



Horseshoe Pitching **NEWSLINE**

Official Publication of the National Horseshoe Pitchers Association

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2011 NATIONAL CHAMPIONS!



NHPA Sanctioned League Tournament

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 contact the NHPA 5th Vice-President who is in charge of all RDs. She should have copies of all the state schedules. The address for the 5th VP can be found on page 3 of this publication.

REGION	REGIONAL DIRECTOR	REGION	REGIONAL DIRECTOR	REGION	REGIONAL DIRECTOR
26. Alabama	Ron Kindrick 678 Williamson Kindrick Trail Eclectic, AL 36024-6128 (334) 541-2720 rons_flying_fish@yahoo.com	24. Iowa	Vern Kollasch 1110 Hampton Court Iowa City, IA 52240 (319) 337-7020 vkollasch@aol.com	15. North Dakota	Jeanine Rodvold 52 Woodland Dr N Fargo, ND 58102-2419 (701) 799-9778 (Cell) or (701) 235-1544 (Home) jrodvold@cableone.net
52. Alaska	Tom Bowers 3075 N Charley DR Wasilla, AK 99654-4321 (907) 376-2466 tomyobow@gci.net	18. Kansas	Melvin Jeardoe 460 160 RD Concordia, KS 66901-6515 (785) 243-7184 melvin@rhelectric.net	36. Ohio	Dick Guill 2480 Bryonaire DR Mansfield, OH 44903-7407 (419) 589-2459 dndguill1961@aol.com
10. Arizona	Larry Ingraham 11033 W Acadia DR Sun City, AZ 85373-1505 (623) 322-3437 lingraham3@yahoo.com	32. Kentucky	A.B. Webb PO Box 142 Brownsville, KY 42210 (270) 597-6623 albertwebb2@yahoo.com	20. Oklahoma	David Montgomery 2909 N Shadynook Way Oklahoma City, OK 73141-3831 (405) 206-1581 nancyndavid@cox.net
21. Arkansas	Dewayne Moody 1015 Gray ST Mountain Home, AR 72653-4329 (870) 656-7935 shocmanmoody@yahoo.com	27. Louisiana	Ron Latiolais 12102 Turry RD Gonzales, LA 70737-1821 (225) 647-4992 ronlatch@erigers.net	2. Oregon	Chuck Warner 17667 Tyee RD Umpqua, OR 97486-9736 (541) 459-1206 ckwarner61@gmail.com
3. California No.	Casey Stuyts 1721 San Ramon Way Santa Rosa, CA 95409-3964 (707) 538-3128 keslus@sbcglobal.net	45. Maine	See Massachusetts	39. Pennsylvania	Darle Esh 68 Solitude RD Milroy, Pa 17063-9235 (717) 667-3108 darle@eshfamily.com
4. California So.	Hal Griswold 32612 Balearic RD Dana Point, CA 92629-3615 (949) 496-0577 setibird@yahoo.com	42. Maryland	Don Lawyer 730 Hickok Trail Lusby, MD 20657-3177 (410) 326-2070 horseshoedon@comcast.net	50. Rhode Island	See Massachusetts
61-72. Canada	Jack Adams 35 O'Neil Crescent Saskatoon, SK Canada S7N 1W7 (306) 373-5184	48. Massachusetts	Leo Michaud 379 Hodges ST Taunton, MA 02780-2057 (508) 822-9610 loonpnd@comcast.net	41. South Carolina	Terry McPeck 358 Old Duncan RD Leesville, SC 29070-9484 (803) 532-6240 dundee_74@yahoo.com
13. Colorado	Lyle Saine 2800 S Syracuse Way APT#11-101 Denver, CO 80231-4294 (970) 593-8594 lylesaine@yahoo.com	30. Michigan	Steve Summerlin PO Box 536 Webberville, MI 48892-0536 (517) 582-1940 ssummerlin@cablespeed.com	16. South Dakota	Clint Bryson 901 Custer ST Belle Fourche, SD 57717-1136 (605) 892-2195 cmb@rushmore.com
49. Connecticut	See Massachusetts	23. Minnesota	Sara Otto 11070 Cedar Hills BLVD APT 232 Minnetonka, MN 55305-3017 (952) 544-1613 slotto77@gmail.com	33. Tennessee	Craig Schadler 487 Ozone RD Rockwell, TN 37854 (865) 354-6444 schadworld@peoplepc.com
43. Delaware	Dan Carter 28 Gail RD New Castle, DE 19720-1710 (302) 326-1311 LOTRingers@aol.com	25. Mississippi	See Alabama	22. Texas	Coyce Allen 2640 Greyhawk DR Little Elm, TX 75068 (469) 362-9711 cvalle1156@aol.com
35. Florida	Ron Deckard 2210 Eisenhower DR Dunedin, FL 34698 (727) 286-8318 deckardr34698@yahoo.com	19. Missouri	Donna Bastel 1028 Oak Point DR Gravois Mills, MO 65037-6724 (573) 374-8243 dbastel@lauriekitchen.net	9. Utah	Gary Wood 525 S 3rd West Salem, UT 84653 (801) 423-1058 garyfrankwood@msn.com
34. Georgia	Ronnie Miller 1599 Christian Hill RD Rochelle, GA 31079-5523 (229) 365-2672 mudbug1@windstream.net	11. Montana	Wayne Bennett 1520 Beartooth RD Wolf Creek, MT 59648-8744 (406) 235-4062 wands59@gmail.com	46. Vermont	See Massachusetts
6. Hawaii	Myrtle May L Kamoku PO Box 273 Anahola, HI 96703-0273 (808) 212-1308 MKamoku@hawaii.rr.com	17. Nebraska	Pat Wemhoff 45 Heron Point Clarks, NE 68628-2879 (402) 265-6576	38. Virginia	Kevin Snelgrove PO Box 625 Stuarts Draft, VA 24477-0625 (540) 337-4689 rd@vahpa.com
8. Idaho	David Spears 845 E. 16 th ST N Mountain Home, ID 83647-1722 (208) 695-8362 ringerguy@gmail.com	7. Nevada	Tom McQueen 3377 Alcorn Rd. Fallon, NV 89406-7214 (760) 937-3401 tommcqueen@cccom.net	1. Washington	Vic Magnus 1606 Elementary ST Richland, WA 99352-8617 (509) 628-2279 vicmag@charter.net
29. Illinois	Dave Shreve 2127 Lynn ST Cahokia, IL 62206-2523 (618) 910-8558 hrshuz@charter.net	47. New Hampshire	See Massachusetts	53. Washington DC	See Maryland
31. Indiana	Jim Shilling 5044A County Road 64 Spencerville, IN 46788-9721 (260) 238-4879 shillinghorseshoes@yahoo.com	51. New Jersey	Bruce Conord 56 Gallmeier RD Frenchtown, NJ 08825-3718 (908) 996-3211 brconord@yahoo.com	37. West Virginia	Ken Wilhelm 406 Stealy AVE Clarksburg, WV 26301-3463 (304) 641-1265 Hepzibah69@yahoo.com
		14. New Mexico	Harold Combs 9021 LaBarranca AVE NE Albuquerque, NM 87111-2334 (505) 321-3740 hnjcombs@yahoo.com	28. Wisconsin	Ed Wheeler W9070 County Road K Lodi, WI 53555-9453 (608) 592-4424 ECWSFW@aol.com
		44. New York	Bob Klock PO Box 478 Spencer, NY 14883-0478 (607) 589-4122 tictoklock@frontier.com	12. Wyoming	Phil Plotke 3300 Sutherland DR Gillette, WY 82718-6225 (307) 682-0756 plotke@bresnan.net
		40. North Carolina	Paul Highlander 905 Windward Passage Knightsdale, NC 27545-9429 (919) 266-1474 pvhighlander@att.net		

NHPA NATIONAL OFFICERS

PRESIDENT: STUART SIPMA
2826 Domino Drive, Bismark, ND 58503-0831
(701) 258-5686, email: stuart.w.sipma@isocorp.com
1ST VICE PRESIDENT: DAN SANDERS
42 Scioto ST, Powell, OH 43065
(614) 596-5666, email: dsanderling@yahoo.com
2ND VICE PRESIDENT: TINA HAWKINS
RT. 4, Box 52, Marlow, OK 73005
(580)658-3923, email: tinahawk@msn.com
3RD VICE PRESIDENT: DAVID SIDLES
17259 Jefferson ST, Omaha, NE 68135-3077
(402)763-8882, email: dsidles@cox.net
4TH VICE PRESIDENT: JERRY LaBROSSE
8170 Fern Lane, Greenfield MN 55357
(763) 498-7353, email: jlabro6186@aol.com
5TH VICE PRESIDENT: DEBBY MICHAUD
379 Hodges ST, Taunton, MA 02780
(508)822-9610, email: loonpnd@comcast.net
SECRETARY/TREASURER: DICK HANSEN
3085 76th St., Franksville, WI 53126-9661
(262) 835-9108, email: nhpa22@yahoo.com

PROGRAM & COMMITTEE DIRECTORS

GAME RELATED SALES: NHPA GAME RELATED SALES
Larry Langewisch, Pam Gettinger
100 Bluestem Way, Wentzville, MO 63385-3799
(636) 327-5271, email: nhpagamerelated@nhpasales.com
JUNIOR PROMOTION: JUSTIN SIPMA
5212 Driftwood LN, Bismark, ND 58503
(701) 258-5686, email: jwsipma@hotmail.com
PUBLICITY/PROMOTION: 2nd VP TINA HAWKINS
NHPA CHAPLAIN: KEN HEINRITZ
N95 W22107 County RD Q, Colgate, WI 53017
(262) 255-7339, email: Kheinritz@wctc.edu
HISTORIAN: BOB DUNN
6417 Georgia AVE No., Brooklyn Park, MN 55428
(763) 535-3884, email: BobCharlesDunn@aol.com
NATSTATS: ROB HAGMAN
652 Cross ST, Anoka, MN 55303
(612) 600-3777, email: natstats@horseshoepitching.com
HALL OF FAME: VICKI WINSTON
10326 Highway D, LaMonte, MO 65337-2104
(660) 563-3536 email: horshuvicki@socnet.net
REGIONAL DIRECTORS: 5th VP DEBBY MICHAUD
MEDICAL EXEMPTION FORM REQUESTS: 1st VP DAN SANDERS
SANCTIONED CLUB/LEAGUE: 3rd VP DAVID SIDLES
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WEBSITE/WEBMASTER: STEVE SUMMERLIN
PO. Box 536, Webberville, MI 48892-0536
(517) 582-1940, email: webmaster@horseshoepitching.com
www.horseshoepitching.com

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Cover: 2011 Sanctioned League Tournament Champions, Quail Ridge Team #3; Carol Howard, Andrew Foulas, Jan Kreienkamp. Lorraine Sternberg outing 3rd VP shown with the champs.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

by Stu Sipma

On behalf of the NHPA Council, I hope everyone had a Merry Christmas and are enjoying the New Year! As we begin the new year, the NHPA Council would like to once again remind the Charter Officers about one of our goals, which is membership growth. Dick reported to the Council another decrease in membership the past year. Membership numbers dropped from 11,243 in 2010 to approximately 10,399 in 2011, however, those numbers may go up slightly. I want to encourage "everyone" to do their part and sign up a friend or two. You could not find a better sport to participate in for the cost!

