

CRIBBAGE WORLD

VOLUME XIX - NUMBER 3 - MARCH 1998

AMERICAN CRIBBAGE CONGRESS

Record Crowds In Reno! **Bob Loch Takes TOC** **Moose Biegler Wins JPW/ACC**

The annual gathering of the clan in Reno for the Tournament of Champions and the Joseph Petrus Wergin/ACC Open once again drew record crowds. On Friday, February 27, some 486 peggers (841 players had received an invite) played the Annual Tournament of Champions. This is the largest crowd in the 16-year history of this match by invite only.

This time around, Bob Loch, a Master pegger from Appleton, WI, came away the winner. He garnered a whopping \$7,900, but no Master Points in this by invite only match. Damon Handley, Jr., from La Mesa, CA nailed 2nd...and \$5,700. Master Mike Kuvaas, Eugene, OR and Life Master Jerry Gruber, Minneapolis, MN, finished in a tie for 3rd (\$4,250 each).

John Holseth, Medford, OR won 14 of the 16 qualifying games (plus 3 skunks) to take home \$1,325 for top-qualifying honors (31 14/16+236).

294 peggers played an unusual 12-game, high card Consolation (not sanctioned) and Roger Wilson, a Grand Master from Denver had the hot hand, scoring 5 skunks and winning 9 of the 12 games. His 23 9/12 card netted Wilson a nice \$1,450. Kenneth Rehm, Appleton, WI took 2nd (\$1,150). Wisconsin pegger Richard Frost (Master) and Charles Parker (MN) finished 3-4.

The next day the Sands Regency was awash in peggers as some 1,024 sat down to begin the pegging action in the Annual Joseph Petrus Wergin/ACC Open. Another 29 players were

standing by hoping to find a spot in this sold-out event.

Master pegger Willie Evans, Richland, WA made a major move towards his Grand Master by scoring a whopping 41 19/22 +236 card (and 75 MRP's). This great card netted Evans \$1,250.

But after a long Saturday night and Sunday playoff action rang down this mammoth event, Gene "Moose" Biegler, a Grand Master from West Bend, WI, came away the winner. After three days of pegging, Beigler and runnerup Jack Dockter, Cannon Falls, MN, were exhausted and opted for a one-game final match (with both players splitting the purse). Biegler won the game, and both players took home \$8,250. First place, once again, paid \$10,000!

Tom Markham, Mt. Lake Terrace, WA finished 3rd (\$4,500), and Kathy Blough, Kentwood, MI took 4th (\$3,000). 5-8 was worth \$2,000 and Harvey Rasmussen (MI), Linda Swiontek (CA), Jim Langley (CA), and Kevin Bremmer (WI) came away with that nifty prize.

Continued on page 3.

RECORDS:
TOC: 486 Players
JPW/ACC Open: 1,024
29 On Standby

The President's Column ***Everett "Ev" Bey***

Board of Directors Business

"Cribbage isn't a matter of life and death...it's more important than that!" That was the slogan imprinted on caps available at the recent Tournament of Champions at the Sands Regency/Hotel Casino in Reno, NV.

We have to agree, as I'm sure, do the maximum 1,024 players that participated in the Joseph Petrus Wergin/ACC Open that same weekend.

In a rather routine business meeting, the Board of Directors (24 strong with only Jesse Jarrell missing, due to recent quintuple heart surgery and "doing well") zipped through a lengthy agenda in record time.

New tournament regulations and guidelines proposed by National Tournament Commissioner George Bickford were adopted. Essentially the same as previously, they firm up financial reporting required of tournament directors.

In connection with the latter, members questioning the financial arrangements of any tournament are asked to contact the Regional Tournament Commissioner, who will supply a copy of the tournament financial report filed by the director.

Joan Rein reviewed the election and balloting process for 1999 with the Board concurring that the ballot should be printed and mailed first class by itself instead of in *Cribbage World*, using a double envelope to ensure secrecy of the ballot. This suggestion was referred to the Vice President-Policy for adoption.

Treasurer Fred McGibney presented a financial report which showed a \$6,800 increase in total assets over the past year, to \$57,975, with more than \$2,000 in CD's.

Two proposals for Grand National 2000 were filed, Eau Claire (WI) Ramada Inn, and Prospect Heights (North Chicago), with a decision to be made at the October 1998 annual meeting in Florida.

