

The Board Talk

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May 2000

Florida Hosts "Double Header"

(Editor's Note: When Florida scheduled major tournaments on consecutive weekends, we were a bit concerned and made a few phone calls to make sure they really wanted to do this. Our concerns, evidently, were unfounded as both events had good participation from several states. The report on the second event, held at the Fill-N-Station in Mims, got held up between Florida and Michigan and will be featured in the June issue. In the meantime.....)

Florida Open Sets Record Jackpot

By Marty Allen

The Florida Open VII was held at the Snuggery Bar & Grill, Palm Beach Gardens, March 17-19. We had players from Kentucky, Indiana, Michigan, Maryland, New York and Florida playing for a record Florida total jackpot of \$9,560 in our three events. Our goal next year is a \$10,000 Florida Open jackpot.

It has been suggested that we add a fourth event to our tournament format and this is being seriously considered. In all probability, it would be a mixed couples event. More on this later.

It was also suggested that we update our "Rules and Regulations" and we agree on this. Also that we upgrade our tournament shuffleboard powder as we had way too many "mush" shots this year. We agree and henceforth, Colletta and Chuck will be buying our tournament powder.

ON THE INSIDE:

The continuing saga of Frisco Eddie, his bride Shelli, and Long Beach Lil.....Page 18

Have YOU got the "Bellflower Spirit"? See Ina Rogers' observations.....Page 26

Know where the action is -- be where the action is -- Upcoming Events....Pages 4-5-16-19

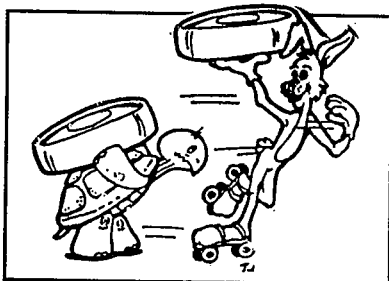


Winners of Friday's draw partner event were (from left): 1st -- Chuck DeWees and Armand Nault (not pictured), both of Florida; 2nd -- Brenda Kane of Michigan and Jim DeWitt of Indiana; 3rd -- Charlie Potter of Florida and Jim Kumpula, Florida/Michigan; 4th -- Glen Ingram of Indiana and Marty Allen of Florida.



In Saturday's doubles, winners were (left to right): 1st -- Glen Ingram and Jim DeWitt of Indiana; 2nd -- Jim Kumpula and Bill Kane of Michigan; 3rd -- Colletta Stanley and Marty Allen, Florida; 4th -- Leon Black of Michigan and Jim Long of Indiana.

(continued on Page 29)



Shufflers' Notebook

News and Views from The World of Shuffleboard

Kentucky Flash: Louisville Gets Two New Boards!!

We put Don Hopper, finance director for American Legion Post 193, in touch with Lou Decker, Decker Shuffleboards (Toledo, Ohio), and lo and behold -- the Post bought a new top. At the same time, the Shawnee VFW, which had a very rough 18-footer, traded their board in and Lou brought down an entire new regulation board the same day he put the new top in Post 193.

Both establishments still play frames, but we are trying to change things a little at a time. Hopefully, some of our new friends will come to Del City in July. I know we can't wait to see all our friends there.

Mike & Susie Halstead, Shelbyville, Kentucky

You have taken a giant step forward, Mike and Susie, in bringing two Lou Decker boards into your neighborhood. We know it is a slow process, but you will bring them into the New Century with

- *updated procedures. It would be great to see some of them in Del City. You can be sure, a lot of the*
- *friends you have made across the nation will be glad to see you again -- including us!*

Leon Looking for Action

Wanted: pro level partners and selection to 4/6 person teams in Del City, Reno, Arlington and Houston, Texas, New York, Indiana, Michigan, etc.

Leon Black, Lansing, Michigan

--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!

Leon, a neighbor of ours, was impressed to read that Diana Hagen had a problem finding a partner for the pro doubles and decided why not? Since his retirement, he's been travelling across the U.S.A. and doing well in a number of tournaments. If you're interested, contact Leon at Box 14335, Lansing, MI 48901; phone 517-487-6076; or e-mail: leonjblack@yahoo.com

I'll Get 'Ya, George!

The last thing you said when you left Reno last year was: "I'll get you, coach."

Well, I guess you did. By the time I got my Board Talk (January 2000), people were calling me "legs."

Now, I guess I'll have to get you back.

On a serious note, we lost a good friend and one of the best shufflers from West Texas -- Joe Land from Big Spring lost his battle with the Big C.

Lyndon (Coach) Baize, Austin, Texas

We know you can use all the help you can get going up and down the boards in Reno, Coach, but those borrowed "legs" will remain under the shuffleboard in Houghton Lake, Michigan. They did look cute on your body, though!

Thanks for letting us know about Joe Land. We didn't know him, but we're sure a lot of your Texas players will mourn his passing.

A New Champ in Town

The first Saturday in April, we had our Hamilton County tournament. The third annual was won by Ding King and Bruce Pinnington of Noblesville. No losses -- all the way. Second place went to Doyle Greer and Connie Langolf. There were eight teams and total money of \$1500. Thanks to the women from the B league, Kathy and Becky, for playing, and thanks to the owners of Syd's Bar for the sponsor money and trophies.

(continued on Page 26)

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.

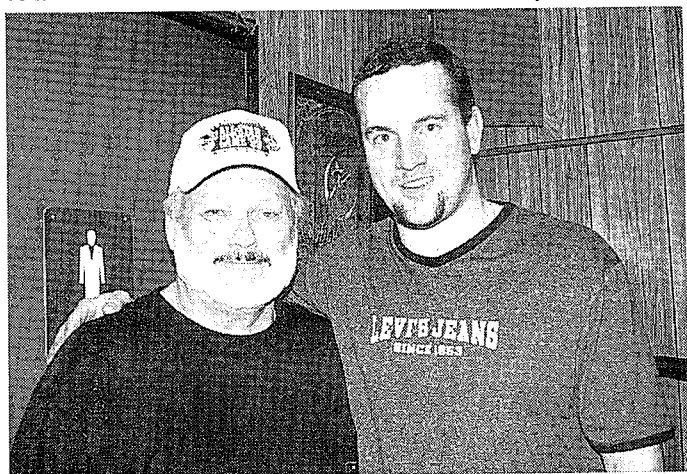
East Coast Shufflers "Warm Up" at Harvey's Place

By Dick Gorman

Photos by Brenda Wallace

With many local leagues coming down to the wire for final play-offs in the tri-state area of Maryland, Pennsylvania and Delaware, and the Maryland State Championships (open to all players) coming up in late April, it wasn't difficult to draw a large representative group for this tournament. It was the annual "Spring Warm-Up" at Harvey's Place, Street, Maryland, on March 24-26.

Friday night was the draw partner event scheduled on the four in-house boards. Some surprising draws and a host of new winners (at least we hadn't seen them for some time).



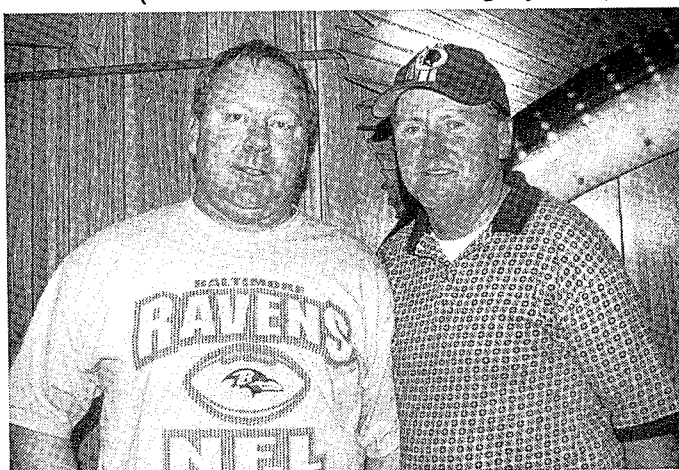
Taking first place were Len Dell (left) of Baltimore and Curtis Dean, Rising Sun, Maryland. Len also finished second in the singles.

Taking second place cash in the draw partner were J.B. Armour, Chesapeake City, Md., and Dick Gorman, Wilmington, Del., with final money going to third place finishers, Judy Iseman of Chestertown, Md., and local Arnold Ledford.

On Friday night during the draw partner tournament, several players requested host Harvey Comer to have a singles event the next day. Harvey, always willing to be flexible, said yes with the proviso that the announced bring partner would take precedence and the singles event would be played only when boards were available and the players were not scheduled to play in the bring partner. The requesters agreed and showed up for a 10 a.m. start. The singles was played on all boards until players for the bring partner started showing up for some practice shots. The singles continued during the day and into the evening with Dave Shewbridge, Pasadena, Md., going through the winner's bracket without a loss. Second place was Len Dell, coming from the loser's bracket.

