

# GOSPEL TRICK SHOT MINISTRIES, INC. NEWSLETTER



SEPTEMBER 2024

APA LAS VEGAS GTS RACK REPORT  
SALVATIONS AT THE RACE TRACK  
SUMMER ROUNDUP AND FALL PREVIEW  
GOSPEL TRICK SHOT OF THE MONTH  
CALENDAR





# APA LAS VEGAS GTS RACK REPORT



## WELCOME TO THE APA CHAMPIONSHIPS



### APA Las Vegas GTS RACK Report

In August of 2002, a Gospel Trick Shot Bible study with about 15 people was launched by GTS Founder Steve Lillis with the help of GTS friends and supporters in the Riviera Hotel in Las Vegas at the APA (American Poolplayers Association) National Championships. The APA has been a good friend of Gospel Trick Shot Ministries, Inc. for many years! Twenty-two years later there is now a Sunday morning worship service led by GTS RACK Team member Tom "Dr. Cue" Rossman at the Westgate Las Vegas Resort & Casino at that same APA event as the event has almost doubled in size to about 15,000 participants. From 2002 – 2007, GTS had a booth and did Gospel Trick Shot shows in an exhibition hall for hundreds of APA players and fans with a GTS RACK team primarily of Steve Lillis, Mike Massey, Tom Rossman, and included special guests. The Riviera has gone into dust and the APA event has moved on to the Westgate and the Lord is still working on hearts as evidenced by the report below from our GTS RACK Team member Tom "Dr. Cue" Rossman.

### TOM'S REPORT

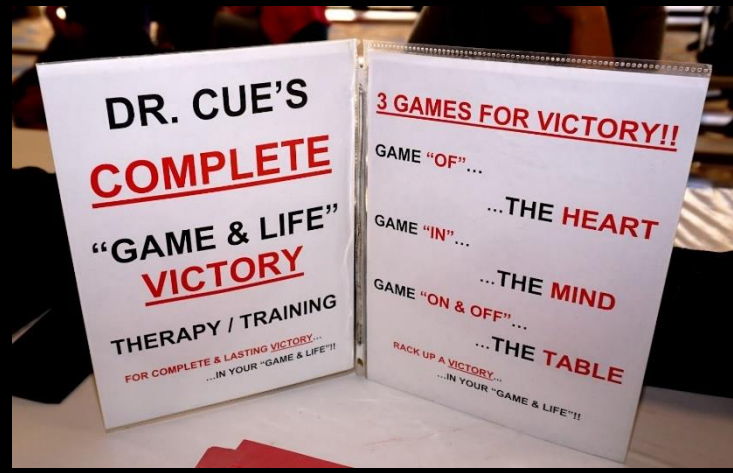
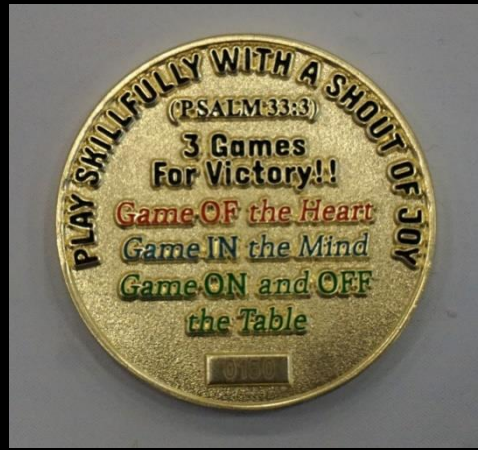
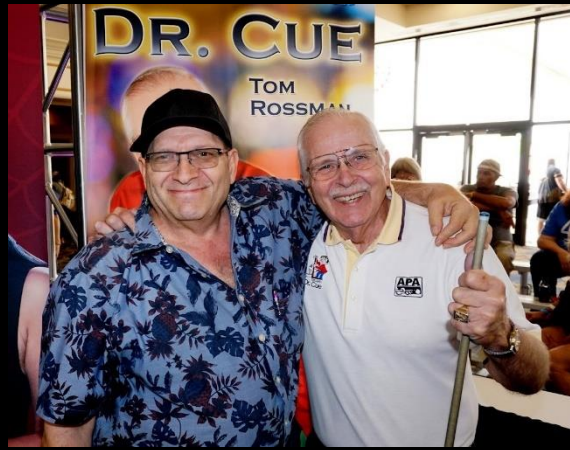
*GTS ministry partner and RACK Vision outreach ambassador Tom "Dr. Cue" Rossman attended the APA WC at the Westgate Hotel and Casino in Las Vegas, NV from August 8 - August 16, 2024. Special witness activities reflected his continuing passion to share how to: Play Skillfully With A Shout Of Joy" (Psalm 33:3) with the three-fold message of...*

