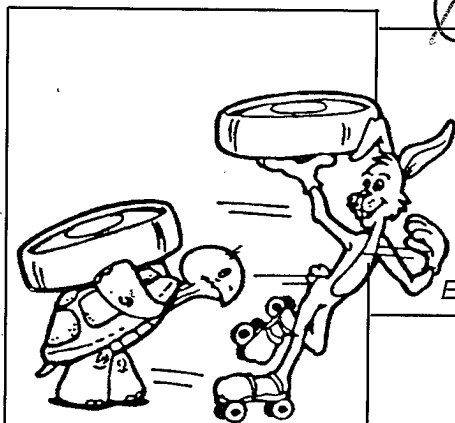


Carol Westernman

The Board Talk

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Vol. 18, No. 3

MARCH 2001

Saint Patrick's Day "Shuffle" - March 17, 2001

Lucky St. Patrick's Day!?!?

Hope you all have a great St. Patrick's Day and some shuffling fun! St. Patrick's Day traditions vary depending upon religious beliefs and background and whether or not you are a shuffler. In America, St. Patrick's Day is typically a celebration of green festivities, parades, *maybe* some consumption of green beer, and of course a great time of shuffling fun at your favorite places to play. We thought this would be a good time to share some of the common symbols and their meanings that are commonly found during this annual celebration.

LUCKY 4-LEAFED SHAMROCK



The Shamrock (or clover) is one of the most well known emblems symbolizing Ireland. It is derived from the Irish "seamrog," which means summer plant. The clover is typically 3-leaved but many hunt for that rare lucky 4-leaved clover on this festive day. Shufflers hunt and strive for that 4-leaved lucky lag!!

INSIDE HIGHLIGHTS...

Page(s)

Shufflers' Notebook	2
Shufflers' Humor	3
Upcoming Events	4
Michigan HOF News	8
Shuffleboard Rules	11
Frisco Eddie	18
Shuffleboard Directory	22
Calendar of Events	26
TSA (National) HOF News	28
League Players' Corner	34

LUCKY NUMBER 3

Numbers play a significant part in the Celtic symbolism. Three is a magical number that was known to have signified past, present, future - or earth, sky, and water - or for shufflers it is lag, lag, lag (especially if that lucky 4-leaved lag is not found)!

COLOR "GREEN" & "GREEN BEER"

Wearing green stems from early times when people of Catholic decent celebrated March 17th as a pilgrimage from Ireland.



Don't get caught without your GREEN, be it what you wear, the color of weight tops you select for shuffling on this day, or the color of brew you drink!

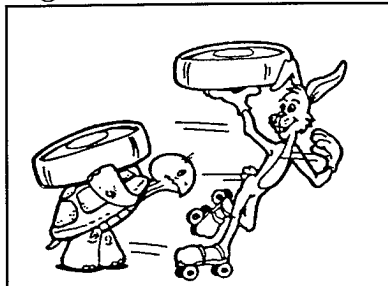
LEPRECHAUNS, PARADES, & POTS OF GOLD



Leprechauns, or Irish fairies are mischievous and keepers of hidden treasures and *pots of gold* (also known as '*calcuttas*'). If one tries stealing their treasures, better be careful not to get caught -- a leprechaun will vanish with the \$\$!

Celebrating Irish heritage became popular in the U.S. by way of parades, festivals [and shuffling tours?]. The first parade in the U.S. has been around since 1737 in Boston; New York City currently has the largest parade where part of the route includes a stop at St. Patrick's Cathedral on Fifth Avenue; Savannah, Georgia hosts a well-known parade that's been around since 1824; and many shuffleboard establishments have shufflers parading in and out all day long! *GO Calcuttas!* We hope that all shufflers find that *Pot of Gold* on March 17th! --Tom & Lynda French, Editors





Shufflers' Notebook

News and Views from The World of Shuffleboard



BOWERS THANK TSA and SHUFFLEBOARD FAMILY!

Ron and I would like to take this opportunity to thank the Table Shuffleboard Association (TSA) Directors for the nice presentation on our recent induction ceremony into the National TSA Hall Of Fame during the 5th Annual Houston Holiday Open 2000 tournament on December 28, 2000. It was a great honor and greatly appreciated.

The pamphlet that they had printed is a great memento and was appreciated by all of our family members. The trophy designed and handmade by Fritzi Broka is sooooo sooooo nice and being the first inductees to receive this trophy bearing the TSA logo in engraved leather on the score unit portion of this beautiful wood and leather miniature shuffleboard trophy is another plus! Thank you Fritzi!

Thanks to all our shuffleboard family, especially those that attended the ceremony and those that have personally stated their gratitude for our work on the Bowers Rating System. Thanks to all!

Also, a special thanks to all of you who make donations and support the Bowers Rating system in the past and future.

Please send all ratings and/or shuffleboard related e-mail to debbiebowers@jump.net (my new e-mail address) instead of ronbowers@jump.net. This will help us with more timely response as Ron uses his e-mail for business and I answer most of the shuffleboard inquiries. Again, Thanks to All!

-- By: Debbie Bowers

-- ATTENTION --

GOOD-BYE "RED CHECK"! Due to a change in publishers and a new process required to print and ship this monthly publication, the "RED CHECK" expiration notice is NO LONGER inside your issue. Your subscription EXPIRATION DATE is on the back cover's address line. Please use the FORM inside back cover to renew **TIMELY** to avoid missing issues!
(See Page 20 for more detail)

IMPORTANT MESSAGE FROM THE BOARD TALK EDITORS!

As you are aware, George and Donna Wilber had the last annual subscription to The Board Talk increase in 1999. Since the transition of The Board Talk, we have evaluated the cost of publication and postage (including the January 2001 U.S. Postal increases) and must make adjustments for these increased costs to our annual monthly subscription prices. The increase for U.S. subscribers is minimal (from \$25/year to \$30/year), but the Canadian subscription has to be increased to \$55/year. For instance, the last two issues mailing cost to Canada was \$1.85/issue and \$2.10/issue. Unfortunately, Canada can only be mailed 1st Class (no lower cost mailing options in Canada). There were some changes in U.S. postal services and costs in January 2001 also, but it did not affect the cost of mailing as drastically as those being mailed to Canada. U.S. subscribers may have noticed that our bulk mailing issues now state Presorted Standard instead of Fourth Class, but it is basically the same service based upon number of items mailed in bulk. The cost of mailing in the U.S. First Class has been running \$1.50-\$1.65 (January & February 2001 issues) since the postal rate increases, so we will have to continue with the Presorted Standard Bulk mailing rates for U.S. subscribers in order to maintain a lower cost (now \$30/year) on your annual subscription. However, if any U.S. subscribers wish to be placed on a First Class mailing for their subscriptions, they may do so by special request (in writing to The Board Talk Editors) and at the same annual rate as the new Canadian annual subscriptions (\$55/year). This change is effective at renewal time for current subscribers and immediately for new subscribers. Thanks.

-- By: Tom & Lynda, Editors

(Shufflers' Notebook is Continued on Page 10)

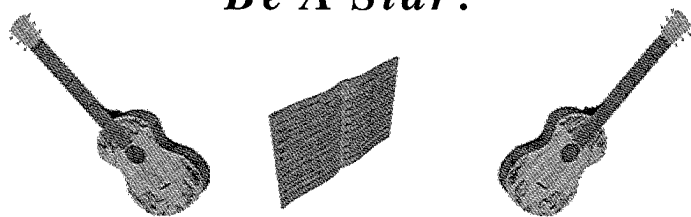
Publication Content Information

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.

SHUFFLERS' HUMOR and FUN

Humor Series #3 - Please send in your shuffler humor, jokes, or funny pictures

Shuffleboard Tunes! Be A Star!



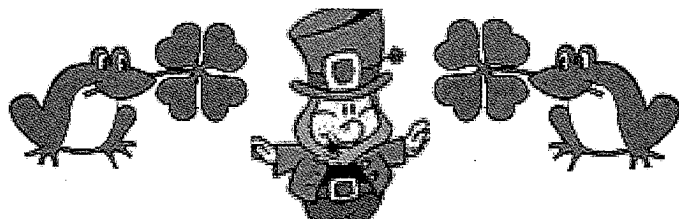
Starlight Productions in Nashville, TN has requested The Board Talk to help get shuffleboard players to send them their poems and suggested lyrics for shuffleboard songs. They sent us a sample demo CD and cassette that includes 4 songs, thus far. They need many more to produce a full album.

Their purpose and goal for creation of this new album is to put the album on thousands of juke boxes across the Nation and to promote the game of table shuffleboard. They are seeking shuffleboard songs from talented people who play the game. All songs must be "original" and related to table shuffleboard. Starlight Productions has already contacted several interested artists to assist them with this project.

If you would like to submit poems or song lyric suggestions, you can send them to Woodie Cockrum II, Starlite Productions, 9 Music Square South #145, Nashville, TN 37203. Accepted writers will receive 100% of writer's royalties if any are received.

Woodie Cockrum II is a son of shuffling Woodie Cockrum I of MO and is owner of Starlite Productions in Nashville, TN! He is a great song writer, producer, recently put out his own CD, and has performed on the Grand Ole Opry ... So let's give him some help ... send him your poems and lyrics! Great opportunity! Any accepted songs will be recorded in Nashville, TN! Come on! Be A Star!

-- T&L, The Board Talk Editors



Above cartoon is an original designed by and submitted to The Board Talk by Susie Halstead of KY!



Above cartoon is an original designed by and submitted to The Board Talk by Ron Schweikert of Las Vegas, NV! (Editorial Comment from T&L French: Giving handicap points is not enough anymore to get a game?!? Mike Taylor, et. al. ... do you see this? Players expect more than mere handicap points nowadays ... <grin>)

Upcoming Events Across the Nation

Indiana

AMERICAN LEGION # 424
TRUE ROUND ROBIN
DOUBLES
MARCH 3-4, 2001

Please mark your calendars for the traditional "True Round Robin Doubles" tournament scheduled for March 3-4, 2001 to be held at the American Legion Post #424, 202 S. Main, Bourbon, IN (\$300 entry fee, limited to the first 20 paid entries.)

Contact Terry Dowell for registration information and details at 219-353-1070.

Texas

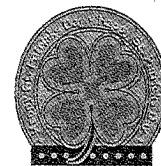
AMATEUR TOURNAMENT
HARBOR POINT CLUB & GRILL
RICHARDSON, TX
MARCH 9-11, 2001

Harbor Point Bar & Grill, 2121 Buckingham Rd. at Jupiter, Richardson, TX will be hosting an Amateur tournament March 9-11, 2001 (no Pro's or 0's) starting at 6 PM on Friday March 9 on six boards. They will have two Draw Partner events (1's/2's and 3's/4's) single game/double elimination. On Saturday starting at 6 PM there will also be two BRING PARTNER events (1's/2's must add to 3 or more; 2 of 3 Double elimination; and 3's/4's must add to 6 or more single game/double elimination) and a BRING PARTNER (2's, 3's, and 4's). This tournament offers a format many 1's and 2's have indicated they would like to see more of, being 1's and 2's events and having 2 out of 3 Double Elimination (such as in the "Shufflers' Notebook", January 2001 issue, page 10 by Gary Nelson). Sunday will be wrap up of prior events and open play. See flyer insert or call Harbor Point Bar & Grill for more details: 972-231-9365

SEE "AMATEUR TOURNAMENT" flyer inserted in the February 2001 The Board Talk issue for more tournament event details.

Nebraska

ST. PATRICK'S DAY
TOURNEY
HAROLD'S BAR
OMAHA, NE
MARCH 16-18, 2001



Harold's Bar, 8558 Blondo St., Omaha, NE has 5 boards, door prizes, \$\$\$ Added Pot, and great food to look forward to for this St. Patrick's Day Tourney. For info, contact: Jim Payne (402) 697-9956 or (402) 676-4827

SEE "ST. PATRICK'S DAY TOURNAMENT" flyer inserted in the February 2001 The Board Talk issue for more tournament event details.

Florida

8th ANNUAL FLORIDA OPEN
THE SNUGGERY
BAR & GRILL
PALM BEACH GARDENS, FL
MARCH 16-18, 2001



Florida is COUNTING on you. Join the Florida shufflers and those from other states in the sunshine state. Time to get out of the snow and ice and compete for the cash and trophies. This promises to be a big year for our tournament. Last year's participation included NY, MI, IN, MD and others. Now that we have elected the next President of the OSofA, we are ready to show other states how to play this game. The water is fine. For tournament and hotel information contact Chuck Deweese (561) 743-8846

SEE "8TH ANNUAL FLORIDA OPEN" flyer inserted in the February 2001 The Board Talk issue for more details.

