



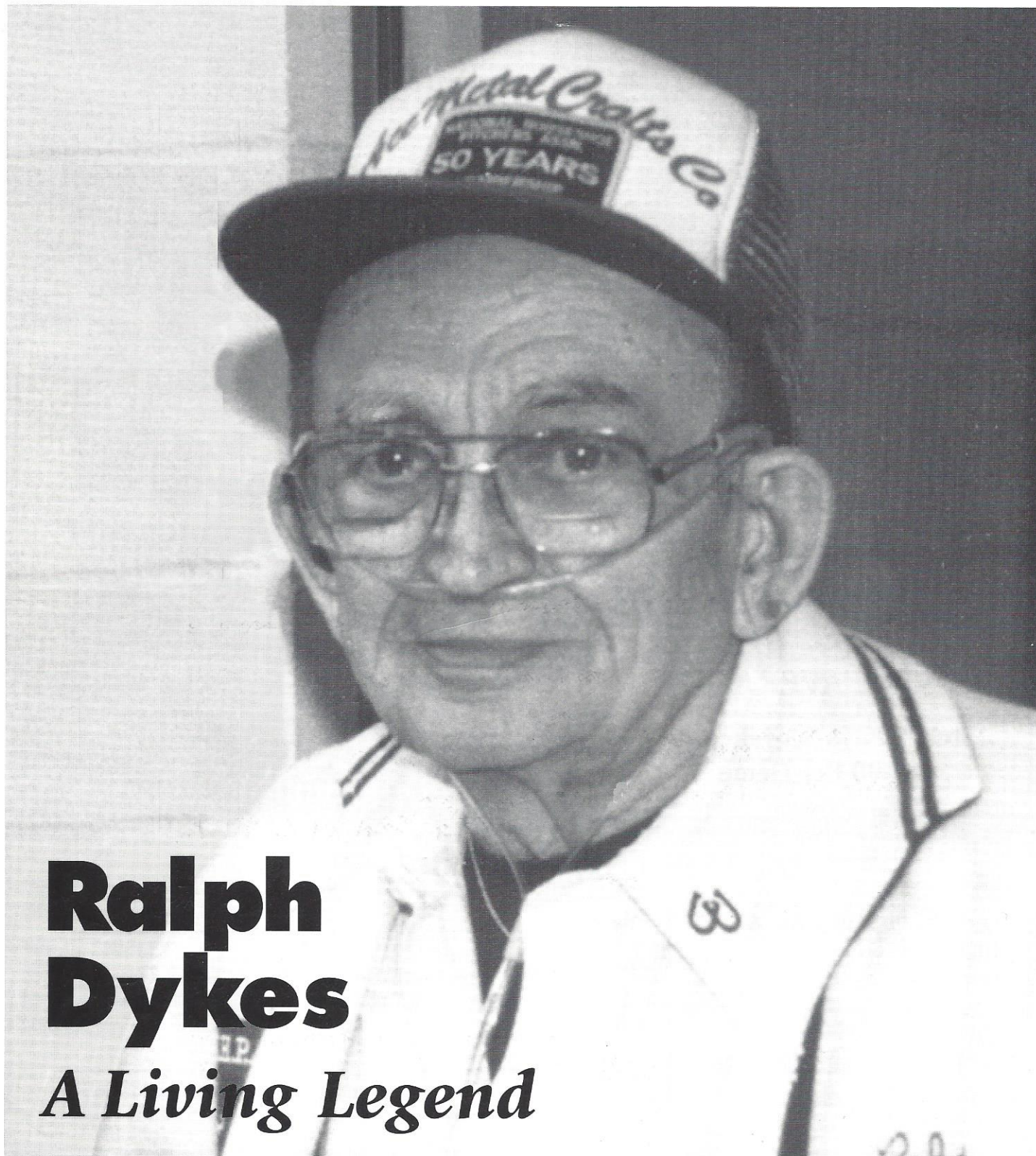
The National Horseshoe Pitchers Association



NEWSLINE

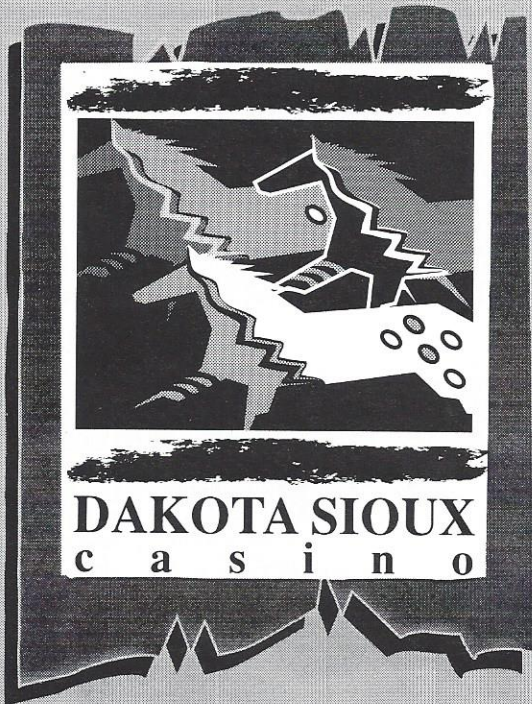
VOL. 10 NO. 1

JANUARY/FEBRUARY 1998



**Ralph
Dykes**

A Living Legend



Dakota Sioux Casino

presents the

Fourth Annual Horseshoe Tournament

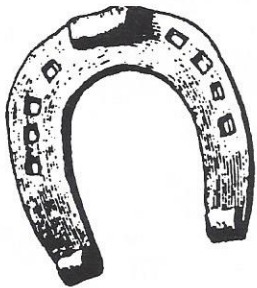
Waverly Exit 185 Off I-29 • Watertown, SD

1-800-658-4717

Sat. & Sun. June 27-28, 1998

Start Time: 8:00 a.m. Sat., June 27

NHPA SANCTIONED • EVERYONE PLAYS 2 DAYS



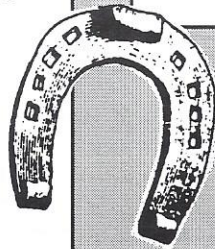
\$25
Entry Fee /
80% Payback

Plus \$1000.00
added purse

from Dakota Sioux Casino

ALL CLASSES MIXED
NAT STAT AVERAGES

Pitcher Pays Scorekeeper
\$1.00 Per Game



Every Entrant Receives
A FREE BUFFET on
Sat., June 27,
\$10.00 FREE
Gaming Coins and
\$10.00 Blackjack Play

Tournament Director
Clifford Ziehl 605-996-7986

or call

Watertown Chamber of Commerce
1-800-658-4505

ENTRY FORM

Send \$25.00 Entry Fee &
Ringer Percentage
Pre-register by June 20, 1998
Make checks payable to:
Clifford Ziehl
Box 1402, Mitchell, SD 57301

NOTE: Must be 21 years of age or
older to participate.

Name _____

Mailing Address _____

City/State/Zip _____

Phone _____

NHPA Card Number _____ Ringer % _____

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NHPA NEWSLINE

PUBLISHER / EDITOR: DAVE LOUCKS
TYPESETTING / LAYOUT: KIM ROGERS, KIM ART

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LETTERS POLICY: *Newsline* welcomes communication and articles from the membership. Submissions should be typed, double spaced and include the writer's name, address and phone number. The editor reserves the right to accept or reject any letter or advertising material. All submissions are subject to editing, available space, and must be received by the first day of the month preceding the date of issue.

C O N T E N T S

President's Message4
 Regional Directors Report by *Paul Stewart*7
 Sanctioned Club/League News by *Bev Born*8
 Focus On Promotion10
 The Junior Window by *Lorraine Sternberg*13
 The Horseshoe Trader by *Bob Dunn*14
 Hall of Fame by *Earl Winston*15
 1997 Top Ten16
 Dykes *An interview with Ralph Dykes* by *Jim Haupt*18
 Jack Freeman Horseshoe Courts & Toys For Tots
 Team Up by *Mary Bastian*20
 Welcome to the NHPA Website22
 Retain New Members by *Casey Sluys*23
 Charter Chatter by *Bob Champion*24
 Financial Report30
 Special Events Calendar30
 The Toll of Time31
 State Tournament Results32
 Tournament Travel Contacts34

PAID ADVERTISEMENTS

Dakota Sioux Casino Tournament.....Inside Front Cover
 Carolina Dogwood Festival Horseshoe Tournament9
 Team World '9810
 Imperial Horseshoes11
 KLAWOG12
 Deadeye Horseshoes22
 Bill Vanderburg Horseshoe Co.23
 Mustang Horseshoes25
 Glory Horseshoes27
 Six Pac Horseshoes29
 The Shoe Bag29
 Gordon Horseshoes31
 Mr. D Horseshoes33
 Ted Allen Horseshoes33
 St. PierreBack Cover

ON OUR COVER

Ralph Dykes, a living legend. Story on page 18.

President's Message

I hope everyone had an enjoyable holiday season and are now looking forward to the 1998 pitching year. All final reports are not in as of this writing in early December but it looks like membership stayed about the same. *Newsline* subscribers have also remained fairly constant for the past few years. Some may say this is not a healthy trend, and to a point they may be correct. We certainly can't expect any big changes in our sport if it is not going to be supported by an ever increasing membership.

Not only should we look for membership growth, but growth in *Newsline* readership and support of our newly formed Foundation (NHPF) as well. Some members think we should be an Olympic sport or at least a professional sport with corporate sponsors. Why aren't we, they ask. Why doesn't the media cover and report horseshoe pitching, they wonder. Could it be that the answer lies within our own organization? How many charters or clubs report their tournaments or activities to the local media? It can't be that many because I know how few event report to *Newsline*.

Newspaper editors print the news, generally things they feel the public wants to read. It's no different with Sports editors. Consider that only 1 in 5 NHPA members subscribe to *Newsline*. If our own membership isn't more interested in reading about the sport than that, how can we expect the public to be interested in the sport? Is it any wonder then that our sport fails to attract much attention outside the organization? There is no easy fix, no easy answer. We have to continue to promote and disseminate information to the press, the public and our friends, both in and out of the sport. Our new website is a great step forward but we need more members doing more to inform others and become better informed themselves. Since the membership has twice voted

down making the NHPA magazine part of the dues, we can only ask that readers encourage other members to subscribe.

In the last issue, I reported that the National Horseshoe Pitchers Foundation (NHPF) had been granted charitable status by the IRS. Because this magazine reaches so few of our members, I sent article copies to all Charter newsletter editors asking that they reprint the announcement in their next newsletter. It is important that all NHPA members know of our work to establish this charitable entity and the good it can do for the sport.

While most Charter newsletters have not had time to print the announcement, the response from *Newsline* readers has been very disappointing. In the past 90 days, only three contributions totaling \$150 have been received. That, plus \$360 from the Jack Freeman Courts for five dollars per entrant into the recent Music City Team Tournament. I hope after the holidays, contributions improve. The Foundation needs the support of all NHPA members. To reach the endowment and building fund goals, the NHPF has to raise approximately \$150,000 a year for the next 4-5 years. That equates to an average contribution of \$12.00 per year from every NHPA member. This goal is obtainable, but the word and work has to get out beyond the pages of this magazine. Members have to spread the word. Charters could assist by designating at least one tournament per year as an NHPF fund raiser. Asking for money is never fun but it is for the benefit of all interested in the sport. Thanks to Casey & Gail Sluys, CA; The Kenosha, Wisconsin Horseshoe Club and Richard Jensen, CO, for their \$50 contributions. Can we count on one from you in the near future? I hope so. Just make out your tax deductible check to the "NHPF" and mail to: 140 Sierra Blanca Ct., Grass Valley, CA 95945-9741. You can't do a better, less tiring service for the sport.

Dave's Court Report

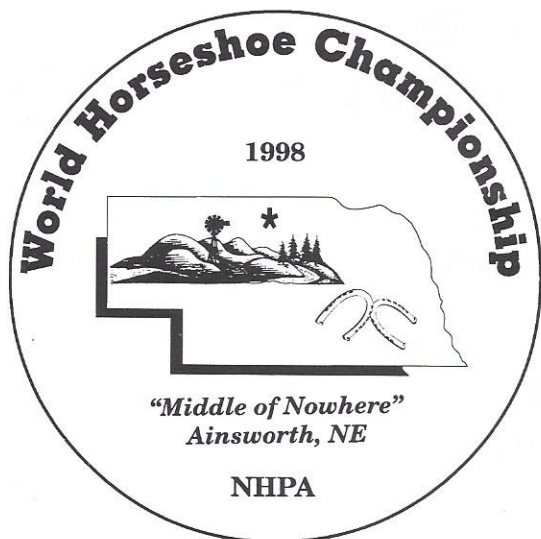
■ This issue marks the start of the 10th year for *Newsline*. Subscriptions have been averaging about 2700 the past few years, down from a high water mark of 3000 in the 1993-1994 time frame. Let's push to get back to the 3000 number in 1998.

■ Celeste Polak of East Bernard was inducted into the Texas Hall of Fame in September 1997, the first Texas pitcher to be inducted as a junior. Celeste won 7 consecutive Junior Girls State titles and 3 straight Junior Girls World Championships, 1990-92. Presently a senior at Texas A&M majoring in Animal Science, Celeste hopes to go into Veterinary practice. The Texas HPA is proud of Celeste as is the NHPA who was able to assist in her education by awarding \$2,155 in Trust Fund money she won while competing as a Junior.

■ Norman Gautreau of Revere, MA, is a nationally acclaimed artist and former horseshoe pitcher who has donated more than 100 of his watercolor prints to the Normal Rockwell

Museum. His achievements in the art world are the things that aspiring artists can only dream of. Norman and I have begun a dialogue as he painted in 1966, a panoramic court view of the 1965 World Championship in Keene, NH. This painting is so life-like that old timers can recognize the pitching legends in that event. Norman has graciously offered to make reproductions of his Horseshoe Tournament art available to the NHPA at cost. We are studying ways that the NHPF might turn this into a fund raiser. Readers can expect a feature story on Norman Gautreau in a coming *Newsline* issue.

■ Hats off to the Missouri Charter. They have put together a mini-packet of information for hand out to new members that is the most comprehensive I've seen from any charter. Understand it was a Vicki Winston brainchild that came together with some ideas and work contributions from Joe Faron.



1998 World Horseshoe Pitching Tournament Ainsworth, Nebraska July 20-August 1, 1998

RV Site and Private Housing Registration

Name _____
 Street _____
 City _____
 Province/State _____ Postal/Zip Code _____
 Ph. (day) () _____ Ph. (evenings) () _____ Fax () _____

Place an X in the box applicable to you:

- Daily rate with electricity & water (\$15.00 - \$150.00 for 13 Days - US)
- Interested in an unserviced site (\$10.00 - \$115.00 for 13 Days - US)
- Private Housing (\$30.00 per night - US)

We wish to reserve an RV site or Private Housing
on the following Dates (Site available from July 19 - August 2)

19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	1	2
----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	---	---

Contact me for any information you may need on the housing or camping.

Carol Sears, PO Box 132, Ainsworth, NE 69210

(402) 387-1720, Home, (402) 387-2883, Office

1998 World Horseshoe Tournament Program

Interested in advertising in the World Horseshoe Pitching Tournament Program? The following attractive rates are available:

Full Page - \$500.00

1/2 Page - \$275.00

1/4 Page - \$150.00

1/8 Page - \$80.00

Cover Pages - Includes Black and 2 Colors - \$1,000.00

Rates are for camera-ready, black and white ads. Ads due by April 1, 1998.

For more information contact World Horseshoe Tournament Program Chairman:

Ramona Kamas, 664 N. Maple, Ainsworth, NE 69210, Phone (402) 387-1663

COUNTRY CRAFT SHOW

Saturday, July 25 - 10:00 a.m. - 6:00 p.m.

Sunday, July 26 - 10:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.

Ainsworth City Hall - Ainsworth, NE

North of the Elks Lodge on Third Street

Table Rental \$15.00 Each

Tables Are To Remain Through 5:00 p.m. Sunday

NO FLEA MARKET ITEMS

Sales Tax Permit Must Accompany Registration

First Come - First Served (8' x 8' Spaces)

For More Information Contact:

Shirley Larabee, R.R. 2 Box 197, Ainsworth, NE 69210 (402) 387-1395

Ainsworth, Brown County, Nebraska

Ainsworth, an agriculture oriented economy, county seat of Brown County, is located in the north-central part of Nebraska, approximately 267 miles from Omaha, 400 miles from Denver and 200 miles from Sioux City.

Ainsworth's population is 1870. We have a K-12 school district, public library, Brown County Hospital, dentist, optometrist, chiropractors, drug store, grocery stores, clothing stores, radio station, newspaper, eating establishments, repair shops, auto part stores, shoe store, car dealerships, banks, etc. to name a few of the many businesses in our community.