The bring partner event started at the scheduled

time and the competition remained hot and well-balanced (we use the Bower's Rating System).

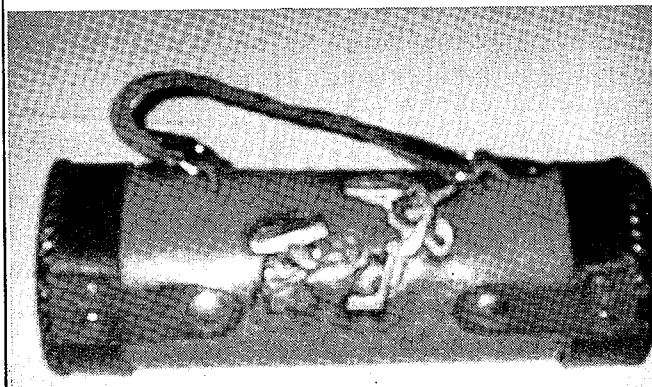


First place in the bring partner went to Dave Shewbridge (left), winner of the singles (nice Saturday for Dave), and his partner, Butch Kelly, Springfield, Pennsylvania.

(continued on Page 8)

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By Fritz



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Upcoming Events Across the Nation

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.

Oklahoma

SW OPEN WARM-UP, ACTION LOUNGE, BROKEN ARROW, MAY 26-28

Bud Hillburn will host a "warm-up" tournament for the SW Open at his Action Lounge, Broken Arrow, on May 26-28. Events will include a draw partner (no -1's or 0's may draw each other) on Friday, \$20 per person entry; and a bring partner event on Saturday, \$25 per person. Both events will be 2 out of 3 in the winner's bracket, single game in the loser's bracket.

The Action Lounge, located at 81st & 145th Sts., has three boards.

For information, call Bud at 918-258-1773.

*It pays to promote your events
through the pages of
THE BOARD TALK!*

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.

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

An updated 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, July 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: swopen@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.geocities.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.

Washington

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.

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.

10TH FOREST FESTIVAL DOUBLES, FIR CONE, SHELTON, JUNE 3-4

The Fir Cone Tavern, 114 W. Cota, Shelton, will host an open doubles (1 point cap, based on the Bower's Rating System) tournament on June 3-4. Action will start off with a Friday night A-B draw at

7 p.m., \$10 entry fee, single elimination, 15 point games.

On Saturday, June 3, the open doubles starts off with a sponsor sale at 11 a.m. with play immediately following. \$40 per team entry, double elimination, 2 out of 3 15-point games in the winner's bracket; one 21 point game in the loser's bracket.

There will be a shuffleboard feast on Saturday. The Fir Cone has three boards, and RV parking is available.

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 enter. 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.

Texas

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

(continued on Page 16)

Crowns Collected at 2nd Texas State Championships

By Debbie Bowers

Taz Country in Pflugerville (a suburb of Austin) hosted the 2nd Annual Texas State Championships on March 30-April 2. The event was played on nine boards.

Open Draw: Thursday night's open draw, single elimination, had 62 entries. First place went to Mike Taylor and Kim Andrews, both of Houston. Second place honors were earned by Lynda French of Austin and Howard Mouton of Houston. Bobby Williams of Fort Worth and Tom Milan of Houston took third. Kevin Arifa of Austin and Harvey Kidd of Houston finished fourth.

Bring Partner Pro: There were 14 teams in Friday night's bring partner pro event. Winners were David Williams and Mitch Melton of Fort Worth, with Harvey Kidd and Johnny Wayne Crawford of Houston in second place. Bobby Williams and Carlos Guzman of Fort Worth took third place.

Amateur Bring Partner: There were 26 teams in the amateur bring partner, also played on Friday night. First place went to David Sexton and Mike Boulanger, both from San Antonio. Second place went to Rene Roberts of Houston and Cliff Visel of Austin, and third to Jack Scott and David Andrews of Houston. Fourth place went to Mahlon Nobles of the Dallas-Fort Worth area and Jimmy Fernandez of Houston. Danny Norris and Denise Klein, both from Houston, finished in fifth place.

Pro Singles: First place honors in Saturday night's pro singles went to Diana Hagen of Houston, with Harvey Kidd of Houston in second place. Bobby Williams of Fort Worth took third.

Amateur Singles: This event started on Saturday night and went into the next morning, with Mahlon Nobles of Dallas-Fort Worth in the winner's bracket and Jeff Womble, also from Dallas-Fort Worth fighting it out. Jeff took the first game so both had to play one more game for the championship. Mahlon went on to win the first-place title, with Jeff coming in second. Third place went to Sammy Stringer of Houston.

Open Draw: Sunday's open draw attracted 26 entries. Johnny Wayne (the great one) and Ron Bowers took first place. Second place went to Linda Nobles of Dallas-Fort Worth and Randy Ivicic of Austin. Debbie Bowers and David Sexton finished in third place, with Mike Baker and Angie Snyder in fourth.

Special thanks to The Shuffleboard Federation for donating six buckets of dust. We had a lot of help with Kim Andrews and Gene Criminger taking

the money for registration and entry fees. Harvey Kidd, as usual, did a great job in auctioneering, and Tina Wade, Brian Walker and Ron took charge of the bracket boards. We had several people help with getting the boards ready for play -- too many to name. Tom and Lynda French took photos of the winners along with collecting money for Board Talk subscriptions. Taz Country donated a set of weights for a raffle for which Lynda collected \$510. The money was split with half going to the Bowers Rating System and half going to the Texas Hall of Fame. Owners of Taz Country, Sarah and Gene Criminger, did a wonderful job getting everything ready for our tournament and made everyone feel very welcome.

BOWERS INDUCTED!



Ron and Debbie Bowers, who through their tireless efforts and dedication over the past several years, have made the Bowers Rating System a "household word"

across the national shuffleboard community, were inducted into the Texas Shuffleboard Hall of Fame on Friday afternoon, March 31. The Bowers Rating System is accepted and used by tournament directors throughout the country, as a way to "level the playing field" and attract and keep new shufflers involved in the sport. The integrity of their system lies in the nationwide network of volunteers rating their peers.

"We can't think of two people more deserving of this honor," said George and Donna Wilber, publishers of The Board Talk.

Said Debbie of their honor: "This was a total surprise (hard to believe no one gave it away, especially since everyone else knew but us, and had known since the Holiday Open). Although Ron had no problem expressing his gratitude, I on the other hand, was so overwhelmed I could not talk and say thanks, but I think everyone knew it meant a great deal to me and I apologize, but I started crying when I heard our name announced. I was told by several people later: 'that's the first time I have ever seen you speechless.' Very true! Thank you ALL for everything."

Welcome to our Newest Shuffleboard Directory Listing

Our Shuffleboard Directory may look the same month after month -- but it's not! New businesses continually use this economical advertising avenue to highlight what they have to offer shufflers, and we encourage readers to patronize them.

The latest addition is a shared space for Seasons Ticket, site of the upcoming Memorial weekend tournament, and Bangham, Lagg and Wynn. Let's take a look at the latter, which sounds like a law firm, but is really a shuffleboard service.

Well-known Pacific Northwest shufflers John Rostollan, Eric Hansen, Dan Hitt, and John Fisher, have formed another entity to their existing corporation. Besides Paintless Dent Repair, general construction, auto sales, and rental property, they have entered into the Wonderful World of Shuffleboard: Bangham, Lagg and Wynn Shuffleboard Restoration and Supplies.

They have been purchasing boards that can be

restored and refinished, placing them in establishments in Spokane, and promoting the game. New leagues are starting and more new players are beginning to play.

Perfecting the "pouring process" has been their latest accomplishment. The new playing surfaces have turned out "awesome," according to their clients.

If anyone is interested in having a board refinished or would be interested in selling a board, contact Dan Hitt at 509-489-4877.

And, if you'd like to see how these businessmen can play, come to the Memorial Tournament at the Seasons Ticket on May 26-29. A guaranteed good time -- and you might win a "classic" car.

