

The Board Talk

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October 2000

Champion Shuffleboard/Texas Open BIG Success!

Indiana Rules!

Over 100 contestants from seven states gathered at The Gold Nugget, Arlington, Texas, on Aug. 30-Sept. 4, for the Champion Shuffleboard/Texas Open. Eleven events, played on four in-house boards and eight new Champion boards, netted a total pot of over \$60,000.

The tournament started on Wednesday with a 4-person bring team event.



The Hoosier team of (from left) Ray Miller, Jim Long, Dave Boaz and Glen Ingram took top honors in the Div. I bring team. "I have always contended that the best shuffleboard in the world is played in Texas/Oklahoma, but Indiana may be a close second. Not only are they good shooters and fierce competitors, they are gracious, nice folks and good sports," said director Bobby Williams.

The team of Bill Melton of Oklahoma, Harvey Walden of Tennessee, Danny Hersom and Dave Ramold of Texas, finished second in Div. I.

In the Div. II bring team, it was Tom Yates, Tom Clubb, Mark Steelman and Jeff Nodland, who took first place. Chris Smith, Geg Hixon, George Leigh and Steve Roheror, finished in second place.

Singles competition for Div. 1, 2's only, and 3's and above, was on Thursday's agenda.



The legendary Billy Mays (left) proved he's still got the stuff to be a winner as he took first in the Div. 1 singles. David Williams took second place honors.

The other Williams Brother, Bobby, finished third, with Harvey Kidd in fourth place. All are from Texas.

In the 2's only category, Marshall Partlow of Texas topped the field, with Leon Black of Michigan in second. Danny Norris and Anne Walker, both of Texas, finished third and fourth respectively.

For the 3's and above singles event, Jimmy Fernandez earned first place. Connie McCormick was second and Denise Klein was third.

On Friday, there were draw partner events for Div. I and Div. II.

In Div. I, Billy Melton drew Dale Koteras of Texas to win the biggest share of the pot. Bill Melton and Sally Goff, Oklahoma, took second place, with

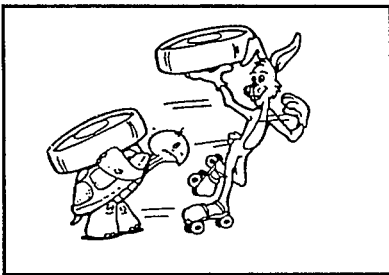
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Shufflers' Notebook

News and Views from The World of Shuffleboard

Woodie Salutes the Wilbers and Endorses the Frenches

Being a subscriber to The Board Talk since it started in 1984, I was a little sad reading the article in the August issue written by George and Donna of the change in the ownership of The Board Talk. I have touched base with Tom and Lynda French a few times, and they would be my first choice to take over as editors.

Nevertheless, it's sad thinking of all that it took to get The Board Talk off the ground floor. The first issue and a number of those to follow were one 11 by 17 inch sheet. However, it was the biggest thing in shuffleboard since I started playing back in the mid-'40s. The fact that we had the knowledge of what was going on in other parts of the shuffleboard world, and seeing names of players who had crossed my path many years before, was great. It had so much to offer to the future of shuffleboard that I went out to do what I could to help keep it alive. I started sending in articles about what was going on in shuffleboard in the city of St. Louis and anything else I thought folks would like to read about. I added the names of every player in any little tournaments we had going. Trouble was -- I was the only subscriber to The Board Talk in Missouri back in those days, so who was going to read my article?

My next move was to take my copy of The Board Talk around to the bars and players and let them read it. Trouble was -- most players played in one bar and could care less what went on outside that bar. I feel that The Board Talk has turned a lot of their heads. Once they started reading about others and seeing pictures, they started looking around. I

--ATTENTION--

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know others in other parts of the country did the same as I did to make The Board Talk what it is today.

I, like the Wilbers, have Father Time on our butts to turn our duties over to the younger set -- don't quit; just sit in the back row, and maybe BOSS a little bit??

I would like to say in closing: the Wilbers and the Bowers have done more for the future of shuffleboard than anyone else.

Good luck to Tom and Lynda. I'm sure they can count on the same help in the future as George and Donna had in the past.

Woodie Cockrum, Columbia, Missouri

You and your sister, Jolene Lembke, were the very first in the network of reporters/promoters who have made The Board Talk what it is today. You never "bailed out" when the waters got rough and the "boat" threatened to capsize and we'll always be grateful for your faith. Our greatest wish now is that Tom and Lynda will receive the same kind of support that we have enjoyed through the years. We are looking forward to "sitting in the back row."

Thanks from Marie Sweeney's Daughter.....

I am writing this letter on behalf of my mother, Marie Sweeney, who lost her valiant battle with cancer on July 19. She fought very hard and bravely faced her challenges each day.

I'd like to thank The Board Talk for the beautiful article highlighting her achievements in the February issue. She so loved the game and all the people involved. She treasured the wonderful friendships she had made over the years. When her illness no longer allowed her to play, she found comfort in reading her Board Talk from front to back, keeping current on all the standings.

When my mother was inducted into the Michigan

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Publication Content Information

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Successful Return for "Rural American Open"

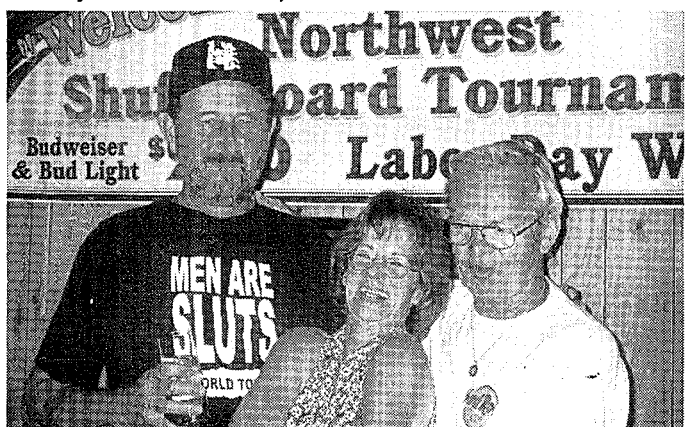
After a seven-year "recess," the Rural American Open returned to Winston, Oregon, over the Labor Day 2000 weekend. Played on six boards in two locations -- the historical 99 Tavern and Willee's Cafe -- the event attracted 74 participants from four states and two Canadian provinces.

"I thought the tourney went off well. It was our first in eight years and we were a bit rusty; yet, the feedback I received was 99% positive," said host Steve Fisher.

The event started with an ABC draw on Wednesday evening and 18 teams vied for a share of the \$3760 pot.



California visitor Paul Parks (right) led his team of John "JB" Burgess of Coos Bay, Oregon, and local Randy Foster to first place.



Jim Foran (right) and Frank Mako of Washington, along with Shari Hudson of California, took second place honors.

Jim Allis of Washington, Don Stallsworth of Oregon, and Bill Weir of British Columbia finished third.



Dan Hitt (right) of Washington, Kevin Callaway and John Mortenson of Oregon, finished fourth in the field of 18 teams.

Friday night's AB draw attracted 26 teams.



...And the winners were Doug Buhl (right) of Oregon and Gary Thompson of Washington.



Taking second place honors in the AB draw were Chuck Norris (right) of Oregon and local Jim Koch.

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**Congratulations, Steve Fisher,
on the successful return of the
"Rural American Open"!
The Board Talk Editors**

Upcoming Events Across the Nation

Michigan

11TH SKIP'S/BOARD TALK FALL BASH, HOUGHTON LAKE, OCT. 13-15

There will be an 11th Skip's/Board Talk Fall Bash, a month later than usual, with new tournament directors, Bill and Brenda Kane of Pontiac. So....it's party-time once again in the heart of Michigan's Vacation Wonderland -- Houghton Lake, at that fun place to be -- Skip's Lounge, 8895 W. Houghton Lake Drive, Houghton Lake.

Tournament action will start on Friday, Oct. 13, with a draw partner (no pros and 0's may draw each other), \$20 per person entry, sponsor sale at 1 p.m. with play immediately following. Single game, double elimination. Depending upon entries, this may be mark 4, play to 15.

An A-B-C draw, \$20 per player, is on the agenda for Saturday (you must be signed up and paid by 10 a.m.). Each 3-person team will have an A, B and C player, with A's serving as captains. Sale at 11 a.m. with play immediately following. Single game, double elimination. A committee will be appointed to designate players in the various categories as fairly as possible, using the Bowers Rating System.

The final event will be an open singles on Sunday, \$40 per player. Sale at noon with play immediately following. Single game, double elimination. Depending upon entries, this may be mark 4, play to 15.

A one-time \$5 registration fee will be charged and will go to bracketeer Rob Kern, who has kept this event running smoothly since No. 1.

For tournament information and/or to save your spot, call director Bill Kane, 248-334-5677. For lodging recommendations, call Skip at 517-422-5631.

STATE CHAMPIONSHIPS, CLUB CAR LOUNGE, DURAND, NOV. 24-26

The 15th Annual State of Michigan Championships will once again be held at the Club Car Lounge in Durand over the Thanksgiving weekend, co-sponsored by The Shuffleboard Federation and the Michigan Shuffleboard Hall of Fame. Action will start on Friday, Nov. 24, with a mixed doubles. On Saturday, there will be three

singles events played simultaneously: open, ladies' and Div. II. An open doubles is on the agenda for Sunday.

The Club Car is a spacious facility with four boards, located in a friendly small town with easy accessibility from major roadways. In past years, Santa and Christmas carolers have made appearances.

For tournament information, call John at The Shuffleboard Federation, 248-380-9300. For lodging/RV recommendations, call Dennis at the Club Car, 517-288-9910.

New York

FALL TOURNAMENT AT HONKY TONK, SHERBURNE, OCT. 12-15

The Honky Tonk, 20 Classic St., Sherburne, will host its annual Fall Tournament on Oct. 12-15. The schedule includes round robins on Thursday, Oct. 12; an A-B draw at 6:30 p.m. on Friday, \$10 entry, limited calcutta; a draw partner at noon on Saturday, \$20 entry; and a bring partner on Sunday, starting at 11 a.m., \$20 per person entry.

For information, call Brenda at the Honky Tonk, 607-674-9717.

Indiana

FALL TOURNEY, DAVID L'S, YORKTOWN, OCT. 14-15

David L's Hideout Lounge in Yorktown will host a fall tournament on Oct. 14-15. Events include an open doubles, \$50 per team, on Saturday with sale at 11 a.m. and play immediately following. A mixed doubles, \$50 per team, is on the agenda for Sunday, starting with a noon sale. The tournament will be played on David L's two in-house boards.

For information, call director Glen Ingram, 765-287-1239, or David L at 765-759-7989. Please post the enclosed flyer in your favorite shuffleboard site.