In your spare time while you are in Ainsworth, the local swimming pool is right in our beautiful East City Park. A nine hole municipal golf course is located 7 miles west of Ainsworth. We have a tennis court, bowling alley, drive-in theater, fishing, boating and canoeing throughout the area. If time allows, you might even be able to take a walk on the Cowboy Trail which runs through our community.

Following the 1998 World Horseshoe Pitching Tournament, the 28th Annual National Country Music Festival will be taking place in East City Park, August 6-9. If you enjoy amateur music - fiddling, picking, singing, and a great time -- plan to spend some extra time in Ainsworth to enjoy the entertainment.

If you enjoy historical items you can spend time in the Brown County Historical Society Museum, Sellors-Barton Museum and the Long Pine Heritage House.

Over the weekend, you can worship at the church of your choice -- New Apostolic, Assembly of God, Faith Baptist, Berean Fundamental, St. Pius X Catholic, Congregational Church of Christ, Zion Lutheran, United Methodist, Church of the Nazarene, Jehovah's Witnesses Kingdom Hall and the Evangelical Free Church -- these are all located in Ainsworth.

If you bring your camper, we will be offering shuttle bus services throughout your two week stay in our community.

Ainsworth has many points of interest. If we can be of further service to you, please stop into the Ainsworth Area Chamber of Commerce (or call (402) 387-2740) for more information when you get to town. Someone will be ready to greet you and offer any assistance they can.

We hope you enjoy your stay in Ainsworth, Nebraska the
"Middle of Nowhere!"

Regional Directors Report

by Paul Stewart

Thanks for a wonderful year in horseshoe and I wish all of you a very prosperous and happy New Year and Good Pitching in 1998.

We have only one Regional Director change to report. **Cal Cordes**, from **Arizona**, has decided to step down. His replacement will be **Joe Kubiak**, from Prescott Valley. Thanks Cal, for your years of work and dedication to the NHPA as RD. Good luck with the rest of your endeavors.

From the Mail Bag

Rick Rebman, RD for **Washington, Oregon and Idaho** reports all three states have implemented new programs to increase membership.

Oregon held a very successful pro-am tournament in Corvallis. **Ben Wiedrich** returned to the courts after one year absentee to win the Oregon State Tournament. **Washington** has implemented monetary incentives for signing new members. At the Pacific NW Tournament held in Yakima, WA, Sept. 13-14, **Dave Spears**, **ARD for Idaho** won the "Mr. Horseshoe" award, given for dedication to and promotion of our sport. **Idaho** had a new league form in Pocatello. This new site, along with the existing ones—Kellogg, Boise, Caldwell—are sites for league play throughout the state. Other highlights throughout the Idaho pitching season include the **Dave's Wood Works Tournament** held in Boise, the prize money just under \$1,900.00 **Howard Homme** and **Ed Deeds** were the winners of the Idaho State Doubles Tournament held in Caldwell. The Idaho State Singles Tournament was held this year in Boise. **Clyde Marquez** is the new Men's Champion. **Dave Spears** was chosen Tournament Director of the Year for a second time. Officers in Oregon and Washington remain the same. **Dave Spears** is the new Idaho President.

Pete Imhof, RD for **Alaska**, says please tell our readers that Alaska is a beautiful state with more than 5 million visitors annually. We would love to have visitors look us up when they visit here. (If you come, pitch with me...I may show you a secret fishing sport.) That sounds like a good deal to me, Pete. The AHPA held their State

Tournament August 23 in Eagle River. **Norm Rousey** won the Men's Championship. **Myrtle Picard** was the Women's Champion. **Bill Lee** from Valdez won the A Class. Bill travels hundreds of miles to compete; he is 75 years young and still pitching 40 feet.

Jerome Kennedy, **Georgia** RD reports that the Perry Club recently held a couple seminars on horseshoe pitching at the GA Agricenter and have two more planned. Hopefully this type of activity will generate some new members and/or clubs. Georgia had 15 pitchers pitching in the Golden Olympics competition, held at Robins Air Force Base during the last week of September. **Richard Williams** of Aragon, GA was inducted into the GHPA Hall of Fame. **Al Sandham** was elected President of the GHPA.

C. Leo Buell, **Iowa** RD reports that the Clay County Fair in Spencer, IA was a great success. There were 10 days of pitching for everyone. They had open singles, doubles, hi-lo classes, 100-shoe pitch and kids day, where they instructed kids on the fine points of horseshoe pitching. They came from MN, SD, NE and IA. This was the second year for this tournament.

Leo also reports, at the IHHPA annual meeting much discussion was about obtaining new members and keeping the members they have. There were suggestions of ads in the newspaper, handing out literature at shopping malls, contacting the County Extension Service, and getting involved with 4-H groups. **Leo** says his goal is to establish a better relationship with the press and have more coverage of local tournaments. He also plans to narrate the Iowa City Tournament. We did this at a festival in Amana last year and it went over big with the bystanders. While we were narrating, we had people standing at the fence watching. When we quit, they faded away.

Ricky Bolick Sr., **North Carolina** RD reports that their membership was up 19% from last year—a record 185 members. This may seem modest by some states' standards, but in 1987 NC had 95 members. This improvement is due to the hard work of our Officers and Tournament Directors.

Next year we expect more improvements since we are in the process of contacting members we have lost in recent years and concentrating on keeping the ones we now have.

Allen Baptist, **Colorado** RD reports, "well here's a first for me." The Octoberfest doubles tournament scheduled for Oct. 25 and to be held indoors was canceled due to the worst snowstorm and blizzard we've had in 15 years. All the major highways going in all directions were closed for two days, and the Denver Airport was at a standstill. Fortunately, **Ken McKenzie**, the tournament director, had everyone called and canceled the tournament. The tournament was rescheduled for the next weekend, and everyone showed up with stories of their own experiences from the storm.

Allen also reports that **Rich Jensen** from Fort Collins has put together a horseshoe pitching exhibition/seminar for March 20, 1998. It will be held at the old Fort Collins High School and will feature **Paul LaCrosse**, **Rich Pintor**, **Dan Martinez** and **Pam Cook**. The highlight will match up **Paul** and **Rich** in an exhibition game. The event will be free, open to all ages and prizes will be given away to spectators donated by local merchants. The CHPA and the Fort Collins Rec. Dept. will sponsor this event. **Rich** is selling golf shirts with the CHPA logo to help pay for the seminar. A great way to introduce the sport of horseshoes to the public!

Gail Sluys, **Northern California** RD reports 25 sanctioned clubs hosted a total of 140 successful tournaments in 1997. Total pitchers entering tournaments for the year were 4,938. **NorCal** also hosted the Sr. Championships, Class Championships and California State Championships.

As of 10-1-97, the 25 clubs scattered from Tulare in the south to McKinleyville in the north, and many between, all hosted sanctioned tournaments. Our season runs Feb.-Oct. and each weekend at least 2 clubs host sanctioned tournaments allowing pitchers to attend the tournament nearest them or with the format they like best.

On a sad note, we lost a few friends to death, including one northern officer, **Jerry Foss**. All will be missed.

Sanctioned League/Club News

by Bev Born

The following listed cl/lgs have earned their plaques for their continuous years of being in this program. We have successfully completed 20 years. My congratulations to all and sincere appreciation for everyone's work and contributions. There were 46 ordered and mailed out for 5, 10, 15, and 20 years. Unfortunately, there were 5 clubs that did not receive this earned award. This is due entirely to the Directors not submitting the annual, mandatory membership report before the September 15 deadline, as stated in my article early in 1997.

I tried my best to contact these people, with no luck. As stated, they are now forfeited and will not be replaced or ordered at any later date. Again, for those due to receive these awards for 1998, member report MUST be received in this office no later than September 15. This deadline goes for all cl/lg with sanction numbers beginning with 1994, 1989, 1984 and 1979. Actually, ALL clubs should have their first member report for 1998 sent in before that date, even if they are not due for this award.

FIVE YEARS 1993-1997

Brevard County, FL
Perry, GA
Paulding County, GA
Sunflower, KS
Winchester, KY
Cajun, LA
Frederick, MD
Ramsey, MN
Shelbina, MO
Southern Nevada, NV
Tri County, NY
Blue Ridge, NC
Darke County, OH
Fulton County, OH
McKinney, TX
Waunakee, WI
Brooklyn Park Jr., MN

TEN YEARS 1988-1997

Chugiak-Eagle, AK
Arkansas Valley, AR
Rogers, AR
Lake Isabella, CA
Bradenton Recreation, FL
Reynolds, IL
Bullitt County, KY
Scott County, KY
Central Mass., MA
Duluth Municipal, MN
Liberty, MO
Crane Creek, MO

Jim Styles, NH
West Geauga, OH
Shenandoah Valley, VA
Painesville, OH
Close Doesn't County, WI

FIFTEEN YEARS 1983-1997

Fort Collins, CO
Kilkenny, MN
Independence, MO
Sodbusters, VT

TWENTY YEARS 1978-1997

Denver Metro, CO
Clearwater, FL
Twin County, MA
St. Moritz, MA
Tri County, MN
Whetstone, OH
Winchester, VA
Goldendale, WI

More CL/LG News

All clubs 236
Unreported (11/24/97) 42
192 CL/LG reported out of 236. This is not that good. Notices have been sent to those that have not sent in their 1997 membership reports. It is really very tiring and time consuming sending out these notices. Some of the same ones every year. I must ask, once more, that you PLEASE send in these mandatory reports as early in the year as possible, I may just quit sending out notices. Then, for those who have not reported by mid December, their sanctions will just be canceled. Please help me with this in future years.

Your Friend For Horseshoes

News Releases

SODBUSTERS HSC MIDDLEBURY, VT #83-C-84

The Sodbusters Horseshoe Club held their annual picnic and awards party at their clubhouse on September 28, 1997. There were about thirty members and guests present. We played a round robin of horseshoes and after that had a nice picnic of hot dogs, hamburgers, salads and soups.

Our president Roger Forgues handed out the awards from our league and club. The league champion was Bev Forgues with 29 wins and 9 losses. Second place went to Deb Brown with 28 wins and 10 losses. Third place went to Reid Brewster with 26-1/2

wins and 11-1/2 losses. Fourth place went to both Sharon Hurlburt and Tim Farr with a tie of 25 wins and 13 losses. High Game and High Over Average went to Deb Brown. Bev Forgues received High Average. Most Improved went to Mike Brown and Rookie of the Year went to Phil Hardway. Jim Fitzsimmons received the Sportsmanship award. The club gave out Most Improved awards for the year before. The Most Improved Juniors were Chris Bearor and Meagan Bigelow. Most Improved for the Women was Connie Selleck and Most Improved for the Men was Myron Selleck. After the awards were presented we finished the day off by playing doubles. All and all, it was a great day. Hope all of you have a great winter.

1997 BROOKLYN PARK HORSESHOE CLUB #86-C-132

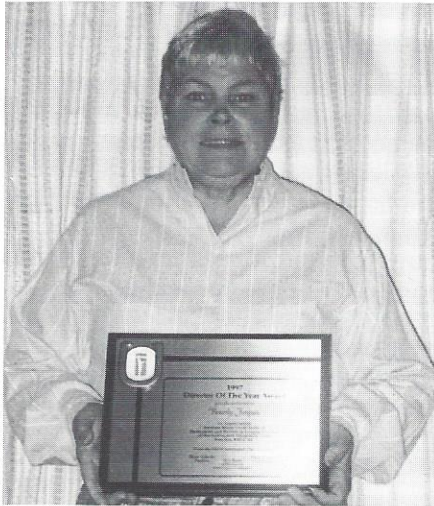
The 17th season ended with the awards night on September 26th with over 60 members and spouses in attendance. Three were in attendance that have been members for the entire 17 years: Floyd Knudtson, Ralph Marcks and Bob Dunn. A fitting ovation was given Ralph Marcks, who won his third Senior Men's State Championship and was also inducted into the MGSHPA Hall of Fame. Other introductions included four members who placed in the state's Top Ten of the Pitcher of the year Awards: Bill Larson, Jerry Walz, Bob Knudtson and Mike Kloster. It was a festive evening with trophies for many and door prizes for most. Thanks to the Knudstons and Sengers who were responsible for most of the door prizes.

The league championship team was compiled of: Mike Kloster, Marlene Knudtson, Jerry Walz and Gary Joselyn.

Bill Larson was the League Pitcher of the Year with a 50-4 win/loss record, high game of 77.5% and a 55.91% season average. Jerry LaBrosse was runner-up with a 50-8 record, 70% High Game and 52.75% avg.

Other club awards went to Greg Stumph—Most Improved +15%; Jim Beyer—Best Win/Loss 38-12; Ron Larson—High Avg. 46.96%; Mary Matuk—High Game 72%, High Series 58.5%.

Sanctioned CL/LG
Director of the Year



Beverly Forgues

Bev lives in Bristol with husband Roger. They have six sons—Roger Jr., Charles, Thomas, Joseph, Richard and James, seven grandchildren and one great granddaughter.

She began pitching in the early 1970s and joined the NHPA and Sodbusters in 1974 and still is at present. She has held many club offices including league secretary from 1984. Also NHPA league director through present. The Sodbusters were the only sanctioned league in the state until this year. Bev was club recorder for the years 1979, 1984, 1986, 1987, 1989, 1990 and 1991. She was tournament director in 1978 and on the awards committee 1988 and 1994.

Bev pitches in the fifties and sixties and has pitched mostly in Class A. She was women's state champion for the years 1977 and 1982. She took first place in the singles league in the years 1985, 1992, 1994, 1995 and 1997. Bev also took second place in Class A Women's New England Championships in 1992.

She was inducted into the VTHPA Hall of Fame in 1987 as Pitcher and Organizer.

When Bev isn't playing horseshoes, she enjoys sewing and being with her grandchildren, family and friends.

Carolina Dogwood



30th Annual

Carolina Dogwood Festival Horseshoe Tournament

in Statesville, North Carolina

Saturday & Sunday, April 18-19, 1998

Jack H. Springer Horseshoe Courts

Lakewood Park - 24 Lighted Courts • 6 Practice Courts

PRE-REGISTRATION (REQUIRED) BY APRIL 1, 1998

Men's Championship A & B Classes will Pitch Both Days!
Scorekeepers - Each Player Pays Scorekeeper 1 Dollar Per Game

TOURNAMENT IS LIMITED TO FIRST 180 ENTRIES!
Send \$20 and 3 Highest Tournament Percentages to:

Carolina Dogwood Festival Horseshoe Tournament

Statesville Recreation & Parks Dept.

P. O. Box 1111, Statesville, NC 28687-1111

NHPA Sanctioned for 40' Division & 30' Division

Extra Class Fees: (to be paid at tournament)

Men's Championship - \$ 10 • Men's A & B - \$5
30 Ft. Championship - \$5 (Entry Fees Must Cover Cash Awards)

Cash Prizes: Men's Championship-1st \$600, 2nd \$300 3rd \$150, 4th \$100, 5th \$60; Men's Class A-1st \$150, 2nd \$100, 3rd \$50; Men's Class B-1st \$125 2nd \$75, 3rd \$40; Men's Class C-1st \$100, 2nd \$50, 3rd \$30; 30 Ft. Championship-1st \$300, 2nd \$150, 3rd \$80; All Other Classes-1st \$50, 2nd \$25.

Trophies: Top 5 in Men's Championship; Top 3 in Men's A & B & 30 Ft. Championship; All Other Classes 1st & 2nd.

Tournament Director

Paul Stewart- 1-704-528-5081

Statesville Recreation & Parks 1-704-878-3429

FOCUS ON PROMOTION

Promotion Partners

One of the finest pitching facilities in the New York region is the Indoor Horseshoe Palace in Hamburg, New York. The eight court facility is open from Sept.-April with league play on Tues.-Thurs. evenings, with open pitching on Fridays. There are eight sanctioned tournaments scheduled for the '97-98 winter season. The facility accommodates over 100 pitchers each week. The Indoor Horseshoe Palace has been well publicized in area newspapers, a few television spots and previously featured in *Newsline*. It is a pleasure to know more about the individual behind the effort to establish and operate this winter haven for pitchers.

Leo Bukowski established the eight court indoor facility in July 1993, shortly after retirement from a 47 year career in the restaurant equipment business. The 44 years of owning his own business no doubt has been a good base of experience in the challenge of this most recent venture.

Bukowski became interested in the sport of horseshoe pitching as a teenager in the '30s. The sport was different then, most of his pitching was at neighborhood homes, there was no league or club. The skill level was there though, with a ringer average of 50-60% and Leo did compete in the Buffalo city championship at age 18, narrowly missing the top spot.

