

The Horseshoe Pitcher's

News Digest

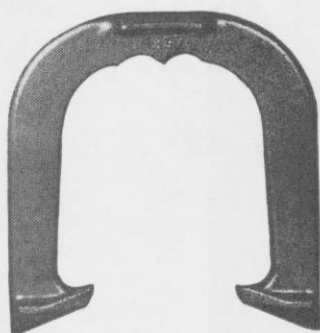
FEBRUARY, 1963



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THE HORSESHOE PITCHERS' NEWS DIGEST published on the 15th of each month at Aurora, Illinois, U. S. A. by the National Horseshoe Pitchers' Association of America. Editorial office, 1307 Solfisberg Avenue, Aurora, Illinois. Membership and subscription price \$3.50 per year in advance. Forms close on the first day of each month. Advertising rates on request. F. Ellis Cobb, Editor.

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Volume 7

FEBRUARY

Number 2

LOOKING BACK THRU 1962

By NHPA Secretary, BOB PENCE

Much accomplished with much remaining to be done would sum up 1962 horseshoe and NHPA activities and progress in a single sentence.

Here is an item by item review of our various problems and progress.

MEMBERSHIP: Total membership showed a small gain during the year but it was much smaller than the 200 members gained annually during the past few years. As usual, there were some extremely bright spots which deserve special mention and which offset small losses in other states.

Ohio and Indiana went over the 200 mark and finished in a dead heat, Indiana dropping a few members while the Buckeyes gained a few, marking the first time in many years that the Hoosiers have not led the membership parade — a real feather in the caps of the "Ohio Gang" headed by Sam Goodlander and Leo McGrath and their staff.

Pennsylvania showed the biggest membership gain, going well over the 100 mark, almost catching Southern California. The Erie Club did a great job in staging the Eastern National and state secretary Glen Sebring, along with Clyde Martz, Herm Boyer and Ralph Coughanour, did effective work. The Beaver Valley Association put on a big state tournament and Milt Beck helped out with his work in the eastern end of the state where there is good potential for further gains.

Southern California had another busy year and Jim Weeks and the other officers should be efficient hosts for the 1963 hosts for the 1963 World Tourney at South Gate July 26-Aug. 6.

New England States, all six of them, showed noteworthy gains, and the New England Tournament staged by the Keene, N. H. club, was the biggest in the history of the event. Ralph Forrstrom, Mass. Secretary, was elected chairman of the tournament committee for 1963 and a banner year is in prospect. His Massachusetts group showed a big gain in membership as did Howard White's New Hampshire group through the efforts of the Keene Club. Ervin Van Dine's Connecticut chapter also registered a big gain while Clarence Modery increased Maine's NHPA membership and Vermont and Rhode Island had small gains.

Missouri with Alfred Smith at the helm showed a nice increase and his presence will be missed this year, but John Elkins should be a worthy successor.

Minnesota has lots of horseshoe activity but NHPA membership has been down for many years. This year Joe Anzaldi made real progress in bringing the Gopher state back into the NHPA fold with a big increase in membership. Prospects are really bright in that section of the country.

Tennessee still lacks suitable courts, but Ben Raskopf maintained interest, increased NHPA membership and seems well on the way to solving the problem of courts. The state had a good representation at the World Tournament.

South Dakota had an increase under the leadership of Leigh Dunker and Lloyd Swartwout.

Montana-Dakota is again a bright spot. Roger Barnaby and the Wibaux club, starting from scratch, have made Montana one of the best groups in the

Looking Back Thru 1962 — (Continued)

country in a few short years with their membership now spread over a wide territory. The 1963 state tournament will be held at Ft. Peck and a number of new players have been signed at Helena.

Kansas, where the game was in danger of dying two years ago, made a real comeback in 1961 and held its gains last year through the efforts of the Topeka club at Gage Park and the work of Perl Pepple, Marv Phillips, H. G. Collett and others.

Nebraska staged a fine 4-State Open at Falls City and Don Koso is doing a fine job.

Oklahoma held a big open tournament which was well attended by players outside the state. Jerry Kahle and the Oklahoma officers deserve credit starting this open which shows signs of developing into a top ranking event.

Iowa Hawkeye was another state which had an increase in members. Mrs. Hopkins always does outstanding work for the NHPA and the Iowa Association. Herm Gilpin in Keokuk and Burlington led by Harold Darnold and Ernie Danielson deserve special mention for their work locally.

Florida has a bigger problem than ever before despite the loss of courts at the Sunshine club in St. Petersburg. Charlie Stephens is a dedicated worker and the Bradenton club now has a fine sister club at Orlando under the direction of Frank Wise and Florida membership is at an all time high, but will undoubtedly go higher.

Virginia built around the Lynchburg and Richmond groups continued to be extremely active during the year. A few years ago the NHPA didn't have a single member in the state, but they were well represented at the 1962 World Tournament.

New Jersey sustained the greatest single membership loss of any state, but it should be remembered that in 1961 the state had the biggest gain in the country and became one of the top membership states. The 1962 total was still twice what it was in 1960.

