



# CRIBBAGE WORLD

VOLUME VIII NUMBER 11 NOVEMBER 1987

## WE NEED YOUR SUPPORT

Let's get right to the point, the American Cribbage Congress needs your financial help. If our organization is to grow and prosper, we have to have more income to carry out the various functions that have been proposed for fiscal year 1987-88.

The ACC is strictly a volunteer organization. The individuals who serve the ACC on the Board of Directors, the Officers, the Tournament Commissioners, the CRIBBAGE WORLD, the Grass Roots Director, the Treasurer, the Secretaries, the Judging Examiner, those who give of their time at the local Grass Roots level and the ninety or so tournament directors receive not one cent for their time and effort. A small number of individuals theoretically receive expense money (backed up by receipts) for incurred costs for whatever project they are responsible for; but, in fact, almost everyone spends money from his or her own pocket and does so willingly and without complaint for the love of the game and the ACC.

You have every right to know where the money the ACC receives comes from and where the money is spent.. It is anticipated the ACC will receive \$25,000 in dues for 1987-88. It is projected the printing and mailing of CRIBBAGE WORLD will cost approximately the same amount, providing there isn't an increase in mailing costs. The ACC

receives \$10,500 annually in sanctioning fees. From this amount is taken the annual mailing and printing costs of membership renewals, membership cards and election ballots. The remainder is eaten up by rule book printing, certificates and awards for 28 and 29 hands, office supplies, tournament and judging administration, junior tournaments, and incidental committee and tournament expenses.

Almost every one of us learned of the ACC from word of mouth or somehow we just stumbled across the organization -- there isn't now nor has there ever been any money for advertising and promotion to let people know we exist.

The Board of Directors wrestled with the budget problem at the Hartford meeting, held in conjunction with the Grand National on September 25, at great length. The choices were to make this a bare bones organization and to chop out all the areas that help us to function so well or increase income and thus assist us in becoming an even better organization.

Costs will be cut by eliminating annual BOD elections, beginning with the next fiscal year. The possibility of mailing membership renewal applications via CRIBBAGE WORLD is being investi-

## THE PRESIDENT'S COLUMN

Joseph P. Wergin

A famous midwestern author plays cribbage for relaxation. He is the writer of Anatomy of a Murder and Trout Maglic, two top sellers. Robert Travers, 84, will put all his projects on hold and will indulge in a friendly game of cribbage whenever another fanatic appears on the scene. This columnist would like to cross Travers' path and pause for several games of Sir John Suckling's creation.

Jim Law, our Secretary-Membership, reported at the Board meeting in Hartford that his bank charges 8¢ a check for the dues money deposited. This money doesn't stay in the account very long because it is transferred to the Treasurer in another city. It is a fair charge, considering all the time consumed in handling 5,000 or more checks. In other words, these 5,000 checks cost us \$500 in service charges. A considerable amount of time can be saved for Law and service charges can be drastically reduced if two or more sets of dues are combined in one check. Everyone can help this project.

A Grass Roots convention! A fantastic idea and an excellent one! Commissioner Jerry Dickinson jumped at the suggestion and immediately scheduled and announced that the First Annual Convention of the Rooters will be staged at Madison, Wisconsin, in conjunction with the World Masters Cribbage Classic. The date for the convention is Friday, April 22, 1988, with the Masters being staged the next two days, April 23 and 24.

It is, indeed, very fitting and proper that the first Grass Roots convention be staged in Madison, because the idea of hometown and neighborhood clubs originated in the Four Lake City; and the Madison Metro Club received the first charter.

Then, too, the modern format of staging tournaments germinated in Wisconsin's capital city, and the World Masters Classic was the first using this new plan. Commissioner Dickinson says that chartered clubs will be requested to send delegates to his historic gathering.

## CRIBBAGE CORNER

A PEGGERS' TALE

DeLynn Colvert

Years ago, being a numbers nut, I began a compilation of cribbage statistics to see if the game could be beaten by skill ... not luck, as so many players have implied. We've all heard the statements of long-term competition: "Well, I won 499 and Joe won 501" ... almost like flipping a coin to determine a winner. And being this "numbers nut" and having a competitive nature, I set out to see if the winning edge could be improved.

