

## The OPAL 'GEM' EXPRESS

## OPAL "A REAL 'GEM' IN YOUR COMMUNITY!'



Captain & Tournement

The first Saturday beginning a new session most generally has been reserved as the OPAL day of appreci-

ation for all those who commanded teams the previous session. On Saturday Jan 10th KC's Midway in Oregon City hosted what turned out to be a thirty two player turnout for this tournament. With the \$15 per player entry, and \$75 in added money from KC's Midway & OPAL we had a total payout purse of \$600 which was paid out to the top 16 finishers, of the 35 player field.

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The format 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 (Continued Page 2.)

HIDDEN (Except when in parenthesis) somewhere in this Newsletter are "5" APA Membership numbers just waiting to be discovered. Over the holidays 3 people found their number. From the Nov. 10th Newsletter. They were: Jeff Sorsdahl (97217946) who plays for Fish & Chip's "Dr Who's" in the N.Port 9-Ball division; and Delores Petrich (97211021) who plays for Wichita Town Pub's "Kiss Kiss" in the Southeast D.J. division. From the Nov. 27th Newsletter only one person called in, and that was: Scott

Shoberg (97216520) who plays for Coney Island's "Don't Have A Clue" in the Mt. Hoodt D.J. division. So, there's a combined newsletter party of "7" who start out 2015—in the "Loser's Corner." If, you see any of 'em have a freakin' ball & give it to 'em good! There is really no excuse for not finding your numbers, because the newsletters are published up on our Web site along with the mailed out copy. The Magic Words are: "Gimme My Shirt" — Don't

Snooze & Lose. Be alert, or you'll be finding yourself in the back page loser's corner with people gawking and making fun of you.

AVOID IT--BE A OPAL WINNER INSTEAD



We closed out Fall Session 2014 with Rodders in Oregon City, hosting the event on Sunday Jan. 4th from 11 AM until 6 PM. Cindy Saunders, with Hi's and smiles, worked the registration desk and initially greeted the approximately 300 – 350 people before sending them off to see Boomer who was busy answering questions and handing out the new session folders with Maxine

ing. We had four enthusiastic volunteers come in and set up the trophies in an immaculate display. They are pictured to the immediate right with a stage full of trophies. The Artistic Trophy display setter uppers were: Jeff Hiatt, Anton Renz. "Mad-Max" Maxine Buhler, and Joe Dubanski. (Continued on Pg. 3.)

assist-



## 2. NLSP972006-61 The OPAL 'GEN' EXPRESS OPAL: "A Real 'GEN' in YOUR Community!"

level 6 & 7's had to win a total of four games.

The OPAL-APA Modified Single Elimination Captain— Co-Captain competition began shortly after everyone was registered, and the board drawn. To make it a little

more difficult for the stronger players it was Loser Breaks after the first rack. We used all of the tables that were made available. However, at 2:00 PM the Barry Hill Division took two tables for league play, and at 4 PM we had to vacate the lower room for a private funeral reception group who had rented the room. This left us with only 3 tables to finish up the last 12 players remaining in the tournament The final match ended a little bit after 8:30 PM. Most everyone had a grand time and the Midway hosted the event very well. The service was prompt and there was plenty of food and drink for all. The race to the finals was a a hard fought un-equal journey. One finalist made it through to the finals undefeated whereas the other took the detour through the one-loss side.

The journey for *Mark* (SL-7) *Bussiere*, Captain of the Back Alley's "Alley Dogs" in the Triple Play Master's Division, Took the longest way possible to the finals. He started out with getting a "BYE" in the first round In the 2nd round *Mark* lost a double hill thriller to *Tim Higginson*" and got his butt kicked over to the one-loss side 4-3. In his next Round, *Mark* drew another "Bye" then pulled out all the stops and recorded a 4-Zip win against *Armando* "Ole" (SL-7) *Mendoza* sending him out the door to home while getting shoved back across to the winner's side again and finding himself in the money.

