

Sept 27, 2014
NLF2014-03

06191279



HIDDEN
(Except when in parenthesis)
Somewhere in this Newsletter are "5" APA

Membership numbers.

From the September 15th newsletter no one else has called in to utter the magic words and claim their prize. NOT ONE! This means there's a party of "8" for your viewing pleasure in this week's Loser's Corner for you to ridicule & laugh at.

From the Sep. 22nd Newsletter guess how many people found their freaking number and called in? Well I'll tell you...NONE! NADA...ZILCH, AND ZIP! Guess there's going to be lots of orphan shirt's that's going to be feeling mighty rejected if people don't wake up and call in.

There are exactly "5" old numbers out there plus the "5" new ones from this current week for a total of 10 numbers to be found. If you haven't checked over the last Newsletter get off your butts and go look.

REMEMBER, You have only until the publishing of the 2nd Newsletter following the one your number is in to call the league office with the magic words **"Gimme My Shirt"** Otherwise, it's off you go to the loser's corner where everyone can see you and laugh, giggle, snort, and snicker, tee hee, ha ha, because they know there'll be a shirt waiting for them seeing how you didn't get yours—Don't let it happen to you.

BE AN OPAL WINNER - FIND YOUR NUMBER

for food, smoke, fresh air, and (Continued Page 2.)

The OPAL GEM EXPRESS



SERVING YOU:

OPAL-APA

Merle Humphreys
Boomer Humphreys

League
Operators

Donna Kingsbury, and
Cindy Saunders

Office Staff

John Blue: 503-481-0323

Area Manager

Office: 503-243-6725

Cell: 503-381-6725

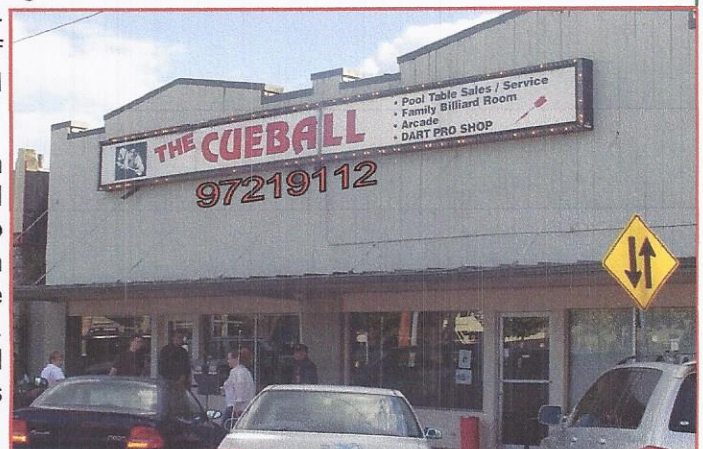
US Amateur Preliminary IT WASN'T A WASHINGTON SWEEP!

The Cue Ball in Salem, owned by Jim Lebold, hosted the Western Regional US Amateur Preliminary on Saturday September 27th, with Merle as director. There were 45 entries representing multiple western regional states (Oregon, Washington, Idaho, and Nevada). (12 women & 33 men) Participation was open to any amateur—regardless of Skill Level or league affiliation—who sent in their entry to APA Headquarters in St. Louis prior to the sign up window closing in June 15, 2014.

The format was double elimination—race to 7 for the men and a race to 5 for the women. The races usually required a combination of both 8-Ball and 9-Ball. The winner of the Lag received the choice of either breaking—**OR**—naming the category of games to be played first. If the lag winner chose to break then the opponent got to choose either 9-Ball, or 8-Ball, to play first. On the other hand, if the lag winner chose the game then the opponent took the break first and it was winner break thereafter. For the Men, if 9-Ball was chosen to be played first then they had to play all eight 9-Ball games. (for the women it was 6 games of 9-Ball) If neither of the men had won 7 games (or the women 5 games) by the conclusion of the final game of 9-Ball the players automatically switched to 8-Ball until one or the other reached their needed game total.

