October. 2, 2006

Shuffleboard's biggest tournament, the North American Shuffleboard Championships™, is just over three weeks away. With pre-registration up almost 10% over last year, 2006 is going to be another great year for the NASC™. With airfares at the lowest levels in more than a year there are still some great prices on airfare and room/airfare packages. If you need any help in finding a good flight, please give us a call at 800-380-3033.

Reminder: The early registration deadline is this Saturday, October 7. Registration Forms mailed after that date are subject to a \$5.00 late fee for registration, and for each event entered. You can also register online and pay by credit card on the tournament web site, www.2006nasc.com.

As we celebrate the 17th anniversary of the NASCTM this year, we will also celebrate Sol Lipkin's 100th Birthday. Music and dancing, among other things, will be added to Friday night's festivities. Any ladies who would like to make a donation of at least \$20 can sign up for a dance with Sol. All dance proceeds will be split 50/50 between the Bowers Ratings and the TSA Hall of Fame. We are also looking for ways that the guys can participate in some fund raising activities for those two organizations, please contact us with any ideas you may have.

Friday night's agenda features two other special events, the presentation of the Sol Lipkin Award to Emmett Wilcox, of Anderson, Indiana and the TSA Hall of Fame inductions for previous Sol Lipkin Award winners, Dick Gorman and Don Valk. Although Emmett is not well known outside of the Midwest, his contributions to the sport have been very significant. He was the first person to polish weights for more consistent performance. He later developed polishing and speed testing equipment for The Shuffleboard Federation. This equipment was instrumental in the success of The Shuffleboard Federation's Pro Series WeightsTM. Emmett also invented calibration equipment which allows more precise leveling and adjusting of shuffleboard tables. Nicknamed "Pappy" by his fellow Hoosiers, Emmett was the first person inducted into the Indiana Shuffleboard Hall of Fame in 1996. He is also credited with teaching the game to many of Indiana's fine players.

Dick Gorman is being honored in recognition of more than two decades of service to the shuffleboard community. He has run hundreds of tournaments and has been the backbone of shuffleboard on the East Coast for many years. Don Valk is being honored for his contributions as a player and promoter. His U.S. Open Tournaments in the 1980's helped to set the standard for today's major tournaments.

Following the awards presentation is the raffle drawing. Some of the top prizes in the raffle include sets of Pro Series Weights® and a Jacuzzi Suite for 10 nights for the 2007 NASCTM. We are looking for donations of other prizes for the raffle and would appreciate donations of shirts from other tournaments and/or shuffleboard establishments. After the raffle will be the \$10,000 cash give away, in which 50 randomly drawn players will win \$200, courtesy of the Sands. To give everyone a chance to enjoy themselves and visit with shuffleboard friends, old and new, no tournaments games will be played on Friday night.

To print Tournament forms and information, please use the following links: Registration Form, Schedule of Events, and General Information. If you have never been to the NASCTM, there has never been a better time to find out why, over the past ten years, more players have attended the NASC than any other tournament.

If you have not yet made your airline reservations, remember that the Sands will allow you to book a room and airfare package, which can sometimes save even more more over their already cheap room rates. The airline which has traditionally had the best packages is American Airlines. To get a quote, visit www.aavacations.com. America West has also had some great fares, their web site is www.americawest.com. Other recommended travel web sites are: Orbitz.com, Yahoo Travel, Expedia.com, Southwest Airlines.com and Hotwire.com.

If you need help making air or hotel reservations, or have any questions about the tournament, please call The Shuffleboard Federation at 800-380-3033.

John McDermott, Tournament Director

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