Back on the winner's side he found himself up against **Deana** "Dina" (SL-3) **Copeland. Mark** upended **her** 4-Zip to send her out the door to home. In the Quarter Final's **Mark** went to a 3-2 double hill with

**Rick** (SL-5) **Hoyle** then took the last game to win the match 4-2 leaving **Rick** behind with \$30 in his pocket and move to the Semi-Finals against **Rodney** (SL-6) **Clay** who he eventually took down 4-2 and claim a spot in the final match of the day against **Adam** (SL-7) **Drew** who had managed to make it all the way to the finals undefeated.

On the other hand, **Adam** (SL-7) **Drew** who Captain's Scotty's "Adam's Angels" in the Sunset D.J. division unlike **Mark** went all the way to the finals completely undefeated. Right out of the gate in the first round—just like **Mark**, **Adam** drew a "BYE" in the first round. In round two **Adam** wiped out **Theresa** (SL-2) **Osborne** 4-Zip sending her flying over to the one-loss side. **Adam** next took on **Chris** (SL-4) **Elliot. Adam** jumped right to a 2-Zip lead by taking both games of 8-Ball. Then, switching to 9-Ball **Chris** took game 3, but then **Adam** came steamrolling back with 2 straight game wins to win the match 4-1, and in the money. In the money round, **Adam** found himself in a double hill situation against **Stephanie** (SL-3) **Arneson. Adam** won the first two games of 9-Ball, but **Stephanie** took game 3 which put her on the hill. Switching to 8-Ball **Adam** won the 4th game to take the match to Double Hill, then won the next game too to win the match 4-1. In the Quarter finals **Adam** faced **Dallas** (SL-6) **Roemeling.** The match was tied 2-2 after 4 games of 9-Ball, but **Adam** put the pedal to the metal and in 8-Ball he won the next two games to claim the victory 4-2, and, send **Dallas** on home with \$30 in his pocket.

In the Semi's **Adam** faced off against **Craig** (SL-6) **Walsh.** After 8-Ball **Adam** was up 2-1. **Craig** to the 1st game of 9-

Ball to tie the match up 2-2. **Adam** took game #5 and put himself up on the hill. **Craig** then took game #6 to bring the match to double hill. **Adam** then won game #7 to claim the victory 4-3—Leaving **Craig** with \$60 and the door to home. Now, for **Adam**, it was off to the Final's to play **Mark Bussiere**.

The finals was a little one sided. Adam took the first 3 games of 8-Ball then capped off a 4-zip win by taking the 1st game of 9-Ball as well to claim the victory, \$140 in top money, and the bragging rights to being the 2014 Fall Session Captain Co-Capt Tournament Champion. For his stellar efforts, Mark Bussiere took home the runner up money of \$100.

Special kudo's to the Midway Staff & Crew headed by Kraig Pauli & staff who did a wonderful job as hosts for this event. Also, to Don "Coyote" Walker for all his help in officiating and assisting Merle with getting the tournament organized and underway.

	VA L		100
1ST	\$140	ADAM DREW	7
2ND	\$100	MARK BUSSIERE	7
3/4	\$60	CRAIG WALSH	6
3/4	\$60	RODNEY CLAY	6
5/8	\$30	KATHIE MILLER	4
5/8	\$30	DANNY MARROW	4
5/8	\$30	RICK HOYLE	5
5/8	\$30	DALLAS ROEMELING	6
9/16	\$15	RALPH LANGEVIN	7
9/16	\$15	STEPHANIE ARNESON	3
9721	\$15	KARL KUMINSKI	5
0050	\$15	DEANA COPELAND	3
9/16	\$15	CORY ZAUNER	4
9/16	\$15	TAREK ZAHER	5
9/16	\$15	DAVE EASTMAN	5
9/16	\$15	DON WALKER	7



1st: Adam Drew & 2nd: Mark Bussiere

"A Real 'GEM' in YOUR Communi

(SESSION END PARTY (continued from Pg 1) These guys & gals were amazing...They started in setting the 1000+ trophy display up, and by 9:00 AM they were done! What a crew!

