

The Board Talk

Published monthly by George & Donna Wilber
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May 1999

Florida Open VI Sets 3 New Records

By Marty Allen

Two Steps Forward: The Florida Table Shuffleboard Association was very encouraged by the turnout at Florida Open VI at Hobo's Pour House, Mims, Florida, on March 26-28. We thank the players from Michigan, Maryland, New York, Tennessee and Florida for attending. We wish you well in your shuffleboard future.

We had a record \$8,950 total jackpot and with 17 or more teams entered, we paid a record four places in all three events for the first time ever. A record total of 91 players participated in the three events. Thanks to Hobo and Mary for the use of their shuffleboard facilities. It's an ideal three-board tournament site.

Congratulations to Pete O'Neill and Lonzo Knight for repeating as open doubles champs. They are a tough team to beat and they will defend again next year.

Special East Coast Update: Congratulations to Rick Niblett of Maryland for attaining a pro status rating. It's a well-earned and deserved honor.

Jimmy Kumpula of Florida/Michian and Les McFarland, Florida, finished fourth.



Repeat Doubles Champs were (from left) Lonzo Knight, Maryland, and Pete O'Neill, Florida; Harvey Comer and Sam Jones, Maryland, 2nd; (not pictured) Ken VanZile and Linda Meyer, New York, 3rd; Colletta Stanley and Marty Allen, Florida, 4th.



Winners of the draw partner doubles were: Dennis Wilson and Pete O'Neil, Florida, 1st; J.R. Lopez, Michigan and Carol Komarc, Florida, 2nd; Colletta Stanley and Dave Macko (not pictured), Florida, 3rd.

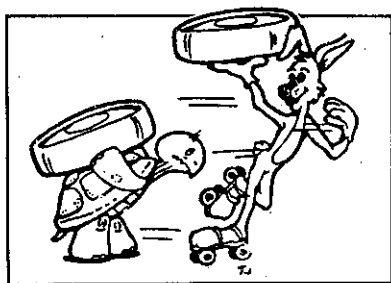


Singles winners: (from left) Lonzo Knight, 1st; Ray Boyett, Florida, 2nd; Jimmy Kumpula, 3rd; and J.R. Lopez, 4th place.

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ON THE INSIDE...

Don Valk inducted into Texas Hall of Fame, Page 3. An action-packed season, Pages 4-5, 16-17. Frisco Eddie, Page 18. Reader's Views, Pages 2, 8-9.



Shufflers' Notebook

News and Views from The World of Shuffleboard

Tina Tuttle (Daughter of Al & Von Stewart)
El Monte, California

Tina Thanks Shuffleboard Family for Mother Von

While I am not officially what you would call "a member of the Shuffleboard family," I did feel the need for a short note to you and ALL of your readers.

I have to say "Thank You" to the two of you and so many people associated with your sport. During Mom's illness, the bright spot of every single week was the cards or phone calls she would receive. She boasted and her smile would light up her living room (not to mention what they would do for Dad).

The condolences received upon Mom passing away were overwhelming. We family members could only sit by in awe!

Then came the article in January's Board Talk! Wow! The whole family was touched and amazed at the love, respect and admiration put into the piece. It will truly live on as THE memorial our mother/grandmother/great grandmother deserved (yes, we cried).

To top everything off, there was the benefit at the Dixie Belle for Dad in Mom's memory. I attended Friday night and Saturday and was so pleasantly surprised (shocked actually) at the tears and smiles that were shared in memory of my Mother and the love that was given to my Father.

On behalf of many, many of the family members, THANK YOU TO THE SHUFFLEBOARD COMMUNITY! We all love and admire our parents. As for me, to see that there are so many people outside our family who also love and admire my parents is a feeling I can only hope every person on this planet would get to experience.

Once again, for my Mother, I say THANK YOU, SHUFFLEBOARD FAMILY!!!

--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!



We assure you, Tina, that the love and admiration for your parents that the Shuffleboard Community shares with you was well-earned. How many times they reached out and touched someone with their caring thoughts and deeds! We are so proud of the members of our shuffleboard family for ALWAYS responding to those in need. We bet they stand head and shoulders (and hearts) above those involved in other sports! While your Mother's passing certainly left a void in our lives, personally, we still feel very close to her. It's finally Spring in Michigan and we can take a break from the computer to sit on our deck and listen to the chimes she brought us when she came to Lansing many years ago for the Twin Convention. It's her special music!

The Bowers Extend Thanks

Ron and I would like to thank the following:

Tony Howard for setting up the Excel program (the program in which we are now using for the ratings).

Sharon Huddleston for the work she does with the printing of the ratings. For some reason, I have yet to master the splitting of the columns to make the booklet, but Sharon says she doesn't mind doing this for me. Thank goodness or we would have a 100-page booklet if I did it.

Tom and Lynda French. Tom made a leather weight case and he and Lynda auctioned it off at our last tournament. They collected \$140 and gave it to Ron and me to help pay for the ratings. They also made a weight case for Don Valk and presented it to him when he was inducted into the Texas Hall of Fame in Houston at the first Texas State Championships on March 20. Lynda also collected money at this tournament for Randy Rogers, whose father passed away that same Saturday. Lynda collected \$190 and sent it to the Grace Methodist Church, 304 North Pruet, Baytown, Texas 77520, per the family's request.

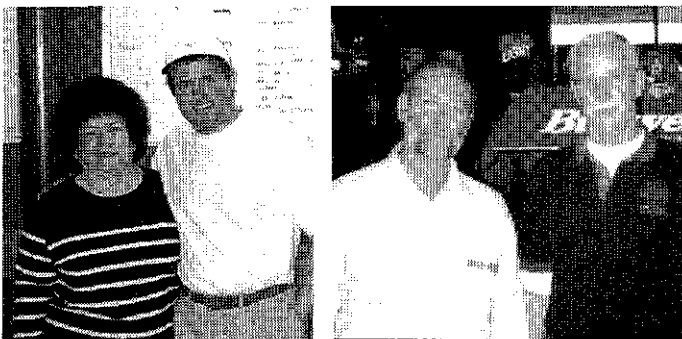
(continued on Page 8)

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.

Texas Holds First State Championships *By Brian Walker*

The 1st Annual Texas State Championships were held at Danny's Sports Bar in Houston on March 19-21, played on seven boards. Action started on Thursday evening with a "warm-up" single elimination \$20 draw (no sale) event attracting 50 players from all across Texas.



The undefeated champions were Lilly Kidd and Doug Paben (left) both of Houston. Second place went to the team of Johnny Wayne Crawford of Dallas and Gary Ridgeway of Houston.



Third and fourth spots were shared by the team of Ken (Doc) Strong of Houston and Don Valk of Austin (left) and Brenda Moore from San Antonio and Silvia Martinez of Houston.

Friday noon kicked off the Texas State Championship Doubles. In order to get as much participation as possible, the pro doubles had to equal 0 points and the amateurs had to add to +5. Coming out on top in the Pros was the team of David Williams and C.W. Walker, both from the Dallas/Ft. Worth area.



Taking the second money spot in the Pro Doubles were Johnny Wayne Crawford and Mike Taylor of Austin. Director Brian Walker presents the honors.

