Send to: The Board Talk 503 E. Sheridan Rd., Lansing, MI 48906**

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**Upcoming Events** (cont. from Page 5)

sponsor sale is scheduled for Friday the 13th at 8 p.m. Play will begin at noon on Valentine's Day.

A highlight of this event will be the induction of Al Stewart into the California Shuffleboard Hall of Fame (see As the Puck Turns on Page 6).

For further information, contact Debbie or Jim Anderson at the Dixie Belle, 562-803-3943, or e-mail [ElectricDB@aol.com](mailto:ElectricDB@aol.com).

Washington

## **17TH ANNUAL MASTERS, FIR CONE TAVERN, SHELTON, FEB. 21-22**

The 17th Annual Masters Tournament, the first big Evergreen Shuffleboard Association event of the 1998 season in Washington, is slated for Feb. 21-22.

Action will start with a single elimination \$20 A-B draw at 7:30 p.m. Friday.

Entry fee for the Masters is \$50 per team, two out of three 15 point games in the winner's bracket and one 21 point game in the loser's bracket. Sponsor sale is at noon on Saturday, with play immediately following. A Saturday night feed will be served.

For further information, contact Mel Hohn: 360-426-2221.

## **13TH ANNUAL MIXED DOUBLES, OLD EDISON INN EDISON, MARCH 6-8**

The Old Edison Inn's 13th Annual Mixed Doubles, among the longest-running tournaments in the state of Washington, will be held the weekend of March 6-8.

Entry fee is \$50 per team, double elimination, with at least four places paid. An A/B draw partner, single elimination event will be held Friday at 7 p.m., \$10 per player.

The mixed doubles will begin following the sale at 11 a.m. Saturday. There will be a complimentary meal Saturday and lots of door prizes and other fun throughout the weekend.

There is some RV parking available at the tavern (electrical hook-up only). For motel recommendations and/or tournament information, contact director Phil DePree at the Old Edison Inn, 360-766-6266.

"This event has traditionally showcased some of the top male and female shooters on the West Coast," said Phil, "with no winner repeating now for several years." Last year's champs were Mike and Hazel Thorpe. This is a sanctioned points event of the Evergreen Shuffleboard Association.

*(continued on Page 16)*

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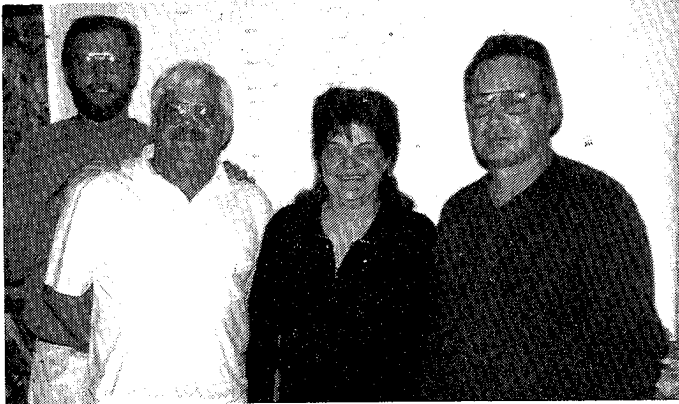
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## Honky Tonk Hosts Fall Tournament

The Honky Tonk Saloon in Sherburne, New York, held a fall tournament in November. Action started with two round robins on Thursday night. Winners in the first were Pat Chase and Fred Truax, with Dale Law and Dan Miner in second place. Winners of the second round robin were Bill Chase and Fred Truax with Dick Brooks and Shelly Paul finishing second.

Forty players entered Friday night's draw partner event.



*Taking top honors in the draw partner were Bill Jones (left) and Rick Niblett. Hostess Brenda Prosser congratulates them and John Canino, who finished second with his partner, John Scott.*

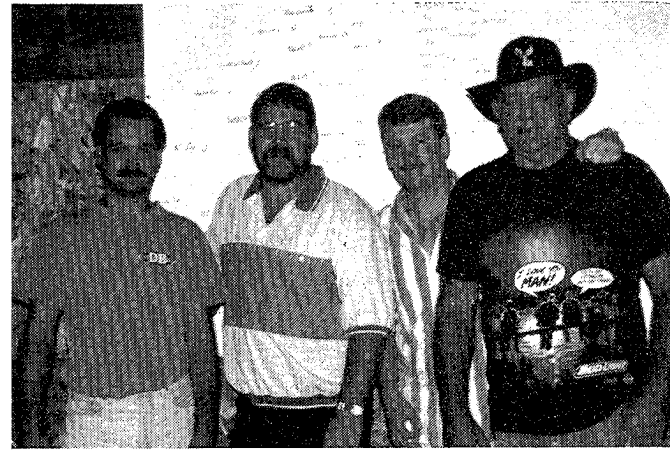
Dale Law and Ken Van Zile took third place. Fourth went to Dick Jeffrey and John Arndt, with B.J. Jones and Dan Miner in fifth spot.



*Placing first in Saturday's mixed doubles in a field of 12 teams were Rick Niblett and Judy Iseman (left), with Dale Law and Rita Truax taking second place honors.*

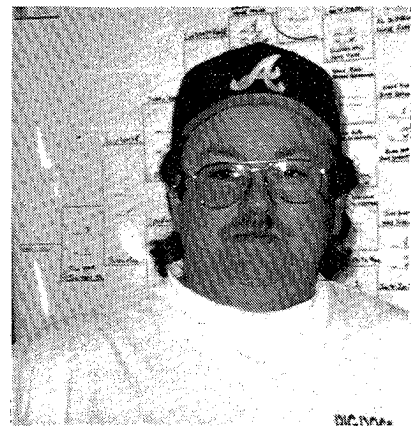
Finishing third were Dick Gorman and Wendy Davis from Delaware.

Saturday afternoon's open doubles attracted 18 teams, with Jeff Davies and Ken Van Zile taking the biggest share of the pot. Dale Law and Dick Losee took second place, with Bill Jones and Bob White in third. Chuck King and Rick Niblett finished in fourth place.



*Jeff Davies and Ken VanZile (right) were tops in the open doubles, with Dale Law and Dick Losee in second place.*

*Chuck King (right) took top honors in Sunday's open singles, which had 18 entries. Rick Niblett took second place. Third went to Ryan Fuller, with Don Perry in fourth.*



"A special thanks to all of the people who donated their time to make this a successful tournament," said Dale Law. "Watch The Board Talk for more upcoming events at the Honky Tonk."

Check "Looking Ahead" in the Upcoming Events column for details on the Honky Tonk's Memorial Weekend Tournament.

### Did You Know?

In 1992, basketball was tops in "The Price of Getting Physical" with 752,798 emergency room visits. Playing pool wasn't exactly safe with 5,835 people involved in that sport going to the hospital. Shuffleboard didn't make the list!

\*\*\*\*\*

Definition of the Month: Shuffleboard Team Captain -- Adult baby sitter. (Dick Gorman)

*Both these "tidbits" courtesy of "On The Board," Cecil & Harford County Shuffleboard League Newsletter edited by Art Cassata*



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## More Notebook

### **Ron & Gwen Share Treasured Christmas Gift**

We wanted to share with The Shuffleboard World one of the greatest and neatest gifts we have ever received. We didn't even know Grady knew how to write!

Ron and Gwen Vogt, The Balloon Inn  
Arvada, Colorado

#### **The Night Ron Met Rudolph**

**By Grady T. McGovern**

T'was the night before Christmas, down at Balloon Inn, where some of the patrons were sipping on gin.

Others on vodka and some were on rum, with one common goal -- to try to get numb.

When all of a sudden there came such a chatter, I walked to board one to see what was the matter.

With all of the ruckus I thought maybe "Gee, could Ron have lagged his first ever three?"

When I came to my senses and buried that notion, it was back to the bar to find the right potion.

And right then it happened, I swear to this day! A thud on the roof -- could it be the sleigh?

The sleigh that takes Santa on each Christmas Eve, what in the world did he have up his sleeve?

The next thing we heard as we sat in the bar, was a gruffidy laugh and it came from afar.

In lieu of a chimney, he never did find, he blew down the roof. Hell, Gwen didn't mind.

The first thing he said that I'll always remember, on that Christmas Eve that cold night in December:

"I've heard of this place," he said with a grin. "Well, I'm here to shuffle, and I'm here to win!"

Nobody said nothin'. Everyone was in awe. We just looked at Santa. We just watched him thaw.

"Well, Rudolph's my partner. You think he can't play? Well, I can assure you, we'll find a way.

"Now, who are we playin'? And what are the stakes? We'll both play left-handed if that's what it takes.

"I hear that the owners are very adept." I didn't know; that's a secret well-kept.

Then they flipped for the hammer; of course, Rudolf called "tails." He says he does that when all else fails.

"We'll play for my sleigh, and I'll throw in the deer. And you'll play us for ten and a beer!"

The first shots were ugly, nobody could stick. Not Rudolf, not Ron, not even St. Nick.

When both teams had seven, it really got tight. Then Rudolph and Santa -- they started to fight.