If 8-Ball was the first game category chosen then the men had to play 5 games of 8 ball where as the women played three, then the switch to 9-Ball was made until one or the other reached the required number of games won. The competition began immediately following registration and the players meeting. From start to finished there wasn't a single sour grape, or altercation. Just lots of smiles and good sports.

The competition was both keen and fierce in addition to being pretty much continuous once we got underway. However, we tried to make allowances



U.S. AMATEUR

Bathroom breaks whenever possible. Sportsmanship prevailed throughout the day and everyone win or lose obviously was enjoying the competition and having a good time. It was a very long day indeed. However, on the positive side two of the Final matches— The Men's 2nd Tier, and the Woman's —finished up just 4 minutes apart beginning at 9:40 PM. The 1st Men's Tier finished about 1 hour later. By 11:00 PM all the forms were filled out, pictures taken, and the etched glass trophy plaques were awarded.

In the Men's division the split level tournament board bracketed two individual preliminary champions. The ladies tournament bracket board was designed to produce one winner. In each of the men's finals it was a race to eleven with 13 games of 9-Ball and 8 Games of 8 ball possibly being played. The ladies final was a Race to 9 game wins and they possibly could play 11 racks of 9-Ball and 6 racks of 8-Ball.

In the second Men's Tier, Spokane Wa.'s **Kevin Townsend**, and 2013's NW US Amateur Preliminary Champion **Lee Noble** from Sammamish Wa., made it to the finals. **Kevin** started his journey in the first tier with a forfeit win over fellow Spokane Wa. "No Show" Yakima Wa.'s **Travis Babcock**. Next **Kevin** defeated **Martin Wragg** from Beaverton, Oregon in a double hill thriller 7-6, and in the very next round he took out Lyle Wa.'s **Randy White** 7-6 barely escaping the clutches of defeat and escape to the winner's side point match where **Bob Zack** was there waiting.

Bobby Zack from Portland, Oregon had began his day long and into the night journey by annihilating Bellevue, Washington's **Vikram Bedi** 7-0. In round two, **Bob** wheeled **Pat Wheeler** from Seattle Wa., over to the one-loss side by taking him down 7-2. In Round three, **Bob** continued on his winning journey by taking down Yakima Wa.'s **Francisco Silva** 7-1. In round four, for the winner's point—**Bob** wasted little time in illustrating to **Kevin** the connotations of what was meant by a "Zack Attack." Getting trounced 7-2 **Kevin** was expelled to the back side. **Bob**, on the other hand, got to relax and perch himself on the 1st tier winner's point, just relax, and wait to see who would eventually be coming along with the delusional hopes of trying to take his potential title away. He would wait for a very long time.

Meanwhile, back to **Kevin**. He entered into the darkness of the one-loss side where he would wait what would seem like an eternity for the backside matches to finish so he could resume playing. Finally along came Vancouver Washington's **Toby Dittrich**—who had initially been booted to the one loss side in the first match of the day by **Kevin McCarthy** from Tualatin Oregon. **Toby** had exhaustingly played his heart out all the way through the backside from match one by executing every player he met. He wiped out **John Whipple** from Puyallup Wa, **Martin Wragg** from Beaverton Or., **Todd Molinari**, from Portland, Or., **Mike West** from Lake Oswego, Or., **Tim Dimacchia** from Reno Nv., just to get to this point where he would go on to the Men's race to 11, 2nd Tier Grand Finale, or be going home. The day's grueling and torturous ordeal of intense competition had proven to be too overwhelming for **Toby**, as the younger, rested, and refreshed **Kevin Townsend** quickly ended the valiant efforts of the tired, and exhausted, **Toby Dittrich** 7-1.

