



CRIBBAGE WORLD

VOLUME X

NUMBER 7

JULY 1989

ACC 10TH

ANNIVERSARY

The American Cribbage Congress becomes ten years old on August 6, 1989. The concept of a national organization began in Raleigh, North Carolina, by a group of cribbage players who were attending the National Open Tournament then in its sixth year.

At the time there were tournaments being conducted throughout the country by various individuals, without organization and using local publicity when available; the game of cribbage was being kept alive by these people, yet, it was thought, there may be a better way.

The Wergin had long dreamed of having a cribbage network so that all tournament information and the rules of cribbage could be brought under one umbrella.

It was an idea whose time had come. With so many cribbage players in one place at one time, it seemed only natural to throw the subject on the table one morning at breakfast time as 11 people sat around having coffee. The idea took

hold and, before the day was over, 23 persons kicked in \$10 each to get the ball rolling.

It was rapidly decided by majority vote that the name of the new nonprofit organization would be the American Cribbage Congress and the balloon was off the ground.

Jim Arblaster and Joe Wergin kept matters alive until a formal meeting could be conducted. Nick Pond was instrumental in arranging that meeting in Cincinnati, Ohio, in the offices of the U.S. Playing Card Company on January 11, 1980. Almost six hours passed as many of the loose ends were brought together and a formal organization was established. At the conclusion of the Cincinnati meeting, the officers and Board of Directors were:

President
Frist VP
Second VP
Sec.-Treasurer

Joe Wergin, WI
Robert Immel, MN
Nick Pond, NC
James Arblaster, FL

THE PRESIDENTS COLUMN

Joseph P. Wergin

BROCHURES

Our new promotional brochures are now being distributed to people who are concerned with the growth of the Congress. Copies are being mailed out to all Grass Roots clubs to help in their drives to recruit members. If more copies are needed, direct your request to George E. Webb, Box 516, Avon, MA 02322, or give him a call at 508-588-4526. If your treasury has funds, please make a donation for mailing expense.

Mailings are being made to individuals or companies who are willing to insert the brochure in their promotional mailings of cribbage items. The brochures are 8½ x 11 and folded to envelope size.

Tournament managers should request copies to be given out at their major tournaments. All Board Directors, along with the general membership, should also contact George Webb for a supply to be placed at laundromats, malls, liquor stores and other places frequented by prospective members. In all cases, a contribution toward mailing costs will make Webb happy.

Many thanks to Delynn Colvert, Dale Murroe and Minute-man Press of Avon, Connecticut, for their help in our first promotional project.

* * * * *

CRIBBAGE AT THE UNIVERSITY

Dave Droeger, a grad student from Wau-paca, Wisconsin, read about the World Masters Classic Crib Tournament, which was held in Madison in May. He decided to try playing in a tournament to see what it was like. Lo and behold, he won all nine games in the Consolation preliminary tournament. However, he, like many leaders before him, lost the first playoff match.

Dave was invited to play the following week in Madison's Grass Roots club, and he brought along two other students. The following week, another.

The bottom line is that this fall sportscaster, Dave's friends will organize a Grass Roots club at the University.

* * * * *

COUNTING THE VOTES

Dan Weir, a former Director and a resident of Greendale, Wisconsin, will again head the Elections Committee to count and record all the votes of the June election.

Assisting Dan will be Rich Mariner, also a former Director and a resident of Greendale. A third official will be named. And, of course, as the count will be made at Weir's home, his wife will also be drafted to help in this tedious task.

The work will be greater this year as all 25 Directors' positions are on the block. In the past, candidates competed for 12 or 13 positions. With over 30 candidates this year, the job will almost be doubled. My thanks to the Election Committee. Election results will appear in the August CRIBBAGE WORLD.

* * * * *

LATE NEWS

Director Bob Plourde called and stated that two more Grass Roots clubs were being formed in New England and that an order for 45 long boards would be placed immediately. The boards are still available and discounted down to \$6 each, with shipping charges included. Orders are placed with this columnist. At this writing, two more clubs will bring the total of Grass Roots clubs to 86. Wonderful! Wonderful!