33RD FALL DOUBLES, AMERICAN LEGION, BOURBON, OCT. 7

The 33rd Annual Fall Doubles will be held at the American Legion Post 424, 202 S. Main St., Bourbon, on Oct. 7. The sponsor sale is scheduled

for Friday at 8 p.m., with lots of round robin action before and after. This tournament has traditionally attracted players from across the U.S.A., so expect some tough competition.

For tournament information/lodging recommendations, call the American Legion, 219-342-8100 and ask for Bill Niswonger or Terry Dowell.

Florida

STATE CHAMPIONSHIPS, BAVARIAN HOUSE, TITUSVILLE, NOV. 24-26

The Bavarian House, 5424 Riveredge Drive, Titusville, will host the Florida State Championships on Nov. 24-26. Open to Florida residents only, the tournament will include: an open draw at 6 p.m. on Friday; women's singles on Saturday at 9 a.m., and men's singles at noon the same day; and a mixed doubles on Sunday, starting at noon. Round robins will precede the tournament on Wednesday and Thursday.

For further information, contact Charlie Thompson at 321-269-3914, or Ursula at 321-264-1390.

Washington

DRAW PARTNERS AT TIM'S TIMBER TAVERN, KELSO, OCT. 21-22

Tim's Timber Tavern, 213 Allen St., Kelso, will host a draw partners event on Oct. 21-22. Entry fee is \$20 per player and the sale is scheduled for noon on Saturday with play immediately following. A tournament buffet will be served on Saturday afternoon. Come early for the Friday night draw, \$10 per player, 6:30 signup with play beginning at 7 p.m.

For information, call director Maude or owner Tim at 360-636-2627.

Tim's will also host an ESA mixed doubles on Dec. 30-31, \$40 per team, so mark your calendars now.

It doesn't cost a cent to have your tournament information published in "Upcoming Events," but we sure do appreciate our advertisers --and so should YOU! They keep The Board Talk going....

Nevada

BOWERS, PERRY TO BE HONORED AT NASC, RENO

During the North American Shuffleboard Championships, scheduled for Oct. 29-Nov. 5 at the Sands Regency Hotel in Reno, the Shuffleboard Federation will honor Ron and Debbie Bowers of Texas and Hal Perry of California with the Sol Lipkin Award. The presentation will be made by Sol Lipkin on Friday, Nov. 3 (tentative time is 7 p.m.)

The Bowers will be recognized for the contributions they have made to the sport through the "Bowers Ratings," which have played a major role in the growth of amateur shuffleboard, the backbone of the sport.

Hal Perry will be recognized for his contributions to the development of The Shuffleboard Federation's Tournament Rules, his accomplishments as a founding member of the National Shuffleboard Hall of Fame, and the influence his integrity has had on the game.

If you missed the deadline for registration, better call John McDermott, 800-380-3033, to see if there are openings in any events. Tournament details and registration forms have been published in the past several Board Talks. Remember, you must be a registered guest of the Sands Regency Hotel Casino to participate in the NASC.

Ohio

TOLEDO OPEN, AVON'S LOCAL 14, MAR. 30-APRIL 1

Looking ahead to 2001, mark your calendars now for the Toledo Open on March 30-April 1, at Avon's Local 14, 5411 Jackman Rd., Toledo. There will be four events on the tournament schedule: an A-B draw partner on Friday night, a "constant action" event (open doubles and open singles played at the same time) with graduated entry fees on Saturday, and a Bounty Hunters open doubles on Sunday.

Watch upcoming issues for detailed information and a flyer which you are encouraged to post in your favorite shuffleboard site.

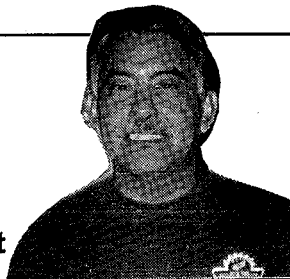
In the meantime, for more information, contact tournament directors: Phil McGrew, 419-691-3798; Martha Nelson, 419-882-1298; or Jim Stockmaster, 419-343-5012.

McGrew was the "founder" of the Constant Action and Bounty Hunters events when he lived in Michigan, and now he is offering the same opportunity in Ohio.

Who's Who on the TSA Board of Directors

(Editor's Note: In the September issue, we started a series of biographical sketches of those who serve on the Table Shuffleboard Association Board of Directors, formerly the National Shuffleboard Hall of Fame. We introduced you to President Don Valk and Directors Larry Creakbaum, Bob Hunt and Dave Arndt. In this issue, we present Vice President Al Salazar, Chief Financial Officer/Treasurer Ray Boyett, Secretary Lynda French, and Director Frank Mako....)

Vice President Al Salazar
9227 W. Kathleen Road
Peoria, Arizona 85382
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E-Mail:
aandnsalazar@uswest.net



Al, a European car technician, and his wife Nancy have a son Trey, daughter Shannon, and daughter-in-law Vicki. His hobbies (in addition to shuffleboard) are fishing and woodworking.

He started playing shuffleboard in 1974 and since then has become recognized as a key figure in promoting the sport in Arizona, helping others learn the game, serving as a talented tournament director and as a Bowers rater. He also serves as a director for the Arizona Shuffleboard Hall of Fame. Over the years, Al has gained a reputation as a force to be reckoned with at major tournaments in many parts of the country.



Al, along with Dale Williams, Rosa White and Bobby Voorhis, scored 1st in the first-ever Deuces Wild event at the 1993 NASC in Reno.



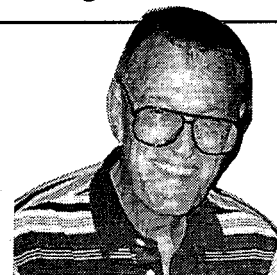
At the 1996 NASC, Al and his partner Glen Davidson, one of the "founding fathers" of the National Shuffleboard Hall of Fame and former president, took second in the pro doubles.

In April of this year, Al was inducted into the Arizona Shuffleboard Hall of Fame.

Al's personal goals for a Table Shuffleboard Hall of Fame include: "Make the Hall of Fame financially able to carry on necessary work; establish a sterling reputation for the good of shuffleboard; and establish a national tournament."

To make these goals a reality, he believes: "We need a large group of people able and willing to work on many large and small projects together."

**Chief Financial Officer/
Treasurer Ray Boyett**
18707 SW 197th Ave.
Miami, Florida 33187
Phone: 305-255-4562
E-Mail: raybsbrd@aol.com



Ray is president and owner of Transportation Data, Inc. He served as director of Cargo Accounting for Eastern Airlines for 10 years and was manager of Computer Systems & Programming for Eastern for 15 years.

He and wife Carole (also a good shuffler) have six children -- three girls and three boys -- plus five grandchildren and three great granddaughters. In addition to shuffleboard, his hobbies include handicapping football and horses, ham radio, PC computers, and music.

He was active in shuffleboard from 1946-1955, then got involved again in 1989. He helped start the Florida Table Shuffleboard Association and has played a key role in organizing and promoting Florida tournaments which have attracted participants from many states.

Ray has been an aggressive promoter of The Board Talk, actively "hustling" subscribers at the SW Open and the NASC in Reno. The talented statistician authored a 135-page booklet highlighting players' accomplishments from 1997-1999, called

"Who's Who in Shuffleboard." He is currently working on expanding that document to include previous years.

Ray's personal goals for the TSA: *"Form an organization with integrity and class to represent all of table shuffleboard's administration. The ultimate goal is to construct a building for the Hall of Fame."* What does he see is needed to make those goals a reality? *"Getting all the shuffleboard players involved, and getting the game available to the youth and families. Erase the stigma that this is a 'bar room' sport."*

Secretary Lynda French
12710 Red Deer Pass
Austin, Texas 78729
Phone: 512-250-0327
E-Mail: lynda@jump.net



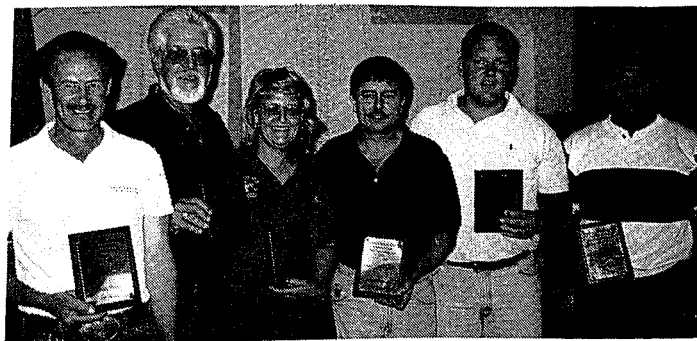
Lynda retired from IBM in February of this year after 23 years of service. Born and raised in Austin, her service as a software analyst led her to live temporarily in the tri-state area of Ohio/West Virginia/Kentucky, and Florida. Prior to her IBM career, she had worked for the IRS as a tax examiner from 1969-1972, then the Statewide Project for the Deaf in Austin, teaching Computer-Assisted-Instruction (CAI) in schools for the deaf across Texas from 1972-1977. During that time, she also ran the CAI lab at the Texas School for the Deaf.

Retirement has not meant "gone fishing" for Lynda. Already tagged as "Webmaster" by Debbie and Ron Bowers (Bowers Rating System) for her contributions to their website, she soon earned another nickname: "Norma Rae." That latter handle is a salute to her efforts to preserve the earned and due retirement benefits of U.S. workers. Her "mission" and her cashpensions website (which has received 125,000 visitors since May 1999) have made Lynda a "quotable notable" in major newspapers across the nation, as well as such publications as *Money Magazine*, *Wall Street Journal*, *Christian Science Globe*, *Washington Post*, and many more.

Lynda and husband Tom have four grown children (Kimberly, Glenna, Jennifer and Jerald) and five grandchildren (Cassie, 10; Christopher, 8; Priscilla, 6; Maddie, 11 months, and A.J., 5 months). The three oldest are being raised by the Frenches, who have learned that raising a second family at retirement age is both a joy and a big responsibility.

Tom and Lynda were avid bowlers until 1993 when she received a knee injury. Tom's brother Ted introduced them to shuffleboard at the Texas Mist in

Austin (across the street from their old bowling location), where the Bowers were holding weekly tournaments. After they attended their first major tournament in Las Vegas in 1994, they started learning and playing religiously. They now play at least three times a week at Taz Country in Pflugerville and attend as many national events as time and available funds allow.



Tom and Lynda (center) shown here with the winning draft team at the 1996 SW Open.

Lynda's other hobbies include genealogy research, website design and fishing. She and Tom believe in the benefits of drinking green tea and have also started getting some education on the powerful affects of Riati from TSA Director Dave Arndt. Lynda will don yet another hat when she and Tom take over as managing editors of The Board Talk, effective Nov. 1, 2000.