West Virginia showed signs of building up its membership. The Parkersburg club gave considerable help during the year.

Texas is on the way back again, thanks to the work of Marvin Burgess.

Michigan has been organized into districts by Irwin Carlberg and a good program is being developed. It has not yet materialized into NHPA membership but activities are increasing and it should yield real dividends this year.

New York has built up a fine organization. Larry Proudman of the Falconer club is President, Joe Pollack of Binghamton, Secretary-Treasurer, and Bill Hyland of Corning, the Vice-President. Carl von der Lancken has a fine group underway at White Plains. A big membership gain is expected in 1963.

New Mexico has excellent prospects. Ralph Brandt serving at NHPA representative in lieu of an official state association conducted several successful tournaments. Twelve courts are being built by the park board at Albuquerque where Bill Sweatman, P. D. Riley and Parker Burns have formed a club and laid the groundwork. An official state chapter will undoubtedly be formed this summer.

Other states held their own or sustained only small losses in membership.

AFFILIATED MEMBERSHIP: It remains to be seen how successful the Affiliated Membership provision adopted last year will be. Some means to attract the average players and less active participants must be found. Perhaps the present plan will be modified in light of this year's results, but its success will depend mainly upon the various state secretaries.

Local clubs should remember to get news items of their activities, plans, listings of their officers and courts in to Ellis Cobb, the News Digest editor, for inclusion in the special local club issue to come out in the spring. This should be done as quickly as possible. Dates of all tournaments to be held this summer should be included.

FINANCES: The sale of various items such as trophies, sport shirts, T-shirts, percentage charts, horseshoes, etc., is a relatively new venture by the NHPA. It has enhanced our financial assets greatly and if all local clubs would take advantage of these services, especially trophies, we would be in a much stronger financial position.

Looking Back Thru 1962 — (Continued)

Since the Horseshoe Pitchers' News Digest came into existence and the annual dues was set at \$3.50 the NHPA has gained more than 600 members. This increase in revenue has been offset by rising costs of publication and a 100% increase in mailing costs.

MILLER HIGH LIFE TROPHIES: 1962 marked the first year the game and the NHPA received sponsorship on a national basis from an outside source. Every state association benefited to some degree from the trophies donated by the Miller Brewing Co. to the World Tournament and to the various state tournaments released money which would have been spent for these trophies for use elsewhere.

WORLD TOURNAMENT: The 1962 tournament broke all records for the number of entries and had contestants from states and areas never before represented. The addition of Class "C" and the "Old Timers" in recent years and the addition of more players to Class "B" has stimulated interest and participation.

The Junior tournament at Greenville last summer was the best in our history. The average age of our NHPA membership is increasing each year so it is imperative that local clubs and state associations increase the scope of Junior tournaments if the game is to perpetuate itself.

WOMEN PLAYERS: The 1962 Ladies Tournament at Greenville was the best and biggest in our history. It was the first time we ever had a Class "B" in the Women's division. The play of such youngsters as Sue Gillespie, our new World Champion, and Nancy Henton, was sensational.

There are indications of increased interest and activity by the ladies in a number of states. This trend should be increased.

WORLD TOURNAMENT FILMS: We now have the 1962 World Tournament on 16mm film in color with sound. It is an hour-long film and clubs should take advantage of it. The rental fee is \$7.50 and well worth it. We hope to add to this in 1963 with some shots by leading players illustrating the proper methods of pitching and delivering the shoe and the various turns. The addition will be more technical in nature and of use to beginning players.

Attention Indiana Members

The Indiana Chapter of the NHPA will hold a spring meeting on March 31 at the 4-H Fairgrounds Community Bldg., in Lebanon. All clubs in the state are requested to send representatives and all members should be present.

In addition to the election of officers for 1963 and the forming of a tournament schedule an interesting program and social time will be planned.

The Boone County Horseshoe Club and players of Lebanon will be the hosts. The location is two miles southeast of Lebanon on U.S. Route 52, south on the business route through the city.

Ed Toney of Frankfort, president of the Indiana division, will preside along with Earle Wilmore, Secretary-Treasurer. Films of the 1962 World Tournament in Greenville will be shown as a part of the program. Specific time schedule will be announced in the March issue.

NHPA Officials Hospitalized

Mary Craig of Muncie, wife of NHPA President Harold Craig, underwent major surgery recently and is now undergoing a lengthy convalescent period. Mary handles the sale of NHPA sport shirts and T-shirts along with NHPA auto plates and windshield decals.

National Secretary Bob Pence had another session in the hospital following minor surgery in December. Bob suffered a setback in the form of a bad hemorrhage after returning to work and had to be rushed to the hospital again where he was confined for more than a week.

COVER PICTURE . . . Gracing the cover of this month's Digest is a picture of one of the trophies that will be presented to the various 1963 state winners and 1963 World Tournament winners by the MILLER BREWING COMPANY of Milwaukee, Wisconsin. It is a beautiful award that will make the receiver very proud to own.

Pennsylvania State Association Plans For 1963

The officers of the Pennsylvania state association held a meeting recently for the purpose of establishing tournament dates for the state of Pennsylvania so as not to have any conflicting dates as was experienced during 1962.