ACC ORIGINS

Continued from page 1

Board of Directors
Ted Blackney
Art Boulette
Edna Boyd
Bill Campbell
John Chambers
old Crews
ie Driscoll
Dick Graham
George Haendle
E. Hergeshelmer Jr.
Dutch Klintworth
Marvin Kluck
Allan Lichty
Tom Miller
Marion Quackenbush
Robert Read
Phyllis Schmidt
Jeff Shimp
Bill Shoemaker
Tats Tsuruda
Frank Wise

REPORT FROM THE CASCADES

The Cascade Cribbage Classic was conducted by Bill and Millie Becker on June 9-11 in Redmond, Oregon, and drew a tournament record of 156 participants for the main event.

The four top players were: Frank Lake, LaPine, Oregon; Gary Motley, Gresham, Oregon; Jim Waldorf, Madras, Oregon; and Harry Kantas, Sherwood, Oregon.

WI
VA
WA
WV
MD
RI
FL
NC
CO
NV
NY
SC
CT
IA
MO
PA
GA
MA
MI
CA
HI
FL

The Consolation winner was local Grass Roots player Paul Dyer of Bend, Oregon. Roberta Dyer, Paul's wife, did the paintings on the trophy boards but not the one won by Paul. Liz Brandon of Bend and Lucille Endicott of Prineville also did great artwork on the tournament trophy boards. Other Consolation winners were Jesse Jarrell of Pittsburg, California; Sylvia Hornbeck from Washougal, Washington; Del'ynn Colvert, Missoula, Montana.

The tournament had five 28-hands, and three new ACC members were signed up.

Editor's Note:

The article that appears above is not intended to be a comprehensive history of the ACC but is intended primarily as a thumbprint synopsis of the origins of our organization. Jim Arblaster and Ken Cambell are on the Historical Committee, and both are involved with compiling a complete background from 1979 to the present.

The tournament began with a Friday night ice breaker Doubles and High Rollers and ended with a Cry Baby Tourney on Sunday.

Marvis Reynolds
Baker, OR

Election results will be published
in the August issue
of CRIBBAGE WORLD



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TOURNAMENT RESULTS

SUPER BOWL OF CRIBBAGE IV

Santa Maria, California
April 28-29, 1989
Director: Butch Reynolds
Number of Entries: 86/64

Main	
1. Ron Reid	Burbank, CA
2. Linda Swiontek	S. Maria, CA
3. Gasperon	Salinas, CA
4. Jerry Richard	S. Maria, CA

MP
126
98
80
67

Main	
1. Bob Parrish	Beatrice, NE
2. Lloyd Hulsey	Omaha, NE
3. Colleen Zyntek	Wolbach, NE
4. Ken Odle	Lincoln, NE

MP
120
92
74
61

Consolation

1. Ron Guidati	W. Covina, CA
2. Audrey Nash	S. Maria, CA
3. Pat Coffey	Concord, CA
4. J.D. Denny	S. Maria, CA

MP
52
38
29
23

Consolation	
1. Jerry Jaeger	Lincoln, NE
2. D. Lovelace	Lincoln, NE
3. Richard Smith	Fairmont, NE
4. R. Mathieson	Shelton, NE

MP
19
15
11
7

WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP

TOURNAMENT XVIII
Guincy, California

May 6, 1989

Director: Bill Dore

Number of Entries: 208/82

Main	
1. Steve Reynolds	Concord, CA
2. Jesse Jarrell	Pittsburg, CA
3. C. Colombari	W. Strunberg, CA
4. Jeff Monroe	Napa, CA

MP
248
228
196
196

Main	
1. Henry Popham	Missoula, MT
2. Larry Wilson	Ontario, OR
3. Ken Capper	Hermiston, OR
4. Lee Sissel	Baker, OR

MP
110
82
64
51

Consolation

1. Galen McKie	Stockton, CA
2. Maybelle Misch	Portola, CA
3. Bill Urlevich	Seattle, WA
4. Jacque Rickles	--

MP
61
47
38
32

Consolation	
1. R. Haufbauer	Washougal, WA
2. Paul Dyer	Bend, OR
3. Chester Field	Missoula, MT
4. Ralph Reynolds	Baker, OR