"I told you to stick and I told you to lag..." Santa said, "Shut up and play, you old nag!"

Whatever he said, it started to work. Rudolph had suddenly lost his jerk.

They got to 14 to 12 for Ron and Gwen, Who would believe what would happen then.

But as fate would have it on this Christmas Eve, there was a guy that did still believe.

Well, Ron had the hammer, and you can say they can't win. Let me tell you something, mister, you better think again.

A deuce was well-covered, backed up by three weights. A bleak situation that every player hates.

One lag left, and there's no tomorrow. If they don't win, they'll sure feel the sorrow.

Now Gwen is hoping Ron won't disgrace, but you can read her mind, it's all over her face.

Well, what happened next remains quite a mystery. Ron lagged his first three and the rest is now history!

*We can see why you wanted to share, Ron and Gwen! Grady's "gift" will go down in the history of shuffleboard as a Christmas classic.*

### **Ed Graves: "Remember the Man Who had No Feet"**

Just a short note to bring recent happenings up to date. Maybe you have read in the newspaper or saw on television how cushy and soft incarcerated inmates have it -- living in air-conditioned cells, eating the best of food, watching color TV (just imagine, COLOR TELEVISION -- whoever would have thunk it?). To these we might add: personal telephones, lap top computers, inmates running their own businesses from their cells and making more money than most people ever dream of earning, and last, but not least, the unmentionable conjugal visits.

Well, folks, I can tell you for certain, I have seen none of the above during my 10 years here at Mack Alford Correctional Center (MACC), except of course, my \$275 13-inch Toshiba color TV set which my dad bought for me three years ago. No, I can tell you quite honestly, here at MACC, we make money the old-fashioned way. Once more, we don't need any fancy gadgets like air conditioners or computers. After all, what did people do before we had those things anyway? A lot of the folks who work here were raised up on beans and cornbread and, if it was good enough for them, it's darn well good enough for us.

The purpose of this letter is not to sound negative or to violate the spirit of Christmas. Christmas is my favorite time of year. Rather, I just want to give everybody an update on my status. I get questions like, "When are you getting out?" or "When do you come up for parole?" Chances of parole in Oklahoma

with the incumbent governor are about the same as a camel passing through the eye of a needle. Only God knows if I will ever get out of prison -- or when.

I do, however, have a shot. I am presently in the Eastern District of the United States District Court. That is, I have a habeas corpus filed with some very good issues. The chances are very good that I will get my case overturned in the very near future, probably some time next year.

You have to understand that getting my case overturned or reversed does not mean that I am free to walk out of prison. That, in fact, happens in only a small percentages of cases (contrary to what you see on television or read in the newspaper). In the majority of cases, the Petitioner (i.e. me) is remanded back to the District (county) Court where he was sentenced, and then it is up to the District Attorney of that county what action is taken. In some cases, he opts for retrial; in others for plea bargaining.

If I win a reversal, I can probably expect to be sent back to the county jail (as I am no longer DOC property), thrown in a cell by myself and made to wait until they decide what to do. At that point, I will sort of be in limbo, no charge against me, yet cannot walk free. County jail prisoners in this situation have been known to remain in this limbo state for extended periods of time in Oklahoma, where the wheels of justice turn very slowly and usually turn in favor of the State.

Like I already said, I don't mean to sound downbeat. I just want to tell it like it is. If you think you're not going to have a merry Christmas, just remember the man who had no feet.

Ed Graves, #165521, P.O. Box 220, Stringtown, OK 74569

*Many people in The World of Shuffleboard have wondered about the status of "Portland Eddie," and we're glad he sent this update. He receives The Board Talk every month (courtesy of Glen Davidson for the first year and the publishers since then), so he keeps track of what his old shufflin' buddies are doing. **Let him know you haven't forgotten him.** Just in case you don't know what Ed means when he tells you to remember the man who had no feet, it refers to an age-old story about a person who was feeling sorry for himself because he had no shoes -- until he saw a man who had no feet. In other words, when you're feeling in the "pits," look around and you'll find someone who is a lot worse off than you are. Ed is a good example. Win or lose, you're still "out there" playing shuffleboard, while he's "in there" paying a debt to society. The first time we met Ed was at Las Vegas where he finished second in the "world championship" in 1984, losing out to the great Darrol Nelson. Doug Buhl, also of Oregon, finished third.*

## News from The Dixie Belle

We've had an exciting holiday season around The Belle -- lots of partying, lots of good times and, of course, a lot of play on the boards. To anyone who didn't manage to make it in over the holidays, all of us at The Dixie Belle would like to extend our sincerest wishes for a Happy and Prosperous New Year. Owners Debbie and Steve would also like to extend their thanks to the volunteer workers (Doug, Chris, Wes and Eileen) who donated their time over Christmas and New Year's days to keep The Dixie Belle open so everyone had a place to go and friends to be with.

Debbie and Steve are moving things around again and the back room will have a new look to it in the middle of January, just in time for the Bring Your Own Sweetheart Tournament over Valentine's weekend. (See details in Upcoming Events on Page 5 and ad on Page 6.)

All of us at The Dixie Belle would like to extend a warm welcome to Oskar's Lounge in Bellflower, the newest members of the shuffleboard community. Oskar's has recently enlarged their establishment and installed three shuffleboards. We are looking forward to some exciting play there.

The list of winners from our Thanksgiving tournament somehow got lost in transit, so here it is, and we apologize for the tardiness. Open doubles first place winners were Hal and Steve Perry. John Fisher and Paul Elliot took second place, and Glen Anderson and Nick Chaffin came in third. In the ABC draw event, Glen Davidson, Michelle Lamas, and Mary Lou Deering were in first place. Ken Varden, Joanie Swenson, and Steve Budrys came in second, with "Freehand" Bob Ruiz, Sam Blanco, and Billy Duncan taking third place.

Steve is now e-mailing out announcements of happenings at The Dixie Belle. If you would like to get on his list, please send your e-mail address to [ElectricDB@aol.com](mailto:ElectricDB@aol.com) or just write to say hello. Other e-mail addresses which can be written to for questions, comments or just to say hello are: Dixie Debbie = [Dixiedebbi@aol.com](mailto:Dixiedebbi@aol.com); Eileen and Wes = [DxeMom@aol.com](mailto:DxeMom@aol.com); or Chris Brown = [ShffleGal@aol.com](mailto:ShffleGal@aol.com).

From all of us at The Dixie Belle -- Steve, Debbie, Jimmy, Wes, Eileen, and Chris (now standing in for the ever-busy Dixie Debbie)

*Chris is the secretary of the newly-formed California State Hall of Fame. If we win the Lotto between now and Valentine's Day, Chris, we will make attending your Al Stewart induction a top priority. If that fails, please take lots of photos so we can share that happening with all the readers who love Al.*

## **Upcoming Events** *(continued from Page 10)*

### Michigan

## **2ND SAGINAW VALLEY OPEN, McCABE'S, SAGINAW, FEB. 20-22**

M.J. McCabes Food & Spirits, 54 E. Morley Drive (M-46), Saginaw, will host its 2nd Annual Saginaw Valley Open on Feb. 20-22.

A draw partner event is scheduled for Friday night, \$25 per player entry fee, with sale at 7:30 and play immediately following. Players with a -1, 0 or 1 rating cannot draw each other.

For Saturday's handicap doubles, the combined rating of both players must be at least 1 (-1's cannot play with other -1's or 0's and 0's cannot play with each other). Entry fee is \$25 per player, limited to 20 teams. The sale will be at 2 p.m. or after the conclusion of the draw, whichever is later, with play immediately following.

There will be a progressive entry fee for Saturday's handicap singles: \$100 for -1's, \$80 for 0's, \$60 for 1's, \$40 for 2's, \$20 for 3's, 4's and 5's. Sponsor sale will be held at 2 p.m. or after conclusion of the draw, whichever is later.

All events are single game, double elimination, 11 point games in the draw partners, 15 points in singles and doubles. A constant action format will be used for the singles and doubles.

Entry deadline is 6 p.m. Friday night for the draw and 1 p.m. Saturday for the doubles and singles. There will be a \$5 registration fee which will go to tournament director Rob Kern.

There are several hotels near McCabe's. The Knights Inn (517-754-9200) is offering a special tournament rate of \$32.95 plus tax for one or two people.

For further information, contact Dave at McCabes, 517-754-3621.

## **ST. PAT'S TOURNAMENT, WETLANDS, ROYAL OAK, MARCH 20-22**

The Wetlands Bar & Grill, 1008 N. Woodward Ave., Royal Oak, will host its annual St. Patrick's Tournament on March 20-22.

A draw partner event is scheduled for Friday night, \$25 per player entry fee, with sale at 7:30 and play immediately following. Players with a -1, 0 or 1 rating cannot draw each other.

For Saturday's handicap doubles, the combined rating of both players must be at least 1 (-1's cannot

play with other -1's or 0's and 0's cannot play with each other). Entry fee is \$25 per player, limited to 20 teams. The sale will be at 2 p.m. or after the conclusion of the draw, whichever is later, with play immediately following.

