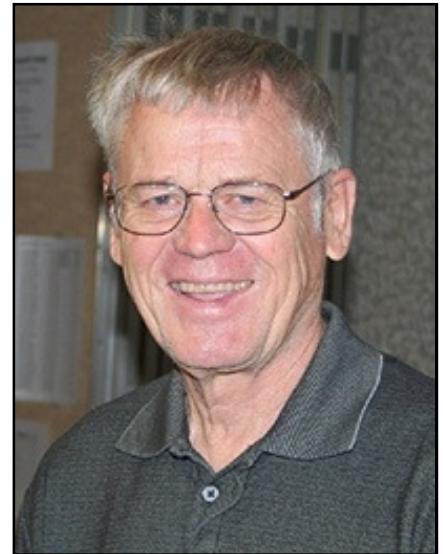




THE RED BARON SPEAKS

SEPTEMBER-OCTOBER-NOVEMBER-DECEMBER – Larry Creakbaum

As you can see in the months listed above my motivation to write has subsided. This is the final flight of the red baron. I may in the future write specials but don't hold your breath. My travel is becoming more difficult, but I still hope to attend some events.



Let us review what these writings may have accomplished. I started with the rating system in April of 2008. I am very disappointed by the slow progress or no progress that has occurred. Travis Ward in conjunction with Ron Bowers has developed a performance based system which works, but it takes input from the directors and promoters of the events. Only one event has been submitted from Indiana and I submitted that one. I cannot go to every event in the state and stay until it is over. I saw Travis copying all the info at Reno and if he gets that all entered it is going to give a lot more credibility to the ratings. There were a record number of registered players with a lot of new players with no ratings which will hopefully end up in the 2013 book. But still less than ten percent of the players in the country were at Reno. We need input from every state and every event even if they are small. All it takes is a player, promoter or director to too make a copy of the bracket sheet out of the books (Copy machines are generally available) which someone will have and copy the big bracket board used at the event making sure the first round has the complete correct spelling of a *players first and last name*. After the first round just put what is on the board and fax it to Travis, Ron or me.(317-745-6961). Let us work together and make it work.

The second major subject was printed copies of the rules being used. Most of the major events now at least have them online or have available at the event. With the addition of sponsor contributions, this is going to become an important issue. We still need to correct and expand some wording, but the committee appears to be working on that issue. I will be the first to agree that one set of rules does not fit every venue, but taking a base set and making the changes easily identifiable will work.

I have already made plans to be in Houston (HHO) and hope to see some of you there. Southwest Airlines just started two non-stop flights daily to Hobby from IND which makes that an easy run. Remember, my memory takes time to sort out names and faces so when I fail to call you by name remind me who you are.