Plans call for the Penn association to conduct the big tournament of the season called the "Perry Sesquicentennial Eastern National." It will be staged at the City Zoo Park courts in Erie, Penn., on June 22 and 23, 1963.

The meet coincides with the city of Erie's celebration of Oliver Hazard Perry's victory at Lake Erie during the War of 1812. The Perry Centennial sports committee has placed Joe Peters of the Erie club on that committee under the chairmanship of the city's sports editor. Prizes and trophies will be awarded from the Perry Sesquicentennial committee.

The Erie club and the Pennsylvania state association is looking forward to a large and extensive turnout from pitchers throughout the surrounding states at this great sports attraction. Together with Clyde Martz, Penn state secretary, Glen Sebring, NHPA vice-president, Paul Beer, Erie club president, and Casey Pluta, Erie club treasurer, and Joe Peters, Erie club secretary handling the details, it should be an outstanding success

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Send us your change of address — if you move. Help us to help you — receive your News Digest. If you do not let us know, your magazine is returned to the News Digest office, with or without your new address and is then remailed to your new address. With the rising costs of the Postal Service, each magazine returned costs the NHPA 8 cents each. This is an unnecessary and needless expense and amounts to a considerable amount during the year. The NHPA wants each member to receive his magazine and bends over backwards in doing so, but due to the new raise in the cost of mailing the magazine, ALL News Digest issues returned to the News Digest office for lack of a correct address or because a member has not taken a few minutes of his time to send a change of address to the News Digest or NHPA office, will NOT be remailed unless SPECIFICALLY requested by the member together with postage to cover mailing costs. This ruling will be EFFECTIVE as of March 1st, 1963.

Two Major Tournament Dates Announced In Missouri

By RAY CAVIN

Two major tournaments are announced by Ray Cavin of the St. Joseph, Missouri club. Noyes Field courts located at 28th and Edmond Streets in St. Joseph, Mo., will be the scene of both of these events. The first one to be held will be the annual St. Joe Open tournament on Sunday, June 30. Qualifying scores may be mailed in for this meet and for the Midland Empire Open which will be held on September 8. There will not be any qualifying on either of the above tournament days. However, pitchers may qualify on the courts the day before each tournament until nightfall as there are no lighting facilities. Entry fee for all qualifying scores of 100 shoes including those mailed in will be \$3.00 per player, and those coming by mail must be in to Ray Cavin, 1824 Holman Street, St. Joseph, Mo., not later than the day before each meet.

Class A and B will each have 8 men, while all other classes will have 6 men each. Round robin play will start at 9:30 A.M. on each tournament day. Class A and B will play in the afternoons. Ten trophies will be awarded in the St. Joe Open, while 9 trophies will be awarded in the Midland Empire classic. Noyes Field has 9 courts, six with concrete walkways and three with pitching pads.

One other tournament to be known as the "Northwest Missouri" tournament will be held, dates to be announced later. This tournament will be for Missouri players only.

Iowa Hawkeye Association News

The Spring Warm-Up tournament for all Iowa Hawkeye members will be held at Birdland park in Des Moines, Iowa, on Sunday, May 19. Qualifying will start at 9 A.M. and continue until noon. Finals start at 1 P. M. State cards for the 1963 season will be available at the courts. Members desiring cards earlier may send for them in care of Mrs. Charley Hopkins, 912 East 2nd Street, Ottumwa.

* * * *

Leland Wiges of Exira, Iowa, is now stationed with the Army at Fort Sam Houston, Texas. He would appreciate a card or letter. His address is as follows: Pvt. Leland Wages, RA17625745, Co. E, 1st Bn. MFSS, Fort Sam Houston, Texas. Texas pitchers can get some competition from this lad from the Iowa state association.

* * * *

We learn of the passing of Mrs. Harold Shaw's father and also Mrs. Earl Wiges's mother. The Iowa state association and the NHPA extend their sympathy to the families of the bereaved.

Summary of Franklin County, Mass. Tournament

By PERCY HOWE

Summarizing the activities of the Orange, Mass., Franklin County tournament, we find that Charles Richardson of Orange, Mass., bested Amos Whitaker, his fellow townsman, to take the coveted Franklin County title. In the play-offs, Mel Merritt was downed by Whitaker, 50-37. Prior to the championship match, Whitaker handed Richardson a 51-42 setback. Leroy Peets proceeded to stop Whitaker's winning streak by topping him, 50-42. In the meantime, Richardson was putting the finishing touch to Mel Merritt 50-31, ending his title hopes. In the play-off for championship, Richardson rolled over Whitaker, 51-26. In the Class B section, Dennis Peets came out on top. Klockever took the Class C ribbon.

