



# Horseshoe Pitching NEWSLINE

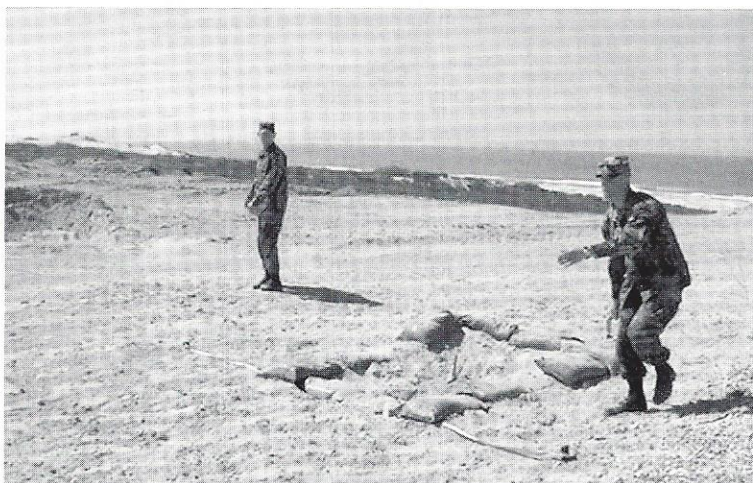
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MAY/JUNE 2003



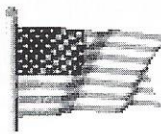
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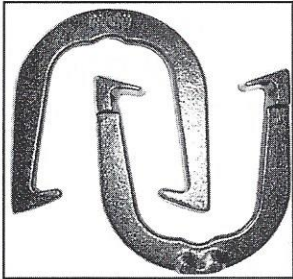


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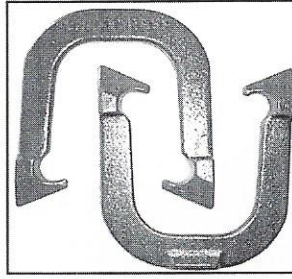
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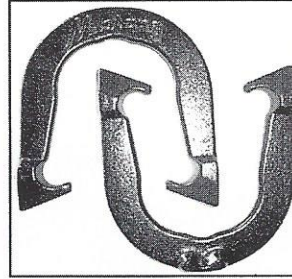
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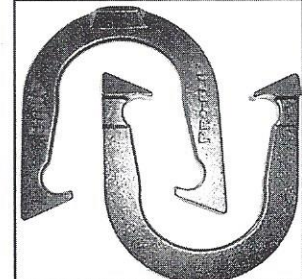
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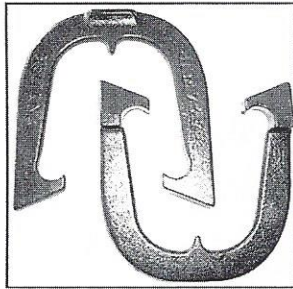
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\$48 per pair  
 Stock #33-033



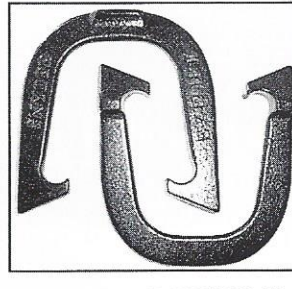
**BRONCO PRO-FLIP**

\$48 per pair  
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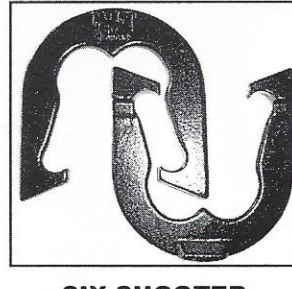
**SNYDER E-Z FLIP**

\$54 per pair  
 Stock #33-596



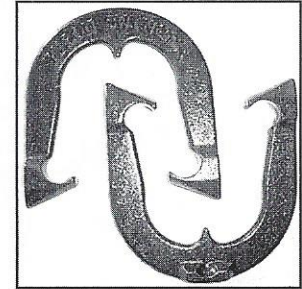
**SNYDER E-Z FLIP II**

\$54 per pair  
 Stock #33-535



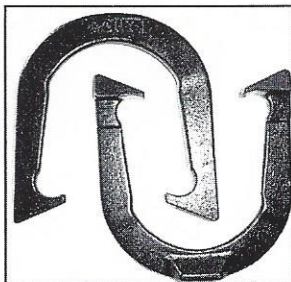
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\$54 per pair  
 Stock #33-045



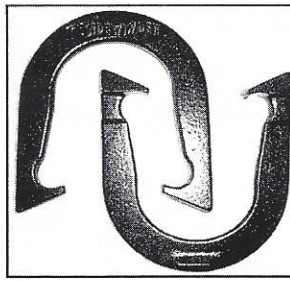
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\$54 per pair  
 Stock #33-747



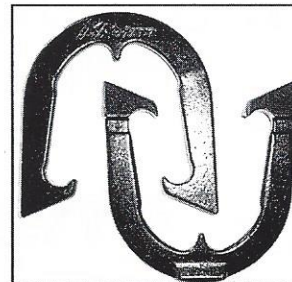
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# Horseshoe Pitching NEWSLINE

Official Publication of the National Horseshoe Pitchers Association

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# PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

by Dave Loucks

Entries to the Eau Claire World tournament started to arrive in Secretary Dick Hansen's mailbox more than two months ago. Nothing unusual about that as there are always a few who strive to be the first to get their entry in. Also nothing unusual about the fact that entries seem slow to arrive as a great majority of participants wait until the last week or two to mail their form and check. At this writing, it does not look as though entries will reach the high level expected by some though it's very hard to gauge with such a large number of people waiting until the last minute. Very high fuel costs definitely will affect some who might otherwise drive to the event. Air travel has also been affected by fuel costs, the Iraqi war and other uncertain conditions that exist around the world. These factors and a seemingly growing feeling to limit travel to places near the home will, in my opinion, keep Eau Claire from claiming any World Tournament entry record.

## Announcement

When this year ends, my ninth term as NHPA President will also end. While age has taken its toll on my pitching game, it has not lessened my desire to see this sport grow and prosper. However, the aging process has also affected my health and spirit to the point that I feel it is time to step down as NHPA President. I therefore will not seek re-election in Eau Claire. I will leave office with the belief that the NHPA made great improvements during my 18 years as President. We are today, financially sound, well organized and better prepared to meet new challenges. I'm confident in the well-being of the NHPA and look forward to an even stronger association under new leadership.

---

# DAVE'S COURT REPORT

by Dave Loucks

## Two Bid for 2005 World Tournament

Three sites expressed serious interest in the 2005 World Tournament. One, Rochester, MN, dropped out in the last days because they couldn't put a financial package together in time to make the bidding deadline. The two bids received were from Bakersfield, CA and Kitchener, Ontario Canada. Bakersfield, several times the host of the California State Tournament, has proposed a July 18<sup>th</sup> start date and selected the Kern County Fairgrounds for the indoor event. Kitchener hosted the 1997 World and last year made an unsuccessful bid for the 2004 event. For 2005, Kitchener is proposing a July 11<sup>th</sup> start date at the Memorial Auditorium Complex, site of the 1997 event.

## Game Related Sales Program

In the first 2003 issue of Newslines, it was reported that GRS Director and National Buyer, Ed Domey would be stepping down this year. I'm pleased to report that Ed has agreed to continue in his present capacity through 2004 and possibly longer.

## NHPF Funds First Grants

Three \$1,000 Grant checks have been sent to clubs in Michigan, Minnesota and Oregon. It is a modest start to a program we hope to see grow as membership support increases. Up to five more grants may be issued this year. The application form can be found in this issue. The deadline for the next review period is September 1<sup>st</sup>.

## Co-op Advertising

If your club or charter is lagging in membership, now is the time to start advertising. The NHPA has a new co-op Ad program that will reimburse 75% of the advertisement cost up to a maximum limit determined by the Charter's prior year membership. Read all about it in the Publicity/Promotion column of this issue or on the NHPA Website.

## NOTICE

Correct Dates for:

**2003 Summerfun Horseshoe Tournament**

Friday, Saturday and Sunday

August 22<sup>nd</sup>, 23<sup>rd</sup>, and 24<sup>th</sup>

See corrected advertisement on page 24

## WHAT'S GOING ON?

Starting with the next issue of "Horseshoe Pitching NEWSLINE", the column "What's Going On?" will be back. Debby Michaud has agreed to take over the job of picking out news and tidbits from Charter newsletters and putting it together as an article.

If you would like to have news from your charter published from time to time in this column, please ask the editor of your charter's newsletter to send a copy to Debby at: 379 Hodges Street Taunton, MA 02780-2057

# NHPFNEWS & CONTRIBUTION UPDATE by Dave Loucks

The Foundation has issued its first Grants to clubs seeking financial assistance with the construction or upgrading of courts. Four applications were received by the March 1st deadline. Three were approved and those clubs were each sent a check for \$1,000. Recipients of the grants were the River Raisin Horseshoe Club in Adrian, MI, the Morrison County Horseshoe Club in Pierz, MN, and the Gresham Horseshoe Club in Gresham, OR.

The NHPF Directors have authorized 8 grants for this year. That means up to 5 could be approved during the next review period, which is the month of September. If your club has plans to build or improve your pitching facility and is in need of financial assistance, you may want to submit a grant application form. The next deadline is September 1st. A copy of the application form can be found elsewhere in this issue. Copies can also be obtained by contacting me or any other NHPF director. Not every application will necessarily be approved. The Foundation at this time has limited funds and thus the need to see some assurance that the club has been or will be supportive of fund-raising activities for the NHPF so the Foundation can continue grants to other clubs in need.

Three more imprinted plates have been ordered for the plaque of major benefactors to the NHPF. Those three who have reached the \$500 or beyond donation level are Gerard Harris of Dallas, PA, Edward Quigley of Pompton Plains, NJ and the Sonoma County H.C. of Santa Rosa, CA, who sent \$500 in memory of departed member Arnie Peters.

If you have not yet sent in your first contribution, why not do it now! You'll be helping a wonderful cause for the sport you love and your gift is tax-deductible. If you've already made a donation, please don't stop but pledge to send semi-annual or monthly contributions. Your support is needed and appreciated. A letter will acknowledge any contribution of \$10.00 or more. Your tax-deductible contribution to the NHPF can be mailed to either 6233 Woodman Dr., Oroville, CA 95966 or PO Box 159027, Nashville, TN 37215.

Following the below names of those who have recently made a donation, you will see the column How Your State Ranks. While this normally appears in every Newsline, you will note a somewhat new reporting format in this issue. After the State abbreviation, you will see three columns. The first is the number of different contributors who have sent a check from that state. The next column tells how many donations those contributors have made and the final column indicates the total dollars received from those donations. As an example, Minnesota which is third in total dollars submitted and first in the number of donations submitted may be surprised to see that only 39 different contributors have accounted for all the activity. One individual in Minnesota has made 61 separate contribution mailings, sending the NHPF a check each month.

## Donating \$10-45

Jesse Lyda, ID  
Bob Wells, MI  
Art Moran, MN  
Henry Knauft, WA  
Charles Dickinson, NY  
Douglas Carr, TN  
Danny Randolph, NC

## Donating \$50-80

Ron Deckard, FL  
Gerald Wingo, FL  
Les & Edi Holland, MN  
Bill Larson, MN

## Donating \$100-150

Randy Joines, NC  
Eastern PA HPA  
Judge John Brosky, PA  
Hunterdon County HC, NJ  
New Jersey HPA  
Anonymous, WI  
Ottie Reno, OH  
Ottie Reno, AL

## Donating \$250

Ward Lutz, MN

## Donating \$500

Sonoma County HC, CA

NHPA MMA Interest \$582

Total contributions deposited this reporting period, \$2604

Total NHPF deposits to date, \$228,470

## How your state ranks in number and dollars contributed

	Contributors	Donations	
1. TN	26	46	\$19,962
2. CA	76	148	\$14,909
3. MN	39	154	\$8,992
4. NC	25	81	\$7,623
5. OR	20	53	\$7,260
6. MO	40	70	\$6,357
7. GA	15	17	\$6,140
8. MI	41	82	\$6,080
9. WI	28	77	\$5,727
10. CO	22	46	\$5,048
11. FL	40	58	\$4,488
12. MA	8	9	\$4,135
13. TX	22	32	\$3,585
14. OH	51	73	\$3,511
15. WA	26	44	\$3,506
16. PA	27	43	\$3,134
17. NJ	20	31	\$2,809
18. IL	32	55	\$2,465
19. IA	17	27	\$2,456
20. KY	16	31	\$2,305
21. KS	16	26	\$2,152
22. NE	13	22	\$1,968
23. NY	29	32	\$1,806
24. IN	18	21	\$1,603
25. LA	7	11	\$1,217
26. NV	8	10	\$1,015
27. MD	19	26	\$1,015
28. ND	5	7	\$920
29. SC	9	15	\$870
30. CT	13	19	\$772
31. MT	4	7	\$520
32. SD	10	13	\$472
33. ID	5	11	\$470
34. AL	4	4	\$470
35. OK	9	12	\$458
36. VA	10	12	\$368
37. WV	8	11	\$320
38. AZ	7	7	\$264
39. NM	2	4	\$235
40. AR	5	5	\$185
41. WY	3	3	\$182
42. HI	3	3	\$150
43. UT	2	4	\$130
44. AK	1	1	\$120
45. NH	2	2	\$105
46. VT	1	3	\$75
47. ME	1	1	\$25
48. DE	1	1	\$7
49. MS	1	1	\$5

# SANCTIONED CLUB/LEAGUE REPORT by Lorraine Sternberg

With the winter months finally behind us, it's now time to gear up for the summer horseshoe season. The sport of horseshoe is no longer just played in the summer months. For those that are fortunate enough to live in the states where there is warm weather you can pitch outdoors in the winter. And now it seems like there are more indoor facilities for the many of us who live in the colder climate of the United States. One such new indoor facility is in Beloit, Wisconsin. The Beloit Club, home of the Team World Tournament, now has as big of a winter league as they do a summer league.

