

The Board Talk

Published Monthly by Tom & Lynda French
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Vol. 21, No. 3

MARCH 2004

Houston Holiday Open 2003

December 26 - 31, 2003, Sheraton Brookhollow Hotel, Houston, Texas

Tournament Director: Jack Scott; Assistant Director(s): James Cummings & Bill Rice

Tournament Official: Mahlon Nobles

Report & Photos Submitted on February 12, 2004 by: James Cummings, Houston, Texas

The 2003 Holiday Open was a resounding success with a record registration of 209 Shufflers with 101 of those placing in the money. Thanks to all who attended. We were very proud of all the players making their 1st trip to the Open. We were especially proud of the fact that we had so many 3s and 4s competing in their first major tournament. We had 56 Threes and 36 Fours. These people are the future of Shuffleboard and we will continue to promote events catering to these players.

With 35 boards, play moved fast and we kept very close to schedule getting 14 events in 5 1/2 days. Thanks to Champion Shuffleboard for their 30 boards, Shuffleboard Federation for the wax and the silicone, Replay Amusements for 4 boards, juke box, games and Omni Logistics for their sponsorship.

During the week play was very competitive, highlighted by an excellent battle between Darrol Nelson and Dan Hitt for the Pro Singles World Championship. Darrol won after double dipping Dan (last years Champion). Once again the 6 Man Draft event was a favorite. Most of the Pros attending were captains and did a great job guiding their teams and helping the new players. What a great opportunity for the

Pros to promote the sport to the newer players. Many of the 3s and 4s joined in on the Bring Partner add to 6 and the 4 Person Team add to 12 events.

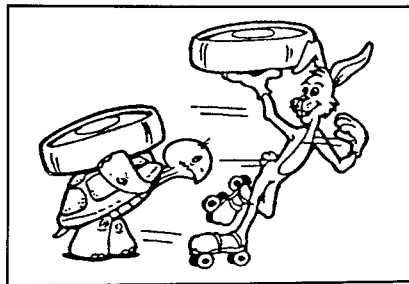
Once again the New Years Eve Party was a smash hit. Great bar, food, music and dancing. The cucumbers were passed (a Holiday Open ritual), a few tables had women dancing on them and several tequila runs to the parking lot made for a fun night.

A tournament of this size takes a lot of hard work. Fortunately we have a great staff and volunteers that make this tournament possible. The 30 boards were unloaded and assembled December 23rd. Unloading, placing, assembling and adjusting 30 boards is no minor task. Did you know that each board consists of 4 legs, 8 adjustable feet, 2 cradle halves, center section / scoreboard and the 500# board itself as well as 16 bolts nuts and washers and power cords for assembly? This year we used a laser to set the ends on all of the boards and experimented with a new device developed by James Cummings and built by Gary Pearson to help set the climatic adjusters. Between the 23rd and 26th all of the boards were adjusted by 10 players and were ready for play.

We have a crew of 5 that helped run the desk taking care of registrations, entries, sponsor sales and payouts. Two auctioneers ran the sales with help from several spotters. Three people helped run the bracket boards during the week. Two ran our pari-mutuel sales. Every morning we had a man cleaning and vacuuming the boards and another preparing the wax and putting it out on all the tables. During the week we had 8 waitresses working for tips only serving the players. After the tournament and the party, 8 volunteers disassembled the boards and loaded them onto the trucks. Without the staff, volunteers, and players the Holiday Open could not operate. --Reported by: James Cummings [HHO 2003 event details and photos continued on Page 6]

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(Houston Holiday Open 2003 Con't. on Page 6)



Shufflers' Notebook

News and Views from The World of Shuffleboard

Apology & Thank You from Lorraine Olson

By: Lorraine Olson, California

Apology:

I want to extend my apologies to John McDermott, the staff and participants of the 2003 NASC tournament in Reno. It is entirely my fault that you have not seen the outcome published in the Boardtalk. I took the majority of pictures of participants and winners for John, and put them on a CD after the tournament to send to him for his article on the event. The first CD is floating around somewhere in Post Office heaven. When John didn't receive it, he called and asked that I send him another so he could send the article in for last months issue. When he called, I said no problem and promised to get it to him right away. Unfortunately, from the time he called and I got home from work, I forgot about it. To my chagrin, it was a week or so later when I found the note I had made to myself, and immediately burnt the CD and went to the Post Office and sent it Overnight mail to him. Upon returning home from work that day, John, as if reading my mind has sent a follow-up e-mail that same day inquiring about the pictures. I replied that I had overnighted them to him that same day. John did receive the CD of pictures, but due to the rolling blackout I suffered, (I can no longer call it a senior moment), he did not receive them until the day before they had to be to Lynda be published in last months issue of the Boardtalk. I did not get them to him with enough turn-around-time for him to forward them on to Lynda for inclusion in the February 2004 issue.

John, being the man that he is, immediately sent Lynda a note for inclusion in the past two issues. The note I am alluding to, published in the January and February 2004 issues of Boardtalk, and was a personal apology from John to everyone for the results of the NASC Tournament not yet being published.

For all of you who have been eagerly awaiting the article for the last two months and were upset and/or angry that they had not yet been published, please know that the blame for this falls completely on my shoulders, not John's. I take full responsibility, and offer my sincere apologies to him and all the participants of the tournament for the untimely delay of the article with pictures documenting their well-earned and hard fought victories.

A Special Thank You:

I would also like to express my thanks to John McDermott and commend him for his outstanding job in putting on the 2003 NASC Tournament. It turned out to be not only fantastic (as it always is), but also a very memorable time for Jim and me thanks to him. For those of you who do not know, and those of you who didn't know we were not, Jim and I were married at the Chapel of the Bells in Reno the day before start of the NASC. It was a last minute decision and we only made the Chapel reservations the day before the wedding. It was going to be casual with just the two of us. John upon hearing that we were going to get married (finally) quietly went about letting others know and reserving enough vans and taxi's to take everyone to the wedding. He even stopped off on the way to the wedding chapel (and got stranded, you'll have to hear the story from him) to buy me flowers. What was going to be a memorable event, turned out to be a very, very special moment in time and a memory that I will cherish and carry with me always. To be surrounded by my friends when I took my wedding vows was a very special moment in my life and I want to thank those of you who were there for sharing it with both Jim and I. Your attendance and your friendship mean a lot to both of us. I also want to thank Eddie Brayman, my "Man of Honor" for standing beside me in this and in all things. And lastly, and with all my heart, thank you John. I am truly blessed, your friendship and kindness are something I will treasure forever. *(continued on page 3)*

-- URGENT ATTENTION --

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)

(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)

Apology & Thank You from Lorraine Olson

By: Lorraine Olson, California

(Continued from Page 2)

NASC 2003 – A Well Orchestrated Tournament

John McDermott is the consummate host of one of the biggest if not the biggest tournament of the year. Putting on a small tournament is an enormous undertaking, which those of us who have done, can attest to. To put on a tournament the size that the NASC has grown to be, to dedicate the incredibly huge amount of time and hard work that is needed, to worry endlessly that everything has been done, to insure it runs smoothly and without incident, to handle all the minute details, delays and last minute changes, not to mention the headaches and sometimes heartaches that go along with job, and to continue to do this year after year, is unimaginable feat. It takes a person of enormous character and work etiquette to take on a responsibility of this magnitude, a person whose dedication is driven by a love of the game and the players, and that person is John McDermott. John and his staff, the many people in front of and behind the scenes, who give of their personal time and energy, did an outstanding job of it again this year. They are to be commended. Without them, and others like them around the country this game that we love so much would be a thing of the past.

Keep up the good work, it is appreciated:

As we start the new year, I would like to say a special thanks to all the tournament directors and their staffs who do such a great job and sometimes thankless job, to Ron and Debbie Bowers for the Bowers Ratings, to Tom and Lynda French and Champion for the Boardtalk, to the TSA and state Halls of Fame for keeping the memories, and all of those who sponsored, supported, and donated their hard earned money and/or time to this great sport of ours, and to Mahlon Nobles who has starting the ball rolling in 2004. Its time to get involved in one way or another, to give back to the sport that we all get so much out of, together we can keep it alive and growing... --Lorraine Olson (aka Hurricane)

[EDITORS' COMMENT: Lorraine, thanks for your note and followup emails to us on the NASC results. Since we do not have the NASC report (as of Feb. 15th), but do have the HHO 2003 tournament report, we are featuring the Houston Holiday Open 2003 tournament in this issue and hope to be able to feature the NASC 2003 tournament in the April 2004 issue (if we get the report and photos from John McDermott by March 10th) and then report the Board Talk Open results in the May 2004 (or May/June 2004 if a bi-monthly looks feasible by the April 10th deadline for a May issue submission) versus doing the planned bi-monthly "test" issue for a March/April 2004 issue.

(Continued in Column 2)

(EDITORS' COMMENT: Continued from Column 1...)