Don Valk Inducted into Texas Hall of Fame



Don Valk of Austin was inducted into the Texas Shuffleboard Hall of Fame during the 1st Texas State Championship. TSHF Committee Member Brian Walker presents Don with his plaque. Don was honored for his talents of promoting shuffleboard for all levels of players in the early 1960s, and for being the first recipient of the Sol Lipkin award from The Shuffleboard Federation. This ever-so-deserving recipient joins the prestigious group of previous inductees: Earl Kelly, Rod Cameron, George and Donna Wilber, and Harvey Kidd.

The third and last money spot in the Pro Doubles was captured by Bobby Williams and Jeri Billard of Fort Worth.

There were 28 teams playing for the doubles crown in the amateur division.



Coming out on top, needing both games in the finals, was the team of Danny Norris (our gracious host) and Del Ammerman, both from Houston (left). Giving the valiant effort in the finals, but just falling short was Mahlon Nobles and Morris Moss, both from Dallas/Ft. Worth (right).

Third place went to hometowners Bill Rice and Danny Green. Fourth place was taken by two more Houstonites, Tom Milan and Doug Paben. Bud Osborne and Derek Howard of Houston and Lynda

(continued on Page 10)

Upcoming Events Across the Nation

Canada

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.

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.

New York

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



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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.

Texas

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.

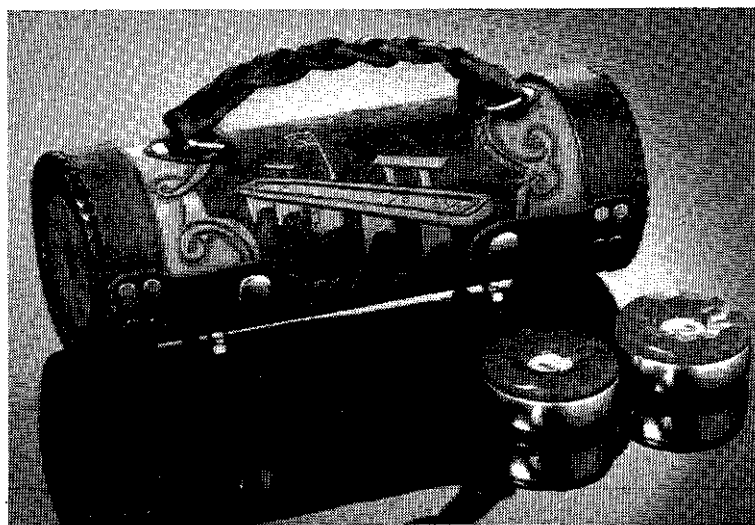
For more information, contact Greg at 972-231-9365, or C.W. at 214-351-5508.

SOUTHWEST OPEN QUALIFIER, GOLD NUGGET, ARLINGTON, JUNE 10-13

The Gold Nugget, 2602 W. Division, Arlington, will host a qualifier for the Southwest Open on June 10-13. Action will start with \$20 round robins on Thursday night. Draw doubles for pros (-1's, 0's and 1's), \$50 per person entry, and amateurs (2's, 3's, 4's and 5's), \$25 per person, are on the agenda for Friday. On Saturday, there will be singles events for pros, \$100 entry; 2's only, \$50 entry; and 3's, 4's and 5's, \$25 entry. Bring partner events will be held on Sunday: pros (must add to 0 or more), \$100 per team, and amateurs (must add to 5 or more), \$60 per team. A one-time \$10 registration fee will be charged.

Winners of each event will be entered in that event at the Southwest Open.

(continued on Page 16)



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By Fritzi

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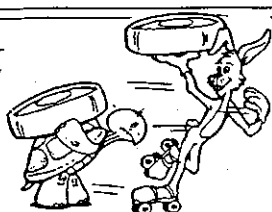
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As The Puck Turns.....



By George & Donna Wilber

Upcoming Events (continued on Page 7) -- that gives you just a clue about our April issue, a publishers nightmare! We're certainly not complaining about the biggest issue in 15-1/2 years -- 36 pages and seven inserts. However, it does make for some big adjustments when you're set up for 28 to 32 and have to change page numbers and make sure your continuations indeed continue on the appropriate pages (instead of having a story starting on Page 24 that continues on Page 7, which is not acceptable)! Yes, we can handle those kinds of challenges. It's when our seven-year-old laser printer starts to moan and groan and finally quits entirely on deadline day that we get a little whiney. The repairman's estimate that it would cost \$400 and two weeks to get the relic going again was not acceptable either, so we get a loaner. Works good, except when it comes to printing mailing labels, which it does one to a sheet of 30 -- also not acceptable. Back comes the repairman, a different one this time, and after a costly three hours of wrestling with the antique computer, finally gets our labels run. With a lot of prayers and a minor miracle, we got the issue to the Post Office on target.

Once it gets to the Post Office, it's out of our hands. The bulk mailing permit we have (and can afford) doesn't carry a next day service. We received a complaint from California that it takes three weeks for delivery. On the other hand, we received a note from an Arizona subscriber who received his April issue on April 2! Can't complain about that!

Occasionally, subscribers who get discouraged about late delivery suggest we "upgrade" to first-class and charge subscribers accordingly. First, we wouldn't know what to charge per year because the weight varies from a regular 28-pager to a 36 -pager. Second, most subscribers wouldn't be willing to pay the added cost. Third, it would take us manpower we don't have to separate the mailings between first-class and bulk rate, even if there are those willing to pay the price.

The staff at the Lansing Post Office is very efficient and accommodating and we know it leaves here in a timely fashion. Therefore, the problem lies somewhere between here and your house. With bulk mail, it is allowed to "sit" at each postal station along the way for 72 hours, but no way should that add up to three weeks! We can't guarantee it will help, but it

sure wouldn't hurt to talk to your local post office or mail carrier if you're having problems with delivery.

We continue to urge you to promote your events early so even though it takes a week to 10 days for delivery, your target audience still receives the news in time to make plans to participate!

You've heard the old saying: "You can lead a horse to water, but you can't make it drink." Sometimes we feel like: "You can deliver information, but you can't make them read!" Here are some examples:

(1) After nearly three years, some subscribers still send mail to our old address, which delays delivery and sometimes misses a deadline.

(2) After 2-1/2 years, some subscribers still send renewals in at the old \$15 rate.

(3) Even though, every month, we tell subscribers they must let us know when they move, we still get letters requesting the issues they missed because they failed to notify us.

(4) There are still a few tournament promoters who fail to remember the deadlines for each issue: information must be received by the 15th of the month to appear in the next issue. For example, information for the May issue must be received by April 15, etc.

Help us help you!

Lest this sound like a "bitch" column this month, let us end on a positive note....

While shuffleboard hasn't made ESPN yet, we are getting some positive newspaper coverage. Thanks to Porter White (California), Larry Creakbaum (Indiana), and Dennis Bittner (Michigan) for sending us clippings of shuffleboard activities.

Thanks to Ron Bowers who found a Michigan shuffler down in Texas who didn't have a Board Talk subscription and signed him up! (Another star for Texas!)

Please note our new advertisers this month: Enoch's Sports Lounge in Peoria, Arizona (see Page 4 and Shuffleboard Directory), Full Moon Leather Works, Bourbon, Indiana (see Page 5), and Jim Manders, Sequim, Washington (see Page 13). Also note that Leon Black of Michigan has taken advantage of our one-time Shuffleboard Directory listing for a wanted ad and Harvey Walden is using it to invite travelling shufflers to drop in and play a game with him while they're in the Memphis, Tennessee area.

