

NEWSLINE

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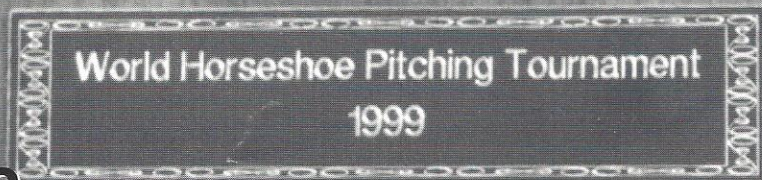
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NHPA NEWSLINE

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ON OUR COVER

The unique plaque with cast figurines in gold, silver and bronze to be awarded at the Greenville World Tournament.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Many people including me were surprised by the number of entrants for the Greenville World Tournament. The final number scheduled was just 1542, much lower than the 2000 anticipated by many. While the number didn't reach expectations, it is still the third largest turnout on record, behind only Kitchener in 1997 which attracted 1740 entries and 1992 in Columbus which had 1700.

A number of reasons have been expressed for the lower than expected turnout. A lack of motel rooms in the immediate area, the \$100 entry fee and a \$20 per day camping charge at the Fairgrounds. While these may have had an effect on some who didn't enter, we are nonetheless pleased so many did decide to participate. They will find a greater opportunity to win a cash prize as we have added a seventh playoff spot. Over \$100,000 will be awarded to class play and \$50,000 to the Championship Divisions making the total purse the highest ever.

Weather permitting, all championship finals as well as Class "A" and "B" in most divisions will be scheduled at the 18 outdoor courts in the Greenville City Park. The reason is two-fold. The park is the site of the annual *Ringer Classic* and competitors have told us they love the courts. The city especially wants competition at the park because upward of 2000 spectators have been known to gather for the *Ringer Classic*. Another reason is that with just 48 tournament courts at the fairgrounds, an 11 p.m. shift would have to be scheduled each day to accommodate all the entries. We want to avoid this if possible

and therefore plan to take advantage of the courts in the park.

Those of you who cannot attend the World can still follow it daily on the Internet by logging on to the NHPA website. Director Paul Stewart and administrator Duane Goodrich have some new features planned including "live" coverage twice daily.

If you have need to phone the World Tournament Office, the scheduled number is 937-316-5293. Be sure to phone if you have entered but for some reason cannot attend. We appreciate the advance notice which enables us to put in a late entry or plan for a pacer.

During the last 5 days of May, I visited Joelton, TN and the Jack Freeman Courts which are leased to the NHPPF. Dr. Freeman and I met with a contractor to discuss our thoughts about a Hall of Fame building and modifications to the existing covered 20 court outdoor facility. We decided on a specific building site to construct the Hall of Fame and a tentative structural design. We hope to have preliminary cost estimates and drawings by World Tournament time in Greenville. Since we did not receive any bids by the deadline for the 2001 World, the NHPA Executive Council is empowered to select the site. Joelton is certainly a possible candidate and would be all the more appealing if the Hall of Fame were constructed and available for viewing by that time. There are some drawbacks however as there is with most any site. The Council shall consider all our options which include accepting one of any late bids that might be received. Any such decisions shall be fully disclosed and discussed with the delegates in Greenville.

DAVE'S COURT REPORT

■ Billie Sue Pennington of Lady Lake, Florida was recently appointed the new NHPA Publicity Director. Her Newline column, *Publicity Corner* appears for the first time in this issue. It replaces the former *Charter Chatter* column. Readers will initially note that Billie is emphasizing a publicity team concept that will develop an online Publicity Communication Center which all charters and members can access. Charter activities previously published in the "Chatter" column will not necessarily go away but in future columns they will concentrate more on the publicity activities of those reporting charters.

■ If anyone has questions about the past pitching history of horseshoe players, there's a good chance Bart Sargent can answer them for you. Bart has spent years collecting and cataloging individual records on everyone who has pitched in a World Tournament. His computerized records now fill 3 very large binders. Bart is happy to share this wealth of information at no charge. You can write him at 127 Edgewood Rd., Westwood, MA 02090 or send him an e-mail at bartsar@aol.com. Don't forget to include a return address and if you want mail, a self addressed stamped envelope.

■ Two Kansas members have exceeded the 50 year membership point of recognition. Some previous charter records were lost that just recently have been updated. They concluded that NHPA Hall of Famer Merlin Potts has been a member for 53 years and Marvin Reheis has 51 years on the books. Congratulations to these two gentlemen who are both Kansas HPA Hall of Fame members.

■ Monty Roberts is the president of the Kentucky HPA. He is an unabashed advocate of tossing iron and supporting the NHPA and NHPPF. The May 19, 1999 issue of the *Kentucky Post* newspaper ran a very nice photo and article on Monty and the game of horseshoe pitching. Roberts pitches year 'round using the indoor courts in Cincinnati. He tries to make a tournament just about every weekend and when not on the courts, he is talking up (promoting) the game and association. "Hey Culligan Man," wish we could clone you!

■ The 18th annual Head-of-the-Mon-River Horseshoe Tournament was played over Memorial Day weekend at the East Marion courts in West Virginia. While results are not yet in, this years event attracted the largest turnout ever for a horseshoe tournament in West Virginia. 142 entries from 11 states were scheduled. Co-directors Beverly Tiano and Davis "Catfish" Woodward are the driving force behind this successful event which attracts some of the best players in the eastern United States. The program booklet put together by these two directors includes more than 100 advertisements from supporters gathered by the pair. What a team!

■ Another West Virginia promoter, Charles M. Bunner has been selected to receive the 1999 Stokes Award. The Presidential Award will go the NatStats Director Glenn Jamieson while Achievement Awards go to Bob Schmidt of Ohio and Judge John G. Brosky of Pennsylvania. All will be presented in Greenville at the banquet.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Report on the Quartzsite, Arizona tournaments for *Newsline*

The annual horseshoe tournaments in Quartzsite were a huge success. They started on January 16 with our popular Warm-up Tournament followed by our traditional potluck with an attendance of 67. The 9th annual Main Event Tournament started on January 21 with 180 entries representing 23 states and two Canadian provinces. The "cool down" tournaments were held on January 30 and 31. We had 66 entries for the January 30 tournament and 42 for the January 31 tournament even though it was Super Bowl Sunday!

The 8th annual Main Event Tournament winners were Wilf Donald from Alberta for the 40-foot pitchers and Tom Muñoz from California for the short distance pitchers.

Plans are being made for the year 2000 tournaments. For those who have not been to Quartzsite, January is a fun time of the year to visit. Not only is there horseshoe, but many other activities to enjoy. The Warmup tournament day begins with hot air balloons rising near the pits early in the morning and more balloons and fireworks in the evening. Hot air balloon rides, glider and other types of rides are available as well as lots of shopping throughout the Main Event area and Quartzsite. It is the largest flea market in the world! Free RV camping is available at the horseshoe pits and there are some hookups available nearby.

Thank You,

Virginia and Gary Chalberg

Dear Dave,

I would like to comment on the article written by Don Maine about Don Beck's electronic scorekeeping at Central Connecticut Horseshoe Club in E. Hartford. It appeared in the March/April issue of *Newsline*.

I pitch there in the Wednesday night league—also in the two tournaments Don has every month.

When Don Beck told us this year we were going to do our scorekeeping on

computers, my first reaction was—*not me*. But Don showed us and worked a little with us and in minutes we were keeping our scores on computers. It turns out they are very easy to use and much faster than any other system, also 100% accurate.

The first tournament I kept score was for Brian Simmons and Doug Kienia—John Kapnis and Norm Rioux. Yes...two games at once. Scores are entered as they are called. Everyone sees every entry, making scorekeeping error free. It's easy, it's fast. All scorekeepers keep score for two games at once.

Like many seniors, I don't own a computer, don't use computers, don't have any computer skills. But, I can keep score.

Think about this—while watching a game, you won't wonder what happened, you'll see what happened. You'll be able to follow a number of games at the same time.

Don Beck should be commended for this breakthrough contribution to horseshoe scorekeeping and for this major step in bringing horseshoes into the realm of a spectator sport.

This has to be the scorekeeping of the future.

Jim Farrey
Connecticut

P.S. *Newsline's* new look is great.

Dear Mr. Loucks,

I recently received a copy of The National Horseshoe Pitchers Association *Newsline* and read the article "Try County Pro-Am for Hospice." I was so pleased to see that our area organization was recognized on a national level. Our community feels quite privileged to have such a committed group of people, who are equally as committed to giving to the community. I have been convinced for some time that when we do anything from the heart it works well. Don "Fuzzy" Hittle, Bev Hittle, and many other horseshoe pitchers in our area not only pitch with heart but have put their hearts into supporting our Hospice of Genesis program as well. We

are so grateful to them for their support—\$2,911 raised in 1998—and hope this article encourages other organizations to support a favorite cause while growing the sport of horseshoe pitching. Thank you for acknowledging these very deserving people from our community.

Sincerely and gratefully,

Sally Scheffler, Director, Hospice of Genesis, Zanesville, Ohio

Dave,

Bob Dunn's article "Spruce Up Our Sport" was very well written. The content was well thought out, and I almost detected frustration in his writing. We should take what he said to heart, spruce up our sport, and be willing to do whatever it takes, as Bob wrote, to "spruce up our sport and add some pizzazz for public appeal." We never know who's in the stands, or who might walk in. We've got pizzazz when:

- Backboards are painted and pegs are white!
- Pitchers are nicely groomed and well dressed
- Court covers are neatly stacked during pitching
- Literature is displayed and hand-outs are available
- Visitors are greeted, informed and welcomed
- Tournament flyers are typewritten
- Sportsmanship is apparent

Billie Sue Pennington

Lady Lake, FL

Gentlemen:

Horseshoes and Ringers just seem to go together. We hear it all the time—a *Double*, a *Six Pack*, *Four Dead* and *The High Fives*.

But what about the lowly single points? Even when it is announced, it generally is in a somewhat subdued tone.

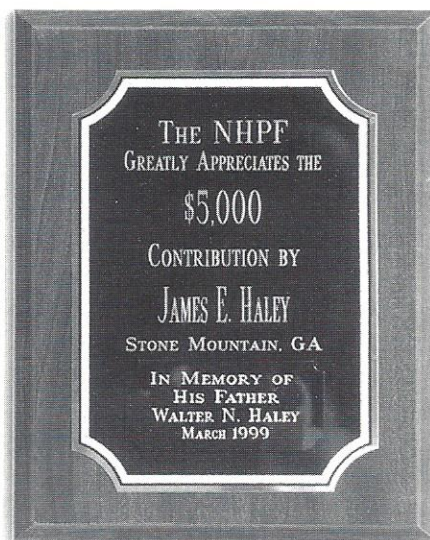
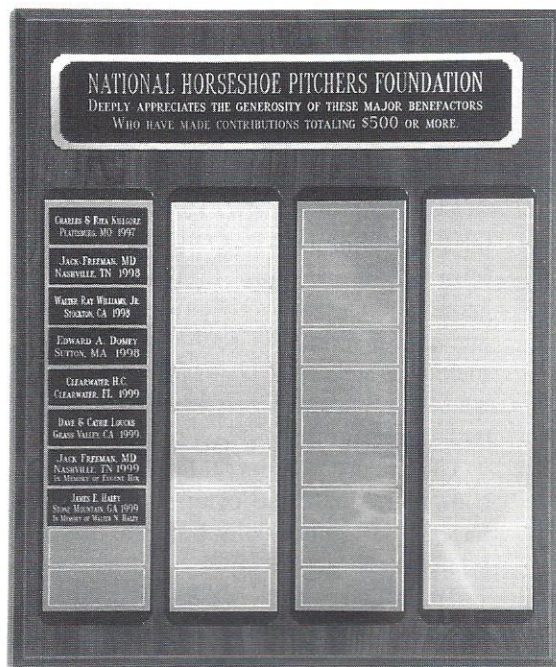
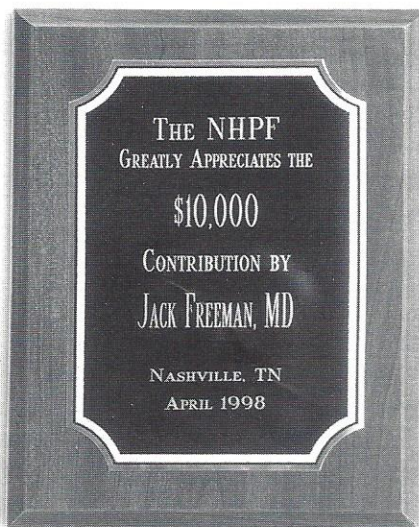
"I'll Take the Penny"

Five years ago, the Sycamore Ohio Horseshoe Club formed a sanctioned

continued on page 7

NHPP CONTRIBUTION UPDATE

by Dave Loucks



Since our last report, \$7,602 in contributions were received. A big portion of that came from a single \$5,000 check sent by Jack Freeman, MD. The good doctor continues to support the NHPF effort beyond anything we have a right to expect. In fact, his contributions are nearly 30% of the total received. While greatly appreciated, this is not a healthy percentage for the NHPF if we are to remain a "Public" foundation in the eyes of the IRS. At the end of the year 2000 when the IRS reviews our four year "advance ruling period", they will decide if we can continue as a "Public" foundation or whether our contributions have made us a "Private" foundation.