The NHPA Council will be holding our annual winter meeting January 13-14, 2012 in Knoxville, TN, which is the host site for the 2012 World Horseshoe Tournament. In conjunction with this meeting, Jerry LaBrosse and Tina Hawkins will also conduct their site visit with the Knoxville CVB and Convention Center personnel. Some of the main topics on the agenda to discuss include: 2012 NHPA Goals, 2012 Financial Budget, World Tournament issues, Membership, Software update for HS Master/Scoring, and new Publicity and Promotion ideas.

The NHPA Council has approved expenditures for upgrading the Hall of Fame Viewing Booth. The new equipment will be installed early next year by our Natstats Director Rob Hagman. The recommendation for this upgrade was brought to the Council by the NHPA Hall of Fame Committee. I want to thank everyone for their efforts to make this happen.

Bidding status for the 2014 World Tournament consists of interested parties from Charleston, WV, Fargo, ND, Jackson, MS, Pleasanton, CA, Mobile Bay, AL, and the State of Missouri. To date, we have received no signed contracts; however, the parties have until March 15, 2012 to submit their bid packages to the NHPA. York, PA will not be bidding this year because of scheduling conflicts; however, they have reported it is their intention to bid again for hosting it in 2015.

Each year the NHPA recognizes members for their contributions to the NHPA, their Charter, and/or local club. The Council is asking all the Charters to provide a list of individuals who you believe would be a candidate to receive an NHPA Achievement Award. These awards will be presented at the 2012

World Tournament in Knoxville, TN. To obtain a form, visit our website at www.horseshoepitching.com

The NHPA is also looking for your assistance in providing candidates who you believe would qualify for the NHPA Hall of Fame Award. Candidates for this prestigious award must have been an NHPA member for at least ten years and may qualify based on their distinguished outstanding performances in World Tournament Championship play or as a person who has made significant and beneficial contributions to the NHPA. Nominations for this award should be submitted to our NHPA Hall of Fame Director Vicki Winston. This form is also available on our website.

The 22nd World Congress of *The Association for International Sport for All* (TAFISA) was held at Antalya, Turkey November 10-14, 2011. As part of growing our sport of horseshoes internationally, the NHPA asked Gary Roberts (President: USA Jukskei Association) to attend this conference. Gary was pleased to announce the countries of Japan, Mexico, and the Netherlands expressed an interest in pitching horseshoes. He also reported that Namibia will be attending our World Tournament in Utah in 2013. This is exciting news and we look forward to seeing these folks in St. George, UT!

I would like to remind everyone that elections are open for the positions of 2nd VP, 4th VP, and Secretary-Treasurer. In accordance with the By-Laws, candidates for an NHPA office must announce their candidacy in writing no later than February 1, 2012. Announcements are to be received by the President and the Horseshoe Pitching Newslines Editor. I encourage anyone interested to announce their candidacy prior to the deadline.

Just a reminder for people looking at attending the 2012 World Tournament in Knoxville, TN to begin making your plans and getting your reservations made. Additional information regarding the World Tournament is already on our website.

Have a great winter and I hope you and your family have a happy and prosperous 2012!

NHPF NEWS VIEWS & DONATIONS by Dave Loucks

We again start a new year with high hopes that it will be better and more prosperous than the previous. For the NHPF, member contributions during 2011 did not rebound from the low \$25,666 achieved in 2010. In fact, total 2011 income from contributions and brick orders has fallen to an all-time annual low of \$15,780 as I write this during the first week of December.

It's no secret that only about ten percent or less of members in the average club volunteer to hold office or do some work for the club, but what about the other ninety percent? You would think that at least some of those who choose not to volunteer could at least send in a small donation to help support the association. We all realize that the economy is poor, but there are a bit more than 11,000 NHPA members who should be interested in helping their association grow and prosper.

In the past twelve months only 146 contributions and/or brick orders were received from a total of 107 members, clubs or charters. Of the 70 bricks that were engraved during 2011, 15 were purchased in late 2010 and just 55 in all of 2011. Of the 107 who donated or purchased a brick, 26 were first time contributors. That left 81 previous donors who sent in 120 checks between them.

Please study the annual list of "How Your State Ranks" which is included in this issue. 55% of all 2011 income contributed by members came from just five states, California, Missouri, Minnesota, North Carolina and Oregon. It is a sad fact that only ten donations were received from a combined total of 27 states. Not much need to mention the states as only two are among the top 20 on the list. The other 25 are all among the bottom 30 states. While it takes a lot of mutual support, both work and financial, to hold a World Tournament, it was disappointing that not a single donation check came from members or organizations in the states hosting the 2011, 2012 or 2013 World event.

Many of us live and pitch in communities hard hit by the poor economy. Cities are cutting back budgets for recreational park expenses. This often has an adverse

effect on the plans of horseshoe clubs who want to update their pitching courts. Such has been the case with four clubs who received NHPF grants in 2010. All found that the expected community financial support had evaporated and with it, their court improvement plans were put on hold. Clubs in Clarence and Warsaw, MO, Klamath Falls, OR and Winter Haven, FL all returned the grants the NHPF had given them in 2010.

Let's all strive to give more support to our club, charter and association in 2012. A few individuals can't do it all. Promote the NHPF in your club and charter newsletters. This is your Foundation but without financial support, giving back becomes more difficult. Contributions to the NHPF are recognized by the IRS as tax-deductible donations and should be sent to the NHPF, P.O. Box 1628, Penn Valley, CA 95946. The Foundation extends its thanks to those mentioned below for the brick orders and contributions received during October and November.

Donating \$20-50

Vern Kollasch, IA
Leo & Joan Buell, IA
Deborah Shannon, MO
Platteville HPA, WI
Charles Bunner, WV

Donating \$100-150

William Backer, CA
Ronald Deckard, FL
Richard Timmer, IL
Paul Stewart, NC
Timothy Woodden, OR

Donating \$350

Dave & Cathie Loucks, CA
Missouri HPA
NHPA Sanctioned League Tournament

Donating \$500

Casey & Gail Sluys, CA

Other Income

\$1,500, Winter Haven, FL grant return
\$3,000, QRHC 3rd Qtr. Bldg. rent

Bricks Purchased By

Casey & Gail Sluys, CA

Verdan & Judy Zelmar, CA
Jerry Smith, ID
Topeka H.C., KS
Paul & Nancy Howard, MI
Russell & Gayle Roark, MO
Pony Express H.C., MO (3)
Vickie Highlander, NC
North Carolina HPA

HOW YOUR STATE RANKS

Contributors	Donations	\$	
CA	126	360	\$47,605
MO	159	310	\$42,730
MN	60	337	\$29,858
NC	35	200	\$27,459
OR	26	145	\$22,199
TN	32	68	\$21,677
WI	46	161	\$16,257
MI	58	155	\$13,665
WA	37	93	\$11,010
IL	64	122	\$10,538
FL	59	95	\$10,166
CO	33	92	\$9,589
OH	75	127	\$9,376
TX	35	62	\$8,445
GA	22	30	\$8,255
PA	36	76	\$8,050
NE	18	39	\$7,298
KS	29	59	\$7,171
IA	30	55	\$6,451
MA	13	21	\$5,705
WV	15	129	\$5,538
NJ	24	50	\$5,209
ND	10	34	\$5,150
IN	32	46	\$4,993
NY	41	59	\$4,825
ID	10	43	\$4,802
VA	72	154	\$4,067
MD	26	44	\$3,764
LA	10	21	\$3,152
SC	13	31	\$2,870
KY	17	34	\$2,760
OK	19	30	\$2,573
SD	17	30	\$2,449
CT	16	28	\$2,422
NV	12	19	\$2,136
AZ	13	21	\$1,589
AR	11	16	\$1,535
NH	4	9	\$1,390
VT	7	21	\$1,265
NM	5	10	\$1,215
MT	6	11	\$1,020
AL	7	10	\$925
WY	7	7	\$632
UT	4	6	\$580
CAN	2	3	\$500
IRE	1	1	\$300
HI	4	4	\$250
ME	2	3	\$150
AK	1	1	\$120
DE	1	2	\$107
RI	1	1	\$100
MS	1	1	\$5

PUBLICITY PROMOTION

by Tina Hawkins

In some regions of the country, there are ample opportunities to pitch horseshoes at indoor facilities, even through the coldest, wettest, most inclement weather. However, for many Charters, horseshoe pitching comes to a stand-still during the winter months.

If you are in one of those latter areas, there are other ways you can keep your club alive during the "off" season.

