

The Board Talk

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Vol. 19, No. 5

MAY 2002

1st Annual Board Talk Open 2002 Tournament!



"Viva Las Vegas!"

March 26-31, 2002

Plaza Hotel & Casino, Las Vegas, NV

Report By: Tom & Lynda French, Tournament Directors



The "1st Annual Board Talk Open 2002" held March 26-31, 2002 at the Plaza Casino/Hotel's Triple Crown Ballrooms was an overwhelming success with 214 registered participants, plus the many family members, friends, and other spectators. There was play on 28 Champion Shuffleboards and the boards played great. Many thanks to Champion Shuffleboard for cosponsoring the tournament and providing the beautiful shuffleboards for play. Hats off to "Don Valk" who was in charge of the board adjustments and his board adjuster assistants and board readiness crew: Al Salazar, Ken "Doc" Strong, and other volunteers who helped when called upon. Harvey Walden drove his semi with the boards from Texas to Nevada with alot of TLC. His only glitch was one

flat tire along the way which he quickly changed and was on the road again. On Sunday, about 1 p.m., the local laborers hired by Champion Shuffleboard started unloading the cradles and then the boards from Harvey's truck. The Board Talk Open 2002's setup crew which included: Rick McFarland, Tom French, Lyndon "Coach" Baize, Scott Harrington, Jake Dunham, and other volunteers such as Cliff Visel, Marty Shepard, etc. then started putting cradles together. Don Valk and his board adjuster assistants with some help from the setup crew started leveling the cradles. The local laborers then lifted the boards into the cradles. Coach started connecting and checking all the score units. Doc and others were busily buffing all the boards and assisting Don Valk and Al Salazar with the necessary adjustments when called upon. There was great team work in getting all the boards setup, adjusted, cleaned/buffed... which enabled us to start our warm-up robins by noon on Tuesday (right on schedule). Great team work! Great results! Great and consistent playing boards! MANY thanks to all involved in the setup, daily maintenance, and breakdown on the following Sunday. Also, many thanks to Steve Burkett who helped keep the wax shakers filled and placed at each table. Steve never played in any of the events. He said he was there for two reasons: Tom & Lynda (to support and help with the tournament in any way possible).

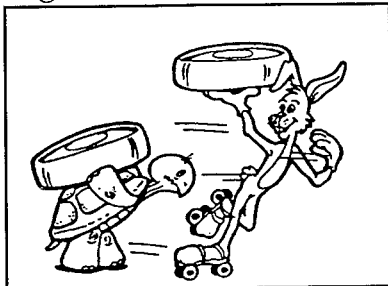
On Tuesday, March 26th, we took a break from the robins about 6 p.m. so that all in attendance could participate in the Pioneer Award Recognition Ceremony and "free" banquet/buffet (choice of taco bar or chicken stir fry bar or both!).

(Continued on Page 8)

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Shufflers' Notebook

News and Views from The World of Shuffleboard

Al Stewart Retiring in Florida...

I would like to send this very sad and happy note to my shuffleboard friends who thought so much of me at the Las Vegas tournament to give me another award, that's makes a total of 5. To explain my sad and happy life, I tried for two months to live alone but I was too sick and too weak and I was down to 110 pounds and losing.

At Christmas, my son and daughter-in-law (Don and Bonnie) came to visit me in California and before they left they ask me to sell my home of 25 years and come to Orlando, Florida to live with them. I took them up on their most wonderful and loving offer and here I am.

I also had offers from my daughter in North Carolina and granddaughter and grandson in Ohio, I told them my extension cord to my electric blanket was not long enough to go up north.

In closing I would like to say how sorry I am for missing the Las Vegas Tournament, but I was too sick and in the process of selling my house.

We all must thank God for a loving and caring family.

My new e-mail address is: alstewart@cfl.rr.com

My new mailing address is:

Al Stewart

3860 Villa Rose Lane

Orlando, Florida 32808-2247

Many Thanks to Everyone, Al Stewart

PS: I'm now up to 120 pounds. George (Wilber), when you get better, we will meet for the big game of our lives! -- *Al*

-- 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** used (since the Dec. 2000 issue). Your subscription

EXPIRATION DATE is on the back cover (top of address line.) Please use the **FORM** inside back cover to renew **TIMELY** to avoid missing any issues!

(See Page 19 for more detailed information)

[EDITORS COMMENT: (Following was our reply to Al's email letter):

Al, it is great to hear from you. We are glad that you have moved and are gaining some weight. Hope you get back to feeling much better real soon. We missed you in Vegas too. You were not the only one receiving awards that were unable to attend due to medical problems. For instance, Dick Gorman had yet ANOTHER eye surgery in mid-March (before the tournament) and was unable to attend and George Wilber (and Donna) could not attend due to George's medical condition (and they were the first ones honored and receiving their awards during the ceremony - as the "Founders" and long time Editors/Publishers of The Board Talk).

The awards ceremony was opened by our son-in-law, Keith Maxcy (who is a youth pastor from Temecula, California) with an opening prayer, mentioning those who have been ill (such as yourself) and unable to be there physically with us (we all know you and others were there with us mentally and in your hearts).

We mailed your "Pioneer Award" plaque to the Florida address that was provided to us at the tournament and changed the mailing address for your monthly The Board Talk publication. Please email us if/when it arrives safely.

We all love you and wish you a speedy recovery. Gaining 10 pounds is a very good start!

-- Tom & Lynda French, Editors/Publishers

PS: Your letter will be in the Shuffler Notebook section of the upcoming May 2002 issue.]

(Shufflers' Notebook Continued on Page 34)

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 #17 - Please send in your shuffler humor, jokes, or funny pictures



Above: 3rd Place "Div. I Draw" 3rd Place went to Bobby Williams (right front) of Texas and Ron Sosovec of Colorado (now that's what we call carrying your partner to victory!) - pictured with proud sponsor Dub Hatley of Oklahoma (left) as OUR Mr. Bracketeer, Bill Rice (back right) watches the show! Bobby says: "Soso was a bit 'heavy' to carry, but fortunately we were able to pull off a 3rd Place anyway!"

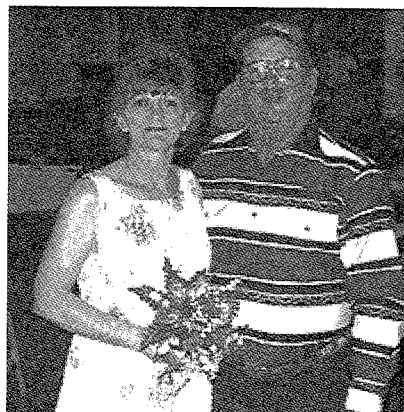


Above: "First Player Pre-Registered Award" 3/26/02: Tournament Director Tom French (left) presents "JR" Noel of California (right) his "First Player Pre-Registered Award" which was a The Board Talk Open 2002 denim tournament shirt w/ embroidered logo on back and name embroidered over the pocket. Thank you JR for your early registration! -- T&L French



Left: "Call a weight this early in the morning? You gotta be kidding!"

Lyndon "Coach" Baize, on the Vegas Tournament Staff, contemplating making a weight call outside his normal business hours?



Left: "Newly Weds were over an hour late for their own wedding due to Jerry still playing in the 6-person team finals!" Congrats to Jerry Williams (right) and wife Wanda! We are honored you selected to marry & celebrate your wedding in Vegas with all of us!



Above: "Game's Over! Let's Party!" (L-R) Dave Arndt of Washington joins the Nebraska crew: Steve Hamilton, Shaun Deveney, Micky Moy, and Marty Shepard for some Vegas fun and celebration after tourney play!



Above: "A.J. Maxcy - youngest attendee, enjoys watching grandparents work!" (front center, L - R) Keith Maxcy, Glenna Maxcy, and A.J. Maxcy join the spectator fun for 4 days (Tom & Lynda French's son-in-law, daughter, and 2 year old grandson from Temecula, California joined the fun - Keith, a youth pastor, gave the opening prayer for our Pioneer Recognition Awards Banquet 3/26/02.)

(Humor & Fun Continued on Page 18)

Nebraska

**5TH ANNUAL DENNY BUSCH
MEMORIAL, PICCOLO'S
BAR & JOE'S DUCK INN,
OMAHA, NE
MAY 17TH-19TH, 2002**

Piccolo's Bar (13336 Millard Ave.) & Joe's Duck Inn (13328 Millard Ave.) will be jointly hosting the 5th Annual Denny Busch Memorial Tournament on May 17-19, 2002. There will be a 4-Person Draft Team (max. number of players: 48 (12 Teams); \$25/player entry which starts promptly on Friday at 6PM! Lowest ranked players will be designated captains (Bowers 2002 Ratings). Next is the Handicapped Doubles (Open to all players; negative spot: max. 4 points). The Busch Family to donate \$\$\$. There will be play on 4 boards, lots of great food and fun, prizes and sponsor sales! Come join the competition and fun! Free koozie for the 1st 24 paid entries. For more info., contact Cyndi Busch at 496-3423 or 708-3668 or ccbusch@west.com or buschth4cs@aol.com.

California

**2ND ANNUAL MEMORIAL
DAY WEEKEND TOURNEY
133 CLUB
MANTECA, CA
MAY 22ND-27TH, 2002**



The 133 Club, 133 West Yosemite Avenue, Manteca, California will host their 2nd Annual Memorial Day Weekend tournament on May 22nd-27th. There is a one time registration fee of \$10 for all players. May 22nd at 6PM will be an A-B-C Draw (\$25/per player; 2 of 3 Winners bracket; 15 point losers bracket). May 23rd at 12 Noon will be finish up of the A-B-C Draw. May 24th at 10AM will be Open Doubles (\$100/per player; 2 of 3 Double Elimination). May 26th will be Open Singles (\$100/per player; 2 of 3 Double Elimination). All play will start immediately after the sponsor sale. Play will be on 3 or 4 boards. For more information, contact Tournament Dir.: George Camera (209) 464-5410. **(NOTE: See Flyer Insert in the March or April issues for details.)**

New York

**6TH ANNUAL MEMORIAL
WEEKEND
HONKY TONK SALOON
SHERBURNE, NY
MAY 23-26, 2002**

Honky Tonk Saloon, 20 Classic Street, Sherburne, New York will be hosting the 6th Annual Memorial Day Weekend tournament on May 23-26 to be played on 5 boards and \$100 Added Pot on both Friday and Saturday events only. Thursday will be round robin warm-up starting at 6:30PM. Friday at 6:30 PM is a Draw Partner event (\$20 entry per person with sponsor sale); Saturday at 12 Noon is a Bring Partner event (\$40 entry per team with sponsor sale); and Sunday at 12 Noon is Mixed Doubles (\$40 entry per team with sponsor sale). All events are 15 point games, single game/double elimination. For more information, contact Brenda Prosser: 607-674-4810 or call Honky Tonk Saloon at 607-674-9717 or Dick Losee at 315-691-2708. Plenty of parking including campers and motorhomes. Great music, food, and great time!

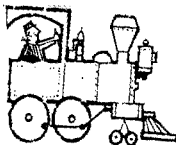
Washington

**MEMORIAL DAY WEEKEND
FESTIVAL TOURNAMENT
BROOKDALE PUB & GRILL
TACOMA, WA
MAY 23RD-27TH, 2002**

The Brookdale Pub & Grill, 13021 Pacific Ave., Tacoma, Washington presents Tacoma's ESA sponsored Memorial Day Weekend Festival of Shuffleboard on May 23rd-27th. Breakfast, lunch, dinner served anytime along with beer, well-drink special & spirits. Practice starts at 6AM on Thurs., Fri., and Sat. before the scheduled events start. The AB Bring starts on Thurs. at 6PM (\$50/team; single game/double elimination; signup 3PM-5PM). The Pro-AM Draft 4-Person Team on starts Fri. at 6PM (\$25/person; 2 of 3 games/double elimination; signup 2PM-3:30 PM). Sat. will be Open Doubles (no two -1's; \$100/team; 2 of 3 double elimination) & Women's Open Doubles & Div. II Doubles (starting at 3PM.) Sun. will be Open Singles & Women's Open & Div II Singles (starts at 6PM). Six boards. Contact: Mike Keevil 253-536-0345 for details.

Michigan

**MICHIGAN OPEN
MEMORIAL WEEKEND
CLUB CAR LOUNGE
DURAND, MI
MAY 24TH-27TH, 2002**

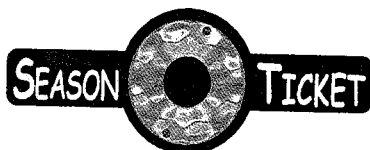


The Club Car Lounge in Durand, Michigan will be hosting the Michigan Open on Memorial Day Weekend on May 24-27. *[See tournament flyer inserted into the April 2002 issue for details].*

For more info. contact: Bill Kane 248-334-5677.

Washington

**21ST ANNUAL MEMORIAL
DAY EXTRAVAGANZA
SEASON TICKET &
BANGHAM, LAGG & WYNN
SPOKANE, WA
MAY 24TH-27TH, 2002**



The Season Ticket and Bangham, Lagg & Wynn jointly announce the **"21st Annual Memorial Day Extravaganza"** (A NON SANCTIONED EVENT; ALL ADDED PAID OUT TO PARTICIPANTS) to be held May 24-27 at the Season Ticket, 1221 N. Howard, Spokane, Washington (as has been the 21 year tradition). Everyone who is someone will meet at the Season Ticket in beautiful downtown Spokane and join in on the traditional shuffleboard fun and competition for Memorial Day weekend.

Some event changes have been this year that should ensure it to be "More Fun & Better Run"!!!

See flyer insert in this issue for event schedule and pre-registration form and "hints" for what should make this 21st year tournament the best one so far! We look forward to seeing all of the prior year participants and we hope to see many new ones too!

