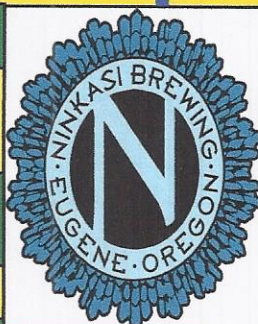


# The OPAL 'GEM' Express

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

**NLF2014-01 Sept. 15, 2014**

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**HIDDEN** (Except when in

parenthesis) somewhere in this Newsletter are "10" APA

Membership numbers just waiting to be discovered. (No Newsletter last week so 10 #'s this week) Starting out this session we have 7 clueless souls taking up residence in this week's Loser's Corner on the back page. Only one person called in from the July 14th newsletter and that was: **Dena Green** (97212652) who plays for West Union's "X Q's R Slop" in the Northwest Double Jeopardy division.. And, from the July 23rd newsletter that was: **Becky Beckensten** (97205698) who plays for Pub 181's "Sticklerz" in the Farside D.J. division. From the July 21'st Newsletter we had two people find their number. They were: **Crystal Funderburk** (97217285) who plays for Scotty's "Having Said That" in the Sunset D.J. division, and **Robert Moody** (97208506) who plays for Back Alley's "Sloppy Joes" in the Clark County D.J. division. Therefore we'll see 7 people who will be 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. So, if you find your number, call the league office with the magic words **"Gimme My Shirt"** or you'll be seen in the loser's corner ! **BE AN OPAL WINNER --- FIND YOUR NUMBER!**



**August 14 — 24th** The Riviera Hotel and Casino in Las Vegas was stuffed with 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 458+ 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 20<sup>h</sup> through the 25<sup>th</sup> it was the 732 team APA National 8-Ball Team Championships competing.

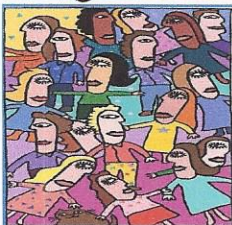
Running in parallel with that was the Aug. 19-22nd 256 team Triple Play Masters championship. **"The Vultures"** placed 65th and **"The Coolers"** placed 97th just one and two spots out of the money respectively.

Aug. 14-24 we had six 9-Ball teams representing our Portland/Vancouver area. **"Works For Us"** & **"Shot Effect"** finished 65th & won \$500. The other 4 teams received last place money and enjoyed a tremendous Las Vegas vacation.

We had seven 8-Ball teams competing in the Aug. 17-24th Championships. 3 teams made it to 129th Place and \$1,000. They were: **"A Roast Beef Sammich," "Cheap Dates,"** and **"8-9 Suited."** The other 4 teams however received their last place money of \$350 had a great time enjoying their hard fought for Las Vegas vacation.

In the Aug. 17-19th Jack 'n Jill Scotch doubles category, **"Yogi & Boo Boo"** (**Jim & Karen Upshaw**) finished out of the money in 193rd place. However **"About Time"** with **Stacy "kiss kiss" Enriquez & Joe "Dabba Dabba Doo" Dubanski** went all the way to 17th place and won \$300.





We closed out Summer Session 2014 at KC's Midway in Oregon City hosting the event on Sunday August 31st. **Kraig & 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 **Tim & Cindy Saunders** who ran the registration booth, taking money, answering questions etc, while **Boomer**, and assorted helpers perched themselves down in the lower pool room area handing out the new session folders.