George & Donna

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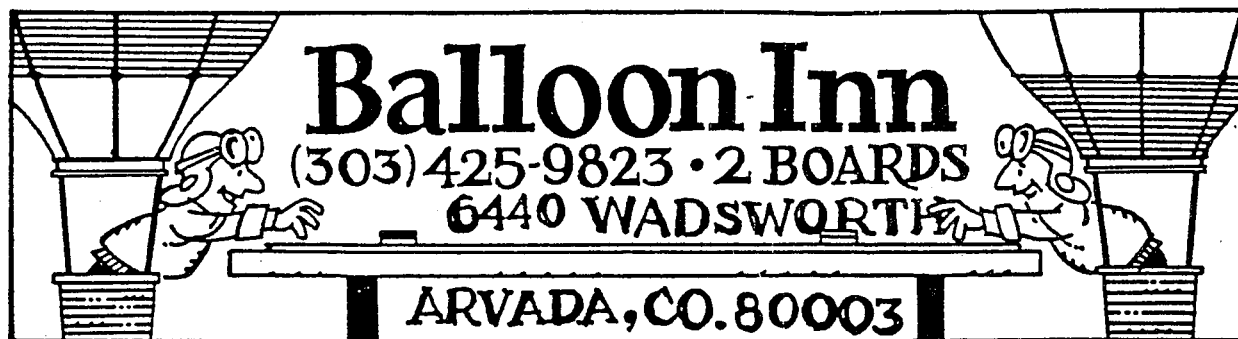
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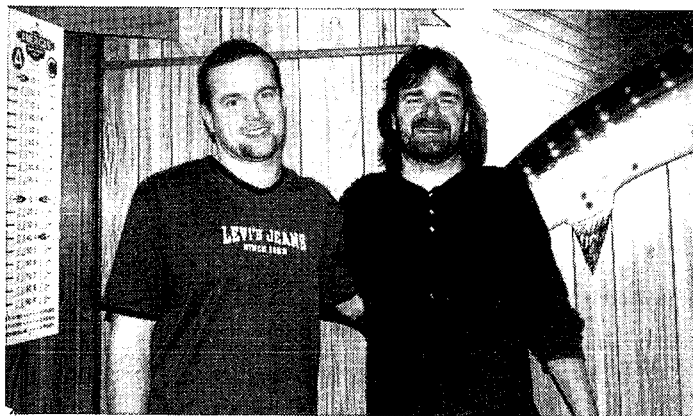
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"Warm-Up" (continued from Page 3)



Taking second place honors in the bring partner event at Harvey's Spring Warm-Up were Curtis Dean and Joe Williams (right) of Ridley Park, Pa.



Third place money was paid to Johnny Gardner (left), Canterbury, Del., and relatively new tournament player, Jeff Myles of Elkton, Md.



Final 4th place money went to Jim Wallace (left), nearby Port Deposit, and Jim McDaniels, Darlington, Md.

Not enough when you have four in-house boards, it is like the "energizer bunny" -- you keep going and going. Every Saturday night, there is an open draw partner event at Harvey's Place and this was no exception. Capping the final at about midnight, long time absent (20 years) player "Smoke" Cahill from Canterbury, Del., and Dick Gorman took first place money. Second went to Jim McDaniel and Brenda Wallace, Port Deposit.

All in all, it was a great weekend -- sun was shining and hostess Darlyne showed her expertise in the kitchen, cooking a roast beef dinner for all participants.

News Notes from Southern California

By Robert Davidson

Lembke/Manes/Healey Win Oscar's Millennium Tourney

Oscar's Sports Lounge in Bellflower, California, hosted a Millennium Tournament over the New Year's weekend. A field of six teams and 18 players were on hand for the ABC draw event.



The team of Jolene Lembke (right), Allan Healey and Jan Manes were the winners. They went undefeated throughout the holiday weekend.

Jan Manes spent the following weeks in the hospital and at home recovering from pneumonia, but her play during the tournament never suffered.

"I was a very sick lady, but didn't want my team to forfeit the games, so I went and played," said Jan. "In between I sat in a chair with a blanket over me. I went to emergency at 11 p.m., was admitted and stayed until Jan. 7."



Second place went to the team of Oscar Ugarte (left), Mary Lou Deering and Les Burdette.

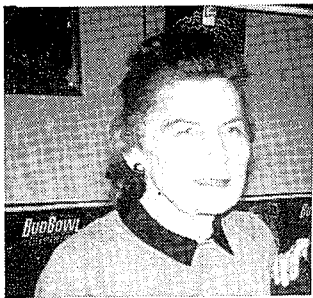
The team of Pearl Minard, Ernie Alvarez and Charlene McAllister placed third.

Oskar's and several shufflers provided a buffet and potluck on both New Year's Eve and Day and there was the usual assortment of everyone's favorite beverage. Don and E.J. Marshman provided everyone the opportunity to sing their favorite oldies with Karoke on both evenings. Tournament organizers and bracketeers were Joanie Healey and Paul Weber.

Congrats Jolene & Evie

Jolene Lembke and Evie Werner won the doubles event at the Old Town Saloon in Livermore, Cal., on Jan. 14-16. Lembke, who is president of the California Hall of Fame, also placed first in the singles event. It is believed to have been the first ever amateur ladies tournament in California and was well attended by players from Southland. Congratulations to Jolene and Evie. (*Editor's Note: See March issue, Page 1.*)

Pearl Back in Action



Pearl Minard is back in action following a brief stay in the hospital earlier this year. Her love for the game is without equal. If there is a round robin, meat shoot or tournament, you'll find Pearl in the middle of the action.

She gives back to the game she loves. Recently, Pearl Mae distributed Beanie Babies to all her favorite shuffleboard players prior to an event at Oskar's. She also created the California Hall of Fame banner that will be on display at all Hall of Fame inductions. For those of us who have had the privilege of knowing this special lady, we hope the Year 2000 brings her good health.

So Long, Dixie Belle

The Dixie Belle Restaurant and Lounge closed its doors just after the New Year's holidays. Many memories and many years were shared by area shuffleboard players following the news of its closing. It was the place to play in Southern California. Many friendships were formed at the "Belle" and many a new player was helped along by some of the country's best players. Thanks to former owners, Wes and Eileen Eades and Dixie Debbie Murhoff for being the gracious hosts of such a special place to play. And thanks to Jim Anderson for his many hours of devotion in keeping the Belle's boards perfect.

Anderson/Cook/Dawkins Win at Jerry D's Sausage Open

By Kathi Lloyd

On Saturday, Feb. 26, Jerry D's Nostalgia Bar in Dacono, Colorado, hosted Ron Sosovec's 3rd Annual Polish Sausage Open. The A-B-C blind draw included 36 players from all over Colorado. Jerry D's is the perfect meeting place for Colorado players since it is situated between Denver and Fort Collins. As always, Suzy and Jerry D served a great buffet for the tournament; of course, it was Polish sausage and sauerkraut with all the trimmings.

The winning team was Travis Anderson, Joe Cook, and Bill Dawkins. Second place was Jerry DeNovellis' (Jerry D) team, and third place was Ron Sosovec's team.

This event has grown from a doubles event to three-person team event because of the number of new players who want to play in it. Ron is working on getting an additional board for next year since he wants to keep this as a one-day event and is anticipating an even bigger turnout.

Thanks to all our pro players for participating in this event, which helps the beginners learn. Shuffleboard is definitely growing in Colorado!

Browns Win at Lucky's

Lucky's Tavern, North Webster, Indiana, hosted a mixed doubles tournament on March 18. First place went to Mary and Larry Brown of Fort Wayne, with Mike Koontz and Robin of Bourbon in second.

National Shuffleboard Hall of Fame

OPEN MEETING

JULY 1

**AMERICAN LEGION 73
DEL CITY, OKLAHOMA**

**held the day prior to start of the
SOUTHWEST OPEN**

***All those interested in the future of the
Hall of Fame, particularly state committee
directors and committee members, are
encouraged to participate.***

BE THERE TO SHARE!

Hitt/Pease 2000 Masters! First Three-Time Winners!

By Dwayne Dibley

After 20 years, the Masters Shuffleboard Tournament at the Fir Cone Tavern, Shelton, Washington, is still one of the superlative events on the West Coast. Masters 2000, held on Feb. 26-27, was as worthy an event as any preceding, with a no less than magnificent finish to a tremendous tournament.



Dan Hitt (left) and Al Pease came from the loser's bracket, after being put there by Darrol Nelson and Larry Pearson, to beat Darrol and Larry and claim their spot in history as the only team to win the Masters three times.



Larry Pearson (left) and Darrol Nelson settled for second place. Darrol has been a winner four times, but with different partners.



Dick Heflin (left) and Jim Allis finished a strong third.



Vern Gonzales (left) and Mike Waters took fourth place.



Fifth place ended in a tie between Mel Hohn (left) and Mike Keevil....



...and Fred Johns (left) and Dick Hennley.

(continued on Page 12)



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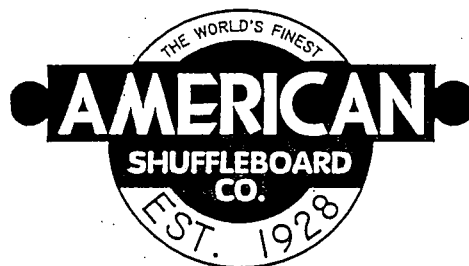
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"Masters" (continued from Page 10)



Bob "Free Willie" Hurst did an outstanding job running the tournament. His "no B.S." style of handling every situation was well respected by all the players.

