



The National Horseshoe Pitchers Association



NEWSLINE

VOL. 9 NO. 3

MAY / JUNE 1997



MARCH 21, 1997

**Winter
continues
into Spring
in South
Dakota**

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ON OUR COVER

Dan Cahill, Watertown, SD, finds a bit too much snow for Spring practice.

President's Message

During the last week of March, I made a three day trip to Nashville to meet with Dr. Jack Freeman and the attorneys for the National Horseshoe Pitchers Foundation (NHPF). The primary purpose was to discuss possible ways that the NHPF could begin operation and improvements at the Joelton courts even though Dr. Freeman couldn't donate the buildings to us for 3-4 years and the IRS hasn't yet officially approved our charitable status.

Since the normal time span for IRS approval is 4-12 months, the attorney recommends we not wait. In fact, we are not expected by the IRS to wait, as they will want to monitor progress toward a two year business plan of estimated income and expenses I had to develop to accompany our charitable application. The smaller 7 acre parcel which has the 38 courts and buildings will be leased to the NHPF for a very modest annual sum. Dr. Freeman will be the acting Facilities Director overseeing tournaments, leagues and open play at the courts. A user fee schedule will be developed that will be imposed on all participants at the facility.

These small user fees will go to the NHPF to help offset some of the general operating costs which the foundation will begin paying. Ultimately, the NHPF expects to erect the NHPA Hall of Fame building and museum at the site, improve the grounds, existing buildings and parking, and hopefully get approval and sufficient funds to begin development of an RV campsite with hookups. The year 1999 or 2000 is the projected time to hold the first W.T. at the site, the event returning to the Joelton courts every 3-5 years.

Like any brand new endeavor, only time and experience will determine the level of success. There also exists the possibility of failure. However, we are not entering this venture with our eyes closed or any sense of failure. We have history on the facility. We know the general operating costs for today and can project them for the future when improvements come about. What we really can't project is how well the NHPA membership, sponsors and other potential contributors will support it. The NHPA delegates were obviously optimistic when they approved and authorized the establishment of a charitable entity to pursue the property as a place to build a Hall of Fame. Whether that opti-

mism proves founded still remains to be determined. Certainly, we have a wonderful opportunity to achieve some huge and long sought goals. We also have the opportunity to improve the image and awareness of horseshoe pitching which we all hope will someday take its rightful position alongside other media and spectator recognized sports. To this end, success or failure, the level of your support will play a big part.

The National Horseshoe Pitchers Foundation was incorporated by me as a nonprofit Foundation in the state of Tennessee. Our Charter and Bylaws were developed after and during meetings at the offices of Sherrard & Roe, PLC, in Nashville. The affairs of the Foundation shall be managed by a Board of five directors, four of whom are elected to four year terms by the NHPA Board of Directors (Executive Council). Those initially elected and serving are Jack Freeman who was elected Vice President, Paul Stewart, Earl Winston, and Dick Hansen who was elected Secretary. The NHPA President serves as the 5th Board member, ex officio. Dave Loucks was elected President/Treasurer by the other NHPF Board members.

The NHPF was formed exclusively for charitable, educational and scientific purposes related to the game of horseshoe pitching. The Foundation will promote the game around the country as an amateur and recreational sport. It is our purpose to educate the general public, construct and maintain a Hall of Fame, museum and library. The Foundation may also make grants to local horseshoe clubs to build or improve courts or otherwise assist the club, thus further fostering the development of the game.

As we progress more into the year and get final approval from the IRS, fund raising programs will be developed. But, you need not wait to make a personal cash donation. Contributions are tax deductible and any of \$10.00 or more will be acknowledged by the NHPF so you will have a receipt for tax purposes. All contributors will be named in *Newsline* without the specific dollar amount. Make your check payable to the National Horseshoe Pitchers Foundation or NHPF and mail it to; 140 Sierra Blanca Ct., Grass Valley, CA 95945.

Dave's Court Report

New National Junior Promo Director. Lorraine Sternberg of Richfield Wisconsin has been appointed NHPA Junior Promotion Director. Lorraine, who will report to National Promotion Director Bob Dunn, brings a great deal of enthusiasm and experience to the position. A World Class pitcher herself, Lorraine with husband Terry have raised two daughters Heidi & Heather, both of whom excelled in NHPA junior pitching.

1996 Membership Report Finalized. Adult membership was 13,203, down 70 from the 1995 count of 13,273. However, junior membership at 1,029 was up 102, giving us a net gain of 32 with 14,232 total members. Awards will go to Texas for the biggest gain in adults (72), Indiana for

the biggest gain in juniors (48), Missouri for the largest adult membership (951) and Minnesota for the largest junior membership (110). The largest increase percentage-wise went to the Oahu, Hawaii charter, up 48.48%.

New Texas Club Organized. The Snyder Slingers H.C. was organized 1/28/97 in Snyder, TX. Don Duncan was elected President. Other officers include C.J. Smith, Johnny Davenport, D.L. Irwin and Dorothy Duncan. Two sanctioned tournaments are scheduled for this year.

22 NHPA Life Members In 1996. The Secretary/Treasurer received charter reports listing 22 life members, those who have 50 or more years in the NHPA. See page 7 for a full listing.

