



# Horseshoe Pitching **NEWSLINE**

Official Publication of the National Horseshoe Pitchers Association

VOL. 18, NO. 1

JANUARY/FEBRUARY 2006

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## 2005 Sanctioned League Tournament



**Edinburgh, Indiana**

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# TOURNAMENT TRAVEL CONTACTS

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.

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Official Publication of the National Horseshoe Pitchers Association

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## COVER PHOTO

Twelve teams competed in the 2005 Sanctioned League Tournament held on October 8th & 9th, 2005 at Edinburgh, Indiana. See pages 5, 28 for article and results.

# PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE by Paul Stewart

As we start a new year; let us, the NHPA Council, be among the first to wish each and every one of you a healthy and prosperous 2006. We are, as I'm sure all of you are, looking ahead with optimism for a new and greater year in horseshoe pitching.

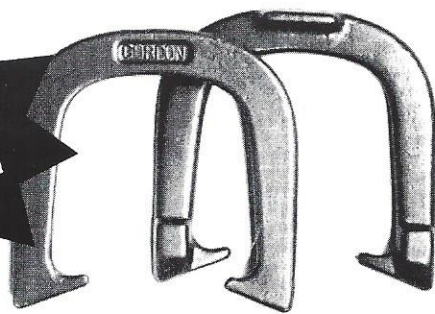
The Executive Council has scheduled their annual winter meeting for January 20<sup>th</sup> and 21<sup>st</sup> at the Villages in Florida. This was the location of our 2004 meeting and we were very pleased with the facilities provided us at one of their community reaction centers. We would like to extend our thanks to Ron Hopman of the Villages for making arrangements for us to use these facilities again this year. The agenda for the meeting is filling up fast and will certainly take the full two days planned for the meeting.

We have been in constant communication with Rex Brown, Jori Johnson and Barbara Steele of the Gillette, Wyoming Cam-Plex, site of the 2006 World Tournament. With the experience of hosting a very successful 1996 World Tournament and with almost the same crew still involved as before, everything at the Cam-Plex seems to be going smoothly and on schedule. We are expecting an even greater tournament in Gillette this year than we had in 1996 where we had fifteen hundred and thirty-six participants. Again this year we have received comments about motel rates and gas prices. I wish we could lower them both! But it's a fact of life that each

year we will be talking about these same high prices and they will never be any cheaper than the current year. So go ahead and make your plans for spending some fun filled days with friends and horseshoe pitchers at the 2006 World Tournament in Gillette, Wyoming. The dates again are July 10-22.

On a recent visit to St. Charles County Missouri, I visited the planned site of our new Hall of Fame to be located in Quail Ridge Park. This is probably the most beautiful and fitting site that we could have ever asked to have for our Hall of Fame. I also visited the St. Charles County Sports Hall of Fame located at a very nice baseball park in the town of St. Charles. I was very impressed with this Sports Hall of Fame and got some very good ideas about how we can display some of our memorabilia in our Hall of Fame when it is completed. I also visited the current storage location of our Hall of Fame memorabilia and can report that it is in very good condition and safe in a heated and air conditioned building with security. Just to let everyone know, we had to move all of the Hall of Fame memorabilia from the Hall of Fame building in Joelton back to Missouri in September; the reason being that the electricity and utilities at Joelton had been turned off and there was no longer a caretaker there for security.

Again, Happy New Year to all and I am looking forward to seeing each of you on the courts soon.



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# SANCTIONED CLUB/LEAGUE REPORT by Lorraine Sternberg

The second National Sanctioned Club/League Tournament was held October 8<sup>th</sup> & 9<sup>th</sup> at Edinburg, Indiana. It was a beautiful fall weekend. The Atterbury facility holds eighteen indoor courts. This was my first time there and I have to say I was very impressed. When I walked in the door at 7:00 a.m. Saturday morning there were pitchers already there even though the tournament was not starting till 8:30 a.m. They were sitting at tables having coffee and breakfast and just visiting. Ron Womack, the league director from the New Castle Horseshoe Club responsible for arranging the tournament at the Atterbury facility greeted me and my husband, Terry, and showed us around. It was a great pitching facility. The only disappointing thing – only thirteen teams entered the tournament.

With an odd number of teams entered, it meant changing the format some what from the first tournament in order to have all the team pitch the same number of games. We made it a round robin of all teams playing every team. Player # 1 would play player #1 on the opposing team, player #2 would play player #2 and player #3 would play player #3.

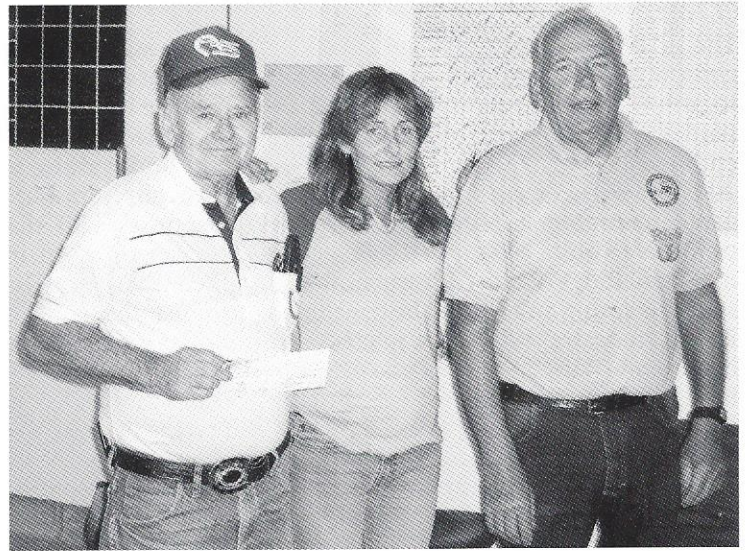
Right before the tournament there was a team that had to drop out. This left twelve teams, but with everything ready to go for thirteen teams we left it as is and had two byes. It all worked out and meant we had a few more scorekeepers.

After the first four games on Saturday we broke for lunch. The kitchen served up some great chili and burgers. Round two was five games in the afternoon. Everyone kept moving right along and by 4:00 p.m. we were finished for the day.

Saturday night Terry and Homer Caine, along with his whole gang from Oklahoma, put on a barbeque for all the pitchers. There was plenty of food and a very enjoyable evening.

Sunday morning all the teams returned to finish up the tournament with the last round of four games. The tournament concluded by 11:15 a.m. The big winners were the Welles Park team from Illinois, taking home \$500 and a team plaque. Each player on the team also received a

plaque. The Stroh Club from Indiana placed second taking home \$300. Third place, along with \$200, went to Marion HSC from Indiana. Ron Womack, from the New Castle Club had high game over average and received \$40. Curly Seibold from the Marion Club had high game of 88% and high average for the tournament, 70.36%



**Winners of the 2005 Sanctioned League Tournament**  
Welles Park, IL, Dalton Simmons, Hallie Romanelli and Richard Andrysiak

After all the awards were given out, everyone was on the road for home by 12:30. The word was as everyone was leaving, "See you next year". It may have been small in numbers, but it was a fun tournament and a great success. The suggestion box was pretty much full with "let's do it again". So that is what we are going to do. Next year's dates are September 30 & October 1, 2006. Same place.

I want to thank Ron Womack for all his help in keeping the National Sanctioned Club/League Tournament going.

The holidays will be over and we will be into 2006 by the time you read this. Not too sure where 2005 went, but it's gone. So now that we are into the winter months, some of us will just be able to think about horseshoes and dream about all the ringers that will come our way next summer. But there is still a lot

of horseshoe games being played during the cold months of winter; so for those of you who have winter leagues, keep in mind even if you started your league back in October, all pitchers should have a 2006 membership card.

At our January council meeting we will be awarding the Scholarships. The names of the scholarship winners will be published in the next issue along with the Top Ten. A few dates that you may want to put on your new 2006 calendar are World Tournament – July 10-22 at Gillette, Wyoming and the Sanctioned Club/League Tournament, September 30<sup>th</sup> and October 1<sup>st</sup>. These are two great NHPA events that you won't want to miss out on. So make your plans early.

**I would like to wish all of you  
a very HAPPY NEW YEAR!**

## For Sale

The Men's and Women's final standings from 1909-2005, which includes the highest ringer percentage and longest game of most of the players in each class. This can be yours for \$35.00 American or \$40.00 Canadian. Checks can be made out to: Lombard W. Sargent and mailed to:

P.O. Box 24, Gotha, FL 34734-0024

# NHPF NEWS VIEWS & DONATIONS

by Dave Loucks

The NHPA Hall of Fame memorabilia currently being stored in a secured location should find its way to a new permanent home in Missouri by the end of this year. On November 28, 2005, the St. Charles County Council gave unanimous approval to the NHPF proposal to build a 27,000+ sq. ft. facility in Quail Ridge Park. Construction will start this spring and should be concluded in 6-8 months. When completed, the heated and air-conditioned facility will have a large Hall of Fame and Museum room, a food center, restrooms, offices, storage rooms, 24 indoor clay courts and another eight courts outdoors for use by the general public. The NHPF will construct this facility with funds from its treasury and proceeds from the sale of its Joelton, TN property. The County is providing a 3-acre site with a thirty-year lease at \$100 per year. There are three 10-year renewal options included. In addition, St. Charles County will be investing \$300,000 to grade, landscape and pave a 170-car parking lot, which the County will maintain.

Needless to say, the NHPA and NHPF Directors are very excited about this wonderful opportunity. The 200 member strong New Melle Horseshoe Club will be the caretakers of the facility which will be open to the general public without charge at least four days a week. Pitching instruction and league play will be available and NHPA sanctioned events will be scheduled throughout the year. There has already been an encouraging amount of press on this project and some inquiries received about sponsorship opportunities. Naturally, every lead will be followed-up and we intend to offer the NHPA membership an opportunity to own a small piece of the facility. In the next month or two, members will receive a personal mailing about the project and be given the opportunity of buying a commemorative engraved brick in the *Walk of Fame* or the planned *Jack Freeman Memorial Plaza*.

In the last Newsline issue, I mentioned that some changes were being contemplated in the listing of contributors and the State Rankings list. I asked to hear from readers with their opinions on whether they felt showing the names of contributors and the State Rankings list was detrimental to contributions. Regrettably, I heard from only 17 people

but in somewhat of a surprise, all were in favor of continuing to name contributors and the level of donations by State. Some suggested ways to modify the lists but still honor those who support the sport through contributions. The majority of responses said that the State Rankings list serves as an incentive to them and their charter... Thus, we shall continue to list the contributors with modified dollar categories and for most Newsline issues, show just the top ten or fifteen states though a complete state listing will appear at least once a year. Remember those that do not wish their name to be shown can request to be anonymous.

With the Hall of Fame construction project in Missouri now scheduled, it becomes very important that we receive a steady flow of contributions to assure its success. Our Hall of Fame members and the historical memorabilia of the game will have a highly visible home at the crossroads of America that all NHPA members can be proud of. Take this opportunity to show your support by sending a tax-deductible contribution to the NHPF at P.O. Box 1628, Penn Valley, CA 95946. Those that donate \$25 or more will receive an acknowledgement letter of thanks.

The following contributions were received during October and November.

#### Donating \$10-99

Art Moran, MN  
Platteville HPA, WI  
Mylan Park HPC, WV  
Charles Bunner, WV  
Blind Pigs H.C., NC  
Judith Hales, OH \*  
Sodbusters H.P.C., VT  
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Half Moon Bay H.C., CA  
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New Haven H.C., CT  
Calvin Jaeger, MO  
Richard Timmer, IL  
NHPA CL/LG Team Tournament

#### Donating \$300-499

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#### Donating \$500-999

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#### Donating \$1000-up

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\*\* In Memory of Hercules Renda  
\*\*\* In Memory of Ollie Clementz  
\*\*\*\* In Honor of Dennis Ohms

NHPA MMA Interest Rcvd, \$185

## The Top 15 Contributing States in number and dollars contributed

	Contributors	Donations	\$
1.	CA 93	204	\$22,745
2.	TN 30	61	\$20,552
3.	NC 26	130	\$13,710
4.	MO 50	98	\$11,516
5.	MN 39	202	\$11,185
6.	OR 21	72	\$10,403
7.	WI 29	98	\$8,660
8.	MI 45	106	\$8,052
9.	CO 23	62	\$6,861
10.	GA 15	20	\$6,770
11.	FL 41	62	\$4,913
12.	MA 10	14	\$4,730
13.	PA 27	51	\$4,249
14.	WA 30	55	\$4,240
15.	IL 39	72	\$4,068

# Horseshoe Pitching Facts and Folklore



By Bob Dunn

## HUGHIE PALMER ONE OF OUR FIRST CELEBRITY PITCHERS

By Bob Dunn and Gary Kline

No doubt our first horseshoe pitching celebrity was Frank Jackson. Several heroes and celebrities appeared as the world tournaments were established. But as the world tournaments were forming and other states were starting to hold state tournaments, the state of Ohio had already held a number of state events. And Ohio had a hero, an icon of the sport. To get the whole story of Hughie Palmer, a request needed to be made to recent Hall of Fame inductee and NHPA historian, Gary Kline. Gary did a super job by providing a copy of an actual newspaper article dedicated to Mr. Palmer. This material is taken from a 1935 newspaper article by Phil Detrich (Akron, Ohio).

