

The Board Talk

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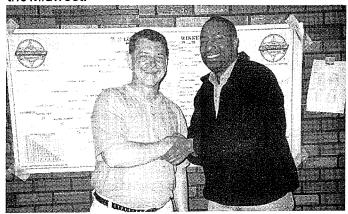
Vol. 17, No. 4

April 2000

Saginaw Valley Open is a Record Breaker

The 4th Annual Saginaw Open, held at M.J. McCabe's Food & Spirits, Saginaw, Michigan, on Feb. 18-20, broke all previous records, with the team limits in the draw partner and bring partner events expanding from 24 to 32.

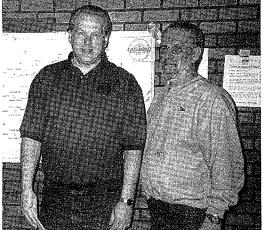
"This illustrates that the handicap format is working real well," said John McDermott of The Shuffleboard Federation, Inc. "It enables 2's, 3's and 4's to compete on a more equal footing, and players seem to like it. We believe it has a bright future in the Midwest."



Jeff Cottrell of the Pontiac area and Rich Lilly of Lansing drew each other to take first place in the draw partner event.

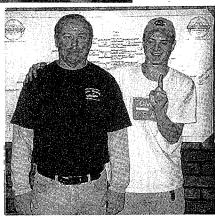


Alonzo Cottrell of Pontiac and Dale DeWaard of Saginaw took second place honors.



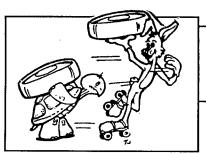
Bill Meyer of Sterling Heights and Jim Madary of the Detroit area finished third in the draw partner event.

Bill Kane and Alonzo Cottrell of Pontiac were No. 1 in the bring partner tournament.





John Tischler of Redford and Frank Parrish of Waterford took second in the bring partner. (continued on Page 14)



Shufflers' Notebook

News and Views from The World of Shuffleboard

Reader Requests "How To" Features

I've been a player for 10 years and a subscriber to your newsletter for almost a year.

There is renewed interest for shuffleboard in the Long Beach Island area. Several places are running leagues for the first time in a dozen years. Younger players are now gettting serious about the game.

When I showed them The Board Talk, they anxiously scanned through it looking for tips on how to improve their games. They were disappointed when they didn't find any articles on that subject. Some of the things they were interested in:

What kind of practice routine do the top players use?

When is the time to shoot a short weight? and when to go deep?

Do you play differently against "top of the board" shooters than you would against "rail shooters"?

The point is, just like a golf or tennis magazine, if you could include several instructional "how to" or "mistakes to avoid" articles, it would greatly increase the popularity and maybe the circulation of your newsletter.

You already have your "network" in place. All it would take is asking anyone who provides result information about a tournament to interview the winners of the top-rated events. They could ask them how they prepared for the event, or what strategy, if any, they used against their toughest opponents.

Any information offered by the winners of an event will be tried over and over by your readers. Discussions will follow and anticipation will build

--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!

until the new issue comes out and everyone can see "what's new."

How about rankings? Ask the winners of tournaments who their toughest opponents are and build a state-by-state ranking system.

The Board Talk could become the "ring magazine" of the Shuffleboard World.

Tom "El Cid" Floriani, Beach Haven, New Jersey

We, too, have felt that void over the years, Tom, and tried unsuccessfully to fill it. Back in 1990, we started an "Ask the Pros" column, asking readers to submit questions and then asking pro players to respond. Because of lack of input from both, the column died. Your idea to have reporters interview tournament winners is a good one and we'd certainly be open to that prospect. However, you have to remember that our reporters are all volunteers with no compensation whatsoever and this added responsibility would add yet another dimension to their volunteer efforts. Is that too much to ask? Would that added responsibility mean missing a deadline? We don't know and invite reporters to respond to your idea.

As far as ratings are concerned, we started publishing the Top Players in the U.S.A. in October of 1986, based on our limited knowledge of their skills and reported results of major tournaments. By popular demand, we added a women's division in April of 1987. Questions, dissatisfaction, and downright outrage (the most outspoken thought league play should be considered, that someone who beat a ranked player once should replace him/ her in the standings, that years of play should be considered even though they didn't play in tournaments, etc.) caused a temporary discontinuance of the listing. It came back temporarily, again by popular demand, but was permanently discontinued in 1989. By that time, The Shuffleboard Federation was awarding points for their sanctioned tournaments and that was an (continued on Page 7)

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.

Roach/Landrie Tops at Musette Bar in Omaha

By Shelly Hagen

(Editor's Note: In last month's Board Talk, a couple readers wanted to hear more about one-board tournaments. This is a good example of what can be accomplished. Some of you will remember back in 1997, Shelly (then Myers) shared how she felt to be in a tournament as a novice. Since that time, she has taken over the Musette Bar and has introduced a group of 21-year-old "kids" to the game. "They participated in this tournament and showed no fear," she reports, "probably didn't realize who they were playing!")

The Musette Bar in Omaha, Nebraska, hosted a doubles tournament on Feb. 4-6. The event was scheduled for two days but with one board and the number of entries, it lasted well into Sunday evening.

The turnout was exceptional with a diverse player representation among the 23 teams. Along with the age differences (youngest participant was 21), we had unranked players participating alongside players with "0" ratings. It was the first tournament for many and they gained invaluable experience playing with such seasoned players. Everyone involved in the tournament showed sportsmanship and encouragement to the less-experienced players. It will help increase their enjoyment of the game and future tournament play.

The \$4400-plus payout was also extraordinary for a handicapped tournament. Thanks to Jay Watson for his "cheap, cheap, cheap" comments that increased the pot.



Winners were Mike Roach (right) and Don Landrie.

Billy Loos and Ron Campbell took second place honors.





Shelly Hagen and Tom Galvin finished in third place in the field of 23 teams.

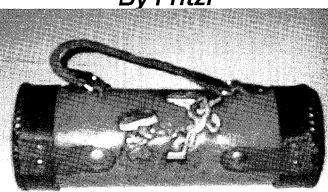
Finishing fourth was the team of Tim Trader and Jack Strickland.

The tournament was a great time with great players. With only one board, it took extra work from everyone. Special thanks to co-tournament directors, Mike Roach and Larry Zahm, for their patience and going the extra mile after saying they would "help." Thanks also to Don Landrie for maintaining the board throughout the weekend.

Thanks and congratulations to all the shufflers who played and made the tournament a success.

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Upcoming Events Across the Nation

California

2ND "GATOR" MEMORIAL, OSKAR'S, BELLFLOWER, APRIL 14-16

The 2nd Annual "Gator" Tournament, in memory of Wally Rasmussen, will be held at Oskar's Sports Lounge, Woodruff and Foster Road, Bellflower, on April 14-16. Entry fee for the ABC draw will be \$25 per person with sponsor sale starting at 7 p.m. Friday, April 14. It will be a 2 out of 3 double elimination, with format subject to change depending on the number of players.

A highlight of this event will be the induction of Bob Brunskill into the California Shuffleboard Hall of Fame. Ceremonies are scheduled for Saturday at 3 p.m. and a buffet will follow (any dishes you wish to bring will be appreciated).

For further information, contact Oskar's at 562-925-4915.

SPRING TOURNEY, DEW DROP INN, WATERLOO, APRIL 27-30

The Dew Drop Inn, 37 Virginia St., Waterloo, will host its Spring National Tournament on April 27-30. The weekend action will start with \$5 and \$10 round robins at 7 p.m. Thursday, April 27. On Friday, starting at 6 p.m., will be the mixed doubles, \$25 per team. There are two events on Saturday: a singles, \$25 entry, starting at 9 a.m., and a draw partner, \$15 per person entry, starting at 4 p.m. A bring partner event, \$25 per team, will start at noon on Sunday.

Tournaments at this popular site fill up early, so advance registration is highly recommended. For further information and/or lodging recommendations, call Tracie at the Dew Drop Inn, 315-539-5729.

The Dew Drop Inn, located in a beautiful area of New York State, will also hold a Summer National Tournament on Aug. 3-6 -- same format, same entry fees. Watch for details; in the meantime, mark your calendars now.

Reminder: All reports, promotions, ads, letters, etc. must be received by the 15th of the month to appear in the next issue.

Arizona

BILL GIBBS MEMORIAL, FAMILY BILLIARDS, GLENDALE, APRIL 28-30

The 5th Annual Bill Gibbs Memorial Tournament will be held at Family Billiards (The Bar), 5814 W. Camelback, Glendale, on April 28-30. There will be three events played on four boards.

A handicap draw, \$10 per person, is on the agenda for Friday, April 28, 7 p.m. The A-B-C draw, \$30 per team, will start on Saturday at 10 a.m., and the open doubles, \$50 per person, starts at 6 p.m. In ceremonies on Saturday afternoon, the 29th, Al Salazar will be inducted into the Arizona Shuffleboard Hall of Fame. The finals for the ABC draw and open doubles will take place on Sunday, April 30, starting at 10 a.m.

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

<u>Texas</u>

1ST MEMORIAL OPEN, DANNY'S SPORTS BAR, HOUSTON, MAY 26-29

The 1st Annual Memorial Open will be held at Danny's Sports Bar in Houston, site of the first Houston Holiday Open four years ago. The dates of the inaugural Memorial Open will be May 26-29. The directors and staff, with four years of experience running the Houston Holiday Open, will ensure a smooth, well-run tournament.

The tournament will have eight boards with electronic scoring systems, arranged to provide ample room for visualization and socializing. A lounge tent will also be erected in front of Danny's offering free coffee and soft drinks with music and P.A. system connected to the main bar. The full service kitchen will open Saturday, Sunday and Monday at 9 a.m. serving breakfast and offering daily lunch specials. Menu service is available evenings and throughout the day.

There will be two events each day (Friday, Saturday and Sunday) that will ensure fair competition for all skill levels.