A hearty Board Talk salute to the growing number of states who are inducting worthy individuals into their state Halls of Fame. In this issue: Don Valk of Texas; next month: Bob Lewis, No. 1 in Arizona, and Larry Creakbaum and Jim Long, Indiana. On deck (that we know about): Porter White, California -- and more to come! Keep up the good work!

Notebook *(continued from Page 2)*

Lynda is also the person who does the Bowers Corner on the internet. She spends numerous hours putting in upcoming tournaments, ads, tournament results, answering E-mails, etc. Oh, and let's not forget the great music and characters she spends lots of hours searching the internet for and putting on our Bowers Corners.

When I was at the Texas State Championships tournament, Diana Hagen came up to me and gave me \$200. I said: "What's that for?" She said "for all the time you put into doing the ratings." I guess when I was talking to her about the ratings and how I had no time to work in my yard and that I had weeds taller than I was, she went up to everyone that was there that night and asked them for money. **Thank you all very much!** I did finally pull those weeds, five yard bags full and some of them were taller than me.

Ron and I would like to **thank all of you who sent in donations.** We have had donations sent from all over the country, from \$5.00 donations to \$50 donations, to postage stamps and even long distance phone cards. We wish to thank each and everyone of you.

We wish to **thank all of our raters** (those who sent in their ratings) for their time and effort. We are aware that it takes a lot of your time, but just remember -- we couldn't do it without you, and we really appreciate your help.

Debbie Bowers, Austin, Texas

It's hard to imagine our World of Shuffleboard today without the Bowers Rating System. You and all your helpers are providing a great service to our sport and you should be compensated for it. We encourage you to start charging a fair fee for copies of your booklet; we don't know of anyone who wouldn't gladly pay for a copy. Also, have you considered selling space in your booklet for advertising? We would certainly be interested and we're sure others who serve the World of Shuffleboard would, too (just make sure you ask for camera-ready copy so it doesn't create more work for you). A Board Talk salute to you! Keep up the great work!

A Tribute to Don Valk

I had the honor of saying a few words about a very good friend of mine who was inducted into the Texas Shuffleboard Hall of Fame during the Texas State Shuffleboard Championships held in March in Houston: Don Valk. I first met Don in 1988 when I started playing shuffleboard at a little shuffleboard bar called the Horseshoe in Austin, Texas, although I had seen him previously at his U.S. Open Tournaments in

Austin. At that time, the U.S. Open was held as one of several sporting events associated with the 10-day Austin Aquafest Festival, a festival noted for arts, crafts, music, boat races, etc.

Here was this big, somewhat overweight, guy dressed in a white uniform, as if he were a captain of some cruise ship that just docked, directing and playing in a table shuffleboard tournament. I asked Connie Cuyler, an observer at the tournament, where they played in Austin. She responded: "The Horseshoe." And that is where I met Don and several of the local players, viz., Connie, Johnny Ballard, Jim Grove, Don Gunter and wife Sheila, Bill Moody, Joe Rodin, Greg Tedford, a wild-thumb shooter named Lucky, and a couple of San Antonio people, Brenda and Terry Moore. They all said the same thing about Don: "He's good and he will never cheat you; he is straight as an arrow." Good thing, because Don, proudly donning his U.S. Open armadillo logo on the back of his shirt, would occasionally talk about his two friends, "Snake" and "Whip." Now, having recently met Don, a person should begin to wonder about associating with a new acquaintance who has friends referred to as "Snake" and "Whip."

It was through Don that during the summer of 1988 I met and played with the likes of Rick Boyer, Earl Kelly, John McDermott, Billy Mays, Frank Blade, all of whom spent a few days in Austin playing at the Horseshoe (except for Rick who decided to stay more than just a few days). Of course, I wasn't very good, didn't win very much no matter what player drew me. I wasn't accustomed to losing, hated to lose, but I hung in there.

Don must have figured out that I was really interested in shuffleboard because it was Don who took me around and showed me the mechanics of cleaning and leveling boards and setting up qualifying tournaments for his U.S. Open tournament. It was Don who taught me shuffleboard etiquette and showed me basic shuffleboard shooting techniques, how to dust boards and set up brackets. Yes, I have to blame Don for getting me hooked on this game, but I attribute much of that to the very professional and dedicated manner in which he always approaches the game. Don was very enthusiastic and energetic about his U.S. Open tournaments. I guess that was why it was a pleasure for me to be able to help out in his tournaments in whatever capacity I could.

These were the years before Don and Linda tied the knot. Don struggled at the shuffleboard sometimes as I recall, keeping one eye on the board and the other on Linda. I'm sure they remember those days, too. Seven years ago last October, Don and Linda took off for Reno to get married. As the story goes, this event was supposed to be a well-kept secret but everyone in Austin knew about it. When they returned from their honeymoon, every one in

Austin played along with the hush-hush thing and acted dumb and surprised that they finally got married.

Of course, knowing Don for only 11 years, I wasn't able to talk about any of his shuffleboard war stories of his earlier years, but I do know that he was largely responsible for getting leagues going and keeping shuffleboard alive in the Austin-San Antonio-Canyon Lake area.

Yes, sir, Donald P. Valk, it's been my pleasure to have known you. You certainly deserve the recognition for your integrity, contribution and dedication to the game of shuffleboard. Again, welcome to the Texas Shuffleboard Hall of Fame.

Ken Strong, Houston, Texas

Your memories of Don Valk stirred some "remember whens" for us, Ken. We looked back in our "library" of past Board Talks and found the coverage of the 1989 U.S. Open, the one we were fortunate to attend. Sam Summers, sporting a new mustache, won the singles; Rick Boyer and Frank Blade won the doubles; Diana Hagen won the women's singles; and Billy Mays and Sharon Finch took the Pro-Am event. In that same issue, we had an article about Don Valk and a photo of him in his "admiral" outfit. We took our then-young grandsons along and the airlines lost the luggage that contained their bathing suits. To keep them occupied until the luggage was delivered later that night, we went into the bar where they had a lingerie show. Boy, were they oggle-eyed! (Ten years later, they'd probably appreciate it a lot more.) Then, in the November 1991 issue, we had a photo of Don and Linda, announcing their marriage and suggesting that shufflers attending the Reno tournament be sure to offer their congratulations. We didn't know it was a "secret." We congratulate the Texas Hall of Fame for inducting such a worthy individual!

New Yorker Disappointed with Florida Event

(Editor's Note: In keeping with our editorial policy not to directly attack the reputation of an individual/establishment/entity, we are eliminating the name and location of the subject of this letter. Because of the number of complaints we received, we believe it is worthy of publication. We hope it serves as a reminder of what is expected -- and what is unacceptable -- of host establishments. We also encourage travelling shufflers not to judge Florida events by this one unfortunate incident. Members of the Florida Table Shuffleboard Association are dedicated people, have held several other successful events, and probably feel worse than out-of-state participants.)

I went to a shuffleboard tournament in Florida in March. I went from New York State all the way to Florida and found that it was one of the worst tournaments I have ever been to (and I have been to a few).