The Saturday and Sunday banquets provided by the Shelton Shuffleboard Community were also big hits. The Fir Cone would once again thank all the people behind the scenes who helped make Masters 2000 a big success.

Masters Honor Roll

The Masters was initiated in 1980. Unfortunately, the winners of the now prestigious tournament didn't start getting recorded until 1982. It has become one of the most coveted titles in the sport. It is only appropriate to pay tribute to the previous winners who helped metamorphosis this tournament into a shuffleboard landmark on its 20th reunion.

<u>Year</u>	<u>Winners</u>
1982	Don Mitchell & Doug Buhl
1983	Clark Kenney & Mike Waters
1984	Al Pease & Ken Simmons
1985	Bill Maxwell & Art Green
1986	Joe Lavin & Tom Campbell
1987	Al Selberg & Jim Foran
1988	Bill Maxwell & Loren Lampley
1989	Jim Allis & Chuck Norris
1990	Al Pease & Rick Gindt
1991	Darrol Nelson & Jim Allis
1992	Darrol Nelson & Steve Wilson
1993	Doug Buhl & Bruce Wechter
1994	Darrol Nelson & Dan Hitt
1995	Jim Allis & Doug Buhl
1996	Sparky Sparkman & Chuck Norris
1997	Dan Hitt & Al Pease
1998	Dan Hitt & Al Pease
1999	Darrol Nelson & Larry Pearson
2000	Dan Hitt & Al Pease

**Support Your State & National
Shuffleboard Halls of Fame!**

Healeys Tops at Silver Spur

The Silver Spur, San Bernardino, California, hosted a Sweetheart Tournament on March 4, with 20 teams vying for prize money on two boards. The single game, double elimination, one-day marathan started at 10 a.m. Saturday and ended at 3 a.m. Sunday.



When the dust settled, it was Allan and Joanie (Swenson) Healey in first place.

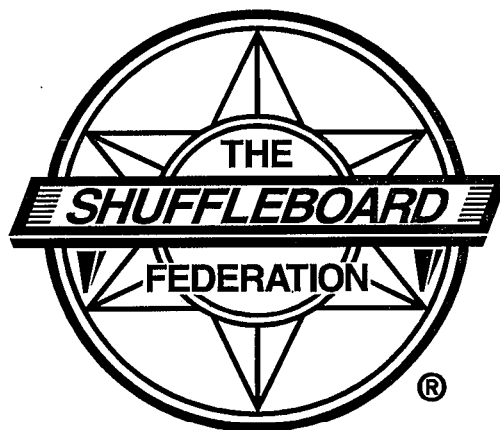


Linda Wright and John McGinnis took second place honors.



Gloria Duran and Vern Booth were third.

(continued on Page 14)



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Silver Spur (continued from Page 12)



Jolene Lembke and Eric Chiles finished fourth.

"Thanks to Jolene for a wonderful job organizing this tournament, also to Bob Brunskill for brackets, Paul Weber for auctioneering, and our gracious host, Don Pope," said John McGinnis.

Lots of Action at Bourbon's American Legion....

Dan/Redman Win Mixed Doubles

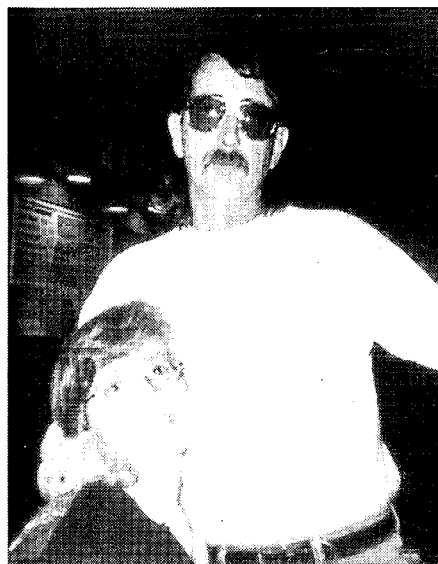
The American Legion Post 424 in Bourbon, Indiana, hosted a mixed doubles on Feb. 19, with 17 teams participating.



Winners were Wally Dan and Kristie Redman.

Coming Next Month!
"Play Your Way Across the U.S.A."
Will your favorite site be there?

Mary and Larry Brown took second place honors.



And Joyce Roberts held up Tom L to take third place.

Melton/Williams "All the Way" in Round Robin Doubles

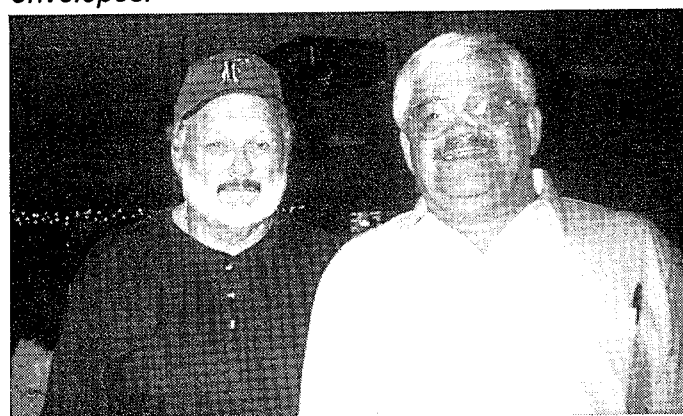
Out-of-state visitors dominated the winner's circle at Bourbon's round robin doubles on March 4-5. In an unusual achievement for round robins, Bill Melton of Oklahoma and David Williams of Texas went undefeated to take top honors.



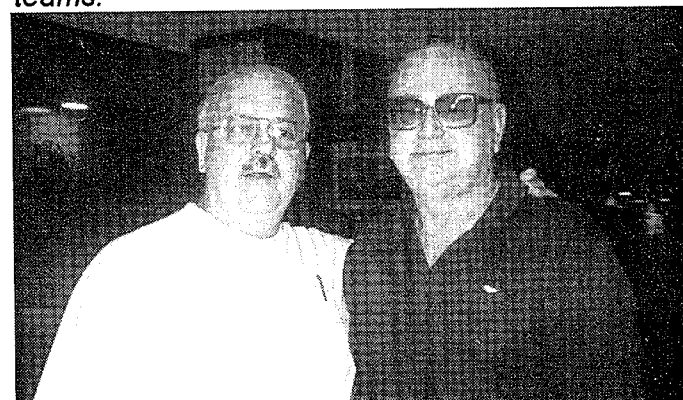
Sponsor Rick Niblett congratulates Bill Melton and David Williams in their impressive win.



American Legion Post 424 host Bill Niswonger (left) presents Johnny Wayne Crawford and Billy Melton of Texas their second place plaques and money envelopes.



East Coast representatives Len Dell and Rick Niblett of Maryland took third in the field of 17 teams.



The lone Hoosier team in the winner's circle -- Glen Ingram and Dave Boaz, fourth place finishers.

--Photos by Mary Brown

Bobby V Tops in Singles

There were 27 participants in the Bourbon American Legion singles on April 8, with Bobby Voorhis topping the field.

Larry Creakbaum took second place honors, with Brian Collins in third place and Larry Brown in fourth. Finishing fifth and sixth were Dennis Kinsey and Leon Black, the lone Michigan entry.

Upcoming Events at Bourbon

The next big event at American Legion Post 424 in Bourbon, Indiana, will be the 40th Annual Spring Doubles on May 6. There will be two Indiana Shuffleboard Hall of Fame inductions at this event: "Doc" Slabaugh and "Skip" Jackson.

Other upcoming events include a round robin singles on Aug. 18-19; annual fall doubles on Oct. 7; and singles on Nov. 11.

For information on any of these events, contact Terry Dowell, 219-353-1070; or Bill Niswonger at the American Legion, 219-342-8100.

Zavalas First at Bullfeathers

The Board Talk's newest member of the national shuffleboard network, Bullfeathers Bar & Grill, 3787 East Lake Mead Blvd., Las Vegas, held a mixed doubles tournament on April 2.

Winners were Frank and Connie Zavala, with Danny Leach and Linda Scheib, a fairly new player, taking second place honors.

"Everyone had a great time and the bar put up added money for the tournament," Frank reports. "We hope to have more of these tournaments and ABC draws here in Vegas in the future."

New "Play Your Way" Listing Next Month

An updated listing of "Play Your Way Across the U.S.A." will be in the next issue of The Board Talk. The listing includes all the shuffleboard establishments which are Board Talk subscribers. Several of the sites which were on the January listing have not renewed and will not appear on the upcoming list. Now would be a good time to check the status of your favorite shuffleboard place. New and renewal subscribers received before May 15 will appear on the new list, which shufflers nationwide use in their travels.

