

# The Board Talk

News and Views  
from the World  
of Shuffleboard

Vol. 1 No. 5

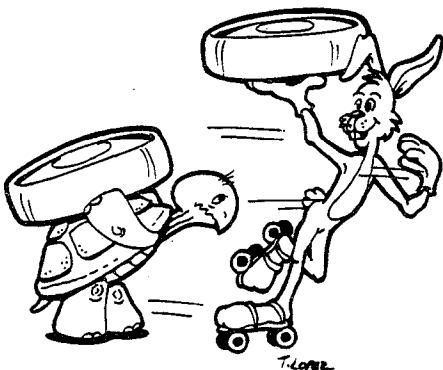
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May 1984

## The Hammer

A tip of the editorial hat to U.S.S.A. officials for attempting to broaden participation in their world championship shuffleboard activities (see Tourney Talk). Their recognition that thousands of "rank and file" players across the country simply can't afford the cost of the trip plus a steep entry fee will certainly provide some hope in the hearts of those who yearn for such an experience. For most of us, the opportunity to win a hefty purse, especially in competition against the "biggies," just isn't enough of an incentive to scrape up the investment it takes to make that gamble.

It is my hope that, in the months ahead, we can stimulate some discussion about holding qualifying tournaments, perhaps at area, state and regional levels, progressing toward a national event. This would not only broaden opportunities for participation, but also to earn our way to the "top."



"It's lonely at the top." That's true whether in business, politics, or sports (as our Canadian neighbor says in his letter on page 2, the top player "can't get a game here; nobody will play him").

While being editors of *The Board Talk* certainly can't be classified as "at the top," it sure does get lonely sometimes up here in our office. In last month's issue, we reminded our reporters, advertisers and readers that *The Board Talk* is a 10-month publication with a recess during June and July. Assuming that we'd be inundated with news, notices and ads about tournaments and activities during those months, we told you to anticipate a "big, important, pre-summer May issue."

We were prepared for an 8- or 10-pager to accommodate all the good stuff you were going to send us, so a 4-pager, our smallest yet, is really kind of embarrassing. It would be easy for us to fill up our pages with local news, but that doesn't fulfill our obligation of serving a national audience.

Perhaps this two-month recess will allow us the time to build a more structured reporting network that will provide you with the information you want and deserve. It may also be a time for us to get our priorities in order and get some indication of whether *The Board Talk* is really needed.

Hello! Is anybody out there?

George Wilber, Editor

## Tourney Talk

### Mays Wins Vegas Tourney

The U.S.S.A. sponsored world championship doubles tournament that turned into a singles was staged in Las Vegas, April 19-22, and master of the boards, Billy Mays, added yet another notch in his Texas gun belt after a shoot-out against 15 other contestants.

Another Texan, Earl Kelly of Dallas, who did such a fine job of waxing the boards for the January Vegas tournament, handed the shaker to someone else for this event and took second place. Doug Buhl of Bremerton, Washington, who took third place in the January tourney, decided that was a comfortable (and profitable) spot for this tournament as well. Jim Allis, Seattle, Washington, came in fourth.

In a "mini-doubles" side action, the dynamic duo of David Williams and Bill Melton were the winners.

Melton summed up the tournament as "smooth" with the boards placed on carpets rather than the slippery wood floors that were a challenge to participants in the January tournament. "The only thing we lacked was the number of players and spectators we would have liked to have," Melton reported. The strike that was going on in Vegas during the tournament was a detriment, he said.

What about the world championship doubles? After a meeting with input from participants of this tournament, organizers have decided that a doubles tournament will be scheduled in Las Vegas sometime in August.

"To gain more participation, we'll open it to teams of a U.S.S.A. member and a non-member," Melton said, "and the entry fees will be more affordable than in the past."

Watch the August *Board Talk* for details.

### Doubles at A.J.'s, May 19-20

The first annual State of Michigan doubles tournament is scheduled for A.J.'s Saloon, 10150 Highland Road, Pontiac, May 19-20. Two boards! Entry fee of \$20 per team. It will be the best 2 of 3 double elimination.

A sponsor's traveling trophy will be awarded, as well as individual trophies for first, second, third and fourth places, with a 50%-25%-15%-10% payoff. An auction is scheduled for noon on May 19. See the ad in this issue.

### Lots of Action for Michigan Women

Cheryl Collins was the winner of the Michigan women's "state" tournament at the Lakeside Lounge, Union Lake, on April 14-15. Kathy Morgan finished second, Jackie Papa, third, and Sue Spack, fourth.

The Lakeside will host the women's state doubles tournament on **June 9-10** with a free breakfast at noon on Sunday. Lots of good shuffleboard action — don't miss it! The Lakeside is located at 9500 Elizabeth Lake Road in Union Lake. See the ad in this issue.

Papa's Ace Lounge, 23617 Van Dyke, Warren, will host a team match on **June 2**, starting at noon, involving women shuffleboarders from Papa's, Lakeside Lounge, Lansing, and Lake Orion's Wagon Wheel. Good competition guaranteed with fun for spectators as well as players.



