

The Board Talk

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USS Theodore Roosevelt

(1st Polaris Submarine)

Underwater Table Shuffleboard Tournament - Late 1950's

We (Tom & Lynda French, The Board Talk Editors/Publishers) were again blessed with the opportunity during the Houston Holiday Open 2003 tournament to sit with Sol Lipkin (now 97 years young!) and acquire more shuffleboard historical data that we wish to share with our subscribers/advertisers in this February 2004 The Board Talk issue. This year, Sol Lipkin brought us some copies of photos of one of the most historical shuffleboard tournaments -- being that of a 60 day underwater tournament (circa 1959) on the USS Theodore Roosevelt.

As Sol describes this historical event... In the late 1950's, Sol Lipkin was called upon by the US Navy Officer and Chaplain of the USS Theodore Roosevelt (the 1st Polaris Submarine built) to help get a table shuffleboard installed to give the crew something competitive to do while spending days and months on underwater missions, including an upcoming "shakedown" mission... something more competitive than watching movies was their goal. The submarine was about to be sent from Groton, CT to Charleston, SC to be "outfitted" and the shuffleboard installation became part of the outfitting to-do list. It was installed on the torpedo rack's steel structure that lifts up/ down and the legs on the shuffleboard cradle had to be drastically shortened to accommodate to the correct height needed for play from the shuffleboard's cradle.

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The tournament was MC'd by the Navy Commander (who was also a surgeon/doctor by trade). Sol Lipkin has a reel-to-reel tape of this tournament that he is trying to locate so that it can be reproduced and preserved on more durable media.

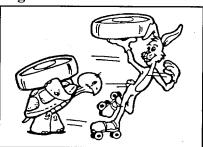
Sol does not recall the names of the Commander and Lieutenant (Sr. Grade Officer) that ended up as partners against two other crew members in the final match of the tournament, but does vividly recall the final shots of the tournament. The score was 20-20 (21 point game format) and the Captain had the last weight (hammer). His opponent threw a short weight, so it seemed almost definitely that the Captain would have no problem passing his opponent's short weight to capture the one point needed to win the tournament. However, it appears that someone tipped off the helmsman and with perfect timing, as the Captain threw his hammer to pass the short weight, the submarine took a tilt that placed the Captain's hammer into the "rough" (which was the Navy crew's term for when a weight went into the gutter)... so the two opposing crew members won without the hammer and with only a short weight on the board and were officially the tournament Champions!

When Sol Lipkin finds the reel-to-reel tape of the tournament, we volunteered to help him get it produced on a more reliable/ preservable media so that we all may have the opportunity to view this historical tournament in full. Thank you Sol Lipkin for sharing this story and tournament photos with our subscriber/ advertiser base. (Note: We have also included non-tournament photos and additional USS Theodore Roosevelt history that we searched and acquired from internet sources such as: navsource.org and torsey.homestead.com websites). In fact, the webmaster of the navsource.org website has now added these three shuffleboard photos to his website gallery on the USS Theodore Roosevelt (1st Polaris submarine).

The following pages (pp. 6-12) include photos of the USS Theodore Roosevelt and the shuffleboard mounted over the torpedo rack and some history of this 1st Polaris submarine. We hope you all enjoy this history and find it as interesting as we -- Tom & Lynda French, Board Talk Editors

Note: A summary of this historical event has also been posted on the Table Shuffleboard Association's website: http://www.tableshuffleboard.org

(USS Theodore Roosevelt... Continued on Page 6)



Shufflers' Notebook

News and Views from The World of Shuffleboard

TABLE SHUFFLEBOARD ASSOCIATION (TSA) ORGANIZATION CHART (A Proposal-Version I)

Is the TSA Ready to Endorse Increased Activity & Scope?

(By: Ken "Doc" Strong, New Braunfels, Tx)

This letter is in response to Mahlon Nobles article (ref. Board Talk, Jan. 2004 issue, page 7) in which he mentioned a potential broadened scope of the TSA and an approach to possibly enhance the player ratings. I have also been thinking along similar thoughts for several months.

The TSA is a registered non-profit organization and I believe this is an opportune time for the TSA to consider taking on additional tasks. The big question: Is the TSA and the shuffleboard community ready to accept this tremendous task? With the ever increasing number of shuffleboard players, I believe that to increase TSA membership it must expand its role in shuffleboard to include many of the activities that are proposed in the following organization scheme. This chart is not meant to be all-encompassing but only a proposed version; perhaps with a little thought and input by knowledgeable people improvement to the chart and activities can be incorporated.

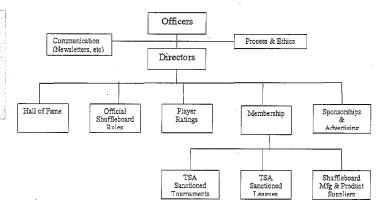
Remember, darts and pool are 'bar' sports that have organized nationwide and sponsor "sanctioned" tournaments and leagues under the respective auspices of (among others) North American Dart Players Association (NADPA) and the Billiard Congress of America (BCA). As I recall, bowling too was at one time considered primarily as a 'bar' sport where the bar was the big part of a 3- or 5-lane bowling alley.

Today, under the support of the American Bowling Congress (ABC), bowling has expanded to large multi-lane bowing alleys and has become not only a nationally competitive sport but also a huge family sport.

Those of you, including bar owners and managers, who are familiar with or patronize these sports organizations could have valuable input for the TSA organizers and the shuffleboard world.

-- <u>URGENT ATTENTION</u> --

Your subscription EXPIRATION DATE is on the back cover (top of your address line.) Please use the FORM inside back cover to renew TIMELY to avoid missing any issues and to report CHANGE OF ADDRESS! (See Page 14 & Back Cover for more details)



Communications – This activity would include, e.g., newsletters, meeting notices, financial statements, website maintenance.

Process and Ethics – This activity would include implementing parliamentary procedures, defining the mission of TSA and revised bylaws, outlining an extended scope of TSA activities and organizational schemes, resource allocation, etc.

Hall of Fame – This activity is in place under the TSA and appears to be well defined.

Official Shuffleboard rules - This would be an activity to formalize the shuffleboard rules throughout the shuffleboard community and to provide one set of official rules. Some work needs to be done here. Player Ratings - This activity is in place outside of the TSA but perhaps could be enhanced as suggested by Mahlon Nobles (ref. Board Talk, Jan 2004 issue). It is Ron and Debbie's call whether or not they want to continue their effort under the auspices of TSA. Membership - This overall activity would be a huge, huge task. More work and effort from the Directors would be required. TSA player membership would have to greatly expand to initially provide the TSA with the financial means to accomplish its goals. I do not know how many shuffleboard players there are but I don't believe the Bower's Ratings of 3500-plus players even comes close to reflecting on the total number registered in league play or otherwise. Current TSA membership does not even reflect on the number of players who participate in tournament play. Perhaps player membership efforts could initially be concentrated on leagues and league-participating establishments. Nationally sanctioned league tournaments would evolve. Eventually, membership would be required for all players in order to participate in any sanctioned tournament. Player membership and league membership fees and, most importantly, benefits would need to be defined. Shuffleboard manufacturers and product suppliers could conceivably be a tremendous help to the TSA membership. These people know basically where their products are going and could promote TSA activities. This could also extend to manufacturing/exhibition conventions. (Continued ... on page 3)

(Shufflers' Notebook... Continued on Page 3)

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 & advertising policies.

(Shufflers' Notebook... Continued From Page 2)

Is the TSA Ready to Endorse Increased Activity & Scope?...

(Continued from Page 2)

(By: Ken "Doc" Strong, New Braunfels, Tx)

Sponsorships and Advertising – (Ref. TSA Chart on pg. 2, col. 2) This is another monumental task. This is the ultimate goal. I believe most of the TSA expanded activities would have to be in place before the shuffleboard community can reap the benefits of this activity. I do not foresee TSA/shuffleboard being a recipient of a millionaire philanthropist. The foregoing is a possible starting point for TSA expansion. The activities cannot be done all at once; a systematic approach is needed. With shuffleboard's continued growth it is on the threshold of coming into its own.

Incidentally, I can recall John McDermott and the Shuffleboard Federation knocking on doors in the late 80's and early 90's, promoting its products and shuffleboard play by encouraging organized leagues and sponsoring several tournaments nationwide. He also wrote several articles on table shuffleboard for a couple of magazines. His efforts most definitely had a positive effect on the growth of shuffleboard. The Shuffleboard Federation also sponsors the annual NASC Reno tournament.

In recent years, Champion Shuffleboard has also become a huge supporter of shuffleboard play by compensating George and Donna Wilber when they announced their retirement from The Board Talk (enabling The Board Talk publication to continue instead of closing shop); by sponsoring the Board Talk Open tournament (into it's 3rd year); and by loaning or renting several boards for other tournaments around the country.

Vendor support (Shuffleboard Federation, Champion Shuffleboard, Triple Crown, Sunglo, Suitco, etc.) have all also been proactive in providing supply donations for use at tournaments or for the fund raising tournament raffles (weights for raffle, wax, silicone, etc.) to help tournament directors recoup some costs in attempting to make competitive tournament play available to players across geographies.

--Ken Strong, New Braunfels, Tx Cell: (281) 380-6218

CLASSIFIED ADS:



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LOTS OF SHUFFLEBOARD

http://www.whistlingoysterbar.com



Master Healer of Unlimited Reiki Laser Reiki Cosmic Energetic Healing

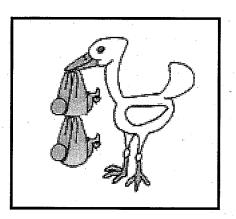




6038 S Bell St Tacoma, WA 98408 253-474-7889



Congrats to Chance Pack
(Champion Shuffleboard's
Marketing Manager)
& Family!