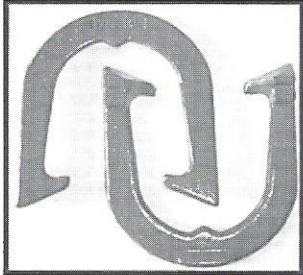
With more leagues playing year round it is important to keep in mind that you MUST check NHPA card numbers at the beginning of your season. This should be done every season. Please do not go by what is on file from previous years. In some charters they have re-issued a person a lower card number. So please check ALL pitchers cards. It is also important for you to list whether the pitcher is 40'-30' men, women, junior boys or girls on all of your reports.

League membership was down for 2002. We had a grand total of 5,217 active league pitchers. Minnesota had the highest league pitchers of 855. The New Melle Club of Missouri is the largest club with 131 active league pitchers. There was a total of 21 new sanctioned clubs for 2002. With all these new clubs, we should be able to increase our league membership for 2003.

Following my report you will find the format for the National Sanctioned League Tournament. This is to be held November 15<sup>th</sup>/16<sup>th</sup> and 22<sup>nd</sup>/23<sup>rd</sup>, 2003 in Joelton, TN. November may seem like a long time off, but this is the time for your club to get your team together. This is the first National Sanctioned League Tournament to be held. Let's make it an annual event. In order to do so we need all the sanctioned clubs to support it. The tournament will be limited to 48 teams. The entry form will be in the July/August issue of Newline. It will be on a first-come bases, with the first 48 clubs to enter.


Joelton is only 20 miles from Nashville. If you have never been to Nashville, there are lots of things to see and do. The Opryland Hotel and Grand Ole Opry are not far away. The Opryland Hotel has their Christmas display up at this time. So after pitching some horseshoe and making some new friends, you can take a drive into Nashville and enjoy the sites. If you have any questions about the tournament just e-mail me or give me a call.

I would like to wish everyone a great summer season. Hope to see many of you this year at the World Tournament in Eau Claire, Wisconsin, only a four-hour drive for me!



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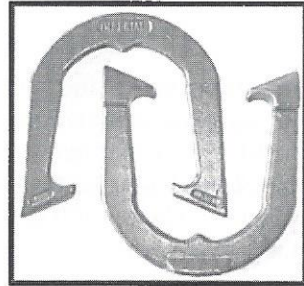
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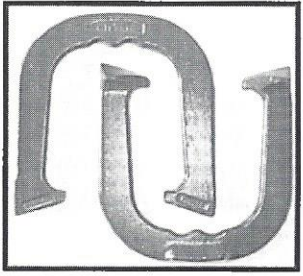
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**1-800-841-4685**

See our inside front cover ad for details on S & H fees.

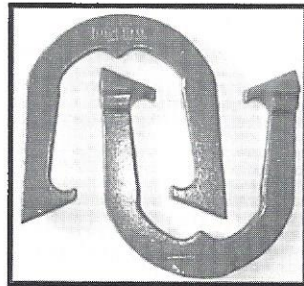
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# PUBLICITY PROMOTION by Casey Sluys

Much has been written in this column about various publicity/promotion ideas. It is now time to put into action an idea that came up at our winter NHPA officers meeting. The name of this program will be known as the "co-op ads" from here on out, simply co-op.

After considerable thought and investigation, it was determined that advertising monies could be better spent by individual charters than by the NHPA as a whole. That being the case, this idea was formed. We will let you, the charters, decide which publication you would like to advertise in. The NHPA is not aware of each of your various local publications, such as geographically specific magazines.

This co-op campaign will need to consist of an advertisement soliciting "new members" to join your club. It can be a one-time ad in the Yellow Pages of your local phone book, a weekly newspaper ad, a magazine ad, a classified ad, and even a radio or television spot. The ad must specifically be designed to attract new NHPA members to your local club or charter. It cannot simply be an announcement of a tournament schedule inviting spectators to come out and watch, although that could be included in the ad.

Your ad would have to be pre-paid and tear sheets, copy, and proof of announcement (if by radio or TV) sent to me along with the copy of the paid invoice. Upon approval, the NHPA will reimburse the charter 75% of the cost of the ad up to \$2.00 per adult member based on 2002 membership. (Because we need to view the receipts and ads, email will not be accepted.) That is to say, if a charter had 450 members in 2002 it would qualify for \$900.00 in co-op money. This means if the charter spent a total of \$1200.00 or more, the NHPA would reimburse that charter \$900.00. A charter cannot receive more than \$2.00 per adult member for the year, regardless of how much they spend for advertising in that year. Another example would be Iowa with 233 members in 2002 will be eligible for \$466.00 in advertising dollars, reimbursed by the NHPA. To be reimbursed the maximum \$466 in co-op money, Iowa must spend \$621 or more on approved ads.

Your charter officers should determine the clubs that needs the most assistance. Perhaps your Regional Director should have some input into this also? A club that has a great facility and few members would be an ideal candidate for some ad money I would think. Maybe you would have different criteria, but whatever criteria you use

*continued on page 8*

## NHPF Year End Financial Report

Income	Year 1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002
NHPA General Fund Donations	160,353	0	0	6,403	13,573	17,976
Individual, Charter, Club Donation	2,174	28,756	37,067	20,059	27,144	18,075
Miscellaneous Cash Donations	844	0	2,019	2,653	572	234
Banquet Revenue	1,052	3,330	3,555	3,960	3,820	4,000
Joelton Court Use Fees	360	1,060	3,811	3,537	2,797	2,675
Merchandise Sales	0	0	0	0	500	500
Account Interest Earned	7,834	8,945	9,859	14,951	11,663	4,132
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>\$172,617</b>	<b>\$42,091</b>	<b>\$56,311</b>	<b>\$51,563</b>	<b>\$60,069</b>	<b>\$47,592</b>
<b>Expense</b>						
Corporate Federal & State Fees	465	0	20	20	20	20
Accounting Fees	0	600	825	800	1,000	900
Legal Fees	0	13,020	0	0	0	27
Bank Service Fees	0	125	125	125	125	165
Supplies	0	0	0	0	115	250
Printing & Publications	0	0	0	0	269	2,743
Travel	0	0	0	678	0	0
Promotional Items	0	195	183	157	3,162	0
Property Tax & Lease	0	913	939	939	939	1,859
Banquet Fees	0	2,300	1,773	2,857	2,674	2,506
Construction & Maintenance	0	9,500	0	2,080	36,903	33,695
<b>Total Expense</b>	<b>\$465</b>	<b>\$26,653</b>	<b>\$3,865</b>	<b>\$7,656</b>	<b>\$45,207</b>	<b>\$42,165</b>
Net Cash Asset Gain or (Loss)	172,152	15,438	52,446	43,907	14,862	5,427
Prior Year End Account Balance	0	172,152	187,590	240,036	283,943	298,805
<b>Year End Cash Account Balance</b>	<b>\$172,152</b>	<b>\$187,590</b>	<b>\$240,036</b>	<b>\$283,943</b>	<b>\$298,805</b>	<b>\$304,232</b>

Note: These figures compiled by NHPF Treasurer, Dave Loucks.

# PUBLICITY PROMOTION continued from page 7

please use common sense, use the money wisely and build up your charter.

There are some things that must occur in order for this program to become successful.

1. Work through your charter president to determine which club would benefit the most from this program.
2. The ad must be tailored to attract new members
3. Requests received without your president's signature will be returned to that president.

Each charter president has received a personal letter outlining this program in detail. Please ask your president for further details. We are going to have to rely on charters to keep statistics on how many new members they actually received through this co-op program. Email or call if you have any other specific questions about this program, (address on page 3)

We understand that this program might slight some of the smaller charters due to payback being based on membership. For 2003 it will work as explained and if the concept is deemed successful and to continue, we will look for ways to increase the amount of co-op dollars returned to smaller charters.

We certainly wish you the best of luck with this and sincerely hope you gain new members from it.

We will keep you updated on the progress of this co-op program in future issues of this magazine.

The following is an example of the ad that would be deemed acceptable. Anything close to this would be ok too.

**The (your clubs name) would like to invite you to join our club in 2003. Come pitch horseshoes with us at (name of place) on (day of week) at (time). Dues are (\$\$) Please contact (name and phone) for further information.**

An ad in the Yellow Pages could depict a picture of your courts or maybe a stake with a couple of ringers on it? Use anything you wish to attract new members to your charter.

The magazine ads referred to in previous issues will be put on hold for at least this year. We would appreciate any suggestions you might have for various publications for a nationwide advertising campaign. This type of advertising will cost between \$12,000 and \$80,000 depending on the publication, color scheme, and size of ad. Very costly! Therefore, we thought that this amount of money could be better spent by you, the individual charters.

## INTERNATIONALLY:

We received a guestbook entry from Kelly Wingate of Adelaide, South Australia. He is originally from North Carolina! If any of you would like to correspond with him his email is: [kellandra01@bigpond.com.au](mailto:kellandra01@bigpond.com.au) We also heard from Iceland and for their 'Viking Games' there is a blacksmith making pitching horseshoes to their specifications for these games. He did mention that after these games he'd attempt to manufacture a shoe with NHPA approved dimensions.

## NHPA Income And Expenditures February and March 2003

### Receipts

2005 World Tournament Bid Kitchener, Ont. Canada	\$5,000.00
2005 World Tournament Bid Bakersfield, Ca.	\$5,000.00
Newline Subscriptions	\$6,650.00
Membership Dues	\$32,436.00
Horseshoe Sanction Fees	\$1,700.00
Firstar Bank Interest / Money Mkt	\$583.00
Firstar Bank Interest / Checking	\$51.25
Newline Ads	\$4,783.00
NHPF	\$20.00
Logo Use Fee	\$100.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$56,323.25</b>

### Expenditures

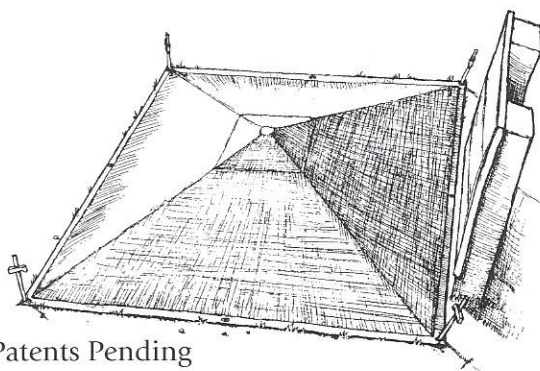
Newline Printing, Supplies & Mailing	\$4,482.89
Newline Publication, Editing, & Miscellaneous	\$716.00
Sanction League Patches & Awards	\$317.33
Hall Of Fame, Awards, Supplies & Expenses	\$53.36
Regional Director Allowance	\$4,663.00
Regional Director, Postage, Telephone, Supplies & Printing	\$600.71
Equipment Purchases, Rentals & Repair	\$470.36
Printing, Paper & Office Supplies	\$572.95
Postages	\$482.33
Officers Telephone	\$367.81
Officers Travel	\$3,312.20
Secretary-treasurer Allowance	\$3,040.00
Presidents Allowance	\$912.00
Publicity, Promotions & Ads	\$812.84
Direct & Indirect NHPF Donations & Support	\$602.50
Misc. Fees, Bonds, Bank Charges, Etc.	\$72.75
Refunds	\$108.00
Natstats	\$912.00
Internet Expenses	\$845.42
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$23,344.45</b>