# Canadian Neighbor Looks for Shuffleboard Action in U.S.

Dear Editors:

It is nice to know that shuffleboard is on the upswing in the U.S. Up here in Canada, it doesn't seem to be going in the same direction. Over the last 10 years, boards have been replaced by pool tables. Hopefully, that will change in the future as pool tables cause more disputes and fights.

I am 28 years old and have been playing board since I was 18. However, the big game here is what you would call short board since it is only 14½ ft. in length. I was not aware of long boards until about 3 or 4 years ago when I was at the Canadian championships in Vancouver, British Columbia. There are a lot of long boards on the west coast and a few here in Winnipeg, but only in the legions.

I hope to get down to the tournament in Vegas next January should there be one and possibly the doubles tournament in April 1985. I would like to know how I could qualify to play in the world championships. Could I just enter or would I have to qualify in one of your regional tournaments?

We use slightly different style of rocks (pucks?) here in Canada. It is going to take some time adjusting to American rocks and the length of the boards.

Just to give you an idea of our tournaments, we run two large tournaments a year. In April or May, we have the Manitoba Open (open to anyone), men's and ladies' singles (15 points), doubles (21 points) and mixed (21 points), best 2 out of 3 game knock-out. In September, we have the Manitoba Closed, restricted to Manitoba members only. The winners of each event then go to the Canadian championships (this year in Victoria, B.C.) where there is single game, double round robin play between provinces. Best record wins; there are no playoffs unless there is a tie. The Canadian championships are held on the Thanksgiving weekend in October every year.

I am curious to see players like Billy Mays. There are a lot of great players up here. The best I have seen is Harvey Groleau who lives here in Winnipeg. He has won every Canadian title at least once. I would like to see him and Billy Mays meet some day. He can't get a game here; nobody will play him. There are some other good hustlers — Jim Hay and Neville Curry from B.C. I am sure they have played Billy Mays since they live on the west coast.

This might be a tough question, but where would be the best location in the U.S. to go where there would be a lot of boards and players? Until I read the *Board Talk*, I thought the west coast — Washington and Oregon — was the only place they had boards. I've been to Florida and California and couldn't find any. I might have a few months off work next winter and possibly would come down there to play against some of your players. There is no one to play here except for short board. I would like to meet your players and see what kind of competition I am up against.

Michael Jacoby, Winnipeg, Manitoba

*We're delighted to have a subscriber in Canada, especially one who is obviously such an enthusiastic shuffleboard booster.*

*Keep watching the Board Talk, Mike, for shuffleboard activities throughout the U.S. You'd be welcome at any of the*

*tournaments or just for open play at any of the shuffleboard establishments. The letter below proves you just didn't look in the right spot in Florida and we'd be willing to bet you'll get the same message from some of our California subscribers.*

*READERS: If you'd like to let Mike (and a lot of other players) know about what you think is the "best location in the U.S. to go where there would be a lot of boards and players," fill out the nomination form in this issue and mail it to The Board Talk. We've got a summer recess during June and July so that means you've got until July 20 to develop your nomination.*

*We'll print these nominations on a first-come, first-serve basis, as space permits, so even though you've got until July 20 to submit material for the August issue, the sooner you get your nomination in, the better chance you'll have of getting it printed before Mike makes his U.S. visit.*

## Action in Florida

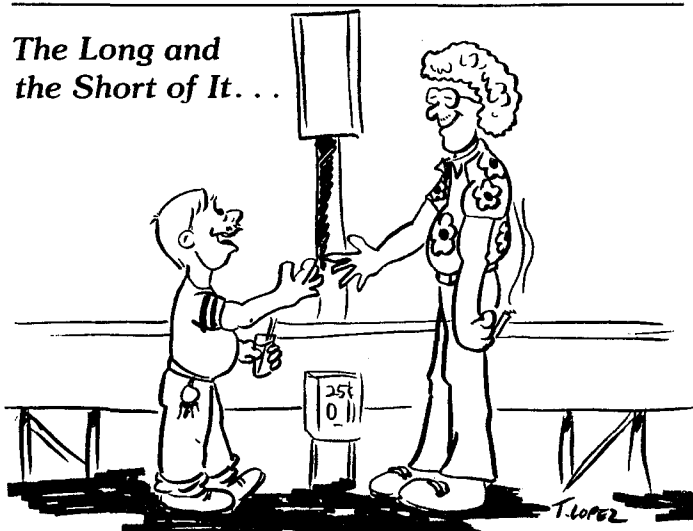
Dear George and Donna:

I have the Riveredge Tavern in Bellwood, Florida (near Titusville), and we pride ourselves in being quite handy with the shuffleboard game. We have won first place for three years running. Incidentally, we have a lot of good players from your neck of the woods who come down and give us a lesson now and then (Jimmy the Cop for one).