Mitchell & McKenna Pack born December 15, 2003 to the proud "first-time" parents of Chance & Kacie Pack

Congratulations Extended to Chance, Kacie & Family!

-- Tom & Lynda French & Shuffleboard Community

Washington

24th ANNUAL MASTERS FIR CONE TAVERN SHELTON, WA FEBRUARY 28-29, 2004



The Fir Cone Tavern Shelton is hosting the 24th Annual Masters "Open Doubles" on Feb. 28-29. Weekend action starts of on Friday night at 7:00 PM with an A-B Draw. The entry fee is \$10; this is a single elimination, 15-point game event. The Masters will start at 12:00 PM Saturday the entry fee is \$60 per team. Play will start immediately after the sale. The Masters is double elimination, 2 out of 3 15-point games in the winners bracket and one 17-point game in the losers bracket. The winner's bracket will be played out on Saturday, with loser bracket games starting at 10:00 AM Sunday. The Fir Cone has the three best boards in the Northwest. For more information call the Fir Cone (360) 426-2221. For hotel reservations call the Shelton Inn at 1-800-451-4560.

<u>Florida</u>

5TH ANNUAL "BLAST OFF" & 11TH ANNUAL "FLORIDA OPEN" VFW POST#4228
TITUSVILLE, FL
MARCH 12-14, 2004 ("Blast Off")
MARCH 19-21, 2004 ("Florida Open")

The CFSA (Central Florida Shuffleboard Association) will again present two weekends of back-to-back shuffleboard tournaments. The host this year will be the VFW Post 4228 at 4411 Capron Rd., Titusville, FL. We hope this will be a long-term tournament site, as this VFW has ample space. We will have 5 boards available for play and we will have our own private entrance to the Rec Room with a 4 board setup along with our own bartender. Free food will be served Friday, Saturday and Sunday both weekends.

The Bowers 2004 ratings will be used and format is the same for both weekend tournaments: Friday (12th & 19th) at 1pm is the A/B Draw Partner; Saturday (13th & 20th) 9am is Mixed Doubles; and 4pm is Open Singles: Sunday (14th & 21st) at 11 am is Bring Partner

Please see the flyer insert in the January 2004 Issue for event entry fees and full particulars on both tournament events and/or call our Tournament Director Barrie McClean at 321-264-9581 or email Kathy Ring at kring@cfl.rr.com for information on lodging, directions, registration. Hope to see many of you there for these two back-to-back tournaments.

Nebraska

5th ANNUAL O'HAROLDS HAROLD'S BAR OMAHA, NE MARCH 12-14, 2004

The "5th Annual O'Harold's St. Patrick's Day tournament will be held at Harold's Bar, 8558 Blondo St., Omaha, Nebraska (ph#: 402-391-6313) on March 12-14, 2004.

It starts with a <u>4-Person Team Draft on Friday at 6pm</u> (\$20/player entry; Draft begins at 5pm; top rated players are captains; matches are 2 out of 3 games)

Open Doubles on Saturday at 7pm (\$100/team entry; 15 pt game, 2 of 3 games in winner bracket; 21 pt single game in loser bracket)

Handicap Doubles on Saturday at 7pm (\$50/team entry; 15 pt game, Single game/Double Elimination, Max. Neg. 3 spot, no players rated better than a '2' can enter)

There will be door prizes, drink specials and food and \$1,000 Added Money (based upon max. entries). There will also be Bonus \$\$ for out-of-state entries finishing in the top three of any event.

For more information, See Flyer Insert In this February **2004** issue, or contact Jim Payne at 402-697-9956 or 402-676-4827

NASC 2003 Tournament Result Status

Results & Winner Photos have not yet been received from the Tournament Director by the Board Talk Editors/Publisher for the NASC 2003 Reno tournament. We (Editors/Publishers) hope to receive this tournament writeup in time for the next Board Talk issue.

Texas

3RD ANNUAL BOARD TALK OPEN VFW POST#5076 GARLAND, TX MARCH 26-APRIL 4, 2004

The 3rd Annual Board Talk Open 2004 is being held at the VFW Post # 5076, 1906 E. Miller Rd., Garland, Texas 75041 on March 26-April 4, 2004. An official 4-page flyer with preregistration form is inserted in this issue.

The events are basically the same as the Board Talk Open 2003, but different event sequences. For instance, in 2003 we started with the 4-person team events; the 2004 tournament ends with 4-person team events (which allows time for those that do not have a full team at the start of the tournament to get a full team together by the end of tournament - this change was based on suggestions from those attending the 2003 tournament). Another suggestion was not to start Singles immediately after the 6-Person Team event (two long events, back to back) and to make the 6-person team event 5/9 games. These suggested modifications have been made this year to incorporate prior year attendees suggestions. Event entry criteria is based upon the Bowers 2003 ratings (no decimals used), whole number rating (e.g., -1, 0, 1, 2, 3, 4) to be used. The reason that the 2003 versus 2004 ratings are to be used is because the Bowers had originally projected the new ratings would not be available until some time in February (which would have been too late to start getting teams together and preregister). Any unrated player(s) should contact the tournament directors to get a temporary rating for playing in the tournament. We welcome all players of all skill levels!

Below is a summary of the event schedule/plans (See flyer insert for more details and preregistration form): 3/26 (Fri.) ROBINS start at Noon (Registration Desk Open from 6pm-10pm; must be pre-reg. or registered for Saturday's 6-Person Draft by 10pm - only those that play in Saturday's 6-Person Draft team event will qualify to compete for the added Bonus \$\$).

3/27 & 3/28 (Sat. & Sun.) 6-MAN DRAFT- start 9am Draft Teams (3/27), sponsor sale and play immediately after); Finals on Sunday 3/28 (open to all players; highest rated registered players will be team captains - limit 32 teams)

3/29 (Mon.) A/B DRAW (2 Divisions); start 9am and the Singles Sponsor Sale starts at 6pm)

3/30 & 3/31 (Tues. & Wed.) SINGLES (3 Divisions) (Finals on 3/31 and Sponsor Sale for Bring Partner held 3/31) 4/01 & 4/02 (Thurs. & Fri.) BRING PARTNER

(3 Divisions); start 9am

4/03 & 4/04 (Sat. & Sun.) 4-PERSON BRING TEAM

(2 Divisions); start at 9am (finals on Sunday if needed)

The 6-Person Draft Team, A/B Draw Div. II, Bring Partner Div. III, Singles Div. III and Bring 4-Person Bring Team are great events for newcomers to tournament play, including those not yet rated in the Bowers Ratings.

Food and drinks will be available throughout the tournament. The Ladies Auxiliary will be serving breakfast, lunch, dinner (food throughout the day) with all proceeds going to the Ladies Auxiliary. The VFW is open from 8am-1am daily. Motels nearby. There are two airports: Dallas Love Field (DAL) which is the closest if you can get a connection to fly in on SW Airlines. Other airlines use Dallas Ft. Worth Airport (DFW). Contact the tournament directors, Tom & Lynda French (512-250-0327) if you have a need to bring an RV.

Mapquest & yahoo map searches for some motels nearest to the VFW zip 75041: ** Indicates potential preference based on Group Rate or amenities offered.

- 1) **Microtel Inn, 1901 Pendleton Dr., Garland, Tx 972-270-7200 Board Talk Open Group Rate (quote per Atul, General Manager): \$49.95/nite (can get 2 queen beds or one queen bed w/ sofa, microwave/refrigerator, etc.), built in year 2000 (fairly new), has coin-op laundry facilities, many restaurants nearby (including 24 hr), bowling alley behind motel (with bar), etc.
- 2) **Royal Inn Hotel (previously Red Roof Inn), 13700 Lyndon B. Johnson Fwy, Garland, Tx 972-686-0202 Rate Quoted: \$29/ nite 1 person; \$31/night 2 persons. This hotel is the closest to the VFW has hotel bar (no microwave or refrigerators). This is a hotel, so guest room access is only via inside the hotel. No Group Rate Established.
- 3) **Ramada Limited, 1821 NW Highway, Garland, Tx 972-278-5070 Cable TV, Continental Breakfast, microwave/ refrigerator. Rate Quoted: \$50/night one bed; \$55/night two beds (make reservation at least 6 weeks prior as they only have 45 rooms total). No Group Rate Established.
- 4) **La Quinta Inn, 12721 Interstate 635, Garland, Tx 972-271-7581 No Group Rate Established.
- 5) **Comfort Inn, 12670 NW Highway, Garland, Tx 972-613-5000 No Group Rate Established.

Other motel options not quite as convenient in distance or location within the 75041 zip code range are:

- 1) Days Inn, 3645 Leon Rd., Garland, Tx 972-840-0020 all rooms have internet connections, 25" TV w/ 74 channels, microwave, refrigerator, ironing boards, hair dryers, continental breakfast. One King Bed (up to 2 people) \$44.95/nite; Two Queens (up to 4 people) \$54.95/nite. Group Rates under Board Talk Open (any problems, ask to speak to Peter) BOOK EARLY (at least 6 weeks prior to check-in date). Peter is the Board Talk Open "Group Rate" coordinator and indicated he will try to help find another motel if/when their Days Inn reaches capacity.
- 2) Garland Inn & Suites, 3625 Leon Rd., Garland, Tx 972-926-4949 No Group Rate Established.

Board Talk Open "Group Rate" quoted is \$45 single king bed/ \$50 two queen beds (per night); no other notable amenities.

