

GN44 IS FINALLY HERE!





**AMERICAN
CRIBBAGE
CONGRESS**
CRIBBAGE.ORG

ACC Open Weekend

March 4–7, 2027 ~ Reno NV

Four days filled with cribbage, fun, and friends!

March 4 ~ Reno Opener

March 4 ~ Canadian Doubles

March 5 ~ Tournament of Champions

March 6 ~ JPW/ACC Open Main

March 7 ~ JPW/ACC Open Consolation

**Questions? call Rick Shea (707.599.4605)
or send email to acctocopen@gmail.com**

J RESORT

Address Changes

888.734.4464
membership@cribbage.org

Moving? Tell us in advance so you
don't miss any *Cribbage Worlds*.

ACC Judges

see page 6

Milestones!

Two months in advance, send info
about member birthdays ending in a
zero—and all birthdays over 100!—
to cwed152@gmail.com or 334
Pine St, Coopersville MI 49404.

Happy Birthday in September!

60—Kym Black (SD)

60—Scott Black (SD)

Happy Birthday in October!

70—Frank Reddy (MA)

60—William Tomlinson (CA)

Current Suspensions by the Ethics Committee

Jack B. Shumate III (CA-3351; Newport
OR)—for one year for behavior issues.
Applies to all ACC-sanctioned activ-
ities except Grass Roots; he will be
allowed to direct and play in his club
only during his suspension. Effective
8/3/2026–8/1/2027.

ACC membership odometer

6 4 1 6 **↑** **95**

as of August 31

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Cribbage news relevant to the ACC and its mem-
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published on a space-available basis. Deadline is
the 10th of each month.

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Coopersville MI 49404

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President's Column

by James Morrow



Setting a Steady Pace A game of cribbage should take fifteen minutes to play. But sometimes it can take a little or a lot longer. We have all been in or seen a game that goes on and on, as the players get two points and peg one. Some games end quickly, as one or both players can't miss a cut. Some players are fast, extremely fast, and they discard before their opponent has finished picking up their cards. Those players get to do a lot of waiting at tournaments and clubs.

New players are the heartbeat of our organization and keep the ACC alive. But let's talk about new players who are not at the speed of the seasoned pro. New players may know how to play very well, but playing in their first club or tournament can be intimidating and feel completely different. They may be counting carefully to not miss any points; they may be getting used to the speed of the pegging and scoring; they probably have questions; the shuffling and cutting may take time to get used to. Sometimes they are simply excited to meet new players and talk.

The ACC should be a place where we meet people, make friends, learn and enjoy playing the game. We do not want to lose a new player because someone made them feel like they were a problem for taking a little longer. At the same time, keeping the game moving is an important part of club and tournament play. We don't want to take the social part out of the game, but in a 22-game tournament, if each game lasts an extra six minutes this extends the time by two hours.

PLAY FASTER! HURRY UP! This is *not* the way to motivate a player already feeling the pressure. There may come a point when players need to play a short game. This is not a punishment, and the director should explain clearly that it is to keep the tournament on schedule. We want everyone in the playing hall to know that we are all moving through the tournament together.

How do you teach newer players about pace? I am glad you asked. Here are just a couple ways to help. A player should start thinking of their discard as soon as the cards are dealt. Conversations can take place, as long as the game doesn't stop: keep shuffling, dealing, and playing the hands. Experienced players can help with this, giving them time to count. Encourage new players. A simple "you counted your hands correctly, no need to recount" can give them the confidence to count and peg instead of recounting every hand afraid to miss a point. Answer questions or show them something they could be doing differently to improve their game after the tournament or during a break. As players gain experience, counting gets faster and the pace of the game becomes natural.

Next time you are sitting across from a new player, remember you were that new player not too long ago. Give them the same grace that players once gave you.

Your Deal



Letters to CW will be printed on a space-available basis and may be condensed or edited for clarity and length (150 words maximum). Send letters to **cwed152@gmail.com** or 334 Pine St, Coopersville MI 49404. Please include your name, city, and state.

Heartland

While I was watching one of my favorite series on Netflix, a father and son were playing cribbage in *Heartland* season 18 episode 10: “Open House.” The dad just moved into a care facility, and dad and son were playing cribbage. The count was never announced, but they did peg a couple of points.

Charlette Springer (La Grande OR)

29—at Last!

A 29-hand is the most elusive and magical number in the game of cribbage. Some players dedicated to the “best two handed card game ever invented” have been chasing this illusive hand for decades. The odds of being dealt a 29 are calculated at about 216,580 to 1. Actual incidents of a 29 in tournament play are so rare that the American Cribbage Congress pays the player \$100 and inducts them into “Club 29.” In the 1980s, my father, **Edmond Ciechanowski**, who played in the same ACC-sanctioned club as I do now got **two** 29-hands in one month! I’m proud to announce that after seven decades of chasing the most revered hand in cribbage, I got it at the Summer Laguna Classic, sponsored by Laguna Peggers and the Surf City 29ers on August 22, 2026.

David Ciechanowski (Laguna Woods CA)



Tale of the Tape	Here's how three top players did in August		
	Rick Baird	Todd Schaefer	Rob Medeiros
average	✓ 61.5% (59–37)	52.4% (33–30)	55.6% (30–24)
biggest win	+46 vs. Mike Redmond (OR) @ Club 12	+44 vs. Laura Johnson (MN) @ Club 240	✓ +48 vs. Paul Batterson (CT) @ South Windsor
worst loss	✓ –40 vs. Karen Holdstock (OR) @ Club 12	–42 vs. Jim Mahan (WI) @ Hinckley	–66 vs. Mary Burlington (MA) @ South Windsor

My Deal

by David Aiken



Play **smart**, play **fair**, play **fast**—but mostly play **nice**

Sick. Inflamed. Gross. Diseased. Contaminated. Gangrenous. And my favorite: Angry! Those were the adjectives the doctors used to describe my gallbladder.

Following a patch of stomach pain, I went to the emergency room on Friday the 11th—just about the time I was ready to start working on the October *Cribbage World*. My body had other plans.

On Sunday, I had a double whammy: an endoscopy to remove gallstones (the source of my abdominal pain), followed immediately by surgery to remove my gallbladder. I was discharged the next afternoon with a clean bill of health.

Twenty-four hours later, I returned to the emergency room with shortness of breath and a fever. Multiple tests, scans, and proddings later (“does this hurt?”), they decided to admit me again. But I was privileged to stay in the ER until five o’clock the next afternoon. Apparently, I was the high qualifier with twenty-two hours in the emergency room!

It took four more days before the high-powered antibiotics did their job, but now I’ve been home for a week without relapsing. If all goes well, I’ll be up and about at Grand National in mid-October.

I learned a lot from this episode. First of all, you don’t really need your gallbladder. It’s kind of like a second appendix that doesn’t do enough work to warrant keeping around.

Second, I recommend that you get rid of your gallbladder when you are young. Don’t wait until you are seventy.

Third, if I get dementia sometime in the future, I’ll continue to remember my full name and date of birth. I said these so many times over this ten-day period that whenever anyone walks into my room now I just start spewing it out.

Fourth, I increased my knowledge of Latin. NPO is an abbreviation for the Latin phrase *nil per os*. It means: “Let’s see how many ways we can say no when this sucker asks for something to drink.”

Thanks to my family, cribbage family, and friends for the visits, cards, calls, and food. I appreciate everyone who helped both me and **Katie VanHuis** during this topsy-turvy time.

New ACC Judges

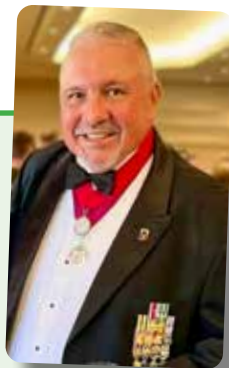
- **Barbara Barbour** (South Windsor CT)
- **David Falk** (New Ulm MN)
- **Bonnie Fife** (Killingly CT)
- **Dana Harvey** (Vancouver WA)
- **Bruce LaFleur** (Gladstone MI)
- **Brock Lee** (Hot Springs Village AR)
- **Dana McClain** (Vancouver WA)
- **Steven Umbro** (Edmond OK)

To take the judge examination, send your name and ACC number to accjudgetest@gmail.com.

THIS JUST IN!

✦ DARYL DESJARDIN ✦

The country music world lost one of its brightest lights with the passing of **Dolly Parton** at eighty, following a brief battle with cancer. For cribbage players, her story might seem, at first glance, worlds away from a peg board and a well-shuffled deck. But look closer, and the game we love shares more with her legacy than you'd think.



Dolly grew up one of twelve children in a one-room cabin in the Great Smoky Mountains of Tennessee—the kind of Appalachian upbringing where a deck of cards wasn't a luxury, it was a lifeline. Porches, kitchen tables, long winter evenings: this is the terrain cribbage was built for, and it's the same terrain that shaped Dolly's music. Both trade in the currency of patience, of passing time well with the people beside you, of turning simple materials—thirteen notes or fifty-two cards—into something that outlasts the moment.

There's a lesson in her career for every cribbage player who's ever muttered about a bad cut. Dolly was famous for saying she found out who she was and did it on purpose. Cribbage rewards that same self-possession. You can't control the deal, only how you play it—the discard you choose, the risk you take pegging against your opponent's hand. Dolly's whole life was a testament to playing a modest hand with tremendous skill and heart.