We have 13 NHPA members and for the first time in our doubles league, all the champions are NHPA members. Following are the statistics:

CLASS A

	W	L	%
Richardson	6	1	55.2
Whitaker	6	1	54.5
Merritt	5	2	54.7
Wheeler	4	3	43.6
Walker	3	4	45.0
L. Peets	3	4	44.7
Thrasher	1	6	38.6
Castine	0	7

CLASS B

	W	L	%
D. Peets	5	0	51.9
Hastings	4	1	34.8
Thompson	3	0	31.9
Ouellette	2	3	31.2
Lukow	1	4	28.1
Plummer	0	5	23.2

CLASS C

	W	L	%
Klockever	5	0	30.3
Boyce	4	1	20.0
Bezio	3	2	24.2
Porn	1	4	22.0
Ayers	1	4	21.4
Howe	1	4	19.5

Conn. and Mass. Clubs Split Honors In Indoor Match

Although the temperature hovered around zero on the outside, Willie Paradis of the Bristol, Conn. club was at "white heat" on the inside as he hammered an 81 per cent ringer game against Gilbert Brinkman of the Indian Orchard, Mass. club, in a special team match held recently at the Indian Orchard club's courts in that city. Paradis won all his games in the match. In spite of Paradis' performance the Indian Orchard club won the Class A division 11 to 5. In the Class B bracket the Bristol club copped top honors with Doyle leading the winners with 4 wins and no losses. The team result was Bristol 9, Indian Orchard 7.

INDIAN ORCHARD CLASS A

	W	L	%
Brinkman	3	1	59.0
Renfro	3	1	58.8
Phaneuf	2	2	52.1
Forsstrom	1	1	43.0
D. Duquette	2	0	41.8

BRISTOL CLASS A

	W	L	%
W. Paradis	4	0	67.3
W. Doyle	1	3	39.2
Freve	0	4	26.8
St. Arimond	0	4	34.8

INDIAN ORCHARD CLASS B

	W	L	%
Fairbanks	3	1	38.4
St. Peter	0	4	21.1
Hamel	2	2	41.0
Friberg	2	2	22.1

BRISTOL CLASS B

	W	L	%
B. Doyle	4	0	38.4
Giroux	3	1	42.0
Gallagher	1	3	19.3
Tidd	1	3	16.0

Annual Report From Rock River Valley (Illinois)

By LESLIE LONG

Ellis Griggs of Plainville, Ill., won the play-off game in Class A from Melvin Utley of Chicago by tossing on 81% ringers to take the trophy and the championship of the 7th annual Rock River Valley Open tournament held on the Laurence Park courts in Sterling-Rock Falls, Ill. This was Ellis Griggs' fourth championship in seven years, having won all eight of his games, averaging 75% ringers.

Glenn Henton, the Iowa state champion, lost only one game to Griggs, then played for third place against Nelson Vogel who also came second in his group; Henton defeated Vogel by tossing on 84% ringers for third place.

Dale Terry of East Moline defeated Hilmer Magnuson of Rockford in the playoff for the Class B championship.

The two longest games were between Art Dugle and Nelson Vogel; Dugle had 90 ringers out of 110 shoes for 81.8%; Vogel had 88 ringers out of 110 shoes for 80%. Dugle won 50 to 41; there were 27-4 deads. Melvin Utley and Nelson Vogel tossed 114 shoes in another game in which Vogel won 50 to 38; Vogel had 89 ringers out of 114 shoes for 79%; Utley had 85 ringers out of 114 shoes for 75.4%, there were 26-4 deads.

1962 was another successful year for the Sterling-Rock Falls club. Roger Vogel won the Spring Warm-Up tournament. Dale Terry won the Northwestern Ill. tournament. Tino Ramirez won the Whiteside county tournament and Francis McBride won the Twin City tournament.

CLASS A — GROUP I

	W	L	%
E. Griggs, Ill.	7	0	75.0
G. Henton, Iowa	6	1	75.6
H. Page, Iowa	4	3	68.2
A. L. Austin, Ill.	3	4	63.0
R. Vogel, Ill.	3	4	66.4
W. Martin, Ill.	2	5	64.2
F. Palka, Ill.	2	5	61.0
D. Grove, Ill.	1	6	44.7

CLASS A — GROUP 2

	W	L	%
M. Utley, Ill.	6	1	73.2
N. Vogel, Ill.	5	2	73.3
E. Cobb, Ill.	5	2	68.8
A. Dugle, Ill.	4	3	70.9
E. Danielson, Iowa	3	4	67.2
H. Darnold, Iowa	3	4	65.0
R. Sornberger, Ill.	2	5	59.7
R. Spencer, Ill.	0	7	48.6

CLASS B — GROUP 1

	W	L
Dale Terry, Ill.	5	2
John Taylor, Ill.	5	2
Francis Thomas, Iowa	5	2
Vernal Drager, Ill.	3	4
Casey Bettisworth, Ill.	3	4
Bob Elliott, Ill.	3	4
Russ Robinson, Ill.	2	5
Ralph Quanstrom, Ill.	2	5

CLASS B — GROUP 2

	W	L
Hilmer Magnuson, Ill.	6	1
Ray Phillips, Ill.	5	2
Bob Anderson, Ill.	4	3
Tino Ramirez, Ill.	4	3
Andy Horn, Ill.	3	4
Edwin Willick, Iowa	3	4
Harold Anderson, Ill.	2	5
Francis McBride, Ill.	1	6