Plan to attend the World Horseshoe Pitching Tournament in Kitchener, Ontario, Canada, July 14 - 27!

Accommodation Guide

Our host hotels for the World Horseshoe Pitching Tournament include:

Travelodge

Rate: \$59 US + tax
Phone: (519) 894-9500
Fax: (519) 894-9144

Howard Johnson

Rate: \$52 US + tax
Phone: (519) 893-1234
Fax: (519) 893-2100

- * must request the "World Horseshoe Pitching Tournament" special rate to reserve your room
- * US rates subject to change due to exchange rate fluctuations
- * book now to guarantee your room

Other accommodations to consider for your stay:

Holiday Inn

Rate: \$76 US + tax
Phone: (519) 893-1211
Fax: (519) 894-8518

Four Points Sheraton

Rate: \$63 US + tax
Phone: (519) 744-4141
Fax: (519) 744-1314

Best Western Walper Terrace

Rate: \$59 US + tax
Phone: (519) 745-4321
Fax: (519) 745-3625

University of Waterloo - Student Residence

Phone: (519) 884-5400
Fax: (519) 746-7599

Twin rooms with shared bathroom on each floor. Maid service.

Daily rate:

Single \$22 US, Twin \$14.30
per person, per night

Weekly rate:

Single \$107 US, Twin \$64.30 US

RV Sites (at tournament host site)

Daily Rate: with electricity and water
\$20 Cdn, \$15 US

Weekly Rate: with electricity and water
\$120 Cdn, \$90 US

Some unserviced sites may be available at \$15 Cdn or \$10 US

To reserve your site, fill out the RV site application located in our other ad.

All rates subject to applicable taxes

For more information about Kitchener and/or additional accommodation, call the Kitchener Waterloo Area Visitor and Convention Bureau, 1-800-265-6959



**1997 WORLD
HORSESHOE PITCHING
TOURNAMENT**



**1997 WORLD
HORSESHOE PITCHING
TOURNAMENT**

**1997 World Horseshoe Pitching Tournament
Kitchener, Ontario, Canada
July 14-27th**

RV Site Registration

Name _____

Street _____

City _____

Province/State _____ Postal/Zip Code _____

Phone (day) (____) ____ - _____ Phone (evening) (____) ____ - _____ FAX (____) ____ - _____

Place an x in the box applicable to you.

- ☐ Daily rate with electricity & water (\$15 US, \$20 Cdn)
☐ Weekly rate with electricity & water (\$90 US, \$120 Cdn)
☐ Interested in an unserviced site (\$10 US, \$15 Cdn)

We wish to reserve an RV site on the following July days (Site available from July 12 - July 27)

12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27
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Please make cheque or money order payable to **City of Kitchener**

Our cheque/money order for \$ _____ ☐ Cdn or ☐ US is enclosed with our application

Mail application to: Donald Boyd - RV Site Administrator

141 Lockhart Dr

St. Catharines, Ontario

L2T 1W5

Phone (905) 682-0694

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

Full page - \$500 (Cdn) 1/2 page - \$275 (Cdn)

1/4 page - \$150 (Cdn) 1/8 page - \$80 (Cdn)

Rates are for camera-ready, black and white ads. 2-colour rates available on request.

For information, or for space reservations, contact:

Helga Bliefert-Merkle

HBM Marketing

RR # 2 Petersburg, Ontario

Phone (519) 634-8046

Fax (519) 634-9801

Letters to the Editor

Dear Members,

One of the proposals the delegates will be voting on in Kitchener is an alternate method of scoring. It is called True Cancellation. It is not intended to replace the two scoring methods now used, cancellation and count-all, only to be available as a third approved alternative.

In regular cancellation, ringers cancel regardless of how well they are thrown or how far the shoe has encircled the stake. Close shoes on the other hand are treated differently. A shoe within 6" can be scored as a point, providing it is the closest shoe to the stake or two shoes can score if they are both within 6" and closer than the opponent's shoes.

In True Cancellation, close shoes within 6" of the stake cancel each other. A shoe 3" from the stake can be canceled by an opponent's shoe laying 5" from the stake. We all know that a poorly thrown shoe can end up closer to the stake than a perfectly thrown open shoe that lands a tad short. But since they are both within the 6" scoring radius, why should one be considered and the other not?

In count-all, both would count just as a ringer by each opponent would count. Therefore, in cancellation, if ringers cancel, so too should close shoes.

In regular cancellation, we use a method of Quoit scoring for single points that is unsuited for horseshoes. Let's give the game a chance to improve by adopting True Cancellation as an alternative scoring method. It has been tested with NHPA approval for several years in many leagues in Minnesota and even some leagues elsewhere. The reports are always the same. Players like it and it speeds up the game by eliminating the need to measure who has the closest shoe.

True Cancellation has been endorsed by some NHPA Council members and a majority of the Rules Committee feel it has enough merit to warrant a vote by the delegates. Remember, approval doesn't make True Cancellation mandatory in tour-

naments. It only becomes an alternative to our outdated Quoit scoring.

