

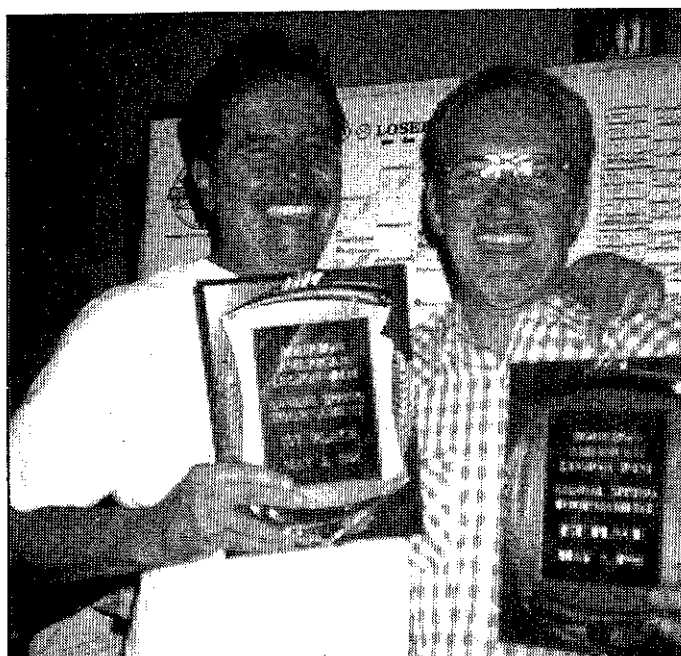
The Board Talk

Published monthly by George & Donna Wilber
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Vol. 15, No. 11

November 1998

Knox/Miller Score Repeat at Bourbon Fall Doubles



Jerry Knox and Ray Miller, both from Indiana, did a repeat performance of their win at the 37th Annual Bourbon Spring Doubles, winning the Fall Doubles at the American Legion 424 on Oct. 3.

There were 28 teams in the annual Fall Doubles at Bourbon this year, competing for a share of the \$7500 pot. Knox and Miller came all the way through the winner's bracket to claim their title.

Glen Ingram and Steve Hart teamed up to take second place honors. Coming all the way from Maryland to keep Indiana from making a clean sweep were Rick Niblett and Len Dell, who took third place (they finished fourth in the Spring Doubles, so they're working their way up). Steve Blue, back after a "recess" from shuffleboard, and Larry Brown finished fourth. Tied for 5th and 6th were Jim Long and Larry Creakbaum, Mike Koontz and Dennis Kinsey.

The Legion is a member of The Board Talk's national shuffleboard network.

Hall of Fame Inductions Nevada



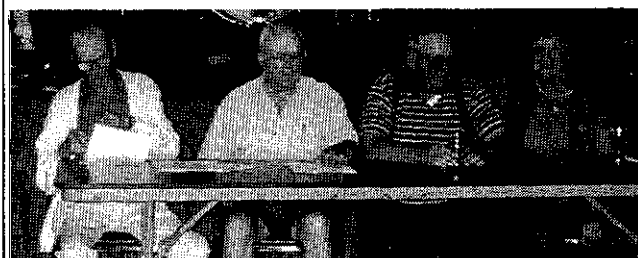
Balboa Ron Schweikert -- See Page 19.

Missouri



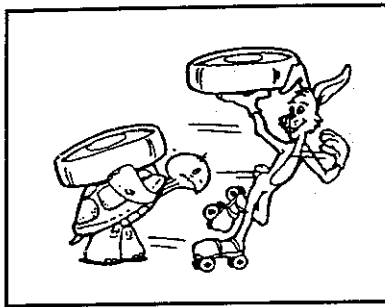
Woodie Cockrum -- See Page 22.

Pacific Northwest



Jack Tyler, Jerry Berquist, Winston Jim Cockrell and Joanie Millar -- See Page 30.

Next Month: Celebrate The Board Talk's 15th Anniversary!



Shufflers' Notebook

News and Views from The World of Shuffleboard

A Long-Time Friend Says Thanks for The Board Talk

I look forward to reading your paper cover to cover every month. I have since day one! All you shufflers who are reading this paper and are not signed up, please subscribe. You get one full year, 12 issues, for \$20. Come on, you spend that in one night playing the game you love. Shuffleboard needs you!

I have used The Board Talk's "Play Your Way Across the U.S.A." to find shuffleboard establishments and have made many new friends. For example, at the end of June this year, Christine and I were in Seattle, Washington, visiting her sister. We drove to Quilcene. The place -- Bill Bailey's Whistling Oyster Tavern -- truly a first-rate shuffleboard place. If not for The Board Talk, I would not have met Bill, the owner. Thanks for the t-shirts, Bill. We also had the opportunity to play Loren Lampley and Paulette McKinney. Congratulations, Loren, on your first place victory in the singles and second place honors in the doubles. To Paulette, congratulations on your second place honor in the mixed doubles. Thanks, guys, you made our visit to the Great Northwest memorable.

And, thank you, George and Donna, for The Board Talk!

Michael Tobin (still looking for a shuffleboard game in Pittsburgh), Cranberry Twp., Pennsylvania

The reason The Board Talk will celebrate its 15th "birthday" next month is because of folks like you, Mike, and let us assure you, we don't take your years of support for granted. We hope those shufflers who read other subscriber's newsletter instead of buying their own will take heed of your message. We are so pleased that The Board Talk led you to the Whistling

--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!

Oyster. The time we spent there with Bill and Sandee and all the fine folks in the Great Northwest was one of our most memorable shuffleboard experiences.

Gary Has Praise for Team Mates at Texas Open

I would like to thank the Camerons, Rod and Florence Sue, and Bobby V for asking me to play on the four-person team in Richardson, Texas. We were extremely fortunate and, yes, even lucky, to win. But luck counts also. This win was an example of "team effort." It seemed like we were always one shot or one game away from elimination.

I was also impressed with the caliber of play and sportsmanship of the other teams, some members I rarely see play or had not met at all. In fact, there was only one person whose remarks exhibited poor sportsmanship while I was there.

There was more than one board which I did not handle very well, and my play would probably be best described as erratic, but even I looked good at times with Bobby V for a partner!

Gary Moore, Mannford, Oklahoma

Pros like Bobby V are a real pleasure to watch as they lend expertise and encouragement to players on their teams who are less experienced and/or skilled. We applaud them and the tournament organizers who stage events that provide ALL shufflers the opportunity to play and learn -- and win! Like you, we were impressed with the high level of good sportsmanship displayed at the Texas Open/Board Talk Shufflers' Reunion in Richardson over the Labor Day week. Our only complaint: one "miracle" shot by host Greg Hixson which left George gasping with disbelief! Fine way to treat a first-time guest (just kidding!).

Not Enough Praise for Mel...

That's right, you heard it here first, fans: there just isn't enough words of praise for Mel Hohn of the Fir Cone Tavern, Shelton, Washington, for ALL the work
(continued on Page 12)

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.

Dew Drop Inn's Summer Sizzler Tournament "Sizzles"

The Summer Sizzler Tournament (and it was sizzling!) attracted players from six states to the Dew Drop Inn, Waterloo, New York, on July 31-Aug. 2. The total pot was \$6900.

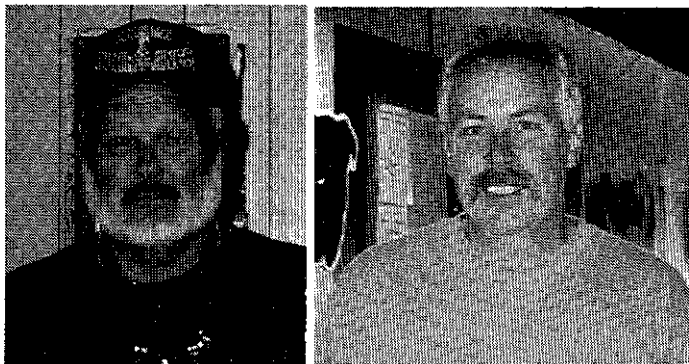
There were 12 teams in Friday night's mixed doubles.



Taking home the largest share of the \$1200 pot were John Arndt of Waterloo and Linda Meyer of Liverpool, N.Y.

Second place went to Rick Meyer of Liverpool and Theresa Gibson of Waterloo. Taking third place were Rob Hummer of Waterloo and Cindy Miner of Guilford, N.Y.

Early Saturday morning, the singles got underway with 27 players vying for a share of the \$2200 purse.



First place went to Len Dell (left) of Pennsylvania with Rob Hummer taking second place honors.

In third place was Louise Freer of Pennsylvania.

On Saturday afternoon was the draw partner event with a purse total of \$1700.



Rick Niblett (left) and Lonzo Knight of Maryland were winners of the draw partner tournament.



Louise Freer of Pennsylvania and John Myles of Michigan took second place in the draw partner.

Third place winners were Russ Reynolds and Bob White of Sherburne, N.Y., and fourth went to Roland Harkless of Michigan and Rob Hummer of Waterloo.

Sunday's bring partner event had 15 teams vying for a purse of \$1800. Dick Losee and Russ Reynolds of Sherburne captured first place. Second was won by Al DiBella of Pennsylvania and David Fridley of Waterloo. Third place went to Lonzo Knight and Sam Jones of Maryland.

Participants thank Dew Drop Inn hostess Tracie Fridley and her staff who made the tournament a success and an enjoyable weekend. Special thanks to their favorite all-American cook, Elsie Fridley, who filled their stomachs with great food -- as usual.

The Dew Drop Inn is a member of The Board Talk's national shuffleboard network.

DON'T JUST SIT THERE ON THE BAR STOOL COMPLAINING ABOUT WHO SHOULD BE IN THE SHUFFLEBOARD HALL OF FAME!
Nominate your choice to your State Hall of Fame, along with documentation and the required signatures, and they'll take it from there. If you don't have a State Hall of Fame, help form one!

Upcoming Events Across the Nation

State Championships Set for Thanksgiving Weekend Indiana

Indiana State Championships: Nov. 27-28, at Chances "R" in Muncie. An open doubles is scheduled for Friday, \$50 per team; an open singles on Saturday, \$30 per player; a mixed doubles, \$20 per team, and a women's singles, \$15 entry, on Sunday. Call 765-284-0855. Open to Indiana residents only.

Florida

Florida State Championships (Note new location): Nov. 26-29, at Hobo's Pour House, 4795 Highway 46, Mims (1 mile west of I-95, exit 81). Round robins on Thursday along with a free Thanksgiving dinner. The tourney will kick off on the 27th at 7 p.m. with a bring partner. Saturday, the 28th, will be ladies' singles at 11 a.m. and men's singles at 1 p.m. Sunday, Nov. 29, will be a mixed doubles, 11 a.m. Plenty of parking for RVs and a KOA camp is nearby. For information, call Hobo or Mary, 407-269-6227, or Alvis Ramey, 407-269-4121. Open to Florida residents only.

