



THE OPAL 'GEM' EXPRESS



NLF 2012-5

October 8, 2012

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Original Pool Amateur League
(OPAL:) "A Real 'GEM'
In YOUR Community!"



HIDDEN

(Except when in parenthesis) somewhere in this Newsletter are "5" APA Membership numbers just waiting to be discovered. No one from the Sept 25th newsletter called in which means there's going to be a Loser's Party of five for your viewing eyes this week.

However, from the Oct 1 Newsletter. **Ron Pfingsten** (97205902) who plays for Dodge City's "Lucky Break" in the River City 9-Ball division, **Mike Padden** (97207263) who plays for Legends' "Mr. 8-Ball" in the Clark Co Division, **Steve Chandler** (97290156) who plays for Dodge City's "Shark B8" and **Linda Huber** (97218895) who plays for Royal Panda's "Scrambled Together" all called in this week to and claim their shirts. Looks like the cooler weather jump started some of you to read! There is still 1 number out there from this past week, plus the "5" new one's from this week. So that's 6 numbers. Grab your magnifying glasses and get hunting or you'll be seen on the back of the very next newsletter like those silly loser's you can see this week.

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REMEMBER, You have only until the writing of the 2nd Newsletter following the one your number is in to call the league office with the magic words "Gimme My Shirt" Otherwise, you'll find yourself in the Loser's Corner for all to see, and minus a shirt that'll go to someone else! So, don't let that happen to you...Grab your glasses & Magnifying lens and get to looking!

Singles Regionals October 6th

Jake's Bar 'n Grill in Salem hosted the NW APA Fall 8 Ball Singles Regional with **Randee Lee** of Salem, APA League Operator as the tournament director, and **Merle & Boomer** assisting. There were 45 players that were qualified. All were hoping for one of the total of 3 slots to the APA National 8-Ball Singles Championship at the Riviera in Las Vega during April 2013. In 8-Ball there was one Yellow Tier (SL-4) slot, one Red Tier (SL-5) slot and one Purple Tier (SL's 6 & 7) slots. The Format was Modified Single elimination.

In the Yellow tier (SL-4) OPAL player Nick Skellenger, won his first match against Independence resident, **Ken Gardner**, he second match against OPAL's **Amber Wiltgen** then got knocked into the one-loss side by Salem's **David Woodall**. He then won his next match against Dallas' **David McCarty** to get back to the winner's side of the bracket. The won his match against OPAL's **Dee West** to come up against his arch nemesis **David Woodall** in the finals. This time, **Nick** would not be denied. **Nick** shutout **David** 3-0 in the finals to claim the first slot to the National Team Championships in Las Vegas. (cont'd on page 2)



SINGLES REGIONAL (Continued)

In the Red (SL-5) Tier Board, both finalists made it to the finals undefeated. OPAL's **Chip Bugbee** got to the finals by winning matches against OPAL players **Garrick Mixon**, **Connie Carlson**, **Bobby Green** and **Jim Andrews**. Salem's **Calvin Hoover** made it to the finals by defeating OPAL's **Kim Norn**, **Jim Lehman**, **Mikhel Talviste** and **Jeff Hiatt**. So here we go! Just like the Civil War, North vrs South. **Calvin** got off to an early lead by winning the first 3 games in a race to 4. **Chip** rallied back by winning the next two games. **Calvin** and **Chip** battled it out in game 6.



When the dust settled Calvin came out the victor claiming the next spot to the National Singles Championships.

In the Purple Tier (SL 6 & 7) OPAL's **Tim Higginson** started his journey to the finals by winning his match against Sheridan's **Kevin Grindy**, only to get knocked into the one-loss side by OPAL's **Jimi Bailey**. He then proceeded to win his next two matches against OPAL's **Kevin Jones** and Salem's **Traci Magnussen** to meet OPAL's **Robbie Solomon** back on the winner's side of the bracket. **Tim** made it through that match to land on the point to wait to see who his opponent



would be in the finals. Meanwhile, on the bottom half of the bracket. OPAL's Super Senior, **Jonathan Hahn**, sliced and diced his way to the finals with some tough battles against OPAL's **David Scarth**, Salem's **Tony Tipton**, OPAL's **Will Ullman** and **David Scarth** again. In the finals, **Tim** got off to an early lead by doing a break and run in the first game. Then he made his one and only mistake by letting **Jonathan** get to the table. **Jonathan** took the next 5 games straight to claim the last slot of the day for the National Championships.

On Sunday, **October 7**, Kolby's located in Keizer was the site for the 9 Ball Singles regionals. 33 players were qualified to participate with 3 slots available for the National 9 Ball Singles Championships to be held in Las Vegas in April 2013. There were two slots available in the White Tier (SL 4 & 5) and one slot available in the Black Tier (SL 6-9)

Bend's **Curt Mayo** got a really check when he lost to his first opponent, OPAL's **Maxine Buhler**. **Curt** then worked his way through the one-loss side of the bracket with wins against OPAL's **John Seymour**, **Brian Holgate** and **Mikhel Talviste** to end up in the finals against OPAL's **David Starr**.

In the finals, **Curt** got off to an early lead with a score of 10-3 in the first two games. Then **David** rallied back to have the lead games 3 and 4. At the end of games 5 and 6, it was nearly a dead heat with **Curt** needing 4 points and **David** needing 5. **Curt** was able to keep **David** at bay and claimed the first slot to the National 9 Ball Singles Championships.