From The Books Of NHPA Sec/treas Dick Hansen



# NATIONAL SANCTIONED LEAGUE TOURNAMENT

1. THE NATIONAL SANCTIONED LEAGUE TOURNAMENT WILL TAKE PLACE AT THE JACK FREEMAN COURTS IN JOELTON, TN, site of the NHPA Hall of Fame. Joelton is about 20 miles from Nashville, TN.
2. The tournament will be held over two consecutive weekends in November, the 15th/16th and 22nd/23rd (2003). The entry form will be published in the July/August issue of NEWSLINE.
3. It will be a team event - each team will consist of three (3) single players, all of which must belong to the same Sanctioned Club or League.
4. Style of Play - Singles games, 90% handicap, 40 shoe count-all games in a round robin format with six teams in each group. Each group will play two days on a weekend. On each competition weekend, each individual of every team will play each individual on the 5 other teams once for a total of 15 games per individual, or 45 games per team. Each team will compete against three (3) teams on day one and two (2) teams on day two. Number for team to fit in the round robin will be drawn at beginning of competition.
5. Handicap will be determined by each contestant's final, highest point average in an NHPA Sanctioned League for the calendar year. Point averages will be converted to the 40-shoe format from other shoe limit games, computed to the hundredth, converted to 40 shoes, and only then rounded up to the next whole number.
6. A match consists of each member of a team pitching against each member of the opposing team. Games within a match will be held on two adjacent courts with a member of each team on each court playing a member of the other team while the remaining member of each team keeps score. Pitchers rotate between playing and scoring until all members of each team have played all the members of the opposing team. After all three members of each team have played each member of the other team, the match is complete and they will move to the next match.
7. Scoring - A team will be awarded one point for each win or 1/2 point for a tie, and one point for most total points in a match for a possible total of ten (10) points per match. THE POINT EARNED FOR TOTAL POINTS WILL BE USED AS A TIE BREAKER ONLY. The second tie breaker, will be won by the team with the highest point total OVER their entering average OR the closest to their entering average if there are no teams over their entering average.
8. Champions for each of the two weekends will be determined by the total team score (including handicap) after all the matches are completed. Team total scores will be matched against ALL teams that have competed on both weekends to determine the National League Tournament Champions.
9. A National Championship trophy or plaque will be awarded to the winning team soon after the conclusion of the tournament. Smaller trophies or plaques will be awarded to each member of the winning team.
10. The event will be limited to a maximum of 48 three-person teams with no more than 24 playing each weekend. The entry fee will be \$105.00 per team, \$25.00 going to the NHPF. The rest to be awarded as prize money.



Patents Pending

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# REGIONAL DIRECTORS REPORT by Allen Baptist

I am sad to report that Utah Regional Director Bud Schardine is resigning due to health reasons. Bud has been an NHPA member and Regional Director for many years and was a tireless worker for the NHPA and Utah charter. I am waiting for a recommendation from the Utah charter officers before I name a replacement for Bud.

I have not received all of the 2003 tournament schedules, so please check to see if you have mailed or emailed a copy yet.

I would like to remind all Regional Directors that you must send me at least one report per year on happenings in your charter. More reports would be appreciated since these are what I use for my Newsline column.

In the last Regional Director report I listed the courts in Kansas being located in the town of Belleview. The correct town is Belleville, Kansas.

## From the Mail Bag

Pat Wemhoff, Nebraska Regional Director - reports that all horseshoe courts in Nebraska will be sanctioned or re-sanctioned. Pat will do as many as he can this year, and ARD Doc Roberts will sanction the courts in western Nebraska. Pat writes that eastern Nebraska will have 50/50 drawings at all

tournaments for the NHPE. When they reach \$500.00 it will be sent to the NHPE.

David Spears, Idaho Assistant Regional Director - reports that the 2002 season was a success. Idaho Horseshoe Pitchers Association is looking forward to hosting the 2004 World Tournament in Pocatello. Idaho has its first 50-year NHPA member, Ralph Warthen, from Caldwell, Idaho. Ralph has been the backbone of horseshoes in Caldwell for many years before turning over his duties to Joe Campbell.

Richard Archer, Arkansas Regional Director - reports that the city of Marked Tree has built five new courts located in Cypress Park. Billy Gill is the person who persuaded the city of Marked Tree to allow the courts. Billy would like to hold a couple of sanctioned tournaments and leagues this year. Marked Tree is about one hour from Jonesboro and West Memphis. Hot Springs has requested a re-sanctioning of their courts in Family Park. They will also be holding their first sanctioned tournament since 1995. Hot Springs has been hosting the Annual Senior Olympic Tournament since it's beginning. Leonard and Rhonda Kimbrel have been working hard to get the city of Clarksville to build sanctioned courts. Clarksville is home to one of the largest tournaments in the State, which is the Peach Festival Open. They feel that

*continued on page 11*

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P.O. Box 536, Webberville, MI 48892-0536

# REGIONAL DIRECTORS REPORT *continued from page 10*

with new courts their membership could boom.

**Ed Quigley, New Jersey Regional Director** - reports that a group of over 20 members of a Moose Lodge joined the NJSHPA this year. As Lodge horseshoe pitchers, they love the game and are excited about the opportunity to raise their game to a higher level. Two of them experienced their first state tournament, indoors. Ed says the NHPA Internet Website has been a fine source of prospects. His identification as RD prompts numerous phone calls for information, from NJ and New York residents. Also, a new source has resulted from the list of RDs inserted in shoe boxes. Recent NJ and NY callers, representing Elks and VFW, acknowledged finding Ed's name in the box of American shoes purchased. In addition to sending information and appropriate membership applications to the prospects, Ed notified the St. Pierre Corporation and was informed that the shoe manufacturer

was in the process of sending a shipment of horseshoes to Kuwait (requested by the Marines). Is a World Tournament in Baghdad in our future? According to Quig, finding groups already pitching horseshoes, but not affiliated with a state association can perhaps, be one of the best ways to increase our state and NHPA membership substantially.

**Ken Wilhelm, West Virginia Regional Director** - reports that the WVHPA has gained a new horseshoe pitching club known as the Mylan Park Horseshoe Pitching Club. The park is located in Morgantown. Mylan Park, that consists of over 300 acres, is being developed to include 20 permanent courts and at least two buildings; in, of which, will be 160' x 300' that will allow for up to 48 sets of portable courts. In addition, there will be an RV park and other amenities. When completed, the 20 permanent outdoor courts will be the most centralized in any one location in the State.

---

## RULES *by Bonnie Seibold*

The following proposed rule changes submitted by members to the Rules Committee were deemed appropriate, with sufficient merit to consider discussion and vote by the delegates at the NHPA Convention in 2003.

### 1.) Rule 1, Section A, #7 (a)

Now reads - (a) Backboards---Every pit should have a backboard. It should be at least 4 feet behind the stake, by at least 1 foot high and extend the width of the pit. For spectator visibility, a mesh netting or chain link material is recommended. If of solid material, it should be a color that will provide a contrasting background so as to keep the stake visible for the contestants.

Proposed Change - (a) Backboards---Every pit should have a backboard. It should be at least 3 feet behind the stake, be at least 1 foot high and extend the width of the pit. For spectator visibility, a mesh netting or chain link material is recommended. The backboard should be a color that will provide a contrasting background so as to keep the stake visible for the contestants.

Reason - The closer backstop provides a background for a larger part of the stake. Very few shoes strike the backboard at 3 feet and rebound to the scoring area. Since the opponent is required to stand 2 feet behind the 40-foot pitcher, he will usually be behind the 3-foot backboard and it is convenient to walk behind the backboard if crossing to the other platform. Backboards even much less than 3 feet behind the stake are good enough for portable courts at the World Tournament. There should be contrast with the stake, regardless of the backboard type. Some contrast will be possible with the netting or mesh material.

### 2.) Rule 5, Game Preparation

Now reads - It is customary for contestants to find out their court assignments and warm up on the court for their first game with the proper opponent. The court should be prepared for play during this time. When the tournament official announces the start of play, the contestants shall flip a shoe or coin with the winner having the choice of first or second pitch. After a game is completed a contestant shall go to the next assigned court and prepare one pit for play. When the other contestant arrives the same procedure shall be followed. When both contestants have arrived and prepared the pits, they may pitch four warm up shoes each and then must start their game, using the method in the previous paragraph to decide first pitch. It is legal for a contestant to practice alone if the second contestant is late in arriving.

Proposed Change - Section A. It is customary for each contestant to find their court assignment and warm up on that court for their first game. The court should be prepared for play during this time in order to get all games started about the same time.

Section B. Each game will begin with a flip of a shoe or coin. The winner of the flip will have choice of first or second pitch.

Section C. Only after all games of a round are completed, contestants shall go promptly to their next assigned court and each prepare one pit for play. (If during the time it takes to complete a round a contestant wants to practice he/she shall practice on the court where they just finished their game so as not to be a distraction by preparing a court near a game still in progress.) After both pits have

*continued on page 12*

# RULES *continued from page 11*

been prepared, the contestants have the option to pitch no more than four warm up shoes. Then the game must start immediately.

Section D. A contestant may practice while waiting for their next opponent.

Reason - 1 To break this rule into Sections for clarification and easier reading, similar to Rule 4. The present continuous wording refers to a previous paragraph and there is no previous paragraph.

Reason - 2 Make minor changes in wording for easier understanding.

## 3.) Rule 6, Section D, #1 and Section H, #1, (b)

Now reads - 1. Pitcher. The pitcher must maintain constant contact with the designated platform during the entire address and release of the shoe.

Exceptions:

(a) A contestant observing the 37-foot foul line may start directly behind the platform provided they step within it when they release the shoe.

(b) A physically challenged contestant must have at least some contact with the platform and be completely behind the 27-foot line when the shoe is released.

Section H, #1, (b)

Now reads - Except as provided in rule 6, D, 1, any shoe pitched when the contestant has started or stepped completely outside the pitching platform before releasing the shoe

Proposed Change - 1. The Pitcher. During the entire address and release of a shoe, the pitcher must not start or step completely outside the platform with either foot.

Exceptions: No change to current wording.

Section H, #1, (b) Except as provided in the "Exceptions" of Rule 6, D, #1, any shoe pitched when the contestant has started or stepped completely outside the pitching platform with either foot before releasing the shoe.

Reason - For clarification. In the current rule, "completely" could be interpreted as both feet.

## 4.) Rule 6, Section D, #2, The opponent

Now reads - The opponent, while not pitching, shall stand on or behind the other 40-foot platform at least 2 feet to the rear of the contestant who is pitching. The opponent shall be quiet and stationary so as not to disturb the contestant who is pitching or the contestants on adjacent courts. After a short distance contestant pitches first they must return to the 40 foot platform if the opponent or any contestant on an adjacent court is a full distance pitcher.

Proposed Change - An opponent's position when not pitching, shall be standing quietly and stationary on or behind the same court's opposite platform and at least 2 ft. behind a contestant who is pitching from the same or adjacent court. In mixed distance pitching, a short distance pitcher who pitches first must return to this position on or behind the 40 ft. platform.

Reason - To clarify the short distance pitcher's position on or off the 40 ft. platform (2 ft. to the rear of pitching contestants) in mixed distance events. Present wording only requires returning to the 40 ft. platform.

## 5.) Rule 6, Section E, #3 Flow of the Game

Now reads - If it is discovered during an inning that a contestant has pitched the shoe of an opponent, the shoes shall be picked up and the entire inning shall be repitched using the correct shoes. If the contestants fail to discover the error until after all four shoes have been pitched, the inning shall be scored on the basis of whatever shoes they pitched. If agreement cannot be reached, a judge shall be called. Based upon the input from the contestants, the judge shall either determine the scoring for the inning or void it and order it to be repitched.

Proposed Change - Change first sentence to read - If it is discovered during an inning that a contestant has pitched the shoe of an opponent, then if the opponents agree the remaining shoes may be pitched and the score to be based on the shoes they pitched. If they don't agree on pitching the remaining shoes then the shoes pitched shall be picked up and the entire inning shall be repitched using the correct shoes.

## 6.) Rule 6, Section H, #2, Foul Shoe

Now reads - The following occurrences are also considered foul shoes and the shoes must be removed from the pit (if they are in the scoring radius of the stake) before any more shoes are delivered.

Proposed Change - The following occurrences are also considered foul shoes and the shoes must be removed from the pit (if they are in the scoring radius of the stake) before any more shoes are delivered unless all competitors in that game agree to leave the shoe where it is.

## 7.) Rule 7, Length of the Game

Now reads - The length of a game shall be determined before play begins. There are two options.

1. POINT LIMIT - The game shall be played to a predetermined number of points. 40 points is the suggested amount. The first contestant to reach (or exceed) that amount is the winner.

2. SHOE LIMIT - The game shall be played to a predetermined amount of shoes. 40 shoes is the suggested amount. It shall be an even number. When that amount is reached, the contestant with the highest score is the winner. If the score is tied, there are two options.

*continued on page 13*

# RULES *continued from page 12*

- (a) Each contestant shall receive 1/2 win and 1/2 loss. (This option should be used if a handicap system is in effect.)
- (b) A two-inning tiebreaker shall be played, using the same method of play that was used in the game. In the event of another tie, the same process shall be repeated and this procedure shall continue until the tie is broken.

Proposed Change - The length of a game shall be determined before play begins. There are three options.

