



THE RED BARON SPEAKS

December 2008 – Larry Creakbaum

The Indiana state championships were held on Thanksgiving week end and 18 doubles teams entered on Friday and 35 singles on Saturday. Eleven entered the ladies singles. Interestingly there were 9 -1's or 0's in the doubles who did not return for the singles. Nineteen of the thirty five went for the minimum in the sponsor sale and four for just an extra ten. And the expert economists just agreed the recession started last December?



The following week just eight showed for a 1.4 and over singles on Friday with a different eight for the pro am on Saturday. Of course travel was difficult on Friday night and Saturday with the snow that made the roads hazardous for novice drivers.

I hope the west coast agreement goes better than the one here in the mid west, as I am already hearing comments like “they never send anyone to ours” or “I do not like them”. For over thirty years I played in most except for football season and no one ever came to my house to play on the board in my family room. Again an exception was when they wanted free parking and my wife to take them to the airport for a trip west. The board is gone now as we moved to a condo and my wife did not deem it appropriate to have to crawl under the board to go from room to room.

Two weeks of Christmas Party's and then an attempt to find a seat to HOU. Continental has already removed three of the six non-stops between IND and IAH. (See first paragraph). I still need a volunteer to pick me up and take me from Bush Airport to NASA Hilton from what ever flight I can get on.

I know from experience that now is a bad time to ask people to join or contribute to something, and for you young pups out there who think you can survive on social security think again. I watch my investments shrink away which is my supplemental income and I am going to have to start cutting back on expenditures. I have thought long and hard about going to Houston and have decided to go over the objections of my wife. That depends on Continental finding me a seat. What I am alluding to is our method communications with each other. There are two main nationwide media and several local area web sites that distribute news and events. The nationwide are the Table Shuffleboard association and eshuffleboard.com. In a previous issue of The Red Baron I asked for readers to participate in both. That may be a little much under present conditions so why not one third of the players join the Table Shuffleboard Association and one third send donations to eshuffleboard.com and the remaining third put a big red sign on your back every time you play that says “I am a free loader”. That should help maintain the line of communications.



Well now it is off (I hope) to Houston.

My wife has to take me to the airport.