Sol Berman, Cranbury, NJ

Dear Dave,

Why all the hullabaloo about pitching 30' vs. 40'? True, my average ringer percentage has increased from 28% to 38%, but it placed me in a higher percentage class too. This is a class in which the 40-footers should be comfortable as this has been maintained over a period of years.

Records should be researched for W/L of games 30' vs. 40'. I win no more trophies than I did in the 40' group. I still have bad games and good games. I have a higher point average in our league. Thus, I give more points than I did before and I finish no higher in the standings than I did at 40'. So what's the gripe?

The majority or 40' pitchers in our area voice no objection to mixed tournaments. I don't use all of the distance authorized in pitching less than forty feet. Therefore, if a 35' distance was instilled as a criteria, I could live with that. If a 40-footer would like to pitch in our tournament at our tournament at our distance, I would agree to that—provided he use an average established at less than 40 feet.

Of course, if you want to relegate me to a cabin in the hills of the Ozarks where I can sit on the front porch swatting flies and petting my houn' dog, I can do that too. Such a move, however, would deprive me of your friendship—and you, mine.

Reader's Digest advises in the sweepstakes letters to me, that I am in the Final Stage. That's where we thirty footers are in horseshoes. Let us live it out. We won't antagonize you too much longer.

Sam Kidd, Raytown, MO

Dear Dave,

I have read with great interest, your message in the November/December issue and the various reader comments in the last two *Newsline* issues. Being well into my 70s, but still throwing the full 40 foot

distance, I do not relish competing with the short distance pitchers. I agree that in close matches or windy conditions, the short distance pitcher has an advantage, particularly for the single point with the softer shoe.

I have long been curious to learn the answer to this question. "Could we conduct a tournament starting with the current ringer percentages—convert these to count-all handicap—have all entrants compete in the same class—and still find the tournament competitive for all pitchers from the top to the bottom?"

In an effort to answer this question, I ran an analysis last November. I used the Ohio State Fair tournament of 1996 because it was a 40 shoe count-all event. With the help of Dan Sanders of the Whetstone Club and Glenn Jamieson of NatStats, I gathered my data. The results were interesting and took nearly 10 pages, too much to print here. While it doesn't answer the 30 vs. 40 ft. controversy, it does give some insight whereby an adaptation of the format might work for all. I'll be happy to share the details.

Paul R. Bernard

114 Gross St., Tiffin, OH44883

Dear Dave,

If a 40 footer is in a class with a 30 footer and they both have the same average, I cannot understand why the short distance pitcher would have an advantage as so many seem to claim. If there is a wide spread in averages, the advantage goes to the highest. That's why we should use handicaps.

Most Tournament Directors do their best to put pitchers in a class where they belong, so let's get everybody to enjoy the game and abide by what the rules allow. I am 79 years old and did not move to the shorter distance until I was 75. It upsets most to hear the background complaints about the 30 footers. Let's stop it and all start having fun with our pitching.

Herbert R. Downing, Bee, NE

Letters to the Editor

Dave,

The women involved in CT tournaments don't want to play against higher women shooters, but won't hesitate to play against a lower class man. The impetus of a man pitching 40' is much greater than someone at 30'. The advantage is with the 30' pitcher and I strongly feel that 85% of the women shooting against men know they have an advantage and use it.

Mixed pitching changes the tempo of the game. Not all 30' pitchers are courteous enough to stand where they are supposed to when pitching against a 40' opponent. Many of us have approached the leaders of this charter with complaints and have been made to feel ridiculed. It is obvious where CT stands with regard to the 30' vs. 40' situation.

Robert Yamnicky, Shelton, CT

Dear Dave,

I know you've received numerous letters on the 30' vs. 40' subject, but feel the more people that write, the better chance we have to find a solution. I have read and heard all the pros and cons of mixed pitching. I am 77 years old and have pitched both distances. From experience, I can say that you establish an average at one distance or the other and don't believe the normal full distance pitcher should be able to mix averages of pitching 40 and then sometimes less than 40 feet.

The Solution is to do away with distances, age and gender groups. Let one's ringer percentage decide which class you will pitch as an individual, regardless if you are female, age 12 or 90. Mixed pitching has been accepted quite well here in Missouri. Why not try it in the World Tournament?

Dick Cotter, St. Louis, MO

Dave's Court Report

continued from page 4

**1996 Life Members Reported to
NHPA Secretary/Treasurer
TOTAL 22 LIFE MEMBERS**

Luke Braun, CA
Arnie Peters, CA
Gerry Labbe, CO
Frank Wagner, CT
Sol Berman, FL
Carl Steinfelt, FL
Lee Palmer, FL
Harry Kohlenberger, IL
Ralph Dykes, IL
Bernard Herfurth, MA
Vin Mattos, MA
Bill Kolb, NJ
Rollin Futrell, OH
Harold Anthony, OH
Paul Focht, OH
Emma Focht, OH
Fritz Worner, OH
Jerry Williams, OH
Leo McGrath, OH
Frank Hiendlmayr, OH
John Fulton, PA
Ralph Maddock, WV



Ohio State Fair Horseshoe Pitching Tournament



Purse: \$6,000*

Registration Deadline: July 3, 1997**

with event being held August 1-17, 1997 (weekends only) at the Whetstone Horseshoe Club, Columbus; and finals held at the Ohio State Fair on August 17.