Her goals for the TSA: *"Promote the game of table shuffleboard and get as many new players involved as possible."*

Director Frank Mako
P.O. Box 641
Chehalis, Washington 98532
Phone: 360-740-4824



A retired industrial spray painter, Frank has been a fishing guide for many years. He holds a world line class record and is in the Fishing Hall of Fame.

Frank's hobbies include fishing, hunting and gardening. *Listen up, ladies!* He has been single for 15 years.

He started playing shuffleboard in 1959 and played in leagues for many years. He participated in many tournaments and won his share. His most memorable shuffleboard experience was in the '70s when he and brother Dino came to a draw in the Northwest Regionals with Jim Foran and Eddy Graves for the world doubles championship. After a "recess" from shuffleboard, he started playing again about four or five years ago. He now serves as a director for the Pacific Northwest Shuffleboard Hall

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TSA's Who's Who (cont. from Page 7)
of Fame and last year won the title of Washington State Div. II Singles Champion.



The personable Frank is always a pleasure to play with or against. He is shown here with partner John Martin at the Shamrock Tavern in Longview, Washington.

Frank's goals for the TSA: "To recognize and induct all people deserving of this great honor." And how to achieve that goal? "Get grassroots players to send in nominations in the proper procedure."

Cliff Goff Appointed to TSA

Cliff Goff of Tulsa, Oklahoma, has been appointed to fill the vacancy on the TSA Board of Directors created when Glen Davidson resigned earlier this year. The selection of Cliff brings the TSA back to their goal of having up to 12 directors again. Secretary Lynda French reports that after she made the announcement at the recent Texas Open, many shufflers commented they were very pleased with Cliff's selection.

Big Donation from SW Open

The TSA Board of Directors extends sincere appreciation to Don Crall, who made a generous \$500 donation (on behalf of the Southwest Open) to the Table Shuffleboard Association. Don, host of the American Legion Post 73 in Del City, Oklahoma, site of the annual Southwest Open, also made a donation to Ron and Debbie Bowers for their efforts in maintaining the Bowers Rating System. Don presented the donations at the Texas Open over the Labor Day weekend.

**Coming Next Month:
Meet TSA Directors Louise Freer,
Hal Perry, Harvey Kidd,
and Cliff Goff**

As the Puck Turns

By George & Donna Wilber

It is now official! Beginning with the December 2000 issue, The Board Talk will have a new owner: Kelye Stites of Champion Shuffleboard, and new managing editors: Tom and Lynda French of Austin, Texas. We'll introduce them in the November issue (see Lynda's bio in the TSA Who's Who feature in this issue) and hope you will extend your friendship and support to them, just as you have to us for the past 17 years. In the interim, ***please send your contributions for the November issue (to be received by Oct. 15), and your renewal subscriptions to be received by Nov. 1, to us: 503 E. Sheridan Rd., Lansing, MI 48906. Subscription renewals after Nov. 1 and items for publication in the December issue (to be received by Nov. 15) should be sent to the Frenches: 12710 Red Deer Pass, Austin TX 78729.***

We are doing everything we can to make this a smooth transition with no disruptions for our subscribers and advertisers.

Once again, although we are retiring as your editors, we're not going to fade entirely from the scene. We look forward to being a subscriber, just like you, and sending occasional contributions to The Board Talk. And we promise always to send our renewal in on time and meet the report deadlines.

We look forward to seeing many of you in Reno.

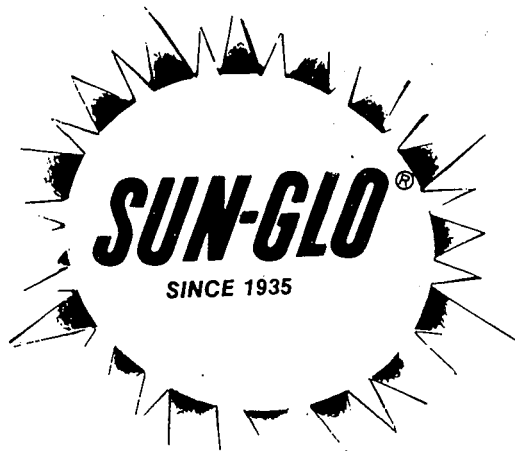
George & Donna

Michigan Shufflers Honor Memory of Marie Sweeney

Shuffleboard players, friends of Marie Sweeney, and even strangers who dropped in at the Majestic Cafe in Pontiac, Michigan, Sept. 15-17, opened their hearts and wallets to benefit two of Marie's favorite organizations. A three-event tournament, with 10% of all entries and sales, plus donations from several businesses and individuals, netted \$1417, with half going to Hospice of S.E. Michigan and half to the Michigan Shuffleboard Hall of Fame.

Winner of the set of weights donated by The Shuffleboard Federation was Roland Harkless. Results of the tournament, which missed The Board Talk deadline, will be reported next month.

(See letter from Marie's daughter in Notebook.)



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Notebook *(continued from Page 2)*

Shuffleboard Hall of Fame, she was truly overwhelmed and so honored. Having this award bestowed on her brought much happiness to her last days.

I wish to thank all who sent cards and notes of encouragement and all who remembered my mother in their prayers. Your kind words of sympathy and condolences were appreciated, as well as the lovely arrangements of flowers and plants.

My mother was a special person with such a love of life. She was a loving and devoted mother and grandmother and we miss her terribly.

Again, I thank all her Shuffleboard "family."

Susie Hasting, Waterford, Michigan

Your mother was indeed a special person, Susie, as well as a great shuffleboard player. Our lives were enriched by having her as a friend and we miss her, too! We join in your salute to the shuffleboard "family." It truly is a family and in our unbiased opinion, no other sport responds with such an outpouring of caring.

Frenches Salute Texas Open Workers, Indiana Shufflers

Texas Open hosts Bobby and David Williams, Jeri Billard, et al, and Gold Nugget owner Tom Johnson went all out to put on a wonderful tournament over the Labor Day weekend. Tina Wade did a great job handling the bracket boards and Johnny Wayne kept the boards adjusted and maintained. Sally Goff and Jeri Billard were always at the front table to run things and help. Great tournaments take the hard work of many contributors and Tom and I just wanted them to know their efforts were definitely noticed and appreciated by all.

Due to having two absessed teeth removed on Monday before the tourney started on Wednesday, we were not sure we would be able to attend and, if so, how long I would be able to endure if we attended. Turned out I recovered well by Thursday and we stayed the duration of the tournament (through Sunday) and had a wonderful time.

One of the most enjoyable experiences was having the opportunity to observe and play with some of the Indiana players in attendance, such as Jim Long, Glen Ingram, Dave Boaz and Ray Miller. In the team event, I played on Jim Long's team,

which also had Ray Miller on it. It was a most enjoyable team event and watching those Indiana guys play was a real experience. They are awesome players and really promoted the team spirit, which pulled us out to a lucky First Place. Wasn't easy, but the team effort prevailed and paid off.

Lynda French, Austin, Texas

We are certain the hard workers at the Texas Open will appreciate your salute. They certainly deserve it! We're glad you got acquainted with some of our favorite Indiana friends. You'll meet many more at the Bourbon tournament and are sure you'll receive a warm welcome there.

Bobby Disagrees with Alan on Rating System

In reply to Alan Cobb's comments (*August issue*) on using the ratings in full or throwing them out -- I totally disagree!

The ratings are used basically to separate skill levels, i.e.: -1's and 0's play together in tournaments, and then 1's and 2's, then 3's and 4's, or in doubles you usually have to add to 0 or add to 5.

These are fair designations. To have a tournament and have it fully handicapped is definitely penalizing the pros. For example, say Bill Melton and Diana Hagen are playing two good category 2 players. They spot them six points from the start. If the 2's win the hammer and lag a deuce, the score is 8 to 0, more than half the game. I would not like the chances when playing 2's such as Jeff Womble and Tommy McBurnet, or Mahlon and Linda Nobles, or Jack Davis and Gary Nelson, and on and on.

I am a rater and believe in the system, and absolutely believe it helps to generate participation in tournaments. As a tournament director, I know that the good, large tourneys could not exist without handicapping.

When there is a limited handicap or a negative handicap tournament and you feel your skill levels are not yet developed enough for you to compete -- come out and watch.

Bobby Williams, Fort Worth, Texas

Thanks for your viewpoints, Bobby. We were hoping Alan's letter would start a dialogue and you didn't let us down!

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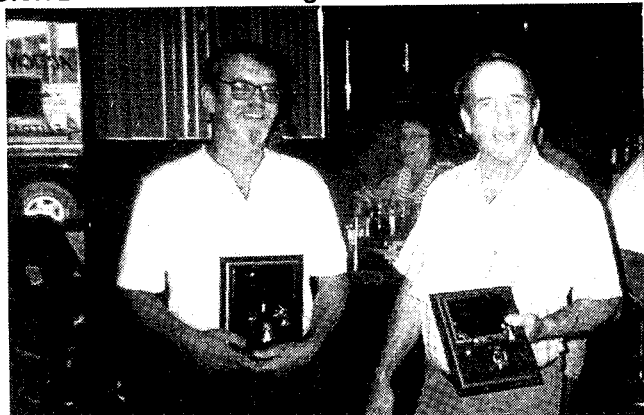
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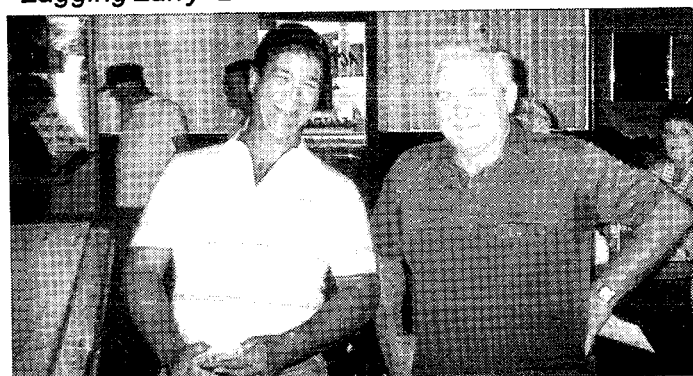
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Bud's 5th Labor Day Tourney Another Fun One!

Bud Hillburn's 5th Action Lounge Labor Day Tournament in Broken Arrow, Oklahoma, was once again a huge success. The participants enjoyed the friendly atmosphere, the competition, and the great food -- lasagna and all the trimmings on Saturday and pizza on Sunday. Everyone was glad to see Glen Davidson and Madge Goff at the tournament.



Winners of the single game, double elimination, draw partner event were Kenny Hawks (left) and "Lagging Larry" Barthel.



Keith Oyler (left) and host Bud Hillburn made a valiant effort, but had to settle for second place.



Bud and Fred Washington (right) were winners of the non-handicapped bring-your-own-partner event.