1. POINT LIMIT - The game shall be played to a predetermined number of points. 40 points is the suggested amount. The first contestant to reach (or exceed) that amount is the winner.

2. SHOE LIMIT - The game shall be played to a predetermined amount of shoes. 40 shoes is the suggested amount. It shall be an even number. When that amount is reached, the contestant with the highest score is the winner. If the score is tied, there are two options:

- (a) Each contestant shall receive 1/2 win and 1/2 loss. (This option should be used if a handicap system is in effect).
- (b) A two-inning tiebreaker shall be played, using the same method of play that was used in the game. In the event of another tie, the same process shall be repeated and this procedure shall continue until the tie is broken.

3. POINT LIMIT OR SHOE LIMIT (WHICHEVER COMES FIRST). - For Example 35 point or 50 shoes. During the tiebreaker described in #2, (b), a pitcher reaching (or exceeding) the point limit is the winner.

Reason - Most players prefer point limit games. The point and shoe limits can be set so most games end with the point limit, but very long games will not occur and the tournament schedule can be maintained.

## 8.) Rule 8, Section B, Count-All Scoring

Now reads - In count-all scoring, both contestants receive credit for the number of points their own shoes are worth in each inning. Because both contestants can score in the same inning (each contestant can score either zero, one, two, three, four or six points in each inning), care should be taken in reporting the scores to the scorekeeper so that the proper score is recorded for each contestant.

Proposed Change - Section B., Count-All Scoring

1. Count-all scoring can be where both contestants receive credit for all of their shoes that score in each inning. Each contestant can score zero, one, two, three, four or six points.

2. Count-all scoring can be where both contestants receive credit for only ringers thrown in each inning (Ringers Only). Each contestant's ringers count one point each. Each contestant may score zero, one or two points

per inning. This type of scoring should generally be limited to upper percentage classes.

3. Care should be taken in recording scores in count-all so that proper score is reported for each contestant.

Reason-

1. Ringers Only is a form of count-all scoring. The current rule for count-all allows for scoring zero, one, two, three, four, or six points in each inning.

2. The current rule says each contestant "Can" score zero, etc. it does not say that you will count all of each contestants shoes for the inning.

3. Ringers Only is an excellent method of scoring when you do not have scorekeepers available.

4. Many players would rather use Ringers Only format than keep their own score.

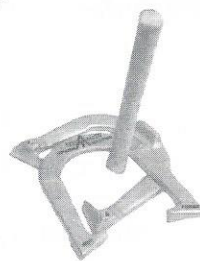
5. Sad to admit, but a number of players do not know how to keep score on paper.

6. Ringers Only can be kept on just a scoring wheel and scores reported on a slip of paper after the game.

7. Ringers Only has been played in SCHPA for 16 plus years and has proven to be a very successful form of scoring and received well by the players.

8. This form of scoring is in line with keeping accurate records for ringer percentages, as ringer percentages are based on ringers and not points.

9. This form of count-all scoring promotes horseshoe pitching in our charter, and I believe that is what we want to do as a charter as well as other charters.



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<b>Days Inn West</b> 6319 Truax Lane • Eau Claire, WI 54703	\$70.00	71	Yes	Yes
<b>Hampton Inn</b> 2622 Craig Road • Eau Claire, WI 54701	\$74.00	106	No	Yes
<b>Heartland Inn</b> 4075 Commonwealth Avenue • Eau Claire, WI 54701	\$74.99	87	No	Yes
<b>Holiday Inn Campus Area Hotel</b> 2703 Craig Road • Eau Claire, WI 54701	\$99.95	137	Yes	Yes
<b>Holiday Inn Convention Center</b> 205 South Barstow Street • Eau Claire, WI 54701	\$75.00	122	Yes	Yes
<b>Park Inn</b> 1009 W. Park Avenue • Chippewa Falls, WI 54729	\$78.00	67	Yes	Yes
<b>Park Inn &amp; Suites *Host Hotel*</b> 3340 Mondovi Road • Eau Claire, WI 54701	\$75.00	85	Yes	Yes
<b>Plaza Hotel &amp; Suites (formerly Ramada)</b> 1202 West Clairemont Avenue • Eau Claire, WI 54703	\$79 single \$89 double	233	Yes	Yes

If camping is more your style, Whispering Pines Campground is located conveniently 5 miles from the pitching venue and charges only \$20 per evening.

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## Junior Party News

The Junior Party for the 2003 World Horseshoe Tournament is well underway and will be held at the Eau Claire Indoor Sports Center. This center provides activities for all ages such as soccer, flag football, kickball, volleyball, basketball, in-line skating and wiffleball to name a few. Dinner will be served followed by fun activities and games for the Junior Pitchers to get involved in. Planned activities for all ages will be going on throughout the Junior Party as well as video games available for those interested.

Junior Pitchers- Plan on having a blast at the Indoor Sports Center with great food and fun activities planned for the evening of August 10th! (Thanks to donations made to Friends of Horseshoe!)

## Friends of Horseshoes

Fundraising is always a challenge. Your assistance would be appreciated in helping us with the 2003 World Horseshoe Tournament. Please save all used printer cartridges and contact Maria at the number below for more information on how to help fundraise!

Ad Space Available: To place an ad in the 2003 program for World Tournament or for fundraising details, please call: Maria Falcone at 1-888-523-3866

Donations for Friends of Horseshoe can be sent to: Edie McKinney 2339 205th Luck, WI 54853 or Maria Falcone 3625 Gateway Dr., Suite F Eau Claire, WI 54701

# JUNIOR PROMOTIONS

by Heidi Poppe

Email from Joe Martin

Joe Martin from Jamestown, ND here. I read the Junior Promotion article in the most recent NEWSLINE and was very surprised to see the letter from John Passmore. It seems we have a very similar military background (I was a Russian Linguist also) and had an interest in horseshoes.

My horseshoe career started in 1974 when I was 15. My dad's team was a player short and I was drafted. I played in my first state tournament that year in Sheldon, ND and was the very last player in the tournament...Something around 6%. My dad insisted that I play from full distance. Over the next four years we played in 25-30 tournneys and often played in two leagues every week. I left the game in late 1977 when I joined the Army. In 1998, after a 20-year Army career, I picked the game back up and played in the Canyon City, CO league. Since moving back to North Dakota, I have resumed my tournament play and am involved in the Jamestown, ND league.

My best games as a Junior were 54% and 52%, my best tournament was in Donnelly, MN where I averaged about 35%.

Joe Martin  
Jamestown, ND

## REMINDER TO ALL JUNIORS

Spring signals the horseshoe season is just around the corner! So I want to remind juniors of the following, which was taken from the NHPA By-Laws. Please take notice!

### Article XII: ALL NHPA TOURNAMENTS

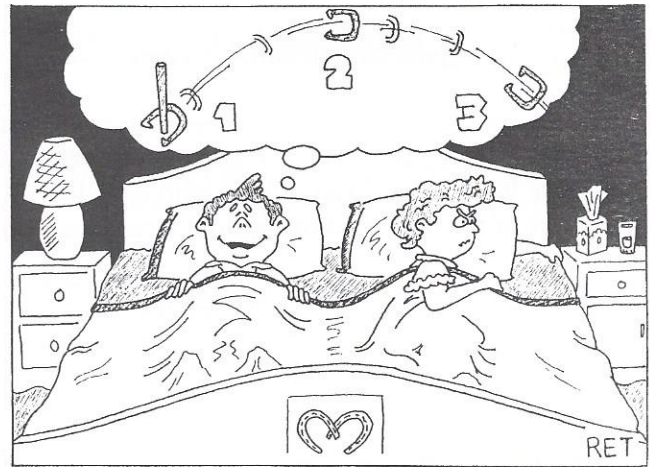
SECTION 8. Junior pitchers may compete in an adult division of a mixed tournament without harm to their junior standing provided no separate junior division is offered in the same tournament. When a junior division is offered in a non-handicapped tournament, a junior may pitch with the adults without harm to their junior standing, only when their average is at least 20% higher than the next junior.

SECTION 9. Junior pitchers who request admittance and are accepted to an adult class outside the conditions set forth in Section 8 above, will forever

forfeit their junior eligibility. A junior boy who forfeits his junior status must pitch the full distance.

SECTION 10. All junior play, mixed class or otherwise, will be conducted on an amateur basis. Awards presented to a junior should have no immediate monetary value. Trophies, medals, ribbons or such are recommended. Any award with monetary value including trust funds from the World Tournament or the Junior Scholar Pitcher Awards Program shall not be issued before the successful completion of high school.

SECTION 11. It shall be the responsibility of juniors to make sure that their amateur standing is not jeopardized by violation of any of the above.



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# HALL OF FAME by Earl and Vicki Winston

We'd like to take this opportunity to thank those who have submitted new nominations to place on the Hall of Fame ballot. The committee has their work cut out for them this year. The voting will take place this spring. Just because you may have missed the deadline for the 2003 election, please continue to work on any nominations you have in progress and submit them when they are finished. We will then have a head start on our work for 2004.

Some elaborate material has been sent with nominations, including CD's and floppy disks. Since many of our committee members do not have computers, items such as these are of no use to them. It would be best that any future nominations be submitted only in printed form, as per the guidelines for making nominations. This will be easier on everyone and will save some postage. We do want to remind people that you only need to send one good copy of your nomination resume' and we will make additional copies of pertinent material for distribution to our committee members.

Now; on with the quiz. We trust that readers are learning something new each issue. Thanks again to the renowned authors, Ottie Reno Sr. and Gary Kline, who have helped to preserve some of the history of our sport.

## HALL OF FAME QUIZ

1. Who served as NHPA secretary from 1941-47 and NHPA President in 1958?
2. Name the one-time World Champ who, along with Marvin Craig, co-holds the record for the highest combined ringer percentage pitched in a World Tournament game. The game was pitched during the 1965 World Tournament.

3. Editor of the NHPA "How To Do It" horseshoe manual, this person served on the Hall of Fame committee in 1969 and was its chairman in 1970-71.
4. An avid bowler and top-notch horseshoe pitcher, this person was the loser of the longest game ever pitched in World Tournament history.
5. This 1933 and 1934 World Champ was never defeated during a pitching career that lasted 25 years.
6. A former NHPA president, he manufactured his own brand of pitching shoes and built portable courts that used rubber mats, supported by springs, as the pit material.
7. A former World Champ, this pitcher is also many times New York and Florida State Champ, as well as being a co-holder of the World Tournament consecutive 4-dead record of 15.
8. He was the first in his family to serve as a contact between the NHPA and his homeland, which is to our north.
9. A two-time World Champ, he is the male half of the only mother and son combo currently in the Hall of Fame.
10. Once a manager of a bowling establishment, he assisted Arch Stokes in bringing the World Tournament to Utah. He later served the NHPA as vice president.
11. Who was the president of the NHPA from 1925-1933?
12. Who served as the Iowa Charter secretary/treasurer for 20 years and was also a member of the NHPA Executive Council?

Answers can be found on page 24



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CAN/AM

VIP

CONDOR

PRO/STAR

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# HORSESHOES AN AGELESS SPORT

by Ralph G. Carter

At our recent two-day tournament at the Yolo Club, we had the distinction of having our oldest player, Chet Carter, age 85, against our youngest member, Dillon Williams, age 7.

For the record, Dillon won the first match but on the second day Chet evened the score.

Dillon is the son of Nathan and Vicky

Williams of the Sacramento Horseshoe Club and seems to be on the way of someday playing against his uncle, Walter Ray. Just give him a few more years.

Chet Carter is the only NHPA member that belongs to every sanctioned club in both Northern and Southern California and has won the award for entering the most tournaments in the state. (64)



## SPECIAL EVENTS CALENDAR

### May 2003

#### 17th & 18th

32nd Annual B.C. International, Winfield Horseshoe Club, Winfield, British Columbia Entry Deadline: May 14th. Over \$750.00 in added money / 100% payback of entry fee. Entry fee: \$15.00 (Canadian) 30' and 40' separated. Class A pay an additional \$15 and Class B pay an addition \$10. Juniors are free. All players will pitch both days. Make cheques/money orders payable to: B.C. Horseshoe Association and mail to: Sam Tomasevic, 7987 Graham Avenue, Burnaby, B.C. V3N 1V8 Canada Telephone: (604) 525-2186 and email: samtom@telus.net Entry form also available on website: www.bchorseshoe.com

#### 24th -25th

15th Annual Elmer Hohl Ringer Classic, K.W. Khaki Club, Wellesley, Ontario, Canada Minimum of \$2,000 extra added prize money. Entry fee for Men's and Women's Championship Group: \$30.00 Canadian Entry fee for all other classes: \$20.00 Canadian

Junior entry fee is no charge if enough for a junior class, if not enough for a class they will be put in classes by average. Camping onsite. With electricity: \$12.00 Without electricity: \$9.00 Tent Site Only: \$7.00 Entry deadline: May 1st. Mail entry fees to: Wayne Becker, 308-41 Pioneer Drive, Kitchener, Ontario Canada N2P1H2 Include division and NHPA or CHPA#. Telephone: (519) 896-6670 Email: wbecker@sgei.com Send cheque or money order payable to The Khaki Tournament Fund with a stamped, self-addressed envelope or e-mail for play time.

