

# CRIBBAGE WORLD



VOLUME XVIII - NUMBER 9 - SEPTEMBER 1997

**AMERICAN CRIBBAGE CONGRESS**

## *National Open Kicks Off New Year*

## **Townsend Wins National Open Takes MRP Lead**

With a new Master Rating Points system in place, the 24th National Open in Raleigh, NC kicked off a new year...and a new system to earn MRP's. The new year began on August 1...and on August 4th, the winner's crown was placed on Jim Townsend, a local pegger. He finally cracked the winner's circle after several attempts.

His win came the hard way, as he had to best the streaking One-Star Joe Bernard in the final match. In winning the match 4-2, Townsend nailed down a large purse, 196 MRP's, plus a bonus 30 MRP's for finishing in the top one-eighth (a new wrinkle for double-elimination events). In taking home 226 MRP's, Townsend kicks off the 1998 season as the number-one player nationwide.

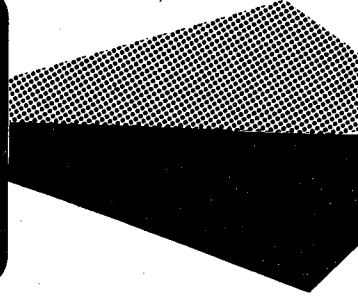
Bernard, fresh from a huge win in Yankton two weeks earlier, very nearly won it all. After taking his first loss early in the third round (increasing his winning odds enormously), he nevertheless streaked to the final match before losing. Bernard confided to CW that the final-match loss cost him some \$3,200 in pool and purse winnings! Nevertheless, the past two weeks have handsomely rewarded his pegging efforts.

Clay Collier, Beatrice, NE, is well known in cribbage circles for his 1990 Grand National win...and he came close to adding another major win to his ledger. He finished 3rd. Another North Carolinian took 4th...Michelle Nichols from Cary.

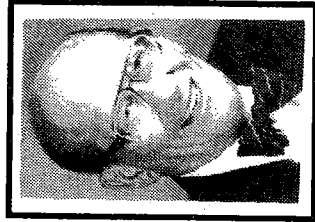
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## The President's Column

**Everett "Ev" Bey**

### Job Continuity

Thanks to the foresight and persistence of Joe Ramos, ACC's Veep for Operations, we have established back-ups for the unpaid non-elective volunteers who keep the various functions of the American Cribbage Congress operating.

For instance: Treasury Fred McGibney of S. Burlington, VT has designated Terri Boylan of Burlington, VT as Assistant Treasurer.

Membership Secretary Jeff Monroe of Napa, CA has Dennis Gage, also of Napa, as his substitute.

Statistician Secretary Bob McCabe of Milwaukee, WI has appointed Marlene Lazachek of Franklin, WI as back-up for that job.

Newly-appointed National Tournament Commissioner George Bickford of W. Springfield, MA has Joe Bernard of Libertyville, IL as his substitute.

In the Central Region, Tournament Commissioner Joe Bernard has designated Syl Lulinski of LaGrange Park as his back-up.

Eugene Mikulsky of Sobieski, WI, Grass Roots National Commissioner, appointed Joe Ramos, of W. Warwick, RI, as second in command.

Ramos, National Statistician for the Grass Roots program, has Jeff Monroe as back-up for this position.

In turn, Ramo's corps of Regional Statisticians all have designated back-ups available.

Meanwhile, we're still looking for back-up personnel for the following jobs:

Secretary-General Joan Rein of Carver, MN;  
*Cribbage World* Editor DeLynn Colvert of Missoula, MT;

Eastern Region Tournament Commissioner. temporarily filled on an interim basis by Bickford...awaiting a new appointment and back-up.

Western Region Tournament Commissioner Roy Hofbauer of Washougal, WA; ACC Archivist and Historian Ken Cambell of Modoc, SC; and Judges' Testing Examiner Al Miller of Nashua, NH (he's been at the job for 7 years since taking over from Frank Zabrowski of Monterey, CA and is beginning to make noises about having a successor!).

As you can see, our activities are spread all over the USA...cunningly diverted in case of a national disaster! Not really...it's just where we've been able to find reliable members to take on those various duties.

