

The Board Talk

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The Hammer

Unity -- A Lesson From the Geese

As each bird flaps its wings, it creates an "uplift" for the bird following. By flying in a "V" formation, the whole flock adds a 71 percent longer flying range than if each flew alone.

Lesson: People who share common direction and sense of community can get where they travel on the thrust of one another.

Whenever a goose falls out of formation, it suddenly feels the drag and resistance of trying to fly alone, and quickly gets back into formation to take advantage of the "lifting power" of the bird immediately in front.

Lesson: If we have as much sense as a goose, we will stay in formation with those who are headed where we want to go.

The geese in formation honk from behind to encourage those up front to keep up their speed.

Lesson: We need to make sure our honking from behind is encouraging -- not something less helpful.

When a goose gets sick or wounded or shot down, two geese drop out of formation and follow him down to help and protect him. They stay with him until he is either able to fly again or dies. Then they launch out on their own, either with another formation or to catch up with the original flock.

Lesson: If we have as much sense as the geese, we'll stand by each other like they do.

When a goose gets tired of leading the formation, he will retire to the rear to take advantage of the maximum lift (draft), while another goose moves forward to take a turn at leading formation.

Lesson: If we have as much sense as a goose, we will take a turn in the lead when the time comes.

--Author Unknown

We share this with you for whatever message strikes a chord within you about helping to build our World of Shuffleboard. The question remains: do we have as much sense as a goose?

George & Donna Wilber, Publishers

Tourney Talk

Bourbon's American Legion Does It Again!

Bourbon, Indiana — population 1653, one stop light, one grocery store, two gas stations, two bars, five shuffleboards. American Legion Post 424 has four permanent boards, and is the home of the "World's Biggest" one-day double elimination doubles tournament. Each Spring on the first Saturday of May, they host their annual Spring Doubles Tournament. Due to Indiana laws, they are not allowed to be open on Sunday, but so far that has not mattered. Somehow, they always manage to get done! Thanks to tournament director Mike Koontz, everything always goes smoothly. They also have cheap drinks, a chicken barbecue, many raffles, and this year a "one of a kind" t-shirt designed by Fritzi Broka.

The question is always asked, "How long has this been going on?" The closest that it can be narrowed down to is 18 to 25 years. The biggest participation so far was 64 teams a few years ago.

This year on May 2, 42 teams shot it out for a total of \$9380. Winners were:

1st; Lee McDonald and John McDermott of Michigan;

2nd: Dave Boaz and Bobby Voorhis of Indiana; 3rd: Buddy Broka of Indiana and Bob Perry of

4th: Steve Hart and Jim DeWitt of Indiana; 5th and 6th: Charlie Thompson and Skip Jackson of Indiana, Jim Yard and Don K. of Indiana;

7th and 8th: Gordie Collins of Michigan and Fritzi Broka of Indiana, and George Wilber and Bruce Thomison of Michigan.

Every year brings new faces. This year, they were blessed with representatives of the PCSA Joe Muniz and Paul Weber of California. Joe and Paul brought along a special treat — Jimmy Allis of Oregon. It wouldn't have been a party without him; just ask the Brokas.

Six states were represented this year. Plan on checking this one out in the future. Post 424 has two big tournaments a year, on the first Saturday of May and the first Saturday in October.

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