St. Paul, Minn. Club Event Winners

John Yernberg won St. Paul City championship with George Mertz taking the B title and Mike Anzaldi grabbing Class C honors. SPRING TOURNEY: Leo Reinhardt, Carl West, George Mertz, Dave Johnson and Stan King. . . . FALL TOURNEY: John Yernberg, Leo Reinhardt, George Mertz, Dave Johnson, John Jackson, Russ Hultgren, Henry Roberts, Ray Wilson, Jerry Bovee, James Watters, Roland Heining and Don Meyers. Officers of the club are: Leo Reinhardt, pres.; Frank Schneider, vice-pres.; Elmer Bishop, sec.; Hartman Knutson, treas., and Bill Lorenz, rec. sec.

It's Miller High Life Again!

The Miller Brewing Co. will again sponsor and donate the Miller High Life - NHPA championship trophies in the Men's divisions of the World Tournament and the championship trophy in all state tournaments.

Robert Forte, Trade Relations Director, and Al Wolf, Publicity Director of the Miller Brewing Co., report that the company's board of directors were very pleased with the relationship which began in 1962 and wished to continue it this year.

This involves some 65 beautiful trophies in all and NHPA members at Greenville last summer agreed that they were the most outstanding collection they had ever seen.

The Miller Co. will also furnish a big banner advertising the 1963 World Tournament for use at the tourney site in South Gate, Calif. All entries in the tournament will receive white caps of an adjustable size type. Al Wolf of the Miller Co. who attended the 1962 Tournament was swamped with requests for these caps last year.

A representative of the company will again attend the tournament and aid with publicity. State secretaries are requested to furnish Secretary Bob Pence with the date and location of their State Tournament as quickly as possible.

New Washington State Secretary

Gary Alexander, the elected Washington State Secretary for 1963, was recently inducted into the armed services. Phil Luoto, President of the association, announces that, temporarily, Vice-President Ralph Taylor, 2216 N. 50th Street, Seattle, will assume the duties until an official successor can be elected. Chuck Damm of Aberdeen has served in this post for a number of years.

NEW, IMPROVED — Ted Allen Horseshoes

A beautiful, smooth, balanced product . . . the way one SHOULD be forged . . . Remember the great ALLEN shoe made before 1958? Letters proclaim it to be about the best ever put out. I thought so too, until now.

If you liked the older model you will like this one even better, with the improvements I have made, having long awaited the opportunity when new dies would be made by a different, but good forging company.

It fulfills the consistent requests made to me by friends at the world's tournaments. Certain dimensions now extend to limits of N.H.P.A. rules. Longer hooks, shoe is $\frac{1}{8}$ " longer and $\frac{1}{4}$ " wider, more slant at opening, better "holding" in front caulks. The best equipment is a "must" for best performance. This is it.

Ask for and get the genuine steel, drop forged, heat treated product. The best you can get for what is needed in a pitching shoe.

Four tempers: Hard, Medium Hard, Medium Soft and Dead Soft. The two softer types have hardened points.

1045 LINDEN AVENUE

BOULDER, COLORADO

Lifetime NHPA Members

Throughout the years a few individuals have contributed so much in time, effort, and talent to the welfare of the game and the NHPA on the national level, that they have been honored with Lifetime Memberships.

Here is a thumbnail sketch of those who have been so honored in recent years.

ELMER BELLER of California, former NHPA Secretary-Treasurer for many years and presently its Vice-President and Chairman of the Rules Committee. His work has been so important and outstanding throughout the past 15 years that it needs no review.

MARY STOKES of Utah, wife of the beloved former NHPA President, Arch Stokes in whose memory she has given the annual Arch Stokes Memorial Trophy.

HARVEY CLEAR of California, now living in Florida, who headed NHPA as Secretary-Treasurer during the difficult World War Two years and immediately afterwards and kept the game and the association alive on the national level.

FRED BRUST of Columbus, Ohio, 1919 World Champion, former NHPA official, and the first to manufacture horseshoes for the specific purpose of playing the game. He is the founder of the present Ohio Horseshoe Co.

BEN LEIGHTON of Minnesota, now living in Baraboo, Wis., who guided the NHPA in its formative years of the 1920s, making many improvements in competitive procedures and was instrumental in welding two national groups into the present NHPA.

RAY HOWARD of Ohio, former NHPA Secretary-Treasurer and for many years editor and publisher of the Horseshoe World which did so much to promote the game from 1920 to 1943.

ARCH and KATIE GREGSON of California whose hard work and good judgment in various official capacities during the 1950s did so much for the NHPA.

PAUL ROSE of Utah, Salt Lake County Recreation Director whose co-operation made possible the many fine World Tournaments held in Murray, Utah.

ELLIS COBB of Illinois, editor of the Horseshoe Pitcher's News Digest and Secretary-Treasurer of the Illinois State Association.

Jefferson City, Tennessee Club Makes Great Strides

The Jefferson City club of the Tennessee chapter has been very active during the past two years. Players in the club have greatly improved and are showing great interest and are looking for the coming year to be their best year to date.