Leo began working for Curtiss-Wright Corp. in 1940 but as for most young men, World War II interrupted his career and he joined the Navy from 1944-46. Following discharge, along with a Navy buddy, Bukowski started a company known as the Buffalo Bar Supply. That was his sole employment for the next 44 years. When the business was sold in 1990, he remained on a part-time basis for another 3 years and then retired.

In 1988, he joined the crow's Nest Horseshoe Club. By getting into the organized format of the sport, he pitched two winter seasons indoors

near Buffalo. As that indoor facility closed, he held the idea in mind to start another facility once he retired.

Visits were paid to three different out-of-state indoor facilities before the plan was set in motion. The right location was found in a former ballroom and his dream became reality.

Leo is still pitching actively and at age 78 still manages the 40' distance. He remains an active promoter too. Not only is his facility providing pitching opportunities, it is bringing new members to our NHPA. Since the doors were opened, 40 new NHPA members have been signed up.

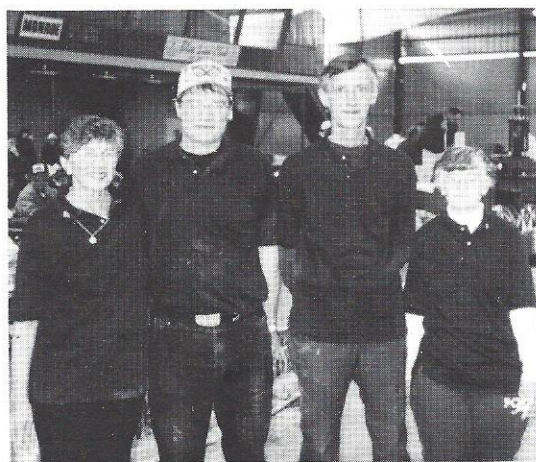
There are many thankful players in the western part of New York state that Leo Bukowski got the notion, and more importantly, followed through. The Indoor Horseshoe Palace is now in its 5th season. Leo expresses thanks too, for the many volunteers that assist with the tournaments and league activities and in helping to make it all successful. Thank you, Leo!

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- Entry Fee – \$200.00 per team
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Bev Nathe, Mark Bauman,
Dale Lipovsky and Lu Cave

ANNOUNCING

May 15, 16, & 17, 1998

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PROMOTION JOTTINGS

■ In 1929, NHPA Secretary D.D. Cottrell wrote *Horseshoe Pitching—How To Play The Game*. The book contained several articles describing the activities of the sport at the time. Here is another chapter from that great historic book, and a delightful story of the early days of our sport. The Wisconsin association is one of today's major contributors to our sport and our NHPA. No different than nearly seventy years ago:

HISTORY WISCONSIN

WISCONSIN (1929)

This state can trace its first interest in horseshoe pitching to the time of the horse power driven threshing machines, when during the noon hour or a lull in the threshing, the farmers would start a game, using the cast-off horseshoes always found lying around the farm buildings. A great many good pitchers and local champions were developed in this way.

These farmer boys drifted into the cities and introduced the game to their city friends. Horseshoe pitching clubs were organized in different places. In 1920 the first state tournament was held at the Tri-State Fair. Several prizes were offered by the Diamond Calk Horseshoe Company of Duluth, MN, and other concerns. At this meet a State Horseshoe Pitchers Association was organized. The writer has no records of any other state tournaments being held until 1924 at the State Fair when Seymour Johnson, of Madison, won the State Championship. Since that time all state tournaments have been held on the State Fairgrounds during the State Fair. The 1925 tournament was won by Floyd Billings, Waukesha. In 1926 another champion, Harvey Elmerson, Kenosha, was crowned and successfully defended his title in the 1927 and 1928 state tournaments. No one has been able to win a single game from him in these three tournaments.

One of the features worthy of being

by Bob Dunn

adopted in other states is that \$50 of the \$100 given the champion in these tournaments is not paid to him unless he represents Wisconsin in the next National Tournament. If the champion cannot go, this \$50 is paid to the winner of the second prize if he goes to the National Tournament and if neither of these men can represent the state, the money is given to the winner of the third prize if he can go. If all states would put this provision in the awarding of their prize money, the National Tournament would be what it is intended to be—a contest between the champions of all states.

Harvey Elmerson was a worthy representative of WI at the National Tournament held in St. Petersburg, FL in Feb. 1928 winning the 4th prize of \$150 and it is expected he will again honor his state by entering the National Tournament in Feb. 1929.

There are horseshoe pitching courts in many cities and villages in the state, but Milwaukee probably has the finest

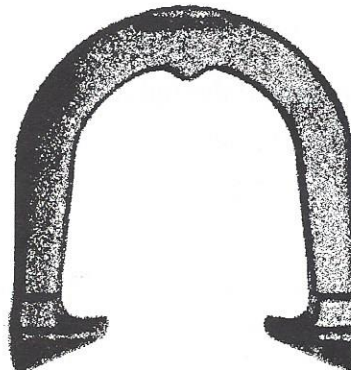
courts. The city authorities have built in Washington Park, 24 clay courts, electrically lighted, for pitching at night. The pitching box on each of these courts is paved with brick except for the clay area. Between the pitching boxes it is paved with asphalt for the men to walk on. There are about 800 players using these courts each week. The other parks in the city have similar, although not quite as extensive equipment for horseshoe pitching.

Probably no city in the north has done more toward helping the sport and encouraging horseshoe pitching than Milwaukee. The Washington Park Horseshoe Club claims to be the largest club in the northwest. It publishes a booklet containing a list of its members and a copy of its court rules. These rules are worthy of adoption by other clubs. The present officers of the WI State Horseshoe Pitchers Assn. are: A.J. Klement, West Allis; V.P. Seymour Johnson, Madison; Sec.-Treas., C.A. Dussault, West Allis.

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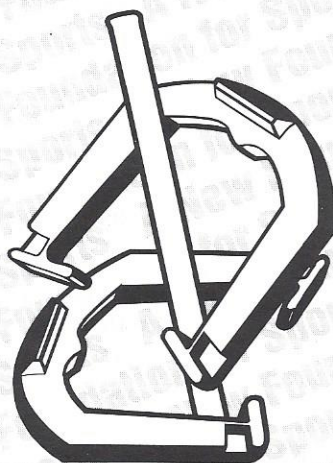
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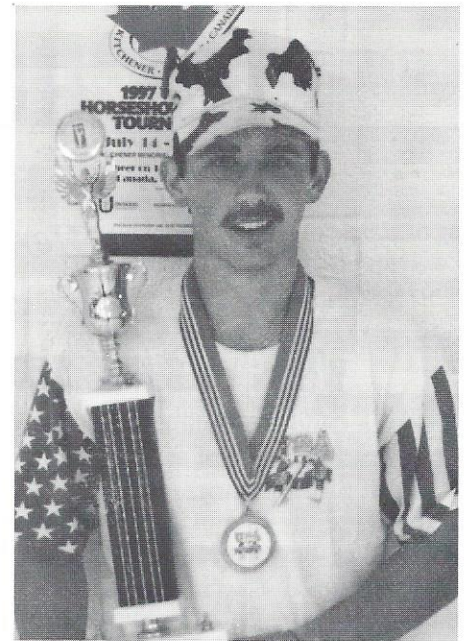
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THE JUNIOR WINDOW

PROFILES

by Lorraine Sternberg



Rebecca King

Rebecca had to work her way up to the Championship class and her World Title. She started out in the Junior Class C, winning that class with an average of 56.41%. Becky then moved into the Championship class and won the Junior Girls title with 61.36%. She entered the World Tournament with a 44.84% average. Becky seemed to be on a mission and she definitely accomplished it.

Rebecca King is only fourteen years old, so she has a few more Junior years ahead of her. Becky started pitching at the early age of eight. This is her sixth World Tournament. In 1996, she placed second in the Championship class in Gillette, Wyoming. She has been the Junior Girls State Champion two years (1995 and 1996) for Oklahoma.

Rebecca attends the Heritage Bates School in Sand Springs, OK. She is currently in the tenth grade. Other than horseshoes, she loves basketball and someday hopes to become a lawyer. Becky's two older sisters also used to compete in horseshoes. Becky's dad has been her coach. He also pitched at World and finished third in his class. Becky doesn't practice much, but did some before coming to Kitchener. Her horseshoe idol is Walter Ray Williams, Jr.

1996-97 Junior Scholar Pitchers

Congratulations to our junior scholars on behalf of all the NHPA Executive Council. We are very proud of you and extremely pleased to see some of our young members striving for scholastic excellence. While we know many of our youth work hard in school and achieve good grades, it is an unfortunate fact that only 11 names were submitted for recognition of having a grade point average of B (3.0) or better. Let's all encourage the parents and club/league directors of our junior players to pay careful attention to the possibility that their youngsters may be eligible for an NHPA junior scholar award.

All of the following will receive a certificate and patch. In addition, the top five have been selected to receive an NHPA Trust Fund which will be deposited into an interest bearing account and held until they graduate from high school. The Trust Fund awards are: Molly Koppes \$250; Maggie Koppes, Emily Lemke, Anne Melchert \$200 each; Matthew Kiefat \$150.

Jeremy Umphries

At the age of seventeen, Jeremy has won his second World Championship. This was Jeremy's third World Tournament. His first was in Perry, Georgia where he finished seventh. He has only been pitching for about four years. Within that time he has also won two State titles (1995 and 1996).

Jeremy is unlike most of our Juniors, where the parents are first involved. Jeremy got his father involved and talked him into pitching league! Jeremy now is a member of the North Texas Ringers and competes in two leagues. Jeremy does say that his father is his coach.

Jeremy is a senior at Chapelhill High School in Tyler, Texas. He carries a B average and is involved with the Who's Who scholarship. After high school he plans to attend a Tech school for engineering.

Jeremy pitched an impressive 80.40% at World. He has two perfect games in his short horseshoe career, one in an 18 shoe game and the other in a 40 shoe game.

When not pitching, Jeremy enjoys basketball, camping and fishing. I asked him if he would like to see any changes in the Championship Class. His answer—he would like to see more boys in the class and extra prize money for Juniors.

In the four short years Jeremy has pitched he has accomplished a lot that he can be proud of and from the looks of his parents, they certainly are proud too.

Those being honored this year:

Name	Age	Club	Shoes	%	GPA
Molly Koppes	12	Brooklyn Pk, MN	810	2.84	4.00
Maggie Koppes	14	Brooklyn Pk, MN	870	4.02	3.79
Emily Lemke	13	Brooklyn Pk, MN	600	1.33	3.78
Anne Melchert	16	Kilkenny, MN	1950	13.48	3.75
Matthew Kiefat	16	Red River, ND	1500	32.50	3.68
David Mead	15	Brooklyn Pk, MN	630	18.73	3.50
Heather Haubrick	14	Brooklyn Pk, MN	1050	4.00	3.46
Andrea Thatcher	15	Brooklyn Pk, MN	690	3.33	3.39
Jeremy Umphries	17	Kilo Bay, TX	3000	79.04	3.31
Adam Mead	13	Brooklyn Pk, MN	720	20.97	3.17
Tiffany Haubrick	12	Brooklyn Pk, MN	1100	2.55	3.01

THE HORSESHOE TRADER

Collectors: Here's Your Chance To Expand Your Collection

by Bob Dunn

WHEN WAS THE BEGINNING?

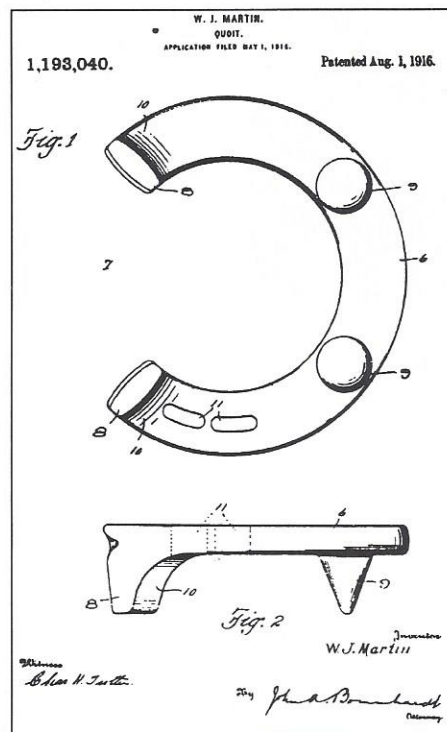
The Ohio Horseshoe Company of Columbus, Ohio, is credited by most as the first commercial manufacturer of pitching shoes. They began in 1921 and most certainly were the first major manufacturer. Another amazing fact is that they continue yet today in the producing of official pitching shoes. National Standard of Akron, Ohio and Lucky Ringer of St. Louis, Missouri, followed closely behind and were marketing official shoes by 1922.

State associations were forming in 1919, the NHPA originated in 1920 and became the sport's sole governing organization in 1921. It was at that point that the sport had its phenomenal boom. Was this the beginning of the "shoe"?—No!

In a booklet published by the Ohio Buckeye Horseshoe Pitchers' Association in 1920, an ad appeared for official pitching shoes by William Weis. Weis is also known as the NHPA's president in 1920. No pictured ads have surfaced, or shoes with a Weis brand name, so it must be assumed that the shoes were a brandless model. This is somewhat supported by a newspaper photo of shoes pitched by the great Hughie Palmer—those shoes were brandless. This 1919 dated article is one more piece of evidence that official pitching shoes existed prior to 1921. That 1920 booklet also contained a print of the official shoe dimensions, which were drafted in 1919.

A similar booklet was published by the Minnesota State Horseshoe Pitcher's Association, with an ad by A.F. Hay. Unfortunately, this also was not a pictured ad, but stated that shoes could be purchased in pairs numbered 1 or 2. A son, Fred Hay, became the 1921 Minnesota State Champion using shoes made by his father. Those same brandless shoes are still in the possession of A.F. Hay's grandson. By the way, Fred Hay was only 13 years old in 1921 and remains the youngest player to ever win a Men's state championship.

There were official pitching shoes made before the Hay or Weis shoes. William J. Martin (Cleveland, OH), was granted the earliest known patent for a pitching shoe—in 1915. It was even referred to as a quoit but was open on one side. That shoe was modified, re-patented in 1916, and again in 1919 to conform to the newly published standards, and named the Martin Improved Shoe. What is extraordinary about this shoe is that rather than the tradition blade calks, it had four spikes, designed for an interlocking with other pitched shoes. Martin went on to gain a fourth patent (1924) for a convention model, the Martin National Shoe. Martin National Shoes exist in at least 3 collections and are prized finds. There is no record of any Martin Improved Shoes in existence.



I have, in my collection, 1 pitching shoe made by International Harvester. It has a logo and is a number 2, and does not fit our present day dimensions. It does conform well to Martin's 1916 patent draft and therefore would date prior to 1919.

So when was the beginning of the SHOE? This is about all the information we have at this time and frankly, we don't know for sure.

If competitive pitching dates back to 1909 and there is also documentation that some leagues existed even as early as 1898, the pitching shoe probably would date that far, even though shoes off the horse were commonly used in those days. No doubt the local blacksmith was the initial supplier of brandless shoes, but we do know that Mr. Martin got involved in 1916. This is what we know so far, and the search continues.

TRADER NOTES

■ There are many pitching shoe collectors that have not signed up on our collector-trader roster. You are still welcome to do so. Most of the collectors registered have provided inventory lists of shoes in collection and then shared the list with the other collectors. It is interesting to read and know the shoes that others have been successful in finding. If you collect, or want to start collecting, sign up now.

■ There are members who do not collect shoes, but happen to have an old stray shoe or two hanging around. If you want to make those shoes available to our collectors, contact Bob Dunn (address is on page 3) and that information will go out to our registered collectors. If you wish to donate a shoe to the NHPA archives, contact Earl Winston directly.

■ The Oregon Horseshoe Pitchers Association collection was featured in a previous issue. If your charter has a shoe collec

tion and you would like to be featured in our Horseshoe Trader series, write up the inventory and a brief history of how the collection got started, etc. and send that information in!



Speaking of the Oregon horseshoe collection, they are housed in a traveling museum that has been around a few years now. Curator and publicity director Lee Wallace has been caring for and pulling the Oregon Museum trailer to tournaments all over the northwest. Lee has hosted visiting NHPA Hall of Fame director Earl Winston, while the two exchanged old horseshoe war stories and artifacts. Lee, probably rightfully so, claims credit for getting Washington interested in the museum bit.

In 1996, while visiting Yakima, Lee visited with Bob Hoerner who indicated he was stockpiling memorabilia. A year later, the summer of '97, Bob was passing the hat and running raffles to raise money for a Washington trailer-museum. Funny how the bug can bite you.

