

CRIBBAGE WORLD

VOLUME XIX - NUMBER 5 - MAY 1998

AMERICAN CRIBBAGE CONGRESS

184 Play In Roseburg Dale Beat...Finally!

Dale Beat claims to have been playing cribbage for 73 of his 78 years...and had yet to win a tournament. That all changed on March 22 when Beat soared to the win at the 184-pegger Timber Classic in Roseburg, Oregon. The win came with a nice \$1,085 and 196 MRP's! Beat hails from Weaverville, CA. His final match was a close one as he won 4-3 over Jim Brooks, Crescent City, CA. Ken Coons (OR) and Bob Chevalier (OR) finished 3-4, and kept a little prize money in the home state.

Dick Walcker (OR) had the unique distinction of qualifying tops in both the Main and Consolation events (being eliminated in the first round action of the Main Event). His 36 GP card in the Main earned 50 MRPs, and he added a few more in the Consolation.

Sally Peters (OR) nailed the 108-player Consolation (63 MRPs). Tom Markham (WA), David Gilkeson (OR), and Diane Harvey (OR) finished 2-3-4.

The Satellites:

Early Bird: Rosemary Hendricks (WA)
Doubles: George Butz & Don LaFayette (OR)
High Rollers: Sundae Webb (CA)
Last Chance: James Seufert (OR)
All Events: Jim Brooks (CA) 60 GP's
Team: Wakeman, Webb, J. Hofbauer, Heath, Beat
28's: Gaynor, Hester, Smith, B. Merriman, Ihrig

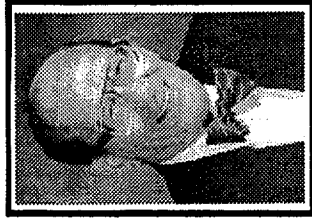
Directors LaVon and John Thiems, Donna and Larry Hassett were pleasantly surprised by the

large turnout. This annual event has increased in size every year, attesting to their expertise in managing a tournament. This event sported a 100% cash paycheck, plus donated trophies, and other added amenities, including a traffic. Barrett Mace won a beautiful quilt, and others won nice prizes. Starting with 118 players in 1994, 130 in 1995, and 136 in 1996, this year's attendance still managed a 35% increase from last year. Next year's event will probably be played in a larger facility, as players were shoe-horned into the playing area. This Timber Classic is scheduled for its 5th annual next March 19-21. Mark your calendars.

Glory Be! Cribbage World Is On The Internet

Cribbage World has joined the communications revolution by purchasing a new computer, complete with a modem, and has signed on to the Internet. This link with other Internet users will put CW on line with Bob McCabe (National Statistician), Jeff Monroe (Membership Chairman), Steve Sattler (ACC's Web Page) and others who have this communicating capability. When CW's editor gets up to speed, this system will surely make the "cribbage grapevine" work even faster...and with less work!

The Internet address for *Cribbage World*:
cribbwrld@bigsky.net



The President's Column

Everett "Ev" Bey

Another clever trick is for the player who cuts the deck early while you're still contemplating your discard...he/she may, or may not, have cut the cards when he/she says, "They are already cut!" (And he/she may have left the top card in place after sneaking a peek...faking cutting the cards and putting the pack together in the same location...if the top card was a good one for them...or cutting the cards for another starter card, thus giving them two shots for a good starter card).

However, 99.9% of our ACC members are honorable ladies and gentlemen, good sports. Still, every player should be vigilant and watch for foul play.

If your opponent cuts the cards early, I would politely ask him or her to refrain from this practice and cut in the proper sequence, when you have finished your discard and have a chance to observe the cut.

"If my last card played makes a final 15, how many points do I get?" You always get 2 points for the 15 and 1 additional point for the final "Go" ...3 points total...unless you also pair your opponent's last card or wind up with a 3, 4 or 5 card run. There's no extra point for "Go" when you reach 31...it's only worth 2 points.

Yes, yes, yes...you win the game by going out when Nobs is cut in your favor. (Some local or family rules deny this!)

Sometimes the pasteboards just aren't falling right for you. What can you do? You have several options. You can shuffle the deck when it's your opponent's turn to deal; but he or she gets the last shuffle before the mandatory cut. Or, you can call for a new deck of cards to be put into play. It's best to observe a ground rule in such an instance: wait until the start of a new game to insert a new deck rather than breaking into an on-going game for a deck switch.