The owner (host) charged all the players 50 cents more a drink than he did for his regular customers and never put out so much as a bowl of potato chips. No food at all! Everyone that went to play was pretty disgusted, and will never go there again. Every tournament we have ever gone to has had some food and never overcharges the players. He also wanted to charge the guys who came in RV's to park in his lot. He said the lot was for his regular customers.

Well, he should never have had the tournament in the first place!

Ken VanZile, Oxford, New York

Shooter's Tournament Exceeds Expectations

George and Donna Wilber recommended Shooter's Spring Shoot-Out in Hillsboro, Missouri, as a great place to play and experience the camaraderie associated with shuffleboard. The experience far exceeded my expectations!

Jerry Sabourin is a generous host. I felt as if I were in my own home. There was plenty of room for the three boards we used and room for more. I was not sure how a tournament could have free beer, free food and free setups -- but it did! I had a wonderful time meeting friendly people from many states.

I plan on going to the next Shooter's Shoot-Out. Hope to see more of you there.

Leon Black, Lansing, Michigan (home of the Annual Rudy Stober's Memorial Tournament)

After the previous letter, yours was like a breath of sunshine! We're sure your enthusiasm will be appreciated by Jerry. Watch the Calendar of Events. Shooters has tournaments scheduled for August and October.

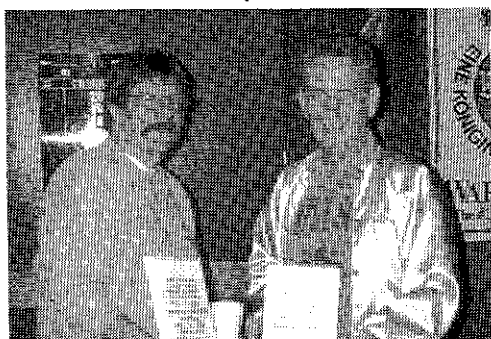
Please Remember Betty...

Betty Parrish, who has made friends across the Shuffleboard World and has had more than her fair share of challenges this past year, recently underwent surgery. Please remember her with your prayers, thoughts and/or get well messages: 6621 Doyon Dr., Waterford, MI 48327.

Your News & Views must be received by the 15th of each month.

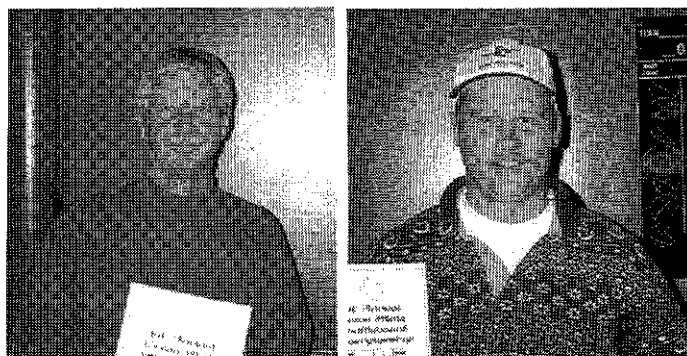
Texas Champs (cont. from Page 3)

French of Austin and Lee Duncan of Dallas/Ft. Worth shared the 5th/6th places.

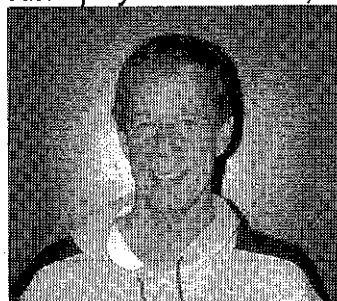


Third place in the amateur doubles went to Bill Rice and Danny Green.

Saturday's singles event consisted of the pro division, -1 through 1's, 2 out of 3 in the winner's bracket and single game to 21 points in the loser's bracket.



Coming out on top of the pro singles was the always-tough-whenever-he-goes David Williams (left) of Fort Worth. He went undefeated, not needing to play the single game to 21 points in the loser's bracket. Taking second place with a huge smile on his face was the 1 rated player from Austin, Mike Taylor (right).

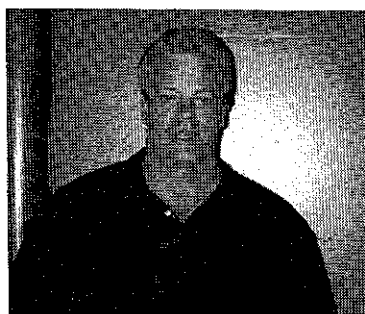


Bobby Williams of Fort Worth took third, with Brenda Moore taking fourth and the final money spot.

The amateur singles had 41 determined shufflers vying for the crown.



Eddie Guy (left) of Dallas took top honors with Kim Andrews, a new Houston player, in second place.



Stan Stinson of Houston took third place in the amateur singles.

Bud Osborne of Houston took fourth place. Fifth and sixth spots were shared by Jeff Womble of Dallas and Dave Ramold of Houston. The last two money places, 7th and 8th, were shared by Ann Walker (I like that name) and Sammy Stringer, both of Houston.

The finals of both events finished up around 5 in the afternoon on Sunday, giving the out-of-towners plenty of time to travel back home. There were also some challenge games and draws going on Sunday afternoon and through the evening. The 21 point loser's bracket games seemed to be a success as I did not receive one complaint about it. Most of the pros I talked to about the format seemed to like it, with the exception of David Williams and he reminded me he didn't have to play a 21 point game.

I would like to thank the following people who made this tournament possible. Of course, without saying, and a lot of tournament directors don't acknowledge them, all the players who came to play. Without players, we wouldn't have tournaments or, in most places, the players' pool which consists of sponsor money. Thanks to Harvey Kidd for letting me see the light on that subject. Thanks also to Harvey for the great job as usual doing the auction. Thanks to Johnny Wayne for doing the boards, Bill Rice and Tina Wade for the excellent bracketeering, Denise Klein for her excellent talents on the laptop, Kim Andrews for superb money-handling abilities. Thanks, Doc, for getting us the great deal on wax. The three extra tables were supplied by Replay Amusements. David Andrews helped take pictures and also helped Jack Scott do the boards in the mornings. Thanks, Lynda French, for helping get flyers finished and posted on the internet. And one of the biggest thanks to our gracious host, Danny Norris. His great staff provided us professional service with smiles on those very busy days. Without having a good place to play and a willing host who supports shuffleboard, we would not have a place to play.

I started this State Championship with the intent of it travelling across the state of Texas. Tentatively, next year's championship will be held in Austin. If you are a Texas establishment and can handle at least seven boards and would be interested in hosting the Texas State Championship in the future, let us know.

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Voorhis/Brown Win First Bobby Schounce Memorial

The 1st Annual Bobby Schounce Memorial Tournament was held at Chances "R", Muncie, Indiana, on March 27. Twenty-one teams participated for a total payout of \$3,630.

First place went to the team of Bobby Voorhis and Larry Brown, with Rick Royal and Brian Collins taking second place honors. Dave Vondran and Jim DeWitt were third, with Greg and Tom Massie in fourth place.

