GOSPEL TRICK SHOT MINISTRIES, INC.

NEWSLETTER



DECEMBER 2023

GT

VIRGINIA, NORFOLK

PUERTO RICO, SAN JUAN

NEW JERSEY, HOBOKEN

INDIANA, MUNCIE

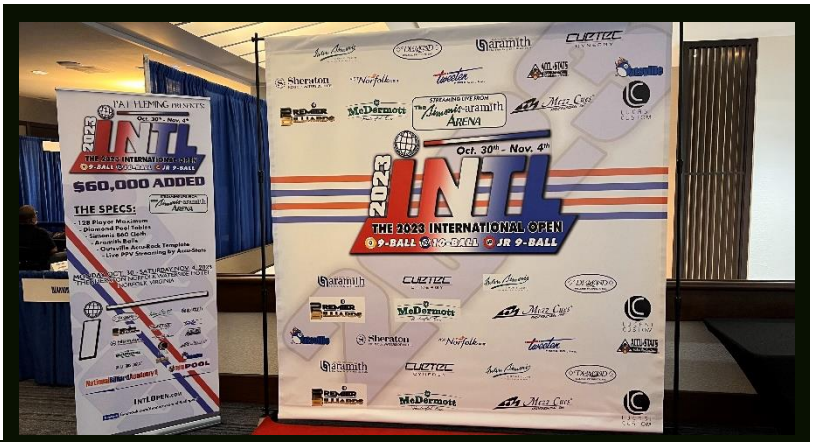
GTS SHOT OF THE MONTH

CALENDAR

1 VIRGINIA, NORFOLK

October 29th – November 5th

GTS RACK Team, Steve Lillis, Wayne Parker, Tom Rossman and Mike Massey were at the International Open event hosted by Pat Flemming. GTS had a booth with a first time ever United Blackball table from McDermott to introduce Blackball and do multiple Gospel Trick Shot Shows. Many people crowded the new table which was featured in the GTS booth and heard the Gospel being preached.







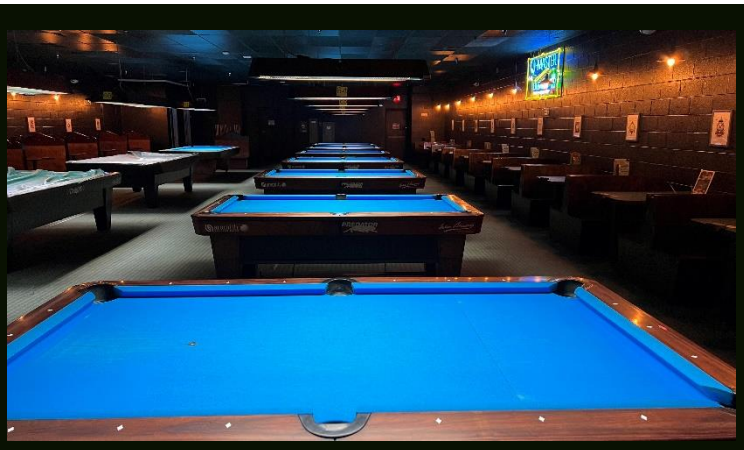
ABOVE: Steve Lillis and Tom Rossman doing Gospel Trick Shot Shows in the GTS booth with a table of Bibles, Gospel Tracts, Jesus rocks and other materials which were handed out after each GTS show.

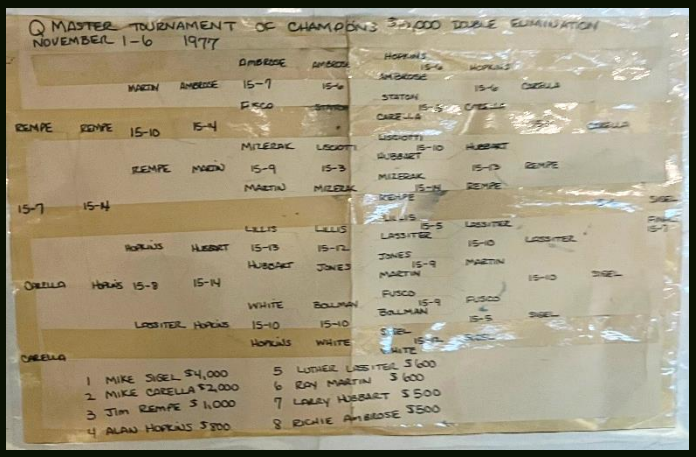


ABOVE: Wayne Parker on the Main Arena table with Christian brother Rodney 'The Rocket' Morris!

