

A Winning Hand

Directed by: Jo and Dennis Fay

Characters

1. Retired Sea Captain H.C. Halvorsen
2. 1,000 acre Asbill Creek property owner-H. Baker Fisher
3. Dealer (neutral).

Pre-script: Fisher acquired the property in a foreclosure auction with a winning bid of \$8,843.30 (approximately \$130,433 in today's money) on July 28, 1924.

Halvorsen won the property 5 days later on August 2, 1924 in a poker game (5 card stud). Poker game venue to be decided. Two choices: Fisher's home or H.P. McQueen's Blue Goose Grill (a bar in Lakeport)

Scene opens to three men seated at a poker table. The neutral dealer, Halvorsen and Fisher. The time is, July, 1924.

Fisher: Oh my, I am almost out of chips. Capt Halvorsen, would you accept this deed for 1,000 acres of property along the Asbill Creek as collateral? I recently acquired this property by outbidding all others in a local auction.

Halvorsen: I generally deal only in cash Mr Fisher, but since we are playing in a neutral location with a neutral dealer, I will accept your offer. What is the approximate value of this deed?

Fisher: I paid \$8,843 days ago.

Halvorsen: Very well.

Dealer: Shall I continue?

Both: Yes.

(Play resumes. After many hands and strong drinks- the pot of chips is fairly equal and substantial between the two players.

At approximately 11 pm, 5 Cards are dealt to each man.)

Halvorsen's cards are 3 spades, 3 clubs, 3 of hearts, 10 clubs and queen of hearts.

Fisher's hand: 5 spades, 5 hearts, 5 diamonds, 9 clubs and 8 of hearts.

Dealer: Mr Fisher: It is your bet.

Fisher bets \$1000

Halvorsen calls with \$1000.

Total pot is now \$2200. \$100 anti and \$1000 bet/call.

Dealer: Gentlemen, you have now bet your maximum for the opening hand. I will now deal your discards according to the rules of 5 card stud.

Both players discard two cards.

Fisher discards the 9 clubs and 8 hearts, He catches an Ace of spades and Ace of Hearts. His hand is a full house.

Halvorsen discards 10 clubs and Queen of hearts. He catches 3 of diamonds and King of Diamonds. He has 4 of a kind.

Dealer: Capt Halvorsen it is your bet

Halvorsen: I bet \$1000

Fisher: I call and raise \$2000 (\$3000 total)

Halvorsen: I call \$2000

Total pot is now \$8200

Dealer: Gentlemen, according to our agreed upon rules, there can be only one more bet on this hand. Mr Fisher, since you raised, the bet is yours.

Fisher: I am willing to go all in with this deed to prime 1,000 acres of Asbill Creek land. With my previous wagers of \$4100, the balance of this deed is worth \$4700.

Dealer: Capt Halvorsen, by my reckoning, that would be your wager of \$4700.

Halvorsen: I call \$4700.

Dealer: Gentlemen: We are all in. Show your cards..

Fisher: smugly shows his cards, 3 5's and 2 Aces. Full House

Halvorsen: Flips his cards and says nothing.

Dealer: Cart Halvorsen wins with 4 of a kind of 3's.

Dealer: Gentlemen this concludes tonight's game. Cape Halvorsen, welcome to Lake County.

Postscript:

Capt Halvorsen and his wife lived on a house on the property for almost exactly a year when it burnt to the ground due to their oil stove malfunctioning. Mrs Halvorsen, determined to save valuable paperwork severely burned her hands while escaping the fire. These 1,000 acres are now a part of the 4,300 acre Six Sigma Ranch and Winery owned by the Ahlmann family.