If you have an interest or can provide an old sought after horseshoe, the NHPA first, would be interested in your find. If it is something already in the NHPA collection, no doubt one of the many increasing "traders" across the country would be interested. If all goes according to plan, there will be a Traders booth in Ainsworth for those interested. They may not be as valuable, but it can be a lot of fun looking for "horseshoe gold" in the hills, old barns and grandpa's attic.

Hall of Fame

by Earl Winston

It's strange how some articles eventually reach me for inclusion into the collection of items being gathered for the future NHPA Hall of Fame and Museum. Because a couple of Missouri residents follow the Pro Bowlers Tour, I have acquired two more pair of horseshoes manufactured some years ago.

Clarence and Doris Wilson, residents of Grandview, MO, are ardent fans of bowling and go to any tour events that are within their ability to reach. They have become acquainted with Walter Ray Williams Jr. and some time back sent him a letter telling him they had some old horseshoes they would like to donate if there was a museum or collection where they could be used.

Walter Ray answered their letter and sent me a copy of his reply. I was able to make contact with the Wilsons and upon learning that I would be in the Kansas City area on Thanksgiving Day, Doris insisted I make plans to visit them sometime that afternoon. After the turkey settled a little, I drove over to Grandview and had a lovely visit. Doris had two pair of old Diamond shoes that once belonged to her father, Homer Wheeler. One pair is marked A and one pair marked B. I'm sure the shoes are over 65 years old and have medium short hooks. They appear to have been manufactured shortly after Putt Mossman made his shoes with the first little button of a hook. By the early 1930s, companies were turning out pitching shoes with larger hooks, similar to what we use now. I thanked the Wilsons for their contribution and assured them I would put the name of her father on the identification.

You might be interested in knowing that several have donated their personal scrapbooks. Sol Berman has sent me several of his. I am still looking for some of the early official NHPA publications—specifically R.B. Howard's *Horseshoe World*. I need from 1920-21 to 1929. I have one 1927 copy in poor condition. I have most of those printed in the 1930s and up to the time of World War II, when the paper shortage cut publication down to 4 issues a year. In 1943, this publication ceased altogether. If anyone can help me track

down any of these early publications to add to the NHPA collection, your assistance would be much appreciated.

The next official NHPA magazine came out in 1947, published by Pop Woodfield of Washington D.C. I have collected nearly all of those. Then came Jake's *Horseshoe Pitcher* and after that, Ellis Cobb's *Horseshoe Digest*. My collection of those publications is nearly complete, lacking perhaps only 3 or 4 issues. At a future date, perhaps I can list the ones still needed and someone can help us fill in the blank spots.

A reminder to those who may be thinking of nominating a candidate for induction into the NHPA Hall of Fame. Your candidates must have achieved success or contributed to the sport of horseshoe pitching on the national level. The requirements of the voting committee are that all nominees have been an adult member of the NHPA for at least ten years. There have been suggestions that we form a Junior Hall of Fame, but this idea has not yet been finalized and needs further discussion of the committee. Candidates can be of either gender and all nominations, along with accompanying statistics or background material, should be typed or written in a manner that is neat and can be photocopied for distribution to the Hall of Fame committee. The nominations to be considered for the 1998 ballot must reach me by 3/1/98.

We have three categories that we use in placing the nominees. The first is a group that includes those players who have achieved pitching excellence on the World Tournament level back to 1957. We also have a category for those who gave outstanding service on the national level as an administrator, promoter or organizer as far back as 1957. The third category includes the players and the people who gave of their time as administrators, promoters or organizers before the year 1957. At the present time, the third category is the largest group of nominees. So get your nominations sent in and the winners in the 1998 balloting will be inducted during the annual NHPA Hall of Fame and Awards Banquet to be held in Ainsworth, Nebraska. I hope I will see you there.

1997 TOP TEN

National Division—Mixed Distance

HIGH POINT AVERAGE

Pos.	Name	Club/State	Pts.
1.	Curly Seibold	Marion, IN	123.90
2.	Stan Griggs	Heart of America, MO	122.69
3.	Becky Kemper	Millville, KY	122.36
4.	Jim Walters	Troy, OH	120.41
5.	Connie Filley	Red River, ND	118.44
6.	Lorraine Sternberg	Goldendale, WI	116.23
7.	Gene Sierks	Platte Val., NE	115.53
8.	Richard Williams	Paulding, GA	114.22
9.	Elden Sarbaugh	Try County, OH	113.86
10.	Bob Lautenschleger	West Geauga, OH	113.66

HIGH POINT GAME

1.	Curly Seibold	Marion, IN	140
2.	Becky Kemper	Millville, KY	140
3.	Jim Walters	Troy, OH	139
4.	Carrie Carpenter	Bradenton, FL	139
5.	Lorraine Sternberg	Goldendale, WI	138
6.	Bob Lautenschleger	West Geauga, OH	136
7.	Loree Meier	Independence, MO	136
8.	Omar Blacketer	Bradenton, FL	135
9.	Elden Sarbaugh	Try County, OH	134
10.	Connie Filley	Red River, ND	133

HIGH POINT OVER AVERAGE

1.	Cookie Campbell	Glenburn, ND	+41.62
2.	Melinda Ralph	Red River, ND	+41.29
3.	Jimmy Smith	Try County, OH	+41.15
4.	Ronnie Williams	Claudius, VA	+41.00
5.	Artie Burhong	N.W. Ark., AR	+40.62
6.	Robert Wilsch	Pioneer, NY	+40.44
7.	Jason Clift	Try County, OH	+39.04
8.	Robyn Turner	Danville, IL	+37.08
9.	Bev Hittle	Try County, OH	+37.04
10.	Sharon Taylor	Independence, MO	+37.00

HIGH RINGER AVERAGE

1.	Dale Lipovsky	West St. Paul, MN	81.12
2.	Bev Nathe	Tri County, MN	80.30
3.	Becky Kemper	Millville, KY	76.42
4.	Curly Seibold	Marion, IN	76.36
5.	Stan Griggs	Heart of America, MO	76.35
6.	Bob Domey	Thompson, CT	74.30
7.	Mary Ann Peninger	Sunflower, KS	73.41
8.	Jim Walters	Troy, OH	73.20
9.	Connie Filley	Red River, ND	73.10
10.	Lorraine Sternberg	Goldendale, WI	70.04

Men's Division

HIGH RINGER AVERAGE

1.	Dale Lipovsky	West St. Paul, MN	81.12
2.	Stan Griggs	Heart of America, MO	76.35
3.	Bob Domey	Thompson, CT	74.30
4.	Jim Walters	Troy, OH	73.20
5.	Elden Sarbaugh	Try County, OH	69.09
6.	Normand Rioux	New London County, CT	68.60
7.	Richard Williams	Paulding County, GA	68.44
8.	Bob Lautenschleger	West Geauga, OH	67.66
9.	Glen Brown	Pioneer Club, NY	65.00
10.	Elwyn Cooper	Independence, MO	63.21

Men's Division *continued*

HIGH RINGER GAME

1.	Bob Domey	Thompson, CT	92.5
2.	Dale Lipovsky	West St. Paul, MN	92.0
3.	Jim Walters	Troy, OH	90.0
4.	Jerry Holt	Sunflower, KS	90.0
5.	Bob Lautenschleger	West Geauga, OH	88.0
6.	Norm Rioux	New London, CT	86.1
7.	Elden Sarbaugh	Try County, OH	86.0
8.	Darrel Taulbee	Classic City, IN	86.0
9.	Ed Domey	Thompson, CT	85.0
10.	Richard Williams	Paulding County, GA	84.0

HIGH RINGER OVER AVERAGE

1.	Dominick Colandene	New London, CT	+39.21
2.	Paul Biagoitta	Greater Danbury, CT	+38.50
3.	Herman Adler	Waunakee, WI	+35.71
4.	David Lowrey	West St. Paul, MN	+34.88
5.	Charlie Lutz	Classic City, IN	+34.64
6.	Bill Chakarian	Gate City, NH	+34.43
7.	Jerry Holt	Sunflower, KS	+34.29
8.	Jim Shilling	Classic City, IN	+33.92
9.	Rudy Martines	Lakeside, TX	+32.23
10.	Mike Dekoninck	Classic City, IN	+32.08

Women's Division

HIGH RINGER AVERAGE

1.	Bev Nathe	Tri-County, MN	80.30
2.	Becky Kemper	Millville, KY	76.42
3.	Mary Ann Peninger	Sunflower, KS	73.41
4.	Connie Filley	Red River, ND	73.10
5.	Lorraine Sternberg	Goldendale, WI	70.04
6.	Phyllis Negaard	Tri-County, MN	69.63
7.	Mary Ann Kramr	Riverside TX	69.30
8.	Lisa Maille	Nashua, NH	68.10
9.	Edie McKenney	Close Doesn't Count, WI	66.40
10.	Tina Tonnous	Try County, OH	65.04

HIGH RINGER GAME

1.	Bev Nathe	Tri-County, MN	96.0
2.	Mary Ann Peninger	Sunflower, KS	95.0
3.	Lisa Maille	Nashua, NH	92.5
4.	Becky Kemper	Millville, KY	90.0
5.	Phyllis Negaard	Tri-County, MN	88.0
6.	Lorraine Sternberg	Goldendale, WI	88.0
7.	Loree Meier	Independence, MO	86.0
8.	Carrie Carpenter	Bradenton, FL	84.0
9.	Connie Filley	Red River, ND	84.0
10.	Donna Dodson	Try County, OH	82.0

HIGH RINGER OVER AVERAGE

1.	Carol Fredrikson	Winchester, VA	+31.60
2.	Melinda Ralph	Red River, ND	+31.30
3.	Neita Schimmuller	Classic City, IN	+30.83
4.	Sharon Taylor	Independence, MO	+30.17
5.	Cookie Campbell	Glenburn, ND	+29.45
6.	Mary Matuke	Brooklyn Park, MN	+29.04
7.	Bev Hittle	Try-County, OH	+28.92
8.	Heather Sternberg	Goldendale, WI	+27.94
9.	Deb Taulbee	Classic City, IN	+26.87
10.	Dana Taulbee	Stroh Palace, IN	+26.79

1997 TOP TEN

National Jr. Division—Mixed Girls & Boys

HIGH POINT AVERAGE

Pos.	Name	Club/State	Pts.
1.	Jeremy Umphries	Kilo Bay, TX	124.23
2.	Lee Presley	Paulding, GA	111.93
3.	Allen Stenzel	Pawnee Ringers, NE	90.39
4.	Troy Fedde	Pawnee Ringers, NE	86.77
5.	Misty Pierce	Danville, IL	78.38
6.	Brian Bloms	Glenburn, ND	75.56
7.	Rick Ferreira	Kona, HI	73.68
8.	Justin Engelhardt	Riverside, TX	72.41
9.	Kevin Sturch	North Weld, CO	71.40
10.	Matt Kiefert	Red River, ND	69.40

HIGH POINT GAME

1.	Jeremy Umphries	Kilo Bay, TX	136
2.	Lee Presley	Paulding, GA	131
3.	Allen Stenzel	Pawnee Ringers, NE	123
4.	Troy Fedde	Pawnee Ringers, NE	116
5.	Brian Bloms	Glenburn, ND	109
6.	Rick Ferreira	Kona, HI	108
7.	Heather Tignor	Independence, MO	99
8.	Wesley Kemper	Millville, KY	99
9.	Misty Pierce	Danville, IL	98
10.	Justin Engelhardt	Riverside, TX	98

HIGH POINT OVER AVERAGE

1.	Jeremy Tofteland	Glenburn, ND	+44.27
2.	Blake Graeber	Riverside, TX	+38.40
3.	Heather Tignor	Independence, MO	+34.81
4.	Wesley Kemper	Millville, KY	+34.74
5.	Rick Ferreira	Kona, HI	+34.32
6.	Matt Routledge	Glenburn, ND	+34.00
7.	Brian Bloms	Glenburn, ND	+33.43
8.	Allen Stenzel	Pawnee Ringers, NE	+32.61
9.	Byron Huizenga	Glenburn, ND	+30.90
10.	Jared Graeber	Riverside, TX	+29.89

HIGH RINGER AVERAGE

1.	Jeremy Umphries	Kilo Bay, TX	79.04
2.	Lee Presley	Paulding, GA	66.29
3.	Allen Stenzel	Pawnee Ringers, NE	51.64
4.	Troy Fedde	Pawnee Ringers, NE	49.31
5.	Randy Albrecht	Rochester, MN	43.63
6.	Brian Bloms	Glenburn, ND	41.60
7.	Rick Ferreira	Kona, HI	41.49
8.	Misty Pierce	Danville, IL	40.05
9.	Justin Engelhardt	Riverside, TX	40.00
10.	Lance Albrecht	Rochester, MN	35.42

Junior Boys' Division

HIGH RINGER AVERAGE

1.	Branson Miller	Winchester, VA	85.19
2.	Jeremy Umphries	Kilo Bay, TX	79.04
3.	Lee Presley	Paulding, GA	66.29
3.	Allen Stenzel	Pawnee Ringers, NE	51.64
5.	Troy Fedde	Pawnee Ringers, NE	49.31
6.	Randy Albrecht	Rochester, MN	43.63
7.	Brian Bloms	Glenburn, ND	41.60
8.	Rick Ferreira	Kona, HI	41.49
9.	Justin Engelhardt	Riverside, TX	40.00
10.	Lance Albrecht	Rochester, MN	35.42

Junior Boys' Division

HIGH RINGER GAME

1.	Branson Miller	Winchester, VA	100 (PG)
2.	Jeremy Umphries	Kilo Bay, TX	88.0
3.	Lee Presley	Paulding, GA	82.0
3.	Allen Stenzel	Pawnee Ringers, NE	80.0
5.	Troy Fedde	Pawnee Ringers, NE	72.0
6.	Todd Brown	Classic City, IN	70.0
7.	Rick Ferreira	Kona, HI	66.0
8.	Brian Bloms	Glenburn, ND	66.0
9.	Randy Albrecht	Rochester, MN	66.0
10.	Justin Engelhardt	Riverside, TX	60.0

HIGH RINGER OVER AVERAGE

1.	Todd Brown	Classic City, IN	+39.03
2.	Adam Mead	Brooklyn Park, MN	+35.73
3.	Joshua Chakarian	Gate City, NH	+34.21
4.	Derek Burch	Classic City, IN	+29.09
5.	Allen Stenzel	Pawnee Ringers, NE	+28.36
6.	Joel Schroeder	Classic City, IN	+26.64
7.	Eric Solbakken	Glenburn, ND	+25.63
8.	Joshua Samples	Kilo Bay, TX	+24.86
9.	Rick Ferreira	Kona, HI	+24.51
10.	Brian Bloms	Glenburn, ND	+24.40

Junior Girls' Division

HIGH RINGER AVERAGE

1.	Misty Pierce	Danville, IL	40.05
2.	Heather Tignor	Independence, MO	32.92
3.	Rachel Luckey	Glenburn, ND	21.91
4.	Jana Conley	Independence, MO	18.06
5.	Anne Melchert	Kilkenny, MN	13.48
6.	Marcia Clark	Close Doesn't Count, WI	6.44
7.	Candice Lawson	Shenandoah, VA	6.41
8.	Erin Hatlestad	Glenburn, ND	5.14
9.	Kristen Belgarde	Glenburn, ND	5.14
10.	Heather Haubrick	Brooklyn Park, MN	4.20

HIGH RINGER GAME

1.	Misty Pierce	Danville, IL	56.0
2.	Heather Tignor	Independence, MO	56.0
3.	Rachel Luckey	Glenburn, ND	38.0
4.	Jana Conley	Independence, MO	32.0
5.	Anne Melchert	Kilkenny, MN	30.0
6.	Candice Lawson	Shenandoah, VA	18.0
7.	Heather Haubrick	Brooklyn Park, MN	16.7
8.	Maggie Koppes	Brooklyn Park, MN	16.7
9.	Erin Hatlestad	Glenburn, ND	14.0
10.	Tiffany Haubrick	Brooklyn Park, MN	13.3

HIGH RINGER OVER AVERAGE

1.	Heather Tignor	Independence, MO	+23.08
2.	Anne Melchert	Kilkenny, MN	+16.52
3.	Rachel Luckey	Glenburn, ND	+16.09
4.	Misty Pierce	Danville, IL	+15.95
5.	Jana Conley	Independence, MO	+13.94
6.	Heather Haubrick	Brooklyn Park, MN	+12.70
7.	Maggie Koppes	Brooklyn Park, MN	+12.68
8.	Candice Lawson	Shenandoah, VA	+11.59
9.	Tiffany Haubrick	Brooklyn Park, MN	+10.75
10.	Molly Koppes	Brooklyn Park, MN	+10.46

Dykes

by Jim Haupt

Ralph Dykes, former statistician to the world of horseshoes, served as the president of the NHPA for just six years. It was more like twenty-six years that Dykes seemed to be at the helm through his duties helping to administrate horseshoe's big show, the annual World Tournament. His continuous contribution at the World Tournament made him familiar to and with possibly thousands of NHPA pitchers over the years.