3) Studio 6 Motel, 19801 Adleta Court, Dallas, Tx 75243 ph: 214-342-5400 No Group Rate Established.

Kitchenette, stove, microwave, refrigerator, pots/pans, dishes, etc. Rate Quoted (by Ronnie): \$179/week one bed;

etc. Rate Quoted (by Ronnie): \$179/week one bed; \$259/week two beds. Call for reservation. Must pay in-full at check-in. Restaurant nearby.

4) Super 8 Motel, 11421 Lyndon B. Johnson Fwy, Garland, Tx 972-278-3300 No Group Rate Established.

Continental Breakfast, microwave/refrigerator. Rate Quoted: \$49/night single king bed (up to 2 people); \$55/night two queen beds (2 people) or \$3 each for each add'l person in a two-bed room (may have up to 4 people in a two-bed room).

5) Delux Inn, 3635 Leon Rd., Garland, Tx 972-864-1803 No Group Rate Established.

<u>Airport Shuttles to Garland motels</u> (if you need a shuttle, call for price when flight/motel are known): Super Shuttle 817-329-2000 or Discount Shuttle 214-352-9700

Hope to see many of you there! -- T&L French, Tourn. Directors

NOTE: There is a **4-page "Board Talk Open 2004" tournament flyer** inserted into this issue with tournament details, motel information and pre-registration form. In addition, extra copies of this flyer may be downloaded from **The Board Talk website:** http://www.theboardtalk.com

USS Theodore Roosevelt (Continued from Page 1)





Above: Navy photo NY9 39329-5-58, dated 5/20/1958. RADM M. J.

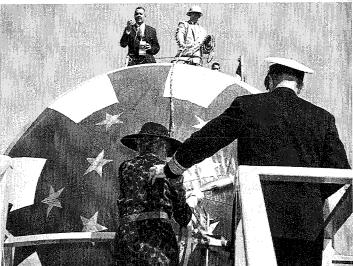
Lawrence, Shipyard Commander speaking at keel laying of
Theodore Roosevelt (SSBN-600) at Mare Island Naval Shipyard.

(U.S. Navy photo courtesy of Darryl Baker from navsource.org archives)

NOTE: Laid down as Scamp (SSN-600), 20 May 1958, at Mare Island Naval Shipyard, Vallejo, CA. (in photo above); Renamed and redesignated Theodore Roosevelt (SSBN-600), 6 November 1958; Launched, 3 October 1959; Commissioned, USS Theodore Roosevelt (SSBN-600), 13 February 1961; Decommissioned and simultaneously struck from the Naval Register, 1 December 1982; Final Disposition, disposed of through NPSSRP (Nuclear Powered Ship and Submarine Recycling Program) at Puget Sound Naval Shipyard, Bremerton, WA., 24 March 1995.

[Editors' Note: We (Board Talk Editors/Publishers) have not yet ascertained when and where the actual shuffleboard was laid to rest or disposed of, but above is the history/summary of the USS Theodore Roosevelt's life.]

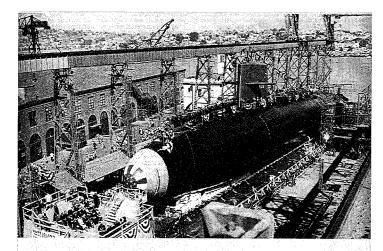




Above Photos: Navy Photo NY9 45983-10-59, dated 10/3/1959. Mrs. Alice Roosevelt Longworth after launching on Theodore Roosevelt (SSBN-600) at Mare Island. Here is the story of this picture from the shipyard newspaper. "She didn't do it, but she was supposed to -- break the champagne bottle on the bow of the Theodore Roosevelt (SSBN-600), first Polaris submarine built on the West Coast, and launched at Mare Island on October 3, 1959. Mrs. Alice Roosevelt Longworth, daughter of the late President for whom the ship was named, was the sponsor. She was also the first, and last, Mare Island sponsor who declined a dress rehearsal for the launching ceremony. She missed the ship when she swung the bottle, and in desperation threw the bottle at the ship and missed again. Fortunately, a member of the crew up on the ship pulled the bottle up by the attached cable, and quickly smashed the bottle on the bow before the ship hit the water. He did a fine job as evidence by the broken bottle held by the tearful sponsor."

(U.S. Navy photo courtesy of Darryl Baker from the navsource.org archives)

(USS Theodore Roosevelt... Continued on Next Page)





Above Photos: Theodore Roosevelt (SSBN-600), launching, 3 October 1959, at Mare Island Naval Shipyard, Vallejo, CA and Navy Photo NY9 45969-10-59, dated 10/3/1959. Bow view of Theodore Roosevelt (SSBN-600) waterborne after launching at Mare Island Naval Shipyard

(U.S. Navy photo courtesy of Darryl Baker from the navsource.org archives)

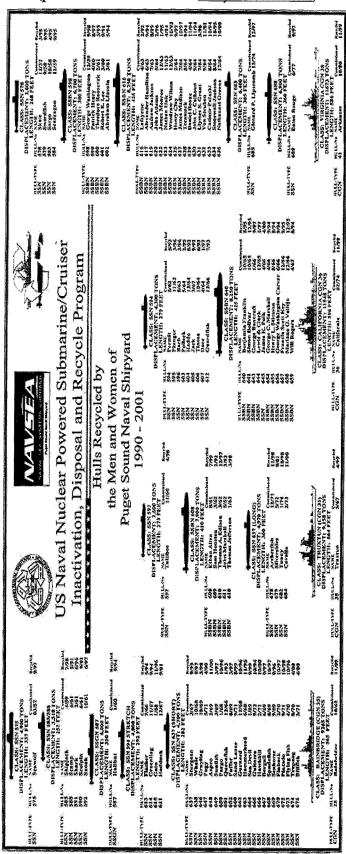
This is the Submarine Graveyard and other Ships since 1990.

Disposal and Recycle Program

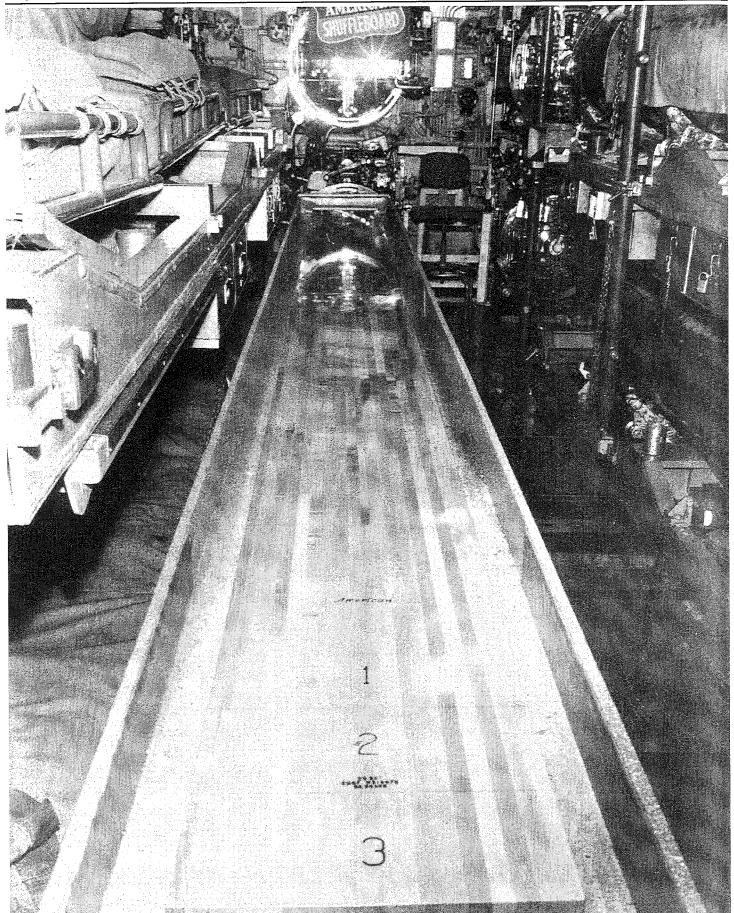
Note: Theodore Roosevelt was commissioned February 1961

and hull recycled March 1995

(per the below chart found at: torsey.homestead.com)

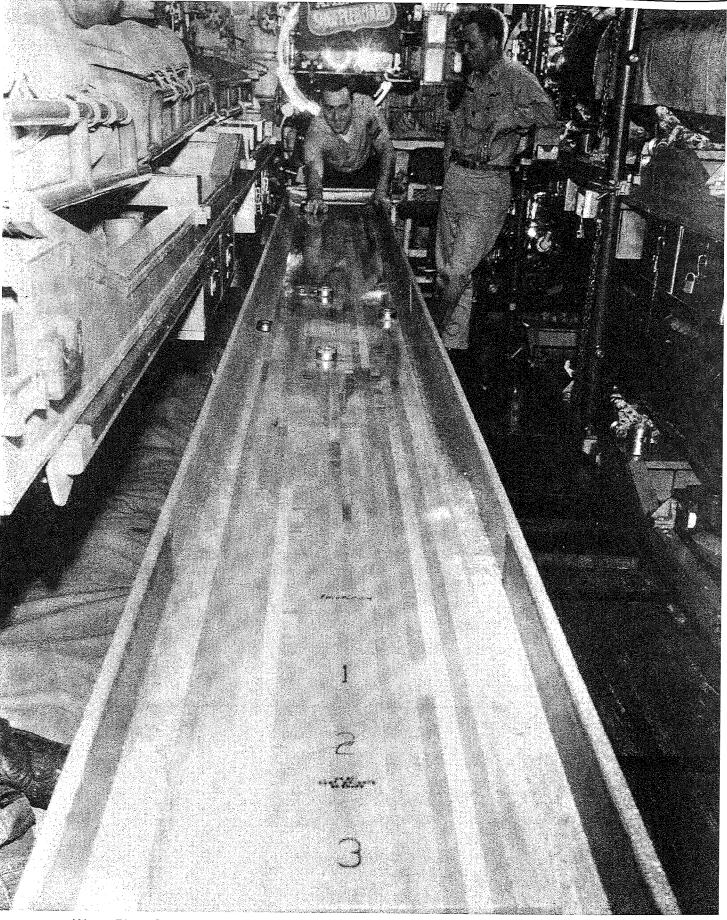


(USS Theodore Roosevelt... Continued on Page 8)