Organize a "group trip" to the Hall of Fame pitching facility or some other indoor pitching arena within reasonable driving distance. Rent a van and split the cost. With half a dozen or more attendees, the cost per person will be minimal, you can share the driving, and you will have the opportunity to pitch in an indoor winter tournament, as well as enjoy the fellowship of your club mates!

If you prefer to stay close to home, winter is a good time to conduct a score keeping seminar. Now, in addition to teaching on paper, you will be able to download HSScorekeeper and instruct your fellow pitchers in the art of ELECTRONIC score keeping. A 3-hour workshop centered around the lunch-hour will give time for the paper method, a break for pot-luck lunch, then a round of computer training.

You may also want to gather for a viewing of the many horseshoe pitching instructional videos that are available through Game Related Sales. What better way to stay connected with the club than popping some popcorn and discussing the tips and pointers found on these great DVD's! You can view "The Basics of Horseshoe Pitching" by former NHPA President, Dave Loucks, or you might choose "How to Pitch Horseshoes" by six-time World Champion, Walter Ray Williams, Jr.

Be sure to invite "non-pitchers" to your classes and video nights. The camaraderie may be just what it takes to get them to come out for pitching when your season starts back up!

If you are fortunate enough to have access to indoor courts, hold a horseshoe pitching clinic. Be sure to advertise – by word of mouth, newspaper, radio, flyers,

and even church bulletins! You will want to have plenty of "experts" on hand to help with demonstrations and to answer questions. It would be good to begin with a brief demonstration of basic horseshoe pitching, scoring and etiquette, then let the participants take the courts while your club members watch and give guidance and pointers. Have lots of spare shoes on hand as well as information on where to buy and how to join the NHPA.

This would also be a great time to contact your local Parks and Recreation Department to discuss installing a set of courts, if you don't already have some. Remember, the NHPF awards grants to aid in the construction of new facilities on public land. The application for this grant can be found by visiting the NHPA website, www.horseshoepitching.com and clicking the NHPF link from the menu on the left.

It is not too early to begin the ground work for your "Horseshoe Pitching is FUN!" event in May. Scope out your area and find a nice level, high-traffic area that will allow you to set up one portable horseshoe court.

A shopping center parking lot, or outside the ball park when spring ball season starts up are both excellent locales. You never know if they will let you unless you ASK!

Don't forget about spring carnivals and even craft shows – how many husbands have been bored stiff following their wives around a boring craft show?? Wouldn't it be great if you could go outside (or in an un-used exhibit hall) and throw a few shoes with the other "tag-a-long" hubbies?

No matter where you hang your horseshoes, there is SOMETHING you can do year-round to keep your club and our sport alive! All you have to do is - JUST DO IT!

Please, drop me a line to let me know what you ARE doing to help promote and grow the NHPA and the sport of horseshoe pitching. Sharing YOUR success stories could help OTHERS achieve the same results.



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SANCTIONED CLUB/LEAGUE REPORT *by David Sidles*

As the newest member of the NHPA staff, I would like to start with a brief introduction and some background information. My name is Dave Sidles. I was elected at the 2011 World Tournament delegate convention to succeed Lorraine Sternberg as NHPA 3rd V.P. As such, I will be assuming the duties of National Sanctioned League/Club Director.

My first introduction to any type of organized horseshoes was with a sanctioned league in Iowa. One of my softball teammates, who was already pitching, asked if I could sub on their team one night. I told him I had never pitched "real" horseshoes before. His response was, "doesn't matter, you'll have fun." He was right. By the end of that first night I had purchased two pair of Ohio Pro shoes from a retiring pastor on that team and played in that sanctioned league for the next 17 years. I was the league director for several of those years and became familiar with the membership and stats reporting and also the associated Top Ten program.

The Central Iowa Traveling Horseshoe League, first organized in 1979, is still sanctioned and continues to be well represented at the Iowa State Fair team championships. I am very proud to have participated in this league and hope to see it continue for many more years.

I also served as IHHPA Sec/Treasurer and statistician for four years and was involved in administering the first medical exemption in the Iowa charter.

In the summer of 2006, several circumstances came together all at once that prompted a move to Omaha, Nebraska. On the way over from Iowa, I got on the NHPA website and found the link to the Nebraska website to see if I could find anyone or anywhere to play horseshoes there. As it turned out, Steve Barry, the ENHPA Secretary/Treasurer lives in Omaha, so I called him from the car. I introduced myself and asked if there was a way to get involved in horseshoes in the Omaha/Council Bluffs area. He said "Can you play tonight?" That started my involvement with the Greater Omaha Horseshoe League. With many outdoor court locations and a small indoor facility, we play year-round here. There are also several other leagues in this area during the summer. All of them, however, are non-sanctioned, so I guess I already have my work cut out for me here.

My first semi-official duty was assisting Lorraine at the National Sanctioned League/Club Tournament in Wentzville last October. What a wonderful weekend! It

was a pleasure working with Lorraine and her husband Terry, as well as all the members of the Quail Ridge Club. If you play in a sanctioned league, I would highly encourage you to think about entering a team in this annual event. The Hall of Fame facility is one of the finest places you will ever pitch horseshoes in and a visit there should be on every horseshoe pitchers "bucket list".

If you are a league/club director, don't expect too many drastic changes to the way you've been doing things right away. I've been using computers since the days of the first Perfect Secretary bowling program and dot matrix printers. I prefer e-mail as a primary way to communicate and submit reports, but I realize not everyone does this. What's important is that the right stuff gets done and sent in at the right time. I also will do my best to make sure that's getting done on my end. Most important is making sure your league/club players are getting the awards and recognition they deserve.

Also, if you have juniors pitching in your sanctioned league or you help with a Sanctioned Junior League, please be aware of the NHPA Junior Scholar awards program. This program is fully explained in the Red Book and also on the NHPA website. Make sure your kids get the recognition they deserve for the efforts they put in on the courts and in school.

Don't hesitate to contact me with your concerns, questions, or suggestions. I'm looking forward to the challenge ahead.

Sanctioned League Scholarships for 2010-11

Katherine Knights, Bolder HSC, CO	\$200
Savanna Johnson, Liberty & Heart of America HSC, MO	\$200
Payge Quintana, Topeka HSC, KS	\$175
Steve Drozd, Pawnee Ringers HSC, NE	\$150
Jennifer Trader, Grand Forks HSC, ND	\$140
Michael Leger, Liberty HSC, MO	\$125
Brian Nussbaum, Sweetwater HSC, WY	\$125
Bruce Thomson, Liberty & Heart of America HSC, MO	\$125
Brianna McCormick, Sodbusters HSC, VT	\$125
Jack Roberts, Liberty HSC, MO	\$100
Ashley Craven, Liberty HSC, MO	\$100

Honorable Mention

Nicholas Craven, Liberty Jr. Lg., MO
Naomi Williamson, Close Doesn't Count Jr. Lg., WI
Claire Erickson, Brooklyn Park Jr. Lg., MN

REGIONAL DIRECTORS REPORT *by Debby Michaud*

There are more new Regional Directors to report. After serving one year as RD in Iowa, Bert Logsdon resigned his position and a new RD was voted in; Mr. Vern Kollasch, we welcome you as the Regional Director in Iowa. Vern has already contacted me with some good questions showing he is definitely connected! Another new RD is taking the reins in Texas. Jim Anderson has served there for many years and will continue as an Assistant to the new RD, Mr. Coyce Allen. Mr. Allen has also asked many questions and that is very reassuring to me! Thank you to Jim Anderson and to Bert Logsdon for their service – the transition already seems seamless and that is, in part, due to Jim and Bert.

New Club to Report.

This has been written about before, but this new club is now a reality. Peter Zeponi first contacted North California Assistant RD Casey Sluys by phone in 2008 telling him that he was going to resurrect the horseshoe courts at Golden Gate Park in San Francisco (these courts were originally constructed in 1922). They put a link on the Northern California website so people that were interested could follow Peter and his progress in rehabbing these courts – it is: <http://www.sfhorseshoepitching.com/> After 22 years of neglect, there was much to do with the property, but Peter persevered – he ran unsanctioned tournaments there for a few years and had some help from a group called the Guardsmen. See their website here: <http://www.guardsmen.org/>

He held their first sanctioned tournament there, which was an invitational and consisted of World Champion Brian Simmons, State Champions Kimmy Stockli and Rick Birmingham, Elder pitcher Dave Loucks and Junior Travis Sluys. It was a five-person round-robin just to showcase what a sanctioned tournament was about. This occurred in October 2009 and proved to be a very successful effort, as they are now an official NCHPA club.

On October 22, 2011 Peter, in conjunction with the Half Moon Bay Club, hosted a successful sanctioned tournament on the SF Club courts. They will be listed on the schedule for 2012 and are now a new club with 16 sand courts. Even though they still need some work done on their pitching pads, and even though they only have about ten members right now, they are a sanctioned club. Welcome Peter, thank you and good luck!

Thanks to Casey Sluys, RD of N.CA, for this report

The patch orders are going out at a good rate – more than half of them are done and I can see my upstairs hallway again! My only concern is that charters who have tournaments in January might not request their patches on time to have them for their first tournament. Don't "fergit" to order patches on time! So far I am sending out fewer patches than last year but there were many unused patches returned from 2011, partly due to the very unusual weather that occurred in many

parts of the country. I hope that we will need MORE patches in 2012 because of increased entry levels – if any of you need extra patches for add-on tournaments or higher entry numbers, just e-mail me; I can usually get them out the next day.

We do appreciate the notes and calls that we receive from pitchers all over the country. Many of them are critical of conditions in their area or of the way a tournament was run. Although the NHPA board does not have full control over all of this, we do have control if NHPA rules are not being followed. I hope that all of you have a current RGS (NHPA Rules, Guidelines, and Specifications) booklet. If you do not, please contact one of your state officers. If they do not have enough RGS booklets for each club and for each officer, then they must contact the NHPA Secretary/Treasurer, Dick Hansen for more. AND we do want those notes and calls to continue – we DO try, from afar, to help expedite improvements. We WANT the pitchers to be happy with their tournament and league experience.

