

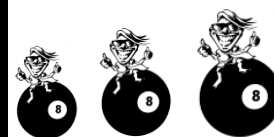


The OPAL 'GEM' EXPRESS

OPAL: "A Real 'GEM' in YOUR Community!"

NLSU2016-04

June 7, 2016



THE GOVERNING BODY OF AMATEUR POOL

HIDDEN (Except when in parenthesis)
somewhere in this Newsletter are another “5” new **APA Membership**

numbers just waiting to be discovered. From the May 23rd Newsletter— no one else found hidden numbers and avoid the Loser's Corner 'except for **Jason** 'which means there's only going to be a loser's party of 4 on the back page for your viewing pleasure this week!—so let 'em have both barrels (or fingers)

From the May 30th newsletter Not a single solitary soul has yet to call in to utter the magic words to claim their prize. 10 numbers are now out there waiting to be discovered—5 from last week, & the 5 new one's from this week. So get off your ass you'll end up in the same place as those losers that have been il

REMEMBER, You have only until the writing 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 where everyone can see you and laugh, giggle, snort, and snicker because they know there'll be a shirt waiting for them seeing how you must not have wanted yours—

BE AN OPAL WINNER---FIND YOUR NUMBER

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TRIPLE-PLAY MASTER'S SPRING REGIONAL

At Rodders on June 5th in Oregon City, the Triple Play Master's Spring Regional was held alongside the Jack & Jill Scotch Double Regional with Merle directing the Masters while

“John Blue,” officiated, and directed the Jack ‘n Jill. The site worked out perfectly with the Master’s using the eight diamond tables out in the middle room while the Jack ‘n Jill used the 7 Valley tables in the back room. The competition was both fierce and interesting, and there were a few “upsets” throughout the day.

We expedited the Triple Play Master's nine team, five round Modified Single Elimination format by playing the first round on three tables simultaneously, and most of the other rounds using two tables simultaneously for each team match. That worked out very amicable as we were able to finish the last final complete with picture taking and Las Vegas orientation by 7:00 PM. Well sort-of....

The Master's division qualified teams were playing for two guaranteed Las Vegas National Championship slots, but OPAL had applied for a 3rd slot that APA Hq's has not awarded us to date. We may or may not get that third slot—Therefore we played down where we had two distinct winners, and then had the two tied 3rd place teams play off an additional match amongst themselves to determine who would get that third slot if we get a third slot... The bottom line is that there is **\$5,010** dollars that was generated from the masters divisions over the past three sessions. Each slot will allot **\$1,500** —(enough money to pay for round-trip-airfare and lodging at the Westgate Resort in Las Vegas) The remainder of the money will be played out to the entire regional teams field. Right now we don't know if that figure is going to be **\$610**, if we have three slots, or **2,010**. if we only have two slots that go.

The Master's competition format was patterned after the US Amateur. The winner of the lag either chose to break or to name the game—8-Ball or 9-Ball. The opponent got what the lag winner did not want. The race was to 7 individual game wins. If 9-Ball were chosen they played 8 games and if neither one of the players had won 7 games then they would switch to 5 games of 8 ball until one or the other of them did reach 7 games. Therefore, it was possible just to play 9-Ball and win. However, if 8-Ball were chosen there were only 5 games to be played—after which they started playing 9-Ball. Whoever won the match race won registered (1) point for the team. Once a team score totaled 2 Match-Race wins the team match was over. If they went into the Ozone layer and played more games in a category than was allowed they had to throw those **(Continued on Page 2.)**

TRIPLE-PLAY MASTER'S SPRING REGIONAL

(Continued from Pg. 1) games away, switch, and play the correct category. In the first round play it was **Legend's "Cooler"** Vrs **Legend's "XXX"**. The "Coolers/XXX" match went to double/double hill thriller with the "XXX's" coming out on top over the "Cooler's" 2-1 who headed for the one loss side.

In the 2nd round winner's side **Silver Star Saloon's "Gary's Gang"** ganged up on **Ickabod's "Chalk is Cheap"** 2-Zip. **Legend's "XXX"** X'd out **Ickabod's "Hooked 2 Zip"**. **Underground's "6' Underground"** buried **Scotty's "Comfortably Numb"** 2-1, and **Lu's "Good Shot Dummies"** sent **Back Alley's "SSA"** bass backwards into the loser's side 2-Zip.

