

## **PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE**

**March 6, 2018**

### **Hello from Arizona!! It's time to restart GESA for 2018.**

My how fast the winter has gone by for us snowbirds. Unfortunately for our stay at home members it was a cold winter but the worst is behind us weather wise, so let us look ahead.

I anticipate requiring volunteers to set up our equipment somewhere around April 21<sup>st</sup>. This date is not carved in stone as it will be dependent on how the removal of the curling ice is going, but I promise to keep you posted.

Next I will be starting to call everybody that told me they wanted to play in our Singles Tournament on May 14-17, 2018. I will be starting to make the calls this week. I will need to know if you are still in the Singles Tournament and would you be attending the banquet on Tuesday, May 15<sup>th</sup>. Lastly I will ask you if you want to play in the Mixed Doubles tournament on July 30<sup>th</sup> and 31<sup>st</sup> and Aug 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> and would you plan to attend the banquet on Tuesday, July 31<sup>st</sup> (food numbers must be accurate as we pay for any plates ordered).

I have ordered, for GESA, one of the new fast boards like the ones that will be in High River. I have heard that Innisfail is getting 4 of them as they are expanding from 12 to 16 courts. This will show all our members the boards that we will have in the future, and as a bonus for members who go play in the Innisfail and High River tournaments, you will be able to shoot on this court before you go down giving you some familiarity with their speed. I also have ordered 2 more sets of new discs. We only have 11 sets now. With the 2 new sets we will have a new set for each board and these will continue to only be used in tournament play.

When we run a tournament we use new wax only. Last year we used a 20 pound box for the Singles and a little more for the Doubles. I believe that our Singles will be up from 80 players to at least 128. Therefore with more players there will be more games, so more wax will be used and hopefully the Mixed Doubles will have a large increase in participants also. Based on these numbers I anticipate needing 40 lbs of wax for each tournament therefore I have ordered 2 - 40 lb boxes of wax and 1 carton of beads. I have not had the time to sit down with our supplier, Rob Robinson, to itemize the costs for these items but I estimate approximately \$2,000 to \$2,500 US dollars.

In order to raise some US funds I have brought down some GESA pins, which are a new item that I funded from my pocket. I am suggesting a \$10. US donation and you get a pin (see picture below). Some might ask why \$10. US. Remember all our wax, beads, discs, cues and courts all have to be paid in US dollars and that's not my fault or yours, that's just the way it is. I cannot pay for everything all the time and I need some help until we can hopefully get a casino night license.

I see a lot of our members having good success in events down here in the USA, including myself. I would like to attribute part of that success coming because we shuffle all summer and barely hang up our cues. Further to the pin I also have hats. For a \$20. US donation you can proudly wear a GESA cap (see picture below).

I would like to thank Lou Lebas, John Fedynak, Conrad Karpetz, and Dennis Stockman for their \$10. donations. I would also like to thank Roger Bouvier (Manitoba ) and Barry Earl (Saskatchewan) for their donations too. I also scored \$99. at a Greenfield event where Sassy and I were the only GESA members.

Please support our club and reach out to friends and relatives, and as you can see by my example, it can happen if we all get engaged. A little bit from a lot of people will add-up to what we need.

Call me at 780-710-7590 or email me back. I could deliver pins/hats to Mesa and Apache Junction parks if you can help promote our club, which in turn helps our overhead and is much appreciated.

This Thursday and Friday, March 8 and 9<sup>th</sup> the Arizona State Mixed Doubles Championship is being held at Venture Out park. As far as I can determine out of 20 players, 3 are GESA members. Colette Carlisle and her partner have qualified out of Yuma and Joyce and Wally March have qualified out of District 4 Apache Junction.

**We wish them well. Come over to Venture Out and cheer on our fellow friends and GESA shufflers.**

Charlie Loiselle

