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The long-awaited Third Edition of the Blue Book of Pool Cues is in the works, currently scheduled to be published in March 2004 by Blue Book Publications, Inc. of Minneapolis.

The co-authors of the Third Edition are Martyne S. Bachmen and Brad Simpson. Mr. Simpson authored the first two editions of the Blue Book of Pool Cues, which became essential reference books for cue buyers and sellers.

Martyne S. Bachmen has been contracted to update the cue information, pricing (on both collectible and new cues), update cue maker biographies, and write new editorial information on cue history, collecting, and valuation. The new edition will be expanded to include more cue makers and more cue images than ever before. Additionally, the revised Trademark Index will provide the most recent contact information on as many cue makers as possible.

Martyne S. (Sue) Bachmen has been buying, selling, and collecting cues for 14 years. Since closing Chalkers, the San Francisco billiard club she co-owned from 1990 to 2002, she has devoted most of her time to buying and selling cues as a partner in Chalkers.com, an online retailer specializing in collectible cues. Ms. Bachmen was one of the 17 major collectors invited to display cues from her collection at the 2002 International Cue Collectors Show in Ruidoso, New Mexico. She was a writer for Billiards Digest for five years. "It's an honor to help write the next chapter in cue history," states Martyne Bachmen, "Brad broke a lot of new ground in writing the first two editions; it was a huge task. I'm ready to pick up the ball and run with it. It will be the most complete and indepth guide yet."

Brad Simpson wrote the First Edition of the Blue Book of Pool Cues in 1996. The greatly revised second edition was published in 1999 - both editions, including hard and soft cover releases, have sold out. In recent years, Mr. Simpson has built a successful import/export business from Thailand, and has recently opened a pool hall in downtown Bangkok. Mr. Simpson will collaborate with Ms. Bachmen, contributing research data and editing the third edition. "I am happy to pass the torch to Martyne Bachmen," says Brad Simpson, "She has the cue knowledge, the experience, the inspiration, and the writing ability to make the Third Edition Blue Book of Pool Cues the best edition ever."

"All new color images of custom cues from the finest American cuemakers will be featured in this newest Third Edition," promises publisher S.P. Fjestad, who published the first two editions of the Blue Book of Pool Cues, and also is the publisher of the 2nd Edition of The Billiard Encyclopedia by Victor Stein & Paul Rubino. Ms. Bachmen and her partner, Hugh Tiernan, will use their digital photography skills when shooting the cover and color plates at two cue showcases this fall, beginning with the Midwest Billiard Expo at the Pheasant Run Resort in Illinois October 15-19. They will also photograph cues from participating cuemakers and collectors at the "Showcase at the Ritz" to be hosted by Bill Stroud November 7-8 in Marina del Rey, California.

For more information on the upcoming Third Edition Blue Book of Pool Cues, please contact either Martyne S. Bachmen or the publisher. Also check www.bluebookinc.com for recent developments and up-to-date information.