Steve Sattler, publisher of the ACC's Internet home page (www/cribbage.org) reported an average of 456 hits per week, with a record 1,148 hits in one week during December 1997; accounting for 125 new members, two new Grass Roots clubs, 167 requests for information, 47 Youth program inquiries and 23 requests for books to teach children the game. Acting on his request, the Board approved funding to double

the Internet coverage, agreed to spend \$750 for back-up software and asked for details about proposed advertising sales on our home page, to be submitted in October.

Executive Vice-President Syl Lulinski advised the Board that the new Rules Book was ready to be printed, the Board affirming Joster's low bid of \$3,500 to print 10,000, to be available at \$1 each through Tournament Commissioners, tournament directors and Grass Roots clubs, effective August 1, 1998.

In balloting by the Board of Directors, nobody was elected to the Hall of Fame. Neither nominee, Joe Ramos nor Charlie Finley, received the 75% affirmative vote required for admission to the Hall of Fame.

Reporting for the Executive Committee, President Ev Bey noted the establishment of a Research Committee to update a 28-page Rules and Regulations Policy Manual compiled two years ago.

The Executive Committee reaffirmed that individual tournament directors may bar "troublemakers" from their tournament, regardless of lack of action by the Ethics Committee.

To update and make editor DeLynn Colvert's computer equipment compatible with that being used by the Membership Secretary and Statistics Secretary, the Board authorized up to \$2,500 to be spent for this purpose; also approving the purchase of Fax and Message Center recording devices for the three Tournament Commissioners, about \$1,200.

Reacting to several demands for the entire ACC membership list to be furnished to tournament directors requesting it, or to be printed on the Internet, the Executive Committee reaffirmed a previous decision to provide only address labels at 2 cents per name, obtainable from Membership Secretary Jeff Monroe.

Are you planning to hold a Junior or Youth tournament? If so, there are a couple things you ought to know. First, the BOD has authorized an allowance of \$250 to each tournament from the Cribbader General fund. Apply to your Regional Tournament Commissioner. Secondly, to help publicize the event, the Executive Committee has approved a half-page ad in *Cribbage World* for the Youth tournament. Contact editor DeLynn Colvert.

Finally, the President was authorized to investigate printing, mailing and distribution deadlines in order to seek more timely Post Office delivery of *Cribbage World*.

Ev Bey

Bob Loch Wins TOC

Continued from page one

Master pegger Jim Sime from Kennewick, WA won the 800-pegger Consolation. Eileen Bunker, Suamico, WI took 2nd. Once again, exhaustion had these two-finalists playing a one-game, split the pot match, with Sime coming away the winner.

Last year this event drew 826 players, making the IPW/ACC Open Consolation the 2nd largest match of the year. The 9-round playoff round netted Sime 135 MRP's. Bunker took home 108 MRP's.

* Matt Easterbrook, Maidens, VA, and Sally Peters, Salem, OR finished 3-4.

Neva Richmond, Gresham, OR, nailed a 9/9 grand slam in taking qualifying honors. This 19/9/9 +236 netted Richmond 24 MRP's...and a nice Q-purse.

According to the old law-of-averages, two 29-hands should have been scored in this sanctioned event (Main & Consolation), but only Cecilia Richards, Apple Valley, CA could come away with this gem...in the Consolation qualifying round. This 10th 29-hand of this cribbage year netted Richards \$100 from the ACC. Doug Henderson (WI) and Mona Wahlig (HI) scored 29's in the TOC, but they are not sanctioned.

Once again, the Sands Regency and the tournament directors (Joan & Jim Rein, Scott Kooistra, Jeanne and Roy Hofbauer) did a great job managing this huge crowd. Barbara Woodward and the Sands kept the players supplied with coffee and cakes three days running. All events were on schedule and the supporting staff (score-card checkers, judges, etc.) did yeoman's work in keeping the events on schedule. And, of course, old man Murphy showed his hand, when one score card was mis-marked, causing playoff board changes at the last minute, but the delay was minimal.

The ACC Board of Directors voted to play next year's match at the Sands...and the 1,024 limit will be in effect, once again, next year. Some 29 peggers were denied entry this year. Peggers wanting to play in this prestigious, mammoth event, are advised not to procrastinate next year, as this is the premier event on the cribbage trail!

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Wagnettes From Reno

Barbara Woodward (Sands Regency staff) kicked off the gala cribbage weekend by calling American Cribbage Congress' President Emeritus Joseph Petrus Wergin at his home in Wisconsin to wish him a happy birthday from the Sands Regency and all of the ACC's 7,000 peggers. Wergin turned 88 on January 22, 1998. Woodward, as usual, did yeoman's work in helping organize the long weekend's pegging.