Current members of the national network are also urged to check the January listing to see if any changes in address and/or phone numbers need to be made. Call, write or e-mail The Board Talk: 503 E. Sheridan Rd., Lansing, MI 48906; phone 517-371-2538; e-mail dgwilber@prodigy.net

DEADLINE REMINDER!

Reports, promotions, advertising, and letters must be received by the 15th of the month to appear in the next issue.

Upcoming Events *(cont. from Page 5)*

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. Check the enclosed flyer for complete details.

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.

Colorado

BILL ENGLISH MEMORIAL, BALLOON INN, ARVADA, JUNE 9-11

The Balloon Inn, 6440 Wadsworth Blvd., Arvada, will host the 2nd Annual Bill English Memorial Open Tournament on June 9-11. It will be a bring partner, \$120 per team, best 2 out of 3 double elimination. The sale is scheduled for Friday, June 9, 8 p.m., with play starting at noon on Saturday and continuing on Sunday.

For further information, call 303-425-9823 or 303-421-9332.

Check the enclosed ad and plan to participate in this fun event.

Michigan

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.

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.

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 in Lansing on Aug. 13. The playoff is scheduled for the Club Car on Sept. 3.

Please share the ad on Page 27 with your shuffling friends. Note that the Majestic will hold an open singles on Saturday, June 3, \$20 entry, sale at noon with play immediately following.

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.

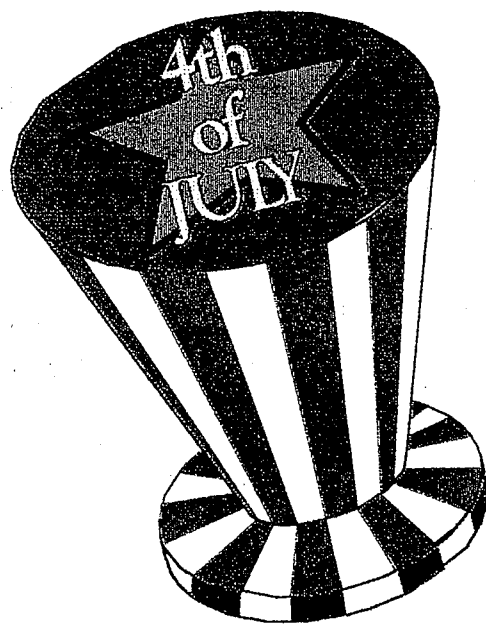
Action will start on Friday, June 23, with round robins. The bring partner doubles (no pros, 0's or 1's may team up together), \$40 per team entry, will start with the sponsor sale at noon on Saturday, with play immediately following. The open singles, \$20 entry, will be held on Sunday, with sale and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

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

(MORE UPCOMING EVENTS ON PAGE 19)

Southwest Open

A Fourth of July Tradition



July 2nd - July 8th, 2000

American Legion Post 73

5000 S.E. 24th

Del City, Oklahoma

(405) 670-9128

31 BOARDS \$1500+ ADDED \$\$

\$300 TO EACH OF 5 SKILL LEVELS -1, 0, 1, 2, 3 who accumulate the most points during the tournament in events Monday-Saturday. MVP award will be given to the Southwest Open total points champion.

#	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 or above \$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 players 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 7th or 8th place earns 4 points. A 5th or 6th earns 5 points. A 4th place earns 6 points, 3rd place 7 points, 2nd place 8 points and 1st place 9 points. If slow play becomes a problem the tournament director reserves the right to mark 3 in the losers bracket.

During tournament you must be a registered player to participate in round robins or match play. Registration cards will be issued at the registration desk. The newest release of the Bowers Ratings will be used for handicaps. WAX provided with our thanks by THE SHUFFLEBOARD FEDERATION and will be "Faster."

The staff working this year's tournament will be Don Crall, Rob Kern, Kathy Yingst, Jack Davis, Dave and Rena Fleming, and Johnny Wayne Crawford.

QUESTIONS OR NEED MORE INFORMATION? For registration or event information, call Kathy Yingst (918) 742-2261 or e-mail swopen@swbell.net. For any other information, call Don Crall at the American Legion (405) 670-9128 or e-mail doncrall73@aol.com. You can also look for updates on our website www.geocities.com/swopen.

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: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Handicap: _____

Events:

1. & 2. Bring your own 4 person team Division I or II: _____...\$ _____

(Team members)

Handicap

1. _____

2. _____

3. _____

4. _____

3. Open

Singles.....\$ _____

4. Amateur Singles\$ _____

5. Draw Partner Division I.....\$ _____

6. Draw Partner Division II.....\$ _____

7. Draft Team.....\$ _____

8. Bring Partner Division I(Partner name _____)...\$ _____

9. 2 Rated Singles\$ _____

10. 3 & 4 Rated Singles.....\$ _____

Registration Fee.....\$ _____ 20.00

TOTAL.....\$ _____

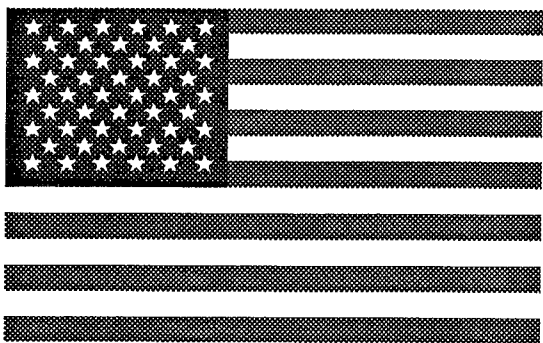
Make checks payable to: AMERICAN LEGION POST 73

Mail to: Don Crall

c/o American Legion Post 73

P.O. Box 15073

Del City, OK 73155



10th Annual Memorial Week Tournament

May 21-29, 2000

BLINKY'S SPORTS CAFE

3145 El Camino Real, Santa Clara, California 95051

***Don Cox Induction into the
California Shuffleboard Hall of Fame***

Sunday, May 21 12:00 p.m. 12:30 p.m.	Sweetheart Doubles Single game, double elimination Sponsor Sale	\$20 each
Monday, May 22 5:30 p.m. 6:00 p.m.	Amateur Doubles Draw Single game, double elimination Ratings: 1-4 (must equal at least 4.0/team) Sponsor sale	\$20 each
Tuesday, May 23 5:30 p.m. 6:00 p.m.	Amateur Singles Single game, double elimination Ratings: 1-4 Sponsor Sale	\$20 each
Wednesday, May 24 6:00 p.m. 6:15 p.m.	Pro/Am ABC 2 of 3 games, double elimination Ratings: All Sponsor Sale	\$20 each
Thursday, May 25 6 p.m.	ABC continues	
Friday, May 26 7:30 p.m.	Open Pro Doubles Sponsor Sale	
Saturday, May 27 9:00 a.m. 3:00 p.m. 4:30 p.m.	Open Pro Doubles - Bring Partner 2 of 3 games, double elimination <i>Don Cox Induction Ceremony</i> Barbecue; Pro Singles Sponsor Sale	\$200 team
Sunday, May 28 9:00 a.m.	Open Pro Singles 2 of 3 games, double elimination	\$100 each
Monday, May 29	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!

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 Bracket	Entry Fees
Friday 5/26	1	7pm	Pro/Am Draft Partner (-1, 0, 1) Draft from pool of (2, 3, 4) players. Draft in order of rating, starting with 1's.	All	\$30
	2	7pm	Blind Draw from remaining players. Handicap play.	2, 3, 4	\$30
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. Draws & Challenge Games	All	

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.

Sponsor Sale each Event.

8 Boards. Ready for practice Thursday 25 May.

Current (Spring 2000) Bowers Rating System in use.

Food special every day. Complimentary coffee and Cokes in tent outside.

Danny's Sports Bar (Open at 9am, including kitchen for breakfast)

12126 Westheimer, Houston. 281 558 8693. Web Page - www.dannysportsbar.com.

Accommodation. Hampton Inn I-10 West. 11333 Katy Freeway, Houston, Texas.
713 935 0022

Free transportation to Danny's. 8am - 10pm.

Free continental buffet (6-10am).

Deluxe room. 1 king or 2 double beds. \$42.75 per night. (Normal rate \$77)

Outdoor Swimming Pool. 24 Hour Workout room.

Information Jack Scott 281 558 0237 Johnny Ballard 409 672 2949

ORGANIZATIONAL STAFF FRESH FROM HOUSTON HOLIDAY OPEN

RUDY'S 5TH ANNUAL MEMORIAL TOURNAMENT

"A Celebration of His Life"

JUNE 23-25

☺Friday, June 23: ROUND ROBINS

**☺Saturday, June 24: BRING PARTNER
DOUBLES, \$40 team**

Team handicap must total 2 or more (Example: -1 must play with a 3 or more, 0 with a 2, 1 with a 1). Sale at noon, play immediately following. Single game, double elimination.

