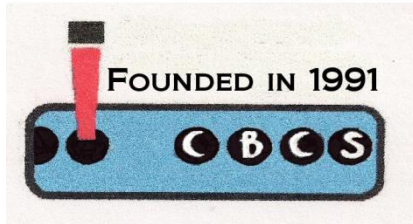




MEMBERS OF THE BOARD



NEWSLETTER OF THE CRIBBAGE
BOARD COLLECTORS SOCIETY
PUBLISHED QUARTERLY



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In This Issue:

Message from the president – Keith Dwire

Remembering Peter Leach – Larry Snow

2021 Convention News – Cec and others

Membership Drive – Larry Snow

Curtiss Cribbage Counter – Jay Fulwider and Terry Coons

Convention Registration Form

XX

Message from the president: Keith Dwire



Happy Valentine’s Day! May love abound in your life.

Your Board of Directors has been meeting via Zoom quite often during these strange days of social distancing. We have been discussing our up-coming September 30-year CBCS celebration convention in Grand Haven. We plan to make up for being cheated out of the 2020 convention by the pandemic, and to make this our Biggest Convention Ever! In addition to the special activities Cec and Betz are planning for us, we are determined to increase the number of

participants - especially from our new friends in the Facebook CBCS Group. Read about our special membership drive elsewhere in this newsletter.

We especially want you, former conventioneers, and longtime members, to attend this year. Let me remind you of one of our regular convention activities: ***The Cribbage Tournament.***

During the afternoons on Friday and Saturday, there is a thirteen-game tournament. There are no official pairings; you simply play one game and then look for someone else whom you have not yet challenged until you complete ten games. Scoring of the tournament is like that of the ACC: 0 pts for a loss, 2 points for a win, and 3 pts (rather than 2) for a skunk win. Top three or four places are rewarded with a certificate and/or a special cribbage board. It is voluntary, fun, and friendly, although some “ribbing” may occur! Our reigning 2019 Champion is Larry Snow



Typical cribbage tournament in convention room



2015 President Ed presents skunk to Harlow

Let the play continue,
Keith Dwire, President

Peter Leach: Rest in Peace



Peter Jay Leach, lifetime member of CBCS, passed away on January 17, 2021 at the age of 87. He left behind wife Nan, 2 children, 2 stepchildren and 3 grandchildren. Peter was a giant of a man, not just in stature at 6 foot 6 inches, but in the ways in which he embraced life.

As a young man, Peter aspired to be an architect. In his college years he strayed from designing buildings and began to dabble in mud, clay to be specific, and a 40-year career as a potter was born. In 1972 he started the *Sogn Valley Craft Fair* on his farm in Cannon Falls, MN. In 1988, the legendary potter went on to found *Northern Clay Center* in Minneapolis, MN. His legacy as a potter lives on through the endeavors of Northern Clay Center as well as the daily use of artful plates, bowls, and cups he crafted, each bearing the iconic P over L, maker's mark.

In his retirement years, Peter pursued several hobbies with the same passion he had put into his pottery: photography, documenting historic masonry buildings, growing morel mushrooms, and collecting cribbage boards. Peter was an early member of *Cribbage Board Collectors Society*. He was instrumental in putting together CBCS's first convention in Roseville, MN in July of 2000. Peter was a genuine sleuth when it came to researching cribbage trivia. His legacy as a collector of Cribbage boards lives on through his many papers archived in CBCS's website, a limited-edition hardback book: *Horn/McCrillis Cribbage Boards* and softback treatises: *C. W. LeCount's Cribbage Boards and Addendums* and *Quitman Cribbage Boards*.

He was a good friend and mentor and will be sorely missed.

Larry Snow

2021 CBCS Convention – Grand Haven/Spring Lake Michigan

Hosted by Cec and Betz Bradshaw

Celebrating the Cribbage Board Collector's Society's 30 years

Mark your calendars! September 24 and 25, 2021 are the dates for the 2021 Convention. This is the CBCS 30th Anniversary Celebration! Thirty years ago, Bette Bemis, formed our society comprised of cribbage board collector enthusiasts. And here we are today – a wonderful mix of people from all walks of life with a common passion. We must take time to celebrate that.