Second place honors went to Carolyn Jones and Jerry Widdoes. Both teams fought hard all the way! All events were handicapped, using the Bowers Rating System, except for the bring partner.



Jerry Widdoes and Alice Patterson were winners of the Sweetheart Draw.



Taking second place honors in the Sweetheart Draw were Wanda West and Larry Barthel (that name again).

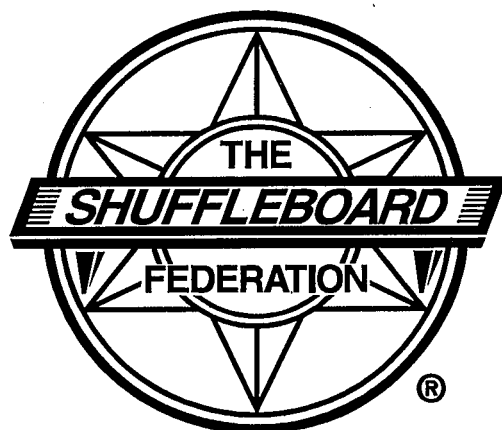
This was another hard-fought battle that went down to the wire.

Bud extends a big thank you to all the players and attendees for making this tournament a big success. He also gives special thanks to tournament director Mike Pernice and now Action Lounge official photographer Zane Porter.

**Thanks to
"Hamburger Helpers"
Bud Hillburn
U.J. West
Zane Porter**

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typo grunches, the nagging and the
ragging..... but I will miss your
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Hungry Donna



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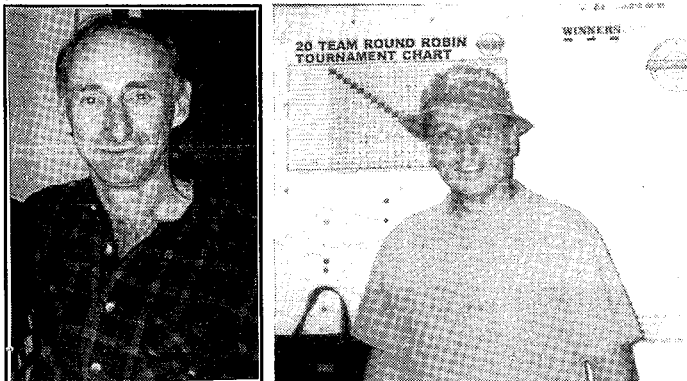
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One Point Decides Winner of Bourbon's Round Robin Singles

By Bill Niswonger

The 2nd Annual Round Robin Singles, held at the American Legion 424 in Bourbon, Indiana, on Aug. 18-19, marked one for the history books, with many of the strongest players from across the country. Participants included: Billy Mays and Pat Gainey of Texas, Bill Melton of Oklahoma, Chuck Muehlhauser of Missouri, Leon Black of Michigan, Greg Broka of Ohio, Harvey Walden of Tennessee, Lenny Dell and Rick Niblett of Maryland, Nick Chaffin of California, plus the Indiana "boys": Bobby Voorhis, Glen Ingram, Jim Long, Dave Boaz, Terry Dowell, Ray Miller, Mike Koontz, Larry Brown, Bill Niswonger and Mikel Johnson.

In preliminary action, on Wednesday and Thursday, Nick Chaffin and Mikel Johnson made a clean sweep: first in the winners-take-all open draw; and splitting first and second in two open single round robins.



Nick Chaffin (left) made his trip from California worthwhile, sharing his honors with auctioneer Mikel Johnson in the preliminary events. Nick also sponsored Mikel in the big event and he finished in the money.

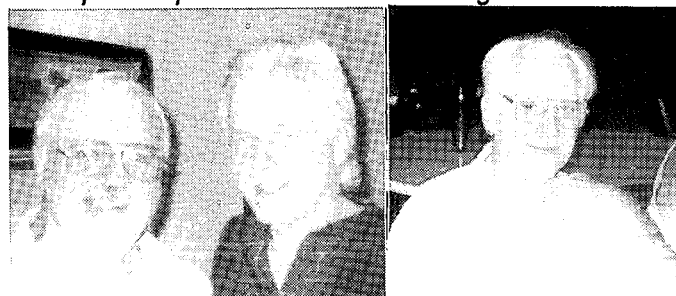
On Friday afternoon, the big event was ready to begin, with tournament director Terry Dowell and assistant director Bill Niswonger setting down the rules and regulations of play. After this was done, Terry turned over the microphone and cut loose one of Indiana's favorite auctioneers -- Mikel Johnson.

After nine rounds of play Friday night until the wee hours of Saturday morning, four people were tied for first place. Play resumed again at noon on Saturday with some of the most skilled playing and games going right down to the wire. When it was all said and done, pro players Bobby Voorhis and Bill Melton were tied with 15 wins.

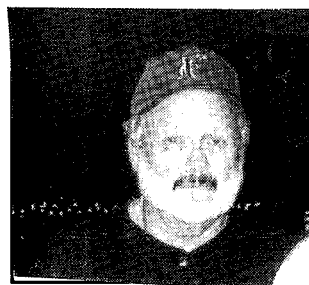
After point calculations were completed, it was Bobby V taking first place with 272 points and Bill taking second place with 271. A big "1" point difference!



One point separated these two pros, with Bobby Voorhis claiming the 2000 Round Robin Singles championship and Bill Melton settling for second.



Tournament Director Terry Dowell congratulates Glen Ingram (left) for his third place finish. The legendary Jim Long took fourth.



Lenny Dell came all the way from Maryland to take fifth place. Mikel Johnson captured the last place money spot for sixth.

This was one of the most exciting tournaments ever. Congratulations go out to Bobby Voorhis and Bill Melton for such an exciting finish. Congratulations also to Nick Chaffin and Mikel Johnson for having a successful week.

The Bourbon Legion would like to thank everyone for coming and a special thanks to bracket man Gary Neff for managing to run this tournament so smoothly.

**Tell The World of Shuffleboard
about events in your location through
the pages of
THE BOARD TALK
(Reports must be received by the 15th of the month
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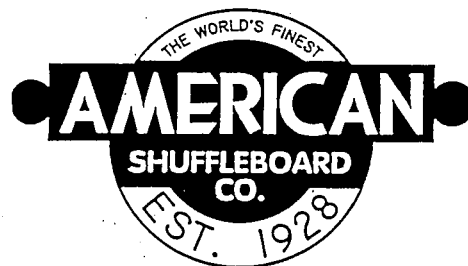
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Walker/Gray Tops at Triple Crown's A-B Draw

By Tom & Lynda French

There were 15 teams competing in the A-B draw tournament at Triple Crown Sports Bar, Houston, Texas, on August 19, hosted by owners Bill and Beverly Lindquist.

Topping the field of contenders were Brian Walker and Richard Gray of Houston, with Tom French of Austin and Del Ammerman of Houston taking second place honors. Harvey Kidd of Houston and Lynda French of Austin finished third, with Diana Hagen and Luis Reyes of Houston in fourth and final money spot.

The Triple Crown Sports Bar, located at 13660 Westheimer in Houston, has weekly tournaments for their locals, plus at least quarterly they host an expanded tournament with added prize money. This tournament had \$600 added prize money provided by Sky King of Houston. Sky King helps sponsor several tournaments per year, with shufflers Ronnie and Mahlon Moore managing the sponsorship for them. Many thanks to Sky King and Ronnie and Mahlon for sponsoring and supporting another fabulous tournament.

Triple Crown Sports Bar is planning to host the next expanded tournament the third Saturday of January 2001 (due to the Holiday Season at year-end 2000, they've delayed their next major event to January 2001) and quarterly thereafter. So, watch The Board Talk for their Year 2001 event announcements.

Not only did the Lindquists host a great tournament, but Bill offered some real "chef" quality cooking! Thanks, Bill, from all participants for the great food and the fabulous service provided by your Triple Crown staff!

We also played some robins at Danny's Sports Bar (12126 Westheimer) on Friday and Saturday evening. We love playing shuffleboard in Houston, typically playing at Danny's and/or Triple Crown when we travel from Austin to Houston to play. We invite any/all players to visit us at Taz Country in Pflugerville (north Austin) to play when you are headed our way. Thanks, Houstonians, for notifying of special tournament events in your area. Houston is our second home and we love visiting and playing in Houston at every opportunity.

Hope to see many of you at the Houston Holiday Open (if not sooner).

(Editor's Note: Tom and Lynda will take over as editors of The Board Talk effective with the December issue. Please welcome them!)

Ivey/Tinker Winners at Chances "R" Summer Event

Ray Ivy and Chris Tinker were winners of the Summer Tournament at Chances "R", Lake of the Ozarks, Sunrise Beach, Missouri. Dan Kelly and Steve Kane finished second, with Jason Tewell and Jerry (T-Bone) Head in third place.

Hosts Karen and Jake thank all who participated and special thanks to Scott of Triple Crown Shuffleboard Supplies for his donation of a set of weights to auction off for the Missouri Shuffleboard Players Association. Rick Pittman was the lucky bidder.

Chances "R" will host a fall tournament on October 27-28, and 29 if needed.

Hartman/Pelton Score Big at Eagles' All Ladies Tourney

Eagles Lodge 3911, Houston, Missouri, hosted its 1st Annual Ladies' Tournament on Aug. 18-19.

Local lady Julie Hartman, after being put in the loser's bracket by Joyce Pelton of Little Rock, Arkansas, came back to double dip Joyce to take first in the singles. The talented pair teamed up the next day and captured top honors in the doubles.



Locals Carol Pittman and Carolyn Johnston took second place.

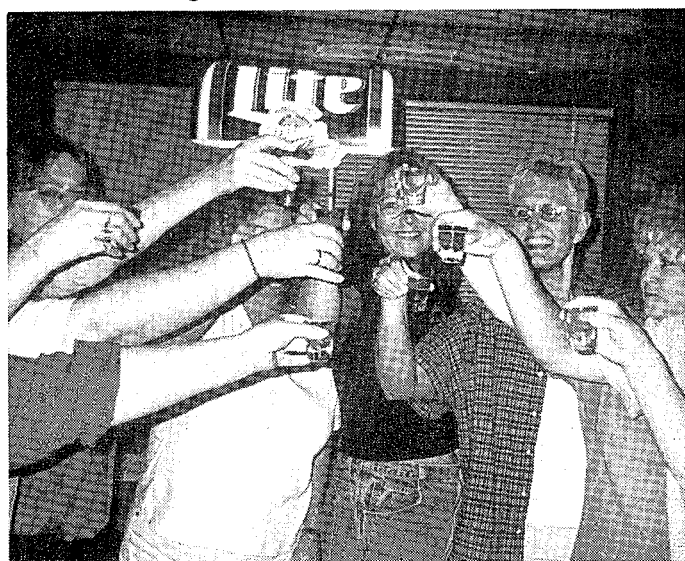
Attention State Shuffleboard Associations:

If you are having problems "getting it together" and forming a viable state association, we suggest you contact the Missouri Shuffleboard Players Association. They have the best state shuffleboard publication we have seen (communication is so important!), and a well-constructed Hall of Fame nomination form. Contact President Rick Pittman, 417-967-2226, or Secretary Terrie Boothe, 314-351-7990.

