



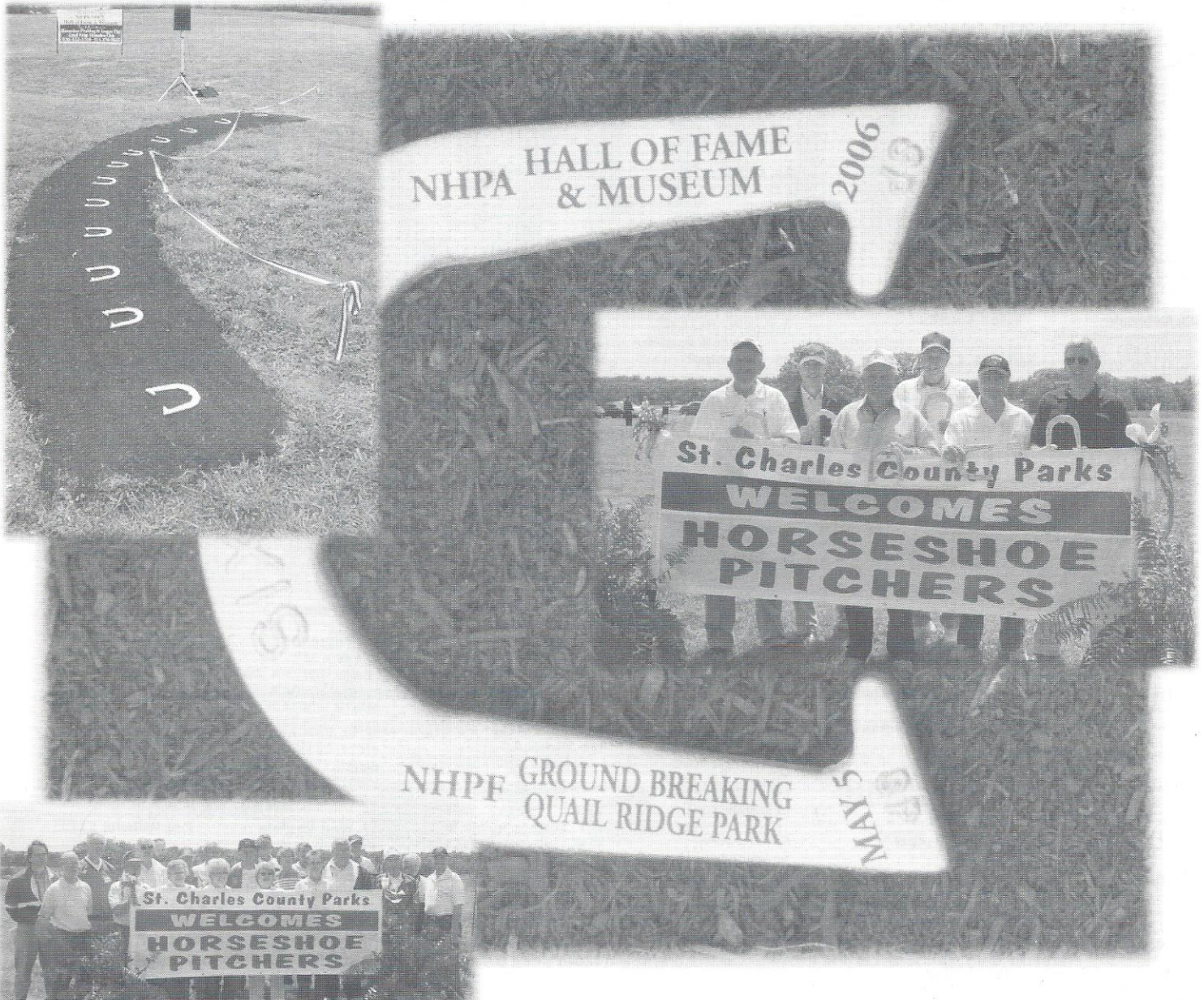
Horseshoe Pitching NEWSLINE

Official Publication of the National Horseshoe Pitchers Association

VOL. 18, NO. 4

JULY/AUGUST 2006

NHPA Hall of Fame Groundbreaking Ceremony



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 1st Vice-President who is in charge of all RDs. He should have copies of all the state schedules. The address for the 1st VP can be found on page 3 of this publication.

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Horseshoe Pitching NEWSLINE

Official Publication of the National Horseshoe Pitchers Association

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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE by Paul Stewart

We welcome and are happy to report a total of 904 entrants for the 2006 World Tournament. Entries are well below the number expected and I'm sure gasoline prices, airfares and lodging costs played a big part in this. However, this does not mean that the World Tournament won't be a great one.

Again, we are pleased to have you and would like to report the following breakdown of entrants: 396 Open Men; 117 Women; 27 Sr. Women; 112 Sr. Men; 196 Elders; 38 Juniors Boys; 13 Junior Girls; and 7 nine & under. A breakdown of entrants by state is located on the NHPA website at www.horseshoepitching.com. The World Tournament e-mail address is: wt2006@horseshoepitching.com. The World Tournament Press Room e-mail address is: press-info@horseshoepitching.com. The World Tournament office telephone number which will be effective July 9th through July 22 is: **307-687-9401**.

A reminder to all Charter Presidents: By-Laws, Article IX: section 3. The Charter President must provide to the NHPA President, at least 72 hours prior to the start of the convention, a written and signed list of delegates which names the delegation Chairman.

I will accept a list of your delegates by e-mail if sent by the Charter President. I will be leaving for Gillette, on July 6th. Please allow several days mailing time prior to this date. You can e-mail me your delegates list at: nhpapaul@bellsouth.net prior to July 6th. After July 6, you can email me your delegates list at least 72 hours prior to July 16th 8:00 a.m. to wt2006@horseshoepitching.com

Times and dates for all meetings; Regional Directors, State Officers, Club/League Directors meeting will be posted on location at the tournament. Our Church services are scheduled for 3:00 p.m. on Sunday afternoon July 16th and the location will be posted at the tournament. NHPA Chaplin Jerry Holt and Assistant Chaplin Ken Heinritz will be in charge of the service. Everyone is welcome and we look forward to having good attendance at our church services again this year.

Awards will be presented at our annual Hall of Fame & Awards Banquet, Sunday, July 16th at the Clarion Hotel and Convention Center in Gillette. I am happy to announce this year's Stokes Award will be going to Joe Faron of Missouri. The President's Award will go to Harvey Wobbe of Missouri. Achievement Awards will be going to Don Titcomb of Idaho and Harold Hargett of Delaware. Membership awards and league awards will be announced at the banquet. Regional Director of the Year Award is listed in Dan Sander's article in this issue of *Newsline*. This year's Hall of Fame inductee was announced in the Hall of Fame article in the May/June issue of *Newsline*. Please make plans to attend the Hall of Fame & Awards Banquet. I promise you will have fun, a good meal and an enjoyable evening.

For all of you who are participating in this year's World Tournament, we wish you a safe trip and an enjoyable stay while in Gillette and a safe trip home.

This year in horseshoes has been a busy one for me. After our Council meeting in January it wasn't long before it was time for the Dogwood Tournament in April.

In early May, I traveled to St. Charles, MO for the ground breaking of our Hall of Fame where I was very impressed with all of the support from the St. Charles County Government, the Quail Ridge Parks & Recreation and all of the horseshoe pitchers that attended the ceremonies.

Then late May was time for the Team World in Beloit, WI. I flew into Moline, IL to stay with Burly on my way to Team World in Beloit. On Wednesday we drove up to Maquoketa, Iowa to visit with NHPA Hall of Fame member Red Henton. We met Red

for lunch and I think he knew everyone in the place. Red had brought scrap books along and told us many stories about the World Tournaments and of the longest game in horseshoes that he shares with Ray Martin; a game of 194 shoes. I am hoping Red will let us put them in our new Hall of Fame Museum. What history he has in his possession??? Then some dignitaries started showing up; the Chief of Police and then the Editor of the local newspaper. We went to the radio station for a visit and then to his old home place in the country. Red doesn't own it anymore but that didn't make any difference. We just went on in and he showed us all around the nice home and acreage. We were looking at the sun porch and a car drove up the lane and the driver said "Stay where you are the law will be here in a minute". Joking of course because it was the owner who told us that Red thinks he still owns the place. Grin!!!! Red looks really good for his 85 years. He still drives, plays his music and sings for the old folks in the rest homes in the area. He gave us some CD's of his music, just treasures, which we enjoyed on the drive back to Davenport. Red, himself, is a treasure.

Now it's early June, time to go to Crossville, TN for the Volunteer State Open; most pitchers referred to this tournament as the "Big Money" tournament. This tournament had a purse of over \$77,000! I regret to inform you that I did not win a single buck. The tournament was a big success. I would like to congratulate Bob Hassan and his tournament committee for a great tournament and I am sure everyone else that participated in the tournament will convey the same. And, we are all looking forward to next years Volunteer State Open.

Don't forget July is time for the Ringer Classic in Greenville Ohio, July 1-3 and then it's on to Gillette.

See you all at the courts!

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REGIONAL DIRECTORS REPORT

by Dan Sanders

Regional Director of The Year for 2006

I am happy to announce that Don Weaver, Regional Director for the state of Nevada, has been named as the "Regional Director of the Year" for 2006. Don has served the NHPA as Regional Director for many years and in addition to fulfilling all of these duties in a most complete and professional way, he has been a great promoter of horseshoes in many other ways as well. Anyone who has known Don through the years will certainly agree that this honor is well-deserved. This award will be officially presented during the world tournament banquet ceremonies in Gillette. Congratulations Don!

Reporting to NATSTATS

All Regional Directors are reminded that they should keep in contact with their Tournament Directors to make sure that tournament results are reported to NATSTATS within 30 days. For those who have computer access, this can be easily monitored from the NHPA website by going to the NATSTATS link, then clicking on Reported Events, then scrolling down to your charter number and the listing of reported results that have been received by NATSTATS.

New Charter, Regional Director

Harold Harget has been appointed as the new Regional Director for the state of Delaware. Due to an increase in membership over the last few years, from about 20 to over 100, Delaware has been added to the list of NHPA Charters and Harold has agreed to serve as the new Regional Director. Harold reports that he has recently sanctioned two new court complexes and that their tournament schedule now includes two tournaments per month; from April through October. This Charter previously included the states of Maryland and Delaware. Don Lawyer will continue on as the Regional Director of Maryland.

New Assistant Regional Directors

The state of Ohio welcomes the addition of three new Assistant Regional Directors. They are: Dick Guill, Northwest District; Mike Worthington, Southwest District, and Randy Shoemaker, Southeast District. Thanks in advance for their help in the running of tournaments and in the promotion of horseshoes within their districts.

Dale Boss, Arizona Regional Director has recently sanctioned twelve new courts on public property at Watson Lake Park in Prescott, Arizona where a new horseshoe club was formed in December of 2005. These courts meet all of the current court sanction requirements and will be used for tournaments and handicap leagues this summer.

Wayne Bennett, Montana Regional Director has sent along an impressive tournament schedule for 2006 that includes 41 events that will be held throughout the year. The Montana Association is doing its part in the promotion of horseshoes this year by picking up the cost of the NHPA card for first-time members, and will also be encouraging more participation by 30-foot pitchers in all locales, including their State Tournament.

Jerry LaBrosse, Minnesota Regional Director has sent along this report: Horseshoe action continued during the

winter months in Minnesota with tournaments being held in the beautiful Upsala Horseshoe arena. Each year tournaments are held monthly from January through April in this fine facility. This year the tournaments filled up quickly and some were turned away. The increase in entries is believed to be a need for world tournament qualifying events, which is why the winter tournaments in Upsala began the year Hibbing hosted the world tournament. It appears that Minnesota will have a strong showing in Gillette this summer.

Also, the MGSHPA was invited to set up a horseshoe pitching display at the Minnesota Horse Expo, held at the MN State Fairgrounds April 28-30. Don Titcomb's "Pitch and Win" program was the patterned procedure for this event. Although over 55,000 people were expected to see this display, rainy weather likely kept these numbers down. But in spite of the rain, over 1,000 people tried their luck at pitching a few horseshoes in hopes of winning a prize; all for free. Details and results of this event will be organized and available at the world tournament in Gillette.

NHPA Income And Expenditures February, March, April and May 2006

Receipts

Charter Dues	\$9,513.00
Horseshoe Sanction Fees	\$3,400.00
Membership Dues	\$56,792.00
Newsline Ads	\$5,567.00
Newsline Subscriptions	\$9,769.00
W.T. Entries	\$87,100.00
US Bank Interest - Money Market	\$274.73
US Bank Interest - Checking	\$295.48
NHPF Donations	\$8.00
Sanction Club/League Patches	\$15.00
Donation To The Junior Fund	\$35.00
Total	\$172,769.21

Expenditures

Newsline Printing, Supplies & Mailing	\$8,171.96
Newsline Publication, Editing, & Miscellaneous	\$999.75
All Junior Scholarship Trusts	\$835.31
W.T. Refunds, Fees, Dues And Overpayments	\$1,725.00
Hall Of Fame Awards Supplies And Expenses	\$364.01
Regional Director Allowance	\$4,639.40
Regional Director, Postage, Telephone, Supplies & Printing	\$748.84
Equipment Purchases, Rentals & Repairs	\$1,026.46
Printing, Paper & Office Supplies	\$3,431.10
Postage	\$1,204.42
Officers Telephone	\$1,054.88
Officers Travel	\$5,321.40
Secretary-Treasurer Allowance	\$6,900.00
Presidents Allowance	\$2,100.00
Publicity Promotions & Ads	\$11,221.67
Direct & Indirect NHPF Donations & Support	\$523.51
Misc. Fees, Bonds, Bank Charges, Etc.	\$532.16
Special Events	\$1,089.52
Refunds	\$204.00
Natstats	\$1,050.00
Internet Access & Web Site	\$1,286.54
Total	\$54,429.93

From The Books Of NHPA
Secretary/Treasurer Dick Hansen

NHPF NEWS VIEWS & DONATIONS

by Dave Loucks

The temperature was a bit on the cool side, but the sun was shining for the May 5th ceremonial groundbreaking of the National Horseshoe Pitchers Hall of Fame Museum and Pitching Facility in Quail Ridge Park, Wentzville, Missouri. Nearly 175 people were in attendance and welcoming speeches were given by St. Charles County Executive, Joe Ortwerth, Parks & Recreation Director, Bettie Yahn-Kramer, NHPF President, Dave Loucks and NHPA President, Paul Stewart.

