

# Sweethearts



# Mixed Doubles

The numbers were down somewhat for this 30th annual renewal of the Sweethearts Mixed Doubles, possibly due to weather, gas costs, or people not fully understanding this year's format for play. For this year we decided after polling a large number of the regulars at this tournament to change the format in such a way as to have the men shoot head on head against the women. To equalize this the coin flip was changed so as the winner of the flip had his choice of taking the hammer or setting his lineup. The team setting lineup also had choice of colors. All in all this worked out well with several team electing to defer the hammer so as to line an opposing player on their weaker end.

The quality of play among the 18 teams present certainly was not down even though the numbers were. Gary George and Paulette McKinney, 3rd place finishers last year after winning it all in 2005, returned to the throne after an amazing run through the field losing only 1 game in 5 matches, that coming in the finals in a 2 to 1 game victory over runners-up Dan Hitt & Melody Marine of Spokane. Last year's runners up Mike Waters of Tahuya and Susan Clark of Vancouver BC, Canada finished 3rd, while former champions Mel & Jeanette Hohn of Olympia took 4th.

Before the tournament started on Saturday morning, Long time player, promoter & PNW Shuffleboard Hall of Fame inductee, Clark Kenney received yet another honor in his long and illustrious career, as he was presented the Washington State Shuffleboard Sportsman of the Year. Clark & his lovely wife Clara initiated this tournament in 1978 while owners of Larry & Ray's Tavern in Tacoma. It later moved to the Acme when they sold and 14 years ago moved to its present location at the Blue Goose. This award could not have gone to a more deserving individual.

(See next page for award photo collage)

## 30th Annual Sweethearts Mixed Doubles Blue Goose Tavern & Red Dog Saloon Port Orchard, Washington February 9-11, 2007

Clark also showed well in the Friday night draw, teaming with Mike Strayer of Shelton to win a tough battle over the 2nd place team of Norm McVeigh and Sharon Nugent. Mel Hohn and Dick Doak tied Ranger Rick Gindt and Dan Gillis of Vancouver for 3rd.

### Mixed Doubles Winners (18 Teams/36 Players)



1st Place: Paulette McKinney & Gary George



2nd Place: Melody Marine & Dan Hitt



3rd Place: Susan Clark & Mike Waters



4th Place: Mel & Jeanette Hohn



Michelle Foran (right) having fun with newcomer couple Geri (left) & Butch Zonca. This was Geri's very first shuffleboard tournament!

Welcome to Geri & Butch Zonca!

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