Our event this year will be held at the beautiful, recently remodeled, Holiday Inn in Spring Lake Michigan. Make your reservations early at the great rate of \$109.99 per night, call (616) 846-1000 and ask for group code CBC. Add a day or so before and after the convention to enjoy some of nature's most beautiful surroundings in western Michigan.

This is our 30th anniversary year and therefore the convention board is designed to reflect that incredibly special occasion. In addition, the board is also designed to honor our founder, Bette Bemis and will contain a tribute to her. As a collector of cribbage boards, and a heart for Bette, I am sure you will want to have one of these boards in your collection.

Remember I mentioned in the November newsletter that we are going to shake things up a bit on Friday evening. Instead of the traditional group dinner at a local restaurant, we are going to host a special event entertained by the musical group "Steel Doin' It". This is a steel pan band based in Spring Lake. It is the oldest steel pan band in West Michigan and was formed in September 2001. They are celebrating their 20th anniversary and will bring the "Real" sounds of the islands to our event. While enjoying the sounds of the islands, we will be savoring some wonderful hors d'oeuvres along with different beverage offerings. The cost of this event will be covered by the society.



Anatomy of a CBCS Convention

Many CBCS members and all our new CBCS Facebook friends have never attended one of our annual conventions! Over the next few weeks, members of the CBCS board of directors are going to highlight the various aspects of what happens at a convention. These will appear on our Facebook page as well as appear in our February and May newsletters.

In general, the conventions are held in September and are two days long. This year's convention is in Grand Haven, Michigan September 24 and 25. We will informally gather the evening before, on September 23, for dinner at the Burger Theory restaurant in the hotel. Everyone is on their own for the cost of this meal. I have attached the preliminary agenda for the first day, September 24. In the following weeks, each element of the agenda will be highlighted for your review. Understand, these conventions are friendly, non-competitive, informative, and a great two days with many people coming together with a common passion. Our previous conventions have hosted between 25 to 45 attendees, so they are not intimidating – as if any of us are intimidating! We are looking for a great turnout this year since we are celebrating our 30th year as a society. We look forward to you attending this convention and, for many, your first convention.

Friday, September 24 7:00 Setup board displays for show and tell

9:00 Welcome & Introductory Comments - Cec Bradshaw

9:15 Show & Tell

10:30 Presentation – TBD

11:30 Group Photograph

Noon Lunch – on your own

1:30 Cribbage Tournament games

4:30 Board meeting

6:30 Hors D'oeuvres – Steel band entertainment (2 hours)

Note: The Saturday agenda follows the same format with the exception that we have our award banquet on Saturday evening. The cost for both evening events will be covered with your registration fees. On both days, we have contests and silent auctions that will be explained over the next few weeks. The registration form is included as the last page of this newsletter as well as on the CBCS website. Stay tuned – much more coming your way!

Contests – Butch Hanson

One of the special aspects of the convention is the contests for special boards. I have included the three categories you may want to enter for one of your boards, along with pictures of the winners at our last convention in Bloomington, MN



Most Desirable: Keith Dwire won this category with his “peanut board”. As the Most Desirable it does have a special feature. The side drawers are locked into place, so they do not slide out inadvertently. To open the side doors a peg must be inserted in the right peg hole to release the mechanism holding the drawer closed. There was some interesting discussion on how the board was made and how the inlaid look was achieved.

Congratulations Keith!

Most Unique/Unusual Board: There were several boards entered into this category. Voting was close but Cec Bradshaw won this category with a Drueke Board. What made this board Unique was not because it was an older Dreuke board, rather after it was completed and several of us purchased the board at a prior convention, it was discovered it was short five peg holes. Bill Drueke came up with a unique solution to solve the problem. Look at the picture below to see his solution. Congratulations Cec!



Ugliest Board: This competition is always remarkably interesting. It certainly gives us a perspective on the people who enter a board. While some may find a board ugly someone else may not think they are ugly at all. This year’s winner was Jim Herzog. If my memory serves me well, I think he has been a

consistent winner in this category. His board this year was an Owl. The board was purchased by Betz Bradshaw. If I had not been so busy, I would have competed with her. Congratulations Jim!