The American Cribbage Congress is really All-American, ranging from Vermont to California; Minnesota to Montana, Massachusetts to Washington; Wisconsin to Rhode Island, New Hampshire and South Carolina...and points in between.

Anybody with some spare time and an urge to help out the ACC is asked to contact me or Joe Ramos to fill one of these back-up positions. Your cooperation is greatly appreciated.

Meanwhile, we'll see you in Wisconsin Dells at the Grand National.

*Keep begging...Ev Bey*

## Townsend Wins National Open

Continued from page 1

235 players entered the Main Event, and another 146 played the Consolation. Michael Burnham, Ackworth, GA, took home the bacon in the second-chance action...and took home 84 MRP's under the new system's scoring (in addition to any possible qualifying round MRP's...the top 1/8 score points in this round).

Peggy Goss, Beverly Hills, FL took 2nd, and begins the new season with 63 MRP's. She finished the 1997 season 51st in the Eastern Region, scoring 379 MRP's...and she begins the new year with a fine start. Marlene Lazachek, a Master pegger from the Milwaukee area took 3rd, and is inching in on her Grand Master, standing at over the 3,000 mark. Al Tenenbaum, Cranbury, NJ, is also over the 3,000 mark...and he took home 4th.

The National Open offers cribbage, cribbage, and Brenda Palmer, W. Springfield, MA, fresh from being named to the 1997 All-American team, won the Friday Early Bird. A special event was played on Saturday, and Art Jonas, Fayetteville, NC took the top prize. Another popular event...the Losers Losers...saw Thomas Ballwig, Norfolk, VA win going away. The Last Roundup was captured by Ted Monroe, Honea Path, SC. None other than two-time national champion Bob Julian, the travelling pegger from Milwaukee, won the High Roller.

A highlight of the weekend's matches saw Lindsay Peever, Leesburg, FL, score a 29-hand...the first of the 1998 season, and \$100 from the ACC for this sanctioned gem! Dee Burgess scored that elusive 28-hand (and will receive a framable plaque from the ACC).

Directors Catherine Perkins, Russ Perkins, and Tom Miller continue to run a first-class event, with the North Raleigh Hilton furnishing spacious playing areas, along with other top-quality amenities. Next year's event will wind down the 1998 season, and players will, once again, be in Raleigh to earn those season-ending MRPs! This year's match was scheduled a week after the 1997 cribbage season's closing bell, keeping some players at home.

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## Portland Summer Open Draws 188 Clair Morse Wins 1997 Final

Clair Morse, a Master pegger from Bend, OR finished the ACC's 1997 season in grand style. He won the 188-pegger Portland Summer Open. In the process, he tackled on another 200+ MRP's and pocketed over \$1,100 for a fine weekend of pegging. And he vaults upwards in the Western Region's MRP race, winding down the season with some 800 MRP's (and is among the Region's top ten).

Local Eugene Wilkerson came close to taking it all, but simply could not match Morse's run of cards, but, nevertheless had a great weekend, bringing home bushels of MRP's and a nice 2nd place check.

Bill Wakeman lead a large contingent of California peggers by taking 3rd, followed by Irving Busby, Spokane, WA, in 4th.

Joe Cover from nearby Salem nailed a great 39 18 +316 to easily take qualifying honors.

Leslie Hein began the 1997 season last August in this same event, and scored a 29-hand...and this time around scored a Consolation win. This Washougal, WA pegger has found a home in Portland! Bob Clark, Walnut Creek, CA picked up 2nd in this 132-pegger event. Young Jason Shumate, Kings Beach, CA, continues a fine run by taking 3rd, and Two-Star Delynn Colvert (MT) polished off a fine season by taking 4th. The 70 MRP's earned run his nation-leading MRP total to over 1,700.

### *The Satellites:*

Friday Time Passer: Gil Johnson (WA)  
High Rollers: Bob Julian (WI)  
Doubles: Al & Ted Nelson (WA)  
Saturday Spectal: Bruce Wridge (OR)  
Last Chance: Tony Shine (OR)

This event was the final ACC-sanctioned tournament of the year, and attracted players from throughout the USA. Many were on the move hoping to cash MRP's and move up in the standings. However, only Morse, with his Main Event win, made a major move upwards.