Registration fee: \$25 Juniors are free. This will be a 40 shoe cancellation, mixed event, except for the 30 ft. and 40 ft. finals. All pitching will be done on real clay (portable courts with real clay at the Fair).

For complete information and registration forms, please contact the Ohio State Fair at:
Horseshoe Tournament, Ohio State Fair, 717 East 17th Ave., Columbus, OH 43211, phone 614/644-4040,
or contact

**Dan Sanders, Tournament Director, at 6687 Merwin Rd., Columbus, OH 43235,
phone 614/761-3357 (evenings only)**

* Purse is guaranteed at \$6,000 minimum; entry fees added to purse after expenses. Final purse distribution will be declared in final mailing to entrants along with your playing schedule. **Limited to the first 144 entrants.**

** An entry past the July 3 deadline can be accepted by a Whetstone Horseshoe Club representative attending the Greenville Ringer Classic. **OTHERS MUST BE POSTMARKED BY THE JULY 3 DEADLINE DATE.**

World Tournament News

Kitchener

Participants will pay scorekeepers \$1.00 Canadian per game. In addition, a couple of new items will be introduced as we attempt to reduce administrative costs of the tournament. Fifty (50) cents will be collected from each player each day as they pick up their round robin card. This 50 cents will be used to pay the judges each shift.

We are also doing away with name tags for the scoring wheels. To be used in their place, the NHPA will purchase and provide color coded Styrene (plastic) strips, approximately the size of the former card board name tags. These plastic strips will be basic white with the NHPA logo and a round-robin number 1-16 screen printed on both sides in a color identical for the class. Each class on the courts will have a number color set different from the other classes on the courts. These plastic number strips can be cleaned and are expected to be durable enough to be used several years over. Players who lose their tags or fail to turn them back in after daily play will be charged the cost of a replacement. Remember, your round robin number is on them so we can identify who the missing numbers were assigned to.

Morgantown

The expected site of the 1998 tournament has been forced to withdraw their commitment to host the World. An unfortunate circumstance has arisen at the West Virginia University which prevents them from being able to guarantee the Shell Building, the proposed site to house the courts.

A health and safety issue, unrelated to the horseshoe tournament has arisen in another University sports building causing that building to close down during the summer of '98 with all its activities and personnel temporarily moving to the Shell Building. This is beyond the control of any of the involved parties.

The NHPA has been in touch with another interested WV city, as well as other sites, including Ainsworth. The Executive Council expects to name a replacement site by July 1st.

1999 Site to be Selected by Executive Council

No bids were received for the 1999 tournament. That means the delegates will not have the opportunity to vote on a bidding site. Rather, the NHPA Executive Council, as specified in our By-Laws, will decide on a site for 1999. The NHPF courts in Joelton, TN, as well as other interested sites, will be considered.

When Will I Pitch in Kitchener?

Every year the same question is asked—*When will I pitch?* This is not always an easy question to answer, at least not with a reply we can guarantee. We try to maintain some consistencies year to year, but a couple of factors we can't control have a direct effect on the finalization of the pitching schedule. The number of courts available and the number of entries dictate how deep into the second week we must go to schedule normal class play. Ideally, we'd like to have nothing but championship play during the last three days of the tournament, but that cannot be determined until we know how many entrants there are in each division.

Lower class Open Men can expect to pitch the first 3 days. That has become pretty much a given. Higher percentage Open Men, somewhere around 55% and above, can generally expect to pitch the first 3 days of the second week. Senior Men and Elder Division entrants are normally scheduled the second week, as are the higher percentage classes of Open Women. Lower percentage Women and most, if not all, Junior play will be scheduled during the first week.

Remember, these projections are not, and can not be guaranteed. Most will work out this way, but there will always be some exceptions. Those normally affected with the greater degree of uncertainty will be the Junior and Women Divisions, where we generally have a smaller number of entrants.

Traveling to Kitchener?

For many who plan to pitch in the Kitchener World Tournament, it will be your first trip into Canada. Crossing the U.S./Canadian border normally requires special photo identification, a voter registration form, a birth certificate, or a passport. Not all crossing points adhere to the same strictness, so what one encounters in the east may not be the same as what is found in the west. Often, you will have little or no problems with Canadian Customs but will find U.S. customs on the return asking you to prove that you belong here.

Firearms are definitely not allowed in Canada. If you are traveling with a gun in your car or RV, find a place to check it before crossing into Canada. Don't, by any means, try to sneak a gun across the border. There may be rules about pets, *Newsline* doesn't know. We just want World entrants to be aware that some restrictions may apply. We suggest you discuss the subject with your travel agent or customs people before starting out. A few minutes of inquiry should avoid any delays at customs.

NHPA President/ Newsline Editor Moves

If you have Dave Loucks on your charter newsletter mailing list, or otherwise have need for Dave's current address, you should be aware that he has moved.

All future communication to the NHPA President or *Newsline* Editor should now be sent to:

Dave Loucks
140 Sierra Blanca Ct.
Grass Valley, CA 95945

FOCUS ON PROMOTION

Giving Attention Where Attention Is Due

by Bob Dunn

When there is success in promotion, through the success of a league or success in a tournament, it will always point back to the effort provided by individuals at the front lines of our sport.