I was playing my friends at a 53% winning clip. Could a thorough analysis raise this percentage? Well, to make a long story short, I collected and analyzed thousands of numbers. Numbers of all sorts; points per non-dealer hand, points per dealer hand, pegs per non-dealer, pegs per dealer, deals per game, percentages for blank hands up to the maximum. It was quite a workout, and it took years to get a substantial sample. And slowly I modified my game. I edged up to 55% ... 56%. I began to work out a theory of play. After analyzing reams of numbers, my winning percentage again inched up slowly. After much experimentation, I settled on a "26-Theory" that seemed to produce the greatest winning percentage.

One day, thumbing through a book on cribbage at a bookstore, I was shocked to see that the author's numbers conflicted with mine ... and no precise information such as when to play on or off was given the reader; the book was in the 8th reprint! Wow! I felt my numbers were proven on the playing table. As a graphic artist with experience in the publishing game, I just had to tell the world about my "26-Theory."

So I spent my life savings on my book, Play Winning Cribbage, and began selling through mail order by placing small ads in national magazines.

Lo and behold, one of my first customers was honorary Master Player Daggy Henderson. "Why not join the American

Continued on page 11

gated, and there are other cost-saving measures under consideration.

In the meanwhile, dues are going to have to be increased for the first time in four years to \$7 individual and \$10 for a member and spouse, effective January 1, 1988.

Sanctioning fees will increase from \$1 to \$1.50, effective September 25, 1987, for all future tournaments not previously sanctioned by that date.

The dues increase amounts to less than 4 cents a week annually for an individual member. That 4 cents a week spells the difference between being a strong, growing, flexible organization or mediocrity.

Your comments are welcome; let's grow together.

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## IN MEMORIAM

Bob Gilbert Ankeny, Iowa

Bob Gilbert passed away on October 15, 1987; he was liked and respected by all who knew him. Bob was a dedicated cribbage supporter, an ardent member of the Board of Directors and a gentleman. God bless you, Bob Gilbert -- you'll be missed by all of us.

## THE PORTSIDE OPEN

A few of us ventured down to Virginia from New England in October to visit with Stan Daniels and attend the Portside Open.

For those of you who have never visited the Tidewater area of Virginia, you've missed a treat. I hadn't been there for years, and the waterfront areas of Portsmouth and Norfolk are now being restored and rebuilt. The restaurant and lounge of the Holiday Inn, where the tournament was held, looks out over the harbor. The stern wheeler ferry runs between the two cities every half hour. Tug boats are working around the clock, handling huge tankers, freighters and military ships, which ply the waters of the Elizabeth River only a few feet away.

Retired Navy Chief Stan Daniels devoted 72 hours to being the perfect host. His wonderful wife Jean worked by his side constantly for the weekend; her homemade nut breads and cakes were gobbled up by the players. The entire crew of helpers at the Portside Open did a terrific job of keeping things organized and humming.

If you've never been to the Portside Open, take a few extra days next year and attend the tournament and visit the area. Ride the trolley through Portsmouth's Old Town, walk the waterfront, see Fort Monroe and Williamsburg. You'll enjoy yourself and you'll meet the Daniels family, which is a special treat for any guest.

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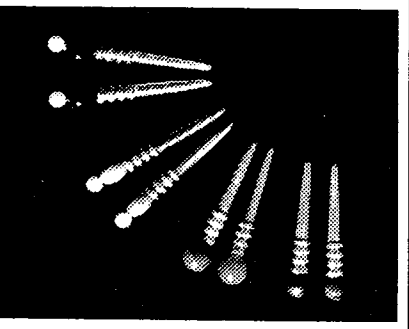
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## CRIBBAGE CORNER

### PEGGING POINTERS

Dan Barlow

A good player occasionally decides which 2 card to play based on suit rather than denomination. Say you're playing against me, and I lead a King. You play a 7 for 17, my Queen makes the count 27, and you score 31 for two with your 4. Now I lead a Jack. You must play either the 3 of clubs or the 2 of hearts. If all three of my cards are hearts, you would play the 2. You suspect that I have a flush and if I do, I can't possibly pair your 2. If all three of my cards are clubs, you would play the 3, again fearing I have the flush.