Across the tournament room, **Lee Noble** from Redmond Wa., had began his journey from the 2nd tier bracket. **Lee**, began his ascending undefeated journey by clobbering Reno Nevada's **Tim Dimacchia** 7-4. Then **Lee** sent Portland Oregon's **Francis Fontanilla** off to the backside by upending him 7-3. Next, **Lee** showed the way to the backside to Lake Oswego's **Michael West** by taking him down 7-5. However, for the winner's point and a guaranteed trip to the finals **Lee** definitely met his match when put up against "eventual" first tier finalist **Steve Soelberg** from Yakima Wa. Their match went all the way to double hill 6-6 before **Lee** managed to collect the win 7-6 to move on into the 2nd Tier final undefeated and impatiently have to wait to see who it was that was going to come at him from the back side to try and prevent him from defending his title.

In the backside lounge it was no picnic for **Steve Soelberg**. He had to wait almost 3 hours for the other backside matches to play and finish before he would get a chance to play again. Eventually though along came **Brian Vance** from Happy Valley Oregon. **Brian** was in the zone. He had won his first round match up against Salem's **Aaron Probst**, but then he got kicked to the curb by **Mike West**. In the back side **Brian** went through such notables as **Scott Dzurik**, from Yakima Wa., then **Tracy Hampton**, from Tacoma, **Randy White**, from Lyle Wa, and **Francisco Silva**, from Yakima, Wa, Now it was between **Brian** & **Steve** to see which of them would be going out the door to home and who the other would be going on to the Tier 1 winner's Final race to 11. When the dust settled the score was 7-4. **Brian** went home, and **Steve** headed to attack **Zack**.

In the second tier race to 11 finals Sammamish Wa's **Lee Noble** was ready to defend his title. Spokane's **Kevin** (Continued on Pg. 3.)

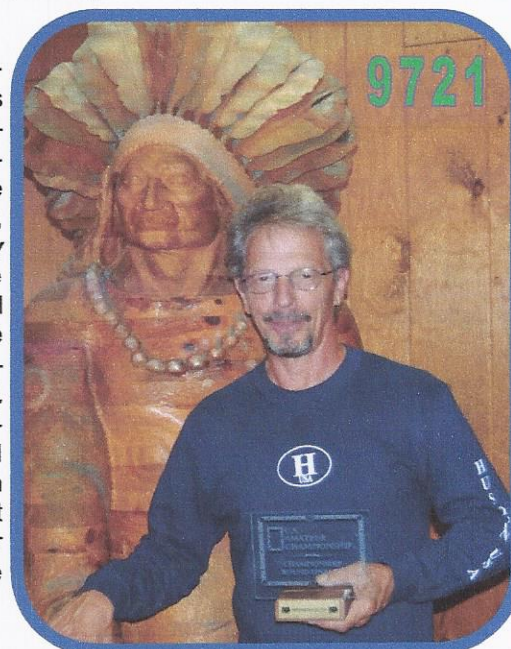


LEE NOBLE

U.S. AMATEUR

(Cont. from Pg. 2) **Townsend**, on the other hand, had visions of having his own title. Those visions went away rather quickly. **Lee** had a 6-2 lead after 8-Ball. Switching to 9-Ball **Lee** increased his lead to 7-2 after winning the first rack. **Kevin** wasn't lying down. He took the next two games bringing the score to 7-4, but it was a little too late. **Lee** put the pedal to the metal and took the next 4 games straight to win the match 11-4. **Lee** had successfully defended his 2013 NW Preliminary US Amateur title, by winning the 2014 bragging rights to the title of being the NW US Amateur Preliminary champion once again. Now all that was left would be to fill out the paperwork, get his picture taken with big chief wooden feather, and start making plans and packing his suitcase for Florida and the US Amateur Championship.