#### 24th - 26th

22nd Annual Head-Of-The-Mon-River Horseshoe Tournament, Fairmont, West Virginia. 100% of all entry fees is returned by purse. Purse should exceed \$5,000 for cash prizes and other awards and will be divided equally among all classes. \$25.00 Registration Fee Adults / \$5.00 Registration Fee Juniors. Deadline: Must be postmarked by May 10th. NO REFUNDS For entry form contact Beverly Tiano at Tri-County Horseshoe Club, Inc. 1133 Sunset Drive, Fairmont, WV 26554 or call (304)366-3819 or (304)282-4062. Entry form also available online at: www.horseshoepitching.com under coming events.

### June 2003

#### 27th - 29th

Eastern National Tournament, Erie, Pa. New dates. Entry \$25 plus extra \$25 for the two Championship Divisions, Adult 40' and Adult 30'. Junior division entry is free. Deadline June 14th, 2003. Contact: Chuck Burkett, 1117 East 27th St., Erie, Pa 16504, (814)455-3954, email chuckster3672@msm.com

### July 2003

#### 4th - 6th

Ringer Classic - Greenville, OH Entry fee: \$25 for adults with additional fee for Championship Class Men and Women. \$15 for Class B, Men and Women. \$10 for Class C Men. No charge for junior pitchers. Fees payable to Darke County Horseshoe Club and mail to: Mary Fleenor, 8494 Baker Road, Versailles, OH 45380. Entry deadline: June 16th

#### 12th - 13th

15th Annual Open Horseshoe Tournament, Danville, Illinois. Douglas Park just off I-74 at Bowman Avenue Exit. Increased prize money from Designated A Sponsorship. Entry Deadline: June 27th. Register online also at: www.active.com by June 24th. Entry Fee: \$20.00 (Includes scorekeeping fees) Make checks payable to: Danville Horseshoe Club and mail to: Leo Bratland, 41 Country Club Drive, Danville, IL 61832 Phone: (217)443-5818 or email: bratld@aol.com

### August 2003

#### 11th

2003 Iowa State Fair Midwest Seniors Classic, Iowa State Fairgrounds, Des Moines, IA NHPA Sanctioned. Must be 60 years of age by August 11th. Over \$1,800 in prize money paid in 2002. Entry deadline: July 26th (No late entries accepted). Registration Fee: 6-Person Classes: \$15 Championship Class Fee: \$20. (Will be notified when you play) Send Entry fee of \$15 to: Dave Sidles, 1506 Wilson Avenue, Ames, IA 50010 Phone: (515) 233-1394 Email: dsidles@msn.com Tournament Director: Danny Sease, Phone: (515) 285-0131 or email: ddsease@msn.com Include with fee: Name, complete mailing address, phone number, gender, NHPA card number and pitching distance.

#### 22nd - 24th

8th Annual SummerFun Tournament. Newberry, South Carolina - Marion-Davis Park. \$4,500 in Cash, Prizes and Trophies. 12-player, two-day championship classes, 40' and 30' divisions. Entry Fee: \$20 (Additional \$5 for championship classes). Limited to 140 players, deadline for entries is August 4th. Doubles tournament Thursday. Entry form available at www.geocities.com/sc\_hpa or www.horseshoepitching.com (coming events) or contact tournament director: Ron Taylor at (803) 684-1453. Make checks payable to: SummerFun Horseshoe Tournament and mail to: Ron Taylor, 1915 Molly Circle, York, SC 29745

#### 30th

Louisiana Shrimp & Petroleum Festival MDA Horseshoe Tournament Fundraiser. Kemper Williams Park, Patterson, LA This is a charity fund raising event for MDA. Entry fee \$20.00, Adults, \$5.00 Juniors. Payout to top 3 adult finishers in each class. Pre-register by August 27. Camping at the park, 985-395-2298. For Tournament Information, contact Al Dodson, 985-385-1909, Kevin Dore', 985-395-7327, or Tim Gilmore, 985-395-5062

# THE HORSESHOE TRADER

Are You Ready For A Quiz?

By Bob Dunn

After six years of this series, you should be prepared for answering lots of questions about old shoes. No need for concern, it will be easy - the answers are provided. This is nothing more than a way to look at some interesting trivia in our older pitching shoes.

**What shoes have carried the names of NHPA presidents?**

The very first to mention is the F. Crum shoes. Only one pair is known to exist and of course they deserved a whole Horseshoe

Trader article in 2000. Frank Crumm (Independence, Missouri) is listed as the president of the Grand League of American Horseshoe Pitchers 1914. The Grand League of American Horseshoe Pitchers Association was a forerunner to the NHPA, merging with the National Horseshoe and Quoit Pitchers of the United States and the just formed NHPA in 1921. These are probably the oldest shoes in collection.

Dale Dixon (Des Moines, Iowa) was NHPA president 1953-54. The tournament style Dixon Victory began sales in 1957.

Arlo Harris (Indianapolis, Indiana) was president in 1948. The Harris Professional Pitching Shoe was supported through the AHPA. There were two models. The issue model of Harris shoes were produced by the Giant Grip Company, Oshkosh, Wisconsin. Giant Grip got out of the pitching shoe business around 1949. After that the Harris shoe began being produced by Portland Forge Inc., Portland, Indiana.

William Weis (Akron, Ohio) was NHPA president in 1920 as the NHPA was forming. Ads have been found for the Weis sold shoes as early as 1920. His full name didn't appear on a shoe, but there is a 'W' on the underside of the initial National Standard shoes, which represents Weis. Once the National Standard patent was approved in 1923, the 'W' was removed from the shoe. George May, world champion in 1920W and 1923S, is created with the National Standard design, but William Weis is believed to have been the proprietor.

There is one more shoe that should be mentioned. The name of the shoe was the 'President'. This rare old hookless shoe was sold through the Sears & Roebuck catalogs from 1930 through 1932. Not being named after any one president - just all of them.

**What shoes (prior to 1960) bore the name of World Champions?**

Many world champion pitchers were involved with designing and selling shoes. In the early day, some of these shoes were quite successful, which is probably explained by understanding that the pitching champion was directly involved with the operation, designing and sales. And then there were a few that were strictly for promotion.

The first shoe must be the Mossman. This shoe has to be referred to as the most historic shoe of all. The shoe was designed and patented by Putt Mossman, champion in 1924S and 1925. The

*continued on page 19*



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# HORSESHOE TRADER *continued from page 18*

shoe's claim to fame is that it is the first shoe designed with hooks. Maybe small hooks, but they were hooks, nonetheless and started a revolution of the pitching shoes.

Ohio Horseshoe Company produced a couple of shoes that had a world champion's name forded on the shoe. First came the Jackson Model in 1937, named for Frank Jackson. Frank Jackson is listed for 7 world titles beginning in 1909 and the last one in 1926. Jackson was the first celebrity of the sport and his career included hundreds of public appearances performing pitching exhibitions. The Ohio Jackson model proved not so successful as the shoes lasted for only one year; the shoe did veer from the traditional Ohio design but yet did not catch on in sales. There are only a couple known to be in collection. The second Ohio bearing a world champion's name was also a one-year duration. In 1953, Isais Model was introduced. 'Isais Model' was in raised lettering on the right corner of the toe. Isais was an eight time world champion: 1941, 1947-1952 and in 1958. His run of six consecutive titles has never been matched.

All through his name never appeared on a shoe, it is only fair to mention Fred Brust, the founder and long time proprietor of the Ohio Horseshoe Company. Fred Brust was world champion in 1919.

Gordon had a special Ted Allen model (c. 1935). This is a little known fact as there are only two Ted Allen Model Gordon shoes known to exist in collection. The wording is in small raised lettering on the bottom side of the shoe, so the lettering could be easily erased through routine use. Allen did endorse a number of shoes, including Gordon shoes, before he began his own line of shoes.

Maybe the most popular shoe of the high skilled players is the Allen shoe. While still on the present market, the Allen shoe was founded by Ted Allen in 1937. The initial shoes were manufactured in Denver, Colorado and that appeared as a mintmark on the shoes. Sometime around 1955 the operation moved to Bolder and the mintmark was changed. Hunting for the old Allen shoes with a Denver mintmark is an ambition of the avid collector. Ted Allen leads all other men pitchers with ten world titles: 1933, 1934, 1935, 1940, 1946, 1953, 1955, 1956, 1957 and 1959.

C.C. Davis was world champion in 1922, 1924W, 1927W, 1927S and 1928. At the time while winning world championships, his address is listed as Columbus, Ohio, but in 1933, from a Kansas City, Kansas address, Davis began advertising the C.C. Davis shoe. The shoe must have had limited success as there are only three known in collection and two of those are in the NHPA Hall of Fame collection.

## What shoes have dates?

More shoes were dated than most folks would guess. Here is a quick version: Most Gordon's from 1939 through 1967; nearly all Ohio's from 1922 through 1965; Warren in just one year - 1927; the 1945 Diamond Double Ringer; National Standard (patent dates on most, mold dates in 1924 and 1928); and Champ's bicentennial shoe of 1976 with a bold 1776-1976 across the toe.

## TRADER JOTTINGS

There is one less shoe on the Mystery List. Recently, a pair of Lancaster 'Durable' Pitching Shoes showed up on E-Bay. Until now,

all we knew for sure was what was stated by an ad found in a 1936 issue of Horseshoe World, that the NHPA had sanctioned the shoe and the manufacturer was the Lancaster Steel Malleables Corporation of Lancaster, New York. That was it; we had no pictures, no sighting, no nothing.

The shoe is from c.1936 and to my knowledge; this is the only pair that is in collection. The shoes are in the original box including the rules brochure. The shoes have never been pitched. This significant find will be the feature display with my antique pitching shoe exhibit at the World Tournament in Eau Claire. The display, that now exceeds 220 specimens and is 24 feet long, will be set up August 5th through August 12th. Please plan to come by see the 'Durable' Shoe by Lancaster and the whole collection.

## RUTH HANGEN STATISTICS

*submitted by Bart Sargent*

I am listing the information I have of one of the great women pitchers from the past.

Year	P	W	L	Ringers	Shoes	%
1965 Ch'p	6	2	5	226	404	55.9
1967 Ch'p	3	5	2	265	422	62.7
1968 Ch'p	3	5	2	314	486	64.6
1969 Ch'p	2	5	2	336	450	74.6
1970 Ch'p	1	7	0	298	414	72
1971 Ch'p	1	7	0	323	440	73.4
1972 Ch'p	1	7	0	354	462	76.6
1973 Ch'p	1	7	0	363	456	79.6
1974 Ch'p	3	5	2	361	466	77.5
1975 Ch'p	3	4	3			61.8
1976 Ch'p	1	6	1			75.6
1976 PLFS		2	1		258	
1977 Ch'p	2	6	1	448	582	77
1977 PLFS		1	2	150	214	70.1
1978 Ch'p	7	5	6	579	824	70.2
1979 Ch'p	5	7	4	499	756	66
1980 Ch'p	3	9	2	541	744	72.7
1981 Pre	2	6	1	264	350	75.4
1981 Ch'p	3	9	2	592	766	77.3
1982 Pre	2	6	1	240	350	68.6
1982 Ch'p	8	5	6	524	706	74.2
1983 Pre	1	7	0	289	350	82.6
1983 Ch'p	8	5	6	576	748	77
1984 Pre	2	6	1			74
1984 Ch'p	8	5	6			66.2
1985 Pre	2	6	1	260	350	74.3
1985 Ch'p	6	6	5	650	814	79.9
1986 Pre	2	6	1	248	350	70.9
1986 Ch'p	7	8	7	734	1008	72.8
1987 Pre	2	4	1	242	350	69.1
1988 Pre	4	5	2	203	280	72.5
1988 Ch'p	10	7	8	711	990	71.8
1989 Pre	14	5	1-1	191	280	68.2
1989 Ch'p	16	1	14	474	742	63.9
1992 Sr.W	6	1	4	132	250	52.8
1992 SR.F	5	3	7	273	500	54.6

# HORSESHOES FOR OUR SOLDIERS by Bob White, Sr.

When I was asked to write the story behind donating horseshoes to Captain James Zopelis of the Army's 7th Air Defense stationed in the Middle East it was still before the war in Iraq was under way. Now that I am writing this for the Horseshoe Pitching Newsline, the war



is about ten days old. Many fine people have died and it looks like many more will die in the weeks to come. Boredom was the biggest problem for our soldiers a few weeks ago when they decided to track down some horseshoes to pass the idle time and now it is survival. Perhaps by the time you all read this, the soldiers will have achieved their objective and will be back to pitching horseshoes, leaving the diplomats to sort out the fine details.