We learn as we read about Hughie Palmer, not only was he a champion pitcher, he influenced the game through other pitchers. In the newspaper article that Gary provided, Palmer is credited for introducing the 'turn shoe'. For those keeping track, it now appears that Mr. Palmer preceded Mr. May for that honor.

### HUGHIE PALMER

Hughie Palmer was born in Durham, England in 1856. He moved to America at the age of 26, with skills in pitching quoits. Despite his proficiency in quoits, he wasn't satisfied; he sensed the possibilities in horseshoes as a substitute, a more practical substitute, so Palmer began experiencing.

The ordinary shoes used on horses weren't heavy enough. Hughie had Towsley, a veteran blacksmith, forge a pair, carrying more heft in the calks and heel. The new shoes presented a new problem from that of pitching quoits. He soon overcame it. By holding the shoes a certain way, Hughie discovered that they would revolve  $1\frac{1}{4}$  times and carry to the peg with the opening forward. Dropping on ringers became relatively easy.

"He could," said his son Jack Palmer, "lay a piece of paper the size of a dime at the point where he wanted his shoe to land, and cut it half."

In 1918, when Hughie was 62 years of age, an Ohio State Championship tourney was held and the grizzled pitcher

finally got his chance. He met horseshoe artists, some of them young enough to be his grandsons, but the years that stiffened his joints had not taken the cool accuracy of his game. Hughie won the state title.

The following summer he represented B.F. Goodrich Company in the national tournament at Gary Indiana, and again beat off the challenge of the youngsters.

However, it wasn't in the books for Hughie to win the prize he coveted most - a national horseshoe crown. Sensing youth would eventually overcome age, the granddaddy of barnyard golf might of kept the secret of the open shoe to himself, but Hughie like Barrie's Bill Crichton, played the game, he passed on his knowledge on to others.

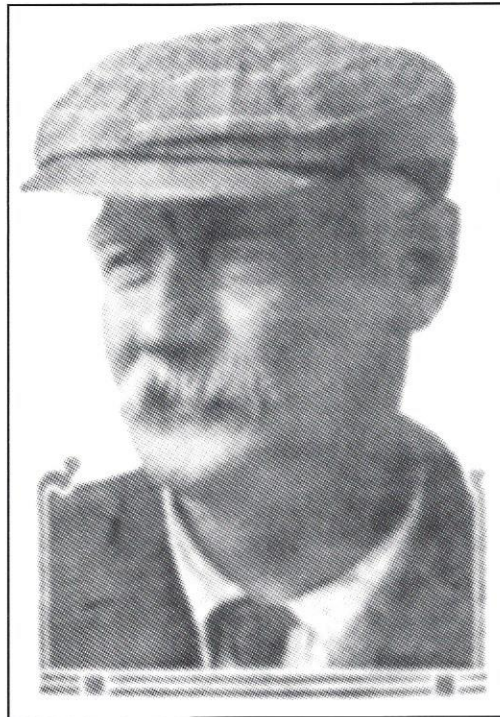
Akron firemen stationed at the No. 1 engine house on Broadway between Mill and Market Streets, took up horseshoe pitching and Hughie began to pay frequent visits to their courts. There he met, among others, a brawny armed fellow whose name was George May.

That was in 1919. May had just become interested in the game and Hughie liking the chap, took him in hand. William Weis (*history note- Weis was the NHPA's first president in 1919*)

another horseshoe-minded Akronite, gave May a pair of regulation shoes. The lessons began.

May proved an apt pupil. Spring gave way to summer's blazing sunshine and, behind the firehouse, he perspired over hour upon hour of pitching. The skin on his thumb and two forefingers toughened and his open shoes rang a merry tune of ringers. Palmer, grand old war horse that he was, smiled over his pupil's progress, even while the death knell sounded to his hopes for further conquest.

Teacher and pupil entered the state championship at Columbus, Ohio, that summer. Palmer was the defending champion but his pitching arm did not match that of the new phenom he had developed. The two met, the best



HUGHIE PALMER

six games out of 11 and May swept away to overwhelming victory – six straight games!

St. Petersburg, Florida, was the scene of a national tournament in February 1920. Hughie spent days and weeks and months over his shoes. They seemed to work as well as ever, so he entrained for the south.

Other great horseshoe pitchers were there. Joe Wilkinson and Scotty Rowan, both of Akron were in the lists, and George May was on hand.

The odds were too great, Hughie Palmer was forced to be content with fourth place finish behind May in first and Rowan and Fred Brust of Columbus in a tie for second. Palmer a disappointment in his heart but a smile on his lips, congratulated his conquerors and returned home.

George May will tell you that Palmer was the cleanest sport he ever knew. "I should have liked him to win a national title" he says, a note of regret, "But youth got ahead of age there."

The aged sportsman had been pensioned by the Goodrich Company a short time before 33 years of service and its predecessor, the Diamond Rubber. He lived for his horseshoes.

Hughie wanted one of his four sons to follow in his footsteps, but none of them cared enough for the game. Jackie Palmer became instead the bantamweight boxing champion of Ohio, and his son Jackie Jr. went on to take the Akron title in the same weight division. So Hughie in any event became the patriarch of a sporting family.

He was the oldest champion in any branch of the sport in the country with the possible exception of the ancient pedestrian, Edward Payson Weston.

"Dad was more a playmate than a father," Jackie, gray-haired himself, recalls with a faint smile. "Despite his years, he was still a pretty fair hand on a baseball diamond or in a swimming pool." "Up until his death, he had a horseshoe court in the back yard. I guess he never gave up on the hope of turning one of his boys into a pitcher. Why the November before he died, dad was coaching me in the 1¼ and 1¾ turns."

Hughie Palmer contracted pneumonia and died March 6, 1935. Barnyard golf lost its granddaddy.

*The state of Ohio provided an incredible list of founders and star pitchers in the formation of our sport. In the years that followed there was Donnie Roberts. This article is dedicated to his memory.*

---

# NHPA PERFECT GAMES UPDATE

*Submitted by Walter Ray Williams, Jr.*

Since last published, the following perfect games have been reported.

<u>Player – State</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Opponent</u>	<u>Shoes</u>	<u>Division</u>
Sylvianne Moisan-PQ	05/25/2003	Wellesley, ON	Tenesia Mayer	28	W
Bill Marvin-IL	08/30/2003	IL (State)	Charles R. Norris	22	3
Marvin Kramer-IL	08/30/2003	IL (State)	Charles R. Norris	22	3
Tamara Burke-WV	09/06/2003	Winchester, VA	Tonya Hix	18	W
Joan Elmore-TN	09/06/2003	TN (State)	Adeline Foster	24	W
Sylvianne Moisan-PQ	05/29/2004	Wellesley, ON	Tenesia Mayer	16	W
Marvin Kramer-IL					
Frank Bohun-PA	11/07/2004	Erie, PA	John Perry	22	3
Joan Elmore-TN	05/28/2005	Grossville, TN	Dexter Stallings	18	W
Joe McCrink-NJ	05/28/2005	Middlesex, NJ	Bud Esposito	32	M
Alan Francis-OH	07/04/2005	Greenville, OH	Jim Walters	32	M
Alan Francis-OH	07/29/2005	Bakersfield, CA	Buddy Dydra	30	M

This list may be incomplete if a State Charter has not reported a perfect game. Send any sanctioned perfect game pitched to the address below. Please send a copy of the scoresheet, making sure it has the location where it was pitched, the date it was pitched and the last names of both pitchers.

NHPA Statistician  
PMB #171  
303 SE 17<sup>th</sup> ST #309  
Ocala, FL 34471



# INSURANCE *by Bonnie Seibold*


The Insurance Certificates for each charter will be sent to your Charter secretary by the end of December. I will be including the following in the packet.

1. 2006 Certificate of Insurance for your Charter
2. A claim form
3. Envelope for filing claim
4. Description of General Coverage
5. Request form for added Insurance Certificate

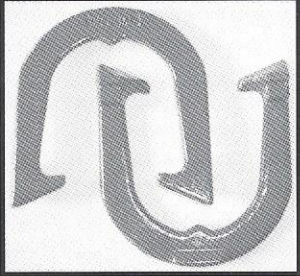
So, if you need any of these forms you could contact your Charter Secretary and they could make you a copy.

A few things you should remember:

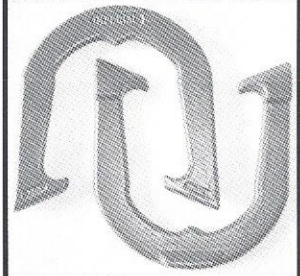
1. The NHPA Insurance only covers sanctioned events. This means that everyone who participates must be an NHPA Member.
2. If you need to put a pacer in any of your classes, that pacer must be an NHPA Member.
3. If you need added insured certificates for the facility you are using, you should be sure the Insurance Company has the exact wording for the certificate holder.



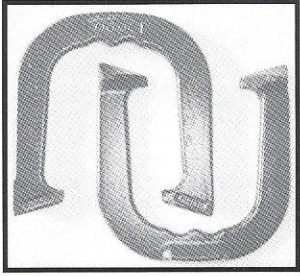
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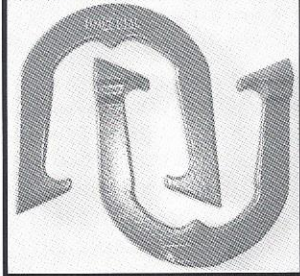
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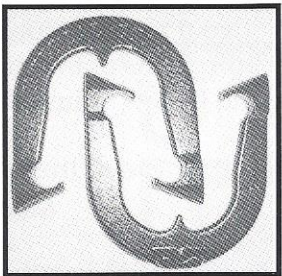
See our inside front cover ad for details on S & H fees.



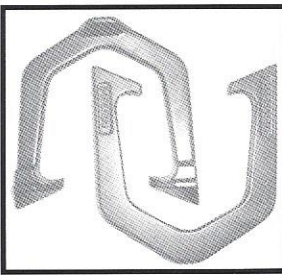
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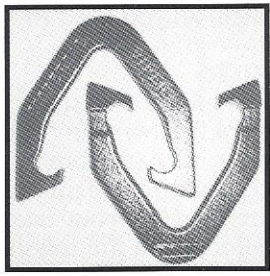
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# PUBLICITY PROMOTION by Casey Sluys

## TIME FLIES

My goodness! Has it really been a full four years that I've had the distinct privilege of holding this position? Let's see what we've learned in those four years?

- We've learned that horseshoe pitching is a wonderful family sport, pastime, recreation or game.
- We've learned that the NHPA has money available for advertising!
- We've learned that no matter how hard we (the NHPA) try we can't give this money away!
- We've learned that over 70% of the visitors to our website are non-NHPA members.
- We've learned that it takes an immense amount of persistence to promote this sport to the public.
- Unfortunately I have learned that it takes much more than simple articles in a semi-monthly magazine to stimulate the membership to promote this sport.
- We've learned that if we do not follow through with adequate leadership on a project it will simply die.
- We've learned that "new" methods of promotion had been tried in the past.
- We've learned that it takes a serious hands-on-type approach in order for clubs to grow and prosper.

With all that being said, are we seriously doing everything we can to promote this sport? Are there various methods, which might work in your part of the country, but not very well in others? Does your club have a sanctioned league? If not, let's begin one. It's so simple, just listen a minute... Play two-three games per night of 50 shoes at an 80% handicap. Keep track of who pitches whom and form games from the people that show up at the prescribed time. (Not everyone needs to be there every week, and no penalty for not showing up) Keep track of ringers, points, and shoes to turn into the sanctioned league VP and Natstats. Keep track of games won and lost for club prizes at the end of your 8, 12, 16, or 24-week league. (You pick how long it should continue) How simple is that huh? It's dirt simple isn't it? This, in fact, qualifies as a sanctioned league. It gives folks the flexibility they need in their busy day-to-day lives. Of course, everyone is encouraged to attend league night and perhaps a phone call or two during the course of the league might help attendance? There are a number of methods by which sanctioned club/league play can be accomplished; all you need to do is do it!

## FENCE HANGERS

Remember those folks that stop by a tournament or practice night to 'just look?' How many have you spoken to, how many have you given your charter brochure to, how many were given SOMETHING to remind them that they spoke to you about horseshoe pitching? If your answer was zero and nothing to those questions, you are missing a golden opportunity to gain new members. That simple 'hello, how are you, here's something about our sport' line will certainly bring back some of them, either to watch your next tournament or come out to a practice night, maybe they would even join your league? You never know unless you try, believe me. I was one of those fence

hangers once and I would have joined six years before I did had SOMEONE given me something about the club or even simply talked to me! Be friendly, say hello, even if you're pitching! So what if you miss a ringer on your next pitch, you might have gained a new member with a simple everyday courteous greeting. Remember when you first became a member of an organization, whether a club or a church, were you welcomed with open arms? I suspect so, and if we could only mirror that welcoming image throughout our charters then we could grow this organization.