At most groundbreaking ceremonies, you see dignitaries putting shovels into the ground. Our ceremony was different and unique. Harvey Wobbe, owner of Six Pac Horseshoes, had donated twelve gold horseshoes specially inscribed for this occasion. Six officials from St. Charles County and six officers representing the NHPA and NHPF were each given a shoe. From an arched starting line about 20 feet from a gold stake in the middle of an oversized pit, all twelve representatives threw their horseshoes at the same time. When all the horseshoes settled to the ground, one had encircled the stake and everyone could claim it was theirs. After the ceremony, all in attendance made their way to the beautiful lodge building in the park where the Wentzville Holiday Inn provided light hors d'oeuvres and refreshments. It was a great day and a great beginning for the National Horseshoe Pitchers Hall of Fame, Museum and Pitching Facility, which will be built and paid for by the NHPF.

The actual grading process to prepare the building site for the foundation and 21,000 sq. ft. concrete slab is expected to start by July. If all goes well, and that is a big uncertainty, the facility may be ready for pitching by the end of December. It is expected that the 1,800 sq. ft. Hall of Fame room will not have its displays ready for viewing by the general public until sometime later in the spring or summer of 2007. St. Charles County will be investing nearly \$300,000 in the overall project by putting in a new 170-space parking lot and extensive landscaping. In the midst of the landscape area across from the building entrance, the NHPF will place the Jack Freeman Memorial Plaza. This plaza in memory of Jack will contain a few thousand commemorative bricks that we hope members, clubs, charters and corporations will buy to help fund the Hall of Fame building project. A printed information brochure

will be mailed to each NHPA member in the very near future.

This building project will initially include the Hall of Fame & Museum room, sixteen indoor courts, eight outdoor courts, some offices, restrooms, storage rooms and a food/refreshment center. You can show your support for this building project and the ongoing NHPF grant program by sending a tax-deductible contribution to the NHPF. Mail your contribution to P.O. Box 1628, Penn Valley, CA 95946. A letter of thanks will acknowledge donations of \$25 or more.

In the months of April and May, a total of \$3,425 in contributions were received from the following.

Donating \$10-99

Len & Renea Lipovsky, MN
Tim Woodden, OR
Dan Sanders, OH
Tri-Valley H.C., CA *
Charles Bunner, WV
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Mylan Park H.C., WV
Art Moran, MN
Rick & Shelia Bolick, NC
Ed Andrus, OH
Don & Jeanette Claas, MO

Donating \$100-299

North Dakota HPA **
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Whetstone H.C., OH
Minnesota GSHPA
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Elwyn Cooper, MO
Curly & Bonnie Seibold, IN
Wisconsin HPA
Paul & Pat Stewart, NC
Pork's Shoe Shop, SC

Donating \$300-499

New Melle H.C., MO

Donating \$500

Dogwood Tournament, NC

NHPA MMA Interest Rcvd \$140

*In Memory of Luke Braun
** In Memory of Wally Arndt
*** In Memory of Jerry Griggs

SPECIAL EVENTS CALENDAR

AUGUST 2006

14th - Iowa State Fair Midwest Senior Classic, Iowa State Fairgrounds, Des Moines, IA NHPA Sanctioned. Must be 60 years of age by August 14th. Over \$1,800 spent on awards each year. Entry deadline: August 1st (No late entries) Registration Fee: \$15, Championship \$20. (Will be notified when you play) Send entry fee of \$15 to Dave Sidles 2816 Pinehurst Circle, Ames, IA 50010. Phone (515) 233-1394 Email: dsidles@mchsi.com. Include with fee: name, complete mailing address, phone number, gender, NHPA card number and pitching distance. Tournament Director, Danny Sease phone: (515) 285-0131 or email: ddsease@msn.com and ask for Iowa State Fair flyer.

SEPTEMBER 2006

2nd - Louisiana Shrimp and Petroleum Festival MDA Horseshoe Tournament - Kemper Williams Park - 203 Park Road - Patterson, LA \$20.00 entry fee. Prize money to the top 3 finishers in each bracket. Pre-register by August 30, 2006. Contact: Angela Perle - 985-384-9490, Tim Hayles - 985-385-3858, or Tim Gilmore - 985-395-5062. Camping at the Park, 985-395-2298 Tournament benefits MDA

The Top 15 Contributing States

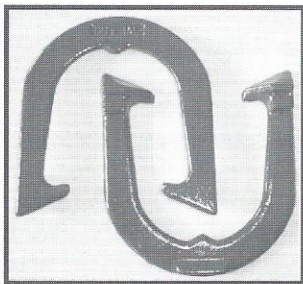
Contributors	Donations	\$
1. CA	94	210
2. TN	30	62
3. NC	26	136
4. MO	53	111
5. MN	39	212
6. OR	21	77
7. WI	29	100
8. MI	45	108
9. CO	23	62
10. GA	15	20
11. FL	40	62
12. MA	10	15
13. PA	27	52
14. WA	30	55
15. IL	40	74

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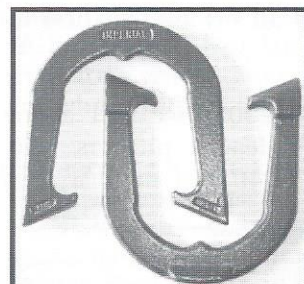
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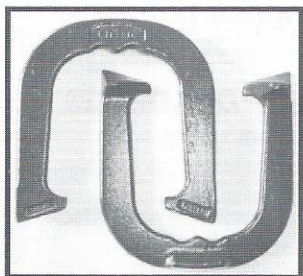


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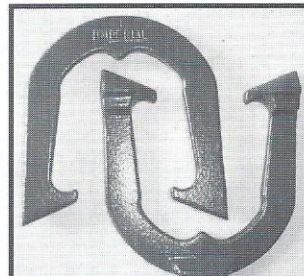


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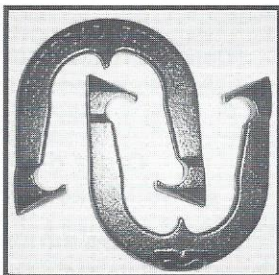
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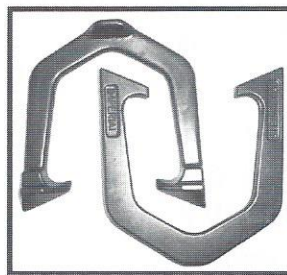
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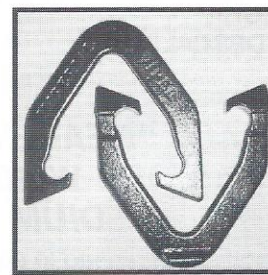
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SANCTIONED CLUB/LEAGUE REPORT by Lorraine Sternberg

Here we are again, World Tournament time. It's the time when we get to see friends that we have made over the years; time to catch up with all the things that have been going on with their families during the past year. And of course time to pitch some horseshoes. To me though, the World Tournament is more than pitching horseshoes. I am very grateful for joining a horseshoe league, back some 25 years ago, because if I and my husband had not done so, we would have never known all the wonderful people that we do. Not only did we make many friends, our three daughters also did. In fact our daughter, Heidi, met her husband through horseshoes and are about to have their first child.

So I look forward to seeing many of you. Those of you who were at the World Tournament in Gillette, Wyoming ten years ago, know that it was a great place for a world tournament and that 2006 will also be a great tournament.

For all of you who have not yet filled out the bottom portion of the letter that was sent to you, please do so. I am trying to update all my information on all the club and league directors.

Last year (2005) we had a grand total of 5,423 active sanctioned league pitchers. To break it down - there were 3,639 40-foot men, 870 women, 623 30-foot men,

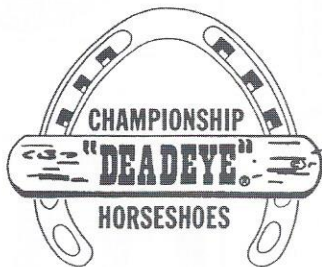
224 junior boys and 67 junior girls. In 2004 we reported 5,584 league pitchers. So we have dropped by 161 pitchers. Hopefully 2006 will be a much better year. The largest club was the Valley HSC, from Connecticut, with a total of 154 pitchers. This is only the second year that the Valley HSC was sanctioned.

You never know where you will find a sanctioned club when you are traveling. I came across a story in the Minnesota Ringer Digest that I found interesting. Dick David and his wife, Judy, were vacationing in Hawaii when they came across a sight very familiar to them, twelve horseshoe pits. It turned out to be a sanctioned league, so Dick was able to pitch a few games with the locals. From the article it sounded like he had a great time. So keep your eyes open next time you are on vacation.

Don't forget to get your entry in for the Sanctioned Club/League Tournament. The entry form was in the last issue of Newsline. If you are in need of a form just let me know.

Good Luck to everyone that entered the World Tournament.

May you all have a safe and enjoyable trip to Gillette!



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HALL OF FAME

by Earl and Vicki Winston

There isn't a lot to report at the moment, but we do need to take this opportunity to make a correction concerning the name of the gentleman who will be inducted into the Hall of Fame in July at Gillette, Wyoming. Since the May/June article was written, we have learned that Ralph Kelly Spencer is not the correct name of the inductee. It appears that the authors of the early horseshoe magazines did not know that either. When Mr. Spencer was born, his parents gave him the name of Ralph Parker Spencer. As he grew up, he did not like the name Ralph and didn't use it, so he chose another name for himself. He decided to go by the name Kelly, because he loved the color Kelly green. His daughter says that every desk, table, chair and even the safe were painted Kelly green. And now you know more of the story.

We drove to the Wentzville, Missouri area on May 5th to attend the groundbreaking ceremony for the new Hall of Fame complex at Quail Ridge Park. It was good to see so many horseshoe friends from all over the country. There was a very large crowd in attendance. The ceremony was quite impressive and we think everyone will be pleased with the beautiful location that has been chosen for this new facility. You can help by sending donations to the NHPF or by the purchase of commemorative bricks.

We will repeat that it is not too soon to send nominations for next years voting. The deadline is February 28, 2007. Please don't wait until the last minute. Take time to put together a nomination that will be worthy of your candidate; don't send something that was thrown together a day before the deadline. A nomination form can be printed from the Hall of Fame link on the NHPA web site.

As this is being written, we are looking forward to our world tournament trip and the renewing of many friendships. Hope to see you there and don't forget to order your banquet tickets!!!

WORLD TOURNAMENT UPDATE

- by Stu Sipma

I still have been receiving many phone calls and e-mails from locations wanting to bid for the 2009 World Tournament. I am glad to see many sites wanting to host this event in their community. To date we have ten (10) locations showing interest, Spearfish - South Dakota, Cedar Rapids - Iowa, Grand Rapids - Michigan, St. Charles - Missouri, St. George - Utah, Birch Run - Michigan, Gurnee - Illinois, Springfield - Illinois, Tulsa - Oklahoma, and Morgantown - West Virginia. There has been approximately twenty (20) other locations calling and inquiring about the tournament.

If you need any assistance about information pertaining to the bidding process please contact me via e-mail or by phone.

Dates to remember for upcoming world tournaments are as follows:

2007 - Ardmore, Oklahoma - July 23 - August 4
2008 - Decatur, Alabama - July 14-26

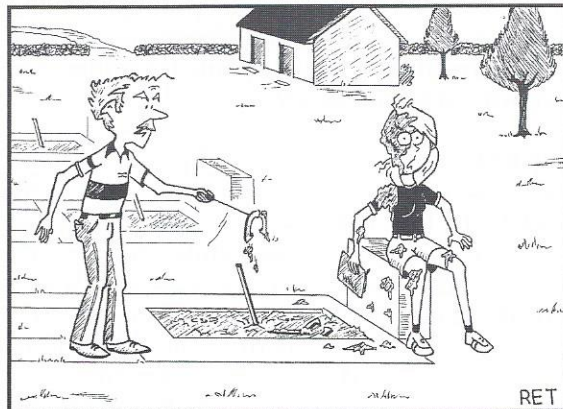
2nd Annual La-Z-Daz Classic

by Mary Wilburn

One hundred fifty-one pitchers participated in the La-Z-Daz Classic at Quartzsite, Arizona this past January 19th through 22nd.

For the second year, Tournament Director John Sargeant and his assistant, wife Lisa, did a great job. There were 89 pitchers in the Warm-up, 55 pitchers for the Cool-Down and 82 came to the potluck.

CARTOON by Robert E. Taylor



'DRATS! I'VE PITCHED INTO A SLOPPY WET PIT
AND MY BRAND NEW SHOES ARE A MESS!'

PUBLICITY PROMOTION by Casey Sluys

BANNERS

The NHPA has offered each horseshoe club affiliated with them, and holding a minimum of two sanctioned events per year, a beautiful banner; see Newsline issue January/February for details. If your club qualifies and has not received one, get your charter Regional Director to hustle and order yours before the pitching season is over. This offer expires August 1, 2006. As of this writing the NHPA has issued 349 banners. There are a number of charters that I have not heard from. If you haven't taken advantage of this offer you're missing a great opportunity to advertise your club and promote horseshoe pitching.

ATTENDANCE

It's becoming painfully obvious to anyone that travels to other clubs to participate in tournaments that out-of-town attendance is down. This fact is also reflected in the low turnout for the 2006 World Tournament. We all know part of the reason is the outrageously high price of fuel. Yeah, yeah, I know; its supply and demand! (Whoops did I just get political here? I hate it when that happens. [Smile]) Rather than let this become a deterrent and ruin participation, make it a positive thing and increase membership in your own club. If you have 40-60 members in your local club, then there would be no need to have to rely on outside clubs for support. You could hold tournaments locally and not have to worry about driving anywhere. Of course if you still want to visit with others, consider taking three or four of your new members to that other club. At least that way you could lessen the burden of fuel costs. If you created new clubs in neighboring towns and cities, where there might be fresh resources and a renewed interest, then build a set of six or eight courts there and then begin an annual tournament between these cities, it would amaze you at the interest this would generate. Eventually all those clubs could apply for sanctioned tournaments through the charter RD, or the RD could issue a special sanction certificate to host a local tournament so long as those pitching were NHPA members. This could very well create, not only more horseshoe clubs, but would certainly get more parks with horseshoe pits in them. If we make the availability for pitching convenient to the public we are more apt to see an increase in our own membership. Do whatever you can to convince Parks Departments and Planning Commissions to include horseshoe courts in their master plans for parks; even if it's just one or two, at least they are there.