If a new league is started, if a league's membership is growing, if a tournament is rising in participation, the success will track back to certain individuals that dedicate their time and efforts. Pitchers, promoters, members in general, might all enjoy various aspects of our sport, and when it all boils down, the thrills, the memorable moments, the appreciation and true enjoyment comes from pitching action—the tournaments and the league nights—the efforts of our sport's promoters and directors, who are the heartbeat of our sport.

The future success of the NHPA, of state associations, of leagues and of our sport, is dependent on these individuals that are doing the job at the grass roots of our sport.

If things are to improve, get bigger or better, grow or maybe even continue to exist, we need more promoters. We can use more promotion effort in each and every league. We can use more promotion effort with each and every tournament. And what about the new and additional leagues and tournaments of the future? How are we going to recruit more promoters? For sure, we certainly need to make sure that we recognize and display appreciation for the efforts that are being provided.

This too, must come from the front lines. Pitchers need to make efforts to

express appreciation for the opportunity to compete. League members need to make efforts to express appreciation to those directing the league. Offering to help is a very good way to express appreciation, but at the very least make the effort to say something positive. Things don't always go perfectly smooth, it is easy to object and voice one's opinion.

Do think twice before speaking out about some difficulty. There is nothing that turns off a promoter faster than poorly aimed criticism from someone that fails to appreciate the over-all efforts provided by people just trying to do their best. Do think twice before you dwell on a negative.

"Thank you's" aren't much pay for the hours of work that many members are providing for our enjoyment in horseshoe pitching, but it is a price we had better be prepared to pay if the motivation is to continue in our workers and promoters.

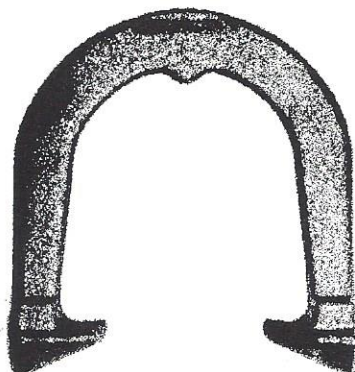
The appreciation and recognition of promotion needs to be a high priority of each and every charter board. While the NHPA does have a comprehensive award program, it is impossible to appropriately reach all corners or our organization to recognize the front line leaders that are providing the pulse of our sport.

Many charters also have comprehensive awards programs, but several are geared more to the long-time efforts. Charters need to review their awards program and ensure that each season's activity and the people who are responsible for the efforts, are honored and recognized.

IMPERIAL

"The Rolls Royce of Horseshoes"

Forged Steel



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5056 Northlawn Drive
Murrysville, PA 15668

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PLUS \$45/Pair
Call for Quantity Prices

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Those that put off until tomorrow what could be done today, may end up missing an issue of *Newsline*.

Renew your subscription today!

PROMOTION JOTTINGS

by Bob Dunn

■ Alan Francis served as Junior Promotion Director for better than one year and did a fine job, for which we are grateful. Now, a new Junior Promotion Director has been appointed. Lorraine Sternberg of the Wisconsin charter has accepted the position.

Wisconsin has had an active and successful Junior program for a number of years. Lorraine certainly has been a main contributor to that success and we can all appreciate the experience she brings to our promotion team. Let's all give our full attention to her input. Lorraine Sternberg's address is: W206 N13520 Woodside Lane, Richfield, WI 53076.

■ The last *Newsline* issue presented an impressive listing of trust funds paid out to former Junior members. Many adults have contributed time and effort to provide the horseshoe pitching experience to all those

youngsters, either in conducting the leagues, directing World Tournaments, coaching and escorting the young pitchers to the events.

To all those of you who have worked in the promotion of our sport so these Junior pitchers have additional funds toward furthering their education, take a bow and feel proud. There is room also, for more directors of Junior leagues. Just look at the tremendous benefits available to Juniors through the World Tournament or through the Scholar Pitcher Program. Be a part of it and conduct a Junior league.

■ This issue looks at history in promotion, contains some interesting notes of another organization's promotion efforts unknown to most present-day NHPA members. We like to think of the NHPA as the sole promoter and governing body of the sport of horseshoe pitching, since

1921. While that is mostly true, there have been major contributions by other organizations and the following article gives some credit to the Farm Bureau.

The Farm Bureau hosted many major tournaments in nearly every state during the '20s and '30s. Most were county events. The NHPA has been in existence continuously since 1921, but not all states have had associations with that longevity. It is in those states where the Farm Bureau kept the interest of horseshoe pitching alive in the absence of any other local promotion agency. As you research your state's horseshoe pitching history, you are bound to find the Farm Bureau hosting large county tournaments, some regional events and in some cases, hosting statewide tournaments. Here is a historic look at the state of New York, the home state of the author, D.D. Cottrell, as written in 1929...