She also understood something cribbage players know instinctively: that a game, like a song, is really an excuse to sit with someone. Dolly's generosity—the Imagination Library, the scholarships, the quiet checks she wrote for people in trouble—came from the same place our best cribbage nights come from. It's never really about the skunks or the double run. It's about who's across the board from you.

There's also her sense of humor to consider, which any serious cribbage player will recognize as a survival skill. Dolly joked often about her own image, turning what could have been an insult into a punchline she owned outright. Cribbage has that same self-deprecating streak built into its language—nobs, nibs, the dealer's crib, the groan of a nineteen-hand. It's a game that shouldn't take itself too seriously, even when the stakes at the tournament table are real.

Somewhere in that overlap—mountain music and a mountain game, both older than us, both still teaching us how to be decent to each other—Dolly Parton fits right in.

Rest well, Dolly. Deal us in.

CRIBLINE

Choose one card as the starter and lay the other seven in the line. Cards 1-4 with the starter make hand A, cards 2-5 hand B, 3-6 hand C and 4-7 hand D. The total of all four hands must add up to the target, and hand A must match the given score. Every puzzle has exactly one answer.

by Scott Harker

No. 1

TARGET **20**

HAND A **13**



EASY
● ○ ○ ○

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	starter	
hand A				hand B				
		hand C			hand D			

No. 2

TARGET **19**

HAND A **10**



MEDIUM
● ● ○ ○

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	starter	
hand A				hand B				
		hand C			hand D			

No. 3

TARGET **20**

HAND A **13**



HARD
● ● ● ○

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	starter	
hand A				hand B				
		hand C			hand D			

answers on page 34

The Inside Track

by Rob Medeiros



Sometimes we all take a deep breath during a game and lose our focus for a split second, and those moments can be costly. Here's my tale of woe.

Playing the Hall of Famer **Cathy Perkins** I needed seven as pone, and Cathy was dealing from fifteen holes out. I held A-A-3-3 and prayed for a picture cut. The cut was a 2, and I led the 3. Cathy responded with a King, and I played my other 3. (Yes, you can see where this is going!) Cathy played a Queen, and then the A-A-A-A rollout for the one-point loss

I relaxed for just a split second and that's all it took. Yes, the odds of Cathy having the other two Aces were very low, but we have to defend against those types of scenarios.

Learn this painful lesson from me to avoid any future heartbreak for you.

Rob doesn't usually double-skunk his opponents. Email questions to mrob2199@aol.com



A palace and a beer. Where are John and Maria this month? (page 21)

Youth News

from Don "Grumpy" Howard

Youth News

Youth member applications and renewals may now be made online at cribbage.org. There is no fee through 18 years of age.

Youth Tournament Trail

October 9 • Youth Festival before GN44 (Hamburg NY)

October 24 • Halloween Classic (Oroville CA)

November 21 • Ready Springs (Penn Valley CA)

December 5 • Youth Pegging for Vets (Sacramento CA)

March 13 • Penn Valley Sierra (Penn Valley CA)

June 26 • Youth Grand National 6 (Reno NV)

Scott's Peek at the Past

by Scott Kooistra (Spencer NE)

It became evident very early in the just completed 2025–26 cribbage year that **Bryan Gurden** (NV) was going to do some amazing things on the Tournament Trail. It got me to thinking about the best individual cribbage years of the past four-and-a-half decades of the American Cribbage Congress.

The top of the hill is certainly the year that Gurden just ended. When **Duane Toll** went past the 3K mark in Master Rating Points fourteen years ago, and with tournament sizes getting smaller, I didn't know if anyone would ever break Duane's record, much less hit the 4,000-point level.

But Bryan was on a mission and when he climbed over 1,000 MRPs in early October, I quickly decided to follow his results and keep in close contact. What a start Gurden had! In the first week at Sacramento last August, he had a second and a third in two separate main tournaments, along with a high qualifier and third in a consy.

Gurden was certainly the King of Deadwood SD in this past cribbage year. He placed third out of 290 players in the Grand National midweek and third out of 200 peggers in the Grand National consy. Even more impressive was the Deadwood Cluster in April when Gurden took first out of 127 entries in the Deadwood Open and followed two days later with first out of 100 players in the Calamity Jane Open! Bryan totaled 673 MRP in those two visits to the Black Hills.

Besides those two mains in Deadwood, Gurden won main tournaments in Grand Rapids MI, Henderson NV, and Sun City AZ. Along with six consolation titles, Gurden won eleven sanctioned events over the year to tie **Jeremy Krieger's** total of eleven victories in the 2018–19 season (both won five mains and six consolations). Gurden's 4,000 MRPs was 1,486 better—the largest margin ever—than the impressive second place in the nation by his traveling mate **Ray Klocko** (NV).

The September *Cribbage World* listed numerous statistics that Gurden kept over his record-breaking year. He won 62% of his games, qualified in 49 of 80 Mains, was high qualifier 9 times, averaged 50 MRP per tournament, and so on. What a year by Bryan Gurden, the best ever!

Before the Gurden season, the best season in the history of the ACC was clearly 3,121 MRPs by **Duane Toll** (OR) in the 2011–12 cribbage year! At that time, Toll's total was 350 points higher than the previous best, which he had the year before. In his record year, he took over the national lead after a third place (out of 526 players) at the second largest Grand National ever, the first weekend in October 2011 in Reno! Toll kept increasing the lead and ended up 899 MRPs better than second-place finisher **Roland Hall** (CA).

continued on page 11

Scott knows so much ACC history because he has lived through most of it—and has done just about everything in the ACC: BOD member, VP, president, national MRP champ x2, All American x7, tournament director, and youngest person elected to the ACC's Hall of Fame.

ACC Awards



Kai Lemrise
(Crescent City CA)
Grand Master

I didn't learn cribbage until I was twenty-one from my friend John "Rooster" Cogburn. We joined the ACC the same day in 2016. I'm the director of Club 98 in Crescent City CA. I have my Bronze Award and have been club champ four times. My first tournament win was a consolation in Sacramento CA in 2018, and I achieved my Master at the same VFW hall in 2023. I won my first main in Sutherlin

OR in 2024 and now have six tournament wins (four mains and two consolations). The first few years of tournament play I learned a lot on my own but have learned a lot from Jim Langley, Trevor Poole, and Duane Toll. I earned my Grand Master rating at my favorite tournament venue: Topaz Lake NV, I was high qualifier, and the cards con-

tinued throughout the playoffs. My toughest opponents recently have been my son Keanu, Paul Gregson, and Winona McDaniel. My favorite moment of the cribbage year was taking my family to Deadwood SD and viewing the sights around it. When I'm not playing cribbage I used to bowl a lot; my high game is 292. I also like to play poker. I coach my son's teams.

New Cribbage Masters

Bob Stone (Deer Lodge MT)

Highlights of the Toll season included 14 finishes in main tournament final fours and 3 in consolation final fours. Toll took main championships in Redding CA, Carson City NV, Reno NV Independence Day (out of 212 players), and St. Cloud MN. During that year, Duane also reached the Life Master (6★) level of 35,000 MRP.

When you have six national MRP championships, it's difficult to pick one as your best so I texted **Erik Locke** (OR) this spring to get his thoughts. Erik surprised me initially, but then I agreed with his assessment of his 2019–20 cribbage year. That was the COVID-19 season, and Locke still had an awesome total of 2,076 MRP, a full 563 points ahead of runner-up **Dave Yaeger** (WA). He felt that was maybe his most impressive year, and it's very feasible he could have passed 3,000 points if there had been tournaments in mid-March thru July.

Highlights of that Locke eight-month year included main tourney titles at Boston MA, Carson City NV, and Sunnyside WA. There was a very noteworthy second place when he was runner-up out of 334 peggers in Grand National 38 at North Conway NH. Locke also had a first and second in Consy events, although he rarely plays in consolation tournaments. Locke's MRP total of 2,076 doesn't even include anything from his winning the 420-player Tournament of Champions in Reno, an invitation-only event that does not award MRPs.

Those tournament years of Gurden, Toll, and Locke are certainly among the very best in ACC history. Next month I will review MRP title years by **Jeremy Krieger** (2019), **Jim Langley** (2001), and **Scott Kooistra** (1990).