The IRS looks at a "Private" foundation as one that receives a large percentage of its contributions from one individual or a small group of individuals. Our CPA firm tells us that a 50% level draws the attention of the IRS. Dr. Freeman by himself is close to 30%. Add the major contributions of James Haley, Ed Domey and Walter Ray Williams, Jr., and this small group accounts for 48% of all cash received to date.

If the IRS should decide we fit the "Private" profile, it means that all income the NHPF earns from investments, sales and interest is taxable. That in itself would not hurt individual contributors whose donations still

remain tax deductible but it would force the Foundation to pay a sizable tax bill each year. We have 18 months to reduce that 48% figure to something that won't draw IRS attention. The plan is simple. We need more donations from more people. If every member would just give the equivalent of 25 cents a week, 1 dollar per month, twelve dollars per year, we would have no problems. We'd have enough to build the Hall of Fame, pay the annual expenses, make grants and maintain a perpetual endowment fund.

Take a look at the list of contributions by State. It shows 377 donations to date. The unfortunate thing is that those 377 contributions have been made by just 281 people. With a 1998 membership total of 13,763, it means that just 2% of our membership have donated to the NHPF. Such a low number is shameful. For an organization with so many members that moan about the lack of outside recognition, how can we expect more when our own won't take action to help themselves. Jack Freeman opened a door for us with a magnificent gift of land on which to build a Hall of Fame. He has continued to provide cash and a promise to donate more land with 38

improved courts. How can you not want to contribute just a little bit, if nothing more than to show your appreciation to a man who is giving us the opportunity to better the sport and our organization.

While visiting the Jack Freeman Courts in Joelton over the Memorial Day weekend, I had the opportunity to present three plaques that will initially hang in the building but one day be moved to the Hall of Fame. The two smaller plaques were to honor individuals Jack Freeman and James Haley who have made single contributions of \$5,000 or more. A larger plaque with 40 name plates is to recognize those people who by single or cumulative donations have reached a level of \$500 in contributions. Benefactors recognized are; Charles & Rita Killgore, Jack Freeman, Walter Ray Williams Jr., Edward Domey, James E. Haley, Dave & Cathie Loucks and the Clearwater, Florida, Horseshoe Club.

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 Carl Anspach, IN
 Art Eastwood, OR
 Paul Anzelone, CA
 Portland H.C., OR
 Thadeus Kowalski, MI
 Raymond Welsh, OH
 Edward Risley, NY
 Don & Betty LeBeau, AZ

Donating \$30-50

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 Ward Lutz, MN
 Tri-County HPA, MN
 Richard & Rosie Leyk, MN
 Thurman Bailey, OH
 Don, "Fuzzy" Hittle, OH
 Paul Stewart, NC
 Western Colorado H.C., CO
 Joe McCrink, NJ

Donating \$60-90

Kenosha H.C., WI
 Clarence & Bonnie Winspear, NC
 Boyd Stonerock, MI
 Dave Loucks, CA

Donating \$100-150

Het Birchfield, TN
 Piedmont Pepper Pod, NC
 Carolina Trophy, NC
 New Jersey State HPA
 Independence H.C., MO
 DRG Horseshoes, NV
 Julian Tijerina, WI
 Raymond Jessen, NE

Donating \$200-225

Sunflower H.C., KS
 Jim & Cam Shilling, IN

Donating \$5,000

Jack Freeman, TN

Dogwood Festival

Misc. cash...\$360

Total of 377 Individual Contributions plus Court fees, Ticket Sales & Misc. donations as of 5/26/99.....\$58,199

How your state ranks in number and dollars contributed

- | | |
|-----------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| 1. Tennessee, 20 for \$17,905 | 22. Indiana, 5 for \$305 |
| 2. California, 38 for \$5,289 | 23. Pennsylvania, 9 for \$270 |
| 3. Georgia, 3 for \$5,110 | 24. Kentucky, 7 for \$225 |
| 4. Massachusetts, 3 for \$3,925 | 25. Nevada, 3 for \$215 |
| 5. Missouri, 22 for \$1,660 | 26. Wyoming, 3 for \$182 |
| 6. North Carolina, 24 for \$1,537 | 27. Montana, 2 for \$150 |
| 7. Wisconsin, 17 for \$1,420 | 28. South Carolina, 6 for \$135 |
| 8. Minnesota, 36 for \$1,240 | 29. West Virginia, 5 for \$125 |
| 9. Florida, 16 for \$1,145 | 30. Idaho, 2 for \$125 |
| 10. Michigan, 18 for \$964 | 31. Arkansas, 3 for \$120 |
| 11. Ohio, 34 for \$914 | 32. Oklahoma, 3 for \$100 |
| 12. Oregon, 11 for \$819 | 33. New Mexico, 1 for \$100 |
| 13. Colorado, 10 for \$712 | 34. Arizona, 3 for \$89 |
| 14. Washington, 6 for \$600 | 35. South Dakota, 4 for \$71 |
| 15. Kansas, 8 for \$472 | 36. Virginia, 3 for \$63 |
| 16. New Jersey, 7 for \$415 | 37. Utah, 1 for \$50 |
| 17. Iowa, 7 for \$405 | 38. Connecticut, 3 for \$34 |
| 18. Illinois, 16 for \$390 | 39. North Dakota, 1 for \$30 |
| 19. Texas, 4 for \$350 | 40. Louisiana, 1 for \$25 |
| 20. Nebraska, 4 for \$344 | 41. Delaware, 1 for \$7 |
| 21. New York, 6 for \$340 | 42. New Hampshire, 1 for \$5 |

league. This is a ten-man 50-shoe countall league with a 90% handicap format. Our league has been very competitive with most pitchers in the 30-40% ringer classes. Year-end awards have been passed out and no one pitcher has been able to control any particular award.

We do have one award, however, that may be unique to our club. We call it "The Penny Percentage Award." The trophy shows a 1-inch dowel rod for the peg, a six-inch measuring device attached and a pony horseshoe placed within the scoring range. At first, this shoe was placed out of range. The trophy then was awarded annually to that member who did the *poorest* job of managing his one point shoes.

Annually, at the end of the season, armed with my calculator and the year-end pitching results, we figure the "Penny Percentage" for the year. The percentage is figured as follows: Total season points minus total ringer points divided by total season shoes minus total ringer shoes.

Now that we have a computer, however, all that is needed is a formula and out comes the "Penny Percentage." The formula on my PC starts as follows:

$$=(L7-(P8*3))/(Q8-P8)$$

Try it—it works. Now the award is made to the member carrying the highest "Penny Percent." The number has been slightly over 80% in our league.

Now that this record is so easy to come by with the computer, several questions might arise? Can it be used in some manner in the scheme of our record keeping and/or handicap? Being a curious person, does this percentage show a definitive difference between the 30 ft. and 40 ft. pitchers carrying the same ringer percentage?

Looking forward to a great season and the World here in Ohio.

Kindest regards,

Paul R. Bernard

Tiffin, Ohio

FROM THE EDITOR

Newsline is the official magazine of the NHPA. The content is generally meant to provide members with information about happenings within the organization. Not every member is interested in the same things but it is the hope of the editor that subscribers will read all articles if nothing more

than to stay abreast of what the NHPA is about. Much of the membership needs to be better informed.....not about their pitching and other tournament results but how the NHPA runs and what things we can all do to make it better.

While too few members subscribe,

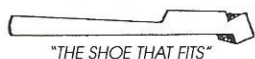
we have been seeing an increase over the past 6-8 months. I hope this is not a temporary climb but rather the result of many people in several charters pushing their members to become better informed by subscribing to Newsline. We try to put as much information as we can in each issue, some of which are larger than others. The number of pages is often directly related to the number of article contributions received from readers. Over the past ten years of publication, Newsline has received fewer than a dozen submissions that have not been printed. Some may have been published several months after receipt but there were reasons.

Items received after the first day or two of any even numbered month are too late to make the issue in progress. Since we publish only every other month, these items will wait at least three months before they are seen in print. And even then, they could be delayed even further if they were not submitted in the required format which has been stressed in these columns many times. If a long story is received that hasn't been sent in the requested format, it could take many hours to edit and rewrite to fit available space. This could mean a delay of an issue or two. I don't want to discourage submissions but if the sender would just take a little more time to present their article in the desired format, it would save me many hours of work and result in a more timely printing. All submissions are subject to editing. Defamatory writings will not be published.

How to Format & Submit Articles for Newsline

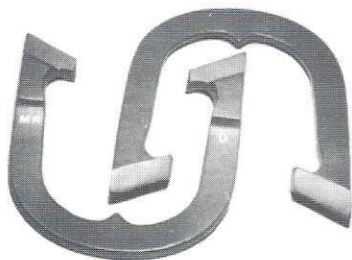
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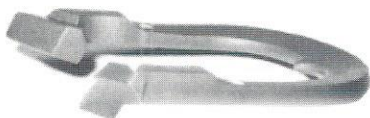
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ARE YOU TIRED OF FLIPPING A SHOE THAT IS DESIGNED TO BE TURNED?

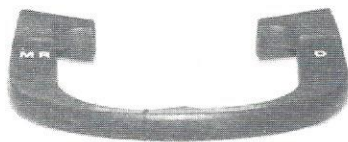
The edges of the Mr. D. Shoe are not round like they are on other shoes. The extra, extra heavy heels tend to keep the heels down as the shoe rings the stake, giving the square edges, and the calks on the bottom of the heels a better chance to grab the pit surface, or the other shoes on the stake, to prevent the shoe from turning around. This will lessen the chance of it being knocked off the stake.

An ideal flip has the shoe coming to the stake as it has just leveled out. Sometimes our aim is off just enough that the point, or heel, of the shoe will hit the stake as the shoe comes in. The points of the heel of the Mr. D. Shoe are at a slant, so that the first part of the shoe to hit the stake is on a plane with the bottom of the shoe. This forces the point of the shoe down, therefore; the extra, extra heavy heels on the Mr. D. Shoe will force the calks on the bottom of the shoe into the pit. The "dead soft" rating then entices the shoe to drop next to the stake for a point.

Because the heel of the Mr. D. Shoe is so heavy, sometimes the heel that doesn't hit the stake will jerk around the rear of the stake. This causes the other heel, that is now holding onto the pit surface, to hook the stake for a ringer as the shoe turns around the stake.

Shoes with hardened points, that hit the stake in this manner when flipped, have a tendency to jump away from the stake and spin to the rear, out of scoring range.

Shoes with blunt points, or shoes flipped with the slope of the heels going up, makes the top plane of the shoe to be the first part of the heel to hit the stake. This, more apt than not, will cause the shoe to flip over backwards and come to rest several inches from the stake - a lot of times out of scoring range.



REGIONAL DIRECTORS REPORT

by Paul Stewart

The annual Regional Directors and Assistant Regional Directors' meeting date and time will be posted at the World Tournament in Greenville, Ohio. I hope we can work a date and time this year where the meeting is not being held during a pitching shift. All Regional Directors and Assistant Regional Directors are welcome and encouraged to attend this meeting. I have several interesting subjects I would like to discuss. Sanctioned courts, Tournament Directors, and the tournament patch program are three of them. I hope all of the RDs and ARDs at Greenville can attend this meeting.

Regional Director of the Year

The Gene and Mary Van Sant Memorial Award is given each year to the Regional Director whose attitude and initiative best fulfill his or her responsibilities to uphold and enhance the image of the NHPA.

Each year, the Regional Director Chairman chooses the recipient of this award. Each year this task seems to get harder. There are a lot of Regional Directors that do a great job. At least six were considered for this year's award.

I have chosen **Lance Twyman** as the 1999 Regional Director of the Year. Lance is also Charter Secretary for New York. NHPA memberships and new court constructions have grown over the past years as a result of Lance Twyman's hard work and dedication to the sport in the state of New York.

Congratulations to Lance, who joins a group of distinguished members who have received this award in the past. 1990 Len Lipovsky, MN; 1991 Sue Johnson, AZ; 1992 Marie Wetzell, PA.; 1993 John Decker, MI; 1994 Paul Stewart, NC; 1995 Rick Rebman, OR; 1996 Elwyn Cooper, MO; 1997 Allen Baptist, CO; 1998 George St. Pierre, MA.

