

# CRIBBAGE WORLD

OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF  
THE AMERICAN CRIBBAGE CONGRESS



Vol. III No. 7

July 1982

*“Anniversary Edition”*

## Think Big!

by  
Joseph Petrus Vergin, President



### “THE STATE OF THE CONGRESS”

It was three years ago, August 6, 1979, that we organized the Congress for the purpose of promoting the general welfare of cribbage & to set up non-profit state and local groups.

As this Cribbage year comes to a close, we look back to our accomplishments. We also look forward to CY-1983.

**FIRST CONVENTION & NATIONAL TOURNAMENT:** This conclave is scheduled for the Marriott Inn at Milwaukee. The local committee of Dan Weir & Rich Maringer and, of course, their lovely wives are staging an historic event that will long be remembered in the Cribbage World.

**SUPER PUBLICITY STUNT:** Jack Wunderlich of Lincoln, Nebraska, suggested the idea of a commemorative stamp and already alerted some 13,000 people who signed the petitions that cribbage is of national importance.

We must continue soliciting ONE MILLION signatures and, in addition, we must conduct a letter-writing campaign on Washington to get our stamp issued.

MEMBERSHIP: Last year's membership was almost doubled with the actual percentage of increase being 73%. Anxious people have already been signing up for next year which officially begins September 1st.

To help cover increased costs and to enlarge the newsletter, the Board voted to increase the dues to \$3.00 per year for adult members and up to \$5.00 for the married couple. The dues are very modest compared to a west coast based group which charges ten dollars per year.

NATIONAL RATING SYSTEM: There is a greater interest in ratings than ever before. A few changes were made this year, the most important of which is the assignment of master points for the Consolation Tournament on a 50% basis.

As the 21-game qualifying series is a real test of cribbage skill, the Directors will consider several plans in that category.

OFFICIAL RULE BOOK: During the year we had printed and distributed about 6,000 copies of our Official Playing Rules. The mandatory cut after the completion of the shuffle has been well received. A couple of items which were mislaid by the printer will be inserted into a future newsletter for cut out and pasting into the rule booklets.

THE HALL OF FAME: The Executive Committee met several times already to establish guidelines to select persons deserving to be recognized for their outstanding efforts in the play and promotion of cribbage.

It is expected that four people will be selected this year at the annual Board meeting at Raleigh. Those chosen will be inducted at the Awards Banquet in Milwaukee. Probably three will be added next year.

MR & MRS CRIBBAGE WORLD: Competition has been keen with fourteen couples on the ballot for the 1982 honors. The winning couple will be announced and honored at the Convention banquet.

CRIBADIER GENERALS: The Honorable Bronson C. LaFollette, a great-grandson of the great senator from Wisconsin and the present Attorney General of Wisconsin, was commissioned a Cribadier General by yours truly, for his contribution on the legality of our tournaments. GG LaFollette is an avid cribbage player and is well aware of the skill required to win a game, much less win a tournament.

The Honorable Order is gaining momentum and a committee is working on the selection of a patch or a jacket designed for official wear.

STATE & LOCAL ORGANIZATIONS: During CY-1982 the states of Colorado and Nebraska organized state groups and have elected a slate of officers. Their committees are working on a model for other states to follow.... These are being setup to include county & local levels.

AWARDS PROGRAM: At the Milwaukee Convention in September the Congress will honor people who have made great contributions to the game of cribbage. Awards will be conferred for the person signing up the most members in CY-1982, to Mr & Mrs Cribbage World, to the person securing the most

signatures on stamp petitions, to the top rated players, to the All American Men's & Women's teams, and to the Hall of Famers.

CONSTITUTION COMMITTEE: A judge and two attorneys are busy working on the revision of the Constitution which in its present form is ambiguous and in places unworkable. As soon as the work is accomplished and accepted, it will be printed and distributed to members.

JUNIOR PROGRAM: The 1982 tournament again was staged in Massachusetts as that is the leading state promoting cribbage for our youth. There is an interest being generated in Illinois and Nebraska as well as Wisconsin. In Sherwood, a Milwaukee suburb, several schools have interscholastic tournaments.

PUBLICITY: The writer was interviewed over radio stations several times during the year and many clippings of cribbage items were forwarded from all sections to the secretary. The media really became interested and excited about our commemorative stamp petition program. The petition signing made a lot of new and good contacts for our program.