New Members

135 last month

France

Nicolas Roudier (Vineuil)

Switzerland

Carl Ash (Horgen)

United Kingdom

Deano Dagleish (Hartlepool)

Daniel Rezzano (Poynton)

Alberta

Wally Strang (Edmonton)

Arizona

James Bingham (Pearce)

Peter Underwood (Tucson)

California

Tim Alexander (Sierra City)

Kristopher Betz (Folsom)

Perry Black (Oroville)

Joseph Cilenti (Grass Valley)

Julie Cilenti (Grass Valley)

Jordan Del Rosario (Albany)

David Dibble (Redding)

Esteechu Dunatte (Oakland)

Patricia Egan (Nevada City)

Christopher Evans (Albany)

Ayme Kantz (Oroville)

Tony Madrigal (Auburn)

Mari Mizutani (Alameda)

Andy Munger (Alameda)

Bill Naylor (Somerset)

David O'Brien (Crescent City)

Margaret Payne (Vista)

Christine Peterson (Grass Valley)

Daniel Quealy (Nevada City)

Mark Rouillard (Mission Viejo)

Judy Rucker (Los Altos)

Cassidy Salinas (Napa)

John Schleder (Whittier)

Wendy Spratt (Nevada City)

Craig Wood (Palm Desert)

Colorado

Jonathan Hebel (Lakewood)

Jeff James (Longmont)

Daniel Kulp (Colorado Springs)

Andrew O'Keefe (Denver)

Connecticut

David Fontaine (Sterling)

Lena Misluk (Broad Brook)

Timothy Misluk (Broad Brook)

Florida

Joe Beditz (Stuart)

Gavin Bomstad (Tampa)

Jason Carson (Belle Isle)

David Clement (Leesburg)

Dennis Flynn (Naples)

Georgia

John Martin (Stone Mountain)

Hawaii

Karin Phaneuf (Wailuku)

Idaho

Jeffrey Hancock (Star)

Timothy Murdock (Boise)

Illinois

Tricia Gigstad (Chicago)

Indiana

Kenneth Patterson (Anderson)

Iowa

Tim Bennett (Des Moines)

Nick Trotter (Center Point)

Kentucky

Jordan Rainwater (Louisville)

Tom Robidoux (London)

Louisiana

Todd Trier (Shreveport)

Maine

Elias Chadwick (Holden)

Wyatt Chadwick (Holden)

Riley Coleman (Baileyville)

Avery Delnicki (Baileyville)

Lance Mazer (Windham)

Beata Panyi (Old Orchard Beach)

Maryland

Jeffrey Bukowski (Perry Hall)

Jackson Clawson (Germantown)

Darren Straniero (Germantown)

Massachusetts

Lisa Cooper (Sagamore Beach)

Christine Hickman (Groton)

Art Lusty (Sandwich)

Kim Lusty (Sandwich)

Joanne Miller (Cotuit)

Susan Murray (Centerville)

Melissa Read (Centerville)

Michael Sustick (Leeds)

Curtis Van Riper (West Wareham)

Michigan

Ben Beazley (Detroit)

Laura Jolly (New Buffalo)

Daniel Lopaze (Clarkston)

Minnesota

Merton Denley (Lakeville)

Jason Foster (Arlington)

Hanna Lord (Saint Cloud)

Kent Roessler (Anoka)

Mississippi

Cynthia Hayes (Gulfport)

Duane Hayes (Gulfport)

Montana

Edwin Barnier (Valier)

Nevada

Lisa Chavez (Reno)

New Hampshire

Denis Finnigan (Manchester)

New York

Kyle Kenyon (Clifton Springs)

Danica Noelle Montilla (New York)

Edward Sturman (Saratoga Springs)

North Carolina

Bradley Davis (Winston Salem)

Nova Scotia

Ian MacLellan (Williamswood)

Oklahoma

Monte Barnhill (Norman)

Ontario

Daniel Szczur (Mississauga)

Michael Szczur (Mississauga)

Oregon

Jessie Andersen (Albany)

Tina Hill (Prineville)

Jill Hunter (Medford)

Robert McNeill (Warren)

Casey Richart (Corvallis)

Kim White (Portland)

Chad Wiest (Eugene)

Jenevie Wiest (Eugene)

Pennsylvania

Daniel Knorr (Bethel Park)

Nicole Knorr (Bethel Park)

Rhode Island

Dick Burt (Riverside)

Matthew Florence (Greenville)

Oliver Gagnon (Providence)

Jillian Lewis (Riverside)

Christopher Ware (Riverside)

Tennessee

Jesse Ford (Bristol)

Melinda Sopina (Knoxville)

Richard Sopina (Knoxville)

David Tracy (Crossville)

Texas

John Mazur (Round Rock)

Thomas Norlander (Sugar Land)

Lisa Ross (Dallas)

Mikeal Wittig (Willis)

Utah

Sandra LeCheminant (Murray)

Virginia

Andrew Shervin (Roanoke)

Julie Spizuoco (Sterling)

Nancy White (Alexandria)



Ruling Points

by Keith Widener

Is that a renenge?

Fall is in the air and the Grand National in Niagara Falls is approaching! So here is a little situation that might need some clarification.

Let's say that *Cribbage World* editor **David Aiken** and I are playing each other and that I am in hole 119 and he is in hole 120. We are both pretty good peggers so we have held cards that will help us peg. As we are playing and intensely concentrating, the count runs up and Aiken plays an Ace to make the count 27. Unfortunately I have to say go, and he takes the go and puts his peg in the out hole. But wait! I then discover that he has another Ace in his hand that he did not play. So I call for a judge because I think he has reneged, and if he did, he will have to go back and I will get a two-point penalty and win the game! And maybe he also false claimed the game and will have to go back fifteen points as well. So do I have an argument?

This situation is covered, believe it or not, in the ACC's rulebook under rule 7.3e: **If a player calls "go" and their opponent then pegs out, the game is over. It is not a renenge if that player had cards that could have been played.** And if the game is over, then by definition there isn't a false claim of game either.

Don't worry folks, I'll have another shot at Aiken again soon!

Let's have fun!

Send questions about rules and the rulebook to keith@qtainc.com.

CLUB 29

1. Richard May (IL):
Atlanta Classic (8/13)
2. Richard May (IL):
Peach State Peg Off (8/15)

Two
29-hands
in one
weekend!

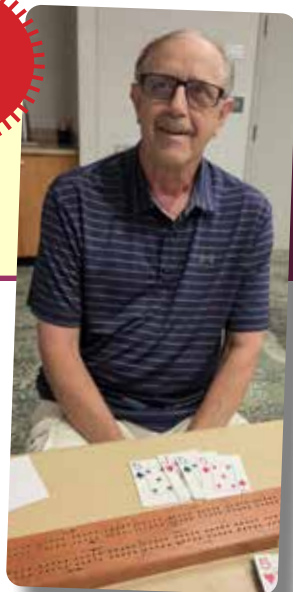
Washington

Aaron Ascher (Lake Stevens)
Graeme Gibson (Mercer Island)
Dawn Glavick (Oak Harbor)
Tony Glavick (Oak Harbor)
Nicholas Nedeau (Seattle)
Trevor Straight (Lilliwaup)
Alan Topp (Poulsbo)
Chris Turpin (Federal Way)

Andrew Wigington (Bremerton)

Wisconsin

Erik Anderson (Madison)
Shane Dorgan (Middleton)
Kristin Hauser (Neenah)
Corey Reymont (Fish Creek)
Cheryl Schwalbach (Larsen)
Terry Van Valkenburg (Green Bay)



Growing your Cribbage Club



Opal's Seedlings



Start with the First Welcome

Growing your cribbage club is a lot like a college fraternity or sorority during Rush Week. The first challenge is getting someone through the door. The second—and even more important—challenge is getting them to come back.

One of the best ways to do that is by assigning every new player a mentor or sponsor. That person becomes the friendly face who welcomes them, introduces them to other members, answers questions, and helps them learn both your club's routines and the ACC rules. Take a few minutes to learn about their other interests, too. Building friendships is often just as important as teaching cribbage.

Sometimes circumstances change. Your club may need to find a new home, or you may be starting a brand-new club, like **Tom Robidoux** is doing in Kentucky. Finding a free or low-cost meeting location takes some creativity. Consider reaching out to organizations and businesses with meeting space, such as:

- VFW posts
- American Legion halls
- AMVETS
- Knights of Columbus
- Fraternal Order of Eagles
- libraries
- senior centers
- restaurants
- sports bars
- community centers

When talking with a potential host, remember to share what's in it for them. Their business or organization will be listed on the Grass Roots website, giving them exposure to players looking for local clubs. They may even be featured in an article in *Cribbage World*, which reaches more than six thousand cribbage enthusiasts across the country.

Finally, a special kudos to **Debra Cotter** for launching the new East Coast Directors Group. Its mission is simple but important: to ensure club directors never feel like they're on their own. The group gives directors an opportunity to share ideas, discuss specialty hands and fun club activities, exchange membership growth strategies, and work together to find positive solutions to challenges their clubs face.

Remember, successful clubs aren't built just by dealing cards—they're built by creating friendships, encouraging new players, and helping one another succeed.

Questions? Ideas? Reach me at mo_pilgrim59@msn.com



edited by **Vicki Marchand**

Contributions are encouraged. Send items of interest to
ACCgrassrootscorner@gmail.com

GRASS ROOTS CORNER

The 2026–27 Grass Roots season is officially underway! Club directors across the country are busy verifying memberships, cross-checking scorecards, collecting registrations, paying prizes, making sure they have enough supplies, and fortunately delegating some of these tasks all while trying to earn GRPs themselves. Later this month, one of these hard-working volunteers will be named Grass Roots Director of the Year at Grand National.

Starting with this issue, Grass Roots Corner will include a monthly Club Director Spotlight (see page 17). This will recognize additional club directors who go above and beyond. The overwhelming number of sincere and enthusiastic nominations for DOY made it obvious that members appreciate and respect the efforts of their directors. Perhaps those featured will inspire and help others grow and improve.