From the Mailbag

Jim Shilling, RD for Indiana, sent me the following: "Just a note to tell you that I have returned my 1998 pay to the NHPF. Plus, my wife Cam, added \$75.00. Do you suppose we could get the rest of the RDs to donate one year of RD pay to the NHPA?"

Sounds like a great idea to me. Also it sounds like Jim is challenging all

other RDs to follow his lead in this donating RD pay to the NHPF.

Don Lawyer, RD for Maryland/Delaware, reports that Maryland is underway with the 1999 horseshoe season. At the end of December, 1998, the VFW, housing 4 indoor courts, burned to the ground. They are rebuilding the VFW, but the courts will not be reconstructed. This is a great loss to Southern Maryland. But, in 2000, the Chesapeake Ranch Estates, which now has 6 sanctioned sand courts, has donated land for the club to relocate and construct 12 concrete and clay courts to be ready for the year 2000 pitching season! We will also have; our Junior league starting this year as soon as school lets out. April 17 was our first open sanctioned tournament "The Crab State Open." We had 18 pitchers on a very nice day. April 18, we had "The Southern Maryland Open." Both days were full of great horseshoe pitching.

C. Leo Buell, RD for Iowa, says Spring is here and the ten area RDs are actively working on membership. Iowa sent 3 teams to the Team World in Beloit. We go just to have fun and meet our friends from the U.S. and Canada. The Moose Club in Iowa City is installing 4 horseshoe courts at their new facility. Moose members have expressed some great interest in horseshoe. They expect to have an adult league and a junior league, plus one night where members get together just to have fun.

Iowa has completed 13 indoor tournaments at Eldora with 35 to 50 entrants at each tournament. The Indoor Championship was held April 10 and 11. This was the last big event before we hit the outdoor courts. The Eldora Club has 9 regulation indoor courts with good lighting and sound control. Food is always available at the courts.

Ed Quigley, RD for New Jersey, reports that the "Garden State" will have 30 sanctioned tournaments May 1 through September 19. Included will be "Novice Mania" on May 23. Each card-carrying pitcher in this sanctioned tournament is expected to bring a rookie to pitch in a non-sanctioned novice event. (A novice is an adult who has never been an NHPA/NJSHPA member.) Pitchers who bring a novice

receive a five-dollar rebate from the entry fee. There is no charge for the novice to play, but they are eligible for prizes. According to tournament director Ann Marie MacIntyre, if the novice you sponsor wins, so do you!

Remember "Bob's 65th" as reported in the March/April '99 *Newsline*? Well, Ann Marie is doing it again. It's Bob Fest '99, celebrating "The Man," "The Actor," "The Entertainer," Robert Goulet. There will be a sanctioned tournament, food, prizes, give-aways, and music—at the Flemington Fairgrounds on June 13. Is she a fan, or what!

And then, on June 27 is the Joe McCrink Senior Memorial Open, will \$1000-added prize money, contributed by Ed and Frank McCrink. Joe McCrink Sr. joined the NHPA in 1938 and was a Top "A" class pitcher. Joe, with partner Sol Berman, won the State Doubles title eight times. Joe was very active in the NJ association as the Publicity Chairman, helping to send the word about horseshoes throughout the state. Joe McCrink, Jr., the current NJ State Champion, won the title for the 9th time in 1998. A chip off the old block, wouldn't you say?!

Pat Wemhoff, RD for Nebraska, reports that Nebraska's Hall of Fame display is now set up in the new Madison County Historical Museum in Madison. They had our first Hall of Fame Tournament in the indoor Madison arena. All entrants received a Nebraska Hall of Fame pin. There are thirty-two Hall of Fame members in Nebraska; most of them are still living. Next year we would like to see more of them attend the tournament in their honor. Special thanks to Carol Robertson of the Madison County Historical Society for all of her help and support.

Allen Baptist, RD for Colorado, reports that Colorado had a busy weekend on May 15th. The Grand Junction Open on the western slope had 40 pitchers. The Team Colorado Tournament held indoors at the Knaub had 36 pitchers. Four elite pitchers consisting of Paul LaCrosse, Rich Pintor, Don Wild and Dee Powell, were busy competing at the Team World competition. They finished the tournament in third place. Colorado had 31 entrees at the Mesquite, Nevada open in April.

Getting The Word Out

by Bob Dunn

There is a population of well over 270,000,000 in the United States. How many of these people pitch horseshoes? Well, we know that there are about 13,000 NHPA members, but believe it or not, more than 29,000,000 people pitch a game of horseshoes at least once per year. The big question is how many of these folks familiar with our game have ever heard of the NHPA? Probably less than 1%.

If even just 50% of the 29,000,000 occasional pitchers were aware that the NHPA or that organized horseshoe play existed, our membership would not be declining and would be far more than the present level.

How do we get the word out? Each charter and each and every club must ask that question of themselves, for the opportunities will vary from area to area. The point is—we must say, out loud, in public, to people, whether in front of a camera or through a newspaper, the words—National Horseshoe Pitchers Association.

Our sport does get some media coverage. It may be scattered, but many leagues have weekly standing in local papers, there are brief features on television and in major newspapers. How many of the bits of coverage contain direct mention of the NHPA?

Of the clubs that maintain weekly standings in the local paper, how many make reference to being a NHPA sanctioned club? Of all the player interviews that appear on TV or as a newspaper article, how often is the NHPA described or mentioned?

In a 1996 *Newsline* issue, a prototype NHPA ad was presented. This ad announced the start of Spring leagues and allowed for contact persons to be listed. The design was for charters to run these or similar announcements in major newspaper sport pages across the country. Yes, this costs money and can be downright expensive. There probably isn't a better way to invest promotion dollars. How many charters have made this attempt to get the name NHPA in front of hundreds of thousands of readers? If any have tried this approach, none have reported the success or results of the project.

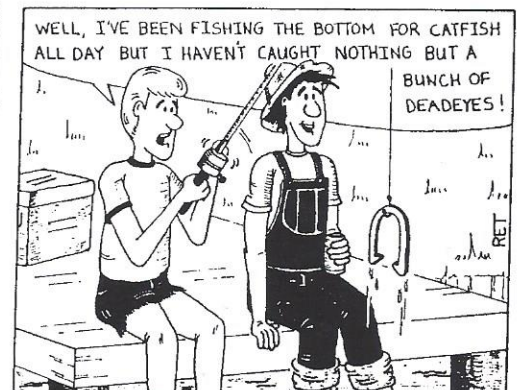
Word of mouth and the personal invitation remain the most effective manner to recruit new members. There are many weak links in this process however. Not all NHPA members are asking other potential members to join our sport. Those members that are actively recruiting are not able to personally reach the mass numbers that can be reached through the media.

Personal recruiting is also time-consuming, requires considerable energy and requires a major portion of our members to be involved if there is to be measurable success. We don't have enough of our membership directly involved in recruiting to give growth to our membership roles. The toll of the strain from non-success can create burnout, burnout in the individuals that are promoting and there is risk that it can become organization wide. There is some evidence of this, based on comments made in articles

in the last *Newsline* and even elsewhere in this issue.

We are in different times, especially when compared to when our sport and organization originated. We are trying to market an old-fashioned sport to a public that has so many recreational and competitive activities to choose from. We need to do our promotion chores in different manners. If we ever learn how to let the media be the catalyst for our promotion, we will be far more successful. We need to spruce up our sport and learn how to get the word out to the masses. A more streamlined sport may have more public appeal. It is the stigma of being old-fashioned that we need to deal with. There may come a day when we may need to consider changing the name of our sport. The term horseshoe pitching was once referred to as barnyard golf. We have never outgrown that image. Many names, *Ringers* for example, a more action word, would help present a more modern game and sport, especially if we adopt rules that speed up and liven up the sport. Even though we have a very official, proper and competitive side of the sport, that aspect and message has not gotten out to the public.

How each club and charter approaches this task will depend on the funds made available, the means available, but it is important the the **word gets out** in front of the general public. We need to turn around the decline in our membership and show a growth pattern.



PROMOTION PROFILE

■ There are many charters beginning projects of establishing Hall of Fame exhibits. Some are permanent sites, but most seem to be the traveling trailer versions. Each instance is great news. If you want your project featured in a future Focus On Promotion article, simply write up the news about your charter Hall of Fame display and mail to my address. And, remember to write up a profile on a promoter in your area and send it in also. Don't forget about this year's NHPF contribution to build the NHPA Hall of Fame museum. If you made a contribution in 1998 or prior, a contribution each year will be greatly appreciated. This is one way for you to support promotion of our sport.

■ Members who are non-subscribers of *Newsline* will not see this notice or the subscription form in this issue. We have to get copies of the subscription form to them. Please do your part and distribute subscription forms throughout your charter and your club. Each charter newsletter should have a *Newsline* subscription form in each issue and charter officers need to continuously encourage new subscribers.

■ There are a few more states to cover from D.D. Cottrell's 1929 report of the state of the sport. There have been several inquiries by individuals asking "When is my state's history going to be included?" All remaining states will be reported yet this year and beginning in 2000, history excerpts from 60 years ago as written in the 1940 *Horseshoe Compendium*. Being able to have access to D.D. Cottrell's writings certainly has been fortunate, copies of these 1929 books are just plain scarce. Now the original and initial copy printed is part of our Hall of Fame exhibits as Cottrell's son, who resides in Florida, recently has donated the booklet. This issue will look back some 70 years at Maine, Maryland, Massachusetts, Montana, Nebraska and Oklahoma:

Maine—There are few, if any, regularly organized horseshoe clubs, although the game is played at some summer

resorts throughout the state. The State Fair at Lewistown has held state horseshoe tournaments and winners of these meets have been considered State Champions.

Maryland—At Frederick, there is quite an interest in the game. Charles N. Pearce, 140 Patrick, being the leading spirit. No state tournaments have been held as far as the writer knows.

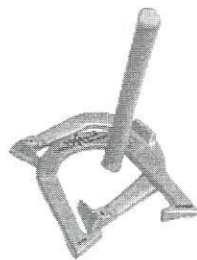
Massachusetts—Mr. H.L. Perkins, 134 Catherine Street, Springfield, is one of the Honorary Vice Presidents of the National Association and has been the leading spirit in organizing the game and holding meets and tournaments. His daughter, Miss Doris Perkins, is one of the best woman pitchers in the United States and won second honors at the World's Championship Tournament for Women at the Rochester (NY) Exposition, beginning on Labor Day, 1928. Mr. Perkins has also assisted greatly in popularizing the sport in the other New England states where he and his daughter have conducted tournaments and pitched exhibition games at state and county fairs and other places. There are clubs at Springfield, Greenfield, Holyoke, North Deighton, North Attleboro,

Westfield, Woronoco, Russell and at other places, especially where there are big industrial plants. There is no state association.

Montana—In Great Falls, there is a club of horseshoe pitchers and some players around Butte, Helena and other cities and villages in the state. Joe Dubie, 206 N. Clark Street, Butte, is one of the best pitchers in the western part of the state.

Nebraska—The Greater Omaha Horseshoe Tossers Association is the only organized club in this state as far as the writer knows. They are a very active and progressive organization holding large frequent meets and tournaments and having quite a large membership. There are a few pitchers in other cities and towns in different parts of the state.

Oklahoma—Ralph Spencer, who has been a very rigorous contender for championship honors in a number of national tournaments, lives at Picher in this state. He also, at one time, was treasurer of the National Association. There is no state organization of horseshoe pitchers and a few clubs in the state.



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THE JUNIOR WINDOW

Pondering the question— How to increase interest in Junior league pitching.

by Lorraine Sternberg

I have to admit, my mind is a complete blank as what to write for this article. It seems no matter how we try,

it is getting harder to promote our sport. I hear this from people all the time. Is it the 30-40' conflict, the fact that there isn't much money involved in horseshoes as in other sports, or just that people are so busy now, they don't have room for horseshoes?

There have been some who have put forth great effort to promote horseshoes in the schools with little success. For some reason, most of our youth don't find horseshoes interesting enough for them. How can we get more Juniors to participate? I wish I had an answer.

Some of our charters have set up scholarship programs for their state. Would it help if more charters did this? There are various ways of raising money for your scholarship. For example, at each tournament you can increase the entry fee \$1.00, which would go into the fund. Clubs could contribute \$1.00 per member. If your state allows raffles, run a raffle at every tournament. Try and get juniors involved in helping raise the money.

Another way to get recognized more is through your local newspaper. Write articles and send pictures in from your Junior league.