George & Donna



Melanie Shipp and Terrie Boothe of St. Louis took third place in the doubles. Terrie (right) also took third in the singles.



The ladies toast some great shuffleboard and a great time!

"Rick Pittman did his usual fine job directing the tournament and was overheard stating he 'wished the men could get along like that.'" reported Charlie Riley.

There was plenty of food and snacks for everyone, thanks to the ladies.

Brewer/Thomas Win Playoff

The top eight players in the Noblesville, Indiana, 14-week summer draw had a playoff on Aug. 12 for a total pot of \$1500. The winners were Todd Brewer of Ingalls and Butch Thomas of Noblesville. Second place went to Richard Holloway and Doyle Greer. Doyle had the most points with 68, and Jerry Thurman was second with 58 points. On Aug. 7, the 14-week winter draw started.

DEADLINE REMINDER!

Reports must be received by the 15th to appear in the next issue.

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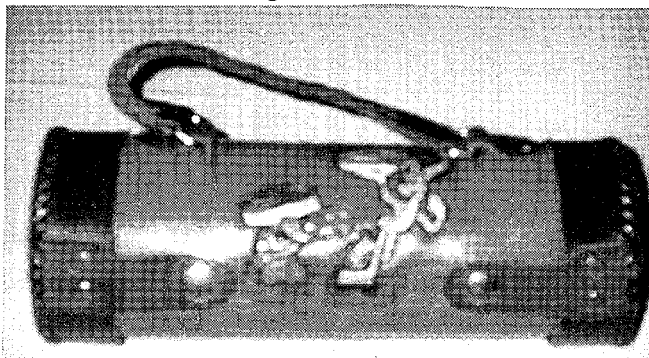
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Frisco Eddie's Revenge: The Return

A Series by Balboa Ron Schweikert

(In the last episode, Eddie and Shelli lost their swimsuits during a love-making session in the ocean. The key to their honeymoon suite was in Eddie's pocket. With only an abandoned beach towel to cover their nakedness, they entered the lobby to get another key. In the crowded lobby, a man claiming to own the towel snatched it from them, leaving Eddie and Shelli without so much as a fig leaf to cover themselves. They made a mad dash for the stairway....)

Shelli and Eddie were making a flying dash around the corner of the hallway to get into their rooms. As they rounded the corner, to everyone's total surprise, they ran right into the couple they were going to have dinner with that evening! It was a friend named "Chicago Jack," and his lady Anolga. They all just stood there for a second or two, with shocked looks on their faces. Then Jack kind of broke out into a smile and said: "I know I told you that things were pretty loose here in Florida, but I do think you guys should put on at least a little something in the way of clothes before we go out on the town!"

Then Eddie laughed and said: "If you'll let us get through, we'll go inside. I'll holler when the coast is clear!" They got the key in the door and were finally inside. They looked at each other then and, all of a sudden, broke out in hilarious laughter! They were still laughing while they threw on some clothes. Then Eddie hollered out: "O.K., come on in." He prepared drinks for all. It took a while to explain what had transpired, and when they finished, everyone was laughing so hard, they had to hold their stomachs!

After they had gotten ready, they left for the restaurant that Jack had picked out. It was a beautiful drive into Daytona Beach. The moon they had seen rise while they were still in the water was much higher in the sky now, but it still loomed large and bright. It didn't take long to get where they were going. It was called the "Surfs Up Bistro." Eddie and Shelli were famished now and couldn't wait to get started.

After they had ordered and were sipping their cocktails, Jack began to explain what he knew and had heard about the incident with Long Beach Lil at the wedding ceremony and all. It seemed that after a long talk with her ex-husband Tony, she recanted and broke down and told the truth. She asked Jack and Anolga (if they happened to see them) to tell

them that she wasn't pregnant, and she felt awful for putting on that display during the wedding ceremony. Jack said his guess was that somehow she knew they would spend their honeymoon in Florida. Eddie confirmed Jack's notion then, but didn't go into the details as to how he knew.

The food arrived. Eddie had selected the prawns with a lobster tail. He and Shelli split a Caesar salad because Jack had said they were so large. Eddie's french fried shrimp were huge. They were butter fried and had a thin batter/crumb on the outside. The lobster tail was about medium and had been taken out, then replaced in the shell. There was every kind of sauce and butter imaginable served also. After Eddie took his first lemon-dipped crunchy bite of the shrimp and tasted his butter-washed lobster tail, he knew he was in exactly the right place. The food tasted "just like an angel kissing his tongue."

Now Jack was a retired cop from the Chicago P.D. They spent their fall and winter months in Daytona Beach, and the spring and summer in Chicago. He began to fill Eddie and Shelli in on some of the bright spots that might interest them while on honeymoon. The biggest event would be the "Daytona 500," of course, but there were a whole bunch of other things as well. While he was explaining, Eddie's mind began to wander a bit. A rather weird thought was forming in his mind (and his "frame of reference").

Suddenly he broke into the conversation. With a kind of foolish smile on his face, he said: "Sorry for interrupting, but a thought just crossed my mind, guys. Don't ask me how I know, but I can tell you that Lil knows for sure where we're at. Now, you don't suppose that she in anyway might have something up her sleeve -- do you?"

Eddie took a very careful look into each one of their eyes -- then waited for a reply. All he got was a deafening.....silence.

--CONTINUED NEXT MONTH--

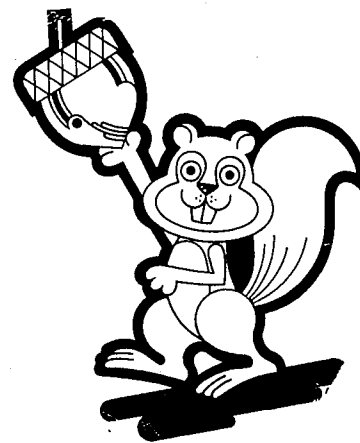
(If Lil does show up, what will she do to disrupt the honeymoon? Don't miss the next episode to find out.)

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Tuesday 12/26	1	3pm	Pro/Am Draw (-1's cannot draw together)	-1, 0, 1	\$50
	2	3pm	Amateur Draw	2, 3, 4	\$30
Wednesday 12/27	3	Noon	6 Person Draft Team. 3 of 5 Double Elimination Must play all players by 3 rd game. (2 boards)	All	\$50 each
Thursday 12/28	4	Noon	4 Person Bring Team - Add to 3 (1 Pro) 2 of 3 Double Elimination	-1, 0, 1, 2, 3	\$400/Team
	5	Noon	4 Person Bring Team - Add to 10 2 of 3 Double elimination	2, 3, 4, 5	\$160/Team
Friday 12/29	6	Noon	2 Person Bring Partner - Add to 0	All	\$300
	7	Noon	2 Person Bring Partner - Add to 4	1, 2, 3	\$100
	8	Noon	2 Person Bring Partner - Add to 6	2, 3, 4	\$60
Saturday 12/30	9	11am	Singles - Handicapped Entry Fees 2 of 3 Double Elimination	-1, 0, 1	\$300/200/100
	10	11am	Singles - Handicapped Entry Fees	1, 2, 3	\$120/80/40
	11	11am	Singles - Handicapped Entry Fees	3, 4, 5	\$30/20/10
Sunday 12/31			Completion of Events 9, 10 & 11 if needed		
			New Years Eve Special Event Party with Favors and Hors D'ouvres (9pm)		Open play until 7pm
	12	7pm	Blind Draw - Single Elimination - No auction	-1 0, 1, 2	\$50
	13	7pm	Blind Draw - Single Elimination - No auction	3, 4, 5	\$10

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Attention Shuffleboard Locations: Please check our latest "Play Your Way Across the U.S.A." listing published in June. Just by chance, we have found several locations that have had area code changes. PLEASE, travelling shufflers use this list to plan their itineraries. They get discouraged when they try to call regarding a possible visit and find that the number is wrong. Owners and/or regulars should let us know of any changes. You might be missing some out-of-state competition and revenue!

Also, if your favorite shuffleboard site is not on the "Play Your Way" listing, sign them up as a subscriber. Just one visit from a travelling shuffler will pay for their \$25 subscription.

Also: by the time the next "Play Your Way" listing is published, we will have lost a number of shuffleboard locations which have not responded to their "red check" renewal reminders. Help your bar owners by asking if they have renewed. They are busy people and sometimes they overlook the red checks. Tell them to use the subscription form on the inside back page to renew and ensure that they will be listed.

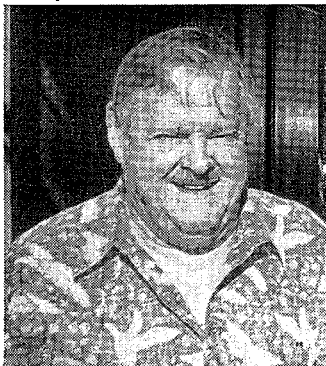
Coulter/Wisdom Honored at Shorty's & Sheffield's

The 1st Annual Labor Day Shootout at Shorty's and Sheffield's (formerly Amato's) in Huntington Beach, California, has gone into the books as a "no glitch" success. According to tournament organizer Rich "Bubba" Warren, the shootout couldn't have gone much smoother.

A highlight of the event was the opening night ceremony honoring two of Huntington Beach's hardest working shuffleboard stalwarts, Marie Coulter and Kathleen Wisdom. They were honored for their continuing work in running tournaments, over 18 years at the former Amato's, and for their promotion of the sport over the years.

A-B-C play got underway on Friday night and continued through Sunday afternoon. The team of Eric Chiles, son of Hall of Famer Billy Chiles, Ken Van Metre and Marie Coulter wound up on the winning end of a hard-fought two match set against Tony Bastanchury, Bruce "Bellflower" Hale, and

Delores "Dee" Reynolds. Third place went to Jerry Harp, Bebe Boik and George Gray.



Bellflower Bruce, looking "hale" and hearty after his recent health challenges and the loss of his business location to fire, was on the second place finishing team. His Newport Plastics Company is now located in Santa Ana.

"Accolades also go to Anna Brunskill for her usual great cooking," reports Jim Coulter. "Enough food for an army of shuffleboard players made for a lot of happy faces and sated bellies."