Has anything unusual happened at your Grass Roots club already this season? Has one of your members does something special? Please send stories and pictures to **accgrassrootscorner@gmail.com**. (Information for the lists of 28-hands, 29-hands, and grand slams is collected directly from certificate entries, not from emails.) — **VM**

Grass Roots at Grand National!

For the first time in five years, Grand National week will include a Grass Roots tournament as one of its satellites. Points earned will be visitor points, which count toward lifetime, division, and regional totals but not club championships. The largest Grass Root tournament ever was 74 people at GN37 in 2018. Can we set a new world record? Participate in Wednesday night's event in Niagara Falls and let's try!



Jeanette Curry of Club 321 (Kalamazoo MI) got her first grand slam on the final night of summer play, August 31.

Bob Murray of Club 26 (East Hartford CT) held a 29-hand in August. Even though he didn't get a GR award for it, he hit the skunk jar hard.



more Grass Roots stories next page



GRASS ROOTS CORNER

Club 502 (Crossville TN) held their first official Grass Roots tournament on September 1. This first Tennessee club is the result of a dream and hard work by **Denise Fortin**. Last winter



she created flyers and placed them in senior centers, libraries, fraternal organizations, community centers, and Facebook pages. ACC membership secretary **Brenda Nason** provided a list of ACC members in Tennessee, which found members 302 miles east to west and 116 miles north to south of Denise's home in Jamestown. She chose Crossville as it was somewhat central and on I-40. The Plateau Peggers began weekly practice sessions at Shoney's in March. For months Denise and two of her friends from Club 463 (Louisville KY), **Debbie and Chuck Stephens**, introduced Grass Roots play to potential members. Some became regulars; some decided the distance was too far. Two of these visitors have now chartered their own club near Knoxville. Others are considering starting clubs in Paris TN and London KY. Cribbage is growing in the South!

Walt Lott of Club 398 (Indianapolis IN) had his first grand slam on the first night of the new season, September 9.



In week two at Sno-King Peggers Club 108, **Arne Gallagher** won his first seven games. **Kris Parker** won eight games, including three skunks, to take first. He also recorded a 28-hand, as did **Richard Winfield**. **Eric Akse** was recognized for scoring a 24-hand "the hard way" (4-4-4-4-7). To cap the night, **Jerry Nickels** and **Mike Pivec** had 24-hands during the final hand in the final game.

When **Ken Varner** (Laguna Peggers Club 419) got a 29-hand, he yelled "29" so loud people thought he was having a heart attack!



SPOTLIGHT

on

PHIL MARTIN

Phil Martin has been director of Hartford Metro Club 26 for thirty-four years. He took on that role as a young man wanting to keep the club alive so that it would be around when he retired. Through the years he has tried to keep expenses as low as possible and keep the sporadic players coming back with special hands, a skunk jar, and awards. Phil checks on members who miss a few weeks with a phone call or email. He meets prospective players beforehand to play some games to ensure they're comfortable with the ACC style and speed of play. Phil's laugh is loud, genuine, and infectious. He has created an environment that is fun, friendly, and still competitively engaging. It's a place where people enjoy the game, respect one another, and look forward to coming back each week.



Sibling Rivalry—we often talk about how important our cribbage family is. The bonus is when actual family members are part of the club. At Club 393 in Sequim WA, we are fortunate to have a brother-sister combo. They are fierce competitors and don't show any favors when playing each other. The first week of the season **Dave Otte** nailed a 28-hand and was basking in the glow. Two weeks later, **Donna Olson** got her own 28. Take that, big brother! It was amazing enough for our little club to see two 28-hands in three weeks but to see our brother/sister combo get them was extra special. We hope you are able to enjoy friendly family competition as much as we do at Club 393.

more Grass Roots stories next month

Vicki's Cribbage Vibes

Stories about Cribbage on the Eastern Seaboard

◆ by Vicki Soule ◆ newenglandcribbage@yahoo.com ◆

It's October! In Maine the trees are turning, the temperature is dropping, and the excitement is building. It's officially go time—not for just any tournament in Niagara Falls, but for the 44th Grand National! Packing a sweater may be as important as packing your best cribbage face. October already brings Indigenous Peoples' Day and Halloween. But why not add a few extra celebrations while we're in Niagara? If we can count pegs, we can count holidays. October 14 is Be Bald and Free Day! I'm not naming names, but we may spot a few proud participants—and find out who actually reads this article. October 16 is National Dictionary Day, so a special shout-out to the *Cribbage World* editor. Maybe we should give him a dictionary that opens straight to “proofread.” Side note: it's also the Other Soule's birthday. Finally, October 18 is National Cupcake Day. No, I am not making 300 cupcakes for everyone to take home—though I admire the optimism. All joking aside, we truly cannot wait to see you.

The 2026–27 East Coast season kicked off in South Windsor CT on August 8. Saturday's Patriot Kickoff was started by our dear friend—and big Patriots fan—**Carl Deyette**. They play basketball, right? Uncle **Ronnie Murakami** came to New England to visit family and cribbage friends, and of course he brought **CC**. We were at a seafood restaurant—yes, I had chicken—talking about the two one-day tournaments. CC and Ronnie planned to leave Wednesday, but one Ronnie smile later, they stayed. I may have mentioned once or ten times that this was a good call. **Don Janelle** finished second, and summer New England staple **Roland Hall** won the consy over one of the Ricks (**Rick Nourse**). Sunday's New England Peer Tournament, which pairs players with similar MRP ratings, was won by **Just Mark**—or Mark Soule. I might know him. **James Ravencroft** from PA took second. In the consolation, **CC** made sure Ronnie did not steal all the spotlight, beating Mr. “I need this game” himself, **Frank Corrado**. All in all, a great weekend.

Welcome to the director family, **Jamie Fincher**! With plenty of charisma—and plenty of friends—Jamie brought tournament cribbage back to Atlanta after a very long break. The Atlanta Cribbage Classic took place August 13–14, and one of the OGs, **Keith Widener**, reminded everyone why he has been with the ACC from the start: he qualified #1 and won the main. **Ray Klocko** came all the way from the West and showed why he finished #2 in the country last season by taking second. The consolation went to Central player **Marsha Mahan**—also known as “I Won a Game Marsha”—who beat some guy named Jim, who may or may not have been #1 in the country a year ago.

Michael Leonard was runner-up. The Peach State Open was won by New England's own **Susan Baker**, earning her first main win while we cheered from afar. The Biscoe Kid, **Frank Abernathy**, finished second. Another New England lady, **Donna LaFleur**, won the consolation over our friend **Dan Selke**. Way to go, ladies—and way to go, Jamie! This one belongs on the old bucket list.

Back in New England, **Joe Bowen** and team hosted a high roller in Dover NH on August 29. **Keith Widener** kept his streak alive by qualifying #1, but **Donna LaFleur** stayed hot from Atlanta and took the win. **Pete Legendre** finished second after Donna took out both him and Mark in the 3–4 round. Since Pete and Mark had driven to Dover together, I'm sure that was a peaceful ride home. In the consolation, Maine's own **Josh Parker** beat **Chris Grotton**. On August 30, Dover hosted a regular tournament. **James Edgar** won the main over **Just Rob Medeiros**, and **Kendra Munkacsy** beat **Mike D'Elena** in the consolation. Great location, great fun, and apparently very selective carpool karma.

In closing, I want to sincerely thank **David Aiken**, **Katie VanHuis**, and of course **Mark Soule**. Three years ago, it sounded simple enough: “Sure, let's run a Grand National ten hours away.” Then Deadwood happened, reality set in, and suddenly our to-do list needed its own to-do list. Life added a few personal curveballs too, because apparently planning a Grand National was not quite enough excitement. Through it all, what we needed most was for the players—that means *you*—to get excited, and you absolutely did. Your support, encouragement, donations, raffle-ticket sales, quilt sales, and good old-fashioned enthusiasm made this possible. We needed the ACC village, and you showed up in every way. I know I speak for all of us when I say we cannot wait to welcome you to Grand National. Safe travels by plane, car, train, or whatever gets you to Niagara. See you there—I'll be the redhead running around like a maniac, probably looking for the next thing I was supposed to remember.



Redhead Jokes—or Are They?

Q. What happens when you tease a redhead too much?

A. The ginger snaps.

Q. What do you call a redhead with a tan?

A. Suspicious.

Q. Why do redheads never blend in?

A. Because they come with a warning label.

The Summertime Laguna Classic was held on August 22 at Laguna Woods CA. We believe the two oldest players to ever play in the same tournament participated: **Gino Aielli** (San Clemente CA) turned 99 on that day, and **Tyler Brinker** (Fountain Valley CA) will be 98 in less than two months. That's 197 years of cribbage, folks. Can anybody top that?