Recently, I received a letter from the coordinator of West Virginia, Mr. Charles Bunner. He sadly wrote that this could be his final year of lobbying efforts to grow organized horseshoes within his county and state. He has tried it all and knows how frustrating it is to see our numbers not growing.

So, where do we go from here? If more people could see the benefits derived from horseshoes, maybe it could be a step forward. Horseshoes is a sport for all ages, young and old. It's a great form of exercise and a great way to meet new people and make lasting friendships.

On an ending note, let's all give it another try to promote our sport.

See you all at Greenville, Ohio

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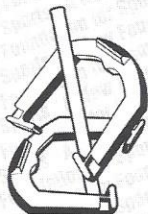
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5th Annual Six Pac Invitational

April 24-25 marked the weekend that some top horseshoe pitchers from across the country got together for this annual shootout hosted by the New Melle Horseshoe Club in Missouri. The tournament was made possible by Harvey Wobbe who makes the Six Pac horseshoe and sponsored the event with \$4,000 given to the top eight finalists.

The outside weather was cool but inside the "dome", it didn't take long for things to heat up. Several games on the first day went to a 39-39 score before the final point determined a winner. It took nearly six hours to complete eight 40 point games on Saturday and when the last shoe had been counted, three familiar names stood tied at the top. Alan Francis, Art Tyson and Paul LaCrosse each had 8-0 records. LaCrosse had just finished his best day ever, pitching 331 ringers out of 408 shoes for 81.13%. Amazingly, Paul had pitched 390 shoes before leaving an open peg.

Sunday morning the head to head competition began again and this day would see the undefeated going against each other. When the dust settled, a new 1999 champion had been crowned. Paul LaCrosse of Larkspur, Colorado had closed out the tournament with a perfect 15-0 record averaging 78.98%. This 15 time Colorado State Champion couldn't have been happier as he accepted the winner's \$1500 check. Second place and \$900 went to current Ohio State and World Champion, Alan Francis who lost only one game. That game between Alan and LaCrosse was rather unusual. In the midst of the game, the score was 39-24 in favor of Francis. Just one more point but it was not to be. The game went 70 shoes before LaCrosse won 42-39. Unbelievable! Alan had just thrown his lowest game of the tournament, 74%.

While Alan was probably disappointed, in the form of a true champion, he did not show it. There were other things to celebrate. He pitched the highest game of the tournament, 92.1% and ended with the highest tournament average, 82.52%. Wife Amy Francis had won the short distance class of this Invitational Tournament and with their combined winnings, the two had good reason to celebrate their third wedding anniversary in style off the courts.

Last year's Six-Pac Champion, Art Tyson, finished third this year with a 12-3 record. His overall average was 76.05% as he pitched the most ringers 686 and the most shoes, 902. Art is the New York State Champion who was joined by a lot of other "Easterners" in this year's competition. Making his first trip to the Six-Pac was John Kapnis from Salem, Massachusetts. John, a 71 year old veteran of many World Tournaments finished in 8th position with 66.99%.

From North Carolina came current State Champion, Tommy Gann and pitching partner, N.A. Moore. Tommy placed 5th with an average of 72.59% and in his game against Alan Francis, they had seventeen

4-dead calls. N.A. was coming back after two heart surgeries in 1998 and did well, taking 4th place with a 11-4 record. From Kentucky came Matt Guy who finished 6th with 72.58% and 7th place went to Doug Kienia who traveled from Maine. There was yet another East Coast guy, Dale Glidden from New Hampshire.

As usual in any major tournament, it's the behind the scenes people who keep things running smoothly. There were too many to mention all here but special thanks to Tournament Directors Joe Faron, Tim Henderson & Bob Diekamp - Computer/Stats, Larry Langewisch - Judge Rich Altis and Cal Jaeger and his scorekeeping crew. Thanks also to Harvey Wobbe and his money bag.

Final Results—Men	State	W-L	Percent
Paul LaCrosse	CO	15-0	78.98
Alan Francis	OH	14-1	82.52
Art Tyson	NY	12-3	76.05
N.A. Moore	NC	11-4	67.18
Tommy Gann	NC	9-6	72.59
Matt Guy	KY	9-6	72.58
Doug Kienia	ME	8-7	70.16
John Kapnis	MA	8-7	66.99
Stan Griggs	MO	7-8	65.07
Jerry Dumstorff	IL	6-9	65.28
Ken Pogue	MO	6-9	58.73
Virgil Rife	OH	5-10	62.75
Randall Grady	MO	4-11	56.57
Sam Carter	MO	3-12	58.42
Chad Hyatt	IN	3-12	57.46
Dale Glidden	NH	0-15	56.58

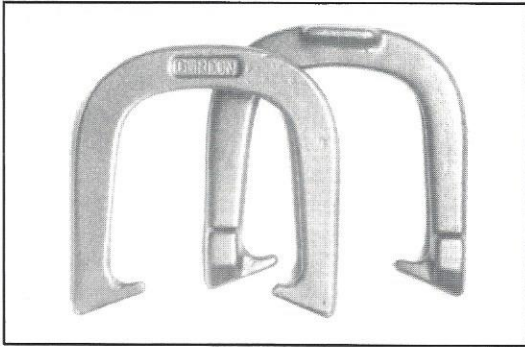
Results—Short Distance

Amy Francis	OH	7-1	69.38
Ruth Rife	OH	6-2	71.16
Rose Diekamp	MO	5-2	70.78
Wm. Lou Rector	MO	5-2	68.06
Cal Jaeger	MO	3-4	49.68
Wm. Weindell	MO	2-5	43.10
Jan Kreienkamp	MO	1-6	53.41
Dick Cotter	MO	0-7	45.30



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by Bev Born



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Although my time of working with all of you and the NHPA is quickly approaching its end, I want everyone to know that I have enjoyed my associations and in many ways will be sad to see it end. Many of you have spoken or written kind words to me over the years. They are all treasured and helped so much to make the work and time spent more than worthwhile. Many will be kept in my heart and fondest memories. Thank you.

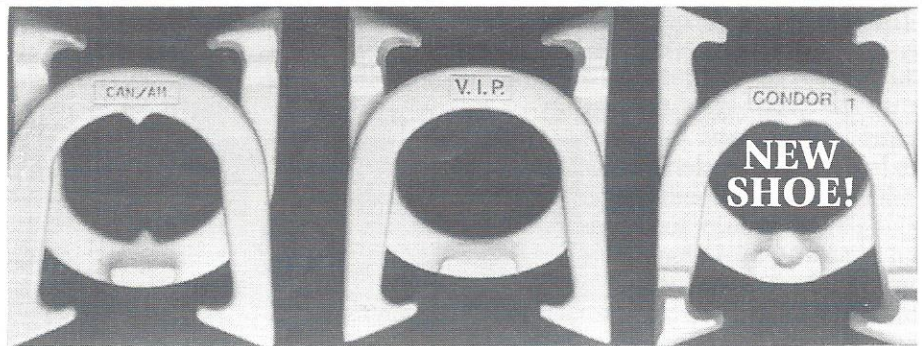
After election time, I will write to each cl/lg Director to inform them of my replacement. The time of transition can be a little trying. Therefore, I would ask that each of you show patience during this period. We will work to make it as quick and easy as possible. I wish all of you continued satisfaction and pleasure from being a part of this great NHPA Sanctioned Program

There are still many that have not sent in their mandatory 1999 membership reports. I was hoping to have received all of them before the transition begins. Special thanks to those who did send theirs in early. I do realize that some have not arrived due to late starting dates, weather delays, etc. Please, get to them as quickly as possible.

I have been blessed by the many friends made over the years and look forward to seeing many of you in Greenville. Also, I would like to apologize to the few where your winter league awards may have been late due to my being away for about 6 weeks this Spring. Do hope you can understand and forgive me. Thankfully, not too many were delayed, but I still feel bad about letting some of you down. Again, thanks to all involved for the hard work and dedication to the cl/lg program, the NHPA and the kind words to me.

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Octogenarian Ed Blum

Folks around Darlington, Pennsylvania know that Spring has arrived when they hear the "ping" of horseshoes coming from Ed Blum's court. They actually hear several hundred of the metallic clangs, generally a couple followed by a few moments of silence and then more clangs. Ed is pitching horseshoe—has been for over 60 years. He has stopped now and then for meals, a wedding, work and some other important things but not too many. Ed has said, "I rather pitch horseshoes than do anything else".

A member of the Beaver County Club and PA State Association, Ed's best traveling trips were to horseshoe tournaments where he met up with his best friends, fellow pitchers to exchange horseshoe stories. Born October 26, 1918 in South Beaver township, Ed grew up on the family farm. He married in 1941 and on June 7th, he and his lovely wife Mary will have been married 58 years. They have two children and five grandchildren. Before retirement as a crane operator, Ed worked nearly 40 years for the Babcock and Wilcox steel mill.

Initially, Ed started pitching on the farm at about age 15, using shoes right from the horses. Later, he pitched on a company team. Ed says he didn't reach his peak until age 65 though he won his first trophy in 1962 at age 44. Some eighty different awards have come since. He doesn't miss an oppor-

Making His Pitch

by Betty Lapping

tunity to teach and promote the sport and is a dedicated proud grandfather who loves pitching with his grandson's. His oldest grandson Joey started pitching in 1979 and for three years, 1981, 82, 83, held the Beaver County and Pennsylvania State Junior Championship. During this time and a bit before, Ed held the title of Beaver County Champion. In 1985 his class "A" men's title was finally wrestled from him but Ed was not unhappy. Grandson Joey had moved up to claim the title from Grandpa. Ed continued to pitch and pitch and pitch. He didn't miss a State Tournament in over 30 years and made all the World Tournaments except those held in

California. In 1989 he was inducted into the Beaver County All Sports Hall of Fame and 1990 into the Pennsylvania State Hall of Fame

In 1992, along came another grandson who admired his grandfather so much that he wanted to pitch just like him. The same one and one-quarter turn after distinctly raising the shoe and turning it sideways to sight thru it before the pitch. What a clone this grandson has become. Stephen Morris, one of the best junior pitchers Pennsylvania has ever produced, has been Junior State Champion for five straight years. He is among the top three junior pitchers in the World, finishing second last year. Already pitching at nearly 40', Steve Morris has 1999 as his last junior year and hopes to bring the title home for his grandfather.

Ed Blum no longer pitches in competition but does provide transportation and entry fee for Steve to all tournaments in Western PA. A triple heart by-pass in 1997 and cancer of the liver and colon detected in 1998 have slowed Ed down a bit. His spirits remain high however and pride in his game was never better as his two grandsons can attest. "They beat me and I don't mind admitting it. Just one more step to go" Ed said as he looks forward to Greenville, Ohio with the hope of seeing Stephen become World Champion.

OHIO: You Are Team World



The Winners



The Workers

Ohio, who returned to Team-World, trophy in tow, did it again. Anchored by World Champion, Alan Francis, the Buckeyes out-pointed six-time winner Minnesota in the final game of the ladder finish.

It was a turnabout match. Alan Francis lost his only game of the tourney to Minnesota's equally fine caliber pitcher, Bev Nathe. She lit it up early in the match missing just twice in 32 shoes. At the halfway point (20 shoes) Nathe had Francis down 18-2. Francis marked straight doubles for the final 20 shoes managing only to cut the lead. Lacking 4 points, Ohio lost number one. Nathe had 34 ringers to Francis' 32.

Next door, Ohio's Amy Francis battled #2 in the '98 World, Mark Baumann of Minnesota. With clicks and clucks, the lead changed five times. They each came away with 33 ringers, but Baumann measured to two single points. Ohio lost number two and now down 6 single points in total.

Ohio's Tina Tonnous, pitching shoes for just four years, did a number on three-time World Champion, Dale Lipovsky who was slow out of the blocks. pitching 32 ringers, 80%, Tonnous out-pointed the veteran Minnesotan by 18.

Team workhorse, Bob Garber of Ohio, picked to lose against 5-time World Champion, Phyllis Negaard turned it around with a plus 20 point win.

Ohio split the match 2-2 but won going away on the point total. Positively, Tonnous and Garber saved the day. Together with the stellar defensive games of the Francis duo, it was Ohio by 32. Ohio, you are Team World for 1999.

A Beloit reporter, Steve Clark of the *Daily News* caught these words from Alan Francis, "It's important if you don't win (your game) at least keep your score pretty close because that can affect your finish. You don't want any blowouts."

In other matches within the ladder finish, Ohio defeated a formidable challenger in the Colorado team, 3 games to 1. Colorado had lost only 1 of the 76 preliminary games and stomped on the number four ladder team Wisconsin, 4-zip.

