

The Board Talk

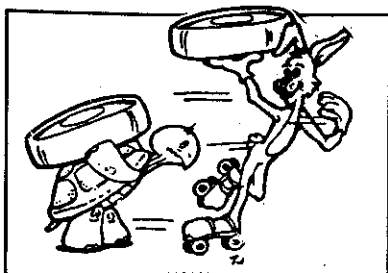
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Vol. 17, No. 1

January 2000

Shuffleboard World Ready for New Millennium





Shufflers' Notebook

News and Views from The World of Shuffleboard

Another Glen "On the Road"

I was wanting to comment a little about our favorite game and the places where we meet some of our best friends and acquaintances.

As you know, I retired from truck driving on Dec. 18, 1999, and have started playing a lot of shuffleboard this year -- and it has been a great year. I have won my share of tournaments and set some goals and accomplished several of them.

Del City, Oklahoma, was one of my goals and I would like to comment a little about Oklahoma. Ron Huddleston ran the best tournament and format I have ever played in. The only complaint I had was I think he should have paid more places and not so much money at the top. If I remember clearly, we placed fourth in the 4-person team event and didn't receive any money in a \$30,000 sale with 28 teams. But it was a great tournament format and great people, great people to play and a good feed on Saturday.

Houghton Lake, Michigan, is usually a great tournament and most of us Indiana players try to play. This year was disappointing because of some things that went on, like changing the rules in the middle of tournaments, no silicone put on the boards after start of play in the morning because players complained of boards being too fast. And, of course, the argument of having to share your weights.

I have talked to a lot of players about sharing their weights in tournaments and at least 95% say they don't think you should have to loan your weights to the opponent. Weights are personal property and costly, as you know. It is like any other sport; if you are going to play that sport, you must

have the equipment to play effectively, such as pool sticks, bowling balls, baseball bats, roller skates, golf clubs, fishing poles, etc.

I also went to Sherburne, New York, and had a great time and was treated as good as I have ever been by the owner and players and the owner fed us every day. I got to play an 18-foot board for the first time -- very different but fun.

I also played in East St. Louis with Gene McLeod and that owner put on an awesome feed. Jerry Sabourin was a great host and put Gene and me up while we were there. I hate to hear that Jerry is quitting shuffleboard and the shuffleboard community and players will miss him and his hospitality.

In 2000, I hope to meet new friends and play new tournaments and, of course, win some and travel a lot.

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year, Shuffle buddies, pals, friends, competitors!

Glen Ingram, Muncie, Indiana

We are proud of your achievements since you have hit the tournament trail in your retirement, Glen, and hope you continue to achieve your goals. In regard to your concerns, we'll address them one at a time.....

First, we agree that the Huddlestons ran a great tournament in Del City. We've checked back on the report of the Southwest Open and there were 19 teams in Div. I and 24 in Div. II for the 4-person events. We assume you played in Div. I. We aren't aware of what their prize breakdown was. At our tournaments, we use The Shuffleboard Federation's percentages: 16 teams or less, 3 places (58%-28%-14%); 17 to 23 teams, 4 places (55%-26%-13%-6%); 24 to 32 teams, 6 places (52%-24%-12%-6%-3%-3%); 33 teams or more, 8 places (50%-24%-12%-6%-3%-3%-1%-1%).

You hit closer to home when you criticize the Skip's/Board Talk Tournament at Houghton Lake.

(continued on Page 18)

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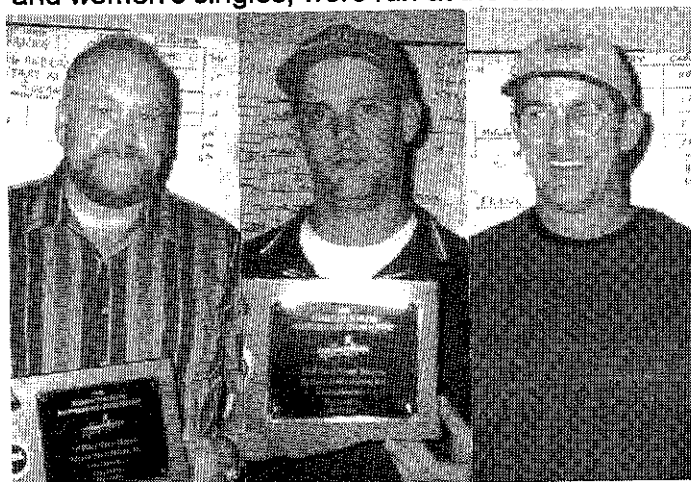
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Washington Champions Crowned at Fir Cone

By Dwayne Dibley

To win a shuffleboard tournament, all the elements have to come together: practice, patience, concentration, skill, persistence, and luck. One lapse in any of these elements can be the difference in a match. The good players try to put all the elements together to come out on top. The Champions learn how to control the elements.

The 1999 Washington State Championships were held at the Fir Cone Tavern, Shelton, on Nov. 5-7. The singles events started Friday night and continued on until late Saturday night. With five boards in place, the open singles, Division II singles, and women's singles, were run at the same time.



Larry Pearson (left) of Everett is the 1999 open singles champion. Dan Hitt (center) of Spokane took second place honors, with Carl Roush (right), Shelton, in third place.

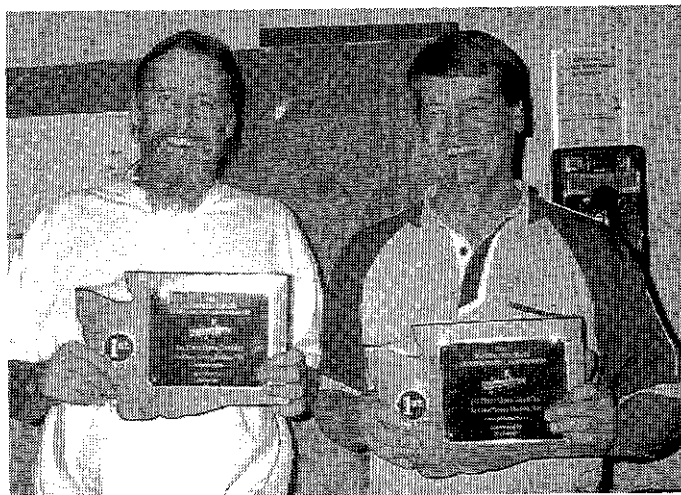


The Div. II singles champ is Frank Mako (left) of Longview. Melody Marine of Spokane finished second, with Alvin Orcutt (right) of Bremerton in third place.

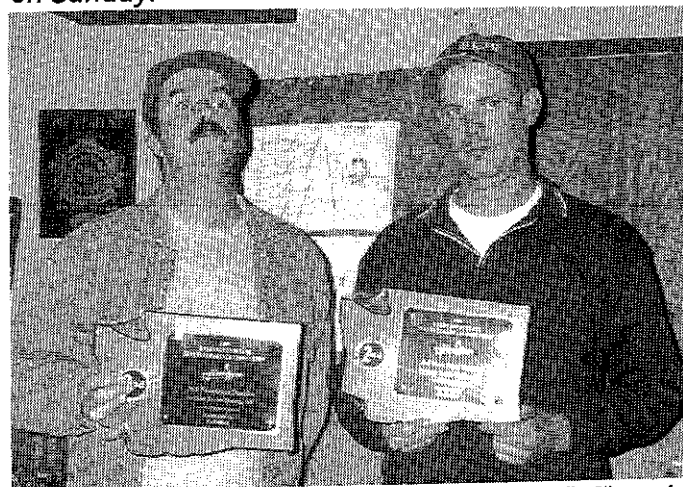
Jim ("007") Thorton from Shelton finished fourth. Mark Minium from Buriem tied for fifth with Frank Givens of Shelton.



The 1999 women's singles champion is Jeanette Hohn (left), owner of the Fir Cone. Junelle Schrum (center) of Tacoma took second, with Judy George (right) of Tacoma in third place.



The 1999 Washington State open doubles champions are Loren Lampley (left) and Nels Anderson, both from Shelton. This event took place on Sunday.



Second place honors went to John Fisher (left) and Dan Hitt, both of Spokane.

(continued on Page 10)

Upcoming Events Across the Nation

Washington

ESA TOURNEY, FRANKIES', OLYMPIA, JAN. 15-16

The Evergreen Shuffleboard Association's annual tournament and meeting will be held at Frankies' in Olympia on Jan. 15-16. Action will start on Friday night with an A-B draw, \$20 per player entry. The annual meeting, which will include elections and by-laws, will start at 10 a.m. on Saturday. The A-B-C tournament will start at the conclusion of the annual meeting. Entry fee is \$25 per person and is open only to paid ESA members for 2000.

A hefty \$1,000 will be added to the tournament, thanks to the generosity of Frank and Cheri Schnarrs, owners of Frankie's.

During the annual meeting, announcement of the 1999 season points champion will be made and prize monies awarded.

For information regarding the tournament and annual meeting, contact ESA President Jim Manders, 360-582-9711 or e-mail: jmanders@olympus.net

A-B-C BRING TEAM AT FIR CONE, SHELTON, JAN. 22-23

The Fir Cone Tavern in Shelton will host an A-B-C Bring Your Own Team Tournament on Jan. 22-23. Action for this event starts off with a \$10 A-B draw on Friday, Jan. 21, single game, single elimination.

The A-B-C will start off with a sponsor sale at 10 a.m. Saturday, Jan. 22. Entry fee is \$20 per player, two out of three 15 point games in the winner's bracket, one 21 point game in the loser's bracket. This is an "MSA" sanctioned tournament and MSA rules will apply.

There will be a tournament feed on Saturday. RV parking is available. For more information, contact Mel Hohn, 360-426-2221, or e-mail: MHOHN2@AOL.COM

SWEETHEART TOURNEY AT BLUE GOOSE, PORT ORCHARD, FEB. 11-13

The Blue Goose in Port Orchard will once again host their popular Sweetheart tournament on Feb.

11-13. This is a Pacific Northwest favorite fun weekend, but it's open to all travelling shufflers. Watch upcoming issues for further information or call 360-876-9880. In the meantime, mark it on your calendar.

MASTERS 2000 AT FIR CONE TAVERN, SHELTON, FEB. 26-27

The Fir Cone Tavern will host its 20th Masters Shuffleboard Tournament on Feb. 26-27. Action will start with a \$20 A-B draw on Friday, Feb. 25, single game, single elimination.

The Masters will begin with a sponsor sale at 10 a.m. Saturday. Entry is \$25 per player, two out of three 15 points in the winner's bracket, one 21 point game in the loser's bracket. This is an Evergreen Shuffleboard Association sanctioned tournament.

There will be a tournament feed on Saturday. RV parking is available. For information, contact Mel Hohn at 360-426-2221 or e-mail: MHOHN2@AOL.COM

California

INAUGURAL AMATEUR LADIES ONLY, OLD TOWN SALOON, JAN. 14-16

The Old Town Saloon in Livermore, California, will host a Ladies' Only Shuffleboard Tournament on Friday, Jan. 14, through Sunday, Jan. 16, 2000.

There will be three events. On Friday, the singles will get underway with two divisions: Div. I (\$30 entry) for players rated 1.50 - 2.99, and Div. II (\$20 entry) for players ranked 3.00 and higher. The most recent Bower's ratings will be used. Sponsor sales will begin at 7 p.m. with play immediately following.

An A-B draw doubles event will start on Saturday (\$30 per player), sponsor sale beginning at 7 p.m.

All events will be 2 out of 3, double elimination. The format may change depending on turnout. Four boards are being provided by A.Z. Turnbo. There will be food served, door prizes, and raffles.

For more information, contact Ray and Sandy at the Old Town Saloon, 925-447-0901, or Jane Mourgos, 650-593-0544.

Happy New Year!

BLINKY'S PRESIDENTS' DAY TOURNEY, SANTA CLARA, FEB. 13-21

Blinky's Sports Cafe, 3145 El Camino Real in Santa Clara, will host its 9th Annual Presidents' Day Tournament starting Sunday, Feb. 13, and continuing through Monday, Feb. 21. A highlight of this annual event will be the inductions of Don Cox into the California Shuffleboard Hall of Fame and Hal Perry into the National Hall of Fame. Induction ceremonies are scheduled for Saturday, Feb. 19, at 2 p.m.