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All events are single game, double elimination, 11 point games in the draw partners, 15 points in singles and doubles. A constant action format will be used for the singles and doubles.

Entry deadline is 6 p.m. Friday night for the draw and 1 p.m. Saturday for the doubles and singles. There will be a \$5 registration fee which will go to tournament director Rob Kern.

For further information and/or lodging recommendations, call Mike Papa at Wetlands, 810-543-2626.

### Maryland

## **MARYLAND STATE TOURNAMENT, HARVEY'S PLACE, STREET, APRIL 3-5**

The Maryland State Championships will be held at Harvey's Place, Street, on April 11-13. Events will include a draw partner, \$12 entry, on Friday, 6 p.m.; a bring partner, \$30 per team, on Saturday, 1 p.m.; an open singles, \$40 entry, on Sunday, 10:30 a.m.; a women's singles, \$25 entry, on Sunday, noon; and a A-B Draw, \$12 entry, on Sunday at 2:30 p.m.

For further information, contact Harvey at 410-836-8881.

Unlike other state championships, this one is open to everyone, regardless where they live.

### Ohio

## **SPRING TOURNAMENT, AVON'S LOCAL 14, TOLEDO, APRIL 17-19**

Celebrate Spring by checking out one of the best shuffleboard sites in the Midwest, Avon's Local 14, 5411 Jackman Rd. in Toledo. Spacious facilities, lots of parking, good food, and friendly hosts are what they have to offer. Their Spring Tournament is set for April 17-19 and will include a draw partner on Friday night, a handicap doubles and singles on Saturday and Sunday. See flyer in next month's issue. In the meantime, mark your calendars now for this big event.

*(continued on Page 28)*

## **Sawyer/Conn Top Field at Old Edison Inn Draw Partner**

Larry Sawyer, Anacortes, and Mike Conn of Edison, Washington, staged a monumental comeback to claim first place honors at the Old Edison Inn's 7th Annual Draw Partners Tournament in mid-December.

"With another tourney down south attracting many of the region's top-echelon shooters, this one had more of a local flavor than usual, with the highest percentage of the entries coming from league and meat-shoot types, and some who were totally new to any kind of competition," reports Phil DePree. "The result was a lot of fun and a positive experience for all, especially the newcomers."

After putting John Martin, Everett, and Dale Miller, Burlington, into the loser's bracket in the very first match of the day, Larry and Mike found themselves facing the same pair in the finals, and this time John and Dale were ready for them dealing out two straight wins, the second by 18-0, to force another 3-game set. Then, with their backs to the wall after dropping the opener, Larry and Mike clawed their way back to win two very well-played final games.

Jim Kyle of Bow and Clifford Pack of Bellingham finished third, with Sherm Anderson of Edison and Bill Atterberry of Burlington rounding out the top four.

A Friday night A/B draw event was won by Ted Anstensen, Anacortes, and Dan Archer, Burlington.

The next event at the Old Edison Inn is the 13th Annual Mixed Doubles the weekend of March 6-8 (see Upcoming Events for details).

## **New Faces in Winners' Circle at Rendezvous Inn**

**By Dick Gorman**

You may recall about a year ago, the Rendezvous Inn, Perryville, Maryland, returned to the tournament scene under the new owners, Lynn and Joe Hudock. We said then they are first-class and we hoped and expected them to repeat their previous success -- and they have. The date was Jan. 11 for a one-day draw partner, limited calcutta, which provided a lot of good fellowship and shooting for nearly \$700 (when you are having a great time with new friends, who cares that much about money?).

These folks are great hosts. First off, the tournament started at 11:15 a.m. -- no need to stop on the road for breakfast because this place serves outstanding breakfasts every Sunday and this was no exception -- beats Egg McMuffins. Then, during the afternoon, Joe Hudock and his workers went to work to provide a buffet for all participants -- roast beef, fried chicken and Stroganoff (made with deer meat), plus all the trimmings -- the kind of meal you would

like to take a snooze afterwards. Of course, during the day and evening, there were football pools -- American League and National League Champions (you know, you buy a square). A lot of folks did, but Joyce Pyle got a real nice pile of cash.

The tournament was won by Joyce Pyle, Church Hill, Maryland, and first-time money winner, host and owner Joe Hudock. Second went to Jonathan Harris, Havre de Grace, MD., and Jeff Miles, Rising Sun, Md., both first time money winners. Third place went to Faye Todd, Newark, Delaware, and another first-time money winner and tournament director at Market Street Cafe, Charlestown, MD., Russ Smith. It is really great to see these new names in the winners' circle. Believe me, there were many names at the tournament that have graced these pages in the past, but it just wasn't their day.

Lynn and Joe said another tournament date will be scheduled for later in the spring. Hope others will join them in this friendly place. If you are heading south on I-95 through Maryland, Perryville is an exit and only about two miles to Rendezvous Inn. Stop in -- easy to find, and great food and companionship!

## **Santa Classic at Piccolo's, Omaha, Nebraska**

**By Annie Sloger**

T'was a few days before Christmas and all through the house, not a creature was stirring -- except for shuffleboard maniacs at Piccolo's Bar in Omaha, Nebraska.

On Friday, Dec. 19, Piccolo's held an A-B draw tournament. Since it was a busy time of the year, they only ended up with 12 teams. Congratulations to Marty Shepard and Lenny Webster for coming in first. Second place went to Bob Linder and Sue Webster, with John Kosiske and Sharon Downe (a first-year player) taking third.

On Saturday, a bring partner tourney was held. Each team had to total a "2." These matches were the best of 2 out of 3.

Gwyn Orsi and I had control of the whole tournament until Sunday, when we sobered up. We played Mike Roach and John Kosiske in the finals. Unfortunately, the guys took control then. Seriously, congratulations to Mike and John for taking first. Obviously, Gwyn and I took second, and Kevin Larkin of Washington and Randy Nusser took third.

Thanks to Char Rahn for running a great tournament.

I hope everyone had a wonderful Christmas and the New Year is great for you. And, most important of all: "How about those Huskers?"

*(Editor's Note: Yeh, Annie, how about those Huskers -- George says not to forget to put the "corn" in front of that. And how about those Michigan Wolverines?)*

# Frisko Eddie's Revenge: The Return

A series by Balboa Ron Schweikert

(In last month's episode, after Eddie had lost the pro singles championship to Robby D, Lil had convinced him to go to the downstairs lounge at the Sands for a few drinks to help drown his disappointment. They were joined by a number of people and had more than a few. When Lil disappeared with Dick Moyer, Eddie followed them to a 12th room floor.)

Eddie was outside the door that led to the room which was sheltering his "mentor" (and his lover) Lil, and her "kissing cousin," Dick "the hat" Moyer. He had pondered several ways to get in that room, and finally made his decision.

He made his way to the end of the hallway, where there was a house phone. He got in touch with room service then, and ordered that a bottle of champagne be sent up to the room they were in. All he had to do now was wait until it showed up, and he could make his move.

It seemed like hours before the bellhop arrived on Floor 12. Eddie waited until he started to knock on the door before he walked in closer. There was a response from inside asking, "Who is it?" The hop replied: "This is the bellhop -- room service." "Wait a minute!" was the reply. It took a long time, but the door was then opened a crack. Eddie heard Dick ask: "Who the hell sent this?" of the bellhop.

Eddie made his move then. What was like almost all in one motion, he very quickly, with a wink and a smile, handed the bellhop \$10, grabbed the bottle of champagne, and waved him off, got his foot in the doorway, and pushed back a very startled Dick!

He quietly said: "The drinks are on me, Hat Man. Where's Lil?" Dick was only wearing a pair of Levi cutoffs and, with an insidious, snickering look on his face, replied: "She's in the John right now, Hot Shot. Stick around a minute and you can join the party."

Eddie wanted to bash that snickering face of his so bad right then, but didn't want to make a commotion because he wanted to surprise Lil when she came out of the bathroom. Before anyone could say any more, the door began to open.

Eddie didn't believe what he saw then! Lil came out into the main room, and had a shocked look on her face after seeing Eddie standing there. She had nothing on -- but her black silk pant.....

--TO BE CONTINUED--

Will this be the end of the relationship between Frisko Eddie and Long Beach Lil that started at the Blue Moon Lounge (where Lil convinced Eddie to go on the road with her) and lasted through many adventures across the country? Don't miss next month's issue to find out!



**If you are enjoying  
Balboa Ron's monthly  
series, or have story  
ideas for him, please  
let him know:  
Ron Schweikert  
1140 Coral Desert Drive  
Las Vegas, NV 89123  
Your positive feedback is  
the only "pay" he receives  
for his contributions.**



## More Notebook

### **Glen Urges: "Induct!"**

Madge and I are back home now. Got some snow on the ground, but the weather here is real mild compared to what's happening in Canada, East and North of us. I wouldn't wish that on my worst enemy. Hope they all come through it O.K.

We went down to the Houston tourney and saw a lot of people doing the right thing to put on a great show -- 12 boards with a Joe Spratt finish and about 10-15 helpers. Brian Walker did a great job on the brackets; Jack Scott, Johnny Ballard, Doc, Mary Koteris and others did a fantastic job of team work and running a smooth tourney. Directors Jack and Johnny say it will be even better next year.