When Captain Zopelis sent an email to us asking if I knew of any organizations that might donate some horseshoes to his 5th Battalion I was of the mind that there would not really be a war. I felt it would be a show of strength and that it would be enough to accomplish the goal of disarming Iraq without actually having to go in with the forces. I thought about the idea of the soldiers pitching horseshoes to pass the time while the politicians made their deals. I thought about the irony that the very first horseshoe pitchers were probably Roman soldiers trying to fill the time during pauses in the Crusades.

I have learned in the past that when someone asks for help to solve a problem, it is best to respond quickly or you may lose the opportunity to help altogether. Things change fast and time is always of the essence. So I emailed back that I would send him a few sets of horse-

shoes. He was very happy about that and told me that they were all very bored and morale was becoming a problem. Just by telling the troops that horseshoes were on the way picked up morale as they picked partners and looked forward to some fun competition.

He sent me a military address to send to and I prepared two complete sets of Mustangs and two sets of stakes to send. I chose Mustangs because President Bush ordered Mustangs to pitch with at the White House just after taking office and restoring the horseshoe court that President Clinton had removed from the grounds. I felt that the soldiers certainly deserved the same quality horseshoes as the President. When I went to the Post Office to send the packages to their base, I found that I could not send to the address he gave me because it's status had changed to be a "restricted" military base that could not receive mail more than one ounce in weight an indication that they might be right in the thick of things.

This delay led to more emails. He did some research and then sent me an address in Germany to send it to. He said that he would have them hand carried the rest of the way by soldiers that were soon to be enroute to the front lines-These horseshoes were obviously important to them-Imagine that! This was the first indication of where he was located. The emails became more and more friendly and personal. He would tell us some of the names of soldiers in his Battery and the ones that were interested in the competition. Just as in any horseshoe tournament there were people of every rank and station that were interested in pitching. Even the Lt. Colonel (their base commander) was planning on pitching. This all took place around the beginning of February 2003. There was a time of silence for a week to ten days after I sent the shoes to the address in Germany. During that time, things went back to normal and I pretty much forgot about it.

I was so surprised to receive an e-mail from Captain Zopelis that the shoes had arrived and that they were planning a tournament of sorts as soon as the weather broke. They were in a sandstorm when the shoes arrived and couldn't use them immediately, so by the time that cleared, they were raring to break them out and throw some shoes. I asked him to send me a photo of his soldiers pitching horseshoes if he could. I thought it might be a cute promotion for our horseshoe company sometime later on, or even something the NHPA might enjoy seeing. When Captain Zopelis sent me back the pictures and all the tournament details I was completely surprised and thrilled. It was far more than I ever expected. It really did seem to give them all a big boost and I was very proud and humbled to have been able to participate in some small way to help them. I forwarded the emails to Paul Stewart and he had Steve Summerlin put them up on the NHPA website. They all thought it was a great story and so did I. I believe it inspired many others to send horseshoes over to their sons and daughters and friends who were also sitting and waiting during all the tense times prior to the pending war. What I don't know is if the other shipments arrived in time to be useful to them. I hope they did and if not, I truly hope that they will soon be bored again and have plenty of time and inclination to pitch horseshoes. After I saw how they had organized a complete



tournament and how many people were interested I sent another email back offering him more sets if he needed them. That was about two days before the war started. I never got a response to that

*continued on page 21*

# HORSESHOES FOR OUR SOLDIERS *continued from page 20*

email. He had been responding within six or eight hours to most of my emails. I knew something was up.

Even though I have never met Captain Zopelis or any of the soldiers that were in that very special horseshoe tournament



I feel I have become close to them. It is amazing how that happens in the world of horseshoes. Friends are made from all over the world with our common interests of pitching horseshoes. Now I am glued to the television watching all the news on the war. I am always mindful of the names of the different divisions that are noted on the news. I am watching for news of the Alpha Battery, 5th Battalion, 7th Air Defense Artillery. I am truly hoping that I don't see any news of them on national television. They had better not mess with our horseshoe pitching Battalion!

As a side note to this story, we received a call from Don "Fuzzy" Hittle, who's wife has a son in Afghanistan, that resulted in horseshoes being sent there. When he received them he made it a point to call back home to thank his family for being so thoughtful. He said it was the perfect thing for them and it was a big hit with the people in his troop. Mrs. Hittle called us to tell us how happy she was to be able to do something for her son during these tough times. Don also said that his unit in Kanduhar is expected to soon be rotated into the combat in Iraq, so the horseshoes are really getting around over there.

We have also learned that Casey Sluys is working on an offer to the troops to make them honorary NHPA members and sanction their tournaments in Iraq. Another great idea to show our support. It is so good to see the heart of this great horseshoe pitching family known as the NHPA. The NHPF may be able to become involved in spreading the goodwill of horseshoe pitching throughout the Military by helping to fund some of the expense for families to send horseshoes to their loved ones who are serving us so gallantly.

Horseshoes and Soldiers, seems like a natural to me.

Following are some of the actual emails:

March 1, 2003

Subject: The shoes are here, and they are great!

Mr. White,

The shoes arrived this week, and they are a wonderful addition to our base camp. Unfortunately, we have had a spell of horrible weather, and it looks like today is the first day we will be able to use them. I will be sure to send pictures as soon as we get out to our pit. You have made a huge improvement to our morale, and we appreciate your generosity. I am proud to know that there are wonderful organizations out there who support our troops over here. Enclosed is a picture of me with my boss, LTC Smith, and our senior technical Warrant Officer, CW3 Bennet. Thank you again.

Very Respectfully,  
James E. Zopelis  
Captain, United States Army  
Commanding Officer

March 3, 2003

Hi Jim,

Thanks for the nice note and picture. If you can send us a picture of the men pitching horseshoes I will send it into our National Horseshoe Pitching Magazine with a little story about the troops pitching horseshoes while waiting for orders in the Middle East. It makes a great story especially now that tension is so high.

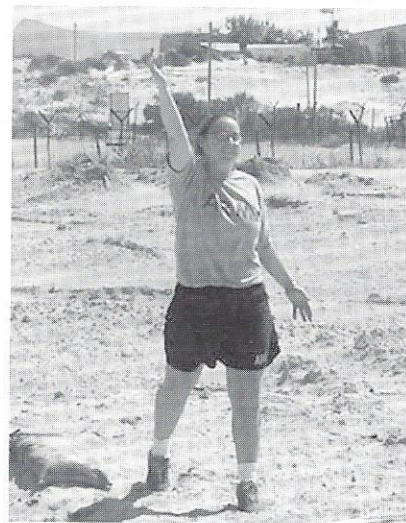
Thanks

Sincerely,  
Bob White

March 8, 2003

Mr. White,

We just completed our first tournament. We had nine teams enter, including the battalion commander Lieutenant Colonel Forrest Smith, and our Operations Officer, Major Clem Coward. They posted the most exciting win of the day over Staff Sergeant Cook and Specialist Sutton. MAJ Coward threw a ringer to win 21-18. Specialist Jeffrey Botts and Specialist Benjamin Kaiser outclassed the field with a 21-5 drubbing of another great team in the final match, Corporal Michael Rowley and Specialist Darrel Ertel. Both teams were from my unit, Alpha Battery, 5th Battalion, 7th Air Defense Artillery. Enclosed are some pictures, and how the brackets played out. You



have made this base camp a lot better with your contribution. On behalf of the commander, LTC Smith, I thank you again for your support of our troops.

Very Respectfully,  
James E. Zopelis  
Captain, United States Army  
Commanding Officer

# JOHN URBANC *by Dale Estep*

John Urbanc was a founding father of the Dallas Area Horseshoe Club. John loved his community as much as he loved the game of horseshoes. Those two loves merged at the Luzerne County Fair Grounds near Dallas, PA.

As 1976 approached, a gentleman by the name of Ray Greenlaw of Philadelphia decided that his hometown would be a fitting location for the 1976 NHPA World Tournament. In spite of the fact that John Urbanc lived in the little town of Lake Silkworth, approximately 100 miles away, he became one of Ray's staunchest supporters in the quest to bring the world tournament to Philadelphia.

Ray and John's dream became reality, and in 1976 the NHPA World Horseshoe Tournament was held in Bristol Township near Philadelphia. After that World Tournament John purchased Mr. Greenlaw's indoor horseshoe court building for \$1,400.00. For another \$100.00 John was able to have the dismantled building brought to Luzerne County. John was actively involved with the Luzerne County Fair Board and was able to arrange for the new "horseshoe building" to be placed on the Fair's property, thus becoming the first building on what is now the Luzerne County Fairgrounds. That same building remains the proud home of the Dallas Area Horseshoe Club.

In 1978 John arranged to add five regulation horseshoe courts next to the new horseshoe building. The project was completed with the help of several young men, including Al (Peanuts)

Long and Bernie Wierbowski. Over the next couple of years courts number six, seven and eight were added to complete the present day configuration of the Dallas facilities.

John was a regular participant at tournaments each summer and served as the Dallas Club Tournament Director until 1982 when Peanuts Long assumed the duty. John's love of community continued for years with his commitment to the Luzerne County Fair Grounds, the Lake Silkworth Fire Company, and the Dallas Area Horseshoe Club. Our community and our sport suffered a terrible loss when John died tragically in a house fire in 1998, but his memory lives on with all who were privileged to know him.

It is with the greatest respect that on June 15, 2002 the first annual John Urbanc Memorial Open tournament was held at the Luzerne County Fairgrounds, on the same courts that John's efforts made possible for future generations.

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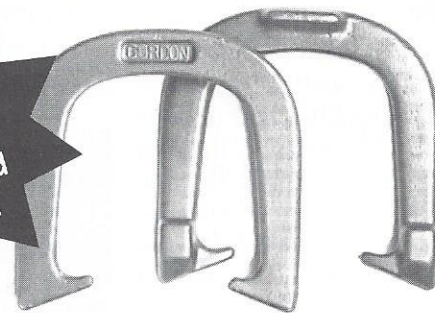
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3<sup>rd</sup> = \$40.00  
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1<sup>st</sup> = \$550.00 and Plaque    5<sup>th</sup> = \$80.00    9<sup>th</sup> = \$40.00  
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3<sup>rd</sup> = \$200.00    7<sup>th</sup> = \$60.00    11<sup>th</sup> = \$20.00  
4<sup>th</sup> = \$100.00    8<sup>th</sup> = \$50.00    12<sup>th</sup> = \$20.00

(Class "A" 30 ft. and 40 ft. play Saturday evening and Sunday afternoon.)

**FREE MONOGRAMMED TOWEL TO ALL ENTRANTS**

**COURTS:** 20 Court layout with full walkways. Located in Douglas Park just off I-74 at Bowman Ave. exit.

**ENTRY DEADLINE:** June 27<sup>th</sup>. Register online also at: [www.Active.com](http://www.Active.com) by June 24<sup>th</sup>.  
(Specific day requests considered but not guaranteed.)

**ENTRY FEE:** \$20.00 (includes scorekeeping fees). Make checks payable to: Danville Horseshoe Club. Prepayment preferred.  
Scorekeepers to be paid \$2.00 per game.

**SANCTION:** 29-03-001

**SEND ENTRIES TO:**

Leo Bratland  
41 Country Club Dr.  
Danville, IL 61832  
217-443-5818 (home)  
E-mail: [bratld@aol.com](mailto:bratld@aol.com)

Martin Drummond  
Box 195  
Perrysville, IN 47974  
765-793-4075 (home)

**PAST DANVILLE CHAMPS:**

1989 - 1 <sup>st</sup> Annual Open	Tari Powell, Rossville, IL	73.5%
1990 - 2 <sup>nd</sup> Annual Open	Sandy McLachlin, Dresden, Ont., Can.	84.5%
1991 - Spring Open	Tari Powell, Rossville, IL	79.8%
1991 - 3 <sup>rd</sup> Annual Open	Tari Powell, Rossville, IL	79.6%
1992 - 4 <sup>th</sup> Annual Open	Don Peters, Chenoa, IL	59.6%
1992 - August Open	Walter Ray Williams, Jr., Stockton, CA	83.0%
1993 - 5 <sup>th</sup> Annual Open	Larry Knop, Verona, IL	69.0%
1993 - August Open	Tari Powell, Rossville, IL	80.0%
1994 - 6 <sup>th</sup> Annual Open	Randy Hankins, Prospect, KY	63.8%
1994 - August Open	Cliff Baker, Sheldon, IL	72.3%
1995 - Pepsi Open	Dennis Reid, Bridgeview, IL	60.4%
1995 - 7 <sup>th</sup> Annual Open (Cocoa Cola)	Robert Hatten, Neoga, IL	70.7%
1996 - 8 <sup>th</sup> Annual Open	rained out	-----
1997 - 9 <sup>th</sup> Annual Open	Cliff Baker, Sheldon, IL	74.3%
1998 - 10 <sup>th</sup> Annual Open	Cliff Baker, Sheldon, IL	40 ft. 70.3%
	Curly Seibold, Huntington, IN	30 ft. 78.9%
1999 - 11 <sup>th</sup> Annual Open	Walter Ray Williams, Jr., Ocala, FL	40 ft. 86.1%
	Amy Francis, Defiance OH	30 ft. 84.1%
2000 - 12 <sup>th</sup> Annual Open	Mark Seibold, Huntington, IN	40 ft. 72.6%
	Robert Logan, Kouts, IN	30 ft. 79.9%
2001 - 13 <sup>th</sup> Annual Open	Alan Francis, Defiance, OH	40 ft. 85.4%
	Robert Logan, Kouts, IN	30 ft. 86.7%
2002 - 14 <sup>th</sup> Annual Open	Alan Francis, Defiance, OH	40 ft. 86.1%
	Robert Logan, Kouts, IN	30 ft. 79.0%

# NEWS FROM MINNESOTA *By Marlys Timm*

In the fall of 2001 our Minnesota Gopher State Horseshoe Pitchers Association (MGSHPA) voted to support the Make-A-Wish charity.