Jerry Gruber (MN), fresh from winning the annual Long Match, continued his hot streak by nailing the TOC. He qualified 2nd...and picked up a bundle on a few side pools.

Babe O'Gorman (MN) was killing a few minutes and he played a quarter slot...and up came a royal flush! His take? A nice \$3,438!

Director Joan Rein's format for the Tournament of Champions had each player play two games vs. the same opponent, with alternate deals. For those few players who continue to deny the dealer's advantage, Buzz Railsback's (NE) scorecard had the dealer winning all 16 games! He scored 8 wins, as did his opponent...and the dealer of the first hand won them all!

The TOC Main Event had 486 players, the TOC Consolation 294. The JPW/ACC Open had 1,024 players, and the JPW/ACC Open Consolation had 800 players. Which event produced a 29-hand? Would you believe that the TOC Consolation had TWO 29-hands (Doug Henderson, WI, and Mona Wahlig, HI). The JPW/ACC Open Consolation had a 29-hand...Cecilia Richards (CA). Richards' 29 was worth \$100. Henderson and Wahlig scored their 29-hand in a non-sanctioned event (by invite only) and did not earn the \$100 bonus.

CW editor DeLynn Colvert was killing some time between games, when a shout "Judge" rang out. Curious, he walked over to see what was the problem. He was amazed at what he saw. Both pegs were in the starter's block, and the deck was face down on the center of the board. What could possibly be the problem? After judges arrived, one player complained that he had cut a jack in determining the dealer. The other player cut the deck, failed to show him the card, and claimed the deal. The \$10,000 first place prize can cause strict rules to be in play! The judges decision? Re-cut! And show your card!

Raldo Estridge (AK) had the most novel shirt. Emblazoned on a bright red shirt in huge white letters: "SHUT UP AND PLAY!"

The most generous player in the house? None other than Life Master Bob McCabe (WT). In the first 10 games of the JPW/ACC open he dealt his opponents TWO 28 hands! Mike Haggerty (MT) nailed the 1995 edition of this huge meet, qualifying first and finishing 3rd. This time around, the cribbage gods were not quite so generous. He waxed in FOUR DEALS in one game...and the bad luck continued for the rest of the day. He failed to qualify.

Martha Fingleton (WT) was also lamenting about a tough FIVE DEAL game...

Henry Douglass ran his usual winner-take-all \$20 pool, and some 110 players signed on for the \$2,200! Not a soul in the top 32 entered the pool. This had Douglass scurrying amongst the score cards to get a winner. 9 players in the top 64 played the pool, and each received \$245 each. The odds of 1 in 110 players not making the top 32 are astronomical!

Co-Director Roy Hofbauer (WA) scored 228-hands in the JPW/ACC Open (of 17 scored by the 1,024 players). Nevertheless he failed to qualify in either the Main or Consolation. In the Consolation, the 28-hand got him to the stinkhole! If he had won this tough game, he would have qualified. If he had scored a 29-hand, instead of the 28-hand, he would be \$100 richer...and would have qualified!

And speaking of the Tournament Directors, all failed to qualify for the playoffs. The enormous work load must have overwhelmed them: Scott Kooistra (SD), Jim and Joan Rein (MN), and Roy and Jeanne Hofbauer (WA). Kooistra is One-Star; Roy Hofbauer a Life Master; and Jeanne Hofbauer, Jim and Joan Rein are Grand Masters. A betting cribbage player would have lost a good wager on this quintuplet.

Mike Kuvvaas (OR) almost had the cribbage player's dream weekend. He finished 3rd in the TOC (\$4,250) and was making a move in the JPW/ACC playoffs before being knocked off in the 9-16 round (*only* another \$1,000!)

...and several hundred players were seen muttering... "Wait til next year!"

Jim Gogolin Takes Oregon Championship

Master pegger Jim Gogolin, Idley/d Park, OR, came away the winner at the recent 126-pegger Oregon Championship, held in Prineville, OR. This long-running event attracted a bevy of highly-ranked ACC players, and the cream came to the top.

Harvey Honeycutt, a former Grand National VIII champion (played in Prineville in 1989) finished 2nd, and is moving in on his Grand Master rating. Jerry Blackman, (OR) and Harold Buckley (AB) finished 3-4.

Master Don Hilton, director of the upcoming Mid-Columbia Open April 10-12 in Hood River, OR, came alive in the qualifying round, nailing a great 39 16/22 +344. He scored 7 skunks enroute to this top-qualifying score....and 65 MRP's!

