

CRIBBAGE WORLD

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HAPPY NEW YEAR



- JUNIOR PROGRAM -

Interest in the Junior Program has improved immensely as of late and needless to say jr membership is climbing. Presently membership is at 59 which is due largely to the efforts of Pat & Frank O'Connor of Dedham, MA, who are co-chairpersons of the Congress Youth Program. Mr & Mrs Cribbage World have been out shaking the bushes up in northeast Massachusetts and signed-up 51 juniors in no time flat.

Fifty-two juniors are from MA, four from CT, and one each from GA, ME and NC. This 88 percent Bay State membership tells us where the interest lies and where the energy is being expended. So as a result of all this interest & sweat, there is a move underway to have the first National Junior Tournament somewhere in the area of where the Pilgrims landed. Rules regarding the year to year placement of the junior tournament is that it would be moved to the state showing the most attendance, and it could not be in any one state more than three consecutive years.

This item will be on the agenda of the Executive Committee meeting in Denver next month. The first National Junior Tournament was originally scheduled for Raleigh, NC in 1981 in conjunction with the National "Biggie."

If you know any youngsters who play the grand old game, sign them. Dues is only \$1.00 per season for anyone under 18 years old.

Hats off to Pat & Frank O'Connor and it is little wonder they were voted, by a landslide margin, as Mr & Mrs Cribbage World for 1980. Incidentally this title is about to reap the harvest now that the yuletide season is upon us. The Florida Cribbage Association has just mailed a bushel of fresh citrus...

JUNIOR PROGRAM (Continued)

The Wisconsin group is wrapping up some of the finest cheese produced in the Badger State while the upstate New York outfit were debating whether to send some snow from Buffalo or some of that famous NY State wine.

JUNIOR AWARDS DONATIONS: Another \$41.00 was added to the Junior Awards Program which now brings the total up to \$254.00, which is slightly over fifty (50) percent of our goal. AND, if the tournament is moved to Massachusetts the date will be moved up to sometime in the spring. That's about three or four months sooner and less time in which to hustle-up another couple of hundred dollars. November-December donations are as follows:

| | | |
|------------------|----------------|---------|
| Richard Haby | Lafayette, IN | \$20.00 |
| Jerry Gagnon | Orlando, FL | 8.00 |
| Dagg Henderson * | Groton, CT | 5.00 |
| Marvin Kluck | Mystic, CT | 5.00 |
| Les Furrer | Palmyra, WI | 2.00 |
| Others | Somewhere, USA | 1.00 |

* This is Dagg's second donation....

Incidentally, the Cribadier General Certificates are still in the making and will be forwarded, when ready, to any member who donates \$20.00 or more to the Junior Program or participates in the \$25.00 Booster Club. This is where we print your calling or business card in each issue of Cribbage World during the Crib-year (Sep 1 - Aug 31). Cards may also be printed in this multi-award winning newsletter for \$2.00 per issue. At present there are an even dozen members on the rolls of "The Honorable Order Of Cribadier Generals."

Anyone can join the ranks as a private but it takes class, know-who & money to become a CG in the white-hat forces of Crib-World.

- THINK BIG -

By Joseph Petrus Wergin

Promotion in New England: The Congress had a booth for four days in Hartford, CT for the first annual GAMES SHOW. There was a great deal of activity at the Cribbage spot as we had seven experts playing the grand old game with passers-by. The booth was manned by Russ Bouffiou of Madison, WI and by this writer.

Congress members who assisted in the program of teaching and playing the public included Pat & Frank O'Connor of Dedham, MA; Marvin Kluck & Don Barber of Mystic, CT; Al LaRose & John Chambers of Esmond, RI and George Bickford of Springfield, MA.

The group sold approximately 177 memberships in the four days.

We certainly met many nice people at the show and we have turned over the names & addresses to New England tournament directors.

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The Congress is supervising the printing and publication of the new Official Cribbage Rule book which should be available shortly after the first of the year.

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Wisconsin leaders are really pushing tournament play in that state. Here are some interesting figures for the last two years:

| | <u>1979</u> | <u>1980</u> | <u>Increase</u> |
|----------------------|-------------|-------------|-----------------|
| Marinette | 92 | 186 | 105% |
| Masters Classic | 106 | 166 | 57% |
| State Tmt, Madison | 100 | - | - |
| State Tmt, Milwaukee | - | 150 | 50% |

- CARD LANGUAGE -

Card playing not only enriched our lives but also our language. We all know what it means to call a Spade a Spade, to come within an Ace of something, to hit the Jackpot, put all our cards on the table, follow suit, have a poker-face, to make blue chip investments. to stand pat, or face a showdown.