Texas

**ANNUAL MEMORIAL OPEN
DANNY'S SPORTS BAR
HOUSTON, TX
MAY 23-27, 2002**



The 3rd Annual Memorial Day tournament will be held at Danny's Sports Bar, 12126 Westheimer, Houston, TX May 23-27 (8 boards). One-time registration fee of \$15. All events Fri. -Sun. are Single Game/Double Elim., except for Open Singles and Bring Partner (Add to 0) which will be 2 of 3 in the winners bracket and single game to 15 points in the loser bracket. Event Sponsor sales. Bowers 2002 Ratings used. **Thurs. (5/23)** boards will be open for practice and warm-up robins and side games. **Fri. (5/24) at 7 p.m.** will be two Blind Draw Events [(1) -1, 0, 1, 2 event (\$50 entry) where no two -1's or 0's can draw up; and a (2) 2,3,4 event (\$30 entry) with handicap. **Sat. (5/25) at 2 p.m.** will feature three Singles Events: (1) *Open Singles* event for -1,0,1,2 (\$125; \$100; \$75; & 75 handicap entry fee); (2) *Singles Handicap* for 1,2,3 (\$60 entry); (3) *Singles Handicap* for 3,4,5 (\$30 entry). **Sun. (5/26) at 12 Noon** there will be three Bring Partner events: (1) Add to 0 (-1,0,1,2) \$150/team; (2) Add to 4 handicap (1,2,3) \$100/team; (3) Add to 6 handicap (2,3,4) \$60/team. For more details call Jack Scott: 281-558-0237 or Pete Worsnop 281-597-8840 or email: pworsnop@houstonquest.com or <http://www.shuffleboard.cc>. *(See Flyer Insert in the April 2002 issue for more details.)*

**PLEASE NOTE THE BELOW "NEW" PHONE
NUMBER FOR BALLOON INN:**

**(Check Calendar of Events in this issue for
upcoming tournaments; call Balloon Inn for
tournament details)**

**BALLOON INN
6440 Wadsworth Bypass
720-533-4822**

CLASSIFIED ADS:

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Master Healer of
Unlimited Reiki
Laser Reiki
Cosmic Energetic Healing

Rev. David B. Arndt

6038 S Bell St
Tacoma, WA 98408
253-474-7889

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Oklahoma

4TH ANNUAL WASHITA HANDICAP MEMORIAL DAY FULL HOUSE WYNNEWOOD, OK MAY 23-27, 2002



The Full House, 111 W. Robert S. Kerr St., Wynnewood, Oklahoma will be hosting their 4th Annual Washita Handicap Memorial Day Tournament on May 23-27, 2002.

Events will start on Thursday (5/23) at 7 p.m. with an A-B Draw. Friday (5/24) at 7 p.m. will be Open Doubles. Saturday (5/25) at 3 p.m. will be Bring Partner. Sunday (5/26) at 3 p.m. will be Singles. Finish of events will be on Monday (5/27) if needed.

For more info. contact: Gerald Wood at: 580-272-3115 or the Full House 405-665-2715. *(See Flyer Inserted into this May 2002 issue and in prior April 2002 issue for motel accommodations and additional details)*

California

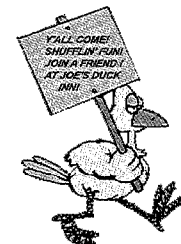
4TH ANNUAL GATOR MEMORIAL DAY TOURNEY OSKAR'S/ROSEWOOD PUB BELLFLOWER, CA MAY 24-25, 2002



Oskar's Bar & Grill and Rosewood Pub (both located in Bellflower, California) will be hosting two 4th Annual Gator Memorial Day Tournament on May 24-25, 2002 on six fast boards. Bowers Ratings Used. **Friday (05/24)** the ABC sponsor sales will start at 8 p.m. at Oskar's Bar & Grill for the ABC event and then play starts immediately afterwards at both establishments. The ABC event will mark the 4th anniversary of Oskar's annual Gator Memorial and this event is in memory of former bar owner Wally Rasmussen who passed away in 1999. **Saturday (05/25)** both bars will host a 2 out of 3/double elimination A-B "Bring Partner" (no two - 1's, 0's, or 1's will be allowed to play together in this event). Sponsor Sale at Oskar's at 8 p.m. and play immediately thereafter at both bars. For more info. contact: Chris Brown (562) 756-0978, Craig Amundson (562) 920-1573 or Robert Davidson (562) 804-1636. *(See Flyer in the April 2002 Issue)*

Nebraska

JOEL (PAPPY) RAHN MEMORIAL "OPEN SINGLES", PICCOLO'S BAR & JOE'S DUCK INN OMAHA, NE JUNE 7-9, 2002



Piccolo's Bar (13336 Millard Ave.) & Joe's Duck Inn (13328 Millard Ave.) in Historical Millard will be jointly hosting the 2nd Annual Joel (Pappy) Rahn Memorial "Open Singles" Tournament on June 7-9, 2002. There will be four shuffleboards, \$40 entry fee, sponsor sale at 7 p.m. on June 7 with play starting immediately afterwards. Door Prizes and T-Shirts available! Raffle: all proceeds will go to the Table Shuffleboard Association (TSA) and/or the Table Shuffleboard Association (TSA) Hall of Fame Museum efforts. Food, Fun, and Friends! *For more information, contact:*

Joe's Duck Inn (402) 895-9987 (or)
Piccolo's Bar (402) 895-9988 (or)
Char Rahn (402) 331-5407 (or)
Marty Shephard (402) 533-4840 or email Marty: shepardenterprises@huntel.net
Also: Nebraska State Championships to be held Nov. 21-24, 2002. Mark your calendar now.

Oklahoma

SOUTHWEST OPEN 2002 AMERICAN LEGION POST 73 DEL CITY, OK JUNE 30-JULY 7, 2002

American Legion Post 73
P.O. Box 15072
DEL CITY, OKLAHOMA 73155



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 2002" tournament. There are 13 events scheduled (see flyer in this issue for details) with play on 31 Boards. Register early (before June 15, 2002) 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: 405-670-9128 or 405-670-9120 or e-mail: doncrall73@aol.com *[See Flyer Insert for more information and "Pre-registration" form. Pre-Register and secure your event slots!]*

Oklahoma

HEARTLAND HANDICAP AMERICAN LEGION POST 73 DEL CITY, OK OCT. 18-19, 2002

*American Legion Post 73*P.O. Box 15073
DEL CITY, OKLAHOMA 73155

There are three Heartland Handicap tournaments scheduled for 2002, all being hosted at the American Legion Post 73, 5000 S.E. 24th, Del City, OK on 7 boards. The first two were held on Jan. 18-19 and Apr. 19-20; and the third Heartland Handicap tournament will be held on Oct. 18-19 and will kick off on Friday with a *Draw Partner* at 7:00 PM (\$25/player entry); and Saturday with a *Bring Partner* at 3:00 PM (\$50/team); Bowers' Ratings will be used; maximum spot of 4 points. For more info. call the American Legion: 405-670-9128 or 405-670-9120; email: doncrall73@aol.com

NOTE: The American Legion Post 73 in Del City is also be hosting the annual **Southwest Open 2002 on June 30-July 7, 2002 (see flyer insert)**. Visit the Southwest Open website periodically for more details: <http://www.geocities.com/swopen>

Washington

FOREST FESTIVAL A-B BRING PARTNER FIR CONE TAVERN SHELTON, WA JUNE 1-2, 2002



The Fir Cone Tavern, 114 W. Cota, Shelton, Washington is hosting their annual Forest Festival A-B Bring Partner tournament on June 1-2. The entry fee is \$50/team. The number of places played out will be based on the number of teams. The Fir Cone has three very fast boards and the winners bracket will be played out on Saturday. Loser bracket games will start on Sunday. Sponsor sale at 11 a.m. with play starting immediately following. This is a double elimination event. Two out of three 15 point games in the winner's bracket. One game to 17 in the loser's bracket. Friday night there will be a \$10 single elimination A-B Draw. Start time is at 7 p.m. sharp. The Fir Cone features one of the best Saturday night feeds in the State of Washington. RV parking is available and limited, come early for the best spots. For more info. on this tournament or other tournament at the Fir Cone Tavern contact Jeanette Hohn at 360-426-2221.

Texas

4-PERSON DRAFT TEAM TAZ COUNTRY PFLUGERVILLE, TX JUNE 14-16, 2002



Taz Country, 1406 F.M. 1825, Pflugerville/Austin, Texas (phone: 512-990-5526) is hosting A-B Draws and a 4-Person Draft Team event June 14-15. 2002 Bowers Ratings Used. No Registration Fee.

Friday, June 14th will be a warm up A-B Draw (no sponsor sale) at 8 p.m.; single game/single elimination; \$20/person entry fee.

Saturday, June 15th will be the 4-Person Draft Team at 1 p.m. (sponsor sale); \$30/player; 2/3 Game, double elimination.

Sunday, June 16th will be an A-B Draw at 1 p.m. (sponsor sale); \$30/player; single game/double elimination. Contact: Ron/Debbie Bowers 512-252-8188 or ronbowers@jump.net

(See Taz Country Tournament Flyer inserted into this issue for more details)

New York

DEW DROP INN TOURNEYS WATERLOO, NY JUNE 2002 - DEC. 2002

The Dew Drop Inn, 37 Virginia St., Waterloo, New York will be hosting several *Draw Partner/Bring Partner* and *Nationals* tournaments on 4 in-house boards through Dec. 2002 and have provided The Board Talk with the following schedule: The *remaining Draw Partner/Bring Partner* 2002 tournaments are to be held on: June 1-2, 2002; Oct. 5-6, 2002; and Dec. 7-8, 2002. Each of these tournaments are held on Sat. (Draw Partner-\$20/player) starting at 2 PM and on Sun. (Bring Partner-\$20/player) starting at 12 Noon. Bring Partner events will have sponsor sales. The *Nationals* tournaments to be held on Apr. 4-7, 2002 and Aug. 1-4, 2002. Both of these tournaments will start on Thursday with \$5 and \$10 Warm-Up Round Robins at 7 PM; Friday at 6 PM with Singles (\$30/player); Saturday at 10 AM with Mixed Doubles (\$30/team); Saturday at 4 PM with Draw Partner (\$15/player); and Sunday at 12 Noon with Bring Partner (\$30/team). Most events of the Draw Partner/Bring Partner and Nationals tournaments will have sponsor sales. For more information, contact Tracie Fridley at Dew Drop Inn: 315-539-5729.

Board Talk Open 2002... (Continued from Page 1)

This first year tournament was dedicated to all the "Pioneers" who have kept the publication alive and growing since 1984 and was kicked off with a ceremony on Tuesday evening to honor and recognize the great The Board Talk "Pioneers" for supporting and promoting the publication through the early years and who remain avid supporters.

Those receiving "Pioneer" recognition awards:

1) First and foremost was to the retired The Board Talk founders "Pioneer Recognition Award" as "Founders" (1984-Nov. 2000): George and Donna Wilber of Michigan (which due to George's two injuries, surgeries, and therapy were unable to physically attend the tourney). Their award plaque, a beautiful custom weight case handcrafted by Andy Friedhofen of Missouri donated by The Board Talk Publishers/Editors (Tom & Lynda French), two sets of American weights (donated by Kelye Stites of Champion Shuffleboard), and the Get Well Card (purchased by Diana Hagen and signed by the tournament attendees) was sent Priority Mail to the Wilbers after we returned from Vegas (See Page 34 of this issue for the appreciation note to all of us from the Wilbers).

2) The Board Talk "Pioneer Recognition Award" as "Reporter/Promoter" were given to: Woodie Cockrum of Missouri, Jolene Lembke of California, and Dick Gorman of Delaware (Dick was unable to be present due to yet another eye surgery on March 11th). Note the geographic location of these three reporters - West Coast, East Coast, and Heartland America. The brother sister team of Woodie Cockrum and Jolene Lembke were The Board Talk's first volunteer reporters. Woodie had a special challenge -- nothing was happening in Missouri back in those years, so he set about making it happen, waking up the "sleeping giant" in that area, getting tournaments and leagues working again and then reporting that action [note that today Missouri has sprouted big time and has a very well organized shuffleboard players organizations with registered by-laws and memberships... Missouri Shuffleboard Players Association (MSPA)]. Jolene took her reporter responsibilities seriously and in her travels promoted The Board Talk with a jacket and business cards proclaiming her as a Board Talk Reporter. Like her brother, she became an avid tournament organizer, an action-activator in California. **Dick Gorman** soon joined this elite duo, organizing tournaments on the East Coast and

working late nights to report the results before the Board Talk deadlines.

3) The Board Talk "**Pioneer Recognition Award**" as "**Subscription Hustlers**" were presented to **Bob Lewis of Arizona**, **Bill Melton of Oklahoma** (who was unable to attend the ceremony, but joined us in Vegas a couple days later), **Glen Davidson of Oklahoma**, and **Diana Hagen of Texas**.

There were several times during The Board Talk's first struggling years that George and Donna Wilber (The Board Talk Founders and prior publishers) were ready to declare: "We just can't do this another month." Then, in the next day's mail would come a packet of subscriptions from Mr. Shuffleboard himself, **Bill Melton of Oklahoma**. This happened several times and being the modest guy he is, he probably didn't recognize that the fate of The Board Talk rested in his hands. How many of those initial subscriptions were paid from his own pocket is unknown, but renewals were not a problem in most cases. In fact, after Bill returned from the Vegas and WCT Reno tournament this year, he sent us the very first The Board Talk subscription from China (now that's "hustling" subscriptions)! **Diana Hagen of Texas** blazed (and still does!) a trail for women in shuffleboard. Not only did she convince major tournament directors that there should be events for women, she also went on to prove that the so-called "weaker sex" could compete -- and win -- against the best in the U.S.A. And each step along the way, she promoted The Board Talk. Few argue with Diana. If she said: "You should subscribe," they usually did (and still do)! **Bob Lewis of Arizona** is a gentleman and a long-time friend of The Board Talk. He was instrumental in making his state a first-class action site for shuffleboard action, expanding the subscriber base, and providing advertising revenue through The Shuffleboard Directory and tournament flyers. **Glen Davidson of Oklahoma**, who has travelled the U.S.A. in search of shuffleboard action, has promoted The Board Talk at every location. He spearheaded a subscription contest several years ago that netted many new names on the subscriber mailing list.

(Continued on Next Page)

Board Talk Open 2002... ("Pioneer Awards" Con't. from Page 8)

4) The Board Talk "**Pioneer Recognition Award**" as "**Tournament Advertisers**" were presented to **Don Valk and David Williams, both of Texas.**

Before The Board Talk was born in 1984, tournament organizers made up a hand-lettered flyer, took it to a local printer for duplication, and sent it to shufflers who had participated in previous events and/or sent flyers to shuffleboard establishments via snail mail. It was an expensive, work-intensive, ineffective way to spread the word. The only other option was to call Bill Melton and ask him to use his nickels to call potential participants. It took two innovative, courageous tournament organizers -- **Don Valk**, director of the U.S. Open in Austin, Texas and **David Williams**, director of the Corporate Image tournament events in Fort Worth, Texas, to take a chance and prove that advertising in The Board Talk paid off in increased participation. These two dedicated tournament directors set the pace for all the many tournament flyers you receive in your monthly The Board Talk publication today.