GOT BRICKS?

If you haven't been able to contribute to the NHPE, now is your opportunity! The Hall of Fame is offering a unique program that offers you, your family, your club, and your charter a chance to buy an engraved brick that will become part of a patio at the entrance of our Hall of Fame in Wentzville, Missouri. Don't miss out on this chance to broadcast a message or name; the bricks are likely to go fairly fast. You've all received (or will soon) the tri-fold flyer explaining this program. Please read it and give some serious thought to supporting the NHPA Hall of Fame. The Northern California Charter has issued a challenge to all other charter, including

Canada, to match their purchase of an 8" x 8" brick.

2007 WT

The 2007 World Tournament will be in Ardmore, Oklahoma. It's not too early to begin making plans to attend this wonderful event. World Tournaments are not simply tournaments; they are the World Championships, plus an experience for the whole family to enjoy.

SPONSORSHIPS

There are a number of horseshoe pitchers that have solicited local businesses for sponsorship. Upon receiving sponsorship from someone, those pitchers usually wear that company logo on their shirts. Perhaps the company would provide you with a nice shirt that you could put your name and state on? It has happened many times and all you need to do is ask! If a company can get their name seen by many individuals, it would be worth the price of a shirt or even the one or two hundred dollar sponsorship you might get. Imagine how much a few sponsorships could defray your costs? Yes, you can most certainly wear a shirt with sponsor's patches all over it to tournaments, in fact it's encouraged so long as your name and state appear there somewhere also. Just imagine how nice your pitching shirts would look with your sponsor's logos sewn on them?

Anyone with a new idea is a crank...until the idea succeeds. Mark Twain 1835-1910

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CHARTER CHATTER

by Debby Michaud

Want your charter news to appear in this column? Send your charter newsletter to the new Charter Chatter editor, Tina Hawkins of Oklahoma. Her address is: Rt. # 4, Box 52, Marlow, OK 73055 and her e-mail is tinahawk@msn.com. Also, we are still updating the list of indoor courts.

It has been a pleasure to receive the many newsletters that were sent to me – fun to read and very interesting to hear from all the different parts of the country and Canada. Keep up the good work! Thank you all for your time and efforts – it shows.

COLORADO

An annual and popular tournament in Colorado is the Tournament of Champions, this year held on April 1st at the Knaub Arena. To enter this tournament, you must have won your class in any sanctioned tournament during the previous year. This gives all pitchers of any ability an incentive to enter more tournaments for a better chance to win a class sometime during the year. One week later, Colorado held its annual Team Colorado Tournament, also at the Knaub Arena. Some of the names of the teams were "Hot Chili Peppers", "Sly Ones", "Steel City Ringers", "Wing and a Prayer" etc. Seems as if they might have a contest for best team name!

IOWA

Iowa has done some checking on their statistics and, although they have lost members since 1991 (as has the NHPA in general); they have a participation of 6.79 tournaments per

pitcher. That is a very good level of participation! They are working to increase their adult membership in preparation for their goal of hosting the 2009 World Tournament in Cedar Rapids.

One of their biggest events every year is the Iowa State Fair. It is an eleven-day event with open and sanctioned events held every day while the Championships for Men, Women, Elders and Juniors are held on the weekends. Danny Sease is the Superintendent of this popular annual event.

MICHIGAN

The Wolverine State Horseshoe Pitchers Association is lucky to be able to pitch indoors all winter in Jackson, MI but then they move right into the outdoor season as early as April. And in June, many of them will attend the annual Michigan/Ontario International Friendship tournament at the Khaki Club in Wellesley, Ontario. This is an "event" all weekend with breakfasts and a banquet with entertainment on Saturday night. Enjoy!

Inductees into the Wolverine State HPA Hall of Fame in 2005 were Kevin Smith, Clayton Champion, and Boyd Stonerock. Congratulations to all three of them.

This is another charter with a very successful fundraising history. Their charity is St. Jude Children's Research and in 2005 they raised \$2,854.50. Bob Wells is the St. Jude coordinator.

MINNESOTA

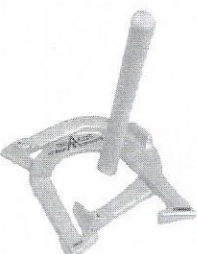
Minnesota has tried to emulate Don Titcomb by using his "Pitch and Win" program at the 2006 Minnesota Horse Expo on April 28, 29, and 30. The Minnesota Horse Expo is a large equine trade show and breed exhibition which draws approximately 55,000 people over a three-day period. The Horseshoe group invited Expo attendees to pitch a few 'shoes on portable courts. Pitchers were given prizes for getting points or even getting close. NHPA information was available and there was an "amateur only" tournament a couple of weeks later for those who were interested in trying it. In addition, there were exhibition games each day. This is a great publicity opportunity for the Minnesota Gopher State Horseshoe Pitcher's Association.

MISSOURI

The ground breaking for the new NHPA Museum and Hall of Fame in Quail Ridge Park, Wentzville, MO occurred on May 5th. The New Melle Horseshoe Club members and the MOHPA members are excited to see this new phase of NHPA horseshoes begin in their state.

Missouri has a twice per year tournament pitting the "West" against the "East". In the fall of 2005, it was held in Liberty at the Don Harris arena. This handicap tournament had been won by the East for four consecutive times but this time the West managed to win by 76.5 – 73.5. Another one was held in New Melle in April of 2006. With seven indoor facilities, Missouri is one of the leaders in pitching year 'round. There are also two Team Tournaments in New Melle – the team tournament is between that club and the Backyard Horseshoe Club.

Continued on page 12



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CHARTER

CHATTER *Continued*

NORTHERN CALIFORNIA

The Half Moon Bay club is in the plans to have 20 new courts in a new park in Half Moon Bay. These courts will be clay and will be part of a new 22 acre park.

The end of year awards for Northern California saw three members of the Half Moon Bay Club win, one for the second consecutive year. Most Improved was Kay Webbe - hers is the two years-in-a-row award. Most Improved Elder was Don Reip while Bill Terry was inducted into the Hall of Fame.

OHIO


Two Ohio pitchers were inducted into the Ohio Hall of Fame at their 2005 State Tournament last Labor Day weekend. They were Bob Garber in the Player category and Dick Honigford in the Player/Organizer category. Congratulations to both of them!

Ohio continues its very active tournament scene by having 19 tournaments scheduled throughout the winter. Lots of choices there to keep the rust off their 'shoes....

WASHINGTON

The pitchers in the state of Washington are again raising money to help send juniors to the World Tournament. They hope to raise \$4,500.00 to send up to 10 juniors to Gillette. As of their May Newsletter, they now have \$3,553.00. Good job! They have been successful every year in this endeavor, not only in sending them but in keeping up a strong junior program. Art Sperber is the chairman of the Junior Promotion program. Their methods to raise money are a raffle, a Backyard Buddy League (via e-mail) and a type of "yard" sale at some of their tournaments.

Their Hall of Fame/Museum trailer has traveled to some tournaments this year and is sparking some interest in our sport and its history. Work on it is ongoing (most by volunteers) but it will travel to several tournaments this year and will be entered in some parades as well. The Washington pitchers feel this is a great promotional and educational tool.




USA


INTRODUCING:

Alan **AF** Francis

Horseshoes




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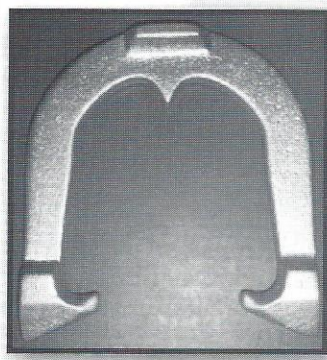
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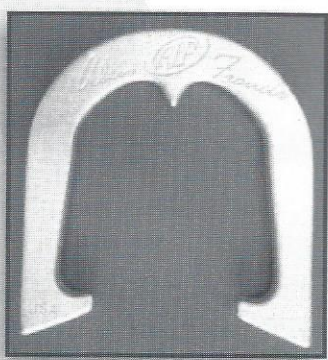
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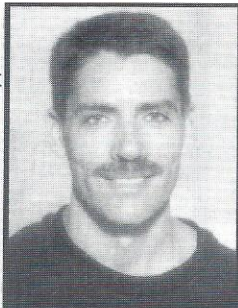
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Alan Francis
10 Time World Champ

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1ST ANNUAL VOLUNTEER STATE OPEN

By Bob Hassan

Centennial Park in Crossville, Tennessee was the site of the First Annual Volunteer State Open. Pitchers from 26 States and two Canadian Provinces participated, beginning on Friday, June 2nd, at 5 PM and finishing at about 5 PM on Sunday, June 4th. There were 40 classes pitched with 320 pitchers. The prize fund totaled \$69,100 plus \$658 worth of plaques.

The weather was good with a bit cooler than expected temperatures. There was rain just before the start and it misted a bit on Friday evening, but all games were completed. On Sunday afternoon a brief but heavy thundershower delayed pitching for about 30 minutes, but again all games were completed.

The Men's Championship was won by Ohio's Alan Francis who won all 11 of his games and pitched a tournament high of 89.72% ringers. In his tenth game Francis pitched a tournament high of 97.5% (39 of 40) against Walter Ray Williams, Jr., winning 41 to 3. The final game with Brian Simmons was a classic and was pitched on the court right next to the grandstand. Towards the end of this game all pitching ceased in the Pavilion as other pitchers watched.



This game went to 100 shoes. Francis won 42 to 24 throwing 89 ringers. At the beginning Simmons stayed close as Francis lost a couple of ringers. In the second half, Francis pulled away as Simmons lost at least four ringers including the very last one. Simmons shot 84% for this game and won \$4,000 for second place. Francis won \$7,000 for first.

In the 30 foot championship, Sue Snyder from Kentucky won the first place prize of \$7,000 winning nine of her



eleven games. She lost her first game to Tennessee's Woody Story 42 to 37. She was also tested by Judy Curtiss in her last game that day, winning 40 to 37 in 76 shoes. At the end of the first day's pitching, four were tied at 4 and 1 - Snyder, Arionus, McCreery and Elmore.

Snyder lost her second game of the second day to Ed Arionus 40 to 31, in a marathon game of 126 shoes. He had 109 ringers to Snyder's 107 (86.5% to 84.9%). She remained tied with Arionus and McCreery through eight games. Arionus lost his ninth games to West Virginia's Brenda Tawney, 41 to 28. Then McCreery lost his tenth game to Texas's Debra Odum, 41 to 16. In the meantime, Snyder stayed hot allowing 13, 16, nine and four points in her last four games to win the title.

It is planned to continue this championship annually on the first weekend in June. Next year the concession stand/restroom will be completed next to the Pavilion. Also the permanent lighting will be completed in the Pavilion. The tournament committee will meet to discuss other improvements. Input from participants is certainly welcomed. Information concerning this tournament is available at the website - www.crossvillehorseshoeclub.com.

No tournament can be successful without the help of many volunteers. Frank Jones (LaFollette, TN) and Harold Morgan (White Pine, TN) ran the outdoor courts. Garo Spicewood (Crossville, TN) and Roger Kenyon (Fairfield Glade, TN) ran the Fairground courts. Jo Ann Stanford (Celina, TN) and Sally Mullins (Middlesboro, KY) did much of the computer data entry. Earl Wyatt (Crossville, TN) and Jack Conner (Allons, TN) were our judges. Paul Stewart was an all around help - computer entry, scorekeeper, judge and sound man. Many thanks go to all these folks including all the scorekeepers.

Horseshoe Pitching

Facts and Folklore



By Bob Dunn

STARS OF THE PAST SERVED THEIR COUNTRY

By Bob Dunn

Today we have constant reminders that we are at war with terrorism. Our military is at many combat fronts around the world. Our young are serving to protect us and our way of life. The media presents daily reminders of the risk and dangers facing our troop and give reason to support our troops.

In decades past, when the U.S. was involved in WW II, many of our sport notables also served their country. Here is how the 1942 NHPA Horseshoe World presented their stories.

First a story on the great Jimmy Risk.

HE'S THE ARMY NOW!

(From the Columbus Dispatch) Priorities and metal shortages to the contrary, the good old game of horseshoe pitching won't be stifled by the present war.

That's the opinion of Jimmy Risk, nationally known trick and fancy horseshoe pitcher and star of countless rodeos, who has temporarily shelved 'barnyard golf pitching for the army.

A year ago Jimmy was starring in rodeos and sportsmen's shows, performing such seemingly impossible stunts as throwing a ringer while pitching over a blanket, tossing a ringer around a cigarette without knocking it over, knocking a coin off the stake without touching the stake, and other spectacular feats.

But now he is in the army. Stationed at Fort Hayes, Private Risk is on duty at the present time at the general depot in East Columbus, working on a telephone installation detail.

A native of Montpelier, Ind., Risk was a former 'boy wonder' in the world of horseshoe pitching. He's been pitching the iron ovals since he was a youngster in knee pants, and has done exhibition work since that time. Here's some of his trick and fancy shots: Throwing a ringer that strikes a match on the stack; pitching ringers through a man's legs; ringing cigars and cigarettes without knocking the smoke over; pitching ringers while blindfolded; pitching successful ringers on moving stakes;

pitching ringers through barrel hoops and other stunts equally as difficult.

Here's some of the records that he has made while appearing at exhibitions: Making 291 points with 100 shoes; pitching 96 ringers with 100 shoes, marking 46 doubles with 100 shoes; throwing 49 ringers out of 50 shoes; throwing 45 consecutive doubles and 112 ringers in a 50 point game.

He's 32 years old and was inducted last fall. Stationed with the signal corps at Fort Monmouth, N.J., he was released because of his age last September. However, on Jan 27 the army took him back and now he's in for the duration. He is married.