Michigan

Michigan State Championships: Nov. 26-29, Club Car Lounge, Durand. Open to Michigan residents only. Boards available Thanksgiving afternoon; mixed doubles on Friday, \$15 per player; three events on Saturday: (1) open singles, \$40 entry; (2) ladies' singles, \$15 entry; (3) Div. II singles, \$20 entry -- all played simultaneously; open doubles, \$20 per player, on Sunday. One-time \$5 registration fee. For information, call John McDermott at The Shuffleboard Federation, 800-380-3033, or George Wilber at The Board Talk, 517-371-2538 or 484-4976. Nearest motel is already booked with players. Contact Dennis at the Club Car, 517-288-9910, for other lodging suggestions. Some RV parking available. Free feed and Hall of Fame induction on Saturday.

Pennsylvania

Pennsylvania State Championships: Nov. 27-29, at J & C's Tavern, 6601 Lansdowne Ave., Philadelphia. "B" bring partner and singles on Friday, open bring partner on Saturday, and either an A-B or A-B-C draw on Sunday. For information, call J & C's at 215-878-7343.

CHAMPION SHUFFLEBOARD FEATURES....

(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."

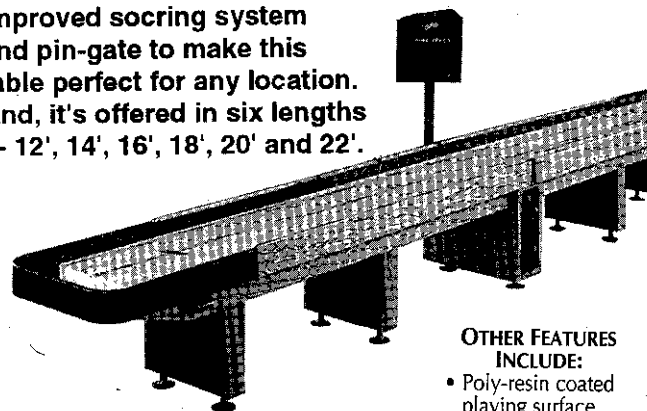
All boards are now available with 4-3-2-1 scoring. Old playfields can be refinished to accommodate this new score system.

"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

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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'.



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Oklahoma**THANKSGIVING TOURNEY
AT ACTION LOUNGE,
BROKEN ARROW**

Bud Hillburn will host a Thanksgiving Tournament at his Action Lounge in Broken Arrow on Nov. 27-29. Action will start on Friday, Nov. 27, with a handicap draw partner (3 points per team maximum), \$20 entry, must be signed up and paid by 6 p.m. On Saturday, there will be a handicap singles, two events (1) -1's through 2's and (2) 3's, 4's and 5's, \$25 entry fee. A handicap bring partner (maximum 3 points) event is on the agenda for Sunday, \$50 per team, must be in by 12:30 p.m.

The Action Lounge has three in-house boards. A one-time \$7 registration fee will be charged.

Questions? Call Bud at 918-258-1773.

Washington**BZ'S THANKSGIVING A-B
BRING PARTNER, BURIEN,
NOV. 27-29**

BZ's Sports Bar, 17730 Des Moines Memorial Drive in Burien, will host a Thanksgiving A-B Bring Partner Tournament on Nov. 27-29. "A" players rated 1 or lower must pair with a player rated higher than 1. B and C players may play together. To determine your rating and that of your partner, contact Jim Foran, 253-474-2724.

Entry fee is \$50 per team, double elimination, played on four boards. BZ's will add \$20 per team to the pot. The sale is scheduled for 11 a.m. Saturday, with play immediately following. Payout will be 52-24-12-6-3-3.

Come early for Friday night's A-B Draw, 7 p.m., \$20 per person entry fee, single elimination. This event will pay four places.

For further information, call Craig at 206-243-6018. Please post the enclosed flyer in your favorite shuffleboard site.

Texas**3-EVENT TOURNEY AT TAZ
COUNTRY, NOV. 13-15**

Taz Country, 1406 FM 1825, Austin, will host a 3-event tournament on Nov. 13-15. Action will start with a single elimination A-B draw on Friday, 8 p.m., \$30 entry. A bring partner event (total of at least 2 points) is on the agenda for Friday at 8 p.m., \$50 entry, double elimination. A second A-B draw, \$50 entry, will start at 1 p.m. on Sunday, also double elimination.

For information, call Ron or Debbie Bowers, 512-835-7256 or 459-1264. Recommended lodging is the Rodeway Inn, Round Rock, 512-246-0005.

**WILLIAMS BROTHERS'
THANKSGIVING TOURNEY,
ELKS LODGE, GARLAND**

The 14th Annual Williams Thanksgiving Tournament will be held Nov. 25-29 at the Elks Lodge 1984, 3825 Duck Creek, Garland. This spacious facility will feature nine boards, inexpensive drinks, plenty of parking, and a FREE Thanksgiving dinner on Thursday. Events include a singles for Div. I (-1's through 2's) and Div. II (3's, 4's and 5's) on Wednesday, Div. I and II bring partners on Thursday, Div. I and II draws on Friday, a 6-person draft team event on Saturday, and \$25 round robins on Sunday.

Please check the enclosed flyer to see what events you can enter and then post it in your favorite shuffleboard site to help spread the word about this big event. Questions? Call David Williams, 817-451-9583, or Bobby Williams, 817-496-8972 or 265-7045.

**HOUSTON HOLIDAY OPEN,
HILTON SOUTHWEST, DEC.
26-31**

Wondering what to get your spouse or Significant Other for Christmas this year? You just couldn't go wrong -- for yourself and your gift receiver -- than six days of shuffleboard fun with friends across the U.S.A at the Houston Holiday Open, Hilton Southwest, Dec. 26-31. This tournament, too, has events for all skill levels, pros through 5's. Check the enclosed flyer and decide which events are for you. Note, too, that there will be a special New Year's Eve party!

The Hilton Southwest is a beautiful facility and there will be free transportation to the Galleria shopping center for all those after-Christmas sales. The room charges for two beds (up to four people) is \$49.95 and includes two breakfast buffets.

For further information, contact Johnny Ballard at 281-759-3706, or Jack Scott, 281-558-0237.

California**THANKSGIVING TOURNEY,
DIXIE BELLE, DOWNEY**

The Dixie Belle in Downey will host its 6th Annual Thanksgiving Tournament -- PLUS the induction of Tommy Workman into the California Hall of Fame on

(continued on Page 6)

Bowers Rating System Works Well at Harvey's Place

By Dick Gorman

As announced the end of last year's shuffleboard season at Harvey's Place, Street, Maryland, things would be different with the new season. Owner Harvey Comer has been striving for several years to improve the tournament format to promote The World of Shuffleboard and improve on his scheduling of events. After many trials and errors, it was rationalized that there was a difference in the skill and ability between players to the degree that the lesser skilled and ability players were staying away from the tournaments primarily because of cost (money) without a great deal of chance to participate in the rewards.

After many trials (and failures), it was decided to adopt the Bowers Rating System and use it as a handicap system. It was realized that this would not be met with a large approval from those with the most skills and ability (matter of fact, they felt they were being penalized). But the overall intent was to make a more level playing field. We did not want to exclude any participants, but we wanted to give the lesser-skilled a better chance to compete. The system was designed that a team must have a total score (Bowers System) of 2.00 to compete (no one excluded). In a doubles event, the (Bowers System) ratings are added together. The difference between the opposing teams is reduced to the nearest whole number and that result is the handicap, with a maximum of 5 points. (As a matter of fact, only once during the two-day tournament was a handicap of 3 points given -- the rest were less.)

The result of this innovation was almost exactly what was anticipated. Players were not intimidated by the more skilled players and the atmosphere among the crowd was most pleasing. Obviously, when a change of this drastic proportion is made, many of the former players and potential new players stayed away with a "wait and see" attitude. The results were good and we believe we are on the right track. We intend to stay on this course and follow the schedule published in the October Board Talk.

Friday night's draw partner event of the Oct. 9-10 tournament was not up to the previous number of participants, but more than adequate to say it was successful. The participants agreed they liked the new format -- but were surprised that there weren't more handicap points between matches.

First place was won by Lindsay Hall, Baltimore, Maryland, and Billy Pollock, Philadelphia, Pa. Second place was won by Don Casula and Wendy Davis, both of Wilmington, Delaware.

Saturday was the scheduled bring partner event and again, participants stayed away for the same reasons. But we had enough to go on with the event

using the handicap system. It was won by Jim McDaniel, Darlington, Md., and Faye Todd, Newark, Del., with the second place money going to Don Casula, Wilmington, and Herb Forster, Ridley Park, Pa.

Saturday night concluded with a draw partner event still using all four in-house boards. It was won by Gene Long, Lancaster, Pa., and Bob Overbay, Darlington, Md., with second place going to Dick Gorman, Wilmington, and Lindsay Hall, Baltimore.

Of course, our hosts, Darlyne Belcher and Harvey Comer, were up to their usual talents and were most gracious with their hospitality and open buffet for the participants.

Harvey Comer said: "I think we have found the format we want for good level playing field tournaments and we intend to stay with it."

We hope more participants will join us at our next tournament on Nov. 20-21. Please call 410-836-8881 for more information.

Upcoming Events *(cont. from Page 5)*

Nov. 26-29. There are two events on the agenda -- an open doubles, \$50 per person, and an A-B-C draw, \$25 per person. Both are 2 out of 3 double elimination. Please post the enclosed flyer in your favorite shuffleboard site.

The induction of Tommy Workman into the California Shuffleboard Hall of Fame is scheduled for 3 p.m. on Saturday.

For further information, call the Dixie Belle, 562-803-4943.

Colorado

SANTA CLASSIC, BALLOON INN, ARVADA, DEC. 11-13

The Balloon Inn in Arvada will host the 9th Annual Santa Classic on Dec. 11-13. It will be a bring your own partner open doubles, \$120 per team, double elimination. Sale will be at Friday at 8 p.m., with play beginning on Saturday at noon. For information, call Jody Slack, 303-421-9332.

See the ad on the Calendar of Events page.

Please Remember...

Darrol Nelson, who recently lost his Mom: 92702 Hager Rd., Cheshire, OR 97419.

Betty Parrish's Mom in the hospital: 6621 Doyon Dr., Waterford, MI 48327.

Bracketeer Rob Kern and Debbie Turk who wed Oct. 10: 6478 Simmons Rd., Waterford, MI 48327.

Let them know you care!