5) The Board Talk "**Pioneer Recognition Award**" as "**Product Advertiser**" were presented to **Al Stewart of A & M Amusement, The Shuffleboard Federation, Sun-Glo-Corporation, and Triple Crown Shuffleboard Supplies** (Al Stewart was unable to attend the ceremony due to health problems and The Shuffleboard Federation was unable to send a representative to the ceremony mostly due to WCT planning and workload). Few Board Talk subscribers probably recognize the importance of advertisers. Without their support, there would be no Board Talk because subscriptions alone do not come near covering the cost of printing/mailling the issues.

The very first full-page advertiser in The Board Talk was **Al Stewart of A&M Amusement in El Monte, California** back in 1985. That, in itself, was a big deal to its' publishers. But, the fact that he paid in advance (to boot) almost sent the Wilbers into orbit! More even than his monetary support were the prayers of Al and his wife Von for The Board Talk's survival (and they worked!). Al was soon followed by **The Shuffleboard Federation, Sun-Glo Corporation, and Triple Crown Shuffleboard Supplies**, whose monthly full-page ads helped keep The Board Talk afloat during its first years and beyond. Carol and Ed Decepoli, founders and prior owners of **Sun-Glo Corporation** and Floyd and Joanne Stein, founders of **Triple Crown Shuffleboard Supplies** participated in the Pioneer Awards ceremony and enjoyed visiting everyone during the Vegas tourney.

5) The Board Talk "**Pioneer Recognition Award**" as "**Special Contributions**" were presented to **Bellflower Bruce Hale of California** (who was unable to attend the ceremony due to health problems) and "**Balboa**" **Ron Schweikert of Nevada**. Bellflower Bruce Hale represents the "heart" of shuffleboard. While he's never been in the Top Ten Best Players in the U.S.A., his love for and support of the game and those involved in it, are well-known throughout The World of Shuffleboard. From humble beginnings, he built a successful business and unselfishly shared his good fortune with many shufflers across the nation.

(Continued on Page 10)

"New" Shuffleboard Directory Advertiser

Starting with this May 2002 Issue ...
Thank you Cheers Pub!

-- From: Tom & Lynda French, Editors



Shuffleboard
Darts - Pool - Games
Karaoke
281-992-8900

502 N. Friendswood Dr., Friendswood, TX 77546

"New" Shuffleboard Directory Advertiser

Starting with this May 2002 Issue ...

Thank you Moose Lodge #1832!

-- From: Tom & Lynda French, Editors

Moose Lodge #1832



Be Our Guests at:
Moose Lodge #1832
7453 Lorge Circle
Huntington Beach, CA



(Gothard & Edinger - Near Smart & Final)

For Shuffleboard Competition & Fun - 2 Boards
For Shuffleboard Tournament Information, Contact:
Bubba Warren 714-536-0172 or Jim Coulter 714-840-1825

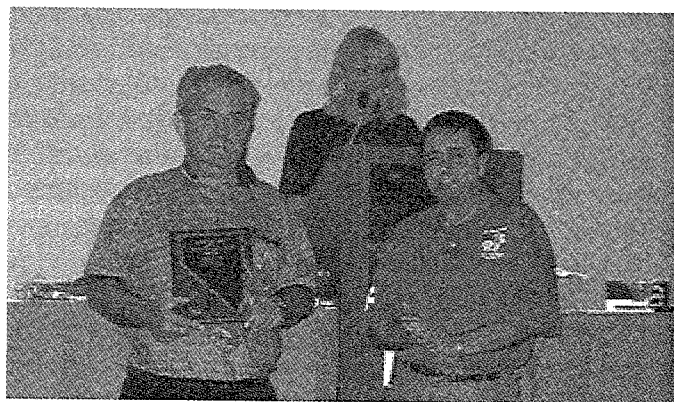
Board Talk Open 2002... ("Pioneer Awards Ceremony" Con't. from Page 9)

Whether it was Bruce Hale's simple (but awesome) gesture of buying roses for the ladies at tournaments, or making a generous contribution to benefits for shufflers suffering misfortunes, Bruce has left an idelible, positive mark on our sport. The Board Talk was one of the beneficiaries of his generosity, for which its' founders will always be grateful. **Balboa Ron Schweikert**, a "local Vegas boy" made good! For years, he has contributed entertainment to The Board Talk readers through his *Frisco Eddie Series*. Each month, readers wait in anticipation to see how Eddie and Shelli and Long Beach Lil and his other fictitious characters are doing. Readers try to relate "fiction" characters to real-life characters they know (and love or hate), and the circumstances they encounter. There are a few, in fact, who subscribe primarily to catch the next episode. Balboa Ron has made a valuable contribution to The Board Talk over the years, with no compensation other than the positive feedback from his readers.

It's great that every individual that was honored at the opening debut of the "1st Annual Board Talk Open 2002" tournament have all also been recognized and inducted into their respective State Shuffleboard Hall of Fame. Many, many thanks to these outstanding players who consistently support shuffleboard and our The Board Talk publication! (some photos of the awards ceremony follow:)



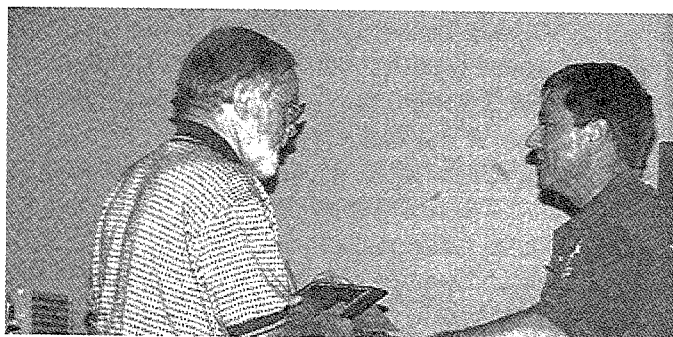
ABOVE: Diana Hagen of TX (left) is presented her "Subscription 'Hustler' Pioneer Award" by Tom French



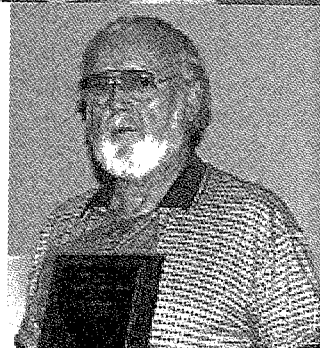
ABOVE: Bob Lewis (Mr. Shuffleboard of AZ) is presented his "Subscription 'Hustler' Pioneer Award" by Tom French & Lynda French



ABOVE & LEFT: Woodie Cockrum of MO (above right) and sister Jolene Lembke of CA (left), brother-sister team presented their "Reporter/Promoter Pioneer Awards" by Tom & Lynda French, as Lorraine Bingham (above left) congratulates & applauds!

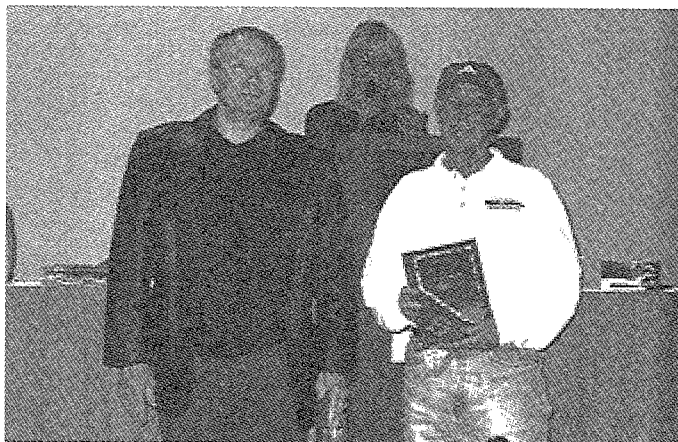


ABOVE & RIGHT: Glen Davidson of OK is presented his "Subscription 'Hustler' Pioneer Award" by Tom French

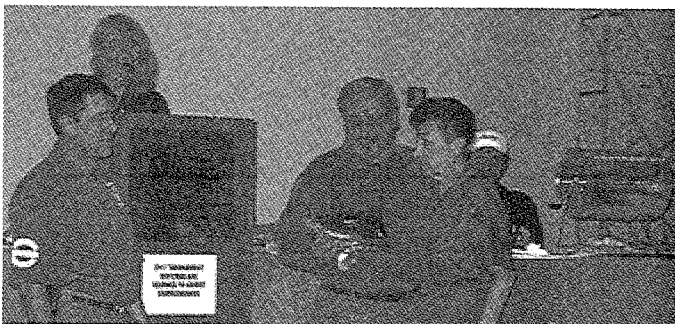


(Continued on Next Page)

Board Talk Open 2002... ("Pioneer Awards Ceremony" Con't. from Page 10)



ABOVE: (L-R) Don Valk and David Williams both of TX are presented their **"Tournament Advertisers Pioneer Awards"** by Lynda French (background)



ABOVE: (L-R) Tom & Lynda French present Ed & Carol Decepoli (Sun-Glo Corp.) their **"Product Advertiser Pioneer Award"**



ABOVE: (L-R) Floyd & Joanne Stein (Triple Crown Shuffleboard Supplies) are presented their **"Product Advertiser Pioneer Award"** by Tom & Lynda French



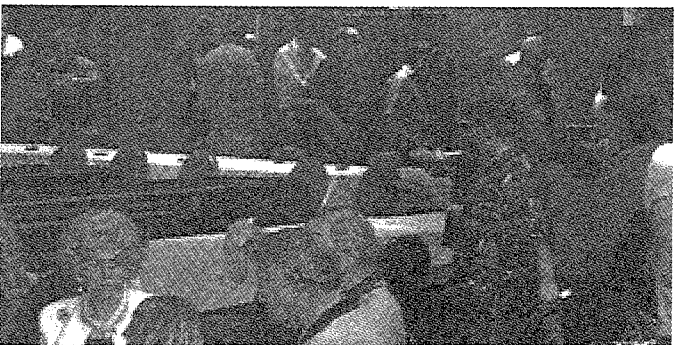
LEFT: "Balboa" Ron Schweikert of NV accepts his **"Special Contributions Pioneer Award"** from Tom & Lynda French



ABOVE: (L-R) Lilly & Harvey Kidd of TX (married March 26, 1955) receive their 47th Wedding Anniversary Plaque and TY beanie babies bride & groom bears - presented to them by Tom & Lynda French - Thanks Harvey & Lilly for celebrating with all of us!



ABOVE: Linda & Mahlon Nobles of TX (married in Vegas on March 20, 1993 and celebrating their anniversary too) receive their Wedding Anniversary Plaque and TY beanie babies bride & groom bears - presented by Tom & Lynda French - Thanks Linda & Mahlon for celebrating with us!



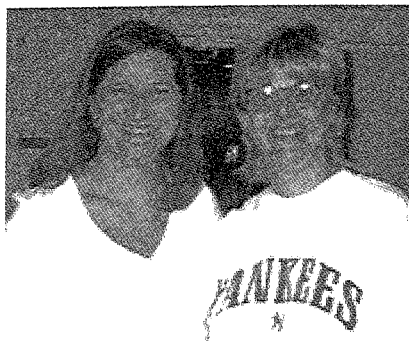
ABOVE: Pioneer Award Ceremony Attendees in line and enjoying both the buffet and the recognition ceremony!

(Continued on Page 12)

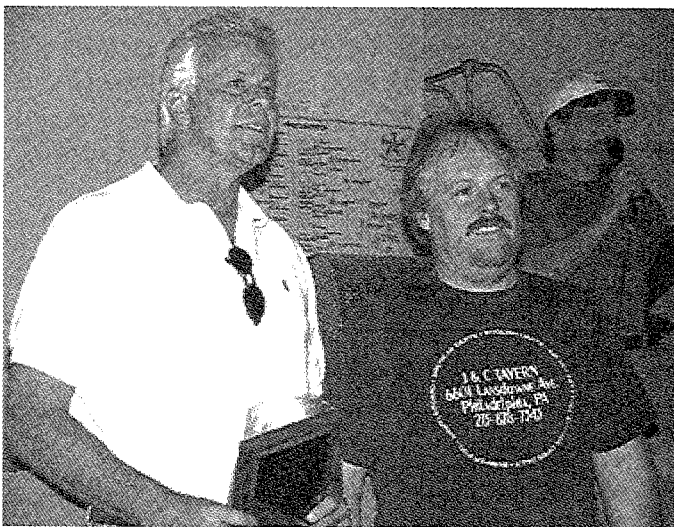
Board Talk Open 2002... (Continued from Page 11)

Wednesday, the scheduled tournament events started with the Event 1 and 2: Div. I and Div. II Draw Partner Events. Winners were:

Event 1 Div. I Draw (-1, 0, 1) (24 Teams/48 Players)



LEFT: 1st Place: Jeri Williams of TX (left) and Gwyn Orsi of NE (right) - (sponsored by Dub Hatley of OK)



ABOVE: 2nd Place: Bob Shaw of TX (left) and Bill Pollock of PA (left) - sponsored by Mike Reed - there's our wonderful "Mr. Bracketeer" Bill Rice of TX in background.



ABOVE: 3rd Place: Ron Sosovec of CO (center) and Bobby Williams of TX (right) w/ sponsor Dub Hatley (left)- to learn who carried who to victory, see Page 3 of this issue! Notice: there's that sponsor Dub Hatley again - he knows how to pick 'em, doesn't he?



ABOVE: 4th Place: (L-R) Dick Handley of WA and Phil Gardner of AZ pictured with their sponsor Virgil Jones

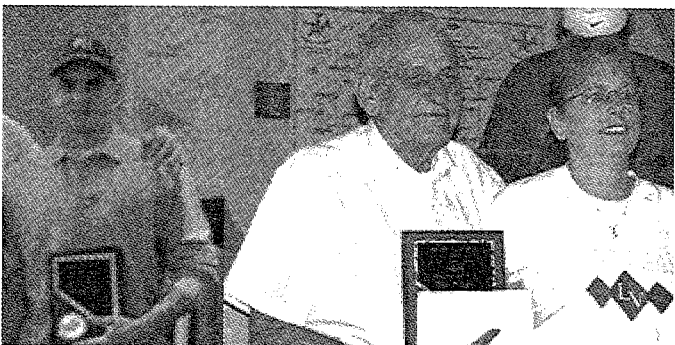


ABOVE: 5th/6th Place: (L-R) Connie McCall, sponsor of winners: Bob Lewis of AZ & Don Valk of TX; and Terry Roberts of NE and Tom Milan of TX (sponsored selves)

Event 2 Div. II Draw (2-5) (47 Teams/94 Players)



LEFT: 1st Place: Pat Gray of FL (left) and Jack Davis of TX (no pic) pictured with sponsor Charley Thompson

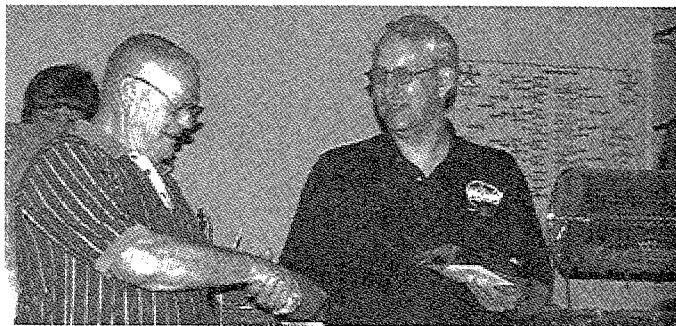


LEFT: 2nd Place: David Williams Jr. of TX (left) and Woodie Cockrum of MO (center) pictured with their sponsor Connie McCall who picked herself several winning teams throughout the tourney! We could all use *some "sponsor pick lessons" from Connie & Dub!