*Spread the word about
The Board Talk ...
Get your fellow shufflers &
favorite establishments to
subscribe!*

Florida

**2nd ANNUAL CAPE
KENNEDY
"BLAST OFF"
FILL-N-STATION
MIMS, FL**



MARCH 22-25, 2001

The FILL-N-STATION, Rt. 1, Mims, FL will be hosting the 2nd Annual Cape Kennedy "Blast Off" tournament March 22-25th. Thursday March 22 will kick off at 7 PM with ROUND ROBINS; Friday at 7 PM will be DRAW PARTNER (\$30/team); Saturday at 9 AM will be MIXED DOUBLES (\$30/team); Saturday at 2 PM SINGLES (\$20/player); and Sunday at 12:00 Noon will be BRING PARTNER (\$40/team). Each event will be 32 maximum players, 3 boards, and single game/double elimination (15 point) with Sponsor sales. For more information, contact Larry at (321) 383-0053. **SEE "2nd ANNUAL CAPE KENNEDY 'BLAST OFF'" flyer inserted in the February 2001 The Board Talk issue for more details.**

Texas

**3rd ANNUAL TEXAS CHAMPS
GOLD NUGGET
ARLINGTON, TX
MAR. 22-25, 2001**

The 3rd Annual Texas State Championship will be held on March 22-25th at the Gold Nugget in Arlington, TX. Thursday, March 22nd on 9 boards starting with an Open Handicap Draw at 7 PM for \$50/person; Friday will be Div. I Doubles (add to 0, \$150/team) and Div. II Doubles (add to 5, \$100/team) at 3 PM; and Saturday will be Div. I Singles (-1/ \$150, 0/ \$100, 1/\$50) and Div. II Singles (2/\$75, 3/\$50, 4/\$25) at 1 PM. All events are single game/double elimination except the PRO Singles is 2/3 game/double elimination and 21 point in loser bracket. Texas residents only are eligible to play these events. For more information, please contact Bobby Williams (817-265-7045) or Jeri Billard (817-657-7306). **NOTE:UPDATED SINCE FEBRUARY!**

*Spread the word about your upcoming events
through the pages of The Board Talk! Ask
the establishments where you play to
Subscribe & Advertise in The Board Talk!*

Ohio

**TOLEDO OPEN
AVON'S LOCAL 14
MAR. 30-APRIL 1, 2001**

Mark your calendars now for the Toledo Open on March 30-April 1st, at Avon's Local 14, 5411 Jackman Rd., Toledo. There are 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.

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. For more information, contact tournament directors: Phil McGrew, 419-691-3798; Martha Nelson, 419-882-1298; or Jim Stockmaster, 419-343-5012. **SEE "TOLEDO OPEN" flyer inserted in the February 2001 The Board Talk issue for details.**

Texas

**2001 SPRING FLING!
EAGLES AERIE # 2249
CORPUS CHRISTI, TX
APRIL 6-8, 2001**

Get ready to hit the Texas coast and attend the annual Corpus Christ 2001 "Spring Fling" sponsored jointly by the Coastal Bend Shuffleboard Association and Eagles Aerie #2249 at 2429 Johanna, Corpus Christ, TX held at the Eagles Aerie #2249 with 6 shuffleboards! Introducing Mike Taylor of Austin, TX as the tournament auctioneer. Friday will be an A-B Draw, \$25/player entry, no handicap, double elimination starting with sponsor sale at 7 PM. Saturday will be a 4-Person Draft Team, \$35/player entry, 2/3 Double Elimination with sponsor sale starting at 12:00 Noon. Sunday will be Handicapped Singles, \$50 entry, 2 point maximum negative spot, double elimination with sponsor sale starting at 12:00 Noon. Bowers Rating System will be used to determine handicap. B.Y.O.B. Lodging: Corpus Christi Travelodge - Double room \$46 with free continental breakfast and cocktails: Call Local# 361-289-5666 or 1-800-578-7878 for reservations. Contact tournament director: Neil Garvin 361-854-3632 for more details.

Indiana

"OPEN & MIXED DOUBLES" DAVID L's HIDEOUT LOUNGE YORKTOWN, IN MARCH 31-APRIL 1, 2001

OPEN DOUBLES on Saturday, March 31, 2001 with auction starting at 12:00 Noon (\$40/team). MIXED DOUBLES on Sunday, April 1st (\$40/team). Events to be held at David L's Hideout Lounge, 9110 West Smith, Yorktown, Indiana on 2 boards. Call David at 765-759-7989 or Glen Ingram at 765-287-1239 for more details.

SEE "OPEN & MIXED DOUBLES" tourney at David L's Hideout Lounge tournament flyer inserted in this March 2001 The Board Talk issue for more details.

Michigan

"MIXED DOUBLES/ WOMEN'S SINGLES" STOBER'S LOUNGE LANSING, MI APRIL 6-8, 2001

Stober's Cocktail Lounge, 812 E. Michigan Ave., Lansing, MI will host a "MIXED DOUBLES" and "WOMEN'S SINGLES" tournament on April 6-8. Action will start on Friday with round robins, starting at 7 PM sharp.

The "MIXED DOUBLES", \$40/team entry, is on the agenda for Saturday, sign-up by 12 NOON and sponsor sale at 1 PM, with play immediately following the sponsor sale.

The "WOMEN'S SINGLES", \$20/person entry, is scheduled for Sunday, sign-up by 12 NOON and sponsor sale at 1 PM, with play immediately following the sponsor sale.

For further information, call tournament director Carrie Clifton, 517-482-1190. This will be the first mixed doubles and women's singles held at this location for many years. Come on, ladies, support this event. The men can participate in the mixed doubles and cheer you on in the women's singles. This could be the beginning of something new in Michigan!

Indiana

INDIANA PLANS "BATTLE OF THE BARS" TOURNEY APRIL 13-15, 2001

Indiana is issuing a national challenge to all bars and clubs in the U.S.A. and Canada to see what team and the bar they represent will be crowned "The Champion of Champions" for 2001. The big event is planned for April 13-15 at the AMVETS Post 26 in Pendleton. All bars and clubs may sponsor no more than two 2-person teams. In this challenge, bar owners or bartenders may be the sponsor of their best team or teams. At a cost of \$200 per team with a \$25 registration fee per team, this event will be limited to 64 teams. The format will be 2 out of 3 double elimination.

All entry fee money will be evenly split with first place team and sponsor. The first-place winning team will also receive first-place trophies, paid entry fee for Bourbon's (Indiana) Spring Doubles, and complimentary two days and two nights stay at the Super 8 Motel in Warsaw, just 20 minutes away from Bourbon. The winning sponsor will also receive a special hand-designed sponsor jacket, a specially-made trophy to proudly display in their club or bar, 25% of all registration money to be donated to their state Hall of Fame, and a year's subscription to The Board Talk. The sales money will be split by regular percentage breakdowns.

The Pendleton AMVETS will have over an acre of land for free R.V. parking and camping right behind the tournament site. An in-town motel only minutes away will also be available (phone 765-778-7679) and other motels are available just minutes away from the club. Breakfast, lunch and dinner will be available at the club throughout the tournament.

For more tournament information, contact Sonny Harris at 765-778-7224.

For a guaranteed spot in the event, send advanced registration and entry fees (**checks or money orders made payable to: Amvets Post 26, 939 S. Broadway, Pendleton, IN 46064**). Along with your advanced registration and entry fees, please send the team sponsors' name and team members' names. Include the state, city, and name of the bar you're representing.

If time permits, there will be a singles event on April 15, \$100 entry, double elimination. This should be a fun tournament for players and fans alike. Mark your calendars and get your reservations made now!

California**"MEMORIAL DAY
WEEKEND"****133 CLUB****MANTECA, CA****MAY 25 - MAY 28, 2001**

This Memorial Day Weekend tournament starts at 8 PM on Friday with an ABC DRAW (\$20/player). Then on Saturday starting at 8 PM will be a DOUBLES event (\$50/player) and on Sunday starting at 10 AM will be SINGLES event (\$100/player). Events will be played on 4 Boards at the 133 Club, 133 West Yosemite Ave., Manteca, CA (Phone #: 209-823-4877). Contact Tournament Director: George Camara at 209-464-5410 for tournament details.

SEE "MEMORIAL DAY WEEKEND" tourney at 133 CLUB tournament flyer inserted in this March 2001 The Board Talk issue for more details.

Arizona
**6th ANNUAL BILL GIBBS
FAMILY BILLIARDS
GLENDALE, AZ
APRIL 27-29, 2001**

Family Billiards, 5814 W. Camelback Road, Glendale AZ, will once again host the 6th Annual Bill Gibbs Tournament for the Phoenix, AZ area. Three events, with at least 4 boards, will be held April 27, 28, 29. An A-B, handicapped, draw will start at 7:00 PM, Friday night with a \$20 entry for single game, double elimination. The A-B-C draw will start immediately after the 10:00 am Auction. This is also a single game double elimination event. Entry will be \$20.00 per person. The open doubles auction will begin at 6:00 PM, Saturday night, with play beginning immediately after. \$100 per team, 2 of 3 double elimination. The Bowers ratings will be used for all rated events. For more information contact Bob Lewis at 602-242-6782, Alice Arredondo, at 480-763-0127, or Al Salazar at 623-583-7035.

Oklahoma
**SOUTHWEST OPEN 2001!
AMERICAN LEGION #73
DEL CITY, OK
JULY 1 - 7, 2001**


The American Legion Post # 73, 5000 S.E. 24th, Del City, OK is now accepting registrations for their annual *Fourth of July Tradition* - the "SOUTHWEST OPEN 2001" tournament. There are 11 events scheduled (see flyer in this issue for details) with play on 31 Boards this year! Register early and save! For registration or event questions and/or details contact: Kathy Yingst at 918-742-2261 or e-mail: swopen@swbell.net. For any other information, contact: Don Crall at the American Legion at 405-670-9128 or 405-67-9120 or his home at 405-677-7611 or e-mail him at: doncrall73@aol.com.

SEE "SOUTHWEST OPEN 2001" tournament details and registration form flyer which is being inserted into 5 issues of The Board Talk (February 2001 through June 2001 issues).

*If you wish to purchase a
The Board Talk
shirt with silk screen logo or
the NEW quality denim jacket
or denim shirt with embroidered
logo on back, contact the
Editors.*

Thanks to Lorraine Bingham, Linda Nobles (and denim shirt order!), and Mahlon Moore for the 1st three denim jacket orders!

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Michigan/Indiana Shufflers Rally 'Round Ailing Player!

January 19-21, 2001

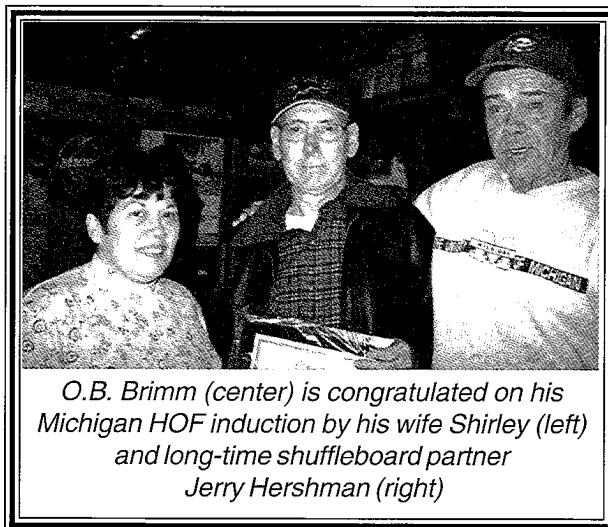
O.B. Brimm Benefit Tournament & Michigan HOF Induction Ceremony

Stober's Cocktail Lounge, Lansing, MI

As Reported By: Carrie Clifton and Donna Wilber

O.B. Brimm Benefit Tourney & Michigan Hall of Fame Induction!

Another great example of the powerful, positive impact of shuffleboard's caring support system took place at Stober's Cocktail Lounge in Lansing, Michigan, on January 12-21. A standing-room-only crowd gathered for a benefit tournament to help ease the financial burden of veteran shuffler O.B. Brimm as he battles cancer, but most of all, to let him know they care.



