



The Board Talk

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The Board Talk "Torch" Has Been Received!

As stated on the front page of The Board Talk's November 2000 issue, "after 16 years and 11 months as publishers of The Board Talk, George and Donna Wilber "have passed the 'torch' to a new generation of individuals dedicated to preserving a communications vehicle for The World of Shuffleboard to keep the sport going and growing."

The "torch" was officially passed to us by George and Donna Wilber on November 1, 2000. There is **no way** George and Donna can be "replaced", but we will try very hard to continue bringing table shuffleboard news to the shuffleboard community. We are taking on this challenge because we realize that this news channel is critical to the communication and growth of shuffleboard. There is no way we ever want to read an obituary with headlines such as: "The Board Talk Will Take A Walk"! George and Donna have worked very hard to keep this "baby" alive without "personal gain" [per Kelye Stites] and we will make every effort to make them proud that their "baby", as a result of their dedication and hard work, will survive and continue to grow to a ripe old age!

We wish to thank all the shufflers who have already contacted us to welcome us aboard and provide us with helpful suggestions/comments to give us a "jump start". We sincerely thank each of you for your continued input and support.

Remember, this is **your** publication and we are only a repository and facilitator to put **your** news into print -- communicating our news across the miles to our shuffleboard families!

-- Tom & Lynda French, Editors

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BIG "Family Reunion" at NASC in Reno

By George & Donna Wilber

Action sizzled on the 28 new Venture boards in Reno's Sands Regency Hotel/Casino, Oct. 28-Nov. 5. Members of the shuffleboard "family" from 19 states and Canada gathered together for The Shuffleboard Federation's 11th Annual North American Championships, all hoping for a share of the glory and prize monies.

Hitt's Team Prevails in Pro-Am Draft

The limit was reached as 32 teams of six players each (32 X 6 = 192!) signed up for the Pro-Am Draft Team event. It was a great send-off for the 14-event tournament as the top-rated players in the nation led their teams of all skill levels in a tough fight to claim the championship.



At the end of the grueling two-day battle, (from left) Don Heaton, Pauline Rock, Melody Marine, Captain Dan Hitt, Jo Cook and Don Stallworth claimed the 2000 Pro-Am Team championship.

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Tough Competition at North American Championships

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Nebraska's Tom Galvin led his team of Bill Meyer, John Canino, Pat Brennan, Harold Newbanks and George Wilber to second place honors.



Tom Nolder (left) and Glen Ingram of Indiana took the championship in the Div. 1 doubles.



Taking third was the tough team of Lilly Kidd, Georganna Brand, Captain Bob Shaw, Leon Black, Don Hopper and (not shown) Larry Brown.

Fourth place prize money went to David Keithahn's team of Jeri Billard, Bud Spier, Paulette McKinney, Brenda Kane and Sally Langlois.

Sharing 5th/6th spots were: Captain Al Salazar, Phil Gardner, Jake Jacob, Don Kinard, Mary Lou Deering and Henry Noel Jr.; and Captain Fred Johns, Ken Simmons, Tina Olson, Richard Klanderud, Kurt Mauer and Ernie Alvarez.

Placing 7th/8th were: Captain Diana Hagen, Jim Payne, Jim Filkins, David Sexton, Jimmy Fernandez and Marilu Roberts; and Captain Billy Mays, Steve Auten, Bill Pollock, Dick Gorman, Gene Smith and Carl Holland.

200 Players Compete in Doubles

One hundred teams participated in four doubles events with Div. 1, 2 and 3 finishing on Tuesday and the pros extending into Wednesday night.

There were 22 teams in Div. 1.



Nebraskans John Kosiske (check that smile!) and Mike Roach claimed second place honors.



Dale Pirlot and George Main of California took third place, with Marv Wilbur of Washington and Gwyn Orsi of Nebraska in fourth place.

Sharing 5th/6th places were Steve Floyd and Marion Bailey of California, and those scary Hoosier "witches" -- Debbie Voorhis and Mary Brown.



Coming out on top of a field of 32 teams in Div. 2 were Jeff Womble and Marshall Partlow of Texas. Jeff (left) also won the raffle prize of lodging at the Sands for next year's NASC.



Pete Cummings (left) of New York and Pat Brennan, lone Board Talk subscriber and NASC participant from Vermont, took second place.



Wendall Herbison of Arizona and Jim Kosiske of Nebraska finished third.

Dan Holland and Glen Redding took fourth place.

Others in the Div. 2 winner's circle were: Leon Black and Terry Roberts, Richard Klanderud and Dean Kramer, 5th/6th; Bruce Splane and Jerry Widdoes, Tony Pelton and Don Kinard, 7th/8th.

In the 9th/12th category were: Wendy Davis and Dick Gorman, Art Elliff and Bill Walker, Joanie Healey and Jolene Lembke, Paulette McKinney and Terry Woodward.

In Div. 3, 25 teams vied for a share of the pot, the title and the unique plaques awarded by The Shuffleboard Federation this year. The winners were Harold Newbanks (owner of Harold's Bar in Omaha) and Amy Everhart.



Jimmy Fernandez (left) and Danny Green of Texas took second place honors.

Bob Krum and Henry Noel Jr. of California finished third, with Len and Sue Webster of Nebraska in fourth place. Sharing 5th/6th were Barbara Kenney and Jo Cook, Erol Otus and Lucian Sprague.

There were 22 teams in the Pro Doubles, all working hard for a share of the hefty prize pot. In an exciting, hard-fought battle in the finals, Rick Boyer and Morey Ballins of Colorado claimed the championship title over the determined team of Dan Hitt and Fred Johns of Washington.