Charts, the oversize result boards, eventually became colored when Dykes started matching pitchers with all colors of the rainbow. And Dykes was a first class chart-artist

often posting a one liner joke of the day amidst all the names and numbers. He also made the first wheel type scoring devices used at a World Tournament. It was in 1960. The tournament was Muncie, Indiana. Dykes made the 18 scoring devices and separate shoe counters for the qualifying rounds. His friend, Jack Stout, supplied some of the materials and labor.

We met Ralph Dykes at his home in Lombard, Illinois. Because he's got a respiration problem, his trail is marked—follow the plastic hoses. His wife Delores was there and his long-time friend, Jack Stout of Melrose Park dropped by to drive the entourage to lunch and to fill-in the conversation when Dykes wasn't talking—Stout didn't get to say much.

Ralph, how did you get going in horseshoes? Where did it all start?

"After I came from Sterling, Illinois to Chicago, Harold Jackson (son of the famous Frank Jackson) and his wife came there giving a horseshoe demonstration and they were sellin' Ohio shoes. -1937- His wife did all the trick pitchin'. Yes, she was a thirty foot pitcher. I bought a pair of horseshoes from him, \$1.50. Well, it turns out they were the older 1936 model. Eventually I gave 'em away or sold 'em. I wish I had those horseshoes today."

It all started with that Jackson demonstration?

"Fore he came to town, one of the kids had some (stakes) in his yard. I don't know how far apart they were



then. The old timers...(he paused), You know, it was a little town, only 250 people. It's still 250. Reason was, every time a baby was born, another guy left town."

I can believe it. So you left town? Ignoring the remark he continued...

"Those old timers that had horseshoe courts at the lumber yard alongside the railroad track, you think they'd let us kids pick-up those shoes? They had no hooks or nothing. And that's another thing; what about those crazy shoes with one hook? You realize they do no good for a counter clockwise turn."

Easy Ralph, you're

talking to the national advertising manager for those one hook shoes. We are presently developing a left-handed model. Dykes reflects...

"I don't have Alzheimers' I got Part-timers. I ain't got all the way yet." *(He recalls and continues...)*

"I started going to the Illinois (State) Tournament at Springfield in 1946. In '48, I was elected President of Illinois. I attended the World Tournament that year in Milwaukee.

Guy Zimmerman pitched a perfect game there, 44 for 44, but don't ask me how. The stakes were about 18" high, the courts ran East and West, and right behind the courts was the roller coaster. They had two of them going. One was half way around and they'd cut the next one loose—people screaming right behind you. There were 94 entries. Thirty-two made the class, four groups of eight and on 12 courts, one group was always idle."

Dykes attended seven World Tournaments before being nominated for the presidency of the national organization.

"I was President of Illinois for 20 years, up to 1968. That's because they wanted me to go to Fargo in 1967 and run for President (NHPA) which I did. They asked me to say a few words, which I did. I said "a few" a few times.

I said, to attend the World Tournament—it was just a week then—I had to work all year to get two weeks vacation, spend it on

Ralph Dykes

Born 1913—84, of Lombard, Illinois

Married to Delores;

one daughter, Jimmy-Joe.

1937

Bought original pair of pitching shoes—\$1.50

1946-66

20 years as President of the Illinois Association

1952

Championship Class W.T.; 29th; 63.6%

1967-72

6 years as NHPA President

1968

Presented with the Stokes Memorial Trophy

1973

Unducted into the NHPA Hall of Fame

1994

Retired from World Tournament activity

1997

Relocated to Florida

*“I only had
one 90%
game in
my life.
Then I fell
out of bed.”*

horseshoes, and pay all my own expenses to do it. I said I wouldn't do it (the President's job) unless I got at least my expenses paid. There's one thing about horseshoe pitchers, they're like blisters, they only show up after the work's done."

You actually said that in the convention?

"I sure as hell did."

Up to that time I had been to seven World Tournaments. A couple of other guys ran against me but they were lucky—I got it. (Starting with) that year, I was at the World Tournament 27 consecutive years, start to finish, up until 1993. Now, don't think I don't miss the World Tournament. I missed '94, '95 and '96."

Stout brought up a name and Dykes recalled:

"Pop Johnson, you wouldn't know him...he was from Hicksville, Ohio. Every time his opponent got ready to pitch, here was that little piece of clay right where he was going to step."

Stout then retold a story he'd heard many times...

"In 1952, three guys rode in the car to Murray, Utah. They were Pop Johnson, John Lindmeier, and Ralph. Ted Allen, a favorite, played Ralph, got hot and Ralph never got on the board. Allen wouldn't let him on the board either."

Dykes elaborated:

"Isais had won the World for the last five years running and the three of us all pitched Allen shoes. Hell, if anyone ever came out with a new shoe they just copied Allens. So we were pulling for Allen and early in the tournament I played Allen and he did skunk me. He had 41 ringers in 42 shoes—it was the highest percentage game he ever pitched. So I'll always be in the record book. Pop Johnson, he had a kind of different voice and he said (low and aside) 'we'll get him,' and they did, both of them—it cost Allen the tournament

Afterwards Allen came up to Ralph and said, "Dykes, I'll never skunk you again."

"We were the best of friends with Allen later.

That guy from Wisconsin, Bartlen, yeah, Tommy Bartlen. He was sitting in the bleachers, I guess, and he lost his bill-fold. Anyway, a guy from "Ioway," Dale Dixon, set out a bucket in the middle of the court for people to donate. You know, he got more money than he lost. Really!"

On keeping the statistics for those many World Tournaments...

"It used to be, at the World tournaments, they didn't have computers, they didn't have calculators and that. We were lucky if someone could borrow an adding machine someplace. Everything had to be done by paper and pencil. And I'll tell you one thing, it was more accurate then than it is now, because they have no way of checking. We at least had the chart and the master sheets to do a double check. With 1,400 people playing today and all those buttons, you can't tell me a wrong button doesn't get punched occasionally."

On a Saturday morning in 1959, Jack Stout left the house at 10 a.m. to go to the bank. On a whim he stopped at Garfield Park where he had heard they pitch some horseshoes. A pitcher he met there thought Stout needed to replace his playground shoes. That man loaned him a Gordon and an Ohio, one of each. Stout, thus armed, proceeded to another court location and wound up pitching with the then Illinois state champion. Ralph Dykes showed up and switched the newcomer from a three-quarter to the one-and-a-quarter. Stout eventually found himself in Dykes' house at 6:00 p.m. Not having returned home all day, he thought he'd better call. When his

wife answered Stout said, "Don't pay the ransom money Honey, I have escaped!"

It became a lifelong friendship.

From that day on Stout worked on the one-and-a-quarter and became a pretty fair pitcher. Dykes relates...

"In 1960, they brought the tournament to Muncie. Jack says he's going down there to get in it. I said okay, I won't be down 'til later in the week but here's \$5. It'll cost you ten to qualify. If you make it, I'll give you the other five. I got my five dollars back, but in 1961 he made the championship class with that one-and-a-quarter. I helped a lot of people. Couldn't help myself."

Dykes told the story of the time the commercial photographers missed the action...

"In 1968, when Elmer Hohl won, a beer outfit there wanted to make a commercial. Elmer was supposed to ring a bottle of beer. So they got all set up and Elmer gets up there, fires away, right around the bottle perfectly. Elmer starts walking away. The guy says, "I didn't have the camera on. I didn't think you'd do it the first shot.' Really! That's actually what happened. Eventually they got it."

Dykes has a collection of horseshoe publications beginning with the 1948 Horseshoe Pitcher. He has all issues over the seven years that author Byron Jaskulek, who died in 1956, produced—90 issues. Ellis Cobb began publishing The Horseshoe News Digest in 1956 and continued through 1988. Dykes not only has every issue, he had them bound into hard cover books—44 books. The unique collection is likely the finest in existence and partially explains Dyke's keen ability to recall occurrences and dates with amazing accuracy.

In the days of the old guard, governing the sport of horseshoes was considered a not-for-pay hobby. Dykes himself had to ask for expenses incurred at the World Tournament.

It is with little wonder as we regard the words of tribute found handwritten on the fly-page of Ottie Reno's book, "To Ralph Dykes, you'll never be credited for all you've done for horseshoes." Ralph Dykes is one of the old guard.

Dykes has the last word...

"I only had one 90% game in my life. Then I fell out of bed."



Jack Freeman Horseshoe Courts and Toys For Tots **TEAM UP**

by Mary Bastian

Twenty-four teams from seventeen states journeyed to Joelton, Tennessee on November 1-2, 1997 to compete in the Seventh Annual Music City Team Tournament held at the Jack Freeman Indoor Horseshoe Courts. Seventy-two pitchers played fifteen games each, plus the ladder finals, fighting for \$3,000 in cash. Alabama, Arkansas, California, Colorado, Florida, Georgia, Illinois, Indiana, Kentucky, Maryland, Missouri, North Carolina, Ohio, Tennessee, Virginia, West Virginia and Wisconsin were all represented.

Kentuckians Becky Kemper and Charlie Meredith plus Robert Outt of Missouri captured first place in Class A during the five-team ladder finals. The team of Lois Webster, Sue Snyder and Donnie Roberts placed second. The Tennessee team of Shannon Foster, Joan Elmore and Paula Hunsicker took third. The Wisconsin team of Clayton Gage, Randy Rein and Merwyn Sorensen finished fourth.

N. Carolinans Tommy Gann, N.A. Moore and Paul Stewart garnered fifth. Jack Freeman and Tennessee twins Maxine Griffith and Marlene Ray rang in at sixth. Tina Tonnous, Donna Dodson and Dave Rose of Ohio won the Class B title for the second year in a row. The team from Missouri, Rose Diekamp, Bob Diekamp and Cal Jaeger, finished second. Bob May, Al Morris, and Marlin Wells, the Indiana team, placed third. Bobby Holland, Jim Harris and Michael Byram, representing Alabama, were the Class C Champions. Walter Mullins, Monty Roberts and Jim Culver from Kentucky took second. Jan Kreienkamp, Rich Altis and Roy Evans, representing New Melle, Missouri, placed third.

Many high games were the order of the two days. Class A tossed 82 games above 80% and 14 above 90%. Class B pitched 60 games of 70% or better, nine of which were 80% or better. Class C hit 42 games 60% or better, ten of which were 70% or better. Sue

Snyder and Elbert Shifflett had the tournament high percentage games at 95% each. Clayton Gage, Sue Snyder and Shannon Foster had a 92.5% game. Becky Kemper weighed in with three 92.5% games. Rivers Prewette and Tina Tonnous had Class B high games of 87.5%. Walter Mullins had the Class C high game of 75%.

Many well-known players and promoters of horseshoe pitching were in attendance: Boys' Junior World Champions Tony Hankins, Dave Loucks and Donnie Roberts; World Champions Opal Reno, Sue Snyder and Don Titcomb; NHPA Hall of Fame members Opal Reno, Dave Loucks, Donnie Roberts and Don Titcomb; current Junior Promotion Chairperson Lorraine Sternberg and current NHPA Officers Dave Loucks, Dick Hansen, Paul Stewart and Casey Sluys.

Jack Freeman and Mary Bastian were the tournament directors. Donnie Roberts did the public address

work and the Horseshoe Pitching Pro Shop sold game related items. Bobby Cook and his assistant Mary Henderson ran the computer and provided immediate results for everyone. Gary and Joyce Arledge from Ohio were score sheet collectors and checkers.

Items donated by First American Bank of Nashville and Bob White of White Distributors Professional Horseshoe Pitching Equipment were auctioned off. Winners were James Elmore, Paulette Hansen, Tina Tonnous, Lois Webster, Bruce Gibson, Mike Henderson, Stan Dodson, and Paula Hunsicker. The money was donated to the Toys For Tots drive which was held in conjunction with the tournament. The horseshoe pitchers also made cash donations and brought toys for this charity.

This event used official NatStats averages as of September 1, 1997 to place pitchers and accepted only 24 teams. The 24 selected by Jack Freeman were the 24 who would create the best tournament possible. When the 24 teams were selected, the top 12 were divided into A-1 and A-2. The next six teams were in Class B and the next 6 teams were in Class C. The total percentage of the three players on a team could not exceed 215% with no minimum. All games were 40 shoe cancellation.

The entry fee was \$90 per team with \$5 of each individual entry being earmarked as a donation to the National Horseshoe Pitchers Foundation for the NHPA Hall of Fame building fund. A check in the amount of \$360.00 has been sent to Dave Loucks, NHPF President and Director. The Jack Freeman Courts plan to continue this policy of donating \$5 of each pitchers' entry to the Music City Team Tournament to the NHPF. The payback for the Music City Horseshoe Tournament will remain \$3,000.00

Two teams paid their entry fee for the 1998 Music City Team Tournament before leaving the Courts on Sunday. Several others said they were planning on sending in their entry fees and hoped to be placed in the lineup of teams for the 1998 event which has already been scheduled for Nov. 7-8.

CLASS A

Pitcher	W	L	R	S/P	%
1ST PLACE					
Becky Kemper-KY	16	0	539	640	84.22
Charlie Meredith-KY	11.5	4.5	477	640	74.53
Robert Outt-MO	7	9	346	640	54.06
2ND PLACE					
Sue Snyder-KY	15	2	561	680	82.50
Lois Webster-KY	15	2	547	680	80.44
Donnie Roberts	2	15	354	680	52.06
3RD PLACE					
Shannon Foster-TN	11	7	529	720	73.47
Paula Hunsicker-TN	9	9	442	720	61.39
Joan Elmore-TN	8	10	470	720	65.28
4TH PLACE					
Clayton Gage-WI	14	2	513	640	80.16
Randy Rein-WI	8.5	6.5	430	640	67.19
Merwyn Sorensen-WI	5.5	9.5	389	640	60.78
5TH PLACE					
N.A. Moore-NC	11	5	459	640	71.72
Tommy Gann-NC	11	5	446	640	69.69
Paul Stewart-NC	5	9	393	640	61.41

CLASS B

1ST PLACE					
Tina Tonnous-OH	14	1	448	600	74.67
Donna Dodson-OH	7	8	365	600	60.83
Dave Rose-OH	3.5	11.5	259	600	43.17
2ND PLACE					
Rose Diekamp-MO	12	3	428	600	71.33
Robert Diekamp-MO	6	9	337	600	56.17
Calvin Jaeger-MO	6	9	316	600	54.67
3RD PLACE					
Robert May-IN	8	7	370	600	61.67
Al Morris-IN	10	5	366	600	61.00
Marlin Wells-IN	6	9	284	600	47.33
4TH PLACE					
Edie McKinney-WI	11	4	423	600	70.50
Lorraine Sternberg-WI	9	6	365	600	60.83
Shari Davison-WI	2	7	152	360	42.22
Jane Meier-WI	0	6	95	240	39.59
5TH PLACE					
Iris Sandham-GA	10.5	4.5	392	600	65.33
Milton L. Vinson-GA	5	10	343	600	57.17
Elbert Allen-GA	4	11	292	600	48.67
6TH PLACE					
Rivers Prewette-NC	10	5	401	600	66.83
Nathan Davis-VA	7	8	372	600	62.00
Buck Prewette-NC	1	14	279	600	46.50

7TH PLACE

Paul LaCrosse-CO	11	4	432	700	72.00
Dave Loucks-CA	5	10	369	600	61.50
Cliff Baker-IL	4.5	10.5	380	600	63.33

8TH PLACE

Chad Hyatt-IN	9	6	390	600	65.00
Dale Henry-IN	6	9	374	600	62.33
Bill Ungetheim-IN	5.5	9.5	377	600	62.83

9TH PLACE

Elbert Shifflett-MD	9	6	433	600	72.17
Rick Cale-WV	7	8	423	600	70.50
Cliff Powell-WV	4	11	313	600	52.17

10TH PLACE

Sam Carter-MO	7.5	7.5	402	600	67.00
Kenneth Pogue-MO	6	9	381	600	63.50
Elwyn Cooper-MO	5.5	9.5	361	600	60.17

11TH PLACE

Opal Reno-AR	9	6	419	600	69.83
Roy Lyons-OH	5	10	339	600	56.50
Don Titcomb-FL	3	12	360	600	60.00

12TH PLACE

Jim Noble-KY	8	7	407	600	67.83
Tony Hankins-KY	3.5	11.5	325	600	54.17
Bill Garrett-KY	2	13	337	600	56.17

CLASS C

1ST PLACE

Jim Harris-AL	10	5	320	600	53.33
Bobby Holland-AL	13	2	296	600	49.33
Michael Byram-AL	7.5	7.5	300	600	50.00

2ND PLACE

Walter Mullins-KY	11	4	350	600	58.33
Monty Roberts-KY	9.5	5.5	306	600	51.00
Jim Culver-KY	5	10	273	600	45.50

3RD PLACE

Jan Kreienkamp-MO	11.5	3.5	338	600	56.33
Rich Altis-MO	10.5	4.5	341	600	56.83
Roy Evans-MO	2.5	12.5	248	600	41.33

4TH PLACE

Jack Henderson-AL	9	6	329	600	54.83
Mike Henderson-AL	9	6	275	600	45.83
Debbie Tidwell-AL	4	11	243	600	40.50

5TH PLACE

Vicki Scott-KY	8	7	292	600	48.67
Jim Scott-KY	6.5	8.5	272	600	45.33
Lou Colpitts-KY	4	11	235	600	39.17

6TH PLACE

Bob Hudnall-KY	9	6	322	600	53.67
James Sears-KY	4	11	297	600	49.50
Joe Daniel-KY	1	14	154	600	25.67

Welcome to the NHPA Website

(www.geocities.com/~nhpa)

The NHPA internet website has "hypertext" (a.k.a. hyperlinks) which jump the viewer to another website location. The viewer may simply return by using the browser "back" command or continue jumping by using hypertext found on the new website location. The popular expression for this means of moving about on the internet is "surfing."