- 1) The Game "of" the Heart
- 2) The Game "in" the Mind
- 3) The Game "on and off" the Table

*Thousands of pool players, fans, and guests within the APA (American Poolplayers Association) experienced 9 days with the "doctor" presenting instructional tips, Artistic Pool shots, and special challenge matches to "amuse and edify" everyone in attendance. In addition, Dr. Cue was asked by APA President Greg Fletcher to lead a Sunday morning worship service in the "finals arena"! Over 50 people were able to attend even with a multitude of conflicting play schedules. This special presentation with its primary "heart and mind" foundational theme provided a vital time of reflection on one's life journey. The day before the service a lady from Hawaii named Hester Frankel stopped by Dr. Cue's table to share her spiritual testimony and eagerly agreed to sing Amazing Grace, the central music theme of the message. God's provision, power, and protection was evident for the entire APA event with dozens of Holy Spirit "divine appointments" leading to "life lesson" discussions, prayer, and fellowship bonding. Tom has been asked to lead another worship service in 2025 at this same event, as God continues to open doors of witness / outreach opportunity.*









# 2



## SALVATIONS AT THE RACETRACK

### Salvations at the Racetrack



A live Gospel Trick Shot presentation was done on August 6<sup>th</sup> by Steve Lillis for the migrant workers in the Jockey Club at the Monmouth Park Racetrack in Oceanport, NJ with a team of Hawthorne Gospel Church Spanish speakers ministering alongside. This is the 10<sup>th</sup> straight year that GTS has ministered to the migrant workers at that racetrack working with Chaplain Donny and his Down the Stretch Ministries, Inc. Three short videos followed the GTS show which included our GTS tours of Africa featuring the outreaches in Morocco in 2022, South Africa in 2023, and our orphanage in Zambia that GTS has been supporting since 2022. The Zambia video was shown last and deeply touched the migrant workers since some of them have lived in similar conditions south of the USA border. Eight of them came forward to ask Jesus to help them with their difficult lives as they chose on that day to follow him. Baptisms are being planned for the month of September before they leave and head south for the winter. Please pray for racetrack Chaplain Donny as he concludes another racetrack season ministering to the spiritual needs of the migrant workers!



**Click Image  
to watch Video**

### 1 Corinthians 9:24

Do you not know that in a race all the runners run, but only one gets the prize?

Run in such a way as to get the prize.



# 3

# SUMMER ROUNDTRIP AND FALL PREVIEW

## Summer Roundup and Fall



Our GTS portable pool table tour is completing our 11<sup>th</sup> summer season in our home state of New Jersey. Two more shows are scheduled with the portable table before summer officially ends in the middle of September. Please check our calendar and pray. In October, we will be taking a GTS RACK Team to England for yet another Blackball International (BI) World Championship and we will be launching the first ever 2024 WPA World Artistic Blackball Championship in that same venue. There will be team Bible studies, teaching clinics, and GTS Shows for the many players and fans who attend. We are still looking for sponsors and supporters. If you are interested in helping, please contact us!



### 2024 WPA World Artistic Blackball Championships 11-18 October 2024

The WPA World Artistic Blackball Championships is coming to the Bridlington Spa Theatre in England this October! Witness the best players in the world compete for the title in an all-new selection of 32 Artistic Blackball shots!



#### 2024 Blackball International World Championships

The WPA World Artistic Blackball Championships will take place alongside the Blackball International World Championships, featuring the top players from across the globe.



#### GTS Shows and Teaching Clinics

Special teaching clinics and GTS Shows featuring BCA Hall of Famer Tom "Dr Cue" Rossman and Gospel Trick Shot Founder Steve Lillis with the GTS RACK Team.



#### Prize Fund

The WPA has guaranteed \$5000 added to the entry fees for the Artistic Blackball Championships!  
\$100 is also up for grabs for each of the discipline winners including a special sportsmanship award.  
Entry Fee: \$25 - No admin fees will be charged.



#### All-New Shot Program

This championship will feature an all-new 32 shot program, pushing players to their limits and showcasing their diverse skills to take Blackball to the extreme!  
No additional special cues needed except your normal playing cue!

[Click here to download the 2024 Artistic Blackball Shot Program](#)



#### 9 World Champions

8 discipline World Champions will be crowned, and 1 overall winner will receive the inaugural Artistic Blackball World Championship title, making this a truly historic event.