## NEWSPAPERS

Bob Reese of Oklahoma, the professor of horseshoes pitching, continues to send me newspaper clippings of articles he has published; thanks Bob! Sure it's tough to get your newspapers to do an article on your club, but now is the time to begin laying that groundwork. Approach them with the question, "Did you know there was organized horseshoe pitching in town?" If they say no, then explain it to them, invite the sports writers out for pitching, and let them pitch a few, all the while telling them about our organization. Even though it's winter time those of you with indoor facilities can certainly get a jump on the 2006 season by contacting your newspapers now, during a slack period, and have them do an article about your club.

Have you noticed, on the NHPA website, under publicity/promotion, the section called News articles? It's very nice to see so many of you getting very good articles into your local papers. Imagine 14 articles since October, and we are in the middle of our "off" season. Indoor facilities are an exception, of course. If we continue with these news articles into the coming months with the beginning of the 2006 pitching season coming up, we could certainly gain some members, wouldn't you think? Let's keep up the good work and keep up a good relationship with your local press. When you accomplish that there is a better chance of having articles printed. Be sure to ask the reporter to include our website address in any article, including any results you might get published. Once on our website a person can find anything and everything they need for all charters.

*Many a small thing has been made large by the right kind of advertising.* Mark Twain 1835-1910

## Support the NHPF

The only horseshoe pitching related charity needs your tax-deductible donations to support many programs of the sport including the Hall of Fame and Grants to install new or upgrade existing courts.

Deadlines for Grant Applications  
March 1 & Sept. 1

Mail inquiries & contributions to:  
NHPF, P.O. Box 1628  
Penn Valley, CA 95946

# BAKERSFIELD WORLD TOURNAMENT 2005

INCLUDING "THE BIG TREES" by Betty Burlingame

Burly came home with one happy story after another about the World tournament. One of his favorites involved three of his lady friends. Let me introduce them and let them tell the story:

Rivers Prewette - Stewlie named "Legs", Dale LaValley, River's daughter, - Stewlie named "Little Legs" and Carolyn Lloyd - Stewlie named "Double Down". This is our cast of characters!

(Double Down):

We first came together in Pocatello and had such a wonderful time that we decided a repeat in Bakersfield was in order. Life, you see, is full of wonderful experiences, things to do and places to see before one dies...

(Legs):

Well, that whole week of experiences started with Double Down giving me and Little Legs an elephant pendant on a nice little silver chain to wear around our necks, one of which she had also. This little animal was supposed to stand for good luck, love and money, depending on what color they were. Well, we had lots of love between us and I did win some money, but the luck was highly debatable!

After our plane reservations were severely messed up from ground zero, we all finally landed in the wonderful city of Bakersfield five hours behind schedule. We rented a beautiful little red Ford Taurus at the airport and with many stops for directions, found our way to the hotel. Nice evening. 105 degrees!

(Double Down):

I guess I was the one most anxious to see the 'big trees'. The sequoias.

(Little Legs):

You have to remember we've been talking about those 'big trees' for a whole year. We decide that ten days for the trip isn't really enough, we're going to make it eleven days this year. We know we have ONE WHOLE DAY just to go see those 'big trees'.

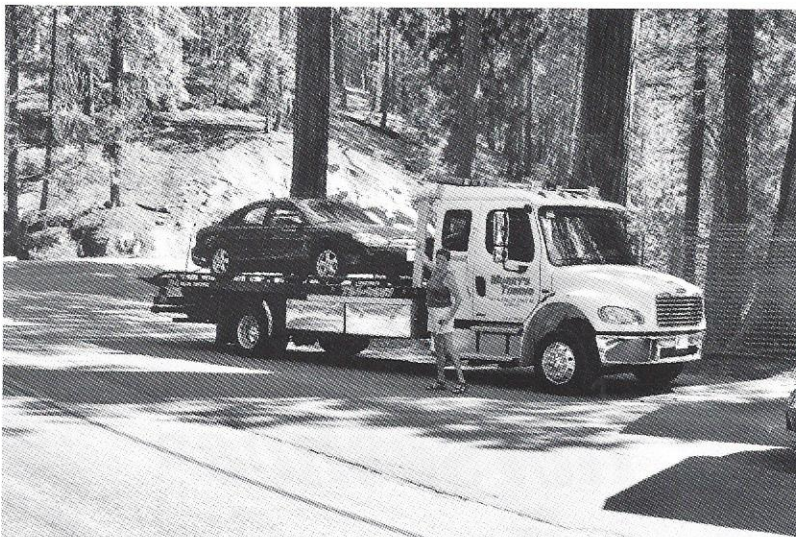
After our arrival in Bakersfield, we got a bite to eat and crashed for the night. Friday's game plan: we decide to spend our first full day in California learning our way around town. We find a good place for breakfast, find the fairgrounds and find the practice courts, the restaurants around town for dinner, the MALL and the LIQUOR STORE! Get a good night's sleep, get up early Saturday morning and head out to see those BIG TREES. Casey gives us a map and shows us the routes we want to take to get there. We're all set.

(Legs):

Early on Saturday morning we set out for our trip to the Sequoia National Park to get our first look at the big trees. After a nice breakfast at the local IHOP and a stop at K-Mart for an ice chest and some beverages (thank goodness) we were on our way.

(Little Legs):

We have our cameras and we're off! Watch out GENERAL SHERMAN, we're coming to find you. Our big day, sight-seeing. We stop at a fruit stand by the side of the road. We get some fresh fruit, some dried pineapple and almonds to snack on while we're in the FOREST OF THE BIG TREES.



(Legs):

We should have been suspicious when five miles into the park someone pulled up beside us and informed us that there was smoke coming out the back of our beautiful little red Ford Taurus, but no - we all had on our little elephant necklaces. No problem.

Wrong. Lo and behold, after another mile the little Ford died. After several attempts to revive it, we gave up and called the 800 number for the rental car company. That's where the elephants came in handy.

(Little Legs):

Oh well, I decided it was a good time to find a nice ROCK to send back to North Carolina for Buck. He takes a rock home from anywhere he goes, so he should have one from California. It's not that I didn't have time to find one!

(Legs):

After spending two hours on the side of the road in 107 degree sunshine, here comes the big, beautiful rollback to pick us up. Not just any old rollback, but a Mercedes rollback with a back seat.

(Double Down):

Here we sit, waiting for a tow, and sure enough life sends us this wonderful couple, Chris and his wife, to tow our car.

(Legs):

After explaining our dilemma in great detail (and if any of you know Carolyn, it WAS in great detail) the nice driver along with his pregnant wife agreed to go up the mountain instead of down.

(Double Down):

I say to him "I've traveled 3,000 miles to see that giant tree at

the top of this HILL, and we're so close – less than 14 miles. I'll give you a good tip if I get to see that tree!" I was speaking of the 'General Sherman' in the Sequoia National Forest. And, delightful character that he was, up the mountain we go! The three of us perched in the back seat of a Mercedes rollback with a dead Taurus in tow, craning our necks right and left as we go, not wanting to miss a thing!

(Legs):  
Little Legs has got some wonderful pictures, but unfortunately from the front there are bug splashes on the windshield, or from the back there is this little red Ford Taurus. At the top of the mountain where the biggest of the trees stand, the nice driver pulled that big rig off the side and pointed to the General Sherman, and told us to go have a look!!

(Double Down):  
To my wonder, the forest was spectacular – the trees like gentle giants! Children's fairy tales of magical forests came to life before our eyes. The sights, sounds and smells of this pristine world – so peaceful.

(Little Legs):  
After a long day of unexpected surprises, we finally got to the airport to get another car. OH, NO. It's just like the one we had. A Ford Taurus. And it's red! It's either that or a 12 passenger van. Great choice.



(Legs):  
OK we're finally back on the road again and make it back to our hotel around midnight, tired, hot, and dirty, only to find that the maids had not left towel one in our room! (That's when the day turned ugly. We called the front desk – ((&^%%%^&\*({{}})) Yeh, that's what we said!)

(Double Down):  
The forest is definitely one of life's must-see places. So I checked the book "1000 Places to See Before You Die" and could not find an entry for the Sequoia National Forest as seen from the back seat of a Mercedes rollback with two best friends. NOT TO WORRY I simply penciled it in at the bottom of the list, and proceeded to check it off. BEEN THERE. DONE THAT. We're looking forward to Gillette for our next experience!

**INTRODUCING:**

# Alan **AF** Francis

## Horseshoes

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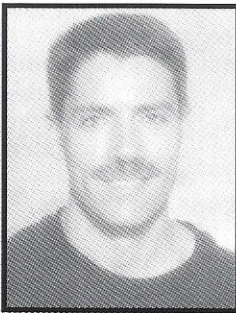
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This is a brand new shoe designed and pitched by 10-time Men's World Champion, Alan Francis. Alan is building up a legendary career in this sport and we felt it was time he had a shoe of his own, so this is it... It even bares his signature to prove it! There was a lot of trial and error in the year that it took to nail down the design for this shoe but we're sure we've come up with something that matches up with Alan's incredible ability to make ringers. This is a traditional styled shoe packed full with all the latest technology in horseshoe design. It's made from the same dead soft alloy that has made Thoroughbred and Imperial horse-



**Alan Francis**  
10 Time World Champ

shoes into our top selling shoes... We expect this shoe to out sell them all! We've incorporated our newest feature, hardened tips, into this shoe first, making it one of the toughest and most durable shoes you can buy. It's a very easy turning shoe with a narrow, pointed ringer break, making it easy to grip for the flip pitch too. The exceptional balance in this design makes it great for any turn or flip... It was well worth the extra effort that went into its design. Like all our other shoes, it has a one year warranty... We were lucky to have one of the best players in the world to help us on this one and now we're passing that benefit on to you!

# REGIONAL DIRECTORS REPORT

by Allen Baptist

This is my final Regional Director's Report; my term ended on December 31<sup>st</sup>. It was a sad day, because I have enjoyed my position as NHPA 1st Vice President very much! All further RD reports will be sent to Dan Sanders. I would ask that all of the RD's please sit down and send Dan a year end report on your Charters. I remember when I first started, I was scared to death that when my first report was due that I wouldn't have any RD reports to put in my column. There are quite a few RD's who have never sent me a report, so I would ask you all to support Dan and take a couple of minutes to write to him. I will be attending the World tournament in Gillette this year, so I am looking forward to seeing you all again.

## From the Mail Bag

C. Leo Buell - Iowa Regional Director - reports that is has been an average year for Iowa. Leo writes that Iowa has purchased a Hall of Fame trailer and it was completed and on display at the Iowa State Fair for all ten days of the Fair. Iowa's past State President did a very good job of arranging the Hall of Fame display. In October at the annual meeting in Marshalltown they inducted two members into the Hall of Fame. Bernard Ricker from Mt. Ayr, who is 92 years of age, was the Farmers State Champion in 1966 and 1968. Bernard won many first places against some of Iowa's best. He defeated such great pitchers such as Marvin Woolums, Guy Spittler, Wendell Taylor and Wally Uligh all who are in the Hall of Fame. Leo writes that he was also inducted into the Hall of Fame. Leo is past State President and current Regional Director. Leo has promoted horseshoes for over 30 years. Leo has been in the top twelve pitchers in the State for the past 20 years.

Fourth place is the closest he has come to being the State Champion. Iowa had 60 tournaments in 2005, which included the State Championships at the Iowa State Fair. Eldora hosted 19 of those tournaments at their indoor facility. Eldora's nine beautiful courts are housed in a well heated and lighted building. They have men's and women's restrooms and concessions all under one roof. Sanctioned tournaments are conducted the first two weekends of the month starting November through April.

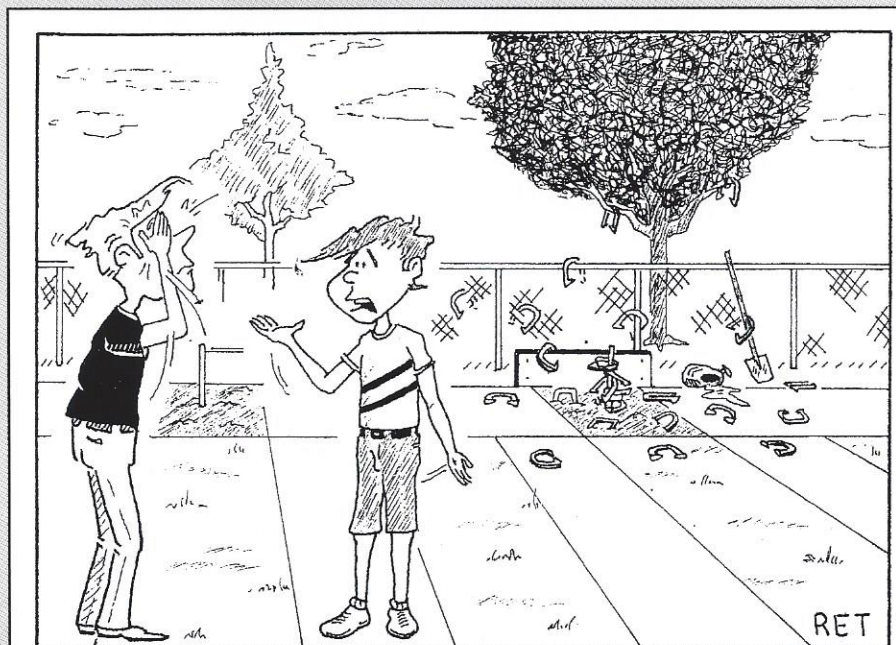
Steve Summerlin - Michigan Regional Director - reports that they have seen another year of small increases in their membership in the adult ranks, with declines in the junior participation. Much of their increases can be attributed to the Sanctioned Leagues that have formed in the past two years and Steve is still working with a couple of other clubs that have expressed interest in the program as well. Due to many economic factors, including the gas prices, their participation at many of the tournaments declined in numbers. But it did not seem to have any adverse effect on the number of events for this coming scheduled tournaments; in fact their tournaments increased by two events. Their feature indoor facility in Jackson, MI which has six courts and hosts tournaments

all winter long; had some major upgrades this year including a new concrete floor and other improvements which will pay for itself in increased usage of the building. This year has also seen the growth of their Taylor club from 12 courts to 20 courts with a plan to add an additional ten. Their goal is to be able to host large championship tournaments for the Moose, Elks and other such fraternal organizations.

