

GOSPEL TRICK SHOT

MINISTRIES, INC.

NEWSLETTER



DECEMBER 2024

MARRAKECH, MOROCCO

AZ BILLIARDS ONLINE MAGAZINE

NIAGARA FALLS, CANADA

PARKERSBURG, WEST VIRGINIA

PLAYERS BILLIARDS, NEW JERSEY

2024 SUMMARY AND 2025 FORECAST

GTS SHOT OF THE MONTH

CALENDAR



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MARRAKECH, MOROCCO

From Oct 30 - Nov 2,

GTS President Wayne Parker and partner JJ Faul attended the Africa Heyball (Chinese 8-Ball) Open in Marrakech, Morocco to compete and make future contacts to go to China.

Wayne spent much time with several professional pool players who travel the world for a living playing pool. He was able to connect with them on a personal level and share the grace of the Lord and prayed with them.

Over a period of a week through many hours of one-on-one ministry time, the love of God and the message of the cross was shared. The message of the Gospel has deeply touched several professional players and some even brought to tears as the Grace of God was able to reach them in their world.

The Message of the Cross of Calvary will never lose its power!

ROMANS 1:16

“FOR I AM NOT ASHAMED OF THE GOSPEL, BECAUSE IT IS THE POWER OF GOD THAT BRINGS SALVATION TO EVERYONE WHO BELIEVES”



AZ BILLIARDS ONLINE MAGAZINE

Wayne Parker was also featured for the month of November in AZ Billiards Buzz Magazine after winning the 2024 WPA World Artistic Blackball Championship in England in October. AzB is the largest online publication in the billiard world.

World Artistic Blackball Championship

WAYNE PARKER

Crowned first WPA World Artistic Blackball Champion

Story by STEVE LILLIS

From October 11 - 18 Blackball pool players from four continents assembled in Bridlington, England for the 2024 Blackball International (BI) World Team Championships sanctioned by the WPA, and won by France, and for the first time ever the 2024 WPA World Artistic Blackball Championships was held.

Seasoned Blackball veteran Wayne Parker of South Africa won the WPA World Artistic Blackball title. A 32-shot program was specifically designed for this Artistic Blackball event. The program is similar to the American Artistic Pool 40-shot program used in WPA World Artistic Pool competition that was recently won by current World Artistic Pool Champion Florian Kohler. These special Blackball Artistic shots were tried and tested by a shot selection committee under the Artistic Blackball Committee of the WPA Artistic Pool Division.

Key sponsors like the WPA and the WPA Artistic Pool Division, McDermott Cues, Gospel Trick Shot Ministries, Inc., Dr. Cue Promotions, The Cue Coach from South Africa, Allentown Tables in Pennsylvania, and Automated Entertainment of California all came together to make this event possible. There were 45 contestants from four continents who completed the entire 32-shot program to qualify to receive prize money and be eligible for the 8 "Olympic style" discipline medals, additional bonus medals, and trophies for the first three places.

Wayne McDermott

WAYNE PARKER

2024 WPA ARTISTIC BLACKBALL WORLD CHAMPION!

TRICK & FANCY WORLD CHAMPION

FOLLOW SHOTS WORLD CHAMPION

JUMPS SHOTS WORLD CHAMPION

MASSÈ SHOTS WORLD CHAMPION

McDermott
Handcrafted Cues



Event Medallists



Joy Willenberg



All contestants who completed the 32-shot program received prize money. All medal winners with two special awards received additional prize money as well.

Four of the eight discipline medals were won by the new World Artistic Blackball Champion Wayne Parker.

Wayne scored a robust 201 out of 240 possible points. Each of the eight disciplines contain a possible 30 points with each of the four shots per discipline varying in degree of difficulty (DOD). Wayne scored a perfect 30 points in the final Masse Discipline 8 which was the only perfect discipline score. He also won the Discipline 1 Trick and Fancy with 26 points, Discipline 4 Follow with 27, and Discipline 8 Jump with 27. Leenash Padayachee

World Artistic Blackball Championship



Leenash Padayachee

won Discipline 3 Draw with 29 points and Discipline 6 Bank and Kick with 28 points. Llwelyn Sedgwick won Discipline 2 Special Arts with 27 points. Just like in the Olympics these discipline winners are now World Champions in their respective discipline. There is talk that the 2032 Olympics might include Artistic Pool.