2. You're playing Joe Wergin, which is nothing to worry about normally, but Joe's been unusually sharp this match. Joe leads an 8, you score 15-2, his 7 pairs you, and you make the count 30 with an 8. He says go, and your Ace gets you 2 holes. Joe must lead from 7-9 of clubs. He notices that all three of your cards are diamonds. He knows you can't peg on his 7 if you have a flush, but that you **COULD** peg on his 9. Perspiration is pouring down the sides of his face. Finally he plays ... **THE 7!** Your card is the 8 of spades! Flush Fake! Two Hall of Famers in one tournament! You may not win, but at least you have something to tell the grandchildren.

A related strategy I first encountered in Delymn Colvert's fine book, Play Winning Cribbage, could help you gain a few holes every now and then. When you hold three cards of the same suit, try to play them first. Your opponent may become so concerned with your "flush" that he/she makes the wrong play. Here are two examples:

Faking a flush can backfire. If your fourth card in Example I had been the 6 of hearts and your flush fake convinced Nick to play the 9 rather than the 6, you lost two holes. How do you know when to fake the flush and when not to? You probably don't, unless you have xray vision. But go ahead and fake those flushes, because in the long run, the more often you convince your opponent that you have something you don't have, and the more often you give him/her something extra to worry about, the more often he/she will make the mistake that gives you the holes that win you the game that qualifies you for the finals of the tournament you were destined to win from the very beginning.

1. You're playing Nick Pond. You hold 9-10-J of spades and the 10 of clubs. You lead off with a 10, making sure that it's the 10 of spades. Nick scores 15-2, you play the 9, and Nick scores 31-2 with a 7. Now you lead the Jack. Nick's last two cards are 6-9 of diamonds. Normally, he would play the 6 to prevent you from scoring a run, and he may well do that anyway; but with those three spades staring at him, you know he's at least thinking flush. And he knows you can't peg on his 9 if you have a flush. He's worried that you have the 6 of spades. He squirms in his seat, smokes a couple of cigarettes, and plays ... **THE 9!** The flush fake claims another victim. Had you led the 10 of clubs, there would have been little or no chance of Nick's giving you those three holes.

Dan Barlow  
108 Carl Drive  
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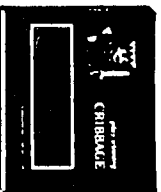
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All-American, and USA's  
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## GRAND NATIONAL POTPOURRI

Duane Toll of Milwaukee, Wisconsin, the American Cribbage Congress #1 ranked player in 1986-87, ventured back to Connecticut and repeated his August effort and missed qualifying by only one position. His competition all described him as "Mr. Nice Guy."

Jed Deppman of Amherst College led a three-collegian delegation from the Massachusetts school and cashed in the championship round. The trio convinced Joe Seigle to contribute 40 cribbage boards and several dozen decks of cards with which to start a cribbage league at Amherst.

After being inducted into the ACC Hall of Fame on Saturday, Bob Madsen of Chicago, Illinois, came on to finish second on Sunday. Nine out of the ten top finishers were from the Northeast Cribbage Association, all, of course, ACC members.

Bob Plourde, John Chambers, Harry Palmer, Dale Munroe and Joe Seigle, the tournament's directors, surprisingly, all advanced past the qualifying round.

Kenai Peninsula, Alaska, winner of the Consolation Tournament, were both late walk-ons. So much for planning.

This is the first Grand National not to be 100% subsidized by the ACC. Consequently, \$195 of entry fee funds was used for expenses in addition to a residue of previously committed ACC funds. Future ACC-sponsored tournaments will be required to pay all expenses out of the entry fees, in accordance with action taken by the Board of Directors in August 1987.

By paying the first place finisher 11% of the prize pool, or \$800, the 27th finisher earned \$100, a real novelty in this day of paying out about 50% of the prize pool to the top four finishers. Hopefully, the trend will be to spread payments more equitably among more players.