NORFOLK CONTINUED...

Steve Lillis and Wayne Parker then also briefly visited the iconic Q-Master Billiards room for a quick trip down memory lane to see much of the recorded and showcased USA Professional Pool history, back when Steve used to compete as a top Professional Pool player.
God had a plan from then already to reach the Billiard world for Jesus. Steve and Wayne found, mounted up on the wall, an original knock-out draw sheet with Steve's name still on it when he played in the actual event back in 1977.





LEFT: The actual draw sheet found on the wall of the tournament when Steve played in November 1st – 6th 1977. The significant thing about this date was that while Steve was at this event exactly 46 years ago, Wayne Parker was born on November 3rd 1977 all the way in South Africa who is now part of Gospel Trick Shot Ministries Inc.



GTS supporters John English from Good Time Billiards and Greg Knight from McDermott also visited Norfolk. The GTS Team had several Bible study sessions each morning in the Hotel Lobby with some players of the event who had also joined in on good Christian fellowship time.

BELOW: A Video of Greg Knight from McDermott making the Freedom shot (6 balls in all 6 pockets with one shot!)
CLICK ON THE IMAGE BELOW TO WATCH THE VIDEO!



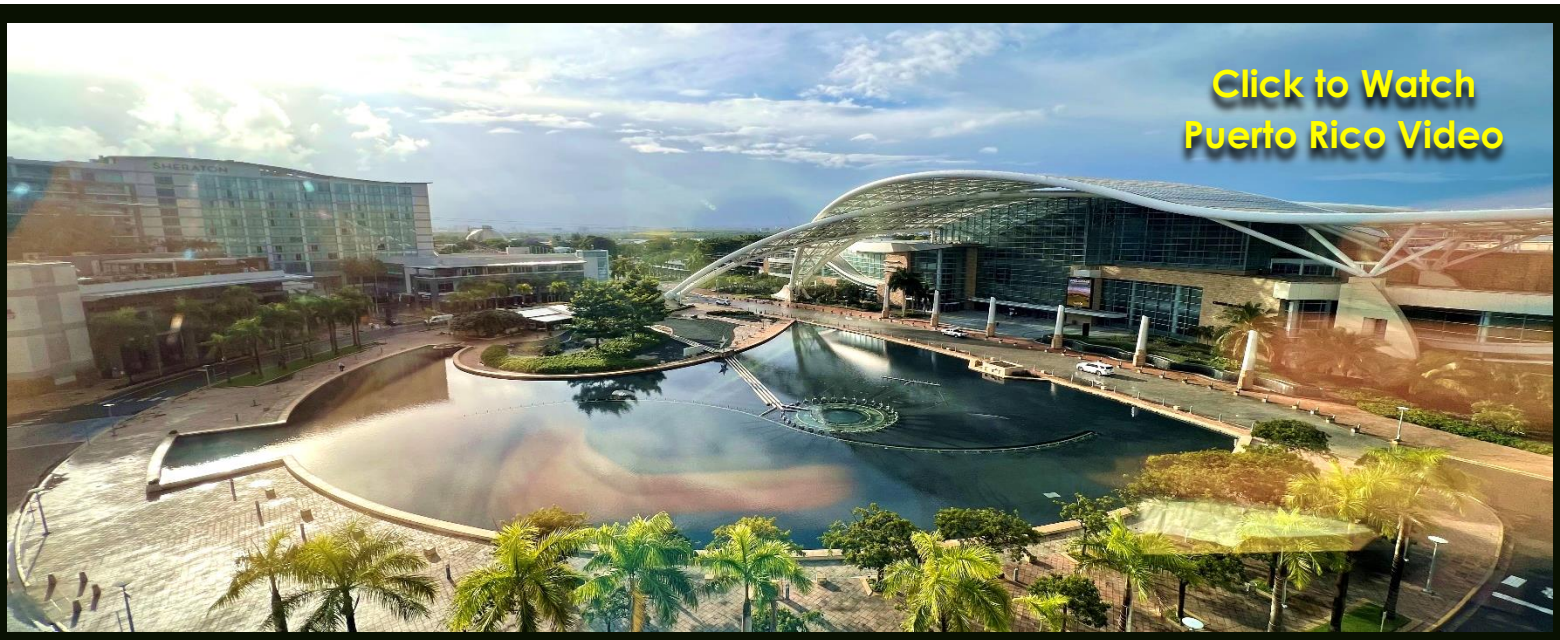
BELOW: GTS Member Phil Ball also joined the team to assist with the disassembly the United Blackball table and have it transported back to Allentown, PA.
It takes TEAM WORK to make the DREAM WORK!