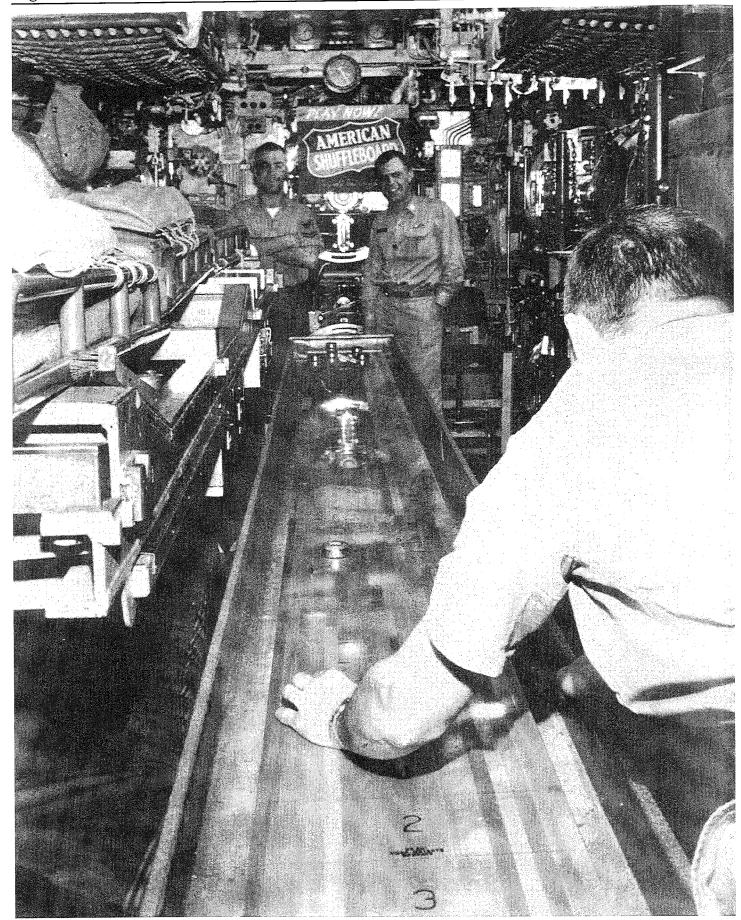
(Above Photo Courtesy of Sol Lipkin: USS Theodore Roosevelt (ca 1959) Shuffleboard Tournament)

(USS Theodore Roosevelt... Continued on Next Page)



(Above Photo Courtesy of Sol Lipkin: USS Theodore Roosevelt (ca 1959) Shuffleboard Tournament)

(USS Theodore Roosevelt... Continued on Page 10)



(Above Photo Courtesy of Sol Lipkin: USS Theodore Roosevelt (ca 1959) Shuffleboard Tournament)

(USS Theodore Roosevelt... Continued on Next Page)

Theodore Roosevelt (SSBN-600) (SSN-600)

George Washington Class Ballistic Missile Submarine: Authorized as Scamp (SSN-588; Laid down as Scamp (SSN-600), 20 May 1958, at Mare Island Naval Shipyard, Vallejo, CA.; Renamed and redesignated Theodore Roosevelt (SSBN-600), 6 November 1958; Launched, 3 October 1959; Commissioned, USS Theodore Roosevelt (SSBN-600), 13 February 1961; Decommissioned and simultaneously struck from the Naval Register, 1 December 1982; Final Disposition, disposed of through NPSSRP (Nuclear Powered Ship and Submarine Recycling Program) at Puget Sound Naval Shipyard, Bremerton, WA., 24 March 1995.

Specifications: Displacement, Surfaced: 5,946 t., Submerged: 6,700 t.; Length 382'; Beam 33'; Draft 29'; Speed, Surfaced 16 kts, Submerged 20+ kts; Complement 139; Test Depth 700'; Armament, 16 missile tubes; six 21" torpedo tubes, Propulsion, S5W Pressurized Water Nuclear Reactor, 2 geared turbines at 15,000 shp, one propeller.

Theodore Roosevelt (26th President of the United States) & USS Theodore Roosevelt (1st Polaris Sub)

Born on 27 October 1858 in New York City, Theodore Roosevelt spent his childhood in a winning struggle against asthma. He strengthened his body through sheer self will and taught himself to ride, box, and shoot. In 1880, he graduated from Harvard University and turned to the writing of history. Two years later, he published his Naval War of 1812 which is still regarded as a standard study of the subject.

Also in 1882, he ran as an independent Republican for the state legislature and was elected to represent New York's 21st district. Quickly winning renown as a champion of better government, Roosevelt became minority leader in 1883 and, the following year, headed the Assembly itself.

In 1889, he began six years on the Civil Service Commission in which he opposed corruption in the dispensing of public offices. In 1895, he became president of the New York City Police Board.

In 1897, President McKinley appointed Roosevelt Assistant Secretary of the Navy. He strengthened the Navy and enabled it to begin the war with Spain in a condition of preparedness.

Desiring to participate personally in the fray, Roosevelt resigned his post on 6 May 1898 and helped to organize the 1st Volunteer Cavalry Regiment. In Cuba, he became a hero when he led that regiment—popularly dubbed the "Rough Riders"—in the famous charge up San Juan Hill.

His heroics helped to catapult him into the governorship of New York late in 1898. Two years later, he received the Republican Vice Presidential nomination and was elected with McKinley in November.

On 14 September 1901, McKinley's assassination put Roosevelt in the White House as the 26th President of the United States. He asked Congress for little legislation but used executive power to the hilt to achieve reform.

Early in 1902, he used the long neglected Sherman Antitrust Act to break up the powerful railroad trust, the Northern Securities Company, and won popularity for his achievement as a "trust buster." During the coal strike later that year, by threatening to use troops to work the mines, he forced the miners and owners to accept arbitration which resolved the issue before the crisis became acute.

In 1904, Theodore Roosevelt was reelected overwhelmingly. That popular mandate allowed him to push the reform legislation through Congress.

The Elkins law and the Hepburn Act prevented railroads from charging exorbitant rates and from giving large rebates to preferred customers. The Expedition Act established special three-judge courts to expedite the trial of antitrust suits.

The Pure Food and Drug Act and the Meat Inspection Act protected consumers from the evil practices carried out by the food and meatpacking industries. Roosevelt also dusted off old laws which provided for the establishment of federal parks, national forests, and national preserves of coal, mineral, and petroleum-producing lands to save much of America's natural bounty for succeeding generations.

Roosevelt conducted a vigorous foreign policy. When the Colombian senate refused to ratify the Hay-Herran Treaty—which provided for American construction of and control over an isthmian canal across the Colombian province of Panama—Roosevelt countered by supporting Panamanian insurgents who staged a bloodless coup and immediately agreed to the treaty in their own right. After that, he personally superintended every step of canal construction.

His policy toward other Latin American nations was directed toward protecting them from European intervention. The crowning feat to his diplomacy came in 1905, when Roosevelt played the major role in bringing about the negotiations in Portsmouth harbor which ended the Russo-Japanese War. This contribution to world peace won him the Nobel Peace Prize.

To Roosevelt the aggressive diplomat, a large and efficient navy constituted a primary tool for the conduct of foreign policy. Hence he launched a program to raise the United States Navy up to a high standard of efficiency and strength. He enlarged the fleet, modernized its ships, increased both its officer corps and enlisted complement, and improved efficiency through better training.

Roosevelt reorganized the Navy's operating forces along more rational lines. He called home its ships from stations scattered over the earth and then abolished the stations. He then divided the Navy into three fleets: the Atlantic Fleet (including all battleships), the Pacific Fleet, and the Asiatic Fleet. This change and the increase in personnel allowed the Navy to improve efficiency and to adopt a more realistic training program. The cruise of the Great White Fleet around the world between late 1907 and 1909 might be considered the triumph of his naval policies and the culmination of his efforts to wed military strength to diplomatic endeavor.

Late in February 1909, the battleships of the Atlantic Fleet returned to Hampton Roads and filed past their benefactor in a huge naval review. Early the following month, Theodore Roosevelt passed the reins of government to his hand-picked successor, William Howard Taft, and left the country on a schedule of safaris, hunts, and tours. However, soon after his triumphal return to the United States in 1910, he became disillusioned by Taft's conservatism. In 1912, he tried to win the Republican presidential nomination. When Taft won the Grand Old Party's banner, Roosevelt led his followers out of the party and formed the Progressive Party. The Republican split gave victory to the Democrats, and Woodrow Wilson became president in March 1913.