One of the little controversies was; do Regional Directors have a vote in their state Executive Board meetings? Since many RD's are wearing more than one "shoe", those RD's are automatically a voting member of their board. However, in most charters, RD's are appointed and not elected. Because of that, according to NHPA Constitution Article VII, they will NOT be allowed to vote in their Executive Board meetings simply because they are an RD. Since the Regional Director has his or her hand in SO much of what goes on in a charter, I do believe that they should have a vote – so maybe Regional Directors should be elected OR an allowance should be made for the Regional Directors to have a vote in their charter's Executive Board. Just my opinion but there it is! Something to discuss in your next meeting. Write to me if you disagree or agree and give me good reasons for your opinion – you can make a difference!

Also, there is a slight addition to the Regional Director Guidelines as found on the NHPA website. We just added the need to re-sanction courts every four years as one of the requirements. It was understood, but not written so we corrected that oversight. On that note, THANK YOU to all of the RD's who have worked hard this year to re-sanction courts. Those of you who are new and may have to "catch up", we understand. Those of you who are still finishing up, we understand that, too. Again, the MOST important things are that the pitchers are happy, have a good competitive experience, are safe at each set of courts that they visit and that the courts are consistent and within specifications.

By the time you read this, it will be 2012. Hopefully you had a wonderful Christmas or Holiday season and are looking forward to a wonderful New Year. See you in the New Year!

THE TOLL OF TIME

Daisy Chapelle
Oregon

Daisy Chapelle, the wife, mother and mother-in-law of NHPA Hall of Famers Cletus Chapelle, Barry Chapelle and Vicki and Earl Winston passed away on November 10, 2011. She was 95. Daisy's involvement with the NHPA goes back to the 1950's when the World Tournament was held in Murray, Utah. During that span, she served as tournament helper and statistician for Elmer Beller and Archie Gregson, who were the NHPA secretaries in that time period. She even pitched a couple of years so that there were enough contestants to have a women's class.

In the 1970's through the 90's, she worked with Barry compiling Oregon tournament results and typing them up for the NHPA News Digest and the Oregon Ringer Review. She also did the stat work at the table for many of the Portland area tournaments and Oregon State Championship tournaments and was elected into the OHPA Hall of Fame in 1983. She was always a positive supporter of our sport and of Cletus, Vicki, Earl and Barry in their years of pitching and administrative work in the NHPA.

WORLD RECORDS

by Mel Yockstick - The Statman

State Championship Tournaments has been completed for 2011. I have updated the NHPA website with a revised State Championship Top Pitchers file—see Historical-State Champions page. This page lists all State Champions: Men with ten wins or more, Women with five wins or more, Elders, Boys and Girls with three wins or more.

See chart below showing new 2011 State Champions pitchers added to the NHPA website for the first time.

2011 State Champions

Added to the "State Champion" Website

Wins	Men must have 10 State wins	First	Last
0	None this year		
Wins	Women must have 5 State wins	First	Last
5	Dale LaValley New Hampshire	2004	2011
5	Dee Rowin Montana	2007	2011
5	Helen Laumbach New Mexico	2005	2011
5	Jane Jordan South Carolina	2003	2011
5	Janet Anzalone Connecticut	2000	2011
5	Vicki Kunde Maryland	2007	2011
Wins	Elder's must have 3 State wins	First	Last
3	Billy Barnes Georgia	2009	2011
3	Herchel Walters Indiana	2008	2011
3	Paul McGee Maryland	2009	2011
3	Phil Bragg Alabama	2007	2011
3	Russ Phillips Washington	2009	2011
Wins	Boy's must have 3 State wins	First	Last
3	Brandson Bosse Maine	2009	2011
3	Jermey Guyette New Hampshire	2009	2011
3	Shawn Koepnick Nevada	2009	2011
3	Steve Drozd Nebraska	2009	2011
3	Wyatt Bennett New Mexico	2009	2011
Wins	Girls's must have 3 State wins	First	Last
3	Courtney Lampkin Kentucky	2009	2011
3	Haley Raistin Indiana	2009	2011
3	Jennifer Trader North Dakota	2004	2011
3	Sara Mciklejojn Maryland	2009	2011

A Life Remembered ... Willard Mabry, Sr.

It is with great sadness that the MDHPA reports the passing of Mr. Willard Monroe Mabry, Sr. on November 2, 2011 at home with his beloved wife and family. He was born July 16, 1933 in Amelia, Virginia. He was the son of the late Blanche Nagao and Ernest Mabry. He is survived by his loving wife of 57 years, June Mabry; two sons Willard Mabry Jr. (Rocky) and wife Linda, Frank Mabry and Debbie Jenkins; grandchildren, Justin, Brandon, Daniel, Kari and Kimberly.

His family moved to Maryland when he was four years old. He spent summers on his grandparents' farm in Amelia. While there, he learned a lot about farming. He was amazed at how hams were cured hanging in the barn and how tobacco was raised and cured.

He joined the US Marine Corp in 1952. He was sea-going aboard the Newport News, departing from Norfolk, Virginia January 6, 1953 for the Mediterranean: French Morocco, Algeria, Italy, France, Greece, Istanbul and Turkey. August 27, 1953, he was underway for the Caribbean: Virgin Islands, Puerto Rico and Cuba, followed by another tour in the Mediterranean in 1954. He was honorably discharged May 11, 1955. He was a longtime and dedicated member of American Legion Post 191.

For fun, Will learned to pitch horseshoes at age eight, using a regular horse's shoe and a stick of stove wood stuck in the ground. He's been pitching ever since. He joined the Frederick Horseshoe Club in 1988. He was kind, enthusiastic and encouraging, always with a joke to share. He enjoyed pitching and the friendships he made so much that he inspired son Rocky, and grandchildren Kari, Kimberly and Danny to join him. A true sportsman (and Sportsmanship was just one of many awards he received), he was always willing to help out whenever needed. June joined in on many occasions, assisting in the concession stand during tournaments. Horseshoe pitching was truly a Mabry family affair! Will was a great leader and in the 90's, served as the Frederick Club and Maryland State HPA President for six years. In 2010, Will's dedication, success in and many contributions to the sport were recognized when he was inducted into the MDHPA Hall of Fame. He continued to be very active until being diagnosed with mesothelioma and hospitalized several times. He served as the Frederick Club Co-President in 2011 and hoped to resume pitching. He also pitched in the Senior Olympics, earning eight gold and four silver medals.

Will was an avid duckpin bowler. He served as President of the Tuesday Night Men's Independent Bowling League at Mt. Airy Lanes since 1983. Twice, he achieved the highest award given to a duckpin bowler.

A member of Calvary United Methodist Church in Mt. Airy, he worked on the building committee, was a greeter and usher and assisted with other social activities.

Many pitchers throughout Maryland and surrounding states were blessed to have known Will and will miss his smiling face and jovial laugh on the courts. Our hearts go out to the Mabry family. We share your grief and are comforted in our assurance that he is now at peace and smiling down on us. Will Mabry, Sr., we will never forget you!

Respectfully submitted by Diana Ratliff, MDHPA Secretary/
Treasurer

CHARTER CHATTER *by Jane Smith*

Colorado:

Double Ringer publication

Happy 94th birthday to Bob Champion from Jeannette Class and the entire NHPA! To quote from their publication, "You'll stay younger longer if you never retire. If you like your job, keep working as long as you can. If you grow bored with your job, go ahead and retire from it, but find something else to do that will make you happy: like PITCHING HORSESHOES!" Another interesting article dealt with a County Fair tournament. This is a great idea to promote horseshoe in our local areas.

Maryland:

Diana Ratliff

The MDHPA is pleased to announce the winners of the 2011 Points Challenge for member participation in Maryland sanctioned tournaments. First Place goes to Bob Rasmussen, Second Place to Francisco "Cisco" Reyes Sr., and Third Place to John "Chief" Sequoyah, who received \$100, \$75 and \$50 respectively. Special mention goes out to first year pitcher, ten-year old Benjamin Lacey who earned a \$25 gift card. Congratulations to all! The FHPA is sad to report the November 2nd passing of long-time member and friend, MDHPA Hall of Fame member Will Mabry, Sr. Shortly before Will's passing, the Club received word of an anonymous \$100 donation. ~ Some lucky junior who pitches in the first Frederick tournament of 2012 will be eligible to win a brand new pair of horseshoes. At the end of the junior competition, a name will be pulled from a hat and the winner may select his/her pair of shoes of choice from the table. As this is not a monetary prize, it should not affect the amateur status of the winning junior. This will be promoted in the 2012 schedule with the hope that it will encourage more juniors to sign up and compete. It was requested that this donation be in honor of Will, and be titled "The Will Mabry/FHPA Junior Recognition Prize." Remember the challenge for all members to recruit one new pitcher for 2012! Wouldn't it be terrific to double our membership in one year?!!!!

Missouri:

Dee McIntire

Not only has the Quail Ridge Horseshoe Club at the Hall of Fame Facility in Wentzville, MO installed the new electronic scoreboards, but The Pits in Laurie, MO is installing the new scorekeeping system. The Pits should have their scoring system up and running for their December Snowball Open Tournament.

Shoe Biz publication

MOHPA and the NHPA send Vickie Winston condolences on the loss of her husband and well know NHPA member Earl Winston. He will be missed in many circles of life. A very interesting article also mentioned the donated Life Saving Equipment from the Progress West Health Care Center to the NHPA Hall of Fame and Museum. This is indeed a highlight for the center and association

It was a showdown! Not at OK-Corral, but in Liberty, Missouri, between Kansas and Missouri. It's been years since the two states have had a shoot out, oops, pitch-off. But what fun we all had! On December 7, 2011 Kansas pitchers, more than 22 of them came from all over Kansas: Wichita, Topeka, Bonner

Springs, etc. etc. to Missouri. They showed up in Liberty with their horseshoes ready. When all was said and done, Missouri showed them who was best. Well, actually we were tied 36 wins to 36 wins. Like most ties, we had to figure out who really won. It came down to a tie game between Larry Anderson of Missouri and Darrell Caufield of Kansas, as to who had the highest ringer percent. It turned out in their tie game, Larry had 30% and Darrell had 25%, and the Rest is History.