Wisconsin had earned the coveted #4 ladder spot, winning over Ontario and Illinois, both in split decisions. One game of the Ontario match stood out. Clayton Gage, Wisconsin, shut out former World Champ Sandy Janssens, with a 95% game (38 ringers) gaining 67 points. Illinois took a 3-1 match over Indiana who subsequently lost to Ontario to determine sixth place.

Alan Francis ran the gamut of high games. He started out with a 38 (95%) on Friday remained in the 30-some range, pitching 39 (97.5%) Sunday in the last game of the pre-lims.

One half the entry of the Team World '99 represented an individual state or

province. Five of those states brought multiple teams expanding the field to 20 teams. Actually 22 entries were tendered; just 20 were accepted. From past experience Team-World has found the even numbers of 20 or 24 teams provide for a quality time tournament both for the competing pitchers and the tournament staff.

Some names of horseshoe people in Beloit for the long weekend do not appear in the results column. As a class they are dear to the game—fans—almost unheard of in horseshoes.

Paula Hunsicker of Tennessee attends with Tracie Gustafson, her daughter from Appleton, WI. They keep score with the best of them.

A Team-World is never complete without Gene Anderson of Minnesota. Dick Dvorak, MN president, Jack Thayer, Ron Negaard and Everett Nathe were there looking for another Minnesota win. Someone of that bunch had tagged the trophy, "Property of the state of Minnesota."

Joe Faron, MO president, checked out the Missouri teams along with team sponsor Harvey Wobbe, the Six-Pac man who also sponsors the cost of scorekeeping for all finals games.

Cliff Baker, still limping from knee surgery, rode herd on his Illinois guys and Bonnie Seibold with, temporary cane, watched over her Indiana men. Walter Ray Williams pulled in for the finals, exercised his computer and for a switch was num-

TEAM-WORLD '99

Beloit, Wisconsin May 14-15-16 sanc. #28-99-009

ber one fan. Craig Zuehlke and Luke Thompson wanted to see the event that had the gall to return their Illinois entry. Bob McGarry of Harvard Bowl (IL) showed up. Jane Smith pulled herself off the roster to become the WI-3 team mgr.

Bob Wilke, the 90-year-old Wisconsin pitcher who played the game with Casey Jones, came to meet the "kids" who are still playing the game. Another old-timer in for a look was Sid Anderson, 1987 World Elders Champ.

The Ontario entourage included dad and mom McLachlin, Dale Janssens, Karen McLachlin and Tom Stroh. Amy Francis' mom and Paul Tonnous helped count those Ohio wins and Fred Brown never lost a game as stand-by for Ohio. And Chuck Blakely stopped by. Chuck is just another guy who likes the people and the game. You ought to get to know Chuck.

We all love the awards ceremonies when we win something—anything will do. Don Kangas of the Wisconsin team seemed very happy accepting the team's fourth place award. Most outgoing was Paul LaCrosse of the Colorado team. It was justified—they were into it all the way. Minnesota has been there, done that, and respected the Ohio team as the camera's flashed for team pictures.

Dick Hansen had the wrap-up, "And that's it, thanks for coming to the last Team-World of this century."

ANOTHER VIEW

<<http://www.geocities.com/Yosemite/Trails/3353/teamworld99.html>>.

Terry Lokken has Team-World '99 up on the Beloit Horseshoe Club web page. It features the best horseshoe article this old duffer has ever seen, written by a professional not known to be really acquainted with this sport. Thanks to Steve Clark, *Daily News* staff writer, we discover what good writing is all about.

1st OHIO 63.5 prelim wins	72.92	11th MINNESOTA-2	59.24
Alan Francis	86.07	Edi Holland	63.42
Amy Francis	72.38	Gerald Stangland	62.50
Tina Tonnous	75.48	Dan Carlson	56.45
Bob Garber	57.74	Lu Cave	54.61
2nd MINNESOTA 65.5 w	74.19	12th ILLINOIS-2	53.59
Bev Nathe	79.88	Mike McBride	45.89
Dale Lipovsky	75.88	Charolette Renick	67.24
Mark Bauman	77.00	Mike Knop	50.00
Phyllis Negaard	64.00	Michelle Thornton	43.50
3rd COLORADO 63 w	69.08	13th MISSOURI-2	52.64
Rich Pintor	68.10	Darwin Compton	60.53
Dee Powell	65.36	MO Turner	59.61
Paul LaCrosse	73.45	Ron Hassler	55.53
Don Wild	70.12	Joe Karpel	26.73
4th WISCONSIN 51.5 w	68.13	14th WISCONSIN-4	46.74
Clayton Gage	76.93	Cliff Troullier	37.50
Randy Rein	66.59	Dan Bloom	51.94
Gert Wilcziek	60.00	Lloyd Johnson	46.75
Don Kangas	67.50	Elaine Troullier	49.87
John Udelhofen	65.00	Phyllis Davids	50.39
5th ILLINOIS 54 w	64.94	15th ILLINOIS-3	46.81
Steve Denault	56.55	Tom Reid	48.42
Larry Knop	65.95	Ron Hopman	43.82
Jerry Dumstorff	69.05	Rich Andrysiak	38.03
Charlie Webb	68.21	Larry Fettes	56.97
6th ONTARIO 52 w	66.71	16th MISSOURI-4	44.11
Sandy Janssens	69.76	Jesse Yount	34.34
Steve Hohl	62.20	Robert Outt	50.79
Stan Leis	68.45	Jerry Francis	24.50
Kevin McLachlin	66.43	Terry DeClue	32.14
7th INDIANA	63.52	Ken Pogue	61.18
Warren Woolsey	71.67	17th WISCONSIN-2	44.57
Chad Hyatt	54.50	Ken Kosky	31.94
Curly Seibold	68.93	John Koepp III	52.89
Mark Seibold	70.00	Larry Barber	52.37
8th MICHIGAN 50.5 w	65.92	Gus Schram	42.63
Larry Kemp	60.39	18th IOWA-1	48.55
Jim Wiltse	68.82	Gordon Eklund	36.97
Judy Curtiss	71.05	Marv Woolums	60.39
Jim Norville	63.42	Larry Purcell	54.21
9th MISSOURI 44.5 w	61.78	Betty McGregor	42.63
Stan Griggs	65.92	19th MISSOURI-3	37.11
Lou Rector	65.92	Jerry Griggs	30.39
Rose Diekamp	57.00	Jim Howard	48.16
Sam Carter	58.68	Cal Jaeger	52.24
Bob Diekamp	45.89	Carol Howard	17.53
10th WISCONSIN-3 40 w	57.96	20th IOWA-2	42.70
John Crook	48.16	Bob Block	46.45
Lorraine Sternberg	72.63	Leo Buell	42.50
Mer Sorensen	56.05	LeRoy Law	44.74
Harry Nelson	55.00	Jim Jackson	37.11

The 1999 World Tournament entry deadline fell on May 13 and just a couple weeks before that Glenn Jamieson, NATSTATS Director, came on line in the internet! He handled last minute tournament results and obtained entry form corrections via e-mail with very fast efficiency. We asked Glenn what he thought of receiving data files attached to e-mail and he said it was great, but could not understand why so many were sending their files "zipped" (compressed) instead of just simply sending the same files they had previously sent to him on diskettes. He handles a considerable amount of data and "un-zipping" files interrupts the process. His e-mail address is natstatguy@aol.com and he asks that the files be "attached" rather than printed as part of the e-mail text. Your mail program options usually need to be set for text files to be attached instead of included in the body of the letter.

If Charters wish to send tournament results to Glenn on diskette or as files

attached to e-mail, they should prepare them in an ASCII text file format. This format presents a single line record for each contestant. Each record is broken down into fields which are separated by a comma (no space). The fields are enclosed in double quotes if they are to be read literally as text or without double quotes if they are dates or numerical fields which might be manipulated by the program. Here is a typical single line record showing the tournament number, tournament date, card number, ringers pitched, shoes pitched, last name, first name, state and category.

"18-99-009",04/25/99.180004,37,64,
"Smith","John","KS","30"

Ask Glenn for more specifications if you intend to create your results in ASCII text file format. As mentioned before in this column, software by Walter Ray Williams (FL) used for World Tournaments and by John Hasell (BC) and free software available on the NHPA Website, all create suitable ASCII text files for

NatStats. Did you notice the above sample did not include the ringer average? That is because NatStats' program does its own computations based on the data provided in the ringers and shoes fields.

Those having PCs with Windows98 and Microsoft Access97 may find them useful in building reading ASCII text files or for sorting NatStats Charter files. The latter has been done, for example, to build a database for a Charter file and then to sort it on the ringer average field in descending order...showing everyone in the charter listed according to highest-to-lowest ringer average. All done from data taken from the NHPA Website and importing it to an Access blank database file for sorting. We receive numerous inquiries online asking how to join the NHPA. Heretofore, we had posted instructions on how to work through a Regional Director or the NHPA Secretary/Treasurer, but now a complete listing of Charter Secretaries and Treasurers is posted on the NHPA Website along with Charter fees and instruction on how to obtain the dual NHPA and Charter membership cards.

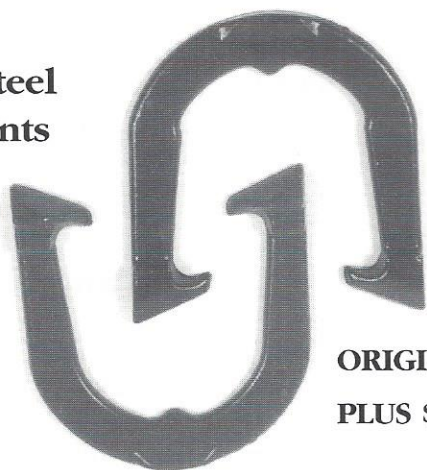
NHPA Website Guestbook and Message Post comments are read by website administrators and responses made by one or more depending upon the comment. We encourage viewers to respond too. We listen to your comments and, like the new listing for Charter Secretaries and Treasurers, we sometimes make changes to improve service. We are particularly interested in comments from other countries where horseshoe pitching is already underway or interest is being shown for starting a club. International interest is building and we'd like to provide informational links.

Our NHPA Website focus now is on building you a "live" website coming from the 1999 Greenville, OH World Tournament. Better and more pictures, twice-daily updates on tournament results and interactive features like ICQ, e-mail and other forms of communication...all to keep you posted on your family and friends at the tournament. Visit us on the "live" NHPA website between July 19-31 at www.geocities.com/~nhpa and any other time, before and after the World Tournament. We can also link you to every Charter website for local horseshoe pitching information.

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After only 2 years, Becky Kemper of Pleasureville, KY won the 1998 World Women's Championship pitching Imperial Horseshoes.



With this my first Newsline article as Publicity Chairman, you'll probably notice that my head is spinning with thoughts varying from apprehension to enthusiasm. To gain relief, these musings will be shared with you. Hang on!

Apprehension and Enthusiasm

When President Loucks asked me to assume the role, he said that this was an opportunity to "take Publicity in a new direction," an appealing challenge. However, since acceptance, realization surfaced that leaders have been trying for years to gain media recognition that horseshoe pitching is a real sport. This reality creates apprehension, which in turn creates enthusiasm. Hunh, you say? Now you're caught in "the spin!"

Thinking back to club and charter level, although some effort was put forth, publicity was never a main objective. This was probably because the word publicity implied dealing with the press, an unfamiliar territory. Members wanted recognition for horseshoes, but just plain didn't know how to go about it. The same situation exists today, and will forever, unless we start somewhere and do something. I want to do something as your Publicity Chairman. Will you help?

What can YOU do?

At the moment, that's a complete unknown from this vantage, but let's think seriously about finding that answer.

Every member out there has a talent, a hidden area of expertise, or something they really like to do. Those things are resources that can be used in a group effort, a "Publicity Team" approach to create a focus on Publicity at both Charter and National level.

Although the concept is easy, it's difficult, with this spinning head, to put in writing! Perhaps the following will help get the point across.

In a recent golf tournament, Tiger Woods had a huge problem—a very large bolder hindered his attempt to make the golf ball go where he wanted it to go. Even though HE was Tiger Woods, he couldn't move the rock by himself! What happened? Recognizing his predicament, a "team" formed, right there on the spot, and the rock was moved. Putting aside the questionable rules decision, the point is

that a huge problem was solved through group effort! We can do that too!

Think about that question again, "what can you do?" and try to imagine the outcome if you applied "your talents", or made yourself available to those who needed your skills? Some examples:

Are you a creative thinker, who can dream up ideas, but lack writing skills do anything with your them? What if you could give those ideas to someone who likes to write? You've done something!

How about drawing, painting, cartooning? Graphics? Not your bag? What if there was a place you could go to get artwork to insure media ready, professional tournament flyers?

Let's suppose your local team decides to blitz local area newspapers with stories about horseshoe pitching. You could provide pertinent information for your newspaper. Something done again!