We have a state championship coming up on Super Bowl weekend at the American Legion Post 73 in Del City. That will wrap it up in this area until March.

We hope that some states will have Hall of Fame inductions this year for the deserving people who have given something back to the game. California, Oregon, Washington, Oklahoma, Missouri, Texas, Indiana and, hopefully the East Coast.

This word of advice: your committee picks the person they want inducted. Get 20 signatures (endorsing the induction) or 10 or 15, whatever the committee decides upon and then have the induction at the next tournament or have it as an induction ceremony just like football, basketball, etc. does. You, the committees, have to make it happen!

Like I've said before, all the members of the National Shuffleboard Hall of Fame are at your disposal. One of us in your area will come if you ask us.

Do what you're there to do -- INDUCT! Let all the negative people stay out looking in. That's not what

we're about. Keep moving forward. Walk into the sun and the dark shadows will never cross your path.

Good luck to all!

Glen Davidson, Oklahoma City, Oklahoma  
National Shuffleboard Hall of Fame

*We salute the California Hall of Fame on their first induction. They seem to be an action-oriented, dedicated group of people who will make things happen. They will be holding a raffle at The Dixie Belle's Sweetheart Tournament to raise funds for their cause and we urge all shufflers to support that effort. We also salute your partner, Madge, who has been a constant supporter of Hall of Fame fund-raisers. She has had two people indicate their willingness to donate a sizeable chunk of cash toward a permanent home for the National Hall of Fame if someone else will match their donations. Wouldn't that be exciting!*

### **Introducing a New Feature....**

Betty Parrish, who serves on the Michigan Shuffleboard Hall of Fame, is not only a dedicated, hard-working supporter for our sport and The Board Talk, she's also very creative.

She thought shufflers would welcome a place where they could pay tribute to the memory of a friend or family member who has passed away. The "In Memory of Shufflers Past" (below) is her idea and we think it's a good one. We've started it with our tributes to a couple of dear, departed shufflers from our area and invite you to join us.

We suggest that you match the \$5 you send us for the space with a contribution to either your state Hall of Fame, if you have one, or the National Shuffleboard Hall of Fame. The departed one you honor would be proud of you!

George & Donna

### ***In Memory of Shufflers Past***

*If you would like to pay tribute to the memory of a shuffler in your area who has passed on, this space is available to you at \$5 for each memorial. Send to: The Board Talk, 503 E. Sheridan Rd., Lansing, MI 48906.*



#### ***In Memory of Rudy Stober***

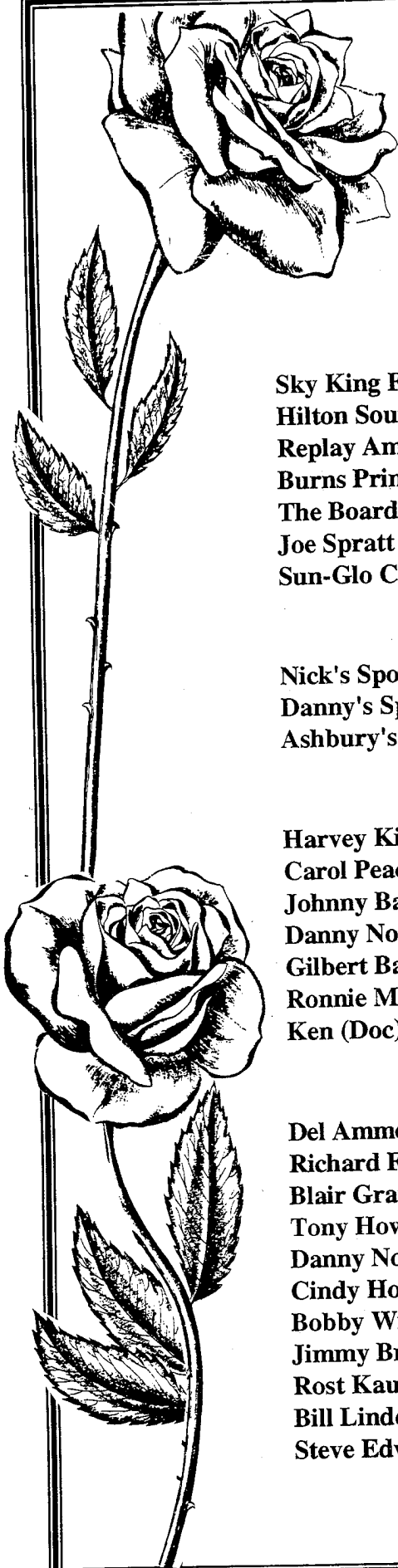
*Fondly remembered as a man who loved life, laughter, all people, and shuffleboard.*

*George & Donna Wilber, Lansing, Michigan*

#### ***In Memory of Ed Estep***

*He was a talented shuffler, a wise teacher, and a good friend.*

*George & Donna Wilber, Lansing, Michigan*



## *"Roses" to all those who made the 1997 Houston Holiday Open a success!*

*"We could not have done it if it were not for the quality of  
volunteers we had, plus our generous sponsors"*

*--Directors Johnny Ballard and Jack Scott*

### SPONSORS

Sky King Freight Ststems  
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The Shuffleboard Federation, Inc.  
National Plumbing Corporation  
Orion Oil & Gas  
Energy Innovations  
American Legion, Del City, Oklahoma  
Triple Crown Shuffleboard Supplies  
The Step In

### QUALIFIERS

Nick's Sports Bar  
Danny's Sports Bar  
Ashbury's Bar & Java House

Sansone's Sports Bar  
Triple Crown Sports Bar

### VOLUNTEERS

Harvey Kidd  
Carol Peach  
Johnny Ballard  
Danny Norris  
Gilbert Baird  
Ronnie Moore  
Ken (Doc) Strong

Brian Walker  
Mary Koteras  
Jack Scott  
Don Meehan  
Wayne Hammond  
Diana Hagen  
Eugene Peach

Bill Rice  
Sharon Huddleston  
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Silvia Martinez

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Steve Edwards

Bud Osborne  
Dan Dickson  
Phil Rider  
Silvia Martinez  
Royce  
Gilbert Baird  
Jack Snell  
Mahlon Nobles  
Neil Garvey  
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Jorge Galvan  
Andrea Gray  
Bill Ratliff  
Oscar Villegas  
Rob Houchin  
Wooley's Shuffleboard  
Nancy Rice  
Linda Nobles  
Jeri Billard  
Goose Gosling  
Olga Vaughan

*"Sincere thanks to all of you!"*

## Tony Salutes Houston Holiday Open Organizers

This was the second year that the Houston bunch has staged their Holiday Open. The first one was well-organized and well-received, but most everyone agrees that they out-did themselves this year. Held between Christmas Day and New Year's Day, this tournament may be hard for some people to schedule, but for me it is absolutely perfect timing. I plan on making this one every year.

The Hilton Hotel provided great rooms and facilities for only \$49 a night. There were plenty of places to eat and shop nearby, even though I seemed to have spent six days without seeing daylight. All 12 boards had been refinished just before the tournament (virgins). In fact, Bill Melton said it was the most consistent group of 12 or more boards that he had seen at a tournament. Usually, there is at least one or two real "dog" boards when you get 12 in the same room.

There was a whole boat-load of money won by lots of people. Unfortunately, I never scratched in any of the organized events. The tournament directors did, however, accommodate us losers by designating "open" boards as soon as they became available. Luckily, I managed to make some money this way. I would really like to thank the organizers for providing open boards as they did. I cannot tell you what a drag it is to travel to a tournament, pay all the entries, get all stoked up, lose your first two games, then have to sit there twittling your pucks and telling loser stories all day and night 'til the next event. Some people played 'til the wee hours every morning that we were there. This is the wonderful thing about a hotel tournament.

I also found it interesting how many groups were using the player ratings in order to provide parity for the side games.

My favorite quote from the tournament --

*Maroni: Me, Flynt and Howard just agreed that we all pretty much ruined our lives playing shuffleboard, but it's all been worth it.*

*Jeri Billard: Yeah, I used to be a well-adjusted person myself. You wanna know what my great pastime was?*

*Maroni: Uh-huh, what was that?*

*Jeri: I once had a healthy pastime -- volleyball. Now I get absolutely no exercise, gamble constantly, and get to hang out with drunks 'til two in the morning.*

Thanks again to all those who made this tournament happen. Great job, folks!

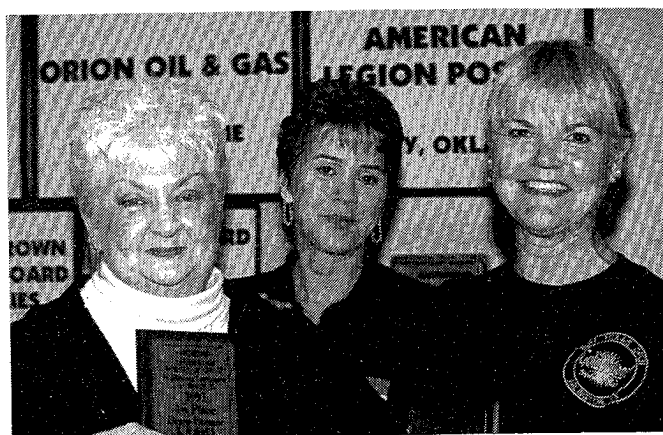
Tony Howard, Austin, Texas

## Houston Holiday (cont. from Page 1)



Gene McCleod and Mahlon Nobles rounded out the A B Draw winners by taking fourth place.