Scan or Click the QR code below to enter via PayPal:



Limited to the first 60 Paid Entries



**BLACKBALL INTERNATIONAL PRESENTS  
WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS**

**Competing Nation  
USA**

**11-20  
OCTOBER  
2024**

**SANCTIONED BY  
WPA 1  
WORLD POOL ASSOCIATION**



# 4

## Gospel Trick Shot #55 – The Repentance Shot

**History of the Trick Shot:** This Gospel Trick Shot is performed on a regulation English style Blackball pool table. A similar version of the shot has been performed by Artistic Pool players on standard American pool tables in Artistic Pool competition since year 2000. The shot was part of a new pilot Artistic Blackball program that Gospel Trick Shot (GTS) introduced in Johannesburg, South Africa in 2023. The event was called the GTS Classic Artistic Blackball Cup during the Hawley Cup Championships under Blackball International. The shot will be included once again in the WPA Artistic Blackball World Championships in Bridlington, UK in October 2024. In the Artistic Blackball program, it is Shot #2 in Discipline 4 which are the follow shots and has a Degree of Difficulty (DOD) of 7 points. Making the shot on the first attempt would be 7 points, second attempt 6 points, 5 points on the 3rd attempt, and 0 points if not executed in 3 attempts.



**GTS Name and Why:** This shot is called “The Repentance Shot” by GTS RACK Team member Phil Ball who created the story line and performed the shot in the video. The word repent literally means “turn around”. It was originally used as a military term by a commander to instruct his troops and horses to turn around and retreat. It can also mean to have a change of heart and mind and head in the opposite direction. Jesus uses this term to tell us to turn away from our sinful way of living and follow Him. This means changing our thoughts, changing our hearts, and changing our old selfish habits. To receive Christ, we need to acknowledge our sin and the things in our lives that are not pleasing to God our Creator, ask for forgiveness, trust what Jesus did on the cross for us, and follow God’s ways. That is the Gospel!

**Scripture References (NIV):** Proverbs 28:13-14, “Whoever conceals their sins does not prosper, but the one who confesses and renounces them finds mercy. Blessed is the one who always trembles before God, but whoever hardens their heart falls into trouble.”

**Cue Ball Placement:** Behind the second diamond at the head of the table about one ball’s width from the side rail as shown in the diagram.

**Object Ball(s) placement:** A yellow or red ball called C is placed about one half to one cube of chalk’s width from the edge of the corner pocket. The 8 ball is placed midway between the first and second diamond on the bottom rail. A third ball called F is placed in front of the other corner pocket on the bottom rail about one half to one cube of chalk’s width and may be adjusted if needed (a helper ball may also be used).