*To All Participants of the 9th Annual Skip's/Board Talk Tournament:
In our book, you're ALL winners! We applaud you for your.....*



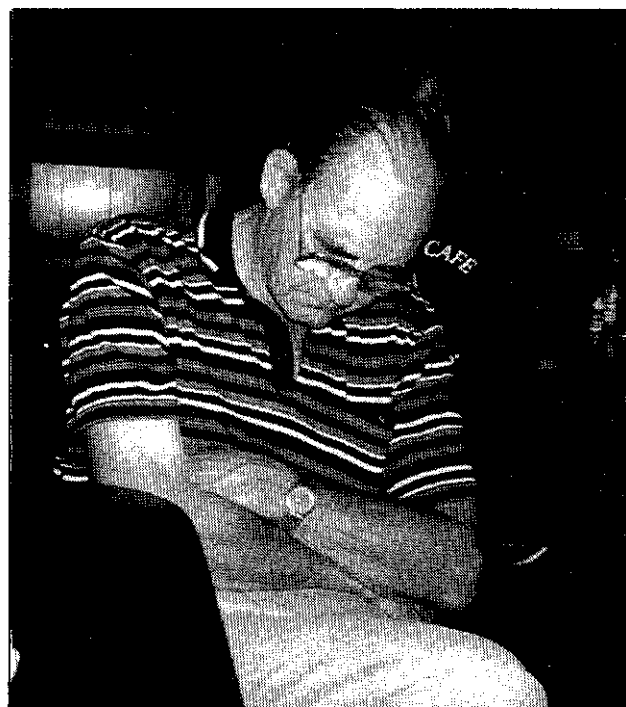
Good Sportsmanship.... Your Competitiveness.....Your Friendliness.....

and.....

Your fun-loving spirit!

*Thanks for making this a
great weekend of shuffleboard at Houghton Lake.
We look forward to seeing you at No. 10 and in
between now and then!*

You are one great group of people!



*Thanks, George and Donna and Rob,
for another great one!*



Hosts Carole and Skip Sliwa and Board Talk George

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Lost & Found at 9th Annual Skip's/Board Talk Fall Bash

By George & Donna Wilber

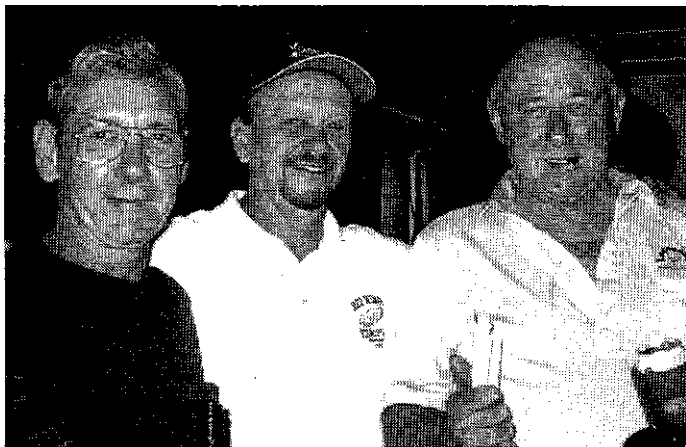
Lost: some of our Indiana friends who have made the annual Skip's/Board Talk Fall Bash a tradition. Missing was the excitement of watching the Red Baron landing on the field next to Skip's Lounge in Houghton Lake, with a bunch of Hoosiers in his plane. Our fault -- and we salute them for staying home to support one of their local tournaments. That's the way it should be! When our trip to Texas for the Labor Day tournament happened, we had to postpone this annual for one week and it competed against a good friend and supporter, the AMVETS in Pendleton, Indiana. We apologize to them and to Skip for that schedule change and promise it won't happen again.

Found: some new faces at Skip's. Charlee Magoo once again brought a big contingency from the Majestic in Pontiac to lend a new dimension to this annual event, some repeaters, others their first time here -- but hopefully not their last.

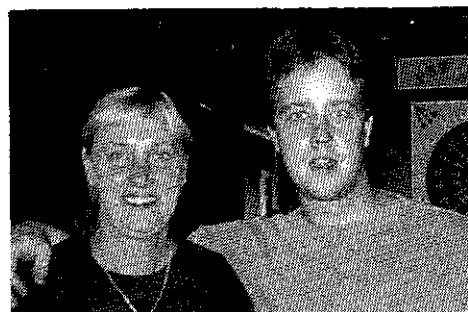
Despite our self-inflicted problem, there was still an enthusiastic crowd of shufflers from four states competing for a total pot of \$10,650 in three events.

22 Teams in Draw Partner

Forty-four players signed up for Friday's draw partner event. Tournament director Rob Kern wasn't due in until late Friday night after a full day's work, so it was up to Board Talk George and a very talented Pat Kuhn of Indiana to handle the brackets.



Skip's Lounge host Skip Sliwa (center) presents first-place cups and Budweiser jackets to winners O.B. Brimm (left) of Pontiac and Larry Huffer of Indiana.



Brenda Kane of Broken Arrow and Steve Auten of the Majestic, both in Pontiac, took second place honors.



"I'll take him as a partner any time," says Ron Palmer (left) of Stober's Lounge in Lansing about veteran Bjerne Sunde of Madison Heights. The two drew each other to take third place.



The tall and the short of it were Pat Kuhn of Indiana and Bud Spier of Houghton Lake, who took 4th place in the draw partner.



Finishing 5th and 6th were (from left) Will Jackson of Saginaw and Charlee Magoo of the Majestic, Doug Fridley of Houghton Lake and Ron Monville of Bay City, congratulated by Board Talk George.

63 in A-B-C Draw

The A-B-C Draw on Saturday was a new experience for many of the participants, but it ended up being one of the most intensely competitive events of the weekend.



After the last draw of the last game, it was the team of John Myles (right), captain, Jim Kelsey and Terry Ramey who collected the first-place envelopes, cups and Budweiser jackets.



Betty Kuebler of Saginaw played a key role in taking her team of Bud Spier, captain (right), and Bill Kane of Pontiac to second-place honors in the A-B-C draw.



Jerry Hershman (center) of Utica led his team of Leon Black (left) Tom Trimmer, both of Lansing, to third place.



Larry Summy (right), captain, of Indiana, and his fourth place team of Will Jackson (right) of Saginaw and Scott Auten of Pontiac.

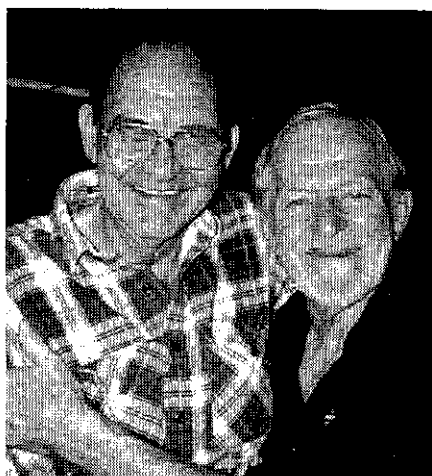
Finishing 5th and 6th were the teams of Cass Grubbs (captain), Florida; Dennis Bittner, Durand (host of the Club Car Lounge, site of the Michigan (continued on Page 10)

CONGRATULATIONS....



The famous "Kissing Bandit," Director Rob Kern, restricted his activities as of Oct. 10, 1998, when he wed Debbie Turk, and promised his kisses to her alone (with the exception of his "partner" Board Talk Donna). Much happiness, you two!

COMPANIONSHIP.....



After hours of "discussing" shuffleboard activities in the '70s and '80s, George and Cass Grubbs declare a truce.

CONTRITENESS....



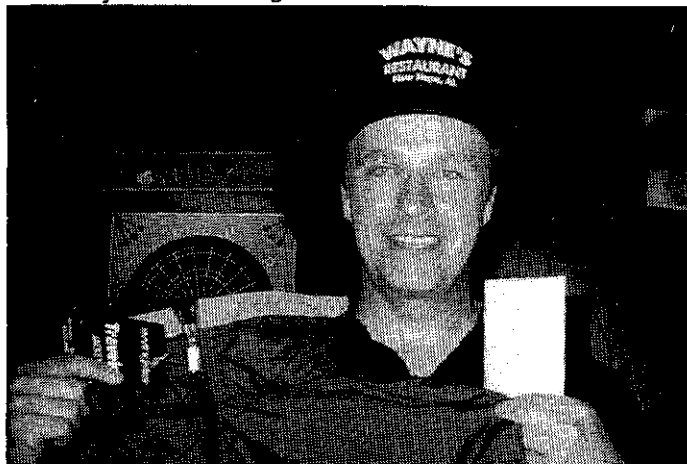
"Oh, boy, I'm in big --- trouble!" says Steve Auten who forgot something! "Forgive me, honey!" He won't do it again!

Skip's/Board Talk (cont. from Page 9)

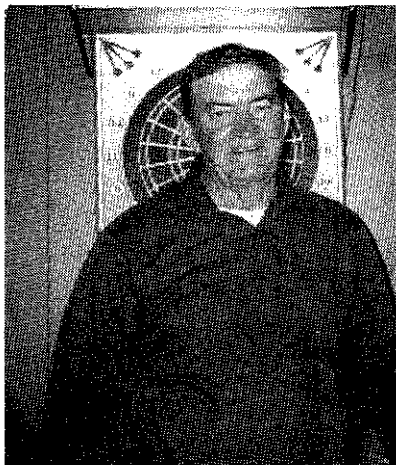
State Championships over the Thanksgiving weekend), and Greek Gianakos of Pontiac; and Sonny Morgan (captain), Saginaw, and his team of Trish Tolsdorf of Pontiac and Rob Donahoe of (where are you from, Rob?).

20 Entries in Open Singles

There were 20 entries in Sunday's open singles and they were all tough!



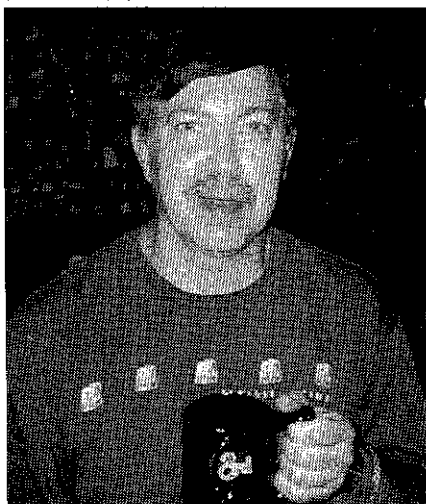
In the end of an exciting finals, it was Doug Fridley Jr. of Houghton Lake who collected the first place cup, Budweiser jacket and fat winning money envelope.



Doug had to beat the "always a contender" Bjerne Sunde of Madison Heights. Bjerne is a former Skip's/Board Talk Singles Champ.

Chris Passariello (right) of Bay City took third place honors in the open singles.

John Myles took fourth, with Director Rob Kern and Jerry Siebert of Lansing tied for 5th and 6th.



Special thanks to Skip and Carole and their friendly crew for the fine service and hospitality, and the super ham dinner; to Rob Kern for another great job of directing; to Pat Kuhn and Ron Monville for their able assistance on the brackets; and to Penny Cottrell for helping Donna keep the money straight.