Don Weaver - Nevada Regional Director - reports that the Burro Inn, located in Beatty, NV is closed forever, but the new owner has decided to pick up the tournaments. We all owe Mr. John Bass a big thanks for all he has done for horseshoes. He built those 18 courts in 1991 and has held two tournaments each year there, plus several State Tournaments. John always adds money and a friendly touch to the events. Don would also like to thank Char Schulte for putting Nevada's website together. You can check it out at [www.graywolfdesign.com/nevada](http://www.graywolfdesign.com/nevada). Don says that Nevada is looking to a very busy season for their Charter this year.

Jim Anderson - Texas Regional Director - reports that Texas wrapped up their 2005 season by holding their State Championships in Buffalo, Texas. Thirty class champions and four State Champions were crowned. A husband and wife won the Men's and Women's Class A championships. This was a first for Texas, and their son came in 2nd in the Junior's Class A division. 239 pitchers were entered in the tournament. Class A Elders did a turnaround since Worlds with Ed Arionus winning first and Paul McCreery taking second. Two new members were inducted into the Hall of Fame, Duck Englehardt of East Bernard and Texas RD, Jim Anderson of Waco.

## CARTOON by Robert E. Taylor



" BUT DAD, YOU SAID, AS A BEGINNER, I WOULD HAVE TO PITCH FIFTY SHOES TO SET MY AVERAGE!"

# BEAN TOWN TO BAKERSFIELD CARAVAN AND MIDWAY CELEBRATION

by Tina Hawkins

The coast-to-coast caravan to the 2005 NHPA World Tournament got off to a shaky start. Wagon Master, Leo Michaud suffered medical problems on the eve of departure and was forced to withdraw from the event. Without a leader, no travelers from the east coast participated in the caravan.

The Oklahoma Horseshoe Pitchers Association hosted the Midway Celebration at the city park in Yukon, Oklahoma. Many members of the OHPA, as well as their friends and families, and some passers by joined in welcoming travelers arriving from Nebraska to join the Oklahoma members on the second half of the journey across the U.S.



Dancer Leslie Deer, the creator of the beautiful horseshoe vest drew the winning ticket for the drawing. The winner was Donnie Hudson of Sadler, Texas. A prize was also awarded to the person who issued the winning ticket. Tina Hawkins won the gift basket, chock full of items made in Oklahoma as well as gift certificates for more items – donated by the Made-In-Oklahoma Coalition.



A barbeque dinner was served by D. Allen Wint of Ardmore, OK, who prepared the beef, which was raised and donated by Homer and Ginger Cain, Marland, OK. Mr. Wint provided a menu of barbeque sandwiches, corn-on-the-cob, beans, coleslaw, drinks, and several kinds of salsa including a delicious watermelon variety. Over 120 hungry people were served!

Exciting turtle races, in which spectators could pick their favorite, followed the dinner.



Entertainment was provided by the Oklahoma Fancy Dancers, a Native American dance troupe, which also provides education on the tradition and origin of their native dances.



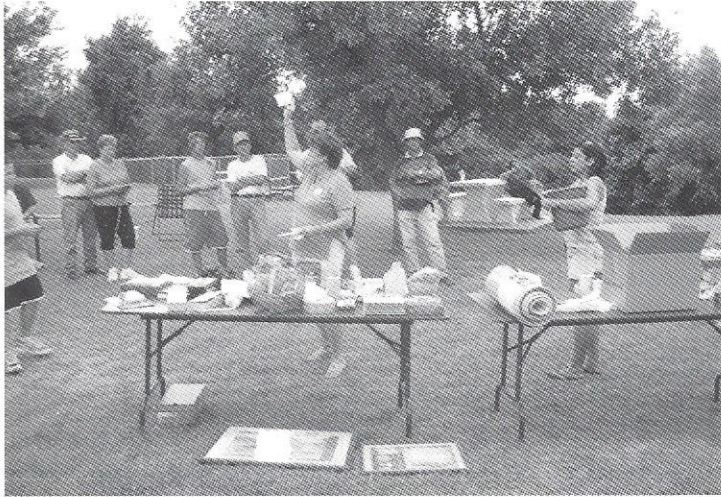
Hundreds of prizes were donated by OHPA members, as well as several Oklahoma businesses. These were given away in a raffle drawing, which lasted well past dark.

The original intent of the Caravan and Midway Celebration fundraiser was to donate proceeds to the Tsunami Relief Fund. However, in light of the recent devastation in New Orleans, the OHPA members voted to redirect those funds to the Hurricane Katrina Relief Fund.

After expenses, the grand total raised for charity was \$430. OHPA President, Tina Hawkins, is an employee of Halliburton Energy Services in Duncan, OK, and was able to make the donation through

the company's Charity Giving Station. Halliburton matched the donation dollar-for-dollar, bringing the total of our assistance to \$860.

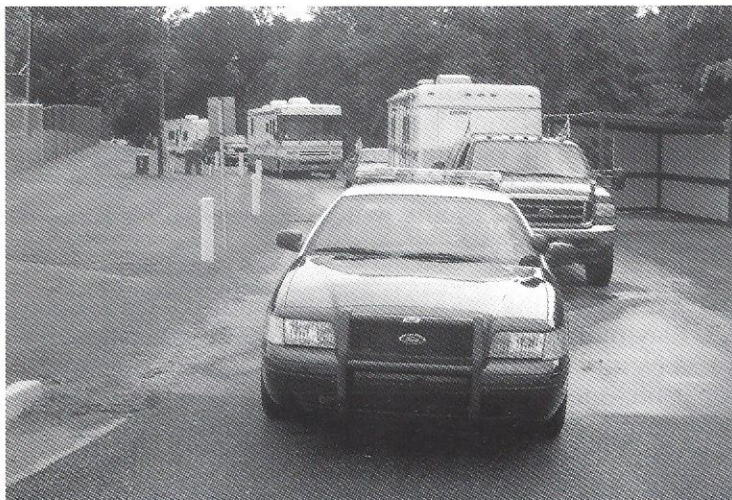
The morning following the celebration, the caravan had a police escort through downtown Yukon. Flags were waving, horns were honking and lights were flashing as they made their way through the city and onto I-40 for the remaining 1230 miles of the journey.



A wooden cutout of Leo was hung on the back of the lead RV, in honor of Leo Michaud. He attracted lots of attention – pointing at a 3 foot World Tournament poster on the trailer.


Those participating in the caravan were Marion, Bob and Gary Thompson, Bill and Eloise Hayward, of Nebraska; Leonard and Georgia Burke, Larry and Sharon Fordyce, Homer and Ginger Cain, Teresa and Trina Burk, Tina and Rebecca Hawkins, and Carly Potts all of Oklahoma. They ate left-over barbeque all the way to Bakersfield, transported in Homer's truck in a freezer provided by the Burke's.

The following businesses supported our efforts: Taco Stop, Ponca City, OK; Head Country B-B-Q,



Ponca City, OK; Lee's RV City, Oklahoma City; Great American Pizza, Yukon, OK; Staples, Yukon, OK; Omni Packaging and Industrial Supply; Made-in-Oklahoma Coalition; Ardmore Tourism; D. Allen Wint's Catering and Party Rentals, Ardmore, OK; Fire Mountain Buffet, Oklahoma City; Roam, Inc., Yukon, OK;





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# RULES REWRITE UPDATE

by Stu Sipma

Since the re-write draft was published in the November/December issue of Horseshoe Pitching Newsline, the re-write committee has received many responses from individuals and charter committees who have included questions and have made some good suggestions for the improvement of this document. The committee extends a big "thank you" to all who have taken the time to review this work and who have made these recommendations. We are now in the process of reviewing this information and will consider all suggestions while making our final revisions. This final revision will be published on the NHPA Website at [www.horseshoepitching.com](http://www.horseshoepitching.com) and in the next issue of this magazine. Further review and discussion may continue before this proposed document is voted on later this year at the National Convention in Gillette, Wyoming.

As there have been many questions asked about the moving of information from the Bylaws to the proposed Rules, Guidelines and Specifications, one of our committee members has written an article (below) which should help to answer these questions.

## Rules Re-write Information and Rationale for Moving Some Bylaws Articles

At a local horseshoe tournament last year, a pitcher asked me where the rule about dress code could be found and if this rule applied to the State Tournament and to local tournaments. He mentioned that he could not find this information anywhere in the current Rules booklet. "If it's a rule, why isn't this information in the Rules booklet?", he asked. The answer to this question and to other questions, such as the rule for forfeits, age requirements for the various pitching Divisions, the awarding of cash prizes to Juniors etc, is *not* located in the Rules, but *can* be found in the Bylaws booklet. "Why *isn't* this information in the Rules?", you may also ask, and no one seems to know for sure, but over the years, some rules and other information that pertains to leagues and tournaments have been included in the Bylaws instead of in the Rules.

While most tournament and league directors will always have a copy of the rules booklet with them for finding the answers to questions that may come up during league or tournament play, a copy of the Bylaws booklet is seldom available at the courts for finding the answers to some questions. And even if both booklets are available, it may require more time to find these answers. And so it seems logical to have *all* the information that may apply to tournaments and leagues in the *same* document. If you will look at the current NHPA Bylaws, you will find that the information in Articles X, XI, and XII all have to do with tournaments and/or league play. The respective

titles of these Articles are: World Tournaments, Special Tournaments or Events, and All NHPA Tournaments/Leagues. In addition, most of the information in Article VII (Sections 7-15) also has to do with sanctioned tournaments. And so in the proposed Rules re-write, most of this information about tournaments and leagues has been moved to the new Guidelines section while some of the information has been moved to the Playing Rules section, as follows:

- Article VII; Sections 7-15, becomes Guideline 3; Sections A-I.
- Article X; Sections 1-6 and 8-9, becomes Guideline 4; Sections A-I.
- Article X; Section 7, becomes Rule 11; Section C (Dress Code).
- Article XI; Sections 1-2, becomes Guideline 5; Sections A-B.
- Article XI; Section 3, becomes Rule 12; Section B (last sentence).
- Article XII; Sections 1-2, 4 (1<sup>st</sup> part), 5-11, becomes Guideline 6; Sections A-F.
- Article XII; Section 3, becomes Rule 12; Section D.
- Article XII; Section 4 (last part), is incorporated into Rule 1; Sections A-E (age information).
- Article XII; Section 5, becomes Guideline 6-D.
- Article XII; Section 6, becomes Guideline 6-E.
- Article XII; Section 7, becomes Guideline 6-F.
- Article XII; Sections 8-11, becomes Guideline 7; Sections A-D.
- Article XII; Section 12, becomes Rule 12; Section F (Forfeits).

**Please note** that *no changes* to the *intent* of this information have been made in the proposed Rules re-write. You may notice some changes in wording or in sentence structure (highlighted) that serve only to *clarify* the information; to make it more complete and/or easier to understand. **Please note also** that, unlike most of the Guidelines information, the Playing Rules have more to do with what is happening *on the courts* during league or tournament play, such as the various age divisions, the seeding of contestants, and situations which may occur during the actual competition. In addition, information in the Specifications section has to do with legal horseshoes and with the current, existing court conditions *when contestants arrive* for league or tournament play; conditions which, for all sanctioned events, will require nothing less than conditionally-sanctioned courts.

The result of this "moving of information", from Bylaws to Playing Rules and Guidelines, is that we will now have a *single* document (instead of two, separate documents) that includes all the necessary information for answering questions about the playing rules and guidelines for sanctioned leagues and sanctioned tournament play.



And what are we left with in the Bylaws booklet? The answer is that we are left with a Bylaws document that includes only the necessary information for the organization, administration, and business of the NHPA. This includes information about membership, officers and their duties, charter formation, delegates, meetings and voting, amendments, standing rules, etc. With the transfer of tournament-related information from the Bylaws to the Rules and Guidelines, some re-formatting of the remaining Bylaws text will be necessary. In addition, there may also be few changes in wording or in sentence structure. Finally, this newly-revised Bylaws document may be reviewed and discussed by the membership and delegates before it is voted on, later this year, at the Convention in Gillette, Wyoming.