As we stated in the February 2004 issue (page 30), we want to try as many bi-monthly issues in 2004 (when feasible to do so) to enable us to evaluate the cost difference on print/mail costs of monthly versus bi-monthly, hoping to enable us to keep the current 2003 subscriber and advertiser rates unchanged in 2004 (without any 2004 rate increases). However, it is not feasible to report two major tournaments along with additional tournament reports into one bi-monthly issue. In addition, Florida had an urgent message to get out to players regarding their two March 2004 tournaments having a last minute change in location/establishment/city of where their two tournaments are being held (see page 4, column 1 for Florida tournament details and change of location where the two tournaments are now going to be held).

Since we have a number of advertisers and subscribers who did not get current by year end 2003 (and some still are not current with a large number of subscribers being dropped in 2003) and our cost of operations and printing/mailling does increase annually, we want to try as many "bi-monthly test issues" during 2004 as possible to enable us to evaluate the "bi-monthly" concept and whether it will help us to maintain our current advertiser and subscriber rates. Many thanks to you (Lorraine) and other reporters who keep us apprised of their submission plans, as it helps us to plan accordingly.

Unfortunately, we were unable to try a bi-monthly issue for March/April 2004 due to delayed reporting of the NASC major tournament (and not wanting to put two major tournaments into one bi-monthly issue) and a critical situation in Florida where they have had to make a last minute change in location of their two March tournaments where they needed a means to communicate the location change in this March issue. Hopefully we will be able to try a "bi-monthly test issue" for May/June 2004.

Reminder to Subscribers: Be sure to thank all the Board Talk tournament directors and reporters who do their reports and photos on their own time without compensation. Be patient when you think something isn't being reported timely, as we all try the best we can with the limited time and resources that we have to work with.

-- Thanks, Tom & Lynda French, Editors]

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Nebraska

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

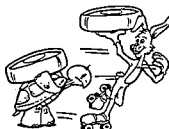
The "5th Annual O'Harold's St. Patrick's Day tournament will be held at Harold's Bar, 8558 Blondo St., Omaha, Nebraska (ph#: 402-391-6313) on March 12-14, 2004.

It starts with a **4-Person Team Draft on Friday at 6pm** (\$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'.

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 the February 2004 issue, or contact Jim Payne at 402-697-9956 or 402-676-4827.

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. Players of all skill levels welcome! See ya' soon!

(See flyer insert in this issue for more details and preregistration form or download latest flyer which has the event detail, motel options, and registration form at: <http://www.theboardtalk.com>)

Florida

5TH ANNUAL "BLAST OFF" & 11TH ANNUAL "FLORIDA OPEN" **CHANGED LOCATION!!!! PLS READ!!!** CAPTAIN MERLOT'S (NEW LOCATION!) MIMS, 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 was previously advertised to be held at the VFW Post 4228 at 4411 Capron Rd., Titusville, FL. There was a late breaking contractual problem (circumstances beyond our control) with the VFW in Titusville, so we had to quickly found another location to host both of the tournaments, being: Captain Merlot's, 2685 Hwy 1, Mims, Florida (ph# 321-383-0053). The flyers and prior advertisements, therefore, have an incorrect location for both tournament to be held.

We hope that this will not cause a problem for those planning to attend either or both of our March tournaments and deeply apologize for any problems this may cause attendees.

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 details 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 and please help us spread the word to players that the location has moved from the VFW in Titusville to the new location at Captain Merlot's in Mims, Florida.

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 (See Shufflers' Notebook, Page 2 for Details).

Arizona

10th ANNUAL BILL GIBBS MEMORIAL SIXSHOOTERS BILLIARDS PHOENIX, AZ APRIL 23-25, 2004

The 10th Annual Bill Gibbs Memorial Tournament, will once again be held at Sixshooters Billiards and Sports Bar, 3337 W. Peoria Ave., Phoenix, Az., 602-993-5035. This year will feature 8 boards provided by Mickey Lewis Shuffleboard. Sixshooters is a very large, clean facility located within walking distance of motels, restaurants, and shopping.

The first event scheduled for 7:00 pm Friday night, is a A-B handicapped draw. The top 1/2 of the field will be the A players and the bottom 1/2 will be the B players, using the Bowers Rating System. There will be a single game, double elimination event with a \$20.00 entry and no sponsor sale.

On Saturday morning the A-B-C is scheduled for 11:00 am. Play will begin immediately after the sponsor sale. This is also a single game, double elimination event, with a \$20.00 entry. The A players will be the top 1/3 of the entries, the B's will be the next 1/3 rated players, and the C's will be the bottom 1/3 players. Ratings will be determined by the Bowers Ratings where possible.

Sixshooter will host a buffet around 4:30 pm Saturday. The open double sponsor sale is scheduled for 7:00 pm with play beginning immediately after the sale. This event is a 2 of 3 match in the winners bracket and a single 21 point game in the losers. Entry is \$50.00 per player. Contacts: Al Salazar 623-583-7035, email alsalazar@cox.net, Alice Arredondo, 480-763-0127, Bob Lewis, 602-242-6782.

Error Correction

The February 2004 Issue (page 27, col. 2)
had an incorrect photo
for the ABC Draw Team 1st Place
(correct winner photo below)

1st Annual Al Stewart Memorial

November 2003, Oskar's Sports Bar & Grill
Bellflower, California



ABC Draw: 1st Place (Above L-R):
Mick Diana, Marlene Brennan and Kenny Hawkes

Colorado

BALLOON INN, ARVADA, CO 2004 SHUFFLEBOARD TOURNAMENTS SCHEDULE

APRIL 24, 25 & 26 - A/B DOUBLES

Bring your own partner:

-1 thru 0 rated players must play with 3.0 and up rated players

No two 1's can play together

Entry Fee: \$60.00 per team

Format: Double Elimination, 2 out of 3 games in winners & losers brackets.

Sponsor Sale: Friday April 24 at 7:00 PM. Tournament may begin Friday following sale (depending on number of teams) and continues thru Sun. April 26.

JUNE 18, 19 & 20 - BILL ENGLISH MEMORIAL-

TWO DIVISIONS: OPEN DOUBLES AND DIVISION II DOUBLES

Bring your own partner.

Entry Fee: Open Doubles \$120.00 per team, Div. II Doubles \$60.00 per team.

Format: Double Elimination, 2 out of 3 games in winners & losers brackets.

Sponsor Sale: Friday June 18 at 7:00 PM. Tournament may begin Friday following sale (depending on number of teams) and continues thru Sun. June 20.

AUGUST 13, 14 & 15 - CO. NE. HEAD CLASSIC V

A-B-C Three Person Team Blind Draw

Entry Fee: \$30.00 per person

Format: Double Elimination, 2 out of 3 games to 21 points in winners bracket & single game to 21 points in losers bracket.

Sponsor Sale: Friday August 13 at 7:00 PM. Tournament play begins Fri. Aug. 13 following sale and continues thru Sun. Aug. 15.

OCTOBER 15, 16, & 17 - ROUND ROBIN (MYSTERY FORMAT)

Entry Fee: \$30.00 per person

Format: Play every team (format to be announced later)

Sponsor Sale: Friday October 15 at 7:00 PM. Tournament may begin Friday following sale (depending on number of teams) and continues thru Sun. Oct. 17.

DECEMBER 10, 11, & 12 - 15TH ANNUAL SANTA CLASSIC

TWO DIVISIONS: OPEN DOUBLES AND DIVISION II DOUBLES

Bring your own partner.

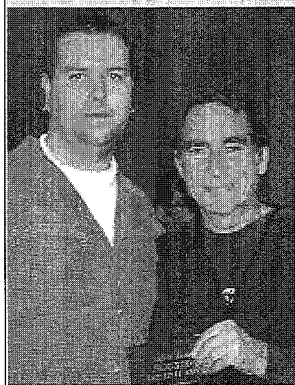
Entry Fee: Open Doubles \$120.00 per team, Division II Doubles \$60.00 per team.

Format: Double Elimination, 2 out of 3 games in winners & losers brackets.

Sponsor Sale: Friday December 10 at 7:00 PM. Tournament may begin Fri. following sale (depending on number of teams) and continues thru Sun. Dec. 12.