Minnesota:

Jerry Labrosse

Congratulations and thank you to Rick Wright for serving another term as MGSHPA president. Rick has served two – three year terms and has signed on for one more. Good luck to you Rick. Another great story is Joey Mueller. Joey has battled his way through the ranks in the junior boys division, and has finally captured the coveted world championship title. He did it in his last attempt as a junior. Joey has received the MGSHPA and the NHPA Scholarship awards, carrying a perfect 4.0 GPA. Being a computer wiz, Joey has been very helpful to many Minnesota members in solving their computer issues. What can you say, he's just a good kid and everybody in the Minnesota charter couldn't be prouder of him. His father, Joe Mueller, has served multiple terms as MGSHPA East Metro VP and has been a vital part of the team for many years. We all wish Joey the best of luck moving into the Men's division. Congratulations Joey!!!

Northern California: *Nor-Cal News & Views*

President Harlan Rippetoe comments it has been a busy summer. The State Tournament had to be held in an alternative site with the loss of Yolo. Bakersfield held the tournament and as typical of a World tournament, the temperatures were hot. The Nor CAL championship tournament was held in October; the Annual meeting on November 5th concluding with a dinner. 1st Vice President and Statistician, Lee Roy Lassiter, had an interesting article on California State Tournament stats for the past 91 State tournaments.

Ohio:

Brian Fisher

Greetings, from the Buckeye state. Winter has set in and the indoor courts in our state are very busy with leagues and tournaments. Nearly every weekend is covered with one or the other. We now have seven very nice facilities with a total of 32 courts, situated in a way that many bordering states could take advantage. Our state winter meeting was very successful, focusing on our state tournament and ways of improvement. One thing we did was to grow our doubles event and make it easier to enter. This is something every state should do, as it has proven to be one of our favorite state tournaments, and is held in conjunction with our normal singles event. Ohio also owns 14 portable courts which are housed in various locations around the state. We have someone here in the state that makes them for us, where they can be used at different events. We feel this is vital to promote our sport and makes it possible to pitch horseshoes anywhere. Please visit our website as it is brand new and filled with useful information, and pitching dates around the state.

CHARTER CHATTER *Continued*

Vermont:

Debby Michaud, Mike Brown

Sodbusters Horseshoe Tournament for the flood victims of Vermont.

You may remember the news about the awful flooding in Vermont in August. No cry-babies, no big-government bailout. They have simply rallied together to help each other. They held a charity horseshoe tournament at the Sodbusters Club in Middlebury, VT (That is the club of Brian Simmons, Deb Brown, and Brianna McCormick - Andre and Sylvainne also came down to pitch there a couple of times). Here is the final tally from that effort. I have asked Mike Brown to write something more for your column but this is a start for you to plug in for the next issue. I think this is awesome! Debby Michaud

Hi everyone just wanted to thank you all so much for the nice participation we got yesterday for the benefit tournament for the Vermont flood victims. With all your efforts we raised \$1137.00. That is pretty good for such a small group.

Thanks again, there are such wonderful people in the horseshoe world. Take Care, Mike & Deb

Wisconsin:

Jane Smith

WHPA elected a new President at the Fall meeting, Glenn Bogenschneider. Tom Steinke announced his "retirement" from the presidency in April. For a time no one was willing to step forward for this prestigious job. As the summer progressed and tournament events began, WHPA members began "pressuring or convincing" both Glenn Bogenschneider and Randy Rein to pursue this position. Both filed and the race was on. Both candidates were capable and willing to make the association their "passion." Jimmy Paulson, 2nd VP, ran unopposed. Ed Wheeler announced his wish to resign as Regional Director. Jim Haupt offered to help until a replacement was chosen. The Beloit club invites horseshoe pitchers and friends to the Annual WHPA Christmas Party, January 7, 2012.

CHARTER COMMUNICATIONS *by Jerry LaBrosse*

By the time you see this, the Christmas Holiday will be history. I hope all of you had a wonderful and magical Christmas, and wish you all a very happy, healthy, and prosperous New Year.

With that said, I want to talk briefly about what we all can do to make this a prosperous year in the NHPA. I have learned that the NHPA has once again declined in membership overall. Promoting horseshoes is a difficult task, as we all know. I have seen many different ideas tried, some with success, but most without. One of the best and oldest methods that have been proven to be effective is word of mouth. I know, we've all heard it before....."invite a friend or neighbor to come down to your horseshoe club and introduce them to the game". But how many of us have ACTUALLY DONE THAT? Believe me...it works.

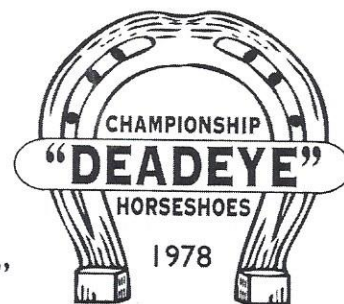
I would like to share one method of promotion that I have witnessed for several years that works every single time. It happens in the small town of Rockford, Minnesota. There is a publication that many small towns and cities across the nation compile each year. It is the **community calendar of events**. They put it together usually in the winter....like NOW. In this publication they have all sorts of community events that families can take part in....like horseshoes. Here's what Rockford does.....they have one person contact the city, and request that they get placed on the calendar for an "Introduction to Horseshoepitching" night...or two. The cost is FREE, which attracts many folks looking for inexpensive recreational activities.

The response you see will amaze you. Rockford has many new members come from doing this. The evening is easy to conduct.

You need to get a handful of club members that are willing to show the people how to play the game, and how to join the club. Another thing that can make this event even more effective is to get your local newspaper to place an announcement into the sports section announcing this event. All you have to do is pick up the phone and ask. You can even do it by email!

One last thing I want to share with you before closing is to once again invite all members to be part of the Charter Communications email network. Many of you may be a part of your "statewide" email lists, and get the CC emails forwarded to you by your state email coordinator, and that's great. If you wish to be on the CC nationwide email list, simply send me a request and I will gladly add you to the list.

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NATIONAL HORSESHOE PITCHERS HALL OF FAME & MUSEUM

A HERO, AN OFFICER AND A GENTLEMAN VISIT THE HALL OF FAME

by Jeanette Claas

A guided tour through the Hall of Fame had been previously scheduled for our visitors from the Friendship Village - Sunset Hills. It was to be the same day we were planning to leave to attend the funeral of NHPA Historian, Earl Winston. We stayed with the schedule knowing full well that is the way Mr. Winston would have wanted. The good news was the heat wave in Missouri had broken and it was a great day to receive all visitors.

As the gentlemen from the Friendship Village in Sunset Hills stepped off their bus they were greeted by QRHC members to come in and enjoy the National Horseshoe Pitchers Hall of Fame facility. One of the first questions I always ask is "How many have every played the game of horseshoes?" Most of them shook their heads that they had played a few games during their lifetime. Another gentleman told me that he had belonged to a horseshoe club at one time. "Really," I said, "What club would that be?" He answered, "The Greater St. Louis

Horseshoe Club." "And what would your name be?" I asked. "Dick Cotter," he quietly replied.

Dick Cotter – a voice and face from the past that I did not recognize! Dick was born (November 17, 1919) and raised in Washington D.C. When he was about 12 years of age, Dick would often go to a park located behind the White House to play. He would see a group of older boys there pitching horseshoes. They would not let him join in because he didn't know how to play well enough. He went home and asked his Dad to put up some



Income & Expenses Statement / October & November 2011

Income

Horseshoe Sanction Fees	\$300.00
Membership Dues	\$21,689.00
Motel 6 Contract	\$72.79
Newsline Subscriptions	\$2,724.00
Officer Repayment	\$108.14
US Bank Checking Interest	\$21.87
US Bank MMKT Interest	\$44.38
TOTAL	\$24,960.18

From the books of
NHPA Secretary/Treasurer Dick Hansen

Expenses

Newsline Printing, Supplies & Mailing	\$3,843.68
Sanctioned League Postage & Printing	\$157.99
Sanctioned League Patches & Awards	\$3,852.48
Sanction League Tournament Awards & Expenses	\$1,733.48
Hall of Fame Awards, Supplies and Expenses	\$915.69
Regional Director Postage, Telephone Supplies & Printing	\$142.78
Equipment Purchases, Rentals & Repairs	\$6,601.16
Equipment Purchases, Rentals & Repairs	\$1,096.29
Printing, Paper & Office Supplies	\$1,021.25
Postage	\$852.78
Officers Telephone	\$153.12
Officers Travel	\$4,109.33
Sec/Treas Allowance	\$3,400.00
Presidents Allowance	\$1,026.00
Direct & Indirect NHPF Donations	\$350.00
Insurance	\$1,075.00
Misc. Fees, Bonds, Bank Charges, Etc.	\$94.00
NatStats	\$90.00
Internet Access & Web Site	\$319.54
TOTAL	\$30,834.57

NATIONAL HORSESHOE PITCHERS HALL OF FAME & MUSEUM

Continued

stakes. He spent many hours of practice; determined that he would get good enough to beat the older boys. And when he mastered the game, he went back to the park and challenged the boys each at ten cents a game. They met his challenge, and lost! Dick went home with a pocket full of dimes and never went back. Determination! Doing it his way to prove a point!

After graduating from a prep school in Washington D.C. in 1937, Dick enrolled at the University of Maryland. In the middle of his junior year Dick received his greeting card from President Roosevelt being drafted into WWII. In October 1941, Private Cotter, age 24, entered the U.S. Army serving with the 26th Infantry Division, 101st Field Artillery Battalion, Headquarters Battery. After receiving basic training in Macon, Georgia, Dick would soon find himself in the thick of world war action in France and in Belgium. On December 16, 1944 - January 31, 1945 he was engaged in the Battle of the Bulge under the direction of General Patton. He survived this bloody massacre being injured which earned him the Battlefield Commission, the Purple Heart and numerous medals for his heroic service to his country. He remembers a period of 48 days without taking a shower. Today he suffers with permanent hearing loss due to the sounds of heavy bombing and suffers the effects from frost bitten feet during the cold icy conditions of the war zone. "I don't know how I ever got out of there alive," Dick recalls. Determination! Doing what was necessary to survive.