Courtesy and proper etiquette always make for a more enjoyable cribbage game.

Cribbage Potpourri

The Prez gets very interesting mail.

F'rinstance: "I'm never going back to that tournament (name deleted)...the director must be making a pocketful of money because the prize fund is so small." Obviously, this complainant has never run a tournament, has no idea of the hidden costs that eat into the tournament pot.

I know of no tournament directors who are deriving a fortune from sponsoring a tournament. They're lucky if they don't wind up in the hole, paying some of the expenses out of pocket, trying to meet the 85% payback requirement enforced by our Tournament Commissioners. It's a thankless job.

"What do you do when playing an old man who claims he can't see, who bends over the board to painstakingly peg his score and then overpegs about 10 times in a 5-game match?" Rules are rules...if anyone overpegs (regardless of age, sight, or other reasons), he or she must go back to the proper peg hole and the opponent counts the extra holes. Don't be embarrassed to take the penalty points...you'd feel even worse if you lost by a few points that should have been taken as penalties.

What is a "mechanic" and how does he fit into the game of cribbage?" This is a common term for a card manipulator, a person who can do amazing things with a deck of cards...usually in his favor. We seldom run into this cardsnark at cribbage tournaments...the biggest temptation is for "packing wood," overpegging. If you catch your opponent pegging too many holes too many times, alert the tournament director to this pattern of play. We have an Ethics Committee that deals with this sort of behavior.

Keep pegging!..Ev Bey

Larry Samet Nails Tri-Valley

Life Master Larry Samet, the ACC's 16th ranked player (lifetime), smoked the huge 168-player field at the recent Tri-Valley Open in Medway, MA on March 8. After qualifying 16th (25 MRP's), Samet took home an aggregate 221 MRP's, and stands at well over 500 MRP's for this cribbage year (and 7,700 lifetime). Samet hails from Wellesley, MA.

His final playoff match was no easy one, as he had Grand Master Joe Ramos (RI) as his opponent. 3-4 went to Robert Boulrin (MA) and George Lozy (RI).

Thomas Shea (MA) really smoked the 12-game qualifying round. His 25 GP card was astounding...and was worth 55 MRP's.

Bart Sargent (MA) won the 106-pegger Consolation, besting Albina Farrish (RI) in the final match. According to tournament director Pat Llewellyn this is Sargent's first sanctioned win. Marguerite McKenna (MA) and Master Phil Martin (CT) finished 3-4. Ed Imondi (MA) had a hot qualifying-round card...a super 19 GP's (9 games).

National MRP frontrunner Harry Palmer (MA) picked up another 9 MRP's by finishing in the Consolation's 9-16 bracket.

Director Llewellyn reported they had a good tournament (and even Jim Law was there). *Cribbage World* compliment's Llewellyn on a very readable report...and hopes this will start a trend (reports that are easy to read!). She also reports this event will be played again next March 14, 1999.

ACC Players Learning!

Director Jim Ready (South Shore Open, March 15) reports that with 114 players in attendance, there were **NO CALLS FOR A JUDGE!**

ACC players are learning. Perhaps the recent order for 10,000 new Rule Books is simply not needed!

On second thought, we have over 100 members in Montana!

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Cribbage World (ISSN 1058-7772) is published monthly for \$8 per year by *Cribbage World*, 4086 Byway East, Napa, CA 94558. Periodical postage paid at Napa, CA, and additional mailing offices. POSTMASTER: send address changes to - *Cribbage World*, PO Box 10486, Napa, CA 94581.

For news and advertising, contact the editor:

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PO Box 5604, Missoula, MT 59806

Telephone and FAX: (406) 543-6855

Ad rates: 1/3 column: \$20, \$200 year (12x)

2/3 column: \$35, \$300 year (12x)

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Deadline for copy: 15th of month before next month's issue. Checks payable to American Cribbage Congress

Mick Michaelis Classic

Pat Healey Tops In Marinette

One-Star Hall o Famer Mick Michaelis was honored in Marinette, WI, by having his annual Tri-Cities Open event re-named in his honor. Michaelis' track record is second to none in cribbage land, and the re-naming of this event in his honor reinforces his stature in the game.

