

The Board Talk

Published monthly by George & Donna Wilber
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April 1999

Blue Goose Sweetheart Tourney Breaks Record

The Blue Goose Tavern in Port Orchard, Washington, hosted the 20th Sweetheart Tournament over the 1999 Valentine's weekend and broke all previous records, with 32 teams vying for a share of the \$5,000 pot (\$1,000 added by owner Dee Hudson).

The Sweetheart Tournament is a piece of shuffleboard history in the Great Northwest. In 1979, Clark and Clara Kenny, owners of Larry and Ray's Tavern in Tacoma, Washington, started the tradition. When they sold out, they passed the tournament on to Nancy Hiller, owner of the Acme Tavern in Tacoma. From there, it went to Gene and Vera Brown at the Blue Goose in Port Orchard, now owned by Dee and Larry Hudson.

When Dee and Larry started getting word about the expected turnout, they began to worry about how to accommodate the shufflers on their two in-house boards. That problem was solved when Larry found a shuffleboard for sale in the newspaper, supposedly only two years old, with side boards broken and a score board which allegedly had never worked. The price was right and by Wednesday, the third board was set up and working.



Larry Pearson from Everett, Washington, and Patti Premak of Canada took top honors in the big event.



Last year's winners, Mike and Hazel Thorpe of Seattle took second place honors.

Larry and Patti knew they were in a shuffleboard game when they came up against Mike and Hazel, who took the first match. It went down to the third game in the final match before Larry and Patti were crowned the 1999 Sweetheart Champions.

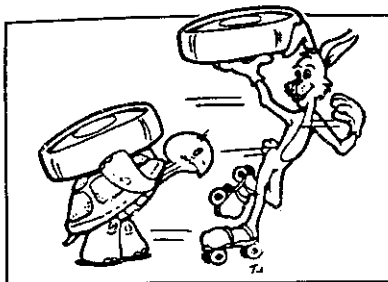


Third place went to the one and only Rick Gindt of Tacoma and Jackie Anderson from Shelton.

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ON THE INSIDE...

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Shufflers' Notebook

News and Views from The World of Shuffleboard

Another X Virgin Adventure...

I was travelling around down in south Texas last week. I was far out between towns when I saw beside the road a little, grungy, lean-to kind of building. Above the screen door, just barely hanging on to one hinge, was scrawled in messy black paint: "Marfa's Sports Club." Over on the side of the front, in the same messy black paint, was very badly hand-printed words: Dominoes, Darts, Pool, and Shuffleboard.

I slammed on my brakes and backed up to see if I saw what I thought I saw. Sure enough, there was Marfa's Sports Club. It had no paint except for the scrawl of black letters. The parking area had bits of cement, gravel, rocks, weeds, trash, and pot holes big enough to bury a dead horse in. I pulled in with some care and with more than some trepidation, got out and opened the hanging door. I stepped in and the old plank floor created and groaned as I went across to a bar that was so old that it leaned to the north like a gnarled old tree that had been in the wind too long. The place had a strong odor of stale beer and backed-up commode.

I could see a person sitting at the end of the bar. As I came in, she got up and came behind the bar where I got a better look at her in the bar light over the old cash register. She was short and dumpy and had stringy, dirty blond hair with lots of dark brown roots, and no teeth that I could see. Her skin looked like old leather with deep grooves etched all over it. She came over and said, "Hi, I'm Marfa." Boy, was she double ugly or what?! She asked: "What would you have to drink?" Well, I wanted a good old cold draw beer, but as I eyed the glasses on the back bar, I began to think of their sanitary condition, so I said: "I'd have a Miller Golden Draft, in the bottle." When she served it up, I took a Kleenex from my purse and wiped the neck and

mouth of the bottle, trying to be casual about it. I sure didn't want to offend her.

Well, I took my Millers and walked over to the shuffleboard to take a look at it. It was sure an oldie. It was sway-backed with beer coasters under some of the legs and halves of old bricks under the low end legs. The finish was gone from both ends of the board and gone in spots up and down the board. The pucks were so chipped and broken and rusty that I had to figure out that the two with no tops belonged with the two that had little bits of blue plastic on them. There were little bits of chipped and broken red plastic on the other four. The wax looked like dirty old commmeal.

I asked Marfa if she wanted to play a game and she said she didn't play. She said she had a dog chained up out back that liked to play, but he wouldn't come in to play for less than a hundred because he doesn't like the way it smells in here. I said to myself: "here comes an easy hundred." So I told her I would play him. She went out the back door and soon came back with a big black dog with a real noticeable hairlip. When I saw how mean and how big he was and how he drooled, I got nervous and sweaty. I asked Marfa if she would turn on the fan and she said: "Hairlip don't like to play with the fan on because he thinks that it messes up the way the pucks glide." So I said: "O.K., I'll just cope."

I asked Marfa to call the coin toss, but she said that Hairlip liked to call his own toss. I looked at him and he started to lick a part of himself that we won't talk about and I flipped the coin and it came up tails. I assumed that was what he was calling. I shot my first puck pretty hard and it went a little over half-way down the board. I thought: "Where in the hell is that glide that Hairlip likes?" Well, it didn't take long for me to find out that Hairlip could hit, go around and lag with his strictly free-hand (paw) shots. Well, he beat me pretty good that game, which I could understand because I didn't know the board and Hairlip did (but he was just a dog!).

When Marfa said Hairlip wanted to play another game for double or nothing, I said O.K. I laid two \$100 bills on the bar and Marfa gave Hairlip two \$100 bills and he jumped up on a bar stool and laid his wet

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--ATTENTION--

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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.

Another Pot of Gold at Blinky's Presidents' Day Tourney

By Rick Thomas

Once again, the Presidents' Day tourney at Blinky's Sports Cafe, Santa Clara, California, yielded a big "pot of gold." The grand total for the eight days, Feb. 7-15, was \$31,780.

The tournament got underway on Sunday with the always popular Ladies' Champagne & Roses draw doubles. This fun group never fails in getting the week off to a roaring start. In the end, the winners were:



Jane Mourgos and Shari Bussey Hudson (rear left), 1st place; Stevie Parks and Bonita (front), 2nd; Bev Chaffin and Betty Hudson (right), 3rd.

The amateur doubles draw was held on Monday night. The ladies kept the guys from being too serious, however, everyone's intensity showed in the end:

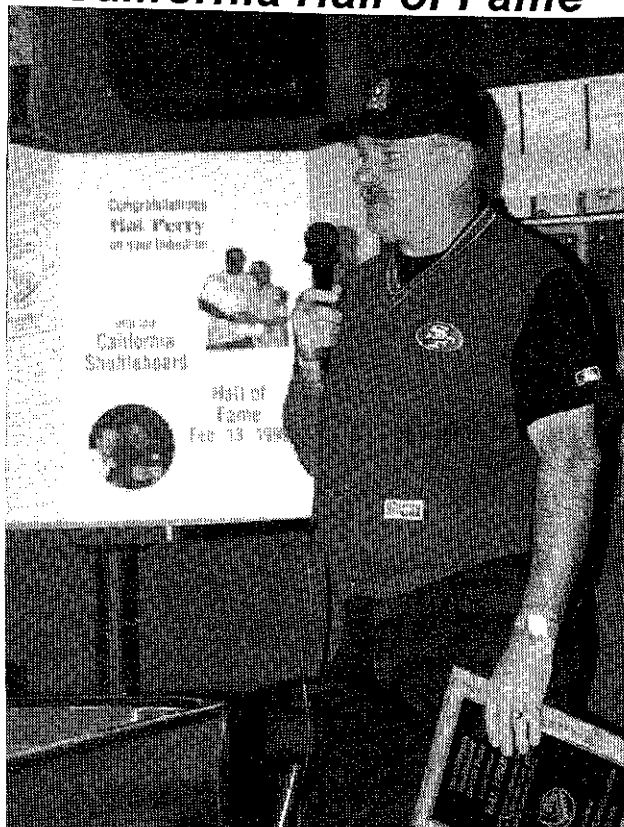


Winners were Chris Wayt and Don Davidson, with Dale Pirlot and Teresa Manfredi taking second place honors.

Third place went to Steve Cathey and Lorraine Bingham.

Fourteen players joined together to get the amateur singles underway on Tuesday night, vying
(continued on Page 16)

Hal Perry Inducted into California Hall of Fame



A highlight of Blinky's Presidents' Day tournament was the induction of Hal Perry into the California Shuffleboard Hall of Fame.

Baseball's loss ended up being shuffleboard's gain. A record-setting high school MVP in 1954-55, pitcher Hal Perry was drafted by the Pittsburgh Pirates in 1956 and continued setting records in semi-pro baseball. It wasn't until 1960 that he shifted his priorities to shuffleboard. In that sport, too, he set records as a player and as a person:

--"Hal is about much more than shuffleboard talent. His honesty, integrity and sense of fair play are also legendary." -- Phil Skover and John McDermott, The Shuffleboard Federation

--"By any means by which a person would judge a shuffleboard player, Hal stands right there with the greatest players." -- Nick Chaffin

--"He's always there for you. If a person needed something and he didn't have it, he would go out of his way to get it." -- Fred Thumann

--"He's one of the best shuffleboard players on the planet and has been for many years." -- Darrol Nelson

--"In life and in game, I am proud to call Hal Perry my father and am happy that everyone else has had a chance to see and experience what I have all my life." -- Steve Perry

Upcoming Events Across the Nation

Arkansas

FIRST TOURNAMENT FOR ARKANSAS, APRIL 23-24, VFW 9095, LITTLE ROCK

The World of Shuffleboard is encouraged to support the state of Arkansas in their first effort to stage a tournament. It will be a double elimination draw partner event (Bowers Rating System used), held at the VFW Post 9095 in Little Rock on April 23-24 with the sale scheduled for 6 p.m. on Friday night and play immediately following. Entry fee is \$20 per team and \$100 will be added.

The VFW, a new member of The Board Talk's national shuffleboard network, is located at 1121 Gamble Rd. in Little Rock. There is a Motel 6 just up the street from the VFW.

For further information, call Tony Pelton at 501-778-8641, or toll-free, 1-800-582-2869, Ext. 5632, from 7 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Arizona

4TH BILL GIBBS MEMORIAL TOURNEY, FAMILY (THE BAR) BILLIARDS, GLENDALE, APRIL 23-25

The 4th Annual Bill Gibbs Memorial Tournament, held to honor the memory of the popular shuffler who passed away on July 26, 1995, will take place on April 23-25 at Family Billiards (The Bar), 5814 W. Camelback in Glendale. Events include a handicap draw, \$10 per person, starting at 7 p.m. on Friday; an ABC Draw, \$30 per team, starting at 10 a.m. on Saturday; and an open doubles, \$50 per person at 6 p.m. on Saturday. The finals for the ABC Draw and the open doubles will start at 10 a.m. on Sunday.

For lodging recommendations and tournament information, contact Bob Lewis, 602-242-6782; Al Salazar, 602-583-7035; Alice Arredondo, 602-849-1845; or Family Billiards, 602-939-4000.

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

Missouri

SHOOTER'S SPRING SHOOT-OUT, HILLSBORO, APRIL 9-11

Shooter's, 1233 Tin House, Hillsboro, will sponsor a Spring Shoot-Out on April 9-11. Action will start with a handicap draw partner on Friday at 8 p.m., \$20 per player entry. At noon on Saturday, the handicap bring partner event will start, \$40 per team entry. The handicap singles will start on Saturday at 8 p.m., \$20 entry. A one-time \$10 registration fee will be charged.

All events are 15 points, single game, double elimination, played on three boards, with sponsor sales prior to each event. The Bowers Rating System will be used for all events.

Pre-registration is required and will be limited to 24 teams. Call Jerry Sabourin, 314-797-3577; Frank Edelen, 314-644-5373; Dan Kelly, 314-647-1544; or Robert Kaza, 314-351-1358. Check the flyer that was in last month's Board Talk for lodging information.