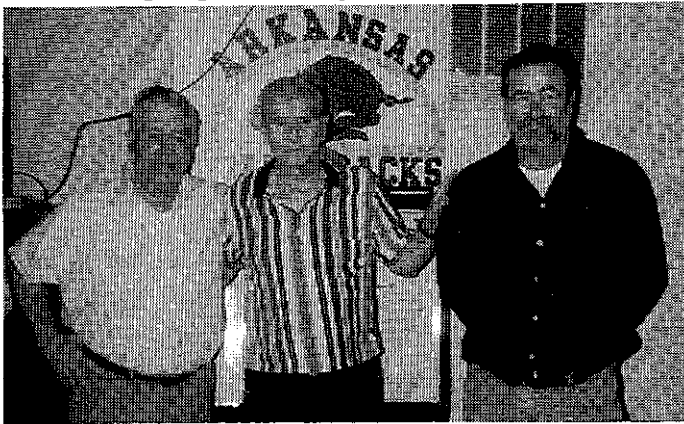
Hostess Karen Schounce added \$100 to the team payout and donated \$5.00 per player to the Delaware County Cancer Society as a memorial to Bobby Schounce. In addition, she also gave away a door prize each hour throughout the day.

"This was a great tournament and we hope to make it even more successful next year," reports Marcia Brown. "Karen Schounce is one of the most gracious hostesses in the State of Indiana and we appreciate her support of all shuffleboard players."

Chances "R" is a member of The Board Talk's national shuffleboard network.

Lane Wins First VFW Event in Little Rock, Arkansas

The VFW Post 9095 in Little Rock, Arkansas, recently held its first shuffleboard tournament, a men's singles, with Manny Lane from Pocahontas, Arkansas, going all the way without a loss.



Winner Manny Lane (left) with Gene McLeod (center) of Missouri, 2nd place, and Gene Smith, Arkansas, third.

"I would like to thank Gene McLeod for all the support and help he gave to me and the Post 9095, and Manny of Pocahontas for coming to the tournament. It was a great turnout for our first tournament and hope that many more will come and support our next one," said tournament director Tony Pelton.

VFW Post 9095 is a member of The Board Talk's national shuffleboard network.

Maryland Doubles Champs Crowned at Harvey's

By Dick Gorman

The first half of the Maryland State Championships was played on April 9-10 at Harvey's Place, Street, Maryland, on the four in-house boards. To allow for more competition, the total championships were divided to be played on two weekends. The singles events, one unlimited and the other Bower rated 2.00 and above, was played on April 24 (see results next month). The Maryland State Championships are not limited to Maryland residents -- all are welcome.

Tune-up organized practice began on Friday night with an open draw partner event using the Bowers Rating System as a means of handicapping. Fifteen teams were drawn and the local (Maryland) players showed they were there to play. First place money went to Johnny Gardner, Greensboro, Md., and Joe Williams, Ridley Park, Pa. Second place was taken by Regina Smith, Darby, Pa., and Dave Shewbridge, Pasadena, Md. Third money spot went to Curtis Dean, nearby Northeast, Md., and Joyce Pyle, Sudlersville, Md. (nice to have Joyce back after a year of recovery from surgery).

Friday night's practice was only leading up to the biggie on Saturday to start at 1 p.m. Some were there practicing at 9:30 while having breakfast. It turned out, despite entries from New York, Pennsylvania and Delaware, the Maryland entries prevailed. Leading the way to the payoff table was the first-place team of J.B. Armour of Chesapeake City (first big win in our memory) and Johnny Gardner. Second place went to Steph McNeil, Rising Sun, and her Pennsylvania partner, Steve "Ski" Lacinski of Philadelphia. Third place money went to Butch Kelly, Springfield, Pa., and Dick Smedberg, Long Island, N.Y. Fourth place went to Wendy Davis and Dick Gorman, both from Wilmington, Del. Nice to see the Maryland teams prevail in their own championships.

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

National Shuffleboard Hall of Fame

By Glen Davidson

Granville Humphrey, a shuffleboard legend and champion of the '50s and part of the '60s, has passed on to the other side. He was a keep hammer champion, a switch hammer champ, and I hear a horse collar player "extraordinaire." I ran a couple of bars in Oklahoma City in the late '50s and early '60s

and ran into Granville quite a bit playing at the other bars. He was only in his twenties when he beat everyone, including Bob Miles. He travelled with Bob some and Ray Hartness some, and Porter White (who will be inducted into the Hall of Fame on July 4th at the Dixie Belle in Downey, California).

Granville had not played since the late '60s, but for the short time he was with us, he left his mark. There are some great stories about him and I hope I get a few of them down the line. So, as we close the last chapter of Granville's life, we bid farewell to one of the best. Rest well, Champ. I'm sure all the rest will be coming to meet you with open arms.

Another friend of all of us, Mickey Gomes, has also left us. He was well-known on the West Coast, especially at San Jose. He was a partner of PeeWee Ramos for years and a competitor of all the West Coast players such as Hal Perry, Leroy Ledford, Fred Thumann, Joe Hudson, Don Cox and Ron Harralson, to name a few. He was a great player and supporter of the game, a gentleman and good sportsman all the way. We will miss you, Mickey. Somehow, I can see him now smiling down on us and saying: "PeeWee and I will meet you at the gate. We'll start off for \$100 an end." PeeWee will say: "Make it \$50 an end; we don't want to scare them off." PeeWee always had to have the last word.

Don Valk of Austin was inducted into the Hall of

Fame at the Texas Championships in Austin. He ran the U.S. Open there for almost a decade. He finally retired a few years back after a heart operation and is looking pretty good on the boards again. We say thanks to Don for his dedication and hard work he did organizing and promoting the big tournaments in Texas at the time. Thanks to Linda for looking after him all these years, too. She should get a medal for that!

I'll be heading to Little Rock, Arkansas, for their tournament at the VFW that Tony Pelton has organized and promoted. Then I'll go to Bourbon, Indiana, for the Hall of Fame induction of Larry Creakbaum and Jim Long.

Congratulations to Hal Perry again for his induction into the California Hall of Fame. I think he will be there again next year for the national.

Don't forget the induction of Joanie Millar into the National Shuffleboard Hall of Fame June 2-6 at the A.N. & A.F., Vancouver, B.C., Canada.

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Upcoming Events *(cont. from Page 5)*

Please post the enclosed flyer in your favorite shuffleboard site to spread the word about this event. For further information, contact Tom Johnson, 817-226-4029, or Bobby Williams, 817-265-7045.

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.

For details regarding times and entry fees, call Jody Slack or Kathi Lloyd at 303-421-9332.

California

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 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 site.

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.

California residents please check the schedule which was in the April issue. There may be some changes, so for updated information, call the Eagles Lodge, 559-592-1771; A.Z. Turnbo, 408-683-4513; or Marion Bailey, 559-798-0894.

Nearby hotel accommodations and RV parking are available.

DIXIE BELLE'S 7TH ANNUAL JULY 4TH TOURNAMENT, 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.

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

3RD BILLY CHILES ABC MEMORIAL, SILVER SPUR, SAN BERNARDINO, JUNE 12

The Silver Spur in San Bernardino will host the 3rd Annual Billy Chiles ABC Memorial Tournament on June 12, starting at 11 a.m. Entry fee is \$20 per player. An all-day barbecue and live country western music is planned. The Silver Spur has two good boards, a large dance floor and plenty of RV parking.

For information, contact Jolene Lembke, 909-797-9685, or director Bob Brunskill, 714-528-7304.