O.B. Brimm (center) is congratulated on his Michigan HOF induction by his wife Shirley (left) and long-time shuffleboard partner Jerry Herschman (right)

O.B., small in stature but big in talent, has been a familiar figure at Michigan and Indiana tournaments for several decades. His quiet, unassuming manner and his skills on the boards has and continues to gain him widespread popularity and respect. O.B. wasn't physically able to participate in this particular benefit tournament, but he was there with his family for a couple hours to receive the accolades and best wishes from his peers.

He knew it was a benefit for him, but what he didn't know was that he was also going to be inducted into the Michigan Shuffleboard Hall of Fame. His induction ceremony included the plaque presentation by Rob Kern and a moving tribute by Betty Parrish, Michigan HOF representatives, and a videotape of testimonials from his numerous friends and admirers, produced by Bill and Brenda Kane.

With 10% of the two events' entries and sponsor sales, 50/50 drawings, and tickets for a set of weights donated by The Shuffleboard Federation, the healthy benefit pot totaled \$1,375. In addition, several generous individual donations were also presented to O.B., including one from Al Stewart of California, who did not know O.B. personally, but will always be grateful for the outpouring of

generosity from The World of Shuffleboard to his wife Von, a victim of cancer.

There were 24 teams in Saturday's "Open Doubles" vying for a share of the \$4,917 pot. Even when the big field of contenders required a "mark 4" format, the battle didn't end until the wee hours of the morning.

There were 20 players in Sunday's "Singles," all battling for a piece of the \$2,055 pie.

O.B. Brimm Tourney Results:

Siebert/Sunde - Winners of Open Doubles



Above: **Open Doubles 1st Place Winners: Siebert/Sunde**
The Victors were Bjerne Sunde (right) who came out of 'semi-retirement' to honor his friend O.B. Brimm and partner Jerry Siebert, both of Michigan

**Spread the word about
The Board Talk ...
Get your fellow shufflers &
favorite establishments to
subscribe!**

O.B. Brimm...Results:

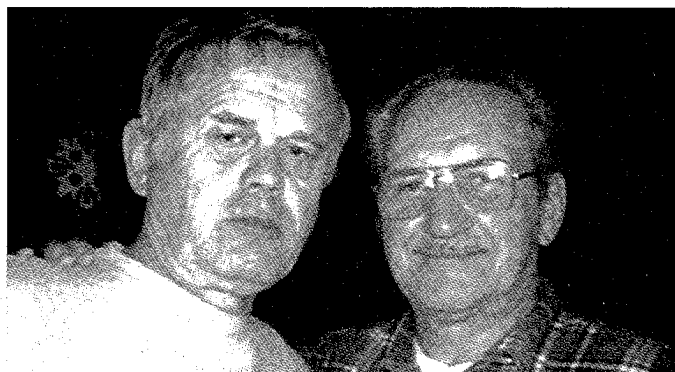
(Continued from Page 8)

Blade/Johnson - 2nd Place in Open Doubles



Above: **Open Doubles 2nd Place Honors:** Blade/Johnson Frank Blade (left) of Michigan and Mikel Johnson (right) of Indiana [Mikel also contributed his talents as auctioneer for this benefit tourney]

Creakbaum/Miller - 3rd Place in Open Doubles

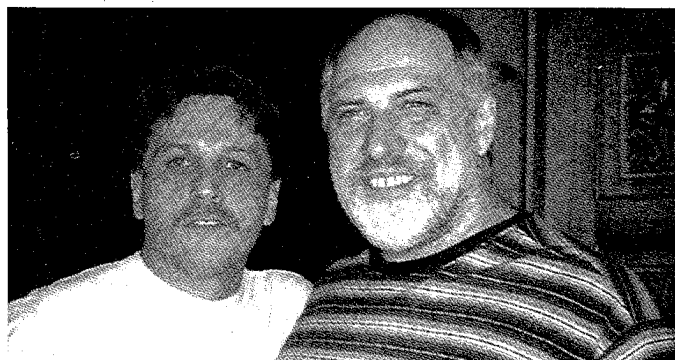


Above: **Open Doubles 3rd Place:** Creakbaum/Miller Hoosiers Larry Creakbaum (left) and Ray Miller (right)

Others in the Open Doubles Winners circle (not pictured) were Jeff Cottrell/Bill Kane (**4th Place**); and Tom Schultz/Mike O'Dell and Mark Holland/Rich Lilly (**Splitting 5th/6th Place**).

Johnson Takes "Singles" Title!

Mikel Johnson of Indiana took top honors and local travelling shuffler Leon Black took second place (both pictured below).



Above: **Singles 1st Place:** Mikel Johnson (left) and **Singles 2nd Place:** Leon Black (right)



Above: **Singles 3rd Place:** Glen Ingram of Indiana finished 3rd Place in the field of 20 tough contenders.



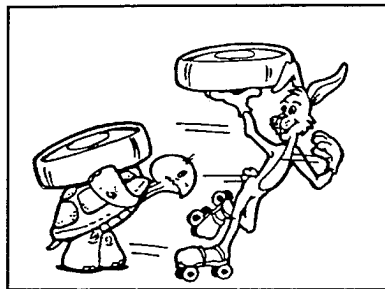
Above: **Singles 4th Place:** Jeff Cottrell (right) of Michigan receives congratulations from his No. 1 fan!

Pre-tournament round robin winners on Friday night were Robbie Ravelo and John Myles (no pics).

Special Thanks from Organizers and Hostess!

"On behalf of Hostess: Linda Stober and Co-Directors ... Theresa Stephens and Alonzo Cottrell, thanks to all who supported this benefit tournament," said Director Carrie Clifton. "We were honored to have the O.B. Brimm Benefit Tournament at Stober's. As Linda Stober, in her usual eloquent style, said: 'Shuffleboard is family,' every one of you proved that by participating in this well-deserved benefit. Special thanks to our wonderful friends from Indiana and those from Michigan that we had not seen for awhile because of health and/or work reasons, but turned out for their special friend - O.B. Brimm! Thanks, also, to The Shuffleboard Federation for the donation of the weights (everyone wanted them, but guess who won? None other than the former 'Board Talk George,' who has already taken his prized set of Federation weights to tournaments across the U.S.A.). It was great to see O.B. and his family. Just remember, O.B., we love you and pray for you every day," Carrie concluded.

If there is anyone who was not able to attend the tournament that would like to send a word of encouragement to O.B. Brimm, his address is: 46424 Vineyard, Utica, MI 48317.



Shufflers' Notebook (Continued from Page 2)

News and Views from The World of Shuffleboard

A New Experience for Char Rahn of Nebraska!

In November, I was in my home town of Alliance, NE when I "heard" my first talking shuffleboard. I was at the Eagles Club for dinner and I knew they had a board (the only one in town). I had seen it in the summer at my Class Reunion.

My niece and I were partners against my brother Randy and his brother-in-law Don. Randy won the flip and had hammer. My niece, Julie, who never had a weight in her hand, really didn't want to play, but I talked her into it - "Gals against Guys", I said. Randy scored 4 points the first round. After he marked his points, a voice said "Nice going! How about some defense?". I then scored 4 points and the voice said "Nice comeback!". The board made different comments every once in a while. It was a very interesting game, which Julie and I won.

The board was from Richland Hills, Texas and is different from any board I've ever seen. It has 4 scoring zones labeled with large numbers and 3 scoring zones labeled in small numbers in the left side. There were two teams playing against each other while we were eating dinner; a teenage girl, 2 teenage boys, and a man in his 30's. I enjoyed watching then and laughing when one of the boys said he scored "5" since the weight was hanging off the side of the board in the "4" zone. They watched our game and afterward, I talked to them about shuffleboard. The girl asked the most questions. It was a fun evening at the Eagles and I enjoyed seeing and "hearing" new items in the world of shuffleboard. -- **By: Char Rahn, Omaha, NE**

NOTE FROM THE EDITORS: Char, since this was a first time for you to "see" and "hear" the handicap score shuffleboard (where you can play the 4-zone and/or or 3-zone scoring) and the talking score unit on a shuffleboard, you might want to read more about this patented "handicap score" shuffleboard with "talking" at: <http://www.championshuffleboard.com> (Champion Shuffleboard's website). Did you notice when it is not being played on it will periodically say "Let's Play Shuffleboard"? I guess that is when play is idle and it is craving to be fed some quarters <grin>. -- T&L French

THE BOARD TALK "Play Your Way Across The USA -2001"

We are working on our list of establishments to be placed in the annual "Play Your Way Across The USA - 2001!" publication which will be printed and inserted in the June 2001 *The Board Talk* issue. In order for your favorite establishments to be listed in this annual publication, they must either be an active *The Board Talk* Subscriber (\$30/year subscriber) to our monthly publication and/or have an active annual ad for their establishment in our "Shuffleboard Directory" which costs either \$100/year or \$150/year to get this inexpensive advertising monthly for 12 months. The smaller ad is \$100/year and the larger ad is \$150/year (See Pages 22-23 in this issue for samples of each size).

We are asking our subscribers to please check with their favorite establishments that they wish to be listed in the places to play publication to ensure that their subscription and/or Directory Ad is current. Shufflers use this directory in their travels and when they relocate or move to a different area. You may also contact *The Board Talk* Editors to find out if your establishment is on the list, so that you can make contact with them if they are not already on our list. The deadline is May 15, 2001 for the June 2001 publication, so we don't have much time to ensure we get all the places to play onto the list.

Your help to get your area establishments on our list will be greatly appreciated!

In addition, please take a moment and ensure that your personal subscription is current (see outside back cover just above your name/address to verify when your subscription expires), so that you don't miss any issues and ensure you will get your personal copy of the "Play Your Way Across The USA" inserted into your June 2001 issue.

Again, thanks to all of you for your help, input, and continued support of YOUR *The Board Talk* publication!

-- **By: Tom & Lynda, Editors**

Spread the word about The Board Talk ... Get your fellow shufflers to subscribe!

Shufflers' Notebook Continued from Page 10)

Shuffleboard Rules Discussion!

[See The Board Talk, February 2001 issue, Page 10 for additional "Making A Weight Safe" discussion including input from Johnny Ballard of Houston, TX and George Wilber of Lansing, MI and input from Johnny Wayne Crawford of D/FW, TX (regarding forming a "Rules Committee").]

Making A Weight Safe & Other Rules To Define

Submitted By: Dan Hitt, Spokane, WA

Making a Weight Safe

Since you cannot outlag a stabilized 4, the only reason a 4 should be made safe is with the intent of hitting the weight off. So the responsibility to have the 4 stabilized lies with the player who has to shoot at it. At a time when that player deems it safe, by whatever means agreeable to both parties concerned, and starts their delivery of the next weight, and any subsequent weight in the frame, the 4 falls off for any reason other than being struck by a weight, the 4 shall be returned to the playing surface and made safe.

Other Rules to Define

There are at least 5 other rules of known problems I have noticed that should be considered to be better defined:

- 1) What is "coaching" and when is it allowed?
- 2) What can we really do about a player that *drags* their thumb or finger as a tournament player, I'm talking sometimes players that do this every shot. There are players out there that are doing this.
- 3) What about having a call on a weight before the frame is over? I've seen it being done at the North American Shuffleboard Championships.
- 4) What is excessive spinning of a weight? ... and is there a time limit?
- 5) Should a weight that is hit into another weight and pops up and lands upside down on the playfield be taken off or just flipped back over?

Without having rules that are clearly defined for any situation, tournament officials will always apply the rules in their own way and sometimes not at all. As players, most of us come to a tournament to compete and have fun, not to have to call other players on rule's violations. It is always the officials responsibility to make the final decision.

-- By: Dan Hitt, Spokane, WA

Making A Weight Safe Experience

Submitted By: (Hot Rod Todd) Brewer, Pendleton, IN

The "Safe Shot Rule" better be learned by all players. It cost me and my partner big bucks because we did not call a weight safe and when my partner shot, the opponent's weight fell off before our shot ever got to the opponents weight. So, the weight came back up and this 4 hanger cost us 4 points and the game - we lost!

You may have a weight that is hanging and/or rocking over the end of the board and may fall off during your opponent's shot. If your weight is not called or made "safe" by your opponent and falls off before getting hit it will be returned to it's original spot. That will mean a loss of shot by the opponent and the frame shall continue. If the weight is called "safe," a judge or tournament official may make it safe by barely moving the weight back onto the board so that it doesn't fall off during opponent's shot. The frame play continues, but the weight cannot be outlagged.

-- By: Todd Brewer, Pendleton, IN

Hanging Weight Rule

Submitted By: Woodie Cockrum, Sr., Columbia, MO

I would like to comment on the hanging weight rule: (quote/unquote from Page 13 of the old *American Rule Book*)

"A. A weight overhanging the edge of the board at any point is "dead" if it falls from the board before the opponent's weight ceases motion.