Event	1st	2nd	3rd
1 AB Draw Div -1,0,1	Darrol Nelson & Ryan Devlin	Brenda Moore & Alfred Suarez	John McDermott & Gary Thompson
2 AB Draw Div 2,3,4	Joe Parish & Tom Coburn	Jimmy Britt & Geoff Crooks	Danny Greene & J.D. Dorsey
3 Pro -1,0 Singles	Darroll Nelson	Dan Hitt	Bobby Voorhis
4 Div I Singles +0,1	Dave Ramold	Linda Nobles	David Williams Jr
5 Div II Singles 2	Jim Nicoll	Wayne Hammond	Larry Nance
6 Div III Singles 3,4,5	Tom Coburn	Shane Hagen	Joe Chapman
7 4 Person Bring Team Add to 1	Mike Taylor, Kelley Jim Nicoll, Jim Payne	Lorraine Olson, Darroll Nelson, Fred Johns, Linda Ritter	Dan Hitt, Dave Ramold, Steve Hamilton, Larry Zahm
8 4 Person Bring Team Add to 8	Mike Regan, Chris Regan, Wayne Hammond, Michael Miller	David Sexton, Lilly Kidd, Debbie Sexton, Missy VanHecke	Ann Walker, Sylvia Martinez, Martin Jordan, Joe Parish
9 4 Person Bring Team Add to 12	Wayne Harris, Charlie McDonough, Harold Gandy, Glen Calhoun	Charma Migas, Darlene Cummings, Ken Migas, Roy Peltier	Johnny Newell, David Andrews, J.D. Dorsey, Jett Williamson
10 6 Person Draft Team	Mike Taylor, David Sexton, Jim Nicoll, Bob Lee, John Williamson, Mollie Cravey	Billy Melton, David Williams Jr, Kyle White, Richard Gray, Nicki Medina, Jean Roper	Bill Melton, Dave Ramold, Georgeann Brown, Larry Nance, Sharon Chandler, Warren Settegast
11 Pro Bring Partner	Diana Hagen, Dale Kolasas	Bill Melton & Billy Mays	Dan Hitt & Dave Ramold
12 Div I Bring Partner Add to 2	Chris Smith & Vaughn Chavoya	Gary Thompson & Ryan Devlin	Dave Shewbridge & Larry Zahm
13 Div II Bring Partner Add to 4	Lynda French & Danny Green	Cliff Visel & Robert Hurst Jr	Lilly Kidd & Mike Regan
14 Div III Bring Partner Add to 6	Mahlon Moore & Mike Bradley	Lane Tate & Brad Stroud	Mickey Moy & Liz Pope

Event 1: A/B Draw Winner Photos

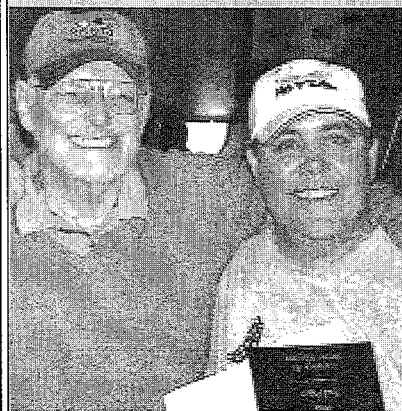


1st Place (Left L-R):
Ryan Devlin & Darrol Nelson
(no photos of 2nd & 3rd place):
2nd Place: Brenda Moore & Alfred Suarez
3rd Place: John McDermott & Gary Thompson

Event 2: A/B Draw Winner Photos



1st Place (Above):
Tom Coburn (left) & Joe Parish (right) w/ Harvey Kidd (center)



2nd Place (Left L-R):
Geoff Crooks & Jimmy Britt

Event 2: A/B Draw (Con't. from Col. 1)



3rd Place (Left L-R):
J.D. Dorsey & Danny Green

Event 3: Pro Singles Winner Photos



1st thru 3rd Place (Above L-R):
Darrol Nelson (1st); Dan Hitt (2nd); Bobby Voorhis (3rd)

Event 4: Div. I Singles Winner Photos



1st thru 3rd Place (Above L-R):
Dave Ramold (1st); Linda Noble (2nd); David Williams Jr (3rd)

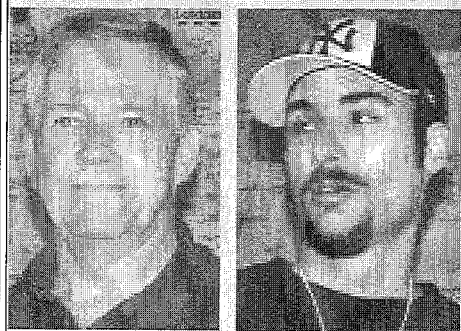
Event 5: Div. II Singles Winner Photos



1st thru 3rd Place (Above L-R):
Jim Nicoll (1st); Wayne Hammond (2nd); Larry Nance (3rd)

(Houston Holiday Open 2003 Con't. on Page 7)

Event 6: Div. III Singles Winner Photos



Joe Chapman (3rd)
(no photo)

1st & 2nd Place (Above L-R):

Tom Coburn (1st); Shane Hagen (2nd); Joe Chapman (3rd)

Event 7: 4-Person Bring Team Winner Photos

1st Place: (no photo):

Mike Taylor, Kelly Cameron, Jim Nicoll, Jim Payne



2nd Place (Above L-R):

Darrol Nelson, Linda Ritter, Lorraine Olson, Fred Johns



3rd Place (Above L-R):

Dan Hitt, Dave Ramold, and
no photo: Steve Hamilton & Larry Zahm

Event 8: 4-Person Bring Team Winner Photos



1st Place (Above L-R):

Chris Regan, Wayne Hammond, Mike Regan, Michael Miller

Event 8: 4-Person Bring Team (Con't. from Col. 1)



2nd Place (Above L-R):

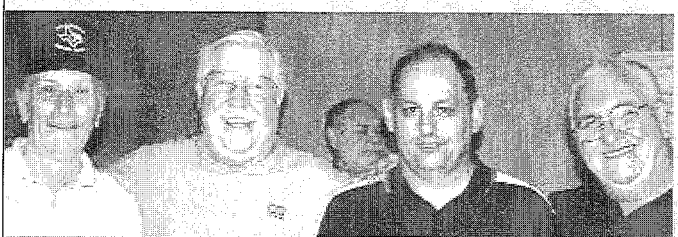
Missy VanHecke, David & Debbie Sexton, Lilly Kidd (no pic)



3rd Place (Above L-R):

Martin Jordan, Silvia Martinez, Ann Walker, Joe Parish (no pic)

Event 9: 4-Person Bring Team Winner Photos



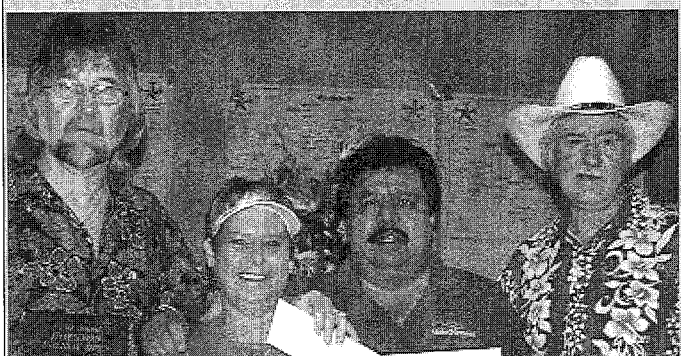
1st Place (Above):

Wayne Harris, Charlie McDonough, Harold Gandy,
Glen Calhoun



2nd Place (Above L-R):

Ken & Charma Migas, Darlene Cummings, Roy Peltier

Event 9: 4-Person Bring Team (Con't. from Pg. 7/Col. 2)**3rd Place (Above L-R):**

Johnny Newell, Jett Williamson, Carlos Guzman (sponsor),
J.D. Dorsey and no photo: David Andrews

Event 10: 6-Person Draft Team Winner Photos**1st Place: (no photo):**

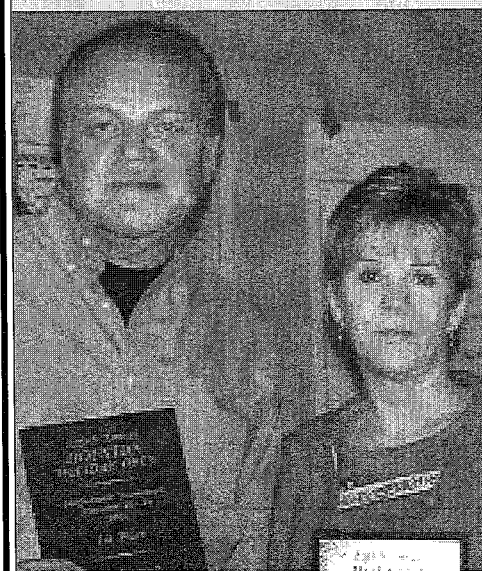
Mike Taylor, David Sexton, Jim Nicoll, Bob Lee,
John Williamson, Mollie Cravey

2nd Place: (no photo):

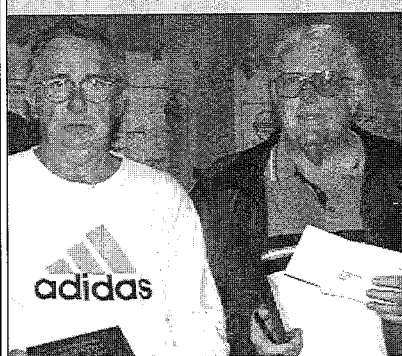
Billy Melton, David Williams Jr, Kyle White, Richard Gray,
Nicki Medina, Jean Roper

**3rd Place (Above L-R):**

Warren Settegast, Dave Ramold, Georjean Brown,
Bill Melton, Sharon Chandler, Larry Nance