Pat Healey, Marquette, MI, came away the winner in this large 157-player match. The win came with 196 MRP's and a nice purse. Bob Culver (WI) nailed 2nd, with Lloyd Behrens (IL) and Doug Henderson (WI) in 3-4.

Jerry Fischer (WI) continues to roll up the MRP's by taking qualifying honors (35 16 +233) and with the 45 MRP's has scored well over 500 MRP's for the season.

104 peggers played the Consolation, and Brian Gauthier (WI) took home the top prize, edging Life Master Duane Toll (WI) in the final match. This match may have put Toll over the 10,000 MRP mark...and One Star! *Cribbage World* is waiting for confirmation from Bob McCabe, the ACC's National Statistician.

Ellen Swenson (MI) and Larry LaGassie (WI) finished 3-4. Jack Willborn took qualifying honors by winning 8 of 9.

The Satellites

Friday EB: Jim Semrau (WI)

Friday Night: Karen Bouffrou (WI)

Saturday Night: Marlene Lazachek (WI)

All Events: Jerry Fischer (WI) 61 GP's.

One Game Eliminations:

Darlene Johnson (MN)

Shawn Andrusko (MN)

Mike Habighorst (WI)

Director Gene Mikulsky wrote CW: "The cribbage tournament in Marinette, WI was re-named "THE MICK MICHAELIS CLASSIC" in honor of one of the finest cribbage players to move the pegs up and down the board. The tournament was like a family reunion, it gave many of his friends a chance to wish him well and reminisce about past tournaments. They even had time to play 3,769 games of cribbage over the weekend.

A special program honoring Mick took place at the noon break on Saturday. A plaque and the proceeds of a raffle were presented to Mick. The prizes in the raffle were donated by cribbage players and friends of cribbage. Every player received a commemorative "Mick Michaelis Classic" pen."

Michaelis Overwhelmed

Mick Michaelis was taken by surprise by the noon raffle at his tournament in Marinette, WI. When the proceeds came to \$500, he was simply overwhelmed.

He decided to donate the money to the Cribbadter General's Program. The following is a copy of his letter to Lea Hornbeck, director of the Cribbadter General Program:

"My appreciation and gratitude to all who attended the Mick Michaelis Classic. With that in mind a check for \$500 has been sent to the Cribbadter Generals for Junior Cribbage Tournaments.

Cribbage players are the nicest people. Thanks again everyone that participated ...whata surprise! And I do mean surprise!

Robert "Mick" Michaelis

Royal Flush? 108,290 to 1!

The letter from Bob Shurtleff in April CW about his wife being dealt a royal flush while playing cribbage...and Bob being dealt one himself five hands later.

Yes, as you note, a royal flush dealt in cribbage is a rare event. You guessed the odds might be the same as for getting a 29-hand...216,580 to 1. I have calculated the odds. Being dealt a royal flush in six cards is exactly twice as likely as getting a 29-hand. The odds are 108,290 to 1. If you're dealt only five cards (cribbage or five-card stud poker), your odds for a royal flush are three times worse than getting a 29-hand: 649,740 to 1. If you're playing seven-card stud poker, though, the odds are a lot better: 30,940 to 1. For comparison the odds for a 28-hand in cribbage are 15,028 to 1 (approx.)

Bruce Bowman
Ann Arbor, MI

Thanks, Bruce, for getting these numbers straight. Incidentally, cribbage fans, Bowman has a computer program that will analyze your cribbage numbers ("Cribbage Master"). See his ad in this issue. Ed.

10th Annual

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Friday, May 15 8 PM, Early Bird, \$20/9 games, no playoff
Saturday, May 16 8 AM, Main Event, \$50, \$20 Q (optional)
8 PM, Saturday Special, \$20/9 games, no playoff

Sunday, May 17 7:30 AM, Top 25% playoff, best 3 of 5, final 4 of 7
10 AM, Consolation, \$40 (Includes Q Pool)
2 PM, Last Chance, \$10/7 games, no playoff

Q Pool prizes are graduated. Seats assigned by blind draw
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Ladies Day In Hood River

Diane Harvey Nails Mid-Columbia Open

It was ladies day on April 12 in Hood River, Oregon. With some 87 peggers in attendance, Diane Harvey, pegging out of Albany, OR won the championship. Harvey is a veteran pegger in the Northwest and has paid her dues, coming close in several matches, before taking home this top prize.