B. After the opponent's weight has ceased motion a scoring "rail" hanger is legal, and must be replaced if it falls from the board without being hit by another weight.

C. Should the weight fall from the board for any other reason than being legally knocked off, such as slapping the table, stomping on the floor, etc., it must be replaced to its original position and considered a legal weight."

These rules from the *American Rule Book* were in force when I started playing shuffleboard back in the 1940's and my feelings, it's a rule that was easy to explain. These rules are directly from "*THE BOOK*" and I'm sure you have heard that before.

-- By: Woodie Cockrum Sr., Columbia, MO

(Shufflers' Notebook is Continued on Page 30)

Market Street Cafe "Santa's Surprise" Updated Photo!

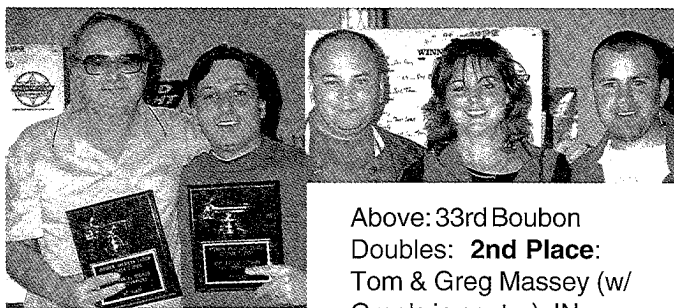
Original tourney result input on the Feb. 2001 issue (Page 8) had a picture submitted with an unidentified player's name. Corrected photo below with Chuck King since identified with picture follows:



Saturday BRING PARTNER: 1st Place (Above)
Buddy Brammer (left) and Chuck King (right)

33rd Bourbon Doubles and 1st Stober's 2000 Doubles - Late Photos!

Additional Late Photos Submitted by: Mikel Johson, IN



Above: 33rd Bourbon
Doubles: **1st Place:**
Dave Boaz (left)/Mikel
Johnson (right), IN

Above: 33rd Bourbon
Doubles: **2nd Place:**
Tom & Greg Massey (w/
Greg's in center), IN

Right: 1st Annual
Stober's 2000 Doubles:
1st Place: Mikel Johnson
(left)/Larry Brown (Right),
IN



Bavarian "B" House "A-B Draw" Tourney Results!

January 27-28, 2001

The Bavarian "B" House

Titusville, FL

Submitted by: Charley Thompson (no pictures)

"The Bavarian House" A-B Draw tournament was the *largest ever*. Twenty-five participants. The play was very eventful. There were *six* 'out of state' players present including: Detroit's Jimmy "The Cop"; Doug and Elsie Fridley and Arlow and Jane Johnson from New York... plus some fine locals! Alvis Ramey, Tournament Director did an outstanding job in running the tournament. The winners were as follows: **1st Place:** Dean Vincent/Berrie McClean; **2nd Place:** Arlow Johnson/Randy Bledsoe; and **3rd Place:** Charley Thompson/Roy "BOY" Deberry.

On Sunday, SUPER BOWL DAY, the play was not as fast and fiery as Saturday, but we still had some very interesting and excellent play. Sunday's winners were as follows: **1st Place:** Jerry Gray/Ursula Badouin; **2nd Place:** Charley Thompson/Pat Gray; and **3rd Place:** Alvis Ramey/Tammy Michelson. Jerry and Ursula came back from the loser's bracket to win two straight games from Charley and Pat (winners of the winner bracket and had to be double dipped). The tournament ended just as the Super Bowl game came on.

Thanks to all who participated. The next C.F.S.A. tournament is the "Florida Open and Blast Off WARMUP" tournament on March 10-11th and then the "BLAST OFF" tourney is March 22-25 (both at The FILL-N-STATION). The "8th ANNUAL FLORIDA OPEN" is March 16-18 at the Snuggery Bar and Grill, West Palm Beach, FL. **SEE THE TOURNAMENT FLYERS** that were inserted into the February 2001 The Board Talk issue for more details on the "BLAST OFF" and "8th ANNUAL FLORIDA OPEN" tournaments.



TAZ Country Results!

January 26-28, 2001

Taz Country, Pflugerville, TX (Austin, TX area)

Reported By: Debbie Bowers

Taz Country hosted another one of their great tournaments where players came in from around the State of Texas to join in some shuffling competition and fun. The tournament kicked off on Friday night with a warm-up **A-B DRAW**

PARTNER (no sponsor sale) with 38 participants. The winners were: **1st Place:** Don Valk (Austin)/Mike Boulanger (San Antonio); **2nd Place:** Tina Wade/Kevin Arafia (both local Austin area players).

Saturday's winners of the **BRING PARTNER** were: **1st Place** which was taken by Mike Taylor and Tom French (both Austin area locals - sponsored by Gene Criminger, Taz Country owner) and **2nd Place** honors went to myself (Debbie Bowers) and Lynda French (both Austin locals - sponsored by Holly Nance). Lynda and I were the undefeated winners in the winner's bracket and had already put some tough teams into the loser bracket that came back from the loser bracket to place into the money - including Mike Taylor/Tom French (Austin) and Mahlon Nobles/Linda Nobles (Dallas). Lynda and I had 3 grueling matches with Mike Taylor and Tom French - first putting them into the loser bracket and then them coming back to double dip us (but not without a good fight!) to take first place with first game score of the finals being 15-14 (Mike had the hammer too) and second game score to finally double dip us at 15-13. So, there were NO EASY matches all day/night! **3rd Place** honors went to Mahlon Nobles/Linda Nobles from Dallas; and **4th Place** honors went to another tough team: Tina Wade and Tony Fiumara who are both from the Austin area.

Sunday's **HANDICAP SINGLES' 1st Place Champion** was Mahlon Nobles (Dallas); **2nd Place** was Mike Taylor; and **3rd Place** was Randy Rogers. After such a long hard day/night on Saturday, I did not play in the Singles. My partner from Saturday (Lynda) said she was really tired too, but played anyway and wished maybe she hadn't, as she beat out her calcutta, Flynt Preston from Houston, and then didn't make it to the money herself.

Thanks to all tournament supporters and helpers: Tina Wade (bracket boards and money collection); Holly Nance (money collection); Coach for getting the boards ready on Friday night; Nicki

Buesing for help in drawing names; and Tom and Lynda French for their help in preparing the boards (cleaning and buffing, etc.) the Saturday prior to the tournament.

Also, a very special "Thanks" to all of the out-of-town players who supported and participated in our tournament from Houston, Dallas, San Antonio, Canyon Lake, Corpus Christi, and all around! And many thanks to all our Austin area locals for being there to play and help. Thanks to Gene and Sarah Criminger, Taz Country owners, for hosting another great shuffleboard event. Taz Country has 5 Home Boards and normal weekly tournament play is on Wed. (7:30 PM); Fri. and Sat. (8 PM). We invite any/all to join us on our weekly and/or specially scheduled tournament events. -- Debbie Bowers

"Winter Doubles" at Bourbon Legion Results!

January 6, 2001

American Legion Post 424

Bourbon, IN

Reported By: Ray S. Miller

The "Winters Doubles" was held at the Bourbon Legion on January 6, 2001. There were 22 teams and sponsor sales of \$4,400 - 4 places were paid. The lucky winners were:



Left: **1st Place Winners:** Miller/Knox
The 1st Place Winners were Ray Miller (left) and Jerry Knox (right) who were sponsored by Dewayne Westafer

Not pictured 2nd-4th Place winners were:

2nd Place: Bobby Voohis/Larry Creakbaum;
3rd Place: Dennis Kinsey/Mike Koontz; and
4th Place: Don Chapman/Steve Slough

HAPPY ST. PATRICK'S DAY TO ALL!



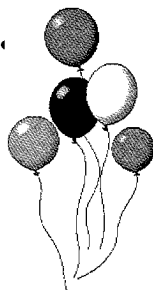
**Tom & Lynda French,
The Board Talk Editors**



Ninety-two And Still Shufflin' Along.

December 16, 2000
Rear Inn Lounge
Westminster, CO

Reported By: Kathi Loyd
Pictures By: Candy Lepore



Colorado shuffleboard players celebrated the 92nd Birthday of one of our favorite players, John Austin, at the Rear Inn Lounge on Dec. 16th. The party included a Blind Draw with 1st Place Honors going to the birthday boy and his partner Harlan Martell.

For those of you who haven't met John, I will tell you a little about this truly remarkable and delightful human being. John was a school teacher and principal for most of his adult life until they made him retire at age 65. But he had far too much energy and zest for life to just sit back and relax, so he started a new career as a sales representative for a large sand and gravel business in Colorado. After doing that for 11 years he retired again at age 76. But, he still wanted to work and stay busy. He went on to teach again! This time he taught adult education classes -- gold panning up in the nearby Rocky Mountains! He finally really retired in his mid-80's and has since written his memoirs.

His shuffleboard "career" began after his second retirement. He began playing on the Rear Inn's league team and has been playing ever since. Some of you may recall seeing or meeting him in the mid-1990's when he played in the A-B Blind Draw at the Pacific Coast Championships in Las Vegas at the age of 85!

You talk about going for the gusto because you only go around once in life! John still knows how to tell a good joke and enjoy a cocktail in the afternoon while playing a little shuffleboard. If you come to Colorado, stop by the Rear Inn about 4:00 PM and John will give you a game! Watch out for his lag!



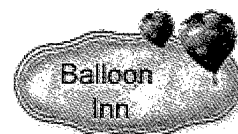
Pictured Above - 1st Place Blind Draw: John Austin (left)/Harlan Martell (right) share their prize money with John's daughter (center)



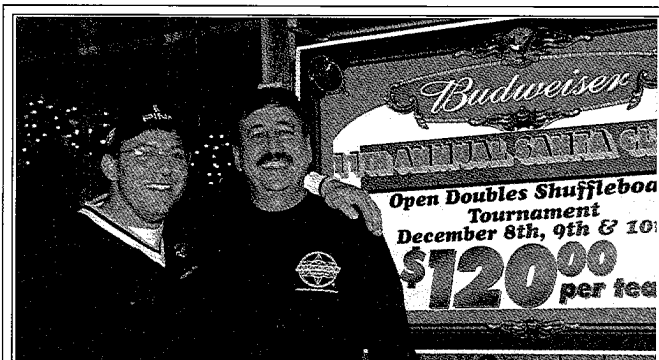
Pictured Above - Ron Sosovec (left) presented John Austin (birthday boy on right) with a set of weights, a case and "Birthday Drinking Money" from all the players.

11th Annual "Santa Classic" Results!

December 8-10, 2000
Balloon Inn
Arvada, CO



Reported By: Kathi Loyd
Pictures By: Candy Lepore



Above: **1st Place Champs:** Tighe Levan (left)/ Ron Sosovec (right) of Fort Collins, CO, posing in front of the banner before it was taken down and autographed ... not pictured winners were: **2nd Place:** Rick Boyer/Jody Slack of CO; and **3rd Place:** Marty Shepard (Omaha, NE)/George Ostrom (CO)

This year's "Santa Classic" truly lived up to it's name. The Bring Partner Open Doubles' teams were all tough and it was anybody's guess what the outcome would be. The big winners were Ron Sosovec and Tighe Levan from Fort Collins. Tighe just started playing a little over 2 years ago and has developed a truly skilled and competitive game in a short time. Tighe did have a great partner in Ron Sosovec who helped them finish in the top heap! They had to compete against players such as

(Continued on Page 16)

11th Annual Santa Classic...

(Continued from Page 14)

Rick Boyer and Jody Slack (2nd Place winners) and Marty Shepard from Omaha and George Ostrom (3rd Place winners).

As always, the Balloon Inn provided a great buffet dinner for the players along with banners commemorating this event. At the end of the tournament Glenn and Cee Cee Chavez, bar owners of the Balloon Inn, presented all of the winners with a banner and had all of the players autograph them as a memento of the tournament. What a great idea!

5th Annual Kozee 2001 Kickoff! Perceptions and Results!

January 19-21, 2001
Kozee Lounge
Omaha, NE

Reported By: Char Rahn

The first tournament in Omaha this year was the "KOZEE 2001 Kickoff". For the 5th year, Kozee Lounge and Hosts Bill and Dru Frederick held an Open Doubles and Singles tournament on Jan 19-21. Owner Dick Olson added money to both events.

A total of 22 teams participated in the doubles event. The single-game, double elimination event was handicapped at a maximum of 3 points. My camera went on the blink Saturday night, so pictures are not available. Hopefully, they can be forwarded with the results of the next tournament.