Texas

MOTHER'S 3RD SPRING FLING, CORPUS CHRISTI, APRIL 9-11

The 3rd Annual Spring Fling Tournament at Mother's Pizza, 12135 Leopard St., Corpus Christi, Texas, is scheduled for April 9-11 (DATE CHANGE).

Events include an A/B handicap draw partner on Friday, April 9, 7:30 p.m., \$20 per player, single elimination. Saturday at 1 p.m. will be a 4-person draft team, handicapped event, \$25 per player. Team selection will begin at 11:30 a.m., sale at noon, free buffet at 12:30. Sunday at 1 p.m. will be the handicapped singles event, double elimination, with sale at 12:30 p.m. A registration fee of \$5 will be charged for the weekend.

For further information, contact Mother's Pizza, 512-241-8500, or Neil Garvin, 512-854-3732.

Mother's is a B.Y.O.B. establishment.

NOTICE!

Because of the length of time it takes for the Post Office to deliver The Board Talk, we encourage you to promote your events as early as possible.

DEADLINE!

Information must be received by the 15th of the month to appear in the next issue. Send to: The Board Talk, 503 E. Sheridan, Lansing, MI 48906

2ND ANNUAL TEXAS GRAND SLAM, HARBOR POINT, RICHARDSON, MAY 27-30

Start making your plans now to attend the 2nd Annual Texas Grand Slam Shuffleboard Tournament on May 27-30 at the Harbor Point Club & Grill, 2121 Buckingham Rd., Richardson. Tournament directors Greg Hixon and C.W. Walker say they will have a minimum of nine boards with more possible.

Action starts on Thursday at 7 p.m. with the pro singles (\$150 for -1's, \$100 for 0's, \$50 for 1's, and \$25 for 2's), and the amateur singles for 3's, 4's and 5's, \$20 entry fee. On Friday at 7 p.m., there will be a pro-am for -1's, 0's, 1's and 2's, \$50 per person entry, and a draw partner for 3's, 4's and 5's, \$25 per person. On Saturday, as soon as Friday's draw partner is completed, there will be bring partner events: \$100 for teams adding to 1 or more, and \$50 for teams adding to 5 or more. Everyone's favorite, the draft team event, \$40 per person entry, is tentatively scheduled for 11 a.m. on Sunday.

Look for more details in next month's Board Talk, or contact Greg at 972-231-9365, or C.W. at 214-351-5508.

Washington

6TH SHUFFLEBOARD CLASSIC, BZ'S, BURIEN, APRIL 23-25

The 6th Annual Shuffleboard Classic will be held at BZ's Sports Bar & Grill in Burien on April 23-25. An open doubles and a Division Two doubles (for players rated 2 or above) will be played simultaneously. Entry fee is \$50 per team, played on four boards, double elimination, best 2 out of 3 in the winner's bracket. The sponsor sale is scheduled for 11 a.m. Saturday, April 24, with play immediately following. BZ's will add \$20 per team for both divisions, and a fried chicken buffet will be served Saturday night.

On Friday night, there will be an A-B draw for partners starting at 7 p.m., \$20 per person entry, single elimination.

For further information, contact Craig at BZ's, 206-243-6018, or tournament director Mark Minium, 206-248-7872.

Please post the enclosed flyer in your favorite shuffleboard site.

You don't HAVE to advertise in The Board Talk to have your events promoted -- but we sure do appreciate those who do!

DRAW PARTNER AT SHAMROCK TAVERN, LONGVIEW, MAY 1-2

The 8th Annual Draw Partner Tournament will be held at the Shamrock Tavern in Longview on May 1-2. Entry fee is \$20 per player, with \$10 per player added. Round robins start at 7:30 Friday night. Food by Bernice featured on Saturday and Sunday.

For further information, call 360-577-7444.

The next tournament at the Shamrock will be a mixed doubles on June 19-20. More details later.

DIV. II TOURNEY, FIR CONE, SHELTON, APRIL 10-11

The Fir Cone Tavern in Shelton will host its first Division II Tournament on April 10-11.

On Friday, April 9 at 7 p.m., there will be an A-B draw, \$20 entry, single elimination.

The Division II draw doubles will start on Saturday, April 10, 11 a.m. To play in this event, you must be rated a 1.51 or higher by the Bowers Rating System. Sponsor sale after the draw with play immediately following. Entry fee is \$20, double elimination, 2 out of 3, 15 point games in the winners bracket and one 21 point game in the losers bracket.

On Sunday, April 11, 11 a.m., there will be a Division II singles. To play in this event, you must be rated a 1.51 or higher by the Bowers Rating System. \$20 entry, double elimination, 2 out of 3, 15 point games in the winners bracket and one 15 point game in the losers bracket.

The Fir Cone has three great boards. RV parking is available. Food will be served on Saturday. For further information, contact Mel Hohn, 360-426-2221.

New York

SPRING TOURNEY AT DEW DROP INN, WATERLOO, APRIL 22-25

The Dew Drop Inn, 37 Virginia St., Waterloo, will host its Spring 1999 National Tournament on April 22 through April 25.

Action will start on Thursday night, April 22, with the weekly round robins at 7 p.m. On Friday at 6 p.m. will be the mixed doubles. Saturday morning at 9 a.m. is the open singles tournament. On the agenda for Saturday afternoon at 4 p.m. is the open draw partners event. The grand finale will be the open doubles tournament on Sunday, starting at noon.

(continued on Page 6)

Upcoming Events *(cont. from Page 5)*

All events are single game, double elimination, with a sale before each event. For further information and/or to save your spot, contact Tracie Fridley at 315-539-5729, or write to Dew Drop Inn, 37 Virginia St., Waterloo, NY 13165. These events have sold out in past tournaments, so please call ahead! Players from seven different states participate in this major event. The Dew Drop Inn has four in-house boards.

MEMORIAL WEEKEND EVENT AT HONKY TONK, SHERBURNE, MAY 27--30

The Honky Tonk, 20 Classic Street in Sherburne, New York, will host its annual Memorial weekend tournament on May 27-30. Four events will be played on five boards.

Action will start on Thursday, May 27, 6 p.m. with round robins. On Friday, May 28, will be the draw partner event starting at 6 p.m. On Saturday, May 29, the mixed doubles will start at 8 a.m., with the open singles following. The bring partner tournament will start at 11 a.m. on Sunday, May 30.

For lodging and/or tournament information, contact Bill Jones, 607-674-5178 or 607-674-4810; Dick Losee, 315-691-2708; or Brenda at the Honky Tonk, 607-674-9717.

Indiana

39TH BOURBON SPRING DOUBLES, MAY 1, AMERICAN LEGION #424

The American Legion Post 424 in Bourbon, will host its 39th Annual Spring Doubles on May 1. This long-standing event, which attracts shufflers from across the U.S.A. to this small Indiana community, will have something special this year -- the induction of Larry Creakbaum and Jim Long into the Indiana Shuffleboard Hall of Fame. The induction ceremonies will take place at 7 p.m. on Friday, April 30, just prior to the sale for the open doubles. If you'd like to provide a written "testimony" about these two gentlemen, send it to Bill or Terry at the American Legion address.

Entry fee for the single game, double elimination open doubles is \$40 per team and will be limited to the first 64 PAID entries. Make your checks payable to American Legion and mail to: American Legion Post 424, 202 S. Main St., Bourbon, IN 46504, Att.: Bill Niswonger or Terry Dowell.

The American Legion boasts five in-house boards and will again feature its famous barbecue, a favorite with past participants. Check the flyer that was in last month's Board Talk for lodging recommendations. Questions? Call Terry Dowell at 219-353-1070, or Bill Niswonger at 219-342-8100.

4TH SPRING OPEN, AMVETS POST 26, PENDLETON, APRIL 24-25

The Fall Creek Valley AMVETS Post 26, 939 S. Broadway, Pendleton, will host its 4th Annual Spring Open on April 24-25. Action will start with round robins on Friday, April 23.

An open doubles tournament, \$20 per player entry fee, is on the agenda for Saturday. Sponsor sale at 11 a.m. with play immediately following. An open singles, \$20 entry fee, will start with an 11 a.m. sponsor sale on Sunday, with play following. Both events are 15 point games, double elimination.

The AMVETS has three boards, food and beverages, ample parking and plug-ins available for campers.

For registration and lodging information, contact Sonny Harris at the AMVETS, 765-778-7224.

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

Nebraska

2ND DENNY BUSCH MEMORIAL TOURNAMENT, MY WAY, OMAHA, MAY 21-23

The 2nd Annual Denny Busch Memorial Tournament will be held on May 21-23 at My Way Lounge, 2425 N. 84th St., Omaha. The Busch Family hosts this tournament each year in memory of Denny, popular shuffler who gained national respect before his untimely death in May of 1998 at the age of 40. Denny's Dad, Art, will be donating \$500 to the memorial and My Way Lounge will also add dollars.

Events will include an A/B draw on Friday at 7 p.m. Entry fee is \$30 per team.

An open doubles, \$40 per team entry, will start with the sale at 6 p.m. Saturday, with play immediately following, continuing into Sunday.

Payout will be first through sixth, based on 32 teams.

For information, contact My Way, 402-393-9890; Char Rahn, 402-331-5407; or Cyndi Busch, 402-496-3423.

Colorado

1ST BILL ENGLISH MEMORIAL TOURNAMENT, BALLOON INN, ARVADA, JUNE 11-13

The Colorado Shuffleboard Hall of Fame has decided to rename the June Open Doubles Tournament held at the Balloon Inn in Arvada. This annual tournament, which is now in its 10th year, will be known as the Bill English Memorial Tournament (the late Bill English became the first inductee into the Colorado Hall of Fame in December of 1998). This year the tournament will be held on June 11-13 at the Balloon Inn.

More details next month. In the meantime, if you have questions, call Jody Slack or Kathi Lloyd at 303-421-9332.

California

DIXIE BELLE'S 7TH ANNUAL JULY 4TH TOURNEY, JUNE 30-JULY 5, AT 3 LOCATIONS

Six events on nine boards in three locations -- that's on the agenda for the Dixie Belle's 7th Annual July 4th Tournament on June 30-July 5. There is a flyer in this issue describing all the events, lodging information, an entry form and an Early Bird t-shirt offer. This expanded tournament will be held at the Dixie Belle, 9559 Imperial Hwy. in Downey, Oskar's Sports Lounge, 13418 Woodruff Ave. in Bellflower, and the Edgewood, 10122 Rosecrans in Bellflower.

The ABC draw, open doubles and open singles will be played at the Dixie Belle. The ladies' doubles and amateur doubles I will be played at Oskar's; and the amateur doubles II will be played at the Edgewood.

On Saturday, July 3, there will be a potluck barbecue at the Dixie Belle, followed by the induction of Porter White into the California Shuffleboard Hall of Fame.

Review the enclosed flyer for complete details on each event. Note that limits are set for the various events, so now is not too early to get your entries in to ensure your spot. Use the registration form on the flyer to enter and to order your t-shirt.

For further information, call the Dixie Belle, 562-803-4943 Tuesday through Sunday; or e-mail Dixie Debbie at DixieDebbi@aol.com or Chris Brown at ShuffleGal@aol.com

STATE CHAMPIONSHIPS, EAGLES LODGE, EXETER, MAY 25-31

The California State Shuffleboard Championships will be held on May 25-31, at the Eagles Lodge in Exeter. You must be a resident of California to participate. The tournament will be played on eight boards provided by A.Z. Turnbo.

Action will start on Tuesday (sale at 7 p.m.), May 25 with the men's open singles for -1's and 0's, with an entry fee of \$150; and a women's open singles, entry fee of \$50. On Wednesday, May 26, the men's open doubles for -1's and 0's, \$300 per team entry, is on the agenda.

