Frisco Eddie's Revenge: The Return

A series by Balboa Ron Schweikert Las Vegas, Nevada

(Editor's Note: In last month's issue, Bob had told his story about the meeting between "Kid Spooks" and the "Masked Marvel" and a match between L.A. Larry and Slim Dolan, to a captivated audience. Lil then offered to tell her story about a man who "died" playing shuffleboard.)

Everyone was listening as Lil began her yarn about the man who actually DIED from playing shuffleboard! She continued: "Now, this whole thing happened very late one Saturday night, after a bunch of us had been playing all weekend. The action took place at a joint called the 3 P's in El Monte, California. They had four boards there, which was unusual at that time. Anyway, there was this group of guys from Southwest L.A. who had driven up there -- in this here hearse!"

Eddie interrupted: "Hey, come on. I thought this was going to be a TRUE story."

Lil replied: "I'm telling you, man, it is! These guys had showed up in an old, used Caddy funeral wagon!" A ripple of snickers followed and then she started again: "Everyone was pretty wasted from being up for over two days, you see. Now, I had a side bet with one of the 'Undertaker' guys, whose name was Two-Hanger Tommie. I won my game, so I looked around for old Two-Hanger so I could collect my cash...but he was nowhere in sight."

Lil took a sip of her drink and continued: "I decided to check out the parking lot to see if he was out there. It was after they had to stop serving alcohol, and some of the players would secretly keep a jug in their cars so they could sneak out and have a snort. Sure enough, I found my man in that there hearse! He was laid out all straight in the back -- with his eyes closed and his arms folded across his chest. As I looked at him through the rear window, I figured he was just asleep, so I tried to open one of the doors to wake him up and collect my side bet."

Lil looked around a little then to check the temperature of the crowd and then started again: "The doors were all locked so I went to one of the rear windows and knocked on it and called out his name. He didn't move. I then thought he was probably passed out from being up so long. I started to really shout and pound on the rear windows. He still didn't budge. I decided to go back into the bar and get some of the others to check it out. When I told what had happened, the whole joint emptied out to

see what was going on with old Two-Hanger Tommie.

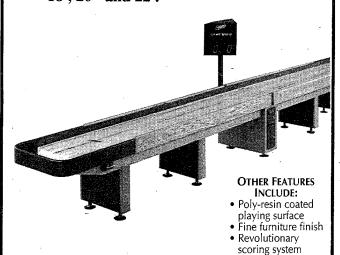
"When we got back out, he was still in the same position. Everyone crowded around the hearse. They started banging on the windows and even rocking the wagon. Then someone hollered out: 'T've had some medical training...and this guy is DEAD!' Some of the 'pansey' women were gasping and starting to cry. The crowd was beginning to panic then and someone yelled: 'O.K., that's it -- let's call emergency.' Then, just when a couple of them were starting to go inside to make the call, a strange thing happened. Someone shouted: 'Wait a minute....I think he moved!' All of a sudden, old Two-Hangers' arms started to straighten up! Then he started to raise up from the waist, until he was sitting up in the back of that old hearse, with his eyes still closed and his arms stretched out in front of him! I swear, it looked just

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like a corpse coming back from the dead!

"After the initial shock was over, and we figured out what old Tommie had done to us, everyone closed in and started shouting and beating on that hearse. He sat inside there, laughing his ass off. You had to have been there to appreciate it. He pulled it off so good that it was actually kind of scarey for a little while there."

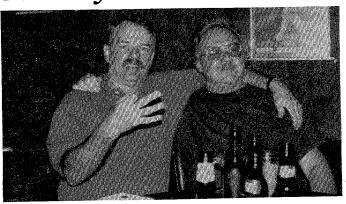
When those nearby stopped laughing and settling down, Lil got a serious look on her face. It became evident that the story-telling was over, and they all got back to their normal conversations.

Then Lil looked Eddie in the eye and said: "Eddie, I did come a long way, and now I do want to tell you the REAL reason I'm here." As they exchanged stares, Eddie thought to himself: "Oh, Oh, here comes the 'hook."

What is the "hook" and what's Lil's REAL reason for being at the Blue Moon? Don't miss the next episode in the August issue.



Tourney Talk (continued from Page 15)



Two important figures on the West Coast shuffleboard scene are Hal Perry (left) and Rick Thomas, who teamed up to take 3rd place in Blinky's doubles. Hal, who also finished 4th in the singles, is a leader in the creation of a Shuffleboard Hall of Fame and Rick is tournament director at Blinky's shuffleboard events.

4th Annual Labor Day Week Shuffleboard Tournament at Blinky's, Aug. 28-Sept. 5

There are six-- yes, six! -- events on the schedule for the 4th Annual Labor Day Week Shuffleboard Tournament at Blinky's Sports Cafe, 3145 El Camino Real, Santa Clara, California, Aug. 28-Sept. 5.

Those events include a Ladies' Only singles on Sunday, Aug. 28, \$20 entry; an amateur doubles draw on Tuesday, Aug. 30, \$10 entry; an amateur singles on Wednesday, Aug. 31, \$20 entry; a pro-am draw on Thursday, Sept. 1, \$20 entry; a pro doubles on Saturday, Sept 3, \$200 entry fee; and a pro singles on Sunday and Monday, Sept. 4-5, \$100 entry fee.

Play will be on four A.Z. Turnbo boards and wax and sprays will be provided by The Shuffleboard Federation. Motel accommodations are nearby and Blinky's has ample parking and good food. Advance registration for this tournament is suggested and must be accompanied by entry fee.

For information, call tournament director Rick Thomas, 408-578-0822. Please post the enclosed flyer in your favorite shuffleboard site.

\$2000 Added to Crazy Canucks Pro Tourney, Sept. 1-4, AN & AF Club, Vancouver, Canada

There will be \$2,000 added to the pot of the Crazy Canucks Pro Tournament on Sept. 1-4 at the AN & AF Club, 1837 Main St., Vancouver, Canada. (Check flyer in last month's issue).

\$200 of that added money will be in the "Winston Jim" open draw partners event on Thursday, Sept. 1. Entry fee is \$20 per person and will pay 3 places.

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