Winners of the DOUBLES event were: **1st Place (never losing a game):** Randy Nusser/Linda Ritter; **2nd Place:** Jim Payne/Jim Kosiske; **3rd Place:** Mike Roach/Tom Harvatt; **4th Place:** Lenny Webster/ Jr. Butler; **5th Place:** Tommy Arellano/ "Bring 'em back" Bob Linder; and **6th Place:** Tom Galvin/Don Landrie.

Hopeful participants were turned away from entering the SINGLES event, which was limited to 18 players. This event, which began and ended on Sunday, was a single game, double elimination non-handicapped event. Finishing **1st Place:** Mike Roach; **2nd Place:** Jim Payne; **3rd Place:** Jr. Butler; **4th Place:** Jay Watson; **5th Place:** Terry Roberts; and **6th Place:** John Henry.

For several players, this was their first tournament. I hope they participate in many

tournaments to come. There were many great games and everyone had a good time. Thank you to bar owner, Dick Olson, and the bartenders for all their work. Thanks also to Bill and Dru Frederick for running the tournament and also for the good food. The brownies were wonderful as usual, Dru! PHOTOS COMING FROM CHAR IN NEXT ISSUE!

Upcoming Omaha, NE tournaments include:

March 9-11 All Nations Brew House
(Handicap Open Doubles)

March 16-18 Harold's St. Patrick's Day Tourney
(Draft/Open/Handicap Doubles)

March 30-April 1 Nebraska-hosted CO.NE-Head
Tournament at My Way Lounge

April 6-8 Musette Bar (Handicap Open Doubles)

April 20-22 Hall of Fame Tourney at Joe Banana's
(Open Doubles)

May 4-6 Denny Busch Memorial at My Way Lounge
and Harold's Bar (A-B Draw/Open Doubles/Singles)

May 19 Baratta's Bar (Open Doubles)

June 8-10 Joel Rahn Singles at Piccolo's Bar and
Joe's Duck Inn (with sponsor sale)

Sept. 20-22 Nebraska State Championships at My
Way Lounge and Harold's Bar & Package

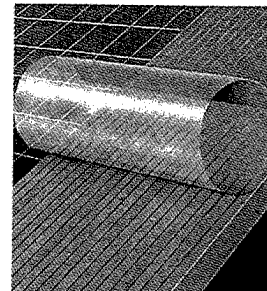
For information on any of these tournaments, you may contact Char Rahn at 402-331-5407.

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Frisko Eddie's Revenge: The Return

EPISODE 77 -- A Series by Balboa Ron Schweikert

Dear Readers: Balboa Ron said to let the readers know that this episode (starting with Episode 76 last month) is a TRUE story (almost!)

Submitted Monthly By: Balboa Ron Schweikert,
1140 Coral Desert Drive, Las Vegas, NV 89123 or
e-mail: balboaron@earthlink.net

(In last month's Episode 76, we found Eddie about to get attacked by a shark he unknowingly had hooked on his rig, but Shelli could see from the shore what he had hooked, as she saw the shark fin that was circling towards Eddie after it had dragged him out up to his neck. She was screaming to "Let go of the pole for Gods sake.. I see a shark's fin coming your way!!")

Eddie could hear Shelli shouting out something - but he couldn't make it out, because of the rain and rough water. His line had now gone limp in the water. This could mean two things - either whatever he had on the line was coming his way ... or he had lost whatever the thing was!

He decided to start reeling in on the line, while making it backward for the shore. After he was about chest high in the water he could finally make out what Shelli was trying desperately to tell him - and then simultaneously he spotted the fin! It was closing in fast on him now!

The only thing he could think to do now was make a beeline for the shore. He hollered out to Shelli to "Stay where you are - don't try to come in the water!!" He was waist high in the water now, and took a look to the rear. It was the shark, and big one at that! He could see the mouth open up now - he knew he was a goner!

Everything happened really fast then. Eddie turned toward the monster, and at the same time ... He took a shot at jamming the tip of his pole into it's mouth! The last thing he saw was the pole with the shark - thrashing and chewing it to pieces! He waded at record breaking speed to the safety of the shore - and the safety of Shelli's arms around him. They both got a short glimpse of the fin now, with the reel end of the pole sticking up in the air for a second, before it disappeared out into the deeper water.

They both looked at each other while they were hugging in the rain. They kissed and kissed, then Eddie looked into her eyes and said: "Well there's one thing we'll have to remember about our Honeymoon Sweetheart." She said "What's That Lover?". He responded with "It sure as heck wasn't Dull Baby!"... They both laughed and laughed, all the way back to the resort, in the now drenching rain.

They had made a mad dash back to their suite, and were sopping wet. They both thought of the same idea ... get out of their drenched clothes - and hop into a nice hot shower! They got in just as soon as the water was starting to get hot. They were getting other feelings- other than just being soaped down and "Squeaky" clean. They both came into those emotions and how wonderful it was! They had just enough time for a short nap before they had to leave to meeting Eddie's buddy Jack at the Surf Rider Tavern, for a shuffleboard session.

They decided to call the place - just to make sure the tournament was still on, with this weather and all. Eddie got the bar owner on the other end; and yes, everything was all set - and they were all counting on watching the "Champ" in action! Just as they were about to hang up, the owner made a comment: "By the way Eddie, there's a pretty gal here that's entered the tournament. She's a Pro and says she *just can't wait to see you!*"

[Note: Who could this pretty female "PRO" be? Surely it couldn't be Long Beach Lil, but then again... Tune in next month to find out the answer to this one!!!] **(TO BE CONTINUED NEXT MONTH)**

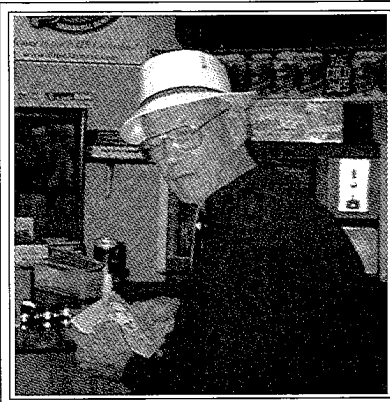
COMMENT FROM THE BOARD TALK EDITORS: Ron, if it is Long Beach Lil, Eddie may be headed for some trouble (or serious injury) based upon your below cartoon submitted for the "Humor Section" anyway. --T&L, Editors



Prayers Requested for Dale Gushman

Submitted by: Mikel Johnson, Warsaw, IN

One of our most lovable players, sponsors, and tournament promoters is battling for his life as he has been stricken with life-threatening cancer. Dale Gushman (pictured page center) from NorthEast Ohio has been diagnosed with brain, lung, and bone marrow cancer. Dale is a long-time supporter and player in Michigan, Ohio, and Indiana regions and one of the first supporters to add money to the tournament pots. Through the years, Dale has added thousands of dollars to different shuffleboard events to help promote the game and build up tournaments. Recently, Mikel Johnson took up donations during the Amateur Event held at Lucky's Tavern in North Webster, IN with mentionable names and lots of get well wishes from fellow players and friends, including: Carol Westermann, Tom Bickell, Brian Collins, Mikey Grimes, Ray Miller, Claude Johnson, Keith, Gene McLeod, Greg and Sheryl Cockerill, Buddy Broka, Terry Dowell, Kristi Redman, Missy Rupe, Orris



Hughes, Ron Gray, Steve Slough, Don Champman, Jodi Berry, Wally Dan, Gary Anglin, Gary Neff, George Redman, Adrian and Brenda Owens, Rolland and Martha, Dan Gillespi, Kent Mishler, Lee, the crew from Syracuse VFW, Gary, Dave and AJ and many more! I would like to personally thank each one of you for your donations and many thanks to all the Indiana players who attended and supported the Evansport, OH tournament. A special thanks to Bobby and Debbie Voorhis, Glen Ingram and Chris Small for making it to Dale Gushman's tournament in Evansport, OH recently. This truly meant alot to Dale. After taking the gifts bought from the donations to Dale Gushman even as ill as he is, he challenged the board and we played against two other Ohio players in which we came out on top. Please keep Dale your prayers and give him a call, he'd love to hear from his fellow shufflers.

(Continued on Page 27)

-- ATTENTION --

GOOD-BYE "RED CHECK"! Due to a change in publishers and a new process required to print and ship this monthly publication, the "RED CHECK" expiration notice is NO LONGER inside your issue. Your "SUBSCRIPTION EXPIRES" date is on the back cover's address line. Please use the FORM inside back cover to renew TIMELY to avoid missing issues!

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FIR CONE Results!

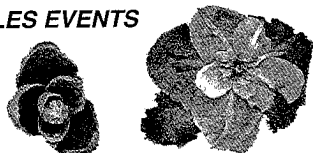
MIXED DOUBLES & Div. II SINGLES EVENTS

November 11-12, 2000

Fir Cone Tavern

Shelton, WA

Reported By: Dwayne Dibley



The Fir Cone Tavern, Shelton, WA, hosted it's annual MIXED DOUBLES event on Nov. 11-12. Due to a decline in the number of mixed double teams, they decided to host a Division II SINGLES event simultaneously. Having two events on 3 boards could not be done without a very good tournament director. Just like a President appointing a cabinet member, the Fir Cone Tavern wanted an intelligent, fair, and uniformly consistent director (maybe that really isn't like a President appointing a cabinet member?!?). Bill Shanahan, east coast accent and all, met the criteria. Bill had another strong asset in that he played the game for over 20 years and knows the rules. Bill did an excellent job and the Fir Cone hopes he will run future tournaments.

MIXED DOUBLES WINNERS were:



Above: **1st Place:** Jackie Anderson (left) and Larry "Big Unit" Pearson (right)



Above (left to right): **2nd Place:** Mike Waters and Cheri Schrum; **3rd Place:** Vern Gonzales and Jeanette "DW" Hohn.

Division II Singles Winners (no pictures): **1st Place:** Terry Woodward and **2nd Place:** Pat Vancleve.

Many thanks to the Shelton Shuffleboard Community for the great Saturday feast too!

FIR CONE Thanksgiving A-B Results!

Traditional Thanksgiving A-B Tourney

November 25-26, 2000

Fir Cone Tavern

Shelton, WA

Reported By: Dwayne Dibley



The Fir Cone Tavern, Shelton, WA, hosted the annual Thanksgiving tournament that is traditionally held at BZ's Sports Bar in Burien, WA. BZ's was in the midst of an ownership change and the chaos that creates, so the Thanksgiving A-B tourney was held at the Fir Cone Tavern in Shelton, WA instead on Nov. 25-26, 2000 (two days after Thanksgiving). Some of the best A and B players in the state were there including the NASC 2000 Singles Champion, Mike "High Calcutta" Thorpe. Larry "Big Unit" Pearson and Jeff Kersting came back from the losers bracket to win **first place** after a tough struggle with Vern Gonzales and Bob Hurst who settled for **second place**. **Third place** went to the surprise team of the "Huleos": Gary George and Francisco Alumada. A great feast was provided by the Shelton Shuffleboard Community on Saturday.

DAVID L's New Year's Mixed Doubles Results!

December 31, 2000

David L's Hideout Lounge

Yorktown, IN

Reported By: Gregg Cockerill



On New Year's Eve, 10 couples played a "Mixed Doubles" even and shot for \$1,400 at David L's Hideout Lounge in Yorktown, IN. David added \$50 prize money to the entry.

Coming back from the loser's bracket to win **First Place** went to Gary Inland/ and Jody Berry. **Second Place** went to Terry Dowell and Sheryl Cockerill; and finishing in **Third Place** were Larry and Mary Brown.

David appreciated all the players and fans. A special thanks went to the auctioneer, Terry Dowell, and to Sheryl Cockerill for doing the brackets and handling the finances.

Snowball Handicap Results!

January 12-13, 2001
American Legion Post 73
Del City, OK

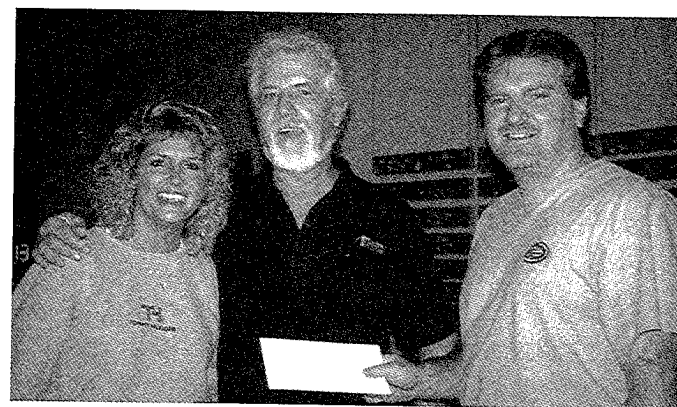
Reported By: Don Crall

The Snowball Handicap tournament was held on Jan. 12-14, 2001, at the American Legion Post 73 in Del City, OK, hosted by Don Crall and the Legion.