George McDaniel, club president and vice-president of the State chapter, won the Jefferson City club championship for 1962 with 27 wins and 1 loss. Bernard Horner was runner-up with 22 and 6. John Walker was in third place with 19-9. The club courts are located at Walker Park, four miles out of Jefferson City near the Cherokee Dam. Courts are equipped with lights. The plans for this season call for bleachers and other things to make them first class. The officers of the club are as follows: John Walker, president; George McDaniel, 1st vice-president; Jess Williams, 2nd vice-president, and Claude Loev, secretary-treasurer. George McDaniel is a director of the Jefferson county fair tournament. They have two courts equipped with lights and plan improvements for the 1963 season. Main event of the fair tournament has been strictly doubles competition but plans are in the offing for singles competition this year. John Walker and George McDaniel took the honors for the 1962 event. The Jefferson City tournament for club members will start on April 5 and continue every week until each player shall have played 48 games. Complete tournament data will be in a future issue of the Digest.

Dixon Repeats In Manatee County, Florida Meet

In Palmetto, Florida, January 22-23-24, the Second Annual Manatee County Fair Tournament was run off under trying conditions due to the cold being grooved down from the north country. Dale Dixon, Des Moines, Iowa, defending Champion, came through as expected with a 7-0 record to cop first place honors. Charles Stephens, his runnerup, had rough going from the start, with Joe Foster, Omaha, W. O. Maxwell, Hicksville, Ohio, Joe Wilkenson, Akron, Ohio, and Carl Lundgren, Detroit, Mich., but managed a 6-1 record for second spot. Spot B was a duel between John Rademacher, Plant City, Fla., and John Davis, Bradenton, Davis finishing with a 7-0 record by his win over Rademacher 50 to 44. Class C was taken taken by Roy McClure, Van Wert, Ohio, in a playoff with Horace Kemp, Bradenton. In Class D it was Howard Wells, Scottsburg, Ind., over Jay Guernsey, Chippewa Lake, Mich., in a playoff, Guernsey taking second position.

CLASS A

	W	L	%
Dixon	7	0	63.3
Stephens	6	1	60.0
Maxwell	5	2	59.9
Kelly	3	4	49.5
Foster	3	4	52.9
Wilkenson	2	5	53.7
Lundgren	2	5	52.3
Horner	Forfeit	0	7

CLASS C

	W	L	%
McClure	4	1	44.0
Kemp	4	1	45.8
Hightower	3	2	47.1
Ellis	3	2	43.3
Mulhern	1	4	28.9
Bruce	0	5	21.4

CLASS B

	W	L	%
Davis	7	0	58.5
Rademacher	6	1	53.9
Peary	5	2	49.1
Hubbard	3	4	46.4
Green	3	4	42.8
Gravink	2	5	40.2
Ford	1	6	43.6
Spieß	1	6	40.1

CLASS D

	W	L	%
Wells	3	0	36.3
Guernsey	3	0	43.8
Garman	2	1	39.4
Thonert	2	1	36.3
Pope	1	2	27.9
Gampher	1	2	28.6
Summers	0	3	24.1
Crothers	0	3	21.3

Event Winners In Minneapolis, Minnesota Club

Winners of the various club events conducted by the Minneapolis club are listed below according to information received by Joseph Anzaldi, state secretary. Club officers are Robert Osborn, pres.; Lou Kierski, vice-pres., and Ralph Lunberg, secretary-treasurer. MAJOR LEAGUE: Ralph Lunberg, Julius Johnson, Henry Filzen and Clint Lofgren . . . AMERICAN LEAGUE: Berney Hoem, Len Russett, Bob Winterhalter and William Kloet . . . CITY LEAGUE: Robert Osborn, Lou Lierski, Al Nordstrom and Frank Stinson, Jr.

Orlando, Florida To Be Scene Of Open Tournament

An open horseshoe pitching tournament is to be held March 2 at the Orlando Florida Sunshine Park as a part of the Central Florida Fair February 25 to March 2. Qualifying rounds may be taken on any day from February 25 to tournament date March 2. They may be taken on your home courts, score sheets and entry fee of \$1.00 for 100 shoes may be sent to Orlando Club president Frank P. Wise, 10 E. Church St., Orlando, Fla., prior to tournament day, March 2. Three classes are planned, and event is open to all pitchers regardless of residence. Play will begin at 9:30 a.m. on Saturday, March 2.

COMING EVENTS

It is important that all tournaments be listed for the benefit of the membership. Please send listings to Ellis Cobb, Editor of the Horseshoe Pitcher's News Digest, 1307 Solfisburg Avenue, Aurora, Ill.