On Friday, the 26th, everyone signs up for two events. Event #1: -1, 0 and 1 rated players will be captains for a draft partner in which the highest

1-rated player drafts first and the lowest -1 player drafts last (probably from 2-rated players). The players not drafted will participate in Event #2, which is a "leftover" handicapped blind draw.

On Saturday, the 27th, there will be two bring partner events. Event #3 will be minimum points 0. Event #4 will be handicapped minimum points 5.

Sunday, the 28th, there will be two singles events with handicapped entry fees. Event #5 will be for -1's, 0's and 1 rated players. Event #6 will be for 2's, 3's, and 4 rated players.

Monday, the 29th, will be finishing events if necessary and side and match games.

The Hampton Inn will offer a special rate of \$42.75 per deluxe room with two doubles or one king size bed, free deluxe continental breakfast buffet included until 10 a.m. They will also provide free van transportation to and from Danny's Sports Bar, which is four miles away, until 10 p.m. For reservations, call 713-935-0022.

For additional information, contact directors Jack Scott, 281-558-0237, or Johnny Ballard at home, 281-759-3706 or 'cell' 409-672-2949.

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

FIRST \$\$\$\$\$ SERIES AT MAJESTIC CAFE, PONTIAC, JUNE 4

The first in the 2000 Super Slammin' Summer Sunday Shuffleboard series, introduced last year, will be held at the Majestic Cafe, 156 Oakland Ave., Pontiac, on June 4. The series of three doubles (which must be paid in advance) will culminate in a play-off with the top point-earners vying for a pot that includes \$5 per player collected from each of the three tournaments.

Entry fee is \$40 per team and the handicap must total 2 or above per team (example: -1 must play with a 3 or more, 0 with a 2, 1 with a 1, etc.) You must keep the same team to qualify for the play-off (may use subs if of equal or more rating but no subs allowed in the playoff). The top 10 teams with the most points accumulated (18 for 1st, 17 for 2nd, etc.) will be eligible for the playoff. If there are ties, those will also be eligible for the playoff.

Each tournament will be limited to the first 18 teams signed up and paid. To save your spot, send \$120 (in full only) for the first three doubles to tournament director Dennis Bittner, Club Car

Lounge, 111 N. Saginaw St., Durand, MI 48429. Out of state shufflers are more than welcome! If you do not want to commit to the complete series, you may participate -- if there are open spots, if you meet the 2 handicap criteria, and if you don't mind contributing \$5 of your entry fee to the playoff pot. Each of the doubles tournaments will start with a 12:30 sale and play immediately following.

In conjunction with the first in the \$\$\$\$ series, the Majestic will also hold an open singles, \$20 entry, no limit, on Saturday, June 3, sale at noon with play immediately following.

The second in the series will be played at the Club Car Lounge in Durand on July 16, and the third at Stober's Cocktail Lounge, Lansing, on August 13 (plus an open singles on Saturday, Aug. 12). The playoff will be held at the Club Car Lounge on Sept. 3, with a singles on Labor Day.

For further information, call Dennis at 517-288-9910.

RUDY STOBER MEMORIAL, JUNE 23-25, STOBER'S LOUNGE, LANSING

The 5th Annual Rudy Stober Memorial Tournament will be held on June 23-25 at Stober's Cocktail Lounge, 812 E. Michigan, Lansing. The event is held in honor of the memory of Rudy Stober, the first inductee into the Michigan Shuffleboard Hall of Fame.

Action will start on Friday, June 23, with round robins. The bring partner doubles (no pros, 0's or 1's may team up together), \$40 per team entry, will start with the sponsor sale at noon on Saturday, with play immediately following. The open singles, \$20 entry, will be held on Sunday, with sale and play beginning at 1 p.m. Both events are single game, double elimination.

For further information, contact director Carrie Clifton, 517-482-1190.

MEMORIAL EXTRAVAGANZA AT SEASON TICKET, SPOKANE, MAY 26-28

The Season Ticket, 1221 N. Howard, Spokane, will host the Northwest's 19th Annual Memorial Day Shuffleboard Extravaganza on May 26-28. The tournament will be played on eight boards.

(continued on Page 16)

Impromptu Tourney at Del City Draws Crowd

By Don Crall

After the success of the tournament at American Legion Post 73, Del City, Oklahoma, in January, several players asked us to do a February event because there was no play that month anywhere in our area. So we did....

The format for the Feb. 11-12 tournament was the same as our January tournament except we played single game double elimination, as we were not able to set up more boards because of other commitments the post had.

Well, they came again and the money was very good and some great players were crowned.



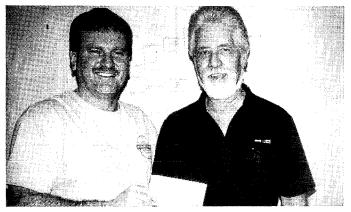
In Friday night's draw partner, the winners were Bill Melton of Davis and Nancy Tice of Pauls Valley.







Weldon Lambert of Stratford and Brenda Watts of Wynnewood finished third.



Tournament director Dave Fleming presents the Div. 1 first-place singles envelope to winner Rick Jones.



Ken Storck, Oklahoma City, took second place honors in the Div. I singles.



In the Div. II singles, first place went to Max Suchy, Asher, (left); Euel Jensen, Crescent, second (center); and Pete Pittser, Tulsa (right), third.

Southwest Open

July 2-8, American Legion Post 73, Del City, Oklahoma Use the enclosed flyer to make your reservations!

Notebook (continued from Page 2)

excellent reflection of who was the best in the U.S.A. Today we have the Bowers Rating System with raters across the country ranking their peers. All you have to do to find out how someone is ranked is to look at the booklet or the website that contains hundreds of shufflers. For a copy of the booklet (donation welcome), write Debbie & Ron Bowers, 1111 Byers Lane, Austin TX 78753, or the website: www.jump.net/~ronbowers (you may wish to volunteer as a rater in your area).

Another feature we started in 1984 was "The Best Place in the U.S. for Shuffleboard Action." We offered shufflers the opportunity to nominate their favorite place to play shuffleboard and why (how many boards, regular events, specialties of the house, area attractions, quality of local competition, etc. etc.). We were really surprised when we ran out of nominations in just over a year.

The one feature that has lasted throughout the years is the "Play Your Way Across the U.S.A." listing of subscriber shuffleboard establishments. Because of the cost involved in printing the fourpage flyer (which shufflers use in their travels to other states), it is now an annual feature unless we secure enough advertisers to print more frequently (i.e. January issue). If shuffleboard action is on the rise in your area, you may wish to approach those establishments about the possibility of joining the national shuffleboard network. One visit from a visiting shuffler will pay for their \$25 subscription fee.

Back to your very constructive suggestion for a "how to" column, we would certainly encourage the new publishers of The Board Talk (whoever that might be) to follow through in meeting the challenge of filling this need. In the meantime, since many of your questions are addressed, we reprint the "Ask the Pros" column from August 1990.

The question was: What advice and tips would you give to beginning shuffleboard players that could help them become better and more competitive players? After 10 years, the "pros" who responded are still ranked as pros and their advice is still as pertinent today as it was a decade ago..... We're also proud to say that if you met any one of these pros (or any others so ranked), they would take the time to help you. Therein lies the difference between the The World of Shuffleboard today where pros are concerned about the future of the sport and willing to share their expertise, and the "old days" when "hustlers" came into town to take your money and wouldn't even consider sharing their "secrets."

WORDS OF WISDOM FROM THE PROS

(August 1990)

"Concentration is the key to shuffeboard." Bill Melton, Oklahoma

"The important thing is to get started shooting off the rails right away."

John McDermott, Michigan "Every game you play or watch can teach you something..."

Sam Summers, Oklahoma "Practice, practice, practice, and don't give up if things don't go quite right."

Bobby Voorhis, Indiana

Bill Melton (Oklahoma): The best advice I could give to a beginning shuffleboard player would be to practice alone, shooting the pucks over and over again. Designate a certain spot on the board and practice the same shot until you have mastered it, then move to another spot on the board and do the same. You learn complete control of the board and of your pucks by doing this. Also, learn to shoot rails. This is probably the single most difficult thing for a beginner to learn. A beginner should also develop a good sense of concentration. Concentration is the key to shuffleboard.

John McDermott (Michigan): "There are three things I would recommend to beginners. I am a believer in developing good habits right from the beginning. If you learn something the wrong way and then have to back up and re-learn it later, it will be more difficult and you will end up investing more time than if you did it right the first time. To become a reasonably good player, you are going to have to learn to shoot off the rails as opposed to free hand, so it is best to start that way right from the beginning. It may take some time to find a release you feel comfortable with and, in fact, you may experiment with different releases for as long as you play. The important thing is to get started shooting off the rails right away.

The second thing is to learn to shoot with both hands. Anyone who wants to be an average or better player is going to have to learn this eventually. No player has this ability from birth. It is something you will have to develop, so the sooner, the better

Third, in order to be a good lagger, which will keep you in the game even if you are missing some weights, you should try not to change speeds on (continued on Page 8)

Notebook (continued from Page 7)

your shots any more than necessary. It makes keeping a good feel for the speed of the board much more difficult if you shoot one shot hard, then another medium, etc. If you develop a good medium speed shot for shooting at the weights and then just a little easier when you are lagging, I think you will be pleased with the results.

Sam Summers (Oklahoma): Ask this questions of 100 different people and you'd probably get the same answer -- practice, practice, practice. Well, it's true! Practice builds confidence and confidence wins games. To become a top amateur or proplayer, you must be confident in your ability to make a shot as well as know it's the correct shot.

Practice can be fun! When practicing alone, it sometimes means more if you play little games: right hand versus left hand, red versus blue, top board (free hand) versus span shots. When possible, have a friend or spouse set shots up for you so you can practice your doubles, clip-outs, come-arounds, rail and span shots, cross-boards, blast shots, short game, etc. If available, put two or three sets of weights on the same board. Remember, when practicing your lag, always concentrate on your release and direction. Practice lagging with a weight blocking your favorite spot.