Joy Willenberg of South Africa became the first woman Artistic World Champion by winning Discipline 6 Stroke with 27 out of 30 possible points. She adapted her skills to Artistic as she is a top Blackball player who plays for the #1 South African women's team. Back in her home country she became quite a news story topic and was found in many local papers announcing the news of her victory. Two other special medals were given out. Gary Adams a wheelchair contestant was given the "Enjoy the Roll" Award and Chris Pandazis won the Sportsmanship Award. Overall, first place finisher Wayne Parker with 201 points, second place finisher Afiq Ismail of Morocco with 154 points, and

teenager Rayaan Williams of South Africa with 150 points who took home third place all received medals and trophies as well.

A special teaching clinic and a Gospel Trick Shot show was also held during the Artistic Blackball time slot. The slogan throughout the event became

"Enjoy the Roll" as the joy of Artistic Blackball spread through the entire arena. Special thanks to Blackball International (BI) President Vincent Pillay and IPA President and Tournament Director Kevin Barton who did all they could to help make this a success!



Llwelyn Sedgwick

3 NIAGARA FALLS, CANADA

From November 7 - 10, 2024,

Tom "Dr. Cue" Rossman with RACK Vision Outreaches, and as a representative member of the GTS/RACK Team attended the magnetic and highly successful APA/CPA Border Battle event at the Americana Hotel in Niagara Falls, CA.

Over 1000 players were in attendance from a multitude of provinces in Canada and several states in the US. "Dr. Cue" did a wide array of Artistic Pool shots and select challenge matches.

In addition, personal sharing of testimony and witness stories with many individuals searching for "game", and most importantly, "life" answers was actively done from early morning until late evening. The main attraction for the multi-day schedule of activities was presenting the 3-fold teaching and therapy blueprint to "Play Skillfully With A Shout of Joy" (Psalm 33:3)...for the 1) Game "of" the Heart, 2) Game "in" the Mind, and 3) Game "on and off" the Table.

Praise the Lord for this opportunity to reach a hurting, searching, and yearning billiard harvest!

Blessings, "always"...in "ALL WAYS"!

Tom "Dr. Cue" Rossman



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PARKERSBURG, WEST VIRGINIA

On Nov 8-9 GTS helped sponsor the 2024 National Artistic Pool Championships at The League Room in Parkersburg, WV with members of the GTS RACK team participating. Gospel Trick Shot Ministries was featured as a sponsor during the livestream to all were watching through the livestream which was accompanied by Mark White and his professional world class commentary. Below are some screen shots of the livestream of the national event.

THE LEAGUE ROOM
est. 2014
BILLIARDS & CAFE

G T S

Gospel Trick Shot Ministries Inc.

2024 US National Artistic Pool Championships

SEMIFINAL #2

Steve "The Blue Shark" Markle	25
Jimmy "The General" Glanville	14

Live from The League Room in Parkersburg, WV

THE LEAGUE ROOM
est. 2014
BILLIARDS & CAFE

WELCOME TO Fabulous THE LEAGUE ROOM PARKERSBURG WV

2024 US National Artistic Pool Championships

SEMIFINAL #2

Steve "The Blue Shark" Markle	0
Jimmy "The General" Glanville	0

Live from The League Room in Parkersburg, WV

THE LEAGUE ROOM
est. 2014
BILLIARDS & CAFE

Welcome to Gospel Trick Shot & The R.A.C.K. Team

Lag Time & Teaching Clinics
Dr. Cue
Bobble Ball 415 Challenges

2024 US National Artistic Pool Championships

FINALS

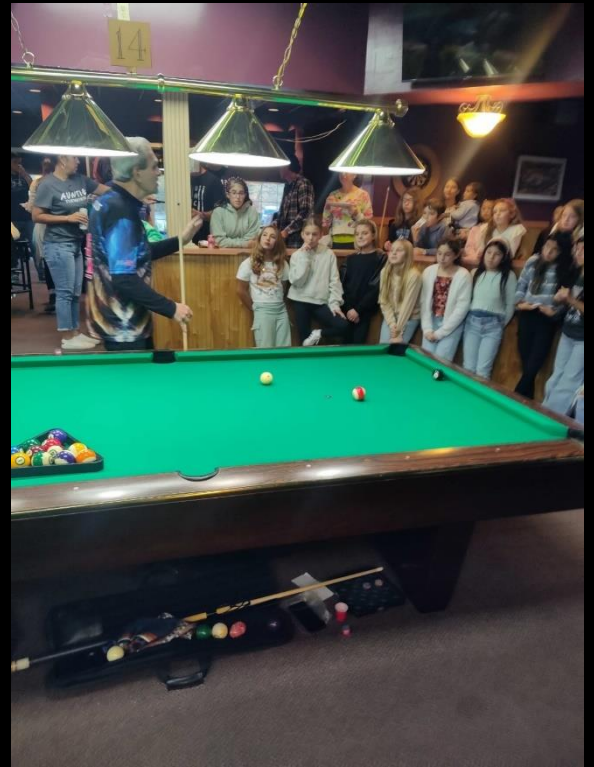
Tim "The Dragon" Chin	83
Jimmy "The General" Glanville	69