**Committee Members:**

- Bonnie Seibold – Indiana
- Dan Sanders – Ohio
- Phylis Quist – Washington
- Jerry LaBrosse – Minnesota
- Roy Evans – Missouri
- Stu Sipma – North Dakota

# SPECIAL EVENTS CALENDAR

## FEBRUARY 2006

7<sup>th</sup> – 12<sup>th</sup>

48<sup>th</sup> Annual Valley of the Sun – Pioneer Park, Mesa, AZ. Additional Prize Money-\$3,000 donated by Casino Arizona, Equal payout to all classes. Limited to 120 pitchers.

Send \$40 entry fee by January 25<sup>th</sup> to: Rick Durkit, 10400 E. Trailhead CT, Gold Canyon, AZ 85218. Phone: (480) 946-5608. Include 2006 NHPA Card Number, NatStats Ringer % and pitching division.

## APRIL 2006

21<sup>st</sup> – 23<sup>rd</sup>

39<sup>th</sup> Annual Carolina Dogwood Festival Horseshoe Tournament – Jack H. Springer Horseshoe Courts, Lakewood Park, Statesville, NC. \$7,500 in Cash Prizes and Trophies. Pre-registration required by March 1, 2006. Tournament limited to first 240 entries. Send \$25 entry fee to: Carolina Dogwood Horseshoe Tournament, Statesville Recreation & Parks Dept., P.O. Box 1111, Statesville, NC 28687-1111 Entry form can be printed from the coming events page of [www.horseshoepitching.com](http://www.horseshoepitching.com) Tournament Director: Paul Stewart, Phone: (704)528-0398, Email: [nhpapaul@bellsouth.net](mailto:nhpapaul@bellsouth.net)

## MAY 2006

19<sup>th</sup> – 21<sup>st</sup>

22<sup>nd</sup> Annual Team World – Edwards Activity & Sports Center, Beloit, WI. 4-Person Teams Representing your state or province. No more than 2 short distance pitchers per team. Mail \$240.00 team entry fee by April 15<sup>th</sup> to: Earl Paulson, 7105 So. County Rd. H, Beloit, WI 53511 Phone (608) 879-2304; Email: [epauls@teamworldhorseshoe.com](mailto:epauls@teamworldhorseshoe.com)



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# CHARTER CHATTER by Debby Michaud

Want your charter news to appear in this column? Send your charter newsletter to me at 379 Hodges ST, Taunton, MA 02780-2057 or e-mail me at loonpnd@comcast.net with your charter's news. And remember to send us your listing of any indoor horseshoe court facilities. Thank you!

## NORTHERN CALIFORNIA

This charter has welcomed 70 new members and 20 former members who returned. It CAN be done.... Northern California yearly asks for sponsors for their State Tournament trophies - donors can choose the trophy they want to sponsor and can sponsor the trophy in memoriam or in honor of a friend. This is a nice, personal touch.

Genevieve Lavett, long a tireless worker at World Tournaments, received the NHPA Presidential award in 2005 - very deserving.

**NEW ENGLAND** (Maine, New Hampshire, Vermont, Massachusetts, Rhode Island & Connecticut)

The annual New England tournament on Labor Day weekend was visited by almost 300 pitchers AND the best weather anyone could remember. From the Friday night states' challenge to the final flight on Labor Day, it was perfect, sunny weather. Each contestant had a name tag for the game scoreboards and every contestant's name was up on the Master Scoreboard with wins & losses. In addition, a computer screen near the stats' shed was updated after each game with a running ringer percentage. Jim Hanson, the New England statistician/webmaster, was the author of all of this - making the tournament one of the smoothest ever. The Keene, NH club, which has been active for over 45 years, is the perennial host for the event and the six state associations each take a turn to help run the flights. The most popular class for the spectators was the 9 and under group, held for the first time at the New England's. This tournament is the biggest motivator in the area to gain and keep horseshoe pitchers.

## OKLAHOMA

First, a correction: The correct standing of competition in the annual Oklahoma-Texas Shootout is eight wins for Oklahoma and three wins for Texas, not the other way around as I wrote previously. We're glad to have that correction now.

Second, Oklahoma has six new courts in the City of Seminole, under the direction and assistance of Jeff Harper. There are also going to be some new courts in Redbud Park in Marlow, thanks to Tina Hawkins and a new horseshoe league calling themselves the "Wildhorse Ringers". They held a sanctioned tournament on November 5<sup>th</sup> called a "Bedlam Tailgate Cook-Off and Horseshoe-Pitching Challenge" on portable courts to help raise money for the construction of ten permanent courts there. As the name implies, they had a cook-off during the tournament with prizes for that also. Great work!!

Third, Gerald Brown and Charlotte Bowen were voted into the Oklahoma HPA Hall of Fame. Mr. Brown conducts the only junior pitching league in the state. Congratulations to both of them.

## MICHIGAN

Various clubs gave some interesting reports in a recent newsletter for the Wolverine State HPA. The Taylor club is adding six more courts while the Clio club offers both sand & clay courts. One group pitches on clay, another on sand, and apparently "never the twain shall meet". In the St. Clair Shores club, they regularly have three nights of pitching each week while the Kalamazoo club hosted the Senior Olympics horseshoe competition. Lake Orion and Lansing have both shown increased memberships while the Adrian club showed resiliency by building 12 new courts after they lost their previous site. These are some positive reports!

In the 2005 Michigan-Ontario International Friendship Tournament, Michigan came away as winners by a score of 226 - 98

## MISSOURI

Twelve boys and girls, ages 8 - 17,

participated in a five-day sanctioned junior horseshoe league. The five days were all in one week, just like a class in school. The "class" ran from 10:00 a.m. - 11:30 a.m. - the first three days were outside but, when rain interfered, they held the next day's session inside. The kids liked that better so the final session was also held inside. They played three 34-'shoe games each day, giving each junior at least 400 'shoes, two NHPA patches and other awards such as Sportsmanship, High Average and Most Improved. This experience was a great introduction to horseshoes.

New MOHPA president Jim Bainter announces there will be over 100 horseshoe tournaments in 2005. He states that they could again become the charter with the highest number of members if they all work together. He also announced that Donna Bastel won the 2005 President's Award while Pam Gettinger and Steve Bruemmer each won Achievement Awards.

## WASHINGTON

A lot of hard work, much of it by Jim Link, Oregon HPA president Bob Hummel and other horseshoe friends, was rewarded with the first Goldendale Open. 56 pitchers pitched in the first tournament on the 12 courts, while enjoying the hospitality and camaraderie of a community, including the Mayor, a building supply company, an office supply store, the Chamber of Commerce and a local restaurant - all of whom helped out in some way. We are told the scenery and the atmosphere were wonderful - the best part is that there are 12 more active courts in the state of Washington.

## MINNESOTA

The Make-A-Wish effort continues in Minnesota. The Fridley Make-A-Wish Tournament alone raised \$1,600 and the Rochester club raised \$1,400! This excellent program has been very successful, helping several chronically or terminally ill youngsters achieve their dreams. It is a state wide effort, headed by Chairman Jackie Hughes.

In what other sport can the "Rookie of the Year" be a 72-year-old man? Yes, Minnesota's Rookie for last year

is Dale Hustad, who pitches in the St. Paul-Ramsey County League. For 2005 they went to the other end of the spectrum, awarding the Rookie of the Year to 12-year-old Joey Mueller.

Minnesota is VERY proud of its newest World Champion, Matt Korpela. He follows in the footsteps of the many previous World Champions from this charter. He followed that up with his 3<sup>rd</sup> State Title. Congratulations also go to Dale Lipovsky on his 24<sup>th</sup> State Title.

The Minnesota HPA announced its Achievement Awards at its annual State Awards Banquet – held during the Labor Day State Tournament. Winners of these awards were Ward Lutz, just recently “retired” as their

Regional Director, Harry Fillafer for his promotion efforts in the Moorhead region, Dave Pedersen for his 14 years as the newsletter editor and Tim Ahles who has worked in junior promotion and is the new Junior Promotions Chairman. Pitcher of the Year was Bob Knudtson and outgoing president Jerry Labrosse gave his last President’s award to Bonnie Holland for her work as Secretary/Treasurer for Minnesota, while Jerry himself was given an appreciation award – he will now become Minnesota’s new Regional Director.

#### **COLORADO**

Well, there IS a Rookie of the Year older than Minnesota’s Dale Husted.

That would be 88-year-old Bob Champion who filled in for a Boulder, CO league and was named its Rookie of the Year. Bob still writes their newsletter, checking on new information for it, literally all over the country. He says he couldn’t do it without all the help and stats he receives from Mel Yockstick.

#### **IOWA**

Iowa has joined other charters in buying a trailer to house its Hall Of Fame Exhibit. They are taking contributions and raising money to complete this project.

Below are listed the addresses of more indoor courts which have been received since the first list was published in the July/August 2005 Newslines.

#### **INDIANA**

Edinburgh, Indiana  
Atterbury Facility

#### **ILLINOIS**

8 courts  
Palmer Pitchin Palace  
% Ed & Nellie Fleming  
667 E. 900 N.Rd.  
P.O.Box 50  
Palmer, IL 62556  
(217) 526-3610  
e-mail: pitchinpalace@aol.com

#### **IOWA**

Putt Mossman Indoor Arena  
Hardin County Community Building,  
Hardin County Fairgrounds  
301 11<sup>th</sup> Ave.  
Eldora, IA 50627  
(641) 858-3901  
Or call Bob Walters (Sec./Treas.) (641) 858-3861

#### **PENNSYLVANIA**

4 courts  
Horseshoe of Pittsburgh Enterprises - H.O.P.E.  
195 Baldwin Rd.  
Carnegie, PA 15106  
(412) 279-7319  
website: <http://www.pastatdude.com/HOPE/om/>  
Tournaments once a month from October - April  
% Ron Weiss  
3897 Edge Road  
Pittsburgh, PA 15227

#### **WISCONSIN**

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# NATSTATS by Glenn Jaimeson

We have reached the end of another horseshoe pitching season/year. There are still a few tournament and league results that have not been reported. I track each tournament sanction number either with results or with a notation that the tournament was cancelled. Someone in each Charter needs to look at the Reported Events list on the NHPA web page and see what tournament or league results have not been reported yet. Any missing results may affect a person's average for entering upcoming tournaments. Many states are using the Natstats averages listed on the NHPA web site; so for those people that travel to pitch out of state, if there are results missing, their average could be off.

Natstats was established to track every pitcher's activity and to have available a current average. Some results are not being sent in for one, two, three or more months after the event is pitched. It is hard to keep a current average if the results are not being sent in promptly after the event is pitched. I do get many results the same evening after the event is pitched. With the HSMaster program available for free and other programs out there, an email file can be sent to Natstats in a format that enables me to import the information quickly. It is requested that CARD NUMBERS and pitcher NAMES be listed exactly as they appear on Natstats. When working with computers, spelling can be important. Otherwise, sometimes the computer program starts a new file and that person may have two files and an incorrect average listed. What I need is for each state to check the Natstats files and let me know of any changes that need to be made. I don't care how my files list a persons name; I just want to match what is in the state file with the results being sent to me.

Anytime a Secretary/Treasurer makes a change in their files, I probably need to know that information also. I need to know when a person changes pitching distance - from Men full distance to Elder short distance and the date. I need to know when a lady gets married and changes her last name. I need to know when a Junior changes to adult status. I need to know when someone moves from one state to another. Many results come in without any Category listed. When there is a new pitcher, I have to assume it is a Man or Women by the name. Sometimes I have been wrong.

I get a few questions each month as to "why my average is different on the Charter listing and the Individual Search file". Check the top of the file you are looking at for the DATE the file was made. The Charter files are updated on the NHPA web page every Wednesday. The Individual Search files are update only the 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> week of each month. So the Individual Search file may be a week behind as it may not be listing your most recent tournament.

All corrections are accepted. Sometimes ringers or shoes are reported or typed wrong. Mistakes do happen - so when one is noticed, notify the charter officer that reports results to Natstats and they can send me a correction.

You can contact Natstats at natstatguy@aol.com or at the address listed inside Newsline on page 3.

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

## NHPA Income And Expenditures October/November 2005

### Receipts

Horseshoe Sanction Fees	\$400.00
Membership Dues	\$9,185.00
Newsline Subscriptions	\$3,766.00
Newsline Ads	\$614.00
Junior Fund Donation	\$750.00
2006 WT Payment (Gillette, WY)	\$5,000.00
Sanctioned League Patches	\$224.00
US Bank Interest - Money Market	\$174.46
US Bank Interest - Checking	\$48.53
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$20,161.99</b>

### Expenditures

Newsline Printing Supplies & Mailing	\$4,035.74
Sanctioned League Postage & Printing	\$137.77
Sanctioned League Tournament Awards & Expenses	\$1,491.59
All Junior Scholarship Trusts	\$601.50
Hall Of Fame, Awards, Supplies & Expenses	\$54.90
Regional Director, Postage, Telephone, Supplies & Printing	\$229.41
Sanctioned Tournament Patches	\$9,817.99
Equipment Purchases, Rentals & Repairs	\$695.42
Printing, Paper & Office Supplies	\$377.71
Postage	\$470.24
Officers Telephone	\$373.81
Officers Travel	\$893.91
Secretary-Treasurer Allowance	\$3,540.00
Presidents Allowance	\$1,062.00
Publicity, Promotions & Ads	\$1,085.27
Direct & Indirect NHPF Donations & Support	\$184.91
Insurance	\$572.00
Misc. Fees, Bonds, Bank Charges, Etc.	\$67.00
Internet Access & Web Site	\$1,658.68
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$27,349.85</b>

From The Books Of NHPA  
Secretary/Treasurer Dick Hansen

# NHPA LIFE TIME MEMBERS

As of this writing the NHPA list of Life Time Members stands at twenty-three. These members have reached a goal that not many of us ever will. To be considered a Life Time Member you must have accumulated 50 years of membership in the NHPA. Such milestones are not, realistically, something that most of us can even think about reaching. So those that make the 50-year mark deserve at the least, their name within these pages.