Private Risk still has his horseshoes with him, in spite of the fact that's working for Uncle Sam, and he has found many chances to get into games since his induction - not that he has been able to dig up any tough opposition. But he is actively touting horseshoe pitching as "the ideal sport" in that it's cheap, it's great exercise, and because "fifty million farmers can't be wrong".

And then a story on the greatest pitcher to never win a world title....

CASEY JONES TO THROW RINGER AT THE AXIS

(Great Lakes, ILL.) One of the world's champion horseshoe pitchers has decided to throw ringers at the Axis for the duration by enlisting in the Navy. He is Charles L. Jones, 24, son of Mr. and Mrs. Edward Jones, 505 Maple Avenue, Waukesha, Wis., who is undergoing recruit training at the U.S. Naval Training Station here.

Jones has been Wisconsin state champion for the past seven years. He won the national Olympic championship in Chicago in 1938, placed second in the national tournament at Des Moines, IA., generally regarded as the world's championship meet, in 1940 and was third in 1939 and 1941. He has won every state tourney he entered and was boy's champion from 1931 to 1935. He has been pitching for 13 years.

Some of the tricks which he has displayed before audiences in theatres throughout the country include knocking ashes off a cigar in a man's mouth, throwing a ringer over a blanket and lighting matches by pitching a

horseshoe. His best record is 98 ringers out of 100 attempts.

Jones entered tournaments under the name of Casey Jones. He attended Waukesha high school and worked in a foundry before enlisting in the Navy. He is in Company 1836 here. He has a brother, Keith, 30, in the Army glider forces.

And finally, about the "great one".

TED ALLEN IS PITCHING IN THE ARMY

Ted Allen, who held the spotlight for so many years as world's champion horseshoe pitcher, is in the Army now. He was inducted December 7 and on December 20, wrote the Horseshoe World giving his address, which we hope hasn't been changed - so write him there.

His address is Private Joseph "Ted" Allen, No. 37-339-346, Co. E, 106 Bn., M.R.T.C., U.S.A., Camp Robinson, Ark..

Ted was planning to give an exhibition for the boys and we presume he has been in demand. He and his wife gave an exhibition at that camp while appearing with a rodeo a good while ago. While there he jokingly told Alvin Gandy, former Kansas state champ, who was at the camp, "I'll be seeing you soon," little knowing he would be seeing him soon - and in uniform.

That old lucky 13 is still following Ted. He drew 13 twice in the national tournament and won. He asked for it another year and won. There were 13 in his induction class chosen to train at Camp Robinson and they were lucky enough to be assigned to first class Pullman train service to one of the finest training centers in the land. When he arrived they started to put him and five of his Boulder, Colo., buddies in Hut No. 13, but it was full.

JOTTINGS From the Horseshoe Traders

By Bob Dunn

Sooner than we think, the 2006 World Tournament will be in full motion. The Horseshoe Traders booth will be set up for the entire first week of the tournament. For those interested, I will be in attendance with my full antique horseshoe display. The display is even longer than shown at Eau Claire, 10 feet longer. If you want some of your old shoes identified, bring them in! If you have shoes to be donated to our NHPA display in the new Hall of Fame museum, bring them in also. See you in July!

GROUNDBREAKING CEREMONY

National Horseshoe Pitchers Association Hall of Fame Museum and Facility

By Jeanette Claas

High on a hilltop, beneath skies of blue, some 200 people joined together to celebrate the groundbreaking of a new attraction to the ever growing St. Charles County; the National Horseshoe Pitchers Association Hall of Fame Museum and public pitching facility. And now St. Charles County stakes its claim to another of America's enduring pastimes – a new facility that could put St. Charles County on the maps of horseshoe pitchers across the nation.

It wasn't the ordinary groundbreaking ceremony using a typical golden shovel. Twelve golden horseshoes, donated by Harvey Wobbe of Six Pac Horseshoes, were given to the twelve people who played a big part in making this event possible. On a makeshift horseshoe pitching court, county officials and horseshoe enthusiasts kicked up some dirt as they tossed out the shoes in hopes of landing a ringer. "We'll throw them all at the same time," quipped Bettie Yahn-Kramer, "No one's going to make a fool of me!" Those important people given a honorary shoe to pitch were: Joe Ortwerth- County Executive, Bettie Yahn-Kramer-Director of Parks, Dave Loucks NHPF President, Paul Stewart NHPA President, Joe Faron NHPF Director, Dick Hansen NHPF Director, Roy Evans-NMHC Vice President, Dan Foust-Council Member, Joe Brazil-Council Member, Kevin O'Meara, Building Project Manager, Rose Mack-Parks Advisory Board Chair, Parks Advisory Board Past Chair, Darlene Harrison and Sheriff Tom Neer of St. Charles County.

The National Horseshoe Pitchers Association Hall of Fame Museum will soon be located in the same spot where several pitchers who already qualify for admittance applauded its groundbreaking. The event took place at 11:30 am, May 5, 2006 at the beautiful scenic Quail Ridge Park near Wentzville where the crossroads of the nation meet at the intersections of Interstate 70 and Highway 40/61. A feeling of great excitement was in the air among horseshoe pitchers, park employees and St. Charles County dignitaries. After two years of planning, it was a moment of sweet anticipation for everyone.

Earlier this year, the National Horseshoe Pitchers Foundation forged a deal with the St. Charles County Council to move its headquarters from Joelton, Tennessee to a new \$625,000 indoor facility in the park. The foundation will pay for the building, and the county will spend about \$300,000 on a parking lot, entry road and landscaping and also charge \$100 a year in rent for use of the 3-acre parcel of park land. Completion is projected by the end of the year.

The New Melle Horseshoe Club, that voted to change its name to the Quail Ridge Horseshoe Club, will oversee the new facility. The U-shaped building will feature 16 indoor horseshoe courts for tournaments as well as eight outdoor courts for the public. The connector between the two wings will serve as a museum and feature photos of past and present champions.

Director of Parks and Recreation, Bettie Yahn-Kramer, welcomed the guests and led the Pledge of Allegiance. As Bettie spoke you could hear in her voice the same excitement and enthusiasm as the horseshoe pitchers themselves. Next, County Executive, Joe Ortwerth, made an impressive speech as he spoke of how Joe Faron (NHPF) met with the St. Charles County Parks department and

initiated discussions regarding the possibility of establishing a national center for horseshoe enthusiasts here in the county. "The Parks department embraced the idea and today its birth begins on this real estate that was donated by Mr. Henry Stealy, property owner. It is a thrill to be a part of the excitement to promote and establish the interest of horseshoes – and for those who have becomes experts at it. We have had a vision for our parks to offer tremendous, unique opportunities for people to recreate in ways they wouldn't find in a typical park. This facility is an excellent example of providing those opportunities while doing something of national significance."

All the way from the state of California, Dave Loucks, President of the National Horseshoe Pitchers Foundation, stated, "It is a special day for the NHPF, a longtime dream come true. In 2001 the NHPF constructed the Hall of Fame in Joelton, Tennessee, but plans were never fully completed due to the untimely death of Dr. Jack Freeman in December 2003. After many meetings and discussions the NHPF and NHPA Directors agreed on the St. Charles County site. Today marks the beginning of a facility being built for horseshoe pitchers across the country. We will have opportunities here for experienced pitchers to teach and mentor younger ones, a sport that bridges generations."

Paul Stewart, President of the National Horseshoe Pitchers Association, traveled from North Carolina to participate and enjoy the event. "The first time I visited Quail Ridge Park I knew this was the perfect place for the Hall of Fame to find its home. Everything seemed to just fall in place. The partnership between the Parks department, the support of the leaders of St. Charles County, and the enthusiastic members of the New Melle Horseshoe Club was a win-win situation."

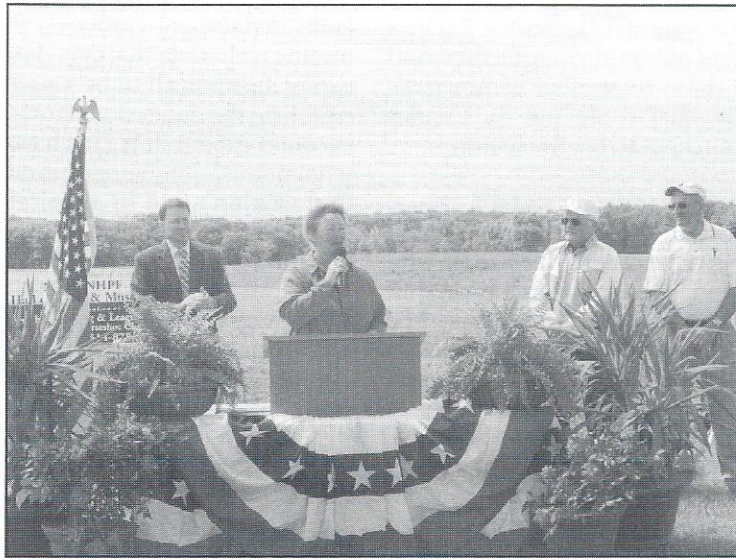
Horseshoe pitchers from Missouri and all across the United States traveled many miles to be a part of the ceremony. NHPA Hall of Famers were recognized and so were past Hall of Famers of the St. Charles County Sports Amateur Association. A horseshoe pitcher, who hadn't pitched in eleven years, showed up for the event and said he would be returning to the sport. Like a family we are bonded together.

After the ceremony and much picture taking, the crowd was sent to the beautiful lodge in the park for refreshments that were supplied by the Holiday Inn in Wentzville. Horseshoe paraphernalia and souvenirs of the event were given to those attending. There was good media and press coverage for the event.

It was a bright sunshiny day, a memorable ceremony by the Parks department, and a beautiful site as we visualized the future home of the new facility. A perfect day, one may say, that those attending will never forget. All wishes coming true after a long time waiting. Perhaps if there was one more thing to wish for, it would be that every horseshoe pitcher in America could have witnessed this so very impressive event. There was a feeling of accomplishment for those who worked so hard to attain this goal and a feeling of pride among the horseshoe pitchers as they watched history being made and their wishes being granted. It was a "horseshoe moment" to keep in your memory bank forever.

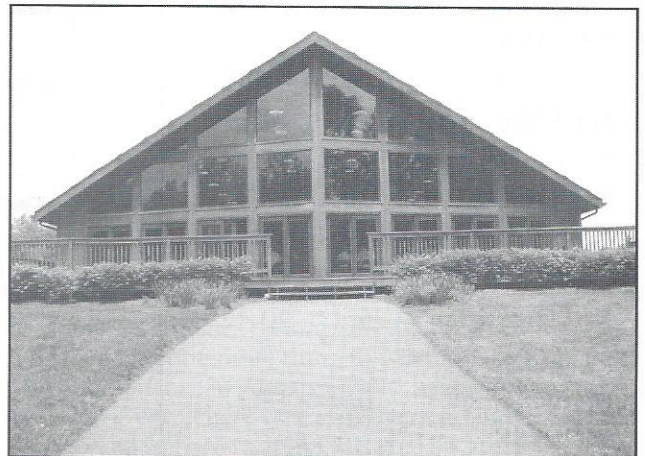
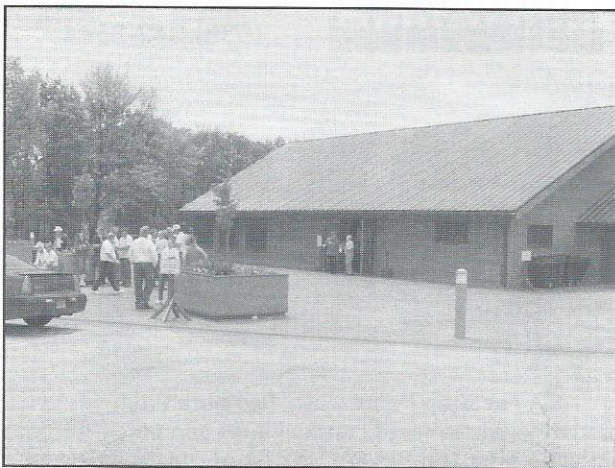
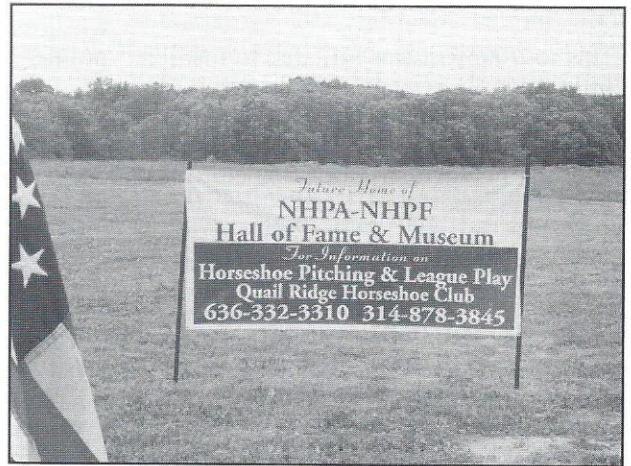
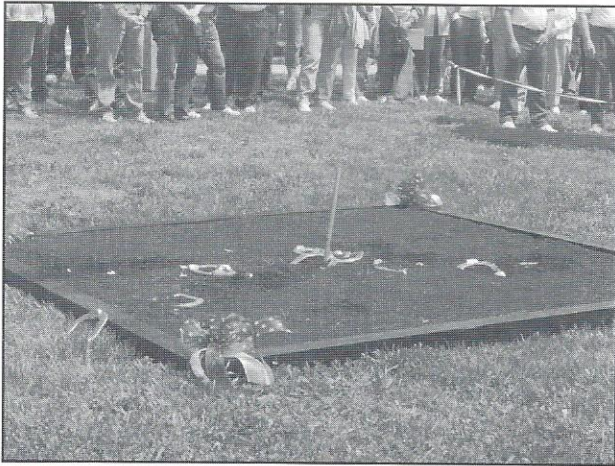
NHPA Hall Groundbreaki

A Photo C



Hall of Fame Dedication Ceremony

Gallery



3rd Annual MOHPA Club/ Team Benefit Tournament

by Donna Bastel

The Missouri Horseshoe Pitcher's Association held its 3rd Annual Club/Team Benefit on June 3rd in Strafford, Missouri.