Meanwhile, on the bottom half of the White Tier, OPAL's **Jeff Hiatt** went to the finals undefeated with wins against OPAL's **Claire Lewis**, Salem's **Rudy Reyna** and OPAL's **Jim Andrews**. (cont'd on page 3)

Page 3. NLF97292088 OPAL: "A real 'GEM' in YOUR Community!"

Singles Regionals cont'd

OPAL's first timer, **Paul Hampton** took the long way to the finals. He won his first match against Salem's **Bev Schantz** only to get knocked into the one-loss side by OPAL's **Jim Andrews**. **Paul** then worked his way through the back side with wins against OPAL's **Claire Lewis** and again **Bev Schantz** to land in the finals. In the final matchup, **Jeff** took off with a commanding lead with a score of 28-14 after the first 5 games. But wait, don't count out **Paul** yet! **Paul** chipped away at **Jeff's** lead ending up with a score of 33-29 going in to the last game in a race to 38. **Paul** managed to get three balls in the last rack before **Jeff** put the hammer down and pocketed his last 5 balls to take the next slot to the National Singles Championships.



In the Black Tier (SL 6-9), OPAL's **Kim Norn** worked her way through the winner's side of the bracket undefeated with wins against OPAL's **Kevin Jones**, Salem's **Danny Miotke** and OPAL's **Brian Goodrow** placing her firmly on the point and a long wait for her opponent. OPAL's **Jonathan Hahn** took the loooong way to the finals. He got a win against Salem's **Toan Lam** only to get kicked to the one-loss side by Corvallis' **Bret Sherman**. He got the win against OPAL's **Chip Bugbee** then on to **Toan Lam** again. For us watching, it seemed like the match would never end. Both were playing well and the match was close all the way with each of them using their skill and strategy

to chip away at the number of points each of them needed to go to the finals. In the end, **Jonathan** won that match and faced **Kim** in the finals. Unfortunately for **Kim**, **Jonathan** was like a runaway train. He could not be stopped. Rack after rack, he pounded away at his lead over her. If she even got to the table, which was not often, she was hooked. Finally, in the 8th rack Kim was given an open table and able to pocket 6 balls in a row. A glimmer of hope? No, **Jonathan** would have none of it. He showed no mercy as he shut her out of the next two racks to take the last spot to Vegas.

The winner's of this Singles Regionals tournament will be joined by the winner's of this coming Spring Singles Regionals to participate in the National Singles Championships held at the Riviera Hotel and Casino in Las Vegas on April 25-27. In addition to the plaque that they received at Regionals, each participant will receive a commemorative jacket, travel allowance, partial lodging and \$100 in cash. Depending on how well they do in the tournament they will receive additional cash and prizes up to \$15,000 for 8 ball and \$10,000 for 9 Ball. Each skill level tier will produce a national champion. Congratulations to all of the winners and good luck in Vegas.



Page 4. NLF2012-05 OPAL: "A real 'GEM' in YOUR Community!"

Tickets are on sale for the WPBA National 9 Ball Championships at Chinook Winds

November 7-11

Go to chinookwindscasino.com to purchase tickets "Entertainment", "Buy Tickets"

November 7 Charity Pro-Am 7 pm \$15 (all proceeds are donated to local charities)

November 8 AM session \$10 PM session \$15

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November 9 AM session \$10 PM session \$15

November 10 Quarterfinals \$30 for all day pass

November 11 Semi Finals and Finals \$30 for all day pass

Entry Packet for the Chinook Winds 9 Ball Challenge are at pacificnw.apaleagues.com

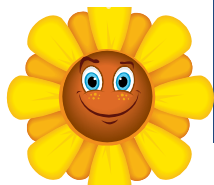
Some Funnies submitted by Cindy Maddox

My friend has a lifesaving tool in her car which is designed to cut through a seat belt if she gets trapped. She keeps it in her trunk.

While working at a pizza parlor I observed a man ordering a small pizza to go. He appeared to be alone and the cook asked him if he would like the pizza cut into 4 pieces or 6. He thought about it for some time and then said "Just cut it into 4 pieces; I don't think I'm hungry enough to eat 6 pieces."

A man was driving when he saw the flash of a traffic camera. He figured that his picture had been taken for exceeding the limit, even though he knew that he was not speeding. Just to be sure, he went around the block and passed the same spot, driving even more slowly, but again the camera flashed. Now he began to think that this was quite funny, so he drove even slower as he passed the area again, but the traffic camera again flashed. He tried a fourth time with the same result. He did this a fifth time and was now laughing when the camera flashed as he rolled past, this time at a snail's pace. Two weeks later, he got five tickets in the mail for driving without a seat belt.

You can't fix stupid



The five persons listed below are "Losers" from the Sept 25th Newsletter. If you happen to see these individuals, give 'em your best razzing. And don't forget to give 'em the old "L" sign,—while thanking 'em for leaving a shirt in the box—possibly just for you!

1—BILL WIDICK (97212093) who plays for Timbers's "**Wolf Pack**" in the Gateway DJ division

2—JANINA THOMAS (97213342) who plays for Jo's Saloon's "**Stix & Chicks**" in the **Willamette DJ** Division.

3—ANGELA DUNNING (97218506) who plays for Jin's "**Chicks & Sticks**" in the **Southeast DJ** Division.

4—DANIELLE O'JONES (97215575) who plays for Rodder's "**We Have Social Problems**" in the Southeast DJ division

5—JASON KOUCHES (97218691) who plays for Legend's "**Wait For It**" in the River City division

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 attention to detail, **READ THE NEWSLETTER..!**