Events for Divisions 1, 2, 3 and 4 start on Thursday and continue through Sunday. Entry fees for Div. 1 on Thursday, May 27, is \$100 for singles and \$200 per team for doubles. Entry fees for Div. 2 on Friday is \$75 for singles and \$150 per team for doubles. Entry fee for Div. 3 on Saturday is \$50 for singles and \$100 per team for doubles. For Sunday's Div. 4, entry fees are \$50 for singles and \$100 per team for doubles. Sales are scheduled for 9 a.m. daily prior to the start of each division.

Nearby hotel accommodations and RV parking are available. For information, call the Eagles Lodge, 559-592-1771; A.Z. Turnbo, 408-683-4513; or Marion Bailey, 559-798-0894.

Please see the enclosed ad for this event and share it with California shufflers who may not be subscribers of The Board Talk.

9TH MEMORIAL DAY TOURNEY, BLINKY'S, SANTA CLARA, MAY 23-31

The 9th Annual Memorial Day Tournament at Blinky's Sports Cafe, 3145 El Camino Real in Santa Clara, is scheduled for May 23 through May 31. There are events on the schedule for players of all skill levels from amateurs to pros.

The first event is the Ladies' Champagne & Roses draw on Sunday, May 23, \$20 entry fee. The amateur doubles draw, \$20 per person entry, is scheduled for Monday, May 24. The amateur singles, \$20 entry, will be on Tuesday. The Pro/Am ABC event, \$20 per person entry, starts on Wednesday and continues through Thursday. The sale for the open pro doubles

(continued on Page 8)

Upcoming Events *(cont. from Page ?)*

will take place on Friday at 8 p.m. with play beginning on Saturday, \$200 per team entry. A barbecue and pro singles sponsor sale is on the agenda for 5 p.m. on Saturday.

The final event, the pro singles, \$100 entry, starts on Sunday and concludes on Monday, May 31.

For further information, contact Blinky's, 408-241-3933, or Rick Thomas, 408-578-0822. Please post the enclosed flyer in your favorite shuffleboard establishment.

NATIONAL HALL OF FAME TOURNAMENT, AN & AF#68, VANCOUVER, B.C., CANADA, JUNE 2-5

The 1999 National Shuffleboard Hall of Fame Tournament will be held on June 2-5 at the A.N. & A.F. #68, 1837 Main St., Vancouver, B.C. The club will be open for board practice on Monday and Tuesday, with play beginning on Wednesday, an ABC draw with a \$25 per player entry fee.

A draft team event, \$25 per player, is on the agenda for Thursday. Division 1 and 2 singles, \$50 entry and sale, will be on Friday, with the Div. 1 and 2 doubles, \$100 per team with sale, on Saturday.

All entries must be paid in Canadian funds only. Play will be under the Bowers Rating System, and there will be 100% payout of prize and sale monies.

The induction ceremony will be held on Saturday, June 5, from 4 to 6 p.m.

On Saturday night, there will be entertainment by Mike Daniels, D.J. from CISL Radio station, featuring oldies and goodies music from the '50s and '60s. In the club restaurant and friendly lounge, you will find great Canadian hospitality.

Suggested lodging is the Biltmore Motor Hotel, 395 Kingway, 604-872-5252 (FAX 604-874-3003) or the City Centre Motor Hotel, 2111 Main St., 604-876-7166 (FAX 604-876-6727).

For information, call Marg Okum, 604-872-5373, or A.N.A.F. #68, 604-874-8911.

Please post the enclosed flyer to share the news about this event.

Oklahoma

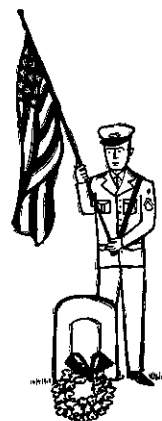
SOUTHWEST OPEN, AMERICAN LEGION 73, DEL CITY, JULY 4-10

Enclosed in this issue is the first flyer for the popular Southwest Open. It contains details about

each of the 10 events on the schedule, along with an entry form. This big tournament keeps growing and growing each year, so it's not too early to reserve your spot!

The spacious, air-conditioned American Legion Post 73 has a five-acre park with electric and water hook-ups for self-contained RVs and campers. Watch next month's Board Talk for more nearby motel information.

Questions? Call Ron Huddleston at 405-843-1615 (e-mail huddlestons@dvu.com) or Don Crall at the American Legion, 405-670-9128.



Memorial Weekend Tournament MAY 27-30

- Thursday, May 27, 6 p.m.
Round Robins
- Friday, May 28, 6 p.m.
Draw Partners
- Saturday, May 29, 8 a.m.
Mixed Doubles
- Open Singles following
- Sunday, May 30, 11 a.m.
Bring Partner Doubles

*For lodging and/or tournament
information, contact:*

**Bill Jones, 607-674-5178 or
607-674-4810**

**Dick Losee, 315-691-2708
Brenda, 607-674-9717**

THE HONKY TONK

20 Classic Street
Sherburne, New York
Phone: 607-674-9717



IMPORTANT NOTICE

for California Shufflers Only

CALIFORNIA STATE SHUFFLEBOARD CHAMPIONSHIPS MAY 25-31, 1999 EAGLES LODGE, EXETER (near Visalia)

8 Boards (Provided by A.Z. Turnbo)

- ☒ Tuesday, May 25, 7 p.m., Sponsor Sale
Men's Open Singles (-1,0), \$150 entry fee
Women's Open Singles, \$50 entry fee
- ☒ Wednesday, May 26, Men's Open Doubles (-1, 0)
\$300 per team entry fee
- ☒ Thursday, May 27, Division 1 Singles and Doubles
\$100 singles, \$200 per team doubles
- ☒ Friday, May 28, Division 2 Singles and Doubles
\$75 singles, \$150 per team doubles
- ☒ Saturday, May 29, Division 3 Singles and Doubles
\$50 singles, \$100 per team doubles
- ☒ Sunday, May 30, Division 4 Singles and Doubles
\$50 singles, \$100 per team doubles

*Sponsor Sales 9 a.m. daily prior to start of each division. Tournaments begin immediately after sale. Maximum entries per division: 32
Matches 2 out of 3 double elimination (time permitting).
Schedule of events subject to change.*

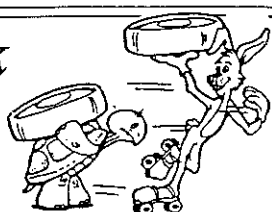
--You must show proof of California residency--

Nearby hotel accommodations and RV parking available.

**FOR INFORMATION, CALL: Eagles Lodge, 559-592-1771;
A.Z. Turnbo, 408-683-4513; or Marion Bailey, 559-798-0894**

As The Puck Turns.....

By George & Donna Wilber



Here we go again -- heaping more praise on Texas! Before you say: "Oh, no, not again!" let us assure you that it is well-deserved and it impacts very positively on the future of this publication. As we've explained many times in the past, advertising revenue is crucial to the life of The Board Talk. On the other hand, you can't attract advertisers if you don't have a target audience, so subscribers are equally important. Texas had played a key role in both. Not only have they become the No. 1 subscriber state in the nation after playing "second fiddle" to California for many years, but they've come through with advertising as well. We have added another Texas shuffleboard establishment to the Shuffleboard Directory -- Triple Crown Sports Bar in Houston. That brings the total of Texas Shuffleboard Directory supporters to NINE! And -- good news! The Gold Nuggett in Arlington, a former hot spot for shuffleboard, will be No. 10 next month! It will reopen under the management of Tom Johnson with five new boards. Watch for details.

Another new listing in the Directory is that nice young couple from Kentucky, Mike and Susie Halstead, who are paying for space just to express their thanks for The Board Talk and the entire shuffleboard community which has welcomed them so warmly. Also new to the Directory: the Evergreen Shuffleboard Association, and a salute to the California Hall of Fame inductees from an anonymous advertiser.

It took us years to build up the directory to a full-page. Now, we're close to two full pages and we have to credit John McDermott of The Shuffleboard Federation for that achievement. It was his idea that we print a second page with just blanks along with the costs of filling up those spaces. For the first couple months, we thought it was a good idea that just didn't work. But all of a sudden, the orders started coming in and if it keeps on working, we may have to go to a third page. Thanks, John!

When Jolene Lembke of California, an original Board Talk supporter, vented her frustrations about "freeloaders" who eagerly read other's issues, but refuse to buy their own subscriptions (February issue), she evidently struck a nerve. She must have given other supporters the courage to deal more aggressively with the freeloaders or laid a guilt trip on her "target." Whichever, it worked; thanks, Jolene!

Our response to Jolene's letter also caused some concern in The World of Shuffleboard, evidenced by phone calls and notes. Let us assure you, we will not let The Board Talk die. It is our "child" born with high hopes, nurtured for 15 years with difficulties, disappointments and frustrations, offset by achievements and recognition. Yes, we are ready to "retire," but it will only be when we find some adoptive "parents" who share our commitment and philosophy.

One of the phone calls we received was from Ray Boyett of Florida, another long-time supporter. He shared his opinion that every shuffler listed in the Bowers Rating book (over 2,000) should be a subscriber to The Board Talk. He said the Florida Shuffleboard Association would be willing to "man" a booth (table) at the two top shuffleboard events of the year (Southwest Open in July, North American Championships in October) to try to get that job done and he'd already received the blessings of the directors/sponsors of those events. Now, that is a tantalizing offer we can't refuse!

P.S.: this is our all-time biggest issue -- 36 pages plus numerous flyers! Compare that to the 4-pager that was the "norm" in 1984.

Champion LTD Purchases American Shuffleboard

Champion Shuffleboard, LTD, (formerly Gametime) Richland Hills, Texas, has announced the purchase of American Shuffleboard, Union City, New Jersey. American had been in business since 1928 and outlasted all the other shuffleboard manufacturers that failed when the sport suffered a demise in the '60s. By the time shuffleboard made a comeback in the '80s, American was the sole manufacturer of boards.

However, with the comeback of the sport came the emergence of new manufacturers and American went through some tough times. Despite its problems, the demand for American's products continued and many potential customers were disappointed when the company could not deliver.

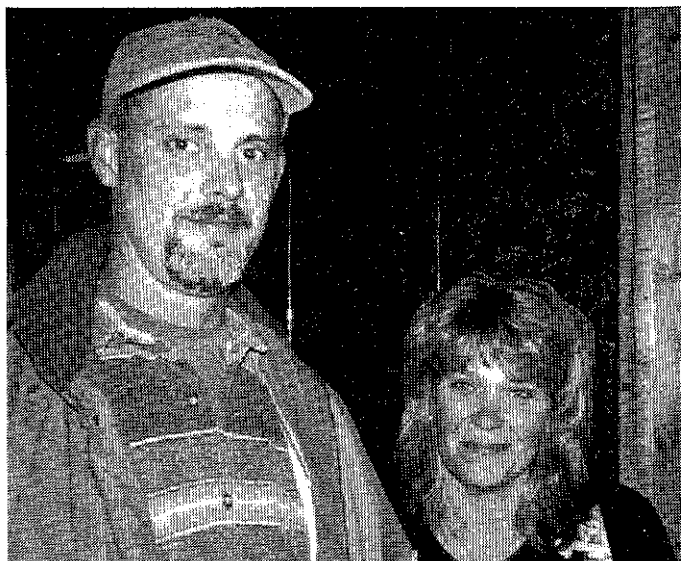
According to Andy Northup, sales representative for Champion, there will be no more disappointments. "The two largest names in shuffleboard have joined forces and will continue to manufacture the finest shuffleboard tables and supplies in the business," he said.

In addition to Champion's popular regulation board, smaller boards for home, office, or establishments with limited space are also available -- with your logo and special staining options.