Live from The League Room in Parkersburg, WV

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PLAYERS BILLIARDS, NEW JERSEY

On Nov 23 a GTS Team of Steve Lillis, Steve Giotz, and Monmouth Park Racetrack Chaplain Donny Christopher did a special GTS birthday party show for 65 guests including a 5th grade class from a local school with parents and special guests. Pro player Dawn Hopkins, who is the billiard instructor of the 5th grade birthday girl, did a shot, along with Chaplain Donny and our birthday girl. Steve did his usual routine of Gospel Trick Shots as Christian books, materials, Jesus rocks, and salvation bracelets were taken from the GTS table.





6 2024 SUMMARY & 2025 FORECAST

Through our many GTS friends and partners, GTS continued to expand in 2024 with international events and outreaches in Morocco, South Africa, Zambia, Kenya, China and England. In the USA, the GTS RACK team ministered at eleven states including portable pool table shows in Ohio, Indiana, with several in the home state of New Jersey. Other GTS sponsored USA events included Derby City in Indiana, World Artistic Pool Championships in Michigan, Hopkins Expo in Pennsylvania, BEF in Illinois, and West Coast GTS trips to Arizona, Los Angeles, and Las Vegas. The forecast for 2025 is to the ends of the earth as contacts have been made for GTS to go into China sharing Gospel Trick Shots. Please send your tax-deductible gift for 2024 by December 31st to help us continue to expand around the world.

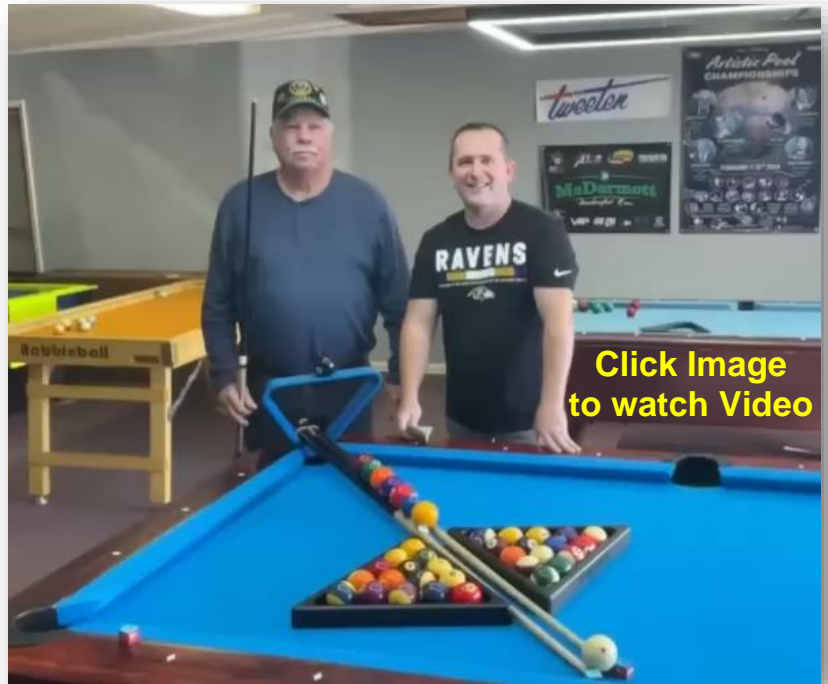
Thank you and have a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!



7 GTS SHOT OF THE MONTH

Gospel Trick Shot #58 - Make Our Paths Straight

History of the Trick Shot: This shot was created by GTS RACK team members Michael Hewitt and Jason Lynch who recently in October returned from England representing the USA in the 2024 BI World Blackball Team Championships. They also competed in the first ever 2024 WPA World Artistic Blackball Championships at that same venue. Michael and Jason also collaborated to create last month's shot called Noah and the Ark which was performed in a special Gospel Trick Shot show during that Artistic Blackball event. This past month in honor of Veteran's Day they had special guest Army Veteran Gary Reedy perform the shot. The brainstorm and execution of the shot happened at the Rising Hope Church in the community center in Muncie, IN, where they hold an after-school breaktime program.