Director Dorothy Mickow, with able assistant Jeanne Hofbauer kept the show on the road with all events on time and running smoothly. Mickow plans on renewing this event again next year...and she will wind down the ACC's 1998 campaign (along with Raleigh's National Open).

## Quiz:

What is the most peg points that can be scored by playing one card?  
Answer: 15! The non-dealer holds A-A-3-3. Dealer holds A-A-2-3. The play goes: 3-3-3-2-A-A-A-A... "15" for 12 (four of a kind) + 2 (for 15-2) + 1 for the "go."

This can be scored four ways. In addition to the above hands, these combinations will add to 15: 2-2-A-A, 2-5-A-A; 2-2-A-A, 3-4-A-A; and 4-2-A-A, 2-2-A-A. These may be combined in a variety of ways, but all 8 cards add to 15, with four aces held for last.

*CW thanks Cedric Larson (CA) for these numbers.*

## Record All-Events Score

An All-Events contest has gained favor in the Central Region recently (and will be given a go in Montana this October). This match combines the Friday night Early Bird with the Main Event and Saturday Night contest. The combined 40 games are scored by Game Points only.

What is the record score to date?

Patrick Barrett (WI) scored a super 70 GP's at the Tri-Cities Open in Marinette in April. His 18-35-17 combined score was, as Barrett reports, "As good a run of cards that I've ever had!"

Barrett is directing the upcoming Grand National XVI in Wisconsin Dells...and is zeroing in on his Life Master (6,000 MRP's).

## Joe Wergin Promotes Cribbage (and Skat)

President Emeritus Joseph Wergin recently donated a few of his card-playing books to the McFarland (WI) library, including three of his cribbage books.

As a consequence, he was given a writeup in the McFarland newspaper, complete with a photo of "The Fox" with copies of his books. Wergin, at age 87, continues to promote the grand old game!

ACC Information and Address Changes:  
1-888-PEGGING

## One-Star Joe Bernard Takes Yankton's Lewis & Clark Classic

The tradition of outstanding cribbage players winning the Lewis and Clark Classic continued this year in Yankton, SD. Life Master One-Star Joe Bernard of Libertyville, IL, edged Darlene Johnson (Minneapolis) by five points in the deciding game to claim the \$2,000 first place check...and he also picked up a whopping 229 MRP's. It was Bernard's first Yankton championship. This event has been won four times by One-Star Mick Michaelis (Marinette, WI) and twice by Life Master Russell Adams (Minneapolis) in the ten-year run of this event.

Sharon Schaefer (Milwaukee) claimed third place, and Walt Wasielewski (Jackson, MI) took fourth.

Cribbage newcomer Ron Ralston, Hartford, IA, rallied with a 20-hand on fourth street to edge "Gabby" Kraft (Seymour, WI) to win the 110-pegger Consolation.

Scott and Linda Kooistra, along with Jean Clayton, directed another smoooth event involving 167 players from 18 states. They also held a Junior tournament with a dozen players. 15-year old Jeff Lamoreux (Jefferson, SD) won the title with Yankton hometown pegger 11-year old Allison Hoyne taking runnerup honors.

Jim Rein, Carver, MN, took the All-Events crown, while Michaelis kept his annual strong showing at Yankton intact with a 2nd place in the All-Events, and another 2nd in the qualifying round in the Main Event. Doug Henderson was the top qualifier with a nice 37 +229 card...four pegs ahead of Michaelis.

Sharon Fargher, Fort Collins, CO, took the Early Bird tournament with a Grand Slam. Lloyd Kraft won the Saturday Night Special.

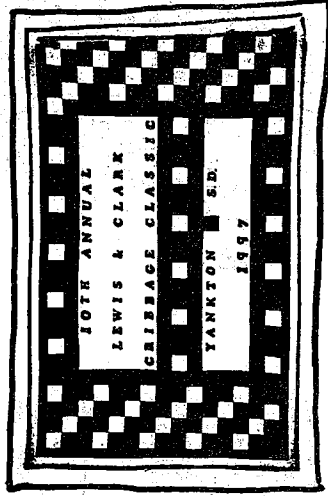
A highlight of this event was the ACC's 18th 29-hand of the season. Don Ernst, Eagan, MN, nailed this gem in the Consolation qualifying round...and earns \$100 from the ACC. This 29-hand was the only bright spot in the game as Ernst lost by some 20 points.