For a literature kit on all these products, call Andy at 817-284-3499. In the meantime, see the ad on the next page for further information.

Blue Goose (continued from Page 1)

In fourth place were "Mr. Cool" Chuck Norris of Oregon and his partner, "Dead Eye" Linda Steffenson of Tacoma.



Tied for fifth and were Dan "Hit Man" Hitt and Melody Marine, along with....



Mike Waters of Tuhuya, Washington and local Nancy Johannsen.

Tied for sixth place were Tim Nugent and Sharon McDonnell from Tacoma, and Mel and Jeanette Hohn,

owners of the Fir Cone Tavern in Shelton, Washington.

The preliminary Friday night single elimination draw partner event was won by John Martin of Everett and Jim Rollman from Bremerton. Second place went to Don Mitchell and Dennis Smith of Kelso, with Jim Manders from Sequim and local Dan Keller taking third. "Dan only plays about two times a year," said Dee. "He got everyone's attention wanting to know where he came from."

Dee and Larry thank bracketeer Bill Walker who did an outstanding job of keeping everyone up and ready to play when their turn came, and Lin Walker for her excellent job of handling the food. "She had eight ladies from the Goose cooking and we fed people starting at 2 p.m. on Saturday for a snack. Jerry Rivers from Standwood, Washington, stated: 'What a spread you people put on for us shufflers.' Larry said this is just a snack; wait until you see the dinner. The players ate at 6 and continued to eat until closing time. Then food was brought out again at noon on Sunday and they ate again until the tournament was finished at 2 a.m. Those girls go all out and no one goes away hungry," said Dee. The Hudsons also thank bartenders Susie, Kennen, Maria and Carolyn, who kept everyone from dying of thirst.

From Gene and Vera Brown, Bill and Lin Walker, Dee and Larry Brown: "We want to send a special thanks to all of the players who came to The Goose to make this an outstanding tournament. You were all great, wonderful people, and such outstanding shuffleboard players. Hope to see you all next year."

The next tournament at the Blue Goose will be an ABC Draw on July 17-18. The third board which was bought for this tournament will be moved to the "sister" location at Port Orchard, the Red Dog Saloon, just up the hill about a mile from the Blue Goose. At next year's Sweetheart Tournament, shufflers may be shuttled back and forth between the two locations. The Hudsons hope to attract some of the young people who now play darts and pool at the Red Dog into a new sport -- shuffleboard! Perhaps there will be some new faces in the New Millenium at The Blue Goose Sweetheart Tournament 2000.

(Editor's Note: The Blue Goose is a member of The Board Talk's national shuffleboard network. It was our pleasure to visit both The Blue Goose and the Red Dog Saloon when we were in Washington for the Board Talk Shufflers' Reunion at the Whistling Oyster in Quilcene in 1994. We fell in love with Port Orchard and spent two days there before our week in Quilcene and we can heartily recommend this entire area as one of the most beautiful and hospitable places in Shuffleboard Land, USA. On your way to or from the Grand Masters Plus on July 27-Aug. 1 at The Whistling Oyster in Quilcene, plan a stop at Port Orchard. And tell them The Board Talk sent you!)

X Virgin (continued from Page 2)

sloppy \$200 on top of mine. Marfa whispered something to Hairlip and he sat down and licked "it" again. I tossed the coin and it came up heads and I got the hammer this time. Marfa came over and whispered to Hairlip again and he started to make dumb shots and miss shots and lag bad. I knew I was being set up to be had after he lagged off in the last frame. I walked over to the bar and picked up the \$400 and put it in my purse and put it over my shoulder. Marfa said: "Hairlip Black Dog wants to play you one for \$500." I said: "Sure. O.K. Just let me use the rest room and freshen my make-up and I'll play one more game."

I went into the toilet that smelled like nothing I had ever smelled before! There was a broken window up high and I got up on the comode and jumped out. Boy, did I hurt my old left knee when I hit the ground. I hobbled around to my car as fast as I could. I heard Hairlip going crazy inside. Just as I got my car started, Hairlip Black Dog came charging out the front door. I backed out and spun the car around as fast as I could and old Hairlip lunged at my back tires. I spun dirt, gravel, rocks and weeds in his face and mouth and that slowed him down enough for me to get back on the blacktop road. As I pulled the hammer back on that old Chevy Lumina of mine, I could see Hairlip in my rear view mirror. For a while, I didn't know if I could lose him or not, but finally he began to drop back. Then he stopped and stomped his feet in frustration and anger.

After about five miles down the road, I began to calm down some from my narrow escape. I thought, well, I did come away with an extra hundred, but it sure wasn't that easy! I made up my mind then and there that I would never go back there again.

So, I'll tell you strangers and friends alike that if you are ever down in south Texas and see a little old place called Marfa's Sports Club, just don't stop. If you do stop, don't play shuffleboard with Marfa's Hairlip Black Dog whatever you do!

Now, I want you folks to know that this story is a complete work of fiction and that there is no place called Marfa's Sports Club and any resemblance between Hairlip Black Dog and anyone living or dead is strictly coincidental.

Sue Lewis (The X Virgin), Midwest City, Oklahoma

It's a good thing you confessed that this was fiction, Sue. Otherwise, a lot of travelling shufflers would be combing the back roads of south Texas looking for Marfa's Sports Club. We've come across a few that came close to your description of the club, the board and the pucks (no black dogs!) -- none, of course, which were in Texas!

Bonnie Says Thanks....

When I turned to the coverage about Bill (February issue), I was so startled. I soaked up every word and was smiling through the tears as I read your meaningful article. The photos were just tremendous in their clarity. I am so grateful for the coverage you devoted to Bill. I am also very grateful to Kathi Lloyd and Jody Slack for submitting all this material.

Bill was such a gregarious person and he brought such a spark and enjoyment to shuffleboard. When we arrived for an evening of play, he would personally greet all the fellow participants. He had a compliment and often a hug for each wife or girlfriend. He would follow this greeting with shuffleboard stories and jokes throughout the evening.

Throughout the years that Bill played shuffleboard, he always strived to have something competitive happening during the evening's play when there wasn't a tournament or league play. He refused to be a dull person and liked to entertain friends. Yes, he was guilty of repeating jokes sometimes. But, by the same token, he would be asked to retell stories or jokes simply because he had such a talent for making people laugh.

When illness prevented participation in active play, Bill still liked to observe his friends play shuffleboard. And, of course, your Board Talk was the publication that brought him lots of pleasure each month, especially the articles about our Rocky Mountain players.

With heartfelt appreciation for your coverage of Bill's induction into the Colorado Hall of Fame! It was wonderful and I treasure every word and photo.

Bonnie English, Loveland, Colorado

Kathi and Jody deserve all the credit, Bonnie. Seldom do we receive such high quality photos and their composition was just a work of art (you could tell they really, really cared). We salute the Colorado Hall of Fame for selecting such a worthy individual as their first inductee. You have every right to be proud. Even though you will miss Bill, you are fortunate to have such a wonderful shuffleboard family in your state. Although Colorado is far from being one of our biggest subscriber states, they rank at the top of the list in terms of heart and loyalty.

Missouri Loses Stalwarts

Missouri shuffleboard has suffered two great losses recently. The first was the death of Georgia Williams who pretty well ran everything in Steelville. She ran the leagues, set up the tournaments, and became the "darling" to all the Missouri players.

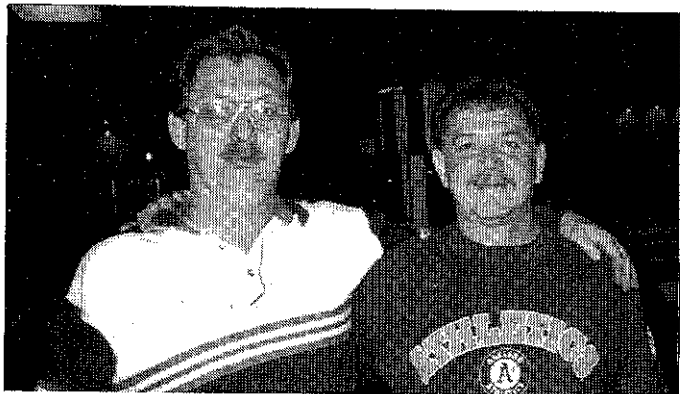
(continued on Page 21)

3rd Annual Saginaw Valley Open is Sell-Out

The 3rd Annual Saginaw Valley Open, held at McCabe's Food & Spirits in Saginaw, Michigan, on Feb. 19-21 was a sell-out this year. Potential participants in the handicapped draw and handicapped doubles had to be turned away before action started and the graduated entry fee singles was filled to capacity.



Ron Monville and Roland Metivier were tops in the draw partner event.



Wayne Atkinson and Jeff Cottrell took second place.

Carrie Cottrell and John McDermott finished in third place.



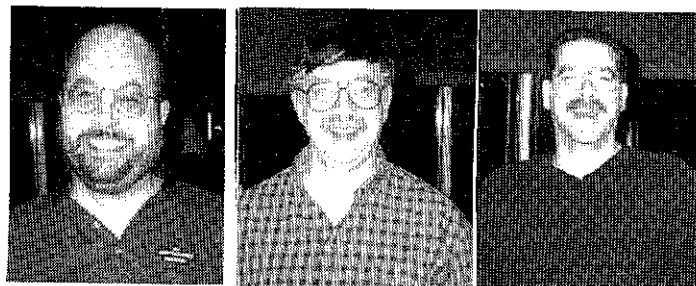
Ron Monville (again) and Chris Passariello took top honors in the doubles.



Bill Kane and Alonzo Knight finished second in the doubles.



Third place in the doubles went to Chuck Ricklifs and John Tischler.



Top winners in the singles were: John McDermott (left), 1st; Chris Passariello (center), 2nd; and Roland Metivier (right), 3rd.

The total pot for the tournament was over \$17,000.

"The handicap system seems to be working well in Michigan," said John McDermott of The Shuffleboard Federation, Inc. The Federation will be sponsoring a series of handicapped tournaments, the "kick-off" which will likely be the Majestic Cafe in Pontiac. The Majestic has recently added a second board to their establishment and has earned the reputation of being the best group of players to support events at other locations throughout the state.

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

Bill Kuebler Remembered

A highlight of the Saginaw Valley Open was a presentation to Betty Kuebler and her two sons from the State of Michigan Shuffleboard Hall of Fame in memory of her husband and their Dad, who passed away last year. The Award of Excellence read:

Dedicated in memory of Bill Kuebler: *You played the game of shuffleboard as you lived your life. Unafraid of the challenges, never backing away from your adversary, while maintaining the highest standards of fairness, honesty and regard for your fellow man. Your fine example of sportsmanship did not go unnoticed by your peers. Your dedication as a shuffleboard player, teacher and supporter in your community and the State of Michigan, earned you the highest respect from all who knew you.*

See the Michigan Hall of Fame article by Betty Parrish for more details.

Blinky's (continued from Page 3)

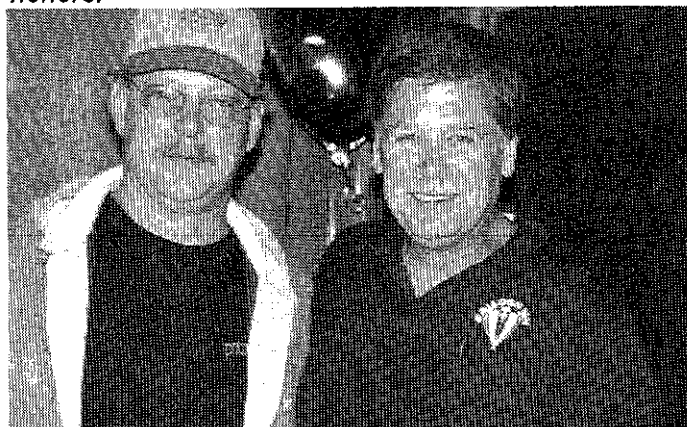
for a \$2,000 prize. The final was intense. First place went to Chris Wayt, with second place honors going to George Main, and third to Paul Weber from Bellflower.