Be aware of, but don't worry too much, about strategy. Hit the weights and lag. Straight shooting and average lagging will win a lot of games for you. When you have the opportunity, play opponents who are better than you at this time, in order to learn from them. Watch games between the better players and observe strategies and techniques. Ask questions later. Every game you play or watch can teach you something -- if your mind is on what's going on.

Play as often as possible -- league play, Friday night robins, local tournaments. Play on as many different boards as available. Control your drinking and always display good sportsmanship.

Like everything else in life, you only get out of it what you put into it. Don't get discouraged. Good practicing! Good playing! And good luck!

Bobby Voorhis (Indiana): Practice, practice, practice, and don't give up if things don't go quite right. Try to join a local league and shoot in all the \$2 and \$5 round robins you can find. Practice by yourself if there's no one to play against. Watch and study the acknowledged "pros" and don't be afraid to ask questions. There's a lot more theory to the game than just hitting weights and lagging. Enter the smaller local tourneys and take your lumps, but learn from experience.

Don Cox On the Mend

Thanks to all you shufflers for your cards, calls and well wishes during our rough times. We appreciate your thoughtfulness. It is great to be a part of such a wonderful group of people.

Don is recovering and plans to be playing again by May. Hope to see you all at the next tournament.

Don and Donna Cox, Foresthill, California

Thanks for the good news, friends! We're proud of all members of our shuffleboard family who respond during their fellow shufflers' times of challenge.

Bev's Michelle Faces More Challenges

Thanks so much for printing my letter to everyone. We just got our copy of The Board Talk this weekend, but we received a note from Bobby Williams in Ft. Worth the week before. That was a nice surprise. Also, thank you for printing the Thuman's letter. Bob and I know most of the people on that list and I sent them all notes, plus the others from out of state. So much illness, it makes me sad.

Since I last wrote, Michelle has undergone a procedure called Gamma Knife. It is a form of laser/radiation surgery. She is now undergoing four 6-week treatment segments of chemotherapy.

Pray with me for Michelle's recovery and that God continues to provide for us financially. I know other people have it much worse and I thank God for all His blessings every day.

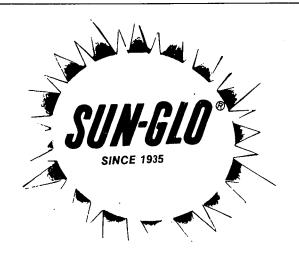
Bev Lukens, Cypress, California

It is remarkable, with all you are going through, that you would still find time to send good wishes to others. Bless you for setting an example for the rest of us. If readers would like to lift Bev's spirits, send her an e-mail: Bevatbeach@cs.com

Butch Glad to be Part of the "Shuffleboard Family"

As I sit here reading my beloved Board Talk, I say to myself: shuffleboard is a family. Because, when I heard that Paul Weber had his leg amputated, my heart went out to him. Because, when Jim Long and Larry Creakbaum were

(continued on Page 19)



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The Board Talk Shuffleboard Alive and Well at Balloon Inn

By Candy Lepore

Well, better late than never! The Annual Santa Classic at the Balloon Inn was held Dec. 11-12, 1999. We had some out-of-state guests including our dear friend, Rollie Westerhoff, now living in California. We do miss him being around. Many thanks also to Mike Roach and Jim Payne from Nebraska for making it down. Many of us plan to return the visit for the Denny Busch Memorial in May. Mike, if you make it for the Bill English Memorial, June 9-11, or the C.O.N.E.H.E.A.D. Classic in August, I will try to find a place that serves a decent chicken friend steak!



Winners of the Santa Classic were Dave (aka The Griz) Cowan and Travis Anderson (center) with a very happy sponsor, Paul Frizell (left).



Second place honors went to Tighe Levan (left) and Rick Boyer.



Kevin Kelly (left) and Ron Sosovec took third place.

Next was our annual Sweetheart Open mixed doubles on Feb. 11-13. Another thanks to our Nebraska friends who attended, Linda Ritter and Marty Shepard. This event was made special with corsages for the women and a very nice B-B-Q rib dinner on Saturday night for all the players. Many thanks to the owners of the Balloon Inn, Glenn and Cee Cee Chavez, the bar managers, Linda Fritz and Kim DeJulio, and Dino, who cooked that wonderful rib dinner!



Winners of this event were Char Waugaman and Morey Balins.



Kathi Lloyd (who called her shy?) and Mary Shepard were a strong second.

A Board Talk Salute Glenn and Cee Cee Chavez on their 2nd Anniversary as owners of The Balloon Inn!



Gail Cowan and George Ostrom made a strong showing for third in the Sweetheart mixed doubles.

Last, but by no means least, we had a party and raffle on Feb. 19 to celebrate the second anniversary of Glenn and Cee Cee Chavez owning the Balloon Inn, located at 6440 Wadsworth, Arvada, Colorado (see Shuffleboard Directory).

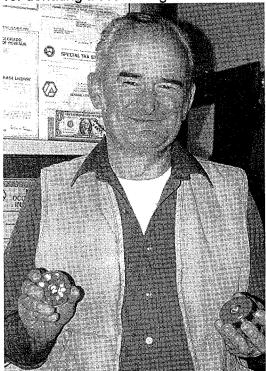


Balloon Inn owners Cee Cee and Glenn Chavez (right) and new part owner Phil Cipri.....



.....bar managers Linda Fritz and Kim DeJulio.

Cee Cee, Glenn, Phil, Linda, Kim and I thank John McDermott and The Shuffleboard Federation for donating a set of weights for this event.



Paul Frizell shows off his new weights. won in the anniversary raffle. Paul has been a key supporter of recent. (and hopefully future) toumaments and occasionally has played in our tournevs.

Paul is anxious to use his new weights. Again, thank you, John!

(Editor's Note: Reporter Candy Lepore was the photographer who took top honors for Photo of the Year in 1999 -- January 2000 issue.)

Harvey's Hosts Mason-Dixon Classic

By Dick Gorman

Feb. 18-19 were the dates for the annual Mason-Dixon Classic at Harvey's Place, Street, Maryland, despite some "revenge" weather (we have basically been having a beautiful winter sans snow). The group was good, but the northern section didn't fare too well in the battle of the North and South.

Friday night's draw partner event had plenty of Yankee participation, but the southern players and the no-man's land (Delaware) seemed to dominate at the payoff table. Money and prizes went to the top four places based on one place for every four teams. Leading the way to first place (no losses) were Curtis Dean, Rising Sun, Md., and Johnathon Harris, Perryville Md. Taking second place were Dick Gorman, Wilmington, Del., and Russ Smith, Charlestown, Md. Third place was paid to Andy Ledford, Street, and his partner Wayne Todd, Newark, Del., with final spot going to Johnny

(continued on Page 12)

Mason-Dixon (continued from Page 11)

Gardner, Greensboro, Md., and his partner Arnold Ledford (Dad of Andy), Street. No Yankees made the payoff for this one unless you want to count the Delaware players.

Saturday's bring partner event didn't bring much better luck to the teams from the North. First place money was taken by J. B. Armour, Chesapeke City, Md., and his partner Johnny Gardner, repeat money winner from Friday night. Second place was finally taken by the Yankees but not without giving a loss to the first place team. Herb Forster and his neighbor Joe Williams, both from Ridley Park, Pa, gave one great battle and last try. Third place went back to the Maryland team of Curtis Dean, nearby Rising Sun, and host Harvey Comer.

As usual, hosts Darlyene Belcher and Harvey Comer spread their hospitality and good cooking to all participants.

The next event at Harvey's will be the Maryland State Championships on April 29-30. Call 410-836-8881 to ensure your spot.

Another Fun One at Bud's Action Lounge

Bud Hillburn's Sweetheart Tournament at the Action Lounge, Broken Arrow, Oklahoma, turned out to be another great tournament. Bud served up some good ham with all the fixings. Zane Porter was on the scene after a serious bout of flu/pneumonia. Zane passed out sage words of advice such as "the secret of the game is to hit weights and lag." Most of the players tried to take Zane's advice but, as U.J. West said: "I tried but failed." Fred Washington claimed that the secret of the game is to gamble, gamble and then lag and pray. Johnny Cason and Rick Yingst stated: "Our secret of the game is to keep our secret secret."

The first event was an open draw, single game double elimination, and the bring partner was 2 out of 3 in the winner's bracket and one loss in the loser's bracket, and a sweetheart draw on Sunday. Both events were based on the Bowers Rating System. As Bud has said in the past, some of the best players in the nation reside in the Tulsa area and he was once again honored to have a lot of those players in the tournament.

In the open draw, Charlie Bryom and Shirley

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Davis fought to a showdown with Carolyn Jones and Keith Oyler. Charlie and Shirley hit weights and lagged well enough to come in first place. Carolyn and Keith "almost won" but had to settle for second. Mike Bruza and Cliff Goff came in third place.

Carolyn Jones and Mike Bruza took first place in the bring partner event. Do the names in the previous sentence sound familiar? Mike said: "I think I would like to play tournaments more often." R. U. Underwood and Ruthie Atherton fought hard but had to settle for second place. Bud Hillburn and Fred Washington played well, but had to settle for third. Fred gambled, gambled and gambled, but just not enough.

Gary (who is this guy?) White and Sherry Fisher (everyone knows her) came in first place in the sweetheart draw with Squeaky Salyer and Carolyn ("If I enter, I'm gonna win") Jones came in second.

Bud gives a big thank you to all the players and attendees for making this tournament a big success, and special thanks to Keith Oyler and Shirla Porter for their time and patience in running the brackets.