☺Sunday, June 25: OPEN SINGLES, \$20 entry

Sale and play starts at 1 p.m., single game, double elimination.

Drawings for Prizes!

50-50 sales with half going to the Shuffleboard Hall of Fame in Rudy's Honor!

--FREE SPREAD ON SATURDAY--

***.....Rudy loved shuffleboard and he loved you! Come pay tribute
to his memory and remember the good times we had together.
.....***

**COME FOR ANY OR ALL EVENTS!
FOR INFORMATION AND/OR TO SAVE YOUR SPOT,
CALL TOURNAMENT DIRECTOR CARRIE CLIFTON: 517-482-1190**

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home of the Lansing Lugnuts!***

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Yellow Ice II (Faster)

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Frisco Eddie's Revenge: The Return

A Series by Balboa Ron Schweikert

(Editor's Note: In last month's episode, after a wedding ceremony interrupted with Lil's outburst and curse in the marriage, Eddie and Shelli left for their honeymoon. On their way to their airport, they found a threatening note left in the limo.)

Eddie and Shelli sat in the back seat of the limousine after opening the message of ill-will, which was placed there for them to read by Lil (or one of her cronies). A lot of thoughts and feelings were running through both their heads, ranging from shock to fear, bewilderment, and finally anger. That emotion hit both of them at about the same time. How could even Lil be that jealous and spiteful?

As they rode along, their minds started clicking. Just how should they go about handling this unpleasant, and quite possibly very serious, situation? The dreaded look on Eddie's good friend Tim's face in Puyallup, Washington, two years prior flashed through his frame of reference. Lil's "ex", Tony, had arranged for him to be "taken out" by the scar-faced man who worked for him. At the last instant, the mistaken identity was revealed, and his life was spared!

It was much too close a call, and Eddie still had nightmares over it. He hated playing the part of the "cat on the hot tin roof," and although he didn't know just what it would be -- he was going to do something to turn this thing around.

They decided that, for right now anyway, it would be foolish to play into Lil's scheme and cut their honeymoon short. There wasn't a hell of a lot they could do about things at this late date. They hadn't told anyone on this earth where they were going -- that is, except Shelli's parents. Right now they were getting ready to leave back for the East Coast, so they surely were not going to be a factor in this thing.

Their things were already packed in the trunk of the limo, so all they had to do was head straight for the airport. The drill there was uneventful, and soon they were in a huge 747, and taxiing out for their takeoff -- to Florida! They could finally relax, and try to start to enjoy their honeymoon once the plane was airborne. In fact, they were in first class, so by the time they were pushed back into their seats on the take-off roll, Eddie was already working on his second Wild Turkey, with a water wash.

Their final landing destination would be in Daytona Beach. It was still beautiful there at this time of the year. Their main plans were to just be

together -- close together! They had planned to meet up with a couple they knew (who were also at the Reno tournament) who lived in that area, for at least one day. His name was Jack and he was a retired cop from Chicago.

They rented a car at the airport after a smooth arrival. Their plan was to head just north of Daytona, and to the north side of a beautiful spot called Ormond Beach. Shelli was really flipping because she had never seen anything this beautiful! They were preregistered at a fantastic looking, brand-new hotel called the Warm Sea Breeze Resort. Eddie told her that the suite he had reserved had a cabana which overlooked the ocean, and it was only a few steps to the beach, and also the the indoor/outdoor heated pools and spas in the rear.

As they worked their way to the room, they were both sure that once they got on their cabana and experienced the beautiful view from there, they would be getting pretty close to heaven. Eddie tipped the bellhop after he got them set up, and from there they went straight to the cabana.

As predicted, they were indeed close to heaven as they took in the view. They had no idea of just how close they were, though, until they heard a familiar voice behind them which said: "Hi, Frisco Eddie -- I'm here. Let's turn around slowly, and enter the rooms. O.K.?"

They followed the voice inside, and were then faced with the inevitable. It was the tall man with the signature trademark -- a very huge scar which spanned the left side of his face.

Then the man turned to look directly into Eddie's eyes and said what were probably going to be his last words: "You know, Frisco, unlike some of the other times....I'm going to really enjoy this."

--TO BE CONTINUED--

So much for the fantastic view! How did Scar-Face find Eddie and Shelli and what does he have in store for them? Just how far can the evil hand of Long Beach Lil reach? Don't miss the next exciting episode.

Again, we urge readers to let Balboa Ron know that you enjoy his series. Send your notes to:

*Ron Schweikert
1140 Coral Desert Drive
Las Vegas, NV 89123*

or

E-mail: balboaron@earthlink.net

More Upcoming Events

Arizona

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: Ljcphx@aol.com

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

California

10TH MEMORIAL WEEK TOURNEY, BLINKY'S, SANTA CLARA, MAY 21-29

Blinky's Sports Cafe, 3145 El Camino Real, Santa Clara, will host its 10th Annual Memorial Week Tournament on May 21-29. A highlight of this week-long event will be the induction of Don Cox into the California Shuffleboard Hall of Fame on Saturday afternoon, May 27. Originally scheduled for Blinky's Presidents' Day Tournament in February, Don's induction had to be postponed because of his heart problems. He is now on the road to recovery and looks forward to participation in this big one.

Action will start on Sunday, May 21, with a sweetheart doubles, followed by an amateur doubles on Monday and an amateur singles on Tuesday. The popular pro-am ABC event will be played on Wednesday and Thursday. Pro doubles and pro singles are scheduled for Saturday and Sunday and Monday. Check the enclosed flyer for complete details.

For more tournament information, contact director Rick Thomas, 408-578-0822, or e-mail: TOMKAT8@PRODIGY.NET For lodging recommendations, contact Blinky's, 408-241-3933.

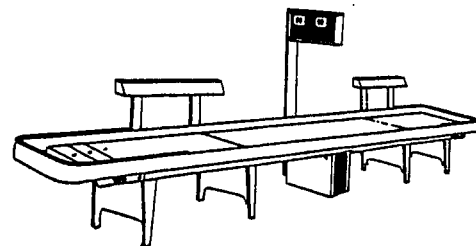
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Corpus Christi's 4th "Spring Fling" is Big Success

By Sandie Pressley

Mother's Pizza & Por Boys hosted Corpus Christi's 4th Annual Spring Fling Tournament March 10-12. This year's Spring Fling was a great success, drawing in players from all over the state of Texas. Two extra shuffleboard tables were brought in for a total of four boards.

Friday's events started out with a single elimination handicapped A-B draw. Along with the 14 locals, we had 15 out-of-town players for a total of 14-1/2 teams, which made for an interesting situation. After a brief huddle, tournament officials Neil Garvin, Jennifer Schmidt and Sandie Pressley came up with a solution (or so they thought). One of the "lucky" losers, chosen by the draw of a card, would get the chance to buy back in and make up the other half of the 15th team. However, after drawing teams, Perla Scott (15th team) elected to walk the board (as we at Mothers so lovingly referred to as "playing with herself"). The total purse, including the monies from the sponsor sale, was \$3,385.



First place went to Don Valk (right) of Austin, new president/chairperson of the National Shuffleboard Hall of Fame, and one of our local players and money winner last year, Jennifer Schmidt from Orange Grove. They receive congratulations from their sponsor George Best.



Second place went to Ron Bowers (right) from Austin and James Fiebrink of San Antonio. Their sponsor was Frank Corey.



Debbie Bowers (left) of Austin and Joy Corey of Rockport took third place, shown with their sponsor Ted Hamilton.



Saturday started with a free barbecue consisting of brisket, sausage, potato salad, beans, condiments and, of course, dessert (four cakes in the shape of pucks, two red and two blue). Many thanks to Ted Hamilton, proprietor of Mother's Pizza.

After a late Friday and the good food, most of us just wanted a nap. But then the sponsor sale began, the adrenaline started to flow and everyone got in the shuffleboard playing mood. Saturday's double elimination handicapped 4-person draft team event drew 28 players for seven teams. The captains were Ronnie McMahan, Pat Gainey, Don Valk, Ron Bowers, Neil Garvin, Randy Rogers and Michael Taylor. The total purse for this day was \$3,285 with the house adding \$200.