(USS Theodore Roosevelt... Continued from Page 11)

Roosevelt returned to retirement and resumed writing and traveling. Although neutral at the outbreak of World War I, he quickly became pro-Allied. His outspoken criticism of Wilson's neutrality sought to arouse the country to what he saw as a struggle between benevolent democracy and rapacious, Pan-German imperialism. When the country did enter the war, Roosevelt applied to Wilson for a military command, but the latter ignored him. He hoped to run again for the presidency in 1920, but that last dream was denied him as well for he died peacefully in his sleep on 6 January 1919 at Sagamore Hill, his home at Oyster Bay, N.Y.

(SSBN-600: dp. 5,946 (surf.), 6,700 (subm.); l. 382'; b. 33', dr. 29', s. 16 k. (surf.), 20+ k. (subm.); cpl. 139; a. 16 Polaris mist, 6 21" tt.; cl. George Washington)

Using components initially assembled for the Skipjack-class nuclear attack submarine Scamp (SSN-588), SSGN-600 was laid down on 20 May 1958 by the Mare Island Naval Shipyard, named Theodore Roosevelt and redesigned SSBN-600 on 6 November 1958, launched on 3 October 1959; sponsored by Mrs. Alice Roosevelt Longworth; and commissioned on 13 February 1961, Comdr. William E. Sims (blue crew) and Comdr. Oliver H. Perry, Jr. (gold crew) in command.

Five days after commissioning, Theodore Roosevelt departed Mare Island, bound for the east coast. On 7 March, she became the first fleet ballistic missile submarine (FBM) to transit the Panama Canal. Four days later, she arrived at Cape Canaveral, Fla. After successfully firing her first Polaris A1 missile on 20 March and completing her shakedown training, the submarine arrived in Groton, Conn., on 1 May for post-shakedown availability at the Electric Boat Co. yard. She completed those repairs on 24 June and departed Groton, bound for Charleston, S.C. Theodore Roosevelt stopped at Norfolk, Va., along the way and arrived at Charleston on 7 July. Between 7 and 19 July, she loaded Polaris missiles at the Naval Ammunition Depot, Charleston, and made all other preparations for her first deployment. On the 19th, she stood out of Charleston on her first deterrent patrol. She concluded that patrol on 23 September at the FBM base at Holy Loch, Scotland.

Over the next three and one-half years, the submarine made 15 more deterrent patrols departing from and returning to the Holy Loch base in each instance. Late in the spring of 1965, she departed Holy Loch on her 17th and final patrol of the deployment. She concluded that patrol and the deployment when she arrived in Charleston on 15 June. She unloaded her 16 Polaris missiles and then departed Charleston for New London Conn., where she arrived on 26 June.

At New London, Theodore Roosevelt entered the yard of the Electric Boat Division for an extensive overhaul. Between July 1965 and January 1967, she had her nuclear reactor "refueled" and her Polaris weapon system modified to accept the more advanced Polaris A3 missile. The FBM submarine completed overhaul on 14 January 1967 and launched into sea trials and refresher training, all of which culminated in the successful firing of a Polaris A3 missile at the Cape Kennedy (Cape Canaveral) missile range late in April. At the end of the training period, she returned to Charleston to load missiles and to prepare for another series of deterrent patrols out of Holy Loch. She embarked upon her 18th patrol on 1 June and completed that cruise at the Holy Loch base.

Theodore Roosevelt's second tour of duty operating from the Scotland base proved to be very brief in comparison to her first. Between mid-June of 1967 and February of 1968, she completed her 18th, 19th, 20th and 21st patrols. On 20 March 1968 while returning to Holy Loch from her 21st patrol, the submarine ran aground off the western coast of Scotland. After drydocking for temporary correction of the damage, she departed Holy Loch on 5 April to return to the United States for permanent repairs. Between 18 and 20 April she unloaded her missiles at Charleston and then headed north to New London. On the 23rd, she arrived in the yard of the Electric Boat Division and commenced an extended repair period. Labor disputes caused delays, and Theodore Roosevelt did not complete her repairs until mid-October. She spent the latter part of that month in sea trials and then departed New London on 2 November on her post-repair shakedown cruise. She visited Norfolk, Puerto Rico, and St. Croix before concluding the cruise at Charleston on 27 November. She conducted training operations out of Charleston before deploying to Holy Loch again early in 1969.

That tour of duty lasted until May 1971. During the interim, she conducted nine more deterrent patrols, returning to Holy Loch for refit after each. On 12 May 1971, she stood out of Holy Loch on the 31st patrol of her career. On 20 July, Theodore Roosevelt arrived in New London completing both the patrol and the deployment. She remained in New London for three weeks, during which time members of her blue crew and her gold crew were brought together into a single overhaul crew while other members of both crews moved on to other assignments. On 10 August, the FBM submarine headed south to Charleston where she arrived on the 13th. Over the next month, she underwent refit and then departed Charleston on 11 September for special operations. Theodore Roosevelt returned to Charleston on the 30th and remained there a week and a day before returning to sea for another three weeks of special operations. The ballistic missile submarine reentered Charleston on 1 November and began a preoverhaul restricted availability. Three weeks later, she officially began her refueling overhaul, which lasted for more than two years.

Theodore Roosevelt completed her overhaul in January 1974. During the following two months, she conducted sea trials out of Charleston. In April and May shakedown training and nuclear weapons certification preparations occupied her time. In June, she conducted a one-week midshipman familiarization cruise out of New London, then underwent nuclear propulsion safety training before deperming at Norfolk. In mid-June, she received word of her reassignment to the Pacific Fleet with her new home port to be Pearl Harbor, Hawaii. Between July and September, Theodore Roosevelt conducted another midshipman training cruise; then settled into predeployment training and preparations. The submarine departed Charleston on 20 September, transited the Panama Canal on 5 October, and, after a nine-day stop for missile loadout at Bangor, Wash., continued on to Pearl Harbor, where she arrived on 4 November. Six days later, she departed Pearl Harbor, bound for the Marianas. She entered port at Guam two weeks later, underwent refit at her new advanced base there, and began her first deterrent patrol in the Pacific Ocean on 31 December. Theodore Roosevelt conducted patrols out of Guam until 16 December 1977 at which time she departed on her 43rd deterrent patrol.



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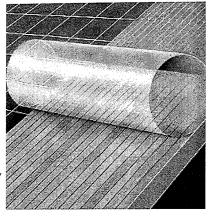
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O'Brien & Hawkes take 2nd Annual Oskar's "Holiday Doubles"

December 2003 at Oskar's Sports Bar & Grill, Bellflower, California Report & Photos Submitted on Dec. 29, 2003 By: California Shuffleboard News

Beliflower, CA: Whittier's Tim O'Brien and Escondido's Kenny Hawkes had carefully laid out plans to win Oskar's second annual Holiday Doubles and in the process defeat last year's defending champions Dave Brennan and Ernie Alvarez. It came down to just that late Saturday evening (December 27) at the Beliflower sports lounge as the two teams faced off for the tournament title with the defending champions needing to win two matches from the undefeated newcomers.

Los Alamitos' Brennan and Bellflower's Alvarez came up on the short end losing the first two games of the first three game match. Earlier the Brennan/Alvarez combination defeated the Bellflower team of Ben Larsen and Craig Amundson to move to the championship match. Larsen and Amundson had defeated the defending champions earlier in the afternoon. Their efforts were rewarded with a third place finish in the holiday tournament. Bar owner Oscar Ugarte and Bellflower's Robert Davidson finished in fourth place and out of the money.

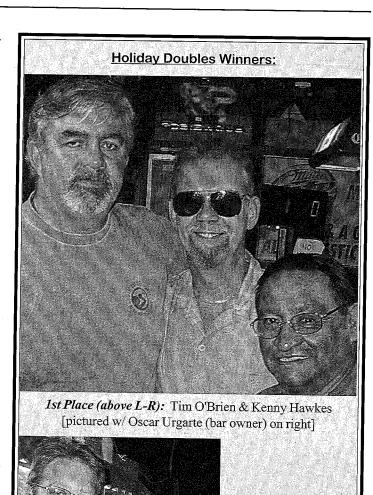
Brennan and Amundson had teamed together during the Open Doubles event of the first annual Al Stewart Memorial Tournament over Thanksgiving to score an upset win in that tournament. The "add to two or more" restriction for the Holiday Doubles prevented them from playing together during the weekend.

The win was the third of the year for O'Brien as he teamed with Huntington Beach's Jim Coulter and Jackie Bailey of Visalia to capture the Memorial Day ABC Draw at Oskar's and in August combined with Bellflower's Carl Martin to win the "Hot Summer Nights" doubles tournament at the Rosewood Pub.

A total of eight teams were on hand for the Friday night auction held at Oskar's, again conducted by Paramount's Paul Weber. Escondido's Hawkes traveled the farthest to attend the local tournament. The Brennan and Alvarez team were the highest sponsored team with Bellflower's Mick Diana receiving the high bid. Cerritos' Joe Muniz bought the tournament winners with the third highest bid of the evening. The eight-team tournament brought in \$1770 in sponsor money with another \$400 in the entry pool fund.

Following the Friday night auction and round robin play at Oskar's the tournament began on schedule, Saturday using three of the sports bar's fast boards. Bar owner Oscar Ugarte contributed a turkey dinner and several generous shuffleboard players and friends shared various dishes to make the event a very special day. Alvarez barbecued Carne Asada on Oskar's grill to add to the occasion.

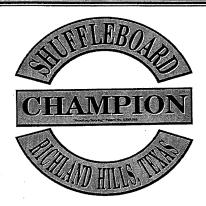
A special 50/50 draw was held with the proceeds (\$82) designated to Ron and Debbie Bowers, who annually publish the sports' player ratings via the Internet or by mail. A special thanks goes to Hope Weber who sold tickets for this very worthy cause. Robert Davidson served as the tournament's director. Everyone looks forward to next year's third annual Holiday Doubles event at Oskar's Sports Bar & Grill.