Merle, & Don "Coyote" Walker with volunteer helpers Jeff Hiatt, Maria Arguetta, and Kim Norn helped to organize and run some fun activities to play.

"Survivor-APA" and the 9-Ball Break contest were the most popular of the fun events.

In Survivor, It really doesn't matter how many people play-but for the session end party, the field was limited to a field of 12 for each game. The theory was that most everyone could get to play. Each player paid an entry fee of \$5 and the three top place finishers in each contest received-\$30 for 1st, \$20 for 2nd and \$10 for 3rd. Even using two tables simultaneously, there was always a waiting list to play. It didn't matter how much of a big gun you were, or how little skill you possessed— because it was soon proven that anyone could win...regardless of skill.

It was definitely a roaring crowd pleaser when little Kim Norn blasted Merle 3 and out!

Here's how the game is played: Every player starts with ZERO strikes. The players would rotate in the same order every time and get just one attempt to pocket a ball-any ball—during that one turn at the table. Every time a player missed pocketing a ball, or scratched, he or she, received

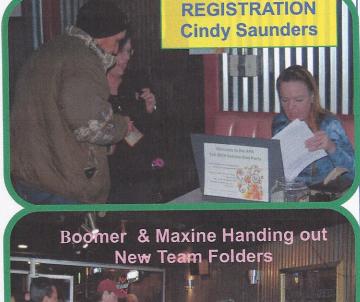
a strike ('X'). When a player accumulated 3 strikes ("X's)" they "struck out" and were immediately eliminated from the game.

The balls were racked on the foot spot—just like 8-ball—with a full 15 ball rack. The breaking player—if a ball was made on the break the breaker's turn was over and the next player in rotation came up and shot. However, If the breaking player didn't make a ball on the break, then they got to free shoot again to pocket a ball, & avoid getting an "X." If the player shooting before you shot the cue ball into a pocket or off the table-then the next player next in line received ball in hand anywhere on the table and the player "fouling" received an "X". Table scratches, or complete misses, result in an "X" for the shooter, but the incoming player doesn't get Ball In Hand. When all 15 balls are finally pocketed, then the balls are re-racked by the person making the last ball, and the next player in the line of rotation breaks. Most games were over and finished with a new one starting in about 30-40 minutes. There were a total of seven (7) games of Survivor played. The winner's of the Survivor-APA games were:

GAME 1: 1st- "Merle", 2nd- Tarek Zaher, & 3rd- Richard Zach. GAME 2: 1st- Richard Kiltz, 2nd- "Merle", & 3rd - John Ross, GAME 3: 1st- Adam Drew, 2nd- John Ross, & 3rd- Terry Luke. GAME 4: 1st- Adam Drew, 2nd-"Merle", & 3rd- Tarek Zaher. GAME 5: 1st- Kelly Kent-Micheau, 2nd- Richard Kiltz, & 3rd- Todd Clemens. GAME 6: 1st- Sherry Padrigo, 2nd- Phil Sanders, & 3rd- Adam Drew.

Winners of the \$3 entry 9-Ball Break Contest received \$20 for 1st, and \$10 for 2rd. Nine contests were run: GAME 1: 1st- Chris Plummer, 2nd- Richard Zach. GAME 2: 1st- Jeff Hiatt, 2nd- Eric Harmon. GAME 3: 1st- Buck Campbell, 2nd- Todd Clemens. GAME 4: 1st- Adam Drew, 2nd- Buck Campbell. GAME 5: 1st- Adam Drew, 2nd- Jason Alexander. GAME 6: 1st- Phil Sanders, 2nd- Buck Campbell. GAME 7: 1st- Eric Harmon, 2nd- Adam Drew. GAME 8: 1st- Nina Corpuz, 2nd- Joe Dubanski, and GAME 9: 1st- Charles Walker, 2nd- Adam Drew