Skip's Lounge is a member of The Board Talk's national shuffleboard network.

Creakbaum/Long/Royal Tops at AMVETS in Pendleton

By Sonny Harris

It was an exciting weekend at the 3rd Annual Fall Shuffleboard Tournament held at AMVETS Post 26 in Pendleton, Indiana, Sept. 19-20. We had 18 teams entered in the doubles tourney on Saturday and 16 signed up to play in the singles on Sunday.

It just goes to show, you don't have to be a youngster to win at shuffleboard. Larry Creakbaum and Jim Long came back from the loser's bracket to double-dip Milt VanAlzen and Robbie Collins for the doubles championship and picked up nearly \$2,000 on the way. Third place winners were Emmett Wilcox and Bill Hill, and fourth place belonged to Brian Collins and Rick Royal.

In the singles tournament, youth prevailed. Mark McCloud came from the loser's bracket to play Rick Royal and won the first game, but lost the second game at 13-13 on a 2-point lag. So our singles champion was Rick Royal who, besides winning the cash prize, picked up a new set of Triple Crown weights. In third place was Dave Vorndran.

We would like to thank Orris Hughes for his support in donating prizes to the tournament, and thanks also to all the players who participated. We look forward to seeing all of you at the Spring Tournament in April.

AMVETS Post 26 is a member of The Board Talk's national shuffleboard network.

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

Please add to your most recent "Play Your Way" listing:

Florida: Hobo's Pour House, 4795 Hwy. 46, Mims; phone: 407-269-6227

The next listing will be published in the January issue. Make sure your favorite shuffleboard site is included. Sign them up by Dec. 15 to be on the list.

Reminder: reports, views and ads must be received by the 15th of each month.

Notebook (continued from Page 2)

and effort he puts in and devotes to the sport of shuffleboard.

Most of you know about the "amateur" tournaments he runs throughout the year, as well as the "regular" events like the Masters, mixed doubles, Forest Festival, and league, and now, as of Aug. 1998, a Division I and Division II singles. Man, what a program! I wouldn't be surprised to see him run a handicap next -- oh, he does that on Friday nights.

There just isn't anyone in the entire Northwest who does as much for the game as Mel Hohn. He's got my vote for the Hall of Fame.

Dennis H. MacPherson, Elmira, Idaho

Mel is not only a key figure in the growth of shuffleboard, he is also a great reporter. By putting the spotlight on a very important segment of our "population" in The World of Shuffleboard, he sends the important message that The Board Talk is not just a "pro" publication. You have a very active Hall of Fame Committee in the Great Northwest. By all means, nominate Mel!

East Coasters Want Their Due Recognition

This picture sure would look good on the front cover of The Board Talk:



Rick Niblett and Len Dell of Maryland took first place honors in the Div. I Bring Partner event at the Texas Open/Board Talk Reunion.

Rick Niblett, Salisbury, and Len Dell, Baltimore, MD.

Sorry, guys, your photo arrived after we had gone to press with the October issue and we had to use an informal shot instead. Front page or Page 12 -- it really doesn't matter to our readers. Like Mike Tobin says: he reads it from cover to cover. Whatever page you're on, we're proud of you! You made a lot of friends in Texas. See you in Reno!

"Blues Doctor's" Cindi Says Thanks....

Thank you so very much for remembering Bill like you did. He was very proud of his Board Talk collection and even prouder of you letting him write the Pro Player Profile articles. He truly loved the game of shuffleboard and also did his part in promoting and supporting it.

You sure know how much the cards and letters mean to me. Somehow, they warm your heart, which is otherwise so broken.

Hope to see ya'll some day soon.

Cindi Moore, H.C. 63, Box 5520, Hodgen OK 74939

We're proud that once again the shuffleboard community has reached out and touched someone whose heart has been broken. The passing of Bill was a real loss to The World of Shuffleboard, Cindi, and we hope the knowledge that so many people care will help ease your grief. If you readers haven't yet sent Cindi a note, please do so now at the above address.

Woodie: Mediocre Players Can Make the Hall of Fame

Being inducted into the Missouri Shuffleboard Hall of Fame was an experience I will always remember. There is no way The Board Talk would allow me to name everyone involved. However, I can say there were video interviews and letters from folks living in Texas, California, Oklahoma, Michigan, Arkansas, Tennessee, and many, many from our state of Missouri. You know who you are and I thank all of you for making Sept. 19, 1998, one of the happiest days of my life -- and a complete surprise to me.

I'm still in the dark as to who master-minded the event. I do know they used the California format. My sis, Jolene Lembke, and Marilyn McCracken, put in a lot of hours setting up the booklet. I have never met Marilyn. Question: can we induct Marilyn into our Missouri Hall of Fame? Thanks, Marilyn!

I'm not the only one in Missouri to promote shuffleboard. There's a number of people who deserve to be in the Hall of Fame. All I can say is to just keep on breathing and you will get old and can't see the other end of the board -- then it will be your day: Charlie Riley, Jerry Sabourin, Chuck Muehlhauser, Connie McCall, Carolyn Johnston, Rick Pittman, Dan Kelly....Don't cut me off now, Board Talk, I'm on a roll!

Woodie Cockrum, Columbia, Missouri

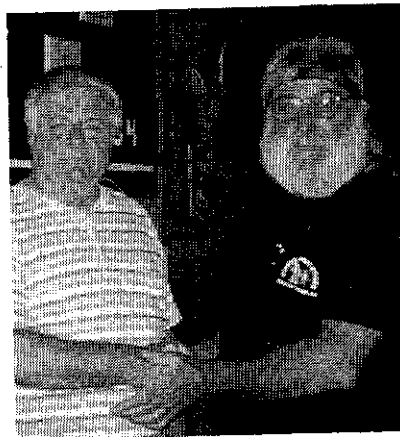
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Hobo's Pour House Hosts First A-B Draw

Hobo's Pour House in Mims, Florida, hosted their first A-B draw tournament recently, attracting 16 players.



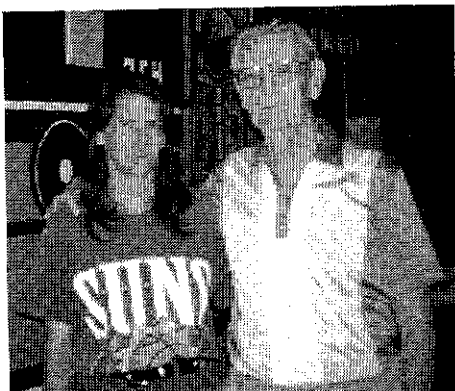
Locals Alvis Ramey and Kay Tripp both struggled, but took first place



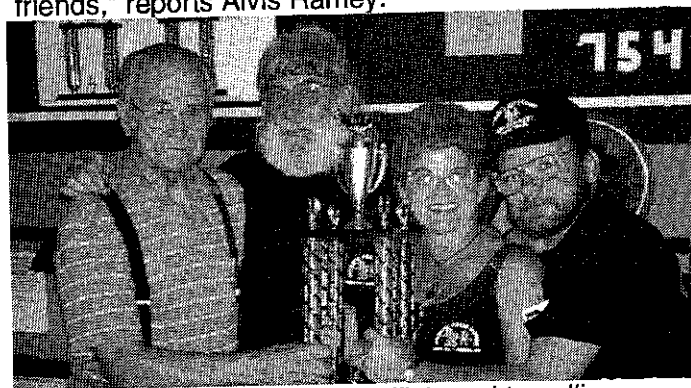
Taking third place were host Hobo and Dave Macko of Port St. John.

"There was lots of good shooting, food, fun and friends," reports Alvis Ramey.

Earl Harrington of Titusville and Karen Carew of Mims took second place honors.



(Hobo's is a new member of The Board Talk's national shuffleboard network.)



Brevard County has a shuffleboard travelling trophy and Hobo's won it last month. Shown (from right) are Alvis, hosts Mary and Hobo, and Pat. Hobo's will host the Florida State Championships (see page 4).

1st "Indy 15" Shootout is Success!

By Glen Ingram

Indy 15 started six years ago when I moved to Indianapolis from Muncie, Indiana. There was no board to practice on, no shuffleboard players, and no friends. I told my wife Jeri: "I am going to talk the Legion Post 355 and Bruce Smith into buying a shuffleboard table. Jeri said I would never get it accomplished due to the fact there were no players in the post. Six months later, Post 355 had a shuffleboard table. Hard work, loyalty, and love of the game paid off. The Post now has 10 to 20 members who love the game as much as I do. I now have a table to practice on, new friends to practice with, and we just finished our First Indy 15 Shootout.

Shuffleboard Has Returned to Indy

I was worried about having a good turnout for the first tournament in Indianapolis in 30 years, but laid my fears to rest when my fellow shuffleboard players started to arrive on Friday night for the round robins. Saturday morning, we had 14 teams in the open

doubles and a pot of \$2810.



Rick Royal and Terry Dowell (left) came out of the loser's bracket to double-dip Glen Ingram and Steve Hart, directors and hosts of the Indy 15.



Taking third place was the husband and wife team of Larry and Mary Brown.

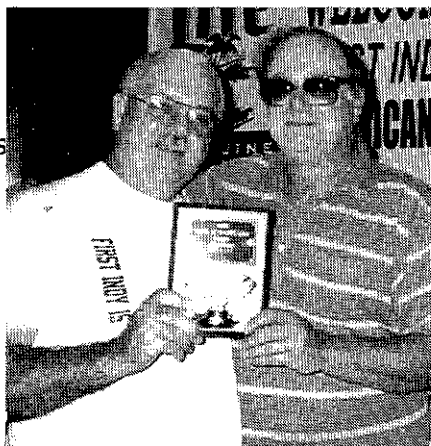
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Sunday morning, they were there again -- my friends and loyal shuffleboard shooters. With \$2240 in the singles event, 18 players played hard to win.



Coming in first for the second time in two days was Rick Royal (right). Director Glen Ingram presents Rick with his trophy and first-place winnings.

Coming out of the loser's bracket, Dave Boaz made Rick play two games before settling for second.



Third place went to Tom Nolder.

Glen Ingram finished in fourth place.

Thanks to all the players who came to support our first tournament, from everyone at the Goat Farm and Post 355.

A sincere thank you to all the people who helped make this first tournament a success: Steve Hart for the sales, Joe and Sonny for the brackets, Guy Seike for the boards, and Sheryl and Jeri for their secretarial skills. Thanks also to the Women's Auxiliary for the food and all the members who came to bid and buy teams. You were greatly appreciated.

