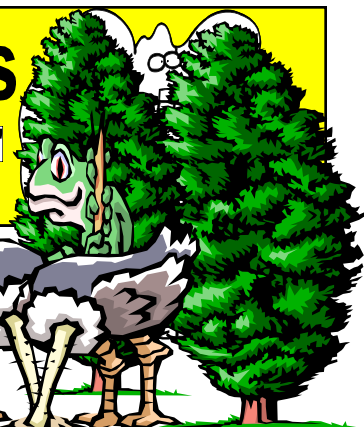




The OPAL 'GEM' Express

OPAL: "A real 'GEM' in YOUR Community!"

NLF2012-01 Sept. 10, 2012



SERVING YOU:	OPAL-APA
Merle Humphreys Boomer Humphreys	League Operators
Donna Kingsbury, Cindy Maddox, & Ann Simmons	Office Staff
John Blue: 503-481-0323	Area Manager
Office: 503-243-6725	Cell: 503-381-6725



HIDDEN (Except when in parenthesis) somewhere in this Newsletter are "5" APA Membership numbers just

waiting to be discovered. Well Starting out this session we have 8 clueless souls taking up residence in this week's Loser's Corner on the back page. Only one person called in from the last two weeks of newsletters to join **Dwight** in avoiding the unpleasantness of being showcased in the loser's corner. And, from the July 23rd newsletter that was: **Dena Green** (97212652) who plays for West Union's "X Q's R Slop" in the Northwest Double Jeopardy division. This means there will be 4 people each from both the July 16th, and the July 23rd Newsletters who will be finding themselves flailing around in the back page's loser's corner for your ridicule and viewing pleasure this week.

REMEMBER, You have only until the writing of the 2nd Newsletter following the one your number is in which means that there won't be a loser's corner until week after next. Meanwhile if you find your number, call the league office with the magic words **"Gimme My Shirt"** or it'll be off you go to where everyone can see you and laugh, giggle, and go yipppee 'cause they know there'll be a shirt waiting for them since you didn't take the time to find yours—

BE AN OPAL WINNER -- FIND YOUR NUMBER!

Las Vegas 2012

Riviera Hotel & Casino

Las Vegas, Nevada



August 16 — 25th The Riviera Hotel and Casino in Las Vegas was wall to wall pool players. Not just any pool players mind you, but APA pool players from all over the US, Canada, and Japan—Each with aspirations and high hopes of being part of a winning team that would be taking home big chunks of National APA prize monies.

From August 16 – 20st Running parallel to each other were the 400+ APA National Team 9-Ball Championships, The Ladies APA National 8-Ball Team Championships, and the APA open 8 & 9-Ball Scotch Doubles championships. From the 20th through the 25th it was the 732 team APA National 8-Ball Team Championships competing.

Running in parallel with that was the 192 board Triple Play Masters championship. Both **"The Coolers"** and **"What Would Laura Do?"** placed 65th in bridesmaid position and just out of the money.

We had six 9-Ball teams representing our Portland/Vancouver area. Unfortunately, there was no added prize money to go in any of their pockets, but at least they all blessed with enjoying a tremendous Las Vegas vacation.

We had seven 8-Ball teams competing in the 8-Ball Las Vegas team Championships. Making it to 129th Place and **\$1,000** was Back Alley's "The Ravens" from the Northern Double Jeopardy division with team captain **Back Alley's "The Ravens"** from the Northern Double Jeopardy division— with Team Captain: **Helen Hecimovich-Hahn**, and teammates--**Jonathan "Windex" Hahn, Brian Newcomb, Anthony Bittner, Brett Usher, Lindy Taylor, Kevin Randall, and Daniel Olson II.** They also had a marvelous time on vacation!

Neither of the two 8-Ball, or the one 9-Ball Scotch doubles pairs got to make it into the higher money, but in the Wheel-chair National Challenge event **Deana Butler** who plays for Jin's **"Done Did It"** in the Willamette Double Jeopardy division managed to just get into the money before finding herself on vacation.



We closed out Summer Session 2012 at KC's Midway in Oregon City hosting the event on Sunday Sept 2nd. **Craig & Carol Pauli**, and staff, hosted the event. There were very accommodating and had reduced beverage prices for everyone's enjoyment.