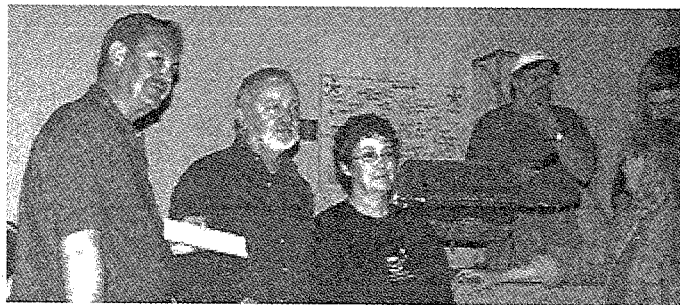
(Continued on Next Page)

Board Talk Open 2002... *(Continued from Page 11)*

Event 2 Div. II Draw (2-5) (47 Teams/94 Players)
(Continued from Page 12)



ABOVE: 3rd Place: David Sexton of TX (right) and Ted Canada of AZ (no pic) pictured with sponsor Dub Hatley (left) -- there's that Dub again picking those winners!



ABOVE: 4th Place: (L-R) Sponsor Gilbert Baird of TX congratulates his winner picks: Danny Norris of TX and Carol Cowan of Canada



ABOVE: 5th/6th Place: (L-R) Sponsor Mike Reed of winners: Johnny Wright and Delane Moore (both of MO); and Cliff Visel of TX and Jim Golden of AZ pictured with their sponsor Jimmy the "Cop" Kumpula of FL/MI



ABOVE: 7th/8th Place: (L-R) Henry "JR" Noel of CA & Bob Krezmien of TX (no pic) (team was sponsored by RU Underwood); & Jim Filkins of NE & Bobbi Arndt of WA pictured with sponsor Phil Gardner & Lynda French

Thursday was the 6-Person Draft Team event:

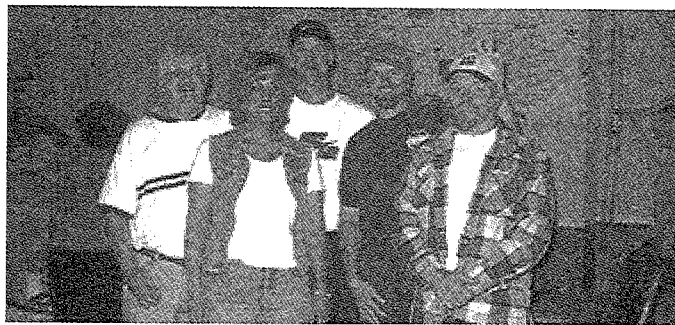
Event 3 6-Person Draft (all)(28 Teams/168 Players)



ABOVE: 1st Place: (L-R) The All Texas Team of Debbie Sexton, Danny Norris, Doug Paben, Carol Baye, Mike Taylor (captain) and Jerry Williams (not pictured - because he had to rush out for his own 'wedding' - See Page 3!) (Sponsored by Linda Nobles) Notable: This was the first tournament where Debbie Sexton had received a winners plaque (exciting experience!)



ABOVE: 1st Place (Winners Plaque): (L-R) Mike Taylor (captain), Debbie Sexton (Proudly holding her 'first' winners plaque), and Doug Paben celebrating and congratulating Debbie for her very first winners plaque!



ABOVE: 2nd Place: (L-R) Steve Kalamarski of WA; Denise Yohn of AZ; Mike Kinney of OR (captain); Dan Holland of OR; John Edwards of OR; and Jim Stuart of AZ (sponsored selves).

(Continued on Page 14)

Board Talk Open 2002... (Continued from Page 13)



ABOVE: 3rd Place: (L-R) Sponsor Gywn Orsi (back left) with winning team: Bobby Williams (captain) of TX, Mike Hedges of CO, Mike Reed of MO, Jimmy Britt of TX, Wayne Hammond of TX (front center), and Frank Monarrez of AZ (right)



ABOVE: 4th Place: (L-R) Vern Booth of CA, Virgil Jones of CA, Jeff Keyes of NV, Sharon Chandler of AZ, Al Salazar (captain) of AZ, and Ken Simmons of WA (sponsored by Jim Payne of NE)



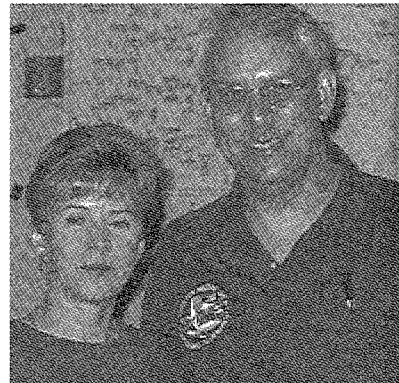
ABOVE: 5th/6th Place (tie): (L-R) Ted Canada of AZ, Lane Quick of TX, Marty Shepard of NE (captain), Cory Humlick of NE, John Mortensen of OR, and Bill Pollock of PA (sponsored by Harvey Kidd of TX) split/tie with the team of (no picture avail.) David Williams of TX (captain), Steve Hamilton of NE; Mike Boulanger of TX, Pat Gray of FL, and Ron McMahan Jr. (sponsored by David Sexton)



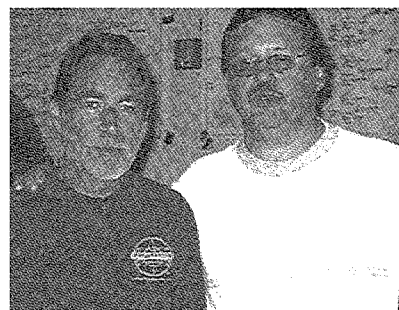
LEFT: Setup Day: Good View of Board Lineup (Brds # 13-24) before events started.

Friday was 3 divisions of Singles:

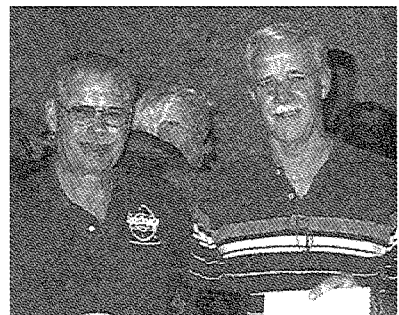
Event 4 Pro Singles (all) (21 Players)- \$2500 Added



LEFT: 1st Place: (L-R) Diana Hagen of Houston, TX (left) with proud sponsor David Sexton of San Antonio, TX

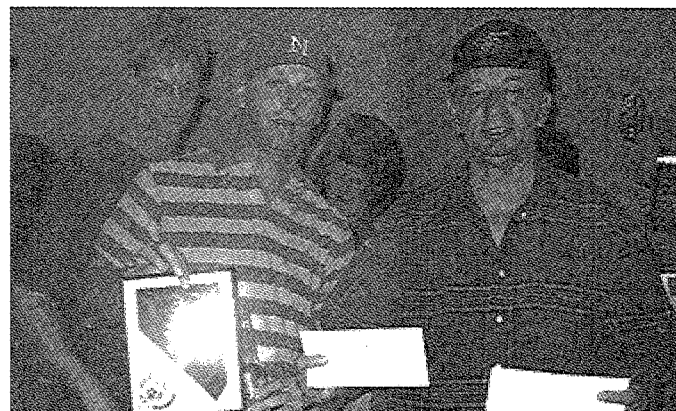


LEFT: 2nd Place: (L-R) Darrol Nelson of OR (left) with proud sponsor Bobby Voorhis of IN



LEFT: 3rd Place: (L-R) Johnny Wayne Crawford (right) of TX with "all grins" proxy sponsor [Don Crall of OK was sponsor & Milford Parker was his 'proxy' sponsor (left)]

Event 5 Div. I Singles (1-5) (52 Players)

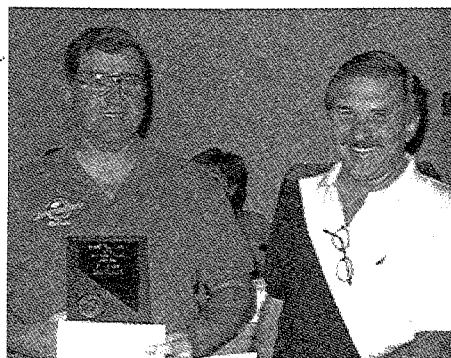


LEFT: 1st Place: (L-R Front) Dave Ramold of Houston, TX with his sponsor Harvey Kidd (who was our "expert & greatly appreciated" Sponsor Sale Tourney Official too!)

(Continued on Next Page)

Board Talk Open 2002... *(Continued from Page 14)*

Event 5 Div. I Singles (1-5) (52 Players) (con't.)



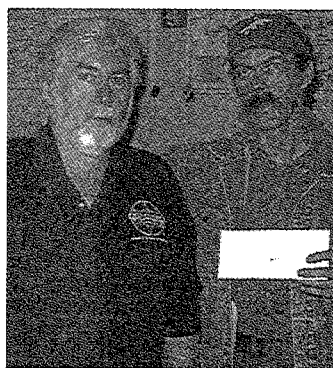
LEFT: 2nd Place: (L-R) Wendell Herbison of AZ and sponsor Phil Gardner of AZ



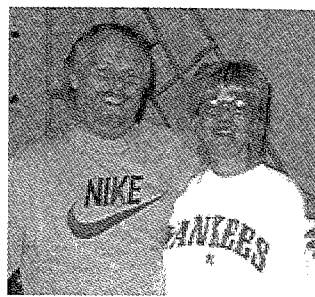
LEFT: 3rd Place: Randy Nusser of NE (center) pictured with sponsor Ron Sosovec of CO (left) and Marty Shepard of NE (right) congratulating & handing out the prize monies



LEFT: 4th Place: Jack Davis of TX (sponsored by Pete Craven of CA) - Jack was also one of the Sponsor Sale Tournament Officials



ABOVE: 5th/6th Place: (L-R) Bob Ruiz of CA and sponsor Harvey Walden of TN who was the one that delivered our tourney shuffleboards safe and sound!; and Henry "JR" Noel of CA with sponsor Pete Craven

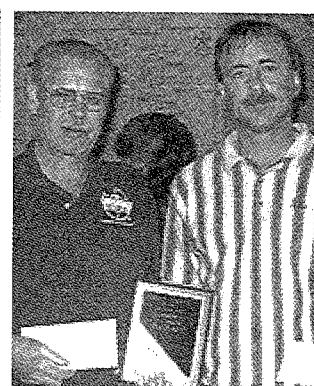


ABOVE: 7th/8th Place: (L-R) Bill Pollock of PA with sponsor Gwyn Orsi of NE; and Marvin Wilbur of WA with sponsor Lorraine Bingham of CA

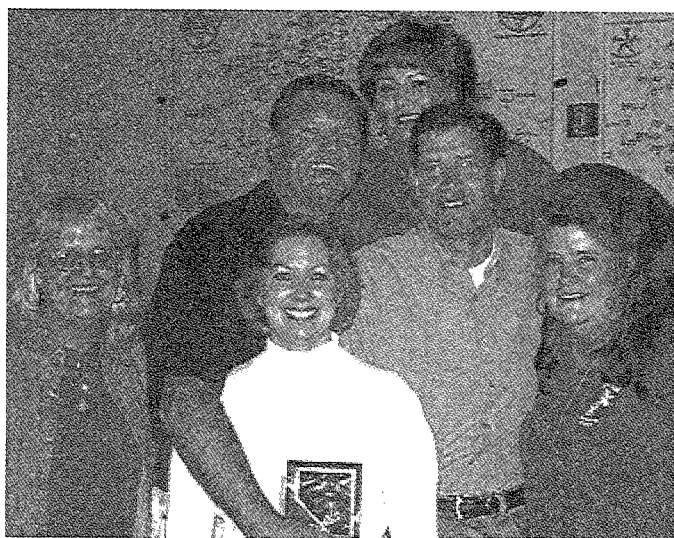
Event 6 Div. II Singles (1-5) (49 Players)



ABOVE: 1st Place: Steve Hamilton of NE (right) pictured with proud sponsor Diana Hagen



ABOVE: 2nd Place: Ferlin Kearns of OK (right) pictured with sponsor Milford Parker



ABOVE: 3rd Place: Lindsay Stites of TX (holding his winner plaque) being congratulated by Tournament Director Lynda French and tourney staff Linda Ritter, Lorraine Bingham, Silvia Martinez & Lindsay's brother: Kelye Stites (his sponsor & Champion Shuffleboard owner)

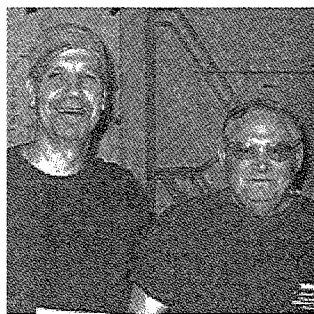
(Continued on Page 16)

Board Talk Open 2002... (Continued from Page 15)

Event 6 Div. II Singles (1-5) (49 Players) (Con't.)