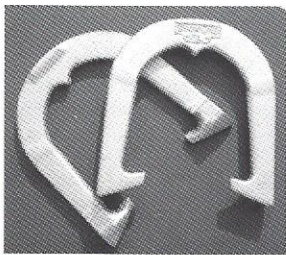
The list is headed by one of the all time greats Carl Steinfeldt with 74 years as a member of the NHPA. There is one husband and wife couple on the list, that being Vicki and Earl Winston. We wish all those on the list many more years. When you see these people at tournaments, leagues or on the courts, congratulate them on their achievement. They have put in the years ahead of us to help keep this sport going.

To go along with the Life Time Membership, the NHPA also has a longevity patch program. We award patches for 10, 20, 30, 40 and 50 years. A 50-year member also does not have to pay any NHPA dues. The Charter Secretary/Treasurer must order all year patches from me and it is the responsibility of the Charter to keep track of the number of years for each member and report that to me.

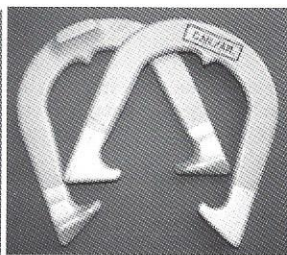
This list is compiled from the Charter Membership reports submitted to me. If your name is not on it and you feel that you have reached the 50-year mark please contact your local Charter Secretary/Treasurer.

Congratulations to all those on this list.  
Dick Hansen, NHPA Secretary - Treasurer

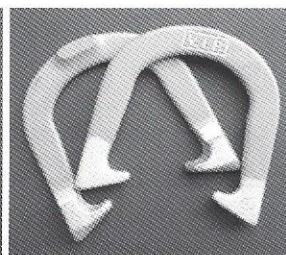
	Name	Charter	Years
1.	Carl Steinfeldt	Florida	74
2.	Bill Kolb	New Jersey	68
3.	Ralph Maddox	West Virginia	66
4.	James Kemple	Indiana	63
5.	Don Titcomb	Idaho	61
6.	Jim Tulk	Colorado	59
7.	Merlin Potts	Kansas	59
8.	Ervin VanDine	Conneticut	58
9.	Marvin Reheis	Kansas	57
10.	Earl Winston	Missouri	57
11.	David Loucks	Northern California	55
12.	Larry Riley	Colorado	54
13.	Ted Bostwick	Washington	53
14.	Ronald Martin	Kansas	52
15.	Vicki Winston	Missouri	52
16.	Jack Potter	Western Pennsylvania	52
17.	Sam Raymond	Florida	51
18.	Zack Campbell	Ohio	51
19.	Jim Atwell	Southern California	51
20.	Maurine Cook	Northern Utah	51
21.	Bill Fulwider	Northern California	50
22.	Jerry Schneider	Southern California	50
23.	Herb Criss	Washington	50



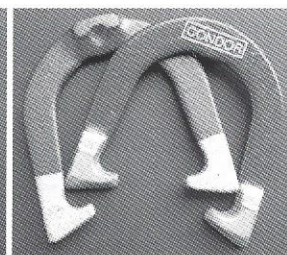
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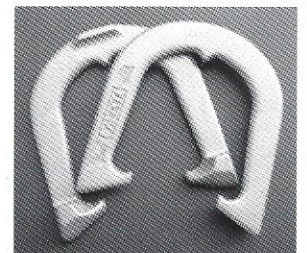
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## Arizona Pitchers Compete in World Tournament

By *Connie Sherrard*

Tony and I attended the World Tournament this summer in Bakersfield. It was an exciting and interesting and mostly fun experience.

We met so many pitchers from all over the United States. We enjoyed getting back together with pitchers we have met and visited with over the last 3-4 years. Some of them do come to Arizona in the winters and some we only see once a year at the World Tournament.

We were really proud of our Arizona Pitchers, as they did a great job in representing our state. We had 14 pitchers who attended the World tournament this year.

We tried to watch and support and cheer for all the Arizona Pitchers.

- Linda Funk came in first in her division. This was her first World Tournament. She did an outstanding job, supported by her husband and family and other Arizona pitchers.
- Channing Funk also came in first in his division. He was so excited, but so proud of his wife Linda too. He did a great job competing with his father in law...
- Richard Stormont came in first in his division also. He made it look so easy.
- Wilbert Albert came in third in his division. He had his wife and family there to cheer him on also.
- Helen Velasquez came in 3<sup>rd</sup> in her division. Helen represented the Verde Valley Horseshoe club.
- Ralph Parra came in fifth in his division. He had lots of support and cheers from his lady friend and family.
- Jerry Reyna came in fifth in his division. He was trying to make a comeback from last year... He came in twice last year... Great job Jerry.
- Ron Grube came in seventh in his division. We weren't there to watch. He and Debbie also represented Arizona at the National Meeting. Thank you Ron and Debbie!!!
- Pete Nicastro came in eighth in his division. Pete probably could have done better, but his mind was on the money he could win at the casino on his way home!
- Jim Boss came in ninth in his division. This was Jim's first World Tournament. He did a great job and enjoyed being with so many nice people. We hope to see him back next year.
- Connie Trautwein came in 12<sup>th</sup> in her division. She tried to catch up to Tony, but didn't have enough games left...Ha Ha....
- James Clausen came in 12<sup>th</sup> in his division...Could have done better, but too busy conversing with his Texas buddies..He had fun...and kept smiling...
- Alan Ayers came in 13<sup>th</sup> in his division. Too tired from keeping score and counting his money!!!
- Tony Sherrard came in first...or last in his division...depending on how you hold the score sheet!!! But maybe next year he will get out and practice more...still enjoyed himself and seeing all his old friends, cheering them on...and appreciated the support he got too...

We did enjoy being at the tournament and visiting with Paul Stewart, Casey Sluys, Allen Baptist, Stu Sipma, Dick Hansen, Glenn Jamison, Steve Summerlin, Bonnie Seibold; the group that does so much to get the tournament going and organizing it.

We hope to get the board to have their meeting here in Arizona next year. Tony invited them this year for their meeting, but they had already made arrangements to go to Florida.

They are all a great group of friendly, hard working people.

You all should try to attend the World Tournament next year. You will have a great time and have some fond memories as we have.

See you at the pits...

# PITCH N WIN PROGRAM

by Don Titcomb

This is the first report on our Pitch N Win program after the 10-day fair in Boise, Idaho in June. All the people who signed up as being interested in our Family Horseshoe club were separated by city; Boise, Meridian and Napa. I had the Meridian sign-ups and called the twelve names. I said to each one; "I met you at the fair. You indicated you were interested in our Family Horseshoe Club. I am letting you know we are holding a free picnic this Saturday at 10:00 a.m. You and your family are invited."

I bought chicken and potato salad, soft drinks and bottled water. In two of these meetings, I now have 14 new members. Two of the new members are a manager of Ace hardware and his girlfriend. A lot of prizes were donated for us to give away at the fair. Another new member is the manager of Applebees restaurant who I have become friends with; I eat out a lot. The others all came from the fair. I still have six more families who said to please send a letter with a bill for membership. Jerry Smith is composing the letter for me. The other signups, over 100, are being called by Paula King and Jerry Smith. Even if we have no more new members, this program was a success. I will send another report as soon as Paula and Jerry call the ones who signed up for their cities.

I was able to get sponsorships from Chicago Connection Pizza; over \$3,000 worth of coupons to give away, and Sheri's restaurant; another \$3,000 worth of free pie and other dinner prizes. The fair wants the program again next year and all the sponsors want to be part of the program next year. I also have had the parks director and his son at our picnic; they will be joining. I have three or four juniors and three or four women who are joining.

We are going to pitch on Saturday at our old park where the city has revamped the three courts (until the new 16 courts being built in a new park are ready). By the way, I have made a trade with the City. They will build overheads for our new

courts, if we build eight of the 16 new courts in the plans. Our club is buying the 22 courts from Don Weaver, Hacienda Hotel, and hope to use some of them in our new courts and the rest in a structure at the race track that is only used once or twice a year. We can move the portables when necessary; meanwhile we will have some winter facilities.

I have signed up to teach two days a

week in October for the Parks and Rec. They said they have half of the class signed up already, one month early. That's all for now.

For those of you who are interested in this program, please write me. My address is: 411 Cranmer DR Meridian, ID 83642

Yours in horseshoes,  
Don Titcomb



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# DOWN AND BACK IN THE JUNIOR DIVISION

By Bobby White, National Junior Promotions Director

Introducing...

## USA Horseshoes for Life!

As you know from most of my previous articles, we are in the process of implementing horseshoe pitching instructional programs in numerous schools in my local area of Erie County, Pennsylvania. The interest of the schools and the students is absolutely overwhelming! Our current intent is to come up with a working model that we can easily duplicate all over the United States, mainly utilizing instructors in schools to implement the activities. As it grows, we realize that we will not be able to be a part of each program... So, these programs will have to be able to function successfully from start to finish without our presence. So, we are keeping that in mind in every thing we do. Currently, I have a core group of people working on the development of this concept with me. The main force behind all of it is Dan Kuchcinski. We are assisted by my father, Robert F. White, who is focusing on the development of the new equipment necessary for all this, but he also adds a lot of direction and wisdom to the presentation side of things. Also on our team is Jim Rimmer... He's the director of Family First Sports Park and is an expert at developing this type of program. We also intend to organize an advisory council made up of both adults and kids all over the U.S. from within the sport.

As you can see, it's now necessary to add some structure to this. So we've created an organization called "USA Horseshoes for Life," which is affiliated with a very well-known local foundation, the Family First Foundation. As you can imagine, expenses to do what we're outlining here are considerable, so we are seeking outside funding from local corporations, local government agencies, and private individuals. Those that contribute make donations to this very reputable and very familiar charity, with the funds stipulated to go for the development of their youth horseshoe pitching program run by USA Horseshoes for Life. The Family First Foundation holds all the funds for us in a separately tracked account until we have a need for funds and request a disbursement. As needed, and as this spreads to communities all over the country, we intend to set up a similar

local infrastructure for each program to operate within. I am giving you all this information because I want you all to know how this works, to understand it and to be a part of it if you so choose... I also want you all to see that this is really happening... that it's not just talk...

In developing a program to present horseshoes to kids who know nothing of the sport as we know it, there are many things to consider. We have decided that to just teach kids how to pitch horseshoes and leave it there is absolutely not enough. If we only do that and nothing more, they will miss out on the whole point of this, which is for them to learn not only a basic skill they can use for the rest of their life, but also the valuable social lessons in leadership, character building, sportsmanship, ethics, integrity and all the intangible but very real things that make up everything we all love so much about this sport. In most cases, if it weren't for the scoreboard being there, it would probably be hard to tell who won from what happens at the end of a typical horseshoe game, right? This is part of the uniqueness of the sport of horseshoes... the honesty... the integrity... the sportsmanship... the etiquette... the genuine friendships... the coaching of each other to achieve improvements, (sometimes even right amidst a competitive game)... the "family" feel of it all.... The list is endless!

This is what we feel is our obligation to teach all of these kids of the sport of horseshoe pitching. So, every aspect of our instruction will contain an element of this. We're teaching it all from square one, right down to the hand shake and the whole bit. The kids in our program will actually begin to teach each other how to pitch... They will constantly be watching and then critiquing each other during pitching drills. This does a lot of positive things. It gives them something to do while they're waiting to pitch. It helps the other players correct things they can't see in their own form. It helps the kids actually learn how to, little by little, become an instructor themselves. It teaches them to give positive encouragement to other players and it gives them a little leadership training and on top of all that, it should also help them improve their own pitching... it's the win/win situation we all hope for in

something like this.