Greeting all the people with Hi's and smiles at the door were **Donna Kingsbury** and **Jack Spring** who ran the registration booth, taking money, answering questions etc, while **Boomer**, and **Cindy** perched themselves down in the lower pool room area handing out the new session folders.

From 8:30 AM till about 9:30 AM, **John Blue** spearheaded a group of volunteers namely: **Dan & Cynthia Fendall**, **Joe Dubanski**, **Corey Bananto**, **Ty Salsbury**, **Jeff Hiatt**, and **Charlie Walker**. Those people beautifully organized and set up the immense 3 table team trophy display in just under an hour. [Great job folks]

Merle, **Dan Fendall**, and brothers **Charlie**, & **Don Walker** organized and ran two tables of "Survivor APA" and a 9-Ball break contest. until it was time to give at the awards at 4 PM. Seven separate heats were run in both disciplines.

First, in the Seven \$3 entry 10-person break contests which paid \$20 for first and \$10 for second. Winning were: #1- **Charlie Walker** 1st, & **Brent Estep** 2nd; #2- **Chad Hepler** 1st, & **Danny Bettin** 2nd; #3- **Jeff Hiatt** 1st & **Charlie Walker** 2nd; #4- **Phil Sanders** 1st & **Hazel O'Connor** 2nd; #5- **Hazel O'Connor** 1st & **Phil Sanders** 2nd; #6- **Michael Bielman** 1st & **Bill Backman** 2nd; and #7- **Charlie Walker** 1st & **Jeff Hiatt** 2nd.

In the \$5 entry Survivor games, there were always 12 contestants in each game paying out \$30 for 1st \$20 for 2nd & \$10 for 3rd. The rules were simple—it was a 12 person ring game. When your turn came all you had to do was make a ball—any ball—in any pocket! If you missed 3 separate times during the course of the game you were eliminated. Last 3 people standing after everyone else had been eliminated made it into the money. There were a total of 7 heats completed. In Heat #1: 1st: **Dan Fendall**, 2nd: **Joe Dubanski**, 3rd: **Helen Hahn**. Heat #2: 1st: **Mr. Merle**, 2nd: **Andy Winslow**, 3rd: **Evan Moore**. In Heat #3: 1st: **Jonathan Hahn**, 2nd: **Dan Fendall**, 3rd: **Don Palacios**. In Heat #4: 1st: **Mr. Merle**, 2nd: **Don Palacios**, 3rd: **Jonathan Hahn**. Heat #5: 1st: **Don Palacios**, 2nd: **Jonathan Hahn**, 3rd: **Kevin Jones**. Heat #6: 1st: **Don Palacios**, 2nd: **Jason Alexander**, and 3rd: **Jonathan Hahn**, and in Heat #7: 1st: **Jonathan Hahn**, 2nd: **Kim Norn**, and 3rd: **Pete Lowe**.

The Tri-Cup Draws were scheduled for 2:30 PM... Unfortunately, when 2:30 came around **Merle** was playing in the finals of the 4th heat of Survivor [which by a fluke he won :)] and ultimately this made him 15 minutes late getting the draw started. Had he not been late, probably the process would have been completed with plenty of time to spare before the award presentation ceremony. As it was—even with snagging Teena Mowery as his able bodied (Continued on Page 3.)

Donna

Jack



Registration

Boomer

Cindy



The Trophies





(Continued from Page. 2) assistant —the draw process didn't get finished out front in Midway's eating area until right at 4 PM when it was time to start the awards presentations.

Emcee'd by **Boomer** and **John Blue** with assistance from some helpers the awards went off very smoothly. . Approximately 1500 Special Awards, Certificates of Merit, and Trophies were handed out.

League play trophies included: MVP, Most Improved,

Sportsmanship, 1st place host location, and first and second place individual team trophies. Certificates of Merit were given for shutouts, Break & Runs, Table Runs, and 8, or 9 on the break.

Meanwhile, as the awards were handed out Merle was set up for digital pictures out the back disarmed emergency door to the alleyway for anyone wanting team pictures.