2nd Place (left):
Dave Brennan &
Ernie Alvarez



3rd Place (left): Ben Larsen & Craig Amundson



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Spickelmier Wins 1st Annual "Crazy Eight" Series at Oskar's

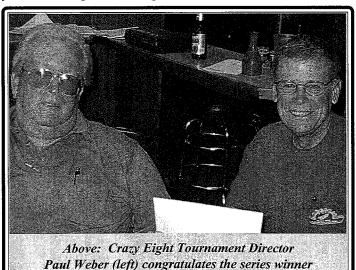
December 20, 2003 Oskar's Sports Bar & Grill, Bellflower, California Report & Photos Submitted on Dec. 29, 2003 By: California Shuffleboard News

Bellflower, CA: There were only two points separating Southern Oregon's Bill Maxwell and Bellflower's Karl Spickelmier heading into the sixth and final round of Oskar's First Annual Crazy Eight series on Saturday, December 20. Maxwell had won the last three tournaments at the Bellflower sports bar while Spickelmier took the first two matches of the series back in March and April. The final match up never got off the ground however, as Maxwell failed to show up due to his recent move to the Northwest and as a result Spickelmier cruised home to the tournament championship by winning the series' last event.

Bar owner Oscar Ugarte supplemented the series championship fund with a \$200 contribution that ended up paying more than \$500 out to the top six finishers in the tournament series. Spickelmier wound up with a total of 52 points and won \$294 for the series championship and another \$157 for the win on December 20, as he faced a field of nine other players in the event's final tournament.

Maxwell finished second in series' points with 41, followed by Mojeska Canyon's Vern Booth with 39, Huntington Beach's Rich "Bubba" Warren with 38, Paramount's Paul Weber 33, and Yorba Linda's Bob Brunskill with 21 points. The Crazy Eight series began on Saturday, March 22. A total of 27 players competed in the six Crazy Eight tournaments at Oskar's.

In December's final tournament Booth finished five points behind Spickelmier to take second place, followed by Warren and Weber. Paramount's Paul Weber served as the tournament director. Another tournament is planned for next year according to event organizers.



Karl Spickelmier (right) of Bellflower.

Medford Eagles #2093 Hosts "Bring 3-Person Team"

November 29, 2003 Medford Eagles (Table Rock Rd), Medford, Oregon Report & Photos Submitted on Jan. 2, 2004 By: Art Elliff, Rogue River, Oregon

Medford, OR: The Medford Eagles #2093, Table Rock Rd., Medford, Oregon held a "Bring 3-Person Team Event (add to 5.24) on November 29th. By using the 5.24 decimal rating, we felt it would get the better players to play with the 3 rated players. This seemed to work, as Doug Buhl came and played with two new players from Coos Bay, Oregon.

We counted the tournament a success, because for the first time Al Hudson didn't lose his weights! Below are photos of the winners who placed in this event: [Sorry for this delayed reporting, but was awaiting photos to be sent to me. --Art Elliff, Rogue River, Oregon]



Ist Place (Above L-R):
Glen Redding, J.B. Burgess, Joe Cupp



2nd Place (Above L-R):
Kevin Calloway, Mike Carew, Kenny Rogers



2nd Place (LeftL-R): Corissa Roberts, Doug Buhl, Tessa Jolley



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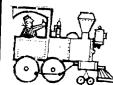
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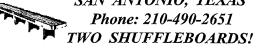
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Jerry Siebert, MSHOF Director, WELCOMES ALL to the "2nd Annual MSHOF Tournament" to be held at Club Car Lounge, Durand, MI the 1st weekend of August 2004!

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2004 CALENDAR OF SHUFFLEBOARD EVENTS

FEBRUARY 2004

February 7

Open Doubles

David L's Hideout Lounge

Yorktown, Indiana

February 12-16

1st Annual Texas-Oklahoma Open

Kiotee Club

Denison, Texas

February 13-16 (See flyer Jan. '04 issue) March 19-21 (See flyer Jan. '04 issue)

Annual President's Day 2004

T's Cocktails

Modesto, California

February 14-15

Sweetheart Mixed Doubles

Blue Goose Tavern

Port Orchard, Washington

February 19-21

Men's Singles/Ladie's Singles

Journey's End Bar & Grill

Bourbon, Indiana

February 20-22

Mason Dixon Classic

Harvey's Place

Darlington, Maryland

February 27-29

Nelson Renzo Tournament

Market Street Cafe

Charlestown, Maryland

February 28-29

24th Annual Masters

Fir Cone Tavern

Shelton, Washington

Play Your Way Across the USA

January '04 Edition

(See: http://www.theboardtalk.com)

Oregon (New Addition)

●Branding Iron Tavern, 1701 N.

Riverside, Medford, Oregon; 541-779-2300

Nebraska (New Addition)

●Harold's Bar, 8558 Blondo St., Omaha, Nebraska; 402-391-6313

MARCH/APRIL 2004

March 12-14 (See Flyer Insert)

5th Annual O'Harolds

Harold's Bar

Omaha, Nebraska

March 12-14 (See flyer Jan. '04 issue)

5th Annual Cape Kennedy Blast Off May Flowers Tournament

VFW Post #4228

Titusville, Florida

11th Annual Florida Open

VFW Post #4228

Titusville, Florida

March 20-21

Open Doubles (no two -1's)

Red Dog Saloon

Port Orchard, Washington

March 26-April 4 (See Flyer Insert)

3rd Annual Board Talk Open 2004

VFW Post #5076

Garland, Texas

April 2-4

Maryland State Championships

Harvey's Place

Darlington, Maryland

April3

Open Doubles/Open Singles

Red Dog Saloon

Muncie, Indiana

April 8-11 (Easter Weekend)

6th Annual Canadian Open 2004

EsquimaltLegion

Victoria, B.C., Canada

April 23-25

10th Annual Bill Gibbs Memorial

Sixshooters

Phoenix, Arizona

April 24-26

Heartland Handicap

American Legion Post#73

Del City, Oklahoma

April 16-18

April Showers Tournament

Market Street Cafe

Charlestown, Maryland

MAY 2004

May 8

Bring Partner

Journey's End Bar & Grill

Bourbon, Indiana

May 14-16

Market Street Cafe

Charlestown, Maryland

JUNE 2004

June 11-13

Hoosier Hall of Fame

David L's Hideout Lounge

Yorktown, Indiana

JULY 2004

July 4-10

SW Open 2004

American Legion Post#73

Del City, Oklahoma

AUGUST 2004

August 6-8

2nd Annual Michigan HOF

Club Car Lounge

Durand, Michigan

August 14-15

2nd Annual "Hot Summer Nights"

Rosewood Pub

Bellflower, California

OCT./NOV. 2004

October 15-17

Heartland Handicap

American Legion Post#73

Del City, Oklahoma

October 30-November 7

2004 NASC

Sands Regency Hotel/Casino

Reno, Nevada

Journey's End "Mixed Doubles"

December 19-20, 2003

Journey's End Bar & Grill, Bourbon, Indiana

Report & Photos Submitted January 2004 By: Pam Dowell & Lisa Koontz of Indiana (Photos By: Ann Harrell)

Bourbon, IN: Koontz & Kinsey - familiar names that have regularly appeared in the winner's circle of Indiana doubles tournaments over the last 15 years. But, Koontz & Kinsey in a Mixed Doubles? Did Mike put on a dress? No, it was Lisa Koontz, scoring her first tournament win with partner Dennis Kinsey to take a big chunk of the \$4,000 pot!

Mike & Jim Koontz, co-owners/brothers for Journey's End Bar & Grill, held their second tournament, which was just as much fun and as huge of a success as their first tournament.

Friday night was kicked off with an A/B Draw Partner event with 17 teams playing for 4 places. Winners were:

A/B Draw Partner (17 teams): [no photos submitted]

Ist Place: Sheryl Cockerill & Jim Hartung *2nd Place:* Jim Long & Kim Rosinski

3rd Place: Dennis Creighbaum & Chris Taylor

4th Place: Jody Berry & Earl Rosinski

On Saturday, 22 teams kicked off the Mixed Doubles. A great surprise was 4-5 Ohio teams coming to play along with the teams from Indiana and Michigan. Many long and hard fought games made for a very enjoyable day. Winners were:

Mixed Doubles (22 teams) Winner Photos:



1st Place (Above L-R): Dennis Kinsey & Lisa Koontz



2nd Place (Left L-R):
Brian Hall &
Sheryl Cockerill

Mixed Doubles (con't from col. 1) Winner Photos:



3rd Place (Left L-R): Lisa Reiwalt & Don Chapman (brother/sister team)



4th Place (Above L-R):
Mary & Larry Brown (husband/wife team)

A big thanks to all that helped make these two days run smoothly, Gary Neff did a great job (as usual) on the bracket boards, Mikel Johnson ran the sponsor sales with tournament director Terry Dowell helping. Mike's sister, Ann Harrell took pictures which were presented to each player before the Mixed Doubles event evening ended. Friends Max and Joy Trowbridge again prepared some great eats of Chili and hot dogs with all the fixin's.

A sign-up fee has been taken at both tournaments, with the money being given to the Indiana Hall of Fame. Thanks Mike for your support of the IHOF.

The next Journey's End tournament will be Feb.20-21, 2004 which will be a Mens' Singles and Ladies' Singles. Hope to see many of you there!