The bluffer, braggart or cheat we call a four-flusher originally was a poker player who, holding four of a suit, bet them as if he held a flush of all five. We ante-up, feed the kitty, hope for an Ace in the hole, or may consider that the deck is stacked against us, because those card table expressions also have become part of our common speech. Several of these words and expressions may be found in any modern dictionary.

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Ben F. Moir, our representative in Saskatchewan, has been playing the grand ol game for over 45 years, AND he has held the perfect 29-Hand five times, including one in a four-handed game earlier this year. No wonder Ben thinks the game is the greatest.

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Member Nelson Pendergast, a VA volunteer worker at the VA Medical Center in Albany, NY has played several thousand games with hospitalized vets and he has been dubbed "Paladin" - "Have board, will travel (to any ward). Nelson has received many awards for his outstanding service to hospitalized vets. He has well over 10,000 volunteer hours - many of them spent over the cribbage board. Travling cribbage board that is... Nice going Nelson, we're proud of you.

NOTES FROM HERE & YON

Congress prez, Think Big, Josep P. Wergin, plans the biggest cribbage bonanza since Sir John invented the game over 350 years ago.

Plans are in the late stages for a Wisconsin Cribbage Classic which will be staged sectionally with tournaments playing at time in Madison, Marinette, Milwaukee, Racine, Eau Claire, Wausau and Fond du Lac.

Combined entries expected to be 700 to 800.

The top players of each section will compete in Madison on April 4-5, 1981 for the state championship.

The first stage is tentatively scheduled for March 21-22, 1981.

If they pull this off it will be the cribbage miracle of all time; it would be greater than a classic. It would be a BONANZA.

Good luck all you guys up in dreamland !!!!

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May 16-17, 1981 are the dates selected by ol Pete Danielson for another major tournament to be played in Marquette, Michigan. Pete says entry blanks will be mailed out in mid February 1981....

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Tournament directors/operators are studying the suggestion of hiring a non-playing judge to referee cribbage tournaments. Players who volunteer to act as judges are subject to interruptions in their matches causing delays and the chagrin of their opponents. There are full time referees in all major events. Why not cribbage ????

NOTES FROM HERE & YON

As tournament participation increases, there will be a definite need for dividing tournaments into two sections, major and minor... Many players desire to participate in our tournaments, but hesitate because of inexperience or being a little slower in playing and counting. So, it is anticipated we will have a Class A and Class B section sometime in the future.

The National Open is scheduled for August 1-2-3, 1981 in Raleigh, NC. This grand-daddy of all cribbage events is limited to 256 players - so if you want on the mailing list now is a nice time to write to Nick Pond, PO Box 12000, Raleigh, NC.

This bit of information may not reach you in time, but if it does, there is a nice little tournament at the Wilmington (NC) YMCA on the 26-27 of December 1980. The Doubles will be played Friday evening with the Singles on Saturday. It's only a \$6.00 entry fee with one dollar going toward the American Cribbage Congress sanction fee. For information contact, Beth Carder, 114 N 23d St, Wilmington, NC 28405 or if pressed for time call (919) 763-4093.

Last month the Arapahoe Sertoma Cribbage Classic, played every year in Denver, Colo, was won by Dick Graham of Englewood. Costy Haddad of Aurora was the runner-up & Mark Zellmer of Bolder finished in third place.. Besides prize money, handsome custom-made cribbage boards, were awarded to the high finishers.

Robert A. Read, our man in GA, recently relocated to Florida has been appointed Assistant Secretary in charge of the National Rating System. Bob with his math background will fit right in....