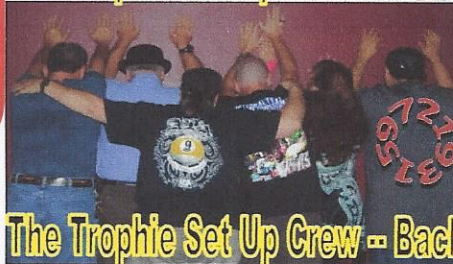
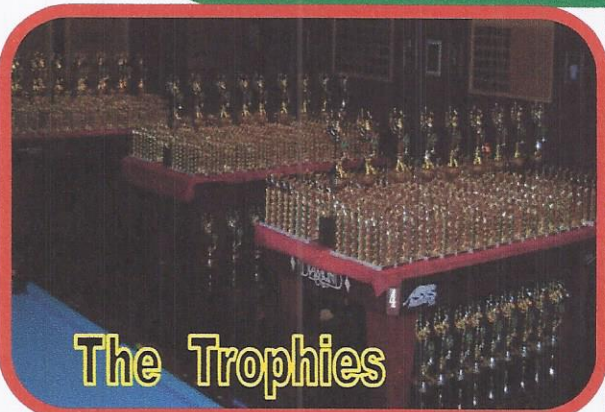
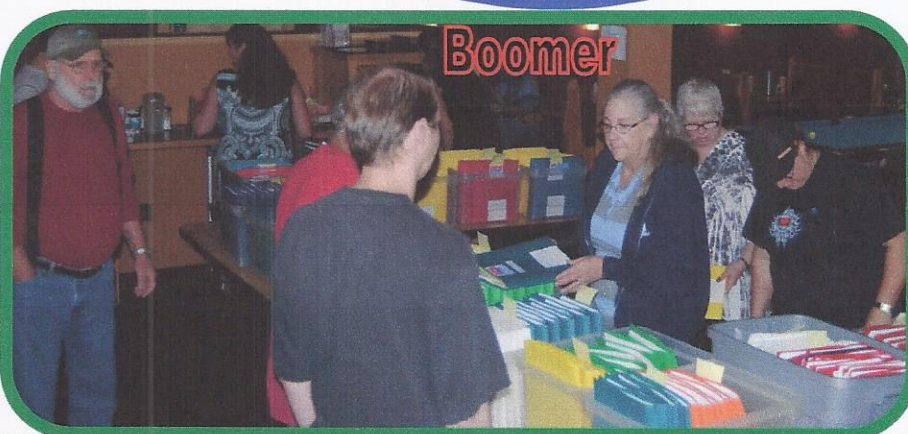
From 8:30 AM till about 9:30 AM, **John Blue** spearheaded a group of volunteers namely: **Dan Fendall, Joe Dubanski, Andrew Amador, Maxine Buhler, Jeff Hiatt**, and **Julie Duvall**. Those people beautifully organized and set up the immense 3 table team trophy display in just under an hour. [Great job folks]

**Merle, Dan Fendall**, and **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. Six heats of Survivor and eleven 9-Ball break contests were ran.

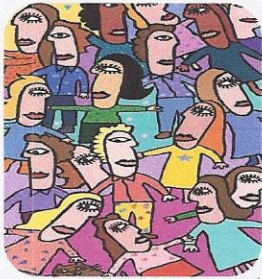
First, n the Eleven \$3 entry 10-person break contests which paid \$20 for first and \$10 for second. Winning were: #1-**Scott Hawley** 1st, & **Tarek Zaher** 2nd; #2-**Tarek Zaher** 1st, & **Ted Baden** 2nd; #3-**Jeff Hiatt** 1st & **Tarek Zaher** 2nd; #4-**Buck Campbell** 1st & **Ted Baden** 2nd; #5-**Dwayne Larsen** 1st & **Pauline Fox** 2nd; #6-**Dale Jones** 1st & **Pauline Fox** 2nd; #7-**Aaron Plantenberg** 1st & **Dale Jones** 2nd; #8-**Aaron Plantenberg** 1st & **Don Walker** 2nd; #9-**Amber Jones** 1st & **Dwayne Larson** 2nd; #10-**Don Walker** 1st & **Tyler Hanson** 2nd; and #11-**Dale Jones** 1st & **Aaron Plantenberg** 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: **Joe Dubanski**, 2nd: **Mr. Merle**, 3rd: **Jason Alexander**. Heat #2: 1st: **Jason Gilbert**, 2nd: **Gerri Moler**, 3rd: **Tyson Croonquist**. In Heat #3: 1st: **Tarek Zaher**, 2nd: **Tim Higginson**, 3rd: **Jason Gilbert**. In Heat #4: 1st: **Missy Cnossen**, 2nd: **Tyson Croonquist**, 3rd: **Kris Knutson**. Heat #5: 1st: **Eric Stedman**, 2nd: **Julie Duvall**, 3rd: **Mike Black**. Heat #6: 1st: **Adam Drew**, 2nd: **Mike Howland**, and 3rd: **Tyson Croonquist**, and in Heat #7: 1st: **Adam Drew**, 2nd: **Phil Sanders**, and 3rd: **Tyson Croonquist**.