President Jerry LaBrosse and myself created and printed an Events Calendar which we sold to members to raise funds for Make-A-Wish. We listed all the 2002 tournaments, members' birthdays, weather facts, officers, and quotes and tidbits of useful information. We raised several hundred dollars.

In 2002 MN Clubs also donated \$1.00 per entry from their tournaments to Make-A-Wish. The Fridley Horseshoe Club has been very successful in raising funds from their tournament and auction they hold each summer raising many \$\$\$\$. It was their club who approached the state membership about full state support for Make-A-Wish.

MGSHPA took the next step and voted to "Adopt-A-Wish" and next month our

adopt-a-child, Christopher, who has cancer, and his parents will be going to Disney World. They were our guests at our State Tournament Awards Banquet held last fall.

Our Make-A-Wish Chairperson Jackie Hughes and MGSHPA President Jerry LaBrosse announced some great news to the board members at our meeting recently! They had just received the approval for MGSHPA to hold a "Wish Upon A Ringer" horseshoe toss at Canterbury Park Racetrack in Shakopee MN the weekend of June 7-8, 2003!!! We are thrilled!!! MGSHPA will have a huge banner promoting our sport and it will be shown on the JumboTron at the racetrack between races to several thousand horse racing fans! Our MN Hall of Fame Trailer will also be on display as well. Race fans will be trying their luck at pitching a ringer between races for prizes. Many of our MN pitchers will be volunteering their

weekend to work this event. Proceeds will be designated for the Make-A-Wish charity. This will give our sport the exposure it so richly deserves. As MN News Media Director, I felt this was worth sharing with the NHPA officers and members!

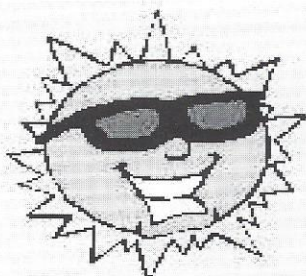
Please feel free to contact me if you want more information.

## HALL OF FAME QUIZ

### ANSWERS

1. Archie Gregson
2. Paul Focht.  
(The combined ringer % was 91.15%)
3. Carl Von Der Lancken
4. Ray Martin
5. Caroline Schultz Decker
6. Dale Dixon
7. Carl Steinfeldt
8. Arthur Adams
9. Mark Seibold
10. Ray Ohms
11. H. L. Ermatinger
12. Lucille Hopkins

## 8<sup>th</sup> Annual



# 2003 SummerFun Horseshoe Tournament

Newberry, South Carolina

**Friday, Saturday & Sunday, August 22-23-24**

Sponsored by: SCHPA and Newberry Parks and Recreation

**Marion-Davis Park**

- \$4,500 in Cash, Prizes and Trophies
- 12 player two day championship classes, 40' and 30' divisions
- Entry Fee \$20 (Additional \$5 for championship classes)
- Limited to 140 players, Deadline for Entries, August 4
- Doubles tournament on Thursday

Entry forms available at: [www.geocities.com/sc\\_hpa](http://www.geocities.com/sc_hpa)  
[www.horseshoepitching.com](http://www.horseshoepitching.com) (coming events)  
or contact tournament director:  
Ron Taylor at (803) 684-1453  
or email: [hawgjaw47@compouim.net](mailto:hawgjaw47@compouim.net)

Make checks to:  
SummerFun Horseshoe Tournament

Mail to:  
Ron Taylor  
1915 Molly Circle  
York, SC 29745



**NHPF GRANT APPLICATION FORM (page 1)**

Date of Application \_\_\_\_\_

This application is submitted by (name) \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing Address \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Fax \_\_\_\_\_ email \_\_\_\_\_

This application is submitted on behalf of (club, organization) \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_ City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_

Is this address the location where improvements would be made? Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_

If not, at what address \_\_\_\_\_

Who owns the property on which improvements will be made? \_\_\_\_\_

Does the owner know of this grant application? Y \_\_\_\_\_ N \_\_\_\_\_ If granted, will the owner be providing any additional funds? Y \_\_\_\_\_ N \_\_\_\_\_ Approximately how much? \_\_\_\_\_

Is this application time sensitive? Y \_\_\_\_\_ N \_\_\_\_\_ If yes, give reason why and the latest date a decision must be given to you. \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

---

*The balance of this page is for Official NHPF use only. Do not write in this area. Complete page 2 and provide the requested written description of your planned project.*

Date received \_\_\_\_\_ Assigned code # \_\_\_\_\_

Approved \_\_\_\_\_ Rejected \_\_\_\_\_ Date Applicant notified \_\_\_\_\_ by \_\_\_\_\_

If approved, amount of grant \$ \_\_\_\_\_ NHPF check # \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

**NHPF Grant Application Form (page 2) Assigned code # \_\_\_\_\_**

Our club is seeking a grant to assist in the construction of \_\_\_\_\_ new courts and the rework of \_\_\_\_\_ existing courts. We currently have \_\_\_\_\_ courts and will have \_\_\_\_\_ when finished. Our club currently has a total of \_\_\_\_\_ members of which \_\_\_\_\_ are juniors. Three years ago, our total membership was \_\_\_\_\_ including \_\_\_\_\_ Juniors. Of our total membership count, approximately \_\_\_\_\_ are active tournament pitchers. Our club has been operating since the year \_\_\_\_\_.

During the past twelve months, our club has hosted \_\_\_\_\_ NHPA sanctioned tournaments. For those tournaments, we averaged \_\_\_\_\_ entries. Three years ago, we hosted \_\_\_\_\_ sanctioned tournaments averaging \_\_\_\_\_ entries. We are / are not, (circle) currently affiliated with the NHPA Sanctioned Club/League program. Our sanction # is \_\_\_\_\_. In addition to our sanctioned play, we also host \_\_\_\_\_ non-sanctioned events a year.

In the past twelve months, we hosted \_\_\_\_\_ events for charity. Over the past three years, we have held \_\_\_\_\_ charitable events. Of that total, \_\_\_\_\_ were fund-raisers for the NHPF. We realize that the NHPF is a charitable entity and needs donations to operate. Therefore, if a grant is issued, we pledge to support the NHPF by holding at least \_\_\_\_\_ fund-raisers a year until the grant is paid back so the NHPF can continue to support other clubs in need.

The total estimated cost of our project is \$\_\_\_\_\_. We would like the NHPF to grant us \$\_\_\_\_\_ but would appreciate \$\_\_\_\_\_ as a minimum. What we don't receive from the NHPF will come from other sources explained below.

*On the reverse side or another page, briefly describe your planned project and how NHPF financial support of it will better promote organized horseshoe pitching and increase membership for your club and the NHPA. When complete, mail all pages of this application to: The NHPF, 6233 Woodman Drive, Oroville, CA 95966*

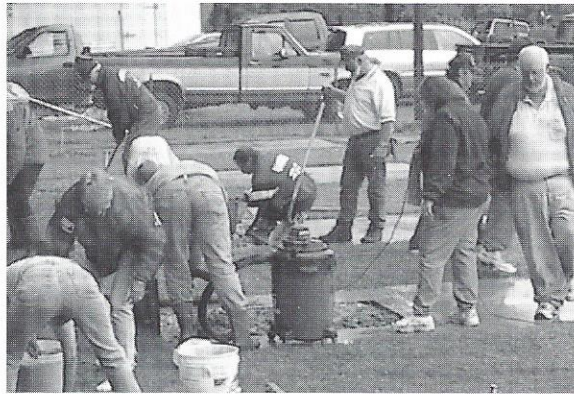
# HORSESHOES DON'T FLOAT by Dale Estep

June 15, 2002 was to be a weekend of firsts. It was the First John Urbanc Memorial Open, honoring a founding father of the Dallas Area Horseshoe Club in Pennsylvania. It was also the first time we were using the new Horseshoe Master tournament software. It was the first time our friends Tom Decker (Pennsylvania Class A State Champion) and Alan Overbaugh, (New York Class A Pitcher) would pitch each other. We even had a new friend coming to compete all the way from Maryland. It was the first tournament at our newly renovated grounds with a covered picnic pavilion; it was even the first time that we were providing strawberry shortcake as an item on our kitchen menu. And last but not least, it was my first time serving as Tournament Director. Five full 8-person classes signed up for our tournament. What could possibly go wrong?

After an extremely dry spring, and with summer drought warnings in place, it finally started raining the week before the tournament. And it rained, and rained, and rained. I nervously checked the courts on Wednesday before the tournament and found them still usable. However, when club members arrived Friday evening for our pre-tournament picnic/work session we found water pooling on the courts and three of the pits under water. Everyone jumped in to help and we soon had the pits dry. Despite our best efforts, an annoying little puddle of water remained at the base of the new retaining wall and water was continuing to seep into the area. However, with some good

old Yankee ingenuity, we placed a garden hose in the pool and generated a siphon to keep the water draining over the bank beyond the courts. We left the fairgrounds about 9:00 P.M. Friday night.

It started raining about midnight and continued until dawn. When we arrived at the courts early Saturday morning, the rain had finally stopped but we found four pits under water and water gushing into the courts in several locations. A group of



out-of-town pitchers, who camped at the fairgrounds the night before, was already working on drying out the courts. Our local contingent of six joined in and with the help of a shop-vac, shovels, sponges and a bucket brigade we were able to get the tournament's first two

classes started by about 8:15.

The next rain held off until almost 9:30, when the skies opened up again. We covered the pits and hurried to the protection of our new picnic pavilion. We watched helplessly as the deluge

*continued on page 28*



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(508) 865-9477

# HORSESHOES DON'T **FLOAT**

*continued from page 27*

washed our morning's valiant efforts away. I told the group we would stand-by for a while, as it was our intent to complete the tournament if possible. I was becoming worried because there were two more classes scheduled at 1:00 P.M. and a final class scheduled at 5:00 P.M. After a few more minutes of torrential rain, I suggested that with some creative use of our indoor courts, we could keep at least one class competing while we waited for the weather to clear. Everyone agreed and we resumed the tournament inside with 8 pitchers competing on 2 courts.

After about 45 minutes the rains stopped. However, six of the eight courts were under water, and water was continuing to pour into the area. Everyone pitched (sorry!) in to help. A second shop vac appeared, and we also purchased a sump pump. A bucket brigade was formed and push brooms were used to pool the water. Two of us started digging diversion ditches, one to keep the water from running into the courts, and one to drain the water already in place.

A channel was dug six inches wide and six inches deep right across the lawn between courts three and four. As soon as the channel reached the bank, water started flowing out of the courts. That channel ran full for almost 16 hours and we named it "Peanuts Creek" in honor of long-time member Peanuts Long. There was even some talk of stocking it with trout and holding a multi-functional tournament.

By around 11:00 A.M. we had four courts usable and play resumed for the patient (and tired) pitchers. Because of the delay we shortened the remaining games to forty shoes.

Those of us not pitching continued to work on the other flooded courts and by 1:30 P.M. we were able to start the next two classes. We explained to the arriving Class A pitchers that we had consulted with the PGA, and after learning that water hazards were a normal part of golf tournaments, we decided to include water hazards in our tournament as well. Everyone took the soggy conditions in stride, even though by then we were using pit covers as pontoon bridges between courts seven and eight!

Up until Saturday afternoon, we had just been dealing with rain. The thunderstorm didn't arrive until about 3:30 P.M., when most pitchers were into their third game. We covered the pits, and ran to the now familiar cover of our picnic pavilion. I started my group discussion with "we have had some recent experience with this situation...." And quickly got Class A pitching inside. It was close to 5:00 P.M. before we were able to resume Class B pitching outside. Conditions were very soggy

but we did get four courts into usable condition. As we strove to finish Class B, it again started to rain gently, but no one even seemed to notice. We finished Class B about 7:30 P.M., nearly six hours after it began.

But what about Class E scheduled to start at 5:00 P.M.? By then I had given up on being able to have them pitch outside; we had simply lost the battle.