2 PUERTO RICO, SAN JUAN

November 5th – 13th

After the International Open in Norfolk, GTS RACK Team of Steve Lillis, Wayne Parker, Mike Massey and John English left Norfolk Virginia and made their way to Puerto Rico for the Predator 10-Ball Championship Pro series which was hosted at the San Juan Convention Center. Competitors came from across the world to attend the event. GTS support team members Mark Van Der Hoven and Bob Schuit also met up with the team and assisted with transport around the city and arranged several Gospel Trick Shot shows at local pool rooms and venues. Numerous Bibles and gospel tracts were handed out at each location visited.











PUERTO RICO CONTINUED...





ABOVE: Steve Lillis doing a Gospel Trick Shot Show at the Convention center as many bystanders who were visiting heard the Gospel and received Bibles and Gospel tracts.

RIGHT: Steve standing with new friend Mohamed Habishi from Libya who also received Christian material. Plans are underway to visit Libya for more Gospel Trick Shot Shows!









ABOVE: Wayne Parker sharing his testimony on how Jesus set him free from the bondages of this world, and demonstrating it through a Gospel Trick Shot. Through a Spanish translator who assisted, all heard the message of freedom that comes through Jesus Christ alone!

LEFT: Mike Massey performing one of his latest Gospel Trick Shots at a Pool Room in San Juan. Many Bibles and Gospel tracts were handed out to the locals who heard the Gospel of Jesus.

3 NEW JERSEY, HOBOKEN

Friday November 17, Steve Lillis and Mike Massey visited the Stevens Institute of Technology college in Hoboken, NJ. Christian material was readily available and the Gospel Trick Shot Show was very well received by the students who were in attendance.













4 INDIANA, MUNCIE

November 26th
GTS RACK Team members Michael Hewitt, Tom Rossman, and Jason Lynch did a Gospel Trick Shot church service at Rising Hope Church (RHC) in Muncie, IN. Demonstration of some amazing trick shots coupled with biblical messages were performed by the GTS trio who then shared about the ministry and personal testimony in an interview style discussion. People were greatly encouraged to share their faith despite the 'misses' we experience in life, so that we reach the ends of the earth with the Gospel of Jesus Christ!











5 GTS SHOT OF THE MONTH

The 'Jonah' Shot

History of the Trick Shot: This is shot #1 from "Stroke" Discipline 6 that came from our new Artistic Blackball Program which was featured at the Hawley Cup in Johannesburg, South Africa in October 2023. The Gospel Trick Shot RACK team organized and ran a first ever Artistic Blackball competition entitled the GTS Classic Artistic Blackball Cup. Yours truly Steve Lillis American Blackball Association (ABA) President and Tournament Director in conjunction with pro Blackball player and USA Blackball Coach Wayne Parker of South Africa, Jason Lynch WPA World Ranked Player and WPA Artistic Pool committee member, BCA Hall of Famer Tom "Dr. Cue" Rossman, with Michael Hewitt and Phil Ball serving as referees, designed the format and program, and ran a successful event. This shot in the program is called "The Double Kiss Draw Shot" and has a degree of difficulty (DOD) of 6 which means you get 6 points if you make it on the first attempt, 5 on the second, 4 on the third, and zero if not executed.