The Tri-Cup Draws went off with 9-Ball first around 2:30 in the afternoon with **Merle** and able bodied volunteers ??? **Maxine Buhler**, and **Cynthia Fendall** assisting. Once we got through drawing out the teams with common players the rest of the draw went smoothly and quickly. A brief recess to prepare for the 8-Ball draw and we were off and running once again. We finished up with about 20 minutes to spare giving **John** plenty of time for Door Prize give-a-ways (Continued on Pg 3.)







(Continued from Page. 2) 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.

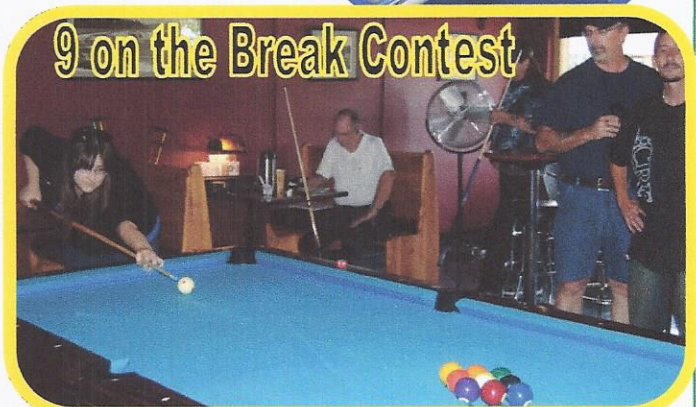
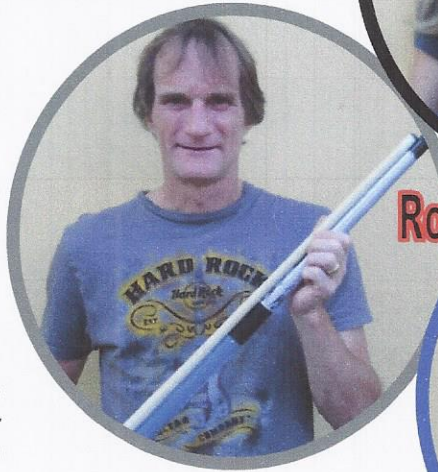
League play trophies included: Male & Female MVP, Most Improved, Sportsmanship, 1st place host location, and first and second place individual team trophies. Certificates of Merit were given for shutouts, Break & Runs, Table Runs, and 8, or 9 on the break.

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.

Winning Cue stick's given to OPAL on a great discount from the Cue Ball in Salem were: **Shelly Furio—winning the Black Cue Tec Cue, Robert Jacobson who won the Silver Cue Tec Cue, and Mr. Tim Higginson who won the Blue Cue Tec Cue.**

About \$300 in additional door prizes were given out which included Cue balls, bat wings, pocket chalkers and other Accessory items for the player and the game of pool as well

**Special thanks to Carol & Kraig Pauli, and crew of Mid-way 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 23 player turnout. With the \$15 per player entry, and \$65 in added money from Rodder's and OPAL we had a total payout purse of \$410 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 12:15 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. (Continued P. 4)**