(continued on Page 24)

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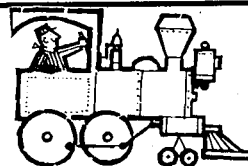
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- Al Stewart ● Bellflower Bruce Hale
- Bobby Goldsmith ● Tommy Workman
- Billy Chiles ● George Lucas
- Hal Perry ● Porter White
- Karl Spickelmier ● Don Cox
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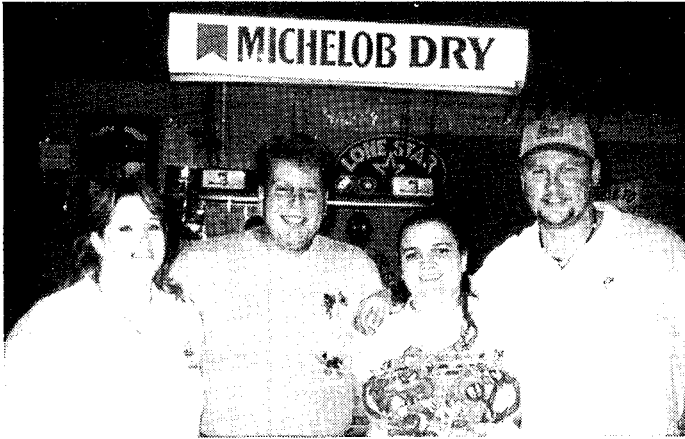
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"Come shuffle with us!"

C.C. Fling (continued from Page 20)



First place team winners were Michael Taylor from Austin, Stephanie and James Fiebrink from San Antonio, and Jennifer Schmidt (again).

Unfortunately, due to technical difficulties (opening the camera before rewinding), the remainder of the photos are not available. Ronnie McMahan, Rick Pieper, Debbie Murphy, all from

Canyon Lake, and Joy Corey took second place monies.

Sunday's action began slightly after noon, with double elimination handicapped singles. We had a few new players and lost several players to the Corpus Christi Greyhound Race (hope you guys were winners there, too). We still ended up with 16 singles players, vying for a purse of \$1,820. After a long battle between Michael Taylor and David Sexton, with David coming from the loser's bracket, Michael came out on top. It was a very exciting final match with point to point competition; what a way to end the three-day tournament. Second place honors went to David Sexton, with third to local Frank Corey.

Sincere thanks to all who participated in this Corpus Christi's 4th Annual Spring Fling. Thanks to tournament director Neil Garvin, officials Jennifer Schmidt and Sandie Pressley. Special thanks to Ted Hamilton and "his girls" -- Little Gail, Barbara, Becky and Miss Dottie. See "YA'LL" next year.

New Generation Shufflers Strut their Stuff at Edison Inn

The Old Edison Inn, Edison, Washington, hosted its 15th Annual Mixed Doubles on March 11-12.



Mike Keevil of Tacoma and Junelle Schrum of nearby Bremerton joined forces to take first place.

A year ago, probably not too many Pacific Northwest tournament-types knew the names: Mike Keevil or Junelle Schrum. This year, the up-and-coming pair are fast establishing themselves as among the best of a new generation of players who are pressuring the "old guard" for supremacy at events throughout the region.

The duo won the winner's bracket to face a pair they were each familiar with in the finals: the veteran Mike Waters of Tahuya and Cheri Schrum, Junelle's mom, and another relative newcomer to the tournament scene, of Des Moines.



Mike Waters and Cheri Schrum teamed up on short notice to earn a well-played second place.



Mike Olson of Kelso and his mom, Tina Olson, a former co-winner of this tourney, played impressively to take third place.

See you all at the SW Open in Oklahoma, July 2-8!



"Cutting Up!" -- Tim Nugent (right) and Sharon McDonnell of Tacoma "celebrate" their 4th place finish with sponsor Richard Larson. Richard and his partner, Dee Hiccinbotham, tied for 5th, the highest finish by local entries. (Photos courtesy of Sharon McDonnell)

Also tying for fifth was the Bremerton area team of Nancy Johanson and Chuck Armstrong.

The Evergreen Shuffleboard Association-sanctioned event drew a field of 17 teams from Washington and British Columbia. Old Edison Inn owners Mini and Sandy provided a mega-pot of extra-hearty beef stew for players on Saturday, and local merchants donated an array of door prizes.

In an A-B draw held Friday night, 19 teams competed, with Gary Thompson of Longview and Bonnar Mitchell of Edison topping Frank Mako of Longview and Clara Kyle of Edison to take first. Third and fourth place money was shared by Mike Keevil and Casey Bahr, Edison, and Chuck Armstrong and June Schrum.

The next ESA event at the Old Edison Inn will be the 6th Annual Open Doubles, Sept. 15-17.

Lewis/Messina, Canada/Hartman Tops at Enoch's

Enoch's Sports Lounge, Peoria, Arizona, recently hosted a 1-2-3 and a 2-3-4 doubles draw tournament. The 1-2-3 event started on Friday night with 36 players and ended Saturday night with Bob Lewis lagging a 2 on the last shot to win, 15-14.



First place winners Bob Lewis (left) and his partner, Paul Messina.

Second place went to Dennis Bredvick and Bill Thomas

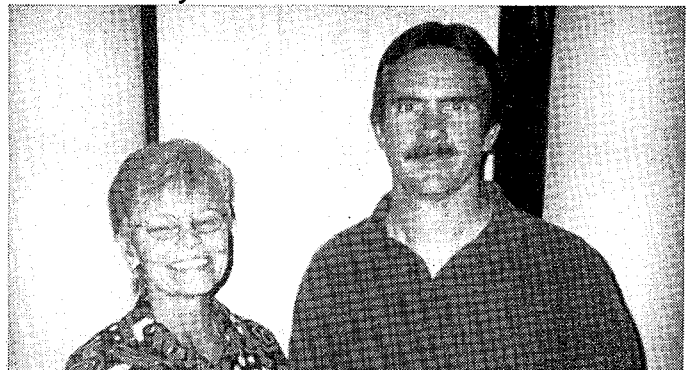


Third place went to Tim Schwenck and Steve Hartman.

The 2-3-4 draw doubles with 26 players started on Saturday and finished Monday night with Larry Canada lagging two hangers in the final game to win the match. "Three boards worked out great," said director Wendell Herbison.



Winners Larry Canada and Steve Hartman.



Second place went to Sharon Harper and Rich Hubenthal.

(continued on Page 26)

Enoch's (continued from Page 25)



Alice Arendondo and Art Fiore finished third in the 2-3-4 draw doubles at Enoch's Sports Lounge.

Notebook (continued from Page 2)

On April 8, we had the playoff for the top eight players. The winners were Ding and myself. Second place went to Rick Taylor and Ross. Total money was \$900 and Ding had the most points, 61, and most of the money. I had 40 points and some of the money.

On May 1, we will start our summer Monday night draw. This will be a \$12 A-B draw, from May 1 to Aug. 7. The playoff for the top eight players is Aug. 12, then we start our winter Monday night draw on Aug. 14 to Nov. 13. The top eight player playoffs is Nov. 18.

Man! We don't give this one board any rest!

Butch Thomas, Noblesville, Indiana

Ina: We All Need the "Bellflower Spirit"

On St. Patrick's Day, as I settled down with The Board Talk that came in that day's mail, it seemed that pink was a strange color choice for the day "o' the wearin' o' the green," more in line with Valentine's Day. That's O.K., since this WAS the Valentine issue that's in the day's mail. No matter when it shows up, I try to read from cover-to-cover, especially THIS issue that celebrates my own birthday (the 14th).

It's important for me to savor our sport vicariously, since there's been no chance yet to get back to the boards, since I'm still quite tied up with matters of probate -- and with the passing of both parents as well as the death of my son, Steve Angle. That's what has prompted this note now, just to say "thank you, again." The first page that caught my attention is the one that concludes: "George and Donna have made the World of Shuffleboard a

FAMILY!" and "We take that tribute very seriously, and we ask you...to respond to the needs of members of your 'family' in their times of challenge. We sincerely hope you will never forget that special 'mission.' It's what sets you apart and makes you a member of a very special sport!"

In this world where blood relatives may in fact forget the concept of "family" -- it means everything to realize there is still a network of loving compassion here somewhere. Prayers are vibrant, powerful, living entities, and mine are joined with all of ours, to everyone mentioned by George and Donna, and Lois and Freddie. In fact, God bless us, everyone, please!

But among breavements, I feel the passing of the Dixie Belle as if it's another loss of a family member. On the other hand, it's my guess that Bruce will do O.K. after the horrible fire at his business. What Bruce did, right afterwards, is in the true Bellflower Spirit. He set up a trailer in front of his gutted shell-of-a-building, strung it with Christmas lights, and posted a sign that invites us to "Come on in, we're open!" Let's ALL keep in mind the "Bellflower Spirit" -- and we can all get through WHATEVER happens.

Thanks once again -- and that's for that great "Sweethearts 2000" feature.

One more disappointment: somehow, I did not know about Karl Spickelmier's induction into the California Hall of Fame in time to be there. You'd better believe I'd have found a way to make it! Congratulations, Karl -- what took so long?!

Ina Rogers, Santa Ana, California

Thanks for your great letter and words of encouragement, Ina. We love your thoughts on the "Bellflower Spirit" -- very appropriate! He continues to serve as an inspiration to all of us, no matter what challenges he faces.