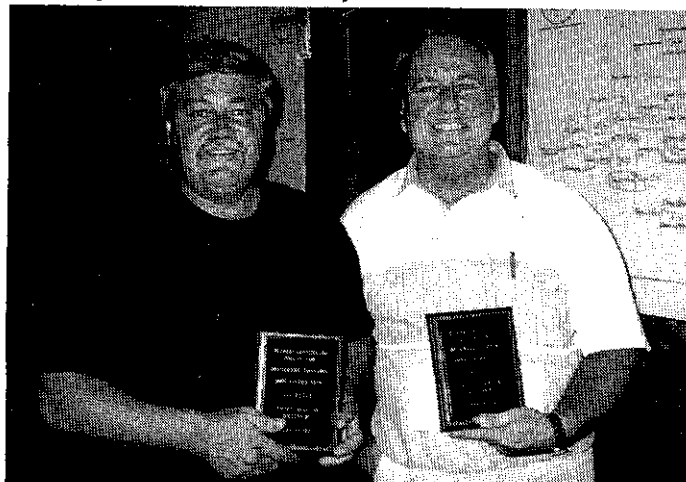
(The American Legion Post 355 in Indianapolis, Indiana, is a member of The Board Talk's national shuffleboard network.)

Locals Win First Missouri Hall of Fame Tournament

By Charlie Riley

On Sept. 19, 1998, 64 shuffleboard players (equalling 32 teams) gathered at the Eagles Lodge 3911 in Houston, Missouri. This was the first Missouri Shuffleboard Hall of Fame Tournament with \$5 of each entry going to fund the Hall. An auction of donated items and the very generous donation from John McDermott and The Shuffleboard Federation of a set of weights (which was raffled off and won by Rick Pittman), raised \$889 for the Missouri Shuffleboard Hall of Fame.

This was the largest tournament ever held in the state of Missouri in the number of players, the skill of the players and total money.



The largest piece of the pie went to locals John Stenger and Steve Lindsey of Houston, Missouri.



Second place went to Eugene McLeod (right), Licking, Mo. and Carolyn Johnston of Houston. Shown with them are tournament director Charlie Riley and buyer Ray Johnston.

(continued on Page 21)

**Support your state and national
Shuffleboard Halls of Fame
with your involvement!**

Frisco Eddie's Revenge: The Return

A series by Balboa Ron Schweikert

(In last month's episode, Shelli was competing in her first big tournament and had won the draw partner event. In the meantime, Long Beach Lil was deciding whether to come to Santa Clara and face Eddie and Shelli.)

Long Beach Lil had made her decision before leaving the Southern Belle Lounge. She made a right-turn, and headed for Long Beach, and home. She had decided to spend the weekend playing in the events in progress at the Southern Belle, and postpone the inevitable confrontation with Frisco Eddie, and mainly -- his girlfriend (and now fiancée) Shelli. She knew they would have to face each other at some point -- unless, of course, someone just quit playing the game of shuffleboard.

Meanwhile, up north in Santa Clara, the action was beginning to form for the second day of play. Shelli was so excited about her win in the doubles event that she had been still talking about it in bed -- after Eddie had fallen asleep. The next morning, Eddie came to before Shelli was awake. He got cleaned up and went downstairs and brought back a bunch of coffee and various muffins and donuts the hotel provided. He really felt rough from the day (and night) before, and promised himself to take it easy today. After Shelli got ready, they took the short drive over to Sparky's.

Eddie and Shelli went for the highest in the calcutta for the Bring Your Partner event. Everyone felt that Eddie was the best player there, and they were also impressed with Shelli's shooting the previous day. They were on odds-on favorite; however, they didn't have a "lock" by any means, considering the field they were up against. Several of the best players from Southern California had shown up for this event now, and also for the singles games on Sunday.

Eddie had a couple of "belts" before the play began, just to "smooth him out" a little. Shelli frowned when she saw that, but she didn't say anything. The games went well for them, although initially Shelli had to carry most of the load. In the final game, they were matched against "Quickshot" Malone again, but this time he had his regular partner, "Fats" O'Brien. They were a very tough pair to beat.

On the final game, it came down to a tied score of 12 all. It was Quickshot's hammer and Shelli had left him with a clean board to lag on. The room was deadily silent now. He sized things up and then made a right-hand "Jersey" release. The weight looked perfect on its way down, and it came to rest in the middle of the 3 zone! There was some clapping beginning to start, but it wasn't over just yet. The weight was still spinning, and on the "high-end" board they were on, it spun back gently, and came to rest,

just barely touching the 2 line!

With the score now 14 to 12, Fats, in an effort to put up a deep 1 for Eddie to lag against, went too far and it ended up a middle 2 on the left side of the board. There was no doubt what Eddie's task was now. He thought things over briefly and then shot the right hand. As predicted, it took out Fats' weight and slid over into the 3 zone. He was grinning a little as a cheer went up from the crowd. Also as predicted, Eddie took the singles event the following day. It was one of those days that he was so connected that the weights were merely "extensions" of his hands. He didn't have to think hardly at all about what he was going to do. He shot with "methodical magic," it seemed! He beat his final opponent, "Five Finger" Freddie, by a score of 15 to 11.

They were totally worn-out on the drive home, but there was a very wonderful and warm feeling between them. The whole thing was great -- so great! They took the next day off to rest, although Eddie had a little more than "resting" on his mind!

The weeks and months slipped by. They played mostly in the northwestern states when they went to the tournaments. Lil did most of her playing in the South and Midwest during those days, and they never did cross paths. However, it was now time for the Reno tournament.

Eddie and Shelli decided to take the four-hour drive up. They were making this their "vacation," and had also arranged for something else while they were in Reno. Eddie had finally asked Shelli if she wanted to make their arrangement a permanent one. Of course, Shelli very excitedly (and very passionately) accepted his invitation. They would be married right after the tournament was over.

It was time. The drive up was fine, except there was some snow when they got to the high mountains. It wasn't enough for chains though, and it made things really look beautiful. Lake Tahoe was especially nice, and their excitement levels began to rise the closer they got to Reno!

They arrived and checked into the Sands Regency. Fortunately, they had a very nice suite in the Towers, which was close to the elevator which led directly to the tournament rooms. There were hardly any people there yet, but Eddie decided he wanted to go down and check things out. Shelli said she wanted to clean up a bit and would be down later. She gave him an exceptionally long and passionate kiss before he left.

On the ride down the elevator, Eddie had mixed feelings. He was intensely anticipating looking at all those great shuffleboards and all the action that would soon take place, but he had another sort of

premonition as well, and wasn't entirely sure what it meant.

The elevator came to a stop, and Eddie walked over to the entrance of the main room. They were setting up the boards, and he really started to get excited at seeing his "workshop" being assembled. Then an unexplainable sensation came over him and, for some reason, he actually started to tingle a bit. He

knew why this was all happening when he heard the voice behind him that softly said: "Hi, Eddie." He turned around then -- to look directly into those beautiful blue eyes of.....Long Beach Lil.

--TO BE CONTINUED --

The "inevitable" confrontation is about to take place in Reno. How will this effect the "play" -- on and off the boards? Don't miss the next exciting episode.

Balboa Ron Inducted into Nevada Hall of Fame

By Connie Zavala

"Balboa" Ron Schweikert was inducted into the Nevada State Shuffleboard Hall of Fame at Gabby's Saloon in North Las Vegas on Oct. 10, 1998.

Ron began playing shuffleboard in 1954 at the age of 19. He did most of his early playing at a bar called the "Club Balboa" in El Monte, California. Many of the top players in the nation would come to compete at the Balboa. These included the first inductee into the National Hall of Fame, Bob Miles; Al Stewart, Porter White, Billy Mays, Kid Spooks, Freddie "The Dane," Tommy Workman and Floyd Birch, to name a few. Many exciting, high-stakes games were held there among the best players of that day.



Balboa Ron, first inductee into the Nevada Hall of Fame, in front of signage created by his sister and brother-in-law depicting his career.

Ron's full-time shuffleboard hustling days were interrupted in 1958 when he started his 24-year career with the U.S. Army, the last 19 years as a pilot. He has a Bachelor of Science Degree in Aeronautical Science and a Masters Degree in Human Relations.

Ron has tried to promote our sport in many ways, including teaching newcomers whenever he can. His most significant contribution, however, is his continuing "Frisco Eddie" series which has appeared in The Board Talk for almost five years. "He writes with such sensitivity and knowledge that readers can relate to the thrills of victory and the agonies of defeat experienced by Frisco Eddie. There's not a single

serious shuffler on our subscription list who wouldn't like to share Eddie's 'revenge,'" said George and Donna Wilber, Board Talk publishers.

This was our first induction and everyone had a great time. Our Hall of Fame President, Frank Zavala, was the Master of Ceremonies and gave a great speech. Jolene Lembke, president of the California Hall of Fame, also gave a nice presentation. Ron was very appreciative in his acceptance speech and stressed the importance of all of us to promote our sport in every way possible and to "bring shuffleboard back" to Las Vegas. He thanked everyone involved in his induction "from the bottom of his heart."

The officers of the Nevada Hall of Fame (President Frank Zavala, Vice President Dorothy Johnson, Secretary Connie Zavala, Treasurer Ron Schweikert, and sergeant-at-arms Tom Dixon) thank everyone who attended the induction, especially Jolene Lembke, Charlie Detterbeck, Eileen Eades, Dixie Debbie and Doug Pancerev for making the trip from California. Thanks also to Paul Weber and Dorothy Johnson for each donating \$100 to our Hall of Fame. We apologize to the California Hall for not having the opportunity to thank them for the \$50 they donated at the Billy Chiles Memorial Tournament. Thank you all so much. Thanks, also, to Phil Minney, owner of Gabby's, for all he's done for us.



Winners of the turkey shoot held at the induction were (from left): Rick Quigley and Jolene Lembke, 2nd; Audra Schooley and Frank Zavala, 1st; Connie Zavala and Dorothy Johnson, 3rd.

Notebook (continued from Page 12)

It was hard for us to keep this secret, Woodie, and wish we could have been there for your Big Day. We hope you get a chance to meet Marilyn. She is a very classy (and as you know, very talented) lady and we're sure she will appreciate your comments. As for "cutting you off," one of your proteges, Connie McCall has done an outstanding job of recognizing the folks who recognized you (see Page 21). Hearty congratulations on your well-earned honor!

Al Stewart: "I Played the Best in the World!"

I have played with or against all four World Champion shuffleboard players and I can't help but wonder how many other people are out there who can say that.

The first world champion I played with was Kid Spooks. We played partners at the Dog House in Tujunga, California, in 1950. We won every game.

The second world champion I played with and against was Bob Miles. We played together for about 15 years at the Balboa Club. There was one trip Bob and I took to San Diego that I will never forget. I played Chris at the Two-Twenty-Two Club and lagged three hangers in one game. That was the last of three games we played. They would not play if Bob was in the game. Bob told everyone when we got back: "I was lagging deep ones since it was a 20-foot board. They stopped in hangers."