From the beginning, the plan was to create a collection of hyperlinks specifically for websites dedicated to horseshoe pitching. There are currently over 30 such links posted on the NHPA website with more waiting to be added.

The goal is for every Charter to be represented by one or more websites which post Charter information and

tournament schedules. There are simply too many schedules and too much local information to maintain it on the NHPA website. Through our network of "links" we can provide viewers with a tremendous resource of information at the click of a button. If your charter does not currently have a horseshoe website, we encourage you to look around for someone having an "online" setup which would help you out. All websites are owned and maintained by volunteers, as is the NHPA website. If and when you get "online" or if you have questions on how to set up a website, please contact NHPA 5th VP Paul Stewart (email: nhpa5th@bellsouth.net or find his mailing address on page 3.

Newsline subscription forms are now posted on the website. Steve

Summerlin (MI) posted a revised "links" page for the website and developed an NHPA "Webring" to assist viewers wishing to "surf" horseshoe websites. Walter Ray Williams Jr. (CA) contributed a routine which speeds up conversion of NatStats reports into State files. Paul Stewart (NC) is posting "voice messages" on the website which viewers may click and hear (if they download the free Real Audio player also provided on the website). A "turkey hunt" was held over Thanksgiving for 5 turkeys hidden in the website. Similar "hunts" were set up for the rest of the holiday season in December. A few more features are in the making, all to facilitate more and interesting information and help for website viewers.

Best wishes for 1998.



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Retain New Members

by Casey Sluys

Some charters experience a significant member turnover from year to year. By that I mean players that do not sign up again for a second year. In Northern California we have attempted to find some common reason for this dilemma. There seems to be almost as many reasons as there are types of horseshoes. Some of the more common reasons are, in no particular order, too structured, too serious, too far to travel, percentage spreads not fair, a tournament takes too long, not enough club activity. The list could go on, but you see the more common ones here. Are you familiar with any of them? Have you experienced these things within your Charter?

How would we address these folks that do not sign up again? I would like to suggest to any Charter that has experienced this, appoint a person to write these people a letter. This letter could include a small survey that these folks could fill out, a self-addressed stamped envelope or postcard would help get the result back to you. Perhaps then you could put a finger on the major concern or frustration these folks have.

When you ask them to join again, be certain these people feel as though they genuinely belong to an organization devoted to fun and competition. Show them the ropes, show them what is involved to organize a tournament, teach them to keep score, ask them to help, let some of the old timers relax.

The tournament directors (TD) will

need to let go of some of their responsibilities, of course, and delegate them to others. If every TD would begin to teach their duties to others, we could have a very knowledgeable and informed organization. One person cannot do it all. Drawing upon some experience, I have found that rotating TDs at your club-hosted sanctioned tournaments really helps. Draw up an index card with the things a TD does and sit with the individual that is acting as this month's TD. Go over things point by point so they understand what should happen. Most people thoroughly enjoy the experience.

We have experienced more than once that an individual with most of the knowledge moved away or passed on. What generally happens to a club like that? Does it cease to exist as a club or will there be enough help to carry on?

New member packets are very useful in making the new members feel welcome. The Missouri, Michigan and Northern California charters have created some for their members. What Northern California intends to do is send one to first and second year members. Some ideas of what to include would be: copy of the rules, NHPA By-Laws, NHPA informational brochure, Charter By-Laws, how tournaments are conducted in your charter, club maps, addresses of contact people at those clubs, what to bring to tournaments, a schedule of the year's events, where they can buy shoes and other game related items, and don't forget the web-

site address (page 22).

The underlying message here is to get people involved, make their experience with organized horseshoes a pleasant one.

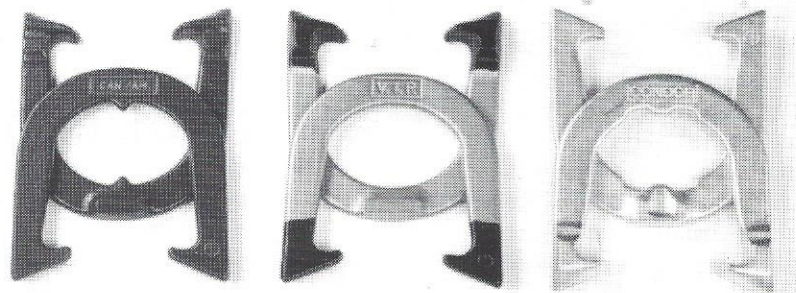
In search of green copies of the rules...

My name and address is in two magazines—*Free Stuff for Kids* and *Freebies Magazine*. The reason it's in there is to get the official rules of horseshoe pitching out to as many school kids and folks as we can. As of 12/1/97 I have received 492 requests from virtually every state in the union except Vermont, including Washington DC. What I include in their packet is the tournament travel contact page from *Newsline* with their Regional Director highlighted, a copy of the rules, a business card with the website address, a page on how to hold and pitch a horseshoe, and some history of the game.

The primary reason for telling you this is to solicit all charters for their green copies of the rules. They are somewhat outdated for our members, due to the changes that were passed last year. These changes have been incorporated into new gold colored rules pamphlets. If you have any green ones that you don't know what to do with, please do not toss them, send them to me and I'll use them for the mailings I do. Anyone sending twenty or more copies will receive as many of the new version as you need.

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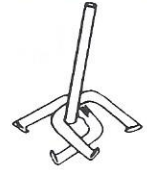
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Bob Champion's

Charter Chatter



Chatter checked back into the 1997 World Tournament scrapbook and found that only 12 clippings have been sent in and pasted in the book. This is a minute percentage of the 1740 record pitchers at the Kitchener, Canada event.

It's not too late to send your clippings or copy to Bob Champion, 5505 Valmont #175, Boulder, CO 80301. Your effort will be welcomed.

It is so easy to call your hometown weekly or daily newspaper and make that effort to get some horseshoe news printed. Just the fact that you pitched in the World is news.

May I again request that all clubs and state charters appoint someone in your group to serve as publicity person. It is not necessary to be a writer, just give the newspaper the facts.

ALABAMA

Debbie Tidwell won her 12th women's state title in 1997, dating back to 1984. I look for Debbie to be inducted into the State Hall of Fame one of these years.

How about the Tallahassee Club? Twenty-one of the members pitched in the State singles last year. The state officers are ready for some more McGhees, McGhars and Hathcocks since they have finally got to the point where they can put faces and first names together.

Jack Henderson has retired as president of the AHPA after eleven years at the top from 1987 to 1997. Good job.

BRITISH COLUMBIA

The Victoria Horseshoe Club will host the 1998 Canadian Championships. They feature 28 permanent courts and 20 of them are covered. Camping and RV space is available (no hookups) but showers are provided.

"Did You Know" department: In 1940, the World Tournament was to be held at the Canadian National Exhibition (CNE) in Toronto, but due partially to World War II, Canadian Soldiers were occupying and training at the CNE. The NHPA decided to hold the event in Des Moines, Iowa. Later, the Canadian Open was held there. It was won by Larry Mahoney from New Jersey. The CNE and the Canadian Horseshoe Association later hosted three North American Championships in which many Americans participated.

Dean McLaughlin won it in 1960, then lost in a playoff to Carl Steinfeldt in 1967. Elmer Hohl won the event in 1968, and we all know Canada hosted the 1997 World at Kitchener.

CALIFORNIA

Daniel Wharton is the youngest member of the Northern California Pitchers Association. He holds a national card and he pitches on the official courts under the supervision of his Granddad Casey Sluys, NHPA 2nd vice president. The members welcome this young six-year-old pitcher.

The new courts at Gold Country have been completed. It's taken nine months and a lot of work. Workers got rid of the large rock in the center, and now have 12 courts.

The Yolo members did a lot of work to keep improving their facility. About 12-15 of the 60 members help with the work. The 40-court complex in the city of Davis in Yolo County is the largest and one of the best pitching facilities in the world. It is the home for the Yolo Horseshoe Club and the location for many big tournaments in the state.

The club is remodeling a building in the area to be used for the NCHPA Hall of Fame memorabilia.

COLORADO

World Class pitcher Paul LaCrosse has won 14 state titles, and leads the parade in the state for the most titles. Ted Allen won ten championships in Colorado. The "Legend" could have won more if he had been available to pitch in more of them. You know Ted made a living pitching shoes in Wild West shows for many years...and often wasn't available for state events.

Paul has been a tournament director for the past eleven years—seven as the TD for the Speakeasy tournament and for the past four as the top man for the Merry Mex tournament, and event in honor of his pitching buddy, Rich Pintor.

Tony Gentry, Joe Lopo and Keith W. Thompson of the Denver Winter league won the 11th Annual State Team League Tournament. Denver Summer trio placed second, losing 5-4 in the finals.

Former CHPA president Keith Thompson has a bit of advice: "Get yourself a bag of marbles. Practice. Every time you throw a ringer, throw a marble away. By the time you lose all your marbles, you are a horseshoe player."

CONNECTICUT

Horseshoe pitching owes its modern beginning in the state to Sam Bartram, who in 1925, moved from Kokomo, Indiana to Connecticut, and introduced the game there by giving exhibitions throughout the state. By 1929, he had created enough interest to be able to hold a state tournament at Bridgeport.

The winner of the tournament was S.C. Lane of Stamford. Lane organized the Stamford Horseshoe Club, and from that time on, the game grew steadily.

A state tournament was held yearly in Bridgeport and Lane continued as champion until 1933, when George Georgetti of Manchester won the crown. He won the title the next year.

In 1935, the Connecticut State Horseshoe Association was formed and the site of the state tournament was moved to Greenwich. Other winners were Irving Wood, New Canaan; William Crofut, Shelton; Lane won the title in 1937 and Crofut was the 1938 and 1939 winner, setting a new state record for the overall tournament of 62%.

CHARTER CHATTER

GEORGIA

In winning the 1997 State Championship, Richard Williams set a new high game record for the tournament, an impressive 91.67. Ron Bunch from Covington is the new publicity director for Georgia. His phone number is (770) 787-6016.

The weather was fine for the U.S. National Senior Olympics with Gary Minnick serving as tournament director for horseshoes. Iris Sandham won a gold in the 70-74 age group and Eileen Giselbach gained a bronze in the 60-64 group. Ten pitchers from Georgia competed in the tournament held in Tucson, Arizona. In addition to Iris and Eileen, included are Ellen Tharpe, Garon Glover, Bob Giselbach, Al Sandham.

Lee Presley and Bob Hinton won the high-low selection match tournament with a 5-1 record. Competing in the championship flight were winners and runners-up in previously pitched Classes A, B and C.

ILLINOIS

Charlie Webb, 1997 Illinois State Champion, and Paul Gibson were inducted into the Illinois Horseshoe Pitchers Hall of Fame in Cahokia.

Webb has qualified for the Championship Class in state since 1981, winning the event in 1987 and again this year. He has pitched in the Championship Class at the World Tournament many times, finishing 7th in 1991. In 1988 Charlie was a member of the Illinois team that won the team tournament in Beloit.

Charlie is always humble in victory and his pleasant demeanor on and off the courts have made him one of the most respected players in the state.

Paul Gibson has been involved in our sport since the 1960s. He has encouraged and inspired many pitchers over the years. Paul's achievements include three terms as State president, four as vice president and regional director for 2 years. He was president of a league for 10 years and was a tournament director 15 years.

Paul is a well-known Baptist minister, has encouraged prayer before tournaments, and has led prayer at several World tournaments. He encouraged lots of practice and taught sportsmanship above all things.

KANSAS

The Diamondback Horseshoe Club from Hutchinson sponsored a tournament to benefit the Reno County Food Bank. The Club raised a pickup truck load

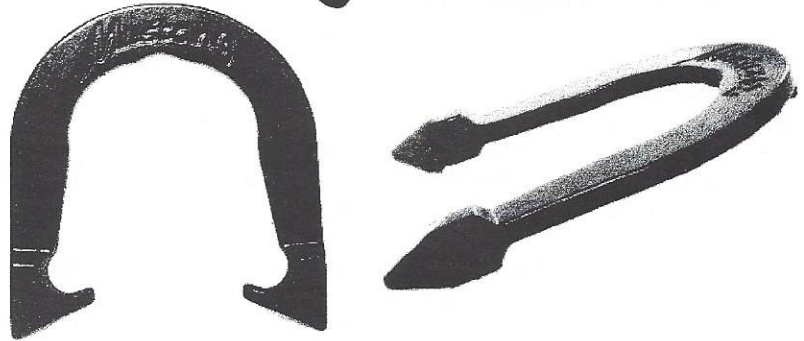
of food and \$553 in cash. They generated a lot of good publicity for our sport and benefited a great organization.

The grapevine reveals that Vorn Ven is back on the courts and is planning to return to regular action soon. Many of the World goers will remember Vorn as a junior star a few years back. He gave the World Junior winners plenty of trouble.

KENTUCKY

Kentucky sent 27 pitchers to the World Tournament in Kitchener and out of this total, Kentucky had three class champions—Forest Cooper, Class D-3, 46.7%; Don Glass,

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CHARTER CHATTER

F-2, 48.67; and Becky Kemper, Class B, 82%.

A special congratulations to Becky, who in her first year in the Women's division, finished in third place with a 16-3 record averaging 83.1%.

Becky also won Kentucky's first annual R.O. Harris Horseshoe Pitcher of the Year award. Pitchers were awarded points for each tournament they entered, plus additional points for each 1st, 2nd and 3rd place finish. She entered 14 of the 15 tournaments held and finished in the top three in every one.

In 1997 Lois Webster captured her 7th State title. Lois defended her title against past state and World tournament champion Sue Snyder and 1996 junior girls Champion, Becky Kemper.

LOUISIANA

The official induction of three Charter Members into the Louisiana Hall of Fame took place last September during the annual meeting at the state singles tournament in Welsh.

Jack Atchley was mainly responsible for obtaining the state charter with the NHPA and the formation of the Louisiana State Horseshoe Pitchers Association, and HE organized the first leagues in Harahan and established the Harahan HPA. He has been the only secretary-treasurer of the state association.

Don Holland, Shreveport, was instrumental in formation of the Shreveport Horseshoe Pitchers Association. He was president from 1984-1997. Don was five-time State singles Class A champion and three-time State doubles champion with Ricky Richard.

O.S. (Sid) Plott, also from Shreveport, pitched in his first World tournament in 1927 at the age of 21 and shot a respectable 40% in Duluth and was recognized as the Louisiana State champion. He was the 1929 state champion. He won the 1959 Class B World title with an impressive 64% and was the 1985 Class C World champion in the Elders group.

MINNESOTA

Dale Lipovsky from Apple Valley and Mark Baumann, Madelia, the top two men in the state, teamed together to win the annual State Doubles championship. They closed with a perfect 7-0 record with Lipovsky having a 79.3 ringer percentage, Baumann 64.38. Bev Nathe and Lu Cave finished second with 6-1, Nathe had 71.52%, Cave 60.84.

Nine state pitchers were inducted into the Minnesota Hall of Fame during the annual State tournament in Sleepy Eye. Three of the total were inducted for Pitching Excellence. They were Elwood Johnson, V.K. (Bubs) Gedatus and Ralph Marcks.

In the Hall of Fame Founders Category, six deserving "Old Timers" were inducted into this select group. They are Haakon (King) Hauge, Louis (Louie) Larson, Andy Moehn, Ben Trolen, Dr. Charles Vandas and Frank Drassel.