A word of advice from two oldies on how to avoid the agonies of probate: We have just completed the process of setting up a Revocable Living Trust so our daughter will not have to go through what you are experiencing. It's a good feeling to know that whatever we leave behind will go to whomever or whatever we choose rather than the courts. We recommend shopping around and finding a company that specializes in living trusts.

We're sorry that you (and others) didn't get your February issue until the middle of March, especially when it left Lansing on Jan. 29! That's the price of having to use the most economical postage rate. Maybe the new publishers will find an answer.

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EACH TOURNAMENT 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; 517-288-9910

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

- **June 4.....Majestic Cafe, 156 Oakland Ave., Pontiac**
(plus open singles on Saturday, June 3, \$20 entry, sale at noon with play immediately following -- no limit)
- **July 16....Club Car Lounge, 111 N. Saginaw St., Durand**
- **August 13....Stober's Cocktail Lounge, 812 E. Michigan Ave., Lansing** *(plus open singles on Saturday, Aug. 12, \$20 entry, sale at noon with play immediately following -- no limit)*
- **September 3....PLAY-OFF FOR SUPER SLAMMIN' SUNDAY TOURNAMENTS, Club Car Lounge, Durand, \$40 per team entry, sale at 12:30 p.m. with play immediately following. Pot at stake will include entries, sponsor sale, and \$5 set-aside from previous three tournaments. (plus open singles on Labor Day, Sept. 4, \$20 entry, sale at noon with play immediately following -- no limit)**
-- OUT OF STATE SHUFFLERS WELCOME --

2000 CALENDAR OF SHUFFLEBOARD EVENTS

MAY

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 26-28

SW Open Warm-Up
Action Lounge
Broken Arrow, Oklahoma

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 3-4

Forest Festival Doubles
Fir Cone Tavern
Shelton, Washington

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

JULY

July 2-8

Southwest Open
American Legion Post 73
Del City, Oklahoma

July 16

SSSS#2
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. 15-17

6th Annual Open Doubles
Old Edison Inn
Edison, Washington

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
BZ's
Burien, Washington

DECEMBER**Dec. 9-10**

ABC Tournament
Frankie's
Olympia, Washington

Dec. 26-31

Houston Holiday Open
Greenspoint Marriott
Houston, Texas

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Florida Open (continued from Page 1)

Winners of Sunday's singles were (left to right): 1st -- Marty Allen, Florida; 2nd -- Jim Long, Indiana; 3rd -- Chuck DeWees, Florida; 4th -- Glen Ingram, Indiana.

Special thanks to Greg Kirchner and his excellent Snuggery staff for the super service and two free buffets; to Ray Boyett for his auctioneering and his two wonderful refinished straight boards; to Chuck DeWees for helping Ray and also transportation of the two boards. Thanks to Glen Ingram and Mike Halstead (The Kentucky Flash) for just stepping in and helping out in a particular situation; to Fred Scholz on the bracket charts; and to Carole Boyett for keeping track of the tournament monies. Thanks to Colletta Stanley for her business and individual sponsor sales that keep us afloat.

Finally, congratulations to Jim Long for his induction into the Indiana Shuffleboard Hall of Fame. It's a well-deserved honor and, God willing, I will see you and Vicki again.

The following week, we headed north 130 miles to the Cape Kennedy Blast-Off Tournament at the Fill-N-Station, U.S. Rt. #1, Mims, Florida, March 24-25. *There is a very good possibility this could be a consecutive weekend yearly event. It could only be a plus for the state of Florida -- sort of like a March Florida Mini Tour!*

COMING NEXT MONTH:

The "Play Your Way Across the U.S.A." listing of shuffleboard locations which are Board Talk subscribers. Will YOUR favorite shuffleboard site be listed? Check their status NOW and if they are not currently members of the national network, sign them up before May 15 to be included on the list, which is used by travelling shufflers across the U.S.A.

National Shuffleboard Hall of Fame: Update

Committees Appointed

The National Shuffleboard Hall of Fame has appointed three committees of members of the NSHF Board of Directors:

FINANCE COMMITTEE -- J. Ray Boyett, Chair; Bob Hunt, Harvey Kidd, Al Salazar

BY-LAW COMMITTEE -- Lynda French, Chair; Dave Arndt, J. Ray Boyett, Larry Creakbaum, Frank Mako

HISTORICAL COMMITTEE -- Louise Freer, Chair; Dave Arndt, Harvey Kidd, Hal Perry (*Note: volunteers from across the country are needed to assist this committee to gather historical information*)

Open Meeting Tentative Agenda Set

An open meeting of the NSHF will be held July 1 at the American Legion Post 73, Del City, Oklahoma, at 2 p.m. This is the afternoon prior to the start of the SW Open. We encourage attendance, especially those members and officers of state Hall of Fame organizations. The tentative agenda includes:

(1) Completed NSHF induction candidate recommendations received through June 15, 2000, will be discussed and/or voted on during the meeting. **If you have a deserving shuffler that you would like to submit, please get the completed paper work in no later than June 15, 2000.**

(2) Finance Committee ideas and recommendations on fund raising, state of the treasury, etc. (Finance Committee is currently planning to meet at noon on July 1 before the official NSHF meeting starts at 2 p.m.)

(3) Bylaw Committee discussion and review of current NSHF bylaws. We have received a number of comments that the bylaws need to be reviewed and updated to include the expanded scope of the NSHF. Some comments received thusfar include: (a) Should there be a minimum required age or other mandatory qualification criteria placed into the NSHF Bylaws? (b) Should the NSHF organization be renamed to specify that we are "table" shuffleboard vs. court/floor shuffleboard? (c) If renamed, should the name be expanded to be a table shuffleboard association (expanding the scope of the organization to include the Hall of Fame, but not limited to only Hall of Fame)? These are three of the major comments

received thusfar for discussion. Are there others?

Ideas Needed!

We do need shuffler ideas for NSHF improvements to be sent as soon as possible to get included on the meeting agenda. We also need fund-raising ideas and, of course, welcome and need shuffler monetary donations. Both ideas and donation contributions should be sent to:

NSHF
Lynda French, Secretary
12710 Red Deer Pass
Austin TX 78729-6436
E-mail: lynda@jump.net

Also, any shufflers who have not joined the online NSHF shuffler chat forum on Yahoo should visit and join:

<http://clubs.yahoo.com/clubs/nshf>

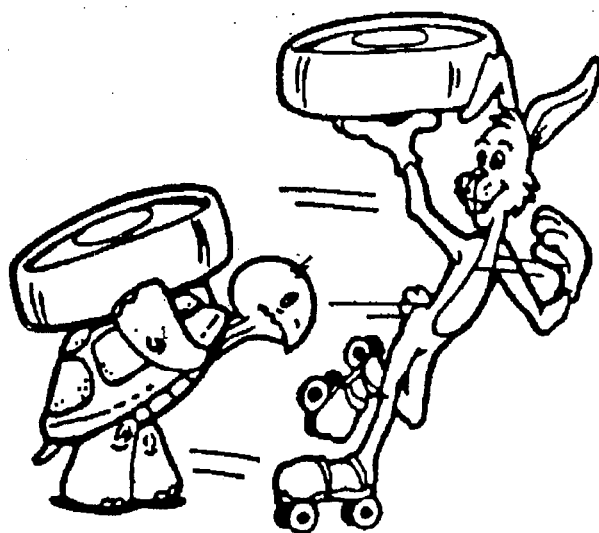
The National Shuffleboard Hall of Fame Directors and Officers look forward to seeing you all in Del City!

Lynda French, Secretary

THE BOARD TALK
supports the
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NSHF OPEN MEETING
American Legion Post 73
Del City, Oklahoma
JULY 1, 2 p.m.

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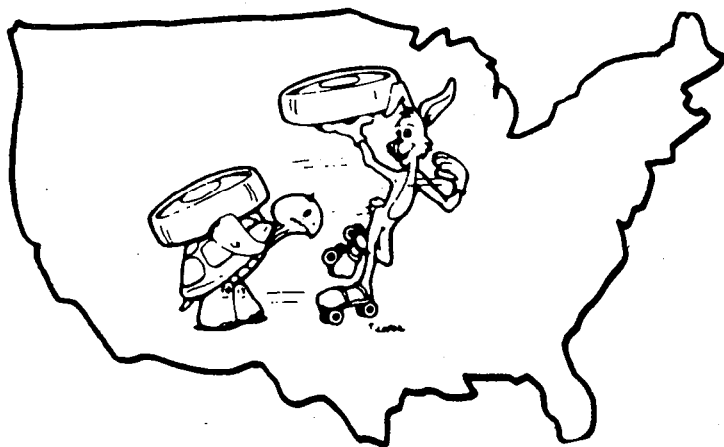
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