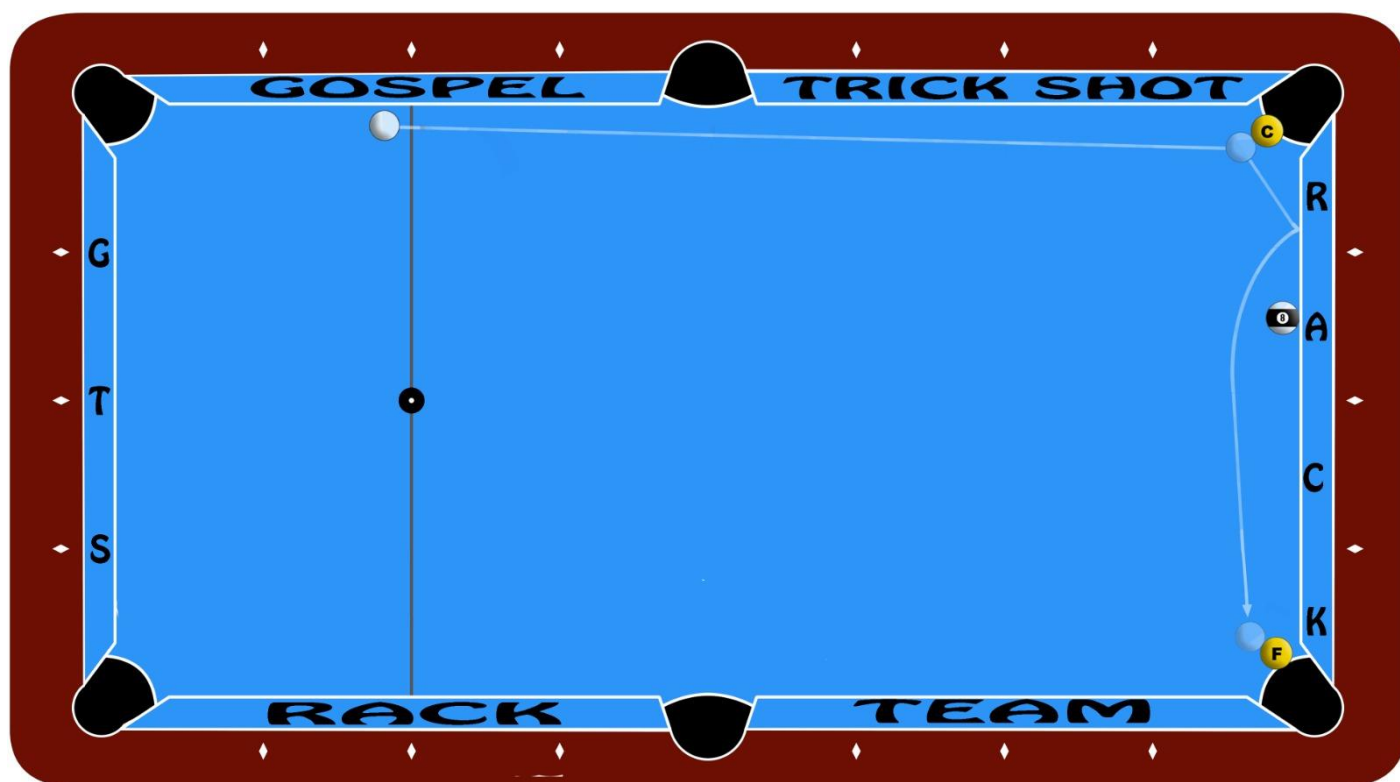




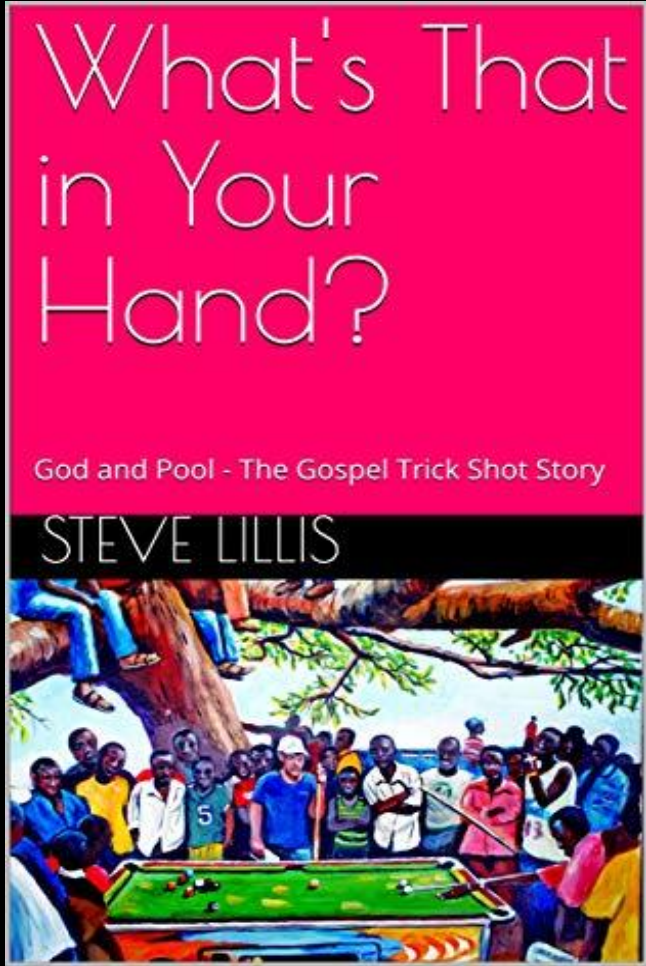
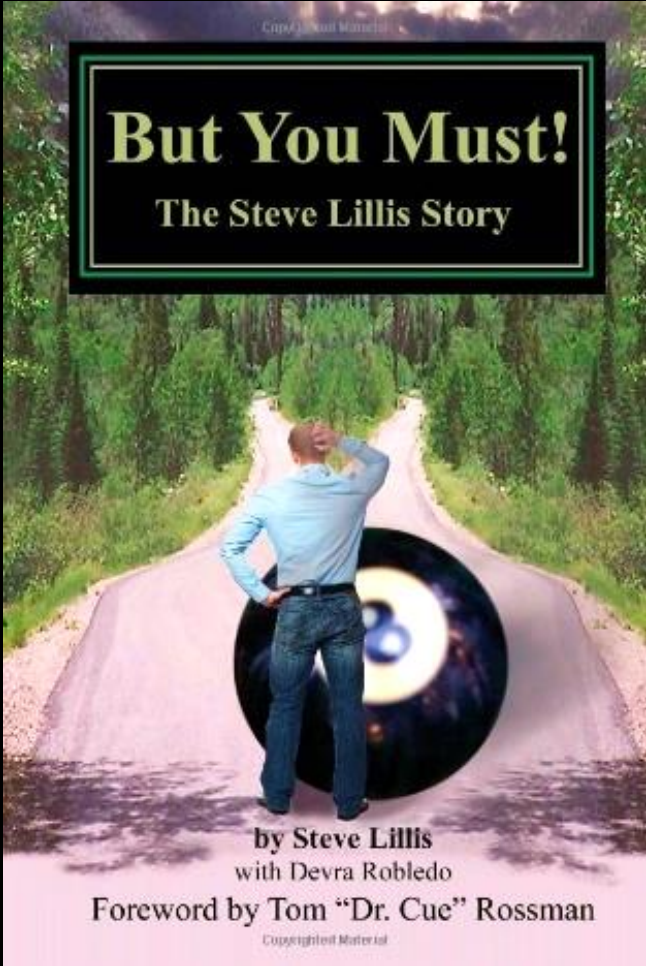
**Objective:** Shoot the cue ball into the C ball by the pocket with maximum top spin with about a half ball hit. This will cause the cue ball to come off the rail and the top spin will drive it back into the same rail causing it to go around the 8 Ball and pot the F ball by the other corner pocket on the bottom rail. The cue ball will naturally want to head up table, but the top spin will change its direction, causing it to go around the 8 ball and hitting the second object ball into the pocket.