A pending strike at the hotel resulted in less than satisfactory performance by some hotel employees. The tournament directors offer an apology to any guest who was discomforted.

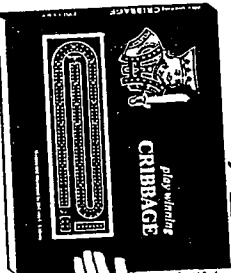
Joe Seigle  
Coventry, CT



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1985-1986-1987 All-American Team  
1986: USA's No. 1 ranked player

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1 Michaelis, Bob	Marinette, WI	3778
2 Sondricker, Warren	Greenfield, WI	3566
3 Kooistra, Scott	Yankton, SD	3350
4 Colvert, Delynn	Missoula, MT	3021
5 McCabe, Bob	Brown Deer, WI	2762
6 Bernard, Joe	Libertyville, IL	2748
7 Fabian, Jim	Naperville, IL	2567
8 Lulinski, Syl	LaGrange Park, IL	2481
9 Toll, Duane	Milwaukee, WI	2348
10 Shimp, Jeff	Allegan, MI	2243
11 Moreland, Jim	Little Canada, MN	1821
12 McManus, Jim	Milwaukee, WI	1804
13 Madsen, Bob	Chicago, IL	1781
14 Rowley, Larry	Madison, WI	1758
15 Graham, Dick	Englewood, CO	1675
16 Palmer, Harry	W. Springfield, MA	1615
17 Boesel, Ray	Glenbeulah, WI	1571
18 Green, Tom	Milwaukee, WI	1513
19 Cornwall, Mary	Sunnyvale, CA	1481
20 Lichty, Allan	Des Moines, IA	1458
21 Fingleton, Martha	Milwaukee, WI	1457
22 Chambers, John	Esmond, RI	1393
23 Kllora, Ted	Waukegan, IL	1380
24 Brown, Joe	St. Charles, IL	1367
Burntrock, Barbara	Cedarburg, WI	1367
26 Miller, Albert	Nashua, NH	1363
27 Wergin, Joe	Madison, WI	1363
28 Wright, Norm	Madison, WI	1331
29 Loupee, Larry	Newton, IA	1329
30 Hanes, Bob	Ankeny, IA	1321
31 Schweig, Frank	Carpentersville,	1286
32 Gombatz, Robert	Raleigh, NC	1273
33 Webb, George	Avon, MA	1272
34 Stromberg, Stuart	W. Springfield, MA	1266
35 Samel, Laurence	Wellesley Hills, MA	1246
36 O'Connor, Frank	DeDham, MA	1233
37 Clark, Jeff	Antioch, IL	1222
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45 Immel, Bob	Punta Gorda, FL	1152
46 Fitzpatrick, Shirley	Milwaukee, WI	1131
47 Seigel, Joe	Coverly, CT	1124
Shelstad, Craig	Hastings, MN	1124
49 Stokes, Plumas	Quincy, CA	1115
50 Hebein, Rudy	Mukwanago, WI	1110
51 Madsen, Ralph	Crystal Lake, IL	1100
52 Cossack, Dick	Little Canada, MN	1098
53 Rein, Joan	Carver, MN	1080
54 Roinstad, Milo	Missoula, MT	1073
55 Tofte, Don	Madison, WI	1065
56 Kufahl, Pete	Merrill, WI	1059
57 Fuller, Iris	Aurora, CO	1050
Munroe, Dale	Unionville, CT	1050
59 Kastner, Mel	Menominee, MI	1043
60 Bartlett, Dave	Milwaukee, WI	1039
61 Turner, J.C.	Roseburg, OR	1038
62 Reid, Rex	Quincy, CA	1021
63 Zindler, Gordy	Waukesha, WI	1010
64 Jarrell, Jesse	Pittsburg, CA	1005
65 Julian, Bob	Milwaukee, WI	1002
66 Jensen, Bill	Los Altos, CA	1001
67 Christofferson, Bill	DeForest, WI	992
68 Kniech, Norbert	Brown Deer, WI	991
69 O'Connor, Patricia	Dedham, MA	981
70 Ault, Clyde	Baker, OR	979
71 Bartholow, Otto	Baker, OR	976
72 Lawrence, Leo	West Allis, WI	970
73 Cohen, Harvey	Milwaukee, WI	948
Ward, Betty	Menomonee Falls, WI	948
75 Bourland, Mitch	Prineville, OR	947
76 Blecker, Ed	Aurora, CO	945
77 Kniech, Nicky	Brown Deer, WI	927
78 Barlow, Dan	Chapel Hill, NC	926
79 Might, Mike	Missoula, MT	920
80 Miller, Jack	Northfield, MN	918