Action starts with a sweetheart doubles on Feb. 13, \$20 per person entry, sponsor sale starting at 1:30 p.m. An amateur doubles draw, open to shufflers rated 1 through 4, will be held on Monday, Feb. 14, with sponsor sale at 6:15 p.m. Entry is \$20 each. The amateur singles for those with ratings from 1-4, \$20 entry, is on the agenda for Tuesday, Feb. 15, sponsor sale at 6:15 p.m. All of these events are single game, double elimination.

Open to all shufflers is the Pro/Am ABC event on Wednesday, Feb. 16, \$20 each entry, 2 of 3 games, double elimination. Sponsor sale starts at 6:15 p.m. This event will continue at 6 p.m. on Thursday.

On Friday, Feb. 18, the open pro doubles sponsor sale will be held at 8 p.m. with play starting on Saturday at 9 a.m. \$200 per team entry fee, 2 of 3 games, double elimination. Following the induction ceremonies, there will be a barbecue and pro singles sponsor sale starting at 5 p.m. The open pro singles, \$100 entry, 2 of 3, double elimination, will start at 9 a.m. on Sunday and conclude on Monday, Feb. 21.

For hotel recommendations, call Blinky's, 408-241-3933. For tournament information, call Rick Thomas at 408-578-0822 or E-mail him at TOMKAT8@PRODIGY.NET Advance reservations are advised.

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

Texas

4TH MOTHER'S SPRING FLING, CORPUS CHRISTI, MARCH 10-12

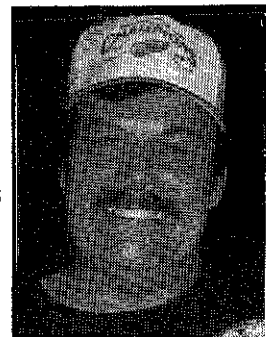
Mothers Pizza and Por Boys, 12135 Leopard St., Corpus Christi, will host their 4th annual "Spring

(continued on Page 8)

Michigan Shuffler Shows True Christmas Spirit

When Ron Bown was walking down Michigan Avenue in Lansing, Michigan, and found a purse containing money, his first thought was probably that Santa had placed it there to make it a Merry Christmas for his four children.

He didn't dwell on that thought too long because he realized that the \$357 inside the wallet was likely for some other family's holiday dreams. Ron didn't have enough money to mail the wallet back to the owner, so he removed the money, insurance card, and kids' fingerprint insurance cards for safekeeping and inserted a note telling the owner his address where she could pick them up.



Then he stuck the purse in a mailbox, hoping the postal service would deliver it to the owner. The wallet was returned to the owner, who had lost her purse when she took her son to catechism class at Resurrection Church, just down the street from Stober's Lounge, where Ron plays shuffleboard.

The woman was so impressed with Ron's honesty and integrity that she split the money with the Bown family.....a happy ending to a special Christmas story.

The Lansing Shuffleboard Community is proud of Ron, whose Christmas spirit story ended up on Page 1 of the *Lansing State Journal*.

Karl Spickelmier Inducted

Karl (with a "K") Spickelmier was inducted into the California Shuffleboard Hall of Fame on Nov. 27, 1999, at the Dixie Belle in Downey. During ceremonies conducted at the Dixie Belle's and Oskar's Thanksgiving Tournament, Karl became the 9th inductee into the CSHF. It was an emotional experience for M.C. Paul Weber because of the special friendship with Karl formed during their nine years of close association with the Pacific Coast Shuffleboard Association. Karl, Paul and Joe Muniz became known as "The Big Three" while they conducted major tournaments in Las Vegas.

Born in Denver, Colorado, Karl attended elementary and high schools in Lakewood and

(continued on Page 11)

As the Puck Turns

By George & Donna Wilber

Photos are very important to The Board Talk because they bring "life" to the reports we receive about what's going on in The World of Shuffleboard. So, it seems fitting, as we enter the New Millennium, to salute those mostly unrecognized and to us unknown people who capture special moments on film. You know who you are so give yourself a pat on the back! As we salute them, we hope their talent and ingenuity will provide some helpful hints to others who serve as photographers.

It was very difficult to select the best of 1999 and quality (sharpness, detail, etc.) was part of the criteria.

1999 Best Photo of the Year...

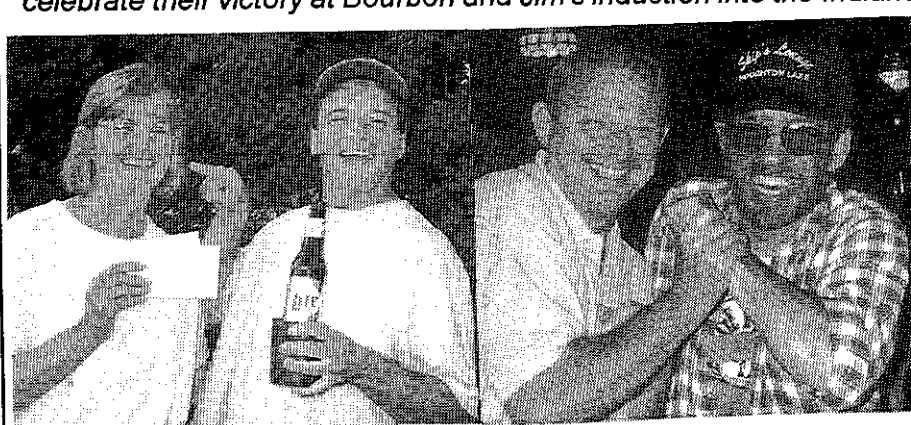


....comes from Colorado where a jubilant Kenny Hawkes jumps into the arms of his partner Marty Shepard of Nebraska. It helps photographers to get unusual shots when they have cooperative subjects.

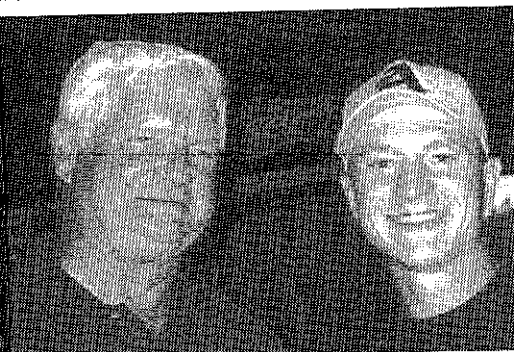
Special Recognition for....



EMOTION! From California (left), the photographer has captured the pride and joy on the face of Porter White as he accepts his inductions into the California and National Shuffleboard Halls of Fame. From Indiana (right), *Big Boys Don't Cry?* A few tears trickle down as veterans Buddy Broka and Jim Long celebrate their victory at Bourbon and Jim's induction into the Indiana Hall of Fame.

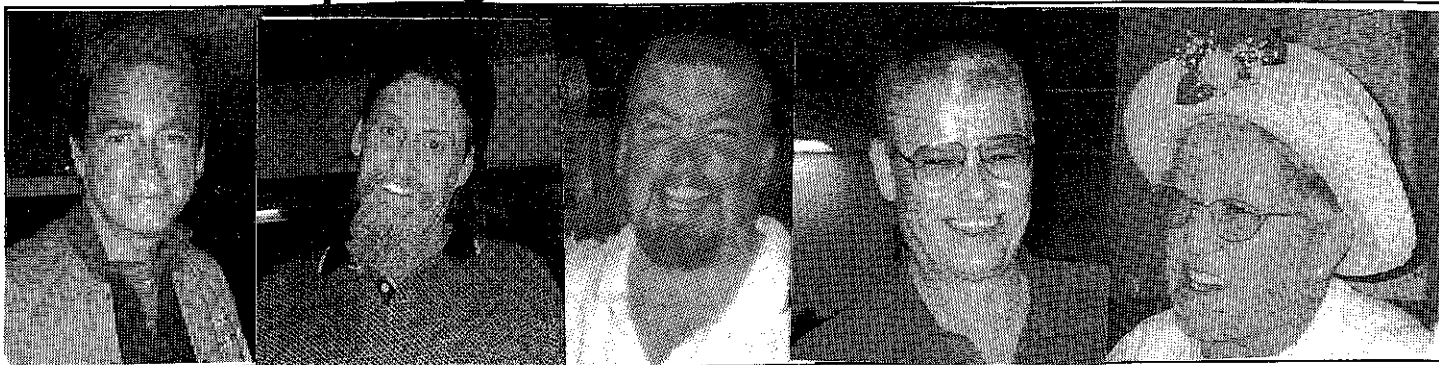


LET THE GOOD TIMES ROLL! From New York (left), Lynn and Deb Nearing of Ohio exhibit the fun time they had at the Honky Tonk. From Michigan (center), Ron Palmer and John Myles illustrate that you don't have to win to have fun at shuffleboard at Stober's Lounge.

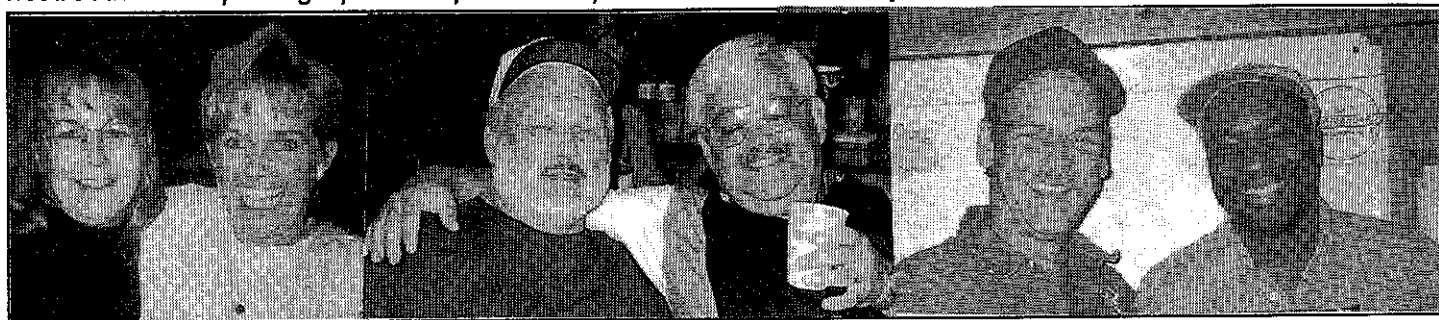


THE UNIQUE -- A pro of the past, Ted Johnson, meets a pro of the future, Alonzo Cottrell, at Skip's Lounge in Houghton Lake, Michigan, in his return to shuffleboard tournaments.

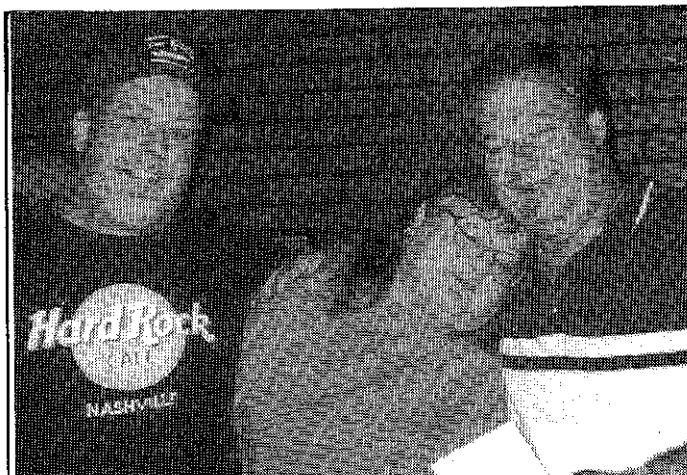
Capturing Famous Faces of 1999 on Film



Mug shots can be BORING! These from tournaments in Canada, Washington, Oklahoma and Michigan are not because the photographers captured the personalities of the subjects.



"Friendship Through Competition" is the slogan of The Shuffleboard Federation and these photos of partners from Washington, Maryland and Michigan bring life to those words.



Group photos can be a challenge, but these from California ("we earned those roses and champagne") and Michigan (exhausted but happy) tell a story.

Unposed shots tell it all. Notice the intensity of these hard-working directors from Oklahoma and Washington.