Dunns Win Sweetheart Tourney at TOPS

By Jack Murphy

TOPS Bar in St. Louis, Missouri, was the setting for another fine turnout of local competitors for the annual Sweetheart Tournament, which was held on Feb. 12. Tournament organizer Bill Hill had to reluctantly turn down some prospective teams due to time constraints. Maybe it can be expanded into more than a one-day event in the future...

All of the men and women shooters teamed up to play some amazing games that were definitely exciting for this shuffleboard fan to watch. Almost every game played came down to hanging in the balance with that final shot. It was great to see how everyone put their best foot forward and got into some serious shooting all day long.



First place
honors went to
long-standing
sweethearts,
Jim and Donna
Dunn,
congratulated
by director Bill
Hill. (continued
on Page 22)

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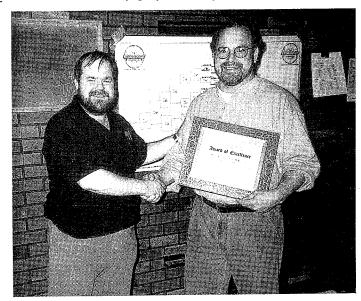
Saginaw Open (continued from Page 1)



Wayne Snellenberger and Brian Levy of Saginaw appear happy with their third place winnings.



In the graduated entry singles, John McDermott of Northville (left) was the winner, with Steve Auten of Pontiac (center) taking second, and Glen Ingram of Muncie, Indiana (right) in third place.



McCabe's host Dave Willett (right) was surprised with an award of excellence from the Michigan Shuffleboard Hall of Fame for his outstanding sponsorship efforts. Tournament director and MSHF representative Rob Kern did the honors.

Another Big One at My Way!

By Char Rahn

In Omaha, Nebraska, the place to be for shuffleboard action was again at My Way Lounge, where the 10th Annual My Way Tournament was held on Feb. 25-27. Play started Friday night with an A-B draw. There were 36 teams, single game, double elimination. Again, we had new players who had never played in a tournament before. So we are getting new players all the time and the best way to do this is to have an A-B draw.

Sue Webster has a new nickname. She hadn't planned on playing in the tournament due to a sore wrist, but she agreed to play so there would be an even number in case a couple players didn't show up. So, every five minutes, she was playing and then she wasn't. She ended up not playing, so I gave her the nickname "Yo Yo."

When play ended about 8:30 Saturday night, "Bring 'em back" Bob Linder and Tom Harvat came out of the loser's bracket and double-dipped Rich Klanderud and Jackie "Lil Demon" Jackson.



Bob Linder and Tom Harvat -- out of the loser's bracket and into the winner's circle in the A-B draw.

Settling for second were Rich Klanderud and Jackie Jackson.



(continued on Page 27)



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Upcoming Events (cont. from Page 5)

Action will start on Friday at 7 p.m. with an A-B draw, \$10 entry, negative spot handicap, 15 point single elimination.

On Saturday, there will be a A-B-C draw, \$25 entry, negative spot handicap, 2 out of 3 in the winner's bracket, 21 points in the loser's bracket.

An A doubles (.00 team total), \$100 per team, and a B doubles (4.5 team total), \$50 per team, are on the agenda for Sunday. This is also 2 out of 3 winners, 21 point losers. The Bowers Rating System will be used and team totals will be calculated by exact decimal rating.

Door prizes, \$1,000 plus added money, and a vintage car giveaway will be part of this fun weekend.

For further information, call Dan Hitt or Melody Marine, 509-939-1134 or 483-7615; or the Season Ticket, 509-327-9790.

Ohio

TOLEDO OPEN, AVON'S LOCAL 14, APRIL 7-9

Avon's Local 14 in Toledo will host a three-event tournament on April 7-9. A draw partner is scheduled for Friday night (-1, 0 or 1's may not draw each other), \$25 entry, followed by a handicap doubles on Saturday, \$25 entry, and a handicap singles with progressive entry fees (\$100 for -1's, \$80 for 0's, \$60 for 1's, \$40 for 2's, \$20 for 3's, 4's and 5's) on Sunday. A \$5 registration fee will go to tournament director Rob Kern. Entry deadline for the draw partner is 7:30 p.m. Friday with play immediately following. Entry deadline for the singles and doubles is Saturday at 1 p.m.

Boards will be furnished by Decker Shuffleboard, Toledo, Ohio.

For information, contact John McDermott at The Shuffleboard Federation, Inc., 248-380-9300.

<u>Indiana</u>

TWO INDUCTIONS SET FOR BOURBON'S SPRING DOUBLES, MAY 6

Two more inductions into the Indiana Shuffleboard Hall of Fame will take place at the 40th Annual Spring Doubles, American Legion Post 424 in Bourbon on May 6. The inductees will be "Doc" Slabaugh and "Skip" Jackson.

The handicap entry for the doubles is \$50/\$25 and the sponsor sale will be held at 8 p.m., May 5.

For tournament information/lodging recommendations, call Terry Dowell, 219-353-1070, or Bill Niswonger at the American Legion, 219-342-8100.

Other upcoming events at the American Legion include a handicap singles on April 8, and the 2nd Annual Round Robin Singles on Aug. 18-19.

ARNOLD CROSS MEMORIAL DOUBLES, MISSISSINEWA TAVERN, EATON, APRIL 22

The Mississinewa Tavern, 125 West Harris, Eaton, will host an open doubles on April 22. Entry fee is \$30 per team and will be limited to the first 24 teams. The double elimination event, played on two boards, will have a pay-off of 60-30-10. The sponsor sale starts at 11 a.m., with play immediately following.

For further information, call the Mississinewa, 765-396-9371.

5TH SPRING OPEN AT AMVETS POST 26, PENDLETON, APRIL 15-16

The Fall Creek Valley Amvets Post 26, 939 S. Broadway, Pendleton, will host their 5th Annual Spring Open on April 15-16. Action will start on Friday, April 14, with round robins.

An open doubles, \$20 per player entry, is on the agenda for Saturday, 15 point games, double elimination. The open singles, \$20 entry, will be held on Sunday, also 15 point games, double elimination. Both events will begin with a sponsor sale at 11 a.m. each day, with play immediately following.

The Amvets will open each day of the tournament at 7 a.m. Food and beverages are available, and there is ample parking and electrical hook-ups for campers.

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

More Upcoming
Events
on Pages 23, 25, 26
Is YOUR event listed?

Southwest

Open

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#	EVENT	DAY	TIME	LIMIT
1	Division I 4 person team	Sunday	12:30 p.m.	24 teams
2	Division II 4 person team	Sunday	12:30 p.m.	16 teams
3	Open Singles	Monday	3:00 p.m.	32 players
4	Amateur Singles	Monday	3:00 p.m.	128 players
5	Draw Partner Division I	Wednesday	10:30 a.m.	96 players
6	Draw Partner Division II	Wednesday	10:30 a.m.	96 players
7	Draft Team	Thursday	10:00 a.m.	192 players
8	Bring Partner Division I	Saturday	9:00 a.m.	32 teams
9	2 Rated Singles	Saturday	9:00 a.m.	48 players
10	3 & 4 Rated Singles	Saturday	9:00 a.m.	48 players

Times are entry deadlines if there are any spots available. Auction will begin shortly thereafter and play ASAP.

Event #1 Sunday 12:30 pm	Bring your own 4 person team. \$200 per team, 2/3 double elimination. Team handicap must add to 1 point or more, only 1 pro per team
Event #2 Sunday 12:30 pm	Same as #1 except team handicap must add to 9 points or more. No pro's or 0s allowed \$120 per team
Event #3 Monday 3:00 pm	Open Singles - 2/3 double elimination, handicap entry fee (-1.00 \$300) (-0.51 to -0.99 \$200) (0 \$100). The possibility exists money finalist may not be able to play in event #5, in which case entry deposit will be refunded and MVP points adjusted.
Event #4 Monday 3:00 pm	Amateur Singles - Single game/double elimination, handicap entry (1s \$75) (2s \$50) (3s & 4s \$25) NO PROS OR ZEROS

Event #5 Wednesday 10:30 am	Draw Partner Division I - Single game, double elimination. No two pros can draw together \$50 entry
2 rated pl	ayers have the option of playing in event #5 or #6, but not both
Event #6 Wednesday 10:30 am	Draw Partner Division II - Single game, double elimination, 2 rated players cannot draw together \$30 entry
Event #7 Thursday 10:00 am	Draft Team - Everyone gets in this one. Pros and Os will be captains, 4/7 double elimination, mark 3 \$50 entry fee
Event #8 Saturday 9:00 am	Bring Partner Division I - Handicap total of 0 or more, single game double elimination \$150 per team
Event #9 Saturday 9:00 am	Singles for 2 rated players, single game double elimination \$40 entry
Event #10 Saturday 9:00 am	Singles for 3 & 4 rated players, single game double elimination \$30 entry

Entry into events #3-10 earn points toward the added money. Each event entered earns 3 points. A 7^{th} or 8^{th} place earns 4 points. A 5^{th} or 6^{th} earns 5 points. A 4^{th} place earns 6 points, 3^{rd} place 7 points, 2^{nd} place 8 points and 1^{st} place 9 points. If slow play becomes a problem the tournament director reserves the right to mark 3 in the losers bracket.

WAX provided with our thanks by THE SHUFFLEBOARD FEDERATION and will be "Faster". The newest release of the Bowers Ratings will be used for handicaps.

The staff working this years tournament will be Don Crall, Rob Kerns, Kathy Yingst, Jack Davis, Dave and Rena Fleming.

QUESTIONS OR NEED MORE INFORMATION? For registration or event information call Kathy Yingst (918) 742-2261 or e-mail yingstk@swbell.net. For any other information call Don Crall at the American Legion (405) 670-9128 or e-mail doncrall73@aol.com.