MP
42
28
19
13

BEN FRANKLIN OPEN

Willow Grove, Pennsylvania

May 7, 1989

Directors: F. Wurman & R. Einhorn

Number of Entries: 80/50

Main	
Richard Kerr	Rutherfordton, NC
2. R. McGillicuddy	Stoughton, MA
3. W. Hoffman	Haddonfield, NJ
4. Grace Donahue	Batavia, NY

MP
120
92
74
61

Main	
1. Butch Reynolds	S. Maria, CA
2. Pat Coffee	Concord, CA
3. Skee Kawiaka	Oakland, CA
4. George Gassi	Watsonville, CA

MP
90
62
44
31

Consolation

1. Diane Smith	Germanatown, MD
2. George Webb	Avon, MA
3. Harriet Haight	Ann Arbor, MI
4. Stan Daniels	Portsmouth, VA

MP
45
31
22
16

CUPERTINO KIWANIS TOURNAMENT XI

Cupertino, California

May 20, 1989

Director: Louis Delu

Number of Entries: 50/--

The Master Points listed in the Tournament Results are correct to the best of our knowledge. The final authority for accuracy of both the names and points rests with Statistician Bob McCabe and Tournament Commissioner Syl Lulinski.

PEGGING TO VICTORY

As the dealer, one enjoys the added advantage of the crib and the rule that requires the pone to lay down the first card in the pegging procedure. Usually, it is not necessary to know the pone's holding except that the first card played, much like the gambit in the game of chess, provides us with many alternatives in our effort to make a safe and logical response.

In the broader generalization, one can infer the initial lead of a small card is necessarily from a pair; if the card is a middle or a ten card, it is most usually from the center of a three-card run. Nonetheless, there is also another regimen of response that is more specific as to the card to play and, at the same time, counter the pone's opening lead.

To begin with, the obvious play of a five on any ten-card lead and the pairing of any card lower than the eight from a pair held in the dealer's hand will not be discussed, since these are in the automatic "best" play category.

Without doubt, the pone's lead will be a deuce, three or four if that lead is at all possible. Only in extreme situations will a five or ace be the opening lead.

The average best response to the low card lead would be what is called the "obverse" or "counterpart" play. The obverse play is designated to counter whenever a three, four, six or seven is the initial lead. If a three is led, the counter is a nine; a four is countered

with a seven; a six is countered with a three; and a seven with an ace. This option is valuable because if the pone makes the counterpart play to make 15/2, he/she is disclosing a pair holding and the remaining cards can be deduced.

If you do not have the cards in your hand to make the obverse play, the next option is to use the "ten" card. Of course, this play is never used with the four/six or the six/four combinations for obvious reasons. If the three is opened, a seven is played to make the count ten; a deuce would be countered with an eight; the eight, the deuce; the nine, the ace, etc. This option may not keep the pone from pegging, but it will keep you, the dealer, out of a lot of trouble.

The last alternative we have as our choice in trying to control the pegging consists of playing a ten card on any critical lead under the eight spot. If, however, the pone should lead a ten card, the best possibility is to stay two cards away in the sequence.

Because we are bound by those cards we have decided to keep as a "playing hand," the opportunity to make what would be considered the "proper" play may not arise; nevertheless, the knowledge that we have a formalized method of counterpart to balk the opponent's lead gives us the assurance necessary to prevail against the astute player when we are pegging out the hand.

Tom Haight
Ann Arbor, MI

FIRST ANNUAL REDWOOD CLASSIC

The Redwood Peggers Grass Roots Club is sponsoring the First Annual Redwood Classic Tournament in Santa Rosa, California, on August 18-20.

This is a two-day tournament with a night of "friendly" Doubles Friday night. The regular play will be 20 games on Saturday and then return (all rested) on Sunday to play the 3-of-5 game finals, as well as the Corsolation tournament.

Plan on spending a very pleasant end in the very beautiful Redwood Empire. Santa Rosa is located 50 miles north of San Francisco and is very close to the wine country of Northern California. Come and enjoy a quiet weekend of cribbage, as well as seeing some very pretty California countryside.

Marion Hawley
Santa Rosa, CA

WELCOME TO THE
6th ANNUAL

NEW ENGLAND CRIBBAGE CHAMPIONSHIP

Ed Law and Joe Seigle invite you to play in the season's final Master Point Tournament, the ACC-sanctioned New England Cribbage Championship, a nonprofit event.