Kudos to **Al and Sharon Schaefer** (Henderson NV) for becoming the sixth and latest married couple to both attain at least Life Master (★). The following table indicates the six couples and their points (statistics from late August 2026):

name	residence	he	she	total
Roy & Jeanne Hofbauer	Washougal WA	21,607	15,393	37,000
Warren Sondericker & Martha Fingleton	Milwaukee WI	19,954	13,036	32,990
Frank & Ginny Danielski	Little Chute WI	17,799	10,520	28,319
Mike & Winona McDaniel	Springfield OR	16,451	11,868	28,319
Al & Sharon Schaefer	Henderson NV	15,972	10,018	25,990
Rick & Peggy Shea	Eureka CA	12,476	11,675	24,151

To be included in the table two specific criteria were necessary: (1) a couple must be married (to each other); and (2) each must have attained the One Star level. Thus, **Jim Langley** and **Jeanne Jelke** (Redding CA) are not included, as they are not married (would it be worth it to get married, as their combined total of 56,788 would easily lead this group?). Similarly, **Duane Toll** and **Diana Webster** (Sutherlin OR) do not make the list, as she is about 3,000 points shy of One Star. Also note that no married couple in the history of the ACC has ever both achieved Two Stars but the McDaniels are getting relatively close.

Two other (married) couples are relatively close to both having at least One Star: **Ron and Laurie Logan** (Meridian ID) and **Les and Deb Kvien** (Mundelein IL).

So, to all you other married couples out there, keep trying, and maybe one day you can achieve this honor.

Over and out.

CRIBBAGE AROUND THE WORLD *Continued*

by John Quist
~ with lots of help from Maria ~

John	Maria
41	49

Maria and I visited Munich again, for another Oktoberfest experience. The beer mugs at the festival were almost as big as Maria, so we chose beer for the “where are we now” clue. Pretzels, pork knuckles, bratwurst, and sauerkraut were all options we could have used for the clue, but they were not very photogenic. In general, Maria prefers wine instead of beer, so she rarely drinks beer. The main exception is Oktoberfest beer in Munich. The beer is made with a recipe available only during the festival. It is crisp, light, and refreshing, which allows Maria to finish half of one mug! I end up finishing Maria’s beer, as it is not allowed to waste any beer during Oktoberfest. If we waste beer at Oktoberfest, the group we hang out with won’t invite us back.

After drinking beer at the festival in Munich, we visited Nymphenburg Palace (see page 9). We walked for hours around the palace and the gardens in an effort to burn off some of our beer calories. The palace and gardens are immense, rivaling the more famous Versailles in size and acreage. That leads me to ask a question about palaces. What is the difference between a palace and a castle?

Maria and I played cribbage in a castle before (December 2023 CW), but we have yet to play cribbage in a palace. On some future trip, we will play in a palace garden and take a photo for *Cribbage World*. For this trip, while at the hotel, Maria won two of three games using a defensive pegging strategy. That is also the answer to the above question: defense. A castle has strong defensive fortifications, while a palace does not.

The Hofbräuhaus in Munich and its distinctive logo are famous worldwide. Here, John and Maria drink beer in an Oktoberfest tent holding almost 10,000 people. Question for CATW readers: which is bigger—the beer stein or Maria’s head?!



tournament	director	main (MRPs)	consolation (MRPs)	very big hands	satellite winners
River City Shake It Up Saturday (Sacramento CA; 8/1)	Jennifer Bolles	59 players HQ. Chris Branson (50) 1. Dawn Diaz (105) 2. Doug Dresbach (70) 3. Chris Branson (42) 3. Peggy Shea (42)	41 players HQ. Dave Yaeger (36) 1. Farokh Ziari (60) 2. Bob Brumley (40) 3. Paul Gregson (24) 3. Wendy Yafuso (24)		Canadian Doubles: Barbara Stockham & Bob Brumley
Natomas Open (Sacramento CA; 8/3)	Bill Schlabes	41 players HQ. Ben Lewis (60) 1. James Clark (105) 2. James Langley (70) 3. Ben Lewis (42) 3. Nancy Rojas (42)	30 players HQ. Jeanne Jelke (21) 1. Bob Bartosh (40) 2. Billie Reddell (24) 3. Dawn Diaz (12) 3. Sharon Fogel (12)		
Sacramento Starter #1 (Sacramento CA; 8/6)	Bill Schlabes	47 players HQ. Jones Hom (30) 1. Dave Yaeger (105) 2. Ben Lewis (70) 3. Jones Hom (42) 3. Cy Madrone (42)	32 players HQ. Betty Brumley (15) 1. Edward Cuerth (40) 2. Scott Bedolla (24) 3. Betty Brumley (12) 3. Gordon Dakin (12)		
Sacramento Starter #2 (Sacramento CA; 8/8)	Bill Schlabes	53 players HQ. Austin Gregson (35) 1. James Clark (105) 2. Jeanne Jelke (70) 3. Jennifer Bolles (42) 3. Paul Gregson (42)	26 players HQ. Roger Widdowson (21) 1. Michael Stevens (40) 2. Darlene Stier (24) 3. Allen Amaro (12) 3. Roger Widdowson (12)	28-hands: Scott Bedolla* Edward Cuerth* Jay Shaffer*	
Sacramento Starter #3 (Sacramento CA; 8/9)	Bill Schlabes	39 players HQ. Gordon Dakin (40) 1. Cy Madrone (105) 2. Betty Brumley (70) 3. James Clark (42) 3. Jones Hom (42)	23 players HQ. Don Howard (18) 1. Carol Williams (40) 2. Don Grumpy Howard (24) 3. Sue Dalton (12) 3. Paul Gregson (12)		

LEGEND

HQ = high qualifier

* = in sanctioned event

green = grand slam

red = first win

tournament	director	main (MRPs)	consolation (MRPs)	very big hands	satellite winners
Patriot Kickoff Classic (South Windsor CT; 8/8)	Marty Duchow & Deb Taylor	72 players HQ. David Statz (45) 1. Ronnie Murakami (147) 2. Donald Janelle (105) 3. Edward Kane (70) 3. Jim Maffa (70)	46 players HQ. Ann Brendle (18) 1. Roland Hall (60) 2. Richard Nourse (40) 3. Harvey Bourdeau (24) 3. Bonnie Fife (24)	28-hands: Matthew Binkowski* James Ravenscroft*	Canadian Doubles: Joseph Bowen & Steven Braley
Northeast Peer Tournament (South Windsor CT; 8/9)	Donald Janelle	66 players HQ. Barbara Barbour (45) 1. Mark Soule (147) 2. James Ravenscroft (105) 3. Debra Cotter (70) 3. Nancy Riccio (70)	38 players HQ. Joe Zimmitti (21) 1. Charlene Cohen (60) 2. Frank Corrado (40) 3. Marty Duchow (24) 3. Joe Zimmitti (24)		
Atlanta Classic (College Park GA; 8/13)	Jamie Fincher	60 players HQ. Keith Widener (40) 1. Keith Widener (105) 2. Ray Klocko (70) 3. June Fordham (42) 3. Larry Phifer (42)	50 players HQ. Donna LaFleur (15) 1. Marsha Mahan (60) 2. Michael Leonard (40) 3. Richard Governale (24) 3. Bryan Gurden (24)	29-hand: Richard May* 28-hand: Michael Burnham*	Thursday: David Hayes
Peach State Peg Off (College Park GA; 8/15)	Jamie Fincher	70 players HQ. Jason Matheny (60) 1. Susan Baker (147) 2. Frank Abernathy (105) 3. Michael Burnham (70) 3. David Fournier (70)	48 players HQ. Jody Williams (18) 1. Donna LaFleur (60) 2. Dan Selke (40) 3. Yho Namgoong (24) 3. Larry Phifer (24)	29-hand: Richard May*	Saturday: Stephen Dugas Canadian Doubles: David Fournier & Yho Namgoong
Blue Mountain Open (La Grande OR; 8/14)	Charlette Springer	53 players HQ. Bob Brumley (60) 1. Erin Folsom (105) 2. Ronald Koep (70) 3. Michael Crume (42) 3. Cynthia Wark (42)	38 players HQ. Gary Nerton (24) 1. Erik Royland Locke (60) 2. Bernie Nelson (40) 3. Rick Baird (24) 3. Gary Pinkley (24)	28-hand: Christi Lewis*	Early Bird: Laurie Logan Canadian Doubles: Bobby & Nikki Ramelow
Garden City Fall Classic 2026 (Missoula MT; 8/28)	Sandi Cuerth	38 players HQ. James Palaniuk (35) 1. Vince Conley (105) 2. David Hayden (70) 3. Monica Hunt (42) 3. Dave Yaeger (42)	23 players HQ. Gary Pinkley (12) 1. Wayne Koski (40) 2. Paul Pierre (24) 3. Gary Pinkley (12) 3. Bob Stone (12)		Early Bird: Deborah Colbert Friday Canadian Doubles: Vicki Ross & Danny Riddle Saturday Canadian Doubles: Eric Boysen & Tom Gannon

Internet Cribbage

by Sally Henderson
(Internet Commish)
accjudgetest@gmail.com



I have some staff changes to announce. We happily welcome **Don Pohlman** (*mayor don*) as a new TD at eCrib+ and sadly say goodbye to **Scott Milo** (*sgtpegger*) and **John Shafer** (*netview85*). I can't thank

Scott and John enough for all they've done for ACC online cribbage and the endless hours they spent hosting for the ACC. Scott also served as site director at eCribbage for many years, and John served as TD at both Game Colony and eCribbage for many years and as assistant commissioner. John will continue to be the online statistician. To John and Scott: much appreciation for your many contributions and for volunteering your time and talent as needed. All the best to both of you!