Oklahoma

HANDICAP TOURNAMENT AT FULL HOUSE, WYNNEWOOD, MAY 27-31

A Washita handicap tournament will be held at the Full House Bar & Grill, 111 W. Robert S. Kerr St., Wynnewood, over the Memorial weekend, May 27-31. Action starts on Thursday at 7 p.m. with a sweetheart draw, \$20 per player. An open draw, \$30 per player, is on the schedule for Friday at 7 p.m. The singles, \$30 entry, will be held on Saturday at 5 p.m. (A women's singles will be held if at least 12 are entered.) The bring your own partner, \$40 per player, will start at 2 p.m. on Sunday and conclude on Monday.

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

R.V. parking is available at a nearby city park and there are two motels: Siesta Villa, 405-665-9915, or Kent's Motel, 405-665-4319.

For further information, contact Don or Pat Kinard at the Full House, 405-665-2715. Please post the enclosed flyer in your favorite shuffleboard site to spread the word about this event.

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

This note from your hosts of the Southwest Open in Del City -- Ron and Sharon Huddleston and Don Crall: "We hope you spend your shuffleboard vacation with us again this year. From all the telephone calls and e-mails, it looks to be every bit as big and exciting again this year. Please remember to register as early as possible so that we can stay on top of running a smooth and timely tournament. Rumor is we will have an extra three boards this year for a total of 27. See you soon!"

An updated flyer containing information on all the events, lodging information, and entry form is in this issue. Don't be left on the sidelines of this big event. Register today!

Washington

MIXED DOUBLES, SHAMROCK TAVERN, LONGVIEW, JUNE 19-20

A mixed doubles, \$20 per team entry, will be held at the Shamrock Tavern, 1131 15th St., Longview, on

June 19-20. Added money, as usual, along with food by Bernice on Saturday and Sunday. Come early for the \$10 round robin on Friday night.

For information, call the Shamrock, 206-577-7444.

NORTHWEST AMATEUR QUALIFIER, FIR CONE, SHELTON, JUNE 12-13

The Fir Cone Tavern in Shelton will host its 3rd 1999 Northwest Amateur Qualifier on June 12-13. This is the final qualifying event for the Northwest Amateur championships. Action will start on Friday night, June 11, at 7 p.m. with an A-B draw, \$20 entry, single elimination.

Saturday, June 12, at 11 a.m., there will be an amateur draw doubles. Players interested in this event must be rated a 2.51 or higher by the Bower's Rating System, or be a new, unrated player. Sponsor sale will be directly after the draw with play following. \$20 entry fee per player, double elimination, 2 out of 3 15-point games in the winner's bracket and one 21-point game in the loser's bracket.

Sunday, June 13, at 11 a.m., there will be an amateur singles event, same qualifications as the doubles. \$20 entry fee with no sponsor sale. Double elimination, 2 out of 3 15-point games in the winner's bracket and one 15-point game in the loser's bracket.

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

10TH GRAND MASTERS PLUS, WHISTLING OYSTER, QUILCENE, JULY 27-AUG. 1

Mark your calendars now for the 10th Anniversary of the Grand Masters Plus at the Whistling Oyster Cocktail Lounge, Hwy. 101 in Quilcene on July 27-August 1.

There are five events on the schedule with \$4,000 added money (based on number of teams entered). Action will start with a mixed doubles on Tuesday, \$50 entry. On Wednesday, there will be an A-B-C draw, \$25 per player entry. The open singles, \$100 entry, will be held on Thursday. An open draw, \$25 per player, is on the agenda for Friday. The BIG Grand Masters, \$150 per team entry, is set for Saturday and Sunday.

As usual (and well worth the trip) will be the Whistling Oyster's famous seafood buffet on Saturday and Sunday.

A complete agenda, along with lodging information and an entry form, will be in the June issue of The Board Talk. In the meantime, if you have questions, call Bill Bailey at 360-765-9508 or 360-765-3436.

Frisko Eddie's Revenge: The Return

A series by Balboa Ron Schweikert

(In last month's episode, just before the playoff between Eddie's and Lil's teams in the Pro-Am event, Shelli was given a note warning her to tell her man: "I will not accept second place." It was signed "D.")

After looking at the note that Shelli handed them, Lil exclaimed: "Why, that S.O.B.! He's trying to blackmail you here with this threat! I called Tony, but he just said he'd 'look into the matter.' What I want you guys to do now is stall this thing for a few minutes, and let me try to contact him again. This changes the whole picture, and I want to let him know that so he can get some backup for us -- right now!" Eddie said: "I'm with you, kid. Get going and we'll take care of things on this end."

Eddie had a little bit of trouble trying to stall things off until Lil returned. The players (and the crowd) were anxious to get going. The tournament director, Max Dermmot, came up and asked Eddie if there were any problems. Just as he was going to make an attempt to dream something up, he noticed that Lil was coming through the door: "No problems, Max -- we're ready to start." He said "O.K." but he remained in the area until things got rolling.

Lil had just enough time to say to Eddie: "Thank goodness, I got through. He said for all of us to be careful, and that he would have his people take care of this business. He said no matter what, for us to stay with the crowd here in the main room for better security, and for everyone to shoot their best, and not worry about that message that Dollar Dan gave us."

And shoot their best they did. Both teams were putting on a splendid performance. All the games were very close and the crowd was loving it! Lil's team won the first series, but it was very close, with a 9 to 5 game finish. They were jumping with joy because had they lost that one -- it would have been all over since they had come from the losers bracket. The two teams were now tied in the final series, and the deciding game was in progress. The next couple of frames would determine the first and second place finishers in the whole event.

On one end of the table were a pair of "3" rated players and on the other end were none other than Frisko Eddie and Long Beach Lil. The score was 12 to 13 in Lil and her partner's favor. Eddie's partner had the hammer and the frame went weight for weight. Lil's partner had to shoot against a deep 1, in the center of the board, with her last weight. She looked at Lil for advice and Lil responded with: "Don't worry about sticking -- just make sure you get that weight off the board, O.K.?"

Lil's partner followed the advice and put plenty of speed on her weight, and made the shot, but it was a

"hit and go." Now it was Eddie's turn to comment. He met his partner at the center of the board, and asked him: "How do you feel, Champ?" He replied: "Pretty damn shaky right now!" Eddie said: "O.K., don't worry. You can try for a lag, but the most important thing is to make sure you keep the weight on the board so Lil doesn't get a free hammer out of this." "I'll do my best, Eddie," was the reply. Eddie looked him in the eye then and said: "That's all I can ask for, partner. You'll do fine."

He took his time on the open board lag. He released a right cross, which turned out to be a deep 1. It was now 13 all, with Lil's hammer! They traded weights. Eddie went deep, so she couldn't try to hide one on him. Lil hit-and-went on her third weight. Eddie knew that her favorite lag was the right cross, so he measured his shot very carefully, and put up a right cross of his own, which settled into a real deep 1, about a quarter of an inch from being a 2, and about six inches or so off the left rail.

The crowd was really keyed up now, in anticipation of Lil's shot. Just as she was sizing things up for a free hander, something happened. Two men had muscled their way in front on the other end of the table. One was the Ape-man and the other was Dollar Dan -- the Money Man!

