

Blinky's Presidents' Day Pot Exceeds \$27,000

By Rick Thomas

The 9th Annual Presidents' Day Tournament was held Feb. 13-21 at Blinky's Sports Cafe in Santa Clara, California.

The debut event, a sweetheart doubles, turned out to be a popular one with 12 couples participating.



Winners were Rick and Kathy Thomas (center), 1st; Pat Bayless and Jolene Lembke (right), 2nd; Betty Hudson and Don Davidson (left), 3rd.

We would like to thank all the teams participating and we plan to continue this event. Thanks to Dan and Jane Mourgos, Paul and Stevie Parks, Bubba Warren and Kathleen Freitag, Eddie Brayman and Teresa Manfredi, Fred Thuman and Bert, Joe and Shari Hudson, Nick and Bev Chaffin, Carl Thissen and Chuck Corcoran, Lorraine Bingham and Jim Olson. Thanks to all for making this a fun event.

On Monday evening, the amateur bring partner doubles, another new event, proved to be quite popular with 12 teams and will be continued in the future.



"Hurricane" Lorraine Bingham and Jolene Lembke were winners of the amateur bring partner.

Coming in second was the team of Jane Mourgos and Steve Heidenrich, with Bev Chaffin and Betty Hudson in third place.

Tuesday evening's amateur singles event attracted 15 players.



In the end, it was Don Davidson (right) coming out in front, with Dale Pirtot taking second place honors.

Finishing third was Ron Graham.

The A-B-C, one of the more popular events, got underway on Wednesday evening with 12 teams participating and concluded on Thursday night. The first place winners were Darrol Nelson, Pete Craven and Shari Hudson.



Nick Chaffin (right), Georganna Brand and Don Stallsworth took second place honors.

Finishing third was the team of Pat Bayless, Ron Graham and Paul Stallsworth.

The open/pro doubles started Saturday morning with 16 teams vying for a prize fund of \$11,200. The winners were Darrol Nelson and Larry Pearson. In second place were Nelson Jennings and Fred Thuman. Hal Perry and Diana Hagen took third, with Joe Hudson and Karl Spickelmier in fourth place.

The open/pro singles started Sunday morning and concluded on Monday afternoon, another example of a spirited event.

In his third first-place win of the tournament, it was Darrol Nelson of Oregon who topped the field in the open/pro singles.



Huntington Beach; Dudley Hutcherson, San Diego; Rick Boyer, Colorado; Gwyn Orsi, Everywhere; Fred Thuman, Auburn; Joe Hudson, Sacramento; Nick Chaffin, Roseville; Karl Spickelmier, Downey; Danny Hutcherson; A.Z. Turnbo, San Martin; and Nelson Jennings, Washington/California.

One of the out of state pro players was Rick Boyer of Colorado.



Local Dan Mourgos (left) took second place honors, with Johnny Wayne Crawford of Texas in third place.

Taking fourth place was Joe Hudson of Sacramento.

Kudos to all the players from out of town and state who came during the week that continually help support this event every year: amateurs - Bev Chaffin (Roseville), Shari Hudson (Sacramento), Jolene Lembke, president of the California Hall of Fame who spent the week with us, Carol Thiessen and Chuck Corcoran (Manteca), Ray Comer (Livermore), along with Rich Porter, Steve Floyd and Helen Martin (Visalia), Ron Graham (Santa Rosa), Lloyd Schasker (Long Beach), Bob Crum (Modesto), and thanks to Don and Paul Stallsworth and Georgianna Brand (Medford, Oregon). And thanks to all the locals who always lend their help and continually support Blinky's tourneys.

Also thanks to participants of the open/pro doubles and singles, especially the newcomers: Diana Hagen and Johnny Wayne Crawford, Texas; Darrol Nelson, Oregon; Larry Pearson, Washington; Glen Davidson, Oklahoma; George Camara, Stockton; along with Andy Brorsen, Paul Elliott, Brentwood; Larry Newell, Visalia; Bubba Warren,

Rick and Kathy Thomas extend many thanks to Don Davidson who supplied the computer system that made our lives a lot easier (tournament control!). And huge thanks to the new owners of Blinky's, Ned and John, who allowed us to continue the tournaments and for their arrangement of the great barbecue on Saturday afternoon.



The highlight of the tournament was Saturday afternoon's induction of Hal Perry (with his wife Shirley) into the National Shuffleboard Hall of Fame, conducted by NSHF Director Glen Davidson. As everyone would agree, Hal is one of the most deserving players to grace the National Hall of Fame. Thank you, Hal Perry, for touching our lives!

Glen also presented lifetime achievement awards to Bob Hunt, A.Z. Turnbo, Lorraine Bingham, and Rick Thomas.

Back to our long list of kudos: thanks to the players who always offer a helping hand during the
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week: Dan Mourgos, Karl Spickelmier, Nick Chaffin, Stevie Parks and Jane Mourgos who helped Kathy do a thankless job with all the entries and sponsor sales and distribution of all funds (thanks, Kathy).

Thanks to those who helped with the installation of two additional boards for the tourney, Ted Fowler, Eddie Brayman, Bubba, and to those I forgot to mention. And thanks to Nelson Jennings who always lends a hand with the boards and running the sponsor sales.

Total prize fund for the week was \$27,080.

Two Shuffleboard Stalwarts Open New Location in Oklahoma City

Two long-time shuffleboard supporters, Pam Worsham and Ron Blalock, have opened PE's Bar & Grill in Oklahoma City, Oklahoma.

"We have two beautiful new Melton boards," said Ron. "Mike Melton custom-built them and is to be commended for his fine craftsmanship. We will be holding tournaments on Friday nights and round robins regularly. If someone wants action, we can find the players."

Add them to your latest "Play Your Way Across the U.S.A." listing (January 2000):

Oklahoma: PE's Bar & Grill, 901 NW 64th, Oklahoma City; phone 405-843-9812.

They are also a new addition to our Shuffleboard Directory.

We encourage all area shufflers to stop in and wish them well, and out-of-staters planning to attend the Southwest Open over the 4th of July are welcome to visit PE's before or after the tournament or during any of your "off" days.

REMINDER!

**Open meeting of the
National Shuffleboard Hall of Fame
July 1**

**American Legion Post 73
Del City, Oklahoma
(time to be announced)**

**Be there with your ideas, questions,
common concerns and goals**

A BOARD TALK SALUTE



to
**Pam Worsham
and
Ron Blalock
Proprietors of
PE'S BAR & GRILL
Oklahoma City, Oklahoma**

*May your new
venture bring you
prosperity,
happiness and the
special support of
fellow shufflers!*

**Sincerest Best Wishes
from
George & Donna
THE BOARD TALK**