FYI: at eCrib+, there will no longer be auto wins of 121-111 if someone DQs. Every player affected is assigned to the AI bot as a replacement player.

I am pleased to spotlight **Tim Julkowski** (*timoregon2854*), one of the long-playing members in ACC online tournaments! Here's Tim, in his own words:

I was raised in Oregon for forty years before moving to Priest River ID and marrying my love, Shannon. We were married for over five years before her passing earlier this year. [Editor's note: see July 2026 Cribbage World, page 35.] Early on, she asked me to teach her cribbage, and I was not only glad to, but also happy to bring her to club eventually. I have a sister and a brother, and we were a game-playing family growing up. We played all kinds of classic board and card

games. Although my dad had taught me cribbage when I was six, it wasn't until 1995 that he found the ACC, following an invite from a bar club friend. He then took me to my first tournament in 1998 at Lincoln City. Later that year, I joined my first Grass Roots club as well. When the internet program started, I had already played several years online at sites like Yahoo and Pogo, so playing in ACC tourneys was a welcome addition. I have played most seasons since the inception

internet.leaders

rank	IRPs	name
1	239	Nick Severson (ogshmoo)
2	219	Sam Sinram (ia503)
3	181	Robert Lewis (ageless sage)
4	167	Paul Gregson (a2zcribbage)
5	163	Nancy Roncetti (nunzia)
6	159	Frank Reddy (drvodka)
7	155	Heidi Falk (toastymn)
8	141	John Schafer (netview85)
9	140	Nancy Rojas (nancridbr)
10	136	Nancy Hawkins (wa01194)

Point Leader of the Month

Nick Severson (ogshmoo) @ 239 IRPs

New Grand eMasters (4,000 IRPs)

Brad Henderson (ousooner)

Paul Poropatic (pporopatic)

Internet Grand Slams

Jim Cassandro (vjimc)

Paul Gregson (a2zcribbage)

Kai Lemrise (lemrise34)

Chris Melheim (mel47)



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Western Region			Central Region			Eastern Region		
1	336	Dave Yaeger	1	120	Vince Conley	1	184	Susan Baker
2	332	James Clark	2	115	Marsha Mahan	2	172	Mark Soule
3	217	Jeanne Jelke	3	109	Cynthia Wark	3	171	Keith Widener
4	197	Ben Lewis	4	102	Jason Matheny	4	147	Frank Abernathy
5	196	Ronnie Murakami				5	136	Donna LaFleur
6	183	Cy Madrone				6	135	James Ravenscroft
7	161	Don Grumpy Howard				7	123	Larry Phifer
8	159	Dawn Diaz				8	121	Marty Duchow
9	149	Bob Brumley				9	120	David Fournier
10	144	Betty Brumley				10	110	Donald Janelle

Top Ten—100 MRPs minimum
The full list of regional standings will return.

Internet Cribbage—continued from page 24

and have been on the All Internet team six times, including one internet championship (2014) and runner-up this year. I have my Grand Master in live play, my Gold in Grass Roots play, and my Life eMaster in online play. Being a numbers guru, I have kept track of my cribbage stats pretty much since the beginning. Online, I have a career winning percentage of 53.3%, with 13,309 game points, 6,237 wins, 11,698 games played, and an average spread per game of +1.38. I was previously an ACC TD on Game Colony, hosting for six years.

Stuff the USPS wants us to print every year, so here it is.

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41. Paid Second-Class Periodicals (June 1987) - Paid Electronic Copies (June 1988)	▶	\$4507	0.00

Tournament Trail

CALENDAR OF SANCTIONED EVENTS

ACC Tournament Commissioners

Western Region	Central Region	Eastern Region
Rick Shea 707.599.4605 31for14@gmail.com	Patrick Barrett 715.323.5027 gnxvibarrett@gmail.com	Mark Soule 207.442.9001 soule1994@comcast.net

SCHEDULE OF ACC LEGACY TOURNAMENTS

GRAND NATIONAL		
<i>date</i>	<i>location</i>	<i>tournament directors</i>
Oct. 14–18, 2026	Sheraton 300 3rd St Niagara Falls NY 14303 <i>phone: 716.278.2695</i>	David Aiken Katie VanHuis Mark Soule Vicki Soule
Nov. 1–7, 2027	Doubletree by Hilton 322 N Spokane Falls Ct Spokane WA 99201 <i>phone: 509.455.9600</i>	James Morrow Rick Baird Kat Hartsell
TOC & ACC OPEN		
March 4–7, 2027 March 2–5, 2028 March 1–4, 2029	J Resort 345 N Arlington Ave Reno NV 89501 <i>phone: 866.386.7829</i>	Peggy & Rick Shea Patrick Barrett Todd Schaefer
NATIONAL OPEN		
July 2027	Double Tree (RDU) 4810 Page Creek Ln Durham NC 27703 <i>phone: 919.941.6000</i>	Megan Player Jennifer Johnson David Aiken

CW MARKETPLACE

CRIBBAGE SUPPLIES FOR CRIBBAGE PLAYERS

PLAYING CARDS — Presidents, National Parks, Art. Educational and Fun. Great for kids & adults! Made in the USA. www.ArcturusLLC.net

CW classifieds are an economical way to reach all ACC members. One month = \$15; six months = \$60; one year = \$100. Contact 616.401.8311 or cwcd152@gmail.com for details.

WI ♦ Oct. 2–4, Wisconsin State Championship
Lake of the Torches Casino, 510 Old Abe Rd, Lac Du Flambeau WI 54538. TD: Patrick & Linda Barrett (715.323.5027)

WY ♦ Oct. 3–4, Oil City Open
Eagles, 306 N Durbin St, Casper WY 82601. TD: Dave Harris (307.267.5014) & James Chase

MA ♦ Oct. 4, Boston Regional
Irish American Hall, 177 West St, Malden MA 02148. TD: Frank Reddy (617.974.7562) & Bill Cormier

NY ♦ Pre-GN Doubleheader

VFW, 2985 Lakeview Rd, Hamburg NY 14075.
TD: Joe Bowen (207.659.6111) & Carlyle Foss

YOUTH Oct. 9, Youth Cribbage Festival

Oct. 10–11, Western New York Festival Day #1

Oct. 12, Western New York Festival Day #2

↓ SEE PROMO IN SEPTEMBER CW ↓

NY ♦ Grand National 44

Sheraton, 300 3rd St, Niagara Falls NY 14303. TD: David Aiken (616.401.8311), Katie VanHuis, and Mark & Vicki Soule

Oct. 14–15, American Falls Classic

Oct. 16–18, Horseshoe Falls Classic

entry form online

OR ♦ Oct. 23–25, Salem Classic
Millers BBQ, 4600 25th St NE #165, Salem OR 97301. TD: Bruce Hammond (503.507.7432) & Eric Frey

ME ♦ Oct. 24, Seaside in Wells
Senior Center, 300 Post Rd, Wells ME 04090. TD: Joseph Bowen (207.659.6111) & Carlyle Foss

CA ♦ Oct. 24, Oroville Halloween Masquerade
Haunted Clubhouse, 1047 14th St, Oroville CA 95965. TD: Lori Boyer (530.566.6454) & Paul Gregson

YOUTH CA • Oct. 24, Halloween Classic Youth
Haunted Clubhouse, 1047 14th St, Oroville CA 95965 TD: Lori Boyer (530.566.6454)

WI ♦ Oct. 24–25, Oktoberfest
Townline Pub, 2544 Lineville Rd, Green Bay WI 54143. TD: Al Karr (920.639.3546) & Lee Tesch

WI ♦ Oct. 30–Nov. 1, DockHounds Challenge 2
Lake Country DockHounds, 1011 Blue Ribbon Circle N, Oconomowoc WI 53066. TD: Wayne Steinmetz (262.367.9180) & Richard Frost

WA ♦ Long Beach Doubleheader

Chautauqua Lodge, 304 NW 14th St, Long Beach WA 98631. TD: James Morrow (509.830.2318) & Kat Hartsell & Jason Hofbauer

Oct. 30, One Day at the Beach

Oct. 31–Nov. 1, ACC World Championships

ME ♦ Oct. 31, Spooktacular Cribbage
Benjamin's, 46 Acme Rd, Brewer ME 04412. TD: Joseph Bowen (207.659.6111) & Carlyle Foss

NC ♦ Nov. 6–8, John Medeiros Memorial
DoubleTree RDU, 4810 Page Creek Ln, Durham NC 27703. TD: Jennifer Johnson (617.515.2232) & Megan Player

NV ♦ Topaz Tripleheader

Topaz Lodge, 1979 Hwy 395 S, Gardnerville NV 89410. TD: Bev Castillo (775.453.3715) & Alice Souza

Nov. 7–8, Topaz Winter Wonderland #1

Nov. 9–10, Topaz Winter Wonderland #2

Nov. 11–12, Topaz Winter Wonderland #3

KY ♦ Kentucky Fall Classic

Best Western, 9802 Bunson Way, Louisville KY 40299. TD: Stephen Dugas (774.406.8761) & Wanda Berry