## John Crouch & Mick Michaelis Share Yankton Spotlight

To help celebrate the 10th Anniversary of the Lewis & Clark Classic, co-director Linda Kooistra made a beautiful bed-sized quilt with the Lewis & Clark emblem in Yankton colors (red, black and white).

A drawing was held among the 12 players who have competed each year in Yankton. John Crouch, Indianola, Iowa, was the winner. John came directly to the microphone and donated the quilt to Mick Michaelis of Marinette, WI. It was a very touching moment as Mick has been battling a serious illness this year.

Director Scott Kooistra reports that this was a very class move by a class individual, John Crouch, to another classy guy, Hall-of-Famer Mick Michaelis. John said afterward that in his life's occupation as a Judge, he dealt everyday with "bad" people in the world. He felt good about donating the prize to a real "good" person like Mick!



## ...Another Yankton Vignette

Frank Leier, Vadnais Heights, MN, and another cribbage player (Betty) were heading home after a weekend of pegging in Yankton. At about 2:30 PM his car's transmission malfunctioned, and they were forced to hitch-hike to the nearest rest area to call a tow truck.

At about this time, in popped Jim and Joan Rein to make a rest area stop. They offered to take Frank and Betty home. Frank confided to CW that "The cribbage world is loaded with awfully nice people..."

Incidentally, Jim and Joan Rein normally don't take that road home, but they decided to go that route for some unknown reason...

## Election Results

Catherine Perkins, ACC Vice-President of Policy, certifies the following results for the election of the ACC's Board of Directors. Following the re-sending of yellow ballots in the July Cribbage World, all ballots postmarked by August 1st were accepted. A total of 1,053 yellow ballots were returned. Three ballots were declared invalid because they contained more than 25 votes. A total of 14,065 votes were cast.

Those individuals that were elected will be seated at the next Board of Directors Meeting at the Holiday Inn, Wisconsin Dells, WI, September 26 (Friday), 1997 at 11 AM.

The voting results:

DeLynn Colvert (MT), 744  
Jeff Monroe (CA), 738  
Scott Kooistra (SD), 653  
Ev Bey (AZ), 620  
Joan Rein (MN), 611  
Paul Hatcher (OR), 509  
Jeff Shump (IN), 503  
Cathy Perkins (NC), 487  
Joe Ramos (RI), 481  
Syl Lulinski (IL), 474  
Paul Barnes (FL), 470  
Martha Fingleton (WI), 462  
Eugene Mikulsky (WI), 450  
Jesse Jarrell (CA), 442  
Bob Julian (WI), 440  
Sundae Webb (CA), 429  
Joe Bernard (IL), 427  
Patrick Barrett (WI), 420  
Roy Hofbauer (WA), 409  
George Bickford (MA), 400  
Annett Eiffert (CA), 381  
Fred McGibney (VT), 358  
Larry Hassett, (OR), 358  
Jim Ready (MA), 352  
Jones Hom, CA, 342\*\*  
Lea Hornbeck (WA), 334

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Larry Sarnet, (MA), 304\*  
Steve Sattler (MD), 369\*  
Pat Llewellyn (MA), 266\*  
Ron Morgan (MT), 263\*  
Rex Paddock (MT), 260\*  
Jo Kirby (WA), 247\*  
Keith Forrest (MT), 162\*

\*Not elected

\*\*Not elected, 5th from California

## Ballot Counting Procedure

Ballots were collected and tabulated by Heads Up Therapeutic Horseback Riding Program, Inc., PO Box 262, Pittsburg, NC 27312. This volunteer agency is 501(c)3 organization which provides therapy for individuals with physical and mental disabilities.

To ensure accuracy, the following procedure was used to count the BOD ballots:

All white ballots were destroyed.

The number of votes per ballot were counted and recorded at bottom of each ballot.

Ballots were divided into groups of 10, each group attached to a numbered tally sheet.