Show and Tell – Larry Snow

Turn back the clock, make that the calendar, all the way to Kindergarten (Yes, that far). Remember when the teacher asked you to bring something special to school, show it to your classmates and tell them about it. Some kids brought stuffed animals, others brought yo-yos and hula-hoops. I wanted to bring my pet chameleon. No dice.

Now flip that calendar all the way to the present. De ja vu undone. Your hair, if you still have any, is likely to have a tinge of gray. You have also put on a few pounds or possibly a hundred and more. But as a collector, you are still a kid at heart. And just like Kindergarten, only the first three volunteers get to stand up in front of the class and tell the rest of us what is so special about their cribbage board.

Maybe it was custom made by one of your children and fashioned after a family cabin near a lake. Maybe it was a hand-me-down from your father, grandfather, or great-grandfather. Maybe it is the board you learned to play on. Maybe it is a first-of-its-kind find from a 19th century manufacturer and you will have the privilege of co-presenting with one of CBCS’s founding members who researched and wrote a treatise about that manufacturer.

Whatever that connection is between you and that cribbage board, please share it with the rest of us. Ten minutes to show us and tell us and if it is not too fragile, pass around so that your fellow collectors can share in the joy your special cribbage board has brought you. Volunteer early to reserve your ten-minute spot for Show and Tell.

XX

Membership Drive

SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENT:

Cribbage Board Collectors Society, CBCS, is holding a membership drive beginning February 1, 2021 and concluding March 31, 2021. If you have been on the fence about getting more involved in this fascinating area of collecting, now is the time to join. Dues are a modest \$10 per year (\$15 International) and \$5 for Associate (spouse or significant other). You will not only gain access to decades of research, but you will also be eligible to attend annual conventions at member rates and mingle with other cribbage board enthusiasts from across the country.

Bonus #1- The first 50 new members to sign up will receive a **free cribbage board** (U.S. lower 48 shipping included). The promotional cribbage boards will be selected from the collection of Marv Maxell, a super collector and late member of CBCS. Though he collected an array of 19th and 20th Century manufacturers, Marv focused largely on HORN cribbage boards, several which will be awarded in this promotion.

There is also a rarer red version of the 120-point board.

That brings us to the board that Mitch found. Knowing his family history, Mitch has been watching eBay, Etsy and Craigslist for any Curtis Counters that come up for sale. He scored this brownish/red or cherry wood looking board awhile back. It may be one of a kind. I conferred with Terry Coons of the Cribbage Board Collectors Society and she has about as complete a collection of Curtis boards as there is. Terry did an article for the November 2016 CBCS Newsletter on the several versions of the Curtis Counter. Now we know she needs to add one more to her collection if there is another one out there.

Thanks for sharing your family cribbage history Mitch. Your Grandfather designed and sold a real classic when it comes to cribbage boards.



Now – “For the rest of the story” – Terry Coons

I had previously written an article on the known Curtis Cribbage Counters. I had added the previously unknown red board (received as a gift from Joe Wheeler; thank you, Joe!) in a previous article. Well, Jay Fulwider has reported in the last ACC newsletter about a woodgrain brown Curtis a member of the family had shown him. This caused quite a buzz. Imagine my delight when Keith Dwire had one and sent it to me to complete the collection! What would our cribbage family do without each other?

Convention Registration and Membership Dues

Complete and send your 2021 Convention Registration / Membership form and check to:

Harlow Hansen, 1322 Westwood Dr. Faribault, MN 55021

Name(s): _____

Address: _____ City: _____ State: _____

Zip code: _____ Phone: _____

Email: _____

Convention Member Fee \$125.00 _____

Convention Associate Fee 75.00 _____

(Spouse or regular member living at same address)

2021 Convention Board Only \$125.00 _____

Membership Dues \$10.00/year _____

Associate member Dues \$5.00/year _____

Total Enclosed: \$ _____