Upcoming Events *(cont. from Page 5)*

Fling" on March 10-12. Action will start at 8 p.m. Friday with an A-B handicapped draw, followed on Saturday at 1 p.m. with a free barbeque and a handicapped 4-person team event with \$200 added prize money. The weekend will be capped off with a handicapped singles event at noon on Sunday, March 12.

For further information, contact Neil Garvin at 361-854-3632, or E-mail: judygarvin@prodigy.net

HANDICAP TOURNEY AT TAZ COUNTRY, JAN. 21-23

Taz Country, 1406 F.M. 1825 (Three Points Shopping Center), Pflugerville, will host a three-event handicap tournament on Jan. 21-23. A handicap draw will start at 7:30 p.m. Friday, Jan. 21, \$30 entry fee, single game, single elimination, with no sponsor sale.

A handicap doubles will begin with a sale at noon on Saturday, \$100 per team entry, team total points 0 or more, single game, double elimination. Special food and drink prices on this day.

The handicap singles, \$50 entry, will start with a sale at 1 p.m. Sunday, single game, double elimination.

All events are no more than 4 handicap points per game and there is no registration fee.

For further information, call Ron or Debbie Bowers, 512-835-7256, or e-mail: ronbowers@jump.net

Taz Country has five in-house boards with tournaments every Wednesday, Friday and Saturday.

STATE CHAMPIONSHIPS, TAZ COUNTRY, MARCH 30-APRIL 2

The Texas State Championship Tournament has been scheduled for March 30-April 2 at Taz Country. Participants must have a Texas driver's license to enter. Events will include a draw on Thursday (\$30 entry), pro (\$150) and amateur (\$80) doubles on Friday, pro (\$100) and amateur (\$50) singles on Saturday, and a draw (\$30) on Sunday. A \$15 registration fee will be charged. Pros and 0's may not draw each other in either draw event.

Watch upcoming issues for further information or contact Ron or Debbie Bowers, 512-835-7256 or e-mail: ronbowers@jump.net

Indiana

LOTS OF ACTION IN HOOSIER STATE....

The Sportsman's Lounge in Muncie will host a bring partner, double elimination event on Feb. 26. Two boards, \$100 added, sponsor sales at 11 a.m. For information, call the Sportsman's at 765-289-0701.

The Locker Bar in Marion will host doubles tournaments on Jan. 19 and April 29. For information, call Bobby V at 317-948-9102.

The Palace Bar in Fairmount will hold a doubles and singles on March 11-12. Watch for further details in upcoming issues.

BOURBON AMERICAN LEGION 424 SETS 2000 SCHEDULE

The American Legion 424 in Bourbon has set their tournament schedule for the Year 2000. The first is on Jan. 8, an open doubles, handicap entries of \$40/\$20 per team entry. The second is a mixed doubles, Feb. 19, handicap entry of \$40/\$20.

A true round robin doubles is on the agenda for March 3-4 -- with a 20 team maximum. Handicap entry fee is \$300/\$200 per team with a \$15 registration fee (\$100 refund to those teams which finish the tournament) \$300 for 2 or less combined rating; \$200 per team with a combined rating of 3 or more. **Jan. 1 is the first day that entries will be accepted.** Send to the American Legion, c/o Terry Dowell, 202 S. Main, Bourbon, IN 46504. For information on these events, contact Terry at 219-353-1070.

A flyer for the 2000 schedule at this favorite shuffleboard site is enclosed. Post it on your refrigerator to remind you not to miss any of these events. Better yet, enter the dates on your calendar and post the flyer in your favorite shuffleboard site.

Michigan

4TH ANNUAL SAGINAW VALLEY OPEN, McCABE'S, SAGINAW, FEB. 18-20

The 4th Annual Saginaw Valley Open will be held at McCabe's Food & Spirits, 54 E. Morley Drive (M-46) in Saginaw on Feb. 18-20 with three events played on four boards.

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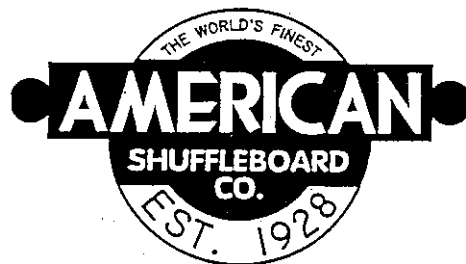
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Washington (continued from Page 3)



Third place in the open doubles went to the team of Larry Pearson from Everett and Desi Gouches from parts unknown.

The Division II doubles pitted local Sheltonites against each other for the top three spots.



The 1999 Washington State Div. II doubles champs are Bob Hurst and Jeff Kersting.



Billy Hagmann and Terry Woodward came in a close second.

**A HAPPY AND
PROSPEROUS NEW YEAR
TO ALL SHUFFLERS!**



Finishing a strong third was the team of Russ Savage and Dean Johnson.

This tournament was sponsored by the following: Budweiser, the Evergreen Shuffleboard Association, National Distributing Company, D & D's Lounge, The Hungry Bear Steak House & Lounge, Shelton 40 et 8, Old Town Shelton Committee, Town Pub, Deer Creek Awards, and Lumberman's Hardware. These local businesses either donated money or provided door prizes.

Excellent food featuring an international theme was provided by the Shelton Shuffleboard Community.

The Fir Cone would like to send special thanks to Larry Pearson and Rick Gindt for bringing this event to the Fir Cone, to all the players who participated and made this a great event, and to all the people behind the scene who provided food or service that we couldn't have done without.

The next tournament at the Fir Cone is an A-B-C bring your own team event, Jan. 22-23, 2000. For more information, see Upcoming Events. To be added to the Fir Cone mailing list, contact Mel Hohn at 360-426-2221 or e-mail: MHOHN2@AOL.COM

3 in a Row for Wendy Davis

By Dick Gorman

Harvey's Place, Street, Maryland, held the second of five weekend tournaments scheduled for this season on Nov. 12-13. This weekend was no exception to the high acclaim that is resulting from switching full-blast to the Bowers Rating System. It is providing new balance between the entrants and is gaining more acceptance all the time.

Friday night was the draw partner event and surprises were in order. At the tournament in October, Wendy Davis of Wilmington, Delaware, drew Arizona Richardson as a partner and together they won the draw partner event. Then Wendy went to Reno to the North American Championships and proceeded to win the women's singles. Not enough? On Nov. 12, she drew Wayne Todd of

Newark, Delaware, and together they took first place and Wayne to his first-time tournament first place finish. Second place was taken by Bill Cook and Curtis Dean, both from Northeast, Md. Third place was won by Johnny Gardner, Greensboro, Md. and G.H. Richardson, New Milford, Pa.

Saturday provided a full day with the bring partner event starting at 1 p.m. With four boards, it was possible to have a real round robin. Every team played every team one game with total points scored (maximum 15 points) being the determining factor. Obviously only one team has the possibility of making a perfect score and it did happen.

Lindsay Hall of Baltimore teamed up with Jim McDaniel of Darlington, Md., to reach the perfect score and win first place. They were followed closely by Wendy Davis and Dick Gorman, both from Wilmington. Third place was won by "Ski" Lacinski of Philadelphia and G.H. Richardson.

Many of the players stayed for the regular Saturday night draw partner event which was a little late starting because of the bring partner. It all ended up with Arnold Ledford of Darlington and Dick Gorman taking first place, with our hostess Darlyne Belcher and Wendy Davis in second place.

It was a great weekend and the roast pork dinner on Saturday, prepared by Darlyne, was enjoyed by all. Host Harvey Comer says he likes what is going on and is looking forward to the next two weekend tournaments scheduled for Dec. 10-11, and Jan. 14-15, 2000. For more information, call Harvey at 410-836-8881.

Karl Inducted *(continued from Page 5)*

earned his B.A. degree from Western State College in 1966. It was in 1969 at "The Place" in Lakewood that Karl was first introduced to shuffleboard. He credits the first inductee into the Colorado Hall of Fame, Bill English, for helping him learn and love the game.

His career in the publishing industry took him to Los Angeles in 1971 and he was lost without shuffleboard until he met Ted Z, who showed him the best shuffleboard places in the area. This gave him the opportunity to play against such players as Troy Tolbert, Billy Mays, Portland Eddie Graves, Billy Chiles, Jack Ahern, Vern Jones, and A.Z. Turnbo. Throughout the '80s and '90s, Karl worked to improve and expand the game of shuffleboard through events, uniform rules, and sharing his knowledge with others. Very likely, he will continue that quest well into the New Millennium.

This is what Karl Spickelmier's peers have to say about him:

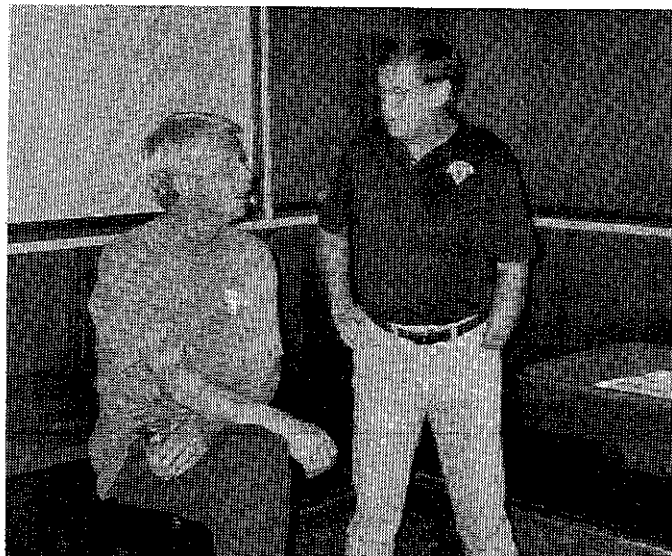
"The toughest thing about Karl, for me, is spelling his last name! The choice is as good as it gets for the CSHF. Nice guy, great player, steady as a rock.....I have never seen Karl get mad or upset. That's why I always check his pulse at any tournament to make sure he's still with us." -- Hal Perry, CSHF Inductee

"...His contribution to the game was simply being Karl. His cool, calm demeanor, his professionalism, and his gentlemanly manners set him apart. If we all could be like, and act like, Karl at the boards, there would never be a problem, be it a \$2 or a \$2000 game." -- Bob, Deb, and Bus Voorhis, Indiana

"...The World of Shuffleboard would be better off if we had a few more Karl Spickelmiers." -- Nick Chaffin

"....Karl is one of the best players in the country. He is always a gentleman and he is always more than willing to do whatever it takes to make this game of ours keep going...." -- Darrol Nelson, Oregon.

"Karl is a true ambassador to the game of shuffleboard. His ability speaks for itself, however, it is his conduct and sportsmanship that truly stand out. Through the years, I've never seen him conduct himself but as a true gentleman in every sense, win or lose." -- Dave Williams, Texas



One of Karl's many friends and admirers, Freddie Thuman, said: "One thing that stands out about Karl is what he has given to the game without asking anything in return....For all the years of dedication to shuffleboard, he has played a giant part in its revival...!"

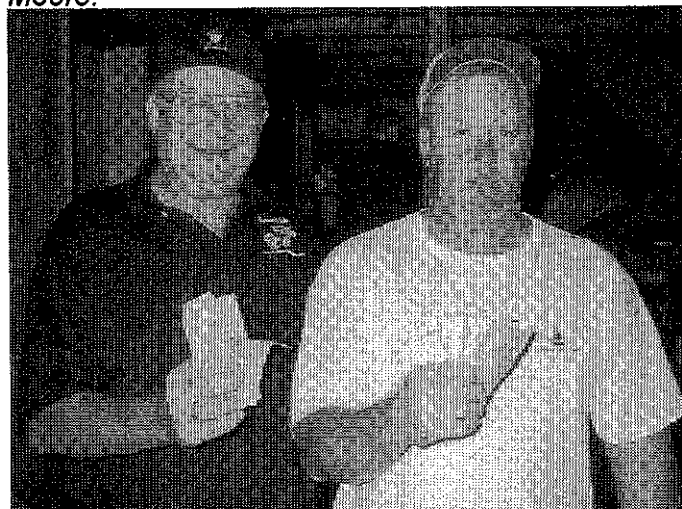
Other speakers at the induction included Al Salazar, Arizona, and Bob Hunt of California. CSHF President Jolene Lembke presented the award.

