



The OPAL ‘GEM’⁹

EXPRESS

NLSP2017-04
February 6, 2017



HIDDEN *(Except when in parenthesis)*

somewhere in this Newsletter are “5” new APA Membership numbers just waiting to be discovered. From the Jan 23th newsletter nobody else found their numbers and called in to join **Ben & Lloyd** in avoiding the Loser’s corner so there’ll be a party of 3 on the back page this week for your viewing pleasure. However, from the January 30th newsletter **Kristen “Tweety” Shellenberger**

(97206189) from Fortune Star’s “**Odd & Balls**” in the Farside D.J. division managed to find her number and chirp in.

So folks, there will be 9 numbers out there for you to find this next week.. 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!**

SERVING YOU:

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OPAL-APA⁹

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29 Attend APA Referee School

In the relaxed atmosphere of the back room at Rodder’s in Oregon City on Saturday Feb. 4TH 29 candidates endured the Ref School torture under the grand master leadership of OPAL-APA’s **Merle** and Area Manager—“**Honest**” **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’s **Dan Fendall**, and **Don Walker** —with assistance from Certified OPAL-APA Referees—**Maxine Buhler**, and **Kevin McCarthy**.

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 maintain total control, and time monitor the competition matches in order to keep the event moving forward enabling the next tournament round to get off as scheduled. Furthermore, they subject themselves to this massive 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!

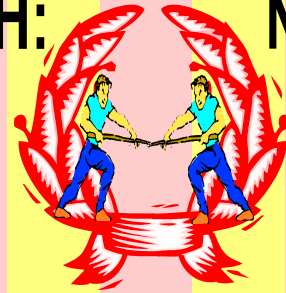




The APA North/South "CIVIL" WAR

SOUTH: NORTH:

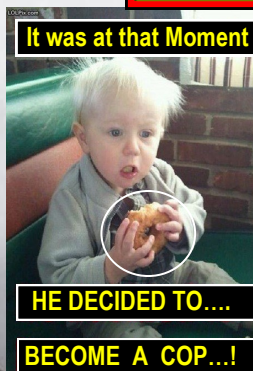
"12"



"9"

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APA N/S Civil War April 1 & 2nd 2017—Midway & Wichita Town Pub



The Department of Home Security

We're pretty sure you have the wrong house, but hey, come on in and let's talk about it.

WE'RE ON THE WEB:
www.pacificnw.apaleagues.com



THE LOSER'S CORNER

The 3 people listed below have been verified as losers from the Jan. 23, 2017 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—DENNIS RAMOS (972010409 (97206784) who plays for Sam's "Live & Learn" in the Downtown D.J. division.
- 2—LARRY POE (97215753) who plays for Midway's "Pool Ball Wizards" in the Southern D.J. division.
- 3—JOHN GARDNER (97219217) who plays for Ringo's "Loose Rails" in the Skyline D.J. 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 attention to detail, READ THE NEWSLETTER..!