HISTORY NEW YORK

After considerable discussion of the matter between G.E. Snyder, D.T. Leonard, D.D. Cottrell, all of whom had been enthused about the horseshoe pitching game by one or more winter sojourns in Florida, and Edgar T. Edwards, manager of the Rochester Exposition, the exposition officials decided to venture an offer of \$300, divided into ten cash prizes and in addition, a gold medal to the champion for the first state championship horseshoe pitching tournament ever held in New York. The first tournament was held on eight fine clay courts on the exposition grounds beginning on Labor Day, 1924.

D.T. Leonard won the state championship from a large field of entrants.

The tournament was so successful and the exposition officials so enthused over its possibilities as a drawing card that they have held a state tournament each year since, during the Exposition Labor Day week.

D.T. Leonard won the state championship again in 1925 and also in 1926 and 1927. In 1928 he did not enter the tournament and Harold C. Forbes won the state championship from 23 other entrants who showed the best ability ever displayed in these state tournaments. Mr. Forbes won all his 23 games in the preliminary round robin with an average ringer percentage of 50.7. He also won all but one of his games in the final round robin between the 12

highest men in the preliminaries, with a ringer percentage of 52.6.

Beginning on Labor Day, 1928, the Rochester Exposition also held the World Championship Horseshoe Pitching Tournament for Women, offering \$500 in cash, divided into eight prizes. One hundred and fifty dollars and a championship gold medal were awarded to Mrs. C.A. Lanham who again won the world's championship honors. There were eight entrants.

Beginning with 1924, there has been held what is called the Amateur State Horseshoe Pitchers Tournament each year, on the State Fairgrounds at Syracuse, during the State Fair. It began by the Farm Bureau in the

different counties of the state holding a county tournament. The men winning first and second honors in each of these county tournaments are certified as such winners to the American Agriculturist, who offers \$160 in cash, divided into seven prizes and in addition, a championship gold medal each year. Two men from each county competing,

come to Syracuse, their round trip railroad fare being paid the the State Fair Association from each of their homes. One of these men pitches in the tournament and the other helps run the tournament and assists in keeping score and compiling records.

According to the conditions of entrance in this tournament, anyone who has once won the championship

is not allowed to compete again; neither is anyone allowed to compete who has won money in any New York State or national tournament.


In 1928, the meet was held August 28-29, and Walter Shackleton, of Walton, a six-foot four-inch youth, 16 years old, won the first prize of \$50 and the championship gold medal.

Nearly 40 counties sent men who each pitched 50 shoes and the 16 men making the highest number of points pitched each other one 25-point game. The six men winning the most games then pitched a round robin to decide the championship and who should receive the six highest cash prizes. Shackleton made an average percentage of 40.3 ringers in the preliminaries and 43.4 in the finals. Only two of the seven prize winners were over 21 years of age. The fourth prize winner, Simeon Daugherty, Scottsville, was only 15 years old.

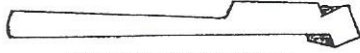
The officers of the New York State Association Pitchers Association are: President, Frank E. Torpy, 205 Alemeda Street, Rochester; First Vice President, Frank Hart, Landing Road, Brighton; Second Vice President, J.O. Welcher, 513 Mason Street, Newark; Third Vice President, Don P. Blaine, Orid; Secretary, Corwin W. Kindig, Maplewood Branch YMCA, Rochester; Treasurer, Frank J. Niven, 103 Main Street, West Rochester.

There are horseshoe pitching clubs in Dansville, Gloversville, Penn Yan, Rochester, Syracuse, Sherrill and in many other cities and villages. At Midland Beach on Staten Island, is a very enthusiastic club of which Victor Larsen, an advertising man, whose office is in the Woolworth Building, NY City, is one of the leading spirits.

In the eastern part of the state, the Northeastern New York Horseshoe League has been organized. The officers of which are: President, Stanley E. Drumm, Schenectady; Sec.-Treas., Albert Hozhauer, South Glens Falls; Director, W.W. Manning, Physical Director YMCA, Gloversville. This league had been very active in conducting local meetings and tournament between the cities where the different officers live, and its members are a bunch of horseshoe fans.