On Wednesday and Thursday nights was the most popular event, the ABC draw, 2 of 3, double elimination, with a prize of over \$3,000. The action blasted off with strong teams everywhere and it was a super event! The results: 1st -- Nick Chaffin, George Main and Lorraine Bingham; 2nd -- Don Cox, Pete Craven and Shari Hudson; 3rd -- Pat Bayless, Don Davidson and Jim Olson.

After a brief one-day respite, the sponsor sale was held on Friday night for the open/pro doubles which began on Saturday morning with 14 teams vying for a prize fund of \$13,775.

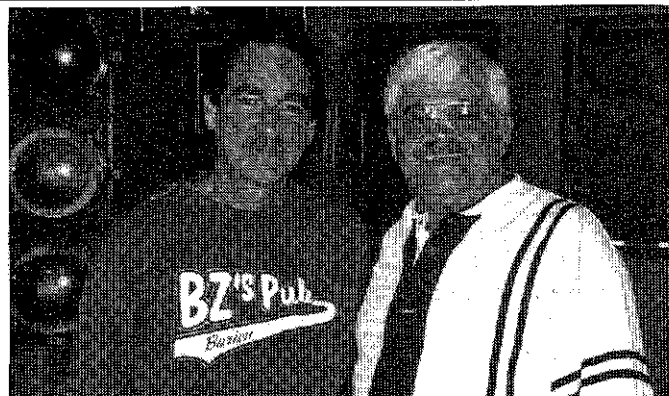


What a perfect ending! After being inducted into the California Hall of Fame, Mr. Hal Perry(second from right) and his partner, Don Cox (left), came in first in the doubles. Hal's son, Steve Perry (right) and his brother-in-law Joe Hudson (known by the end of the week as Mr. Shari Hudson), took second place honors.



Karl Spickelmier (right) and Dave Keithahn took third.

Following the Hal Perry induction and the fantastic dinner of a 160-pound pig with all the trimmings (thanks to Blinky and all of the people who worked very hard to put on this fabulous meal), the open/pro singles began with 22 players participating for a prize fund of \$10,950. It concluded Monday evening.



Rick Niblett (right) came across the country from Maryland to play -- and that he did to finish No. 1! Another great traveller, Darrol Nelson of Oregon, took second place in the open/pro singles.



All the way from Oklahoma, Bill Melton (left) finished third in the open/pro singles. His buddy, Dave Williams of Texas, extends congratulations.

From the mountains of California, Don Cox finished fourth.

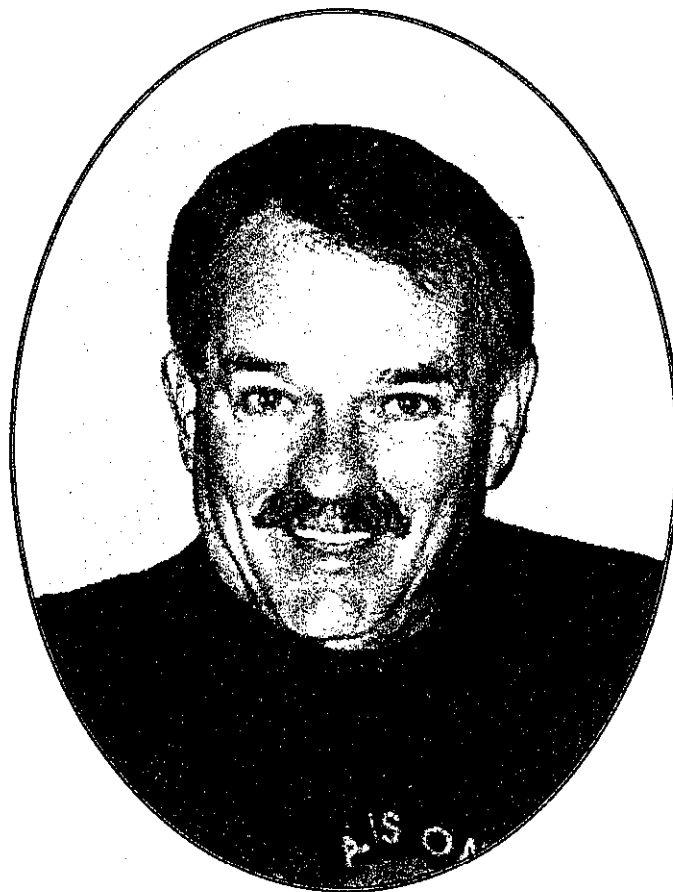
What a great week! We give special thanks to all of the out-of-town and out-of-state players who continually support the tournament: Hal Perry, Rick Niblett, Bill Melton, David Williams, Harvey Kidd, Darrol Nelson, Karl Spickelmier, Rich (Bubba) Warren, Steve Perry, Paul Weber, John Fisher, Ron Harrolson, Bob Hunt, Nick Chaffin, Fred Thumann, Joe Hudson, Don Cox, George Camara, Paul Elliot, Steve Fisher; also many kudos to the locals who always support this tournament.

A very special thanks to Paul Weber and Hope for spending the week with us and running the 50/50 draws and for helping in so many other ways.

Thanks to Fred Thumann, Bubba, Don Cox, Eddie Brayman, Chris Wayt, Dale Pirlot, Dan Mourgos and everyone who helped during the week. Thanks to Nelson Jennings for conducting the pro sponsor sales. Many thanks to Kathy Thomas, Stevie Parks and Paul Weber for handling the sponsor sale collection and prize fund distribution. Kathy, a thankless job, but from all of us, thank you! And thank you, Hal Perry!

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

**Thanks from
Hal Perry,
California Hall of
Fame Inductee....**



● *"Thank you to the California Shuffleboard Hall of Fame for this great honor. It was a very special day for me and my family."*

● *"Thanks to all of you for your kind words, personally and in writing. Those words will be treasured forever."*

● *"Thanks to all of the out-of-town and out-of-state friends who were there to share this special occasion with me."*

● *"Special thanks to my son Steve and brother-in-law Joe Hudson for making it a 'family affair.' "*

● *"Thanks to my buddy, Don Cox. Anytime you partner with a great player like Don, you have a chance to win."*

● *"Thanks to Rick Thomas, who got the whole thing started."*

"Thanks to everyone for an unforgettable day!"

Frisko Eddie's Revenge: The Return

A series by Balboa Ron Schweikert

(In last month's episode, who should show up at the Reno tournament but "Dollar Dan -- The Money Man." He has a big score to settle with Eddie and Lil regarding their confrontation in Texas during which Dan lost \$10,000.)

Long Beach Lil and Frisko Eddie watched as "Dollar Dan -- The Money Man" -- and his ape-like henchman disappeared into the hallway. They looked at each other then and Eddie queried Lil: "Well, what the hell do you make of this situation?" Lil replied: "You know, Champ, I don't have the vaguest damn idea of what's going on here....except to know that Dollar Dan didn't come up here to do us any good; that's for sure!"

After a moment of reflection, Lil made an observation: "If Dan wanted to 'do us' like he had in mind in Texas, we wouldn't be having this conversation right now. He would have already 'whacked' us. No, he's got some other scheme on his mind." She continued: "I'll tell you what. Just in case, I'm going to get in touch with my ex-husband, Tony, in L.A. If he thinks I need it, he'll get some back-up here for me real quick."

Eddie made an observation of his own then: "I like the way you said he'd get some help for YOU! Who am I -- the Long Ranger here?" Lil looked him in the eye then and said: "I was going to tell you this. Tony knows about you and me. I told you he was still very jealous of me, and to be honest, you're not one of his favorite people right now. I know he wouldn't try to harm you in any way, but helping you out now is another thing, Eddie." But then she went on to say: "Look. It was my hustle back in Texas that got us in this fix and we were partners then. We're partners in this, too, O.K.?"

They gave each other an intent look of understanding then. Lil said: "We're going to have to stay in close touch until this thing blows over. If I were you, I'd let Shelli in on enough of what's going on, to where she doesn't blow up again and add more to the problem." Eddie agreed, then said: "See ya," as he turned to meet Shelli, who was now making her way toward them.

After he joined her, Shelli said: "You two were getting pretty close there, my man -- what's up?" Eddie replied: "Hey, not to worry about what you're thinking. There is something important that's come up, though." They left the main room then and found a quieter spot. Eddie explained the situation as best he could. He had to be brief, as they heard the announcement that their team was up. After he finished, Shelli said: "Whew, the good with the bad, huh. Here we got off to such a good start by winning

all that money at the blackjack, and now this."

As they made their way back to begin playing, she added: "Look at it this way, honey. If these guys just wanted to bust you up, they would have done it. Why don't we just concentrate on winning this team thing, and try to put the other business behind us, and see what develops -- if anything." Eddie agreed with her, but when they reached their table, he added: "This thing sounds pretty far out to you, sweetheart, but you stay close to me, O.K.? -- because it isn't."

After the inevitable confusion that precedes the start of any tournament was over, they were ready to play. Eddie had a strong team, and it was even better because few people knew just how good Shelli was. Eddie was a little shaky to begin with, but as the play progressed, he began to get his "head" into the game. After they had won the first round, they really started to get hot. When Eddie and Shelli were paired off in the second round, they won by a score of 15 to 8.

Shelli drew Eddie aside and said: "Honey, I don't know what this is. My hands are automatically doing exactly what my brain wants them to do. It's a great feeling!" Eddie replied: "I know what you're saying, precious. It's called 'synergism.' It means that the 'whole,' under some conditions, can be greater than the total sum of its individual parts. Like in medicine. It means that when certain different drugs are combined to form a new drug, that the new drug can have a greater, or stronger effect than the total effect of each drug if added up separately."

He summed it up by saying: "I'm not a 'shrink,' but I do know that when your body, and your mind, and your spirit and confidence level, are in tune and in focus -- the weights are just somehow 'compelled' to go where they're supposed to. Now, that's called synergism, honey. There's an even more important meaning for that word, but I'll let you look that up for yourself. This sermon is over, so let's go get 'em!"

Their team marched up the ladder in the winners bracket. It was now time for the final playoff. They would be facing a team that had battled its way through the losers bracket, and the captain of that team was none other than....Long Beach Lil! A crowd had gathered now to watch the final outcome of this Pro-Am team event, and the excitement was starting to build!

Shelli had to leave to visit the ladies' room before the games started. On her way back, she was stopped by a player she knew. The girl handed her a folded piece of paper and said: "I have no idea of what this is, but some guy asked me if I'd give it to you, Shelli." She didn't have time to ask any questions because the play was starting, so she just said

"thanks" and went back into the main room.

She managed to pull Lil and Eddie aside. She told them what had happened and then said: "I think you'll find this note interesting, guys." Lil and Eddie read the message together. It said: "Shelli. Tell your man that I will not accept second place. Shoot your best -- and stay healthy." That was followed by a single letter....a "D."

--TO BE CONTINUED--

Does "D" stand for Dan? What does he mean by this cryptic message? How will it impact on the Frisco Eddie vs. Long Beach Lil showdown? Don't miss the next exciting episode. If you're enjoying Balboa Ron's series and like to tell him so, please write him at: Ron Schweikert, 1140 Coral Desert Drive, Las Vegas, NV 89123.

