



# The OPAL ‘GEM’ EXPRESS

NLSP2012-04  
February 6, 2012



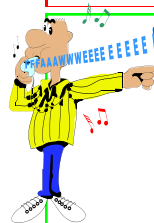
**HIDDEN** (*Except when in parenthesis*) somewhere in this Newsletter are “5” new APA Membership numbers just waiting to be discovered. Only one more soul from the Jan 23rd newsletter joined Robert in avoiding the Loser’s corner. That was: **Fay Yon** (97215247) from Shamrock’s “*Dragon’s Fury*” in the Parkrose Double Jeopardy division. This means a party of 3 on the back page loser’s corner this week for your viewing pleasure.

From the Jan 31st Newsletter **Jeff Goemmel** (97208120) from Ickabod’s “*Monday Nite Shots*” in the Sunrise division found his number too—so at this point in time there will be 9 numbers out there for you to find.. I’m sure one of ‘em will be yours if you don’t go look!

Really folks, if you find your number hidden, all you have to do is call the league office with the magic words “*Gimme My Shirt*” to win the prize, and keep all your peers and everyone from pointing fingers, laughing & snickering, giggling snorting, tee hee’n ‘cause they know that there will be a shirt waiting for them since YOU failed to find yours!

**BE ALERT, AND BE AN OPAL WINNER INSTEAD!**

SERVING YOU:	7	OPAL-APA	9
Merle Humphreys Boomer Humphreys	2	League Operators	
Donna Kingsbury, Cindy Maddox & Annette Simmons	1	Office Staff	5
John Blue: 503-481-0323	0	Area Manager	
Office: 503-243-6725	7	Cell: 503-381-6725	



## 17 Attend APA Referee School

In the relaxed atmosphere of the back room at Rodder’s in Oregon City on Saturday Feb. 6th 17 people endured the Ref School torture under the grand master leadership of OPAL-APA’s Merle and Area Manager—“*Honest*” **John Blue**. Beginning at Noon it was a long 8 hour stint covering many integrated topics and subject matter. Topics such as Behavior, Traits, Character, Appearance, Control, Protocol, Duties & Responsibilities, Rule Knowledge, Practicum and Pool Side Manner, Referee Theory, Techniques, & Solutions, and oh yes, we must not forget—the six page written test. Yes indeed, it was a long day! Assisting were National Referee’s **Terry Pinto, Dan Fendall, and Don Walker**.

Realistically, it takes a very unique person to want to become a billiard officiator. Believe it or not, Billiard Officiator’s actually believe it to be an honor to be a member of such an elite group—Why ? Because it is that’s why! Being a referee manifests it’s own personal rewards. Ignoring the fact that one has to sacrifice, and frequently give of their time and energy under the scrutiny of others while everybody else gets to have fun—Or, the fact that a Referee has to carefully manage the thin stress line between knowing that they will be both a hero as well as a villain in practically every situational encounter. Constantly they make one person happy while simultaneously disappointing another. Referees have to remain unbiased, be cool under fire, be able to take command of volatile situations while maintaining control under pressure, exercise good judgment, have a thorough working knowledge of all the rules, and be correct in their assessments. In addition a referee has to time monitor the matches in order to keep the event moving so the next tournament round will get off as scheduled. Furthermore, they subject themselves to this torture all for free! What a deal huh ?

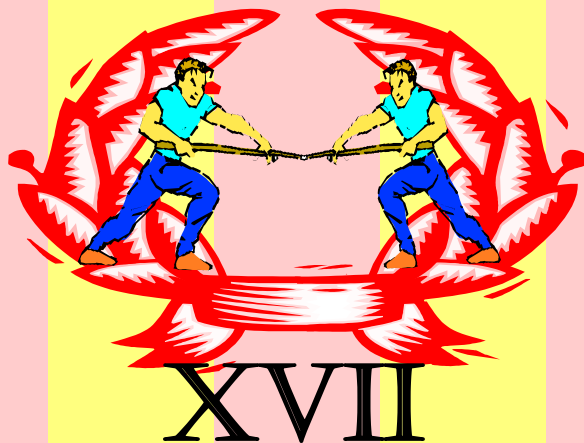
Then there is those long tireless hours of foot throbbing floor time that they’ll have to endure during shift—which gives a whole new meaning to the old saying— “*the agony of de feet!*” Moreover, it’s their dedication and willingness to help others, to serve in the hopes of insuring the practice of fair play and sportsmanship for all; that becomes in the end—it’s own reward. That and having the best seat in the house to observe pool playing at it’s finest—or worst! Not everyone can be a referee, that’s a given, but to those few who can master the art—it’s the best damn job in the world!



# The APA North/South "CIVIL" WAR

SOUTH:

“8”



NORTH:

“8”

Your Break (Formerly Sharky's) in SALEM: APA N/S Civil War Feb. 11-12 2012

## HOUSE RULES, MASSE'S, & DOUBLE HITS

Lets get this straight once

and for all. **House Rules do not take precedence over APA rules...** If house rules are posted "No Masse Shots or Jump shots allowed" and you do one anyway—it's legal in APA. The other team **CAN'T call a foul**. Or be tattle-tales either. **HOWEVER**, you do so at your own risk because the house management may send you flying out the door to land face down in a mud puddle for breaking their rule. So if you do one then don't let the management of the bar catch you doing it. Just be aware that if you're kicked out and can't finish the race then it's forfeited.

Regarding double hits. Below is Merle's Miranda rights which is what every referee is essentially required to say to a shooting player when called to the table to observe a double hit situation.



## The Miranda Rights of the Double Hit

Since the Cue Ball and this object ball are close together, I'm going to be watching for a double hit. If you shoot straight through the balls with a level stroke and they take off like a train and it's caboose—that will be a double hit and a ball in hand foul. To avoid the double hit, you must shoot either left or right of the lined center of those two balls at an angle great enough so that the tip of your stick would not strike the object ball had the cue ball not been there. Or, you can elevate the butt of your cue high enough to impart enough spin on the cue ball to prevent it from following after the object ball at the same speed.

The 3 people listed below have been verified as losers from the Jan. 22, 2012 Newsletter. If you happen to see any of these people 'em your best razzing. Laugh it up, everyone's attention, and then give 'em the old "L" sign,—and be sure & "Thank 'em" leaving a shirt in the box for you!

- 1—KARI ROUSE (97213066) who plays for West Union's "Spicier Pickled Tacos" in the Northwest division.
- 2—ERIC NOFSINGER (97215544) who plays for Rialto's "Drunken Monkeys" in the Midwest division.
- 3—DENNIS BROOKS (97216634) who plays for the Moose's "Rack Pack" in the Gateway 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 atten-