Meanwhile, the first Men's first tier bracket race to 11 finals, had just finally gotten underway just about the time that **Lee Noble** had repeated his title win over on the second Men's tier. Yakima's **Steve Soelberg** and Portland's **Bob Zack** were on the attack to secure the second of the two allocated Men's title slots. 9-Ball was first chosen, and **Steve** broke out of the gate winning game one to draw first blood. **Bob** answered by taking games 2, 3, 4, & 5 to bring the match to 4-1 in his favor. **Steve** won game 6, but **Bobby** then stepped on the gas to win the next three rack's bringing the total score to 7-2. **Steve** won game 10, **Bobby** won game 11, **Steve** won game 12, and **Bob** won game 13 to finish off the last game of the 9-Ball discipline. Score total now 9-4 in favor of **Bob**. Switching into the 8-Ball category **Bob** continued on his winning pace taking the first two games ending the match 11-4, and ending the match. both seesawed back 'n forth to until about the half-way point, but then **John** started pulling away from the past champion and went on to eventually defeat him 11-7 and leave him empty-handed, and on the road back to Yakima. **Bobby Zack**, from Portland Oregon had just earned the bragging rights to being the second men's 2014 US Amateur preliminary champion to fill out the winner's packet forms and get his picture taken with big chief wooden feather.



BOB ZACK

Moving along to the women's bracket where there were 12 hungry for glory ladies who were fighting for just the one slot. 2013 NW US Amateur preliminary champion **Suzanne Smith** of Edgewood, Washington and newcomer **Katie Haight** from Damascus, Oregon were the two ladies who ended up in the race to 9 women's Finals. **Suzanne** went undefeated all the way to the finals. She began her dominant journey with a 5-1 win over **Amelia Farrell** from Yakima, Wa., In the second round **Suzanne** took the joy out of Nampa Idaho's **Donna Lovejoy** in a 5-1 defeat to the one-loss side. In the third round she continued her domination by illuminating the path to the one-loss side for Canby, Oregon's **Missy Cnossen 5-Zip** as well. Next, **Suzanne** knocked **Katie Haight** 5-2 off of the top of the bracket down to the lower heights of the one-loss side to claim the perch on the winner's point to wait and see who would be emerging back at her for the race to nine finals.

As for **Katie Haight**, she had began her journey by not encountering **Sylvia Meraz** from Reno Nevada who hadn't shown up. In round two **Katie** out maneuvered **Stacy Elits** from Yacolt, Wa., 5-3 to knock her off into the one-loss side. Encompassing round three action, **Katie** stood toe to toe with Yakima Wa 's **Kim Miller**. The pair went all the way to double hill in a real thriller match. In the end it was **Katie** winning out over **Kim** though to claim the 5-4 victory. Next, in round 4 is when **Katie** was handed her own walking ticket to the backside by **Suzanne**. Landing in the backside, **Katie** found herself facing once again—**Stacy Elits** who she had sent to the backside in round two. **Stacy** had fought her way valiantly all the way through the one loss side eliminating first **Amelia Farrell** from Yakima, then **Cindy Gavin** from Sheridan Oregon, **Kim Miller** from Yakima, **Missy Cnossen** from Canby, Oregon, to get to the one loss side point and face off against **Katie Haight** again. This time would it be Summer re-runs, once again, or would it be sweet revenge??? Well it wasn't sweet revenge. **Katie** didn't mess around. She focused and took **Stacy** down 5-2 this time around. **Katie** had only one thing on her mind—that was to go on back on across the board to earn a rematch against **Suzanne Smith** in the race to nine women's 2014 NW US Amateur finale where the winner would be going on to Florida to (Continued on Pg. 4.)