Event 11: Pro Bring Partner Winner Photos

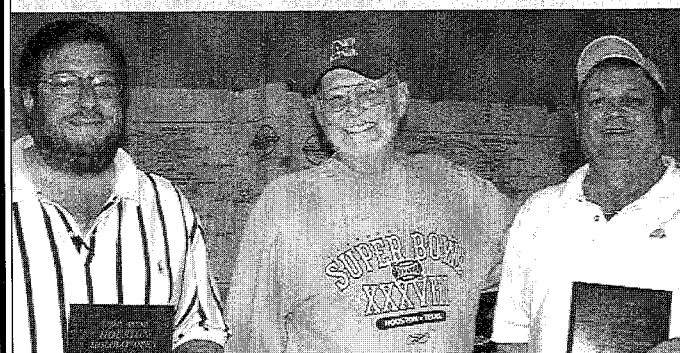
**1st Place
(Left L-R):**
Dale Koteras &
Diana Hagen

Event 11: Pro Bring Partner (Con't. from Col. 1)

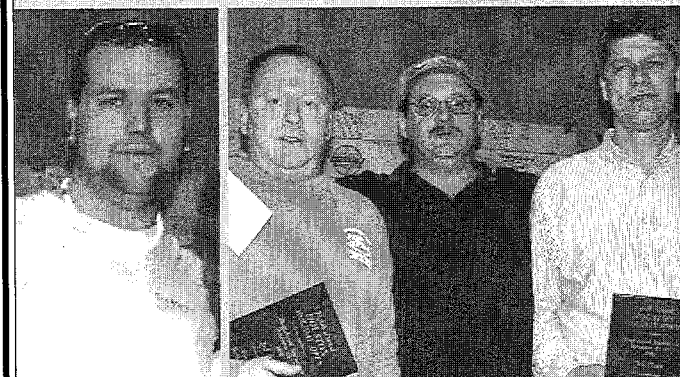
**2nd Place
(Left L-R):**
Billy Mays &
Bill Melton



**3rd Place
(Left L-R):**
Dave Ramold &
Dan Hitt

Event 12: Div. I Bring Partner Winner Photos**1st Place (Above):**

Chris Smith (left) & Vaughn Chavoya (right) w/ Geoff Crooks

**2nd & 3rd Place (Above):**

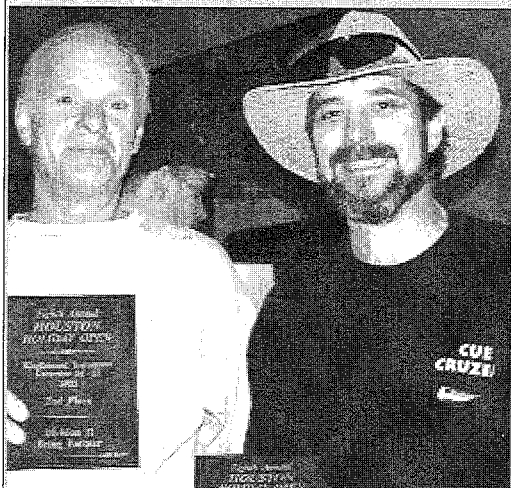
Ryan Devlin (left-1st photo) & Gary Thompson (no pic) (2nd);
Dave Shewbridge (left-2nd pic) & Larry Zahm (right) (3rd)
pictured with Bobby Voorhis (sponsor-center)

Event 13: Div. II Bring Partner Winner Photos



1st Place (Above L-R):

Danny Green & Lynda French w/ David Sexton (sponsor)



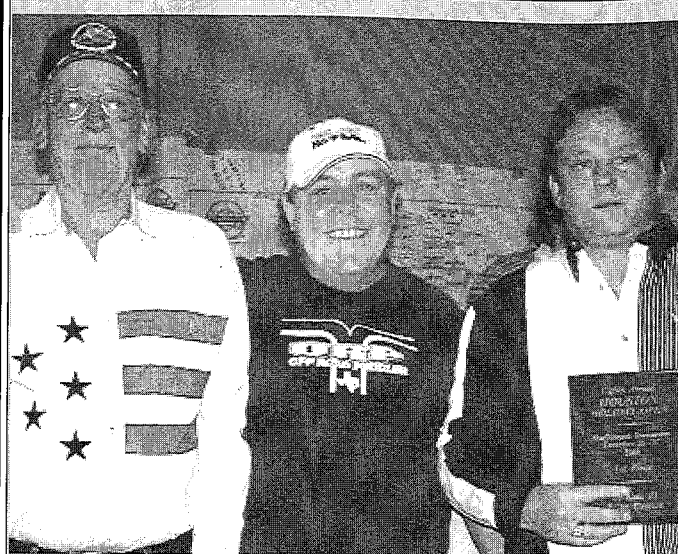
*2nd Place
(Left L-R):*
Cliff Visel &
Robert Hurst
(Jr.)



3rd Place (Above L-R):

Lilly Kidd & Mike Regan w/ Diana Hagen (sponsor)

Event 14: Div. III Bring Partner Winner Photos



1st Place (Above):

Mahlon Moore (left) & Mike Bradley (right)
w/ Jimmy Britt (sponsor-center)

2nd Place: (no photo):
Lane Tate & Brad Stroud



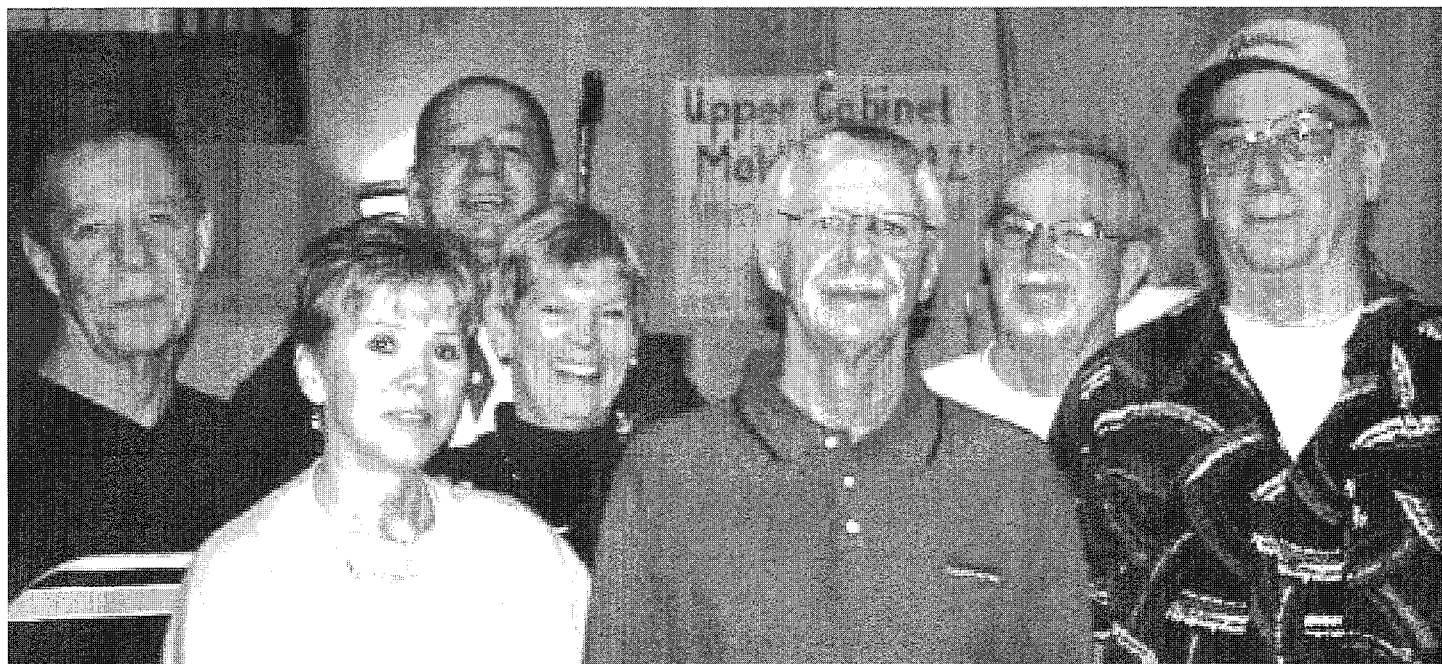
3rd Place (Above L-R):

Liz Pope & Mickey Moy

Houston Holiday Open 2003

Howard Mouton is Inducted into the Texas Shuffleboard HOF

Another great shuffleboard player was inducted into the Hall of Fame. Howard Mouton, a long time Houston Player and past mentor to many of the local pros was inducted with several Texas Pros speaking on Howard's history and his loose and friendly approach to the game he loves. (See photos below)