At 2:30 in the afternoon Merle, and assistant Kim Norn conducted the 8 & 9-Ball Tri Cup draws out in the front part of Rodders. Everything went very smoothly until we ran out of drawing tiles about 3/4ths of the way through...OOPS! Then, it was discovered that the 9-Ball flow chart had too many "Byes" in it. Once that problem was realized it was a simple fix to remove "Byes" from each location and put in the appropriate number and resume the draw. Unfortunately, that took about a half hour to solve and delayed the Door prize give-a-ways and the Award Presentations. *(Continued Page 4.)* 





## Page 4. NLSP2015-01 - The OPAL 'GEM' EXPRESS - OPAL: "A Real 'GEM' in YOUR Community!



**Session End Party (Continued)** prior to the awards presentations—which immediately followed the last of the door prize drawings conducted by the Fair and Honorable Mr. John Blue.

John gave away a whole bunch of Door prizes. Cue stick winners were: Tom Moler (Blue Cue Tec), Jeff Hiatt (Black Cue Tec), and Rodney Clay (Pink Cue Tec).

Next Boomer, John Blue, and assorted helpers started giving out the Fall Session Awards & Trophies which went off without a hitch. Approximately 2000+ Special Awards, Certificates of Merit, and Trophies were handed out. League play trophies included, MVP, Sportsmanship, 1st place host location, and first and second place individual team trophies. Also, Certificates of Merit were for shutouts. Break & Runs, Table Runs, & snap on the break.

Merle was set up with his camera as usual in the middle section of Rodders taking pictures of the award winners as they came down the hallway with their arms full of trophies

Special thanks to **Rodder's** crew: **Joe, Michael, Nick, Julie, Etc,** for all their hard work in hosting this session end awards party event, and to all the very special people who helped out with the trophy display setup, special activities, food service, and registration. It was truly appreciated. Thank you one and all—for making the day so special.



He brought it home, and his wife looks at him and says "Whatchu gonna do with that??? There ain't no water deep enough to float a boat within 100 miles ah here!" He says, "I wons it and Imma gonna keep it."

The guy's brother happens to come by to visit a couple of days later. He see's his brother's wife and asks where his brother is. She says "The old fool is out back there in his new Bass Boat,"— she points to the field out behind the house.

The brother heads out behind the house and sees his brother in the middle of a big field sitting in his bass boat with a fishing rod in his hand. He yells "What in damn-hell is it you are you doin'?" His brother yells back, "I'm fishing...Whatcha think it looks like I'm a doin'?, ya idiot!!!"

The brother yells, "It's people like you that give people from Alabama a bad name, makin' everybody think we're stupid. Why I swear, It'n I could swim, I'd come out there and whoop on your arse!"





The first three listed below missed their #'s in the Nov 17th '14 newsletter & the other four missed their #'s in the Nov. 24th '14 newsletter. If you know any of 'em, give 'em the old "L" sign — and thank 'em, for leaving a shirt in the box for you!

1-JERRY SINDT (97217946) who plays for Pit Stop's "Chalked & Loaded" in the Western 9-Ball division.

**2—NATHAN PACYNA** (97218566) who plays for Ringler's "Ringle Berries" in the Central 9-Ball division. **3—ZACH BELTZ** (97220617) who plays for Ickabod's "Lemonheads" in the Midwest D. J. division.

**4—TOM MOLER** (97216281) who plays for KC Sport's "Krushers" in the Mt. Hood D.J. division.

**5—JEFF HAYES** (97201857) who plays for River Road House's "Boomer Said No" in the Mid-Valley division.

**6–JOY PIERSON** (97210147) who plays for Sam's **"Tabula Rasa"** in the **Central 9-Ball** division.

**7–JENNIFER BALD** (97293136) who plays for Scotty's **"That Just Happened"** in the **Central 9-Ball** 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's possible for your number to come up more then once. Pay attention to detail, **READ THE NEWSLETTER..!** 



Know who these people Booner