Eagles 3911 Hosts 5th Thanksgiving Tournament

The Eagles Lodge 3911 in Houston, Missouri, hosted its 5th Annual Thanksgiving Tournament with three events. It started off on Thanksgiving Day with a turkey dinner and an A-B draw with 15 teams participating.



First place went to locals Dean Pinkston and Chris Moore.



Second place honors went to Harvey Walden of Memphis, Tennessee, and Tim Adams of Gepp, Arkansas.

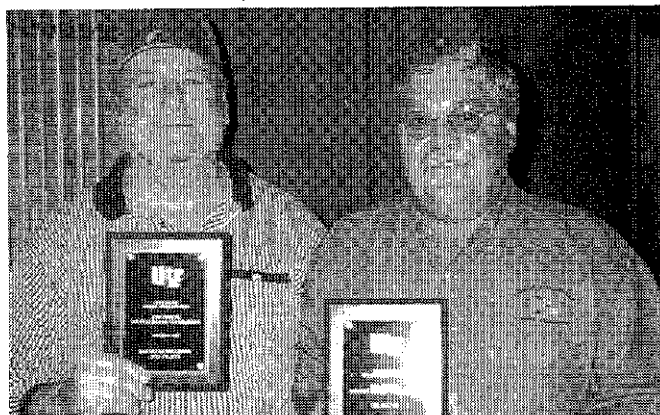


Third place went to locals Delane Moore and Ray Johnston.

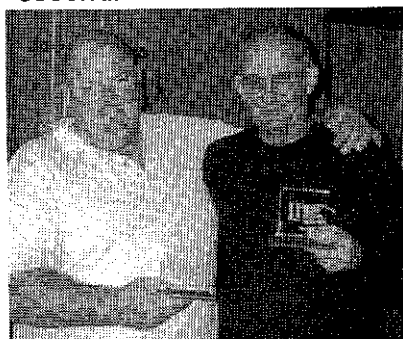
Friday was the bring partner event with 20 teams participating.



After being put in the loser's bracket by locals John Stenger and Steve Lindsey, Chuck Muehlhauser of St. Louis and Pat Gainey of Austin, Texas, came back to double dip John and Steve to take first place.



Steve Lindsey and John Stenger settled for second.

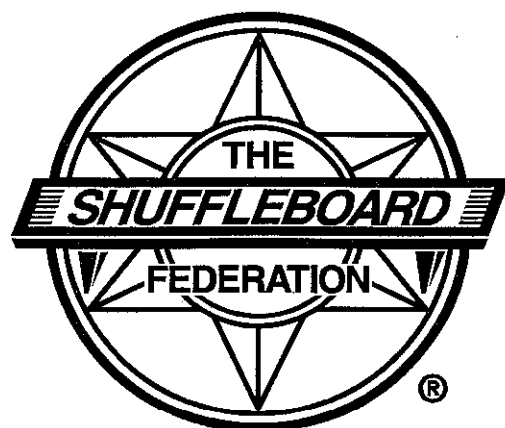


Rick Pittman and Charlie Riley took third place.

Super Sam and Cheryl Doyon of St. Louis finished in fourth place in the bring partner event.

(continued on Page 19)





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Michigan Shufflers Earn '99 Championships

Seventy-one players vied for bragging rights and a share of the total \$15,915 pot in the 1999 Michigan State Championships at the Club Car Lounge in Durand over the Thanksgiving weekend. Five events were played on five boards and participants enjoyed the hospitality of host Dennis Bittner and the friendly community of Durand which was decked out in Holiday glitter. It was a special weekend for John McDermott who successfully defended his state titles in three events.

McDermott/Parrish Mixed Doubles Champs

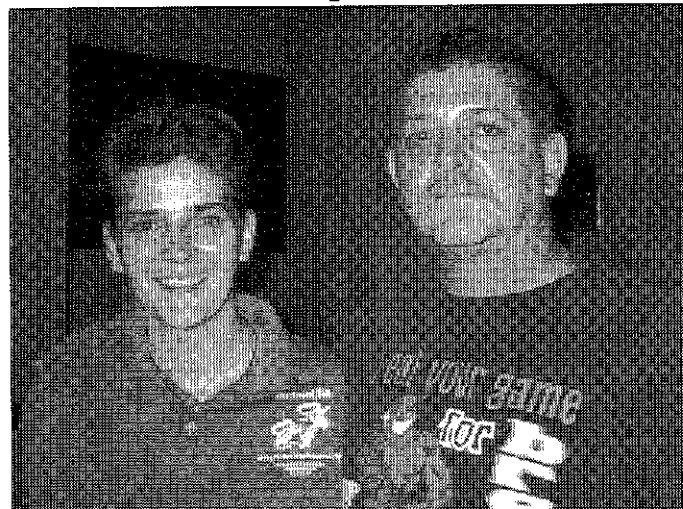
1998 mixed doubles champs, John McDermott and Betty Parrish, did it again in 1999, coming out in front of a field of 23 teams.



They did it again! Betty Parrish and John McDermott are the 1999 mixed doubles champs.



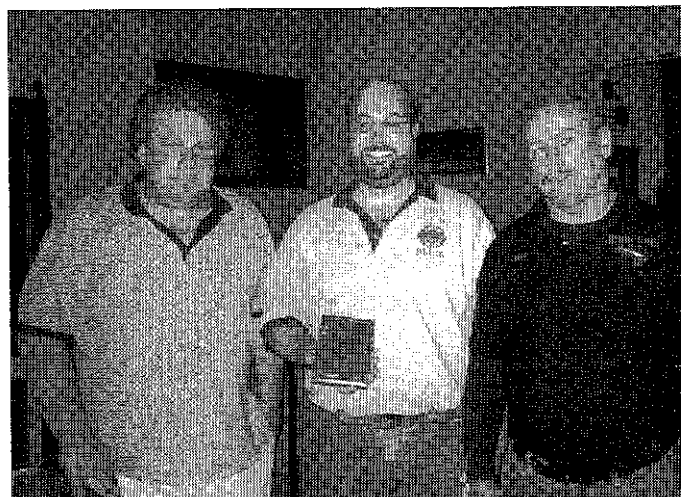
One of John's "students," Roland Metivier, teamed up with Dawn Brookins to take second place honors.



Ady Hallgarth and Jeff Cottrell finished third. Carrie Cottrell and Steve Auten took fourth place.

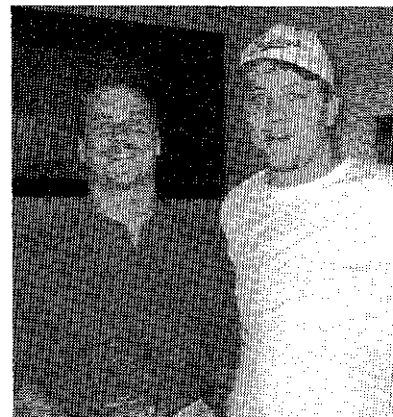
McDermott, Conrad, Hallgarth Tops in Singles Events

The open singles, Div. II singles and women's singles were played simultaneously on Saturday.

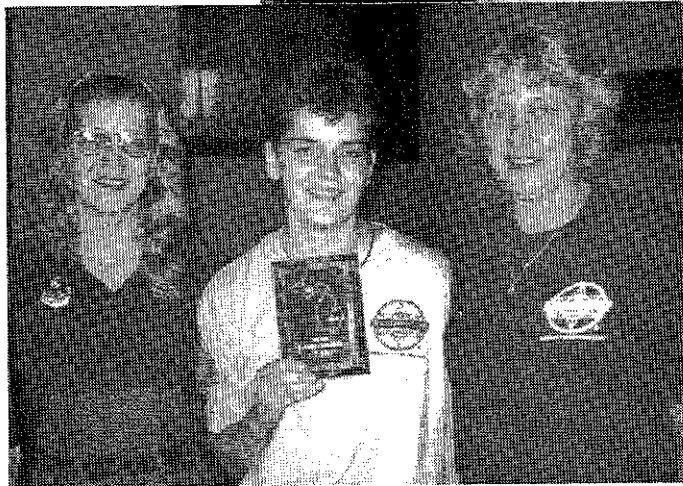


He did it again! John McDermott is the 1999 open singles champ. Runner-up was Frank Blade (left), with Bill Kane (right) in third place.

In his first-ever tournament, Matt Conrad (left) earned the title of Div. II champion. Scott Auten took second place honors.



Pepper finished third in the Div. II singles, and Carrie Cottrell, the lone female entry, took fourth place.



Ady Hallgarth (center) successfully defended her women's singles crown (before moving to Michigan, she was the Indiana state women's champ). Carrie Clifton (left) took second place, with Brenda Kane finishing third.

McDermott/Chamarro Doubles Champs

There were 16 teams in the open doubles, with John McDermott and Mike Chamarro capturing the crown in a repeat performance of last year.



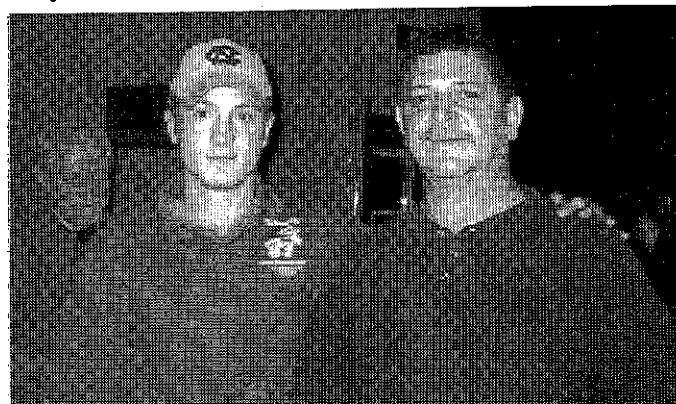
1999 doubles champions Mike Chamarro and John McDermott.

**Congratulations to
Michigan's 1999 Champs!**

George & Donna

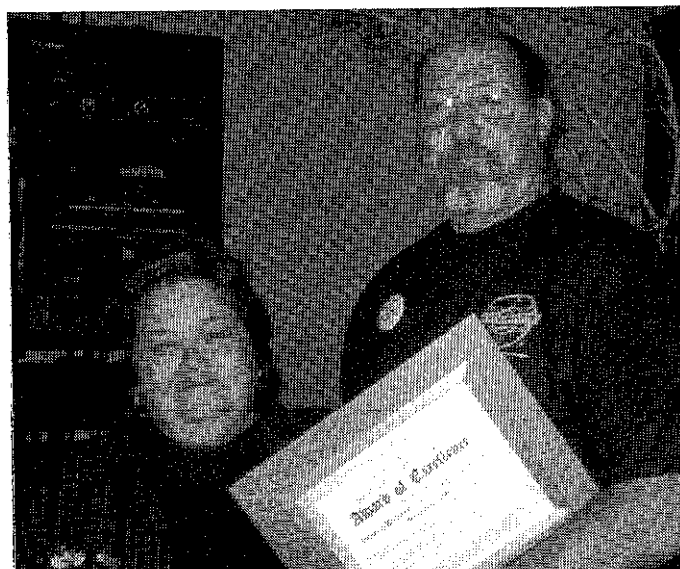


Roland Metivier (John taught him well!) and Bill Meyer took second-place honors.



The father and son team of Jeff and Alonzo Cottrell finished third in the open doubles.

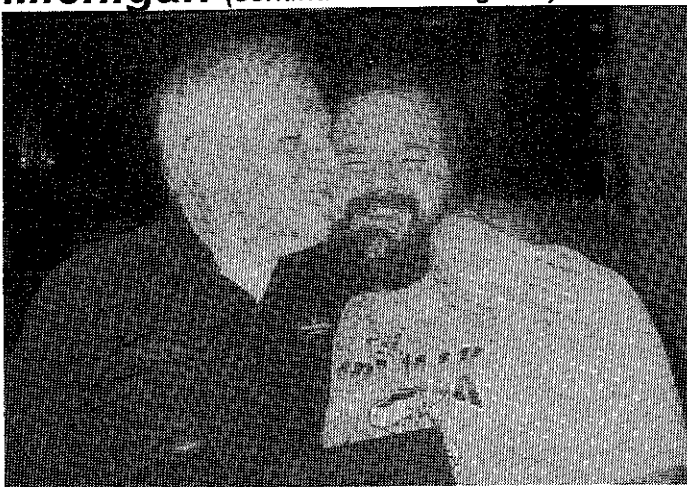
Bittner and Kern Honored



During a break in the action on Saturday, the Michigan Shuffleboard Hall of Fame honored Club Car host Dennis Bittner with an Award of Excellence. MSHF spokesperson Betty Parrish thanked Dennis for promoting the sport and providing an outstanding facility and service for shufflers year-around.