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## THE TOURNAMENT TRAIL

November 21, Jesse James Open  
Northfield Golf Club, 707 Prairie, Northfield, Minnesota. Entry fee: \$41.  
Early Bird, G-Pools, lunch, Consolation.  
Contact: Jack Miller, 22 Park Drive, Northfield, MN 55057, 507-645-4513.

November 21-22, Florida Open  
Quality Inn, Florida Turnpike at Exit 65, Kissimmee, Florida. Entry fee: \$37.  
Friday Early Bird, G-Pools, Saturday Lunch, Saturday Night Special Consolation.  
Contact: Jim Arblastner, P.O. Box 565, Kissimmee, FL 32742, 305-396-8615.

December 5-6, Midway Open  
Midway Tavern, 1750 North 1st, Hermiston, Oregon. Entry fee: \$26. Friday  
Night Doubles, G-Pools, Consolation.  
Contact: Allen Stilwill, 1750 North 1st, Hermiston, OR 97838, 503-567-5180.

December 6, Connecticut Yankee  
Hartford Elks Club, 34 Prospect Street, Hartford, Connecticut. Entry fee:  
\$36 (\$41 non-ACC member). Coffee, doughnuts, lunch, G-Pools, Consolation.  
Contact: Dale Munroe, 109 River Road, Unionville, CT 06085, 203-673-4007.

December 12-13, John Hill's Elbow Room Championship  
Elbow Room, 1025 Strand, Missoula, Montana. Entry fee: \$26. G-Pools,  
Consolation.  
Contact: John Hill, 1628 Wyoming, Missoula, MT 59801, 406-728-8316.

January 23-24, Rocky Mountain Championship  
Littleton Elks, 5749 South Curtice, Littleton, Colorado. Entry fee: \$31.  
Coffee, doughnuts, G-Pool, Consolation, Sunday Pairs Tournament.  
Contact: Dick Graham, 300 East Hampden, Englewood, CO 80110, 303-781-  
7854.

January 23-24, Georgia Open  
VFW Post 3200, I Gun Club Road, Augusta, Georgia. Entry fee: \$38. Friday  
Early Bird, coffee, doughnuts, G-Pools, Saturday lunch, Saturday Night Spe-  
cial, Consolation, Last Chance.  
Contact: Luis Lizaribar, 262 Greystone Drive, Martinez, GA 30907, 404-860-  
2686

January 23-24, Belle City Classic  
Apple Valley Lodge, 5005 Washington Avenue, Racine, Wisconsin. Entry fee:  
\$40. Early Bird, G-Pools, Saturday Lunch, Saturday Night Special, Consola-  
tion, Last Chance.  
Contact: Bill Harvey, 3223 Kensington Square Road, Sturtevant, WI 53177,  
414-886-4236.

### DOWN THE ROAD

#### FUTURE TOURNAMENTS

1988

Fairfield Tournament (CA)	Mar. 11-12
Warren L. Swett	
Memorial (IL)	Mar. 18-20
Super Bowl of Cribbage (CA)	Mar. 26-27
South Shore Tournament (MA)	Mar. 27
World Masters Classic (WI)	Apr. 23-24

**CONNECTICUT YANKEE  
CRIBBAGE  
TOURNAMENT**

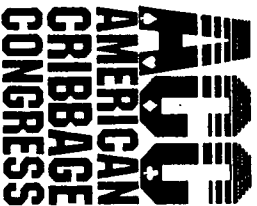
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# CONNECTICUT YANKEE CRIBBAGE TOURNAMENT

## Date

December 6, 1987

## Place

Hartford Elks Lodge, 34 Prospect Street, Hartford, CT  
(Across the street from Travelers Insurance) Parking in rear of building

## Entry Fee

\$36 (\$41 non-ACC members) Deadline for entry is December 3, 1987.