Lil's eyes locked with Dollar Dan's for several seconds. The looks were remarkably intense. Lil shifted the hammer to her right hand then. There were basically three options open to her now. She could shoot the right thumb for the lag, or try to hit-and-slide off the right side of Eddie's weight into a 2 or 3, or she could shoot the right cross, and wrap it around the left side for the lag. All she needed was that deuce!

She decided to shoot the right cross lag, and wrap it around on the left side. You could hear a pin drop in that crowded room as she made her release.

Strangely enough, the Money Man had a hint of a smile on his face as he watched the weight sail down the board. It looked perfect -- really perfect -- and someone even broke the silence as it made its way down by shouting: "She made it! She lagged a....."

--CONTINUED NEXT MONTH--

Did Lil get the deuce she needed to win? And, if so, how will that impact on Dollar Dan's threat to Eddie? Don't miss the next exciting episode!

Message from Balboa Ron to Virgin Sue:

"Your Hairlip Dog story was just delightful! I look forward to more of your adventures."



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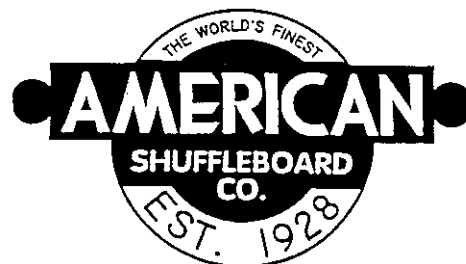
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More Notebook

Taxes, Car Tabs, and Board Talk Renewal Time....

It's that time of year again! Time to pay our house taxes, renew the car tabs, and renew The Board Talk. One is just as important as the other, only I don't mind paying for The Board Talk. It keeps us "connected." And, again, we truly appreciate your efforts.

We hope this note finds you both happy and in good health. Jim was at a tournament (I couldn't go because I had to work) and he tripped over a log and fractured his pelvis. We feel fortunate it wasn't his hip. If it was his hip, he would have had to have surgery. With a fractured pelvis, he just has to stay off his feet until it heals. I'm waiting on him hand and foot, plus doing all the chores. I think he is kind of getting a kick out of it!

The injury is putting a damper on playing shuffleboard. On April 10, Tim's Timber Tavern in Kelso, Washington, had a benefit tournament for Tom Henry. He had a heart attack, but is doing much better after the surgery. Jim and I were unable to go. Tom is a good friend and we felt bad about not going, and that, I'm sure, Tom understands. I might be able to get away to a tournament or two before Jim is able to play.

Hope to see you two in the near future. God bless!

Michelle Foran, Tacoma, Washington

You didn't know it, Michelle, but your letter really was a highlight of Donna's birthday! (She shares the distinction of being born on Income Tax Day, the day the Titanic sank, the day Lincoln was shot, shares the Aires sign with Adolph Hitler, etc.) Thank you for your kind words. We're glad to report that, after a tough winter, we are well and happy. To celebrate our 50th Wedding Anniversary, we took our daughter, grandsons and their ladies, to Las Vegas. We had planned to get in touch with Balboa Ron while we were there and visit a couple of our subscriber bars. Alas, Donna spent her two nights and three days in the hotel bed with the flu (couldn't eat, couldn't drink, couldn't play the slots -- saved money). When we got home, George spent a week in bed with the same ailment. But now it's Spring, a time of renewal for us, too.

We urge readers to send their good wishes to Tom Henry, 4404 Constitution Ln., Longview, WA 98632; Jim Foran, 4025 McKinley Ave., Tacoma, WA 98404; and Michelle Foran, at the same address, to ease her burdens of caring for a person who must be an impatient patient!

Correction.....

In last month's report of the Saginaw Valley Open (Page 15), Alonzo Cottrell, who took second in the doubles with partner Bill Kane, was identified as Alonzo Knight. Our apologies to both Alonzos!

Late Photos....

These photos of winners at the sweetheart tournament at the Silver Spur, San Bernardino, California, arrived after we had gone to press with the April issue. Bob and Anna Brunskill took first place.



Second place went to Eric Chiles (son of the late Billy Chiles) and Jean Mays.



Third place went to Bill and Ellen Ellis.

Your News & Views are Welcome!

**Reports must be received by
the 15th of the month
for publication in the next issue.**

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

1999 CALENDAR OF SHUFFLEBOARD EVENTS

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 27-31

Memorial Weekend Tournament
Full House
Wynnewood, Oklahoma

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 10-13

Southwest Open Qualifier
The Gold Nugget
Arlington, Texas

June 11-13

Bill English Memorial Tourney
Balloon Inn
Arvada, Colorado

June 12

3rd Billy Chiles Memorial ABC
Silver Spur
San Bernardino, California

June 19-20

Mixed Doubles Tournament
Shamrock Tavern
Longview, Washington

JULY 1999

June 30-July 5

7th July 4th Tournament
and Porter White Induction
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

10th Grand Masters Plus
The Whistling Oyster
Quilcene, Washington

July 28-Aug. 1

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

AUGUST 1999

Aug. 12-15

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

Aug. 20-22

3-Event Tournament
Shooter's
Hillsboro, Missouri

SEPTEMBER 1999

Sept. 2-6

Labor Day Tournament
Full House
Wynnewood, Oklahoma

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's never
too early
to post the dates
of your events
on this calendar!***

***Send to: The Board Talk
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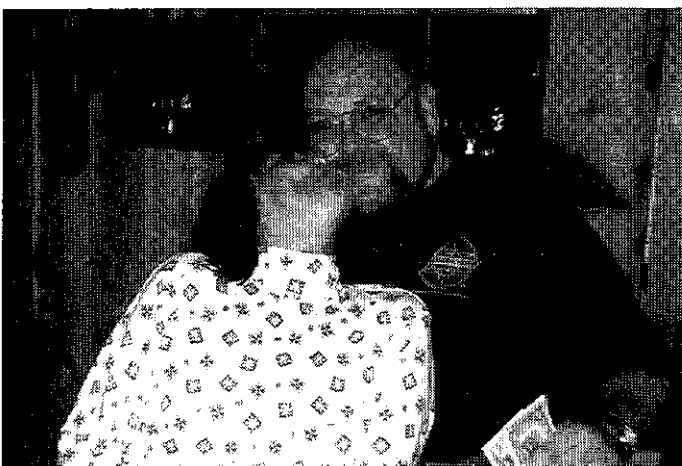
Millar/Martin Back on Top at Old Edison Inn

John Martin, Everett, and Joanie Millar, British Columbia, had to wait four years to repeat as champions of the Old Edison Inn's annual mixed doubles tournament, March 6-7, at Edison, Washington.

John and Joanie dominated a very tough field, sweeping Larry Pearson of Everett and Tina Olson of Kelso in the finals, despite a solid effort by that duo.



John Martin and Joanie Millar, champs of Old Edison Inn's mixed doubles. Joanie will be inducted into the National Shuffleboard Hall of Fame at AN & AF #68 in Vancouver on June 5.



Tina Olson plants one on Larry Pearson for their second-place win.



Mike "Sleepy" Waters of Tahuya and Jackie Anderson of Shelton took third place.

Locals Russ and Sue Miller finished fourth after a great run. Al Pease and Linda Steffenson of Tacoma tied for fifth with Edison shooters Les Zahn and Laila Payne, who had been playing only a few weeks and was in her first competitive event.