SUZANNE SMITH

U.S. AMATEUR

(Continued from Pg. 3) compete in the prestigious national event. In the race to 9 women's finale, **Katie**, had her hopes set on avenging herself for getting sent to the one-loss side in the earlier matchup between her and **Suzanne**. Well that didn't happen. The match through Six games of 8-Ball, wasn't that close, but it certainly wasn't out of sight either. **Katie** drew first blood by taking the first game of 8-Ball. **Suzanne** took game 2 to tie the match up 1-1. **Katie** struck again taking game #2. That's when **Suzanne** turned up the juice and took games #4, #5, and #6 straight to end the 8-Ball category, and take the lead 4-2. Switching onward to 9-Ball, **Suzanne** became relentless. She went on a surge winning games #1,#2,#3, and #4. Match score now **8-2**, and Suzanne had just found herself on the hill to glory and almost a sure victory of defending her title. **Katie**, never gave up, but fought hard to perform to the best of her ability by winning Games #5 & #6 bringing the overall match score to 8-4. That's as close as **Katie** would get. **Suzanne** went on to take game #7 to achieve the victory **9-4**, and claim the bragging rights to defending her 2013 title while at the same time, claiming the ladies 2014 U.S. Amateur Women's NW Preliminary Champion title as well. **Suzanne** also had the distinguished honor of filling out the winner's packet forms and then getting her picture taken again in the majestically laminated silver-less arms of big chief wooden feather.

Lee Noble, Bobby Zack, and Suzanne Smith will be traveling east to compete in the US Amateur in Tampa Florida November 5-9 2014. We wish them all the best of success, and a fun trip.

We wish to extend a very special thank you, in appreciation to owner **Jim Lebold & crew: "Chip" Davis, & Rod Bair** of The Cue Ball in Salem, for being such gracious hosts, and allowing us the use of the clean, and well maintained Cue Ball location as the site for this year's 2014 US Amateur Western Region Preliminary. Also special praise and thanks go to referees **Larry Hande and Glen Shoup** for giving up their time and energy to officiate the this event. We received many positive player comments on how nice the room was and the fact that the tables were all in immaculate shape and played absolutely fabulous. The whole long day and extended night experience, was both exciting and fun as a direct result of the fine condition and quality of the 4 & 1/2 by 9 foot Brunswick tables.

Submitted By: Jeff Clohessy

"If you put the federal government in charge of the Sahara Desert, in 5 years there'd be a shortage of sand"


Milton Friedman

IT'S ALL ABOUT ATTITUDE.

Submitted By: Patty Murray



5 DEADLY TERMS USED BY A WOMAN

- 1) **FINE:** This is the word women use to end an argument when she knows she is right and you need to shut-up.
- 2) **NOTHING:** means something & you need to be worried.
- 3) **GO AHEAD:** this is a dare, not permission, do not do it.
- 4) **WHATEVER:** A woman's way of saying screw you.
- 5) **THATS OKAY:** She is thinking long and hard on how and when you wil pay for your mistake.

BONUS WORD: WOW!

This is not a compliment. She's amazed that one person could be so stupid.

THE LOSER'S CORNER

The 8 people listed below are September 15th newsletter losers. If you happen to see any of these people let 'em have your best razzing and ridicule. and don't forget to give 'em the old "L" sign,—AND be sure and thank 'em for leaving a shirt in the box just for you!

1—JASMINE GERADOT (97220038) who plays for Shamrock's "**Ladies & The Tramps**" in **Mid-Valley D.J. div.**

2—JASON HALL (97219315) who plays for Shamrock's "**We Love Tight Racks**" in the **Parkrose D.J. division.**

3—ANDREW AMO (97217213) who plays for Maui's "**Upsetters**" in the **Northeast D. J. division.**

4—ARNOLD YOUNG (97214757) who plays for Pattie's Home Plate's "**The Classic Cruisers**" in **N. Port 9-Ball div.**

~~**5—LINDA BAKER MORGAN** (97214568) who plays for~~ **CALLER IN**

6—TAMMY TOUMINEN (97213215) who plays for Jay's "**Hawks**" 97217569 in the **Columbia D. J. division.**

7—JENNIFER REHNKE (97212729) who plays for Joe Cellar's "**Joe's Dive**" in the **Downtown D. J. division.**

8—BRANDI FRANKLIN (97207760) who plays for Sunset Lane's "**Sloppy Joes**" in the **Northwest D. J. division.**

If you don't want to be caught here for everyone to see, then look carefully 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..!**