## Q Pool

\$10 (Shared equally by all qualifiers)

## Registration

8 a.m. (Coffee and doughnuts)

## Orientation

8:30 a.m.

## Play Begins

9 a.m.

SEE NEW FORMAT EXPLANATION ON NEXT PAGE

## Lunch

12 noon (Additional lunches \$8)

## Consolation

1:30 p.m. (Traditional format)

## Consolation Entry

\$15 with \$5 Q-Pool



All fees refundable if cancelled 48 hours in advance.

# MAIN TOURNAMENT FORMAT

9:00 a.m.

12-game round robin starts. (Each player faces 12 opponents) 1 out of 4 will qualify for finals.

**Scoring:** 1 point for each win; no extra points for skunks; muggins will apply.

1:15 p.m.

Qualifiers will be seated at tables of 10 or 12 for a new 9-game round robin. Same scoring as above.

4:00 p.m.

Winners from each table play a final round robin to determine champion.

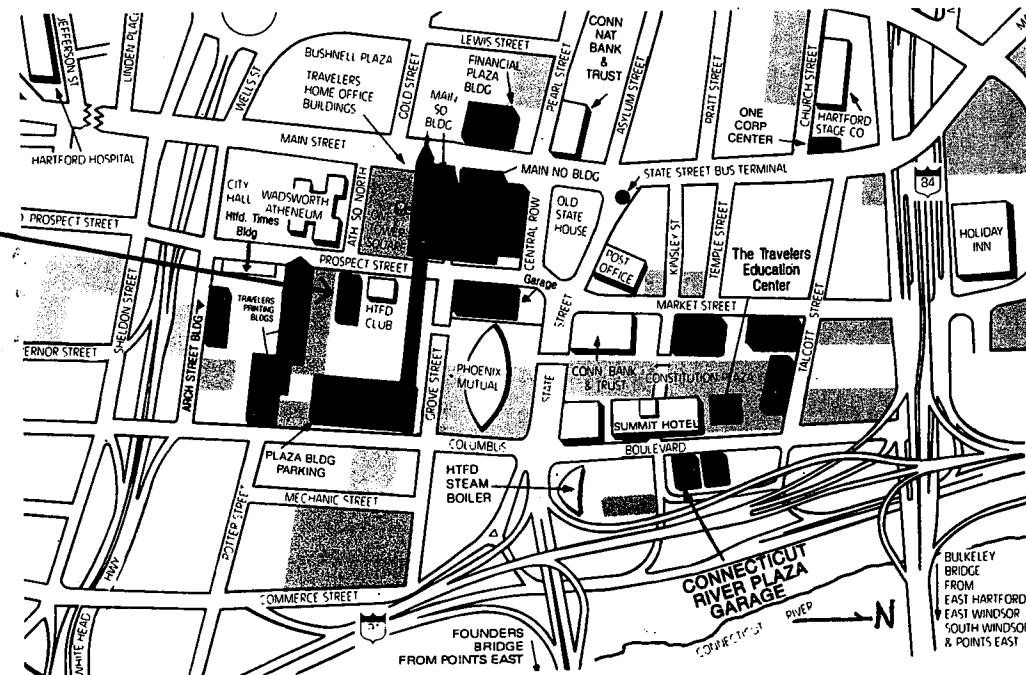
**Example:** 40 qualifiers at 4 tables of 10 each; 4 winners play a 3-game round robin to determine 1st, 2nd, 3rd and 4th place.

5th through 40th places determined by scores achieved in 1:15 9-game round robin.

For more information, call:

Dale Munroe (203) 673-4007 or  
Bob Plourde (203) 673-9396

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34 Prospect Street



CONNECTICUT YANKEE CRIBBAGE TOURNAMENT

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