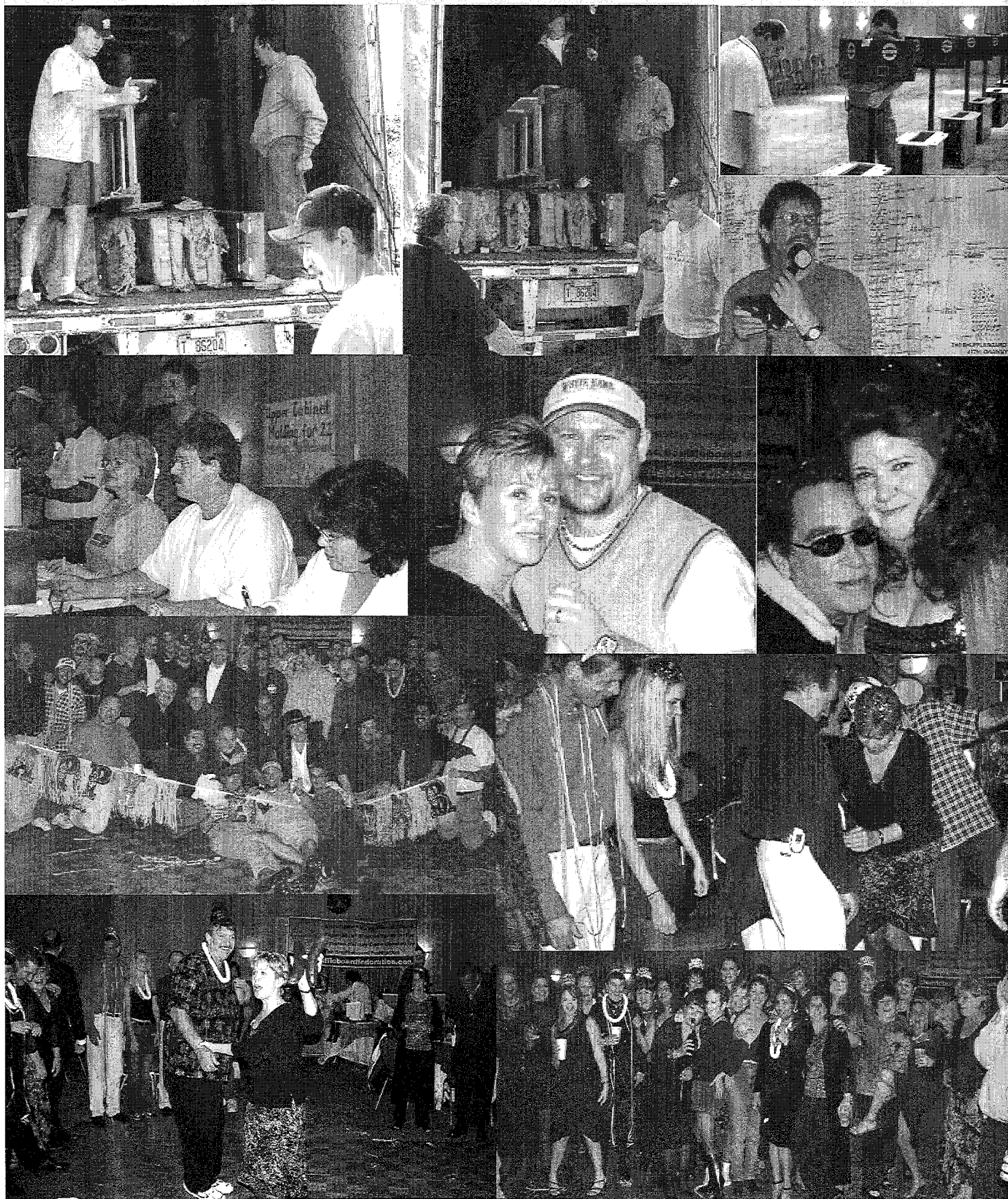


Howard Mouton (far right) pictured with some of the group congratulating and celebrating with Howard
(L-R) Bobby Williams, Diana Hagen, Harvey Kidd, Debbie Bowers, David Williams, Sr. and Ron Bowers



Houston Holiday Open 2003

*"Thanks" to all the staff, players/participants
and those that joined in the New Years Eve Bash!*



Heartland "Mid-Winter" Handicap

January 16-18, 2004

American Legion Post, Del City, Oklahoma

Report & Photos Submitted January 27, 2004 By: Joyce Gamble

Del City, OK: The annual "Heartland Handicap Midwinter Tournament" was another success for the Del City American Legion.

We had forty-two players each night. One of our favorite players from Denver, Ron Sosovec, came down for a whole week to play with us, Tony and Joyce Pelton and Hoot Hodge came in from Arkansas, Harvey Walden from Memphis, Joey Johnston from Mississippi, Carolyn Jones, Brad Lowery, and Shirley Geriets showed up from Tulsa, Gary and Kay Nelson and C W Walker from Texas, and as always, the Strafford, Wynnewood and Davis Players made a great showing. Oklahoma City has some new players trying their luck too, alone with our regulars. Mike Renick and his wife are now Oklahoma Players and we welcome them to our areas. (Be sure and call Mike when you are having a tournament, he is a great competitor.)

The games were exciting and down to the last putts, in some cases, to get the win. Thanks to Don and his staff for making sure we all had a great time. As always, Rena and Dave did a great job with the Brackets and Entries.

Check your Board Talk and make plans to attend the April Tournament. You will have a great time and get all the playing you want with some really tough competition that will test your skills.

Draw Partner Winners:

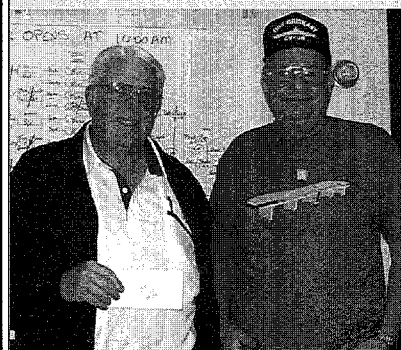


1st Place (above L-R):
Brad Lowry & Ron Sosovec



2nd Place (left L-R):
Joyce Gamble & Patrick Linville

Draw Partner Winners (con't. from Col. 1):



3rd Place (left L-R):
Bill Melton & Harvey Walden

Bring Partner Winners:



1st Place (left L-R):
Ronnie Gamble & Carolyn Jones



2nd Place (left L-R):
Brenda Williams & Gerald Wood

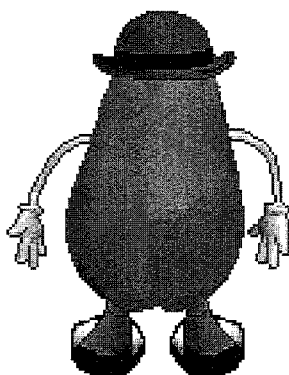


3rd Place (left L-R):
Ron Sosovec & E.T. Jensen

Some Food ("Taters") for Thought...

What Kind of "Tater" are you?

"Sweet Tater" or ???



Some people never seem motivated to participate, but are just content to watch while others do the work.
They are called "Spec Taters".

Some people never do anything to help, but are gifted at finding fault with the way others do the work.
They are called "Comment Taters".

Some people are very bossy and like to tell others what to do, but don't want to soil their own hands.
They are called "Dick Taters".

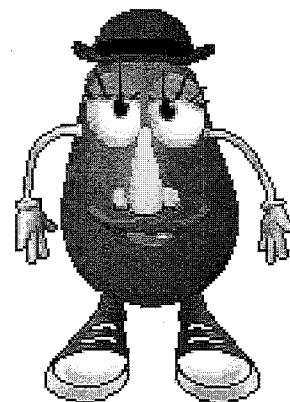
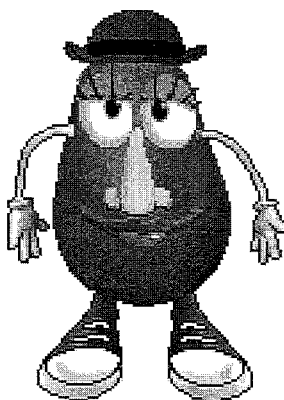
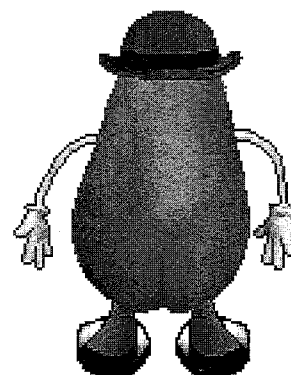
Some people are always looking to cause problems by asking others to agree with them. It is too hot or too cold, too sour or too sweet.
They are called "Agie Taters".

There are those who say they will help, but somehow just never get around to actually doing the promised help.
They are called "Hezzie Taters".

Some people can put up a front and pretend to be someone they are not.
They are called "Emma Taters".

Then there are those who love others and do what they say they will. They are always prepared to stop whatever they are doing and lend a helping hand. They bring real sunshine into the lives of others.
They are called "Sweet Taters".

If you know any "Sweet Taters", send this to them!!