Nov. 13, Louisville Slugger

Nov. 14–15, Bluegrass Open

↓ SEE PROMO ON PAGES 30–31 ↓

NV ♦ Nov. 13–15, Veterans Day Classic
J Resort, 345 Arlington, Reno NV 89509. TD: Peggy & Rick Shea (707.599.4605)

NH ♦ Nov. 14, Granite State Pre-Classical
Tempesta Restaurant, 401 Winchester St, Keene NH 03431. TD: Joseph Bowen (207.659.6111) & Carlyle Foss

NH ♦ Nov. 15, Granite State Classic
Elks, 81 Roxbury St, Keene NH 03431. TD: John Pappas (617.803.5329) & Gail Somers

YOUTH CA • Nov. 21, Ready Springs
Ready Springs School, 10862 Spenceville Rd, Penn Valley CA 95946. TD: Jeff Duran (530.913.2464)

AZ ♦ Nov. 21–22, Arizona Screaming Eagles
Crooks House, 10938 W Tropicana Circle, Sun City AZ 85351. TD: Darlene Stier (907.338.3234) & June Fordham

CHARITABLE DONATIONS FROM TOURNAMENT PLAYERS

Depoe Bay/Shut Up & Deal: \$60 to ACC Youth Fund

CO ♦ Fort Morgan Doubleheader

Elks, 430 State St, Fort Morgan CO 80701. TD: David Bute (303.618.7409) & Steve Sundet

Nov. 21, Fort Morgan Wide Open

Nov. 22, Fort Morgan Wide Open Sunday

CT ♦ Nov. 22, Yankee Classic

Elks, 9 N Park St, Vernon CT 06066. TD: Phil Martin (860.768.2681) & Mike Fetchel

FL ♦ NCL Cruise Cluster

NCL Star Cruise Ship leaving from Miami FL. TD: Winona McDaniel (541.525.1292) & Troy Thorson

Nov. 22, NCL Cruise Paris One-Day

Nov. 25, NCL Cruise Portugal One-Day

Nov. 27–28, NCL Cruise Portugal Two-Day

Nov. 29–30, NCL Cruise Mid-Atlantic Two-Day

Dec. 1–2, NCL Cruise Home Bound Two-Day

MI ♦ Thanksgiving Doubleheader

American Legion, 401 N Park St NE, Grand Rapids MI 49525. TD: David Aiken & Katie VanHuis (616.401.8311) & John Hazlett

Nov. 27+29, Reindeer Games

Nov. 28, Wishbone Open

OR ♦ Nov. 27–29, Thanksgiving at Ko Kwel

Ko Kwel Casino, 3201 Tremont Ave, North Bend OR 97459. TD: Scott Milo (707.330.4218) & Rick Shea

ME ♦ Nov. 28, Chris Greeley Classic

Holden School, 590 Main Rd, Holden ME 04429. TD: Joseph Bowen (207.659.6111) & Carlyle Foss

MN ♦ Dec. 4–6, Frosty Fingers Cribbage Clash

Jackpot Junction Casino, 39375 County Hwy 24, Morton MN 56270. TD: Jason Anderson (952.797.6277) & James Zahnow

VA ♦ Virginia Beach Doubleheader

Four Points, 1211 Atlantic Ave, Virginia Beach VA 23451. TD: Laurie Schmitz (757.214.2327) & Megan Player

Dec. 4, Virginia Beach Christmas Classic I

Dec. 5–6, Virginia Beach Christmas Classic II

OR ♦ Dec. 5, Willamette Valley Classic

Millers BBQ, 4600 25th Ave NE #165, Salem OR 97301. TD: Greg Schleusner (530.563.8432) & Bill O'Malley

CA ♦ Dec. 5, Pegging for Vets

VFW, 7576 Stockton Blvd, Sacramento CA 95823. TD: Alice Souza (209.365.3232) & Lori Boyer

YOUTH CA • Dec. 5, Youth Pegging for Vets

VFW, 7576 Stockton Blvd, Sacramento CA 95823. TD: Don Grumpy Howard (916.212.2465)

OR ♦ Dec. 6, Portland's Frosty Fifteens

Moose, 16411 NE Halsey St, Portland OR 97230. TD: Erik Locke (503.754.2979) & Craig Smith

NH ♦ Wolfeboro Doubleheader

Windrifter Resort, 337 S Main St, Wolfeboro NH 03894. TD: Mark & Vicki Soule (207.442.9001)

Dec. 11, Windrifter Classic

Dec. 12–13, David Campbell Memorial

CO ♦ Dec. 12, MVP2.0 Winter Wonder

Associated Veterans, 305 Cleveland, Loveland CO 80538. TD: Vickie Humphrey (970.988.3345) & Mike Poole

WI ♦ Dec. 18–20, Jingle Bell Open

Community Center, 412 Centennial Ave, Stetsonville WI 54480. TD: Al Karr (920.639.3546) & Wendy Pitts

NV ♦ Pahrump Doubleheader

Senior Center, 1370 W Basin Ave, Pahrump NV 89060. TD: Bill Eilers (919.457.6351) & Jennifer Bolles

Dec. 19, Fall Paranormal Open #1

Dec. 20, Fall Paranormal Open #2

WA ♦ Spokane Doubleheader

VFW, 300 W Mission Ave, Spokane WA 99201. TD: Kat Hartsell (509.850.6077) & Jason Ramelow

Jan. 1, Spokane New Year Kickoff

Jan. 2–3, James's Birthday Edition

CA ♦ Sacramento Tripleheader

VFW, 7576 Stockton Blvd, Sacramento CA 95823. TD: Bill Schlages (530.219.4729) & Scott Bartosh

Jan. 7–8, Sacramento VFW #4

Jan. 9, Sacramento VFW #5

Jan. 10, Sacramento VFW #6

NC ♦ Asheville Doubleheader

Comfort Suites, 890 Brevard Rd, Asheville NC 28806. TD: Jacob French (678.517.2090) & Alan Rogers

Jan. 8, Smoky Mountain Classic Opener

Jan. 9–10, Smoky Mountain Classic

WI ♦ Baraboo Doubleheader

AmericInn, 626 W Pine St, Baraboo WI 53913. TD: Terry Weber (608.225.8138) & Dan Selke

Jan. 8, Wisconsin Dells Deal I

Jan. 9–10, Wisconsin Dells Deal II

continued on page 32



2025 Champion
Ron Allen



Online at cribbage.org
ACC Sanctioned Tournament



Proud ACC sponsor since 1986

40th Annual
VETERANS DAY
CRIBBAGE CLASSIC
NOVEMBER 13-15, 2026 RENO, NV
\$1,500.00 Added by J Resort • \$10.00 Casino E-CASH

Friday, November 13, 2026

2 pm Registration Opens for Early Bird, Doubles and Main Tournament
3 pm Early Bird, \$20, 7 Games, No Playoffs
7 pm Canadian Doubles \$50-Team \$20- Side Pools, 9 Games, No Playoffs

Saturday November 14, 2026

7 am Pick Up Scorecards, Complimentary Coffee and Danish
8 am Main Tournament, \$73, \$10-\$20-\$50 Side Pools, 22 Games, J Resort Added Money
5:30 pm Main Tournament Playoffs, Best 3 of 5

Sunday, November 15, 2026

7:30 am Main Tournament Playoffs Continue, Complimentary Coffee and Danish
8 am Consolation Registration
9 am Consolation, \$40, \$10 Side Pool, 10 Games, J Resort Added Money
1 pm Consolation Playoffs, Best 2 of 3

Tournament Directors Rick and Peggy Shea 707-599-4605. Rick Baird Co-Director All Prize Funds Pay 1:4, All Side Pools Pay Graduated 1:6. Cut for deal. Current ACC membership required. Lunch NOT provided. Visit www.cribbage.org, or join/renew at tournament.



J Resort Hotel Rates: \$92.66 Sunday – Thursday ~ \$138.06 Friday or Saturday. **DOES INCLUDE** taxes and fees. Rooms have tax rate, plus Reno fee and current resort fees. Please book early to guarantee your room. Call **1-866-FUN-STAY (386+7829)**, **Booking Code CRIBBAGE 112026**.