Hoosiers Take Michigan's \$\$\$\$\$ Playoff

Beef Camp and Gene McLeod of Indiana topped the field of 11 teams which qualified for Michigan's Super Slammin' Summer Sunday Shuffleboard playoffs, held at the Club Car Lounge in Durand on Sept. 3. The playoffs culminated a series of three doubles tournaments held at three Michigan locations: the Majestic Cafe in Pontiac, Stober's Lounge in Lansing, and the Club Car Lounge. Camp and McLeod had to double-dip Charlee Magoo and Bob Bolt of the Majestic to win the title. Jerry Hershman and Alonzo Cottrell finished third. The winners not only took the pot for the final doubles entry and sponsor sales, but the "setaside" fund of \$5 of each entry for the series.

In the singles held at Club Car on Labor Day, Alonzo Cottrell took the largest share of the \$1550 pot. Steve Auten took second, with Carrie Cottrell in third place. All are from Pontiac.

This was the second year of the cooperative effort between three Michigan shuffleboard locations. Tournament director Dennis Bittner, host of the Club Car, says there will be another \$\$\$\$\$ next year.

The series and playoff started because Sundays are slow days at most shuffleboard locations during the summer months. Those "slow days" turned into exciting weekends at the three locations with tournaments held in June, July and August, and the "grand finale" held on the Labor Day weekend.

Congratulations, Beef & Gene!
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The Board Talk Editors

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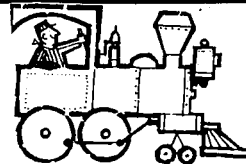
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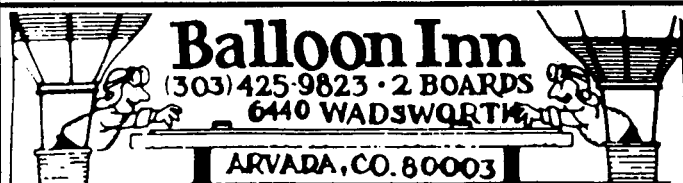
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Rural American (cont. from Page 3)



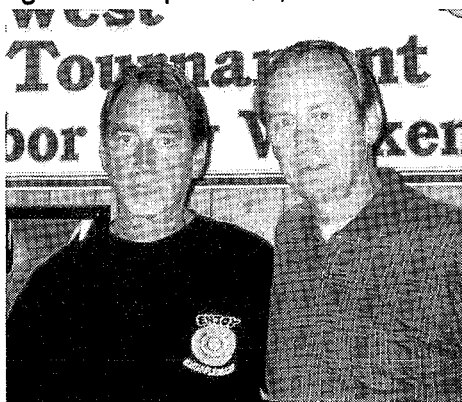
Darrol Nelson (left) and Kevin Callaway took third.



Pat Bayliss (left) of California and Don Stallworth finished fourth.

"Both the open doubles and open singles sported a tough field on what turned out to be quick boards. There were many 'grinding' matches, with most being determined in a close game after arduous effort," Steve reports. There were 17 teams in the open doubles with \$6,210 at stake, and 10 in the open singles with a pot of \$4,390.

That dynamic duo of veterans Darrol Nelson and Doug Buhl took top honors in the doubles.



California visitors Karl Spickelmier (right) and Dudley Hutcherson took second place.

Dan Hitt and Al Pease of Washington took third, with Chuck Norris of Oregon and Hal Perry of California in fourth place.

In the open singles, Doug Buhl and Darrol Nelson split top honors, with Chuck Norris in third, and Dan Hitt in fourth place.



"Thank God that's over!" said Chuck Norris after a grueling three-hour loss to Darrol Nelson in the singles.



That beloved clown from California, Freddie Thuman (sporting his best attire and lookin' for a date) kept the crowd entertained.

"Thanks to all who supported this event, and special thanks to helpers Dan Holland and Randy Foster for contributing so much effort to the foundation of the tourney," said Steve Fisher.

Gus Casinger/Bill Fisher Inducted

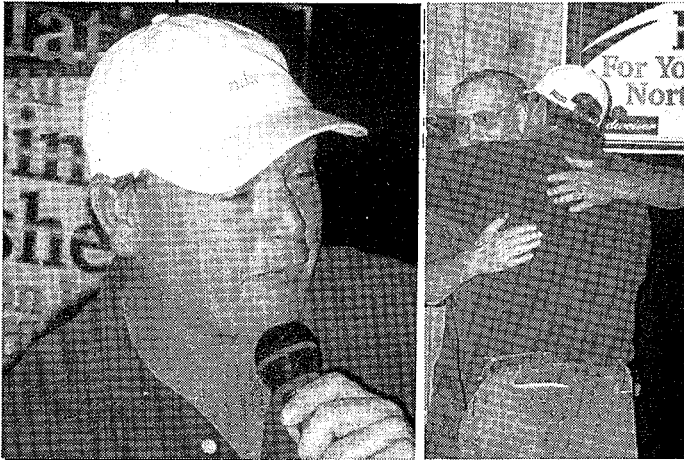
In a moving ceremony during the Rural American Open, 76-year-old Gus Casinger and Bill Fisher (who passed away 24 years ago), founder of the 99 Tavern in 1951, were inducted into the Pacific Northwest Shuffleboard Hall of Fame.

The pair's history together was traced back to 1952 when Gus from Arkansas came to Winston and proceeded to teach Bill and wife Bobbie all the finer points of the game. Gus and Bill eventually became partners and played all who dared throw their hat in the ring. If Bill had action elsewhere, it was Gus and Bobbie who took them on.

Gus and Bill didn't have to leave town to find action. "Road players" such as Bob Miles, Billy Mays, Porter White, and Mexican Tommy stopped on occasion. Many strong players spent time

learning in the town of Winston, players such as "Portland Eddie" Graves, Darrol Nelson, Glen Davidson and Chuck Norris.

The Pacific Northwest Shuffleboard Hall of Fame Directors said: "The combination of all Bill Fisher and Gus Casinger contributed to the spirit of the game are not measurable. One only need to look, listen and feel the shuffleboard energy in the little rural town of Winston to understand. Certainly, things would not be the same around Southern Oregon if it were not for the efforts of these two shuffleboard pioneers."



Tournament Director Steve Fisher nearly "loses it" during the induction of his Dad Bill, then gives a congratulatory hug to Gus Casinger.

Full House Hosts 12th Annual Labor Day Tournament

The Full House, Wynnewood, Oklahoma, hosted its 12th Annual Labor Day Tournament with players from Arkansas, Kansas, Mississippi, Texas and Oklahoma participating.

In the opening event, a sweetheart draw, Stephyne Renfro and Ted Polk were the winners. Taking second place honors were Shannon Tice and Brenda Watts, with Lynn and Tommy Tice in third.

In the open draw, Fred Boyd and Big B took first place. Lynn Tice and Brenda Watts were second, with Gerald Wood and Snuffy in third place.

In the bring your own partner event, Lynn Tice teamed up with Tony Pelton of Arkansas to take top honors. Bill and Billy Melton were second, and Skip and Eddie McCaskill were third place winners.

Tony Pelton took first place in the open singles. Host Don Kinard finished second with Rick Jones in third place.

"Thanks to all the players who participated in our 12th Annual Labor Day Tourney," said the Full House hosts. "Our sincere thanks go out to

tournament director Gerald Wood, secretary Vicki McCaskill, and bracketeer Chuck Williams. We look forward to seeing everyone again."

In Memory of "Pattycake"



This year's Labor Day Tourney at the Full House in Wynnewood, Oklahoma, missed long-time owner and participant, Pat Kinard. Pat lost her struggle with cancer this past June. She owned and operated the Full House since 1986 where she learned to play shuffleboard. She loved the game and entered many tournaments with Don. Pat had a zest for life. She was a person who lived life to the fullest. Pat touched each person she came across with her outgoing and compassionate personality. She will be greatly missed.

More Notebook....

Butch Wants to Win!

I want to win one!!! Man, I am just like the Nascar drivers when they come to Indiana for the Brick Yard 400. Everybody wants to win one of those races.

Yes, I would love to win the state's single championship. That would make my year. But on the real side, if I make the cut, some of my winnings will go to the Indiana Shuffleboard Hall of Fame and the National Hall of Fame.

Good luck to Michigan and Florida in their state championships in November.

Butch Thomas, Noblesville, Indiana

You keep on playing, Butch, and you will win one! We haven't heard yet about your Indiana State Championships, which is always a big one. Give them a nudge, so the information can be in the November issue.

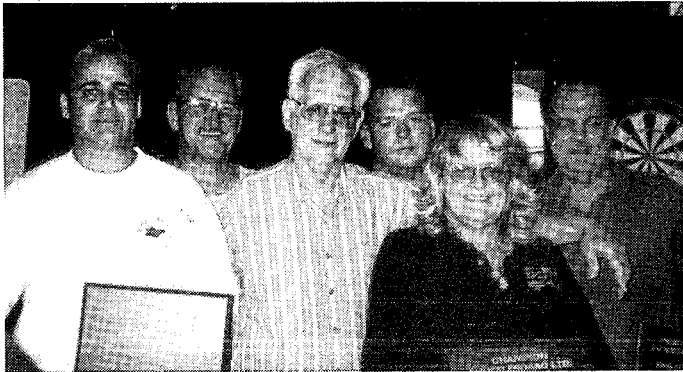
Texas Open *(continued from Page 1)*

David Williams and Jeri Billard, both of Texas, in third place.

In Div. II draw partners, it was Jack Davis and Linda Nobles taking top honors. Morris Moss and Renee Roberts finished second, with Jack Snell and Bev Chaffin in third place. All were from Texas with the exception of Bev, who came to Arlington with husband Nick all the way from California.

Indiana -- Again!

The six-person draft team event started on Saturday and, once again, the Hoosiers made their presence known.

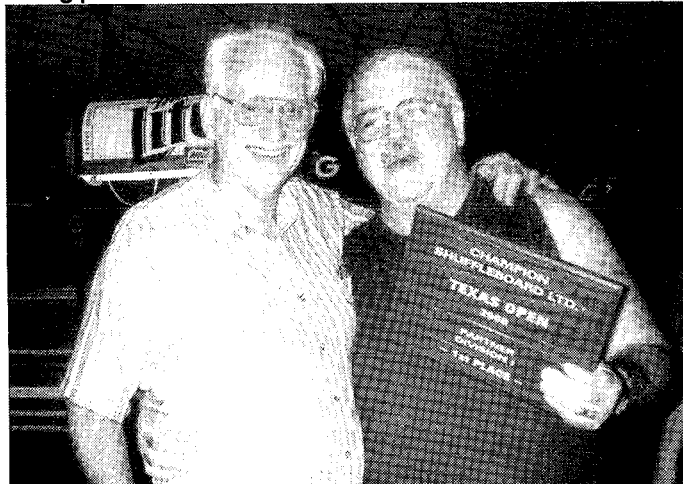


Indiana Hall of Famer Jim Long (center) drafted Texans Rick Miller, Marshall Partlow, Rob Houchin, Lynda French and Mike Bolinger, and the team walked away with the plaques and first-place prizes.