CONGRATULATIONS

AND

**THANK YOU,
BALBOA RON
ON YOUR**

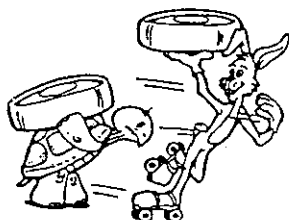
60th

**EPISODE OF
FRISCO EDDIE!**

**For five years, your
monthly contributions**

**have enhanced
THE BOARD TALK.**

**We appreciate you and
know our readers do, too!**



**George & Donna, Publishers
THE BOARD TALK**

Missouri Losses *(cont. from Page 14)*

We also lost Grumpy of Grumpy's Tavern in Springfield the first of February. Grumpy helped out with donations to our Missouri Hall of Fame and planned to be the host of the 18th Annual City-Wide Tournament in Springfield in late February. He had made a deal with Bill Melton for another board and died before it came in. They say there will be another board coming in the future.

Woodie Cockrum, Columbia, Missouri

Our sincere sympathy for these two great losses. We hope Missouri shufflers will realize that the greatest tribute they can pay to the memories of these shuffleboard supporters is to help fill the void they left.

Jim Yank is First Pennsylvania Hall of Famer

On Nov. 28 at J & C's Tavern in Philadelphia during the annual Pennsylvania State Championships, players and participants took the time to honor its first Hall of Fame inductee.

Jim Yank, better known as Yank, was honored by his peers as a teacher and promoter. As each person stood to relate a story on how Yank helped him or her, they each mentioned one thing over and over: **When you have learned the game of shuffleboard, go and teach someone else and that's the message you give to your pupil -- to pass on when he/she teaches.**

Known as "guru" to some, Yank is a person who will take time to answer questions or show anyone what they want to know or are doing wrong to help their game.

Even though Yank felt he did not deserve this honor before other players, he accepted this as a true gentleman of this sport. Your friends and peers want to say your acceptance speech gave them reason to remember these words once again: "The game comes first, the league second, team third, and yourself, fourth."

The game is a better sport with you participating, Yank. Keep it going because you do deserve to be in the Hall of Fame.

From Your Peers and Friends in Pennsylvania

We applaud your choice for the first inductee into the Pennsylvania Hall of Fame. We have been members of the Jim Yank Fan Club for a lot of years now and admire him as a gentleman, a player, promoter and teacher. If you have a photo of the induction, please pass it along. He deserves national recognition.

1999 CALENDAR OF SHUFFLEBOARD EVENTS

APRIL 1999

April 3

Arnold Cross Memorial Doubles
Mississinewa Tavern
Eaton, Indiana

April 9-10

Maryland State Championships
Harvey's Place
Street, Maryland

April 9-11

3rd Annual Spring Fling
Mother's Pizza
Corpus Christi, Texas

April 9-11

Toledo Open
Avon's Local 14
Toledo, Ohio

April 9-11

Spring Shoot-Out
Shooter's
Hillsboro, Missouri

April 16-18

Heartland Handicap
American Legion Post 73
Del City, Oklahoma

April 17

Open Doubles
American Legion Post 330
New Haven, Indiana

April 22-25

Spring '99 National Tournament
Dew Drop Inn
Waterloo, New York

April 23-25

6th Annual Shuffleboard Classic
BZ's Sports Bar & Grill
Burien, Washington

April 23-25

4th Bill Gibbs Memorial Tourney
Family Billiards (The Bar)
Glendale, Arizona

April 24-25

4th Annual Spring Open
AMVETS Post 26
Pendleton, Indiana

April 24

Rated/Open Singles
Harvey's Place
Street, Maryland

MAY 1999

May 1

Annual Spring Doubles and
Long/Creakbaum Inductions
American Legion Post 424
Bourbon, Indiana

May 1-2

Draw Partner Tournament
Shamrock Tavern
Longview, Washington

May 21-23

Denny Busch Memorial Tourney
My Way Lounge
Omaha, Nebraska

May 23-31

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

May 25-31

California State Championships
Eagles Lodge
Exeter, California

May 27-30

2nd Annual Texas Grand Slam
Harbor Point Club & Grill
Richardson, Texas

May 27-31

Memorial Weekend Tournament
Honky Tonk
Sherburne, New York

May 29-30

NW Amateur Championship #3
Fir Cone Tavern
Shelton, Washington

JUNE 1999

June 2-6

Hall of Fame Tournament
AN & AF Club #68
Vancouver, B.C., Canada

June 11-13

Bill English Memorial Tourney
Balloon Inn
Arvada, Colorado

June 19-20

Mixed Doubles Tournament
Shamrock Tavern
Longview, Washington

JULY 1999

June 30-July 5

7th July 4th Tournament
Dixie Belle, Downey, California
Oskar's Lounge, Bellflower, Cal.
Edgewood, Bellflower, Cal.

July 2-4

4-Event Tournament
The Pillars
Guilford, New York

July 4-5

Open Doubles
Town Tavern
Sequim, Washington

July 4-10

Southwest Open
American Legion Post 73
Del City, Oklahoma

July 18-19

ABC Draw
Blue Goose
Port Orchard, Washington

July 24-25

NW Amateur Championships
Fir Cone Tavern
Shelton, Washington

July 27-Aug. 1

Grand Masters Plus
The Whistling Oyster
Quilcene, Washington

July 27-Aug. 1

15th Annual Board Talk
Shufflers' Reunion Tournament
Avon's Local 14
Toledo, Ohio

AUGUST 1999

Aug. 12-15

Crazy Canucks Annual Tourney
AN & AF
Vancouver, B.C., Canada

Aug. 20-22

3-Event Tournament
Shooter's
Hillsboro, Missouri

1999 CALENDAR OF SHUFFLEBOARD EVENTS

OCTOBER 1999

Oct. 8-10

Heartland Handicap
American Legion Post 73
Del City, Oklahoma

Oct. 17-24

North American Championships
Sands Regency Hotel/Casino
Reno, Nevada

Oct. 29-31

Halloween Tournament
Shooter's
Hillsboro, Missouri

DECEMBER 1999

Dec. 26-31

Houston Holiday Open
Houston Marriott North
Houston, Texas

It doesn't cost a cent to list your events on the calendar. The earlier you start promoting your tournament, the more successful it will be.

Michigan Shuffleboard Hall of Fame

By Betty Parrish

Please remember: Our thoughts and prayers go out to Debbie Kern who recently lost her mother to cancer. Let her know you're thinking of her: 6478 Simmons Rd., Waterford, MI 48327.

One of our state's top women players, Marie Sweeney, has been very ill and going through some very aggressive chemo treatments. Send your thoughts to Marie: 54 S. Broadway, Lake Orion, MI 48362.

I'd like to let all those who have been so kind to inquire about my mother know that although she is still bedridden, she's eating and getting some strength finally.

Inductions: In November during the state championship, George and Donna Wilber stepped in and totally coordinated our ceremony for the Hall of Fame induction of Bjerne Sunde and John McDermott when family illness threatened to delay the proceedings. There was a tremendous amount of work done to make the ceremony as beautiful as it turned out. Dry eyes were difficult to find that day as the ceremony started off with photos of the inductees from early years to the present, with Dennis Bittner, owner of the Club Car, singing each a special song. When each inductee's families came in, we all realized that it was a total surprise for both Bjerne and John. I'm so glad I was able to attend at the last minute because, thanks to the Wilbers, the induction turned out to be beautiful.

Thanks to Sponsors: Our Hall of Fame funds continue to grow, thanks to sponsors like the Club Car and Sunset Motel, both in Durand, and The Board Talk. These wonderful people went together and donated a set of weights which was raffled off during the state championships in Durand. The Shuffleboard Federation provided a set of weights during the McCabe's gathering in Saginaw in February and player response to buy raffle tickets and the 50/50

tickets in both places was overwhelming. The Hall of Fame Committee thanks all the hard-working, dedicated sponsors for the donations and the players who take the time to buy and also help with the sales. We're all working very hard together and that's exactly what it is all about.

A New Special Award: There is a very special breed of shuffleboard player in Michigan. These players may not travel far from home to play, but locally they wholeheartedly and unconditionally support the game. Although these players may never be rated as pro or one whose name might be recognized through the country, their home area knows, respects and loves them -- and now Michigan will honor them.

This "special" player is the backbone of the game, the reason that many of us have been attracted to it in the first place, and maybe even the reason we continue to play.

The Michigan Hall of Fame Committee realized a need to honor these outstanding players and we have done so by creating an Award of Excellence. This award is for the player who goes out of his/her way to welcome new and visiting players. This honoree sets the perfect example of good sportsmanship, fairness and conduct becoming a leader in their shuffleboard community, and this award is one of respect and appreciation for the fine examples of fair play that this player has set for all of us.

The Michigan Shuffleboard Hall of Fame Committee presented its first Award of Excellence in memory of Bill Kuebler, affectionately known as "Cookie Man," at McCabe's tournament in February.

Bill Kuebler loved the game of shuffleboard and one could always count on seeing him and wife Betty at Saginaw tournaments or ones nearby such as Durand or Houghton Lake. Betty told me once that being on retirement, Bill would do extra little jobs in order to have tournament money. Bill was doing an extra job for his shuffleboard nest egg when he suffered a fatal heart attack.

Bill always carried himself proudly and didn't have a bad word for anyone.....well, maybe under his

(continued on Page 27)

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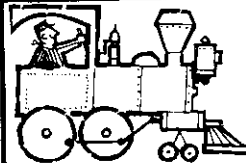
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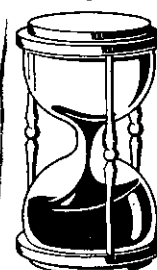
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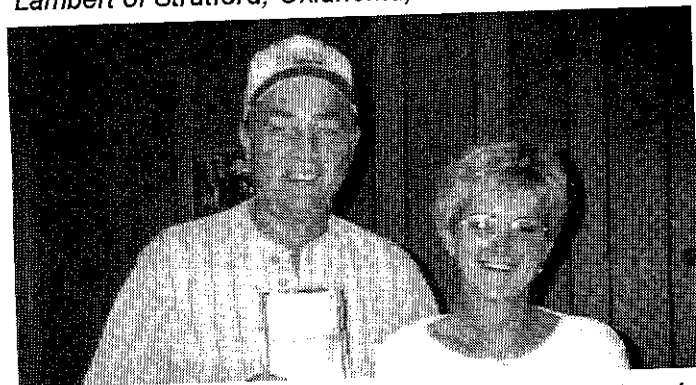
FOR SALE

Full House of Winners at 6th Annual Labor Day Tournament

The Full House in Wynnewood, Oklahoma, held their 6th Annual Labor Day Tournament on Sept. 3-6, 1998.



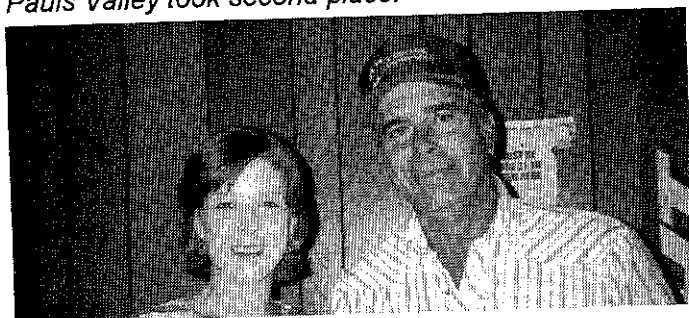
Lynn Tice (left) of Pauls Valley, Oklahoma, was winner of the Men's Singles. Fred Boyd (right) of Dallas, Texas, took second place honors. Weldon Lambert of Stratford, Oklahoma, finished third.



Lynn Tice and Jean Miller of Wynnewood were tops in the Sweetheart Draw.



Dave Fleming of Oklahoma City and Nancy Tice of Pauls Valley took second place.



Tommie Tice of Stratford and David Renfro of Wynnewood took third place.



Tom Galvin of Nebraska and Euel Jensen of Oklahoma were winners of the Open Draw. (Sorry about your heads, guys!)



Gene McCleod of Missouri and Alan Cobb of Oklahoma City took second place honors.