Unique as always, this 22-game Saturday round robin will feature a 12-game Sunday Consolation and the playoffs. Friday's Early Bird will be a no-starter (cut) card event, a real test of skill. A Saturday evening Doubles tournament is also scheduled.

Friday, August 25, 7:30 p.m.
Saturday, August 26, 8:00 a.m.
Sunday, August 27

EARLY BIRD
REGISTRATION
CONSOLATION
PLAYOFFS
GETAWAY

Fee:
(Includes entry, coffee, ACC sanction)

\$40

Place:
Ramada Inn, Windsor Locks, Connecticut

Take Interstate 91 to Exit 40 (Bradley Airport exit, Route 20), midway between Springfield, Massachusetts, and Hartford, Connecticut. Take Route 20 to the Route 75 exit ramp, where the Ramada Inn sign is visible on the right. The special room rate is \$57 single or double. To make reservations, call 203-623-9494 or write Ramada, Route 75, Windsor Locks, Connecticut. Ask for the cribbage rate (by August 11). There are many good restaurants on Route 75.

Mail check for \$40 per entry to James Law, 442 Westfield Street, West Springfield, MA 01089. For information, call Jim at 413-538-7530 or Joe Seigle at 203-742-7234 or talk to Miller, Murroe, Chambers, Plourde or Palmer.

Please print:

NAME

ADDRESS

I/we will be staying at the Ramada Inn: Yes No

CRIBBAGE CORNER

Nick Pond's comments in the March 1989 CW certainly offer a challenge to any of us who know a cribbage-playing celebrity we might attract to the ACC rolls. Joe Wergin has put forth many recruiting proposals to increase the membership in efforts to increase the rolls. Jerry Dickinson, by his efforts in the Grass Roots promotion, continues to be a fountainhead of recruitment. Dickinson's efforts are localized in nature because they depend on a cribbage player in any town somewhere offering to make the effort to get a club together and keep records.

That appears to be the key to recruiting -- local effort. Unfortunately, during the ACC's first five or six years, the Board of Directors and particularly the Executive Committee members, failed to support efforts to promote league play. Secretary-Treasurer Jim Arblaster appeared to recognize the potential, because he approved 28- and 29-hand recognition for the Rhode Island Cribbage Association as well as a small league in Connecticut. When Arblaster left that post, both leagues were told they were no longer eligible for ACC awards. The Grass Roots concept was then proposed in lieu of leagues and drew the BOD's grudging support at first, as opposed to the failure to support at all John Chamber's five-year effort to expand leagues nationally.

Regrettably, the Grass Roots suffer the same malady all tournaments endure -- turnover. Excluding those members who have died, the ACC would probably have 8,000 to 10,000 members today if all had

continued to renew. Obviously, they have not. Why not?

The ACC sets up committees to address various issues and problems. Yet, there is no committee to seek answers to the urgent turnover problem. Who should do it?

Scott Kowitz proposed a study on the question of regionalization about years ago. Bob Madsen, when briefly unable to fully maintain his duties as Secretary-Treasurer, proposed that a tournament coordinator be set up in each of the three ACC regions. Instead, one national Tournament Commissioner was established. Now regionalization is looked at suspiciously by at least one member of the four-person Executive Committee, and another has expressed concern over the difficulty of even considering it. The other two Executive Committee members have supported regionalization but will not now push for it. Read Joe Wergin's column in CRIBBAGE WORLD, June 1988.

There have been innovative ideas proposed to the ACC Board of Directors to make improvement in many areas. There is a feeling evident among some Directors that no major changes should be considered. There also seems to be a feeling that "father knows best" -- namely, the Executive Committee. Baloney! When Nick Pond and Joe Wergin, two of the ACC founding fathers, place such great emphasis on recruitment, we all better understand something drastic needs to be done.

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There are things that can be done both administratively and play-wise. At age 10, the ACC is still a long way from exploring all of the available alternatives. It's time to bite the bullet; to put aside regional differences; to encourage tournament directors to improve the quality of tournaments; to experiment with techniques to give average players a better opportunity to cash on those infrequent occasions they qualify; to admit any league or organized play among ACC members to qualify for national recognition; to establish a screening committee for Hall of Fame nominations, based on accomplishments.