This tournament was initiated to instill a little 'friendly competition' between our Missouri clubs and as a source of revenue to help defray the costs of our state's award winning newsletter - Shoe Biz, edited by Jeanette Claas.

Each club team member pitches in a standard singles round robin class. They receive team points based on their win/loss record. First place receives 8 points, second 7 points, etc. All ties in the Team portion are broken by winning percentage.

Sixteen teams of five pitchers, including four juniors, participated in this year's

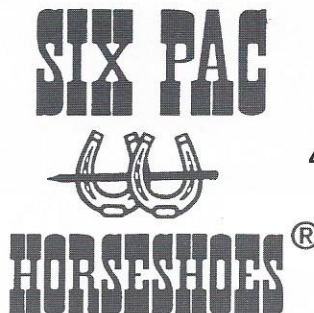
event. The winning team hails from the Lake of the Ozark Horseshoe Club in Laurie, MO. The Ringer Slingers, Roger Sinclair, Jim Premer, Merv Moeller, Tamra Jenkins and Gary Park each took home a Team Champion plaque. Their club will receive and 11" x 14" plaque at our State Tournament banquet in September, which they can proudly display.

The winners of each singles class, as shown below, also receive a plaque for their efforts.

A CLASS	W/L	%
Bob Fortner	7/0	65.00
Michael Bowman	5/2	65.00
Jan Kreienkamp	5/2	62.50
Tom Ebers	4/3	59.64
Carlyle Gricks	3/4	50.36
Frank Hudson	2/5	58.93
Charles Killgore	1/6	54.64
Richard Altis	1/6	50.71
B CLASS		
Nile Abbott	6/1	48.21
C CLASS		
Andrew Foulds	5/2	49.30
D CLASS		
Bob Kingsolver	7/0	36.43
E CLASS		
Lile Harper	6/0	38.33
F CLASS		
Tamra Jenkins	7/0	40.36
G CLASS		
Gary Park	7/0	40.00
H CLASS		
Erika Bowman	5/1	31.67
I CLASS		
Ken Grossman	5/1	20.42
J CLASS		
Merv Moeller	6/0	14.17
K CLASS		
Terry Bishop	6/0	13.33

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 (at 6 pairs or more) M
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Office () _____

SIX PAC Guarantee: One (1) year from purchase date, not from replacement date. Both shoes must be returned in original carton showing date of purchase, weight and type of horseshoe. Return to manufacturer only. Include \$5.00 check or money order for shipping and handling costs.

Thank you for your order and good horseshoe pitching.

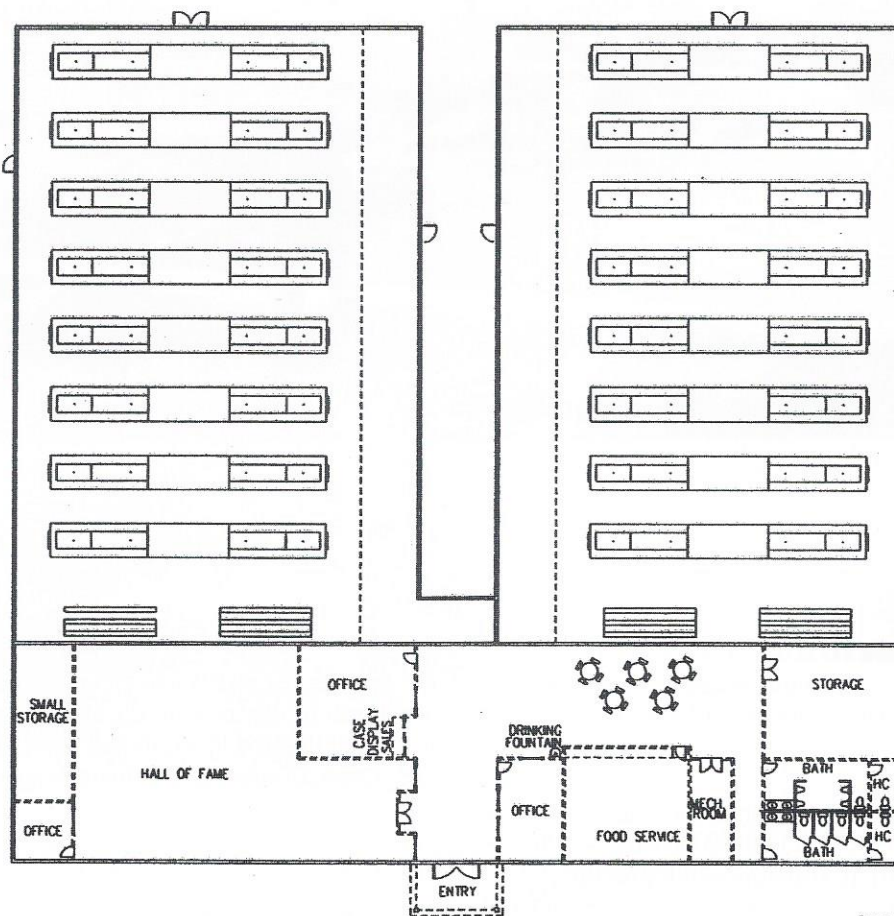
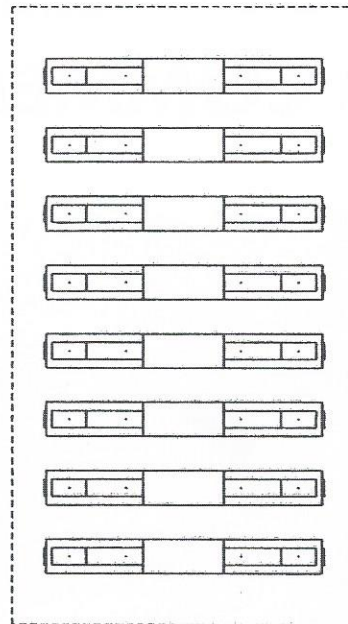
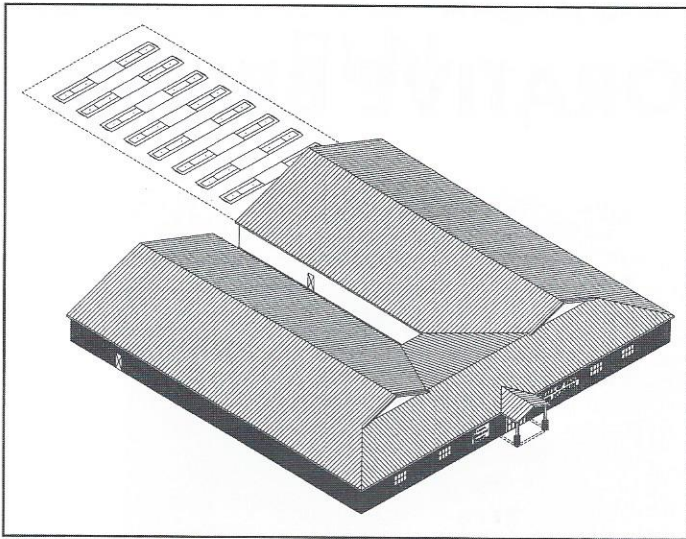
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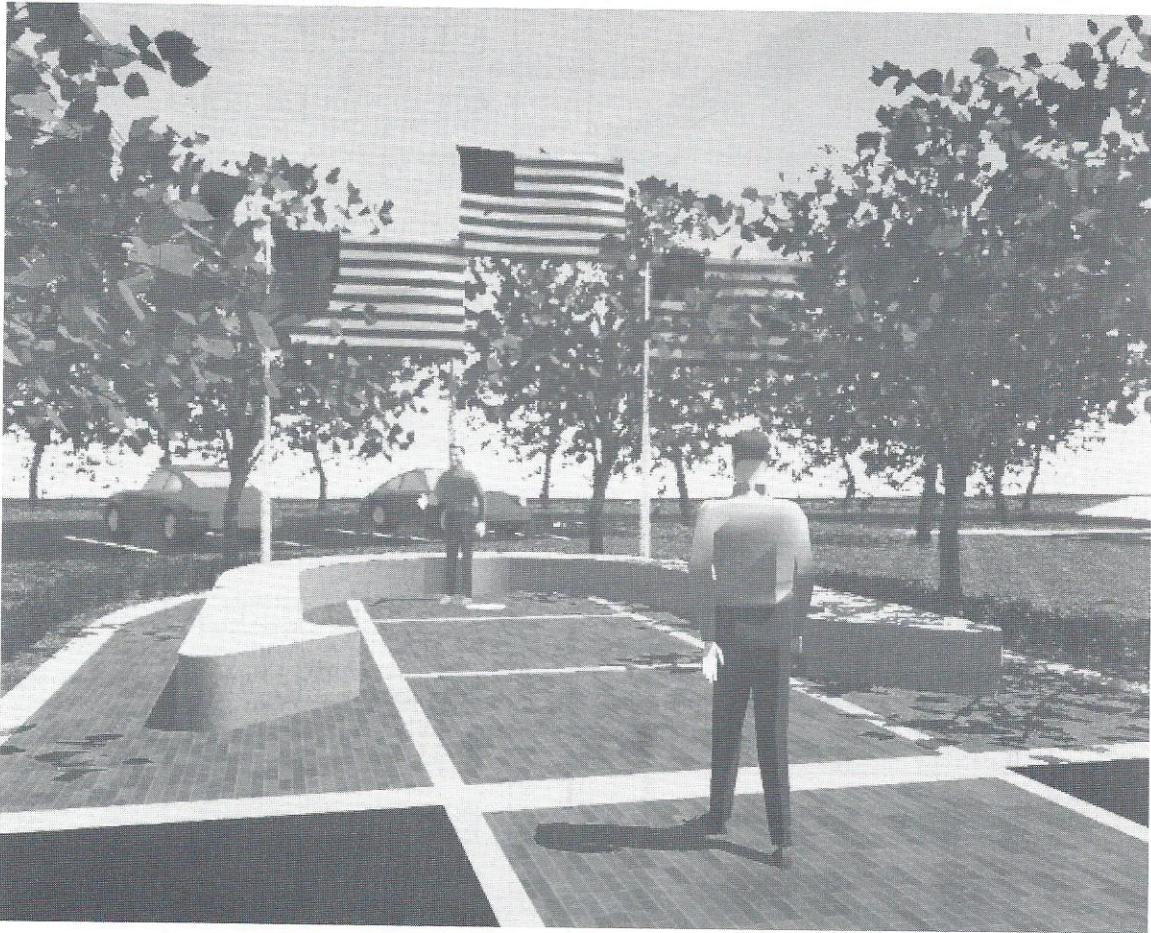
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Horseshoe Pitching Hall of Fame & Museum

The NHPA Executive Council is very pleased to notify the membership and other interested parties that a long-time dream is about to become a reality.

The NHPA Hall of Fame, Museum and horseshoe pitching facility will be built in 2006 on a 3-acre site in Quail Ridge Park, St. Charles County, Missouri. The 23,000 sq. ft. structure will house the Hall of Fame & Museum, offices, storage, a food and drink service center and sixteen indoor courts. The facility will be heated and air-conditioned. Outside will be 8 additional courts with room for later expansion.

Quail Ridge Park is a park of some 250 acres in Wentzville; just a few minutes drive from the city limits of St. Louis. The park entrance is located very close to the intersection of I-70 and I-64 (Hwy 40-61). The Hall of Fame will be located very near the park entrance. The building will be clearly visible to the some 80,000 vehicles that travel the two highways each day.

For decades, the NHPA had dreams of finding the right location and opportunity to build the Hall of Fame. Several years ago it was felt that the location had been found when the late Dr. Jack Freeman offered to donate acreage and later his indoor and covered outdoor pitching courts in Joelton, Tennessee, in exchange for him receiving a tax-deductible write-off.

The National Horseshoe Pitchers Foundation

To accept the offer of Jack Freeman, the NHPF was formed as a charitable public foundation to build and operate the Hall of Fame. As well, the NHPF is dedicated to preserving the history of horseshoe pitching while showcasing the present and building its future through educational and grant programs.

Regrettably, Jack Freeman died before all his intended gifts to the NHPF could be completed. With his demise and the absence of an active club at his courts, it became apparent that Joelton, TN, was not the ideal location for the Hall of Fame.

Fortunately, the 200 members strong New Melle Horseshoe Club was interested. They offered to oversee the operation of a Hall of Fame facility if it could be built in their area. After investigation and discussion of other potential sites, it was felt that no better location could be found than the crossroads of America. When the St. Charles County officials confirmed their interest and offered the land, project planning got underway.

This building project would not be possible if it weren't for the initial generous gifts of Jack Freeman. The Joelton property must be sold to support construction in St. Charles County but your contributions now and in the future are needed as well. Please consider making a tax-deductible contribution to the NHPF.

Be a Team Player - Buy a Commemorative Brick

What a great way to support this NHPA Hall of Fame building project. Buy a commemorative brick to remember or honor someone special, a loved one, a friend, club or business. An engraved brick is the perfect way to let someone special know how much you care. Honor your parents, spouse, children, grandchildren, club or organization. Remember a special date, a birthday, graduation or anniversary. An engraved brick is a gift that can last forever.

Your engraved commemorative brick will be laid in the Jack Freeman Memorial Plaza just outside the front entrance to the Hall of Fame building. There will be a large special horseshoe shaped bench on which to sit and enjoy some of the park vista while perusing the engraved bricks in the plaza.

Brick Specifics

Two brick sizes are available. The vast majority will be 4" x 8". A limited number will be 8" x 8". The smaller brick can have up to three engraved lines. Each line can have up to 13 characters including blanks and punctuation. All letters are in CAPS. Cost: \$100 per brick, 3 bricks for \$250.

The larger 8" x 8" brick can have up to six lines of engraving, 13 characters per line. Quantities of this size will be very limited. First ordered, first served. Cost: \$200 per brick.

Commemorative Brick Order Form

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Phone: _____

Print 4" x 8" Brick Text; \$100/brick, 3 for \$250

Print 8" x 8" Brick Text; \$200.00 per Brick

If you are ordering more than one 4" x 8" brick, you may use another order form or insert text for 2nd or 3rd brick in above area. Please specify number and size of brick being ordered.