John Martin double-dipped, winning the Friday

night A-B draw with Nancy Johannsen.



Russ "The Colonel" and Sue Miller took fifth place.

Hosts Mini and Sandy extend a hearty "Thank you" to all the participants and invite everyone back to the Edison for their annual open doubles event in mid-September.

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

Dino Fleming Sweeps Tulsa Spring Tournament

Players from six states showed up at the Brook Alley for Tulsa's (Oklahoma) 13th Annual Spring Tournament on March 12-14. Sixteen teams in Friday's draw event and 14 teams in Saturday's bring partner event played for a share of over \$9800.

Dino Fleming and Bill Melton came out on top in the draw, with Sally Goff and Don Kinard taking second place honors. Pat Kinard and Steve Walker finished in third place.

In Saturday's bring partner, again it was Dino Fleming along with new Oklahoma State Champion, Rick Jones, in first place. Second went to Jerry Widdoes and Keith Oyler, with E.T. Jenson and Weldon Lambert in third.

"I would like to thank Sally and Pam Croft for taking care of the most important thing -- the money. Thanks to Steve Burkett for the help on the bracket board," said tournament director Cliff Goff. "A special thank you to Lee Lockhart, owner of the Brook Alley, for giving me a nice place to hold this tournament. Lee let me move in another board, so we now have a nice place with three good in-house boards full-time to play on. All we need now is more support from Tulsa shuffleboard players.

"Jimmy L, who was host of this event for the past seven years, was in Friday to visit with everyone. A big thank you to all the players for making this another successful tournament," said Cliff.

Road to Reno II

By Dwayne Dibley

The search for the 1999 Northwest Amateur Champions is in full swing at the Fir Cone Tavern in Shelton, Washington. The second of three qualifying events took place on March 13-14. This tournament started off like all others with a Friday night A-B draw.



Mike Keevil (left) and Grant Manning won the single elimination A-B draw.



Nels Anderson and Nancy Johansen came in a close second.



Bill "Shan" Shanahan and Frank Givens finished a strong third in a tough field. This Friday night action set the stage for the main events to come.

"A" players Gary George and Grant Manning not only supported this event by playing in the Friday night draw, but jumped at the opportunity to become amateur bartenders. If you show up at one of these events, be sure to order a \$200 draft beer from Grant.

On Saturday, six more amateurs qualified for the title, bringing the total of qualified players to 18 in the doubles.

Paulette McKinney not only qualified for the finals, but along with partner Glen Reading from Coose Bay, Oregon, won the second qualifying event.



John Mortensen and Bill Walker put up a good fight in the finals, but had to settle for second.



Dave Curtis and Justin Lauderback took third place.

Fourth place went to the team of Mike Keevil and Jeff Kersting, and fifth place was a tie between Terry Woodward and Bill Ellis and the team of Leroy Austin and Dean Johnson.

On Sunday, the amateur singles was the main event, added to the schedule early this year. The same rules apply as in the amateur doubles, the Grand Amateur Singles Champion going to Reno Division III singles to represent the Northwest. Ten players are currently qualified for the singles finals.



Jeff Kersting (left) won the event in grand fashion, never beaten. Mike Keevil (right) made a great showing and ended up in second place.

(continued on Page 26)

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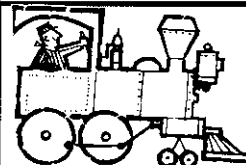
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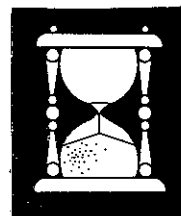
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Road to Reno II *(cont. from Page 23)*

Third place went to the semi-retired Mike Rooney. Eric Uhron finished in fourth, and Glen Reading and Judy George tied for fifth.

Due to the new Bower's Rating System changes, the following people are no longer considered amateurs: Dean Johnson, Bill Walker, Bob Hurst, Paulette McKinney, Dave Ausbun, John Mortinsen, Glen Reading, and Mike Rooney. Congratulations to these players and good luck in Division II.

Once again, an excellent feast was provided on both Saturday and Sunday by Jeanette Hohn, owner of the Fir Cone Tavern.

The next tournament at the Fir Cone will be the final Northwest Amateur Qualifier on June 12-13 (see Upcoming Events for details). The 1999 Amateur Championships will be held on July 24-25.



Not amateurs on the boards, but amateurs behind the bar: Gary George and Grant Manning.

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

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

Arizona: Enoch's Sports Lounge, 6750 W. Peoria #143, Peoria; phone 602-878-6296

Nebraska: Joe Banana's, 1022 So. 10 Street, Omaha; phone 402-342-9902

Texas: Dallasite Club, 3239 Ross Ave., Dallas; phone 214-826-3670

If you are a new subscriber and did not receive the Play Your Way annual listing in January, give us a call (517-484-4976 or 517-371-2538) or write The Board Talk, 503 E. Sheridan, Lansing, MI 48906, and we'll send you a copy. When you travel, be sure to put the listing in your glove compartment -- and use it!

Is YOUR favorite shuffleboard site a member of The Board Talk's national shuffleboard network? If not, better sign them up today.

Florida Open VI *(continued from Page 1)*

Our Thanks: to Ray Boyett for the sponsor sales and the Board Talk presentation. Super job, Ray!

To Leon Black for transporting the Board Talk set-up all the way from Lansing, Michigan.

To Paul Maccarrone on the bracket boards. Welcome back, Paul!

To Carole Boyett for collecting and distribution of all monies.

To Chuck Dewees, our "go to" guy and Mr. Fixit. Thanks, Chuck, for all your help.

To The Shuffleboard Federation, Inc., for the donation of wax. Thanks, John!

One Backward Step: The credibility of the Florida Table Shuffleboard Association really took a punch to the gut and, with two black eyes and a bloody nose, we are reeling and hurting. But no knockout punch was delivered and we will heal in time. And, yes, there will be a Florida Open VII. Absolutely! Positively!

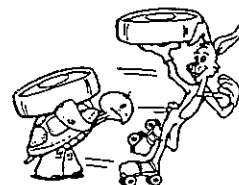
Our plans for next year include a probable four-board tournament, no registration fee, 100 percent payback, and our flyer will also state drink prices and RV parking and/or K.O.A. sites.

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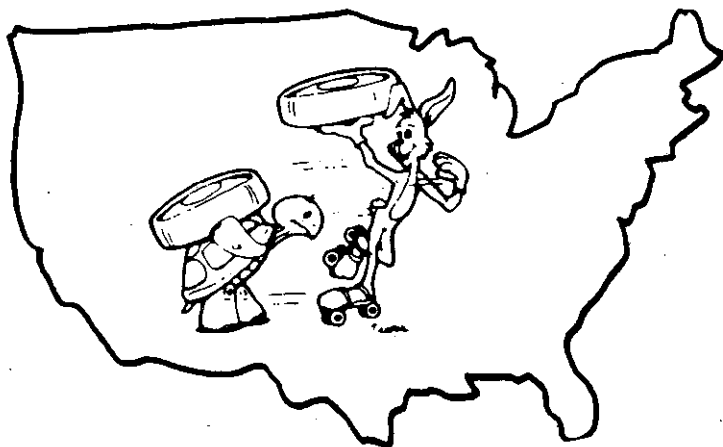
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