The overall program is fairly simple right now, but I'm sure it will evolve as time passes. It starts with an introductory assembly program designed to spark the interest of students. It's presented to kids in usually about grades 2 - 6 and currently features a pitching demonstration by Dan Kuchcinski. It is followed up by an instructional program for interested students. These are of variable length, depending on the school's activity schedule. Beyond that, students interested in continuing with the sport can play in leagues and events at our local horseshoe club or at Family First Sports Park and eventually, in NHPA sanctioned tournaments. Our most recent school assembly program was in front of about 225 students at Glenwood Elementary School in the city of Erie, PA. At the end, when asked who would want to play in an after school program, nearly every kid raised their hands! It was amazing, especially for a city school! The day after that assembly, the principal of the school, Diane Bernard, had this to say about our program... *"Anytime you can capture a group of children without using the TV or other electronic devices, you have earned a star. If we had let them, the students would have forsaken lunch to keep throwing horseshoes! I am impressed with the benefits this type of program could produce... from the academic range to the social (building character, etc.) and on to the physical exercise. I am looking forward to the future that horseshoe pitching may produce for the Glenwood School students. Thank you for this program! The students and staff are still thanking me for allowing this sport to the school!"* We get this same reaction wherever we go with this... There's no doubt that it will take off like wild fire if we can get it going. Most schools have very limited funding, so supplemental donations to offset expenses are critical. If you have any personal interest in seeing such a program succeed and want to personally contribute or hold a fund raiser at a tournament or other event, please feel free to do so. You can send checks made payable to "The Family First Foundation" to USA Horseshoes for Life, 1835 East 12<sup>th</sup> Street, Erie, PA, 16511. Any contributions will be greatly appreciated and definitely will be put to wise use, furthering the growth of this sport.



# IT'S A RINGER FOR MISSOURI!

## The National Horseshoe Pitchers Hall of Fame & Museum is Coming to St. Charles County

by Jeanette Claas

Dave Loucks, President of the National Horseshoe Pitchers Foundation is very happy to announce to horseshoe pitchers across America that a contract has been finalized and the NHPA Hall of Fame will be moving to St. Charles County. The plan was approved and signed on November 28, 2005 by the St. Charles County Council. A groundbreaking ceremony is tentatively planned for the spring of 2006 and construction should begin at that time.

With this new facility, St. Charles County could become the horseshoe pitching capital of the world. If organizers are successful, the facility could host the Missouri State Horseshoe Tournament and for the very first time Missouri could host the 2009 World Horseshoe Tournament. County Executive Joe Ortwerth said a partnership with the NHPF would allow the county to add new features to its parks and show off their beauty and amenities to new visitors. St. Charles Council Chairman Doug Funderburk stated, "This is going to be quite a coop. I think it will add a new and great dimension to our parks system and it will introduce a lot of new people to the sport."

Up until 2001 all Hall of Fame memorabilia was kept in the basement of Earl and Vicki Winston's home in LaMonte, MO. At that time the NHPF built an addition to Jack Freeman's horseshoe arena in Joelton, TN and the NHPA Hall of Fame found its first established home. The Winston's, along with Joe Faron, of New Melle Horseshoe Club, traveled to Joelton with a truck and trailer full of collected horseshoe items from the past. The untimely death of Dr. Freeman in December of 2003 shocked the horseshoe world. For all that Jack had worked for, the horseshoe facility suddenly found itself without a leader and without a local club to support it. The NHPF directors came to the conclusion that without Jack's presence, the NHPA Hall of Fame building should be moved to a different location. The NHPA Council agreed and encouraged the NHPF to investigate other possible sites.

Before his death, Jack had made previous plans to donate the entire facility to the NHPF in a three-step commitment. Jack died only a few days before the third step was completed therefore the estate still owned the indoor courts. Before the NHPF could act, there had to be a settlement of the Jack Freeman estate. The NHPF directors agreed to pay \$200,000 for the Freeman courts if the estate would arrange for \$100,000 donation to be made to the NHPF. After acquiring the indoor courts, the NHPF directors were then in a position to actively pursue the interest at other sites.

The search was now on. Several horseshoe clubs expressed interest and were taken into consideration by the NHPF board members which consists of: Dave Loucks (CA), President, Mary Bastian (TN), Dick Hansen (WI), Joe Faron (MO), Ward Lutz (MN), Paul Stewart (NC) and Barry Chappelle (OR). It was decided that the ideal site should be centrally located in the United States where there is horseshoe pitching activity. To purchase land and a building both would be out of the NHPF and NHPA budget range.

Joe Faron of New Melle met with a friend, Tom Shaw, who is a prominent realtor, to see what he could find for

a site in the St. Charles County area. Realizing the financial budget that the NHPF had to work with, Tom suggested Faron contact Joe Brazil, the County Councilman for St. Charles County and the representative for the New Melle area. Full of enthusiasm, Joe Brazil suggested Faron meet with the St. Charles County Parks Department for the possibility of using donated land that a facility could be built upon. At this time Faron met with Mrs. Bettie Yahn-Kramer, Director of Parks & Recreation in St. Charles County. She, too, was caught up in the excitement of the National Horseshoe Hall of Fame possibly coming to St. Charles. After numerous meetings, discussions and proposals the two would plan a meeting that would also include Joe Ortwerth, the St. Charles County Executive and Dave Loucks of Penn Valley, California.

The site that Bettie had in mind was QUAIL RIDGE PARK; a 250 acre park located at the intersection of I-70 and I-64 (Hwy 40-61) in Wentzville, the "Crossroads of the Nations." Mr. Henry Stealey, a lifelong resident of St. Charles County, donated this tract of ground to the Parks Department in 2000. Mr. Stealey and his wife, Janice, still reside on 12 acres that he retained. The park offers a beautiful lodge that is used as a rental facility for various functions, pavilions, a disc golf course, children's fishing pond, picnic areas, off leash area, hiking trails, a three acre lake and restrooms. It is estimated that 80,000-100,000 vehicles pass by this area daily. The visibility of the new NHPA Hall of Fame building can be clearly seen from the two major highways, which would be of great exposure for the sport of horseshoes. In 1821-1826 St. Charles was the capital of Missouri until it was moved to Jefferson City. Today it is the fastest growing county in Missouri and in the top 2% nationally. Between 2000-2004 St. Charles County added 36,851 new residents.

At a September 2004 New Melle Horseshoe Club meeting, Joe Faron made the surprising announcement to the horseshoe club members that the St. Charles County area was being considered for the new NHPA Hall of Fame Building which would also include a new horseshoe facility. The New Melle Horseshoe Club members could possibly be appointed caretakers of this new building. The NMHC members could hardly contain themselves, afraid to think, "It's almost too good to be true." But from that very moment, there was a feeling of "Christmas in the air"

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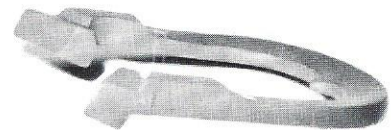
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among its members. Could we commit ourselves? You bet!

Loucks arrived in Missouri in November 2004 to look the site over and to talk with park officials. He was joined with MOHPA president Jim Bainter, Joe Faron and Roy Evans to meet with Joe Ortwerth and Bettie Yahn-Kramer to discuss the possibility of a facility to be built at the Quail Ridge Park. Later that week, Loucks came to the NMHC and announced to the members that he was very impressed with what he saw and those tentative plans would be in the making. Of this visit, Loucks stated, "I had the opportunity to meet others and see first-hand what makes Missouri such a terrific state for horseshoe pitching. The desire of the NMHC members to bring the National Hall of Fame to their area and the offer to maintain the site was extremely encouraging. Needless to say, I was very impressed with their enthusiasm for our sport."

At the 2005 World Horseshoe Tournament held in Bakersfield, CA, Loucks gave a report to the NHPA delegates at the annual Convention on the information that he gathered for the new site of the NHPA Hall of Fame and Museum. It was a verbal consensus to pursue the St. Charles County site, which was strongly supported by the NHPA Council. Brady Craven, MOHPA member, who lives in the Kansas City area, put a feather in the NMHC's hat by recommending the club, by its past reputation, be responsible caretakers of this new facility.

The NHPF has contracted Kevin O'Meara, owner of Tinker Ridge Contracting, to be the project manager for construction of the building. Roy Evans, vice-president of NMHC, has worked closely with the project manager in the planning of the new horseshoe facility. Rose Diekamp, a vital member of NMHC and a professional architectural interior and exterior designer, has spent many volunteer hours on the design of the new facility. She started with Plan A and has worked herself now through Plan N proving that she is as talented off the courts as she is on the courts. Bob Diekamp, husband and an avid horseshoe pitcher, has also offered his services in this operation.

"Tentative plans in the making" seemed to be a long time coming for the anxious NMHC members. After many more meetings, phone calls, correspondence, e-mails and a year later a contract was drawn up between the NHPF and the St. Charles County Parks Department. The County was to lease to the NHPF a three acre parcel of ground located in Quail Ridge Park. The contract calls for the foundation to build the facility on a 3-acre tract in Quail Ridge Park that it would lease for 30 years from the County for \$100 a year, with a three 10-year option renewal. The County expects to spend about \$300,000 on a parking lot, an entry road and landscaping. The NHPF plans to spend \$625,000 on its facility, that would include about 24 indoor horseshoe courts and eight outdoor horseshoe courts that will be open to the general public. Some of the thoughts and plans that the NHPA are considering would include a brick program that would commemorate a "Walk of Fame" as you enter the building, corporate sponsors for the building and personal court sponsorship.

In a courtroom at the beautiful dome courthouse in St. Charles, on November 14, 2005, a moment in horseshoe history was being made. Approximately fifty horseshoe pitchers from NMHC chose not to go to their regular league play, but to attend a rather important meeting that could nationally impact all horseshoe pitchers. They gathered to show their support by attending a public hearing at the St. Charles County Council. Legislation of Bill NO. 2812 would be introduced to bring the National Horseshoe Pitchers Hall of Fame to St. Charles County.

Joe Ortwerth, whose Dad was also a horseshoe pitcher, enthusiastically introduced the bill to the

Executive Council for legislation. Joe Faron, past president of NMHC, and past president of MOHPA, spoke briefly for the opportunity that was entrusted to us. He asked that all members in support of this bill to stand up, **and proudly we did.** Dave Loucks, next came to the podium to address the Council. Loucks stated his position as President of the NHPF and past President of the NHPA then gave a very brief history of horseshoe pitching dating its origin back to the days of the Roman Empire. He mentioned that the NHPA was an organization about 85 years old with some 14,000 members that set the equipment guidelines and playing rules for the game that had some 15 million recreational participants nationwide. Loucks then stated how happy he was to be standing before the Council representing the organization that was on the threshold of seeing a 40 year dream of having a Hall of Fame & Museum become a reality. He thanked St. Charles County Executive Joe Ortwerth and Parks & Recreation Director Bettie Yahn-Kramer for all their support in this project and then mentioned that the dream probably had its start with two MOHPA and NHPA Hall of Fame members, Earl and Vicki Winston. Paul Stewart, NHPA President coming from North Carolina also spoke in support of the facility and of the great opportunity that the new facility would offer by having not only local and state activities, but also on the national level.

Who do we thank for this great opportunity? First we must thank Jack Freeman for his generosity and love for the sport of horseshoes. This building will actually be the "second house that Jack helped to build." His financial support has made this all possible. NMHC made many trips to Nashville to enjoy the courts that he built. Little did we know that a part of Jack would be returning to Missouri in this form. In September 2005, a group of NMHC members traveled to Joelton to bring back the Hall of Fame memorabilia and equipment that could be utilized in the new facility. The spirit of Jack will forever live on in this new facility. Secondly, New Melle Horseshoe Club thanks the NHPF and the NHPA for this opportunity to be caretakers of the facility. To Dave Loucks, Paul Stewart and Joe Faron, we say thanks for your time and dedication to this project. To all the horseshoe pitchers in Missouri and across the United States, **this is your dream as well as ours.** May we all be supportive and enjoy the National Horseshoe Pitchers Hall of Fame. Let the fun begin.

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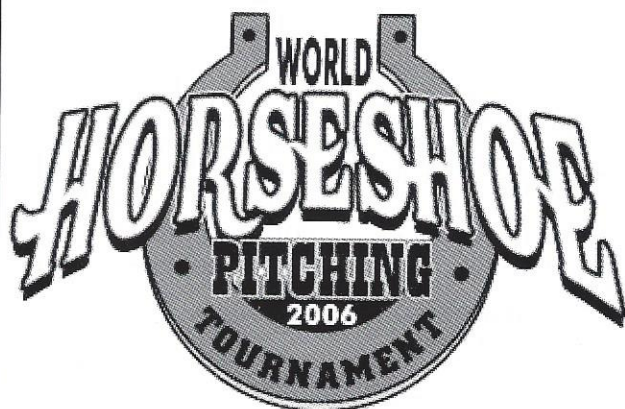
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**National Sanctioned Club/League Tournament Finals  
October 8 & 9, 2005**

All pitchers pitched 550 shoes.