4" x 8" quantity ____ 8" x 8" quantity ____

Make checks payable to: NHPF. Detach and mail this order form with payment to:

Commemorative Brick Program
National Horseshoe Pitchers Foundation
P.O. Box 1628
Penn Valley, CA 95946

Questions? Phone NHPF at 530-432-2192

DOWN AND BACK IN THE JUNIOR DIVISION

By Bobby White, National Junior Promotions Director

A Horseshoe Story? Well, sort of...

I've been thinking that you all must be getting sick of me reporting on the same things over and over...namely, the school pitching program in Erie, PA. Well, lucky for you, I don't have much to say on that this time...all is pretty much the same. It is now the end of March '06 and our winter programs are in their final weeks. We've had a couple hundred kids go through the introductory programs so far and things are going great and that's about all I can say about that. I guess I still have quite a bit of space to utilize for this article, so I think I'll tell you a little semi-horseshoe story from when I was a kid. I hope you don't mind...

When I was about seventeen years old, my Dad and I (and family) were driving home to Erie, PA from an indoor horseshoe tournament in Hamilton, Ontario. It was between 2 and 3 AM, and he and I were the only ones awake in the car. He was driving as we approached the Niagara Falls area in Canada. He said, "I think we'll pass up the falls and go over the Peace Bridge to Buffalo, it should be faster to do that." I agreed with him but in my response, I said, "You know, I've never seen Niagara Falls..." He couldn't believe it, but it was true. Everyone in my family had all been there several times, even my younger brother (either with our family or other friends), but somehow, I had missed all of those trips and he never knew that.

Well right then and there, he turned off the QEW at the Niagara Falls exit. I said, "What are you doing?" and he replied, "You're going to see Niagara Falls right now! You've got to do the things you want to do when you can do them or you'll never do them. You might never pass this place again, so why pass up the chance now?" I'm sure that was a school night for us, but that kind of thing never phased my

dad... If you don't know him (Bob Sr.), well this is a perfect snapshot of him... It's funny though, the last part of his statement ended up not being true because later, as an adult, I lived within a 1/2 hour of Niagara Falls for two years and visited there often. But he was very right about not passing up chances in life to do the things you want to do. He's lived his whole life like that and I've tried to live that way as much as possible since that night... easier said than done for me though... my sense of responsibility and common sense still seem to overrule those kinds of feelings most of the time... I have to admit though; I've always idolized, admired and even respected his amazing sense of adventure, no matter how irresponsible it might have seemed at the time. It sure has led him on some really wild excursions and I still love to listen to his stories to this day. They have become the things that I will remember forever about my dad. There probably isn't much hope for me to ever be as much of a maverick as he is; I've pretty much given up on that. But my son, Tony, is a whole other story and I'm glad for him. I know this sounds crazy coming from me, but in certain ways, I've really tried to encourage him to be more like my dad than his. The fact is though, I haven't had to work too hard at that because it seems to come completely natural to him. I guess it's an every other generation thing. I feel sorry for his future kids and I hope I'm around long enough to set them straight before they end up just like me.

Anyways, back to 1984... We pulled into the parking area for the falls and everybody in the car started to wake up as we opened the doors and the cold air rushed in. They all asked "where are we?", "what are we doing?" etc. Dad said "I'm taking Bobby to see Niagara Falls". They also had no idea I had never been there and probably still don't know that was my first time. In fact, I'll bet none of them even remember any of this. But I'll never

forget it.

It was mid February. So it was cold, windy, a bit drizzly and very icy. Ours was the only car there! Of course, no one else cared to get out of the car, so Dad and I walked over alone. It was totally dark. There were no lights on the falls at all and hardly any in the park area. But you could see everything anyways because the ground was snow covered and there was a big, bright moon. The moonlight reflected off the white snow and lit up everything perfectly! It was beautiful! There wasn't much mist for some reason, so I could see all of the Canadian Horseshoe Falls (Great name, eh?). More of the falls were visible than I can ever remember seeing from up that close. It was so clear... almost no mist at all and I had no idea how rare that was. Normally, when you're up to the edge like that, you're lucky if you can even see half of the curve of the falls... that's something I didn't appreciate much until a number of years later. There were some really neat ice formations all around the edges of the falls that I have never seen happen again since that night. It was quite the winter wonderland! I've actually gone back there at the same time of year a few times just to see if I could see it that way again and it's never been like that. It's been close, but still that night was the best I've ever seen and to think, it was probably all melted a day or two later, never to be seen again! We walked around a little bit and I looked over at the American Falls and said something about the ice over there on the rocks at the base of the falls and Dad said, "Lets go check it out from over there."

So, we got in the car, drove over the Rainbow Bridge and through U.S. Customs and went to the park on the American side. Again, we were the only car! I didn't understand the significance of that little fact until I went back to see the falls several years later on my own and found that there

were many thousands of people there, which is typical of most days in that park. Let me tell you, there's nothing like having that whole park to yourself! I am so glad that my first experience with one of nature's greatest feats was like that-- solitary and very personal, just dad and me. It was truly awesome. Honestly, how many people in the world can say that they went to Niagara Falls and they were basically the only person there and had the whole place to themselves and were able to experience the falls just as they are, no lights, no people; just about as natural as they could be? I thank God that I'm one of them. I have a picture that will be in my head forever now. I've seen it this way and I've also seen it jammed with thousands of people on a nice summer day and I'm really glad this was how I first saw it... a very unforgettable first exposure to one of the greatest places in nature.

After hiking around the park a bit and viewing the falls from different places, Dad said "Come on, let's get closer." So, we walked over to the viewing area between Bridal Veil Falls and the American Falls. From there, you can see straight down to the rocks below. It's a really neat spot. You can go down to different levels and you can get right next to the falls as they spill over the edge. In fact, in certain spots (that you could never get to when there are thousands of people there), you can reach out and touch the water as it spills over the edge. We walked right up to it and Dad grabbed my hand and said "Reach out and touch it." We both did it together, (It was very cold, but I held my hand in it as long as I could) and he said, "There, now you haven't just seen it, you've touched it!" But the real truth was that it had touched me far more than I had touched it.

It was quite an experience. But, at the time, it was just really cool to be there and I didn't at all recognize it as being one of the defining moments of my life, even though that's exactly what it turned out to be. I was different after that night. Up until then, I was on my way to becoming a hotshot yuppie attorney. That's what I wanted and I would have been perfect for it and really good at it. But I probably

would have become a real arrogant idiot had I continued in that direction. I actually had loftier dreams than that-- I was captivated by politics and as most teens do, I thought I knew it all and that I alone could set things straight in the world. As much as I thought I was brilliant, the truth was that I was really quite stupid back then. I'm not sure if I've progressed much since, but I guess I've come far enough to at least see my ignorance to that point. I imagine I'll sit down in another twenty years and say the same thing about the stupid things I'm doing right now in my life.

I've only shared this story with a couple of people. It's just one of those things that have been in my mind for years that I've hardly spoken of, not even to dad. He probably has no clue about how important that quick stop in Niagara Falls was to me. I can remember a few years ago, I commented to him about us doing that and he could barely remember it. So I never even finished what I had to say. Isn't it amazing how two people can stand in the same place doing the same thing and have two totally different experiences? It was hardly noteworthy in his mind but it meant so much to me. Maybe when he reads this he'll finally understand what I started to say back then.

Anyway, I enjoyed that experience so much that, from that time on, I've always had this mental list of things that I'm going to do and see in my lifetime that will hopefully result in similar experiences. I've been able to check a few things off that list since then. But the list just keeps growing with my dreams and it appears it will be an endless adventure trying to complete the list. I know that's probably true because one of the things on my list is to win the Men's World Championship in horseshoes. After carefully watching the talented junior players at the last few world championships, I can see that there are a bunch of young men (my son Tony being one of them) that will probably keep that dream from ever coming true, even if I were to make my way into that elite group someday. I guess I might have to revise that goal if I ever want to finish my list!

Standing next to Niagara Falls that night over twenty years ago, I realized how insignificant one person is to the world (the Falls are so much more massive when you're there alone!) and that my life was going to flow right by like the water flowing over those falls if I didn't stop and have some fun at times along the way. Shortly thereafter, I changed my career goals in life to something that I wanted to do, something that I enjoyed doing—writing. Previously, I was wrapped up in the idea of doing something sensible; not necessarily something I liked, but rather something that was safe and something I was sure to succeed in doing. I want to tell all you young people that might be reading this to follow your dreams for as long as you can. You won't ever regret it. And for all of you, who are parents out there, encourage your kids and your grand kids to do the same thing. It will be worth it.

So, I went to college for a while with the intent of becoming a writer. But, as often happens, life got in the way and writing never became my career. But because I love it so much, I've always been able to somehow work it into my job or my hobby. Although, I still haven't had the opportunity to do it for a career. For a lot of years now, out of the necessity to survive in this challenging world, I've largely been all work, very little play. I'm trying hard to be done with that. But, as they say, old habits really are hard to break... Now it's getting to be time for me to enjoy some of these days on Earth. I have no idea how many I'm going to get, so I'm just going to start doing things now before it's too late. Since I have a bit of talent in writing and not much else to do with it, I thought I might put it to use entertaining my friends in horseshoes writing some of these stories that I hear of or sometimes am even a part of. I guess some will make good fill for times like this when I'm at the deadline for a column to write and nothing else has come to mind...

This sport has been a huge part of my life since I was a kid... Had we not gone to that tournament in Hamilton, Ontario twenty years ago or so, I would have never had the experience

continued on page 24

DOWN AND BACK IN THE JUNIOR DIVISION

continued

I just described and I might very well have become a totally different person than I am now. When I stop and think about all this and all the hundreds of other things that I've experienced in relation to this sport and the wonderful people in it, I realize that this sport, more than anything else in my life, has shaped me into who I am today. Honestly, I'm very proud to say that!

I'm guessing that you also have at least one little horseshoe pitching adventure story like this one that you can recall. If you don't, then I guarantee that if you keep at it, you soon will. Perhaps you've been a part of this sport for a while now and you have many memories like this. Whatever your situation, I'm sure you'll agree that your life would not be the same without horseshoes. I enjoy all aspects of the sport, especially the time I put in volunteering as a local club officer and this position with the NHPA. I like having an opportunity to return something to the sport that's given me so much and writing this column gives me another chance for that. My thanks go to the NHPA for that.

There's some kind of magical force in this sport that ties us all together like one gigantic family. I don't know how else to describe it. I've been part of other organizations including churches, and I can't say that I've ever

felt anything close to the "family" feelings I get from the people I've met through the sport of horseshoe pitching. It's amazing, indescribable, incredible, unbelievable, magical...

Sometimes I hear people talk about how this is a dying sport. They must be blind! The only thing that's dying is their interest in it. This sport is more "alive" today than it ever has been. Today's world needs a family sport like horseshoes and there's no doubt that the "family feel" that it exudes is going to be what propels it into the future. Unlike traditional sports, it's not going to be the influence of "big money" that brings horseshoe pitching to the center stage. People are tired of that. They want something more... something real... something alive... Horseshoe pitching can give them everything they're searching for including a whole new family that warmly welcomes them with open arms. How could all this possibly die? It can't. We won't ever let that happen, right? We wouldn't be that stupid, would we?

Well, just to be safe, why don't you take a little of your time and ask around to see if anyone needs a hand with things at your local horseshoe club. I'll bet there's a little something you can do to pitch in and make a difference. Perhaps your involvement might free up another member to start a new junior league. Or, perhaps

you'll be the one to do that yourself. I'm sure no one will mind if you want to help out a bit. Even helping with something as simple as digging courts or keeping score or watching the concession stand for a while can directly lead to big advancements in your club and maybe even the sport as a whole. Can you see that? I can. Your efforts, no matter what they are, will be greatly appreciated and may lead to rewards far greater than you ever imagined.

Let's all pitch in just a little bit and see where it takes us. I think we'll all be surprised to see how far we can go if we all work together. I expect to see the new leadership in the NHPA take this exact approach. Think about it. If someone in your family needed a little help, you wouldn't hesitate to pitch in, would you? Well, right now, it's your "horseshoe family" that could use a little help. I hope you're just as willing to lend a hand to them. It's not just your loss alone if you don't help. We all lose. Who knows... it might be your lack of help that keeps another club member from being freed up to work with a particularly troubled junior player that needs guidance or something like that and who knows where that missed opportunity might take that child... possibly to someplace they never should go... can you live with that thought? I can't.

HORSESHOE PITCHERS WED ON BEATTY HORSESHOE COURTS

by Chad Hyatt

The Nevada State Horseshoe Pitchers Association recently hosted more than a competitive event for some of the best horseshoe pitchers in this part of the country. In the midst of 74 players competing for the bragging rights of being named the "Best in the West," a Colorado couple vowed for more as they were wed on the horseshoe courts late Saturday afternoon in Beatty. Allen Baptist and Sherrill Burton Baptist of Colorado exchanged vows and rings while many of the horseshoe players were there to witness this first-of-its-kind event at the courts just behind the new Death Valley Inn.

The Nevada State Horseshoe Pitchers Association has hundreds of members and holds numerous tournaments throughout the state. The Best of the West is traditionally a large event that attracts the top competitors from Nevada, California, Utah, Texas, and Colorado. Each of the players competes for over \$4600 in cash prizes that were sponsored in part by the Stagecoach Casino. Del Stockstill from California won the tournament and the coveted title. Both Allen and Sherrill competed in the "C" Division, where Sherrill finished in the money.

CASEY'S TRIP

by Gail Sluys

Many of you don't know this, but your 2nd Vice President Casey Sluys has been a busy beaver over the winter months.

First came his January trip to Florida for the National Officers Meeting. His trip took him from Sacramento, CA to Denver, CO to Orlando, FL. The flight out of Sacramento went great; used his e-ticket, quickly through security, only carry on luggage. Leaving Sacramento on time seems like a good sign - okay a great day for flying.

After landing in Denver a man got off the plane with Casey's suitcase. Seems the suitcase looked just like his except Casey's has a big red piece of tape. I guess the man didn't notice the tape because he took it anyway. Now you have to understand, I have flown with him many times before and Casey is always polite when he is getting off a plane. He lets others get their bags out of the overhead and move on before he gets up. So, in Denver up he gets, grabs his bag heads into the airport and once inside looks at the bag a little closer - no red tape. Man, he says (or some word like that) and realizes someone has taken off with his bag which has his boarding pass for his next plane, his digital camera, and of course his clothes. His next plane is going to leave soon and he has to get to another terminal - who has my bag!!!!