The open draw for 3's, 4's and 5's saw the ladies dominate the field of winners.



Sponsor Diana Hagen (center) congratulates open draw winners local Ronnie Moore and Linda Nobles of Dallas.



Locals Carol Peach and Sammy Stringer took second place honors in the open draw.

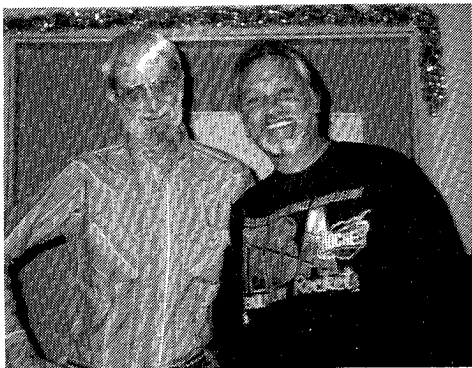


Director Jack Scott and sponsor Dave Ramold congratulate Steve Edwards and Lynette Ammerman on their third place finish.

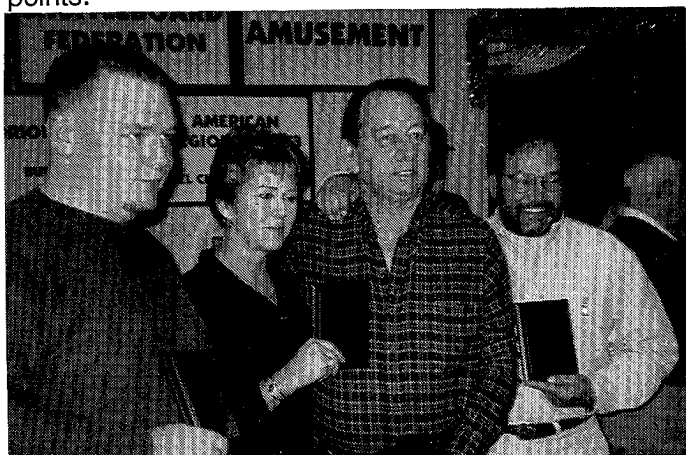
(continued on Page 2)

## Houston Holiday (cont. from Page 25)

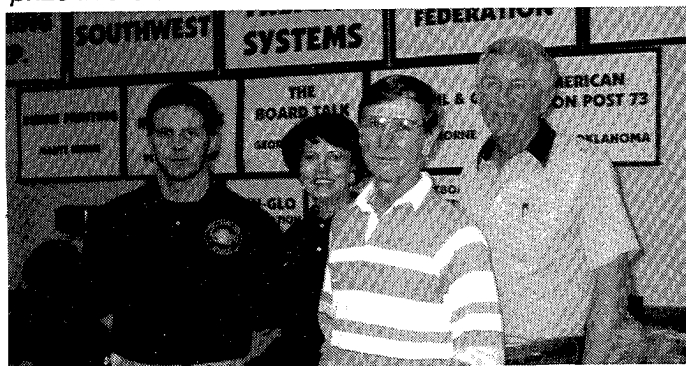
"Jaybird" and Jack Snell finished fourth in the open draw.



Sunday was the 4-Person Team Events, one for teams that added to 5 or more with only one pro allowed, and another for teams adding to 11 or more points.



Diana Hagen's team of Rob Houchin of Arlington and locals Harvey Kidd and Bud Osborne claimed the big prize in the 5-or-more team event.



Ron and Sharon Huddleston of Oklahoma City, Fred Boyd and Eddie Woods took second place honors.

It was rumored that Jack Snell was the "World's Greatest Four." He must be doing something right to get Bill Melton, Bobby Williams and Jeri Billard to team with him and take third place!



Third place winners were (left to right) Bobby Williams, Jeri Billard, Bill Melton and Jack Snell.



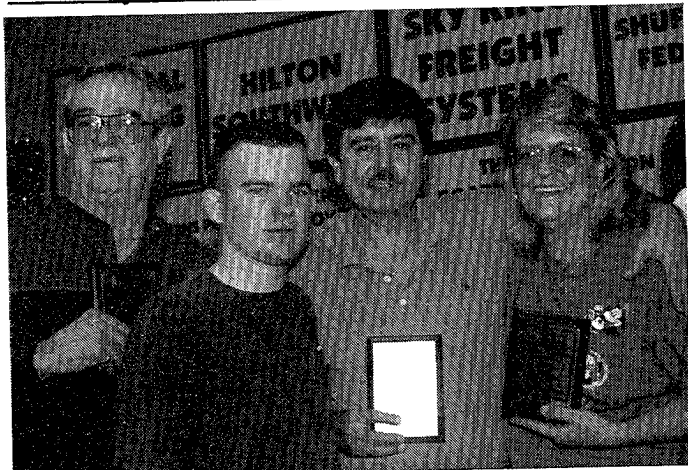
Harvey Walden (left) of Tennessee, age 60, spritely Joe Spratt (right), age 82, and ageless Olga Vaughn proved that experience counts, but age has nothing to do with it, as they took "youngster" Pat Gainey to first place honors in the 11 or more points team event.



Locals Wayne Hammond, Nancy Rice, Jimmy Britt and Troy Thornton claimed second place.

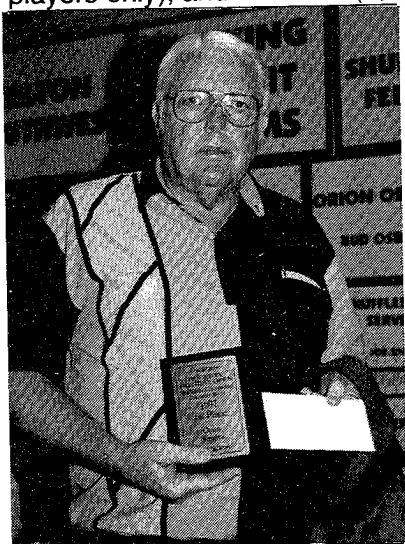
**Watch for News on the TEXAS GRAND SLAM  
May 16-25**



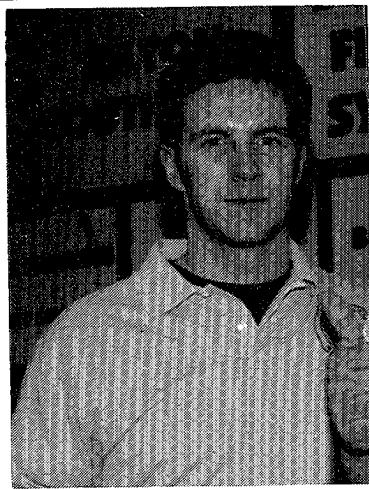


The Austin team of Lynda and Tom French, Ron Bowers and Craig White finished in third place.

Three events for singles were the featured events on Monday: Event #1 (-1, 0 and 1), Event #2 (2-rated players only), and Event #3 (3, 4 and 5).



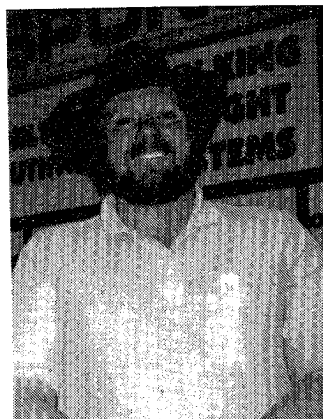
Oklahoman Bill Melton took the first-place plaque and money envelope for the Event #1



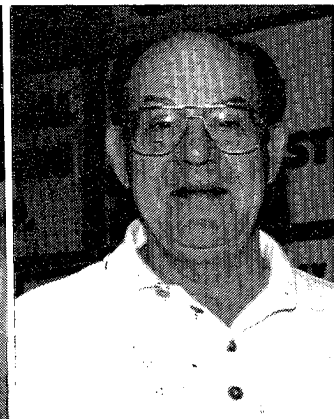
Bill edged out Texas David Williams (left), with Fred Boyd taking third in Event #1.