Announcing...

The NHPA Publicity Team

By now, you've caught the drift of this column, and it's hoped you've caught the enthusiasm, too. And what about those apprehensions? They're completely gone with this announcement that a National Publicity Team is now forming.

What will the team do? At this writing, exact plans are unknown, and this writer finds that exciting! The initial focus will be to gather resources and make them available to charters. Let's get our "stuff" together first and then we will be ready to meet the press!

With a phone call or two and a few e-mails, three team members stepped up to do something! What? Read on.

Player Profiles

Debora Michaud, MA, (loonpond@tmlp.com) will put together Player Profiles from Championship Divisions. These will be used at the 1999 World Tournament and will be the beginning of a "Player Profile Library." The questionnaire she uses will be available to charters. You could gather, from top players in your state, Player Profiles, to add to the Library. See how this "team" approach works?

NHPA Publicity Website

Steve Summerlin, MI, (ringers@ismi.net) and Terry Hlavac, IL, (fourdead@wwa.com), will assist me (Billie Sue Pennington) in developing a website for NHPA Publicity.

The site will enable quick, effective communication. Resources such as the Profile Library, Press Releases, Bob Champion's Newspaper Tips, etc. will be stored there and easily accessible.

Ideas for this website are endless and the benefits are many. You can provide ideas, assist with follow up, do research or something that hasn't even been thought of.

The new site, still in development stages is located at <http://www.geocities.com/~nhpapublicity>. Visit the site soon, and watch us grow! "Just Do It" worked to sell a lot of shoes for Nike. "Just do something", and watch what can be done for our 'shoes!

THE HORSESHOE TRADER

More of the Rare Ones

by Bob Dunn

NOTE: This is the third article in a series, reviewing the rare, hard-to-find and elusive antique shoes. It was a pleasant surprise to hear how popular the first two articles were. At first thought, it is hard to imagine so many different shoes being made. There are many, however, and enough to continue into this month's article. In fact, there are even several beyond those covered this time, and they will get their due attention down the road. Not necessarily in the next issue though.

There are other interesting facets of the history of our game's artifacts to be covered too. Junior shoes is one subject in the planning and research stage. Another topic scheduled is "The Shoes That Sears Sold." The fact that they listed pitching shoes as early as 1923 and have, continually, every year to this very day, serves an interesting story to be told. The same goes for the Montgomery Ward catalog. They waited until 1925 to become active in the market, but even still had a major impact for decades and across the whole nation, on what shoes pitchers used.

Remember, this series on the RARE ONES is also a request to anyone who can assist in the research and supply some information on the rare shoes, mystery manufacturers or have in possession any of the elusive rare shoes, to get in touch with this writer.

One of the first commercial brand-named pitching shoe was the National Standard. Designed and patented by former World Champion George May. The shoe became very popular and was sold through nearly every catalog company in the nation. The National Standard Horseshoe Company of Akron, Ohio was listed in the *Thomas Registry* of American Manufacturers in 1924 through 1931, showing an Akron address until 1929, when the company moved to Canton, Ohio. This leads into our first mystery manufacturer, what shoe did the National Malleable Castings Company of Cleveland, Ohio make? The company was certainly different than the famed National Standard shoe. The *Thomas Registry* listed this company for one year (1923) at 10600 Quincy Ave. The odds that one of their shoes still exists if probably very slim, and if the shoe did not have a brand name or distinctive markings, it would be next to impossible to identify.

In the same year that National Standard Horseshoe Company moved to Canton, the *Thomas Registry* began listing the American Forge and Machine Company, also of Canton, as a pitching shoe manufacturer. If there was a question about a tie between the two companies that was answered by a 1929 ad in the *Horseshoe World*. In 1929 both companies had the same address. Both companies continued to be listed until 1931 when National Standard was discontinued, but American Forge and Machine Company continued to be listed through 1935. To date, there are several National Standard shoes in collection, all of which bear Akron, Ohio as part of the brand name logo. No National Standard shoe has been found with the lettering of Canton, Ohio. There is also another question if American Forge and Machine Company made any shoes other than the National Standard.

PITCHING HORSE SHOES

Betson.



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Packed one set in a box.

Betson is a fairly well-known hookless shoe to collectors, although very few exist in collection. As early as 1924, the Betson shoe was made by Betson Manufacturing of Peoria, IL. No information has been found of Betson dated after 1925. Then in 1934, Peoria Malleable Castings Company, Peoria, IL appeared as a shoe producer. By this time, few hookless shoes were being made, so it is most likely that their shoe was a hooked model. The company continued to be listed through 1941, but no shoe has been found linked to this company.

The 1927 *Thomas Registry* listed the McGill Metal and Bearing Company of Valparaiso, Indiana as a pitching shoe manufacturer. Based on the year, this had to be a hookless shoe, but none have been found that tie back to this company. No ads have been uncovered for this company and by 1928, McGill was no longer listed as a producer. No shoes have been found bearing this trade name.

Another mystery company is William E. Pratt Manufacturing Company of Joliet, Illinois. First listed as manufacturer in 1932, they continued being listed through 1937. No ads have been found for shoes made in Joliet or bearing a logo to tie to this company. This is one mystery company that is especially puzzling, being in business for five years, but there are no shoes identified back to this company. One might suggest that they made a brandless shoe, but based on the dates in existence, their shoe should have been hooked or tournament models. To date, there has never been a hooked type shoe found that didn't bear a log or brand name. Hence this mystery manufacturer must have produced a shoe we just haven't yet identified back to the Pratt Company.

John Deere is a familiar name to everyone. How about John Deere Horseshoes. There are tournament pitching shoes bearing the name John Deere, including the dancing deer logo. No doubt the shoes were made for promotion purposes, but there are reports of John Deere shoes in full sets, complete with stakes and in a carrying case. The one John Deere shoe in my collection is even dated (1968).

Even International Harvester was in on the horseshoe business. No doubt few shoes were actually made, and then strictly for promotional purposes. There is only one shoe known in collection, and very well may be the only one that

will ever be found. The shoe, truly one of the rare ones, is very old and pre-dates the dimensions as drafted in 1919. The hookless shoe is nearly round with a 3" opening, bears the early-day logo of the farm implement company and weights 2 lb. 4 oz.

The final shoe in this issue also has a bit of a story. A couple years ago, while I wandered through a huge flea market on the Minnesota State Fairgrounds, I came across a vendor with some lawn chairs made of horseshoes welded together. This is a somewhat common sight, but normally the shoes used are those directly off the horse. A closer view brought a living nightmare to any horseshoe collector—this fellows chairs contained a few pitching shoes too. Closer inspection found a shoe previously unknown to ever exist, a hookless ESCO. After some conversation, the vendor agreed to search his ware house of antique supplies to see if there were any ESCO shoes or other pitching shoes that had avoided his welder's torch. That conversation carried on for nearly two years and finally he found a box of pitching shoes that hadn't managed their way to his artwork. In the bottom of the box laid a lone hookless ESCO shoe with the beautiful script lettering. Patience had paid off and now that hookless ESCO is the only one reported in collection. There is an ESCO Company in Portland and each year they make a few pair of hooked tournament shoes with the same bold script lettering for their employee's use at summer company outings. The ESCO Company has no records of every making pitching shoes for sale, let alone the older hookless models. From a daytime nightmare to a one-in-a-million find—the hookless ESCO shoe can have claim to be one of the rare ones.

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game of 82.4%. He was 7-0 to win the title!

Horseshoe Diplomacy

by Dave Loucks

Eight years ago this issue, *Newsline* carried a full page story about horseshoe pitching in the West African nation of Togo. I'm happy to say the sport still thrives there due in part to the efforts of a few dedicated people and the support of St. Pierre Manufacturing Corporation.



Robert J. Ryan, now retired and a resident of Daytona Beach, Florida, was the U.S. Ambassador to Niger from 1964 -1968. Ryan had brought horseshoes to the ambassador's residence in Niamey. He had pitched horseshoes as a youngster in Massachusetts and thought the game would be good recreation for himself and embassy staff members. Mr. Andre Agoudavi, a Togolese who worked for Ambassador Ryan, displayed keen interest in the game. When Ryan left his post in Niger in August of 1968 to serve as an assistant secretary general of the United Nations, he gave all the horseshoe sets to Andre. A few years later, Andre returned to Togo, his native country and organized a few of his countrymen into a small horseshoe pitching league.

As interest in the game mounted in Togo, Andre, in the early 1980s, contacted Ambassador Ryan for help. Ryan, who had returned to Daytona Beach, purchased 8-10 new sets of horseshoes and sent them via diplomatic channels to the capital city of Lome. As the game was introduced to other regions of Togo, wear and tear on the horseshoes began to take its toll. Again, Andre put out a call for help.

This time Ambassador Ryan decided to seek assistance as the sport in Togo was growing too rapidly for him to fund on his own. Ryan contacted the Daytona Beach News-Journal. He was hoping to locate the sports national organization. In those days, if you didn't know about the NHPA, it was tough to find anyone who knew a national horseshoe body existed. A young sports writer, Lydia Hinshaw got involved. It became a personal challenge for her to find help. To quote Lydia, "The NHPA was so obscure at the time that it seemed to have no address and no phone number. It was not listed in any sports directories I could lay my hands on." Finally, a column written in the *News-Journal* brought a response from a horseshoe pitcher and ultimately Lydia was able to contact me here in California.

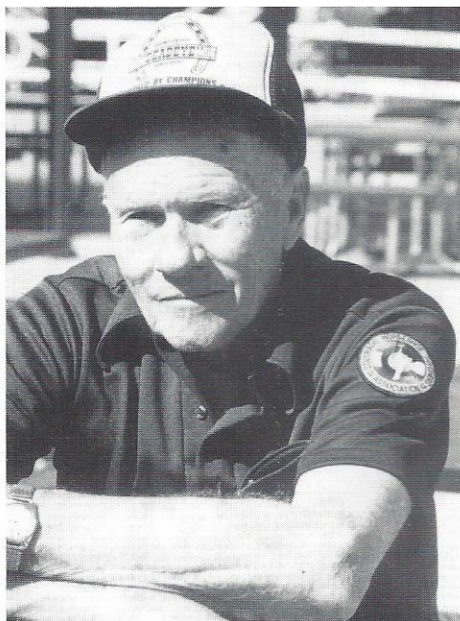
Ambassador Ryan was quickly in

touch and I in turn called upon one of our longest and most loyal manufacturers of horseshoes. St. Pierre Manufacturing has always been there when we needed them. Twelve sets of St. Pierre's were shipped off to Togo. Then in 1990, another call and St. Pierre donated a further 40 sets of horseshoes. This time, the United States government got involved with the directors of Sports America and the U.S. Information Agency handling the final overseas shipment of the horseshoes to Togo. There, in July 1990, a ceremony was held and attended by then Ambassador to Togo, Rush Taylor, representatives of the Government of Togo, members of the Togo Horseshoe Federation and the general public. The event was televised and reported in the Togo press and radio. The ceremony was conducted on the grounds of the U.S. Embassy complete with a horseshoe court laid out just for the program.

Now, some 18 years after its introduction into Togo, horseshoe pitching still thrives. The Togolese love the game. Andre Agoudavi is now the president of the Togolese Horseshoe Federation. He reports that close to 200 players, both men and women, participate in villages throughout five regions of Togo. They generally compete in teams of 6 players. Unfortunately, the horseshoes get so much play, many have broken and the remainder are too few to sufficiently accommodate all the existing members let alone the many villagers who still wait for their first chance to toss the shoe.

Again, St. Pierre to the rescue. In late 1998, St. Pierre sent off another 12 sets to help keep the game going. Robert Ryan sent a cash donation of \$400. In May 1999, Lydia Hinshaw, who is now the sports editor of the *Daytona Beach News-Journal*, wrote a very nice follow-up story to the feature she wrote in 1981. The most recent donations of St. Pierre Manufacturing and Mr. Ryan reached Togo and were turned over to the Federation by U.S. Ambassador to Togo,

continued next page



What A Champ!

by Billie Sue Pennington

Bob Champion, retired NHPA Publicity Chairman, that is.

For 13 years Bob spent a staggering amount of time working for horseshoe pitching. I guess I always knew that, but when his files and books began to arrive, it hit me square between the eyes that few people out there really realize the load he carried so well.

As Champ's files were reviewed, I felt his sentiment of urgency as he tried hard, using his newspaper background, to help us help ourselves. His step by step approach for dealing with newspapers will always be available for our use. He yearned, with little satisfaction, to fill scrapbooks with clippings each year. He supplied us with tips, encouraged us to start newsletters, informed us through *Charter Chatter*. Champ urged us to carry the Press Release to local newspapers, researched and prepared (each year) sixteen pages for the World Tournament Program, and worked tirelessly to get results out at each year's World Tournament.