Throughout the afternoon **John Blue** and his many assistants gave away a whole lot of Door prizes. Winning a very nice Chip 'n Dip Billiard Bowl donated by Charlie Scholl was Kim Norn.

Winning Cue stick's given to OPAL on a great discount from the Cue Ball in Salem were: **Roy Estep—Seattle Sea Hawk Series Cue**, **Buck Campbell—Blue Cue Tec**, and **David Vernwald—Silver Cue Tec**.

Special thanks to Carol & Kraig Pauli, and crew of Midway for all their hard work in hosting this session end party event, and to all the people who helped out with the trophy display setup, special activities, and registration. It was truly most appreciated. Thank you one and all—you really helped to make the day special.



Capt.-Co-Captain Tournament



The first Saturday beginning the new session is the OPAL day of appreciation for all those who commanded teams the previous session. Rodders in Oregon City hosted the 26 player turnout. With the \$15 per player entry, and \$60 in added money from Rodder's and OPAL we had a total payout purse of \$450 which was paid to the top '12' finishers in the field.

The 32 Board tournament chart was modified single elimination which meant that every player was guaranteed to play at least two times, but beginning the 3rd round in the winners side it then became single elimination. The format was patterned similar to that of the US Amateur in that both 8-Ball and 9-Ball games were usually played. The winner of the lag had first choice of either to break or to name the game. If the lag winner chose to break then the opponent chose what game to play first. If the lag winner chose to name the game then the opponent got to break. Skill level 2 & 3's had to win 2 games; Skill Level 4 & 5's had to win 3 games; and Skill level 6 & 7's had to win a total of four games.

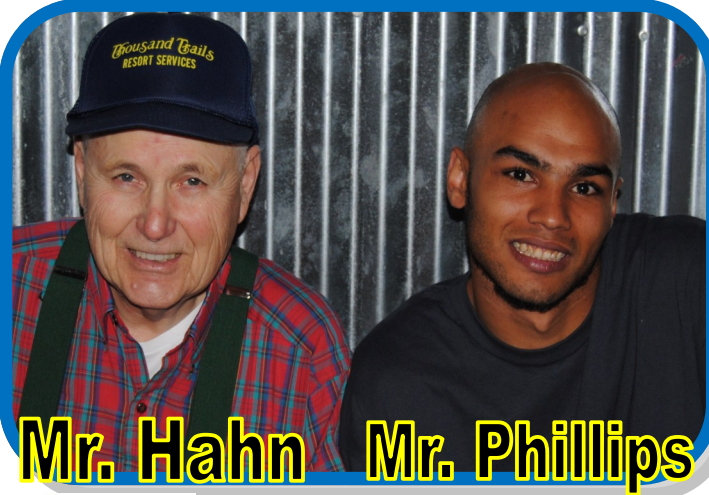
We got started around 12:30 Pm just after everyone was registered, the board drawn, and a brief player's meeting. We used all of the diamond tables in the front section and the event progressed quickly. The final match ended at 6:00 PM. Everyone had a great time. **Special kudo's** to the Rodder's Staff & Crew who did a wonderful job as hosts for this event. Also, to **Don "Coyote" Walker** for officiating and helping **Merle** with setting up the tournament.

The race to the "bragging rights" was an interesting journey for both finalists. For **Jonathan** (SL-7) **Hahn**, Captain of "The Ravens" who plays out of Back Alley in the Northern Double Jeopardy division, was a direct undefeated flight all the way to the finals. He began by knocking **Bobby** (SL-5) **Green** to the back side 4-1. In Round 2 he defeated **Andrew** (SL-6) **Amo** 4-1 sending him following Bobby. Next he blasted **Dim** (SL-6) **Dy** 4-Zip sending him to the outside with \$15. in traveling money. In the next Round, freshly coming back from the loser's side, he 4-Zipped **Jay** (SL-4) **Pruitt**, leaving him behind with \$25 5th place money. Next **Jonathan** defeated **Joe** (SL-6) **Amo** 4-1 to await the finals. Joe got \$50 for 3rd place.