GTS Name and Why: GTS USA Hawley Cup team member Phil Ball converted this Artistic Blackball shot into a Gospel Trick Shot he calls "The Jonah Shot" after the story of Jonah in the Bible. God had called Jonah and told him to go to Nineveh to prophesy to the people there to repent from their wicked ways. Jonah did not want to go and instead boarded a boat and headed off to Tarshish in the opposite direction. As the story goes, God kicks up a powerful storm and Jonah is thrown overboard and ends up in the belly of a fish. After realizing his mistake, he listens to God and ends up going to Nineveh. This Artistic Blackball shot illustrates going in the wrong direction and then being turned around by God to get back on track! Have you ever found yourself in the belly of a fish? In trouble somehow wondering why? This can all be avoided by trusting God and listening to God's leading instead of your own.

Scripture References (NIV): Jonah 1:3 "But Jonah ran away from the LORD and headed for Tarshish. He went down to Joppa, where he found a ship bound for that port. After paying the fare, he went aboard and sailed for Tarshish to flee from the LORD."



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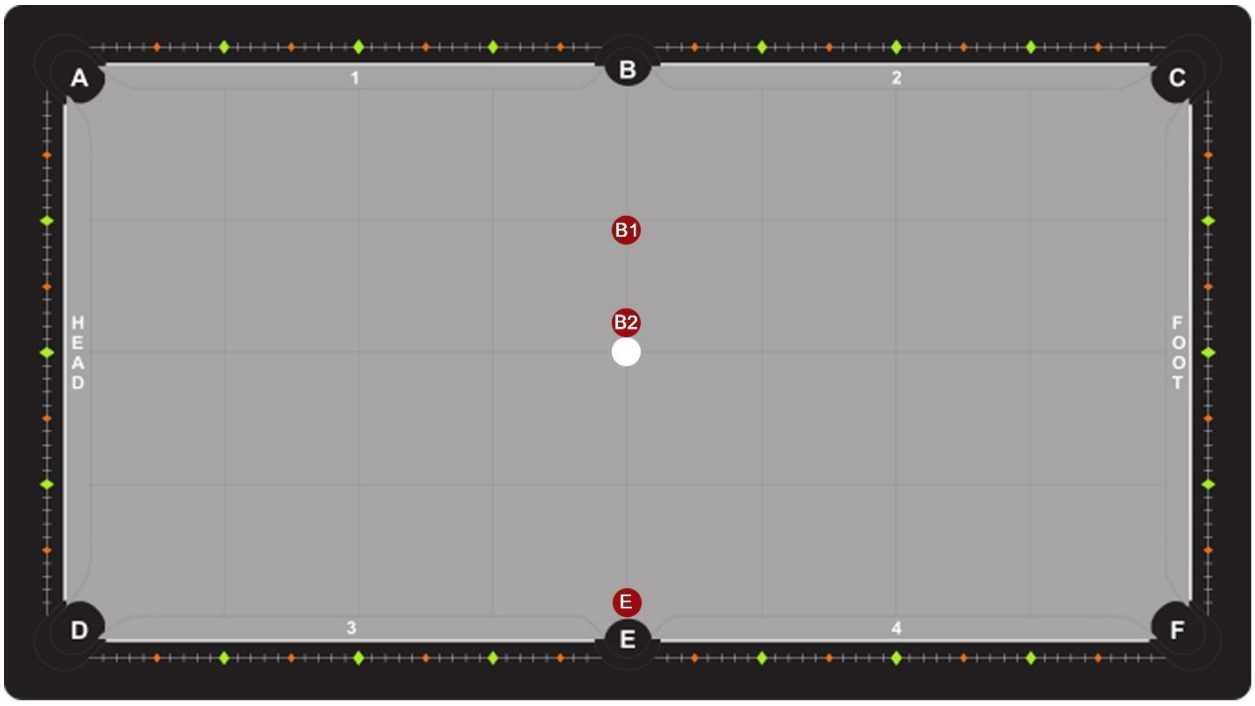
Cue Ball Placement: On the center spot.