What a Champ! Thank you, Bob, for all that you gave us!

Brenda Brown Schoonover on January 7th. There was again a ceremony that was attended by the Togolese Minister of Youth Sports and Culture. Following the ceremony, young players from the Federation put on a demonstration at a pit prepared for the occasion on the grounds of the Ministry.

Horseshoe Diplomacy—It does work. The donations carried out by St. Pierre and Ambassador Ryan are just one of the types of programs the National Horseshoe Pitchers Founda-

tion (NHPPF) can undertake once we have built the endowment fund to a sufficient level. To be sure, most of the NHPPF's work will be here at home but our charter, in addition to building the NHPA Hall of Fame, is to foster amateur play nationally and internationally. You can help. If you haven't yet sent a contribution to the NHPPF, please consider doing so now. Any check amount would be appreciated. Your donation is tax deductible. Mail to: NHPPF, 140 Sierra Blanca Ct., Grass Valley, CA 95945.



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Williams "Duke" Proctor

From logging trails to pitching courts 1899-1999

A Documentary on the Life and Times of Canada's Oldest Horseshoe Player
by Edward Murray, Vernon, British Columbia

Williams "Duke" Proctor was born on his father's homestead at Mable Lake, near Lumby, British Columbia, on August 18, 1899. His father came here from England in the 1870's.

As a child, young William went to school at the Mable Lake School, which opened there for the settler's children in 1903. Besides going to school, William had to learn to drive horses and haul firewood. At the age of 12, he started hauling logs and by the time he was 16, he had become an experienced teamster and knew how to fall and cut timber with crosscut saws.

William joined the Armed Forces, March 1, 1916 and after taking basic training at the Army Camp in Vernon, B.C., was shipped to England later that year. He was too young for active duty in the battlefields of France, so the Army kept him in England where he helped the War effort by working in a bush camp, cutting timbers as "pit-props-props" for the tunnels at Vimy Ridge in France. The military knew he was a logger and they needed men like him in England.

Young William came home from England in June 1919. He got his discharge from the Army in Calgary, Alberta and then returned home to Mable Lake, B.C.

As the years went by, William became better known as "Duke" Proctor. This nickname has stuck with him ever since. He continued logging and driving horses in the Mable Lake area, saved his money and purchased a half-section of farmland alongside his father's homestead. He married Clara Sigalet in 1924. She had been born on a farm near Mable Lake, and Duke worked for her Father.

Duke and Clara had three children. They were boys and raised on Duke's farm. After the three boys left home and became loggers, Duke and Clara decided to sell the farm and move to the city of Vernon, which was only 30 miles from Mable Lake.

So, in 1966, at the age of 67, Duke retired, sold the farm and built a large new house overlooking Kalamalka Lake, on the outskirts of Vernon, B.C. and has lived there ever since. Duke

and Clara had taken up square dancing as a hobby in 1961. After they retired, they started dancing every week and traveled to square-dancing events all over southern B.C., to Winnipeg, Manitoba, Calgary, Alberta and the U.S.

Clara passed away in 1990 at the age of 89. Duke never quit and is still dancing every week. He is presently the oldest square dancer in the Interior of B.C. Duke took up two other sports after his retirement. He started pitching horseshoes in 1975 at the age of 76, and started bowling in the winter months in 1991. He still bowls twice a week and is the oldest bowler in Vernon, B.C.

Duke is known as a very tough man. In the late 1980's, he fell off a ladder while painting a ceiling and broke his leg. Within five months his leg healed and he was back pitching horseshoes.

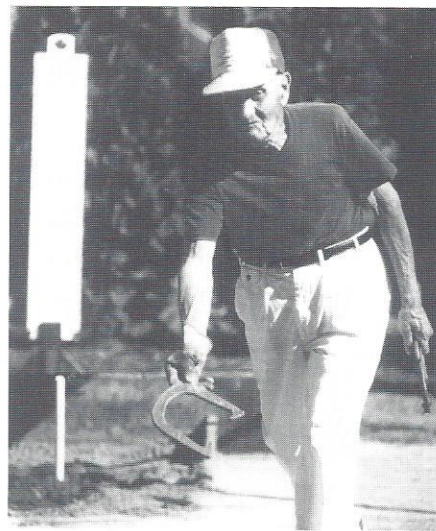
Duke constructed a practice court beside his house and pitches 200 horseshoes every day. From 1975-1981, he played horseshoes against other players at Polson Park in Vernon. When the Vernon horseshoe club was formed in 1981, he became a member and has pitched every week during the summer months in the local horseshoe league.

Duke joined the B.C. Horseshoe Association and traveled to tournaments in Penticton, Winfield and Salmon Arm. He also plays in all local tournaments around Vernon and Lumby and has competed several times in the B.C. Summer Games and the Western Canada classic.

Duke became known as Canada's oldest active horseshoe player in 1990, when he received that distinction and a special award from the national association, "Horseshoe Canada". Duke has received this award seven times during the past 10 years. He also played twice in the Canadian Championships. At Calgary, Alberta in 1996 and at Victoria, B.C. in 1998.

In both championship tournaments he entered the Senior Men's 30' division. At Calgary he finished 8th among nine players in his class and at Victoria in 1998, he ended up in a tie for 1st place. He lost the play-off game and had to settle for a second place finish.

Duke always pitched a high, loop-



ing, 1 and 3/4 turn with his horseshoe when pitching at 40 feet. Then when he was 90 years old, he started pitching from 30 feet and changed his turn to 1 and 1/4. His overall percentage average at 30 feet when entering tournaments these past ten years is between 26% and 30%. Once in awhile a high game of 50%.

Duke holds the record as being the oldest horseshoe player to ever compete in the Canadian Championships. He turned 97 during the Championships in Calgary and turned 99 right after the Championships in Victoria last August.

When he was 87 years old, Duke entered foot races at the Okanagan Landing near Vernon. He raced a 5-kilometer run and holds the record as the oldest racer to do so.

Duke has ten horseshoe trophies for winning "First Place", five are local club league championships and five were won in tournaments. These 10 trophies date from 1985 to 1987. Duke and his partner won the "Doubles" tournament near Vernon in 1998. In 1998 he received an award for teaching children how to pitch horseshoes. It was called a "Sportsmanship Award".

Duke will be 100 years old in August this summer. He is still pitching horseshoes every week, bowling and square dancing. He also finds time to do his own housework and puts in a large garden of vegetables and strawberries. Even at 100 years of age, Duke has a driver's license and drives his car around town and to visit relatives within 30 miles of home.

Canada's oldest horseshoe pitcher has led an active, adventurous life during those 100 years, "From logging Trails to Pitching courts", and he isn't finished yet!!

THE TOLL OF TIME



RAYMOND JOHNSTON

Oct. 14, 1930 - May 13, 1999

Raymond Johnston, long time resident of Ranchester, Wyoming, died May 13th at the age of 68. Ray was born in Sheridan but spent his entire life in Ranchester working the family business, V.C. Johnston Lumber Co. He was an avid sportsman all his life. In 1993 he won the Senior Men World Class "C" title in Spearfish and as president of the Wyoming HPA, was instrumental in bringing the 1996 World Tournament to Gillette.

His dedication to his community was evident by his involvement in many organizations. Ray served on the School Board, the Town Council, the Chamber of Commerce Board, the Whitney Benefits Board and was president of the Western Builders Supply in Billings. He was the oldest member of the Ranchester-Dayton Rotary, a life member of Elks Lodge 520, the American Legion and the Big Horn Mountain Eagles Lodge. Ray is survived by his wife Pat, 3 sons, 1 daughter and 7 grandchildren.

LESLIE LONG

March 14, 1914 - March 27, 1999

Born and raised in Sterling, Illinois, Leslie Long died at age 85 on March 27th. He was a dairy farmer for 40

years and a member of several dairy and farming related associations. Leslie was member of the Illinois State Horseshoe Pitching Hall of Fame and Bowling Hall of Fame. He won three Illinois State Senior horseshoe pitching championships, 1975, 1977 and 1979. Leslie conducted some 50 tournaments in Illinois, pitched in the World Tournament and spent some winters with the Bradenton Club in Florida where he won several tournaments. He is survived by his wife of 63 years, Wilma, four sons with 11 grandchildren and 9 great-grandchildren.

AL MCGOWAN

Milwaukee, WI
Secretary-Treasurer 1949-1999

Washington Park Horseshoe Club of Milwaukee, Wisconsin lost its long-time Secretary-Treasurer, Al McGowan, 83, when he passed away mid-May 1999. Al served the club in that office for an amazing 50 years. He was known as the engineer, retiring from the Milwaukee Road. In retirement, Al remained very active as a parking attendant for the former Milwaukee Braves. He also played senior baseball, pool, dartball, enjoyed bowling, in addition to horseshoes. He is survived by his wife Evelyn, a son, and daughter. His service and dedication to the game will be missed by all.

AL ZADROGA

Nov 4, 1915 - April 4, 1999

NHPA Hall of Fame member Al Zadroga died on Easter morning in Bradenton, Florida. A natural athlete who excelled in several sports, Al pitched in 17 World Tournaments where he had an overall average of 77.4%. While never winning the World Title, he came close in 1977 when he averaged 83% only to finish one game behind Red Henton & Elmer Hohl who were tied for 1st.

Al was born and raised near Elizabeth, PA. He started pitching when about 13 years old and was described in the Pittsburgh Press as

sensational. Upon entering high school in 1931, Al didn't pitch again until 1953 when he entered the Eastern National tournament and won only one game. But, his pitching ability quickly returned. He played in 31 consecutive Pennsylvania State tournaments winning the championship 8 times. In 1976, he averaged 89% for seven games, a PA tournament record that still stands. Al Zadroga was inducted into the PA Horseshoe Pitchers Hall of Fame in 1978. He is survived by his wife of 58 years, Emma, a son and 2 grandchildren.

MASSACHUSETTS

Recently, we have lost three of our horseshoe pitchers.

DICK SHEPARD

Dick was a horseshoe pitcher in our area for over 25 years. He was a steady participant at the indoor courts in Sutton in the 70s and early 80s and then was very active in the Central Massachusetts Horseshoe Club our of Shrewsbury. He pitched all over New England, ran some tournaments, and was active in his home club. He even pitched while he was fighting cancer, a battle that lasted several years. He leaves his wife Gracia, two children and two grandchildren.

DON GIGUERE

One week apart from his good friend Dick Shepard, Don Giguere also lost his battle with cancer. He was also in the Central Massachusetts Horseshoe Club and was a steady participant in tournaments in and around Massachusetts.

JIM MCROBBLE

Jim, only 50 years old, and a staunch member of the Hamilton Horseshoe club, died unexpectedly, leaving his wife Bonnie, two children and a grandchild on the way.

We miss seeing these gentlemen at horseshoe tournaments and send our sincerest condolences to their families.

An Old Horseshoe Player's Prayer

Lord, as I stare down at the peg

It's not for ringers that I beg

Nor for wins to be my lot

But that I'll show what you have taught

And not for winning, they'll know my name

But how in life I play the game

Character builders I would be

That would be my victory

Tongues of anger let me curb if things don't go my way

Words are best unspoken if they cause someone dismay

Show me how to win with grace that everyone may see.

Teach me that in losing—humble I must be

Lord, I know the world is in a terrible mess

And with a job like Yours, You have no time to rest

But I'd like to whet your interest in this horseshoe game we play

And have you give your blessing on our playing on this day.

Sam Kidd, Raytown, MO

SPECIAL EVENTS CALENDAR

JULY 1999

10-11 Danville Open—Douglas Park, Danville, IL. Over \$1,000 added to entry fees plus free monogrammed towel to all pitchers. High % game award in each class. Total \$2,700 purse based on 96 entries. Pre-register by July 2nd. Entry fee \$16 includes scorekeeping. Checks payable to Danville H.C., mail to Leo Bratland, 41 Country Club Dr., Danville, IL 61832. 217-443-5818 or Martin Drummond, 765-793-4075.

19-31 NHPA World Tournament—Greenville, OH. Pre-register only on official NHPA form which must have postmark no later than May 13. Entry fee \$100 adults, \$25 juniors, scorekeeping fees included. Forms available Jan./Feb. *Newsline*, NHPA website, NHPA Secretary or Charter Secretaries. Mail form and check fee in U.S. dollars to NHPA, 3085 76th St., Franksville, WI 53126.