### How Many?

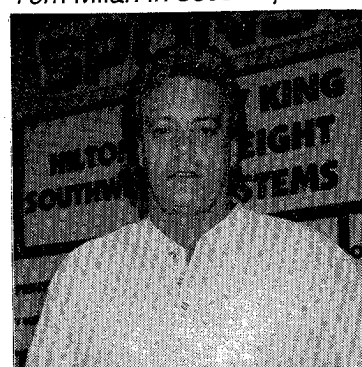
*Do you know how many people named in this issue are not subscribers? Spread the word!*



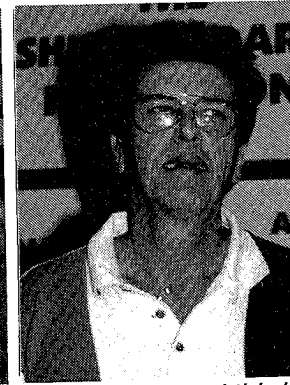
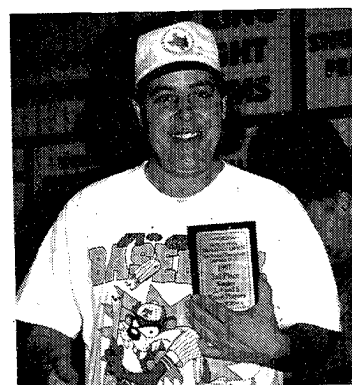
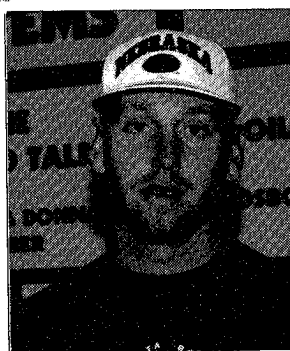
Local Eugene Peach (left) took first in Event #2, with Tom Milan in second place.



Stan Stinson finished third in the Event #2 singles.



Annie Nguyen showed Jack Scott that she's an "up and comer" by taking first place in Event #3. Dave Ramold, formerly of Nebraska, took second place.



Jimmy Britt (left) and Del Ammerman finished third and fourth, respectively.

On the final day of the tournament, Bill Melton returned to the winner's circle with local player Sylvio Martinez, to claim first place in the Bring Partner #1 event.

(continued on Page 3)



## Houston Holiday (cont. from Page 23)



Harvey Kidd (right) congratulates first-place winners in the Event #1 bring partner, Bill Melton of Oklahoma and local shuffler Sylvia Martinez.



Bob Hunt of Sacramento, California, a member of the National Shuffleboard Hall of Fame Board of Directors, and local Mary Koteras took second place.



Sponsor Linda Nobles (left) congratulates out-of-staters Gwyn Orsi of Nebraska and Kevin Larkin of Washington for taking third place. Gwyn and Kevin also earned an honorary award for "Most Miles Travelled to Get Here."

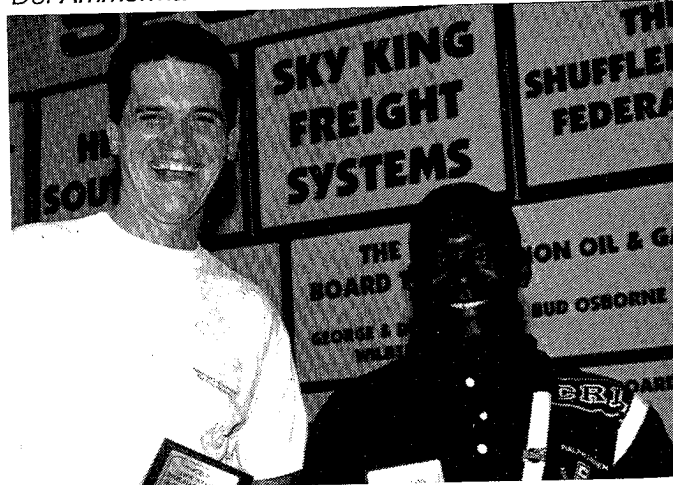
The team of Lilly Kidd and Mike Fitzsimmons claimed first place in the Event #2 bring partner, over the team of Del Ammerman and Gilbert Baird after agreeing to a "Sudden Death Lag" in lieu of a tie-breaker game. Troy Thornton and David Hamilton took third with Mike Taylor and Craig White in fourth place.



Lilly Kidd and Mike Fitzsimmons took first place in the Event #2 bring partner.



Del Ammerman and Gilbert Baird finished second.



Troy Thornton and David Hamilton finished third.

Away from the boards, veteran tournament players were impressed and newcomers were amazed at the proficiency with which Brian Walker and Bill Rice managed the bracket boards. The legend of Harvey Kidd, the auctioneer/humorist, threatens to surpass his reputation as a top-notch tournament player!

Seasoned tournament-goers from other parts of the country offered their comments:

(continued on Page 25)

## N.A.S.C. UPDATE

*From The Shuffleboard Federation, Inc.*

One of the great things about computers is that when you write something, you have the ability to move text around from one place to another within your document. One of the bad things is the ability to lose text during that process.

In the rush to put together information about the North American Shuffleboard Championships for The Board Talk, a very important part of the material (the whole story of procuring 12 of the boards for the tournament) got lost in the editing process. Because we send camera-ready material, we know that this was our mistake, not George and Donna's.

We are embarrassed that, as a result, one of the most important members of our team, Harvey Walden, was not mentioned. Also not mentioned was the great work of Matt Melton in loading and unloading boards at Del City, Harvey Kidd's help with truck rental, and the "beyond the call of duty" job done by Rick Boyer. The following should have been included in the post tournament coverage.

Don Crall, who runs the American Legion in Del City, Oklahoma, which hosts the annual Southwest Open and many other tournaments, also owns 21 (and counting) exceptional shuffleboards. All of them have rebuilt cradles, refinished tops, and three-sided scoreboards. When Bob Lewis, who had supplied 12 boards the previous couple of years, told us that due to his continued growth, he no longer had 12 boards available, we turned to Don Crall.

Don was not too enthusiastic about the idea of sending \$60,000 worth of shuffleboard tables cross country, but agreed to rent them to us if we could not find suitable equipment elsewhere. This was, of course, contingent upon us being able to work out all of the logistics to his and our mutual satisfaction.

We knew that Don would have to have total confidence in the person who was driving the truck. This was obviously an important issue to us as well, since we were responsible for returning the shuffleboards in the same condition they left in. For us, it was one of our easiest decisions of the

entire process of putting on the tournament. In addition to being one of the nicest people in shuffleboard, Harvey Walden is a man whose reputation and integrity are second to none. As soon as his name was mentioned to Don Crall, we knew that hurdle No. 1 was out of the way. As it turns out, Don also knew Harvey and felt as highly of him as we do. That confidence was well-founded. Upon arriving in Reno and opening up the truck, not only had all the boards arrived safely and damage-free, Harvey's hat was even sitting on the same box that he set it upon leaving Oklahoma.

In addition to doing a great job driving the boards more than 3,000 miles round trip, Harvey also pitched in and gave us a hand with the set-up process. So, to one of the most important members of our team, we thank you and apologize for not giving you your richly-deserved recognition in the original tournament write-up.

Harvey Kidd, who is a Ryder Truck dealer, took great care of us in helping with the rental price and arrangements. We appreciate his support as well.

Last, but not least, in addition to somehow pulling off the miracle of having all the boards set up and playable in only 14 hours, Rick Boyer also volunteered to make a long detour and go to Del City before the tournament to help load the boards before hopping on another plane to be in Reno when the boards arrived to supervise the unloading and set-up, and then repeat the entire process in reverse.

Something significant that we did not know at the time of the original write-up about the tournament has since transpired. We recently received a phone call from Don Crall, who was the bearer of great news. Due to the stellar job done by everyone involved in the transportation, set-up and take-down of the boards, Don has told us that his boards will always be available to us for the North American Shuffleboard Championships.

So, thanks again everybody, for your great work in helping to make the N.A.S.C. the tournament that it is.