**Special Notes:** You will need to experiment with the placement of the C ball by the pocket, the placement of the cue ball, and the power of your stroke used to get the desired result.

**Crowd Reactions Through the Years:** This is a newly adapted Gospel Trick Shot for the Blackball Table. Again, this shot first appeared in competition in October 2023 in Johannesburg, South Africa on a United Blackball pool table as part of the first Artistic Blackball pilot program in the GTS Classic Artistic Blackball Cup as Gospel Trick Shot was a featured sponsor. There was a full field of 48 Blackball players with a waiting list of 19. This shot was a favorite as many Blackball players scored points while encountering this shot in competition for the first time. The setup creates an element of surprise for spectators as the shot doesn't seem possible in how the cue ball stays on one end of the table with all that forward momentum. This illustrates Jesus' message of how He can help us change our sinful ways and go in the direction He has for our lives. This shot is not easy and requires a lot of practice and adjustments, as does our walk with Jesus.



# Books by Steve Lillis



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# GTS CALENDAR

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

>9-14/24 – GTS Show with Steve Lillis and Phil Ball on GTS portable pool table at a special event at the Canela home in Wyckoff, NJ for the Hawthorne Goffle Brook Park Spanish speaking migrant workers.

>9/15/24 – 9/20/24 – Steve and Camille Lillis at Good Times Billiards in Lakewood, CA teaching Blackball pool and doing GTS Shows in and around the Los Angeles area.

>10/5/24 – 10/6/24 – 2024 GTS Classic Artistic Blackball Cup with the “Steve Lillis Trophy” directed by GTS RACK team member Wayne Parker at the Billiard Café Pool Room in Johannesburg South Africa, with GTS show and booth.

>10/7/24 – 10/21/24 - WPA Blackball International (BI) World Team Championships in Bridlington, England with the 2024 WPA World Artistic Blackball Championships and GTS shows. GTS shows at various locations in and around Manchester, England after the event.

>10/30/24 – 11/2/24 (TBD) – Morocco International Heyball 8-Ball Championship in Marrakesh, Morocco with Wayne Parker and Steve Lillis.

>11/9/24 – 11/17/24 (TBD) – CSI Predator Caribbean Championships in the Puerto Rico Convention Center in San Juan, Puerto Rico. GTS shows at the event and other San Juan billiard locations.

>11/18/24 – 11/26/24 (TBD) – International Open at the Renaissance Resort, St. Augustine, FL. Various billiard events with a Gospel Trick Shot booth and Bible studies.

>11/30/24 – 12/4/24 (TBD) – Mosconi Cup at the Caribe Royal Resort, Orlando, FL with the World Nine-Ball Tour with GTS shows in and around the Orlando area with the GTS RACK Team.

>GTS World Tour 2024-25 (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:

GTS, P.O. Box 313, Hawthorne, NJ 07507.

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[www.gospeltrickshot.org](http://www.gospeltrickshot.org)

Thank you for your support,

**Steve Lillis**  
Chairman & CEO



**Wayne Parker**  
President & COO



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