Since some of the Class E pitchers had arrived the night before and had helped valiantly throughout the day I didn't have the heart to cancel the class. I offered them the option of pitching inside when Class A finished at approximately 5:30 P.M. Everyone agreed and the plan would have worked perfectly, except that Class A ended in a three-way tie! By the time the two playoff games were decided, of course utilizing our inside courts, it was after 7:00 P.M.

We shortened the Class E games to forty shoes and would have been

finished the tournament by 11:00 P.M. if it hadn't been for the tie for first place that required still another play-off game. We finished the tournament just before midnight, exhausted but satisfied that we "Got It In"!

There is a slide show on the Easter Pennsylvania web site at [www.pennshoes.com](http://www.pennshoes.com) that is as heart warming, as it is funny. Several slides show large groups of people helping us beat the odds. Our Dallas Club members worked non-stop to make sure the tournament was a success. But just as impressive was the effort of folks from other clubs who put their backs into the task at hand and helped us make the best of a truly bad situation. It is an honor to be associated with the type of folks that give so selflessly.

And oh, by the way, the new tournament software is fantastic. The showdown between New York and Pennsylvania Class A was everything we hoped for, even including a three-way tie for first at the end of regulation play. The strawberry shortcake was a huge hit.

And what about my first experience as Tournament Director? It was awesome to see so many people, some of whom were strangers before that soggy day, help to insure that the tournament was a success. Thanks!

The following week...

My wife and I pitched at Reedsville, PA. At the start of her first game, a total stranger walked over to her



court and dumped a half a bucket of water into her pit, totally flooding it. Lee looked at him puzzled and asked him what he was doing. He grinned and said, "I heard you are from Dallas, I just wanted to make you feel at home!"

# THE TOLL OF TIME

**Ruth E. Hangen**  
New York

Ruth E. Hangen, a horseshoe pitching champion known nationally as "Ringer Ruth," died March 27, 2003 in her Getzville home while under hospice care. She was 86. A Buffalo native, the former Ruth Schuster attended East High School and lived in Amherst most of her life.

Her husband, Harry J., introduced her to throwing the iron shoes. For years, she pitched against men - at a 40-foot distance - gaining strength and skills. When she started competing against women, who threw from 30 feet, her success in tournaments escalated and her husband became her coach.

"Ringer Ruth" was world horseshoe champion five times in the 1970s. She also held 10 Eastern regional championships and 16 Empire State titles. She was inducted into the New York Horseshoe Hall of Fame, the National Horseshoe Hall of Fame and, in 1992, the Greater Buffalo Sports Hall of Fame.

In tournament play, Mrs. Hangen tossed 42 consecutive ringers, a world record that stood for 12 years. She held many world records over the years, including pitching a game of 95 percent ringers - a feat that was noted in the Guinness Book of Records.

She was 70 years old in 1987 when she won the St. Louis National Senior Olympic finals horseshoe pitching championship without an opponent scoring against her.

"I had to convince her to go to that," said her son John. "She came in at top form as a world champion. These were some of the shortest games; the game would be over in two minutes."

But her interest in sports and fitness had started decades before she pitched horseshoes. She was a longtime bowler in the Classic Leagues and a square/line dancer.

Mrs. Hangen enjoyed appearing on television quiz and talk shows related to her specialty, and pitching against unsuspecting dignitaries at fund-raising events.

She also did exhibitions where she would pitch blindfolded or over a barricade where she couldn't see the stake, her son said. She also used her husband in some exhibitions, having him stand astride the stake.

In later years, she taught horseshoe pitching at the Amherst Senior Center.

She also enjoyed gardening, raising a great variety of flowers around her home. Her favorites were orchids, with the most recent blooms named after her granddaughters.

Her husband of 60 years died in 1993.

Survivors include two sons, Harry of Gasport and John of Harrison, Ark.; two daughters, Esther Glaser of Clarence and Ruth Cicotta of Penfield; nine grandchildren; and three great-grandchildren.

**George "Mike" Donovan**  
New Hampshire

George "Mike" Donovan, 67, of Manchester, New Hampshire died March 4, 2003 after a period of declining health.

Mike, as all knew him, will be missed for his friendly, cheerful personality on and off the courts. He was the New Hampshire State Champion in 1987, and in 1995 was inducted into its Hall of Fame. The fun and competitiveness Mike had for the sport of horseshoes was always evident. Even though he struggled these last few years with a disabling illness he continued to pitch, giving it his all, this courageous enthusiasm was an inspiration to everyone.

Until his retirement, International Paper had employed him as a machine operator.

He leaves his wife Simone, three sons, two daughters, six grandchildren, a brother and a sister. All will miss him.

**Monte Herreman**

January 5, 1913 - March 1, 2003

Monte Herreman, a lifetime resident of Rapid City SD, lost his battle with cancer at the age of 90. Monte completed his BS in Zoology at South Dakota State University in 1935, and received his MS in Entomology in 1937. He married Barbara Goode in 1939. They moved to Rapid City at that time.

Monte was commissioned as a 2nd Lieutenant in the US Army in 1935 and saw wartime service in Europe with the 13th Airborne Division. He later served as Chief of the Manpower Division and Deputy State Director for the South Dakota Selective Service System. He retired from the Army in 1970, after 35 1/2 years of service.

Monte was very active and competitive. He was an NHPA member for 31 years. Monte was a Class A pitcher for many years. He rarely missed a tournament in western South Dakota. He and Barbara were inducted in the South Dakota Horseshoe Pitchers Hall of Fame in 1993. Monte was also inducted into the Rapid City Men's Bowling Association Hall of Fame in 1995.

Monte was the elder statesman for horseshoes in South Dakota. He was a gentleman both on and off the court. Monte will be missed by all that knew him.

**Vincent B. MAURICIO, Sr.**

San Jose, California

Vincent passed in his home in San Jose, CA on Saturday, March 29, 2003 at the age of 83. He was a husband of 54 years to Pascuala Mauricio and a father of seven. He was also the grandfather of 17 and great-grandfather of five. He is also survived by a brother and three sisters. He was a WWII Veteran of the US Army. Vincent was a longtime member of the San Jose Golden Eagles Horseshoe Club and Sgt. of Arms for CCA. In his many years he enjoyed music, dancing, golf, poker in his game room and especially loved all family gatherings.

**Bronson (Pop) Gentry, Sr.**

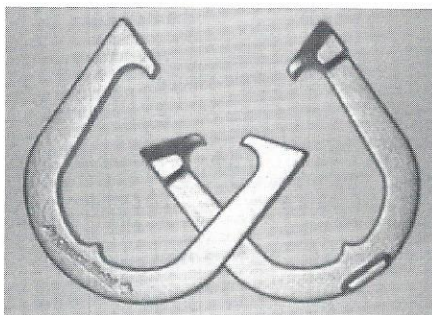
Michigan

"Pop" Gentry of Detroit, died at the age of 78 on March 3rd. Pop dedicated his entire life to making life better for the youth of his neighborhood and was honored with a park being named for him (Maheras-Gentry Park). Pop was responsible for introducing the game of horseshoes to many, men and women, young and old throughout his lifetime. He was inducted into the Wolverine State Horseshoe Pitchers Hall of Fame in 1995 and was made a charter lifetime member in 2002. The many people who's lives he touched will miss him greatly.

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The following is a list of all NHPA Regional Directors and the states or territory they cover. Those of you who travel and want to get out-of-area tournament information, are encouraged to contact the appropriate Regional Director. Each RD maintains a full list of all NHPA sanctioned tournaments in their area. If your travel plans call for stops in several states and you need multiple site information, you might want to write the NHPA 1<sup>st</sup> Vice-President who is in charge of all RDs. He should have copies of all the state schedules. The address for the 1<sup>st</sup> VP can be found on page 3 of this publication.

REGION	REGIONAL DIRECTOR				
26. Alabama	<b>Ron Kindrick</b> 678 Williamson Kindrick Trail Eclectic, AL 36024 (334) 541-2720 ron@cnielectronics.com	31. Indiana	<b>Jim Shilling</b> 5044A CR 64 Spencerville, IN 46788 (260) 238-4879	40. North Carolina	<b>Wayne Roope</b> 358 Roop Road Hays, NC 28635 (336) 957-8396
52. Alaska	<b>Pete Imhof</b> 9031 Tern Drive Palmer, AK 99645 (907) 746-2030	24. Iowa	<b>C. Leo Buell</b> 1809 Lakeside Drive Iowa City, IA 52240 (319) 338-8256 clbic52@willinet.net	15. North Dakota	<b>Clint Bryson</b> 901 Custer Street Belle Fourche, SD 57717 (605) 892-2195
10. Arizona	<b>Ernie Swann</b> 1875 E. Junction Apache Junction, AZ 85219 (480) 982-8001 L.A.Swann@worldnet.att.net	18. Kansas	<b>Bernie VanLerberg</b> 12419 142 <sup>nd</sup> Street Bonner Springs, KS 66012 (913) 422-7095	36. Ohio	<b>Dan Sanders</b> 6687 Merwin Road Columbus, OH 43235 (614) 761-3357
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61-72. Canada	<b>Jack Adams</b> 35 O'Neil Crescent Saskatoon, SK Canada S7N 1W7 (306) 373-5184	42. Maryland	See Delaware	50. Rhode Island	See Connecticut
13. Colorado	<b>Don Conklin</b> 898 Sycamore Avenue Boulder, CO 80303 (303) 499-9091	48. Massachusetts	See Connecticut	41. South Carolina	<b>Ron Taylor</b> 1915 Molly Circle York, SC 29745 (803) 684-1453
49. Connecticut	<b>George St. Pierre</b> 25 Leefort Terrace Salem, MA 01970 (978) 744-3110	30. Michigan	<b>Steve Summerlin</b> P.O. Box 536 Webberville, MI 48892 (517) 521-1262 ssummerlin@cablespeed.com	16. South Dakota	See North Dakota
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35. Florida	<b>Ron Deckard</b> 7302 Brookview Circle Tampa, FL 33634 (813) 884-2932	25. Mississippi	See Alabama	22. Texas	<b>Randy Collins</b> 3902 Ravenwood Bryan, TX 77802 (979) 776-1148
34. Georgia	<b>Jerome Kennedy</b> Rt. 2, Box 1315 Hawkinsville, GA 31036 (478) 892-3885	19. Missouri	<b>Elwyn Cooper</b> 6920 N.W. 78 <sup>th</sup> Street Kansas City, MO 64152 (816) 741-0043	9. Utah	<b>Bud Schardine</b> 354 Brookside Drive Springville, UT 84663 (801) 489-6351
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		47. New Hampshire	See Connecticut	37. West Virginia	<b>Ken Wilhelm</b> 405 Stealy Avenue Clarksburg, WV 26301 (304) 622-1265
		51. New Jersey	<b>Ed Quigley</b> 27 Mountain Avenue Pompton Plains, NJ 07444 (973) 839-0946	28. Wisconsin	<b>Jim Haupt</b> 5075 N. Elkhart Avenue Milwaukee, WI 53217 (414) 964-2735
		14. New Mexico	<b>David Romero</b> P.O. Box 10329 Albuquerque, NM 87184 (505) 899-7140 dsrom@aol.com	12. Wyoming	<b>Pat Bacus</b> 440 W. 3 <sup>rd</sup> Lovell, WY 82431 (307) 548-6593
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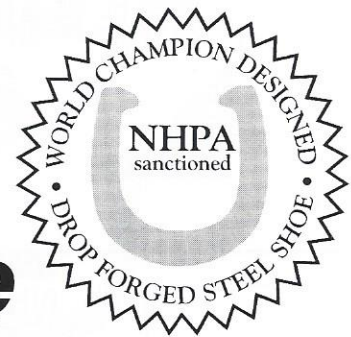
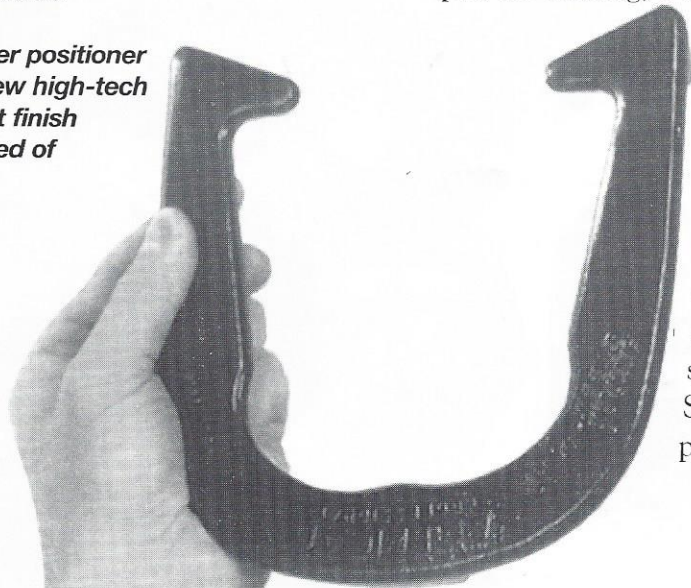
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