Named to the Junior Honor Roll was Vance Harren, the 1994 World Boys champion, who won seven state titles in his eight-year career as a Junior. He made four trips to the Nationals.

MISSOURI

Chatter wishes to make note and congratulate Missouri for their new 24-page newsletter. It has all the news including many reports from clubs. They also have sent out an information packet to all new members in the state.

It also includes a two-page profile on Vicki Winston, 10-time World champion, who has been secretary-treasurer of the largest charter in the NHPA for many years.

Congratulations to the following for Achievement awards: Carl Gutshall, Larry Langeewisch, Charles Killgore, Bob Bloss, Jr., Donnie Simpson, Arlene Reininger, Kent Armstrong and Fern Trautwein.

Don Harris is the Player of the Year and Roena Branson is the Rookie of the Year for 1997.

A special congratulations to Sam Carter for pitching a perfect game during the State Doubles Championships.

The 8 foot by 20 foot modular office trailer made its first appearance at the state tournament in Independence. State members reached into their pockets and hearts to finance the cost of the trailer. Total donations were \$3,334—only \$16 short of the goal.

NEW HAMPSHIRE

Debbi Alexander was inducted into the State Hall of Fame at the State tournament for pitching excellence. Also inducted was Tom Blake, an outstanding photographer and author.

The Nashua Horseshoe Club was extremely successful in hosting the 1997 State tournament. 75 pitchers competed with Debbi Alexander taking the title, 4-1 with a 74.04 ringer percentage. Ellen Maille (5-0) with 55.39 won Class B.

Estelle Green took the Girls championship and Daryl Smith carried home the Boys crown. There were 61 in the Men's group in 8 classes with Dale Glidden taking Class A with a 7-1 record and 65.34 ringer percentage.

NEW JERSEY

Joe McCrink, the top pitcher for many years, won his 8th straight state title, and also was inducted into the New Jersey Hall of Fame.

Justin MacIntyre and Paul Havens went 130 shoes in the final game of the juniors championship. *Chatter* does not know the score of the game, but does know that Havens finished with a 1-5 record to MacIntyre's 0-6. They will be aging quickly if they keep on throwing long games.

Ed Quigley, the master of the written word, set a new record for high game and tournament in the Elder's group with a single 63.6% and tournament average of 59.1.

For 1997 George Egel won the Sportsmanship award, and Joe Shipula emerged as the most improved pitcher.

The NJ members will be welcoming new 3rd vice president Joe Russo. Anne Marie MacIntyre now continues her good work with the *Jersey Jargon* newsletter, which is one of the best newsletters in the country.

CHARTER CHATTER

NEW YORK

The State Championships saw Art Tyson from Mt. Vernon regain the title, claiming his tenth state championship in 20 years. He went 10 and 0 in the double round robin schedule.

The newest inductee into the NYSHPA Hall of Fame is Dick Ellis. He has been an active promoter of the game of horseshoes for a long time and this honor is well deserved. His wife Ann was at the induction ceremony to help Dick into his new style Hall of Fame jacket.

Congratulations to Gladys Jackson for being this year's recipient of the Ernie Graham/Dave Scott award. This award is given annually to an NYSHPA member for his/her involvement with junior pitchers and for promoting our sport. Gladys has spent many years helping and encouraging others in the game of horseshoes, especially juniors.

NOVA SCOTIA

1997 has been a tremendous year for the Nova Scotia Horseshoe Players Association. Record high memberships, record enrollments in three sanctioned tournaments, record TV weeks of presentations (24), record hosting of tournaments in Nova Scotia and last, but not least, the tremendous non-detrimental response of the players.

It's mind boggling when realizing that in Canada "Labatt" has included the NSHPA in their family of sponsorships. They join many elite sports and events such as sponsorship of the Toronto Blue Jays, Canada's Championship in Curling, the Apple Blossom Festival, and many top fastball and hockey clubs.

Duncan McKenzie is the 1997 Nova Scotia Men's champion and Judy Vickers is the Women's winner. Lisa Harrison continues the family tradition by winning the Junior title and John Ross is the Senior champion.

OHIO

There have been 22 Lifetime NHPA members reported to NHPA secretary Dick Hansen, and eight of them are from Ohio. To be eligible members must have purchased an NHPA card for fifty years. Those special "50s" are Rollin Futrell, Harold Anthony, Paul Focht, Emma Focht, Fritz Worner, Jerry Williams, Leo McGrath and Frank Hiendlmayr.

Helen Eakings from Wilmington and Jerry Williams from Greenville were inducted into the Ohio Hall of Fame last year. Williams was responsible for the

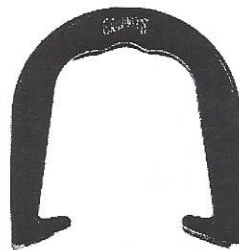
room to display the Ohio memorabilia. *Chatter* understands that Williams is already working on the 1999 World tournament to be held in Greenville.

OKLAHOMA

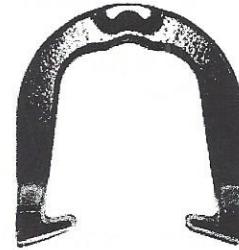
Some Oklahoma pitchers competed in a tournament at the Moose Lodge in East Tulsa. Four permanent courts plus two portables were in use by three classes of eight.

Sufficient shade around the Moose Lodge and with permission by officials of the organization, they are willing to

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CHARTER CHATTER

build 12 courts of NHPA standard including lights. Tom Gibson is the man behind the possibility of construction.

The Association has been advised by Glenn King that talks with Richard Lorton of the Sand Springs Parks and Recreation Department may lead to future courts, depending on the decision of the park board.

Kathy Greene from Midwest City has won the last three women's state titles.

Tom Goff has taken four men's titles. Goff won in 1990 and 1995-1997. He is from Woodward.

ONTARIO

The Canstats Center in Vancouver which is directed by ECHPA president Sam Tomasevic is up and running. As a result, many things are happening. One item is National and Provincial awards, and these awards have been happening for years except Ontario has never participated in them. Well, we are now going to participate.

The Trillium Foundation of Ontario will be commissioned to disperse funds (we are told by Sport Ontario) from the expected one billion windfall of the Video Lottery terminals, about 10% to charities and non-profit organizations.

Horseshoe Ontario has increased membership for 1997 to over 1,150 paid members. Many thanks should go to all the area representatives for their hard work in making all this possible. Membership groups are broken down as follows: Men's Division 64%; Women's 11%, Senior Men's 19%, Senior Women's 3%; Boys' 3%; and Girls' 1%.

The new editor of the *Horseshoe Ontario* newsletter is Frank Weaver, the present statistician. Al Springall was the editor for seven years.

OREGON

Pitcher Portraits in the Oregon newsletter *Ringer Review* pictures Barry Chapelle, the state statistician, as an avid supporter of horseshoes. He counts the highlight of his pitching career being elected into the NHPA Hall of Fame in 1993. Barry was a vice president in NHPA for several years.

He joined his dad, mom, sister Vicki and brother-in-law Earl Winston in this honor. "No other family can claim that record and I am proud to be a part of it...We are definitely a horseshoe family."

"It didn't dawn on me until the last round when those two shoes weighed a little more," said Earl DeWald of Canby, when asked about the perfect game he threw at the Gresham Open on September 6. 20 shoes is all it took to reach 40 points in his first game of the tournament. His opponent managed only five ringers. Another 90 plus game helped Earl garner a 77.4 overall percentage for the event. For his perfect game, Earl earned \$50 from the OHPA.

SOUTH CAROLINA

Wow! What an accomplishment! At this year's state tournament held at York, Dean Broome captured the Men's state title in his first attempt. Dean is no stranger to the limelight as he has owned the boys' championship for the last 10 years.

Many were skeptical about his ability to adjust to the 40-

foot distance, but this accomplishment should go a long way towards convincing the skeptics. Dean is a real deal, and this performance may be just the first of many titles.

Since Dean moved up, it left the boys' championship in the hands of six capable flingers. Bobby Stewart is the new SC champion. *Chatter* noticed in the picture in the *Court Chatter* newsletter he uses a long hook. Thought the long hooks were reserved for "Old" people. Guess he doesn't want to get his hands muddy in the clay. He's the champ, so what can you say...except congratulations.

TENNESSEE

Twenty-four teams from seventeen states journeyed to Joelton, Tennessee early in November to compete in the seventh annual Music City Team Tournament held at the Jack Freeman Indoor Courts. 72 pitchers played 15 games each, plus the ladder finals fighting for \$3,000 in cash.

The Tennessee team of Shannon Foster, Paula Hunsicker and Joan Elmore place third in Class A behind the winning team of Becky Kemper and Charlie Meridith, both from Kentucky and Robert Oott from Missouri and the second place team composed of Sue Snyder and Lois Webster from Kentucky and Ohio's Donnie Roberts.

Coming in seventh in Class A was the Tennessee team of Jack Freeman, Marlene Ray and Maxine Griffith.

TEXAS

Nineteen Texas pitchers have won the State Championship since the first official tournament in 1923. Heading the list is Ed McFarland from Houston. McFarland won 12 titles in a row beginning in 1946, and after he had moved out of state and then returned to add championships in 1972, 1974, 1975 and 1977, a total of 16.

The current champion, Coke Bowker from Azle, has won 12 titles since 1980 capping his efforts with five-in-a-row from 1983-1987. Reverend Marvin Burgess from Ballinger captured 9 titles.

Other winners and the years they won are as follows: Ralph Travis (4) 1938-1941; Bob Graham (3) 1971, 1976, 1995; Ed Arionus (3) 1991, 1992 and 1996; Louis Mettlach (2) 1942, 1943; Charlie Posey (2) 1978, 1979; and one each for Shirley Donnell 1937; Berlin Sipple 1944; P.D. Riley 1958; Matt Bowers 1960; J.W. Cash 1962; Jim Woodson 1968; Bob Hatton 1973; Stan Smith 1982; Roger Vogel 1988 and Suchowski 1945.

UTAH

Someone in Southern Utah spends a lot of time compiling top percentages, most wins, top money winners and most improved for men, women and juniors. Their newsletter contains several pages of figures.

As of October, Bud Schardine had the highest ringer percent with 61.37, followed closely by Mont Lewis with 61.13 and Shirley Steffen 61.09. Closing out the top five we find Gary Wood 56.42 and Cleo Wardle 53.50.

Wardle has the most wins with 66, followed by Leola Peterson 63, Mac Fuller 50, Hal Mineer 42 and Gib Mitchell

CHARTER CHATTER

41. Top money winners (and the IRS is watching) are Peterson \$346.25, Rose Allred \$297.38, Wardle \$297, Shirley Steffen \$295 and Schardine \$272.38.

Klerisa Newby is way out in front in junior circles with 18 wins. Jodi King is second with 5. Newby has the high ringer percentage of 27.89 followed by Nathan Fawcett 18.62.

WASHINGTON

Tacoma pitcher Bob Hoerner is leading an effort to develop a WHPA Hall of Fame Museum. The first stage is to raise money to buy a trailer which can be remodeled to house the memorabilia.

Someone in Washington suggested an idea so the 40 foot pitchers who lose to 30 footers (mental lapse) can be rewarded. First and second place pitchers in a mixed class in each distance would receive awards based on won-lost records for each group. The additional costs would be paid by running "pay back" and "fifty-fifty" raffles at the tournaments. This might bring back those pitchers who get eliminated for awards when pitching in a mixed class...Just a thought.

When the rains begin and the colder days are here, the Olympia Club will fire up its big wood stove in "The Barn" for another winter league under cover.

WISCONSIN

How can a pitcher play a complete eight-man round robin, never win a game but wind up 6th in the standings?

The real story, however, belonged to LaVern Edge of Platteville. He pitched the second highest percentage in Class C and was undefeated through the first five games. Unfortunately for LaVern, he didn't win any of those games either. He tied the first five games and went on to lose the last two, finishing 6th. Maybe next year he'll try for seven ties and edge up in the standings.

After Marge Yach and Randy Rein ran a tournament in Marshfield in 1997, they realized how important scorekeepers are. They feel scorekeepers have to be recognized. After giving it some thought, they decided to give a plaque to a scorekeeper who they felt deserved to be recognized. Last year's winner was Jane Smith of Balsam Lake.

The WHPA Presidential award for 1997 was awarded to John Secord for his steadying influence on the WHPA for 17 years.

Ray Hill was awarded the Wisconsin Honorary Hall of Fame plaque by the state's horseshoe pitchers. On this day at Wausau, Hill had another appointment he opted not to keep. The Michigan State Hall of Fame installed Hill into their Hall of Fame in absentia. Some might say they were coerced by the move in Wisconsin. So he made the "Fame" in two states the same day.

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AREA CODE CHANGES FOR NHPA OFFICERS

Three NHPA officers have had area code changes to their phone numbers. While the old codes will be accepted by the phone company for a couple of months, we ask everyone with a need to correct their files now. The changes are: NHPA First VP Earl Winston, changes from 816 to 660. Third VP Beverly Born changes from 405 to 580. President and *Newsline* Editor Dave Loucks changes from 916- to 530.

NHPA Income and Expenditures October, November 1997

Income

Membership Dues	\$16,278
<i>Newsline</i> Subscriptions	4,428
<i>Newsline</i> Advertising	1,255
Misc. Patch Sales and Income	100
1998 W.T. Ainsworth Payment	5,000
1999 W.T. Greenville Payment	5,000
Bank & Affinity Card Interest	1,825
Total Income	33,886

Expenditures

<i>Newsline</i> Printing and Mailing	\$3,983
<i>Newsline</i> Editor Allowance	620
Sanctioned League Patches & Awards	7,156
Sanctioned League Office, Supplies	720
W.T. Administrative Costs	273
W.T. Travel	1,195
Regional Directors' Postage, Phone, Supplies	427
Equipment Purchases, Rental, Repair	579
NHPA Office Printing and Supplies	3,927
NHPA Postage	557
NHPA Officers' Phone	312
NHPA Officers' Travel	82
Secretary/Treasurer's Allowance	3,100
President's Allowance	1,860
President's Allowance	930
Publicity and Promotion	171
Special Events	119
Insurance	1,200
Misc. Bank Charges, Refunds and Fees	115
Total Expenses	25,466

From the books of NHPA Secretary/Treasurer Dick Hansen.

Special Events Calendar

JANUARY 1998

22-25 Quartzsite, AZ—7th Annual Main Event Tournament. Entry fee \$30.00 includes scorekeeping. Additional fee for A-E. Fees plus additional \$2,500 donated by sponsor Howard Armstrong to be returned in prize money. Full and short distance pitchers to be separated when possible. 12 person classes pitch 2 days. NatStats average used. Pre-register by January 15th with Gary Chalberg, 13118 E. 47th Dr., Yuma, AZ 85367. Phone 520-342-0426.

26-30 Las Vegas Open—San Remo Hotel & Casino. Check-in Monday, play starts Tuesday 27th, ends Friday. Everyone pitches 2 days in group of 12, class of 24, anticipate six shifts a day on 12 courts, entries limited to first paid 240. Mixed tournament, wide % spread classes will be handicapped. Top 4 in each class to advance to ladder finals on Friday. Pay down to 10th position. Awards at Banquet Friday night. Entry fee \$65.00 if lodged at San Remo. All others \$85.00. Contact Tournament Director Don Weaver for flyer and details. Phone 702-736-7348.

FEBRUARY 1998

9-15 Valley of the Sun—Mesa, AZ. Full and short distance pitchers may be separated. 12 person classes, play 2 days. Extra prize money about \$2,000 to be paid. Entry fee \$20.00, additional for classes A-D. Entries close January 26th. Fees and entry to: Russ Martin, 702 S. Meridian, Space 303, Apache Junction, AZ 85220.

27-28 Hamilton Weaver International—Hamilton, Ont. Canada Open Singles pitched indoors on Klean Klay Courts at 170 Brockley Drive, Hamilton, Ontario Horseshoe Club. Entry deadline by telephone February 22nd. Phone 905-561-4344. Other major "International" tournaments scheduled November 28-30, 1997 and January 10-11, 1998.

APRIL 1998

18-19 Carolina Dogwood—Statesville, NC. Jack Springer Courts, Lakewood Park. Limit 180 entries to return over \$2,500 in prize money. Entry fee \$20 (Championship & A/B extra). NatStat average applies. Pre-register by April 1. Send fee and Division (30' or 40') to Carolina Dogwood Festival Horseshoe Tournament, Rec. & Parks Dept., P.O. Box 1111, Statesville, NC 28687. Director Paul Stewart 704-528-5081.

