

Rena Fleming is Oklahoma State Champ

By Don Crall

The Oklahoma State Championships were held at the American Legion Post 73 in Del City on Jan. 14-16. The event was open to all shufflers this year and started out with a draw partner on Friday night.

They came, they came, and they just kept coming. We were expecting from 30-36 players for this event and had seven boards set up for the 2 out of 3 format. We ended up with 58 entries and had to set up four more boards! Leon Black drove down from Michigan. Harvey Walden motor-homed over from Tennessee. Several friends from Texas came up across the Red River, many ending up in the winner's circle.



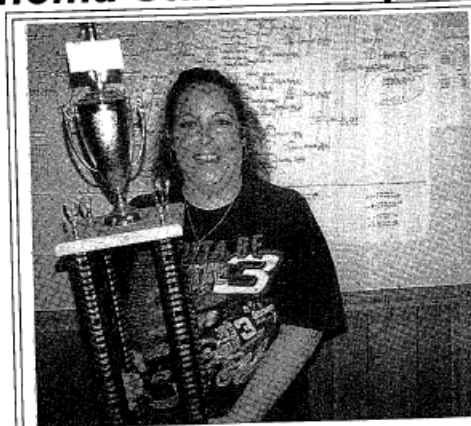
Winners of the draw partner were Bill Melton, Davis, Oklahoma, and Jim (JFK) Kennedy of Tulsa, Ok.



Director Jack Davis presents second place monies to Harvey Kidd of Texas and Cliff Goff of Tulsa.



Johnny Ballard of Texas drew Jerry Widdoes of Tulsa to take third place in the field of 29 teams.



The Oklahoma State Champion for the Year 2000 is none other than our very own tournament staff member Rena Fleming from Moore, Oklahoma. She had to beat Bill Melton to take the crown.

Donny Wilkerson of Tulsa and Dino Fleming of Oklahoma City took fourth place in the draw partner event.



There were 21 entries in Saturday's Div. 1 singles.



Texans swept the Div. 1 singles. Host Don Crall presents top honors to Johnny Wayne Crawford, and second place monies to Jeri Billard. Billy Melton, also of Texas, filled out the winner's circle.
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There were also 21 entries in the Div. 2 singles and it was Okies all the way.



It was the guy in the black hat who walked away with top monies in the Div. 2 singles, Gerald Wood of Stratford.



Euel Jensen of Crescent took second place honors.



Another member of the talented American Legion tournament staff, Kathy Yingst, does the presentation for third place winner Bruce Splane of Tulsa. Lynn Tice of Pauls Valley finished in fourth place.

Sincere thanks to all who participated. The next event at Post 73 is a handicapped tournament on April 14-16. Call 405-670-9128 for information.

Brown/Dowell Winners at Warsaw Eagles

The Warsaw Eagles #1339 in Warsaw, Indiana, with two boards and great food, hosted a doubles tournament on Feb. 4-5. There were 21 teams vying for a share of the \$2170 total pot.

In an exciting finale, Terry Dowell and Larry "Brownie" Brown had to double dip the husband and wife team of Mark and Shannon McLeod to capture first place. Dave Boaz and Glen Ingram took third place, with Larry Creakbaum and Jim Long finishing fourth. Missy Rupe and Kristie Redman, Adron Owens and Claude Johnson took fifth and sixth.

On Friday night preceding the doubles, two draw partner tourneys were held, with the same winners, Brian Collins and Adron Owens, in both events. Coming in second in the first draw were Claude Johnson and Roy Bradbury, and taking second place honors in the second draw were Leon Black of Lansing, Michigan, and Dennis Creighbaum.

Tournament director Terry Dowell thanks Larry Creakbaum for help with the bracket board and Mary Brown for help with keeping the money straight. He also thanks Robbe Stouder, Gary Neff, Gary Anglin, and Jim Hartung for help in bringing in a second board and setting it up for this tournament.

M.V.P., Phoenix, Hosts ABC Tournament

The M.V.P., 6001 N. 43rd Ave., Phoenix, Arizona, (phone 602-973-2018), which now has four boards for tournaments, recently hosted an ABC Tournament.



Winners (left to right) were Billy Bryan, Robert Price, and Wendell Herbison.