In round 3 of the loser's side the **Cooler's** froze out **Comfortably Numb** 2-Zip sending them shivering out the door to home whereas on the winner's side **Gary's Gang** managed to take down XXX in a double hill thriller 2-1 while the **Good Shot Dummies** sent **6' Underground** out the door to the graveyard 2-zip.

In the Loser's side 4th round the **Cooler's** upped their game to take down **SSA** 2-Zip sending their butts out the door to home, and **Chalk is Cheap** out-hooked **Hooked** to win that match 2 Zip as well. Now it was back across the board to the finals match for both the **Cooler's** and the **Chalk is Cheap**.

Playing for the first guaranteed Las Vegas slot was the undefeated **Silver Star Saloon's "Gary's Gang"** playing for the first Vegas slot against **Legend's "Coolers"**. Both teams were from the Triple Play Master's Vancouver division "**Gary's Gang**" dominated the match up from the git go. They chose to play on 3 tables simultaneously. **Bob Olson** from the "**Cooler's**" was matched up with the "**Gang's**" **Bob Zack**. After 5 games of 8-Ball **Zack** was up 3-2 when they switched to 9-Ball. **Zack** had won games 1 & 3 and **Olson** game 2 of 9-Ball making that match 5-3 in favor of **Bob Zach** when the match was called. The "**Gang's**" **Steve Linglebach** was matched with "**Cooler's**" **Larry Shave**. After 8-Ball **Steve** was ahead 4-1 when they switched to 9-Ball. **Larry** won the 1st and 4th game of 9-Ball, but **Steve** won the 2nd, 3rd, and 5th game to close out their race 7-3. had taken down to close out the first match 7-Zip. Then there was the "**Gang's**" **Gary French 97219142** versus "**Cooler's**" **Steve Peterson**. **Gary** won the lag and chose 9-Ball. **Steve** broke his one and only rack. Gary won the next 7 games straight to take his match 7-Zip.

After heading outside for pictures with their awarded trophies, then back inside for a brief Las Vegas Orientation, and the filling out of some necessary paperwork, it was official. The **Silver Star Saloon's "Gary's Gang"** TPM-Vancouver division with team captain: **Steve Linglebach**, and teammates—**Gary French** and **Bobby Zack** became the first team to win the bragging rights as the 2015-16 Triple Play Master's Co-Champions. Also, they will be entitled to: **\$1,500** in travel assistance money, and would be heading to Las Vegas in August to compete in the APA National 3 person team championship



SILVER STAR SALOON'S "GARY'S GANG"

Meanwhile across the room the second guaranteed slot-Las Vegas final was going on. **Lu's** undefeated "**Good Shot Dummies**" versus **Ickabod's "Chalk is Cheap"** both from the Triple Play Master's West division. On the first table "**Dummies**" **Paul Marquez** and "**Cheap's**" **Brian Knapp** went at it. **Brian** won the lag and **Paul** chose 8-Ball and was up 3-2 when they switched to 9-Ball. **Paul** won the first two games, **Brian** won the next two. **Paul** won Game 5 putting himself on the hill. **Brian** won the next game. The **Paul** took the next game to end the contest 7-5.

On the adjacent table "**Dummies**" **Steve Tune** was matched against "**Cheap's**" **Paul Johnson**. After the conclusion of 8-Ball **Paul** was ahead 3-2. In 9-Ball **Steve** won the first game tying up the match. **Paul** won the next two, but **Steve** countered again to tie the match up at 5-all. **Paul** won the next game to put himself on the hill, then iced the cake with another game win to claim the match 7-5 tying up the overall team match 1-1,

On the third table we had "**Dummies**" **Pete Gates** paired against "**Cheap's**" **Colin Marquis**. At the end of 8-Ball **Pete** had uncapped a 4-1 lead. Moving in to 9-Ball, **Pete** took the next 3 straight games to put himself on the hill plus claim a 7-1 victory which meant **Lu's "Good Shot Dummies"** with Team Captain **Kirsten Fery**, and teammates: **Paul Marquez**, **Pete Gates**, and **Steve Tune** were officially the winner's of the 2nd Guaranteed slot to Las Vegas. Along with that win, comes all the bragging rights to being 3 person Master Team Co-Champions, trophies, and **\$1,500** in travel assistance money and will be going to Las Vegas in August to compete in the APA National 3 person team championship. (Continued on Pg. 3)