MOTEL INFORMATION Bricktown Central Plaza 1-405-235-2761. Club has 2 shuffleboard tables. Located 10-15 minutes from the Legion. Room w/1 beds \$25; Room w/2 beds \$35. Ask for the "shuffleboard rate" when you call. LaQuinta Inn 1-405-672-0067 or 1-800-531-5900. approximately 5 minutes for the legion. Studio 6 (405) 737-8851 and Motel 6 (405) 737-6676. Ask if have shuffleboard rate. The Legion has a 5 acre park with electric & water hook-ups, self-contained RVs and campers welcome.

PRE-REGISTRATION FORM

Here we go again, another shuffleboard vacation. Please help us to know how many to plan for by filling out this form and returning it to us as soon as possible. You may send in all of your entry monies or just a deposit of \$20 per event and the registration fee. Balances must be paid after your arrive. Entries accepted until the event is full or posted entry deadlines, beware, due to time restrictions the number of entries in some events have been lowered and will fill up fast. Entries and registration after June 15th are subject to a \$5.00 late fee per event, so save some bucks by registering early. Each person on a 4-person team must send in a registration form. If you do not have a 4 person team but would like to play on one include this information on your registration form. Your deposit will be refunded if you are unable to get on a team.

Name:	Phone: ()		
Address:	Thores ()		
City:Sto	ite:	Zin:	
Handicap:			a .
Events:			
1. & 2. Bring your own 4 person team Divis	sion I or IT:	\$	
(Team members)	Handicap	····Y	-
1			
2			
4			
3. Open			
Singles	••••	\$	
4. Amateur Singles		¢	
5. Draw Partner Division I		····Ψ \$	
o. Draw Partner Division II	• • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • •	\$	
7. Draft Team		·····Ψ \$	
8. Bring Partner Division I(Partner no	ame) \$	÷
9. 2 Rated Singles		- <i>)</i> + \$	·
10. 3 & 4 Rated Singles	••••	\$	
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FIRST ANNUAL MEMORIAL OPEN SHUFFLEBOARD TOURNAMENT

May 26-29, 2000

DANNY'S SPORTS BAR Houston, Texas

Directors Jack Scott & Johnny Ballard

Date	Event	Time	Format Description	Rating	Entry Fees
	#			Bracket	
Friday	1	7pm	Pro/Am Draft Partner	All	\$30
5/26			(-1,0,1) Draft from pool of $(2,3,4)$ players.		
			Draft in order of rating, starting with 1's.		
	2	7pm	Blind Draw from remaining players.	2, 3, 4	\$30
			Handicap play.		
Saturday 5/27	3	12pm	Bring Partner. Add to 0 or more.	All	\$150 / Team
	4	12pm	Bring Partner. Add to 5 or more. Handicap play.	1, 2, 3, 4	\$60 / Team
Sunday 5/28	5	12pm	Singles. Handicapped Entry Fees.	-1, 0, 1, 2	\$100/75/50/30
	6	12pm	Singles. Handicapped Entry Fees	2, 3, 4	\$50/40/30
Monday 5/29		12pm	Finish Singles if necessary.	All	
			Draws & Challenge Games		

One time registration fee of \$15.

All Events Friday-Sunday are Single game, Double elimination.

Handicap Events (2, 4) Mark points at start of play.

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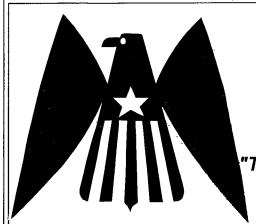
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MAY 26-27-28, 2000

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

●Friday, 7 p.m.: A/B DRAW

Negative spot handicap, \$10 entry, 15 pt. single elimination

●Saturday, 10 a.m.: A/B/C DRAW

Negative spot handicap, \$25 entry, 2 out of 3 Winners,

21 pt. losers

Sunday, 10 a.m.: A DOUBLES (.00 TEAM TOTAL)

\$100 per team

B DOUBLES (4.5 TEAM TOTAL)

\$50 per team

2 out of 3 Winners, 21 pt. Losers

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 - Friday, May 26, 7 p.m.: OPEN DRAW \$30 per player entry
 - •Saturday, May 27, 5 p.m.: SINGLES \$30 entry
- •Sunday, May 28, 2 p.m.: BRING YOUR OWN PARTNER \$40 per person entry
- ●Monday, May 29, 10 a.m.: Completion of Bring Partner

All events single game, double elimination. Maximum spot 4 points negative spot.

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Frisco Eddie's Revenge: The Return

A Series by Balboa Ron Schweikert

(Editor's Note: In last month's episode, during Eddie and Shelli's wedding ceremony when the pastor said: "...if anyone can show just cause why this couple should not be united in marriage, let them speak now or forever hold their peace," Long Beach Lil appeared and announced that she, indeed, had "just cause.")

Everyone in the room was totally shocked when they heard Lil announce that Eddie was the fa...father of the child she was carrying! The Pastor really wasn't entirely sure of how to properly proceed in a situation like this. The wedding guests, and the participants, were starting to get a little edgy. There was a lot of tension in that Chapel right then, to say the least!

Finally, the Pastor made a decision to act. He called Eddie aside into the hallway which was adjacent to the altar. He had already had a briefing with both Eddie and Shelli -- but this new situation demanded a much deeper insight into the matter. He had previously established that they were both Christians, being raised (and "saved") in the Southern Baptist faith. However, they had confessed to being in a "backslidden" state.

The Pastor wanted to know just one thing there in the hallway. He looked Eddie straight in the eye, had him place his right hand on the Bible he still had in his hand, and asked Eddie to answer one question: "Is it in anyway possible that you could be the father as that lady in there claims?"

Eddie also looked the pastor in the eye and replied: "I swear on this Bible that I am not -- and could not be the father." The minister had a slight grin on his face then and said to Eddie: "I believe you, son. Let's go back in there and finish this wedding."

When they got inside, the Pastor made a short announcement (directed at Lil): "Young lady, after my short review, I see no reason for this wedding not to proceed. If what you say is true, there are legal recourses available to you, and I suggest you pursue your grievances through those avenues. Until then, I would ask that there be no further disturbances during this ceremony."

Lil did make a reply on her way out. In a loud voice, she said: "I'm going to pursue this thing alright -- but the avenue I take won't be the one you described." Then, as she was almost out of sight, she turned and hollered out: "A CURSE ON THIS WEDDING!"

Needless to say, there were gasps and "oh, no's" from the invited guests, but the Pastor didn't get unraveled. He calmly waited for everyone to quiet down, then proceeded to finish. To be sure, when he finally got to say: "You may kiss the bride," Eddie was stone cold sober!

A small reception was to follow the ceremony at the same wedding chapel. Due to the circumstances, Eddie and Shelli decided to stay just long enough to show their respects to the guests, and then get away from there as fast as they could.

The reception was rather jaded because most of the conversations were about the bizarre set of circumstances which had preceded it. Everyone showed empathy when Eddie announced that they were going to leave, and start their honeymoon. The flowers were cast over Shelli's shoulder, and many handfuls of rice were thrown, along with a lot of cheering as they made their exit to the limousine.

Then a strange thing occurred shortly after they left the area. Shelli happened to notice what appeared to be a small envelope in a pouch in the door next to her seat. As they were opening it up, they assumed that it was probably a note from a wellwisher, but instead, icy chills went up both their spines as they read:

"Eddie: You'll be getting a visit from some people soon. Some people you really don't want to see. Remember your friend in Puyallup, Washington? This time, don't expect...a happy ending."

-- TO BE CONTINUED --

A threat from Lil, with her close underworld connections, is not to be taken lightly. The "some people" are certain to be the same characters we have met before, characters directed by Lil's "ex." What a way to start a honeymoon! Stay tuned for the next exciting episode.

Again, we encourage you to let Balboa Ron know that you enjoy his series (read about his own personal escapades in Glen Davidson's letter on the next page). Send your notes to:

Ron Schweikert 1140 Coral Desert Drive Las Vegas, NV 89123

or

E-mail: balboaron@earthlink.net Would you believe it? This is Ron's 68th episode of Frisco Eddie! The Board Talk publishers thank him for his monthly contributions. Bless you, Ron!

Notebook (continued from Page 8)

inducted into the Indiana Hall of Fame, tears came to my eyes. And when I read about Betty Parish and Marie Sweeney and Chuck Norris and Don Cox and Bellflower Bruce Hale -- it's for real. Because, when I went to play in New York at the Dew Drop Inn and in Michigan for the SSSSS, people had good things to say to me.

I am just a Black man out here trying to play some "shove-bord" and be part of a family.

Butch Thomas, Noblesville, Indiana

P.S.: Diana Hagen for President of the U.S.A.!

We're proud to have you as part of the family, Butch. And we like your suggestion for Diana for President. Move over, Republicans and Democrats. **Here comes the Shuffleboard Party!**

On the Road with Glen

Hal Perry is now officially in the National Shuffleboard Hall of Fame. He says he did not claim to be a tournament player, but a "session" player and the sessions he had were many: Leroy Ledford, Big Norm Phillips, Bob Miles, myself on a doubles basis, Billy Mays, and the Washington and Oregon players: Fred Johns, D.K., Jim Allis, Jim Foran, Little Mac and Eddie Graves. He knew and played them all. Hal Perry, a great player, a performer and now the 20th NSHF inductee. Congratulations my pal, my friend, my partner, my opponent.

Thanks to Rick and Kathy Thomas, directors of the tournament in San Jose, the new owners of Blinky's, and all the other volunteers. Fred Thuman and Bob Hunt talked of Hal's achievements and friend Skip of the years they played and the "fun through the years" travels. My thanks to Pat Bayless for a bed and a ride to and from Blinky's for several days -- a great shuffleboard player and a beautiful human being.

There are three tournaments a year at Blinky's in Northern California and up around Sacramento and Marysville where it all started in 1970. I staged a tourney in San Diego and then on up to the old Dixie on Carbon Canon Rd. Then Bob Goldsmith talked to me about having one at Visalia. We called a flip of the coin and he was the loser and took the Thanksgiving tournament, Bill Jennings took the 4th of July, and Marysville got Labor Day. That's how it all started in 1970.

