

Well-known local musician pens second book



October 07, 2006 - For local bluegrass player and author Pete Pappalardo, writing a book is a matter of what you know.

The East Stroudsburg resident has written two books within the last two years, "Bluegrass," which tells the story of a semi-professional bluegrass band living in small town Pennsylvania, and his most recently published book "The Compleat Dartshooter."

Released in August, "The Compleat Dartshooter" is based off the time he spent at the Minisink Hotel, a popular bar and eatery in Minisink Hills, where he used to play darts with an in-house team during the 1980s. He will be signing his new book Sunday at the Deer Head Inn.

Although the book finds its roots in some Pennsylvania scenery, he said he got the idea for the story from an argument he had with a friend.

"I argued that you can't have a happy life unless you are a service to others, so I imagined this conversation between the young Nappy and the more jaded and cynical Fletcher as a way of examining that idea," Pappalardo said.

The main characters, a mafia bag man named Fletcher Widdy and Eastern European orphan Nappy Ochnas, are a pair of drifters who roam through the coal country

of Pennsylvania looking for the meaning of life, or at least a good game of darts.

As the pair wander from bars and taverns in Northeast Pennsylvania to the New York Open, they compete for money and fame on the dart circuit; but the competition isn't limited to the dartboard. Nappy is heir to his father's deeply held belief in truth and beauty, while Fletcher's views are far more cynical. When Nappy falls in love with Fletcher's ex-lover Patti Pulkowski, things become even more complicated.

Pappalardo said the unusual spelling for the title was taken from Izaak Walton's "The Compleat Angler," a fishing book written in the 1600s.

Both of Pappalardo's books are published through Authorhouse, a firm that specializes in independently publishing manuscripts. ▪

Dartshooter

Pete Pappalardo will have a signing for the book from 4 p.m. to 8 p.m. Sunday at the Deer Head Inn, Delaware Water Gap. His band, The Lost Ramblers, will play with musical guests John Skehan from Rail Road Earth, Coleman Smith of the Dixie All-Stars and Barbie McMahon of Calliope.

Dinner will be served from 4 to 7 p.m. and there is no music charge. For reservations call 570 424-2000.

"The Compleat Dartshooter" costs \$14.49 and is available www.authorhouse.com and Carroll and Carroll Books on Main Street, Stroudsburg