Total number of votes per group were recorded on the tally sheet.

Votes per candidate were counted for each group of 10.

Each group was then cross tallied. If the number of votes per individual did not equal the total number of votes per group, a recount occurred for that group.

Individual totals were transferred to tally sheets and complete totals cross checked.

## Gateway To Sierras Classic

According to Jack Shumate, the upcoming Gateway to the Sierras Classic is a good one. Last year, this event didn't make "Tournament Trail" on time and drew a small crowd. Director Dennis Bays, with help from Daryl Tavaréz promise a good one in Clovis, CA this September 12-13.

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## **All-American Teamed Named DeLynn Colvert Wins National Championship**

Bob McCabe, the ACC's National Statistician, completed the compilation of the ACC's 139 sanctioned events for 1997, and reports that the following players have earned All-American honors, having finished in the top ten nationwide:

- 1- **DeLynn Colvert**, Missoula, Montana: 1,731 MRP's
- 2- **Todd Schaefer**, Oakdale, Minnesota: 1,384
- 3- **Brenda Palmer**, W. Springfield, Massachusetts: 1,321
- 4- **Rollie Heath**, Lincoln City, Oregon: 1,284
- 5- **Rit Alkas**, Manchester, Connecticut: 1,174
- 6- **Robert Medeiros**, Quincy, Massachusetts: 1,102
- 7- **Martha Fingleton**, Milwaukee, Wisconsin: 1,093
- 8- **Russell Adams**, Minneapolis, Minnesota: 1,078
- 9- **Ford Jewer**, Wakefield, Rhode Island: 1,038
- 10- **Jim McManus**, Milwaukee, Wisconsin: 1,034

MCCabe also named the All-Regional players. These players finished in the top five in their Region, but failed to make the top ten nationwide. The are:

### **Eastern Region**

**Phyllis Schmidt**, Williamstown, Massachusetts: 984

### **Central Region**

**Ginny Danielski**, Little Chute, Wisconsin: 983

### **Western Region**

**George Rasmussen**, Chehalis, Washington: 1,033

**Jesse Jarrell**, Pittsburg, California: 976

**Roy Hofbauer**, Washougal, Washington: 937

**Todd Schaefer**, **Rollie Heath**, **Martha Fingleton**, and **Ford Jewer** earned their first All-American honors this past season. **Fingleton**, in addition to a top-ten finish, also earned her **Life Master** and was elected to the **Cribbage Hall of Fame**...making the 1997 **cribbage** year one to remember.

**Brenda Palmer** earned her 2nd All-American, having finished 9th last year with 1,175 MRP's. This year's 1,321 vaulted her to 3rd place.

**Rit Alkas** won the 1995 championship, and is now a 2-time member.

**Robert Medeiros** very nearly won the 1995 title, and he, too, is a two-time member.

**Russell Adams**, the pegging professor from Minnesota, has earned his 3rd All-American award.

**Jim McManus** is a 4-time All-American and joined the One-Star players this past season (10,000 MRP's).

**DeLynn Colvert** is a 12-time All-American and won his third national championship this past season...in addition to becoming the ACC's first Two-Star player (15,000 MRP's).

## **Master Point Tidbits:**

**George Rasmussen** came within a whisker of earning a top-ten spot. He missed by a single MRP!

For those peggers wanting an invite to the annual Tournament of Champion, you had to score 338 MRP's this past season (if you had not qualified by other criteria...see criteria list, this issue). The 50th-ranked player in the Central Region scored 338 MRP's, meaning that all players nationwide who scored 338 have earned an invite. In the Eastern Region, 62 players earned the necessary 338, and in the Western Region 84 players did the trick. **John Holseth**, Medford, OR, was no. 84 in the West! **Al Dinwoodie**, Coventry, RI, was no. 62 in the East.

## **Sanctioned Events**

Some 139 sanctioned tournaments were played in the 1997 **cribbage** year (August 1 - July 31). These tournaments averaged 108 players per event. In the 1996 **cribbage** year, 136 events were played, but the average was slightly higher...114.5 players per event. The 1998 season appears to be heading for another banner year. "Tournament Trail" is already loaded with events. **Cribbage fever**...catch it!