(continued on Page 16)

Michigan (continued from Page 15)



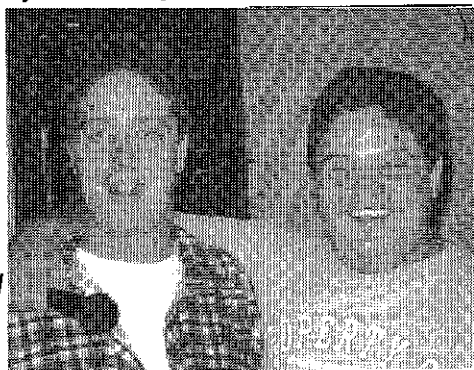
Bracketeer/Director Rob Kern was honored with a Board Talk plaque with "love and appreciation" (as illustrated by George). Rob started his bracketeer career in 1986 as a volunteer at the 2nd Annual Board Talk Shufflers' Reunion Tournament in Howell, Michigan, and grew to become nationally-known for his skills.

Off the Boards...



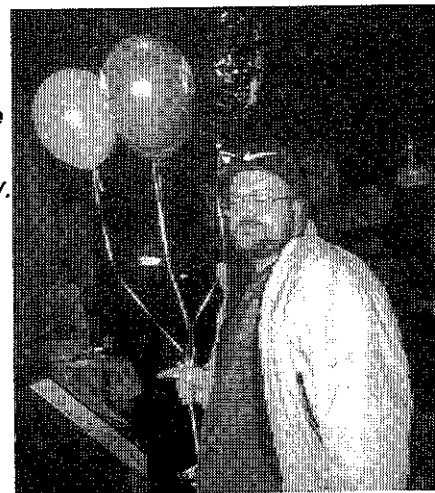
In a more informal presentation, Board Talk George presented Dennis with the "oldest board wipe in captivity" made by him many, many years ago.

The future is in good hands! These two "youngsters," Steve Auten and Frank Parrish, served as auctioneers.



Almost, but not quite! There was talk about an arm-wrestling contest between Frank Blade and a world-ranked champion, but Frank decided he didn't like the odds.

.....and "Coco" celebrated his birthday, complete with balloons, with his shuffling family.



Special Thanks to....

*The Shuffleboard Federation, Inc., for supplying the tournament wax

*Dennis Bittner for providing the spaghetti/pizza spread on Saturday

*The Club Car Lounge, Sunset Motel and The Shuffleboard Federation for the set of weights to raffle off for the Michigan Shuffleboard Hall of Fame

*The Board Talk for door prizes

*All participants and their fans for making this a successful event

*May the Year 2000
be filled with
shuffleboard fun and
friendships!*

2000 CALENDAR OF SHUFFLEBOARD EVENTS

JANUARY

Jan. 1-2

Mixed Doubles
Tim's Timber Tavern
Kelso, Washington

Jan. 8

Open Doubles
American Legion 424
Bourbon, Indiana

Jan. 14-16

Amateur Ladies Only
Old Town Saloon
Livermore, California

Jan. 14-16

Handicapped Tournament
American Legion Post 73
Del City, Oklahoma

Jan. 15-16

ESA A-B-C Tournament
Frankies'
Olympia, Washington

Jan. 15-16

East Coast Winter Tourney
Harvey's Place
Street, Maryland

Jan. 21-23

Handicap Tournament
Taz Country
Austin, Texas

Jan. 22-23

A-B-C Bring Your Own Team
Fir Cone Tavern
Shelton, Washington

Jan. 29

Open Doubles
Locker Bar
Marion, Indiana

FEBRUARY

Feb. 11-13

Sweetheart Tournament
The Blue Goose
Port Orchard, Washington

Feb. 18-20

4th Annual Saginaw Open
M.J. McCabe's Food & Spirits
Saginaw, Michigan

Feb. 18-19

Mason-Dixon Classic
Harvey's Place
Street, Maryland

Feb. 19

Mixed Doubles
American Legion Post 424
Bourbon, Indiana

Feb. 26-27

Masters 2000
Fir Cone Tavern
Shelton, Washington

Feb. 26

Doubles
Sportsmans Lounge
Muncie, Indiana

MARCH

March 4-5

True Round Robin Doubles
American Legion 424
Bourbon, Indiana

March 10-12

4th Mother's Spring Fling
Mothers Pizza & Por Boys
Corpus Christi, Texas

March 11-12

Doubles & Singles
Palace Bar
Fairmount, Indiana

March 17-18

8th Annual St. Pat's Tourney
Eagles Lodge 3911
Houston, Missouri

March 24-25

Spring Warm-Up
Harvey's Place
Street, Maryland

March 30-April 2

Texas State Championships
Taz Country
Austin, Texas

APRIL

April 8

Handicapped Singles
American Legion Post 424
Bourbon, Indiana

April 14-16

Handicapped Tournament
American Legion Post 73
Del City, Oklahoma

April 29

Open Doubles
Locker Bar
Marian, Indiana

April 29-30

Maryland State Championships
Harvey's Place
Street, Maryland

April 29-30

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

MAY

May 6

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

JULY

July 2-8

Southwest Open
American Legion Post 73
Del City, Oklahoma

AUGUST

Aug. 18-19

2nd Round Robin Singles
American Legion Post 424
Bourbon, Indiana

OCTOBER

Oct. 6-8

Handicapped Tournament
American Legion Post 73
Del City, Oklahoma

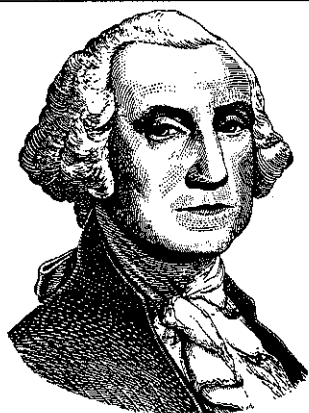
Oct. 7

33rd Annual Fall Doubles
American Legion Post 424
Bourbon, Indiana

NOVEMBER

Nov. 11

Handicap Singles
American Legion Post 424
Bourbon, Indiana



9th Annual Presidents' Day
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Hal Perry Induction into the National
Shuffleboard Hall of Fame***



Sunday, Feb. 13 1:00 p.m. 1:30 p.m.	Sweetheart Doubles Single game, double elimination Sponsor Sale	\$20 each
Monday, Feb. 14 6:00 p.m. 6:15 p.m.	Amateur Doubles Draw Single game, double elimination Ratings: 1-4 Sponsor sale	\$20 each
Tuesday, Feb. 15 6:00 p.m. 6:15 p.m.	Amateur Singles Single game, double elimination Ratings: 1-4 Sponsor Sale	\$20 each
Wednesday, Feb. 16 6:00 p.m. 6:15 p.m.	Pro/Am ABC 2 of 3 games, double elimination Ratings: All Sponsor Sale	\$20 each
Thursday, Feb. 17 6 p.m.	ABC continues	
Friday, Feb. 18 8:00 p.m.	Open Pro Doubles Sponsor Sale	
Saturday, Feb. 19 9:00 a.m. 2:00 p.m. 3:00 p.m. 5:00 p.m.	Open Pro Doubles - Bring Partner 2 of 3 games, double elimination <i>Don Cox Induction Ceremony</i> <i>Hal Perry Induction Ceremony</i> Barbecue; Pro Singles Sponsor Sale	\$200 team
Sunday, Feb. 20 9:00 a.m.	Open Pro Singles 2 of 3 games, double elimination	\$100 each
Monday, Feb. 21	Pro Singles concludes	

***Blinky's: 408-241-3933, for hotel information
Rick Thomas: 408-578-0822, E-Mail: TOMKAT8@PRODIGY.NET for
tournament information***

ADVANCE RESERVATIONS ADVISED!

Your 2000 Bourbon Shuffleboard Calendar

☺ **January 8: WINTER DOUBLES**

Handicap entry \$40/\$20, start time 11 a.m.

☺ **February 19: MIXED DOUBLES**

Handicap entry \$40/\$20, start time 11 a.m.

☺ **March 4-5: 2ND ANNUAL DOUBLES ROUND ROBIN**

Handicap entry \$300/\$200 per team, \$100 refunded after completing entire tournament, start time 12 p.m. Friday, March 4

☺ **April 8: SINGLES**

Handicap entry \$40/\$20, start time 11 a.m.

☺ **May 6: 40TH ANNUAL SPRING DOUBLES**

Handicap entry \$50/\$25, sponsor sale 8 p.m. May 5

☺ **Aug. 18-19: 2ND ANNUAL ROUND ROBIN SINGLES**

Handicap entry \$300/\$200, \$100 refund after completing entire tournament, start time Friday, Aug. 18, 12 p.m.

☺ **October 7: 33RD ANNUAL FALL DOUBLES**

Handicap entry \$50/\$25, Sponsor Sale 8 p.m. Oct. 6

☺ **November 11: SINGLES**

Handicap entry \$50/\$25, start time 11 a.m.

For Saturday tournaments, the Legion will open Fridays at noon and Saturdays at 8 a.m.

For the 2-day tournaments, the Legion will open Thursdays at noon, Fridays and Saturdays at 8 a.m.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION: Call American Legion, 219-342-8100, or Terry Dowell, 219-353-1070

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Frisko Eddie's Revenge: The Return

A Series by Balboa Ron Schweikert

(Editor's Note: The final game of the Pro Singles between Long Beach Lil and Frisko Eddie was underway. The score was 14-12 in Lil's favor, with Eddie's hammer left to be shot. Just as he was about to throw his shot, Lil casually mentioned: "....by the way, do you have any names picked out for the baby that Shelli has on the way?")

Eddie was totally taken by surprise after Lil passed him the supposedly secret fact that Shelli was pregnant! Eddie and Shelli had planned to get married as soon as their part of the tournament was over. Shelli's intentions were to let Eddie know that chances were pretty good that she was pregnant, prior to the wedding. That way, if it really bothered Eddie, they could call off the whole thing, or do whatever Eddie chose to do. This was all planned to be private, until Lil spilled the beans after getting the information from Shelli -- and used it at a crucial time to put the odds in her favor.

The score of the final game was 14 to 12 in Lil's favor. Lil's last weight was a 1, almost touching the 2 line, and in the center of the board. Eddie's options were pretty slim now. His most likely shot would be to lag the three and win the whole thing; or he could try some other slim options, none of which offered much in the way of resolving this thing.

Prior to making his shot, Eddie took a glance down to the other end of the table where Shelli was standing. The quick look they exchanged, coupled with the fact that Shelli covered her face in her hands, told Eddie that she knew what had happened, and the spot she had put Eddie (and herself) in!

Eddie would have liked to go down to the other end of the table and iron things out with Shelli, but there were rules, and something like this would take too long. No, he would have to shoot, and pretty quickly at that!

There were a ton of thoughts whirling through Eddie's mind right now! He was trying to sort everything out -- but that led only to more confusion and uncertainty. Then, as he was getting set up for his final shot, he finally got a "moment of clarity." Everything else could wait -- the shot he was about to make could not! He was somehow able to clear his mind of everything and concentrate 100% on the right cross lag he had chosen to make.

Just as he was about to make his release, he glanced over at Lil and said: "This is gonna hurt, but

ya' know -- it should." With that, he let go with the right-cross lag.

Everyone in the area held their breath as the weight sailed down the board. There was a terrific hook toward the center on the right cross from that end and, as a result, Eddie's weight barely clipped Lil's deep 1, sending it into a very short duece! Lil actually shouted out: "I've got him!" Eddie's weight continued on, and on -- into the g....

--TO BE CONTINUED--

We think Balboa Ron likes to make us suffer from one month to the next! Did Eddie's weight go into the gutter or did he score the 3 he needed to win? Check it out next month. He doesn't give the Board Talk publishers any clues, either!