LEFT: 4th Place: Erik Dickes of NE (left) with sponsor Ron Sosovec of CO

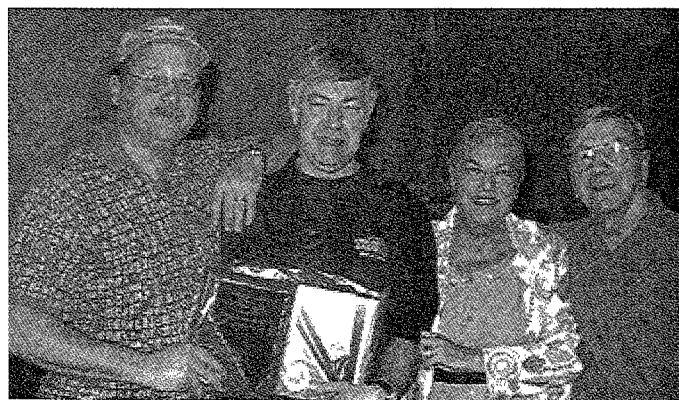


LEFT: 5th/6th Place: Sponsor Dan Holland of OR, Linda Aragon of AZ, Mike Nau of IN and sponsor Bill Niswonger

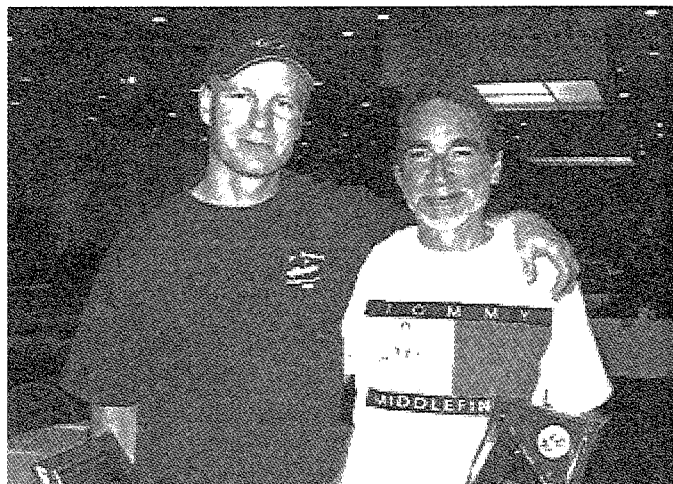


LEFT: 7th/8th Place: Sponsor Wayne Hammond with winner Denise Klein of TX; and Brian Dial of OK (sponsored by Ken Simmons of WA)

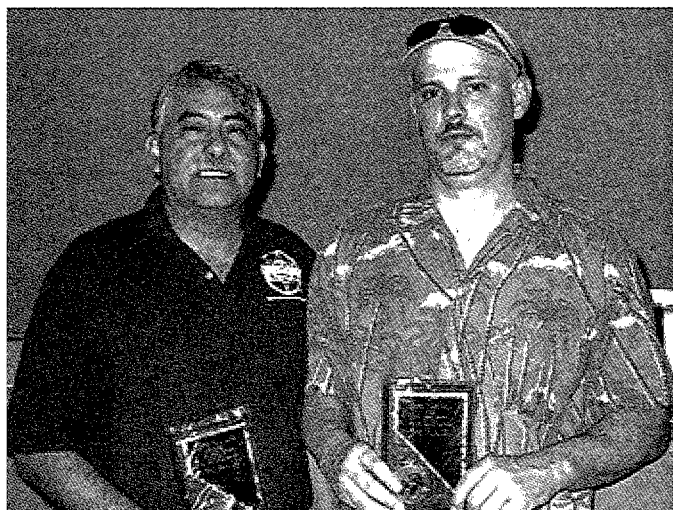
Saturday was 3 divisions of Bring Partner:
Event 7 Pro Bring (no 2 -1s)(14 Teams/28 Players)



ABOVE: 1st Place: (L-R) Bobby Voorhis of IN & Chris Passariello of NV w/ proud parents Edythe & John Passariello (winners were sponsored by Jim Olson of CA)

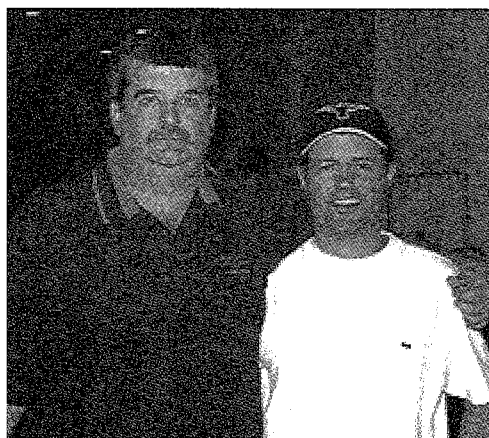


ABOVE: 2nd Place: Mike Kinney (left) & Darrol Nelson (right) both of OR sponsored by Dub Hatley of OK



ABOVE: 3rd Place: Al Salazar of AZ & Dan Hitt of WA (sponsored by Gwyn Orsi of NE)

Event 8 Div. I Bring (Add to 3)(38 Teams/76 Players)

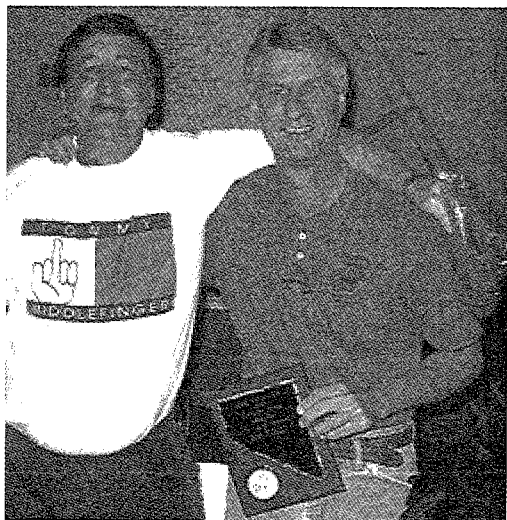


LEFT: 1st Place: (L-R) Jim Payne of NE & Doug Paben of TX (sponsored by Bill Melton of OK)

(Continued on Next Page)

Board Talk Open 2002... (Continued from Page 16)

Event 8 Div. I Bring (Add to 3)(38 Teams/76 Players)
(Con't. From Page 16)



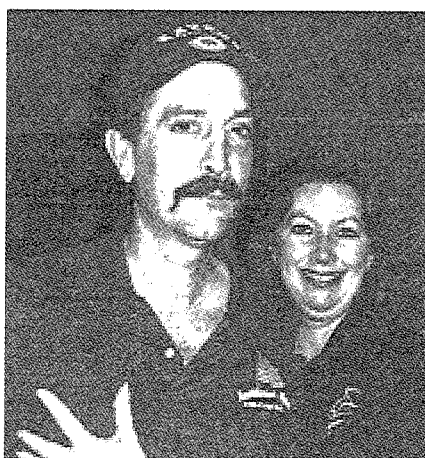
LEFT: 2nd Place: (L-R) Ron Sosovec of CO & Jack Davis (sponsored by Bob Lee of TX)



LEFT: 5th/6th Place: Lilly Kidd (right) and Mary Koteras (no pic) with sponsor Bob Lee (left) from TX

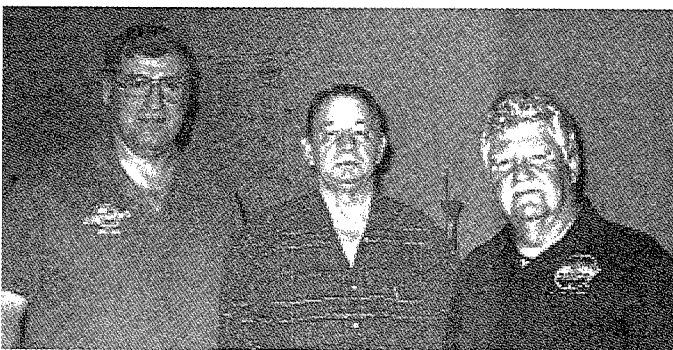


LEFT: 3rd Place: (L-R) Eugene Peach of TX and Bruce Wechter of OR (sponsored by Jimmy the "Cop" Kumpula of FL/MI)



LEFT: 7th/8th Place: Randy Nusser/Linda Ritter (Linda was one of the helpful Tournament Desk Staff) of NE (sponsored by Bob Lee of TX) and (no pictures) Jim Filkins/Jim Tanner (sponsored by Larry Creakbaum of IN)

Event 9 Div. II Bring (Add to 6)(14 Teams/28 Players)



ABOVE: 4th Place: Wendell Herbison of AZ (left), Harvey Kidd (sponsor) and B. Wayne Scott of AZ (right)

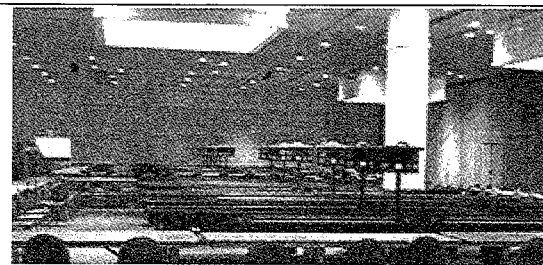


ABOVE: 1st Place: (L-R) Steve Hamilton of NE and Drew Willingham of TX (sponsored by Phil Gardner of AZ)



LEFT: 5th/6th Place: (L-R) Kelly Restau & Jim Nicoll of Canada pictured with sponsor Bill Melton

RIGHT: Setup Day: Good View of Board Lineup (Brds # 1-12) before events started.



(Continued on Page 18)

Board Talk Open 2002... (Continued from Page 17)

Event 9 Div. II Bring (Add to 6) (con't. from Page 17)



ABOVE: 2nd Place: Lindsay Stites (left) and Kelye Stites (right) - the brother team from Texas - sponsored by Bob Shaw (center) of TX



LEFT: 3rd Place:
The Arizona team of
Linda Aragon &
Denise Yohn
(sponsored by Larry
Creakbaum of IN)

BONUS POINT CHAMPIONS (Overall \$500 & Rated Categories \$300 each = Total \$2,000 Bonus Pt. \$\$):

OVERALL: Jack Davis of TX & Steve Hamilton of NE (tie/split with 37 pts. each)

CATEGORY '1': Bobby Williams of TX with 28 pts.

CATEGORY '0': Mike Kinney of OR with 27 pts.

CATEGORY '1': Bill Pollock of PA with 31 pts.

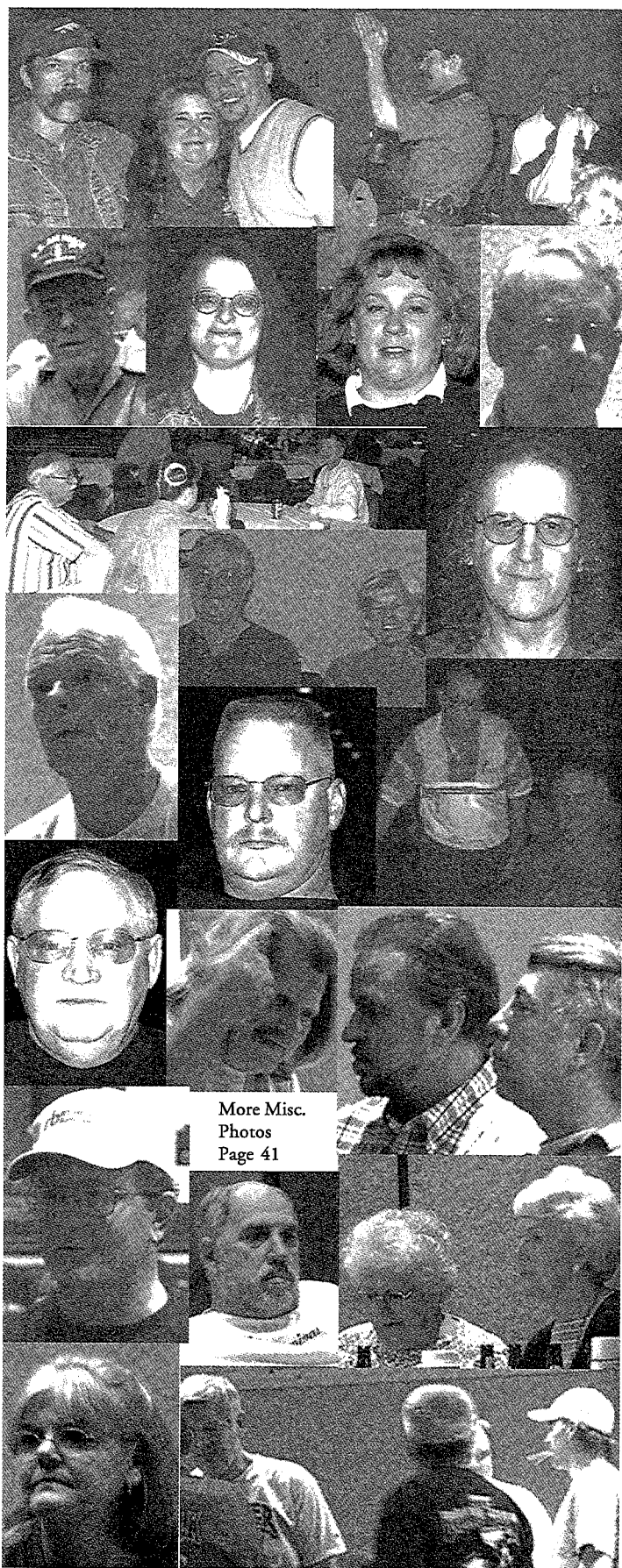
CATEGORY '2': Jack Davis of TX with 37 pts.

CATEGORY '3-5': Steve Hamilton of NE with 37 pts.

NOTE: Points were accumulated through each event. Players received points, as follows: Each event entered (5 pts. for Event 3; 3 pts. each for Events 1, 2, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, and 9); 7th/8th Place: 4 pts.; 5th/6th Place: 5 pts.; 4th Place: 6 pts.; 3rd Place: 7 pts.; 2nd Place: 8 pts.; 1st Place: 9 pts.

Many thanks to all the tournament participants, staff, volunteers, etc. that made this first year tournament a great success!

-- Tom & Lynda French



More Misc.
Photos
Page 41

Frisko Eddie's Revenge: The Return

EPISODE 89 -- A Series by Balboa Ron Schweikert -- May 2002 Issue

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

[In last month's episode, we found Eddie's partner Jack, about to begin a series of "best out of three games" for \$400. Jack had never played for this kind of money, or...against this strong an opponent. Eddie's rationale was that they would be playing equally as good, and some better players in California next week, so he might as well break him in now. -- REMINDER TO ALL: FRISCO EDDIE'S STORIES ARE "FICTIONAL."]

In last month's episode, we found Eddie's partner Jack, about to begin a series of "best out of three games" for \$400. Jack had never played for this kind of money, or...against this strong an opponent. Eddie's rationale was that they would be playing equally as good, and some better players in California next week, so he might as well break him in now.

The \$400 stake money was given to Phil, the owner of the Club, to hold until the series was over. He was a good supporter of the game, and had just recently purchased the brand new board that Jack and Chris would be playing on.

The board was being prepared for the big event. Eddie took Jack aside and in a note of support told him: "Now what you want to do is relax. All you need to totally concentrate on -- is the weight you'll be shooting, and the plan for where that weight is going to end up. Don't worry, we are going to walk out of here winners!"