CRIBBAGE WORLD NEWSLETTER: Growth has been limited because of finances available. However, with the extra dollars in dues, Secretary Arblaster will be able to expand his project. It has been taking 10 to 21 days after mailing the newsletter that people receive it. For those who want it promptly, the secretary has announced that it will be mailed first class if an extra three dollars is sent in.

CONVENTION '83 AND 2ND ANNUAL TOURNAMENT: A strong bid has already been made by a Las Vegas Hotel and Groups in St Paul, Chicago, Orlando and Los Angeles have shown an in-

terest in hosting our tournament and convention one year hence. The shortcoming of the Las Vegas bid is the fact that we do not many members in Nevada.

Board members have taken the position that the tournament and convention should be moved around regionally and a number of them have indicated that they would like to see it staged somewhere in New England. The original home of cribbage in America is in those states and a large percentage of the population play the game every week. The Congress has some outstanding leaders in that section of the country and would be very receptive to an invitation.

SANCTIONED TOURNAMENTS: There was an increase in tournament participation this CY with St Paul attracting 292 players early in February with Everett Bey and his World Championship meet bringing out 322 peggers. The Masters Classic in Madison was up 43%. A tournament was staged in Alaska at Skagway for the first time.

New sites scheduled for CY-1983 include Oshkosh & LaCrosse in Wisconsin & a tournament in the San Jose area is also on the agenda. Almost every week, headquarters receives inquiries regarding how to organize, sanction or conduct a tournament. This writer's office has served as a clearing house for dates so that conflicts can be avoided.

SUMMARY: The Congress has taken great strides in the past year and has become strongly entrenched as the leading cribbage organization in the United States.... All programs have enjoyed great success & have become popular with the membership. Your administration has great plans for CY-1983.....

## ELECTION RESULTS

Of the 39 candidates up for the office of Director, Jack Wunderlich of Lincoln, topped them all with 159 votes. Jack is a relatively newcomer to organized cribbage but he became an immediate favorite with his "Think Big" idea of petitioning for a commemorative cribbage stamp.

The next big vote-getter was handsome Don Tofte, our cribbage rules test administrator, from Madison. Don received 154 votes. A vote for Don was a vote for the All-American boy.

Ballots were cast by 25 percent of the membership, 581 ballots from 2293 members. Not such a hot showing considering the candidates represented just about every section of the country from Maine to California; from Oregon to Florida and reaching out to Hawaii, Alaska and up to Ontario, Canada. The last election (1981) ballots came in from 34 percent of the membership.

Remember that little twitch that was mentioned in the May edition about the bylaws? Where it is written, "no more than four from any one state or province can be in office at the same time." Wisconsin has two Directors on the Board for one more year and there were four Badgers on this ballot. You guessed it, it really happened. Three of the Badger candidates received enough votes to end up in the top thirteen but the rules state only two can make it. So it is low man out. The low man out just happens to be Bob Julian the all-round good guy from the Beer City of Milwaukee.

The ruling benefited young Scott Kooistra, the Kalamazoo Kid, who gets in thru the side door with 105 votes. It's the rule....

- ELECTION RESULTS -

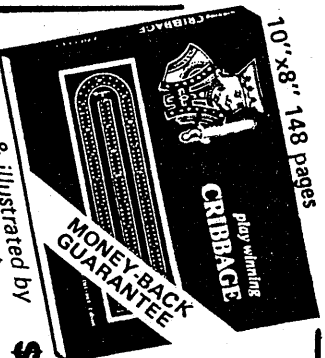
Jack Wunderlich	159	Lincoln, NE
Don Tofte	154	Madison, WI
Dagg Henderson	137	Groton, CT
Rich Maringer	129	Greendale, WI
Dick Graham	128	Englewood, CO
Bob Madsen	126	Chicago, IL
John Chambers	124	Providence, RI
Dave McGuire	121	Kissimmee, FL
Charlene Abbey	118	Anchorage, AK
Jeff Shimp	116	Allegan, MI
(Bob Julian)	(115)	(Milwaukee, WI)
Nelson Pendergast	109	Albany, NY
Peggy Pritchett	109	Cupertino, CA
Scott Kooistra	105	Kalamazoo, MI

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