MAY 1998

1-2 Beloit Encore—Edwards Activity & Sport Center, Beloit, WI. 24 indoor courts, singles tournament, classes may be mixed. Deadline April 18. Entry fee \$18., juniors free. Mail to Earl Paulson, 7105 S. County Rd. H, Beloit, WI 53511. Phone 608-879-2304

15-17 Team World—Beloit, WI. Edwards Activity & Sports Center. 4-person team must represent your state or province. Adults only, max. 2 short distance pitchers per team. Prize money \$3,000+, entry fee \$200 per team, deadline April 15. Send to Earl Paulson per above.

JUNE 1998

27-28 Dakota Sioux Casino Tournament—Watertown, SD. \$1,000 added plus 80% entry payback. All classes mixed, play two days. Entrants receive a free buffet and \$10 gaming coins & Blackjack play. Deadline June 20. NatStats averages used. Send \$25 entry to Clifford Ziehl, Box 1402, Mitchell, SD 57301. Phone 605-996-7986 evenings.

JULY 1998

11-12 Danville Open—Douglas Park, Danville, IL. Purse \$1,000 added to entry fees plus free monogrammed towel to all pitchers. \$2,000 in awards based on 72 entrants. Deadline July 4. Entry fee \$15, includes scorekeeping. Checks payable to Danville H.C., mail to Leo Bratland, 41 Country Club Dr., Danville IL 61832. Phone 217-443-5818 or Martin Drummond, 765-793-4075.

Promote your special event here.

If your tournament is set apart from the usual, to benefit charity, raise funds or has in excess of \$1,000 prize money, mail details to the *Newsline* Editor at least 90 days in advance.

The Toll of Time

MARION V. HAWLEY

Northern California lost two long-time friends within a month of each other. On October 29, 1997, Marion Hawley passed away in Yountville at the age of 74. About a month before, Lyda Hawley, Marion's wife, passed away. Both were long-time supporters of horseshoes in Northern California. Marion was a former NHPA Regional Director. In recent years, failing health kept him from pitching much but he continued to do tournament stats for a couple of clubs. Marion, originally from Fairview, Montana, was a Marine Corps veteran and was buried in Golden Gate National Cemetery.

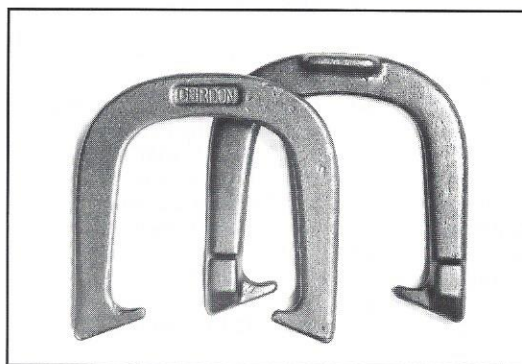
DAVID W. HERRING

Indiana lost a respected member and their Charter President with the death of David Herring on September 11, 1997. A lifelong resident of Marion, Indiana and the President of the Marion Horseshoe Club, David lost his battle with cancer. He became actively involved with the NHPA/IHPA in 1975. His wife and three children followed. David held several officer positions in the IHPA over the years and had been Charter President since 1990. Three times since 1981, he was elected Marion Club President and in 1989 he was inducted into the IHPA Hall of Fame.

David worked at Ball-Foster Glass Co. for 41 years. He was an avid carpenter in addition to his horseshoe pitching. Many pitchers are now carrying their shoes in the beautiful boxes he made. His dedication, loyalty and leadership are all qualities that will be missed. To his wife Ada, children and grandchildren goes our deepest sympathy.

GLEN L. HODGE

Glen Lawrence Hodge was killed in a tragic accident on November 25, 1997 at the young age of just 22 years. Glen was the oldest son of member Al Hodge who is the direction behind the Ainsworth World Tournament bids of 1986 and 1998. Born in Cheyenne, WY, Glen spent the last 21 years with his family on their ranch in Brown County, Nebraska. He went to school in Ainsworth, graduating in 1993. He loved to cowboy and dreamed of someday taking over the family ranch. He was a volunteer fireman who loved fishing, hunting and horseshoes. Ironically, Glen was killed by a passing vehicle as he fought a fire in his own truck on the roadside. To Al Hodge, his family and all the close friends in Ainsworth, the NHPA extends its deepest sorrow.



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Tournament Results

2

Hobart Shelton Jr.	4-2	18.9
Charles Penn	4-2	21.2
Taji Shelton	4-2	16.0
Tom Geiger	3-3	12.5
Paul Havens Jr.	1-5	9.4
Justin MacIntyre	0-6	3.6

ELDERS CHAMPIONSHIP

Ed Quigley	6-0	59.2
Ray Shober	4-2	49.0
Don Schmidt	2-4	32.1
Andy Waisempacher	0-6	36.2

MEN'S CHAMPIONSHIP

Joe McCrink	14-0	76.3
Bob Brown	9-5	58.1
Al Birchler	9-5	55.7
John Forti	7-7	60.3
Bob Manzoni	7-7	54.6
Geo Patrick	6-8	54.0
Brian Urban	3-11	55.7
Bill MacIntyre	1-13	40.3
A Hobart Shelton	6-1	50.6
B Jim Reed	7-1	39.0
C Louis Wasser	6-1	39.3
D Wells Reeve	7-0	43.3
E Kevin Wolfenden	6-1	33.7
F Joseph Bisco	7-1	32.9
G Gene Lupo	6-1	29.5
H Ray Smith	5-1	22.3
I Gregory Simpkins	5-0	16.9

OHIO

CLASS A

	W-L	%
Alan Francis	10-1	83.5
Elden Sarbaugh	9-2	72.0
Robert Garber	9-2	69.0
John Walters	8-3	64.0
Jim Walters	7-4	67.4
Virgil Rife	6-5	63.4
John Brown	5-6	65.1
John Hauk	4-7	62.4
Jim Knisley	4-7	59.1
Gary Kline	3-8	57.5
Gary Roberts	1-10	61.7
Jim Cooper	0-11	58.9
B Larry Justice	9-2	62.5
C Jim McCombs	11-0	62.5
D Murphy Frazier	8-1	49.4
E Ron Cracraft	11-0	57.8
F Dave Plowman	11-0	50.1
G Darrell Reno	6-1	36.6
H Donald Johnson	7-0	45.9
I Ed Waugaman	6-1	45.8
J Gary Arledge	6-1	35.5
K Robert Ludwig	7-0	40.8
L Howard Kesler	7-0	52.5
M Phillipp Briggs	6-1	33.3
N Harvey Straughsbaug	7-0	41.1
O Ralph Lightcap	6-1	34.0
P Leon Impsom	7-0	26.9
Q Dwain Klink	6-1	26.2
R Harry Bowers	6-1	27.7

LADIES

Tina Tonnous	6-1	71.4
Marlene Cooper	5-2	67.2
Amy Francis	4-3	63.6
Donna Dodson	4-3	63.2
Ruth Rife	3-4	65.0
Helen Eakins	3-4	57.3
Carolyn Rice	2-5	58.5
Jenny Walters	1-6	57.3
B Lisa Conley	6-1	55.4

C Joan Scharbach	5-2	45.6
D Connie Crawford	5-0	39.4
E Sharon Boehinger	5-0	45.9

ELDER MEN

A Earl Vasant	5-0	58.7
B Starlet Gustin	3-2	43.9
C David Kirk	1-4	22.6

BOYS

A David Johnson	5-0	59.1
B Clint Reno	4-0	21.5

GIRLS

A Stacey Sanders	2-3	19.7
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VERMONT

Aug. 10, 1997 Sanc. #46-97-007

MEN'S CLASS A

	W-L	%
Kevin Hollister	7-0	72.3
Gale Green	6-1	62.0
Leon O'Dell	4-3	53.5
Dick Green	4-3	51.4
Ray Charbonneau	3-4	52.2
Greg Crocker	2-5	44.7
Joe Forgues	1-6	42.0
Peter Glennon	1-6	38.8

WOMEN'S CLASS A

Liz Downer	5-1	61.0
Deb Brown	4-2	53.2
Bev Forgues	3-3	52.2
Connie Selleck	0-6	42.8

JR. BOYS

Scott Selleck	5-0	25.5
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JR. GIRLS

Meagan Bigelow	4-0	11.7
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LB Gloria Charbonneau	4-1	30.3
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B Roger Forgues Jr.	7-3	40.9
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C Frank Lengyel	6-1	29.3
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D David Trayah	4-1	24.1
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E Myron Selleck	4-0	20.2
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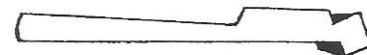
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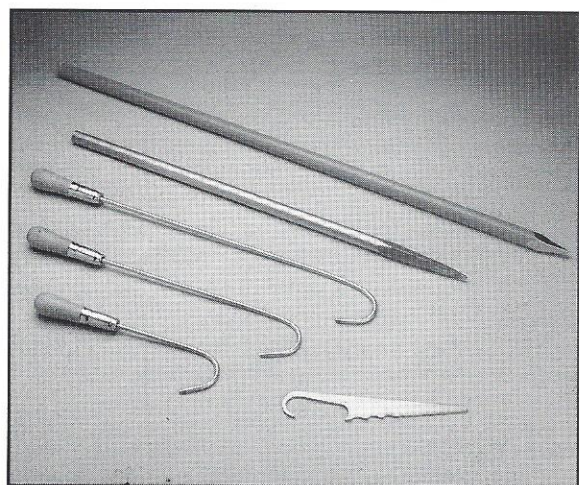
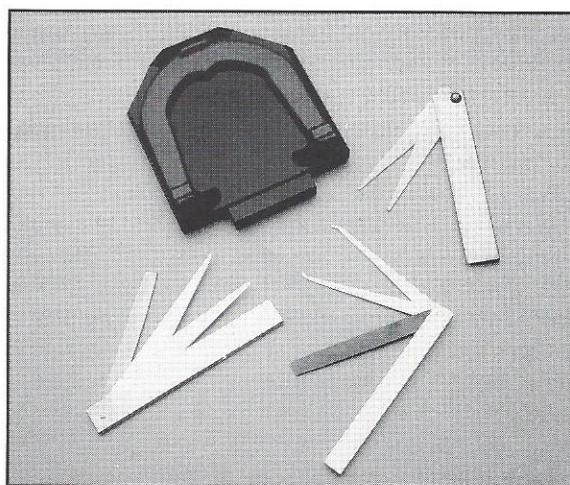
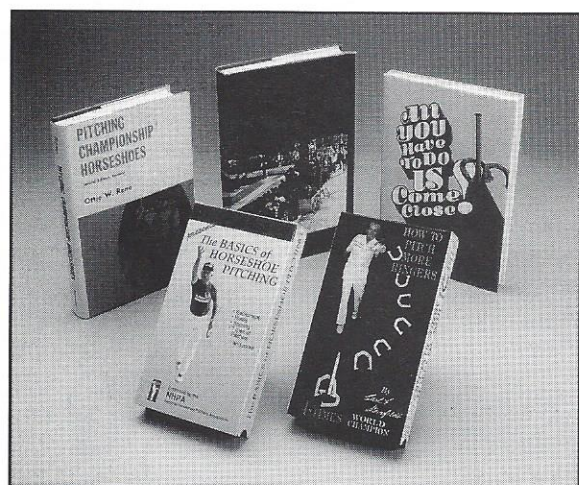
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Tournament Travel Contacts

The following is a list of all NHPA Regional Directors and the states or territory they cover. Those of you who travel and want to get out-of-area tournament information, are encouraged to contact the appropriate Regional Director. Each RD maintains a full list of all NHPA sanctioned tournaments in their area. If your travel plans call for stops in several states and you need multiple state information, you might want to write the NHPA 5th Vice President who is in charge of all RDs. He 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		
1. Washington	Rick Rebman	15. N. Dakota	Clint Bryson
2. Oregon	Rt. 5, Box 5257	16. S. Dakota	901 Custer St. Belle Fourche, SD 57717 (605) 892-2195
8. Idaho	Hermiston, OR 97838 (541) 567-8560	17. Nebraska	Pat Wemhoff 255 6th Ave., S. Columbus, NE 68601 (402) 564-7323
3. Northern California	Gail Sluys 1721 San Ramon Way Santa Rosa, CA 95409 (707) 538-3128	18. Kansas	Duane Goodrich 1244 SW 32nd Topeka, KS 66611 (785) 266-4745
4. Southern California	Dave Garbani 317 E. Wilson Ave. Ridgecrest, CA 93555 (760) 375-6376	19. Missouri	Elwyn Cooper 6920 N.W. 78th Street Kansas City, MO 64152 (816) 741-0043
6. Hawaii	John McCormack 91-941 Kalapu Street Ewa Beach, HI 96706 (808) 689-8033	20. Oklahoma	Ronnie Frederick 1015 19th Street Woodward, OK 73801 (405) 256-2759
7. Nevada	Don Weaver 2206 Sunnyslope Ave. Las Vegas, NV 89119 (702) 736-7348	21. Arkansas	Jerry Kahle 75 Table Rock Drive Holiday Island, AR 72631 501-253-6879
9. Utah	Bud Schardine 354 Brookside Drive Springville, UT 84663 (801) 489-6351	22. Texas	Hazel McCall 4000 Huaco Lane Waco, TX 76710 (817) 756-0771
10. Arizona	Joe Kubiak 5525 Concho Drive Prescott Valley, AZ 86314 (520) 772-3242	23. Minnesota	Len Lipovsky 14741 Guthrie Ave. Apple Valley, MN 55124 (612) 953-0888
11. Montana	Rich Paul P.O. Box 1012 Lincoln, MT 59639 (406) 362-4659	24. Iowa	C. Leo Buell 1809 Lakeside Dr. Iowa City, IA 52240 (319) 338-8256
12. Wyoming	Pat Bacus 440 W. 3rd Lovell, WY 82431 (307) 548-6593	25. Mississippi	Bill Calhoun 1307 Clearmont St. Opelika, AL 36801 (334) 745-2356
13. Colorado	Allen Baptist Box F Edwards, CO 81632 (970) 926-3381	26. Alabama	Ron Latiolais 12102 Turry Road Gonzales, LA 70737 (504) 647-4992
14. New Mexico	Charles Knotts P.O. Box 361 Logan, NM 88426 (505) 487-2248	27. Louisiana	Jim Haupt 5075 N. Elkhart Ave. Milwaukee, WI 53217 (414) 964-2735
		28. Wisconsin	Dave Shreve 2127 Lynn Street Cahokia, IL 62206 (618) 332-2599
		29. Illinois	Steve Summerlin 198 O'Doherty Brighton, MI 48116 (810) 220-4558
		30. Michigan	Jim Shilling 5044A CR 64 Spencerville, IN 46788 (219) 238-4879
		31. Indiana	R.O. Harris 112 Eastern Hills Richmond, KY 40475 (606) 623-4659
		32. Kentucky	
		33. Tennessee	Dexter Stallings 731 Reed Drive Powell, TN 37849 (423) 947-7865
		34. Georgia	Jerome Kennedy Rt. 2, Box 1315 Hawkinsville, GA 31036 (912) 892-3885
		35. Florida	Ron Deckard 7302 Brookview Circle Tampa, FL 33634 (813) 884-2932
		36. Ohio	Earl Vansant 244 Deer Drive Chardon, OH 44024 (440) 285-2552
		37. West Virginia	Herb Murray 1303 Clyde Street Parkersburg, WV 26101 (304) 428-5646
		38. Virginia	Kevin Snelgrove P.O. Box 625 Stuarts Draft, VA 24477 (504) 337-4689
		39. Pennsylvania	Frank Kallay 24 Tanager Drive McKees Rocks, PA 15136 (412) 331-2472
		40. N. Carolina	Rick Bolick Sr. 1882 Union Grove Rd. Lenoir, NC 28654 (704) 728-8523
		41. S. Carolina	Ron Taylor 116 Knox St. Clover, SC 29710 803-222-3990
		42. Maryland	Ray Matlock 202 Wellesley Ct. Walkersville, MD 21793 (301) 846-3483
		43. Delaware	Lance Twyman 6320 CR 27 Canton, NY 13617 (315) 386-2404
		44. New York	George St. Pierre 26 Beacon St., Unit 38B Burlington, MA 01803 (617) 273-4007
		45. Maine	
		46. Vermont	
		47. New Hampshire	
		48. Massachusetts	
		49. Connecticut	
		50. Rhode Island	
		51. New Jersey	Ron Vogel 8 Orchard Road Middlesex, NJ 08846 (908) 356-2046
		52. Alaska	Pete Imhof 9031 Tern Dr. Palmer, AK 99645 (907) 746-2030
		61-72 Canada	Jack Adams 35 O'Neil Crescent Saskatoon, SK Canada S7N 1W7 (306) 373-5184

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