**Happy New Year to All
From Balboa Ron!**

Notebook (continued from Page 2)

If there was a change in the rules in the middle of the tournament, we can't recall what it was (perhaps Rob, who is much younger and has a better memory, will enlighten us). There are occasions when we have to make alterations in the format because of the number of entries and the time available, but that is acceptable to most participants. Regarding the boards, they were sprayed every morning prior to play. It's not important to spray boards if they don't require it.

Regarding the use of weights, I am among the 5% who think the opponent should have the option of using your personal weights. Why? Because it removes a lot of doubt about some advantage you may think you have. Why would you object? They're your weights and you are more familiar with them than the opponent. (More next month. Donna is ragging on me about meeting deadlines!)

We're sure your comments about Jerry Sabourin will be appreciated by him. We wouldn't rule him out entirely. Note that his Shooter's is still on the "Play Your Way Across the U.S.A." listing. We miss him because he was diligent in supporting The Board Talk through paid advertising of his events. That's vitally important to us -- and to those establishments who use "free" space to promote their tournaments.

Upcoming Events *(cont. from Page 8)*

Action will begin on Friday with a draw partner event, \$25 per player, limit of 48 players, sale at 7:30 p.m. with play immediately following. "A" players (-1, 0, or 1) may not draw each other.

A handicap doubles is on the agenda for Saturday. You may play with any partner you want, but the higher-rated team will spot the lower-rated team the difference in team handicap. For example, Team A has an 0-rated player and a 1-rated player, so their team handicap is 1. Team B has a 2-rated player and a 3-rated player, so their team handicap is 5. In this case, Team A would spot Team B four points ($5 - 1 = 4$).

A handicap singles will be held on Sunday with a progressive entry fee: \$100 for -1's, \$80 for 0's, \$60 for 1's, \$40 for 2's, and \$20 for 3's, 4's and 5's. Sale at 10 a.m. Sunday morning with play immediately following.

All events are single game double elimination, 12 point games in the draw, 15 points in the singles and doubles. Entry deadlines are: 7 p.m. Friday, Feb. 20, for the draw; 1 p.m. Saturday afternoon for both the open doubles and open singles. A \$5 registration fee will go to tournament director Rob Kem.

To get to McCabe's, take I-75 to Exit 149A and go east approximately 1/2 mile. The bar opens daily at 7 a.m., serves great food and will have four boards on hand for the tournament (boards furnished by Decker Shuffleboard, Toledo, Ohio.)

For information, call Dave at McCabe's, 517-754-3621, or The Shuffleboard Federation at 248-380-9300.

Eagles 3911 *(continued from Page 12)*

There were 16 players in the singles event.



Winners were Chuck Muehlhauser (center), 1st; Moe Miller (right), 2nd; and Dean Pinkston, 3rd. Steve Kane finished in fourth place.

Brown/Ingram Win Sportsman's Lounge Doubles

Fourteen teams competed in the doubles tournament at the Sportsman's Lounge, Muncie, Indiana, on Dec. 11, for a total purse of \$2,270. \$100 was added to the team payout by host Rudy Parris.

First place winners were Bob Brown and Glen Ingram. Second went to Dave Vondram and Bobby Sommers, with third going to Greg Massey and Larry Brown.

The next doubles at the Sportsman's Lounge will be Feb. 26, 2000.

Bits & Pieces

We have received word that Bellflower Bruce Hale of California has lost his Newport Plastics factory in a fire. Bruce sometimes sleeps overnight in the factory, but thankfully, this was not one of those nights. He did, however, lose his faithful guard dog. At this point, he is mostly concerned about his 40 employees, who will be out of work. As we go to press, many people are looking for ways to help Bruce, who has been there for so many others in need. We'll keep you posted. In the meantime, if you'd like to drop him a note, we're sure he would appreciate your concerns: Bruce Hale, 3198-F Airport Loop Dr., Costa Mesa CA 92646.

A few other people who could use some cheering up are: Jay Wilson, 5745 Del Amo Blvd., Lakewood CA 90713; Ron Schweikert, 1140 Coral Desert Dr., Las Vegas NV 89123; and Marie Sweeney, 54 S. Broadway, Lake Orion MI 48362. All three have had some health challenges, and notes from The World of Shuffleboard would buoy their spirits.

Please join us in welcoming Rod Cameron as the latest addition to our Shuffleboard Directory. We urge you to patronize ALL of our advertisers, who make it possible for us to bring you The Board Talk each month.

An updated "Play Your Way Across the U.S.A." is in this issue. We encourage you to carry it with you as you travel and visit these shuffleboard locations. Note that there is space on the back page of the listing to make additions between publication of this special feature. Any new (or renewed) locations that sign up between now and the next listing will be published monthly in The Board Talk.

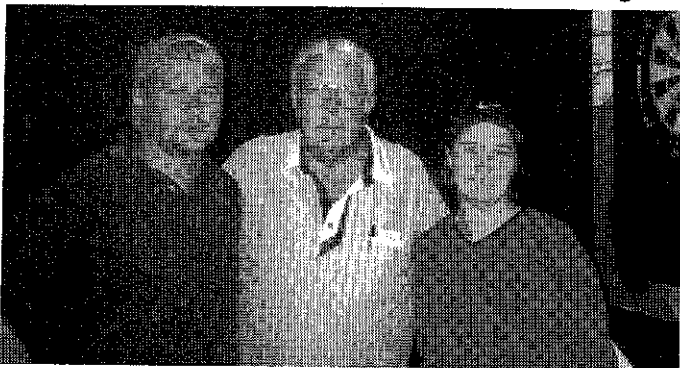
Nugget Hosts Williams Brothers' 15th Thanksgiving Tourney

By Bobby Williams

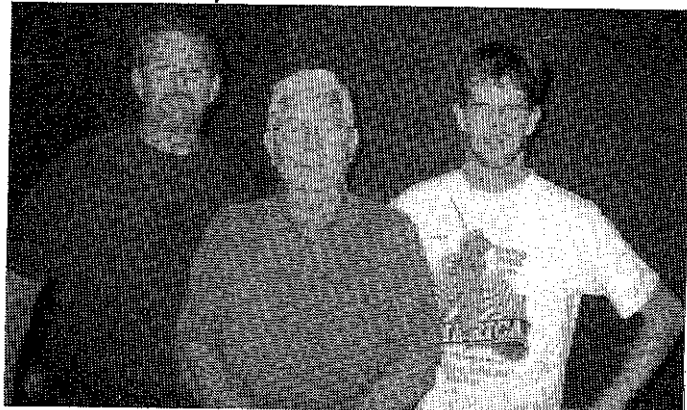
Many of the best shufflers in the Southwest gathered at the Gold Nugget in Arlington, Texas, on Nov. 24-28 for the 15th Annual Williams Brothers' Thanksgiving Classic.

In Wednesday's draw, Kelly Cameron and Linda Nobles came back from the loser's bracket to take first place. Johnny Ballard and Gary Nelson took second place, with David Williams and Kay Nelson in third place.

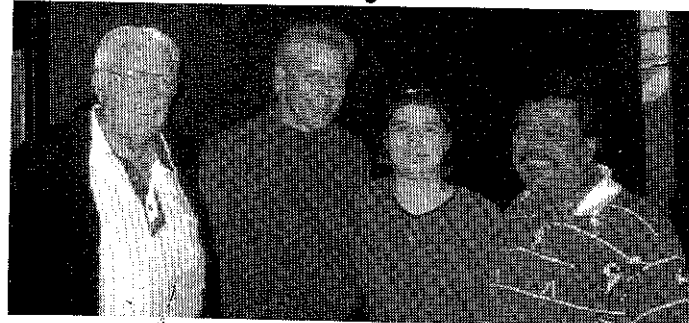
On Thursday, before the start of the singles, Gold Nugget host Tom Johnson treated shufflers to a sumptuous feast of turkey and all the trimmings.



In Thursday's Div. I singles, Bill Melton (center) was the winner. Mike Taylor took second and Jeri Billard finished in third place.



In Div. II, Tom Johnson (center) won first place, with Jeff Womble (right) taking second place honors, and Mahlon Nobles finishing third.



In Friday's Div. I doubles, the winners were Bob Shaw and Jeri Billard (center) with Bill Melton and Carlos Guzman in second place.

Johnny Wayne Crawford and Ronnie Gamble were third in the Div. I doubles.



A happy Kim Andrews and Dave Ramold took first place in the Div. II doubles. In second place was the team of Pete Pittsler and Mahlon Nobles.

In the team event on Saturday, where everyone shot and had a good time, Mike Taylor's team of Flynt Preston, Mahlon Nobles, Jeff Womble, Sue Griffin and Joe Spratt took top honors. Bobby Williams' team of Carlos Guzman, Mike Renick, Jim Andrews, Morris Moss and Jack Snell came in second. Third place went to David Williams' team of Tammy Denson, Rob Houchin, Betty Baumgardner, J.D. Sweet and Kathy Orlando.

Special thanks to Jeri Billard for her work on registration, money management and bracked boards. Johnny Wayne Crawford, as usual, did an excellent job of board set-up and adjustment. Bill Melton remarked that this was the overall best set of boards he had played in a long time. Jack Davis handled the sales and C.W. Walker did the transporting and assembly of the boards. And a great big thank you to Rosa, the best bartender in the world!

Hall and McDaniels Double at Harvey's Place

By Dick Gorman

The annual Holiday Classic Tournament was held at Harvey's Place, Street, Maryland, on Dec. 10-11 to finish the Millennium. The crowd was festive as Christmas drew near and the friendship was spread as we anticipated the next thousand years. Wonder if they will be playing shuffleboard in the year 2999. That will make you think for awhile! One thing for sure, they won't have a better time than we do at Harvey's Place.

Friday was the handicapped draw partner event
(continued on Page 31)



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●Tuesdays: Open Draws

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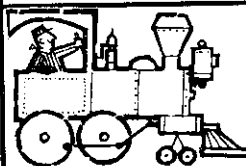
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- Karl Spickelmier....with more to come!

Dixie Belle/Oskar's Host Happy Thanksgiving Tournament

By Chris Brown, Tournament Director

Appropriately, our first official event turned out to be a wonderful Thanksgiving dinner, hosted by Dixie Debbie at The Dixie Belle, Downey, California. If you can't make it to eat with your "real" family, I can't think of a nicer way to spend Thanksgiving than to share it with the "shuffleboard family."

The tournament lasted 3-1/2 days, with 52 players participating in three events, and a total of over \$10,000 in prize monies distributed. Out-of-towners got even with the locals this year, placing on eight of the 10 teams in the money.

Maxwell/Gardner Tops in Open Doubles

The open doubles got underway at the Dixie Belle on Friday morning with 10 teams in competition.



Phil Gardner (of Phoenix, Oklahoma and various other places) and Bill Maxwell of Downey took top honors in the open doubles.



Joe Hudson and Bob Hunt, both of North California, took second place.

Third place went to the father-and-son team of Hal and Steve Perry. Honorable mention 4th place was Nick Chaffin and Al Salazar.

Thanks go to Freddie Thuman for being auctioneer for this event.

Chaffin/Ramos Win Amateur A-B Draw

While the open doubles battle was on at the Dixie Belle, the amateurs were waging their own competition of skill at Oskar's.



Taking first place honors were Bev Chaffin (North California) and Mike Ramos (a first win for this fairly new local player).



In second place were Connie Zavala of Las Vegas and Oscar Ugarpe, owner of Oskar's.



Third place went to Mick Diana and Vickie Hunt (North California). Honorable mention 4th place went to Frank Zavala (Las Vegas) and Garry Gareau. Thanks go to Dave Brennan for being auctioneer for this event.