LU's The GOOD SHOT DUMMIES

TRIPLE-PLAY MASTER'S SPRING REGIONAL

(Continued from Page 2.) Playing off for the "Maybe Baby" possible third slot to Las Vegas was two teams that had not met each other before: West's **Ickabod's** "Chalk is Cheap" and Vancouver's **Legend's** "Cooler's." There would be no Guaranteed slot to Las Vegas, only a hope for one. Like the other's they chose to play on 3 tables simultaneously. On the first table "Cooler's" **Bob Olson** came out of the gate taking 5 straight games of 8-Ball from "Cheap's" **Colin Marquis** then later added two wins in 9-Ball to claim the match 7-2. Meanwhile on table 2 "Cheap's" **Brian Knapp** outscored "Cooler's" **Larry Schave** 7-5 to bring the overall team match score to 1-1 —The last race would decide who would be the "Maybe Baby."

"Cooler's" **Greg Sowder** was up against "Cheap's" **Paul Johnson** for all the marbles and bragging rights. **Paul** came firing out of the gate taking 4 of the 5 games of 8-Ball, and then the first two of 9-Ball to put himself up on the hill. Then **Greg** finding himself down 6-1 decided that he better wake himself up and start playing. **Greg** came roaring back winning, 1, 2, 3, 4, and 5 straight racks of 9-Ball to tie the match up at double hill.. The crowd would have went wild had there been a crowd, but most everyone had left by this point. Anyway both players had their chances, but in the end "Cheap's" **Paul Johnson** pulled out the win in the case game claiming the victory for his team, and a narrow 2-1 maybe baby victory which comes with \$1,500 in travel allowance only if a slot does happen to come open for us.



ICKABOD'S CHALK IS CHEAP



While the Triple Play Master's were playing out front, thirteen Jack & Jill 8-Ball Scotch Doubles team pairs were skillfully competing in the back bar area. Using a 16 team Modified Single elimination board with three byes, at the close of the day, There would be only two 8-Ball team pairs emerging to move on and compete in the Las Vegas National Tournament this coming August at the Westgate Resort.

In the Opening round **Steve Kemp & Karen Gjerner** —Combined SL-9, (who both plays for "Chalk & Awe" out of Scotty's in the Midwest D.J. division) drew a first round "Bye" whereas **Terry Mason & Crysta Rankin**—Combined SL-8, who both play for River Road House's "Rack A Tacs" in the Willamette DJ division had to smother the team of **Shawn Gunderson & Jamie Smothers-SL-10**(who both play for Jo Saloon's "The Best or Nothing" in the Willamette D.J. division) into the one loss side 3-1.

In second round action the **Steve & Karen** continued on with their winning ways by defeating **Terry & Crysta** 4-1. In the Winner's side 3rd round action **Steve & Karen** were pitted against **Robbie Solomon & Jordan Walden-Combined SL-10** (who both play for "All The Almonds" out of the Slingshot Lounge in the Parkrose D.J. division) It was a 4/4 race but **Steve & Karen** barely managed to squeak out a 4-3 win to continue on to the finals, whereas **Robbie & Jordan** were shown out the door to home. Meanwhile, back in the one loss side, **Terry & Crysta** wiped out **Jacob Stern & Rose Dunn-combined SL-10** (Jacob plays for Joe Cellar's "Unconscious D" & Rose plays for Jake's "Stray Cats" in the Downtown division) 3-2 sending them out the door to home. **Terry & Crysta** had one more match to go before they could return back across the tournament bracket to the winner's side final. There standing between them and the final was none other then **Mark Christian II & Stacy "Superfly" Enriquez-Combined SL-10** (who both play out of the Wichita Town Pub's "Hump Daze" team in the Mt. Hood D.J. division) The match, as expected, went double hill, but winning the go ahead to the finals ride was **Terry & Crysta** 3-3..! With that **Stacy "Superfly"** & her partner **Mark** flew on out the door to home while **Terry & Crysta** climbed their way back over the bracket to the 2nd Winner's side Finals match. Against the undefeated and waiting dynamic duo of **Jeff Hiatt & Heidi Piehl-Combined SL-11!**