In the Friday night **Draw Partner** event and Saturday's **Bring Partner** event winners were:



LEFT: 1st Place Draw Partner:
Fred Harris (left)
and Rena Fleming (right)



ABOVE: 2nd Place Bring Partner:
Sally Goff (left) and Rick Jones (right) being presented their 2nd Place award by Dave Fleming (right)



LEFT: 3rd Place Bring Partner:
Brad Lowry (left)
and Jerry Widdoes (right)

RIGHT: 2nd Place Draw Partner:
Jerry Widdoes (left)
and Weldon Lambert (right)



Bourbon Held Annual "Open Singles" -- Results!

American Legion Post 424
Bourbon, IN

Reported By: Bill Niswonger, Assistant Tourney Director

There were 30 players that gathered at the Bourbon Legion to participate in an annual "Open Singles" event. Players from Ohio, Michigan, and Indiana arrived at the tournament in anticipation of who would win this large event. Terry Dowell did a fine job, as usual, directing the tournament with Bill Niswonger assisting along the way. The crowds witnessed a first for Bourbon this year by having long-time auctioneer and Hall-of-Famer, Steve Hart, doubling up with infamous auctioneer Mikel Johnson to double whammy the players picking their pockets clean by the end of the auction. The Dynamic Duo put on quite a show and all were pleased (and broke) by the end of the performance.

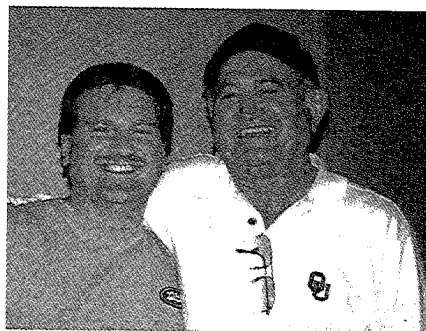
1st Place went to Brian Collins; **2nd Place** to Mikel Johnson; **3rd Place** to Jim Long; **4th Place** to Greg Massey; **5th Place** to Glen Ingram; and **6th Place** to Bobby Voorhis.

Congratulations and thanks to all for such a fine job, including the Dynamic Duo for making one of the largest calcuttas ever for this event!



LEFT: 3rd Place Draw Partner:
Gerald Woods (left)
and Brad Lowry (right)

RIGHT: 1st Place Bring Partner:
Dave Fleming (left)
Euel "E.T." Jensen (right)



2001 CALENDAR OF SHUFFLEBOARD EVENTS

MARCH 2001

March 3-4

True Round Robin Doubles
American Legion Post 424
Bourbon, Indiana

March 9-10

Spring Fling
Market Street Cafe
Charlestown, Maryland

March 2-11

Amateur Tournament
Harbor Point Club & Grill
Richardson, TX

March 10-11

Florida Open/Blast Off "Warm Up"
FILL-N-STATION
Mims, Florida

March 16-17

9th Annual Texas Co. Shuffleboard
Championship
Eagles Club
Houston, Missouri

March 16-18

Florida Open
Snuggery Bar & Grill
Palm Beach Gardens, Florida

March 16-18

St. Patrick's Day Tourney
Harold's Bar
Omaha, Nebraska

March 22-25

2nd Annual Cape Kennedy
"Blast Off" Tourney
FILL-N-STATION
Mims, Florida

March 23-24

Spring Warmup
Harvey's Place
Street, Maryland

March 23-25

3rd Annual Texas State
Championships
Gold Nugget
Arlington, Texas

March 30-April 1

Toledo Open
Avon's Local 14
Toledo, Ohio

March 31-April 1

"OPEN & MIXED DOUBLES"
David L's Hideout Lounge
Yorktown, Indiana

APRIL 2001

April 6-8

Corpus Christi's 2001 Spring Fling
Eagles Aerie # 2249
Corpus Christi, Texas

April 6-8

Mixed Doubles/Women's Singles
Stober's Cocktail Lounge
Lansing, Michigan

April 13-15

Battle of the Bars
AMVETS Post 26
Pendleton, Indiana

April 18-22

1st World Championship
Singles Round Robin & Open
Doubles
Sands Regency
Reno, Nevada

April 20-22

Heartland Handicap
American Legion Post 73
Del City, Oklahoma

April 20-22

Lake of the Ozarks Spring Tourney
Chances "R"
Laurie, Missouri

April 21

Open Doubles
Sportsman's Lounge
Muncie, Indiana

April 27-28

Maryland State Championship
Harvey's Place
Street, Maryland

April 27-29

9th Annual Bill Gibbs Tourney
Family Billiards (The Bar)
Glendale, Arizona

MAY 2001

May 5

Annual Spring Doubles
American Legion 424
Bourbon, Indiana

May 19

3rd Annual Bobby Schounce
Memorial Tournament
Chances "R"
Muncie, Indiana

JUNE 2001

June 15-17

Warm Up Tourney
Bud's Action Lounge
Broken Arrow, Oklahoma

JULY 2001

July 1-7

Southwest Open 2001
American Legion Post #73
Del City, Oklahoma

AUGUST 2001

August 2-5

Grand Masters Plus
Whistling Oyster
Quilcene, Washington

August 17-18

2nd Annual Amateur Ladies Only
Tournament
Eagles Club
Houston, Missouri

August 31-September 2

Labor Day Tournament
Bud's Action Lounge
Broken Arrow, Oklahoma

SEPTEMBER 2001

September 28-29

4th Annual M.S.P.A. Hall of Fame
Eagles Club
Houston, Missouri

NOVEMBER 2001

November 23-24

Thanksgiving Tournament
Bud's Action Lounge
Broken Arrow, Oklahoma

November 22-25

7th Annual Thanksgiving Tourney
Eagles Club
Houston, Missouri

**SEE PAGE 16 FOR LATE ADDITIONS TO
"CALENDAR OF EVENTS" IN OMAHA, NE**

Lucky's Tavern "Open Doubles" Results!

November 2000
Lucky's Tavern
North Webster, IN

Reported By: Carol Westerman, Lucky's Tavern Owner

Lucky's Tavern located in North Webster, Indiana, hosted it's November "Open Doubles" tournament. There was great participation, good sponsor sales, lots of good food to eat [as usual], and a great turn out!

Capturing **1st Place title:** Mikel Johnson/Steve Blue (sponsored by Gregg Cockerill); **2nd Place:** Brian Collins/Mikey Grimes; and **3rd Place:** Larry Brown/Mary Brown.



Pictured Above - 1st Place: Steve Blue (left) and Mikel Johnson (right)



Pictured Above - 2nd Place: Mikey Grimes (left) and Brian Collins (right)

Prayers Requested...

(Continued from Page 20)

SUBMITTORS NOTE: "I've played with Dale in several tournaments, but the most memorable tournament, and I'm sure once Dale reads this he will remember this also, took place in approximately 1986 in Albion, IN at the Lucky Lady. Dale Gushman and I were down 9 to 14 when I wrapped a three around a deep one with my third weight. My opponent came down to make a combo only to take off his own weight. After meeting Dale in the middle of the table, I told him my thought and idea was to take my weight that was positioned in the three area and split it into two fours to win the game. Dale wasn't too impressed by this idea. After a long discussion, Dale said, 'If you can do it, then do it.' Well, Dale should we tell them?? Yes, we did it! Surprising the spectators (especially Larry Brown who was listening to this conversation), and also to Dale Gushman who was happy and surprised as heck that we pulled it off.

Get well soon, ole buddy, shuffleboard's not done with you yet!"

*Your good friend always,
Mikel Johnson, Warsaw, IN*

PS: For those that wish to contact Dale his phone number is 419-636-5297 and his lifetime partner Carolyn Walsh can be reached at 419-636-5216. Updated health information can be obtained from his hometown bar at Evansport Bar and Grill at 419-428-1309.



Pictured Above - Dale Gushman (right) and Carolyn Walsh (left - Dale's lifetime partner)

Table Shuffleboard Association (TSA)

TSA Board of Directors:

Donald P. Valk, President
 Al Salazar, Vice President
 Ray Boyett, Treasurer
 Lynda French, Secretary
 David Arndt, Director
 Larry Creakbaum, Director
 Louise Freer, Director
 Cliff Goff, Director
 Bob Hunt, Director
 Harvey Kidd, Director
 Frank Mako, Director
 Hal Perry, Director



Hall of Fame

Visit TSA HOF webpage:
<http://www.tableshuffleboard.org>

Please send State HOF Information to TSA at:

Table Shuffleboard Association
 c/o Lynda French, Secretary
 12710 Red Deer Pass
 Austin, TX 78729-6436

Phone: 512-250-0327
 E-mail: lynda@jump.net
 FAX: 512-250-9249
 Cellular: 512-751-9617

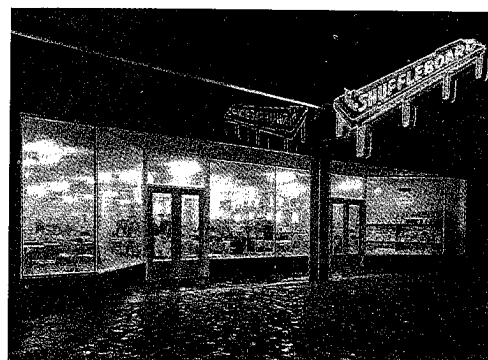
TSA Directors are trying to acquire pictures and stories about prior generation players (including ones that are not yet inducted in the TSA HOF such as Kid Spooks). If anyone has pictures, articles, etc. on any of our TSA inductees or prior generation great players not yet in the HOF, please send. We will make copies (if you don't have duplicate) and return to you. These items are badly needed for the TSA HOF museum.

Thanks to Dave Arndt, TSA Director and Joyce Hartness (widow of TSA Hall of Fame Inductee, Little Ray Hartness) for their contributions to this issue! We hope more shufflers will be responsive and share HOF pictures and history with us for placing into the TSA HOF museum. We should have some pictures in next month's The Board Talk to show you all the progress of the museum. The walls are up and painted, carpet is in, two shuffleboards refurbished and being placed in the display area, and we are in process of shopping for the display cabinets now. It is ready to start putting in our items. All donations and input is greatly needed. There is an equipment display room (having finished a Rockola and an old American already -- we're in need of finding a National shuffleboard), etc. More details to come next month and in future month's on the great progress being made on furnishing the TSA museum.

Please note: the two newest inductees voted in July 2000 are: Ron/Debbie Bowers (inducted 12/28/00 at Houston Holiday Open) and Bill English (induction being planned for 2001 at Balloon Inn in Colorado - Bonnie English has asked the TSA to hold publication of Bill's biography until the actual tournament dates for the ceremony are set.) More Details & Biography On Bill English Coming Soon!

Dave Arndt Shares Some Shuffleboard History!

Wanted to share this picture from the "South Sound Photo Album." The Shuffleboard family restaurant at 3805 S. G Street, Tacoma, Washington, was the first place to offer - what else? - shuffleboard to the general public in the Northwest. This photo of the grand opening inside the restaurant was taken on Dec. 9, 1948. The restaurant, owned and operated by Marvin Halley, had eight shuffleboards.