Second Lt. Cotter was released from service in January 1946 at the age of 29. He returned to college as an architectural student. He met his wife, Violet, and they were soon married. After 20 months of college, Dick found it necessary to find employment due to the coming of their first child. Determination! Accepting his family responsibilities.

Dick was employed by the Federal Government with the Coast and Geodetic Survey in Washington, DC, as cartographer in 1948. He then transferred to the Defense Mapping Agency at St. Louis in 1957 where he retired from in 1978. By this time Dick and Violet were the parents of two daughters and two sons, one of whom served in the Vietnam War for four years. After the children were grown and married, the couple was free to pursue their dream of travel. They traveled through 48 States and in Canada. Determination! After fulfilling his family duties, now some time for a little R&R.

In 1982 they wintered in Mesa, AZ where he became involved again with horseshoes. Returning back home he saw some impressive horseshoe pitchers playing at Carondelet Park in St. Louis and quickly joined the Greater St. Louis Horseshoe Club and the NHPA where he held membership for 19 years. The STL Club was

the oldest sanctioned club in Missouri in 1980 when it was organized. After pitching outdoors for eight years, the club received permission to build some indoor courts at the Gardenville Community Center for a rental fee of \$100 per month. They would install three courts in each of the two gyms on the lower floor. The club would prosper to over 250 members. They would host many tournament events at this facility. Horseshoes became a full-time activity for Dick serving as Vice President, Secretary and President through the years. He was also elected as Missouri State 314 Regional Director for Eastern Missouri serving three years. Determination! Fulfilling leadership duties for his horseshoe club and state charter!

Dick became an excellent horseshoe pitcher during this time as he became Missouri's State Elder Champion in 1994 defeating another great horseshoe pitcher, Lou Rector. He qualified to pitch in the Six Pac Invitational Tournament held annually in New Melle. Determination! The young soldier's fighting spirit returned as Dick won his State Championship Title and many other victories on the courts.

In January 1993 Dick founded the Veterans of the Battle of the Bulge, "St. Louis Gateway Chapter." He was elected Sergeant-at-arms. He would attend many of these reunions visiting old army buddies sharing war stories that only they knew the full meaning of.

After the STL Club folded, we lost tract of Dick Cotter. His wife and a son would pass away. Dick fell injuring his hip and would move into The Friendship Village where he now resides at the age of 91.

Dick Cotter - a voice and face from the past but well remembered. It was a tearful reunion for each of us at the NHPA Hall of Fame facility. A reminder of what this man has stood for throughout a lifetime - sheer determination and faith got him through all his trials and triumphs.

A lifetime of lessons learned. You will find Dick's brick in the Missouri section at the Memorial Brick Walkway. This is what the NHPA Hall of Fame is all about. Not only for present day pitchers, but all those of the past - how grateful we are to have this wonderful facility and that they can come to visit as often as they please. Determination - We all have a sense of responsibility to support the NHPF with our donations and brick orders. Send to NHPF, P.O. Box 1628, Penn Valley, CA 95946. It is the only way to preserve the history, showcase the present and build the future of horseshoe pitching - the game we all love and enjoy.

HORSESHOE FACTS & FOLKLORE by Bob Dunn

A Town Got Its Name

By the Outcome of a Game of Horseshoes

This story is told through a newspaper article from the sesquicentennial edition of the *Gasconade County Republican* (July 2, 1997). The newspaper was provided through the efforts of Joe Faron, 2011 NHPA Hall of Fame inductee. Joe is one of the more active members and tireless workers of the Quail Ridge Horseshoe Club, which operates and maintains our NHPA Hall of Fame Museum and Arena Complex. Joe Faron is primarily responsible for the Hall of Fame coming to its present location and he has been working at the site ever since. Joe, a long time member of the successful New Melle Horseshoe Club, (in fact he was the founding member of the club) saw to it that the club moved to the new facility and become the Quail Ridge Horseshoe Club. Joe was presented the Stokes Memorial Award in 2006. He is also one of the original founders of the Six-Pac Horseshoe Company and has served many years as the co-director of the prestigious Six-Pac invitational Horseshoe Tournament, which has been held each spring in the Hall of Fame Complex.

Horseshoe Match Decided Naming Of Owensville

Ed Luster Actually Won the Game, but Gave His Friend Owen A Place in History

By Tom Warden

Many cities have been named in strange fashion...but in all these United States; Owensville is probably the only city, which owes its name to the outcome of a game of horseshoes.

It was possibly a summer day in 1947 – no one knows for certain the exact date – when Francis “Frank” C.W. Owen and Edward Luster met for a game of horseshoes.

Luster owned and operated a blacksmith shop where what was then Springfield Road and the Iron Road.

Owen was in his early 20's when he arrived in the small settlement and operated a general store on a site later known as the J.E. Bryan home before it burned a number of years ago.

The town was just a wide place in a dusty road in those days and a relatively few buildings were scattered about the flat prairie land. The Iron Road snaked its way into the vicinity from the south; Springfield Road came in from the northeast.

Owen and Luster – among the first businessmen in the settlement – probably were close friends and met behind Owen's store frequently to play horseshoes. Luster, who possibly had a financial interest in the store, was married and 15 years older than Owen, at the time a bachelor.

But on this day in 1847, the outcome of the game was to occupy a page in local history. Whether the two set out, as legend suggests, to name the settlement so Owen could apply for a post office at his store, or if the game was played in jest, is not known.

Luster, a blacksmith who was as good at pitching horseshoes as he was at making them, won the match and consoled his younger friend who was disappointed at losing. Luster said “Owensville sounds better than Lusterville, anyway”, and thus the settlement was named.

Luster – who became sole owner of the store when Owen joined the California Gold Rush – had been appointed postmaster in 1856 and held that position until 1961 when the War Between the States split Missouri into two camps. He raised a family and some of his descendants remain in the area to this day.

While Luster remained in the area after that historic horseshoe game in 1847, Owen had itchy feet. The same wanderlust, which brought him and his family from Tennessee westward to Missouri, was still in his blood. Two years later in 1949, he was lured to the newly-discovered gold fields in California and subsequently returned to Missouri – in possession of some gold nuggets, settling near Judge on the Gasconade River. Another post office and village – Owen's Mill, also thought to be in Osage County – was named for him.

Though denied – apparently by his own doing – a place in history as a town's namesake, Luster remained close to the village he helped name. His contributions were finally recognized by Owensville city officials who, at the urging of the *Gasconade County Republican*, dedicated a public park in his honor on July 23, 1987.

Owen or Luster?

Who was the first postmaster here?

Just as much of Owensville's history is reconstructed from oral narratives handed down from mouth-to-ear, several conflicting accounts speculate on when a post office was authorized and who became the first postmaster. Was it Francis Owen or Edward Luster?

One version – from later newspaper files – of the early post office here purports that in August of 1847 Owen applied for and was granted the first post office in the settlement and was the first postmaster. If this is correct, his appointment apparently was entirely unofficial.

For another version – from microfilm roll number 71 of the U.S. Archives in Washington D.C. containing a listing of all postmasters in the county from 1830 to 1971 – officially suggests that Luster became the first postmaster on July 18, 1856 and served until September 17, 1861.

Who was the first postmaster – Owen or Luster? That it is minor historic controversy, which the official record – in an example of poetic justice – apparently settles in Luster's favor.”

Owensville can be found on the Missouri map, south and east of Jefferson City, on Highway 19.

BEHIND THE MASK

WITH NHPA CHAPLAIN KEN HEINRITZ



Move over Ohio. I believe Wisconsin out did you. Yes, six gutsy Wisconsinites (well okay, Pudge Dahl resides in Minnesota, just across the border, but he is still one of us) dared to venture down together to the prestigious World Tournament in Monroe, Louisiana.

Though the Rendezvous that belonged to Pudge was packed to the max, this team had no second thoughts. Even 17 year old Tim Lazaris stated "The drive back was ... like sitting in a cave between lots of luggage. But I'd do it again definitely, even in the cramped conditions."

Randy Rein, who hasn't been at a World Tournament since 2001 said he'd do it again as well. "Yes ... it was great. We had a lot of fun." Randy says he is officially retired, but is the busiest retired man I know. He is good with a chain saw and word has gotten out so he is as busy as he wants to be.

While many have difficulty enjoying their time when their game is off, Pudge takes a different approach to this big event. "Win or lose, it is the most fun you will have as a pitcher. You go not expecting to win; only one can win." Dahl experienced this blessing as he finished in first place in 2010 (won a playoff game to do it) but this year took 10th with a 7-8 record.

Mark Mauthe who works as a Slot Shift Supervisor at an Iowa Casino, has experienced the most World Tournament events of this group adds "I think that World Tournaments are foremost about the people. Visiting with friends that we only see once a year ... We all come together for this common interest and for the love of the game. Some people don't understand it ... but once one is at the tournament even an outsider can see what it is all about for us." This proved to be true as the teary-eyed owner of 'The Kitchen', a



From left to right: Tim Lazaris, Mark Mauthe, Randy Rein, Ken Heinritz, Dustin 'Pudge' Dahl, & Pam Aiken

favorite breakfast stop for pitchers, stated that their city hosts many sporting events that come to town, but the horseshoe pitchers were without a doubt the friendliest and her favorite.