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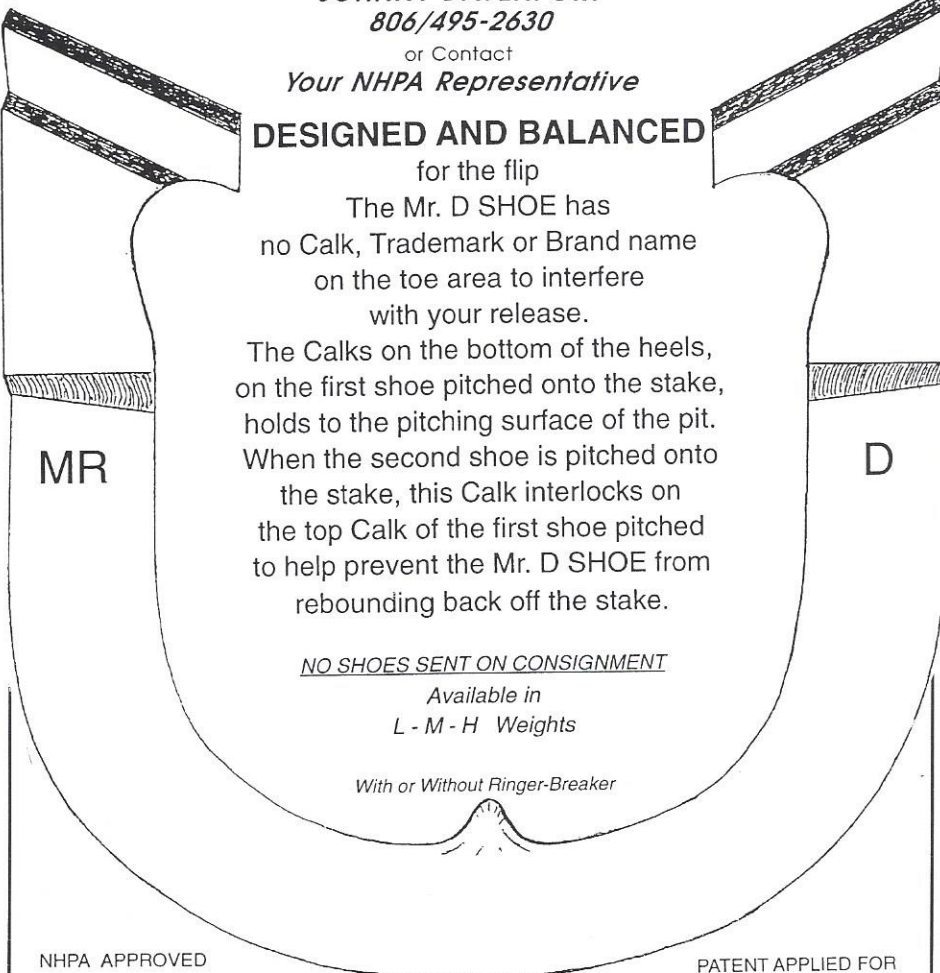
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Regional Director's Report

by Paul Stewart

It's World Tournament time, and I am hoping all of you are making plans to help make this one the best. I haven't decided who will be the Regional Director of the year yet, but will let the person I choose know beforehand and announce it in the next issue of *Newsline*. The Regional Directors meeting will be posted at the World Tournament. Time and date have not been established.

Did You Know?

- There are a total of 496 locations with NHPA sanctioned courts in the USA.
- There are a total of 6,225 courts on these 496 locations.
- The most sanctioned courts at one location is 40, Yolo courts in Davis, CA (Northern CA charter)
- Most sanctioned tournaments in one charter—151, Northern CA.

From the Mail Bag

Ronnie Frederick, Oklahoma RD reports that Kathy Burns from Jones, OK is trying to get horseshoe pitching going again in Edmond. They have scheduled three sanctioned tournaments and plan to run a sanction league on the Edmond courts.

Ron also reports that Okmulgee has built at least four courts and plans to have a tournament in conjunction with their Pecan Festival on June 14. Bob Reese, OK President, plans to attend in hopes of picking up some new members.

The first tournament of the year for the Oklahoma pitchers is the Oklahoma-Texas Shootout, in Denison, Texas. This is the second year for this tournament. Last year's tournament was held in Ada, OK. The Oklahoma pitchers came away with 53-37 record. (I have already heard about this tournament on the Internet, in the horseshoe chat room. Texas pitchers say this is their year for taking the plaque back with them to Texas.)

The tournament is set up with each player receiving one point for a win when pitching a pitcher from the opposing state. The state that scores the most points takes the traveling plaque home with them until next year's tournament. This sounds like a

fun tournament and good luck to both states.

Pat Bacus, Wyoming RD has sanctioned ten new indoor courts at Powell, Wyoming. These courts are in a metal building and well-lighted. They have already played a sanction tournament on these new courts February 15, 1997. Pat says he is in hopes this tournament will become an annual event. The club built nice portable courts for this facility and they are planning to pitch in this facility each Monday night until the weather permits outdoor pitching.

Allen Baptist, Colorado RD reports that Colorado had a good showing at the Las Vegas tournament. They sent 39 pitchers and had two champions, with Rich Pintor and Dee Powell placing 2nd and 4th place respectively in the championship class. The Colorado State Doubles were held at the Pitching Post in Denver Feb. 1-2. Don Schneck and Arch Wood won A class. The Denver Metro Club got together and put a lot of time and effort into improving the Pitching Post in Denver. All of the stakes were replaced and they made new can holders on the wall. The backboards were replaced and the back walls were covered with conveyor belting for added protection. The inside walls will be painted in the future. This effort shows what can happen when everyone joins together to do a job.

Ron Taylor, South Carolina RD reports that the PCA horseshoe club of Clover has recently upgraded their facility with three small shelters around the courts and added two permanent benches along with additional shrubbery. Also, two practice sand courts were added, giving the park a total 14 courts.

The Lockhart Club has now converted all their 12 courts over to clay. New backboards were also added. Club President Ron Williams says some practice courts will be built in the near future.

A new horseshoe pitching location near Hartsville, SC, is in the making. Ron Taylor, and Hartsville Recreation Director Ken McRae are working on the layout of the facility now at

Darpo Lake, and hope to complete work sometime this summer.

Gail Sluys, Northern California RD reports that their season is off to a good start. They had 107 pitchers for their first tournament. Gail also reports that they have a new club in Pollock Pines called the Forebay Horseshoe Club. We welcome them to the NCHPA and NHPA.