*In loving memory of
Tournament Founders
Bill and Dorthalee Irons*

VETERANS DAY CRIBBAGE CLASSIC – NOVEMBER 13-15, 2026 - RENO, NV- Must be postmarked by 11-2-2026

Name _____ ACC# Required ☐ Stationary Seat

Address _____ City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Daytime Phone w/Area Code _____ E-Mail _____

_____ \$20 Early Bird

_____ \$25 per person Doubles partner _____

_____ \$20 Doubles Side Pool

_____ \$73 Saturday Main Tournament

Make Payable To: Peggy Shea

_____ \$10 Main Side Pool

Mail To:

Peggy Shea

_____ \$20 Main Side Pool

6282 Humboldt Hill Road

_____ \$50 Main Side Pool

Eureka CA 95503

_____ \$ **TOTAL ENCLOSED**

OR ♦ Jan. 9, Willamette Valley Challenge

Millers BBQ, 4600 25th Ave NE #165, Salem OR 97301. TD: Greg Schleusner (530.563.8432) & Bill O'Malley

OR ♦ Jan. 10, Portland's PNW Peg Off

Moose, 16411 NE Halsey St, Portland OR 97230. TD: Erik Locke (503.754.2979) & Craig Smith

FL ♦ FWB Doubleheader

VFW, 213 Carol Ave NW, Fort Walton Beach FL 32548. TD: Grant Crawford (850.461.9390) & Jim Cook

Jan. 15-16, Land Shark Open

Jan. 17-18, Emerald Coast Open

WI ♦ Jan. 16-17, American Pride

Ashwaubenon Bowling Alley, 2929 Allied St, Green Bay WI 54304. TD: Al Karr (920.639.3546) & Joan Rein

OR ♦ Jan. 16-17, Bandon Its a New Year

Senior Center, 1100 11th St SW, Bandon OR 97411. TD: Scott Milo (707.330.4218) & Rick Shea

OR ♦ Depoe Bay Doubleheader

Community Hall, 220 SE Bay St, Depoe Bay OR 97341. TD: Pete Maas & Greg Schleusner

Jan. 22, Steve Lewis Memorial

Jan. 23-24, Depoe Bay Challenge

NV ♦ Shuffle Doubleheader

Sam's Town Casino, 5111 Boulder Highway, Las Vegas NV 89122. TD: Al & Sharon Schaefer (414.331.0809)

Jan. 22, Schaefer Shuffle

Jan. 23-24, Sin City Shuffle

AZ ♦ Sun Lakes Doubleheader

Sun Lakes Country Club, 25601 S Sun Lakes Blvd, Sun Lakes AZ 85248. TD: Robert Milk (804.337.2171) & Charlene Hudson

Feb. 5, Cactus Classic

Feb. 6-7, Roadrunner Classic

OR ♦ Feb. 6-7, Corks and Cribs

Ruby Vineyard, 30088 SW Egger Rd, Hillsboro OR 97123. TD: Erik Locke (503.754.2979) & Steve Hendricks

MI ♦ Feb. 12-13, Rod Hovey Memorial

Delta Marriott, 2747 S 11th St, Kalamazoo MI 49009. TD: Steve Nuyen (269.377.6711) & Barb Miller

WA ♦ Feb. 13, Super Saturday One-Day

VFW, 2902 E Diamond Ave, Spokane WA 99217. TD: Timothy Julkowski (503.805.9410) & Jason Ramelow

OR ♦ Feb. 13-14, Come Sea Bandon

Senior Center, 1100 11th St SW, Bandon OR 97411. TD: Scott Milo (707.330.4218) & Rick Shea

WI ♦ Feb. 19-21, Go Green Bay

Townline Pub, 2544 Lineville Rd, Green Bay WI 54313. TD: Al Karr (920.639.3546) & Joan Rein

CA ♦ Feb. 19-21, Pacific Coast Championship

American Legion, 694 Legion Way, Marina CA 93933. TD: Dick Lind (831.595.9920) & Randy Borchardt

VA ♦ Norfolk Doubleheader

Delta Hotels Marriott, 1570 N Military Hwy, Norfolk VA 23502. TD: Laurie Schmitz (757.214.2327) & Megan Player

Feb. 19, Norfolk Winter Wonderland Friday

Feb. 19-21, Norfolk Winter Wonderland Friday-Sunday

OR ♦ Feb. 20, Willamette Valley Open

Millers BBQ, 4600 25th Ave NE #165, Salem OR 97301. TD: Greg Schleusner (530.563.8432) & Bill O'Malley

OR ♦ Feb. 21, Cupid's Skunks & Dumps

Moose, 16411 NE Halsey St, Portland OR 97230. TD: Erik Locke (503.754.2979) & Craig Smith

CA ♦ Feb. 26-28, Northern California Open

Win-River Resort, 2100 Redding Rancheria Rd, Redding CA 96001. TD: Jeanne Jelke (509.521.3153) & Jennifer Bolles

Reno, Nevada ♦ The Big One!

J Resort, 345 N Arlington, Reno NV 89501

March 4 ♦ Reno Opener

TD: Rick & Peggy Shea (707.599.4605)

March 4 ♦ Canadian Doubles

TD: David Aiken (616.401.8311) & John Hazlett

March 5 ♦ TOC

TD: Patrick Barrett (715.424.5059) & Todd Schaefer (651.338.8116)

March 6-7 ♦ JPW/ACC Open

TD: Rick & Peggy Shea (707.599.4605)

[see entry form online](#)

YOUTH CA ♦ March 13, Penn Valley Sierra

Ready Springs School, 10862 Spenceville Rd, Penn Valley CA 95946. TD: Jeff Duran (530.913.2464)

5th Annual READY SPRINGS YOUTH CRIBBAGE TOURNAMENT

Saturday, November 21, 2026

8:30 a.m. sharp - Ready Springs School Gymnasium

10862 Spenceville Road, Penn Valley, CA

(8 miles west of Grass Valley, 27 miles east of Marysville, just off Hwy. 20)

Use Map Quest, Google, or Waze for directions- If still unsure, call us

AM qualifying - PM playoffs and Consolation (no additional fee) - All Day Event



AMERICAN
CRIBBAGE
CONGRESS
CRIBBAGE.ORG

Sanctioned – Youth Master Points

www.cribbage.org

Two age groups -11 and under and 12-18

Must understand the basic concepts and rules of cribbage!

\$10 entry - Scholarships available upon request

Snacks and Lunch, plus **GREAT PRIZES!**

For information, contact Jeff Duran (530) 913-2464 jduran@pvuesd.org

Or Don Grumpy Howard (916) 212-2465 grumpydopey@sbcglobal.net

Please send \$10 registration by November 13 made out to:

Ready Springs School - mail to 10862 Spenceville Rd, Penn Valley, CA 95946 attn: Jeff Duran

Please Call for Late Registration

Name _____ Age on Nov. 21, 2026 _____

Address _____

Youth ACC Number _____ Phone _____

E-Mail Address _____

Registration\$ _____

Donations Appreciated \$ _____ Cash -Prizes -Gift Cards -Pegs

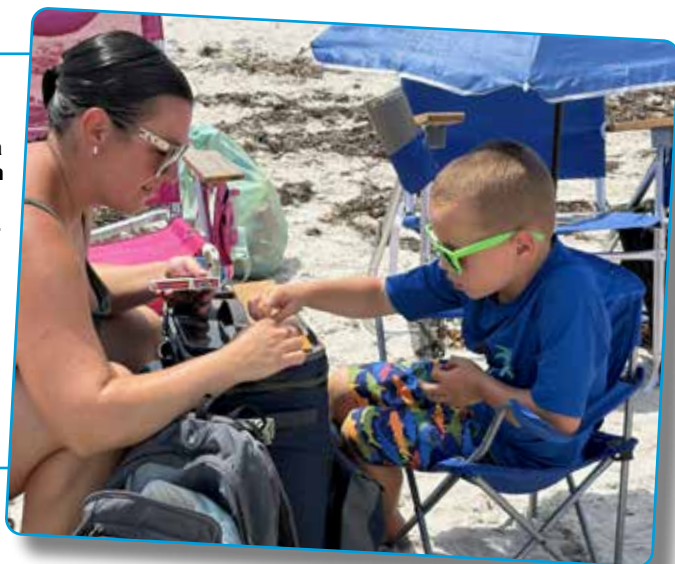
1 5♣ 6♣ 10♣ 9♣ Q♠ 8♥ A♠ · Starter 4♠
Hands 13 + 2 + 3 + 2 = 20

2 5♠ 9♠ J♦ A♠ 2♦ 8♦ 4♣ · Starter 10♦
Hands 10 + 4 + 1 + 4 = 19

3 5♦ 6♦ 3♦ 4♦ K♣ 2♦ 7♦ · Starter 7♥
Hands 13 + 0 + 5 + 2 = 20

Fifth-generation cribbage player **Jack Jacobs** (grandnephew of ACC member **Brian O'Dea**, Santa Ana CA) taking a break from the ocean to play a game with his mother, MacKenzie.

The six-year-old is practicing for a tournament his dad's family has been holding for twenty-one years. He plays a solid game, although like many of us, he occasionally needs some help counting his hand. Go Jack!



Kevin Mansfield (Georgetown TX) lounging poolside after the 22-game Red River Peg-out in Dallas. Kevin failed to qualify in either the cribbage tournament or the bathing-suit competition. Better luck next year!



40 Years Ago

The front cover announced **Bob Hanes** (IA) as winner of Grand National 5 in Milwaukee. On page 8 we read that **DeLynn Colvert** (MT) won the first of five national championships. DeLynn drove 19,400 miles and earned 827 points; this year's champ, **Bryan Gurdin** (NV), drove 19,303



miles and flew 32,231 miles, for a total of 51,534 miles and 4,000 MRPs!

25 Years Ago

The front cover announced that **Ron Logan** (AZ) won Grand National 20 in Richmond VA, beating **Larry Phifer** (NC) by one point in the seventh game of the championship match. This event fell on the heels of the national tragedy of September 11th, causing nearly one hundred players to withdraw and canceling the BOD's annual meeting.

6K!

RICK BAIRD (Bend OR) is the first member of the "6K Club," earning 6,000 points or more in each of the ACC's three divisions. His lifetime totals:

division	points	award level
GRPs	6,495	Platinum
MRPs	17,530	Life Master (2★)
IRPs	6,437	Life eMaster



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