My third experience was when "Laggin' Leroy Waggoner" and I played Billy Mays and some guy at the Blue Star. We beat them, so he got "Long Beach Jim." We played for several hours. I think we came out one or two games up or down. This was in 1963 or 1964.

Now, my fourth and final is true -- but tricky. I played Darrol Nelson in 1988 at Beef's in Waterloo, Indiana, and I won! PLEASE, let me explain: Darrol and I were throwing weights back and forth on the 32-foot board. Beef asked me to play him a game on the 22-foot board. He was shooting red and I was blue. Beef was ahead 11 to 5. The phone rang and it was for Beef. Beef asked Darrol to come over and finish his game. Darrol came over and asked what color he was shooting and, of course, I told him BLUE. I AM NO FOOL! I won.

As I was looking back at these games, I was very proud and thought I would share them with you. Is there anyone else out there who has played with or against all four World Champion shuffleboard players?

Al Stewart, El Monte, California

We're glad we were there for at least one of those memorable experiences, Al (you did better playing than driving, as we remember). By the time we met you, you were already on our "side of the hill," with more talent in serving The World of Shuffleboard than beating the Champs. Consequently, we missed out on a lot of your long career and were thankful to Balboa Ron for sending us a tape of your induction into the California Hall of Fame, which gave us the opportunity to hear of your "prime time" escapades. We hope we get some responses to your letter. Not only would it be of interest to our readers, it would also be valuable to the National Shuffleboard Hall of Fame Board of Directors, as they gather material to preserve the history of our sport. See Glen's letter following...

Help Build the History of Shuffleboard

The National Hall of Fame has inducted three players this year, and I expect two more before the year '99 arrives. Hopefully, the next two will be Rod Cameron and the legendary "Little" Ray Harkness at the Houston tournament in December. They both played in the '50s, '60s and '70s. Rod has won two team events this year (he said: "I'm back!"). Rod and Ray were partners for years. During the '50s and '60s, they traveled across country. There were not many tournaments then, so they played for money, pleasure, or recognition only. A big "score" in the '60s was \$2,000; \$3,000 in the '70s, and \$5,000 in the '80s.

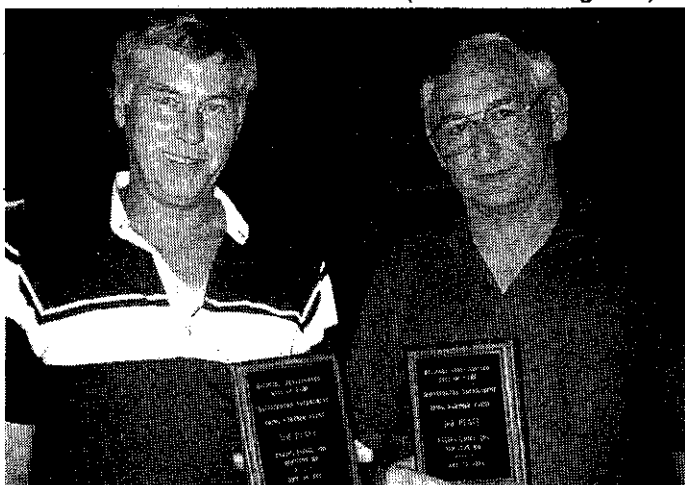
I was told of a match when Mel Currie of Canada walked Billy Mays and Truman Adams. He had them busted and T.A. owed him 10-12 thousand; he was winner of 30-40 thousand so the story goes. The next day, T.A. comes with the money. Billy tells T.A. to sit down and he'd win the money and that's what happened. Mel's big ego cost him at least \$40,000. He was broke and owed Truman. After the singles match, Billy said Mel lagged 34 fours in that match. I think it lasted over 20 hours. Maybe Jim Foran could give us all the information on that once-in-a-lifetime match. That story and many more.

I'm sure many could send in a story about the "old days," a certain match, or 30 hour matches. I have seen Bob Miles, Billy Mays, Leroy Ledford play for 30 hours. Leroy played in two of them. They played dead even. At the end of both events, they played 2 of 3 for \$500 and Leroy won both of them. This happened within a year or two. I got to see both of them. Leroy wouldn't play with me. He said: "No, you're a pro. I want those amateurs."

I played Ron Harralson for 20 hours at the Happy Hour in San Jose, California, in 1974. I was some ahead at the end of that 20-hour marathan.

(continued on Page 23)

1st Missouri Hall (cont. from Page 15)



Third place in the 1st Missouri Hall of Fame Tournament went to Moe Miller and Dean Pinkston of Houston, Mo.



Tulsa, Oklahoma, visitors Cliff and Sally Goff (center) took fourth place honors, shown with tournament director Charlie Riley and Hall of Famer Woodie Cockrum.

Fifth and sixth spots were taken by John Cason (the Shadow) and Pete Pitzer of Tulsa, and Tony Pelton and Gene "Snuffy" Smith of Little Rock, Arkansas.

The Eagles Lodge 3911 was very proud to host this tournament and thanks to every person who helped make it a huge success. Perhaps you helped buy or prepare the ostrich, ham, turkey, beans, cornbread, salad, snacks, deserts -- thank you! It takes a lot of effort from a lot of people to make something of this size run smoothly and for the most part, I think it did. If anyone left hungry, they have only themselves to blame. I am not going to mention any names because of the many, many people who contributed. Thanks again!

This was not only another shuffleboard tournament. It was a gathering to honor our very first inductee into the Missouri Hall of Fame -- the very deserving Don "Woodie" Cockrum of Columbia, Mo. I think everyone agrees he was the perfect candidate for this honor of being No. 1. This was evident by the

people present, the many written tributes, the taped endorsements -- or maybe you merely said: "Congratulations, Woodie!"

I will venture to mention some names of a few people who helped with the induction, the first being Jolene Lembke, president of the California Shuffleboard Hall of Fame and sister of Woodie. Thanks, Jolene, we could not have made it such a nice event without your help. I would also like to thank Chuck Muehlhauser, Connie McCall, Rickie Pittman and Jean Cockrum for all of their help.

Eagles Lodge 3911 is a member of The Board Talk's national shuffleboard network.

Woodie Cockrum: No. 001 in Missouri Hall of Fame

By Connie McCall

How does one become the first inductee into a Hall of Fame? By doing what Woodie Cockrum has done for over 50 years. Woodie has given his time and talent to teach hundreds of would-be players the game, and has done it with love and sincere dedication to the sport and to the people involved. He has touched many during the years with his patience and knowledge of the game, always the humble sportsman.



With his wife Jean at his side, Woodie has put the game of shuffleboard on the map in the state of Missouri.

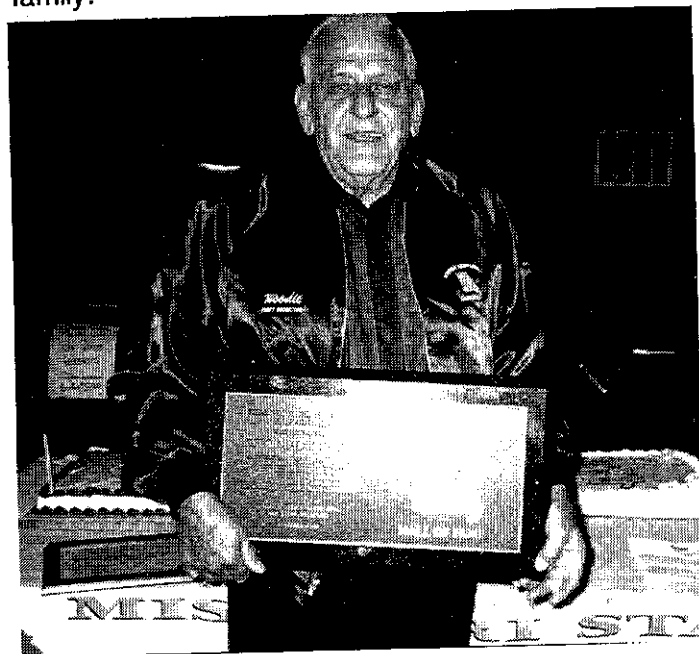
After months of hard work and many long distance phone calls, Missouri had its first inductee into the Missouri Shuffleboard Hall of Fame. Selecting Woodie was the easy part, but keeping this a secret from him was quite a feat since he knows virtually everything there is to know about shuffleboard in Missouri. The ceremony took place at the Eagles Lodge in Houston, where the Missouri players were able to surprise (no, shock!) Woodie with the news of his induction.

The ceremony began with a comical tribute to Woodie from Dan Kelly who mentioned Woodie's

(continued on Page 22)

Woodie Induction *(cont. from Page 22)*

generosity and never-ending dedication to teaching the game to anyone willing to listen. There were many heartfelt congratulations from Woodie's shuffleboard family.



Woodie was presented with an achievement award noting his place in the Missouri Shuffleboard Hall of Fame as Number 001. The beautiful marble and brass plaque to honor his achievement was presented by Chuck Muehlhauser and he received a jacket from his family.

Other congratulations were sent by video tape from Ron Bowers, Bill Melton, Johnny Wayne and John McDermott, who were unable to attend.

Members of Woodie's family present included his sister Jolene Lembke, president of the California Shuffleboard Hall of Fame. Woodie was also honored in song by his son Donnie, who wrote and sang "Shuffleboard man." His son Sean read a letter from John McDermott of The Shuffleboard Federation expressing how deserving Woodie is of this honor as he has been a tremendous promoter and supporter of the game and stated that no one has had more impact on the game in this part of the country than Woodie.

Woodie has been a promoter of fair play and always welcomes newcomers with open arms. He is a teacher of the game as well as a tough competitor who can somehow make you feel good about losing a game to him. Testimonies from other players best explain why Woodie deserves to be the first inductee into the Missouri Shuffleboard Hall of Fame:

"Woodie has done more to promote and improve the game of shuffleboard than any one person I know. He always has time to help and encourage beginners." -- Manny Lane, Arkansas

"Woodie routinely gives selflessly of his time, knowledge and dedication to the sport of

shuffleboard from adjusting the boards to keeping records of tournaments and leagues. Woodie is a shining example of the spirit of shuffleboard." -- Jim Stanley, Missouri

"Woodie genuinely cares about each of us who pick up a puck." -- Steve Lindsey, Missouri

"Woodie's knowledge of shuffleboard along with his leadership has made shuffleboard fun and competitive for all members who participate." -- Rosa Lee Hoffbauer, Missouri

"Because of his 'caring and sharing' attitude and his affable personality, he has gained friends throughout the U.S. and Canada. We are grateful to be among his ranks of friends." -- George and Donna Wilber; The Board Talk

"You love to teach us, nurture us, and share your love of shuffleboard with us. Your passion for the game and the people has touched all of our lives." -- Connie McCall, Missouri

"Not only is Woodie one of the best players in the state, he has always been willing to spend that phone call or stamp and burn that fuel to travel where there might be some folks interested in our sport. He gives one of our most valuable assets -- time." -- Charlie Riley, Missouri

Woodie was touched by the sentiments expressed and in true Woodie-style, he encouraged others to join him in the Missouri Shuffleboard Hall of Fame. There will be others joining him in the future, but he will always be number one in our hearts. Congratulations Woodie, on your well-deserved recognition and, most of all, thank you for bringing us into your circle of shuffleboard friends. We love you!