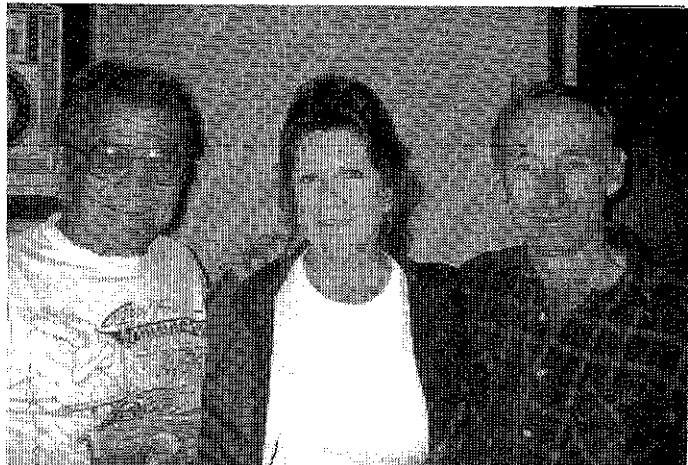
Floyd/Brunskill/Alvarez Win A-B-C

Ever since the flyers went out for this event, I've had people asking me: how do you play one event in two bars? I can now say that the very first thing you have to do is have a dedicated person like Eileen Eades on your team. Eileen ferried people around from 8:00 in the morning until 2:00 the next morning. She fetched weights and glasses that were left behind. She paused long enough to cheer a good shot and then she was off again. At the request of many of the players, I would like to say: "Thank you, Eileen!"

With 13 teams playing in this event, the phone lines were buzzing as we kept the duplicate set of bracket boards up to date at both bars. By the outcome of the finals, everyone declared the "travelling" tournament to be a huge success. Certainly, no one was bored!



First place in the A-B-C Draw Team Event went to Steve Lloyd (right), Central California, second year in a row; Anna Brunskill of Orange County, CA; and Ernie Alvarez, local Oskar's player.



Second place was decided after a fierce six-game playoff and went to Nick Chaffin (right), North California, Frank Zavala of Las Vegas, and Helen Martin of Central California.



The third place team was Karl Spickelmier, our newest Hall of Famer; Michelle Lamo, Orange County; and Oscar Ugarpe; shown with sponsor Dixie Debbie (left).



Fourth place went to the local team of Bob "Freehand" Ruiz (right), Ben Larsen and Mary Burdette, in her second ABC event.

Thanks to Paul Weber for being auctioneer for this event.

Special Thanks....

My thanks to Jim Anderson for his excellent care of the boards, and his helper at Oskar's, Don Marshman. Doug Pancerev did all the bracketing at the Dixie Belle, while I handled that chore at Oskar's. Wes Eades and Larry Cole were our volunteer bartenders at the Dixie Belle so the regular bartenders could take a well-deserved break (yes, we managed to corral "Party Animal Wes" and contain him!). Thanks also to Dixie Debbie and Oscar for feeding us so well, and also to the people who contributed to the buffet at Oskar's.

Hall of Fame Induction

The induction of Karl Spickelmier into the
(continued on Page 26)

California *(continued from Page 25)*

California Shuffleboard Hall of Fame took place during a halt in the Dixie Belle-Oskar's Thanksgiving ABC team event on Nov. 27. With a sizeable crowd attending, Karl's accomplishments in helping to define and refine the rules of shuffleboard and his skill in bracketing were brought forth by Al Salazar, president of the Arizona State Shuffleboard Hall of Fame. His friends Paul Weber, Bob Hunt and Fred Thuman then told anecdotes about Karl. Jolene Lembke presented Karl with a plaque and inducted him into the Hall of Fame. *(Editor's Note: See special feature on Karl's induction on Pages 5, 11.)*



With the California Shuffleboard Hall of Fame flag in the background, Karl Spickelmier responds to his many tributes from across the country.

Also announced by Jolene Lembke during the induction ceremonies were the new by-laws regarding eligibility to be inducted. You must be 55 years of age or older and have participated in the sport for 15 years or more. The person sponsoring you may not be yourself or a family member. Twenty signatures of your peers must accompany the nomination form. The nomination then must be approved by three of the five board committee members.

Walsh/Brown Tops at Evansport Doubles

Carolyn Walsh and Mary Brown were winners of a doubles tournament held at the Evansport Bar, Evansport, Ohio, on Dec. 4. There were only eight teams participating, but the total money was \$1300, \$300 of which was added by promoter Dale Gushman and the bar. There were out-of-towners from Fort Wayne, Warsaw, and North Webster, Indiana. Second place went to Dave Schroder and Terry Wolfrum, with Bob Figis and Jerry Richards taking third.

Norris/Martin Winners of "55 and Over" Tournament

The 6th Annual 55 & Over Tournament was held at the Shamrock Tavern, Longview, Washington, on Nov. 18-20. The event was won by Chuck Norris and John Martin (John has been in the top three since it started). Second went to Mike Waters and Georganna Brand, and third to Frank Powers and Billy Powell.

"As always, a great time was had by all," reports Ralph Duarte. "All players from the Northwest would like to thank the owner of the Shamrock Tavern, Jerry Berquist, for his outstanding support and heart of gold."

"Getting Ready for Houston" Tourney Held in Arkansas

By Tony Pelton

The VFW Post 9095 in Little Rock, Arkansas was the place to be on Dec. 10-12 for the 1st Annual Houston Holiday Open Warm-up. There was a terrific turnout, thanks to the tremendous out-of-town support. The weekend was full of great shuffleboard playing and lots of fun.

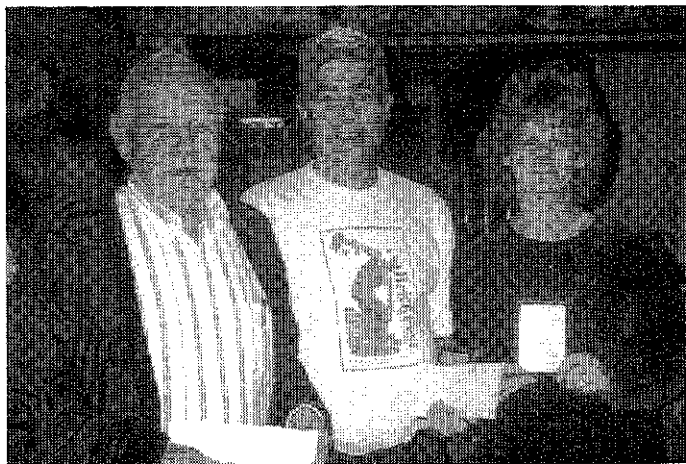
The first event was the draw partner. There were some hard-fought games before the winner was decided.



First place went to Carol Ussery and Harold Pelton. They played "lights out" throughout the whole event and deserved to bring home the win.



Harvey Walden (left) of Tennessee and Tony Pelton (right) took second place honors. They are shown with their happy sponsor.



The Oklahoma husband and wife team, Lynn and Nancy Tice, shown with their sponsor (looks like Don Crall!) played great and placed third.

Placing fourth was the tough team of Stephanie Seligman and E.T. Jensen, another Oklahoma player.

There were some really strong teams, which made for some great shuffleboard playing in the bring partner.



After a long night, the team of Tony Pelton and Gene McLeod of Missouri took home a very deserved first place.

Dan and Carol Ussery proved to be a strong team and took second place honors.



Barry and Karla Hollowell put up a tough fight and took third place.

Ronnie Curtis and C.B. Faulkner made their presence known and placed fourth for their efforts.



Tony Pelton (left) proved to be a formidable opponent in the singles event and won without a loss. Mike Faulkner (center) played super and took home second place honors. Third place went to Gene Smith (right) after some strong playing.

All in all, the weekend was a success. Hopefully the players were able to get primed for Houston. Arkansas shuffleboard is still in the beginning stages, but with each event, support has grown and much has been learned. Thanks to Karla Hollowell for running the brackets and helping with the tournament. Thanks also to Ron Helton for all of his support and for the addition of \$600 to the prize money. A special thanks to all of the out-of-town players for supporting this event. With more hard work, continued support, and perseverance, shuffleboard in Arkansas will continue to grow.

After the success of this tournament, plans are already being made for another one this spring. Keep watching for details.

**Happy
New Year!**

"Whole Lot of Shaking Goin' On" at Florida Championships

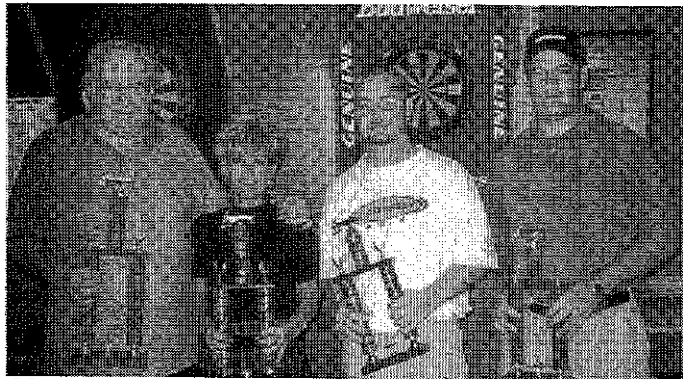
By Marty Allen

O.K., so I mean "shake-ups" as three of our four events at the Florida State Championships held Nov. 26-28 at Snuggery Bar & Grill, Palm Beach Gardens, were crowned with new champs....

Carol Komarc captured two first-place trophies as she defeated Colletta Stanley for the women's singles title. Carol also teamed with Pete O'Neill to win the mixed couples event over Colletta and Marty Allen.

Chuck DeWees is the new men's singles champ. His last three matches were against some of the most experienced tournament players in Florida. First, "Jimmy the Cop." This game went to the final shot. Next, Pete O'Neill. The only chance you have of beating Pete is to play his hitting game and try to put your lag to good use, and that's exactly what Chuck did. Alvis Ramey is our number one rated player in Florida. He's very patient and a very smart player. This was an outstanding two-game series for the men's singles championship and again went down to the final shot.

So that's our new champs for 1999. Congratulations, Carol, Pete and Chuck. Colletta and Marty repeated as the open doubles champs so that takes care of our four events.



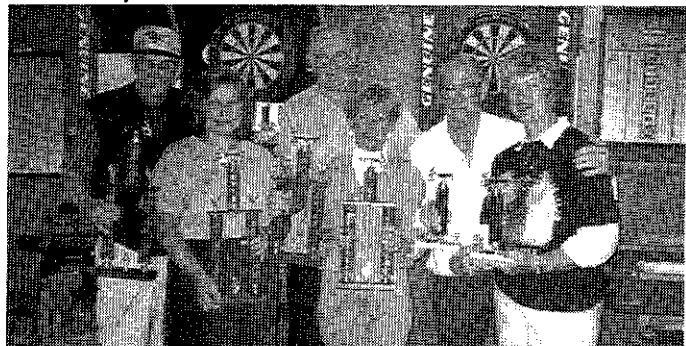
Marty Allen and Colletta Stanley (left) retained their open doubles championship. John Sateren and Tim Vola (right) took second place honors. Cass Grubbs and Dave Macko finished third, with Ray and Chris Boyett in fourth place.



Chuck DeWees (left) is the 1999 men's singles champ. Alvis Ramey (center) took second, with Pete O'Neill (right) in third place. Jim Kumpula finished fourth.



Women's singles champ Carol Komarc (left), of Pembroke Pines, with Colletta Stanley (center), Palm Beach Gardens, second; and Kathy Ring of Titusville, third. Paul Harper of Boca Raton finished in fourth place.



The 1999 mixed couples champs are Pete O'Neill and Carol Komarc (left). Marty Allen and Colletta Stanley (center) took second place honors, with Chuck DeWees and Grace Potter (right) in third. Finishing fourth were Tim Vola and Paula Harper.

Special Thanks....

Thanks to the Snuggery Bar & Grill and our host, manager Greg Kirchner. Great support and super service.

Thanks to Colletta Stanley, outstanding sponsorship sign-ons; Chuck DeWees and Ron Gempel, my U-Haul buddies -- Thanks, guys; Charley and Pat, J.T. and Sue, thanks for contributing to our tournament; Ray Boyett and Tim Vola on the bracket boards and sponsor sales; Ted Balli, thanks for the flyer.

WANTED: Information on Kid Spooks....

Marty Allen is seeking information on the legendary Kid Spooks for the purpose of nominating him for induction into the National Shuffleboard Hall of Fame. If you have information and would like to cooperate with him on this endeavor, write him at: 2244 49th Dr. N, West Palm Beach, FL 33417 or call him at: 561-697-9677.