--Reported By: Pam Dowell & Lisa Koontz

Thanksgiving at Oskar's... 1st Annual Al Stewart Memorial Tourney

November 2003 at Oskar's Sports Bar & Grill, Bellflower, California Report & Photos Submitted on Dec. 29, 2003 By: California Shuffleboard News

Beliflower, CA: The Thanksgiving weekend drew a total of 45 shuffleboard players for Oskar's annual tournament that this year featured a name and format change. This year's tournament became the Al Stewart Memorial tournament in honor of the California Hall of Fame player and promoter who passed away in Florida last year. The name change also brought about an open doubles event and an add to four amateur doubles to go along with the traditional ABC Draw. The open doubles marked the first time in almost two years that the pro players had competed in southern California - the last was on President's Day weekend in 2002 at E.T.'s Sports Lounge in Temecula.

The Open Doubles brought together nine teams to compete for a total purse of \$4,180 in a best two out of three games, double elimination event. The local team of Los Alamitos' Dave Brennan and Bellflower's Craig Amundson defeated the Northern California team of Manteca's Eddie Brayman and Sacramento's Bob Hunt to claim the championship early Sunday morning. Temecula's Jimmy Martin and Bellflower's Karl Spickelmier finished in third place after being defeated in the loser's finals by Brayman and Hunt. Temecula's Ted Zariphes was the sponsor for the Amundson-Brennan team.

The Amateur Doubles featured 11 teams with a combined purse of \$2,280 with another local team coming out on top. The team of Ernie Alvarez and Mick Diana, following an early loss to the husband-wife team of Bob and Barbara Crum, came back to beat the Turlock team twice in the finals for the tournament win. Downey's Mina Bischara was the sponsor of the winning team. Placing third in the amateur doubles were bar owner Oscar Ugarte and Bellflower's Robert Davidson.

The ABC Draw ended in controversy as both team captains agreed to split the first and second place money out of the combined \$2,625 prize money to end up sharing this year's title. Sharing first place in the draw were the teams of Escondido's Kenny Hawkes (Captain), Bellflower's Mick Diana and Los Alamitos' Marlene Brennan and Corona's Gregg McFarland (Captain), Downey's Mina Bischara and Turlock's Barbara Crum. Finishing third in the nine-team event were El Monte's Bob Ruiz (Captain), Victorville's Frank Bentley and Yucaipa's Mike Allen.

Diana scored a first time double winning with Alvarez in the amateur doubles and gaining a tie for first place in the ABC Draw event.

The new format and renaming of the tournament proved to be popular with the players as play went smoothly during both of the doubles' tournaments. Billy Maxwell, who now resides in Grants Pass, Oregon, brought in another shuffleboard for the tournament.

Paramount auctioneer Paul Weber conducted team sponsor sales on Thursday (Thanksgiving) and Friday evenings. He also served as the tournament director for the annual Thanksgiving event at Oskar's. Temecula's Jimmy Martin and Bellflower's Karl Spickelmier were the highest auctioned team in the open doubles with Turlock's Bob and Barbara Crum the high

sponsored in the amateur doubles. In the ABC Draw event the teams of Kenny Hawkes, Mick Diana and Marlene Brennan and Bob Ruiz, Frank Bentley and Mike Allen shared the high bid award. The holiday weekend tournament generated more than \$9,000 in sponsor and entry fees.

Many thanks to the bartenders, waitresses, players and friends who helped make the Thanksgiving weekend a nice event for shuffleboard. A special thanks goes to Oscar Ugarte who provided a turkey dinner over the weekend.

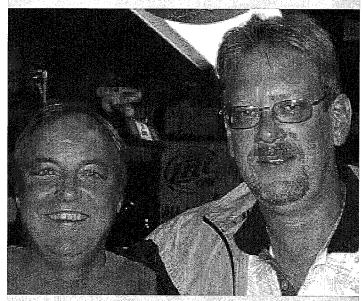
Al Stewart Memorial Results: (winner list & photos follow)

Open Doubles: First Place: Dave Brennan (Los Alamitos) and
Craig Amundson (Bellflower). Second Place: Bob Hunt
(Sacramento) and Eddie Brayman (Manteca). Third Place:
Jimmy Martin (Temecula) and Karl Spickelmier (Bellflower)

Amateur Doubles: Mick Diana (Bellflower) and Ernie Alvarez
(Bellflower). Second Place Bob and Barbara Crum (Turlock).
Third Place: Oscar Ugarte (Downey) and Robert Davidson
(Bellflower)

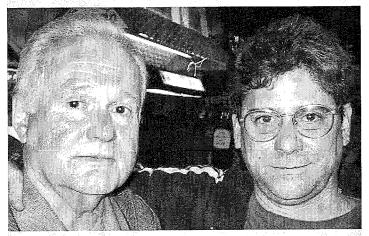
ABC Draw Event: First Place: (Tie) Kenny Hawkes (Escondido), Mick Diana (Bellflower) and Marlene Brennan (Los Alamitos) and Greg McFarland (Corona), Mina Bischara (Downey) and Barbara Crum (Turlock). Third Place: Bob Ruiz (El Monte), Frank Bentley (Victorville) and Mike Allen (Yucaipa)

Open Doubles Winners:

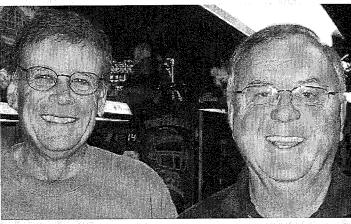


Ist Place (Above):
Craig Amundson & Dave Brennan

Open Doubles Winners: (con't. from page 26)

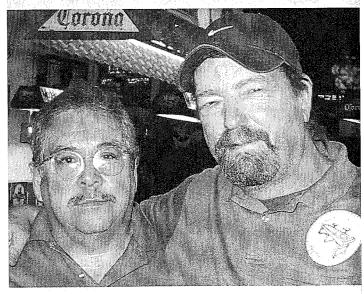


2nd Place (Above L-R):
Bob Hunt & Eddie Brayman



3rd Place (Above L-R):
Karl Spickelmier & Jimmy Martin

Amateur Doubles Winners:



1st Place (Above): Ernie Alvarez & Mick Diana

Amateur Doubles Winners: (con't. from column 1)

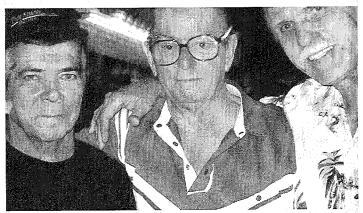


2nd Place (Above L-R): Barbara & Bob Crum



3rd Place (Above L-R):
Oscar Ugarte & Bob Davidson

ABC Draw Team Winners:



Ist Place (Above L-R):
Mick Diana, Marlene Brennan and Kenny Hawkes



2nd Place (Above L-R):
Greg McFarland, Barbara Crum, and Mina Bichara



3rd Place (Above L-R):
Bob Ruiz, Frank Bentley and Mike Allen

Winter Classic at Harvey Jr.'s

January 9-11, 2004

Harvey Jr.'s, Darlington, Maryland

Report Submitted January 14, 2004 By: Dick Gorman [no photos submitted]

Darlington, MD: After several years absence, the Winter Classic tournament was returned to Harvey Juniors at Darlington, Maryland on January 9-11. After the unfortunate event that caused the early December tournament to be cancelled (first time ever), it was welcome back by the tournament hosts. Darlyne and Harvey and Mr. Frigerator Winds (temperatures were hovering around zero degrees), but warm spirits of all players kept things alive on the 4 in-house boards.

Friday night's Draw Partner event provided an event that had never happened before and probably will never happen again... After a full night of shooting, the winners were Wendy Davis (Wilmington, DE) and her partner Nicole Bonner (Bear, DE who won her first tournament ever and will probably never win again under that name anyway, as she will be marrying Mike Miller on the same date as the Maryland State Championship tournament). Taking second place money were Joyce Pyle (Sudlersville, MD) and Anthony Todd (Glasgow, DE). Third place went to the team of Jim Dennis (Perryville, MD) and Arnold Ledford (Darlington, MD).

Despite a major "poker tournament" nearby and the "awesome shuffleboards" showdown in the Championships on Saturday, the Bring Partner event started at 1pm. With attendance off, but spirits high and anxious, the Saturday play began. The final winners of the first place jackets were our other love birds... Jen Pickett and Kurt Maurer, soon to be from nearby Rising Sun, MD where they are building a new home to probably be completed by February 1, 2004 before you read this February 2004 issue's tournament writeup.

Taking second place money were Len Dell (Baltimore, MD) and his partner Shannon Ratlidge (Rising Sun, MD and neighbor to the new Pickett-Maurer new homestead).

On Sunday, we introduced a new format (per survey described below) with a 3-Person Draft Team event which was met with interest and enthusiasm of those who attended. It went smoothly and apparently enjoyed by all. Some interesting teams developed, but switching ends and alternate board end shooting did some of the players in. Since there were 3 players to a team, we limited the payoff to first and second

place to provide incentive. About 7 hours later, Mike Miller (PA) lead his team members Nicole Bonner (Bear, DE... also winner in Friday night's Draw Partner) and Cid Floriani (Long Beach Island, NJ) to the winners' table for first place and proudly announcing that they all played for the same team at Tommy's Tavern in Pennsylvania. Second place money was taken by Wayne Triblit's (Greensboro, MD) team Dallas Hayman (DE) and Lindsay Hall (Baltimore, MD). This event provided a fun afternoon and early evening.