Object Ball(s) Placement: All object balls are on the centerline of the table. Ball ‘B2’ is frozen to the cue ball. Ball ‘B1’ is exactly two balls’ width from the ball ‘B2’. Ball ‘E’ is hanging in pocket ‘E’, even with the rail line extension, or deeper.

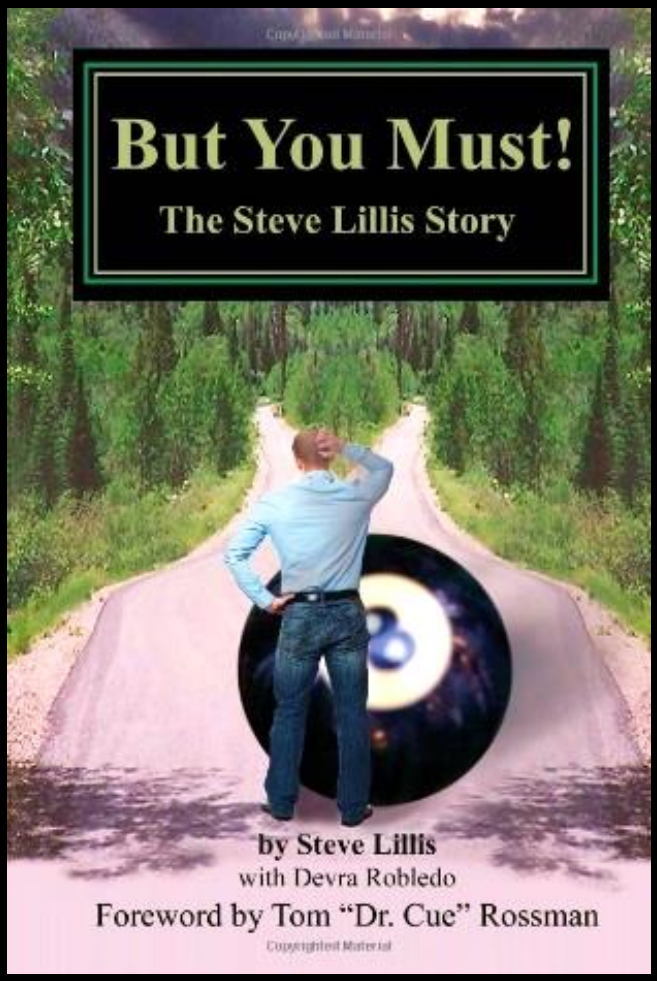
Objective: Shoot the cue ball into ball ‘B2’. Ball ‘B2’ will hit ball ‘B1’ into pocket ‘B’. The cue ball will contact ball ‘B2’ a second time, hitting it into pocket ‘B’. The cue ball will then draw back making ball ‘E’ in pocket ‘E’.