Reno North American Championships Final Results

Because of the theft of The Shuffleboard Federation's computer at the Sands Regency in Reno, Nevada, we were unable to report the results of the three final events at the North American Shuffleboard Championships in last month's issue. The information contained in the computer files has now been reconstructed and we are pleased to present the winners of....

Amateur Team Event:

Finishing first was the Big Red Machine from Nebraska: Jim Kosiske, Jim Payne, Terry Roberts, Tom Galvin, Cyndi Busch, and Linda Ritter.

Taking second was Two Couples & A Couple of Losers: Larry Brown, Mary Brown, Mike Keevil, Gwyn Orsi, Barb Zahm and Larry Zahm.

In third place was Five Over Easy and One Scrambled: Char Waugaman, Gwen Vogt, Phil Gardner, Ron Sosovec, Dennis Bird and Lisa Freeman.

Fourth place finishers was the M.V.P.'s: Robert Jacobsen, Jack Davis, Jane Mourgos, Marvin Wilbur, Linda R. Meyer and Ron Buckley.

The best team name award went to Five Over Easy and One Scrambled.

Legends Draw

Taking top honors in this event were: Harvey Comer and Russ Miller, 1st; Kabal Bimb and Jack Jacob, 2nd; Harvey Walden and Billy Powell, 3rd; John Hyatt and Bill Walker, 4th.

Deuces Wild

Tops in this event was the team of Darrol Nelson, Kabal Bimb, Eddie Brayman, and Jim Olson. Second place went to Karl Spickelmier, Jim Martin, Terry Roberts and Donald. Tied for third were the teams of John Fisher, Jake Jacob, Dan Miner and Debbie Merhoff; and John Martin, Frank Mako, Russ Miller and Joanie Millar.

North American Champion and Top Pointers

Darrol Nelson of Oregon is the overall North American Champion and won a trophy and a free Jacuzzi suite at the Sands Regency for the 2000 NASC. The top three players in each division won \$300, \$200 and \$100 respectively. In the Pro Division: (1) Darrol Nelson, 47 points; (2) Diana Hagen and Dan Hitt, 35 each. In Div. I: (1) Tom Galvin, 32 points; (2) Steve Kalamarski and Mike Kinney, 30 points each. In Div. II: (1) Jim Payne, 39; (2) Frank Mako, 36; (3) Jack Davis, 35. In Div. III: (1) Mike Keevil, 38 points; (2) Jim Kosiske, 36; (3) Jim Olson, 28.

Pearson/Weber Win at BZ's

By John Musgrave

Seventeen teams vied for \$2,500 in prize money at the 6th Annual A-B Bring Partner Thanksgiving tournament at BZ's Sports Bar & Grill in Burien, Washington, Nov. 27-28.

When all the weights had come to rest, Larry Pearson, Everett, Washington, and Tom Weber, Hoquiam, Washington, were the big winners. In a two-match final, they outlasted Rick Gindt and Mike Keevil, both of Tacoma, Washington.



A-B Bring Partner winners Paul Weber (left) and Larry Pearson.



Mike Keevil (left) and Rick Gindt took second place honors.

Chuck Norris, Portland, Oregon, and Judy George of Tacoma came in third, while Mike Thorpe, Burien, and Terry Woodward, Shelton, Washington, finished fourth. Mike Waters, Belfair, Washington, and Don Shaffer, Seattle, shared 5th and 6th places with Vern Gonzalez and Jeff Kerstering, both of Shelton.

Hosts Craig and Lisa Sherwood added \$20 per team to the prize money and once again served up an outstanding fried chicken dinner for all of the participants.

The next tournament at BZ's will be the 7th Annual Shuffleboard Classic, an open event, on April 29-30.

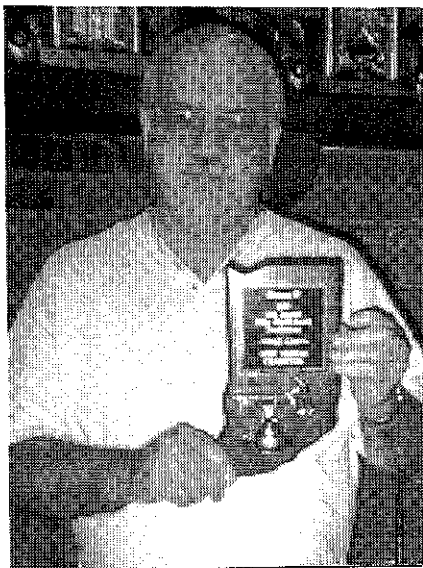
New Champs Crowned at Indiana State Tournament

By Steve Hart

The 11th Annual Indiana State Championships, held at Chances R, Muncie, Indiana, were again a great success.

Ingram Open Singles Champ

The shoot-out began on Friday, Nov. 26, with 43 players entered in the open singles, vying for a share of the \$6160 pot.

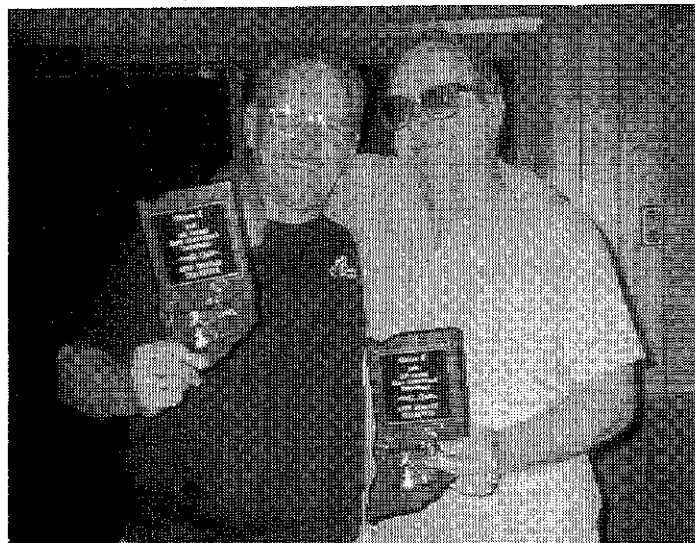


The 1999 Singles Champion is Glen Ingram. Glen has worked hard and taken his game to a new level. He is by far the best player in Indiana.

Taking second place honors was Dave Boaz, with Tom Nolder in third, and Larry Brown in fourth place. Others in the money were: John Humes and Dave Vorndram, 5th and 6th; Robbie Collins and Ricky Royal, 7th and 8th.

Boaz/Miller Tops in Open Doubles

There were 30 teams in Saturday's open doubles, competing for a total pot of \$5750.



And the winners were: Ray Miller (left) and Dave Boaz.



Taking second place honors were Steve Hart (left) (nice hat, Steve!) and John Humes.

Tom and Greg Massie took third place, with Bobby Voorhis and Ricky Royal finishing fourth.

Brown/Brown Win Mixed Doubles



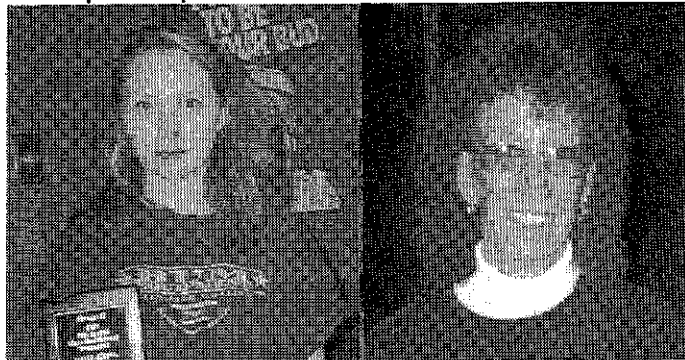
Big Larry Brown and Little Mary Brown are the 1999 mixed doubles champions.



Gary Neff and Christine Redman took second place honors.

McLeod is New Women's Champ

There were 14 contenders in Sunday's women's singles, the final event in the Indiana Championships.



The 1999 Women's Singles Champion is Shannon McLeod (left). Mary Brown (right) took second place. Christi Redman finished in third place.

The total purse for the four events over three days was \$14,110. Karen Schounce was a great host.

The 2000 Indiana State Championships will be held at the American Legion Post 424 in Bourbon on Nov. 24-26.

Harvey's Place (cont. from Page 20)

(Bowers Rating System -- by 2000 they will probably wonder who Debbie and Ron Bowers were). A real unusual draw took place. Lindsay Hall of Baltimore and Jim McDaniels of Darlington drew each other and chuckled -- they were signed up the next day in the bring partner event. Jim said: "Ought to be good practice." By the way, they play together Tuesday nights in the Cecil-Hartford County League. Well, they went right to the first place winner's table at the end of the night, but they had to beat the second place team of host Harvey Comer and Dick Greider, also from Darlington, twice. Third place was taken by another strong team of Wayne Nichols, Conowingo (great to see him back), and Dick Smedberg, Long Island, N.Y. We all were saddened to hear that Dick and his wife are thinking retirement and may be headed to Florida -- our loss, Florida's gain! It is only appropriate to say here that Dick Smedberg is a competitor and a real gentleman and credit to the game. Thanks for the memories, Dick.

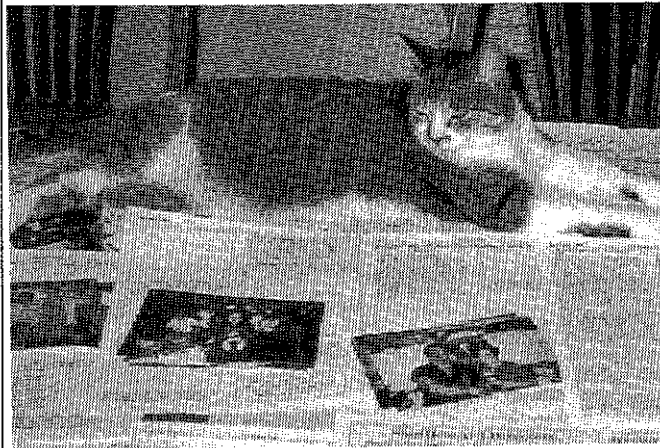
Saturday afternoon was the scheduled bring partner event which was interrupted with a great hot buffet provided by hosts Darlyne Belcher and Harvey Comer -- some of the best pork barbecue and baked beans (how do you do them?) we have eaten. The winners were Lindsay Hall and Jim McDaniels, who smiled all the way home and to the

bank. Second place went to Keith Leonard, Charlestown, Md., and Dick Smedberg. Third place was taken by Wendy Davis and Dick Gorman, both from Wilmington, Del.

Not enough for these shufflers and not much time left in this Millennium for Harvey's Place (next tournament in the next one), so they held a \$25 draw partner, single elimination, winning team take all. Picking up this nice pile of cash were Wendy Davis and Herb Forster of Ridley Park, Pa.

The next event at Harvey's Place, where the Bowers Rating System is now used exclusively at tournaments to give everybody a better chance, will be the East Coast Winter Championship on Jan. 14-15, followed by the Mason Dixon Classic on Feb. 18-19. Hope you'll put them in your plans for the "blah" winter months. Call Harvey for more information, 410-836-8881.

Hillary, The Board Talk's "First Lady,"



reminds you that, effective Jan. 1, 2000, subscriptions will increase to \$25 per year

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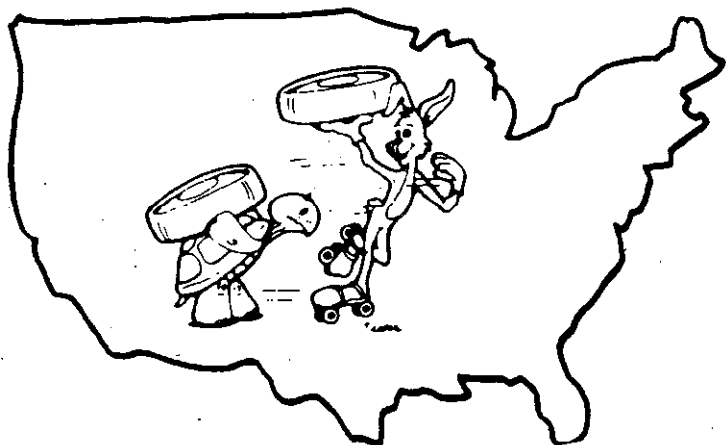
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