After that talk, Eddie got to say hello to a few friends he and Shelli had met while on the road. There was "Fearless Frank and his wife Connie, Jim Cradelpuck and his wife Francesca, and Big Jeff and his wife Sandra, plus another real good woman player who they called the "Golden Girl" -- to name a few.

The coins were now in, and Jack called tails -- thereby losing the Hammer.

All conversation came to a halt now, as the game became the center of attention. They both played very conservatively to begin with.

Chris had moved to Las Vegas several months ago, so he had a slight edge in a general sense, but Dangerous Dan had been "fine tuning" the climatic adjusters to get the board just right due to the weather changes, and because it was a new board as well -- so the advantage wasn't that big a factor.

The first game wasn't that thrilling, but it was very intense -- because it was built around a Deep "weight for weight" strategy. No one was missing any weights. This made it basically a Lagging contest, and this fact gave Chris a slight edge, because he was more familiar with the lag at the Talk a Lot Tavern. Chris's lag did prevail, and he won the first game 15 to 12.

Eddie got Jack aside before the second game and told him: "You did ok Kid, but you missed an opportunity he gave you. Now here's what I want you to do if the same thing happens next game..."

The second game was very similar to the first, however, with the score at 13 to 10, and Chris's favor; the very thing that Eddie had said to watch for happened! The board was clean, and Jack had the hammer. They both had three weights left. Jack's right hand was his strongest on the lag, and Chris knew it. In a plan to maybe cut-off the lag, he put up a right "short weight" shot.

Jack took an almost unnoticeable look at Eddie before he made his shot. Eddie gave him a slight nod, which was the signal for him to put their plan in action. The crowd was a little taken back with what happened next. Instead of hitting and sticking, or "going" on the short weight, Jack "boosted" the thing into a deep 1, about five boards in on the left side! In the process he had stuck, and moved the short one a little to the right, which left the right-cross open as well.

Now Chris was in a dilemma. Should he try to boost his 1 up, try to go around it, or try to cover it? He thought it over for a minute, and then released his weight. It was a left hand thumb shot, and it appeared that he was trying to bend it around his front one. He was a little off mark however, and it barely touched the left side of his 1, and ended up in the gutter! Jack followed with his third weight. It was a perfect right cross wrap, ending up in the two zone. Chris was now up with his last weight. The only thing showing at all was a chance with the freehand -- and that was about the only weak shot in his arsenal.

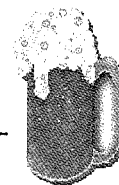
He lined up for another left thumb shot. It looked like he was going for the combo, but his angle was off -- and both of his own weights went sailing off the board! All Jack had to do now was lag a deuce. This time he took His left thumb - and lagged it into a perfect deep two!

There was one more game left...one more game.
(TO BE CONTINUED NEXT MONTH...)

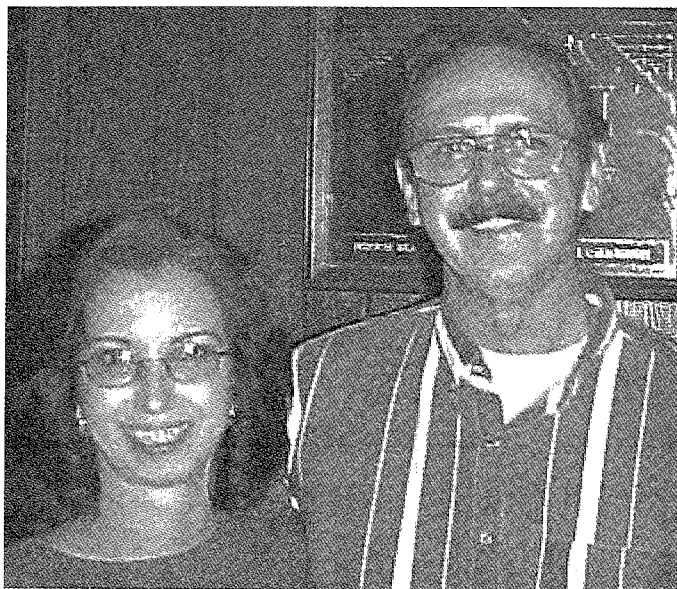
Barbara's Beer Garden He/She Tourney!



February 22-23, 2002
Barbara's Beer Garden, Springfield, Missouri
Results & Photos Submitted By: Woodie Cockrum, MO



Connie Mc Call, Directed her first Annual He/She Bring Partner tournament on Feb. 22-23, 2002. Now for you Men and Wives that both play shuffleboard be sure and read this.



ABOVE: 1st Place: Jerry and Davita Lawler took first place without either of them saying a bad word to the other, not just through the last game, but they didn't fight all weekend. That should be a record for a man and wife to play that long without a fight. Jerry and Davita have been playing partners for several years with out a major win. It was good to see them break the ice.



ABOVE: 2nd Place: Jim Singer and Jana Davis.



ABOVE: 3rd Place: Mary Vance and Terry Gregory

Connie had a good turn out for the first of it's kind. It's a little tough to find enough Ladies to match up with the Men. Connie plans to hold this tournament annually. I would like to see more of this mix in future tournaments, it gives the ladies that would not be asked to play in most of the bring partner tournaments a chance to show off their skill levels. There is some of those ladies that are pretty tough, there were a couple of them that treated me like I was a step child, they sent me home talking to myself.



LEFT: Vera (Bar Manager) did a fine job with the food, there was enough food to feed half of Springfield, and every one had a great time.



KT's Winter Fest

January 19-20, 2002

KT's, Cocoa, Florida

Results & Photos Submitted By: Charley Thompson



KT's Winter Fest was a successful tournament with 36 registered participants and approximately \$1,100 in sponsor sales. A strong entry from Indiana played Saturday and Sunday. The winners in Saturday's A-B Draw were:

A-B Draw (Saturday) Winners were:



ABOVE: 1st Place A-B Draw: Charley Thompson (center), Chairman of the CFSA presents 1st Place plaques to Sonny Johnson (left) and Jim De Witt (right)



ABOVE: 2nd Place A-B Draw: (L-R) Dick Smedburg & C.W. Fritz



ABOVE: 3rd Place A-B Draw: (L-R) Ursula Badioun and Karen Carew

Bring Partner (Sunday) Winners were:



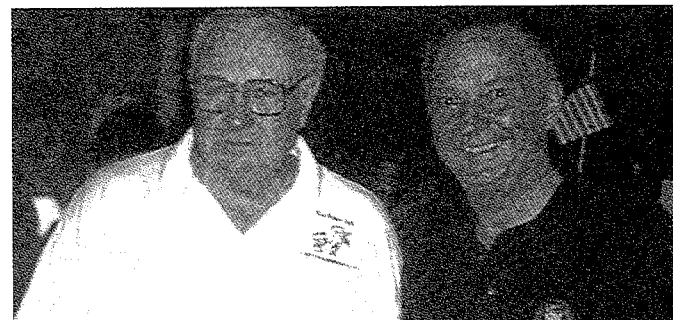
LEFT:

1st Place Bring:

Glen Ingram of IN (left) and Jim De Witt (right) are presented their plaques by Rusty Nowakowski, CFSA Vice Chairman (center)



ABOVE: 2nd Place Bring: (L-R) Phil Young & Jerry Gray



ABOVE: 3rd Place Bring: (L-R) Marty Allen & Dooley Forester

Thanks for all the good food and a big thank you to the Bar Owner "Ken Teague" and Bartender "Donna Bartonis." Looking forward to the next KT's Tournament!

[EDITORS COMMENT: We (Tom & Lynda) would like to formally thank the CFSA for their generosity in being a sponsor of The Board Talk Open 2002 tournament and for supporting the publication. We also wish to thank those who attended the Vegas tournament. It was great finally getting to meet Charley Thompson and Pat Gray in Vegas (their 1st major tourney). We hope to see Charley, Pat, and others at the SW Open (Del City) too. --T&L]



Washington Tournament News!



Fir Cone Tavern's Amateur Draw

March 9-10, 2002

Fir Cone Tavern

Shelton, Washington

Report & Photos Submitted By: Dwayne Dibley, WA

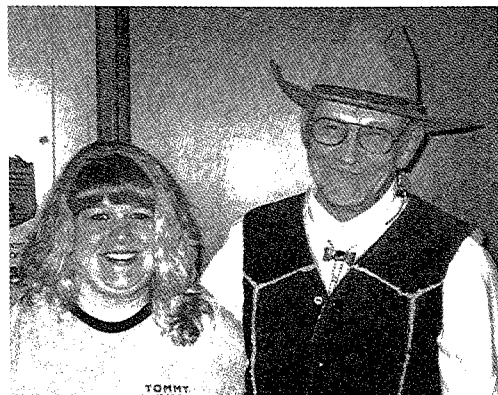


Four years ago the Fir Cone Tavern in Shelton, Washington was the first shuffleboard sponsor to host an amateur tournament. For two years these tournaments sprang up all over the Northwest. As a result of this most of these players have moved on to the next level. In fact, some of these players are now working their way to the top.

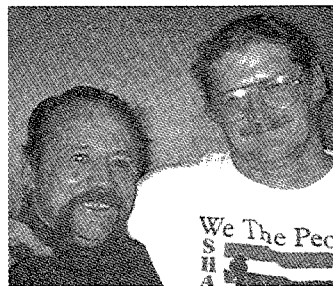
Two years has passed since the last amateur tournament. New players now progress through league play, meat shoots, and A-B Draws. The size of these events has been growing and so has the number of spectators at tournaments.

During the 23rd Annual Masters at Fir Cone Tavern, William Bailey approached Fir Cone owner Mel Hohn with an idea for a beginners tournament. Flyers were made up and the practice began. Suddenly, the Fir Cone was filled nightly with new players.

Action started out with a Friday night A-B Draw, double elimination. Almost every "A" player in Shelton showed up to support this event. Thirteen teams played their hearts out trying to reach the finals. When the night ended, Hall of Famer Dick Doak and Flint had captured first by beating Jeanette Hohn and Bart Nelson. The Saturday Draw started at 11 a.m. with ten teams made up of new players and a few that haven't played in a while. Watching and listening to the event was a real thrill. There was a lot of yelling and clapping when a good shot was made, and we shared in the frustration and anger when they made a bad shot. All in all, everyone had a good time playing the game of shuffleboard.



LEFT: The Champions
Brenda Plews
& Orville
Backlund



ABOVE : 2nd Place:
Jim Lacey & Flint Pattison



ABOVE: 3rd Place:
Jim Lacey & Flint Pattison



LEFT: 4th Place:
Gary Dupont & Bart Nelson

25th Annual Sweetheart Tourney

February 9-10, 2002

Blue Goose Tavern

Port Orchard, Washington

Report By: Dee Hudson (no photos submitted)



The 25th Annual Sweetheart Tournament was held at the Blue Goose Tavern, Port Orchard, Washington using the brother tavern, The Red Dog Saloon to accommodate 26 teams. A shuttle was used between the taverns with Al Bitterman being the chauffeur - this worked out well as no one had to drive unless they chose to. There was \$4,050 in the pot divided up amongst the top 6 winners, coming all the way through the winners bracket. None other than the "dynamic duo" of Dan Hitt and Melody Marine, battling all the way up to challenge them were Ken Simmons and Jennifer King, losing their first match to start the long process up the ladder, when the two were to square off for the best sweethearts: Dan and Melody wanted to share the spot when Ken and Jen, as they had a 6 hour trip ahead of them, agreed upon a 60-40 split. Third Place went to Alvin Orcutt and Pauline Kenney; Fourth Place to Gary George and Joanie Milner, the singing Irish lady from Canada, and what a voice she has (and quite the entertainer) had the place in stitches with one of her ditties; and 5th Place (tie) went to Tina Olson and "Mr. Gentleman" (Nels Anderson) and the team of Mike Waters and Cheri Schrum. The potluck was outstanding as ever with Linda Walker heading up the crew, kept all fed for both days!

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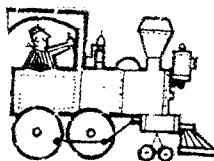
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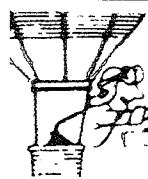
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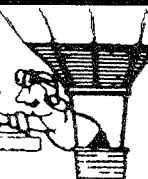
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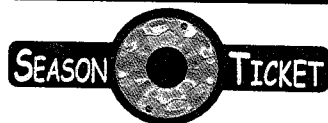
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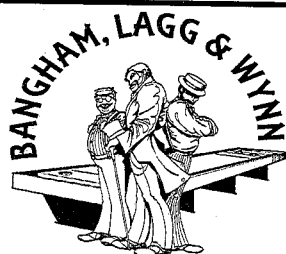
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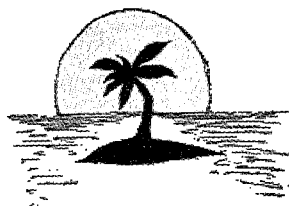
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(League Players' Corner - Series #16)

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Name/Location/E-mail Address (if available):

Wendell Herbison/Glendale, AZ/ Gimble69@aol.com

Sheryl Cockerill/Delaware Co., IN/ sherylngregg@aol.com

Steve Brown/Orion, MI/ CoCo699@aol.com

Tucker Boyers/Jackson, MI/ tucker@boyers-tool.com

(Note: Tucker Boyers is a new league play reporter for "Southern Michigan")

DiBella/Philadelphia, PA/ forensicart@msn.com

Don Meehan/Houston, TX/ dmeehan@houston.rr.com

Steve Edwards/Houston, TX/ hitstickandslide@swbell.net

Sal Mancuso/Garland, TX/ boardchrm@msn.com

Gordie Smith/Canada/ gordie@eagleshuffleboard.com

Jimmy and Brenda Wallace/Port Deposit, MD/

League Players' websites:

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

<http://www.geocities.com/stevo3crown/hitstickandslide.html>

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Delaware County (Indiana) report by Sheryl

Cockerill, League Secretary: League play starts in Oct. and ends in March. Entry fees and 50/50 monies go for a final shoot-out and this year's final tournament was worth \$5,200. The League rotates amongst Oasis Tavern, Reddog Saloon, Sportsman Lounge and Village Inn. The League uses a one game/single elimination format, so there is no difference between 3rd & 4th place. This year's 4th Place team was Dave Welch and Jeri Ingram; 3rd Place team was Jody Berry and Derek Clark. 2nd Place runners up were Marcia Brown and Glenn Pritchard and 1st Place went to Doug Hobbs and Danny Eppard. Lots of Hoosiers are coming to Del City! Hope to see all you ladders there!