- April 5-6 — Jefferson City, Tennessee Club tournament, Walker park, Jefferson City, Tenn.
- May 19 — Annual Spring Warm-Up tournament, Birdland Park, Des Moines, Iowa
- May 30 — Annual Spring Warm-Up tournament, Lawrence park, Sterling-Rock Falls, Ill.
- June 16 — Annual County tournament, City park, Falls City, Nebraska
- June 22-23 — Perry Sesquicentennial Eastern National tournament, City Zoo park, Erie, Pennsylvania
- June 23 — Massachusetts Open Championship, Moxies' Grove, Hampton Ponds, Holyoke, Mass.
- June 30 — Annual "St. Joe" Open tournament, 28th and Edmond Sts., St. Joseph, Mo.
- July 13-14 — 5th Annual Erie Northwest Invitational tournament, City Zoo park, Erie, Pa.
- July 13-14 — Annual 4-State Open tournament, City Park, Falls City, Neb.
- July 28-Aug. 6 — WORLD TOURNAMENT, South Gate, California
- July 28 — Trade Territory tournament, City Park, Falls City, Neb.
- July 27-28 — Northwest Open tournament, Ramsey County fairgrounds, St. Paul, Minn.
- Aug. 13-14 — Annual Illinois State tournament, Springfield fairgrounds, Springfield, Ill.
- Aug. 14 — Annual Illinois State Boys' tournament, Springfield fairgrounds, Springfield, Ill.
- Aug. 17-18 — Erie County (Penna.) tournament, City Zoo park, Erie, Pa.
- Aug. 17-18 — All States Open tournament, City Park, Falls City, Nebraska
- Aug. 18 — Massachusetts State Championship, Moxies' Grove, Hampton Ponds, Holyoke, Mass.
- August — Northwestern Illinois tournament, Lawrence park, Sterling-Rock Falls, Illinois
- Sept. 1-2 — Minnesota State tournament, Bennett park, Hibbing, Minn.
- Sept. 2 — Annual Rock River Valley Open tournament, Lawrence park, Sterling-Rock Falls, Illinois
- Sept. 8 — Midland Empire Open tournament, 28th and Edmond Sts., St. Joseph, Missouri
- Sept. 15 — Whiteside County (Ill.) Lawrence park, Sterling-Rock Falls, Ill.

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Four 1962 World Championships Won With LEE'S

I want to congratulate these champions, and I am most grateful to the many others that pitch my shoes.

WORLD CHAMPION — Paul Focht

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Elmer Hohl, for having the highest ringer percentage in the World Tournament.

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Minnesota State Association Progress Report

By JOSEPH ANZALDI

I am pleased to report on the past season here in Minnesota. As your new state secretary and as a representative of the NHPA I am happy to say that we have doubled our membership which now stands at 40 members, more than last year or any previous year. Have talked to a great many players during my 2700-mile sojourn around to the many tournaments. It was my pleasure to assist Ted Allen, 10 times World Champion, during his visit to our state. I have talked with the secretaries of both North and South Dakota. Also with Ben Trolen, new state secretary of the Wisconsin association, when he visited us during the Northwest Open tournament. We are all trying to improve and promote the game in our respective states.

We have been most pleased with the response of out-of-state players in their attendance at our open tournaments. They added to the success of all of them. I have made contacts with three new clubs, Wayzata, Minn., Tower, Minn., and Duluth, Minn., giving out informative material about horseshoe activities.

I would like to make 1963 another year of progress for our state association and the players of Minnesota. I want to thank all the various clubs for their help and cooperation and especially for all the help and assistance and donations in putting on the Boys' tournament.

A new idea started last year in our St. Paul club was when a member is ill the Ladies' Auxiliary gives him a year's subscription to the News Digest; if he is already receiving it, it is renewed for another year.

The Minnesota state tournament will be held in Hibbing, Minn., on the Bennett Park courts on September 1-2. The annual Northwest Open tournament will be held at the Ramsey County Fairgrounds courts on July 27-28, St. Paul, Minn. Officers for the ensuing year are: Charles Strafaccia, pres.; Carl West, vice-pres., and Hart Knutson, sec-treas.

Central Ohio Winter Pitching Activities

Central Ohio horseshoe enthusiasts are again enjoying their favorite sport this winter at Rome Recreation Center, near Columbus. League play is held four nights weekly and games are 50-shoe count all. A handicap system which enables players averaging less than 90 points, 80% of the difference is proving quite popular. Players averaging 90 points or better receive no handicap.

An invitational tournament was held preceding winter activities with 42 entrants divided into seven classes. Kenny Dawes, Good Hope, Ohio, pitched a steady 69.4% to win CLASS A undefeated. Stan Manker, Martinsville, was runnerup with 4 and 1 and 68.3%. CLASS B was taken by Mel Montgomery, Columbus, 4-1, 56.8% with J. DeWeese, Washington Court House, 4-2, 49.1%, runnerup. CLASS C, Howard Roshon, Baltimore, 5-1, 56.9%, Mike Gardner, Urbana, 4-2, 56.7%. CLASS D, Columbus Bricks, Columbus, 5-0, 55.1%, Howard Anderson, Rome, 4-1, 61.1%. CLASS E, Larry Matthews, Columbus, 4-0, 41.8%, Robert Redding, Mt. Sterling, 3-2, 42.3%. CLASS F, Ed Pratt, Columbus, 5-0, 46.5%, Charles Redding, Columbus, 4-2, 42%. CLASS G, John Wilks, Circleville, 5-0, 42.1%, Isaac Butcher, Bloomingburg, 4-1, 42.5%.