Jim Olson told me a few times that I had forgotten to mention the trip to Blinky's last June

after Joanie Millar's induction in Canada. I was headed back from Vancouver with Darrol Nelson in his R.V. He dropped me off at the Amtrac station after a few day's visit at his home and Bob Hunt picked me up. Then Donnie Cox got me from Bob Hunt's. I stayed a few days with him and Donna, then went to Blinky's in Santa Clara. We played Jim Olson the night we got there. We won a couple games. But before we left, Jim Olson played me three games for \$1 a game. I won. Then he comes on like Darrol Nelson, hitting me with 3's and 4's, slides, passes you'd have thought he was a -1. He beat me three and then he walked Don Cox and me. I don't know how many he beat us. I think two or three. The last one, he outlagged a three for Donnie. Old Don had a big smile on his face with the three wrapped around a two until Jim put a freehand right around the three. I guess you know we had a long ride home. Jim Olson, a future Hall of Famer, thanks for the lesson.

Heft San Jose Wednesday morning from Ted's house about 1 a.m. and arrived at Vegas around 3-4 p.m. Wednesday afternoon. Dick and Barb gave me a ride and Ron Schweikert picked me up at Silverton Casino and I stayed with him until Monday p.m. Ron is now in a walker and wheel chair. He is trying to get a hip replacement done. The previous one wore out so he will try another operation. We went to Gabby's and played some shuffleboard, Eastern and Lake Mead Saturday and Sunday. He used a walker to play. He was a little shaky the first night out but the next night he started shooting like a -1. He won every game and used two-three partners so I say to Ron: "You're back. Get the hip done and we'll go on a road trip." I'm sure I say this for all of us, as a family: good luck and happy healing to Frisco Eddie, Shelli, Long Beach Lil, Dollar Dan and all the rest of your characters. We all will be thinking of you. You will be in our prayers.

There were a few of the old-timers at Gabby's from the Deluxe and Messin'Around. I had some good times. Rick Boyer and Barb came over and played a few before departing to Denver.

Be sure to remember Ron in the days ahead: Ron Schweikert, 1140 Coral Desert Dr., Las Vegas NV 89123, or e-mail: balboaron@earthlink.net

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

We encourage all Frisco Eddie fans to please let Ron know you're wishing him well. We hope to see him in Reno.

Shuffleboard Directory

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Come Play with Me!

Any shufflers travelling through the Memphis, Tennessee area are welcome to come and play on my home board. Call Harvey Walden at 901-785-2587 or FAX 901-785-7931.

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• Every 3rd Saturday: \$20 Draw Partners

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TAZ COUNTRY

1406 FM 1825, Suite 110, Austin, Texas 78660 Phone: 512-990-5526 "Come shuffle with us!"

TOPS (continued from Page 12)

In their first game against hometown players, Greta Hensick and Rich Steiger, Jim and Donna played a great game, but were sent to the loser's bracket in a tough 15-14 defeat. But, being the Jim and Donna we all know so well, they buckled down and got busy with some fine play against some equally tough opposition. They battled back up through the loser's bracket until they eventualy met back up with Greta and Rich. When the smoke cleared, Jim and Donna were victorious and went on next to defeat the eventual third place winners, Melanie Shipp and Chick Blake.

Then it was on to the finals. Jim and Donna had to beat the undefeated team of Robert Kasza and Jill Hajek. They won that first game rather convincingly and then the scene was set for the final game of the night. It was a great game! All four players continued to make great shots when they had to, but this time the final of 15-14 was in favor of Jim and Donna. They became the true sweethearts of this tournament. Congratulations, guys, you deserved it.



Second place honors went to the team of Robert Kasza and Jill Hajek.

This team played some great games. When it seemed the chips might be down, Robert and Jill just got back in there with either a phenomenal lag shot or a crucial bump shot. It seemed their steam might have run out when Jim and Donna Dunn came out of the loser's bracket to hand them a 15-6 loss. And, although they didn't win the next game, Robert and Jill put up some great rounds of shooting and again, like many of the games in this tournament, the outcome came down to one final shot. It was a tough 15-14 loss, but I'm sure they'll be back.

Third place honors went to Melanie (Mel) Shipp and Chick Blake. Mel, a long-time favorite in the local shuffleboard league, and Chick, a relative newcomer and a regular on the home board at TOPS, both played some tough puck-for-puck battles. They made it through their first rounds to be one of the final two undefeated teams in the winner's bracket before being handed their first loss. Mel and Chick then regrouped only to suffer another tough loss at the hands of the eventual tournament champions, Jim and Donna Dunn.



Third place finishers were Mel Shipp and Chick Blake.

Thanks to the organizers, Bill Hill and Robert Kasza, for a great day of shuffleboard play. Also thanks to Bill Hill, Robert and Victoria Kasza (Mmmm...! love those cabbage rolls!), Peggy Magee, and Jill Hajek for all the great food and snacks. Finally, thanks to Joe Parisi, the owner of TOPS bar, for allowing us to hold this tournament at his establishment again this year.

As the Puck Turns.... By George & Donna

WANTED: Copies of the January 2000 issue of The Board Talk. We know many of you keep all issues, but if you do not and have a January issue lying around, please send it to us: The Board Talk, 503 E. Sheridan, Lansing, MI 48906 (it is not necessary to send the inserts). For your courtesy, we will extend your current subscription another two months.

Unless some sponsors step forward, the next "Play Your Way Across the U.S.A." listing will be published in the June issue. The January listing was sponsored by 10 Indiana shuffleboard sites which paid \$20 each for advertising on the cover page (it costs us \$200 to print the 4-page flyer). If you have a number of shuffleboard establishments in your area, you may wish to consider this opportunity. In the meantime, check the last listing to see if the information for your favorite place is correct. For example, we recently discovered that the phone number listed for the American Legion Post 73 in Del City, Oklahoma, was incorrect. It should read: 405-670-9128. Please make that change.

More Upcoming Events

Oklahoma

WICHITA HANDICAP AT FULL HOUSE BAR & GRILL, WYNNEWOOD, MAY 25-29

Action for this Memorial weekend tournament at the Full House in Wynnewood will start on Thursday, May 25, 7 p.m., with a bring sweetheart event, \$20 per player. On Friday at 7 p.m., there will be an open draw, \$30 per player, followed by a singles on Saturday, 5 p.m., \$30 entry. A bring your own partner event is scheduled for Sunday starting at 2 p.m., \$40 per person entry, and concluding on Monday, May 29. There will be seven boards.

RV parking is available at the city park, and nearby motels include Kent's, 405-665-4319, or Siesta Villa, 405-665-9915.

For information, call your hosts, Don or Pat Kinard, 405-665-2275, or tournament director Gerald Wood, 580-759-3293. Please share the enclosed flyer to spread the word about this event!



Memorial Weekend Wichita Handicap MAY 25-29

☑May 25: Bring Sweetheart

\$20 per player

☑May 26: Open Draw

\$30 per player ⊠May 27: Singles

\$30 entry

⊠May 28-29: Bring Partner

\$40 per person

--7 BOARDS AVAILABLE--

<u>For information:</u> Don or Pat Kinard, 405-665-9915 or Gerald Wood, 580-759-3293

FULL HOUSE BAR & GRILL

111 W. Robert S. Kerr Wynnewood, Oklahoma Phone 405-665-2715

New York

MEMORIAL TOURNEY, HONKY TONK, SHERBURNE, MAY 25-28

The Honky Tonk, 20 Classic St., Sherburne, will host a Memorial weekend tournament, May 25-28. Action will start with round robins on Thursday, 7 p.m. A draw partner event, \$20 per person, will start at 6 p.m. on Friday, and a bring partner, \$40 per team, is scheduled for 11 a.m. on Saturday. The grand finale will be a mixed doubles, \$40 per team, on Sunday at 11 a.m. There will be a sponsor sale for each event and you must be present at the posted times to entry. All events will be single game, double elimination, 15 points (straight), played on five boards. Food is available.

For more information, contact Brenda Prosser, 607-674-4810; Dick Losee, 315-691-2708; or Bill Jones, 315-691-6919. Nearby motels are the Sherburne, 607-674-5511; Howard Johnson's, (Norwich) 800-446-4656; Norwich Motor Lodge, 607-334-9935; or Super 8 (Norwich), 800-800-8000.

Nebraska

DENNY BUSCH MEMORIAL, HAROLD'S BAR/MY WAY, OMAHA, MAY 19-21

Harold's Bar and My Way Lounge, Omaha, will host the 3rd Annual Denny Busch Memorial Tournament on May 19-21.

On Friday and Saturday, there will be an open draft partner and a handicap draw, each with a \$15 per player entry fee. -1's, 0's and 1's will draft partners from a pool of 2's, 3's and 4's. All remaining players not drafted will be assigned a partner from a blind draw.

On Saturday and Sunday, there will be an open doubles, \$40 per team, and a handicap doubles (2's, 3's and 4's only), \$20 per team.

For tournament information and/or lodging recommendations, e-mail Cyndi Busch, c.busch@worldnet.att.net or cyndi@LeaseTeam.com; or call Char Rahn, 402-331-5407.

The tournament is held in memory of Denny Busch, a nationally-recognized pro shuffler and a popular figure in the World of Shuffleboard before his death. He is an inductee in the National Shuffleboard Hall of Fame.

(continued on Page 26)

2000 CALENDAR OF SHUFFLEBOARD EVENTS

APRIL

April 7-9

Toledo Open Avon's Local 14 Toledo, Ohio

April 8

Handicapped Singles American Legion Post 424 Bourbon, Indiana

April 8-9

7th Annual Classic BZ's Sports Bar & Grill Burien, Washington

April 14-16

2nd Annual "Gator" Memorial Induction of Bob Brunskill Oskar's Sports Lounge Bellflower, California

April 14-15

Spring Tournament Chances "R" Laurie, Missouri

April 15-16

Spring Doubles & Singles AMVETS Post 26 Pendleton, Indiana

April 14-16

Handicapped Tournament American Legion Post 73 Del City, Oklahoma

April 20-23

Canadian Open A.N.A.F. #68 Vancouver, B.C.