Touching moments as well as humorous ones are par for the course on a trip like this. Tim burst out laughing

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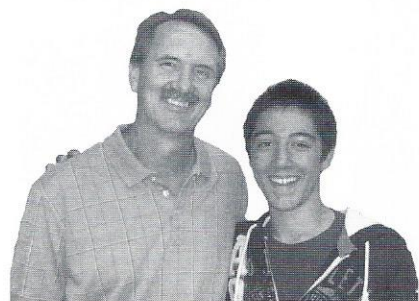
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BEHIND THE MASK *Continued*

WITH NHPA CHAPLAIN KEN HEINRITZ

when we got back to our motel late one evening (where the five guys stayed) to the tune of “sawing logs”. Yes, as you might imagine it was our tree service man, Randy Rein. He cuts trees by day and saws logs at night. “And he says he doesn’t snore”, I said to Timmy.

Mauthe states that without a doubt the conversation Tim had with legendary professional bowler, Walter Ray Williams Jr. topped his most entertaining moment. It started out like this: “So I hear you like to bowl.” Walter’s response: “Yeah, I do okay”. Tim’s follow-up thought: “What was your high game?” The atmosphere at this restaurant went from shock to laughter. Mark jumps in “300 Tim”. When asked how many perfect



games he bowled, Walter stated “about 90”. Mark informed Tim that this has been accomplished even on TV. To his dismay Lazaris follows with “You’ve been on TV”?

The laughter made the evening extra special and Walter Ray handled the conversation like a true professional. “It was a classic moment for sure,” Mark states.

Tim, who happens to be my nephew, spoke of the NHPA in this way. “It’s like a second family. The atmosphere around the other pitchers. You can talk with anyone and pitch with anyone.” He had the honor of receiving helpful advice from our new 2011 World

Champ Brian Simmons at the practice courts.

The fun, fellowship, competition, and plain-old fun-loving camaraderie will bring people back to this tournament, for sure. Pudge would enjoy doing this again: “Oh yeah, bunch of good guys, one common goal and one common interest which makes it fun.”

Mauthe states “Yes I would do it again. Perhaps even next year. It worked well for us because we all played the same days in the second week. I would recommend it for anyone interested in saving money and it might even make it possible for some to be able to attend that wouldn’t ordinarily think they can afford it.”

Pudge, who is a Bar Manager, adds: “At the end of the day I enjoyed the cost savings. I was looking to spend \$500-\$700, and ended up spending around \$300.”

The truly good times a group like this shares, often leaves a lasting impression on the World Tournament host city.

“That is the mark that we as horseshoe pitchers leave on a host city and that is what makes me proud to say I am a horseshoe pitcher and that I love this game.” Mauthe concludes.

“A man who has friends must himself be friendly, but there is a friend who sticks closer than a brother.” Proverbs 18:24

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NHPA RULES AND BYLAWS by Dan Sanders

By the time you receive this Newline Magazine, the deadline for submitting Proposed Rules Changes (December 31st) will have passed, but our NHPA Rules Committee and Executive Council may still be reviewing and deciding on which proposals will be presented for delegate voting this coming August, at the annual NHPA Convention in Knoxville, Tennessee. These selected Rules Change Proposals will be published here, for your review and consideration, in one or both of the next two issues of this magazine. After reading them carefully, please discuss your thoughts on these proposed changes with your fellow pitchers, and also be sure to share these opinions with your State Officers and Charter Delegates, before the Convention.

As you can imagine, we receive a good number of questions from members about our Playing Rules and also about specifications for building new courts, etc. I received this question (see below) from one of our members about the placement of stakes, and although there are other acceptable methods for doing this, anchoring the stake in concrete has become more popular in recent years. I have included here some recommendations about how to do this that you might find helpful, so please file this information away for a future reference, and also pass it along to others.

Question: I am setting up a horseshoe pit---my question---When anchoring the stake, do you measure 14" from the hard surface that the sand is on or 14" from the top of the sand?. I purchased stakes from the St. Pierre Chain in Worcester, Mass. The stake is 23" long. I am putting the stake in cement, which will be 2" under the hard surface. I don't think this will allow me enough stake to put in the cement to make a secure hold. I am thinking a longer stake, 36" long would be the answer. At any rate, I need to know where to measure the 14" from. Any suggestions from you would be very helpful. Thanks - Peter

*Answer: Hi Peter... Thanks for your question about stakes and stake placement. This specifications information can be found on the NHPA Website at www.horseshoepitching.com under RGS Book (see menu along the left side of the front-page). Go to the *Specifications* section for the exact wording, but basically this measurement is made from the base of the stake, at the level of the adjacent pitching platforms. The easiest way to determine this "spot" is to place a*

straight board across the adjacent pitching platforms, just in front of the stake, and perpendicular to the pitching platforms. Where the *bottom edge* of the board would touch the stake is the "spot" to measure from. The correct length of the stake will be 15" (recommended) above this point. Also, the stakes should be positioned at a distance of 40 feet apart, from this "spot", to the same point on the opposite stake. Full-distance foul lines should be marked at 37' from the *opposite* stake. But if the stakes are *exactly 40' apart*, these foul lines would also be 3 feet in front of each stake. Looking at the diagram of the court layout (on the back of the RGS Book) may also be helpful in your better understanding of this information.

As for the stake, it should be made of cold-rolled steel with a diameter of 1 inch, and that has been cut to a length of about 3 feet. If you are placing the stake in a bucket of concrete, the bucket should be a 3 to 5 gallon size. To cushion the stake from the direct impact of a pitched shoe (this will help to decrease lost ringers), it can be inserted into a 1" inside diameter rubber hose* and then pushed straight down into the wet concrete, clear to the bottom of the bucket. But before placing the stake in the concrete, drill a hole through the stake (a few inches above the end) and push an 8-penny nail through it (and the hose) to prevent the stake from working its way up the inside of the rubber sleeve, through use and time. Also, this rubber "sleeve" should not extend more than 1/4" above the concrete in the bucket and can be cut away (if necessary, after the cement dries) by using a utility knife. The 3" forward lean (also 12 degrees) of the stake (at a distance of 15" above the level surface of the pit material) can be attained by adjusting/tilting the bucket when burying/placing it beneath the center of the pit. Using the end of a length of 2x4, tamp the soil

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NHPA RULES AND BYLAWS *Continued*

around the bucket, to hold it in position. To keep the pit material from “mixing” with the soil below, place pieces of thin plywood or roofing shingles on top of the soil before adding the pit material. The height of the stake (above the level playing surface) must be between 14 and 15 inches. If it is *more* than 15” (which is likely if you start with a 36” stake), use a hacksaw to cut off the excess stake length above this 15” height. I hope that this information is helpful to you.

Best of luck,
Dan

* This is the type of high-pressure hose that is used by companies that do sandblasting of brick surfaces (usually old homes or buildings). It may be difficult to locate this 1” inside diameter hose, but you can make some phone calls or maybe do a “Google” search via your computer. This hose can also sometimes be found at salvage yards, so call around.

If you can’t find it, another option is to split (lengthwise) a couple pieces of thick, *rubber* garden hose to use as a substitute. Also, when using the 1” high-pressure hose, lubricate the inside of the hose (and outside of the stake) with oil or dishwashing soap to more easily slide the stake inside the hose.

In closing, I hope that all of you have had a very Merry Christmas and New Year celebration with family and friends! Perhaps many of you have already set some horseshoe pitching goals for this New Year and are already working toward these goals by participating in tournaments and/or winter leagues. I wish all of you the *very best* in the coming year and hope to see many of you at a local tournament, or at the World Tournament in Knoxville, Tennessee.

SECOND NHPA HALLOWEEN BASH *by Tina Hawkins*



The Second NHPA Halloween Bash was held at the Hall of Fame indoor horseshoe pitching facility in Wentzville, MO, Saturday, October 29th. The number of youth participants was double the number from last year.

finest Halloween attire with decorations provided by the NHPA and the Quail Ridge Horseshoe Club. Several club members joined forces with NHPA Vice President, Tina Hawkins to make this transformation of the facility.



Twelve youth participated in the costume contest and all of them managed to win a “best costume” award! The eight youth who pitched in the horseshoe contest were:

All in costume, there were angels and devils, firemen, soldiers, super heroes, ghouls, athletes and a couple of just plain weirdos!

Fun and games for the youngsters was led by what appeared to be the Cardinals’ biggest fan, but in reality, was Quail Ridge’s own Jeanette Claas, who actually earned a Halloween Bash t-shirt for her outfit.



The entire arena was decked out in its

Rebekah Baltz - 9 years - of O’Fallon; Caroline Thompson -Wentzville; Brittany Veach - 10 years - Toledo IL; Colin Kane - 9 years -Wentzville; Kaylee Compton - 9 years - Wentzville; Max Haverly - 9 years -Wentzville; McKenzie Compton - 6 years - Wentzville; Reese Compton - 7 years - Wentzville; Caroline Thompson - 5 years - Wentzville MO.

Jeanette Claas designed a fun “Pumpkin Toss” game, which was built by Mike Dentsbier. Rebeka

SECOND NHPA HALLOWEEN BASH *Continued*



Baltz walked away with a win by scoring on every toss of the bean bag!

Ribbons were awarded in three divisions of horseshoe pitching as well as for the

costume contest. The kids were served free hot dogs, along with the many prizes and treats they won playing the games and making a mad scramble when they finally broke through the world's toughest piñata!



According to Jeanette, the parents may have enjoyed the games just as much as the kids! A week after the tournament, Caroline Thompson's mother sent a large pecan pie for the members of the Quail Ridge club to enjoy. Caroline has been spotted at the courts practicing her skills – She LOVES horseshoes!

But it wasn't ONLY the youngsters who got in on the game time fun!

The spirit of the season abounded with many imaginative outfits. The adult contest landed in a tie – top honors, and Halloween Bash t-shirts went to "Horseshoe Man" and "Ringer Woman," Gary and Dee Null.



One big highlight of the weekend was the installation of electronic score keeping stations on all 16 courts, making this a truly State-of-the-Art horseshoe pitching facility.



NHPA Natstats Director, Rob Hagman (a.k.a. Dr. Feelgood), and NHPA Vice President, Jerry LaBrosse, made the trip from Minnesota to install the system, and found the bulk of the work (running cables and electrical boxes throughout the building) had been skillfully completed by the Quail Ridge Horseshoe Club.