Above Humor on "Taters" From: americanbridge.com/taters.htm website
(Link emailed to us from: Ken "Doc" Strong)
-- Tom & Lynda French, Editors/Publishers

1st Annual Captain Merlot's Tournament

January 23-25, 2004

Captain Merlot's, Mims, Florida

Report & Photos Received February 15, 2004 From: Marty Allen, Mims, Florida

Mims, Florida: The new owners of Captain Merlot's, Kathy and Doug Roberts, are huge supporters of area shuffleboard. They sponsor two teams in the winter traveling shuffleboard league and always have a Sunday 1pm Blind Draw event. This is a good shuffleboard establishment and they will have more tournaments in the future. This Jan. 23-25 tournament went very smooth with great food (Thanks, Kathy!) and a good turnout with nice sponsor sales.

We had two Friday evening single elimination "Blind Draws" with Doug Roberts and Marty Allen winning the first one and Jim Detwiler and Doug Roberts winning the second draw.

The husband/wife team of J.T. and Sue "go around" Swindle drew each other in the Saturday "A-B Draw" and I swear (at times) you could not tell the "A" from the "B" player on this husband/wife team! They took turns beating up on their opponents and in the finals they "double-dipped" the strong team of "Moose" Whitt and Doug Roberts. Dan Eaden and Marty Allen finished third place.

The Sunday "Bring Partner" event had very strong teams and I believe my partner "Moose" Whitt turned the tide in our favor when he short weighted a center of the board to block a corner three. This turned a tight game into a win for us. The strong team of Jerry Gray and Dave Macko finished second and the equally strong team of Larry Cooper and Doug Roberts finished in third place.

One little last comment to the strong showing of the "B" players... yes, your three Florida raters were in attendance and we do take notes (smile!). God Bless. -- **By: Marty Allen**

A/B Draw Winners (Con't. from Col. 1):



3rd Place (Above L-R):
Dan Eaden & Marty Allen

Bring Partner Winners (Sunday):



1st Place (Above L-R):
Marty Allen & "Moose" Whitt

A/B Draw Winners (Saturday):



1st Place (Above L-R):
J.T. & Sue Swindle (Husband/Wife)



2nd Place (Above L-R):
Doug Roberts & "Moose" Whitt



2nd Place (Above L-R):
Dave Macko & Jerry Gray



3rd Place (Above L-R):
Doug Roberts & Larry Cooper

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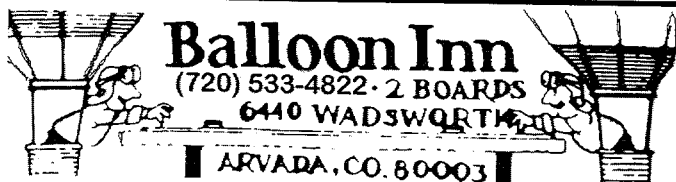
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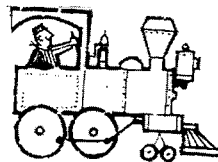
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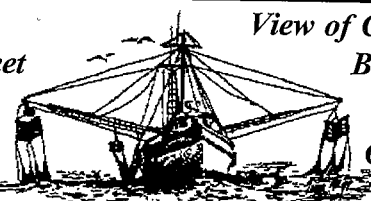
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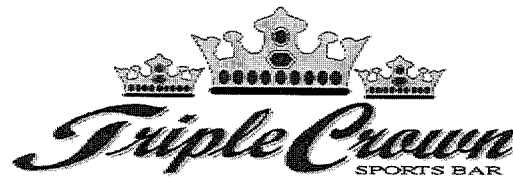
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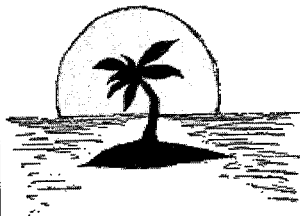
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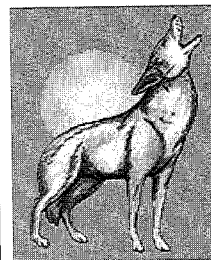


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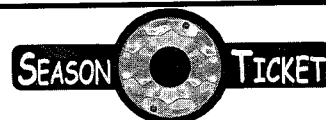


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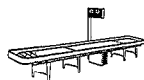
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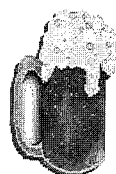


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Jerry Siebert, MSHOF Director, *WELCOMES ALL*
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to be held at Club Car Lounge, Durand, MI
the 1st weekend of August 2004!

Bill & Brenda Kane, New Owners of Club Car Lounge say
"You all come! We'll be awaiting!"

MSHOF Contact: Jerry Siebert, Dir. at 517-694-4652



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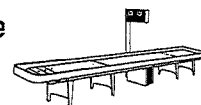
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Thanksgiving at BZ's...

November 29-30, 2003 at Buzz's Tavern, Olympia, WA
By: Junelle Schrum (report) & Sharon Nugent (photos)
(Submitted February 2004)

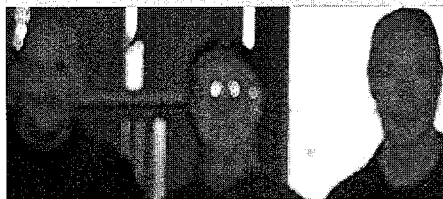
Olympia, WA: I am thankful for...Shuffleboard! The annual Thanksgiving weekend tournament was full of fun, some great shooting and a few surprises here and there as well. It was well attended and the weekend went off with only some minor bumps and everyone was saying what a good time they were having and how relaxing the atmosphere turned out to be.

This year's tournament was done in an ABC draw format. ABC tournaments are a great way to get new and local players involved with the game and gives players a chance to gain some tournament experience while giving more seasoned players more exposure to shooting with different level players and honing their teaching skills. The opportunity to learn from each other for all players is especially true at these tournaments and we saw it a lot over the weekend. We had four new players travel down from the Burlington (Bow-Edison) areas to play in the tournament. Mike Dempsey and Joe Paskowski, two of the four, placed in the top two teams! The second place team was a headed Sharon Nugent who is a 2 and by a strike of fate (or numbers) had to be an A. She stepped up to the plate and impressed everyone present. She led her team of Junelle Schrum and Joe Paskowski through the brackets for a strong finish. Even with all that competition the Team of Tommy Campbell, Robbie Heidel and Mike Dempsey played tough and prevailed as the winners.

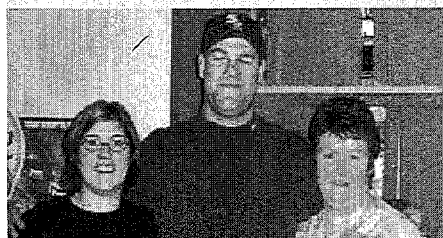
Cheri would like to thank everyone for a great weekend and to Bill Lao for supporting shuffleboard in BZ's. The next tournament will be in April... look for information to coming out soon. Thanks again for the great tournament!!

—Written by Junelle Schrum (Submitted by Sharon Nugent)

ABC Draw Winners:



1st Place (Left L-R):
Tom Campbell, Rob Heidel,
Mike Dempsey



2nd Place (Left L-R):
Junelle Schrum, Joe
Paskowski, Sharon
Nugent



3rd Place (Above L-R): Jim Tribble, Judy George, Randy Ables
and (not pictured) **4th:** Rick Shaw, Jerry Mattson and Paul Roush and
5th (tie): Tim Nugent/ Cheri Schrum/Tom Pandolfi and
Robert Wade/ David Prottengeier/Linda Walker

Doubles at Lucky's...

January 17, 2004 at Lucky's Tavern
By: Carol Westerman "Host"
(Submitted February 2004)

N. Webster, IN: Lucky's Tavern had a "Doubles" tournament on January 17, 2004 with 16 teams showing up. Thanks to all who attended! Winners' photos follow...

-- Carol Westerman, "Host"

Doubles Winners:



1st Place (Left):
Bobby Voorhis (left)
& Debbie Voorhis (right)



2nd Place (Left L-R):
Dennis Kinsey
& Mike Koontz



3rd Place (Left L-R):
Glen Ingram
& Tom Nolder



4th Place (Left L-R):
Dennis Stantz
& Gary Neff

ESA Kick-Off Tournament

January 10-11, 2004

Blue Goose and Red Dog Tavern, Port Orchard, Oregon

Report & Photos Submitted February 17, 2004 By: Randy Nobles (report) & Sharon Nugent (photos)

Port Orchard, Washington: ESA KICK-OFF TOURNEY ESA West Sound Board Member & Tournament Director Comments

Getting shuffleboard players to show up for a tournament can be difficult sometimes. But if you are creative, you can figure out a way to get maximum participation, and also get your Evergreen Association Members to cough up their annual dues along with their tournament entries. Several good suggestions and ideas for the continued success of our Evergreen Association were tabled and discussed at the association's first meeting of the year. The enthusiasm and positive approach to solving some of our issues; puts a very good light on what direction we will take and how we will involve our membership.