As a result of our recent player survey, we will try a new format for the weekend tournaments based of the desires of the participants, as follows:

Friday Night: Draw Partner Saturday Night: Bring Partner

Sunday (event variety of choice): A/B Draw (no Bowers points); 3-Person or 4-Person Draft Team; Singles (based on Bowers points); Mixed Doubles; and/or possibly True Round Robins. Using the 4 inhouse boards provides us some flexibility. All of this is a result of the written survey recently conducted among the present and former attendees.

Our next event will be the Mason-Dixon Classic on February 20-22 with Sunday event being an A/B Draw Partner event. Call Harvey Comer 410-457-5234 for more info. and details. All are welcome!

--Reported By: Dick Gorman



Maryland Capital:Annapolis 7th state

State bird: Baltimore oriole State flower: black-eyed Susan

Market Street Cafe Hosts Season Opening Tournament

October 17-18, 2003

Market Street Cafe, Charlestown, Maryland

Report Submitted mid-late December 2003 By: Lorraine Bingham (she acquired writeup and photos during NASC tournament, but cannot recall who gave them to her, but forwarded to Editors for delayed reporting)

Charlestown, MD: Market Street Cafe held their two day Season Opening tournament with Draw Partners on Friday, October 17th, followed by Bring Partners on Saturday, October 18th. A good warm up for all of those who were going to NASC Reno 2003. The 3 boards were in top condition, thanks to Archie Moore who is our board maintenance person. We had an excellent turnout both days. The winners for the Draw Partners were John Gardner (DE) and Len Dell (MD) for 1st place honors. The Saturday Bring Partners finishers were 1st place Rick Niblett (DE) and Len Dell (MD); 2nd place Lonzo Knight (MD) and Bill Brown (MD)' with Wendy Davis (DE) and Dick Gorman (DE) finishing 3rd place.

Our hosts, Bobbie and Chip Spangler, provided excellent food and drink. A complimentary buffet was given to all the shooters on Saturday.

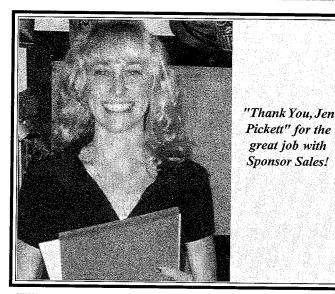
I could not close this article without giving credit to those who administer this tournament. A thankless job that is always performed with excellence by tournament director Joyce Pyle. Not only does she keep the charts, schedules and plans the tournaments, but she plays as well. Most tournament nights Joyce is still there in the late hours of the night or in some cases the wee early morning hours doing all of the chores that come with the job. So, we all say "Thank you Joyce!" In other area news the Rendezvous Inn in Perryville, MD dedicated their shuffleboard (See Dedication Plaque, bottom of column 2) to long time player, Jim West of Aberdeen, Maryland. Jim will be missed by all of us who knew him as a top player for many years, a teller of jokes, a fierce competitor, and most of all a real gentleman. [Some Winner's Photos follow...] -- Reported by: Unknown



Ist Place Draw Partner (Above L-R): Len Dell & John Gardner



Ist Place Bring Partner (Above L-R):
Len Dell & Rick Niblett picture w/ Joyce Pyle (Tourn. Dir.)





From: The Board Talk Editors/Publishers

"News Flash" & Print Schedule Notice

We wish to thank all of you who have contacted us regarding The Board Talk publication schedule regarding the October/November 2003 sample bi-monthly issue. Based upon the positive feedback received on the sample October/November 2003 issue, we will start publishing bi-monthly issues effective with the March/April 2004 issue (next issue). There may be exceptions in months where there is a large volume of reporting, but our tentative plan is:

Bi-Monthly IssueDeadline for SubmissionsMarch/April 2004March 10, 2004May/June 2004May 10, 2004July/August 2004July 10, 2004September/October 2004September 10, 2004November/December 2004November 10, 2004

NOTE: The bi-monthly issues should be mailed out from our printer/mailer by the end of the month (eg., March, May, July, September, November).

During the interim months, if there is a need to advertise with multiple requests for tournament flyers, we might consider an advertisement only issue periodically and/or we may have monthly (versus bi-monthly) if there is an unscheduled month that has a large volume of reporting that would make a bi-monthly issue too large.

Our goal is to try to maintain the cost of publishing/ mailing so that we can defer increasing subscriber or advertisement rates due to revenue loss or increased costs (such as printer/mailer, postal increases, software updates, equip. replacements, etc.). Monthly Advertising rates, Annual Shuffleboard Directory Ads & Subscriptions rates will not change at this time. Monthly advertisement (such as full page, half page, quarter page ads) will only be billed for each issue or interim issue mailed. For instance, if you have a full page advertisement (based upon above tentative schedule plan, assuming there are no more interim issues published), you would expect to receive an invoice for the following months' issues tentatively planned in 2004: (7 invoices for 7 issues - more if there are interim issues)

January 2004
February 2004
March/April 2004
May/June 2004
July/August 2004
September/October 2004
November/December 2004

As you are all aware from notices and concerns we have published in prior issues recently that we have had to drop a number of subscribers who we sent issues to before dropping them (without payment) that had far exceeded their grace period. In addition, as of the date of this issue, there are a number of advertisers who did not get current before year end 2003 and still are not current.

We have tournament flyers that were not pre-paid before we printed them that have not yet been paid. We have to pay immediately with each job that we print (no grace period for us). As a result, effective immediately, we will not print any flyers that are not pre-paid with the flyer order.

We will continue to invoice the page advertisements (eg., full page, 1/2 page, 1/4 page ads) and Annual Shuffleboard Directory Ads, but request that all advertisers pay in full within 15 days of receiving your invoice. Most advertisers are prompt to pay the invoice, but there are some exceptions which have prompted the need for us to have stricter policies and enforce them. We had advertising bad debt writeoffs at year end 2002 and 2003 with invoices for services already rendered that were never paid to The Board Talk. We do our projections/budget in January of each year. If there are any advertisers in that projection and for whatever reasons they do not pay during that year, it negatively impacts our projections and year end actuals.

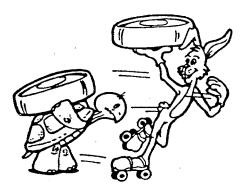
When we extend the normal 45 day grace period for subscribers for several months... if those person(s) never pay for their renewal(s), we have lost out on the cost of printing/ mailing their publication for the grace period or the extended grace period. We can no longer afford to extend grace periods past the normal 45 days, as it is not fair to our budget and not fair to all of our many attentive subscribers who renew on-time or early. Also, at the low cost of a subscription, we cannot afford to mail invoices to each subscriber. So, reminder to all: please check the back cover of each issue above your name/address line to see when your subscription expires to ensure no missed issues and try not exceed the 45 day grace period. If we have an email address (current) for you, we will email subscribers before dropping them, but cannot afford to snail mail subscriber invoices without increasing costs.

We are trying our best to keep the publication alive and to maintain affordable subscriptions and advertising rates. The Board Talk operates completely on what we take in to defray our costs of publishing and bare bones operating expenses. Subscriptions and Advertising is our only incoming revenue. Our costs are bare basics: printing/ mailing each issue, operating costs (such as phone, paper & supplies, stamps, copying services, computer software updates, hardware updates or replacements when something crashes). There are no Board Talk monies for personal income, baby sitter or travel monies to allow us to attend or report on tournaments personally (it's the tournament director's expense/responsibility to ensure photos and reports get submitted to us -- we actually had one occurrence this year where a tournament director was very demanding in this arena, which deeply hurt and amazed us). We operate solely from whatever revenue we bring in from our advertisers and subscribers. We appreciate all of you dedicated and caring advertisers and subscribers who are always willing and trying to help us. It's all of you dedicated subscribers and advertisers that show your appreciation and concern that help us personally to continue this effort, regardless of some unfortunate obstacles we sometimes have to endure.

Thanks for your patience, caring, support and friendship!

-- Tom & Lynda French/Editors

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or call in credit card so		r at: 512-250-0327)

Our Sincere Appreciation to our Advertisers in this issue:

- The Shuffleboard Federation, Inc. (full pg. Ad)
- Sun-Glo Corporation (full pg. Ad)
- Triple Crown Shuffleboard Supplies (full pg. Ad)
- · Champion Shuffleboard, Inc. (full pg. Ad)
- SUITCO Surface, Inc. (1/2 pg. Ad)
- 2004 The Board Talk Open, Garland, Tx (flyer insert)
- O'Harold's St. Patricks' Day Tourney, Omaha, Ne (flyer insert)
- · ALL "Shuffleboard Directory" Advertisers!

Your advertising support made this issue possible. We, and our subscribers, thank you! Readers: please patronize the businesses and support the tournaments of those who support your communications vehicle with advertising dollars. PLEASE thank all of the above personally when you have the opportunity!

-- Thanks, Tom & Lynda French, Editors/Publishers

If you're moving....

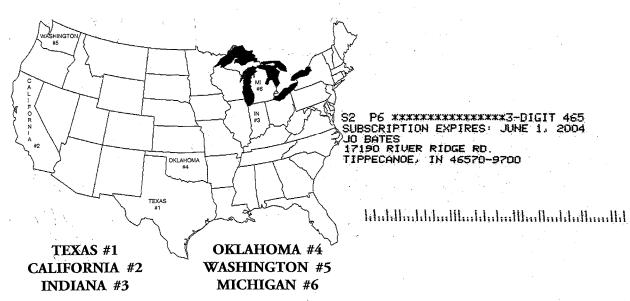
The Post Office will not forward your Board Talk (Bulk Rate) if you move! PLEASE let us know your new address so you don't miss any issues!

THE BOARD TALK

c/o Tom & Lynda French 12710 Red Deer Pass Austin, TX 78729-6436

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