Susan Chambers is another formidable pegger of the fair sex, and after qualifying first (33 16 +191), came close to taking it all, but settled for 2nd. She hails from Corvallis. OR. Her combined MRP take? 150 MRPs!

George Butz (OR) took home 3rd, and Leslie Hein (WA) finished 4th.

An oddity in this match had five players qualifying with a 26 GP card...a highly unusual low score, attesting to the parity of the peggers in attendance.

The male gender fared much better in the Consolation, as Al Whitsett (WA) took home the top prize in this 54-player match. Jack Moritzky (WA), Ken Slama (WA), and Grand Master Gene Sissel (OR) finished 2-3-4.

The Satellites:

Time Passer: Jim Gogolin (OR)

High Roller: DeLynn Colvert (MT)

Doubles: Diane Harvey & Richards Simmons (OR)

Saturday Special: Mike Smith (OR)

Directors Don and Marilyn Hilton ran a well-run tournament, and the host American Legion proved very hospitable. They prepared a nice lunch, and had home-made bakery items for sale.

Lucky Pegger?

Bruce Gentry (WA) was among the players waiting to begin playoff play at the Mid-Columbia Open, and he struck up a conversation with CW's editor (DeLynn Colvert).

Gentry commented, "See Joe over there, he looks lucky to me!"

Colvert replied, "Wait a minute, Bruce, how can you tell if he's lucky or not?"

"Well, he looks lucky to be alive!"

New Judges

The following ACC members are certified as Judges:

Garry Berkner (Canada)

Rosalyn Berman (CA)

Shelley Berman (CA)

John Dellarsina (CA)

Robert Herrmann (OR)

Sean Murphy (MD)

Myron Schmidt (MN)

David Sniegowski (VA)



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Frank Danielski Tops In Winnemucca

Frank Danielski does his pegging coast to coast, and when he showed in the small gambling town of Winnemucca, NV, it was no surprise to his fellow peggers. And it was no surprise that this Grand Master from Little Chute, WI, came away the winner. In besting the field of 126 peggers, Danielski tops among the top players in the Central Region for this cribbage year (scoring 600+ MRP's to date). Danielski was quoted as saying the \$1,345 top prize money will help pay for his anticipated new motor home.

His final playoff match was with newly-crowned Master Gary Rose, Pasco, WA.

Two veteran ACC peggers finished 3-4....Jim Hornbacher, Bothell, WA, and Helen Bolstad, Martinez, CA. Both players are Masters, with Hornbacher knocking on the door for his Grand Master.

Mary Gladish, Concord, CA, recently earned her Grand Master...and she continues her fine play by taking qualifying honors with a nice 39 18/22 + 194.

96 peggers played the Consolation (an unusually high percentage of the 126 entries), and Two Star Delynn Colvert (MT) came away with his 7th Consolation win (lifetime). Bob Clark (CA) is on a roll this cribbage year, and finished 2nd, topping the 700 MRP mark. He stands among the leaders, nationwide. Jack Shumate III (CA) and Vaida Stevens (CA) finished 3-4.

The Satellites:

Early Bird: Bea Olyer (CA)

Doubles: Frank & R. J. Hansbery (CA)

Cry Baby: David Staup (OR)

The Winners Hotel-Casino sponsored this event, and the Winnemucca Convention Center playing site was first class, with elbow-room to spare. The Winner's manager, Robyn Bullock, rolled out the red carpet for the players, and kept the coffee, and pastries fresh for three days running. The Winners owner, Ray Pearson, was on hand, and he has offered \$1,000 added prize money for the 1999 event. This 1998 event sported 100% paybacks, and reasonable hotel rooms...and as the cribbage grapevine spreads the word, this event has increased in size three years running. A spring snow storm kept many California peggers at home, as braving the mountain pass at the California-Nevada state line can be quite an ordeal. Mark your calendars for the 1999 event. Directors Marvis & Ralph Reynolds promise a good one.