AUGUST 1999

16 Midwest Senior Classic—Iowa State Fair, Des Moines, IA. Mixed play Men and Women age 60 and over grouped by NatStat average. \$2,000 prize money based on 60 entries. Send for flyer/entry form to LeRoy Law 1788 N.W. 104th St., Clive, IA 50325

21 Gold Country NHPF Fundraiser—Nevada City, CA. \$50 pre-registration \$20 tax-deductible donation to NHPF. 100% payback of balance plus free lunch for entrants. Horseshoe auction and raffle to raise additional funds. Contact Dave Loucks, 140 Sierra Blanca Ct., Grass Valley, CA 95945. 530-477-3335.

SEPTEMBER 1999

11-12 Dick Shepard Memorial Jackpot Tournament—Lakeville, MA. Entry fee \$30, pre-register by Sept. 1. Mixed classes. \$2,100 in cash prizes based on 72 entries. Could be more due to fundraisers. Entrants must have pitched in five (5) NHPA sanctioned tournaments in 1999 calendar year to enter. Make check payable to: Loon Pond H.C. Mail to: Debby Michaud, T.D., 379 Hodges St., Taunton, MA 02780-2057

18-19 4th Annual Try-Co Horseshoe Pro-Am for Hospice—Adamsville, OH. A benefit fundraiser for Geneses Hospice of Zanesville. Will match a top pro pitcher with an amateur (under 50%) player. Amateurs selected by 50 shoe qualifiers, Pro pitchers by invitation only. Play at Sarbaugh Indoor Courts. Pro-Am Tournament and Dinner on Saturday. Breakfast and RR Doubles play on Sunday. \$1,000+ prize money. Contact Fuzzy & Bev Hittle, 740-796-6401 or Charlie and Kathy Elliott 740-826-4734.

NOVEMBER 1999

6-7 Music City Team Tournament—Joelton, TN at the Jack Freeman Indoor Courts. Three pitchers per team, maximum 24 teams, mixed play, no juniors. NatStat team average as of 9/1/99 shall not exceed 215. Entry fee \$105 per team must be received by Sept. 15. Send team entry and fees to Mary Bastian, 3730 Old Charlotte Pike, Franklin, TN 37069-4791. 615-794-5620, Fax 615-591-0833.

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.

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Make checks payable and mail with form to:

**NHPA Secretary/Treasurer
3085 76th Street
Franksville, WI 53126**

If you have missed an issue, limited copies of most back issues are available for \$3.00. Send all back copy requests with payment to *Newsline* Editor, 140 Sierra Blanca Ct., Grass Valley, CA 95945

NHPA Income & Expenditures April & May, 1999

Income

Membership Dues.....	\$37,451
Newsline Subscriptions	4,823
Newsline Advertising	224
Horseshoe Sanction Fees	300
World Tournament Entry Fees	150,670
Misc Patch Sales and Income	23
Bank Checking & Affinity Card Interest	2,231
Total Income.....	195,722

Expenditures

Newsline Printing and Mailing	\$ 4,133
Newsline Editor Allowance	616
W.T. Admin, Printing & Supplies.....	549
W.T. Refunds.....	625
Hall of Fame Admin, Awards & Supplies.....	134
Regional Directors Postage, Phone, Supplies.....	139
Equipment Purchases, Rental, Repair	371
NHPA Office Printing and Supplies.....	317
NHPA Postage.....	513
NHPA Officers Phone.....	528
NHPA Officers Travel.....	233
Secretary/Treasurer Allowance	3,080
President's Allowance	924
Publicity & Promotion.....	407
NatStats Administration	1,095
Special Events.....	51
Misc. Bank Charges, Refunds & Fees	26
Total Expenses.....	13,741

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 Edward A. Domey
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 (508) 865-9477

FISCAL YEAR NHPA FINANCIAL STATEMENT

National Horseshoe Pitchers of America
Statement of Activity and Changes in Net Assets
Regular Account (Secretary/Treasurer)
Years ended March 31, 1999 and 1998

	1999	1998
Revenue:		
Membership	\$174,178	\$157,183
World Tournament - Schedule (1)	86,198	130,148
Horseshoe sanction fees	4,300	4,700
Sanctioned league - Schedule (2)	149	201
Miscellaneous, sales and charter dues	101	176
Visa card and miscellaneous income	990	852
Refunds	296	-0-
Newsline - Schedule (3)	42,419	43,350
Total Revenue	308,631	336,610
Expenses:		
Newsline - Schedule (3)	32,877	33,226
Sanction league expense - Schedule (2)	10,570	11,332
World Tournament expense - Schedule (1)	130,792	150,846
Regional Directors allowance & expenses	6,961	7,674
Tournament patches	11,011	10,866
Equipment purchases, rentals, repairs	5,579	4,065
Printing, paper & office supplies	7,720	7,667
Postage	4,582	4,871
Officers telephone	3,198	3,558
Officers travel	4,745	5,499
Secretary's allowance	18,406	18,572
President's allowance	5,522	5,571
Vice President's allowance	4,602	4,650
Publicity, promotion, advertising	2,240	1,444
Professional fees, accounting, legal	4,190	5,242
Misc. fees, bonds, bank charges, refunds	496	2,118
Insurance	18,585	16,140
NatStats administration	3,386	3,515
Depreciation	2,957	2,957
Donation to NHP Foundation	-0-	-0-
Total Expenses	278,419	299,813
Revenue in Excess of Expenses	30,212	36,797
Other Income:		
Interest Income	14,073	10,521
Net Revenue in Excess of Expenses	44,285	47,318
Net Assets - Beginning of year	313,259	265,941
Net Assets - End of year	\$357,544	\$313,259

National Horseshoe Pitchers of America
Statement of Activity and Changes in Net Assets
Game Items (Domey)
Years ended March 31, 1999 and 1998

	1999	1998
Revenue:		
Shipley	\$ 20,089	\$ 24,621
Smith	-0-	10,113
Seibold	22,078	19,860
Ohms	8,108	9,047
Pro Shop	15,166	17,928
Senger	-0-	7,501
Domey	55,541	56,064
NHPA	13,681	14,891
White	6,264	5,012
Anderson	14,768	3,354
Stonerock	5,616	1,050
Total Revenue	161,311	169,441
Expenses:		
Game related items	19,928	12,098
Office & miscellaneous expenses	5,716	5,981
Commissions	10,762	8,058
Horseshoes	96,792	127,511
Telephone	462	600
Postage	510	857
Freight	11,349	11,689
Advertising	51	108
Shirts & caps	1,379	1,695
Donation	-0-	3,800
Total Expenses	146,949	172,397
Net Revenue in Excess of Expenses Before Other Income	14,362	(2,956)
Other Income:		
Interest Income	977	1,186
Net Revenue in Excess of Expenses	15,339	(1,770)
Net Assets - Beginning of year	160,345	162,115
Net Assets - End of year	\$175,684	\$160,345

FISCAL YEAR NHPA FINANCIAL STATEMENT

National Horseshoe Pitchers of America
Statement of Financial Position
March 31, 1999 and 1998

UNRESTRICTED FUNDS

	1999	1998
Assets:		
Current Assets:		
Cash		
Regular Account (Secretary/Treasurer)	\$357,560	\$310,388
Game Related (Domey)	70,324	73,137
Memorial Fund	3,771	3,700
Total Cash	431,655	387,225
Accounts Receivable (Domey)	17,318	16,903
Inventories (Domey)	79,813	62,076
Total Current Assets	528,786	466,204
Equipment at cost less accumulated depreciation	4,442	7,400
Total Assets	533,228	473,604
 Liabilities and Net Assets:		
Net Assets - Unrestricted		
Beginning Net Assets	473,604	428,056
Net Fund Activities	59,624	45,548
Ending Net Assets	533,228	473,604
Total Liabilities and Net Assets	533,228	473,604

National Horseshoe Pitchers of America
Schedules of Activity—World Tournament
Regular Account (Secretary/Treasurer)

Schedule 1 - Years ended March 31, 1999 and 1998

	1999	1998
Revenue:		
World Tournament entry fees	72,218	85,102
World patch and miscellaneous sales	112	375
1998 Ainsworth payments	-0-	15,000
1999 Greenville payment	5,000	10,000
2000 World bidder payment	5,000	15,000
World Tournament finals fees	2,900	2,900
World Tournament results printout	168	151
World Tournament photos	800	1,620
Total Revenue	86,198	130,148
 Expenses:		
Cash, trophy, patch and trust awards	104,320	131,297
Administrative expenses	6,639	8,644
Hall of Fame awards, supplies	423	698
Bid & entry fee refunds and overpayments	11,995	1,045
Officer's travel expenses	7,415	9,162
Total World Tournament Expenses	130,792	150,846
Net Expenses Over Revenue	\$ (44,594)	\$ (20,698)

Schedules of Activity—Sanctioned League
Regular Account (Secretary/Treasurer)

Schedule 2 - Years ended March 31, 1999 and 1998

	1999	1998
Revenue:		
League patches	\$ 149	\$ 201
Expenses:		
Sanctioned league:		
Patches & awards	7,002	7,930
Postage & printing	1,000	-0-
Office Supplies & phone	723	1,463
Director allowance	945	939
Junior scholar trust	900	1,000
Total Expenses	10,570	11,332
Net Expenses Over Revenue	\$ (10,421)	\$ (11,131)

Schedules of Activity
Regular Account (Newsline)

Schedule 3 - Years ended March 31, 1999 and 1998

	1999	1998
Revenue:		
Subscription income	\$ 33,151	\$ 33,246
Advertising income	9,268	10,104
Total Revenue	42,419	43,350
 Expenses:		
Printing, postage, supplies	29,196	29,512
Publication, editing and miscellaneous	3,681	3,714
Total Expenses	32,877	33,226
Net Revenue Over Expenses	\$ 9,542	\$ 10,124

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	33. Tennessee	Dexter Stallings
2. Oregon	80037 Rosa Lane	16. S. Dakota	901 Custer St.		731 Reed Drive
8. Idaho	Hermiston, OR 97838		Belle Fourche, SD 57717		Powell, TN 37849
	(541) 567-8560		(605) 892-2195		(423) 947-7865
3. Northern California	Gail Sluys	17. Nebraska	Pat Wemhoff	34. Georgia	Jerome Kennedy
	1721 San Ramon Way		255 6th Ave., S.		Rt. 2, Box 1315
	Santa Rosa, CA 95409		Columbus, NE 68601		Hawkinsville, GA 31036
	(707) 538-3128		(402) 564-7323		(912) 892-3885
4. Southern California	Dave Garbani	18. Kansas	Duane Goodrich	35. Florida	Ron Deckard
	317 E. Wilson Ave.		1244 SW 32nd		7302 Brookview Circle
	Ridgecrest, CA 93555		Topeka, KS 66611		Tampa, FL 33634
	(760) 375-6376		(785) 266-4745		(813) 884-2932
6. Hawaii	John McCormack	19. Missouri	Elwyn Cooper	36. Ohio	Dan Sanders
	91-941 Kalapu Street		6920 N.W. 78th Street		6687 Merwin Rd.
	Ewa Beach, HI 96706		Kansas City, MO 64152		Columbus, OH 43235
	(808) 689-8033		(816) 741-0043		(614) 761-3357
7. Nevada	Don Weaver	20. Oklahoma	Ronnie Frederick	37. West Virginia	Ken Wilhelm
	2206 Sunnyslope Ave.		1015 19th Street		406 Stealy Avenue
	Las Vegas, NV 89119		Woodward, OK 73801		Clarksburg, WV 26301
	(702) 736-7348		(580) 256-2759		(304) 622-1265
9. Utah	Bud Schardine	21. Arkansas	Richard Archer	38. Virginia	Ricky Hall
	354 Brookside Drive		HC 63 Box 189		5644 Joppa Mill Rd.
	Springville, UT 84663		Ozark, AR 72949		Moneta, VA 24121
	(801) 489-6351		(501) 667-3078		(540) 297-9518
10. Arizona	Joe Kubiak	22. Texas	Hazel McCall	39. Pennsylvania	Darle Esh
	5525 Concho Drive		4000 Huaco Lane		68 Solitude Road
	Prescott Valley, AZ 86314		Waco, TX 76710		Milroy, PA 17063
	(520) 772-3242		(817) 756-0771		(717) 667-3108
11. Montana	Rich Paul	23. Minnesota	Ward Lutz	40. N. Carolina	Rick Bolick Sr.
	P.O. Box 1012		900 11-1/4 St., SW		1882 Union Grove Rd.
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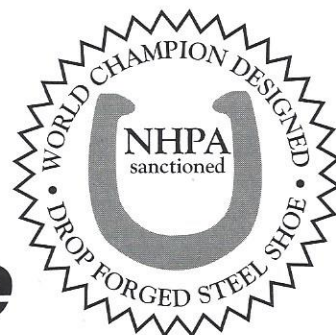
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