The Consolation had 94 players and newly-crowned Grand Master Bernie Sauteressig (WA) came away the winner. Bruce Gentry (OR) took 2nd, with Doug Brown (WA) and George Rasmussen (WA) finishing 3-4. Both Brown and Rasmussen are Grand Masters.

The Time Passer on Friday saw two super scores in this 7-game match: Russell Ziolkowski (OR) scored a 167/7 +153 and Graeme Gossett (OR) scored a 167/7 +143. Who says spread points aren't important?

The doubles saw the duo of David Isaacson and Jordan Simmons come away the winner. Both are local Prineville players. Another local player...Dick Tooley...won the Last Chance.

The High Roller had Art Copeland (OR) taking home all the marbles, qualifying first, and winning the playoffs as well.

The Eagles Lodge were great hosts, with a reasonable bar and lunch for all the players. Director Marvis Reynolds kept this large event on track, with help from Bob St. Yves, and this Oregon Championship is still one of the Region's more popular events.

Florida Pegger Organizes Cribbage

Dave McGuire, Winter Haven, FL, says not all senior citizens want to compete in track and field events at the Polk Senior Games, and he suggested adding cribbage to the list of sports. The organizers of these games took him up on it and made him manager of the cribbage events.

McGuire said he had 30 players that first year. Now, these games are in the 5th year, and McGuire expects a whopping 125 players! He reports it is the fastest growing event in the senior games. This year's event will be played at 1:07 PM, March 4 at the Auburndale Civic Center. The deadline was February 13, but ACC players can enter next year. Call Deena Wilburat (813) 533-0055 for information.

Marvin Lewis Tops In Virginia

Marvin Lewis, Chesapeake, VA won the 7th Annual Virginia Championship played at the Holiday Inn on the Midlothian Turnpike. 90 players from states up and down the East coast participated in the six-event tournament.

Bernard Whitfield (NC) came close, but finished 2nd in the playoff round. Rick Bryant (MD) and Ray Meinert (VA) finished 3-4.

The hot hand in the qualifying round belonged to Master Cathy Perkins (NC). She scored a nice 33 16/20 +157 to take honors. She will host the National Open this summer in Raleigh (see "Tournament Trail" this issue).

The Consolation winner was Frank Bodogh of St. Catherine's, ON. Glen Gregoire (VA) finished 2nd....and took qualifying honors. Sharon Deane (VA) and Andy Hulcher (VA) nailed 3-4.

Cathy Perkins teamed with Ron Boisvert (VA) to take the "Opening Skirmish" doubles, and Dave Sniegowski (VA) won the "Old Dominion Special" on Saturday. Bruce Sattler (MD) won the High Rollers. Master Lucille Simpson (NY) won the "Last Hurrah" on Sunday.

Ron Girdley, a local pegger, scored the only 28-hand during the weekend.

Director Rick Allen reported that the local club did quite well in this event, with 7 players earning Master Points. He also reports that this Richmond club plays every 1st, 3rd and 5th Wednesday each month. Call (804) 288-2406 for information.

North Pole Open Ken Benson Wins In Wisconsin

Ken Benson braved the weather and came north from Michigan and nailed the 141-pegger North Pole Open on January 18. In besting this huge crowd, Benson took home 196MRP's and a sizeable top prize.

Glenn Gauthier (WI) took 2nd...and came away with his Master rating (ACC: 336). The 147 MRP's for finishing 2nd vaulted Gauthier over the 2,000 MRP mark (lifetime).

Two Illinois peggers finished 3-4: Sandy Stroup and Emilio Perez.

Todd Schaefer (MN) really put on a show in the qualifying round as he nailed one of the highest marks of the year...a great 42 GP score. This pegger finished 2nd nationally in 1997, and continues to burn up the track.

88 peggers played the Consolation, and another player burning up the track is Shawn Andrusko (MN). He qualified tops with an 18 GP card, and the MRP's keep him in the top five nationally this cribbage year. But Al Schaefer (WI) came away the winner in the playoffs. In an unusual twist, Schaefer won the Consolation in this event in 1997. One Star Jim McManus (WI) finished 2nd, with Fran Froelich (WI) and Grand Master Wayne Steinmetz (WI) in 3-4.

The Satellites:

Friday: Marge Stellmacher (WI)
Saturday: Karen Bouffrou (WI)
All Events: Max Steplyk (IL)

Directors Gene and Aggie Mikulsky reported two 28-hands...Ellen Swenson and Shawn Andrusko Swenson's came on Friday night, and Andrusko scored his in the sanctioned Main Event. This event continues to be a popular one, despite the frigid January weather.