2000 Pro Doubles Champs, Rick Boyer and Morey Ballins.

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Ron & Debbie Bowers, Hal Perry Honored
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7th/8th; Don Heaton, Jeff Kersting, Tony Pelton and Jeff Womble, 9th/12th; Sharon Canino, Curtis Dean, Wendall Herbison and Dan Holland, 13th/16th.



Div. 2 Singles winner Eddie Brayman shows off his first place plaque.

There were 57 contenders in the Div. 3 Singles.



California dominated the Div. 3 Singles winner's circle as Henry Noel Jr. (left) took first, and Gary Johnson finished second.

Jim Olson and Robert Crum, both of California, took third and fourth respectively.

Other Div. 3 winners were Mike Halstead and Rick McFarland, 5th/6th; Lorraine Bingham and Jo Cook, 7th/8th; Ernie Alvarez, Dean Kramer, Harold Newbanks and Mike Provencher, 9th/12th; Shelly Hagen, Terry Leahy, Jim Madary and Jennifer Pickett, 13th/16th.

There was a marked contrast in the noise levels between the big ballroom, where the Amateur Team Event was underway, and the smaller shuffleboard room across the hall, where the Pro Singles finals were being played. While the teams and their fans cheered loudly with each shot in each frame, respectful quiet reigned for the pros until the end of each match.

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Ron & Debbie Bowers and Hal Perry Honored



The gentleman (in every sense of the word) for whom the Sol Lipkin Award is named was on hand to personally honor Ron & Debbie Bowers, and Hal Perry with his wife Shirley, for their "extraordinary" contributions to the sport of table shuffleboard.

Before an appreciative crowd of shufflers on Friday evening, The Shuffleboard Federation's Sol Lipkin Award was presented to Hal for his integrity as a player and promoter, plus his service on the Federation's Player Policy Board, state and national Shuffleboard Halls of Fame. Ron and Debbie were recognized for their hard work and dedication in maintaining the Bowers Rating System, which has done more to expand The World of Shuffleboard than any other effort.

In an emotional response, Hal said he accepted the award in honor of his friends, Nick and Bev Chaffin. The Chaffins could not attend this year's NASC because Bev was undergoing surgery for a brain tumor. A giant get-well message was signed by tournament participants. *(Those of you who didn't have that opportunity may send your good wishes to the Chaffins, 308 Fig St., Roseville CA 95678.)*

In his acceptance comments, Ron modestly credited Debbie for "doing most of the work" on the Bowers Rating System and saluted their nationwide network of raters. "The System is only as good as its raters," he said.

Sol delighted the crowd with his story of American Shuffleboard Company installing a board in a submarine. The 95-year-old shuffleboard legend, now associated with Venture Entertainment, invited the participants to come back to the Sands for his 100th birthday. "We'll party and dance all night!" he said.

NASC (Continued from Page 9)

There were 25 talented shufflers in the Pro Singles. Coming out on top was Mike Thorpe of Washington.

Taking second place honors was Darrol Nelson of Oregon.



"Queen of the Jungle" Diana Hagen of Texas finished third, with her fellow Texan, Harvey Kidd, taking fourth. Karl Spickelmier of California and David Williams of Texas tied for 5th/6th, with Dan Hitt, Washington, and Hal Perry, California, in 7th/8th spots.

Hitt/Brown Tops in Crazy 8's

There were 23 players in the Pro Crazy 8's and 36 in the Amateur Crazy 8's.



Dan Hitt (left) of Washington took the Pro Crazy 8's title, and Larry Brown (right) of Indiana was tops in the Amateur Crazy 8's.

Hal Perry of California took second place honors in the Pro division, with Darrol Nelson of Oregon in third. Karl Spickelmier of California finished fourth, with Billy Mays of Texas and Paul Parks of California sharing 5th/6th places.

In the Amateur division, Eddie Brayman of California took second place, with Grant Manning of Arizona in third. Other winners were: Paulette McKinney, Larry Zahm, Jeri Billard, Bob Lewis, Bob Brunskill, Kathleen Wisdom, Don Hopper, Bill Walker, and Faye Todd.

136 Players in Amateur Team Event

There were 23 6-person teams entered in the Amateur Team Event.

Captain Glen Ingram of Indiana tapped the Texas pool of talented players: Mary Koterias, Marshall Partlow, Lilly Kidd and Jimmy Fernandez, plus

Eddie Brayman of California, to take the crown in this event.

The Fir Cone Tavern (Shelton, Washington), led by Grant Manning, took second place honors. His team consisted of Melody Marine, Paulette McKinney, Jeff Kersting, Vern Gonzales, and Terry Woodward.

JC's Bar (Omaha, Nebraska), with Cyndi Busch, John Kosiske, Larry Zahm, Jim Payne, Jim Kosiske and Dawn Simants, finished third.

In fourth place was the team of Bob Lewis, Jeri Billard, Tony Pelton, Jack Davis, Jo Cook and Danny Green.

Sharing 5th and 6th places were the "Slabs" -- Pat Brennan, Curtis Dean, Pete Cummings, Pauline Rock, Doug and Betty Rombach; and "Our Team" -- Earl Cole, Ron Buckley, Mary Willbur, Ken Simmons, Jennifer Pickett and Vicki Hunt.



Russell McKay of Venture Entertainment, Hillside, New Jersey, manufacturers of the 28 tournament boards built to The Shuffleboard Federation's specifications, was pleased that his product got good reviews from NASC participants.

Brown/DeBois Win Legends Team Event

Larry Brown and Doug DeBois topped the field of 23 teams in the Legends event. Ken Simmons and Bob Jacobson took second place honors, with Marion Bailey and Mary Lou Deering in third; Jerry Hershman and Jake Jacob in fourth. Sharing 5th/6th places were Chuck Norris and Kathi Lloyd, Frank Mako and Tina Olson.

Deuces Wild Results and Other Observations Next Month!