FOR ALL OF YOU!

- Our Subscribers
- Our Advertisers
- Our Reporters
- Tournament Sponsors/Hosts/
Directors
- Volunteers who "Make It Happen"

HAPPY THANKSGIVING
from
George & Donna

Notebook *(continued from Page 20)*

Is there anyone out there who has played steady for over 20 hours? I heard Bill Melton say he walked Billy Mays and Danny Hersom 36 hours. They had ole Bill down quite a bit until he came back enough to get his money back. That's a long time.

Send us a good story. Bud Broka (he's got some lulu's), Jim Long, Larry Creakbaum, Jerry Knox, Hal Perry, Bob Hunt, the Autens (father and sons) at the Majestic: it's your time to give something back, even if it's just a good shuffleboard story!

Glen Davidson, Oklahoma City, Oklahoma

News from The Dixie Belle

Hello, everyone! 1998 has sped by. I can hardly believe the Holiday Season is upon us already. The Dixie Belle is gearing up for them with our Sunday November Turkey Shoots and our Thanksgiving Tournament, Nov. 26-29 (see enclosed flyer). I am looking forward to spending this special weekend with good friends competing in a great game. Hope to see you here.

It has been a year I have been shareholder in The Dixie Belle and I wondered, along with quite a few others, if I would put her out of business the first six months of that time. Well, so far, so good! I am now looking forward to next year with The Belle.

Much has happened here this year. We have made a big change in the entertainment, trying out a few different types of music from Blues to Country Swing, some Rock and Roll and a lot of Rock-A-Billy. We gave gotten stuck on Rock-A-Billy, not always too loud and the crowd that follows these bands is very nice. We have gone through the upset of the cover

charge on band nights (shufflers are excluded from this), and closure for three weeks by the health department which insisted we needed to remodel the kitchen. They did us a great service, by the way, and we now have a beautiful new kitchen. My partner Steve moved to Roratonga in the South Pacific, and my daughter Jolene became manager of The Belle last May because I had a small accident that put me out of commission for several months. I am just starting to be involved again, though someone is always 86ing me. Sometimes it's my daughter, sometimes my help, and sometimes one of my wonderful patrons. I know I have forgotten to mention some important event, but as everyone around here knows, that isn't too unusual these days. I do know the one thing that I haven't made any drastic changes in is SHUFFLEBOARD. Just took out a pool table and put Board Four back where she belongs.

I still love shuffleboard and the players. You players -- from all different walks of life, you come together for The Game. Sure, some of you might like a cocktail; some don't. Some have a hot temper; some are cool as cucumbers. Some of you are men and some are women. The fact that people with so many different attitudes and views on so many different issues can come together over a wooden board gives me great confidence in the future of our great country.

I have a few special people to thank for their extra special support during this last year: ●Top of the list, Eileen and Wes Eades, for their advice and moral support whenever I needed it. ●My friend for 26 years, Chris Brown, who, when I asked her whether I should buy into this business, said: sure, go for it. ●Dave Brennan and Ben Larson, who are in almost daily. ●Jimmy Anderson, who is always backing me

(continued on Page 24)

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 space. Send to:

The Board Talk,

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

We suggest you match that \$5 with a donation to your state or national Hall of Fame.

Larger space available upon request.



In Memory of OLLIE SCHOENECKER

"Gone, but never forgotten"

*From friends in the Southside
Shuffleboard League, St. Louis, Missouri*

In Memory of SCRATCH TODD, ART WARE, MICKEY MICKENS AND BILL KUEBLER

"We missed you at Houghton Lake!"

George & Donna Wilber

Notebook (continued from Page 23)

up and giving his support. ●Evie, who through personal crises, has hung in with me. ●Michael Patterson, also a friend of 26 years, and now my day bartender. I can't thank you enough; you know all you do for The Belle. ●We have some new employees that are great, each with their own assets that make them so valuable to me: Rose Kellie, Cindy, Kim. ●My sister and brother-in-law, without whom we couldn't have remodeled the kitchen. ●My Mom. ●Tommy

Yoshiyama and Joe Muniz, who had such confidence in me and my crazy ideas. ●My special thanks to my daughter Joleen. Without her effort on my behalf, The Dixie Belle would be closed today.

To those of you I won't be seeing over this Thanksgiving Day, I wish you the best T.Day ever. To those I will be seeing, we are going to have a great tournament. Can't wait for it to begin!

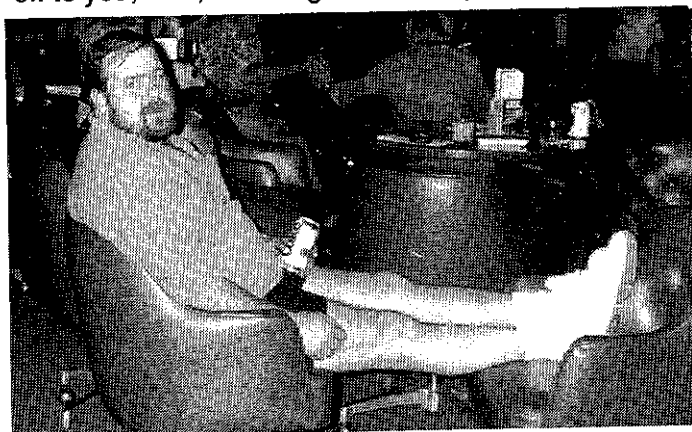
Dixie Debbie, The Dixie Belle, Downey, California

Pacific Northwest Hall of Fame Tournament Attracts Big Field of Contenders to Medford, Oregon Eagles

By Georganna Brand

The first Pacific Northwest Hall of Fame Tournament was held Sept. 3-7 at the Eagles Club in Medford, Oregon. We had 14 boards (only 12 playable, according to some), there were about 117 players, give or take a few. It was a very big success, with over \$38,000 in prize money given out.

We would like to say thank you to Rob Kern of Michigan for running the bracket boards. Without him, the tourney could have been a chaotic mess! Our hats off to you, Rob, for doing a fantastic job.



"Piece of cake," said Rob, "as long as you supply me with two chairs."

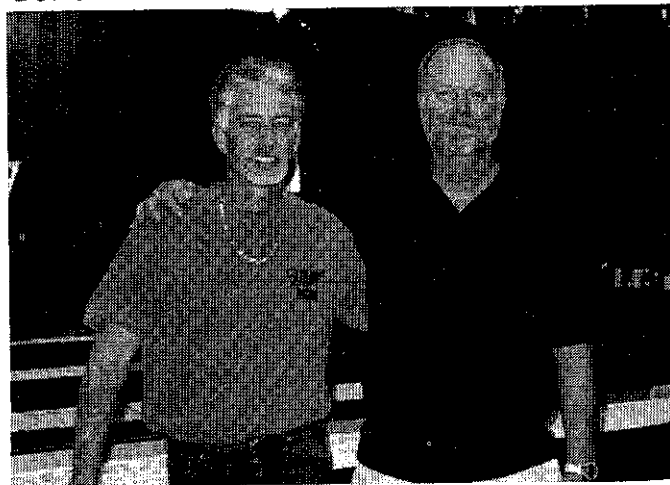
The auctioneer was Mike Thorpe of Washington -- our thanks to you for your help and support. Thanks to all the players, who came from Canada, Washington, California, Arizona, Oklahoma, Nebraska and other parts of the U.S. and, of course, we can't forget Oregon.

Winners of the six-person draft team event were: 1st -- Joe Hudson, John King, Tim Nugent, Tut Kyle, Mike Bailey, and Richard Brooks; 2nd -- Dan Hitt, Kevin Larkin, Melody Marine, John Rostollon, Patti Preymak and Don Strong.

Melody Marine of Washington took top honors in the Ladies' Div. II singles. Jane Mourgos of California took second; Lorraine Olson of California finished third, with Jane Reddinger of Washington rounding out the winner's circle.



Participants in the ladies' singles were: (back row) Jackie Anderson, Lorraine Olson (3rd), Jane Mourgos (2nd); (center row) Sharon McDonnell, Linda Wilson, Jane Redinger (4th), Jeanette Henry, Dorothy Jacob, Melody Marine (1st), Gwyn Orsi; (bottom row) Pat Preymak, Shari Bussey, Vickie Hunt, Joannie Millar, Bev Chaffin.



Mark Fulton (left) finished first in the Div. II singles, and John King finished second. Both are from Oregon.

Other winners in the Div. II singles were Dino Mako, Washington, 3rd; Kevin Callaway, Oregon, 4th; Paulette McKinney, Washington, 5th; and Frank Mako, Washington, 6th.

Mark Fulton and John King also teamed up to take

first place in the Div. II doubles.

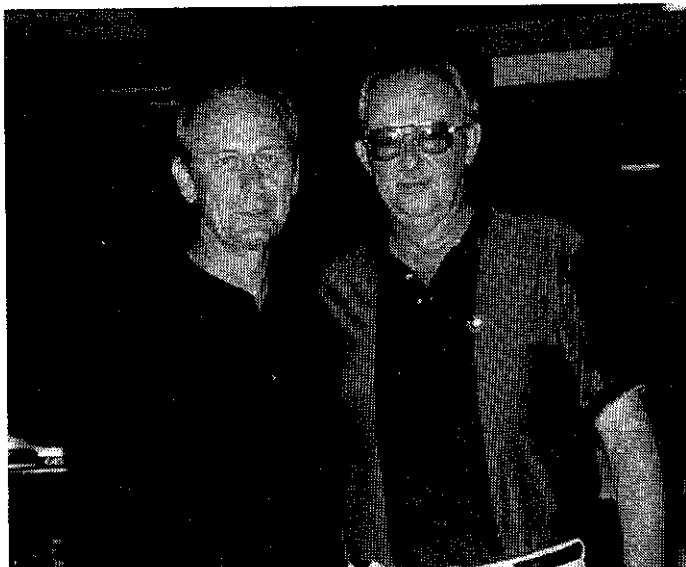


Jim (Caveman) Ward and Marv Wilbur, both of Washington, took second place honors.

Others finishing in the money were: Butch Davis and Mike Bailey, both of Oregon, 3rd; Jerry Ledent, Washington, and Gordie Smith, Canada, 4th; Don Cameron and Carl Barker, Oregon, 5th; Jim Watson and Glen Redding, Oregon, 6th.