April 22

Doubles Tournament Mississinewa Tavern Eaton, Indiana

April 27-30

Spring National Tournament Dew Drop Inn

Waterloo, New York

April 28-30

5th Bill Gibbs Memorial Induction of Al Salazar Family Billiards (The Bar) Glendale, Arizona

April 29-30

Multi Tournament
Town Tavern

Sequim, Washington

April 29

Open Doubles Locker Bar Marian, Indiana

April 29-30

Maryland State Championships Harvey's Place Street, Maryland

<u>MAY</u>

May 6

40th Annual Spring Doubles American Legion Post 424 Bourbon, Indiana

May 13-14

Open Doubles Frankies Sports Pub Olympia, Washington

May 19-21

Denny Busch Memorial Harold's Bar/My Way Tavern Omaha, Nebraska

May 20-21

Draw Partners Shamrock Tavern Longview, Washington

May 21-29

Memorial Week Tournament Blinky's

San Jose, California

May 25-28

Memorial Open Honky Tonk

Sherburne, New York

May 26-29

Memorial Open Danny's Sports Bar Houston, Texas

May 26-29

Multi Tournament Tolo Tavern Medford, Oregon

May 26-28

19th Memorial Extravaganza The Season Ticket

Tacoma, Washington

May 25-29

Wishita Handicap Tourney Full House Wynnewood, Oklahoma

JUNE

June 4

SSSS#1 Majestic Cafe Pontiac, Michigan

June 9-11

Bill English Memorial Doubles Balloon Inn Arvada, Colorado

June 17-18

Mixed Doubles Shamrock Tavern Longview, Washington

June 23-25

Rudy Stober Memorial Tourney Stober's Lounge Lansing, Michigan

<u>JULY</u>

July 2-8

Southwest Open American Legion Post 73 Del City, Oklahoma

July 16

SSSS#2 Club Car I

Club Car Lounge Durand, Michigan

AUGUST

Aug. 1-6

Grand Masters Plus Whistling Oyster Quilcene, Washington

Aug. 3-6

Summer National Dew Drop Inn Waterloo, New York

Aug. 13

SSSS#3 Stober's Lounge Lansing, Michigan Aug. 18-19

2nd Round Robin Singles American Legion Post 424

Bourbon, Indiana

Aug. 19-20

Crazy Canuck's Tournament **ANAF #68**

Vancouver, B.C.

SEPTEMBER

Sept. 1-5

Labor Day Tourney

Full House

Wynnewood, Oklahoma

Sept. 3

SSSS Playoffs

Club Car Lounge

Durand, Michigan

Sept. 15-17

All Ladies' Amateur Tournament

MVP Sports Bar

Phoenix, Arizona

Sept. 16-17

Open Doubles

Old Edison Inn

Edison, Washington

OCTOBER

Oct. 6-8

Handicapped Tournament American Legion Post 73

Del City, Oklahoma

Oct. 7

33rd Annual Fall Doubles American Legion Post 424

Bourbon, Indiana

Oct. 7-8

ABC Draw

Blue Goose Tavern

Port Orchard, Washington

Oct. 21-22

Nelson/Buhl Doubles Shamrock Tavern

Longview, Washington

Oct. 29-Nov. 5

11th NASC Tournament Sands Regency Hotel/Casino

Reno, Nevada

NOVEMBER

Nov. 11

Handicap Singles American Legion Post 424

Bourbon, Indiana

Nov. 11-12

Mixed Doubles

Fir Cone Tavern

Shelton, Washington

Nov. 18-19

55 and Over Tournament

Shamrock Tavern

Longview, Washington

Nov. 25-26

A-B Bring Partner

Burien, Washington

DECEMBER

Dec. 9-10

ABC Tournament

Frankie's

Olympia, Washington

Dec. 26-31

Houston Holiday Open Greenspoint Marriott

Houston, Texas

SOUTHWEST OPEN 2000, JULY 2-8, AMERICAN LEGION POST 73, DEL CITY, **OKLAHOMA**

The first information and registration flyer for this year's (No. 9) Southwest Open is enclosed in this issue. Note that there will be 31 boards, 10 events for players of all skill levels, and \$300 awarded to each of five skill levels (-1, 0, 1, 2, 3) who accumulate the most points during the tournament in events scheduled for Monday through Saturday. Action will start on Sunday, April 2, with a 4-person team event for Div. I and Div. II. Originally billed as a "warm-up" event in 1996, this has become one of the most popular and hotly-contested events of the tourney.

American Legion Post 73, 5000 S.E. 24th, Del City, Oklahoma, host of the Southwest Open, has a five-acre park with electric and water hook-ups, and self-contained RVs and campers are welcome. The Bricktown Central Plaza will again offer special rates for tournament participants: rooms with one bed, \$25; and rooms with two beds, \$35. Call 405-235-2761 for reservations and tell them you are with the tournament. Other motels include the LaQuinta Inn, 405-672-0067 or 800-531-5900; Studio 6, 405-737-8851; and Motel 6, 405-737-6676. Ask if they have shuffleboard rates.

Note on the registration form that entries received after June 15 will be subject to a \$5 late fee per event so save bucks by registering early. June 15 is not that far down the road!

Questions regarding registration or events? Call Kathy Yingst, 918-742-2261 or e-mail: yingstk@swbell.net or any other information, Don Crall at the American Legion, 405-670-9128 or e-mail:

doncrall73@aol.com Information will also be on the Bower's Corner, www.jump.net/~ronbowers, plus a web page has been created for the event: www.geosities.com\swopen

This event promises to be a national shufflers' reunion, so make your plans now to be there!

Plan to be there a day early for an open meeting of the National Shuffleboard Hall of Fame on July 1.

More Upcoming Events

<u>Arizona</u>

ALL LADIES' AMATEUR TOURNEY, MVP SPORTS BAR, PHOENIX, SEPT. 15-17

The women from Arizona who participated in the All Ladies' Amateur Tournament in California (see March issue, Page 1) came home so enthused that they are now planning one. They hope the California ladies will return their visit, as well as women from other states. The dates for this Arizona inaugural event are Sept. 15-17, held at the MVP Sports Bar, 6001 N. 43rd Ave., Phoenix, with four boards. There will be three events: a Div. I (1.00 - 2.99) and Div. II (3.00 - 5.99) singles starting at 7 p.m. on Friday; and an A-B draw doubles beginning after the conclusion of the singles. There will be sponsor sales for all events and the format will be 2 out of 3, double elimination. Food, door prizes and a raffle for the ladies are among the amenities.

For further tournament information and/or lodging recommendations, contact Linda at 623-412-8006, or e-mail: Licphx@aol.com

Watch for a flyer in the July issue. In the meantime, mark your calendars now.

\$6500 Paid at Honky Tonk

The fall tournament at the Honky Tonk in Sherburne, New York, once again was a great one on Nov. 5-7.

The three-day event started off with a draw partner on Friday and a new friend from Indiana, Glen Ingram, and Dan Miner from Guilford took first place. Bill Wilcoxin from Indiana and Dennis Leehive from New York took second place, and third place honors went to Ken VanZile and Ryan Fuller.

John Canino took first place in the singles on Saturday morning, with Rob Hummer in second place. Sharon Canino took third place, with Mike Howerton of Keesville, New York, taking fourth.

The mixed doubles started Saturday afternoon with the husband and wife team, Sharon and John Canino from Baldwinsville, taking first. Second place went to Rita Truax and Rob Hummer, and Cindy Miner and Ken VanZile took third place.

Sunday's bring your partner event brought 10 exceptional teams to the boards with Dan Miner and Dick Losee taking first place. Rob Hummer and John Arndt came on strong to take second.

All participants extend a big thanks to Brenda Prosser for hosting this event, and all who worked so hard putting it together and making it work.

Brenda extends apologies to all participants for being tardy in reporting the results.

The next big event at the Honky Tonk will be the Memorial weekend tournament on May 25-28. See details on Page 23.

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

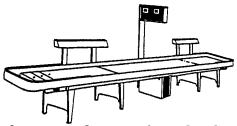
Please add to your latest listing (January 2000) a new member of the national shuffleboard network:

Nevada: Bullfeathers Bar & Grill, 3787 East Lake Mead Blvd., Las Vegas; phone: 702-531-1111.

See their ad below and be sure to stop in and see them on your next trip to Vegas.

Board Talk Editors have alerted Balboa Ron, author of our Frisco Eddie series, and he will be paying them a visit.

ACTION ON OUR BOARD:



Whether you're a local shuffler looking for a tournament site, or a visitor from far away....

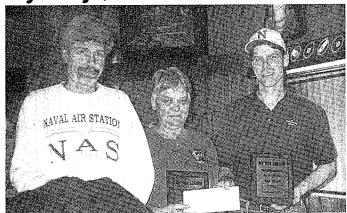
WE WELCOME YOU!

Stop in and see us and enjoy a game or two or more.

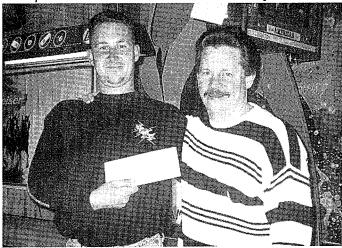
BULLFEATHERS BAR & GRILL

3787 East Lake Mead Blvd. Las Vegas, Nevada Phone 702-531-1111

My Way (continued from Page 14)



Tournament director Don Zahm (left) congratulates third place finishers Char Rahn and Larry Zahm.



Rick Gilliland and Kevin Higby finished fourth in the A-B draw.

The open doubles started about 9 p.m. Saturday night with 13 teams. Also single game double elimination, there were some fierce games played.