The ESA Kick-Off Tournament held in Port Orchard at the Blue Goose and Red Dog Tavern was a great success. We had over 30 participants in the tournament and several others who showed up to pay their dues and socialize before departing. Thank You All

The tournament went very well with many ESA members kicking in to help Randy Ables operate this 3-person team; draw format. The teams formed prove to be a very competitive mix of talents and abilities that made for excellent watching by members waiting for their turn in the barrel, and for the patrons who just wanted to cheer someone along. This format was chosen to provide our less experienced players with an opportunity to play side-by-side with the really good players. This provides an excellent opportunity for them to grow and learn new mechanics and strategies in how to play tournament shuffleboard. For you "A" players who participated and coached your team along, I want to personally thank you for your efforts.

Several matches had a come-from-behind win that made it difficult to predict just what team would wind up on top. After watching several matches, it was obvious that the outcome of any game came down to how well the third player on the team did. I saw so many great shots by these players that the extraordinary shots looked routine to the average spectator who may not have known better. But as a player, I knew that they were putting everything on the line. You could almost hear their increased heart beats and you could see the determination on each shooters face; knowing that this could be the determining puck that pushes the team into the next game or match. When the dust settled and the teams started falling from our ranks, two teams were still standing and ready for the finals hurdle. John Martin, Bill Walker, and Judy George battled their way through the losers' bracket to face Jim Tribble, Mark Minium, and Linda Walker in the Championship finals match. You can't take anything away from either team as they went nose to nose and showed exactly why they made it this far in the

tournament. Normally the amount of players left to watch the finals event are few due to the amount of time it takes to get through tournament play. This finals match was viewed by several ESA players who stuck around and were rewarded with outstanding shot making by both teams. This championship match came down to the third game. Jim's team stepped up and outgunned John's to take the championship and the lions share of the purse.

Congratulations to all the participants of this tournament. As you are the reason we keep this sport alive!

--Randy Ables, Tournament Director, ESA Board Member

ABC Draw Winners:



1st Place (Left L-R):
Mark Minium,
Linda Walker,
Jim Tribble



2nd Place (Left L-R):
John Martin,
Bill Walker,
Judy George



3rd Place (Left L-R):
Alvin Orcutt,
Vera Brown,
Robert "Cowboy"
Wade



4th Place (Left L-R):
Ted Ausbun, Sharon
Nugent, Vern Gonzales
and no photo: 5th
(tie): Less Burt/Gordy
Smith/Paul Roush and
Tim Nugent/Chuck
Anthony/ Junelle
Schrum



We had a 50/50 raffle to start our fundraising at our kick-off tournament at the Blue Goose on January 10th and 11th. It was a great success. We raised \$146.00. Our big winner was Linda Walker who won \$73.00 with \$73.00 going into our ESA fund. Congratulations go to Linda Walker!

15th Annual Indiana State Tournament

November 28-30, 2003

Fall Creek Valley Amvets Post 26, Pendleton, Indiana

Report & Photos Received February 7, 2004 From: Steve Hart, Anderson, Indiana

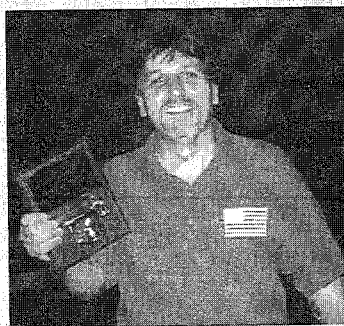
Pendleton, Indiana: Fall Creek Valley Amvets Post 26 hosted the 15th Annual Indiana State Tournament on Nov. 28-30. There was great participation, good food, and alot of competition (as usual), and the Amvets staff were great hosts. Thanks to all those who helped make this tournament possible such as Sonny Harris, Joe Hopkins, Terry Dowell, Jeff McFadden, and the active Amvets staff - and of course all the Indiana players! The 16th Annual State Tournament will be held at the Warsaw Eagles, Warsaw, Indiana. Winners photos follow...

Open Singles Winners:

(Fri.; 8 places; 40 players; \$9,600 purse)



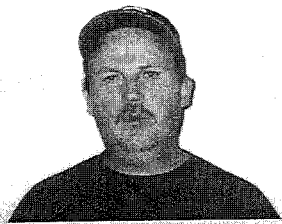
1st Place (Above):
Ricky Royal



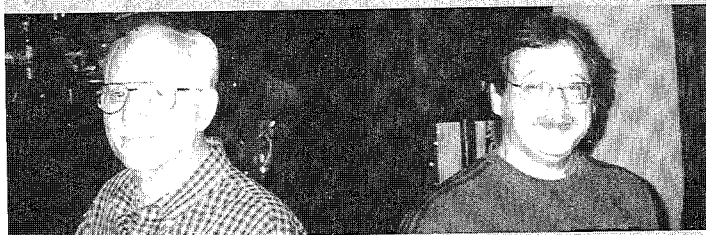
2nd Place (Above):
Mike Johnson



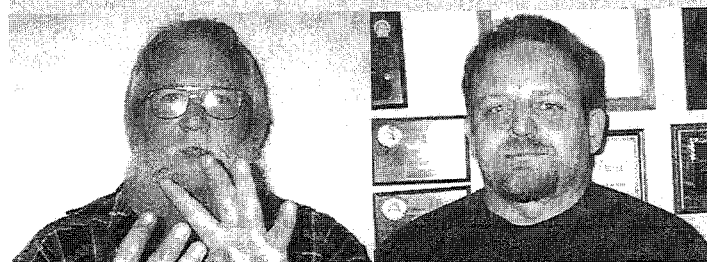
3rd Place (Above):
Tom Nolder



4th Place (Above):
Dave Vorndran



5th/6th Place (tie) (Above L-R): Jim Long & Bobby Voorhis



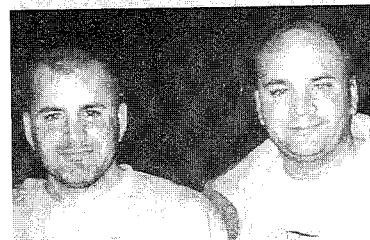
7th/8th Place (tie) (Above L-R): Rudy Robinson & Brian Collins

Open Doubles Winners:

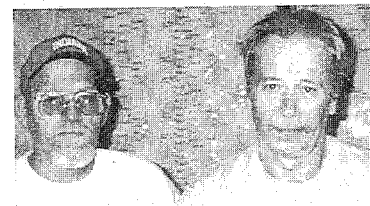
(Sat.; 4 places; 23 teams; \$5,330 purse)



1st Place (Left L-R):
Ricky Royal & Bobby Voorhis



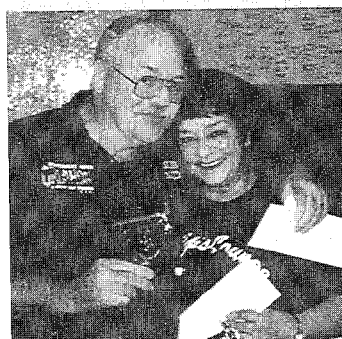
2nd Place (Left):
Tom & Greg Massie



3rd Place (Left L-R):
Rick Stocker & Larry Brown
and **4th Place** (no photo):
John Humes & Steve Hart

Mixed Doubles Winners:

(Sun.; 3 places; 13 teams; \$2,620 purse)



1st Place (Above L-R):
Glen & Jeri Ingram



2nd Place (Above L-R):
Jody Berry & Gary Anglin



3rd Place (Left L-R):
Sheryl Cockerill & Robbie Collins

(Indiana Championships Con't. on Page 27)

(Indiana Championships Con't. from Page 26)

Ladies' Singles Winners:
(Sun.; 3 places; 13 players; \$1,970 purse)



1st Place (Left):
Pam Dowell



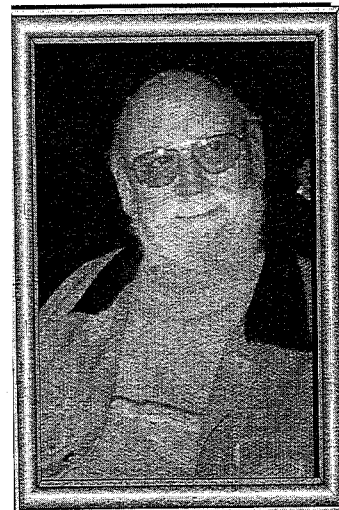
2nd Place (Above):
Sheryl Cockerill



3rd Place (Above):
Debbie Voorhis



In Loving Memory
Jesse "Jay" Wilson



August 6, 1933 - January 22, 2004

In Loving Memory Of

Jesse Weaver Wilson, Jr.
"Jay"

Entered Into Life

April 6, 1933
Sherman, Texas

Entered Eternal Life

January 22, 2004
Lakewood, California

Chapel Service

Westminster Memorial Park Chapel
Westminster, California
Saturday ~ January 31, 2004
One O'clock