Winner of the open singles was Donny Cox of California, with Doug Buhl of Oregon taking second place honors. Dan Hitt of Washington came in third, and Loren Lampley of Washington finished fourth. Other winners were Dudley Hutcherson, California, and Chuck Norris, Oregon, 5th and 6th; Nick Chaffin, California, and Desi Guches, Oregon, 7th and 8th.

Al Pease and Dan Hitt, both of Washington, teamed up to take first place in the open doubles.

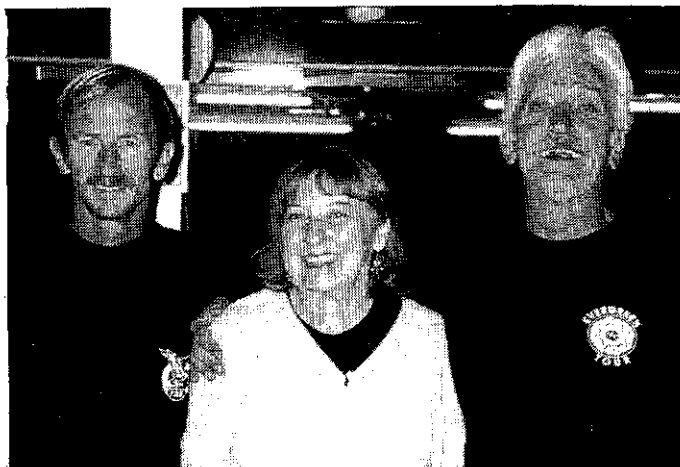


Doug Buhl and Chuck Norris, both of Oregon, finished second.

Other winners in the open doubles were: Mike Kinney and Desi Guches, both of Oregon, 3rd; Dudley Hutcherson and Donny Cox, both of California, 4th; Jim Foran of Washington and Glen Davidson of Oklahoma, 5th; George Camara and Bob Hunt, both of California, 6th.



Winners of the A-B-C draw were Hall of Famer Winston Jim Cockrell, Linda Wright, and Loren Lampley.



Second place went to the team of Mike Bailey, Beverly Chaffin, and Russ (the colonel) Miller.



Georganna Brand, Joannie Millar and Judy George took third place.

The fourth place team in the A-B-C draw were Gary George, Don Stallsworth and Pat Burkhart.

We had a wonderful board of Eagle members, led by director Mike Kinney. The board members were: Frank Mako, Don Stallsworth, Ed Fowler and Lloyd Mann. They did a fine job.

(continued on Page 30)

1998-99 CALENDAR OF SHUFFLEBOARD EVENTS

NOVEMBER 1998

Nov. 1-8

North American Championships
Sands Regency Casino/Hotel
Reno, Nevada

Nov. 5-8

4-Event Tournament
Honky Tonk
Sherburne, New York

Nov. 6

A-B Draw
J & C Tavern
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

Nov. 14-15

Mixed Doubles
Fir Cone Tavern
Shelton, Washington

Nov. 21-22 (date change)

5th 55 & Over Tournament
Shamrock Tavern
Longview, Washington

Nov. 20-21

Thanksgiving Shootout
Harvey's Place
Street, Maryland

Nov. 26-29

Florida State Championships
Fill-N-Station
Mims, Florida

Nov. 26-29

Michigan State Championships
Club Car Lounge
Durand, Michigan

Nov. 26-29

3-Event Tourney/Missouri Hall of
Fame Induction
Eagles Lodge #3911
Houston, Missouri

Nov. 25-29

Williams Brothers Texas
Thanksgiving Classic
Elks Lodge #1984
Garland, Texas

Nov. 27-28

Indiana State Championships
Chances "R"
Muncie, Indiana

Nov. 26-29

Thanksgiving Tournament and
Hall of Fame Induction
The Dixie Belle
Downey, California

Nov. 27-29

A-B Bring Partner
BZ's Bar & Grill
Burien, Washington

Nov. 27-29

Pennsylvania State Championship
J & C's Tavern
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

Nov. 27-29

Thanksgiving Tournament
Action Lounge
Broken Arrow, Oklahoma

DECEMBER 1998

Dec. 4

A-B Draw
J & C Tavern
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

Dec. 5

A-B Draw
Harvey's Place
Street, Maryland

Dec. 11-13

9th Annual Santa Classic
Balloon Inn
Arvada, Colorado

Dec. 12-13

ABC Draw
Frankie's Sports Pub
Olympia, Washington

Dec. 12

Open Doubles
Sportsman's Lounge
Muncie, Indiana

Dec. 19

Open Doubles
American Legion Post 330
New Haven, Indiana

Dec. 26-27

Mixed Doubles
Tim's Timber Tavern
Kelso, Washington

Dec. 26-31

Houston Holiday Open
Hilton Hotel S.W.
Houston, Texas

JANUARY 1999

Jan. 16

4th Annual Open Doubles
Chances "R"
Muncie, Indiana

Jan. 15-16

East Coast Winter Tournament
Harvey's Place
Street, Maryland

FEBRUARY 1999

Feb. 6

Rated/Open Singles
Harvey's Place
Street, Maryland

Feb. 12-14

Sweetheart Tournament
The Blue Goose
Port Orchard, Washington

Feb. 26-27

Mason Dixon Classic
Harvey's Place
Street, Maryland

MARCH 1999

March 14

A-B Draw
Harvey's Place
Street, Maryland

March 27

1st Annual Bobby Schounce
Memorial Tournament
Chances "R"
Muncie, Indiana

***Your upcoming
events listed here
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1998-99 CALENDAR OF SHUFFLEBOARD EVENTS

APRIL 1999

April 9-10

Maryland State Championships
Harvey's Place
Street, Maryland

April 17

Open Doubles
American Legion Post 330
New Haven, Indiana

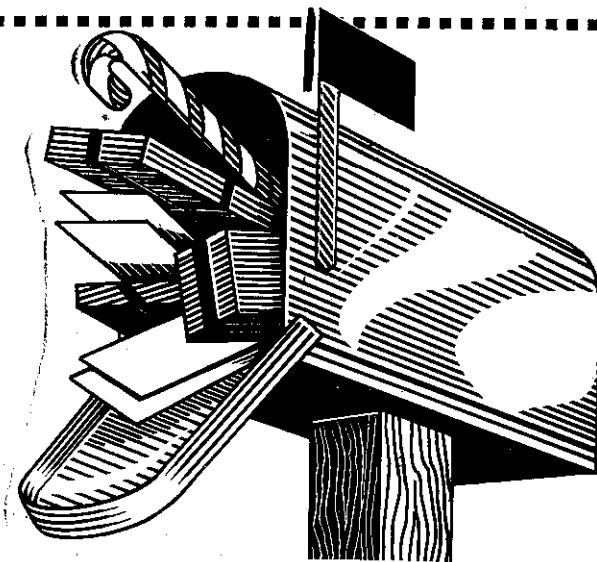
April 24

Rated/Open Singles
Harvey's Place
Street, Maryland

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DECEMBER 11-13**

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games - double elimination - Auction 8
p.m. Friday, Dec. 11 - competition starts
Saturday at noon.**



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Pacific Northwest (cont. from Pg. 25)

Our thanks go to the local volunteers for their generous help and support and our own local Eagles members and their friends for their support.

Our friend, Joannie Millar from Canada, sang several songs. She is a fantastic singer and we all had a great time listening to her, especially the four men who turned red-faced and were good sports.



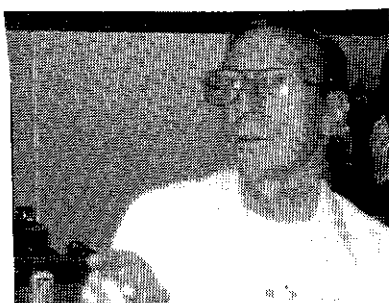
As always, Fred Thuman had a few surprises in store for us. He had a "helper" this year -- Gary George from Washington.



There was also a category called "The Pissed Off Bunch." These were for people who had lost and were pissed off. So they had a chance to recoup some nickels by lagging the farthest on a very crazy board. Shown here are Jackie (Jake) Anderson of Washington and Susan Tiebel of Oregon, with help from Freddie.

Hall of Fame Inductions

Galen Gaunce of Oregon was inducted into the National Shuffleboard Hall of Fame. Oregon was very proud to have Galen as our first inductee in the NSHF.



The inductees into the Pacific Northwest Hall of Fame were Joannie Millar of Canada; Jack Tyler, California (formerly of Washington); Jerry Berquist, Washington; and Oregon's own Winston Jim Cockrell. We are all very proud to have these players and

sponsors to be the first ones inducted (see photo on Page 1). And this is only the start of good things to come. We can look back and see what these Hall of Fame players and sponsors have done for shuffleboard. Without them, we would be lost.

The Medford Eagles is a member of The Board Talk's national shuffleboard network.

Sosovec/Rordal Win October Doubles at the Balloon Inn

The Handicapped Doubles Tournament at the Balloon Inn, Arvada, Colorado, on Oct. 9-10 was a big success and a lot of fun. Pro and amateur players from all over the eastern part of the state came to compete in this event. For the first time ever, the winning teams were made up of all amateur players.



Ron Sosovec and Doug Rordal from Fort Collins took first place. Bill Shino and Don Garrison from Merino and Sterling took second place. Gary Longwell and Kathi Lloyd, two Balloon Inn players, took third.

Thanks to the handicapping done by Jody Slack, all of the games in this event were very close and competitive, making it an exciting event for everyone.



In addition, new Balloon Inn owners Glen and Cee Chavez (left) welcomed back previous owners Ron and Gwen Vogt from Wyoming with a birthday party for Ron. A good time was had by all!

The Balloon Inn is a member of The Board Talk's national shuffleboard network.

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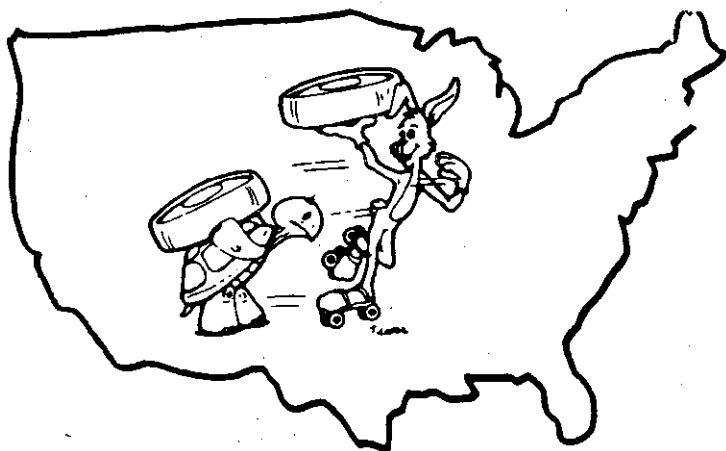
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*George & Donna Wilber, Publishers
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