Andy Anderson, Jr., Riveredge Tavern, Bellwood, Florida

*Florida is the vacation spot for shuffleboard players throughout the U.S. (and Canada!) and many probably have been suffering from withdrawal pains when they have to leave their boards behind. Those vacationers are going to appreciate knowing where you are!*

## The Long and the Short of It...



*Old or young, male or female, muscular or scrawny, short or tall — the sport of shuffleboard doesn't demand anything but skill from its participants. Cartoonist Tammy Lopez captures that truism with this likeness of Wayne (Weiner) Reist and Micky Montgomery as they congratulate each other for their contributions toward winning the Lansing (Mich.) city league championship title for Art's A-Team. Other members of the championship team were Roy Stein, George Wilber, Keith (Motor) Swarthout, Dale Woodcock, Ron and Candi Spalding. Weiner also won the city singles. Winners of the city doubles were Lee McDonald and Jr. Lopez of Stober's Machos.*

### Nomination for Best Location in the U.S. for Shuffleboard Action

I nominate \_\_\_\_\_ (city), \_\_\_\_\_ (state),  
as the best location in the United States for shuffleboard action for these reasons (i.e., number of boards, quantity and  
quality of players, hospitality and sportsmanship of establishments and players, availability/affordability of area motels  
and restaurants, easy access to surrounding shuffleboard communities, tournament action, etc.)

Nominator \_\_\_\_\_

"Home" Shuffleboard Establishment \_\_\_\_\_

Its Address \_\_\_\_\_ Phone Number \_\_\_\_\_

You may use additional sheets if needed; attach to the nomination form.

Mail to: *The Board Talk*, 3206 Alfred Ave., Lansing, Mich. 48906.

## George's Shuffleboard Supplies

• Powdered wax

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pool table covers

• Weights — precision  
ground, scientifically  
balanced

Call George:

517-323-1817 days

517-321-0008 evenings

### Women's "State" Doubles Tournament

June 9 & 10

Lakeside Lounge, Union Lake

*Any woman shuffleboard player in  
the State of Michigan is eligible!*

Entry Fee: \$10.00 per team

Trophies — Prizes

*Free breakfast at noon on Sunday!*

For information call:  
Elly Canterbury, 313-625-4109

## Lakeside Lounge

9500 Elizabeth Lake Road, Union Lake  
Phone 313-698-4104

### A.J.'s Saloon presents 1st Annual State of Michigan Doubles Tournament May 19 & 20

Two boards!

Best 2 out of 3 double elimination.

Entry Fee: \$20 per team

Sponsor's traveling trophy —  
Individual trophies

50% — 20% — 15% — 10% payoff

Auction at 12 noon on May 19

## A.J.'s Saloon

10150 Highland Road, Pontiac  
Phone 313-698-4080

# SHUFFLEBOARD DIRECTORY

*Patronize These Shuffleboard Sponsors*

## **Art's Bar & Grill**

*Home of the famous fried bologna sandwich*

809 E. Kalamazoo, Lansing

Phone 517-482-8328

## **Vic's Hole in the Wall**

*Your friendly stop in Holt*

2004 N. Cedar, Holt

Phone 517-694-9897

## **Stober's Lounge**

*Home of the tri-state champions, 1978-79*

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Phone 517-487-9790

## **Shop Stop**

*Try our brand-new shuffleboard*

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## **Dublin House**

*Detroit's newest shuffleboard bar*

23906 Grand River, Detroit

Phone 313-531-5590

## **Papa's Ace Lounge**

*Home of the 1983-84 Women's League Champs*

23617 Van Dyke, Warren

Phone 313-757-6760

## **Walt's Bar**

*Where shuffleboarders play all night*

21346 Fenkell, Detroit

Phone 313-534-6328

## **Charlie's Roost**

*A full calendar of fun and food specials*

759 Baldwin Ave., Pontiac

Phone 313-344-0555

## **Wintergarden Cafe**

*Big Screen TV - Great Food - Exciting Competition*

22909 W. 8-Mile Road, Detroit

Phone 313-538-1665

## **Irish Pub**

*Shuffleboard and big screen TV*

1910 W. Saginaw, Lansing

Phone 517-489-2836

## **Our Tavern**

*Shuffleboarders welcome! Two boards!*

1219 Hamilton, N.W., Grand Rapids

Phone 616-454-1907

## **Jerdo's Lounge**

*Home of the famous Jerdo's burger*

4488 First St., Columbiaville

Phone 313-793-9903

## **A. J.'s Saloon**

*Sponsor of Michigan's 1984 National Tournament Player*

10150 Highland Road, Pontiac

Phone 313-698-4080

## **Sun Glo Corp.**

*Manufacturers of Shuffleboard Supplies since 1935*

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## **Wagon Wheel**

*Where shuffleboard is king!*

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## **Michigan Prep Sales**

*Tammy Lopez, Board Talk Cartoonist*

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2100 E. Michigan Ave., Lansing

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## **Rendezvous Lounge**

*We're trying to form a league — call us*

M-15 between Otisville & Millington

Phone 517-871-9708