# *The Shuffleboard Federation, Inc.*

41761 Onaway Drive, Northville, Michigan 48167-2411

(248) 380-9300

(800) 380-3033

FAX (248) 380-9305

# 1998 CALENDAR OF SHUFFLEBOARD EVENTS

## **FEBRUARY 1998**

### **Feb. 8-16**

7th Presidents' Day Tourney  
Blinky's  
Santa Clara, California

### **Feb. 12-15**

President's Day Tournament  
Gold Nugget  
Arlington, Texas

### **Feb. 13-15**

Sweetheart Tournament  
The Blue Goose  
Port Orchard, Washington

### **Feb. 14**

Open Doubles  
Sportsman's Lounge  
Muncie, Indiana

### **Feb. 13-15**

Sweetheart Tournament  
The Dixie Belle  
Downey, California

### **Feb. 21-22**

17th Annual Masters  
Fir Cone Tavern  
Shelton, Washington

### **Feb. 20-22**

2nd Saginaw Valley Open  
McCabe's  
Saginaw, Michigan

## **MARCH 1998**

### **Feb. 28-March 2**

Mason-Dixon Classic  
Harvey's Place  
Street, Maryland

### **March 6-8**

Handicap Tournament  
Taz Country  
Pflugerville, Texas

### **March 7**

Open Doubles  
Getaway Lounge  
Anderson, Indiana

### **March 7-8**

Mixed Doubles  
Old Edison Inn  
Edison, Washington

### **March 14**

Open Doubles  
Sportsman's Lounge  
Muncie, Indiana

### **March 20-22**

2nd Annual Spring Fling  
Mothers Pizza  
Corpus Christi, Texas

### **March 20-22**

Jimmy L's Spring Tournament  
Jimmy L's  
Tulsa, Oklahoma

### **March 20-22**

St. Pat's Tournament  
Wetlands Bar & Grill  
Royal Oak, Michigan

### **March 27-29**

5th Annual Florida Open  
Snuggery Bar & Grill  
Palm Beach Gardens, Florida

## **APRIL 1998**

### **April 3-5**

3-Event Tournament  
Dew Drop Inn  
Waterloo, New York

### **April 3-5**

Maryland State Championships  
Harvey's Place  
Street, Maryland

### **April 4-5**

Open Doubles  
Corner Tavern  
Bow, Washington

### **April 17-19**

Heartland Handicap Tourey  
American Legion Post 73  
Del City, Oklahoma

### **April 17-19**

Spring Tournament  
Avon's Local 14  
Toledo, Ohio

### **April 18-19**

Amateur Draw Doubles  
Fir Cone Tavern  
Shelton, Washington

### **April 18**

Arnold Cross Memorial Doubles  
Mississinewa Tavern  
Eaton, Indiana

### **April 18-19**

Open Doubles  
BZ's Bar & Grill  
SeaTac, Washington

## **MAY 1998**

### **May 2-3**

8th Annual Draw Partner  
Shamrock Tavern  
Longview, Washington

### **May 3**

37th Spring Doubles  
American Legion Post 424  
Bourbon, Indiana

### **May 7-10**

Lone Star Classic  
Gold Nugget  
Arlington, Texas

### **May 9-10**

Open Doubles  
Frankie's Sports Pub  
Olympia, Washington

### **May 16-25**

Texas Grand Slam  
Location to be Announced

### **May 17-25**

Memorial Week Tournament  
Blinky's  
Santa Clara, California

### **May 23-24**

Open Doubles  
Rod's Drive In Tavern  
Spokane, Washington

### **May 23-24**

Open Doubles  
Tolo Tavern  
Central Point, Oregon

### **May 22-25**

Memorial Weekend Tournament  
Honky Tonk  
Sherburne, New York

# 1998 CALENDAR OF SHUFFLEBOARD EVENTS

## JUNE 1998

### **June 6-7**

A/B Draw Partners  
Shotze's Rack-N-Roll  
Everett, Washington

### **June 20-21**

Mixed Doubles  
Shamrock Tavern  
Longview, Washington

## JULY 1998

### **June 28-July 4**

Southwest Open  
American Legion Post 73  
Del City, Oklahoma

### **July 18-19**

Open Doubles  
Town Tavern  
Sequim, Washington

### **July 25-26**

Amateur Draw Doubles  
Fir Cone Tavern  
Shelton, Washington

### **July 28-Aug. 2**

Grand Masters Plus  
Whistling Oyster  
Quilcene, Washington

## AUGUST 1998

### **Aug. 13-16**

Crazy Canucks Tournament  
AN & AF  
Vancouver, B.C.

## SEPTEMBER 1998

### **Sept. 2-6**

Texas Open and 14th Annual  
Board Talk Shufflers' Reunion  
Gold Nugget  
Arlington, Texas

### **Sept. 3-7**

West Coast Hall of Fame  
Tournament  
Medford Eagles  
Medford, Oregon

### **Sept. 26-27**

Amateur Draw Doubles  
Championships  
Fir Cone Tavern  
Shelton, Washington

## OCTOBER 1998

### **Oct. 3**

Annual Fall Doubles  
American Legion Post 424  
Bourbon, Indiana

### **Oct. 9-11**

Heartland Handicap  
American Legion Post 73  
Del City, Oklahoma

### **Oct. 17-18**

Nelson/Buhl Doubles  
Shamrock Tavern  
Longview, Washington

## NOVEMBER 1998

### **Nov. 14-15**

5th 55 & Over Tournament  
Shamrock Tavern  
Longview, Washington

### **Nov. 25-29**

Thanksgiving Classic  
Gold Nugget  
Arlington, Texas

## ***Additions to "Play Your Way"***

The following are shuffleboard establishments which have recently joined our national network. Please add them to your latest listing which was published in the December 1997 issue of The Board Talk.

**California:** The Silver Spur, 25041 E. 9th St., San Bernardino; phone 909-884-0615

**Pennsylvania:** Callahan's Tavern, 7403 West Chester Pike, Upper Darby; phone 610-352-9608

McFadden's Tavern, 7319 West Chester Pike, Upper Darby; phone 610-352-9727

Gambol's Cafe, 3722 Garrett Rd., Drexel Hill; phone 610-259-2702

**Texas:** Two Seas Bar & Grill, 14430 Park Rd. 53, Corpus Christi; phone 512-949-7338

Harbor Point, 2121 Buckingham, Richardson; phone 972-231-9365

Please stop by these locations and let them know you appreciate their support of shuffleboard.

The next quarterly listing will be in the March 1998 issue. If your favorite shuffleboard site isn't currently a subscriber, sign them up and send us their subscription by Feb. 15 to be on that list.

## ***Our Apologies.....***

*....to Avon's Local 14, Toledo, Ohio! We had made a tentative agreement to have our 14th Annual Board Talk Shufflers' Reunion at their facility, forgetting that we had promised the Texas Open that we would do it there. The 1999 Reunion will be held at Avon's. Please forgive our "old age" forgetfulness! -- George & Donna*

**This Calendar of Events is made possible by our  
advertisers. Please support those who support you!**

## **THE BOARD TALK**

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

**Phone: 517-484-4976 or 517-371-2538**

## Upcoming Events *(continued from Page 16)*

### Oklahoma

## JIMMY L'S SPRING TOURNAMENT, TULSA, MARCH 20-22

Jimmy L's, 9520 E. 11th in Tulsa, will host its annual Spring Tournament on March 20-22.

Action will start with an open draw on Friday, March 20, 6:30 p.m. drawing and sale at 7 p.m., \$25 entry fee, single game, double elimination. No pros or 0's an draw up (no two pros can be teams, no pro and 0 can be teams and no two 0's can be teams).

A Pro-Am bring partner event will start on Saturday following the open draw finals, \$50 per person entry. All teams must be at least 1 point. Best 2 out of 3 (subject to change in loser's bracket due to time), double elimination.

A one-time \$10 registration fee covers both events. The Fall 1997 Bowers handicap system will be used to determine ratings.

For further information and/or lodging recommendations, call Jimmy L's, 918-834-7544. Please post the enclosed flyer in your favorite shuffleboard site to spread the word about this fun event.

### Indiana

## ARNOLD CROSS MEMORIAL TOURNEY, MISSISSINEWA TAVERN, EATON, APRIL 18

The annual Arnold Cross Memorial Doubles Tournament will be held at the Mississinewa Tavern, 125 W. Harris in Eaton on April 18. Entry for the double elimination event is \$30 per team. Sponsor sale starts at 11 a.m. with play immediately following. Payoff is 60-30-10. Limited to the first 24 teams.

For information, call 765-396-9371.

## Looking Ahead.....

### May 2-3, Shamrock Tavern, Longview,

**Washington:** 8th Annual Draw Partner Tournament, \$20 per team entry with \$5 per player added by the Shamrock. 2 out of 3 in the winner's bracket, one 17 point in the loser's bracket. Sale at noon on Saturday. Come early for Friday night's \$10 round robins. A surprise from Bernice will be served on Saturday. For information, call Jerry Berquist at the Shamrock, 360-577-7444.

### May 16-25, Texas Grand Slam, Location TBA

Howdy, folks! Y'all heard the news? There's a new shuffleboard tournament on the horizon. Couple ole boys down in Texas gonna have something called the TEXAS GRAND SLAM. Heard tell this could be the biggest shindig ever held south of the Red River. May 16-25 is what those ole boys are talking about. Said they'd have 20 boards, lots of events for everyone, plenty of air-conditioning, food, beverages, live band and separate dance floor Friday and Saturday nights. R/V hook-ups, motel shuttle and even added prize money!!!

Don't think they left anything out, so make your travel plans now and watch your Board Talk for more details next month.

Can't wait? Call Greg Hixson, 972-644-4855; Mahlon Nobles, 972-496-6112; or C.W. Walker, 214-351-5508.

### May 21-25, Honky Tonk Saloon, Sherburne,

**New York:** Memorial Weekend Tournament with four events, plus round robins on Thursday night. Mixed doubles, \$40 entry, on Friday, 7 p.m., limited to the first 30 paid teams. Draw partner, \$20 entry, on Saturday, 3 p.m., limited to first 60 paid entries. Open doubles, \$40 entry fee, on Sunday, 11 a.m., limited to first 30 paid teams. Open singles, \$20 entry, on Monday, 9 a.m. (if there are not 12 paid entries by 11 a.m. on Sunday, this event may be cancelled). Drawings and sales will start at the listed times and you must be present at those times to enter each event. All events are single game, double elimination 15 points straight, played on five boards.