There are some hard tasks to consider to restore democratic and ethical procedures in the ACC. For example:

1. Eliminate the Executive Committee as an entity, as recommended by the Reorganization Committee.
2. Establish regional tournament coordinators to assure that tournaments do not conflict and to work with potential tournament organizers at a local level.
3. Repeat the clause that permits dropping ACC Directors if they fail to attend a stipulated number of ACC meetings. This clause is contemptuous of the rights of the ACC membership to elect Directors.

4. Give greater consideration to recommendations made by committees and consider the possibility of permitting the ACC membership to vote on major changes.
5. Impose a limitation on the number of consecutive terms anyone can serve as an ACC officer, as recommended by the Reorganization Committee.

6. Proceed at once to regionalization and the potential this brings for local recruitment and coordinated efforts among tournament directors.

So far as I know, every member of the ACC is eager to see the organization grow and become more prestigious. Respect for each other and for each other's rights must be in the forefront of our efforts. Otherwise, recruitment will be in vain.

The newly elected Board of Directors taking office in September should be prepared to establish two-year goals at its first meeting. It should expect accountability from the four officers it elects. It should require that every Director will have an assignment needed to keep the ACC viable and growing. If these conditions are met, Joe Wergin and Nick Pond will be delighted with the surge in membership, as will we all.

Joe Seigle
Coventry, CT

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THE TOURNAMENT TRAIL

1989

July 29-31, The National Open
North Raleigh Hilton & Towers, Wake Forest Road, Raleigh, North Carolina.
Entry fee: \$65. Coffee, Q-Pools, Saturday Lunch, Consolation, Loser's Losers,
Last Chance.
Contact: Nick Pond, P.O. Box 12800, Raleigh, NC 27605, 919-890-6064.

August 4-6, Bill Mitchell Memorial IV
VFW Hall, 810 H Street, Crescent City, California. Entry fee: \$40. Early
Bird, coffee, doughnuts, Q-Pools, Team Tournament, Consolation, Last
Chance.
Contact: Dan Mitchell, 1833 Adams Avenue, Crescent City, CA 95531, 70-
464-5319.

August 6, Great Plains Summer Classic
Airport Inn, Cornhusker Highway, Lincoln, Nebraska. Entry fee: \$15.
Contact: Jack Wunderlich, 2821 P Street, Lincoln, NE 68503, 402-477-2900.

August 11-13, Belle City Classic
Holiday Inn, 5125 6th Avenue, Kenosha, Wisconsin. Entry fee: \$45. Early
Bird, Lunch, Q-Pools, Saturday Night Special, Consolation, Last Chance.
Contact: Don Wrzesinske, 8624 Westminster Drive, Sturtevant, WI 53177, 414-
886-6360.

August 12, Fairfield Semi-Annual Tournament
Fairfield Senior Center, 1200 Civic Center Drive, Fairfield, California. Entry
fee: \$46. Breakfast, Saturday Morning Doubles, Lunch.
Contact: George Halterman, 3410 Astoria Circle, Fairfield, CA 94533, 707-
425-4343.

August 18-20, Portland's Summer Tournament
Portland Elk's Club, 4121 NE Halsey Street, Portland, Oregon. Entry fee: \$32.
Friday Night Doubles and High Rollers Singles, Q-Pools, Consolation, Last
Chance (Tournament will assist the Elk's Eye Bank).
Contact: Kate Furler, 924 SW 16th Avenue, #201, Portland, OR 97205, 503-
228-3664.

August 18-20, Redwood Classic Open
El Rancho-Tropicana Motel, 2200 Santa Rosa Avenue, Santa Rosa, California.
Entry fee: \$45 (\$52 non-ACC members). Early Bird, coffee, Q-Pools,
Consolation.
Contact: Marion Hawley, 978 Eleanor Avenue, Rohnert Park, CA 94928, 707-
585-1577.