Officiating

Reverend David Allen

Interment Follows

Garden of Angels
Westminster Memorial Park
Westminster, California

Doubles at Palace Bar

January 31, 2003

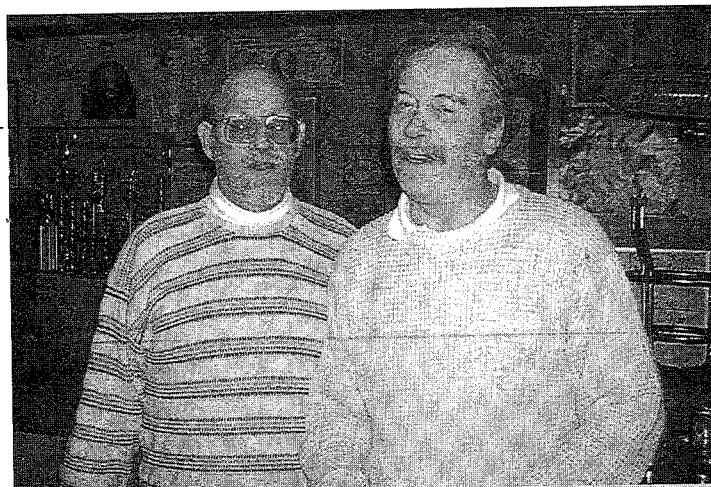
Palace Bar, Fairmount, Indiana

Report & Photos Received February 15, 2004 From:

Booby Voorhis, Fairmount, Indiana

Fairmount, Indiana: The Palace Bar in Fairmount, Indiana hosted a "Doubles" tournament on January 31st with 19 teams playing for a total purse of \$4,040. Going undefeated was the team of Rick Stocker and "Laggin'" Larry Brown from Hunteertown. That's two in a row for Stocker. Second place was taken by the local team of Skip Enyeart and Ron Sherwood (a \$40 team, by the way!). Third place went to Rick Royal and Bobby Voorhis and fourth place went to Glen Ingram and Terry Dowell. Our next tournament will be on April 24th. We look forward to seeing many of you there! [1st & 2nd Place winners photos below]

-- Reported by: Bobby Voorhis, Fairmount, Indiana



1st Place (Above L-R):
Rick Stocker & Larry Brown



2nd Place (Above L-R):
Ron Sherwood & Skip Enyeart

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

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

2004 CALENDAR OF SHUFFLEBOARD EVENTS

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
Captain Merlot's
Mims, Florida

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

11th Annual Florida Open
Captain Merlot's
Mims, 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

April 3

Open Doubles/Open Singles
Red Dog Saloon
Muncie, Indiana

April 8-11 (Easter Weekend)

6th Annual Canadian Open 2004
Esquimalt Legion
Victoria, B.C., Canada

April 16-18

April Showers Tournament
Market Street Cafe
Charlestown, Maryland

April 17-18

Round Robin Draws
Whistling Oyster
Quilcene, Washington

April 23-25

10th Annual Bill Gibbs Memorial
Sixshooters
Phoenix, Arizona

April 24-26

A/B Bring Partner Doubles
Balloon Inn
Arvada, Colorado

April 23-25

Heartland Handicap
American Legion Post# 73
Del City, Oklahoma

MAY 2004

May 8

Bring Partner
Journey's End Bar & Grill
Bourbon, Indiana

May 14-16

May Flowers Tournament
Market Street Cafe
Charlestown, Maryland

JUNE 2004

June 11-13

Hoosier Hall of Fame
David L's Hideout Lounge
Yorktown, Indiana

June 12-13

Round Robin Draws
Whistling Oyster
Quilcene, Washington

June 18-20

Bill English Memorial
Balloon Inn
Arvada, Colorado

JULY/AUGUST 2004

July 4-10

SW Open 2004
American Legion Post# 73
Del City, Oklahoma

July 28-August 1

Grand Masters 2004
Whistling Oyster
Quilcene, Washington

August 6-8

2nd Annual Michigan HOF
Club Car Lounge
Durand, Michigan

August 13-15

CO.NE.HEAD Classic V
Balloon Inn
Arvada, Colorado

August 14-15

2nd Annual "Hot Summer Nights"
Rosewood Pub
Bellflower, California

SEPTEMBER 2004

September 16-19

6th Annual Wandering the World
Ladies Tournament
Amvets Post 26
Pendleton, Indiana

OCT./NOV. 2004

October 15-17

Heartland Handicap
American Legion Post# 73
Del City, Oklahoma

October 15-17

Round Robin (Mystery format)
Balloon Inn
Arvada, Colorado

October 30-November 7

2004 NASC
Sands Regency Hotel/Casino
Reno, Nevada

DECEMBER 2004

December 10-12

15th Annual Santa Classic
Balloon Inn
Arvada, Colorado

*Play Your Way
Across the USA*

January '04 Edition

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

From: The Board Talk Editors/Publishers

"News Flash" & Print Schedule Notice

Bi-Monthly Issue

May/June 2004
July/August 2004
September/October 2004
November/December 2004

Deadline for Submissions

May 10, 2004
July 10, 2004
September 10, 2004
November 10, 2004

NOTE: *The bi-monthly issues should be mailed out from our printer/mailler by the end of the month (eg., May, July, September, November).* **REMINDER:** Submissions are due by the **10th of each month during 2004**. If you get your submissions in by the 10th of each month, it will be printed in the next issue (whether it turns out to be a monthly or bi-monthly "test" issue).

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 (such as having more than one major tournament arrive in one issue).

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/mailler, 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:

(8 invoices for 8 issues - more if there are interim issues)

January 2004

February 2004

March 2004

April 2004 (Deadline for submission March 10th)

May/June 2004 (tentative plan to do a bi-monthly test issue)

July/August 2004 (tentative plan to do a bi-monthly test issue)

September/October 2004 (tentative plan ...)

November/December 2004 (tentative plan ...)

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 a several are still not current on paying for services already printed by The Board Talk in 2003.

We have tournament flyers that were not pre-paid before we printed them that have not yet been paid. So, we now require that all flyers be pre-paid (no "grace period" for us, we must pay immediately with each job that we print).

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 thank all tournament reporters for working with us to get your submissions in on/ before the posted deadline for each issue).

We operate solely from whatever revenue we bring in from our advertisers and subscribers. We appreciate all of our 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. Remember, The Board Talk is yours, we only compile and edit the data submitted to us. We hope that doing one or more bi-monthly issue (when feasible) during 2004 will help us maintain our current subscriber and advertising rates. 2004 will be a test for bi-monthly (if/when it is feasible to try it). Thanks for your patience, caring, support and friendship! -- Tom & Lynda French/Editors

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)
- Board Talk Open 2004 (flyer insert)
- ALL "Shuffleboard Directory" Advertisers!

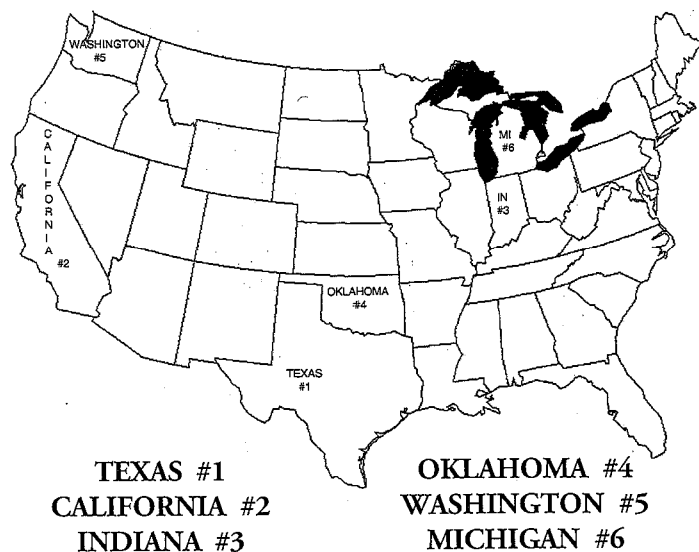
Your advertising support made this issue possible. We, and our subscribers, thank you! Readers: please patronize the businesses and support the tournaments of those who support your communications vehicle with advertising dollars. PLEASE thank all of the above personally when you have the opportunity!

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

THE BOARD TALK

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

The Nation's Top 6 Shuffleboard States:



Subscribe or Renew Today!

See Inside Back Cover to Subscribe or Renew!
Mail in Subscription or Call in Credit Card order: 512-250-0327

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!

I'm moving!

Name _____

Old Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip Code _____

New Address _____

Apt. or Space No. _____

City _____ State _____ Zip Code _____

E-Mail: _____ Phone: _____

*Send to: The Board Talk, c/o Tom & Lynda French,
12710 Red Deer Pass, Austin, TX 78729-6436
before the 14th of the month to receive the next
issue at your new address.*



first class

SUBSCRIPTION EXPIRES: MAY 1, 2004
Glen Ingram
1802 S. Windpoint Drive #168
Muncie, IN 47302-6913