-- Sheryl Cockerill, IN

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2002/2003 CALENDAR OF SHUFFLEBOARD EVENTS

MAY 2002

May 3-4

41st Annual Spring Doubles
American Legion Post 424
Bourbon, Indiana

May 3-4

Springfield Open
Barbara's Beer Garden
Springfield, Missouri

May 17-19

5th Annual Denny Busch Memorial
Tournament (4 Boards)
Piccolo's Bar & Joe's Duck Inn
Omaha, Nebraska

May 18

Monthly (3rd Sat.) Tournament
Harbor Point
Garland, Texas

May 22-27 (See Flyer in April issue)

2nd Annual Memorial Weekend
133 Club
Manteca, California

May 23-26

6th Annual Memorial Weekend
Honky Tonk Saloon
Sherburne, New York

May 23-27

Memorial Weekend Festival
Brookdale Pub & Grill
Tacoma, Washington

May 23-27 (See Flyer April Issue)

3rd Annual Memorial Tournament
Danny's Sports Bar
Houston, Texas

May 24-27 (See Flyer Insert)

4th Annual Gator Memorial Day
Oscars Bar & Grill/Rosewood Pub
Bellflower, California

May 24-26 (See Flyer April Issue)

Michigan Open - Memorial
Weekend
Club Car Lounge
Durand, MI

May 23-27 (See Flyer Insert)

4th Annual Washita Handicap
Full House
Wynnewood, Oklahoma

May 24-27 (See Flyer Insert)

21st Annual Memorial Day
The Season Ticket
Tacoma, Washington

JUNE 2002

June 1-2

Forest Festival (A-B Bring)
Fir Cone Tavern
Shelton, Washington

June 1-2

Draw Partner/Bring Partner
Dew Drop Inn
Waterloo, New York

June 7-9

Joel (Pappy) Rahn "Open Singles"
Joe's Duck Inn/Piccolo's Bar
Omaha, Nebraska

June 13-16 (See Flyer Insert)

3rd Annual Indiana HOF "Classic"
David L's Hideout Lounge
Yorktown, Indiana

June 14-16 (See Flyer Insert)

A-B & 4-Person Draft Team
Taz Country
Pflugerville/Austin, Texas

June 15

Monthly (3rd Sat.) Tournament
Harbor Point
Garland, Texas

June 21-23

Bill English Memorial Tourney
Balloon Inn (Phone: 720-533-4822)
Arvada, Colorado

JULY 2002

June 30 - July 6 (See Flyer insert)

Southwest Open 2002
American Legion Post 73
Del City, Oklahoma

July 4-7

4th of July Tournament
Oskar's Bar & Grill
Bellflower, California

July 20

Monthly (3rd Sat.) Tournament
Harbor Point
Garland, Texas

July 19-21 (new date)

Washington State Tournament
Fir Cone Tavern
Shelton, Washington

AUGUST 2002

August 1-4

Nationals Tournament
Dew Drop Inn
Waterloo, New York

August 2-4

Taz Weekend Tournament
Taz Country
Pflugerville/Austin, Texas

August 1-4

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August 16-17

3rd Annual Ladies Only
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August 16-18

Conehead Classic
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Arvada, Colorado

August 17

Monthly (3rd Sat.) Tournament
Harbor Point
Garland, Texas

August 18-20

Taz Weekend Tournament
Taz Country
Pflugerville/Austin, Texas

August 29-September 2

Winston 2002 - Rural America
99 Tavern/Willee's Cafe
Winston, Oregon

SEPTEMBER 2002**September 6-8**

4th Annual Adirondack Open
Riverside Tavern
Keeseville, New York

September 14-15

Open Doubles
Tim's Bar & Grill
Kelso, Washington

September 27-28

5th Annual Missouri HOF Tourney
Eagles Lodge
Houston, Missouri

OCTOBER 2002**October 4-5**

32nd Annual Fall Doubles
American Legion Post 424
Bourbon, Indiana

October 5-6

Draw Partner/Bring Partner
Dew Drop Inn
Waterloo, New York

October 11-12

2nd Annual Columbus Day Tourney
Devonshire Inn
St. Louis, Missouri

October 11-13

Singles (Neg. HC) Round Robin
Balloon Inn
Arvada, Colorado
(new phone#: 720-533-4822)

October 19

Monthly (3rd Sat.) Tournament
Harbor Point
Garland, Texas

October 18-19

Heartland Handicap
American Legion Post 73
Del City, Oklahoma

October 27 - November 3

13th Annual 2002 NASC™
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Reno, Nevada

NOVEMBER 2002**November 9-10**

14th Annual Mixed Doubles
Fir Cone Tavern
Shelton, Washington

November 16

Monthly (3rd Sat.) Tournament
Harbor Point
Garland, Texas

November 21-24

Nebraska State Championships
(Details To Be Announced Soon)
Omaha, Nebraska

November 28-30

14th Annual Indiana State Tourney
Lucky's Tavern
N. Webster, Indiana

November 28-30

8th Annual Thanksgiving Tourney
Eagles Lodge
Houston, Missouri

November 28-December 1

Thanksgiving Tournament
Oskar's Bar & Grill
Bellflower, California

DECEMBER 2002**December 7-8**

Draw Partner/Bring Partner
Dew Drop Inn
Waterloo, New York

December 11-13

13th Annual Santa Classic
Balloon Inn
Arvada, Colorado

December 26-31

Houston Holiday Open 2002
Sheraton Brookhollow
Houston, Texas

December 21

Monthly (3rd Sat.) Tournament
Harbor Point
Garland, Texas

December 28-29

ESA Mixed Doubles
Tim's Timber Tavern
Kelso, Washington

FEB./MAR. 2003

* **February 24-March 2, 2003 (or)**

* **March 3-March 9, 2002 (or)**

* **March 24-March 30, 2003**

2nd Annual Board Talk Open 2003
Las Vegas, Nevada

***NOTE:** Contract negotiations include the above potential dates which we wanted to share with all so that you may start planning and setting local tournament dates based upon the following options we are currently considering in our negotiations with facilities at this time for our "2nd Annual The Board Talk 2003" tournament. At this time the *first option* (Feb. 24-March 2, 2003) above is looking the most favorable, but is not absolute. We hope that sharing our in-process plans will assist you in setting your local tournament plans for the 2003 Calendar of Events that might fall within this timeframe. We will inform everyone (via The Board Talk) when a final decision and contract has been negotiated and finalized for our Vegas 2003 tournament. **Easter falls on April 20, 2003** (Easter was on March 31, 2002 this year) so our current options at this time should not conflict with the **Canadian Open 2003** which is typically held at Easter time.

**New Addition To
"PLAY YOUR WAY ACROSS
THE USA"**

June 2001 Edition:

California

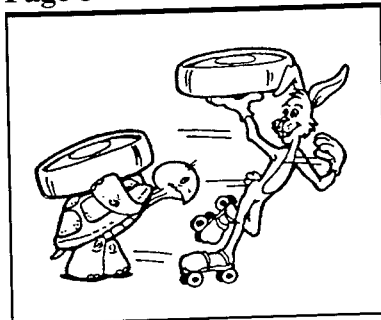
● **Moose Lodge #1832**, 7453 Lorge Circle, Huntington Beach, Contact Bubba Warren: 714-536-0172 or Jim Coulter 714-840-1825 for tournament details.

Texas

● **Cheers Pub**, 502 N. Friendswood Dr., Friendswood; 281-992-8900

Washington

● **Brookdale Pub & Grill**, 13021 Pacific Ave., Tacoma; 253-538-0280



Shufflers' Notebook

(Continued from Page 2)

Thanks from the Wilbers!

Heartfelt thanks to Tom and Lynda French and The Board Talk, on behalf of the shuffleboard community, for the very special and unique "his & hers" weight case made by Andy Friedhofen -- and to Kelye Stites and Champion Shuffleboard for the classy American weights. We look forward to proudly showing them off at future events. Hopefully, they will help us hone in on our rusty skills and, if not, we'll have a great "show and tell" time with our many shuffleboard friends (wearing our Board Talk denims, of course).

We cherish our Board Talk Open 2002 "Pioneer" plaque and congratulate all those Board Talk pioneers who were honored along with us. If it hadn't been for their efforts, and those who followed in their footsteps, The Board Talk would not be the fine publication it is today.

Special appreciation to participants of the 1st Annual Board Talk Open 2002 Vegas Tournament for the get-well card. It did more for George's well-being than six weeks of physical therapy and chased away the blues we both were feeling about having to miss this event. Thanks also to all those who have sent messages since George's two catastrophes. Unless someone is on the receiving end, they can't truly appreciate how much these caring thoughts mean. Our original goal of making The Board Talk the shuffleboard community's communications vehicle for sharing and caring is still very much alive, thanks to Tom and Lynda.

We hope to see many of you in Del City.

--George & Donna Wilber, Lansing, Michigan

"New" Shuffleboard Directory Advertiser

Starting with this May 2002 Issue ...

Thank you Brookdale Pub & Grill!

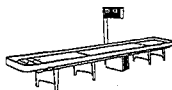
-- From: Tom & Lynda French, Editors



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Speedy Recovery Wishes to Betty Parrish of Michigan!

Among the many messages George received as a result of The Board Talk article about his injuries and surgeries was a couple cards from Betty Parrish (Michigan shuffler and a dynamic founder of the Michigan Shuffleboard Hall of Fame), who was finally home after 8 months in the hospital (80 days in I.C.U.) and 15 surgeries. She said (in part): "Can't remember June until October except for some of the terrible nightmares and a few bits and pieces. I figure the Good Lord has a job for me; otherwise, I wouldn't be here." She is still mostly homebound, yet she takes the time to send an encouraging word to George and others. Imagine that! Talk about putting things in proper perspective. Betty has always been one of the first to send a note to those listed in The Board Talk as needing prayers and thoughts of fellow shufflers, no matter where they were from. I'm sure there are shufflers out there that would like to do the same for her. Her address is: Betty Parrish, 6621 S. Doyon St., Waterford MI 48327. --G & D Wilber, Lansing,

[EDITORS COMMENT: George/Donna: You are so right about Betty sending out her prayers and get well wishes every notice. She sent me (Lynda) a spirit lifting card when she read about my medical problems in The Board Talk recently too. Until in that position, one never knows how much the prayers, cards, and get well messages are needed and how much they help your recovery. -- Lynda

(Shufflers' Notebook Continued on Next Page)

"New" Shuffleboard Directory Advertiser

Starting with this May 2002 Issue ...

Thank you Full Moon Leather!

-- From: Tom & Lynda French, Editors

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Shufflers' Notebook *(Continued from Page 34)*

"How 'Bout Those Huskers!!!"

Last month I was fortunate to be able to attend O'Harold's St. Patrick's Day event in Omaha, Nebraska. The joint effort of those "Corn Huskers" (yes, I said Huskers) to make us out-of-state participants feel welcome was overwhelming!!

Picked up at the airport by a limo, Jim's porcshe for wheels, (which Cindy IS NOT allowed to drive!!) and a toasty waterbed was only a small part of the Nebraska hospitality. Most enjoyable was the opportunity to meet some "new friends" while "shufflin" with some old ones. Thanks so much to all of you for the hard work and effort an event like yours takes. Great job!



LEFT: These Lincoln Girls are a "real hoot," (pictured above left to right: Maggie Worley, Rita Campbell, Melody Marine (pictured w/ the Lincoln girls), and Betty Barney - photo taken/submitted of da' girls by Pete Craven of California)

--Melody Marine, Spokane, Washington
(Photo By: Pete Craven of California)

A Promise Kept... A Memory Made!

Three years ago I made a promise to myself that every year I would attend a different tournament outside my home state of CA. This year it was a weekend trip to "The O'Harold's St. Patrick's Day Tournament" at Harold's Bar in Omaha, NE. I had a great time, once I got there via Chicago. (They wouldn't let me parachute out as we flew over Omaha). I would like to thank Harold Jr., Jim Payne, Marty Shephard, Linda Ritter and all the locals for their warm welcome and hospitality throughout the weekend. A very special thanks go to Lenny and Sue Webster who opened their house to me for my stay, and especially Lenny for getting me a terrific partner and for going above and beyond by getting up at 4 a.m. to take me to the airport on Monday morning. (I missed my Sunday flight because I was still in the tournament). Thank you to Melody Marine & Cyndi Busch for offering me a place to stay. Last, but not least to my doubles partner, Randy Nusser, who even though we finished out of the money, will always be a winner to me. Thank you Randy. The new people I met and friends I made, and the warm welcome from my old friends made this another wonderful memory to add to my shuffleboard scrapbook.

--Lorraine (aka Hurricane) Bingham, CA

Las Vegas Tournament a Great Success!

This was absolutely the most enjoyable tournament we have attended [and I (Bobby) have been to many!]. The Directors and Tournament Staff were congenial and went out of their way to put everyone at ease to let participants know they were genuinely glad they had chosen to attend.

The boards, by far, were the best set of 28 boards ever put together for a tournament. There were a couple of squirrely ones, but overall from the Champion crew and the tournament setup crew headed by Don Valk and Al Salazar deserve accolades for the great job! The Plaza rooms were fair, the dealers okay, the pre-tournament robins could be more organized, but overall Tom and Lynda French to Kelye Stites, to all the tournament staff, receive an A+ on this "1st Annual Board Talk Tournament." Also, a great job by Bill Rice on the bracket boards! We would recommend everyone attending next year.

--Bobby & Jeri Williams, D/FW Texas

[EDITORS COMMENT: Thank you Bobby & Jeri for your support of the tournament and for sharing your comments! We'll work at getting some of the little kinks out and look forward to seeing you and others next year! Many Thanks! -- T & L French]

More Prayers & Get Well Wishes!

- Char Rahn has been having serious back problems and recently was rushed to the hospital (possibly medication reaction) and was taken to Methodist Hospital where her oxygen level tested at a very low 44% - they placed her on oxygen and she is improving and was projected to possibly return home the weekend of April 20th. To send her get well wishes: Char Rahn, 5429 S. 102 St., Omaha, NE 68127 (402)331-5407

- A note received from Fred Thumann upon ur return from Vegas indicated he may be facing two surgeries: cancer and hernia. Get well wishes may be sent to: Fred Thumann, 160 Kellie Lane, Auburn, CA 95603, (530) 885-2312

--Get Well Wishes to Char Rahn, Freddie Thuman, Eddie Brayman, Betty Parish, Al Stewart, Dick Gorman and all others going through medical problems at this time... from Tom & Lynda French & the Entire Shuffleboard Community!

(Shufflers' Notebook Continued on Page 36)

Shufflers' Notebook *(Continued from Page 35)*

Thanks from the Frenches!