Credit Card Update

Huston Kitts contacted CW to clarify the credit card being used for entry fees in the upcoming Central Virginia Classic (Sept. 18-20). **The 6% charge is for entry fees ONLY.** Your credit card will work in the normal way for all other charges.

Kitts also reports that last year almost every player won a cash prize or other prizes. This year's event will, once again, give away an armload of prizes. See "Tournament Trail" for further information.

Nifty "Coffee" Game

Linton Walker and John LaLonde were playing for a 50 cent cup of coffee...and it looked grim for Walker. He needed 22 points with first count to get his coffee for free.

He held a 2-2-3-4, and had a chance if the cut card went his way. Viola! Up came a 4! But he still needed four pegs. He gets a go, and luck would have it, he played his deuces back-to-back for 3...and out! The coffee was extra good that morning! These players peg at the Royal Canadian Legion in Prince George, BC.

John Mixer

Signs "Em Up In Colorado

John Mixer recently moved to Colorado Springs from Southern California, and he is in the process of organizing cribbage at his new homesite.

After advertising in the local paper, some 45 players showed, and they have formed a new Grass Roots club in Colorado Springs.

Wild Captain's Game

Roy Cook, Sharon Fly and Obie Weeks were playing Captain Cribbage on the Way to Reno (via Reno Air).

Cook is Captain needing 10 to win the game. His opponents need 58. Cook is licking his chops for an easy skunk game. Weeks deals, with Fly counting first. Cook cuts a 5 of spades (and he is holding a 3-4-10-J). **The 5 of spades gives Fly a 29-hand (her first ever).** Cook counts 2nd, after pegging 2 and 7 in his hand puts him in the stink hole. Weeks then counts a 14-hand and an 8-crib, and this duo pegged 8 points...and out!

Cook yelled to the stewardess to turn the plane around...Reno wasn't on his agenda at that moment!

In Memoriam

Joseph Baglione

Hull, Massachusetts

Joe passed away in November. He was a charter member of GR 141 and rarely missed a match in the six years of play. He was a retired school teacher in Massachusetts and a great cribbage player. He will be greatly missed by his friends and fellow peggers.

Zeke Veradt Takes Shawn's Special

Zeke Veradt, Taunton, MA, is nearing his Grand Master and he has yet to win a sanctioned Main Event...until February 8. He nailed the 84-pegger Shawn's Special in Woonsocket, RI. The 147 MRP's zip Veradt near the 4,000 mark and Grand Master.

David Clemmey (MA) already has his Grand Master and he added a few more MRP's by finishing 2nd. Bob Benes (MA), and John Boutiette (RI) came in 3-4.

George Lozy (RI) nipped Harry Palmer (MA) for qualifying honors, but Palmer's score will add to his nation-leading MRP total. In addition, he is knocking on the door for a One-Star rating. Lozy had only six more spread points than Palmer...and the top qualifier earned \$100. The 2nd qualifier? Oops...zip!

50 peggers played the Consolation and Sal Garofolo (CT) ran the table. He had the top qualifying score and went on to win the playoffs as well. Brenda Palmer (MA) took 2nd...and is nearing her Life Master (6,000 MRP's). Last year she scored a whopping 1,321 MRP's to lead the Eastern Region. Bob Cuningham (MA) and Irving Torrey (MA) finished 3-4.

A highlight of this event saw Phil Martin (CT) score the ACC's 11th 29-hand of the season. The ACC pays \$100 for a sanctioned 29.

Director Shawn Jordan reports he will play 'er again next Feb. 7, 1999. Mark your calendars.



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Doubles For Charity

On Sunday, March 29, a Doubles match will be played in Concannon's Village in Norwood, MA on Lenox St. Registration will be at 9:30 AM with the tournament beginning at 10 AM.

Entry fee is \$25 per player (\$50 per team) and free sandwiches and coffee will be provided.

The prize fund is \$1,000. The remainder will go to the cancer care or hospice programs at the local hospital. According to director Al Miller, this is a great way to support your local hospital.

For information:

Shawn Jordan
14 Chapel St.
Norwood, MA 02062-3144
(781) 769-1061

Ted Diamond Recuperating

Ted Diamond, Randolph, MA, is recuperating and doing well after having a heart transplant on November 20. Ted thanks all his cribbage friends for their phone calls, cards, and visits.