Name	Wins	Losses	Ringers	%
<b>Welles Park, IL</b>	<b>24.5</b>	<b>8.5</b>		
Dalton Simmons	6.5	4.5	276	50.18
Hallie Romanelli	10	1	334	60.73
Richard Andrysiak	8	3	266	48.36
<b>Stroh, IN</b>	<b>22.5</b>	<b>10.5</b>		
Pat Laffon	7	4	280	50.91
Joe Graber	9	2	312	56.73
Archie Sexton	6.5	4.5	249	45.27
<b>Marion, IN</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>12</b>		
Curly Seibold	9.5	1.5	387	70.36
Jenny Morris	6	5	298	54.18
James Morris	5.5	5.5	284	51.64
<b>New Melle, MO</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>15</b>		
Rich Altis	9	2	364	66.18
Mick Gillette	6	5	324	58.91
Roy Evans	3	8	115	20.91
<b>Whitley #1, IN</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>17</b>		
Rick Coyle	3	8	83	15.09
Carolyn Coyle	8	3	331	60.18
Stan Loy	5	6	278	50.55
<b>Yukon, OK</b>	<b>15.5</b>	<b>17.5</b>		
Leonard Burke	5	6	65	11.82
Georgia Burke	4.5	6.5	150	27.27
Thelma Trent	6	5	125	22.73
<b>Downers Grove, IL</b>	<b>15.5</b>	<b>17.5</b>		
Luke Thompson	5	6	202	36.73
Fred Morel	3.5	7.5	144	26.18
Paul Zimmerman	7	4	114	20.73
<b>New Castle, IN</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>18</b>		
Charlie Luellen	2	9	179	32.55
Eugene Powell	8	3	259	47.09
Ron Womack	5	6	264	48.00
<b>Brighton, MI</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>19</b>		
Steve Summerlin	4.5	6.5	280	50.91
Paul Bachelor	2	9	225	40.91
George Tanner	7.5	3.5	286	52.00
<b>Sandbar, WI</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>20</b>		
Ken Frame	5.5	5.5	249	45.27
Bernard Carley	4	7	222	40.36
Dave Forseth	3.5	7.5	160	29.09
<b>Whitley #2, IN</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>20</b>		
Connie Reimer	8	3	216	39.27
Kelly Neace	3	8	168	30.55
Monroe Howard	2	9	76	13.82
<b>Enid, OK</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>23</b>		
Ronnie Fredrick	1	10	140	25.45
Bill Hail	2	9	157	28.55
Homer Cain	7	4	108	19.64

# STATE CHAMPIONSHIP RESULTS

## Kansas State Championships September 3, 2005

### Men's Championship

1. Robert Booe	11/0	61.30%
2. Bret Vogel	10/1	60.00%
3. Bernie VanLerberg	9/2	56.88%
4. Kevin Schlimme	6/5	50.00%
5. David Kincaid	6/5	47.58%
6. Gregg Turner	6/5	43.93%
7. Edwynn Moe Thomas	4/7	45.80%
8. Doug McConnell	4/7	43.47%
9. Donald Swegel	4/7	36.61%
10. Ray Pollard	3/8	39.40%
11. Howard Reed	2/9	37.90%
12. Lester Bartels	1/10	33.33%

### Women's Championship

1. OraLee Jeardoe	5/0	57.81%
2. Jan VanLerberg	4/1	50.00%
3. Dorothy Pritchard	3/2	44.02%
4. Lynda Frederick	2/3	36.61%
5. Mary Trollope	1/4	35.19%
6. Janell Peninger	0/5	22.96%

### Elder's Championship

1. Merlin Potts	5/0	65.69%
2. Bill Whitley	4/1	60.81%
3. Duane Pollard	3/2	56.61%
4. Duane Goodrich	2/3	49.52%
5. Virgil Chase	1/4	43.24%
6. Bennie Lee	0/5	46.22%

### Junior Boy's Championship

1. Kyle Bidwell	6/1	36.93%
2. Jason Beach	5/2	34.76%
3. Joshua Routh	2/4	27.54%
4. TJ Collette	0/6	13.18%

### Junior Girl's Championship

1. Ashley Talley	4/0	8.75%
2. Desiree Ridder	1/3	5.00%
3. Danielle Ridder	1/3	1.88%

### Men's Classes

<b>A</b> Ken Perry	9/2	37.41%
<b>B</b> Mike Cook	10/3	34.25%
<b>C</b> Travis Thompson	9/2	26.14%
<b>D</b> John Klug	8/2	17.50%
<b>E</b> Terry Talley	7/0	16.43%

### Women's Classes

<b>A</b> Terry Lilak	4/0	45.88%
<b>B</b> Pam Bishop	4/0	19.38%
<b>C</b> Brenda Keeler	6/0	20.00%
<b>D</b> Phyllis Weber	5/1	10.42%

### Elder's Classes

<b>A</b> Arthur Krehbiel	5/1	52.08%
<b>B</b> Paul Lowry	5/1	37.92%
<b>C</b> John Beat	5/0	20.83%

### Junior Boy's Classes

<b>A</b> Allic Bell	6/0	23.33%
<b>B</b> Calvin Perry	4/0	6.88%
<b>C</b> Ian Trollope	3/1	1.88%

## North Dakota State Championships September 4, 2005

### Men's Championship

1. Garnett Rudie	7/1	40.14%
2. Damion Johnson	6/2	44.03%
3. Jon Bennett	5/2	44.85%
4. Ron Hopfauf	4/3	41.86%

5. Stuart Sipma	3/4	42.11%
6. Chuck Schlecht	2/5	33.81%
7. Gary Erickson	2/5	31.36%
8. Ed Binstock	0/7	29.09%

**Women's Championship**

1. Connie Filley	6/0	79.44%
2. Carol A Peterson	4/2	55.84%
3. Dorinda Johnson	2/4	47.79%

**Elder's Championship**

1. Larry Jorgenson	7/1	58.50%
2. Floyd Preston	6/2	52.00%
3. Gene Lykken	3/4	39.14%
4. Bruce Hinkel	3/4	38.86%
5. Myron Trangsrud	3/4	36.29%
6. Harold Hoff	2.5/4.5	33.71%
7. Don Haugeberg	2.5/4.5	31.14%
8. Don Bennett	2/5	35.43%

**Junior's Championship**

1. Justin Sipma	4/1	56.52%
2. Trevor Sipma	4/2	47.76%
3. Jeremy Engel	3/2	44.53%
4. Ryne Lund	1/3	30.22%
5. Jacob Shimek	0/4	32.42%

**20' Junior's Championship**

1. Jennifer Trader	3/0	6.00%
2. Austin Hagerott	2/1	8.67%
3. Angela Knudson	1/2	3.33%
4. Terrah Olauson	0/3	0.00%

**Men's Classes**

A Ron Hopfauf	6/1	46.86%
B Archie Filley	6/1	34.29%
C Chuck Schlecht	6/1	41.43%
D Robert Phelps	4/2	20.00%
E Nick Johnson	4/1	21.60%
F Dennis Engel	4/1	12.80%

**Elder's Classes**

A Wilbur Gabel	4/1	44.80%
B Paul Hagen	4/1	29.60%
C Nancy Christenson	6/0	21.67%

**Junior's Classes**

A Alexandra Hagen	4/0	26.50%
B Jon Davis	4/0	23.00%
C Ryan Engel	4/0	18.50%

**Tennessee State Championship  
Crossville - September 10, 2005**

**Men's Championships**

1. Shannon Foster	5/0	75.2%
2. Jack Conner	3/2	59.4%
3. Elmo Cox	3/2	50.0%
4. Richard Evans	3/2	48.1%
5. Harold Morgan	1/4	47.4%
6. Charles Helton	0/5	45.5%

**Women's Championship**

1. Joan Elmore	5/0	80.2%
2. Adelene Foster	0/5	58.1%

**Elder's Championship**

1. Bobby Fields	5/1	73.4%
2. DW Story	3/3	68.7%
3. Het Birchfield	1/5	52.8%

**Junior Boy's Championship**

1. James Tramel	0/6	7.5%
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**Other Classes**

B Donna Hyder	4/1	48.1%
C Dahl Kirk	5/2	39.7%
D Jo Ann Stanford	5/3	39.7%
E Walter Sexton	6/0	39.8%
F L.C. Albright	6/1	32.0%
G Willard Williams	7/1	30.8%
H Jim Sizemore	6/1	18.8%

# HALL OF FAME *by Earl and Vicki Winston*

We hope you will excuse our absence for the last couple of issues, but there was not much to report. Things have been very quiet in recent months. We are sorry that we did not make the World Tournament in Bakersfield. The severe drought we were experiencing here in our area did not give us the opportunity to change our minds about making a trip to California. We had to stay home to tend to the needs of our cattle. Thus, Earl's string of attending every World Tournament since 1951 came to an end. Vicki had missed only two World Tournaments since 1953. Perhaps we can start a new string by going to Gillette this year. We will certainly work on it.

We would like to welcome Bob Dunn as a voting member of the NHPA Hall of Fame Committee. NHPA President, Paul Stewart, has appointed Bob to our committee to replace Donnie Roberts, who passed away early in 2005. If you don't know Bob, you should at least recognize his name from his column that appears regularly in this magazine. We think that Paul has made an excellent choice and we look forward to working with Bob.

A work party went to Joelton, TN this fall and returned all of the Hall of Fame memorabilia to Missouri. It is now well traveled, having left our home just a few years ago to make the trip south. The memorabilia has been placed in a secure area while awaiting a new home, which quite likely will be in the eastern part of Missouri. This is indeed an exciting development.

There has not been any new Hall of Fame nominations received since the 2005 voting took place. The deadline for nominations to be considered in the 2006 voting is February 28, 2006. A nomination form is available by going to [www.horseshoepitching.com](http://www.horseshoepitching.com) and clicking on the Hall of Fame link. If no further nominations are received, these are the candidates that will be on the 2006 ballot:

**PLAYER**

- Harold Anthony
- Ed Arionus
- Charles Bobbitt
- Frank Bohun
- Tom Brownell
- Mike DiMartino
- Harvey Elmeron
- Loren May
- Robert (Bob) May
- Spud Napier
- Ron Simmons
- Ralph Simon

- Harry G. Haynes
- Floyd Hix
- Steve Summerlin
- Don Weaver
- Walter I. Williams

**PLAYER/ORGANIZER**

- Curt Bestul
- Alex Cummings
- Alvin Dahlene
- Clayton "Boo" Henson
- Genevieve Lavett
- Len Lipovsky
- Curly Seibold
- Ralph Spencer
- William Weis
- Woody Wilson

**PROMOTER/ORGANIZER**

- George Anderson
- Francis Asher
- G. A. Berger
- Frank Crum
- Will Gullickson

*Announcing!!!*

# TEAM WORLD 2006

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**May 19, 20, & 21, 2006**



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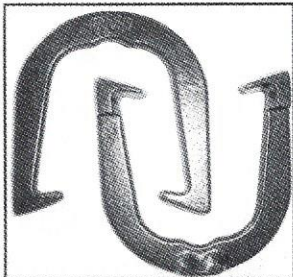


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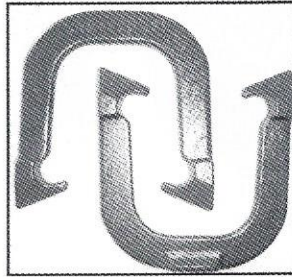


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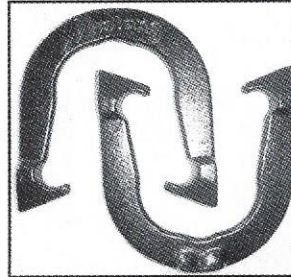
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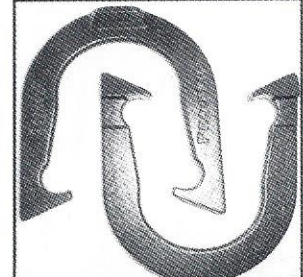
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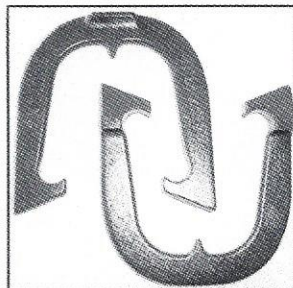
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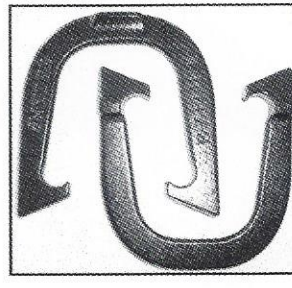
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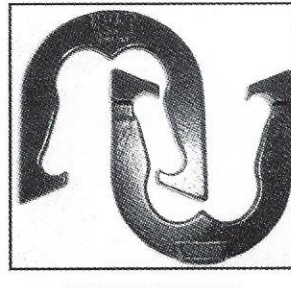
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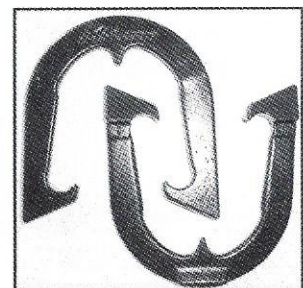
**SNYDER E-Z FLIP**  
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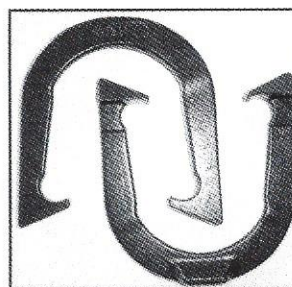
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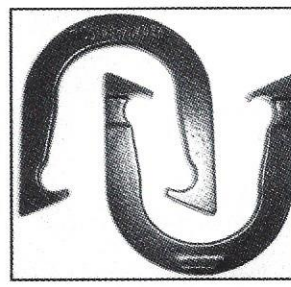
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