GTS Name and Why: Pastor Michael Hewitt of the Rising Hope Church also known as the “Pastor of Pool” named this shot “Make Our Paths Straight” due to the row of balls and the 8-ball that drops down to complete the shot. The redirection of the balls shows that even when the Lord’s straight path is not apparent, we are often surprised when He reveals it to us in unusual and surprising ways. With the 8-ball suspended in the air on top of the edge of the rack it is not clear how it will follow straight down into the side pocket. Watch the video and be surprised!

Scripture References (NIV): Proverbs 3:5-6 “Trust in the LORD with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways submit to him, and he will make your paths straight.”

Cue Ball Placement: Resting on the cue sticks with two pieces of chalk holding it slightly in place. Leave enough of a gap between the chinks for the cue ball and the other object balls to clear. The cue ball can be resting near the tips of the two cue sticks as shown in the video or slightly forward as shown in the diagram.

Object Ball(s) Placement: The 8-ball is positioned on top of the rack with the weight of the 1-7 balls holding the rack up. Balls 1-7 are on the set of cues with a small piece of paper holding the row of balls in position on the cues. Two racks full of balls are used to hold the cues in position so the path is straight to the side pocket, as indicated in the diagram. Look at diagram and video for proper set-up.

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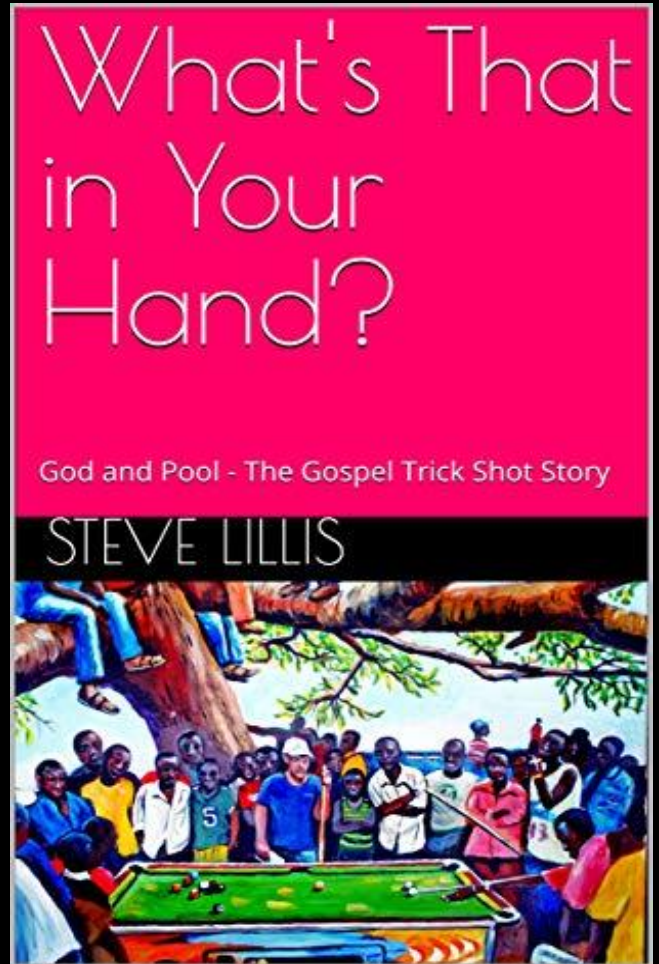
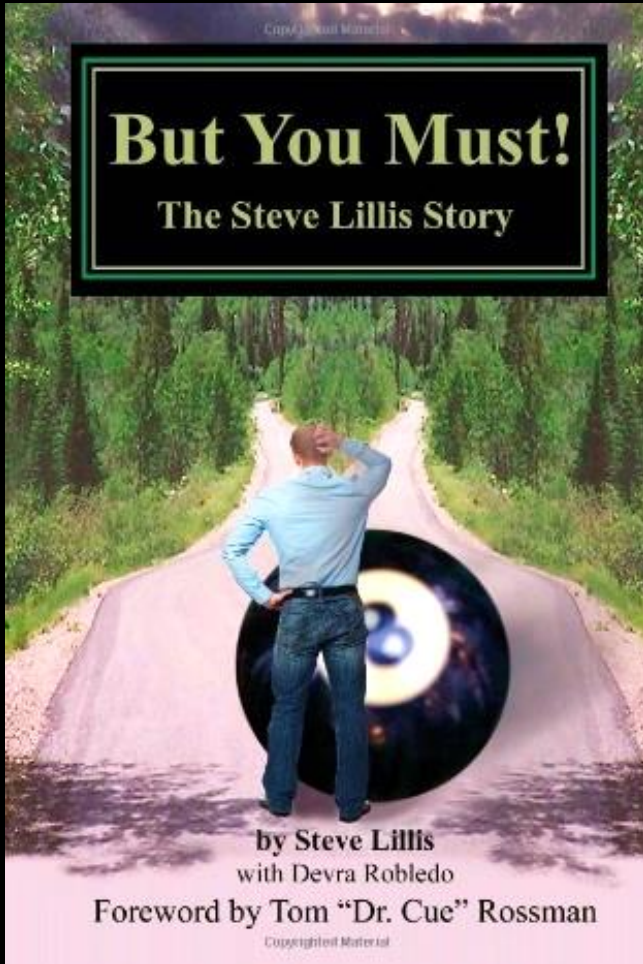
Objective: Hit the cue ball up the sticks with just enough speed to dislodge the paper holding the row of balls. The paper will fall off, releasing the balls to follow the cue ball into the side pocket. The rack with the 8-ball will then “lever” down, hit the sticks, and run down into the side pocket