And the winners were Mike Roach and Larry Zahm.

3rd Annual Denny Busch Memorial MAY 19-21 My Way Lounge/Harold's Bar Omaha, Nebraska



Tom Harvat and Amy Everhart took second place honors.



Randy Nusser and Don Zahm finished third in the open doubles.

Chuck Busch and Jay Watson took fourth place. Everbody had a great time and Kevin Higby, owner of My Way Lounge, is a very gracious host. He also added money to both tournaments. We had great food all weekend and lots of fun playing shuffleboard. Thanks to Don Zahm for running a great tournament, as usual. Don keeps everything running smoothly and has a great crew helping with the boards and brackets. Thanks to all!

Thanks to George and Donna for sending me a copy of February's Board Talk which had the write-up of Kim and Kaci Merchen in it, so Kim could have her own copy. She really appreciated it and it was a very nice gesture.

Tournament play is in full swing now in Omaha. In March, there were three tournaments, with two in April. In May, the 3rd Annual Denny Busch Memorial Tournament will be held May 19-21 at My Way and Harold's Bar and hosted by Bill and Dru Frederick (see Page 23). Plans are in the works for a Nebraska State Tournament over the Labor Day weekend. And, of course, there is the great Southwest Open over the 4th of July, which is always a great time.

If you have questions about any Omaha tournament, feel free to call Char at 402-331-5407.

Blinky's Presidents' Day Pot Exceeds \$27,000

By Rick Thomas

The 9th Annual Presidents' Day Tournament was held Feb. 13-21 at Blinky's Sports Cafe in Santa Clara, California.

The debut event, a sweetheart doubles, turned out to be a popular one with 12 couples participating.



Winners were Rick and Kathy Thomas (center), 1st; Pat Bayless and Jolene Lembke (right), 2nd; Betty Hudson and Don Davidson (left), 3rd.

We would like to thank all the teams participating and we plan to continue this event. Thanks to Dan and Jane Mourgos, Paul and Stevie Parks, Bubba Warren and Kathleen Freitag, Eddie Brayman and Teresa Manfredi, Fred Thuman and Bert, Joe and Shari Hudson, Nick and Bev Chaffin, Carl Thissen and Chuck Corcoran, Lorraine Bingham and Jim Olson. Thanks to all for making this a fun event.

On Monday evening, the amateur bring partner doubles, another new event, proved to be quite popular with 12 teams and will be continued in the future.



"Hurricane" Lorraine Bingham and Jolene Lembke were winners of the amateur bring partner.

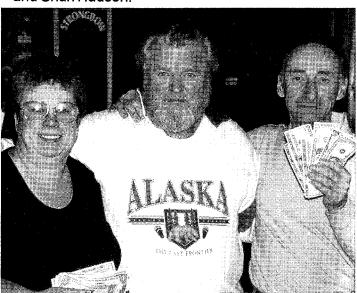
Coming in second was the team of Jane Mourgos and Steve Heidenrich, with Bev Chaffin and Betty Hudson in third place.

Tuesday evening's amateur singles event attracted 15 players.



In the end, it was Don Davidson (right) coming out in front, with Dale Pirlot taking second place honors. Finishing third was Ron Graham.

The A-B-C, one of the more popular events, got underway on Wednesday evening with 12 teams participating and concluded on Thursday night. The first place winners were Darrol Nelson, Pete Craven and Shari Hudson.



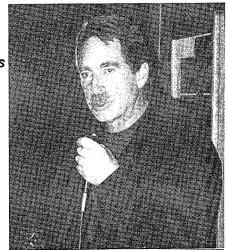
Nick Chaffin (right), Georganna Brand and Don Stallsworth took second place honors.

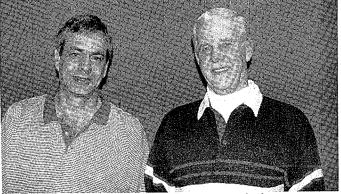
Finishing third was the team of Pat Bayless, Ron Graham and Paul Stallsworth.

The open/pro doubles started Saturday morning with 16 teams vying for a prize fund of \$11,200. The winners were Darrol Nelson and Larry Pearson. In second place were Nelson Jennings and Fred Thuman. Hal Perry and Diana Hagen took third, with Joe Hudson and Karl Spickelmier in fourth place.

The open/pro singles started Sunday morning and concluded on Monday afternoon, another example of a spirited event.

In his third firstplace win of the tournament, it was Darrol Nelson of Oregon who topped the field in the open/pro singles.





Local Dan Mourgos (left) took second place honors, with Johnny Wayne Crawford of Texas in third place.

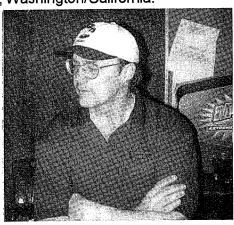
Taking fourth place was Joe Hudson of Sacramento.

Kudos to all the players from out of town and state who came during the week that continually help support this event every year: amateurs - Bev Chaffin (Roseville), Shari Hudson (Sacramento), Jolene Lembke, president of the California Hall of Fame who spent the week with us, Carol Thiessen and Chuck Corcoran (Manteca), Ray Comer (Livermore), along with Rich Porter, Steve Floyd and Helen Martin (Visalia), Ron Graham (Santa Rosa), Lloyd Schasker (Long Beach), Bob Crum (Modesto), and thanks to Don and Paul Stallsworth and Georgianna Brand (Medford, Oregon). And thanks to all the locals who always lend their help and continually support Blinky's tourneys.

Also thanks to participants of the open/pro doubles and singles, especially the newcomers: Diana Hagen and Johnny Wayne Crawford, Texas; Darrol Nelson, Oregon; Larry Pearson, Washington; Glen Davidson, Oklahoma; George Camara, Stockton; along with Andy Brorsen, Paul Elliott, Brentwood; Larry Newell, Visalia; Bubba Warren,

Huntington Beach; Dudley Hutcherson, San Diego; Rick Boyer, Colorado; Gwyn Orsi, Everywhere; Fred Thuman, Auburn; Joe Hudson, Sacramento; Nick Chaffin, Roseville; Karl Spickelmier, Downey; Danny Hutcherson; A.Z. Turnbo, San Martin; and Nelson Jennings, Washington/California.

One of the out of state pro players was Rick Boyer of Colorado.



Rick and Kathy Thomas extend many thanks to Don Davidson who supplied the computer system that made our lives a lot easier (tournament control!). And huge thanks to the new owners of Blinky's, Ned and John, who allowed us to continue the tournaments and for their arrangement of the great barbecue on Saturday afternoon.



The highlight of the tournament was Saturday afternoon's induction of Hal Perry (with his wife Shirley) into the National Shuffleboard Hall of Fame, conducted by NSHF Director Glen Davidson. As everyone would agree, Hal is one of the most deserving players to grace the National Hall of Fame. Thank you, Hal Perry, for touching our lives!

Glen also presented lifetime achievement awards to Bob Hunt, A.Z. Turnbo, Lorraine Bingham, and Rick Thomas.

Back to our long list of kudos: thanks to the players who always offer a helping hand during the (continued on Page 30)

Blinky's (continued from Page 29)

week: Dan Mourgos, Karl Spickelmier, Nick Chaffin, Stevie Parks and Jane Mourgos who helped Kathy do a thankless job with all the entries and sponsor sales and distribution of all funds (thanks, Kathy).

Thanks to those who helped with the installation of two additional boards for the tourney, Ted Fowler, Eddie Brayman, Bubba, and to those I forgot to mention. And thanks to Nelson Jennings who always lends a hand with the boards and running the sponsor sales.

Total prize fund for the week was \$27,080.

Two Shuffleboard Stalwarts Open New Location in Oklahoma City

Two long-time shuffleboard supporters, Pam Worsham and Ron Blalock, have opened PE's Bar & Grill in Oklahoma City, Oklahoma.

"We have two beautiful new Melton boards," said Ron. "Mike Melton custom-built them and is to be commended for his fine craftsmanship. We will be holding tournaments on Friday nights and round robins regularly. If someone wants action, we can find the players."

Add them to your latest "Play Your Way Across the U.S.A." listing (January 2000):

Oklahoma: PE's Bar & Grill, 901 NW 64th, Oklahoma City; phone 405-843-9812.

They are also a new addition to our Shuffleboard Directory.

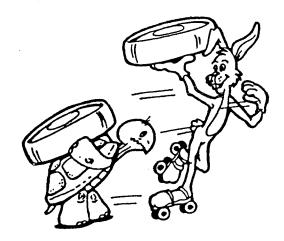
We encourage all area shufflers to stop in and wish them well, and out-of-staters planning to attend the Southwest Open over the 4th of July are welcome to visit PE's before or after the tournament or during any of your "off" days.

REMINDER!

Open meeting of the National Shuffleboard Hall of Fame July 1 American Legion Post 73 Del City, Oklahoma (time to be announced)

Be there with your ideas, questions, common concerns and goals

A BOARD TALK SALUTE

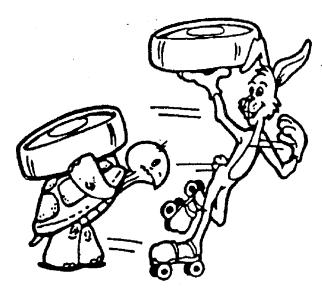


to
Pam Worsham
and
Ron Blalock
Proprietors of
PE'S BAR & GRILL
Oklahoma City, Oklahoma

May your new venture bring you prosperity, happiness and the special support of fellow shufflers!

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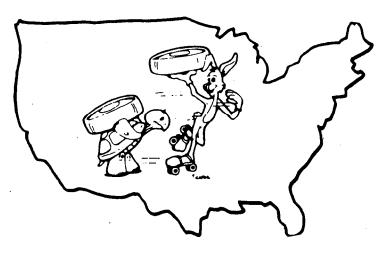
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