August 25-27, Illinois Championship IX
Holiday Inn Crowne Plaza, 3000 Warrenville Road, Lisle, Illinois. Entry fee:
\$45. Early Bird, Q-Pools, Saturday Night Special, Consolation, Last Chance.
Contact: Bob Madsen, 7441 North Osceola, Chicago, IL 60648, 312-774-3813.

August 25-27, New England Championship
Ramada Inn, Route 20 (Bradley International Airport exit), Windsor Locks,
Connecticut. Entry fee: \$40. Early Bird, coffee, Q-Pools, Saturday Night
Special, Consolation, Last Chance.
Contact: Ed Law, 79 Wildwood Glen, Longmeadow, MA 01106, 413-567-7400.

September 8-10, Blue Mountain Open VI
Eagle's Lodge, 1212 Jefferson Avenue, LaGrande, Oregon. Entry fee: \$27.
Early Bird, Q-Pools, Consolation, Last Chance.
Contact: Ron Lesley, 2508 North 4th, LaGrande, OR 97850, 503-963-7887.

THE TOURNAMENT TRAIL

1989

September 10, Albany Open
American Legion Hall, Zaloga #1520, 388 Clinton Avenue, Albany, New York.
Entry fee: \$39. Coffee, G-Pools, lunch, Consolation.
Contact: Nelson Ira Pendergast, 325 Hamilton Street, #215, Albany, NY
12210-1738, 518-434-0367.

September 15-17, Capital City Classic
Dragon's Lair, 12 Euclid Avenue, Helena, Montana. Entry fee: \$31.50. Early
Bird, Saturday Night Special, Consolation.
Contact: Walt Conell, P.O. Box 468, Helena, MT 59624, 406-227-5960.

September 15-17, Gold Coast Classic V
Pompano Beach Moose Lodge #2157, 3321 NE 6th Terrace, Pompano Beach,
Florida. Entry fee: \$37. Early Bird, coffee, doughnuts, G-Pools, Saturday
lunch, Saturday Night Special, Consolation.
Contact: Joseph D. Daesch, 811 Oriole Avenue, Miami Springs, FL 33166, 305-
885-8761.

September 22-24, ACC Grand National Tournament
Crook County Fairgrounds, South Main Street, Prineville, Oregon. Entry fee:
\$40. Friday Early Bird, G-Pools, Consolation, Last Chance.
Contact: Joe Nelson, P.O. Box 706, Prineville, OR 97754, 503-447-1548.

September 24, Hawaii Fall Tournament
Fort Shafter Officers Club, Fort Shafter, Hawaii. Entry fee: \$30. Coffee,
G-Pools, lunch, Consolation.
Contact: Jerry Price, 45-463 Nakulua Street, Kaneohe, HI 96744, 808-247-
3754.

October 8, New Hampshire Open
Holiday Inn, Northeastern Boulevard, Nashua, New Hampshire. Entry fee:
\$38. Saturday Night Doubles, coffee, G-Pools, lunch, Consolation. (Tourna-
ment will assist the Children's Hospital of Boston)
Contact: Al Miller, 12 Michael Avenue, Nashua, NH 03062, 603-882-7204.

October 13-15, Portside Open V
Holiday Inn, 8 Crawford Parkway, Portsmouth, Virginia. Entry fee: \$40.
Early Bird, G-Pools, coffee, Saturday lunch, Saturday Night Doubles, Consola-
tion, Last Chance.
Contact: Richard McCormick, 3432 Valleyjo Place, Chesapeake, VA 23321,
804-483-2467.

October 14-15, West Bend Classic
Fantasy Suite Hotel, 2520 W. Washington Street, West Bend, Wisconsin. Entry
fee: \$37. Friday Early Bird, G-Pools, lunch, Consolation.
Contact: Gene Biegler, P.O. Box 862, West Bend, WI 53095, 414-334-2980.

October 21-22, Vermont Open Tournament VI
Holiday Inn, Exit 14E Interstate 89, South Burlington, Vermont. Entry fee:
\$38. Saturday Night Doubles and High Rollers Singles, coffee, G-Pools, lunch,
Consolation.
Contact: Fred McGibney, 175 Hinesburg Road, South Burlington, VT 05403,
802-865-1976.

Tournaments cannot be sanctioned and
held on the same weekend if they are
within 400 miles of one another.