Meanwhile, back to the undefeated **Steve & Karen** sipping wine coolers in the upper echelon final of the winner's side waiting anxiously to see who would be coming through out of the one loss side to rain on their parade. Something **Steve** was quite aware of as he was so very experienced at having finished in the bridesmaid position over his past history. Anyway, he didn't have to wait long and as expected the rainclouds were dark and ready to burst open. Out from the dark side came **John Scudder W/ Bree Drew—Combined SL-10**. (**John** plays for Slingshot Lounge's "All The Almonds" in the Parkrose D.J. division, and **Bree** plays for River Road House's "Rack A Tacs" in the Willamette D.J. division. Their final would be a 4/4 race. The winner would be going on the the Westgate Resort in Las Vegas to compete in the August Nationals, get the bragging' rights, the \$800 travel and lodging allowance, and the Co-title to being the 2016 Jack & Jill OPAL Scotch Doubles Champions. The loser would be going down the bridesmaid path to home with empty pockets. I don't know who got there first, or how it was done, but I do know the match went all the way to double hill Again!!! The tension was so great, and everything so quiet one could hear a pin drop, and when the winning ball was pocketed it was the team of **Steve Kemp & Karen Gjerner 97220649** who will be going on to compete in the APA National Jack 'n Jill Scotch Doubles Championships at the plush Westgate Resort in Las Vegas this coming August.

Moving on down, and back to the other Las Vegas final being played across the room. There we find our long journey'd friends **Terry Mason & Crysta Rankin-Combined SL-8** facing off against the powerful and undefeated team of **Jeff Hiatt & Heidi Piehl-Combined SL-11** (Both play for Silver Star Saloon's "Land Sharks" in the Northern D.J. division). It would be a 3/5 race for all the prestige and marbles.

(Continued on Page 4.)



(Continued from Pg. 3.) The Spectators all crowded around to where they could get the best vantage point to be able to see and watch both matches being played. The air in the room was electric and all eyes were on the finals matches to see who would be going to take on Las Vegas.

Terry & Crysta won the lag and broke but it was **Jeff & Heidi** who won the first game, but the **Terry and Crysta** came back the next game to time the match up 1-1. the pairs ended up splitting the next two games as well bring the over all match to 2-2, but now **Terry & Crysta** needing only to win 3 games were now on the Hill. **Jeff & Heidi** focused and pulled out game 5 to go ahead 3-2, but the writing was on the wall and **Terry & Crysta** won the very next game to give them the match 3-3, the win, the bragging rights to being 2016 Co-Title holders with **Steve & Karen**.

For their efforts both Scotch Doubles pairs attain the recognition of being the 2015-16 Jack 'n Jill Scotch Doubles Champions, each will receive **\$800** in travel and lodging allowance—plus have their entry fees paid in addition, both and both will go on to compete in the 2016 August National Jack 'n Jill Scotch Doubles Championship at the Westgate Resort & Casino in Las Vegas this very next August. Join together with us in wishing them the best of luck in the competition.

Special Kudo's Jeff Hiatt for his help with in assisting Merle in getting started, and to the Rodder's crew and staff for all their great service and hospitality and especially to John Blue for pitching in to help monitor the Jack 'n Jill event. In the end both events transitioned along quite well.



Steve Kemp & Karen Gjerner



Terry Mason & Crysta Rankin

Those 4 people listed below are losers from the May 23rd News-letter. If you happen to see any of these people let 'em have the old "L" sign,—& thank 'em for leaving you a shirt !

- 1—**DAVID KREITZ** (97220085) who plays for Skyline Pub's "**Regulars**" in the **Farside D.J.** division.
- 2—**JENIFER DUGAN** (97221243) who plays for 2nd St. Bar's "**2 Drinks Minimum**" in the **Farside D.J.** division.
- 3—**ALEX BLACKMAN** (97221454) who plays for Silver Star Saloon's "**Rackless Behavior**" in **Columbia D.J.** div.
- 4—**PHILLIP ANGLIN** (97221521) who plays for Bink's "**Just The Tip**" in the **Northeast 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 any-time. Therefore, pay attention to detail, **READ THE 97219916 NEWSLETTER..!**