Using his cell phone he calls Gail (I knew some day he would appreciate my nagging him about taking that cell phone). Tells me the story, seems the man's nametag says he lives in Grass Valley CA. So I call information get a phone number, call his house and get an answering machine. I lose hope but stay optimistic (ha-ha) and leave all the information about the suitcase and my name and phone number. In the meanwhile Casey is having the man paged and getting no answer there either. About 3 minutes later I get a phone call from the man's wife, it seems his plane is about to leave so she gives me the information and I quickly call Casey. The man is on a flight to Tulsa so Casey runs to the gate, remember this is Denver - high altitude no oxygen for us sea level dwellers. A flight attendant goes out to the plane to find the man, in the meanwhile Casey finds out the flight was overbooked so no more carry on luggage was allowed. His suitcase is on its way under the plane! Lucky for everyone the baggage handlers brought up his bag and he was off to catch his plane, which is about to leave from another terminal.

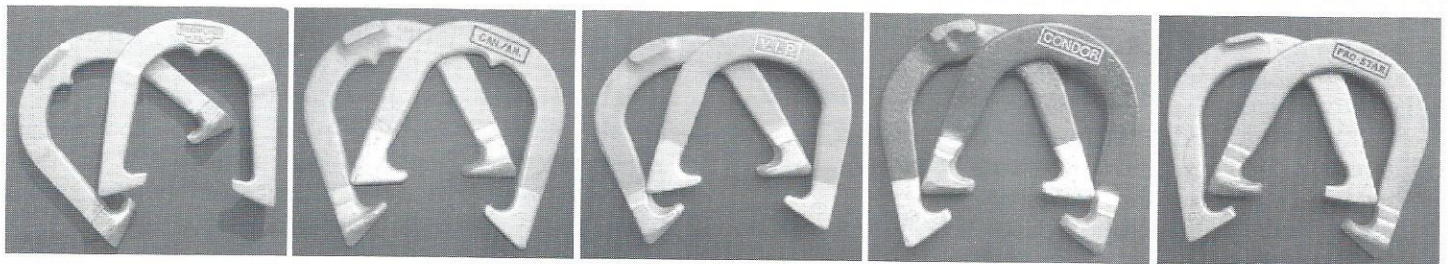
Casey flags down a ride to the tram and he gets to his terminal has just a couple minutes to spare, calls me to let me know everything is okay and he will call again at 4:00 PM CA time, when he lands in Orlando. Okay back on track. Along comes 4 PM no call, 5 PM no call, 6 PM still no call, and not answering his cell phone. Okay do I start to worry now? At 6:15 my phone rings he is on the runway

in Orlando - just landed. Seems there was a snow storm in Denver and they were on the runway for 2 hours being de-iced before they could take off. Will call me from Ocala, about an hour away, where they are to be staying and holding the winter meeting.

About an hour and a half later phone rings- Casey calling on cell - thinking he is at his destination I'm very happy "hi honey - how was the drive? Is everyone else already there?" The quiet response is " Gail, I'm not in Ocala I'm about 90 miles away - I took the wrong turn"!!!!

Now ladies and gentlemen we all know no man ever takes a wrong turn - they are always going a different way to get to their destination. You understand how hard it was for him to say that right? So, now he's been on the road since 4:00 AM California time, which made it 1:00 AM Florida time and it is now 9:15 PM Florida time. He finally got to the Hotel about an hour and a half later where the other officers were waiting for him wondering where the heck he had been.

The winter meeting was successful, and the company was great. Casey did stay in Florida for a couple of extra days to tour the Daytona Race Track and Kennedy Space Center, which he has always wanted to see. But, in February when he went to Arizona to represent the NHPA council in support of the Arizona winter tournaments - HE DROVE.



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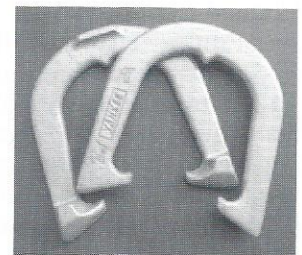
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THE TOLL OF TIME

Luke J. Braun
California

Luke John Braun of Alameda died March 10, 2006. Having been born in Mott, North Dakota on April 14, 1914, Luke died just a month short of what would have been his 92nd birthday.

In 1938 Luke married Hilda Dietz and in 1943 they moved to Northern California where Luke went to work in the Hunters Point Naval Shipyard in San Francisco. At the time, Candlestick Cove was a cluster of wartime temporary homes that later gave way to the construction of Candlestick Park, first home of the San Francisco Giants and now the 49er's football team. It was in Candlestick Cove that Luke became one of the founders of the second horseshoe club in the city and the only club in the state to have courts with blue clay. An accomplished pitcher of the 1-1/4 turn, Luke in 1950 noticed a youngster on the courts trying to learn the game. Luke took that boy under his wing, gave him a pair of official horseshoes and taught him to throw a turn shoe. His instruction and support enabled that boy to win the junior city championship that year and the next and in 1951-53, the Boy's World Junior Championship in Murray, Utah. It was the start of a friendship that lasted some 56 years.

Luke and his family moved across the bay to Alameda in 1958 and he became a member of the Mosswood Club in Oakland. While he had not pitched for several years, Luke maintained his interest in the game and a 62-year membership by joining the Tri-Valley Horseshoe Club in Pleasanton after the Mosswood club folded. Besides horseshoes, he enjoyed golf and baseball and became an avid A's fan. Luke had a great sense of humor and a love of music. His wife Hilda died after 38 years of marriage and Luke later met and married Evelyn Blackford who passed away in 1994. His son Patrick, daughter Sharon, three grandchildren, a great grandson and numerous nieces and nephews survive Luke.

Submitted by Dave Loucks

Charles "Pugger" Wilkins
Virginia

The Virginia Horseshoe pitchers were saddened by the loss of one of their longest standing members, Charles "Pugger" Wilkins, who passed away January 29, 2006.

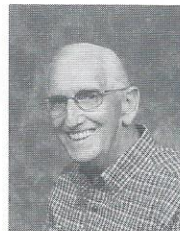
He gave all his life to friends and relatives in need. He was an avid sports fan his entire life, a bat boy for the Portsmouth Cubs in the mid-40s, excelling in baseball and horseshoes. He was a member of the National Horseshoe Pitchers Association, the Alliance Church of Portsmouth and Suffolk Masonic Lodge No. 141.

He was president of Craftsman Homes Custom Builders Inc. for 30 years and tiring of the building business, began hauling topsoil and firewood and made many new friends. He is survived by his wife of 52 years, Alice Johnson Wilkins; his son, Charles Michael; and numerous grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

Pugger was one of the founders of the original Portsmouth Horseshoe Club, a loyal member of the Moose Lodge, and an active member of both the Chesapeake Horseshoe Club and the (new) Portsmouth Horseshoe Club.

We will forever remember him as a person who loved the sport, and when meeting new people, one of the first questions he always asked was: "Do you pitch horseshoes?"

Submitted by Pat Snelgrove, VaHPA Secretary



Walter R. Fogle, Jr.
Maryland

Mr. Walter R. Fogle, Jr ("Junior"), 76, of Walkersville, MD died February 20, 2006 at his home. He was the husband of Helen Angleberger Fogle.

Born March 5, 1929 in Walkersville, he was the son of the late Walter R. Sr and Mary C. Heffner Fogle.

Mr. Fogle retired as a route supervisor from the Coca-Cola Co. after 28 years of service. He also retired from F&M Bank, after 16 years as a courier. Walter attended Oak Hill Church of God. He was a member of the AMVETS #2, American Legion Post 282, a lifetime member of the Walkersville Volunteer Fire Co., and a member of the Frederick Horseshoe Pitchers Assn. He served his country in the U.S. Army from 1952 to 1954.

In addition to his wife, he is survived by his son, Richard W. Fogle and wife Debbie of Walkersville, his daughter, Melea S. Fogle Baker and husband Lee of Harpers Ferry, WV, and great-granddaughter, Laura Rippeon of Walkersville; his sister, Pauline Mercer of Martinsburg, WV; a special niece, Barbara Haines and husband Larry of Walkersville; two special nephews, Larry Grimes and wife Bev of Woodsboro, and Bradley Grimes and wife Donna of Walkersville; and a special great-niece, Carly Grimes. His many special friends will also remember him. His brothers and sister, Walter Fogle, Rollin Fogle, Arthur Fogle and Margaret Grimes, preceded him in death.

Junior was a member of the Frederick Horseshoe Pitchers Association, the MD Horseshoe Pitchers Association, and the National Horseshoe Pitchers Association for over 25 years. During the majority of that time, he served as the Treasurer for the Frederick and MD State clubs. Always happy, helpful and full of wisdom and enthusiasm, he was an inspiration and friend to all, and a mentor to many a new pitcher. Although we know in our hearts that Junior is now in his rightful and well-deserved place in heaven - peaceful, happy, free of illness and pain (and probably pitching horseshoes!), he will truly be missed.

During the past couple of years, Junior was unable to participate actively in this sport that he loved so much. Yet, ever the sportsman, he continued to attend meetings, league nights, tournaments and banquets whenever his health would allow, and remained an integral part of our club. It was always a bright spot to see him pull in the parking lot, and he was the cause for many a smile! Knowing how much he meant to so many of us, we only imagine what his

family must be feeling, and offer our sincerest condolences.

2008 TOURNAMENT UPDATE

by Stu Sipma

Junior was a big part of our horseshoe family. We were blessed to have known him. We will cherish the time we had with him and enjoy our many good memories. We loved him and will miss him, and will think of him often for many years to come.

At the current time the Decatur-Morgan County Conventions and Visitors Bureau is in the process of starting a committee to meet when necessary to make the 2008 event a success. The committee will be statewide and will help insure the success of the 2008 event. The event will take place at the Racking Horse Arena located just a few minutes outside of Decatur. The Arena has plenty of indoor seating and is home to the World Racking Horse Celebrations. You can take a look at the facility by going to www.rackinghorse.com.

Submitted by Diana Ratliff

The City of Decatur is excited about the opportunity to host such an important event and we hope that everyone plans on attending. The area features some of the most unique attractions around from Point Mallard Park to the Historic Downtown District. The city is also located right on the Tennessee River and is host to the FLW Fishing Tour and the Stihl Timbersports Series in 2006.

Anna Marie Dawson West Virginia

Anna Marie Dawson of Parkersburg died February 17, 2006 at WVU Medical Center in Morgantown. She was born March 26, 1929 in Weston, W.Va., a daughter of the late Francis E. and Floe Swisher Taylor.

The CVB is also planning to be at the 2007 World Horseshoe Pitching Championships. If anyone has any questions about the area then they can go to www.decaturcvb.org or contact us at 1-800-524-6181.

She is survived by her husband of 58 years, Thomas Henry Dawson; daughters, Judy Long of Beverly, Ky., Peggy Warner of Germantown, Tenn., and Nancy Campbell of Huntington, W.Va.; five grandchildren; and five great-grandchildren. She is also survived by her sisters, Dortha Jean Smith of Weston and Mary Frances Marple of Buckhannon, and several nieces and nephews.



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Mrs. Dawson had been an involved member of First United Methodist Church since her move to Parkersburg from Spencer in 1967. She was a member of the Administrative Council and a 30-year representative to Annual Conference. Anna Marie served as the church hostess and was responsible for organizing church dinners and receptions. She was an active member of United Methodist Women. Mrs. Dawson loved pitching horseshoes; she participated in state and national competitions; and was recently inducted into the West Virginia Horseshoe Pitchers' Association Hall of Fame. Anna Marie Dawson showed her love for Christ by serving others. She was much loved by her family and many friends and will be fondly remembered.

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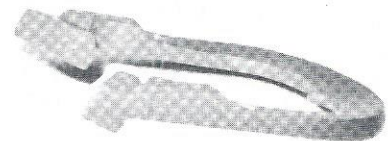
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Submitted by Charles Bunner

13TH ANNUAL SIX PAC INVITATION

New Melle, MO - May 6-7, 2006

By Jeanette Claas

It was a week of stormy weather as we prepared for the Groundbreaking Ceremony of the NHPA Hall of Fame and for the 13th Annual Six Pac Invitational. Mother Nature came through for us, giving us an entire weekend of gorgeous Missouri spring weather to greet all of the out-of-state pitchers who came to participate in these events.

Due to the Groundbreaking Ceremony many NHPA officials were able to attend both events which made this Six Pac Tournament more special. After Martin Orf, President of NMHC, sang the National Anthem, NHPA Secretary/Treasurer Dick Hansen, from Wisconsin, introduced the other officials. They were: Bonnie Siebold, 4th VP from Indiana; Dan Sanders, 1st VP from Ohio; Paul Stewart, NHPA President from North Carolina; Paula Summerlin, Newsline Magazine Editor and husband Steve Summerlin, NHPA & NHPF Webmaster, from Michigan; Ken Kosky, NHPA Game Related Sales from Wisconsin; Dave Loucks, NHPF President from California; Joe Faron, NHPF Director from Missouri; and Eugene Burlingame, Stewlie Prez from Iowa.

The Six Pac Tournament was made possible by the sponsorships of Harvey Wobbe of Six Pac Horseshoes and the Holiday Inn – Wentzville. We wish to thank each of them for their generous donations and hope that our members will reciprocate by using their business.

Randy Grady, former Missouri State Champion, made a most unique Six Pac trophy with all the past winners names engraved on it since it originated in 1994. The 14" x 14" walnut base was flanked with two golden horseshoes and a glass like standard size peg. Once again, Harvey Wobbe supplied the necessary materials and Randy used his woodworking skills to create this most outstanding trophy that will be used for many years to come. The trophy will be on exhibit in the new Hall of Fame facility.

