



BIG Hearts in Nebraska!

By Char Rahn

My Way Lounge in Omaha, Nebraska, was the place to be for another fundraiser. On Nov. 19-21, shufflers, friends and family

gathered to raise money for Kaci and Kim Merchen. Kaci, the 18-month-old daughter of Kim, was diagnosed with acute lymphocytic Leukemia. Kim has played league and local tournaments for many years. She hasn't played much the last two years, but always kept in touch with fellow shufflers.

We want to thank Kevin Higby, owner of My Way, and Harold (Junior) Neubanks of Harold's Bar (where we also played games on a third board) for hosting this tournament and fundraiser.

Action started Friday night with 32 teams participating in a single game, double elimination A-B draw. There were several players who hadn't played for a few years and some new players.

Finishing third was the team of Jim Payne and "Bring 'em Back" Bob Linder.



Dawn Simants and Scottie "Dog" Steinmyer took fourth place.

Harold "Junior" Neubanks and Linda Ritter, Art Busch and Don Zahm shared fifth and sixth places.

The bring partner event, also single game, double elimination, started Saturday evening with 36 teams and went until early Sunday morning.



Winners were Rick Gilliland (left), first-year player, and Jay Watson.



When the air cleared, the winners were Tim Regan and Don Zahm.



Taking second place honors were Kevin Higby, My Way owner, and Jackie Jackson.



The shy Kathi Lloyd, welcome visitor from Colorado, and Marty Shepard took second place.



Harold "Junior" Neubanks, owner of Harold's Bar, and Barb Zahm took third place.

Others in the winner's circle were: Bill Simants and Bill Frederick, 4th; Jim Payne and Mike Roach, Rick Klanderud and Bill Webber, 5th and 6th.

After the bring partner sale got started, we had a huge auction of many great items, including a diamond bracelet, an antique metal kid's car, food certificates, drawings by an artist, and so many different and wonderful items, we couldn't list all of them. Special thanks to John McDermott and The Shuffleboard Federation and Triple Crown of Omaha for the weights they donated. Thanks also to The Board Talk for the subscriptions they donated. A special thank you to Dan Bruggeman, Danielle's Dad, for the beautiful handmade wooden Nebraska weight case he made and donated. This item was hotly bid on by several players and went for the highest price of any item -- \$600! This shows that Nebraskans are big supporters of shuffleboard and Nebraska football. Jay Watson was the auctioneer again, but this time he didn't lose his voice. He did a great job, as always, and brought in lots of money. Thanks also to all the friends and businesses that donated great items and their time for a worthwhile cause.

We did not have a sponsor sale for the two tournaments, but one-half of prize money was donated to Kim and Kaci, as well as money donated by My Way and Harold's. With the donations, auctions and prize money, we collected **\$13,000 to help Kaci!**

Thanks to Don Zahm, Bill and Dru Frederick, Chuck and Cyndi Busch, Larry and Barb Zahm, Kevin Higby, Harold "Junior" Neubanks and everyone who helped with the tournament and the great food that was provided every day of the weekend.

It was fun seeing our friends from Colorado. We

knew Dennis Bird and Ron Sosovec were coming, but we were pleasantly surprised to have Kathi Lloyd, Candy Lepore and Don Garrison come into town, too.

The fun-loving Dennis Bird of Colorado took his dance act from the floor to the fireplace! (Now do you know where that prize-winning Reno team name came from: Five Over Easy and One Scrambled?)



Omaha shufflers have big hearts and came together for a worthwhile cause, and I'm proud to be associated with them and all shuffleboard players across the country!

(Editor's Note: AMEN!)

Something New: Vintage Car Giveaway at Spokane's Memorial Day Tourney

Put the creative minds of top shuffleboard players/promoters in Spokane, Washington, together and what do you get? Something unique like a vintage car giveaway at the 19th Annual Memorial Day Shuffleboard Extravaganza on May 26-28. Not only that -- but \$1,000 added dollars!

The big event, which will be played on eight boards, includes an A/B draw on Friday night, \$10 entry, 15 pt. single elimination; an A/B/C draw on Saturday, \$25 entry, 2 out of 3 in the winner's bracket, \$21 pt. game in the loser's bracket; an A doubles (.00 team total), \$100 per team; and a B doubles (4.5 team total), \$50 per team, on Sunday, both events 2 out of 3 in the winner's bracket, 21 pt. in the loser's bracket. Events will be finished daily.

Please share the enclosed flyer with your shuffling friends. If you have questions, call Dan Hitt or Melody Marine, 509-939-1134 or 483-7615, or the Season Ticket, 509-327-9790.

We love our advertisers -- and so should you!