They instructed members of the Quail Ridge Club in setting up and running tournament.

Score keepers were trained and assisted through the tournament by "the doctor," Jerry and NHPA V.P. "Captain Cut Throat" (a.k.a. Tina Hawkins).



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SECOND NHPA HALLOWEEN BASH *Continued*



In addition to decorations, the NHPA provided Halloween Bash backpacks for every youth and adult tournament participant, as well as the workers from the Quail Ridge Horseshoe Club Candy and treats for the game prizes, piñata and to fill

Adult tournament winners were:

- Class A - Jim Spidle IL 65%
- Class B - Donra McCown - Bucyrus MO - 52.5%
- Class C - Louise Duke - O'Fallon MO - 36.1%
- Class D - Michael Gillespie - Urich MO, 31.1%



the backpacks were provided by the members of the Quail Ridge Club. Other knick-knacks for the bags were provided by Knoxville, TN, proud sponsor of the 2012 World Horseshoe Tournament.

According to Jeanette, next year's event will be switched up a bit, with the adult competition commencing in the morning followed by the youth pitching and activities. She reported a comment from the NHPA forum which called it quite a spectacular tournament... especially the kids' part... there should be more tournaments such as this for kids to participate in. She feels that this year's event was more successful than the first year. Perhaps the third NHPA Halloween Bash will be even MORE spectacular!!

There were 32 participants, almost evenly divided between Missouri and Illinois pitchers with the exception of two pitchers from Minnesota, Jerry LaBrosse and Rob Hagman.

ADDITIONAL STATE CHAMPIONSHIP RESULTS

Oregon State Championships Oregon City 9/4-5/2011

Men's A	Win/Loss	
1. Jerry Gorton	11-0	54.29
2. Mike Imel	9-2	54.02
3. Bill Graham Jr.	1-10	33.70
Women's A		
1. Blanca Hettinga	6-0	62.50
2. Tami Gilbert	2-4	35.71
3. Kathy Warner	1-5	36.40
Elder's A		
1. Barry Chapelle	9-2	69.70
2. Roy Bowers	8-3	65.21
3. Cliff Amsbaugh	5-5	59.22
4. Dave King	5-5	57.11
5. Don Smalley	2-8	54.63
6. Harvey Bontrager	2-8	48.19
Junior's A		
1. Calvin Hummell	5-1	24.58
2. Duke Shenk	2-4	11.25
3. Skyler Wilson	2-4	13.95
Men Classes		
B Jim Postell	8-4	45.88
C Russ Watkins	7-1	28.06
D Ken Gilbert	6-0	28.97
E Wes Honn	6-0	24.83
Women		
B Pat Gee	4-2	22.48
Elders		
B Jim Petersen	11-1	46.13
C Abel Rodriguez	7-0	33.07

Tennessee State Championships

Men's 40' Championship	Win/Loss	
1. Shannon Foster	3/0	65.43
2. James Cooper	0/3	56.79
Women's Championship		
1. Joan Elmore	3/2	87.91
2. Marlene Ray	2/3	83.65
Men's 30' Championship		
1. Bobby Fields	6/1	78.97
2. Elmo Cox	5/2	73.67
3. Doug Farnsworth	4/3	70.87
4. Jack Conner	2/3	62.77
5. Charles Gray	1/4	60.15
6. Bud Jennings	0/5	60.87
Other Classes		
A Harold Morgan	5/1	57.73
B Dan Oliver	5/1	48.21
C Michael Hamilton	5/1	38.18
D James Sizemore	4/1	26.67
E Leon Wilson	4/0	35.63
F Alan Gauger	4/0	21.25
G Sonya Foster	6/0	27.92

Virginia Championships

Championship Classes		
Men	Ricky L Hall	66.27%
Women	Amy Hall	64.90%
Elder	Steven K Smith Sr	50.84%
Jr Boy	Dayton C Campbell	42.50%
Jr Girl	Haley Figgins	12.00%
Cadet	Jazmin Campbell	6.00%
Sr Men	Ronnie R Reeves	34.71%
Sr Women	Donna Keefer	37.50%
Virginia State Singles Qualifying Classes		
A	Ronald Walker	67.08%
B	Bobby C Evans Sr	37.92%
C	A Wayne Perkins	44.50%
D	Clarence Ellis	29.50%
E	Charles E Hansen	28.75%
F	Donald Carver Jr	23.33%
G	Michael Otten	30.00%
30A	Amy Hall	69.38%
30B	Gail Walker	43.00%
30C	Steven K Smith Sr	57.50%
30D	Glenn Barlow	46.25%
30E	Pamela Moore	16.88%
30F	Elizabeth Vannoy	2.50%

NATIONAL SANCTIONED LEAGUE TOURNAMENT

by Lorraine Sternberg

It was a beautiful weekend in October for the Sanctioned League Tournament; well in the 80's. We could have pitched on the outside courts this year. It's always a fun time going to the NHPA Hall of Fame Facility. The Quail Ridge Club does a great job taking care of everything. The fall decorations were beautiful and the food always is good. The tournament got started right on time, Saturday morning at 8:00 A.M. No shortage of scorekeepers; the Quail Ridge Club also makes sure of that. Shortly after things got going, who should walk into the office, Dick and Paulette Hansen. What a surprise! I couldn't believe it. They decided to make the trip to Missouri for my last league tournament that I will be running. I sure did appreciate their thoughtfulness.



Group #1

him. Dave plans on keeping the tournament on the same weekend as it has been in the past. I had a great time visiting with both Dave and his wife. After the tournament, we packed his car full of items from my office that he will be using for his new job.



Group #2

David Sidles, the new NHPA 3rd Vice President and his wife made the trip to the tournament. This gave him a chance to see how the tournament is run and he helped me out with the tournament. For that I thank

The tournament was full, with 20 teams from all over the United States. This year Colorado even brought two teams. This was the eighth year for the league tournament. Quail Ridge Team #3 from Missouri won the Championship Title for 2011. Pitching on the team was Jan Kreienkamp, Andrew Fould and Carol Howard. Going into the final game before the championship, they had only lost three games total. They would go against the Independence HSC, from Missouri. Those on the



Rich Altis presented the 2011 League Director Award by Lorraine Sternberg, outgoing 3rd VP



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Independence team were Wayne Henderson, Michael Gillespie and Roy Flatt. It was two Missouri teams battling it out for the title; looks like the League Championship stays at Quail Ridge this year. It was the first time that a team from the Quail Ridge Club has won the league tournament. The first place team received \$450 and the runner up team received \$280.

Sheila Shepard from the Denver Metro Club, CO had high game of the tournament, pitching a 90% game. Gregg Craven of the Liberty Club, MO had high average of 75.33%. For Group #1 the high over average player was Roy Evans of Missouri and in Group #2 the high over average player was Carol Howard. Each player received a \$50 check. In each group the payout goes down to fourth place, with second receiving \$150,

third getting \$125 and fourth place taking home \$110. The standings of the tournament are published in this issue of Newslines.



2011 National Champions

On Sunday I presented Rich Altis with the League Director Award for 2011. Usually I would have done this at the World Tournament Hall of Fame Banquet, but this year Rich was unable to attend the world tournament. Rich is the league director for the Quail Ridge Club. I appreciate all that he has done as their league director. Rich, along with all of the members of the Quail Ridge Club have done a great job in the promotion of horseshoes. The club keeps on growing.

By 1:30 the tournament concluded and everyone was on their way home for another year. Hope your team is able to come back next year. It's a great tournament, and a great place to visit.

Standings for 2011 National Sanctioned League Tournament

CHAMPIONSHIP WINNERS: Quail Ridge Team #3, MO
Jan Kreienkamp, Andrew Foulds, Carol Howard

Runners up: Independence, MO
Wayne Henderson, Michael Gillespie, Roy Flatt

Group #1	Won	Lost	Group #2	Won	Lost
Independence HSC, MO Wayne Henderson, Michael Gillespie, Roy Flatt	19	8	Quail Ridge Team #3, MO Jan Kreienkamp, Andrew Foulds, Carol Howard	24	3
Edgewater HSC, CO Fred Shepard, Nina Pearson, Ken Rodenberg	16.5	10.5	Denver Metro HSC, CO Sheila Shepard, Jeanette Romero	20	7
Quail Ridge Team #4, MO Jill Knobbe, Ginny Weiss, Pam Gettinger	16	11	Marion HSC, IN Jenny Morris, Jim Morris, Sonny Frank	15	12
Liberty Team #1, MO Gregg Craven, Wayne Dusenbery, Jim Moore	14	13	Arkdale HSC, WI Ray Groskinsky, Kerry Morris, Tom Dudenhofer	13	14
Whitley County HSC, IN Connie Reimer, Donald Potter, Cheryl Potter	13.5	13.5	Liberty Team #2, MO Audra Craven, Larry Guggisberg, Jackie Guggisberg	12	15
Sandwich HSL, IL Rich Lodor, Fred Morel, Steve Nelson	13.5	13.5	Golden Triangle, MO Don Claas, Bob Diekamp, Jim Howard	12	15
Heart of America, MO Elwyn Cooper, Paul Taylor, Sharon Taylor	12	15	Ballwin HSC, MO Gidget Rahe, Mary Beeson, Suzanne Evans	12	15
Quail Ridge Team #1, MO Rich Altis, Martin Orf, Roy Evans	12	15	AVF Downers Grove, IL Rich Andrysiak, Dalton Simmons, Luke Thompson	11	16
Jim's Four Ringers Courts HSC, AR Jim Brandenburg, Hiram Chaffin, Darrell Graham	11.5	15.5	Quail Ridge Team #2, MO Gary Roehrig, Ernie Brakensiek, Tony Rohe	10	17
Beloit HSC, W Virgil Smith, Dan Lessman, Kevin Brekke	17	20	Goldendale HSC, WI Terry Sternberg, Barb Peters, Lance Peters	6	21



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