Bernie Nelson Baffled

Bernie Nelson, a Grand Master from Pacific City, OR was baffled in a recent game in Winnemucca.

His opponent lead a queen, and Bernie, holding two 5's, jumped on the play 15-2. His opponent played another 5 for a pair. Bernie tripled the play for 25-6! His opponent quickly added a 6 for "31" and two pegs.

Bernie began a new sequence with a king, feeling this was his best play. **He was stunned when his opponent played a 5 for 15-2!**

Jesse Jarrell On The Mend

There's nothing like a serious health crisis to make a man count his blessings, and after my recent heart bypass surgery I find myself flooded with more blessings than I can count. First, it gave me an opportunity to demonstrate to the world that I do have a heart...which I hear some of you doubted, judging from the way I play cribbage. And since then, this heart (which is mending nicely, thank you) has been deeply touched by the outpouring of kindness and concern from my many friends in the Congress. Your phone calls, and cards, your prayers and positive thoughts have helped speed me along the path of full recovery. I am thankful to be back among you so soon on the tournament trail, and hope to enjoy many more years of your wonderful company. Gratefully,

Jesse Jarrell
Pittsburg, CA

Big Hands In Colorado

March 14, 1998 is a date that will long live in the memories of the peggers of Denver's Grass Roots Club 23. By all appearances it was a typical cribbage afternoon for the 19 players in attendance, when the shout of "28 hand" was heard. Yes, Chuck Brock had, indeed, been dealt a 28 hand. His ever gracious opponent, Lola Clay, congratulated Chuck and then proceeded to prove that revenge is sweet, by dealing herself a "29 hand" on the very next deal! To the best of our recollection, this is the first 28/29 game in our club's history.

Sue Edwards
Denver, CO

Yessir, Sue, that's one for the books. I've never heard of this double, ever! Ed.

Grass Roots

Selected members would mentor these players and show them how, what and when to play certain cards. The fees for these games will be:

\$1.00 Club Fee
\$1.00 Building Fee



Club 54 Concord, CA Mary Gladish

Flash from Club #54 (4th Street Terrorists) - our membership now numbers 55. We have new locals who had never heard of the ACC and the joys of competition cribbage. Also, two "delicious" apples transferred from Washington. They are Dave Schwartz and "Mitch" Mitchell. Mitch came from being director of the Club #243 Pierce County "31 for 2" and brought along some fresh ideas to spark up our Monday nights - prizes for card flushes, 4 of a kind, Raggedy Anns and Andy, etc. We play year round so the old oaken bucket doesn't get rusty. Happy pegging...



Club 48 Silicon Valley Sharks Boyd McDonald

Founded in 1985 by Denny Moore was originally called "South Bay Cribbage Club" play every Tuesday 7:00pm at Saratoga Lanes, San Jose, CA. Club membership is in the mid 60's with 40 plus showing up weekly. Some of the things our club does which I think tend to help maintain player interest are:

- * \$1 for each skunk of an opponent in the 3rd/6th/9th games.
- * \$5 for any scorecard with more than +100 net spread points.
- * \$5 for each time you double-skunk an opponent.
- * \$20 for any scorecard with 19 or more Game Points (without Grand Slam).

Club 90 Casper, WY Owen "Hap" Frank

Waiting for the start of his Grass Roots club's Regional Tournament in January, Ralph Hagen (WY-115) played a warm-up game Al Singleton (WY-110). Sure 'nuf, Ralph hit his first 28 - hand. In March, waiting for the second half of GRC club 238's National Tournament to resume, Ralph partook in a 'fun' game with David Miles (WY-104). Naturally, another 28-hand popped up. Another warm-up game? Quoth the Ralph: "Nevermore".



Tacoma's "31 for 2" Club Claire

With a special thanks we bid farewell to C.A. "Mitch" Mitchell. He left our club this part week and moved to California (of all places). We would like to thank him for the creation of Tacoma's Cribbage Club. Many of the things he did have enhanced the clubs standing within the state. We will miss his laughter, knowledge and skill. To Mitch we say ... take it easy on them (Southerners) play cribbage, and have fun. Don't forget us!

Claire starts new training program. Recently Claire approached the club with the idea on how to attract new and beginning members to the club. He will organize a separate area for these players with special rules.