Taking second place was Johnny Ballard's team of Mike Taylor, Danny Norris, Tom French, Carol Audett and Danny Green.

Dave Boaz drafted fellow Hoosier Glen Ingram, plus Texans George Best, Pat Gainey, Randy Rogers and Lyndon (Coach) Baize to take third place.

The grand finale was on Sunday, a Div. I and II bring partner event.



Wrapping up their successful week were Jim Long and Glen Ingram, winners of the Div. I bring partner.

Johnny Ballard and Dave Ramold took second place, with Billy Mays and Jeff Womble in third.



Mahlon Nobles and Jimmy Fernandez took first in Div. II doubles. Linda Nobles and Danny Green finished second.

Finishing third were Tom French and Trevor Wade.

Thanks from the Director:

"This was our best tournament yet," said director Bobby Williams. "The new boards provided by Kelye Stites of Champion Shuffleboard were the best I have ever seen for boards brought in and set up for a tournament. This was echoed by Bill Melton, a knowledgeable board refinisher and a great player. Tom Johnson, owner of the Gold Nugget, roasted a pig on Saturday and fed all his guests. It was superb! Everyone raved -- just melt-in-your-mouth delicious!

"To put on a tournament of this size is a very large undertaking and could not be done without the help of many gracious folks. Thanks are in order to Jeri Billard and Sally Goff for their computer work in registration, entries and sales; Johnny Wayne Crawford for adjusting, cleaning and maintaining all the boards; CW Walker, Morris Moss and Jeff Womble for delivering and setting up the boards; Tina Wade for running the bracket boards; Jack Davis and Harvey Kidd for handling the sales; and Gary Nelson for helping with dust and silicone. Special thanks to Scott at Triple Crown for donating the dust and to John of The Shuffleboard Federation for donating a set of weights.

"I hesitate to mention names because we were pleased that everyone came, but we were especially proud that Nick and Bev Chaffin from California came to play and the Indiana boys who came early, played everyone, and left with most of the money. We were also pleased that Angie Snyder and George Best came and played. George is a good shooter and does not let a disability stand in his way. There were some folks that we observed with a moment of silence to honor due to some

serious health problems: Sharon Summers, J.D. Sweet, David Veasey, and Rosanne Melton's father.

"Again, thanks to everyone for a great tournament. In addition to the Texas Open, we are seriously considering a tournament in Las Vegas in 2001. Let us know your thinking on this event.

"Last, but not least, congratulations to Cliff Goff on being named a director on the Table Shuffleboard Association," Bobby concluded.

Kelly/Richardson/Webster Win CO.NE.Head Classic II

By Kathi Lloyd

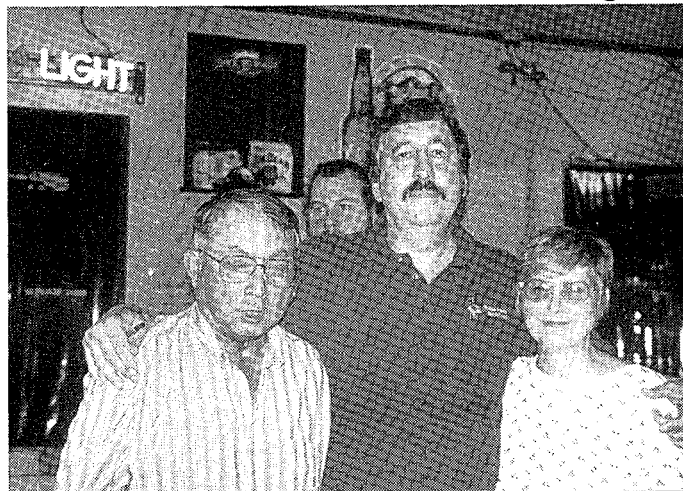
The Co.Ne.heads came out in droves (Nebraska players came in cars) on Aug. 18-19 to the Balloon Inn, Arvada, Colorado, to compete in the most fun tournament of the year, the 2nd Annual Co.Ne.Head Classic.

There were 11 three-person teams in this blind draw event and a payout of over \$2300. Bar owners Glenn and CeeCee Chavez added \$100 and had a delicious classic western barbecue dinner catered for the players on Saturday night.

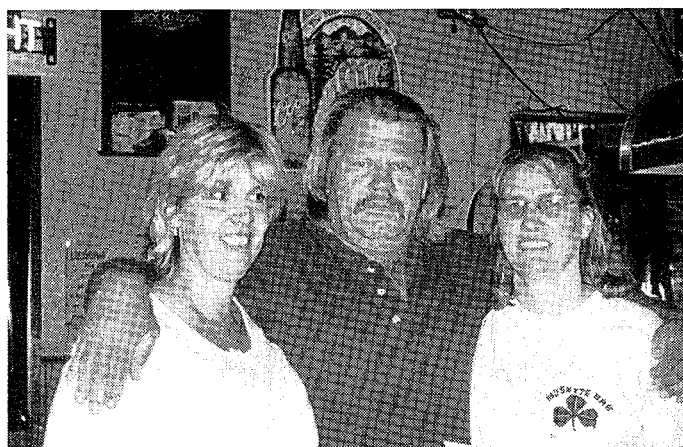
Due to the astute rating ability of Jody Slack, the teams were very evenly drawn and it was any team's tournament to win. Jody and I thank Cyndi Busch for helping us with the Nebraska players' ratings, or he couldn't have done so well with the roster for the draw. Almost every match went right down to the wire with very close scores.



First place Co.Ne.heads were (from left) Len Webster (NE), captain Kevin Kelly(CO), and Mike Richardson (CO).



Second place went to Ron Sosovec (center), Bill Shino and Jo Cook, all from Colorado.



Third place winners were Gwyn Orsi (left) and Shelly Hagen of Nebraska, and Mike Hedges, Colorado.

This was Shelly's first tournament and she made all of the Nebraska players proud with the level of her play. In this type of tournament, the A and B players more or less cancel each other out and it comes down to the performance of the C players quite frequently to determine the winning team. Shelly should be very proud of the way she played.

I had the privilege of playing with my teammates, Art Busch and Char Rahn. It gave me the opportunity to meet and get to know Art and get to know Char even better. What a treat that was for me! I hope they enjoyed it as much as I did.

Thanks to all the Nebraska players for making the trip to Colorado. I want to thank Gwyn Orsi for continuing to support Colorado shuffleboard. She has been a participant in countless tournaments here at the Balloon Inn over the past dozen years. It was great to have her play in this tournament.

There never seems to be enough time to visit with all the players when you are trying to run a tournament and play in it, too. So, I hope I see everyone again in Reno, or at least, on the next trip Jody and I make to Omaha.

**Is somebody else reading YOUR
Board Talk? Tell them to subscribe!**

Adirondack Open Continues to Grow....

By Pete Cummings

At a time when shuffleboard numbers seem to be down, the food (unsurpassed) and the hospitality (warm and friendly) at the Riverside Tavern in Keeseville, New York, is drawing them in. The three event tournament on Sept. 8-10 paid out nearly \$5,000 in prizes, but maybe more important for the sport locally, the good sportsmanship and renewed friendships overshadowed some great shuffleboard efforts.

The trip up north was well worth it for Louise Freer of Pennsylvania and her partner in two of the events, Bob White. Louise showed her consistency, determination and patience to work her way back through the loser's brackets to pull off a remarkable triple crown. Their game was beatable but the team was not as they continually won games without leading until the very end. Their patience and communication was a model for everyone to watch as they were seemingly out of many of the matches they played.



Bob White and Louise Freer holding some of their "hardware."

In the draw partner event, it was my privilege to draw the awesome Louise Freer.



Pat Brennan and Pauline Rock, our North Country host, finished second in the draw partner.

Local legend Dan Eaton teamed with Bob (WOW!) White to finish third.

The mixed doubles, a north country favorite because of all the excellent female shooters we have, had Bob and Louise winning from the loser's bracket. Brenda Prosser and Kenny VanZile were the doubled-dipped victims this time. Betty Rombach carried Pat Brennan to the third place money.

On Sunday, everyone's sights were set on Louise in the bring partner. Fortunately, Bob White saved his best play for Sunday and the marked team coolly played their way to another first. Pat Brennan (his outstanding efforts of two seconds and a third paled by Louise's accomplishment) and Pete Cummings took second place honors, with Ken VanZile and Lou Cousia taking third.



Bob White and Louise Freer, first in the bring partner; Pete Cummings and Pat Brennan in second place.

Lou Cousia and Kenny Van Zile, 3rd place bring partners.



Many thanks to Pauline, Judy Cobb, Ray and Betty Martin, and all the rest. Fun tournaments don't just happen. A lot of hard work goes in by people who don't end up on the podium or in the pictures with trophies in hand.

Thank you, reporters, for 17 years of loyal service! Without you, there would be no Board Talk.

George & Donna Wilber

2000-2001 CALENDAR OF SHUFFLEBOARD EVENTS

OCTOBER

Oct. 6-8

Handicapped Tournament
American Legion Post 73
Del City, Oklahoma

Oct. 6-7

Memorial Tournament
Harvey's Place
Street, Maryland

Oct. 7

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

Oct. 7-8

ABC Draw
Blue Goose Tavern
Port Orchard, Washington

Oct. 13-15

Skip's/Board Talk Fall Bash
Skip's Lounge
Houghton Lake, Michigan

Oct. 12-15

Fall Tournament
Honky Tonk
Sherburne, New York

Oct. 14-15

Fall Tournament
David L's Hideout Lounge
Yorktown, Indiana

Oct. 21-22

Nelson/Buhl Doubles
Shamrock Tavern
Longview, Washington

Oct. 21-22

Draw Partners
Tim's Timber Tavern
Kelso, Washington

Oct. 27-29

Fall Tournament
Chances R
Lake of the Ozarks, Missouri

Oct. 29-Nov. 5

11th NASC Tournament
Sands Regency Hotel/Casino
Reno, Nevada

NOVEMBER

Nov. 10-11

Thanksgiving Shootout
Harvey's Place
Street, Maryland

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. 23-25

9th Thanksgiving Tournament
Eagles Lodge
Houston, Missouri

Nov. 24-26

Michigan State Championships
Club Car Lounge
Durand, Michigan

Nov. 24-26

Florida State Championships
Bavarian House
Titusville, Florida

Nov. 25-26

A-B Bring Partner
BZ's
Burien, Washington

DECEMBER

Dec. 8-9

Holiday Classic
Harvey's Place
Street, Maryland

Dec. 9

Open Doubles
Sportsman's Lounge
Muncie, Indiana

Dec. 26-31

Houston Holiday Open
Greenspoint Marriott
Houston, Texas

Dec. 30-31

ESA Mixed Doubles
Tim's Timber Tavern
Kelso, Washington

JANUARY 2001

Jan. 12-13

East Coast Winter Tourney
Harvey's Place
Street, Maryland

FEBRUARY 2001

Feb. 12-13

Mason Dixon Classic
Harvey's Place
Street, Maryland

MARCH 2001

March 23-24

Spring Warmup
Harvey's Place
Street, Maryland

March 30-April 1

Toledo Open
Avon's Local 14
Toledo, Ohio

APRIL 2001

April 27-28

Maryland State Championship
Harvey's Place
Street, Maryland

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Nebraska Stages First State Championships