Special Notes: Be patient, as it took a few attempts especially on the set-up to produce the video. The balancing 8-ball might be the most challenging aspect of the set up. It must be at the correct angle to allow gravity to lever the 8-ball and the rack downward after the weight of the 7 balls is removed. The rack also must be the type that has an edge for the 8-ball to rest on.

Crowd Reactions: The video was the first time this shot was executed and the reaction on Army Veteran Gary’s face says it all. We are so grateful for our veterans and it is a privilege to honor Gary and all our other vets with this Gospel Trick Shot of the month. The shot reminds us that when we trust God he will make our paths straight. He is our creator and the sustainer of our lives! The Lord has a plan for each of us if we submit to Him in all our ways. Even if we think that the route we are on is taking too long, we should not despair because the Lord already knows where the finish line is and that He has great plans for us. This month as we think about our veterans, their sacrifices and our freedoms, let’s also remember the sacrifice of Jesus on the cross to set us free from the penalty and the bondage of sin. With the end of the year coming up wish you Happy Holidays, Merry Christmas, and a Happy New Year! God bless you in 2025!



Books by Steve Lillis



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to Order
(Available in English & Spanish)**



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to Order**



GTS CALENDAR

GTS Calendar 2024-25: changes and additions are forthcoming (BILLIARD INDUSTRY events are confirmed as GTS participation is (TBD) To Be Determined!)

>**11/29/24 – 12/3/24** – Annual Mosconi Cup and BCA Hall of Fame Banquet at the Caribe Royale Resort in Orlando, FL with GTS RACK team members and BCA Hall of Famers Tom “Dr. Cue” Rossman and Mike Massey attending.

>**1/17/25 – 1/26/25** – Annual Derby City Classic with GTS RACK team leader Michael Hewitt and others in the GTS booth at Ceasars Hotel and Casino in Southern Indiana.

>**2/12/25 – 2/16/25** - WPA World Artistic Pool Championship in Bay City, MI with GTS Booth and GTS RACK team members participating.

<**3/10/25 – 3/17/25 (TBD)** – GTS Arizona and Los Angeles Tour with Steve Lillis in Wickenburg and Phoenix, AZ and LA with churches and GTS partners and friends.

>**3/18/25 – 3/20/25 (TBD)** – BCA Expo and Amusement Expo at the Las Vegas Convention Center in Las Vegas, NV.

>**4/9/25 – 4/13/25 (TBD)** – Annual Hopkins Expo at the Greater Philadelphia Expo Center at 100 Station Ave in Oaks, PA.

>**GTS World Tour 2025 (TBD)** – ministry & billiard federation invites: India, Turkey, Egypt, Algeria, Tunisia, Libya, Japan, Indonesia, Portugal, Serbia, Hungary, Honduras, Zimbabwe, Zambia, Swaziland, Kenya, Tanzania, Uganda, and Malawi

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

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Thank you for your support,

Steve Lillis
Chairman & CEO



Wayne Parker
President & COO



IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO BE "REMOVED" FROM OUR GTS EMAIL LIST PLEASE HIT REPLY AND INDICATE AS SUCH!