For further information, call Dale Law, 607-674-6580; Dick Losee, 315-691-2708; or Brenda Prosser 607-674-4810. At the last Memorial Weekend Tournament, some events were filled, so don't be let out. Send checks payable to Cash to Dale Law, P.O. Box 848, Sherburne, NY 13460. Area motels include the Sherburne Motel, 607-674-5511; Super 8-Norwich, 800-800-8000; Howard Johnson-Norwich, 607-334-2200.

### *You Don't HAVE to.....*

*No, you don't have to advertise in The Board Talk to have your events promoted in the Upcoming Events columns, but we -- and our readers -- appreciate your advertising support. Besides that, it works!*

*Full-page flyers designed and delivered to The World of Shuffleboard for only \$100!*

## **THE BOARD TALK**

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

**Phone: 517-484-4976**



## Frankie's 1st Annual A-B-C Draw is Big Success!

Frankie's Sports Pub, Olympia, Washington, hosted its 1st Annual A-B-C Draw Tournament on Dec. 12-14, attracting 51 players for a total of 17 three-person teams.

"The A-B-C draw was a great success, with teams all very even so competition was rough," reports hostess Cheri Schnarrs. "I am very pleased to have a way to introduce new players to the sport and not discourage them at each tournament."

By Saturday evening, the field of 17 teams had narrowed down with 12 teams still in the running for the big bucks. "We decided to let everyone have a great night's sleep before resuming play," Cheri said. "Need I say more? The die-hard board players were here until I don't remember when playing round robins."

On Sunday, the winners were proclaimed with Wizard Dave Arndt and his team of Dave McCoskery (a great guy who has an exciting future in this game) and Cindy Powers (with more doubles and great shots -- and she drinks Snapple), taking first place honors.

Chuck Norris (the movie star of the Northwest) took his team of Grant Manning (one of the best players from Shelton) and Ralph Duarte (who shot like he has been playing this game for awhile) to second place.

Known and appreciated for the talent and support he brings to each game, Darrol Nelson and his team members Chuck Anthony and Lynn Rollman from Port Orchard took third place.

The "three amigos," Larry Pearson and team members Dennis MacPherson (that little guy can shoot) and Frank Schnarrs (former owner of Frankie's and one of the players to watch out for in the future) took fourth place.

In a pre-tournament A-B draw on Friday night, 56 players signed up. Frank Powers and Hazel Thorpe took first place, with Jeff Adams and Dave McCoskery in second. Third place went to Dennis MacPherson and Ken Sandholz; fourth to Winston Jim and Moyne Riley; fifth to Mike Thorpe and Ron Bacek, and sixth to Dean Mako and Dennis Smith.

"Dave Arndt and Mike Thorpe headed up both tournaments and as usual, they did a fantastic job," said Cheri. "They even let me help a little. Without the devotion and endurance of these two guys, tournaments of this size would not be possible. Frank and I are proud to call you both special friends. Also thanks to Mitch for the very graphic sale. Sorry to say we were without "Caveman," who had back surgery, but he did manage to visit us during the tournament.

"Frank and I thank all the players and their family members who took time out in this busy holiday time to support this sport. The Northwest is growing to be the place to play. Thanks to all who participated in the

A-B-C Draw: Mitch, Rick Gindt, Gary George, Carl Roush, Chuck Norris, Larry Pearson, Mike Thorpe, Dave Arndt, Kevin Larkin, Darrol Nelson, Mike Waters, Jim Allis, Dick Doak, Frank Powers, Dick Heflin, Tim Neugn, Tom Henry, Dean Mako, Hazel Thorpe, Fritz Louscher, Frank Mako, Grant Manning, Dennis MacPherson, Dan Stalsworth, Dave McCoskery, Richard Larson, Chuck Anthony, Rick McCoskery, Winston Jim, Nancy Johanson, Dennis Smith, Paulette McKinney, Mel Hohn, Jeanette Henry, Jeanette Hohn, Chuck Harris, Terry Martin, Georganne Brand, Ralph Duarte, Frank Schnarrs, Bobbi Arndt, Cindy Powers, Cheri Schnarrs, Frank Schnarrs, Lynn Rollman, Sharon McDonnell, Judy George, Moyne Riley, Jim Rollman, Jerry Berquist, Jim Watson, and Jerry Gibson. Thanks to all and we hope you had a great time," Cheri said.

*(Editor's Note: Photos did not arrive before we went to press. Watch next month's issue.)*

## Houston Holiday *(cont. from Page 24)*

Ron Huddleston of Oklahoma City proclaimed the Houston Holiday Open to be "one of the best in the country" with "some of the best boards around."

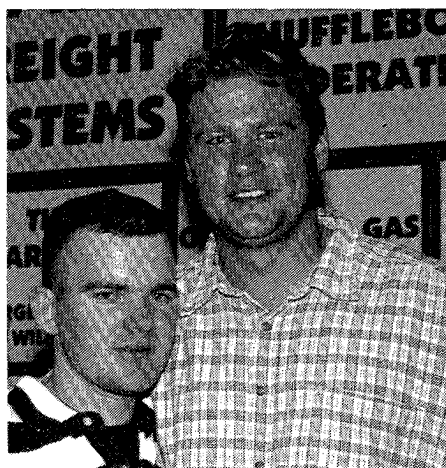
Gwyn Orsi of Omaha, Nebraska, especially liked "the great room deal with free breakfast" along with "great weather" and "Texas hospitality."

Bob Hunt of Sacramento, California, was also impressed with the boards as well as "the great facilities" and "fun, good people."

For those who could stay around for the 31st (and many did), there was a gala New Year's Eve party with fine food, party favors and "appropriate revelry," not to mention those beautiful boards still in place.

One lasting image came on the final night of the tournament. After the last game had been played and all the prizes awarded, Bill Melton could be seen in the far corner of the room, giving pointers to a couple of newcomers to the game. That's what it's all about!

Happy New Year from the Houston Holiday Open volunteers.



*Craig White and Mike Taylor took fourth place in the Event #2 Bring Partner.*

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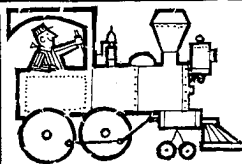
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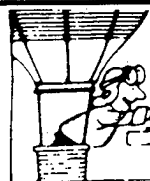
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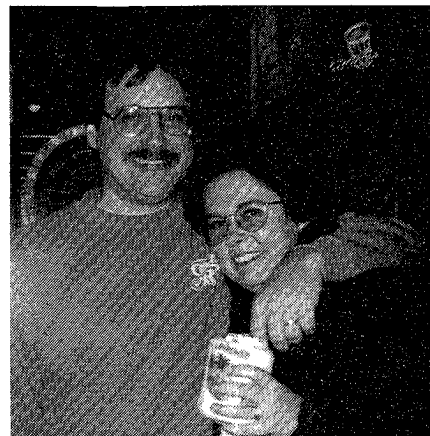
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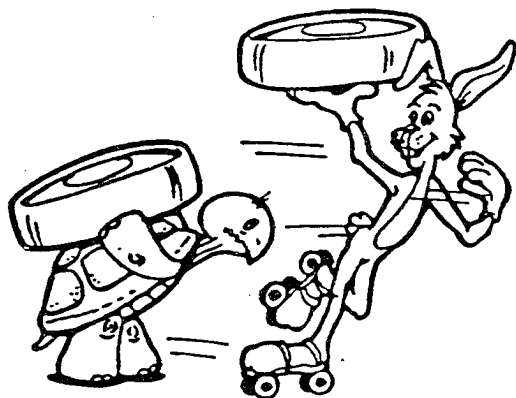
## Shufflers Celebrate Grand Finale at Deer Park Tavern

A mixed doubles tournament at Deer Park Tavern in Fort Wayne, Indiana, on Dec. 13 marked the last day of business for popular hosts Mary and Larry Brown. In addition to the nine teams who vied for a total pot of \$1,000, others stopped in to say farewell and good luck to the couple who have made friends throughout The World of Shuffleboard.

*Pam Worsham and Terry Dowell had fun coming from the loser's bracket to beat out Deb and Bobby Voorhis.*



*Bobby and Deb Voorhis settled for second place. Placing third were Carolyn Walsh of Ohio and Larry Huffer of Indiana.*



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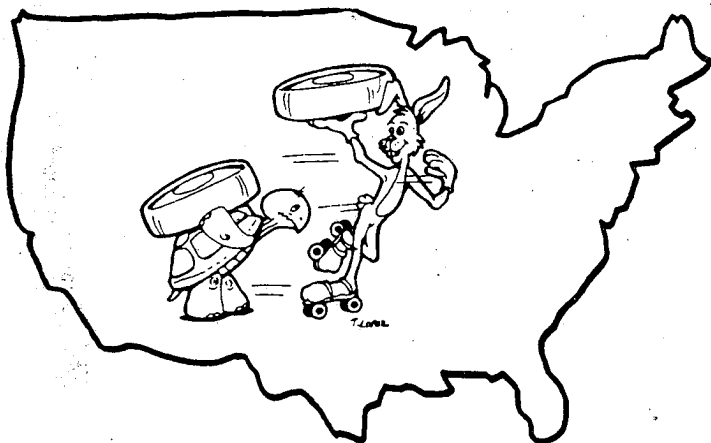
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