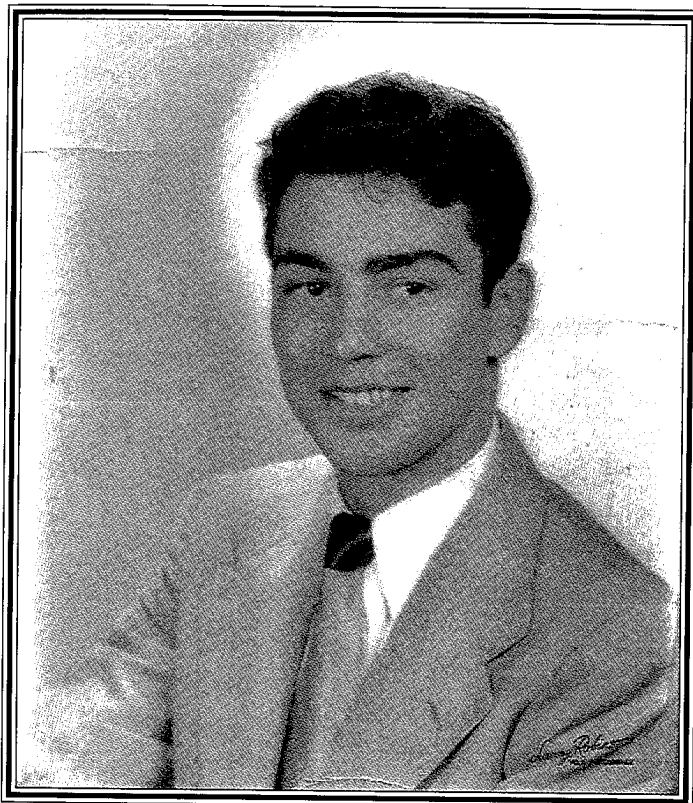
TACOMA PUBLIC LIBRARY/RICHARDS STUDIO COLLECTION

-- Submitted By: Dave Arndt, Tacoma, WA

(The above will be placed in the TSA museum)

READERS: If you wish to donate to the TSA National HOF organization, make payable to TSA and mail to TSA c/o Secretary, 12710 Red Deer Pass, Austin, TX 78729-6436 Thanks!

***Joyce Hartness Provides Story
and Photo of "Little Ray"
Hartness, Inducted into TSA
Hall Of Fame - December 1998!***



**IN MEMORY OF "LITTLE RAY" HARTNESS
February 13, 1930 - April 1, 1997**

Ray was born on February 13, 1930, in Pawhuska, Oklahoma to Lois Lasarge and Arron K. Hartness... They lived in Oklahoma all of Ray's young life. Ray attended the Chillico Indian Boarding School where he completed the 2nd through the 12th grades. Ray finished the trade of being a house painter. After finishing school, he married Louise and they had four children. This is about the time he started playing shuffleboard. Ray became one of the best shuffleboard players in the United States. The most important thing to Ray at the time was shuffleboard. Ray's marriage to Louise ended in divorce and I met Ray in March 1959. It was love at first sight for both of us. We later married and had five children. So, we had nine children all together. Ray was a wonderful husband and father. We moved to Houston, Texas in August of 1962. Ray was playing shuffleboard all the time we were together. He was the best shuffleboard

player in the United States at the time. He played the most with his friend, Rod Cameron. Rod and Ray were always taking trips together to find a shuffleboard game. Rod was not only a best friend to Ray, but Rod was like a brother to him. Ray played with the best of players: Rod Cameron, Billy Mays, Harvey Kidd, Bill Brady, Joe Spratt, just to name a few. Ray was in the Painters Local #130 in Houston, Texas for 30 years and retired in 1993. We moved to Hominy, Oklahoma because of Ray's health. Ray went to the doctors at the Indian Health Clinics and was told he had a kidney disease and needed to be on dialysis. He was on dialysis for two and a half years before he passed away on April 1, 1997. Ray's birthday was yesterday [February 13th] and he would have been 71 years old. I am very proud that Ray was put into the TSA Hall of Fame. He was one of the best players. I know if there is a shuffleboard in heaven, Ray will be there playing. So, all of you shuffleboard players out there better practice up because Ray will be on his game!

-- By: Joyce Hartness

EDITOR NOTE: "Little Ray" Hartness and his long time friend, Rod Cameron, were inducted into the Hall of Fame in December 1998 during the Houston Holiday Open 1998 tournament. Rod accepted the awards for both as Ray passed away in 1997 before the awards were presented.

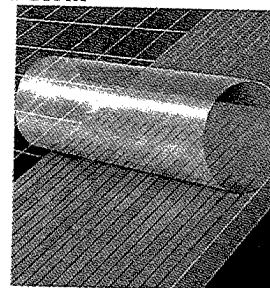
(TSA News Continued on Page 32)

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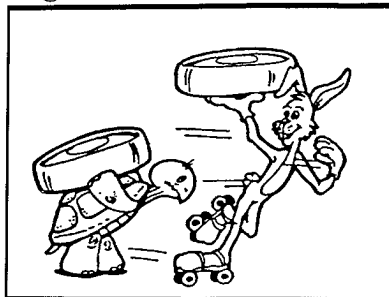
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Shufflers' Notebook

(Continued from Page 11)

News and Views from The World of Shuffleboard

THANKS From Bobby Williams, Texas HOF [December 2000] Inductee!

I have recovered from the shock and surprise of being inducted into the Texas State Shuffleboard Hall of Fame during the Houston Holiday Open 2000 tournament and wish to take this opportunity to thank several folks. First, I would like to thank my brother, David, who has always been a player that not only I admire personally, but with all shuffleboard respect and look up to. Next I would like to thank Bill Melton who gave a beautiful induction speech in my behalf. He alluded to the fact that the Williams to Meltons are much like *kin folk* and this is very true. We have played with and against each other for more years than I can remember and there has always been competition, respect, and love. I could not think of any person I would have rather speak at my induction. I would also offer thanks to my family (the greatest in the World): Sister Linda, Brother Gary, daughter Laura and her new hubby Chris and to Jeri Billard, my companion, driver, and help mate.

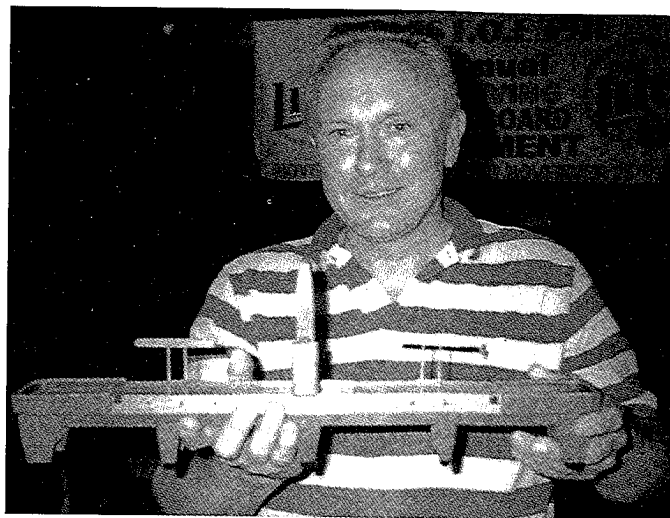
I was overwhelmed by the congratulations from those present and am very appreciative to everyone. Jack Davis and Steve Burkett were upset because they are dear old friends of mine and they missed the ceremony (even though they were present at the tourney) due to the secrecy of the inductees not being known to all participants ahead of time. Danny Green said he had to wait to offer congrats because he was crying. As stated in my acceptance of the HOF honor, I dedicated my induction to J.D. Sweet, my old friend and a great supporter of shuffleboard who is recovering from being very ill. Thanks again to ALL!

-- By: Bobby Williams, D/FW, Texas

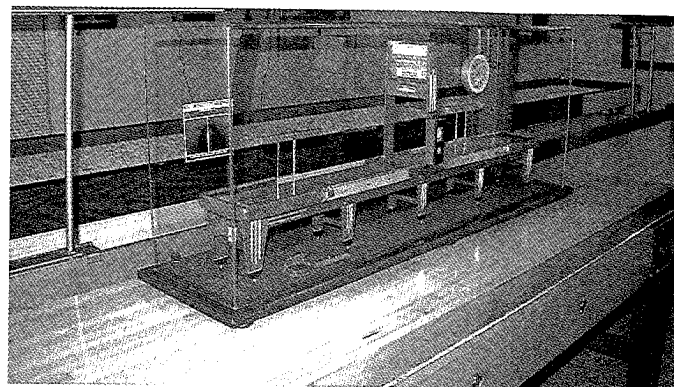
**Spread the word about The
Board Talk ... Get your fellow
shufflers to subscribe!**

Andy Friedhofen Makes Scaled Model Rockola Shuffleboard!

Andy Friedhofen of Missouri, besides being a very skilled shuffleboard player, is an avid lover of Rockola shuffleboards and a detailed expert at making scaled and prototype to scale miniature Rockola shuffleboards (scaled from his very own Rockola which is located in the basement of his home). Below is the first scaled model that he made and was auctioned as a fund-raiser for the M.S.P.A. (Missouri Shuffleboard Players Association) and Missouri HOF (Andy pictured below) - brought over \$400 M.S.P.A. donation:



Above was won by Tim Adams and will be displayed at the M.S.P.A. home (Eagles 3911, Houston, MO). Now, Andy has made a much larger scaled model that is planned to be auctioned or raffled at the SW OPEN 2001 tourney with 50% going to Andy for his materials and remainder to be a split donation to TSA and Bowers Rating system. Sneak preview below:



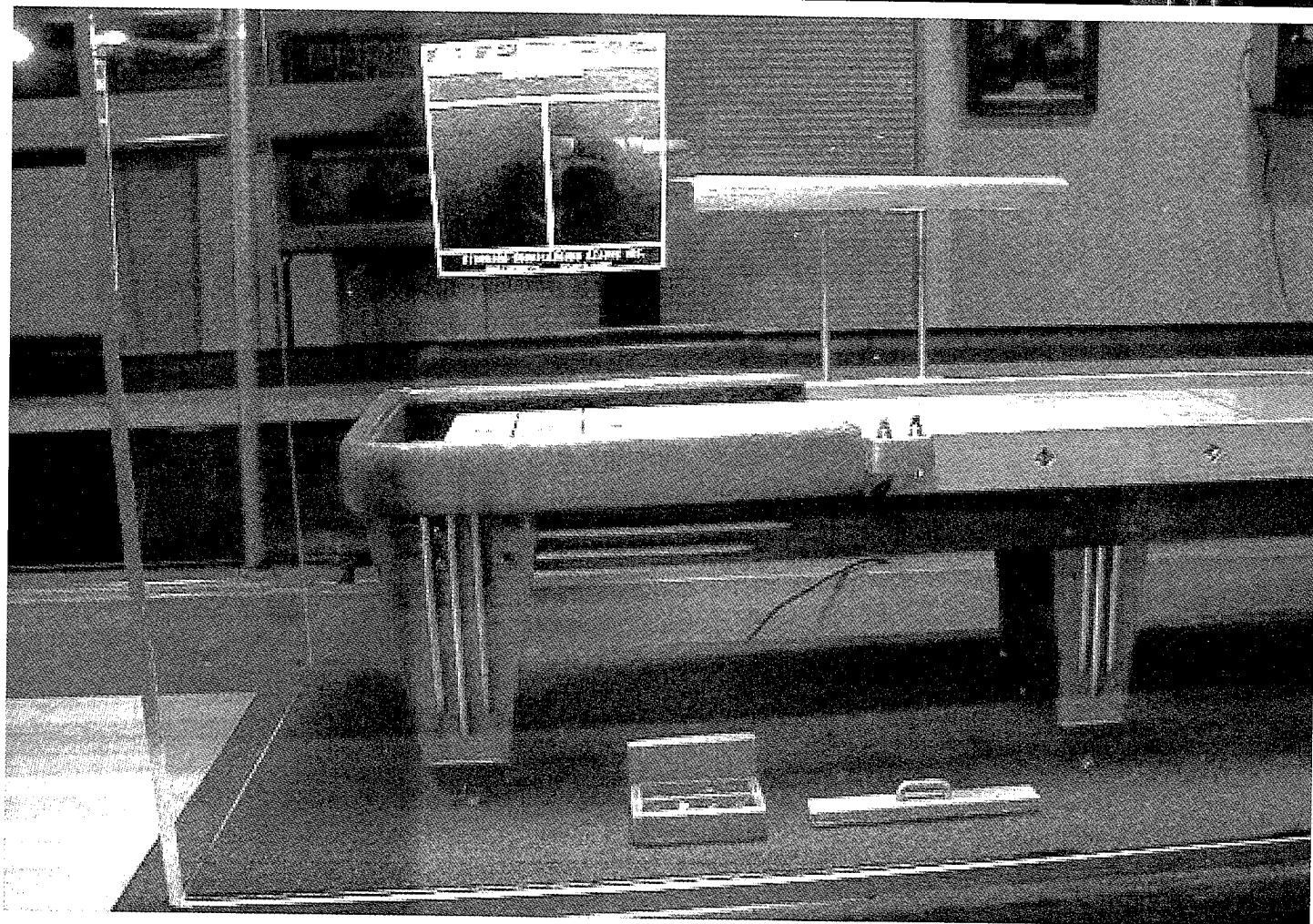
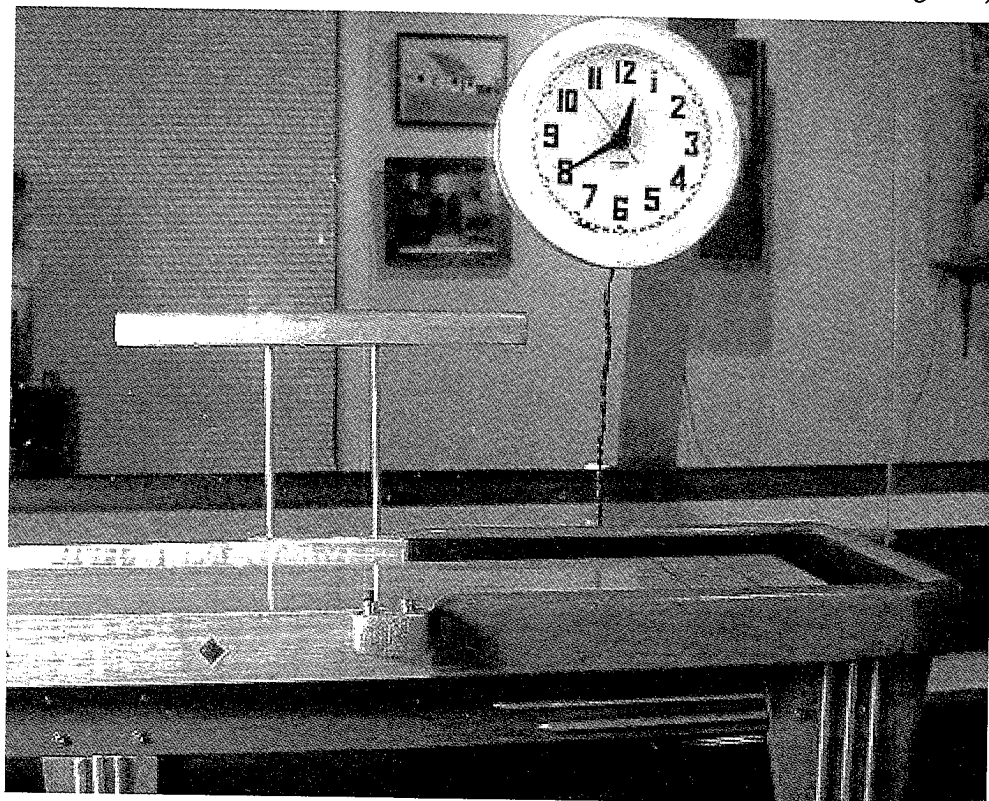
Andy Friedhofen's... Rockola!