HONORABLE ORDER OF CRIBADIER GENERALS

Know Ye That, the following listed members of the American Cribbage Congress have been Commissioned a Cribadier General and ranks above all others. The President of the Congress confers this honor with all rights, privileges and responsibilities thereunto appertaining:

| | | |
|-----|-------------------|----------------|
| 001 | Gordon Fisher | Madison, WI |
| 002 | Donald J. Leonard | Sanford, NC |
| 003 | Lisa Feder | New York, NY |
| 004 | William F. Tuttle | Cincinnati, OH |
| 005 | John Luckman | Las Vegas, NV |
| 006 | Everett E. Bey | Quincy, CA |
| 007 | Dagg Henderson | Groton, CT |
| 008 | Jim Arblaster | Kissimmee, FL |
| 009 | Joseph P. Wergin | Madison, WI |
| 010 | Allan Lichty | Des Moines, IA |
| 011 | Robert L. Immel | Northfield, MN |
| 012 | Richard Haby | Lafayette, IN |

* * * * *

LIFE MEMBERSHIP

Life membership in the Congress is only open to those who are at least 60 years old, AND it's a steal at \$25.00... Presently there are 8 life members on the roll.....

- PEGGING POINTERS -

By Dan Barlow, 1980 National Open Champion

Previously, we have restricted our discussions to general pegging strategies which apply early in the game. As we all know, strategy can change drastically as we come down 4th street, and the closer we get to home, the more our play is governed by the position of the pegs.

One situation we often encounter is that in which we have enough points to go out, and it is our first count, but we must first keep our opponent from pegging out. It takes a lot of luck to keep someone from pegging two or three holes in such a situation, but let's say he needs 5 or 6 holes.

The most obvious play in holding an opponent's pegging down, is to lead a card below a 5, preventing a 15-2. But is it always right to lead a low card? Say you hold A-J-Q-K. A four-spot has been cut and you have enough to go out, but your opponent is six holes away. If you lead the Ace and he happens to play a J, Q or K, you are in deep trouble. You risk giving up at least five holes no matter what you do & your opponent still has a "go" coming. This danger is much greater than that of leading a high card.

If you lead the deuce from 2-5-6-7, & your opponent plays a 5, 6 or 7, you will probably get involved in a disastrous run, and he'll peg out. By leading the six from this hand (or the Q from the earlier hand) you leave yourself with a diversity of cards, which should help you prevent a run. In short, when you do not need to peg & your opponent must peg a lot, and you hold a sequence of cards, unload the middle card of the sequence as early as possible.

TOURNAMENT TRAIL

January 17-18: Rocky Mountain Championship, Denver, CO. Entry fee for Singles/Doubles \$25.00 each, Sat lunch included. For info: Dick Graham, 300 E. Hampden Ave, Englewood, CO 80110. Sanctioned by the American Cribbage Congress.

February 7-8: Minnesota Open at Ramada Inn St Paul, as part of the annual Winter Carnival. Qual games (21) on Sat; top 32 will play single elim (3/5) on Sun. Entry fee \$25.00. Consol tmt on Sunday \$10.00 with all money being returned to prize fund. Info: Minn Open Cribbage Tmt, PO Box 17271 St Paul, MN 55117. Sanctioned by the American Cribbage Congress.

Feb28-March 1: MGM Open at Ramada Inn in Green Bay, WI. Entry fe \$25.00. Qual rds of 21 games on Sat with top 32 playing single elim (3/5) on Sun. Losers tournament on Sunday. Buffet lunch on Sat \$4.00; sandwiches available on Sunday. For info: MGM Cribbage Tournament, Box 552, Green Bay, Wisc 54305.....

May 8: Tenth Annual World Championship at Quincy, CA. Entry fee \$40.00 includes Singles, Doubles & Awards Banquet. Entries limited to first 224. Info: Plumas County Chamber of Commerce, PO Box 1018, Quincy, CA 95971. Sanctioned by American Cribbage Congress.

May 23-24: Midwest Masters Classic for 1981 in Des Moines, IA. Qual rds of 21 games on Sat; top 32 playing single elim on Sun. Entry fee \$31.00. Qual Pool \$10.00 with all money being returned. Cosol Tmt on Sunday only \$10.00. For info: Midwest Cribbage Assn, Box 5584, Madison, Wisc 53705. Sanctioned by the American Cribbage Congress.

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HELP THE CONGRESS GROW IN 1981

As we come to the time when people traditionally make resolutions for the New Year, the Congress asks your help in meeting its membership goal for 1981.

You can help by telling your friends about cribbage, how it's growing in leaps & bounds. Tell them about the Congress & its programs.

Getting new members is to everyone's advantage, because as the Congress grows so does its effectiveness & its ability to provide even more and better services for members.

With your help, the Congress hopes to meet its 1981 membership goal. Our New Year wish is very simple. "Over 1001 in 1981."

Happy New Year to you and yours.

AMERICAN CRIBBAGE CONGRESS

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