Kenny Dawes turned in an 80% ringer game for the best individual effort and Stan Manker and Merl Bannister each tossed 73% with 245 and 243 for the best qualifying marks.

From Here And There

Word has been received of the death of Mrs. Charles A. Milks, Orlando, Florida after a prolonged illness and hospitalization. Mr. Milks is an old timer in the horseshoe game, and has been associated with the Orlando Club since its organization, as Secretary and Treasurer. The NHPA expresses its sympathy to the family.

Dreams Do Come True

The year 1962 will live forever in my memory. After pitching horseshoe for 40 years and pitching professionally since 1946, a dream came true.

I had the pleasure in 1924 to pitch with Putt Mossman, who then was World Champion, who averaged 65%. That seemed like a lot of ringers and I wondered if I could ever get that good. Today that 65% wouldn't get a player in Class A competition.

There are three turns. I started with the $\frac{3}{4}$ turn. After attending the World Tournament at Milwaukee in 1948 I found that only two or three players pitched this turn. I decided to change to the $\frac{1}{4}$, which took me several years to get it to work the way I wanted. In 1952 I began winning a few tournaments and in 1953 I won the Ohio State Championship. From then on each tournament I attended the better players knew I was there. I didn't win many first places, but I had a lot of fun playing and meeting so many nice people from all states.

Each year it was a struggle to get the same shoe to pitch. So, in 1960 and 1961 Lee Bennett of W. Middleton, Ohio, and I designed a shoe made of copper and the first shoe that is cast or poured that is guaranteed not to break. This shoe was sanctioned by the National Association and put on the market October 1961.

With confidence in this new Lee Horseshoe, two hours of practice each day, my coach and good friend, Pop Johnson of Cincinnati, Ohio, the faith and loyalty of my wonderful friends, most of all having faith and living a Christian life, and last, the understanding and help of my wonderful wife, Emma, I won the 1962 World Horseshoe Championship August 8, held at Greenville, Ohio, with a 81.7% average. After six tries in World Tournaments, I finally made the championship or a dream came true. A dream everyone has who ever starts to pitch horseshoe.

Since then I have received telegrams, phone calls and personal congratulations, also congratulation cards and letters from many of my friends and relatives all over the United States, and I have enjoyed every one of them. The office workers at Delco-Products, when I went back to work, surprised me with a large decorated cake with a horseshoe on it and "welcome home, champ", and three other departments gave me a large trophy with my name and World Champion on it.

I was on radio, television and the papers carried write-ups of my success. I won the sports award from Carling on WONE Radio. An honorary member of the Rotary Club from my home town.

A plaque is placed in the trophy case at the Farmersville high school where I graduated in 1920. I do have a number of trophies in my own trophy case at home for my wife to take care of.

I have had calls to speak at picnics, horseshoe clubs, boys clubs and church groups. Have also been invited back when the weather is nice to pitch some and explain about Horseshoe. Sorry there were some engagements I couldn't make. My wife and I have promoted horseshoe since 1946 and Emma has run State Tournaments since 1960. We are both tied up in horseshoe activity and the way it looks, will be until we are both too old to run around.

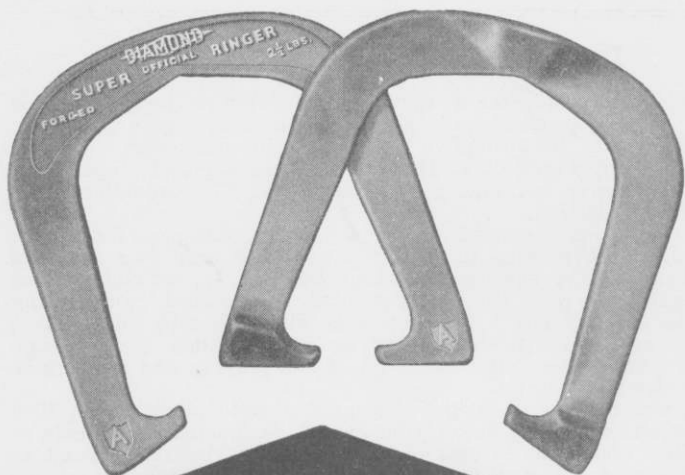
Emma and I wish to say "Thanks" to everyone who sent us or wished us congratulations on my World Championship.

World Champion, Paul Focht.

Don't Forget

To obtain your 1963 NHPA membership NOW from your State Secretary or NHPA representative.

To make reservations for the 1962 World Tournament film from Glen Sebring, 1431 West 42nd Street, Erie, Pa., if you live east of Mississippi; from Donald Koso, 2124 Wilson Street, Falls City, Nebr., if you live west of the Mississippi and from Elmer Beller, 15316 "B" Cabell Avenue, Bellflower, Calif., if you live on the Pacific Coast.



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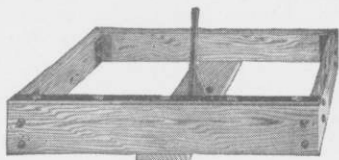
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