NHPA President Paul Stewart announced on Sunday morning that the NHPA Presidential Award will be presented to Harvey Wobbe at the 2006 World Tournament in Gillette, Wyoming for his continued promotion of horseshoes both locally and nationally. Due to Harvey's health conditions, Paul wanted to personally acknowledge him at the Six Pac Tournament that he has sponsored since 1994. Harvey has probably sponsored more teams and events than any other individual. The New Melle Horseshoe Club bought the first 8" x 8" commemorative brick to be placed in the Hall of Fame Plaza in honor of Harvey Wobbe for his contribution to the Six Pac Tournament.

Tournament Director of the 30 footers, Bob Diekamp, introduced the pitchers: Tom Ebers, 77.25%, Amy Francis, 71.82%, Rose Diekamp, 71.42%, Jan Kreienkamp, 62.91%, Don Mercier, 52.42%, Mary Beeson, 52.74% and Paul Taylor, 49.73%. The 30 footers put on an exciting race with a playoff for first place between Amy Francis and Rose Diekamp. The results are as follows:

		W/L	Points	Ringers	Shoes	Percent
1 st	Amy Francis – OH	7-1	325	308	428	71.96%
2 nd	Rose Diekamp – MO	6-2	296	243	354	68.64%
3 rd	Tom Ebers – MO	5-2	277	243	326	74.53%
4 th	Jan Kreienkamp – MO	4-3	222	178	282	63.12%
5 th	Don Mercier – MO	3-4	199	173	318	54.40%
6 th	Mary Beeson – MO	2-5	214	200	332	60.24%
7 th	Oden Sullivan – MO	2-5	167	157	310	50.64%
8 th	Paul Taylor – MO	0-7	55	64	218	29.35%

Tournament Director of the 40 footers, Joe Faron, reported a few players withdrew from the tournament due to high cost of gasoline and Walter Ray Williams, Jr. could not attend this year due to a defending title in a Regional Bowling event in North Carolina. Those participating in the event were: **Alan Francis**, 90.1%, 10-time Missouri State Champion, nine-time Ohio State Champ & eleven-time World Champion, **Mark Mauthe**, 75.06% three-time Wisconsin State Champ, **Mandell Proctor**, 74.47%, four-time Maryland State Champion, **Jim Walters**, 73.69%, **M.O. Turner**, 70.62%, **Paul LaCrosse**, 70.30% nineteen-time State Champ, **Tom Westbrook** 68.82%, six-time State Champ and World Senior Champion, **Stan Griggs** 66.12%, five-time Missouri State Champ, **Jerry Dumstorff**, two-time Illinois State Champ, **Robert Booe**, 65.89% four-time Kansas State Champ, **Larry Knopp**, 65.47% three-time Illinois State Champ, **Mark Siebold**, 65.40% twenty-time State Champ, three-time World Champion, **Charlie Killgore**, two-time Missouri State Champ, **Tim Henderson** ,65.11% and **Kenny Pogue**, 63.06%.

At the end of the competition on Saturday (eight games), Alan Francis and Jim Walters remained undefeated. The Holiday Inn hosted a buffet dinner on Saturday where over 60 horseshoe pitchers and family members gathered for a relaxing evening and fun before retiring for the night.

The Six Pac Tournament is always a special time for the Francis family. Joyce and Larry not only get to watch their son's skillful talents on the courts, but it is a time for them to get reacquainted with their only grandchild. Spectators gathered for the final round on Sunday. After a low 80% first game, Alan cranked it up a notch for his second game with a 97.3% against Charlie Killgore. Alan Francis of Ohio captured his ninth title as Six Pac Champion with 15 wins and no losses. His tournament average was 88.85%. Seven pitchers scored less than three points against him. Matt Guy of Kentucky scored the most - 17 points. Alan's record for the Six Pac Tournament throughout the years now equals - 158 wins and three losses. A young Jim Walters of Ohio finished second with 14 wins and one loss, that being against Alan Francis. His high game was 86% and a tournament average of 73.10%. Stan Griggs of Missouri took third place in spite of a rough first day start. The results of the 40' were:

		W-L:	Points	Ringers	Shoes	Percent	Prize Money
1 st	Alan Francis - OH	15-0	623	510	574	88.85%	\$1200
2 nd	Jim Walters - OH	14-1	592	541	740	73.10%	\$1000
3 rd	Stan Griggs - MO	11-4	521	471	770	61.16%	\$ 600
4 th	Paul LaCrosse - CO	10-5	539	528	758	69.65%	\$ 400
5 th	Tom Westbrook - SC	10-5	502	471	740	63.64%	\$ 300
6 th	Mandell Proctor - MD	9-6	512	491	772	63.60%	\$ 200
7 th	M.O. Turner - MO	7-8	459	498	814	61.17%	\$ 175
8 th	Mark Mauthe - WI	7-8	488	448	738	60.70%	\$ 125
9 th	Robert Booe - KS	7-8	469	429	778	55.14%	
10 th	Jerry Dumstorff - IL	7-8	456	418	768	54.42%	
11 th	Matt Guy - KY	6-9	451	455	780	58.33%	
12 th	Mark Siebold - IN	5-10	474	538	880	61.13%	
13 th	Larry Knop - IL	4-11	425	470	794	59.19%	
14 th	Charlie Killgore - MO	3-12	403	395	742	53.23%	
15 th	Tim Henderson - MO	3-12	365	312	670	46.56%	
16 th	Ken Pogue - MO	2-13	309	349	690	50.57%	

Ever since Paul LaCrosse has been coming to NMHC, he always said the facility was like "Pitching in Paradise". This will be the last Six Pac Tournament held at the NMHC facility. A lot of memories have been made during the last 13 years of exciting Six Pac Tournaments! "This is kind of sad it will be the last time," stated Paul, "But we will all look forward to pitching in the new Hall of Fame building that will bring about many more years of good pitching."

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48TH ANNUAL VALLEY OF THE SUN TOURNAMENT

by Rick Durkit

Everyone had a great time at the 48th Annual Valley of the Sun Tournament. The weather was just fabulous in the low 70's to 80 degrees.

The PMHPC wishes to thank all that attended this year's tournament and is looking forward to seeing everyone next year!

The 49th Annual Valley of the Sun Tournament will be February 8th through 11th, 2007.

48th Valley of the Sun

Class A 40ft

	<u>Wins</u>	<u>Loss</u>	
1 st Hyatt, Chad	7	3	58.9 %
2 nd McCrink, Joe	6	4	60.7 %
3 rd Sherrard, Darrell	5	5	54.3 %
4 th Lipinski, Ron	4	6	53.1 %
5 th Comstock, Jerry	4	6	51.3 %
6 th Farley, Frank	4	6	50.4 %

Class A 30ft

1 st Wheeler, Pete	10	1	67.2 %
2 nd Turnquist, Jan	9	2	62.2 %
3 rd Twyman, Sue	9	2	59.8 %
4 th Wiedrich, Ben	7	4	63.9 %
5 th Tabat, Barbara	7	4	57.1 %
6 th Long, Bob	7	4	56.1 %
7 th Miller, Doris	6	5	53.8 %
8 th Williams, Warren	4	7	49.3 %
9 th Conlin, Jim	4	7	45.1 %
10 th Rebman, Rick	2	9	39.6 %
11 th Sparks, David	1	10	35.8 %

Class B 40ft

1 st Tabat, Tom	10	1	41.7 %
2 nd Reed, Howard	9	2	34.9 %
3 rd Alley, John	7	4	38.6 %
4 th Cuthbertson, Terry	7	4	36.6 %
5 th Hawkins, Ray	7	4	36.2 %
6 th Hansen, Dick	6	5	39.2 %
7 th Loucks, Dave	5	6	34.2 %
8 th Perry, Ken	5	6	33.7 %
9 th Hoerner, Bob	5	6	31.1 %
10 th Boss, Dale	4	7	38.4 %
11 th Routh, Thomas	1	10	23.0 %

Class B 30ft

1 st Melstad, Howard	9	2	46.4 %
2 nd Mccutcheon, Gene	8	3	42.6 %
3 rd Boschman, Ida	7	4	48.0 %
4 th O'blenes, Ronald	7	4	47.4 %
5 th Woolery, Ken	7	4	43.9 %
6 th Magoon, Russ	6	5	50.2 %
7 th Wilburn, Ray	6	5	42.4 %
8 th Robinson, Kent	6	5	37.5 %
9 th Buell, Darrell	4	7	40.2 %
10 th Rittweger, Dutch	3	8	41.2 %
11 th Sparks, Babette	3	8	40.6 %

Class C 30ft

1 st Wallace, Paul	8 1/2	1 1/2	44.7 %
2 nd Chiddister, Sharon	7 1/2	2 1/2	40.0 %

3 rd Roberds, Scotty	7	3	48.0 %
4 th Jensen, Wayne	7	3	35.2 %
5 th Johnson, Ernie	6	4	32.0 %
6 th Kraemar, Ray	5 1/2	4 1/2	40.0 %
7 th Garner, Harold	4 1/2	5 1/2	38.2 %
8 th Cummings, Earl	4	6	36.2 %
9 th Hoshaw, Trisha	3	7	38.0 %
10 th Stanley, Jim	1	9	29.2 %
11 th Clark, Ted	1	4	30.0 %

Class C 40ft

1 st Albert, Wilbur	9	1	40.2 %
2 nd Pineda, Deme	7	3	31.0 %
3 rd Nicaastro, Pete	7	3	29.7 %
4 th Pedersen, Lenard	7	3	28.5 %
5 th Gant, Leon	6	4	30.2 %
6 th White, Evertt	5	5	33.0 %
7 th Boschman, Herb	4	6	26.7 %
8 th Ayers, Al	4	6	26.7 %
9 th Reyna, Jerry	4	6	26.5 %
10 th Sluys, Casey	2	8	20.7 %
11 th Pries, George	0	10	21.6 %

Class D Mix

1 st Paulsen, Harlan	8	3	31.3 %
2 nd Sprague, Shirley	8	3	30.6 %
3 rd Pedersen, John	8	3	27.2 %
4 th Reihl, John	7	4	32.9 %
5 th Nielsen, Harlan	6 1/2	4 1/2	29.3 %
6 th Krogen, Dorthy	6	5	34.5 %
7 th Hargrove, John	6	5	28.4 %
8 th Anderson, Jan	5	6	23.4 %
9 th Scott, W.H.	4 1/2	6 1/2	26.3 %
10 th Harvey, Glenn	3	8	20.6 %
11 th Ingraham, Larry	2 1/2	8 1/2	21.5 %
12 th Kiteligner, Jim	1 1/2	9 1/2	23.8 %

Class E Mix

1 st Etter, Marvin	9	0	42.7 %
2 nd Jellema, Clarence	7	2	30.2 %
3 rd Lebeau, Don	6 1/2	2 1/2	19.1 %
4 th Pineda, Margret	5	4	28.3 %
5 th Sprague, Bill	4 1/2	4 1/2	14.7 %
6 th Wagner, Harry	4	5	15.0 %
7 th Anderson, Art	3	6	21.1 %
8 th Vigil, Valarie	3	6	14.7 %
9 th Rolla, Joe	3	6	10.5 %
10 th McCumsey, Lee	0	9	17.7 %

Sue Twyman from New York had High Game of 85%

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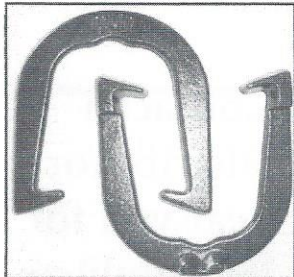


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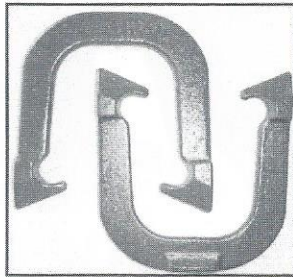


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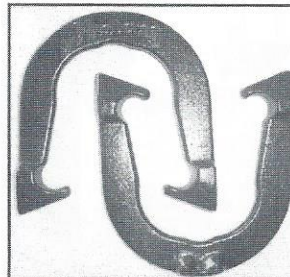
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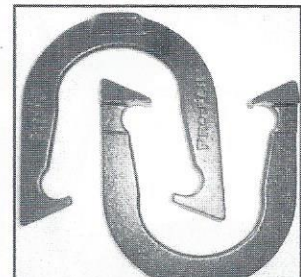
GLORY
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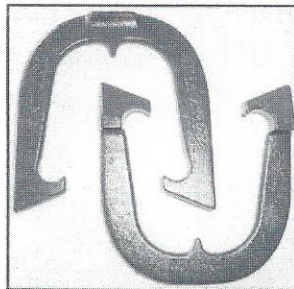
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 \$41 per pair, 2 FOR \$73!!
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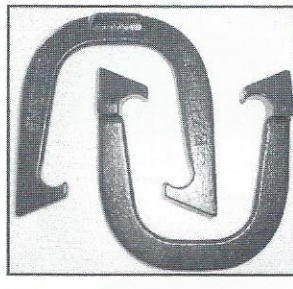
MUSTANG
 \$50 per pair
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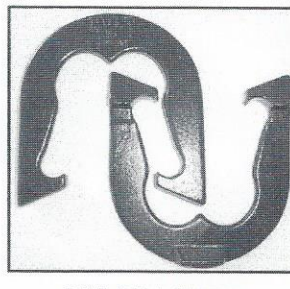
BRONCO PRO-FLIP
 \$50 per pair
 Stock #33-123



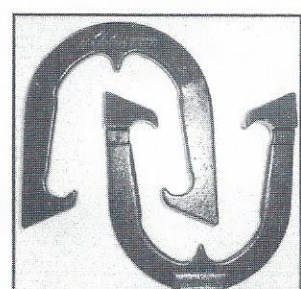
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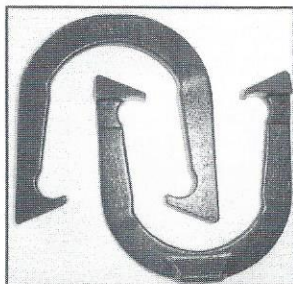
SNYDER E-Z FLIP II
 \$56 per pair
 Stock #33-535



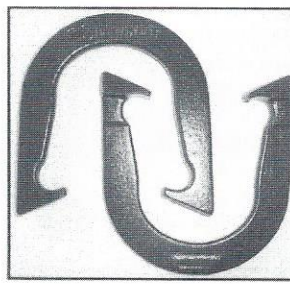
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