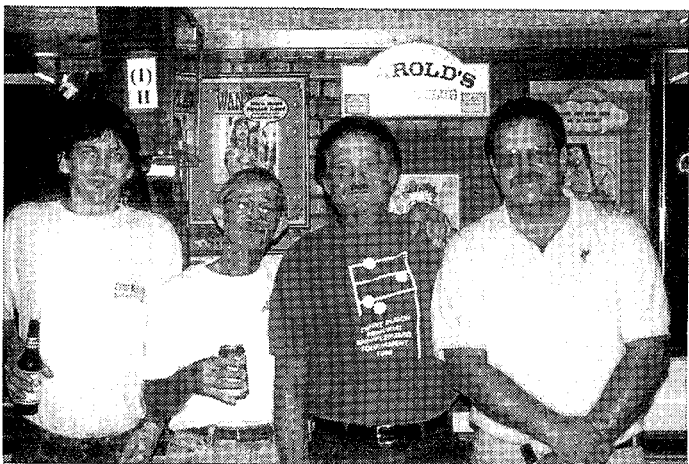
By Char Rahn, Photos by Lenny Webster

The 1st Nebraska Shuffleboard Championships were held Labor Day weekend, Sept. 1-4, at My Way Lounge and Harold's Bar in Omaha. A total of 46 people played in five events on five boards for a portion of the total \$4,610 pot. Instead of sponsor sales, each event had side pots, which players could get into or not. Trophies were given to first, second and third places in each event and Harold's gave all first place winners Nebraska Championship 2000 shirts.

The fun started Friday evening with a 4-person draft team, 2 out of 3 games, double elimination. Nine teams took part in an event that has become a favorite of Nebraska players.



The team of (from left) Larry Zahm, captain Gwyn Orsi, Sue Webster and Tim Regan, took first place and never lost a game.



Taking second place honors were (from left) "Billy from Hill" Vandeburge, Dave Dickerson, captain Junior Butler and Terry Roberts.



Placing third was the team of (from left): Lenny Webster, Marilu Roberts, Char Rahn, and captain John Henry.

Next up on Saturday were open doubles and Div. II doubles, single game, double elimination. There were nine teams in the open and seven teams of players rated 2 and above in Div. II.

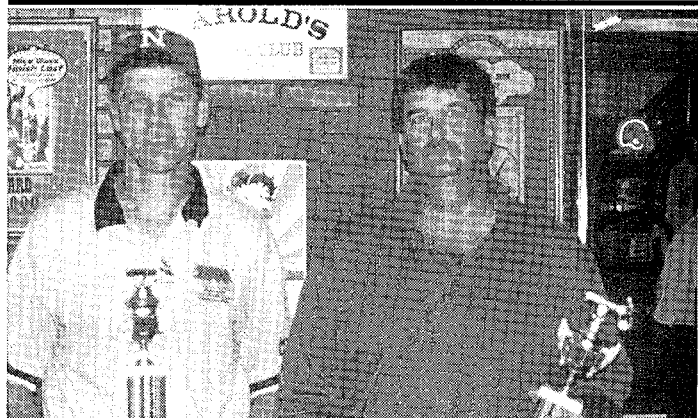


Director Don Zahm (center) congratulates open doubles winners Mike Roach (left) and John Kosiske.



Taking second place in the open doubles were Joe Spielman (left) and Tom Galvin.

We look forward to seeing you in Reno!
George & Donna Wilber



Larry Zahm (left) and Jim Payne took third in the open doubles.



A happy pair, Steve Hansen and Ed Styles, took top honors in the Div. II doubles.



Don Landrie and Tim Regan finished second.



A couple of Nebraska beauties, Amy Everhart and Danielle Bruggeman, took third place in Div. II.

The last events started Sunday afternoon and finished early Monday morning so everybody would have a day to rest up before the work week started.

There were 15 entries in both the open singles and Div. II singles.



Winner of the open singles, never losing a game, was Joe Spielman (left). Director Don Zahm (right) congratulates second place finisher Tim Piccolo.



Jim Payne took third in the open singles.

Taking fourth place was Randy Nusser.



Winner of the Div. II singles was Amy Everhart. Jim Kosiske took second place honors.

Lenny Webster finished in third place, with Barb Zahm taking fourth.

Thanks to Kevin Highby and Harold Newbanks Jr., owners of My Way and Harold's, for hosting this tournament. Also for the great food they provided during the weekend and the money they added to all events. Thanks also to Harold Jr. for the championship shirts he gave to the winners and the door prizes Kevin gave out. As usual, the directors did a great job. Thanks to Jim Payne, Tom Galvin and Don Zahm for a great tournament and all their hard work. Also to Cyndi Busch, who attended all the meetings to get this tournament set up and was unable to play. Sue Webster ran the bracket boards for the singles and never left her post. Thanks to Miller Beer for the banners and trophies and Triple Crown Shuffleboard for donating wax for the event.

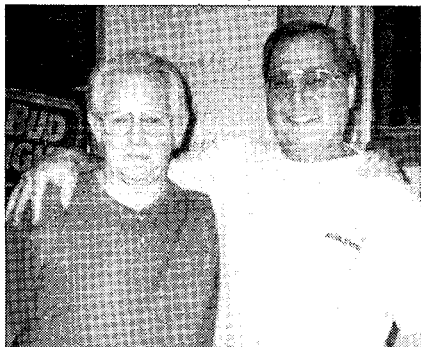
Old Town Saloon Hosts Labor Day Tourney

The Old Town Saloon in Livermore, California, hosted a three-event tournament over the Labor Day weekend.

The first event was a pro-am blind draw.



First place went to Paul Elliott (left) and J.R. Noel, shown with their sponsor Eddie Brayman (right).



Second place honors went to Dave Hanson and Jim Gilbert.

Nancy Maraspini and "Fast Eddie" Brayman took third place.



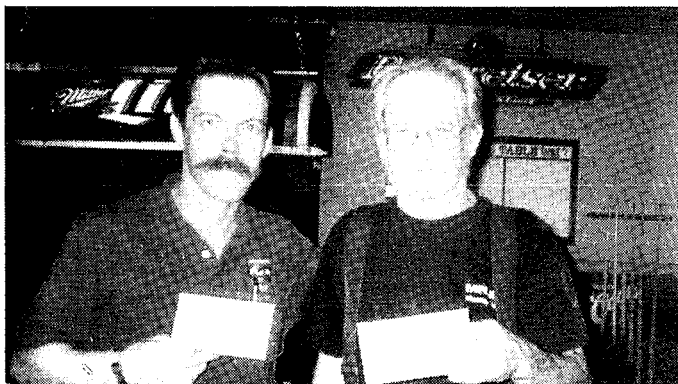
A bring-your-own-partner pro-am was held on Saturday.



First place went to Chris Wayt and Eddie Brayman (left), with Dale Pirlot and Jim Gibson taking second place honors.

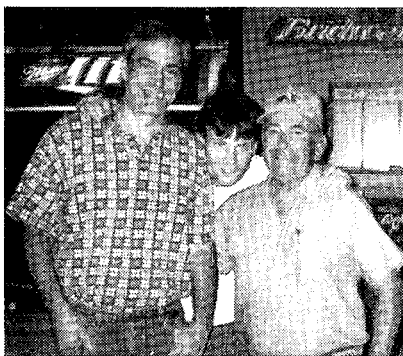
Third place went to Jane Mourgos and Andy Brorsen. Steve Heinrich and AZ Turnbo finished fourth.

Another pro-am blind draw was held on Sunday.



Pete Craven (left) and AZ Turnbo were the winners.

Helen Washburn and Paul Elliott took second place.



Taking third place were Dan Mourgos and Ray Garza, shown with their sponsor Paul Elliott (center).

Food prepared by Sandy was served each day. Teams competed for a grand total of \$4515.

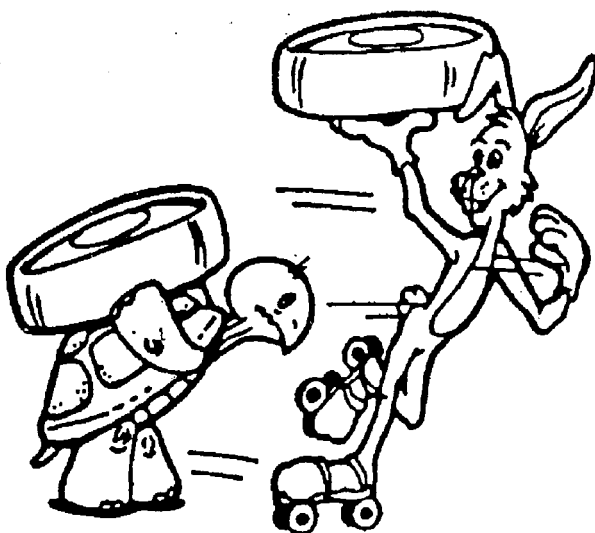
"Thanks to Paul Elliott for doing the brackets each day, and thanks to all the players who came. Good luck to all of you in Reno. And best wishes to all the ladies going to the Phoenix, Arizona, tournament. We hope to make some of them," said Old Town Saloon hosts Sandy and Ray.

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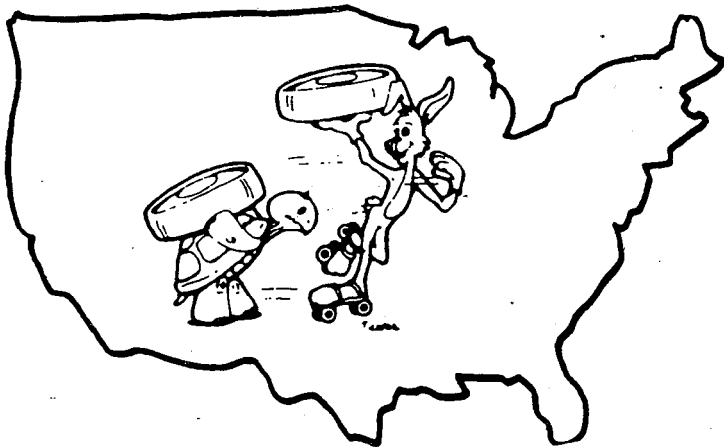
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