Congrats to all the "1st Annual Board Talk Open 2002 Bonus Point Champs and all Event Winners"!!

Many thanks to all the tournament staff and volunteers including: Bill Rice (the awesome & ultimate "Bracket Man"!!) from Houston, TX; Denise Klein and Silvia Martinez (Desk Staff - another awesome 'duo') from Houston, TX; Linda Ritter of NE (great help in soliciting raffle donations); Lorraine Bingham of CA (who volunteered and sponsored the tourney through making weight case 'tags' for all who pre-registered, made TSA Membership tags/photos, and helped tremendously at the Front Desk, etc.); Don Valk (Board Adj. Official - one of the very 'best' one can find!) of Austin, TX and his highly skilled assistants: Al Salazar of AZ, Ken "Doc" Strong of TX with lots of help from Rick McFarland of TX; the fantastic Sponsor Sale Officials: Harvey Kidd & Jack Davis of Texas and their expert spotter volunteer: Jimmy Britt of Texas; the setup/breakdown and board maintenance officials and volunteers: "Coach" Baize, Scott Harrington, Jake Dunham (all of Austin, TX); Cliff Visel of TX; Marty Shephard of NE; Steve Burkett of OK; Frank & Connie Zavala (who also helped us w/ shirt sells) of NV who helped find the great facility for the Vegas tourney; Pete Craven of CA for photo-taking assistance; Debbie Bowers and Kay McKenzie (of Austin, TX) and Georjean Monarrez of AZ who helped with the raffle and ballroom clutter cleanup.

A big THANK YOU to Champion Shuffleboard who loaned the beautiful and great playing shuffleboards and co-sponsored the tournament - most especially the owner Kelye Stites (pictured below) who made this tournament possible and Donald McShan (Champion's Manufacturing Manager) who managed the load/unload efforts and hired some expert local laborers which made for a speedy and quality setup/breakdown of the 28 shuffleboards!

RIGHT: Kelye Stites, Champion Shuffleboard Owner & Co-Sponsor of the Board Talk Open 2002 tournament.

Thanks, Kelye Stites! -
-Tom & Lynda French



Thanks to Harvey Walden, our shuffler/trucker from Tennessee who transported the boards timely, and with alot of TLC. "Thanks to ALL participants, officials, and volunteers who had faith and helped make this first year effort a great success!" Thanks to the Plaza Hotel convention center staff, bartenders, cage workers, maintenace crew, etc. for their great support too -- A great facility & great staff!
--Thanks, Tom & Lynda French

Your Prayers & Support Needed!

Eddie has now had all the tests done and here is the outcome. Yes he can have surgery, but he may elect not to have it because there is an overwhelming chance that he will come out of the surgery totally blind. He wants to think about it for a while. He and his family have just moved into their new home in Manteca this week and Eddie is not ready to make a decision. I think it must be the hardest decision of his life. Any brain surgery is a tremendous risk in itself, but I think that the thought of being blind is much more terrifying and traumatic to him than the thought of dying during the surgery. Everything he loves about his life would change. He is a computer programer and software creator and he loves the game of shuffleboard, two things he could not do if he is blind. Eddie says that he has had this since birth and could possibly live a long life if he does nothing, or it could rupture at any time and he would die almost instantly. It is a decision he has to make that will affect the rest of his life, and he is not ready to make it yet. For now he wants to play in a couple more tournaments, the Memorial Day Tournament at Manteca's 133 Club in California and the Southwest Open in Del City Oklahoma over the 4th of July weekend.

His son Max will weight heavy in his decision as he is the love and light of his life and he is totally devoted to him. He is my best friend and I love him dearly and I pray that he makes the right decision for himself and his family that he can live with. Whatever it is, I will be there for him. I ask that everyone pray for him and support him in whatever his choice may be. None of us can make that decision for him, but we can all pray for him. I hope that everyone does. If you would like to send him a note or card, or even call him his new address and phone number are: Eddie Brayman, 1968 Solothu Way, Manteca, CA 95337, (209) 825-9291

--Lorraine (aka Hurricane) Bingham

Mason-Dixon Classic at Harvey's Place

February 22-24, 2002

Harvey's Place, Street, Maryland

Report By: Dick Gorman, Wilmington, Delaware

The gang travelled and met again at the annual "Mason-Dixon Classic" at Harvey's Place in Street, Maryland on February 22-24. Not as many players came from the north to defend their states, but sufficient came including a new group from Pottstown, PA ("We hope they come back because we really liked and enjoyed them," said Host Harvey Comer). Our Hostess, Darlyne Belcher, outdid herself again with the great cooking of her secret meatloaf recipe, mashed potatoes, string beans, specially doctored hot apples, and hot rolls to all participants and guests - what hospitality!

The tournament kicked off on Friday night with a Draw Partner event using the Bowers Rating system for entry criteria and handicap which still proves to be very popular - as it encourages new players to enter tournaments. The big part of this paragraph is leading the way to the winners table for 1st place was a team from the south: Hostess Darlyne Belcher and Kurt Maurer (Conowingo, MD). Taking 2nd place was a team split north/south: Faye Todd (Newark, DE) and Jen Pickett (Rising Sun, MD). Taking 3rd place was a northern team: Nicole Bonner (first time money winner from Newport, DE) and Mike Miller (Philadelphia, PA). 4th place went to Jim Dennis (Perryville, MD) and Dick Gorman (Wilmington, DE). Final tally was a tie of 4 for for both the North and the South.

Bring Partners event started early Saturday afternoon on 4 in-house boards. It was fun to have first time tournament players from Pottstown, PA (good shooters and a surprise to many) and also nice people to be with - thanks to Diane, Brian, Tony and Dell. Getting to the big part of the pot was tough, but last time Bring Partner winners, showed it was no fluke. Kurt Maurer (Conowingo, MD) and his partner in more ways than one Jen Pickett (Rising Sun, MD). Second place was finally accepted after a strong challenge (7 straight wins after the first loss) were Greg Litadkey (Charlestown, MD - first time money winner here) and his partner better known Jim Wallace (Port Deposit, MD) - score 2 more for the South. Taking 3rd place was Wendy Davis and Dick Gorman both of Wilmington, DE (2 for the North). Final money spot went to Dave Shewbridge (Pasadena, MD) and his partner Joe Williams (Ridley Park, PA) - split North and South. Final South plus 2.

Never enough at harvey's Place. The Saturday night Draw Partner event went to Lindsay Hall (Baltimore, MD) and Gene Long (Lancaster, PA).

Sunday morning the Singles event started at 11 a.m with the North-South battle far from settled. So, play they did. Finally after a long day the Singles event jacket and pile of prize monies went to first place finisher Mike Miller (Philadelphia, PA). Second place, after going all the way through the winners bracket was Jim McDaniel (Darlington, MD) and taking 3rd place was Herb Forster (Ridley Park, PA) and last money spot of 4th place went to our auctioneer Jen Pickett (Rising Sun, MD).

The South came out slightly ahead in the Mason-Dixon battle, but not far enough that they can feel comfortable - so the battle will have to be re-addressed next year. But, the big tournament scheduled for April will be on everyones mind now - The "Maryland State Championships" which is open to players from anywhere. Harvey Comer thinks there will probably be a large turnout, so call him to save a spot for you at: 410-836-8881

[Editors Comment: As many readers and players know, Dick Gorman has undergone a series of eye surgeries. He was scheduled for the 6th (?) eye surgery on March 11th and was unable to attend the Board Talk Open 2002 tournament and participate in the "Pioneer" recognition ceremony (he was a recipient of the "Pioneer Reporter/Supporter" award) and banquet due to having this surgery just before the Vegas tournament started the end of March 2002. We all wish you a speedy recovery Dick adn we thank you for your dedicated support and reporting tournament events and action to The Board Talk for many years!!

-- Tom & Lynda French, Publishers/Editors]



California Tournament News!



Silver Spur "Sweetheart" Tourney

March 16, 2002

Silver Spur, San Bernadino, California

Report By: Bob Brunskill & Photos: Bob Davidson

The Silver Spur's Sweethearts Tournament was held on Saturday, March 16. There were ten teams vying for the \$400 entry and \$990 sponsor sale pot. Play was on two boards. We were a little late getting started, so 1st and 2nd place split. Rob and Kathleen were undefeated when we had to quit with a game a piece in the first round of the finals.

We would like to thank Paul Weber for doing a fine job on the Sponsor Sales. Thanks also to Don Pope, the owner, and all of the women for the good food.



ABOVE: 1st/2nd Place (split): (L-R) Rob Harp & Kathleen Wisdom, sponsored by Les Burdette and Bob & Anna Brunskill, sponsored by Gale Cole



LEFT: 3rd Place: (L-R) Jolene Lembke & Charlie Detterbeck, sponsored by Mike Dearen

Old Town Saloon President's Day

March 9-10, 2002

Old Town Saloon, Livermore, California

Report & Photos Submitted By: Dan & Jane Mourgos

A fun tourney was held over President's Day weekend at the Old Town Saloon in Livermore, CA drawing players from Central & Northern CA, and OR. This six day, five event tournament featured four boards provided by AZ Turnbo, daily food provided by hosts Ray Comer and Sandy McQuillan, and money added by Old Town Saloon and AZ. The sponsor sales were expertly handled by Rick Thomas. AZ also donated a new set of Triple Crown weights which were raffled off to benefit the California Hall of Fame.

The first event was the amateur bring partner doubles which was won by Virgil Jones (Sacramento, CA) and Ben

Mooney (Livermore, CA). Second place went to two Oregonians, Bud Spier and John Edwards.

The next event was the A-B Draw. 1st place was Steve Floyd (Visalia, CA) and Lorraine Bingham (Santa Clara, CA). They made a great run playing through the losers bracket and winning in the finals against the 2nd place pair of Dan Mourgos (San Carlos, CA) and Virgil Jones. 3rd Place went to Bud Spier and Stevie Parks (Santa Clara, CA).



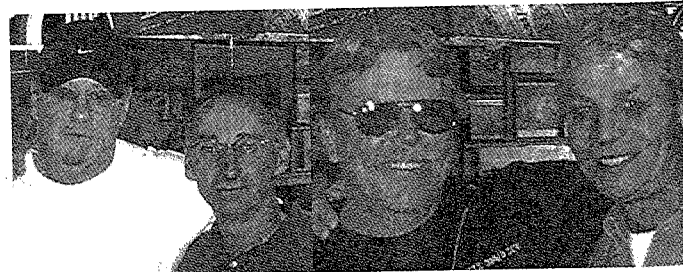
LEFT: A-B-C1st Place (L-R): This colorful event was won by the feuding Santa Clara trio of Lorraine Bingham, Gary Johnson & AZ Turnbo



LEFT: A-B-C2nd Place (L-R): Jimmy Olson (Santa Clara), Helen Washburn (Livermore) & Bud Spier

[NOTE: (no pic) 3rd Place A-B-C went to John Mortenson (OR), Rich Porter (Livermore), and John Edwards, (OR)]

The main events of the week: Open Singles and Open Doubles were impressively dominated by Nick Chaffin & Joe Hudson, both of Sacramento, CA. Not only did they win the doubles, they battled each other in the singles final with Nick emerging victorious. Singles results: 1st Place: Nick Chaffin, 2nd Place: Joe Hudson, 3rd Place: Hal Perry, and 4th Place: Paul Parks (Santa Clara, CA).



ABOVE: Open Doubles 1st & 2nd Place: (L-R) 1st Place: Joe Hudson & Nick Chaffin and 2nd Place: Ray Comer and Bobby Daily both of Livermore. A very impressive showing by the underdog pair from Livermore as they knocked Nick Joe into the losers side only to be double dipped in the finals. As I said, this was a very fun tournament. The Old Town Saloon showed us a good time!



BOARD TALK OPEN 2002

Thanks To Tourney Sponsors!:

[All sponsors were recognized prior to the tourney in each issue of *The Board Talk* & during the tournament March 26-31, 2002 at the Plaza Hotel & Casino in Las Vegas, NV. MANY THANKS TO ALL SPONSORS who provided sponsorship \$\$ and/or shuffleboard supplies or equipment and/or items for fund-raiser raffle.]

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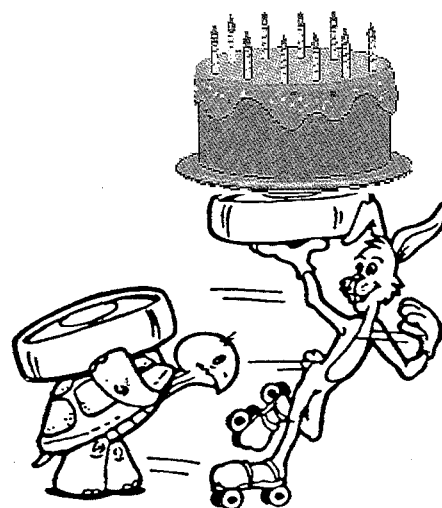
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Happy Belated Birthday to Donna Wilber - Our APRIL 15th "Birthday Girl"!!

As we've heard George say many times: "April 15th - Income Tax Day, the day the Titanic sank, the day Lincoln was shot, etc. etc., and the day Donna was born -- no chance of ever forgetting!"



Birthday Wishes to
Donna Wilber from:
Tom & Lynda French
&
The Entire Shuffleboard
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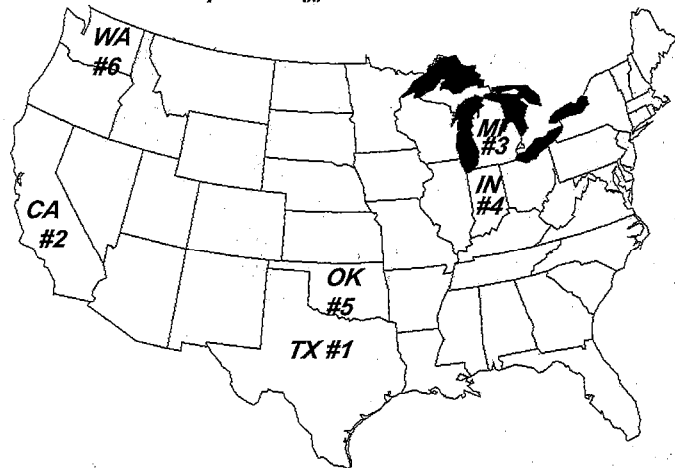
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- Moose Lodge #1832, Huntington Beach, CA;
- Cheers Pub, Friendswood, TX; Full Moon Leather, Indiana; and Brookdale Pub & Grill, Tacoma, WA (all 4 are new "Shuffleboard Directory Advertisers" - starting with this May 2002 issue)
- All Shuffleboard Directory Advertisers

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c/o Tom & Lynda French
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