## Capt.-Co-Captain Tournament

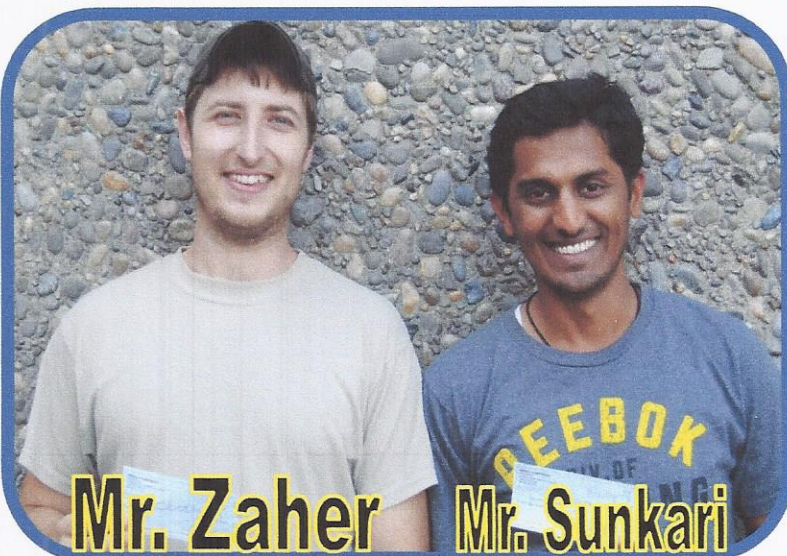


The race to the "bragging rights" was an interesting journey for both finalists. For **Tarek** (SL-7) **Zaher**, Co-Captain of "Sotally Tober" who plays out of KC's Midway in the Southern D. J. division, it was a direct undefeated flight all the way to the finals. He began by knocking **Jeff** (SL-6) **Gibbons** to the back side 4-2. In Round 2 he defeated **Scott** (SL-5) **Shoburg** 4-1 sending him following **Jeff**. Next he blasted **Brandon** (SL-4) **Shrum** 4-1 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 **Tyson** (SL-6) **Croonquist**, leaving him behind with \$25 5th place money. Next **Tarek** barely defeated **Dallas** (SL-5) **Roemeling** in a double / double hill thriller 4-2 to move into the finals. Dallas got \$40 for his 3rd place finish.

Meanwhile, **Clyde** (SL-5) **Sunkari** 97213215 who Captain's Bull Mountain's "Outlaws" in the Midwest D.J. division started out of the gate by getting 3-zipped by **Dara**(SL-5) **Koch**. In the one-loss side **Clyde** avenged his loss by wiping out **Gerrie** (SL-4) **Moler** 3-Zip. Then, followed that with still another 3-zip win against **Stephanie** (SL-3) **Tafolla** and moved back across to the winner's side where he was matched up with **Don** "Coyote" (SL-7) **Walker**. Right out of the gate **Clyde** took the first two games of 8-Ball and put himself straight to the hill. "Ol' Coyote" rallied and took the next 3 games of 9-Ball straight to tie the match up double hill. **Clyde** glided the pedal to the metal and won the case game winning the match 3-3, leaving "Coyote" in 5th place with \$25 in his pocket for his trip back home. Next **Mr. Sunkari** took on **Dave** (SL-4) **Solana**. **Dave** won the first game, then **Clyde** went 3 and out to win the match 3-1, but leaving Dave with \$50 in 3rd place money to move into the finals against the waiting **Tarek** "The Terrible" (SL-7) **Zaher**.

The Finals was a race to 3 for **Mr. Sunkari** and a race to 4 for **Mr. Zaher** who won the lag, so. **Mr. Sunkari** named 8-Ball. **Tarek** "The Terrible" Took both games of 8-Ball, and then they switched to 9-Ball where **Mr. Zaher** showed no mercy as he took the first two games of 9-Ball to claim the match 4-zip and the top money of-\$100, and all the bragging rights to being the champion of the 2014 Summer Session Capt & Co -Capt Tournament. For 2nd place **Mr. Sunkari** received \$70.

**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. Zaher Mr. Sunkari

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## Summer 9-Ball Tri-Cup Results

**SEPTEMBER 14—16thm Rodder's and KC's Midway in Oregon City** graciously co-hosted our OPAL-APA Fall Session 9-Ball Tri-Cup. Rodder's hosted the Sunday finals. The Hosts and crews of both places did a nice job as hosts. Other then some microphone connection problems at Rodder's everything seemed to go along pretty smooth logistically.

There were 39 9-Ball division finalist teams competing in the Modified Single elimination format,— which was double elimination through the first 2 rounds transcending into single elimination beginning the third round. It was a weekend of close competition with many of the team matches going right down to the last rack to decide a winner. However, if a team reached 50 points with three match wins, or got to 51 points then the match was declared over.

We had a total payout fund of \$13,236 which was dispersed throughout the entire field. 75% of the total matches came down to double hill and almost half of those came down to the last rack. We ran one round on Friday night, three rounds on Saturday, and concluded on Sunday with four rounds finishing up at 7:30 PM. An interesting statistic this time around was that only 2 of the 6 teams that lost on Friday lost their very next match to be put out of the tournament. Apparently Summer Re-Runs wasn't part of the curriculum! The final results were as follows:

**FINISHING 33-39th and winning \$150 were:** **Wrangler's** "Rebels & Outlaws," **River Road House's** "Off In Church," **Ballad Town's** "Pokers & Stokers," **Nite Hawk's** "Wild Wranglers," **Dugout's** "A Stick Shy," **McAnulty & Barry's** "Blackout," and **Back Alley's** "Blackbird!"

**FINISHING 25-32nd and winning \$200 was** **Wrangler's** "Motley Cues," **River Road House's** "Secret Society," **Andy Inn's** "Andy's Bar," **Silver Star Saloon's** "Degener8s," **The Spot's** "Just for" (Continued on Pg 5.)