Third place went to Jean Miller of Wynnewood and Ron Blalock of Oklahoma City.



Betty Melton of Davis, Oklahoma, and Skip McCaskill of Wynnewood were winners of the Bring Your Partner event.

Lynn Tice of Pauls Valley and Shannon Tice of Stratford finished second.



Ken Storck of Oklahoma City and Tom Galvin of Nebraska took third in the bring partner event.



Serving as secretary and bookkeeper for the tournament was Vicky McCaskill of Wynnewood.

The 1999 Labor Day Tournament at the Full House will be on Sept. 2-6.

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

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

Please add the following establishments to your "Play Your Way Across the U.S.A." listing that was published in the January issue:

Oklahoma: Van's Club, one mile E. Hwy. 9, Stigler; phone 918-967-8881



Van's No. 1 team of the Southeastern Oklahoma Shuffleboard League were: Johnny Whitley, Gib Warren, Terry Warren, Kerry Lowe, Van Cole and Jerry Perry. Presenting the first place award is C. V. Sloan.

Additional Information: California -- to E.T.'s Sports Lounge in Temecula, add Ted Z's phone number: 909-694-8282

If you are a new subscriber and did not receive the 1999 "Play Your Way Across the U.S.A." published in January, drop us a note and we'll send you one.

Michigan Hall (continued from Page 23)

breath when the police officer tried to make him move his camper truck after he had first obtained permission to park it there. I wouldn't even know how to find a mayor during one of our out-of-town tournaments, but Bill hiked up his pants and squared off his hat and took the matter up to the top. The mayor let him stay. That's the kind of man that Bill Kuebler was. He followed the rules and expected everyone else to do the same. He gained the respect of those who knew him because of who he was and what he did; it was evident that here was a good man.

I was as fond of Bill Kuebler as anyone in the room the day we presented his award to his wife Betty. With Betty and her sons looking on, it was hard for me to express how much we missed Bill and how grateful we were that we had been blessed to know him. It's hard to say sometimes what the heart remembers, like Bill and Betty together at tournaments and how well they complimented one another and the unequated support for one another. And the heart recalls the look of awe and pride on the face of your own son when Bill sought him out as a partner. What a wonderful experience and memory for a young player to know that this man obviously liked and respected you or he would not have asked. And then there was the pride that the mother felt when she witnessed the respect her son showed to one who was older and more knowledgeable.

This sad heart also remembers, with a smile, the time I was sitting near some loud-talking "high fivers" who never show respect for anyone and hearing one of them say: "Yeah, man, I drew that old guy over there in the hat. Couple of ends and I'll be done with that game." I remember the respectable game of shuffleboard that the old taught the young that day. After Bill won the game, he extended his hand and walked away with the tiniest gleam in his eye that spoke volumes to me and all those who had heard the remarks and witnessed the game.

Lastly, I remember with pride the state championships over a year ago when Bill and Betty both took first place in their divisions. The support and pride they had in one another was incredible. Bill Kuebler will always be a state champion and I'm very thankful that he was able to enjoy that special win before he was taken from us. He deserved to be the first to receive the Award of Excellence. The committee only wishes it could have been handed to Bill personally.

Nelson and Pearson are '99 Masters Champs

By Dwayne Dibley

For 18 years, the Fir Cone Tavern in Shelton, Washington, has been hosting the Masters Shuffleboard Tournament. That's at least as far back as Fir Cone recorded history goes. There are, however, a few fossils around that claim that the Masters has been going on for 20 years. But, it's hardly worth arguing over two years -- unless it's the two years that Dan Hitt and Al Pease won back to back (1997-1998).

This year's Masters, held on Feb. 20-21, started off with a single elimination open draw on Friday night. Larry Pearson and Dan Hitt took the first prize by beating Loren Lampley and Mel Hohn in the finals.



Saturday started off with a real bang (provided by Loren Lampley's home made drum). Sales have a whole new twist when they are done to a beat. This has the makings of a tradition that could catch on.

Once the juke box is filled with 12 hours of rock and roll, courtesy of Rick Gindt with a little help from his friends, action is ready to start.

This year's Masters was a virtual "Who's Who of Shuffleboard in the Northwest." Jeanette Hohn, owner of the Fir Cone, said this was the best field of teams she has ever seen. Picking a favorite to win would be impossible.



Darrol Nelson and Larry Pearson won the winners bracket and were forced to a second set in the finals by Grant Manning and Mel Hohn before winning it all and becoming the 1999 Masters Champions.



Mel Hohn and Grant Manning had to settle for second.



Loren Lampley and Jim Foran divide third place money.



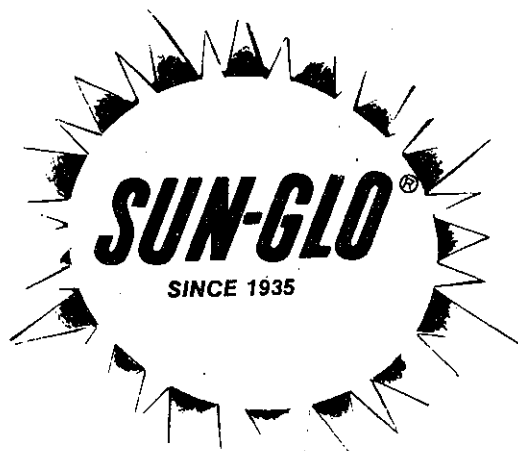
Tom Campbell and Billy Powell finished fourth.

Fifth place was a tie between Dan Hitt and Al Pease and the team of Mike Thorpe and Nels Anderson.

Once again a wonderful feast was provided. The Shelton Shuffleboard Community is made up of so many wonderful people, it is difficult to thank them personally. Without the support of these people, the tournaments in Shelton would not be as popular as they are.

The next event at the Fir Cone is its first Div. II Tournament on April 10-11.

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



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Chamberlin/McNeill Winners at Market Street Cafe

The Market Street Cafe, Charlestown, Maryland, hosted a sweetheart tournament on Valentine's Day.



Winners were George Chamberlin of Perryville and Steph McNeill of Rising Sun (left). Taking second place honors were Tammy Little and Chuck Cooke of Elkton.



From Greenwood, Delaware, John Gardner and Mary Wagner took third place.



Local promoter/photographer Brenda Wallace didn't win any money, but she did collect a dozen roses from son Mitch for Valentine's Day.

"Bobbie and Chip Spangler are the owners of Market Street Cafe, a lovely family who cares about people -- not just making money," reports Brenda Wallace. "Anyone who can find better hosts, let me know. We'd like to alert travelling shufflers that this is a great place to visit. It's located between Perryville and Elkton, Maryland, just off #40, easy to find, and the Suiquanna River is a great attraction for diners and players alike."

The Market Street Cafe is a member of The Board Talk's national shuffleboard network.

Mason-Dixon Classic Staged at Harvey's Place

By Dick Gorman

The annual Mason-Dixon Classic was held at Harvey's Place, Street, Maryland on their four in-house boards on Feb. 26-27. Whoever thought that the line dividing the North and South (just a few miles away) would become the name of a shuffleboard tournament with the "referee" being the Bowers Rating System from Texas? It didn't take guns to level this playing field; it took Ron Bowers and all of his raters. Thanks, Ron, the crowds are increasing and the scene is a lot more fun. A nice size crowd arrived from Sherburne, New York (8 players); another four players from Philadelphia, all representing the North. Another new contingent of five players arrived from Western Maryland (Cumberland) to join with a group from Baltimore to form the rebel section. No war ensued, but they all could shoot and shoot they did!

Friday night filled up early; 32 players had their names in the hat and paid for a half-hour before the scheduled start of 6:30 p.m. The draw produced some interesting partners and the Bowers handicap system presented some interesting balance.

Leading the way to the winner's table were Don Casula of Wilmington, Del., and Al DiBella, Upper Darby, Pennsylvania. Dick Gorman of Wilmington and local Arnold Ledford took second place. Third place money went to new player Joe Freyling of Philadelphia and Brenda Wallace from nearby Port Deposit. Host Harvey Comer and his partner, Dick Smedberg of Long Island, New York, finished fourth. No decisive win here for either the North or South, with so many players from no-man's-land Delaware. Matter of fact: dead heat North vs. South.

Saturday was the bring partner event with every team required to have a minimum of 2.0 points, the handicapped on basis of the difference in total Bowers System points. It made for an interesting day. The four teams walking proudly to the payoff

table were dominated by players from New York. Looked like a victory for the Yankees; last year, it was the Rebels. First place was taken by Bill Jones, Sherburne, New York, and Ken Van Zile Sr., Oxford, N.Y. Coming in second and riding in the same car: Dick Losee of Poolville, N.Y. and Dan Miner, Guilford, N.Y. Taking third place was host Harvey Comer and Joe Williams, Ridley Park, Pa. Fourth and final money spot was taken by the Philadelphia team of Joe Freyling and Jim Yank Sr.

Every Saturday night a draw partner event is held at Harvey's Place and this Saturday was no exception. Many of the players who were already out of the Mason-Dixon competition signed up. The ultimate winners were Curtis Dean, Rising Sun, and Butch Kelly, Springfield, Pa. Second place went to Dick Gorman and Dick Smedberg.

We haven't mentioned hostess Darylene Belcher much lately, but a lot of folks who were at this tournament are talking about her. She didn't get to play this tournament as she usually does because she was a "little off her feed." But she did prepare a feed for the players and their guests -- the best pork loin I ever ate, said most, along with saurkraut, mashed potatoes, string beans, cranberry sauce and rolls. Boy, was it good! Kudos also go to our barmaid who gets there early and stays until after we are gone, cleaning up for the next day -- thanks, Jackie!

Finally, we take time on these pages to say get well to two of our usual participants who couldn't make it this time because of recent heart attacks: Dick Jeffries of Sherburne, N.Y. and Phil Neuman of Swarthmore, Pa. Both are recovering and we hope "the big man upstairs" sends them back to us soon. We friends in shuffleboard are concerned for them.

The next tournament at Harvey's Place is the Maryland State Championships (open to anyone from any place) on April 9-10, concluding this season on April 24 with the open singles and rated singles. When there is a Saturday only tournament, there are always enough players to get something going the Friday night before, so come early, says Harvey Comer.

The crowds are getting big enough that soon it may be necessary to reserve a spot in advance again -- like the old days. Call Harvey at 410-836-8881.

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

Kane/Tinker Tops at Coaches, Fenton, Missouri

By Jerry Sabourin

Neither wind, nor rain, nor hail -- or even a tornado that tracked through Jefferson County, Missouri, could keep the local area shufflers from gathering for the

2nd Annual Frank Kane Memorial Shuffleboard Tournament. The setting was Coaches Bar and Grill, a recently new shuffleboard establishment in Fenton, Missouri. When the final gun sounded in the wee hours of Sunday morning, Feb. 28, many a toast, salute and cheer took place in memory of the late shuffler, Frank Kane.

This tournament is promoted annually by Frank's son, Steve Kane, and friends. Steve, with partner and newcomer to tournament play, Chris Tinker, took first place honors. Congratulations to both of them for their steady and great play -- not to mention their dancing!

Second place honors went to the tournament favorites, the husband and wife team of Jim and Donna Dunn. Both are long-time supporters and promoters of quality shuffleboard play and tournaments throughout the St. Louis metropolitan area.

The final money spot and third place went to the team of Bill Frame and Jerry Sabourin. It was Bill's first shuffleboard action in almost two years, and he played great!

The best part of the evening, besides shuffleboard of course, was Steve Kane's dancing for dollars. He came about as close to taking it all off as the law allows. We have pictures to prove it!

Everyone, participants and non-participants, had a great time at this shuffleboard event. Most of us are already looking forward to next year. Many thanks to our host, Coaches Bar and Grill, from all who attended. They had the best french fries I ever tasted. McD's better look out!

