



The OPAL ‘GEM’ EXPRESS

NLSP2016-05
February 8, 2016



HIDDEN (*Except when in parenthesis*) somewhere in this Newsletter are “5” new APA Membership numbers just waiting to be discovered. From the Jan 25th newsletter No one else found their numbers and called in to join **Joe Lester** in winning a prize. This means there'll be a party of 4 on the back page loser's corner this week for your viewing pleasure. From the February 1st Newsletter **Joel Goodman** (97233485) from Wrangler's “*Twisted Stixx*” in the Willamette D.J. division found his number and called in.

| SERVING YOU: | |
|---|----------------------------------|
| Merle Humphreys 2 Boomer Humphreys | 7 OPAL-APA 9 League Operators |
| Cindy Saunders, and Carolyn Burgdoff | 2 Office Staff 0 |
| John Blue: 503-481-0323 7 | Area Manager |
| Office: 503-243-6725 6 | Cell: 503-381-6725 |

So folks, there will be 9 numbers out there for you to find this next week—5 new ones from this week and 4 from last week's newsletter ... I'm sure one of 'em will be yours especially if you don't go look! Seriously, all you have to do is call the league office with the magic words “*Gimme My Shirt*” to win the prize if you see your number hidden. It will 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!



25 Attend APA Referee School

In the relaxed atmosphere of the back room at Rodder's in Oregon City on Saturday Feb. 6th 25 candidates endured the Ref School torture under the grand master leadership of OPAL-APA's **Merle** and Area Manager—**John Blue**. Beginning at 12:30 PM 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 nine page written test. Yes indeed, it was a long day! Assisting were National Referee **Dan Fendall**, and **Don Walker** —and some great assistance from OPAL-APA Referees—**Charlie Walker** and **Maxine Buhler** who did two of the Role-playing tables.

Realistically, it takes a very unique person to pursue becoming a billiard referee. Believe it or not, those poor souls actually feel it to be honorable 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 complete working knowledge of 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 the love of the game! 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:

"12"



NORTH:

"8"

"Jake's" & "Kolby's" in Salem: APA N/S Civil War April 1-2 2016

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 you do so at risk of being caught by the bar management! 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 gong to be watching for a double hit. If you shoot straight through the direct line of the two balls with a level stroke and the balls 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 direct line of center of those two balls at an angle great enough so that the tip of your stick would not strike the object ball if the cue ball were not there. Or, you can elevate the butt of your cue high enough to impart spin on the back of the cue ball to prevent it from following after the object ball at the same approximate speed.

(SUBMITTED BY: JIM ELPHICK) *An Italian Alter Boy went to Confession.* "Bless me Father, for I have sinned. I have been with a loose girl." The priest asks, "Is that you, little Dominic Savino?" "Yes, Father, it is." "And who was the girl you were with?" "I can't tell you, Father. I don't want to ruin her reputation." "Well, Dominic, I'm sure to find out her name sooner or later so you may as well tell me now. Was it Tina Minetti?" "I cannot say." "Was it Teresa Mazzarelli?" "I'll never tell." "Was it Nina Capelli?" "I'm sorry, but I cannot name her." "Was it Cathy Piriano?" "My lips are sealed." "Was it Rosa DiAngelo, then?" "Please, Father, I cannot tell you." The priest sighs in frustration. "You're very tight lipped, and I admire that. But you've sinned and have to atone. You cannot be an altar boy for 4 months. Now you go and behave yourself." Joey walks back to his Pew, and his friend Franco slides over and whispers, "What'd the Father say? What'd you get?" *"Four months vacation and five good leads."*



The 4 people listed below have been verified as losers from the Jan. 25, 2016 Newsletter If you happen to see any of these people let 'em have your best razzing. Laugh it up, and give 'em the old "L" sign,—and be sure & "Thank 'em" leaving a shirt in the box for you!

- 1—STEVE LINGLEBACH (97203156) who plays for River Road House's *"Biggelbach"* in the **Gateway D.J.** division
- 2—NICOLE LOUNDREE (97213426) who plays for Skyline Pub's *"The Regulators"* in the **Gateway D.J.** division.
- 3—BYRON BURLEIGH (97220754) who plays for the Rialto's *"Chalk 'n Awe"* in the **Mid-Town D.J.** division.
- 4—JAMES MURRAY (97221364) who plays for Home Turf's *"Family Affair"* in the **Super 30 D.J.** division.

If you don't want to be caught here for every-one 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..!**