(Shufflers' Notebook Continued from Page 30)

Closeup of the neon clock and light kit (pictured right) and miniature to-scale weights in case and board wipe, etc. (pictured below). Truly an outstanding, one-of-a-kind beautiful job Andy has done replicating this to-scale Rockola shuffleboard and putting it in a gorgeous glass case!

We can only hope that the winner of this beauty may consider placing it in the TSA museum too, as Tim Adams placed his smaller model at the home of the M.S.P.A.!

Pictures, story, and plans for auction/raffle sent to The Board Talk Editors by Andy Friedhofen.



TSA ... (Continued from Page 29)

TSA Website Underway!

In the days/weeks ahead, the TSA is putting their website on-line and the URL is:
<http://www.tableshuffleboard.org>

So, we are in dire need of photos of all inductees and some history on each one also. We hope to have the website on-line before you receive your next The Board Talk (April 2001) issue, so bookmark above URL and be ready to check in occasionally. Pictures of the TSA museum will be placed on the website as take them.

TSA Sponsor Shirts Available!

TSA has some beautiful pique golf shirts (come in white or black) with the red/white/blue TSA logo embroidered on it that you may order by contacting Don Valk at 512-288-9555 or e-mail him for details at: donvalk@ev1.net

Many thanks to those that have already purchased sponsor shirts in support of the TSA including: Ron Bowers, Tom French, Lynda French, Harvey Kidd, Ronnie McMahan, Frank Mako, Hal Perry (2 shirts), Ken Strong, John Wiggs, and Don Valk.

They are made of a high quality pique fabric and any profits go to the TSA (nonprofit organization).

2nd Annual Hawkeye Memorial Tournament Results!

January 1, 2001
 Lucky's Tavern
 North Webster, IN

Submitted By: Mikel Johnson, IN

The 2nd Annual Hawkeye Memorial Tournament was held at Lucky's Tavern, North Webster, IN on New Year's Day 2001 with lots of new faces. Larry (Hawkeye) Weeks was a local avid player who participated in a lot of tournaments during his shuffleboard days. Hawkeye's home taverns were Lucky's Tavern and Kimmell Inn. Hawkeye lost his battle to cancer just two years ago. Some of his notorious wins were at Kimmell Inn, Lucky's Tavern, Lees Tavern, Lucky Lady, 2nd and 3rd Place team event wins at the Las Vegas tournaments, and the list goes on and on...

Hawkeye was retired from SunBeam Bread and after his retirement, he devoted most of his time to

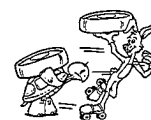
his family and then to shuffleboard. He is truly missed by all.

Winners of the 2nd Annual Hawkeye Memorial Tournament were Mikel Johnson and Brian Collins. Second place went to Carol Westerman and Greg Flynn; third place went to Adrian Owens and Dan Gillipsi; and fourth place went to Jerry Taylor (lifetime partner) and son Tom Weeks. Thanks for the great spread that Carol Westerman provided.

This memorial tournament is growing every year. We hope to see more new faces next New Year's Day for the 3rd Annual Hawkeye Memorial Tournament.

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Lucky's Tavern Held Indiana's First "Amateur Tournament": Doubles & Women's Singles!

November 2000
Lucky's Tavern
North Webster, IN

Reported By: Carol Westerman, Lucky's Tavern Owner

The first weekend in November 2000 marked Indiana's first "Amateur Women's Singles" (Fri.) and "Amateur Doubles" (Sat.). Over 50 players gathered at Lucky's Tavern in North Webster, IN. to participate in the first amateur event ever held in the history of Indiana.

Friday started off with an amateur women's singles, with 20 ladies ready to battle for a piece of the large calcutta. Going down to the wire in a neck-to-neck match was the always tough Sheryl Cockerill and new time player Jodi Berry (with Jodi coming out on top, taking first place).

"AMATEUR LADIES SINGLES" WINNERS:



Above: **1st Place:** Jodi Berry



Above: **3rd Place:**
Missy Rupe



Left: **2nd Place:** Sheryl Cockerill



Above: **4th Place:** Kristi Redman (center) with sponsor Mikel Johnson (right) being congratulated by Mikel and her brother George Redman (left)

Not Pictured "Ladies Singles": **5th Place:** Detroit-Michigan-Martha and **6th Place:** Carol Westerman (Hostess)

"AMATEUR DOUBLES" WINNERS:



Left: **1st Place:**
Wally Dan/Gary Neff

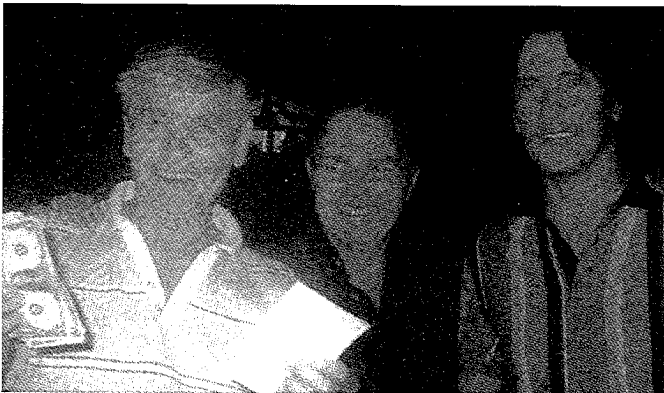


Left: **2nd Place:**
Gary Anglin (left) and Tom Bickle (Host- right)



Left: **3rd Place:**
Dan Gillipsi/Kent Mishler

Not Pictured: **4th Place:**
Steve Blue/Bill Niswonger



Above: **5th Place:** Gene McLeod (left)/Keith (right) with Rolland (sponsor and on 6th Place team - center)

Not Pictured: **6th Place:** Martha & Rolland from Detroit (Rolland did okay - sponsored 5th and won 6th!)

League Players' Corner

(League Players' Corner - Series #2: New Section First Added In The February 2001 Issue)

Call for League Play "Reporters"!

We (The Board Talk Editors) asked for League Play Reporter "volunteers" in the The Board Talk, February 2001 issue and have assigned the following volunteers, thus far, as follows:

The Board Talk League Play Reporters:

Steve Brown, Orion, MI
Don Meehan, Houston, TX area
Gordie Smith, Coquitlam, Canada
Brenda Wallace, Port Deposit, MD

Gordie Smith Reports on Canada League Play!

Currently, we have two League Play longboard tournaments a year: first a "B" league and then an "A" league which is open. I encouraged our people to adopt the rating system, which they did. Our attendance was pretty good, but what we did was combine the "A's" with the "B's" in the Doubles and Mixed, adding to 6. The attendance was real good for the Singles which was only our "B" players. The Ladies and Men's Doubles was a great turn out and the Mixed was 25 teams with 8 players still looking for partners (short of ladies to make more teams). The matches were very close and the "B" players talked all weekend about all they learned from their partners and the other "A" players. It was a great weekend and very successful! We are going to put more ABC events this year.

We are using the Bowers rating here in Canada now and have approximately 22 Canadian player raters. This is how we put our tournaments together here now with all our local players and some from across Canada. The rating list is only going to grow. I am working with Ron and Debbie Bowers to clarify some open items on our regular players that go south to play, but soon we should have all the edges smoothed out on how to merge the Canadian player's ratings with the U.S. player's ratings into the Bowers Rating System for U.S. and Canadian players.

EDITORS NOTE: We are very excited to get the U.S. and Canadian players united and sharing information.

THANKS GORDIE!

-- T&L French, Editors

Steve Brown Reports on O.C.S.L. League!

We recently started a new league in Oakland County, Michigan - O.C.S.L. (Oakland County Shuffleboard League). I (Steve Brown) am the named O.C.S.L. President and want to see how successful we can be with this new league concept. Currently we are having weekly team matches which include singles, doubles, and ABC style games. We have just surpassed the second week of league play and players seem very receptive to this new concept.

In addition, I am in the design phase of building an O.C.S.L. table shuffleboard league website at the following URL:

<http://www.geocities.com/ocshuffleboardleague>

My e-mail address is: CoCo699@aol.com

I would like to add a link on my website to encourage site visitors to subscribe to *The Board Talk* and plan to put links to other table shuffleboard sites of interest. I welcome all suggestions for links and site content for my new website from League Players, The Board Talk subscribers, and from all the shuffleboard community. All suggestions are welcome!

EDITORS NOTE: Steve, "Thanks" so much for your input and interest in League Players' Corner and increasing The Board Talk subscriptions. There are at least three websites that currently point to or have The Board Talk subscription forms for site visitors to print and mail-in to us their new and renewal subscriptions:

<http://www.shuffleboardcorner.com> (Bowers' site)

<http://www.shuffleboard.net> (Peach's site)

<http://www.championshuffleboard.com> (Champion Shuffleboard's site)

In addition, soon we are planning to design and start a new The Board Talk website at:

<http://www.theboardtalk.com> (will e-mail you when ready)

As for links to other personal and commercial table shuffleboard websites, you may want to link to the Bowers Corner "links" section from your website: (link address)

<http://www.shuffleboardcorner.com/links.html>

THANKS FOR YOUR INTEREST AND SUPPORT!

-- T&L French, Editors

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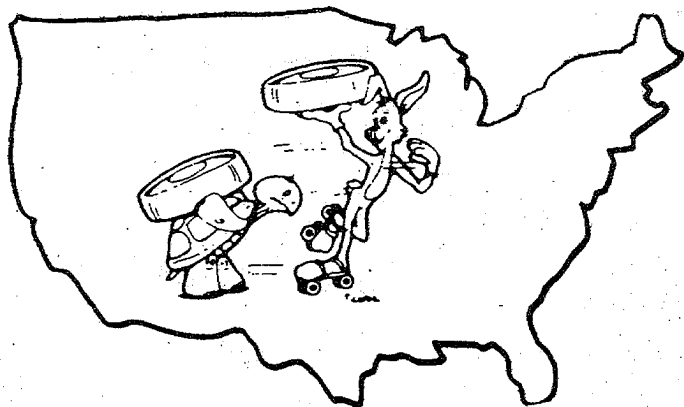
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