Shuffling at The Pillars

By Dan Miner

Friday, March 5, started off the two-event weekend at Pillars, Guilford, N.Y. with 16 teams signed up for a draw partner. We had some real exciting matches and a super finish with the team of Dick Losee of Poolville and Cindy Miner of Guilford fighting their way through the losers bracket to take first place. By the way, this was Cindy's first big tournament (congratulations!). Second place went to Steve Bennett and Clair Law, both from Sherburne. We're glad to see you out and shooting again, Steve. Third place was Dan Miner of Guilford and Earl Durgan of Waterloo. Fourth and final money went to the team of Ken VanZile of Guilford and Jane Johnson of Jordan.

On Saturday, March 6, we tried something new with a six-person team event on three boards, best 2 out of 3 games, first two boards take the match. This made for some very interesting and hard-fought matches. But with five teams signed up, it took about 14 hours to finish so we had some very tired first and second place finishers. With this in mind, next time

(continued on Page 33)

Newcomer Helps "Grizzly" Win A-B Draw at Jerry D's

By Kathi Lloyd

Jerry D's in Dacona, Colorado, hosted an A-B blind draw tournament, organized by Ron Sosovec, over the Valentine's Day weekend for the second year in a row. The handicapped tournament was a big success and it looks like it will become another Colorado shuffleboard tradition.

This picture shows Dave holding Sue up in a victory celebration, but I think Dave will tell you that Sue did a fair job of holding him up at crucial times during the tournament. I've never seen a beginner with such nerves of steel! She never missed a shot in the final match. Sue has just begun playing in the past few months and is going to be a great competitor down the road!



The star of the show was the newest player from Fort Collins, Sue Peiper. She was paired up with Dave Cowan (the "Grizz"), who towers over the petite 4 ft. 9 inch Sue.



Candy Lepore and Kathi Lloyd placed second in this tournament.

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

Walden/Kennedy/Pipken Win "Tournament of Tears"

By Woodie Cockrum

Missouri's largest and most popular shuffleboard event, the city-wide tournament in Springfield, was played with sadness this year. Connie McCall took over the tournament that Premium Beverage started and was run by Mike Arthur for 17 years. Connie changed the name to Hill Billy Tournament and made a deal with the owner of Grumpy's Tavern, Randy Jensen, for it to be held at Grumpy's. Randy had bought a board from Bill Melton awhile back and with this tournament coming up, he was in the process of buying another board when he was stricken with a heart attack. He died just two weeks before the start of the tournament at the age of 52. He will be missed. Randy's wife, Cindy, will continue the great service at Grumpy's Tavern. She said she would have the second board in by October.



Winner of the singles, held Feb. 25, was Harvey Walden (center) of Tennessee. Second place went to Chuck Muehlhauser of St. Louis (right) with Jim Kennedy (JFK) of Oklahoma in third.

(continued on Page 3)

Missouri Hall of Fame Thanks Triple Crown

The Missouri Shuffleboard Hall of Fame would like to thank Triple Crown for helping us get off the ground. They have given us the opportunity to raffle two sets of Triple Crown weights. It is because of the kinds of opportunities that new organizations get off to a good start. Thank you again for your support!

Rickey Lee Pittman, President, Missouri Shuffleboard Hall of Fame

Pillars *(continued from Page 31)*

we will either go to six boards or three boards, single game, double elimination. Other than being slightly tired, I am quite sure everyone enjoyed this event with five teams that produced 30 excellent players. All in all, the event was a success with the team of Dick Losee, Bill Jones, Bob White, Jimmy Fowler, Bill Bergner, and Pat Chase capturing first place and the biggest share of the \$2,470 pot. The team of Dan Miner, Ken Van Zile, Chris Cornish, Dick Brooks, Ryan Fuller and Dennis Leehive took second place.

I'd like to thank all the teams that played with special thanks to Dennis Leehive who traveled up from Jersey to help us capture second place. The total payout for the two events was \$4,110.

Upcoming events at the Pillars will be a four-event tournament starting July 2, 6:30 p.m., open singles, \$20 entry with a sale; July 3, 9:30 a.m., mixed doubles, \$30 a team with sale; July 3, 2 p.m., draw partners, \$20 per person, with sale; July 4, 11:30 a.m., bring partners, \$40 a team with sale. Payback is 100% and trophies will be awarded for first and second places in each event.

Pillar's is located at the corner of County Rt. 36 and 35, in Guilford, New York. Phone: 607-895-6416.

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

March Madness No. 1 at Bourbon is a Winner!

The first true round robin doubles, christened March Madness I, held at the American Legion Post 424 in Bourbon, Indiana, on March 5-6, was a big success. The event attracted 20 teams from seven states vying for a share of the \$11,000 pot.

With a record of 15-4, the Massie Brothers, Greg and Tom of Indiana, took top honors. Rick Boyer of U.S.A. and John McDermott of Michigan finished second, with Len Dell and Rick Niblett of Maryland in third place. Bobby Voorhis and Terry Dowell of Indiana took fourth place. Bill and Billy Melton of Oklahoma came so close to taking first in this unique event, but didn't finish in the money. Despite this disappointment, Bill said he liked the format (the first he'd played in) and would try again.

"We had a couple problems and will work them out before March Madness II, set for the first weekend of March 2000," said director Terry Dowell. "We will start earlier and pay down more places, and if anyone has other suggestions for improvement, please send them to me at the American Legion, 202 S. Main St., Bourbon, IN 46504.

"The success of March Madness I would have been impossible without the expertise of bracketeer Rob Kern," said Terry. "Thanks also to John

McDermott for his guidance and his laptop computer."

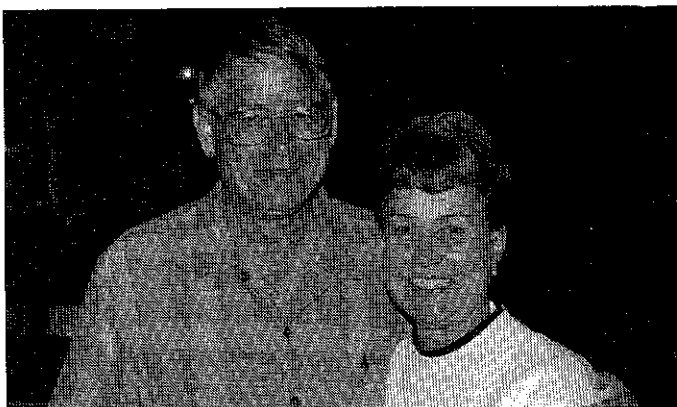
A true round robin singles is tentatively set for Aug. 20-21 at Bourbon. Watch The Board Talk for details.

The American Legion Post 424 is a member of The Board Talk's national shuffleboard network.

Brunskills Top Sweethearts at Silver Spur

By Jolene Lembke

The Silver Spur in San Bernardino, California, is a big Western-style bar in a country setting. We had balmy 75 degree weather, a live country western band and an all-day buffet there for our sweetheart tournament. We also had some lively shuffleboard games going on!



Bob and Anna Brunskill emerged the winners, as they did last year. This couple is just too hot!

Locals Eric Chiles and Jean Mays came in second and Bill and Ellen Ellis were third.

Our Tuesday night round robins and Thursday night league are getting the local players more interested in entering these tournaments, but I still depend on my loyal friends from Oskar's in Bellflower and the Dixie Belle in Downey to be there. It gives them a chance to get away from it all and let their hair down.

Thanks to Bill Maxwell for bringing us a new plank at 8 in the morning and Paul Weber for doing the brackets and for the cake and doughnuts.

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

Taz Country Hosts First ABC

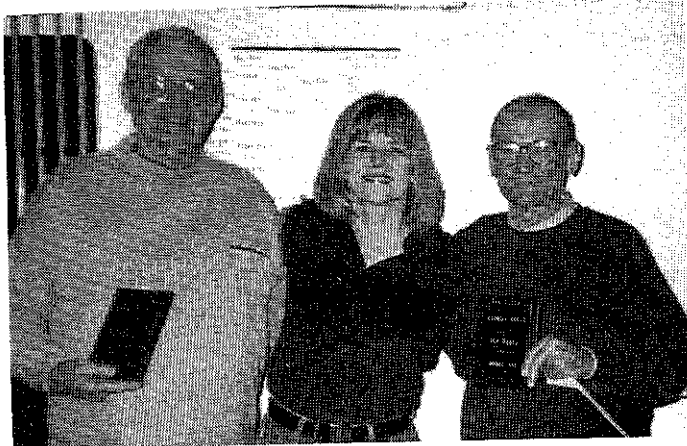
By Debbie Bowers

Taz Country in Pflugerville, Texas, hosted a three-event tournament on Feb. 19-21.

Friday night's handicap doubles draw partner event was won by Randy Rogers of Austin and Kim Andrews of Houston. Second place winners were Brenda Moore of San Antonio and Lynn Bishop of Austin. Third place went to Ken "Doc" Strong of

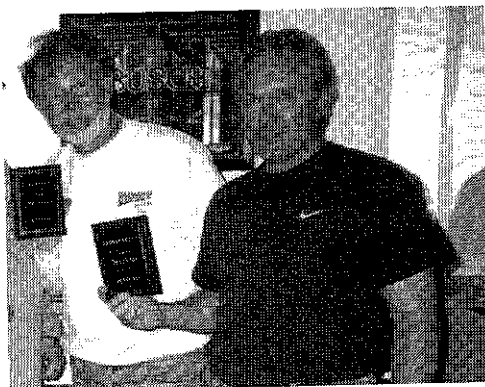
(continued on Page 34)

Missouri Tourney (cont. from Page 32)



The bring partner event was won by Jim Kennedy of Tulsa and Barry Pipken of Joplin. Owner Cindy Jensen congratulates the winners.

Second place honors went to Pay Gainey (left) of Texas and Andy Friedhofen of Springfield



Locals Steve Butcher and Randy finished third.



Winner of the drawing for a set of Triple Crown weights was "Weezie" of Houston, Missouri, presented by Missouri Hall of Fame Vice President Chuck Muehlhauser.

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

Taz Country (continued from Page 33)

Houston and Jeff Weaver of Austin.

First place in Saturday's bring partner add to 1 event went to Mike Taylor and Randy Rogers, two of our local players. Ken Strong and Rene Roberts of Houston took second place. Third place went to Eddie Woods and Mike Alvey, both from the Dallas-Fort Worth area.

Sunday's event was an ABC team. This was our first time to host this event. We had seven teams and everyone seemed to have a good time.



First place went to (left to right) Donnie Gattis and Debbie Bowers of Austin, and George Best of San Antonio.



Taking second place honors were (from left): Jerry Thurmman, Mike Taylor and Larry Nance, all of Austin.

Many thanks to all for participating and/or watching. A special thanks to Gene and Sarah, owners of Taz Country.

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

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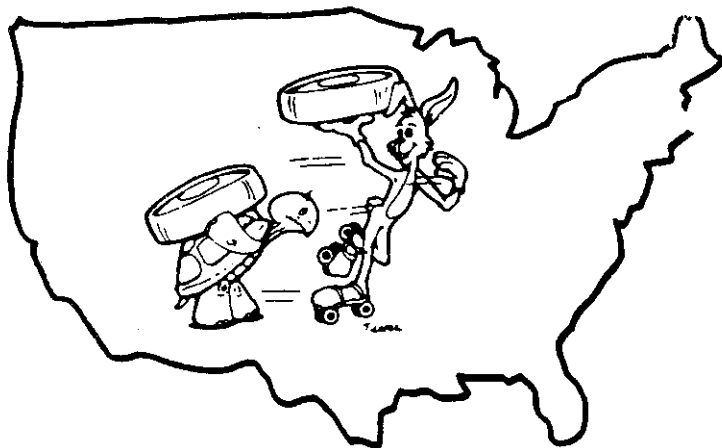
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