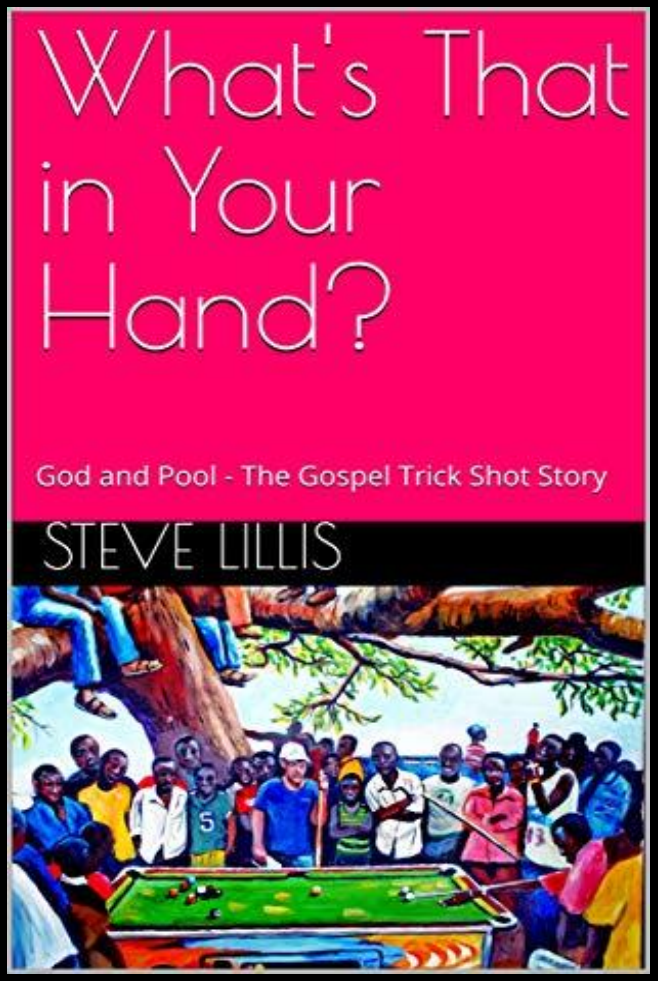
Special Notes: Ball ‘E’ must be on the centerline; it is not adjustable left or right.

Crowd Reactions Through the Years: This is a new Gospel Trick Shot adapted to Blackball and will be presented at upcoming GTS shows. In the Artistic Blackball competition in South Africa in October 2023 this was a favorite among the full field of 48 players who participated in the event. It is a relatively easy shot and many of the Artistic Blackball players who executed the shot and were delighted to score points!



Books by Steve Lillis





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GTS CALENDAR

GTS Calendar 2024: changes and additions are forthcoming!

<1/5/24 – 1/19/24 – GTS Western Tour with Steve Lillis in Arizona with the Community Alliance Church of Wickenburg, AZ and other GTS partners and friends and Los Angeles, CA with Good Times Family Billiards and Automated Entertainment.
<1/19/24 – 1/27/24 – Annual Derby City Classic with Michael Hewitt, Tom Rossman, Jason Lynch, and Brian Pauley in the GTS booth at Ceasars Hotel and Casino in Southern Indiana.
>Spring 2024 (TBD) – SA Classic Artistic Pool Championship with the "Steve Lillis Trophy" directed by GTS RACK team member Wayne Parker at the Sessions Pool Room in Cape Town, South Africa with a GTS show and booth.
>2/7/24 – 2/10/24 - 2023 WPA World Artistic Pool Championship in Bay City, MI with GTS Booth and GTS RACK team members.
>2/20/24 – 2/25/24 (TBD) – The IPA World Blackball Championships at the Gosforth Grand Hotel in Newcastle, England with a GTS Artistic Blackball show.
>March 2024 (TBD) - Libya, Tunesia, and Malta in North Africa for a government sponsored "Sport for Good Campaign" with teaching clinics and GTS shows.
>7/8/24 – 7/13/24 (TBD) – Billiard Education Foundation 36th Annual Junior National Championships sponsored by the BCA in the Oakley-Lindsay Center in Quincy, IL with a Blackball arena featuring competition and Artistic Blackball.
>10/11/24 – 10/22/24 (TBD) - WPA Blackball International (BI) World Championships and the Hawley Cup in Bridlington, England with a team of five A players (pros) and a team of five B players (juniors or amateurs) in international competition with the 2024 WPA World Artistic Blackball Championships and GTS shows.
>GTS World Tour 2023-24 and (TBD) – invites from ministries & billiard federations: Turkey, Egypt, Algeria, Tunisia, Libya, Japan, Indonesia, Portugal, Serbia, Hungary, Honduras, Zimbabwe, Swaziland, Kenya, Tanzania, Uganda, and Malawi.

For **donations**, please send your tax-deductible **check** made payable to:
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President and Founder
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