Meanwhile, **Jonathan** (SL-5) **Phillips** who Co-Captain's Fortune Star's "Kung Fu Cues" in the Far East division started out of the gate losing a double hill thriller to **Jay** (SL-4) **Pruitt**. 2-3. In the one-loss side took out **Don** (SL-6) **Palacios** 3-1. Then **Jonathan** went double hill against **Lou** (SL-5) **Choquette** then took the case game to move back across to the winner's side where he was matched up with **Stephanie** (SL-3) **Tafolla**. Right out of the gate **Stephanie** was on the hill. **Jonathan** rallied and took the next 3 games straight to win the match 3-1, leaving **Stephanie** with \$25 in her pocket for her trip home. Next Mr. Phillips took on **Helen** (SL-3) **Hahn** and defeated her 3-Zip, but leaving her with \$50 in 3rd place money to move into the finals against the waiting **Jonathan** (SL-7) "Windex" **Hahn**.

The Finals was a race to 3 for Mr. Phillips and a race to 4 for Mr. Hahn who won the lag, so. Mr. Phillips named 8-Ball. Mr. Hahn Took both games of 8-Ball, and then they switched to 9-Ball. Mr. Hahn took the first game of 9-Ball putting himself on the hill. Mr. Phillips won the next two games also putting himself on the hill. Mr. Hahn came back with a win in the final game 5 to seal the victory and the top money-\$110, and all the bragging rights to being the champion of the 2012 Summer Session Capt & Co-Capt Tournament. For 2nd place Mr. Phillips received \$80.

Special kudo's to Rodder's Staff & Crew who did a wonderful job as hosts for this event. Also, to Don "Coyote" Walker for officiating and helping Merle with getting the tournament organized and underway..



Mr. Hahn Mr. Phillips

Submitted By:
Donna Kingsbury



The guys were all at a deer camp. No one wanted to room with John because he snored so badly. They decided it wasn't fair to make one of them stay with him the whole time, so they voted to take turns.

Coyote was the first to sleep in the tent with John. The next morning he came to breakfast with his hair a mess and his eyes all bloodshot. The guys said, "Man, what happened?" Coyote said, "John snored so loud, I couldn't sleep. I just sat up & watched him all night."

The next night it was Terry's turn. Next morning, same thing, hair standing up, eyes all bloodshot. They said, "Man, what happened to you? You look awful!" Terry said, "Man, that John shakes the tent with his snoring. I just laid awake watching and listening to him all night."

The third night was Anton's turn. Anton was a tanned, older cowboy—a man's man. The next morning he came to breakfast bright-eyed and well rested. "Good morning!" he said. The guys couldn't believe it. They said, "Man, what happened? You look great!" Anton said, "Well, we got ready for bed. I tucked John into bed, patted him on the butt, and kissed him on his forehead good night. John sat up and watched me all night." *With age comes wisdom..!*



The 8 people listed below are verified losers. The first 4 are from the July 16th and the last 3 are from the July 23th Newsletters. If you see any of these people let 'em have your best razzing. Laugh it up, smile, loudly get everyone's attention, point at 'em, and then give 'em the old "L" sign,—all the while thanking 'em for leaving a shirt in the box just for you!

1—JOHN SWIFT (97216405) who plays for Hobo's "Rack Attack" in the Downtown division.

2—CASSIE HAMMOND (97216572) who plays for Rodder's "Under The Influence" in Willamette DJ div.

3—SHANNON JENKINS (97217302) who plays for Fortune Star's "The Other Guys" in Far East D. J. Div.

4—ROBERT HADLEY (97211011) who plays for River Road House's "Table Scraps" in the Southeast div.

5—MARIESA DOMBY (97206644) who plays for "Korner Pocket" in the MIDNIGHT Dbl. Jeop. division.

6—MIKE CRENSHAW (97212967) who plays for Shamrock's "V.O.B." in the Sunrise Dbl. Jeop. division.

7—ERIC HARMON (97216467) who plays for Fortune Star's "Devil's Rejects" in the Farside Dbl. Jeop. div.

8—DAVID TATE (97217831) who plays for Fortune Star's "Fugetaboutit" in the Parkrose Dbl. Jeop. Div,

If you don't want to be caught here for everyone to see, then look to see if your number isn't hidden somewhere. **REMEMBER**, it is possible for your number to come up at anytime. Therefore, pay 97205274 attention to detail, **READ THE NEWSLETTER..!**