Jim Shilling, Indiana RD reports that a new tournament site was on the schedule in 1996 in Indiana. The American Legion Post #210 put in new courts in Middlebury at a cost of \$20,000. There are twelve courts with special lighting system, cement walkways, a fence and bleachers. Plans are underway to construct a pavilion.

During the summer, there were 75 people pitching each week in organized leagues. Two sanctioned tournaments have been scheduled for 1997. An outstanding NHPA member, Joe Graber, was the driving force for the construction and use of these courts.

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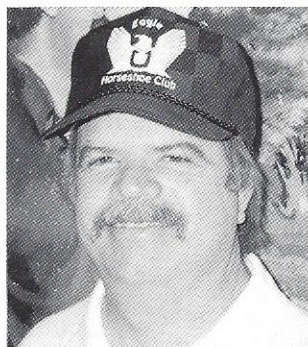
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Allen Baptist

**Announces
Candidacy for
NHPA
First Vice President**



I would like to announce my candidacy for the office of First Vice President in the National Horseshoe Pitchers Association. I have been a member of the NHPA/CHPA for the past twelve years and currently serve as the Colorado Regional Director and am a member of the CHPA Hall of Fame Committee.

I have been in the lumber business for 22 years and have been General Manager for the last 15 years, for very successful, multi-million dollar operations. I have been married for 20 years. My wife and two children are very supportive of my involvement in horseshoes.

I think that the NHPA is a great organization, of which I am very proud to be a member. I love the sport of horseshoes and I believe I could be an asset to the NHPA Executive Council.

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Sanctioned Club/League News

by Bev Born

Ten years, come December, as your CL/LG national coordinator! Doesn't seem possible. There have been some trials and tribulations, some disappointments and many wonderful times. Common occurrences, in all aspects of life. I can honestly say, that the pleasures of working both with and for so many great people has always come out on top. Although I may not last another 10 years, I do hope to continue, as long as health, abilities and your gracious support permits me to do so.

The program, now beginning its 20th year, was overseen the first six years by Donnie Roberts and Russell Gadoury. The next four years, 1983-1987 it was Terrence "Doc" Dougherty. The honor of this position was appointed to me in December 1987. The year of 1988 was a little trying for all of us. Doc's extreme illness during his last year made it hard for him to keep up with the work required. December 1987 and early 1988 was spent unpacking the truckload of boxes, sorting it out, contacting some 150 CL/LGs, notifying the change in administration, compiling 1987 Top Ten and sending out all patches and such to those that had not received them. Getting it all together seemed a slow process, but thanks to all involved, at that time, we made it.

In 19 years from 1978, the program has grown from 8 states, 13 clubs and 856 members to 44 states, 222 clubs and 6,249 members. As of today, March 28, 1997, there are 44 states and 7 new sanctions for a total of 229 clubs with the year still young.

I would like to see 48 states and 250 clubs involved. Perhaps this is a high goal to set. With help from all of you, the many unsanctioned clubs and the four states with no sanctioned clubs, this goal could be easily met or surpassed. Then, if there were to be no cancellations! What a great way to celebrate this 20 year milestone. I'll be counting on each of you, as it cannot be accomplished with only a few working for it.

The continuous year of sanction awards will now be for 5, 10, 15 and 20 years. This year there will be 21

due for 5 years, 18 for 10, 4 for 15, and 8 for 20, a total of 51. If all 51 of these have their mandatory 1997 membership reports in this office before the deadline of September 30th.

All member reports, for all CL/LGs should be in before this date, but these 51 must be. If not, they will forfeit their award and it will never be made-up or replaced. If your club's sanction number begins with 78, 83, 88 or 93, it is due for this 1997 award. It is in your hands to make sure your required report is submitted before the deadline. If there are any doubts or questions, do contact me.

I truly want only the best for the NHPA and this program's growth and success. It seems that both could be in grave trouble, unless we all start looking at our treasured game of horseshoes as a time of fun, good times, good, clean competition and friendly fellowship. There are too many thinking only of the short vs. long distance, male vs. female, junior or elders controversy. When this is all you think about, there is no hope of having any of the above.

Anyone being honest with themselves, surely knows that if their mind is on being upset about their opponent's age, gender, pitching distance or anything else, there is no way to have a good game. I do not mean to offend anyone, but personally, I go to tournaments and league play to have the good things, see my friends, try to improve my game, take my mind off life's everyday problems, not to add more stress, turmoil or ruin my game.

Games take a lot of concentration and rhythm. I, myself, cannot have or do what it takes if I cannot also have rhythm with my opponent. Guess I am just so very tired and bored with hearing and reading so much about this issue. Why? I ask, can't we go have fun, work on our game, without having it on our minds that our opponent may be younger, older, pitching from a different distance, male or female. This will never improve my pitching, nor will it yours. For what it is worth. May we all try hard to eliminate the turmoil in our sport. Heaven knows there is

enough in our everyday lives without conjuring up more, while doing what we love to do. Show integrity and good will!!

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News Release

SYRACUSE PIONEER HSC
#82-C-21

by Dave Harnden

The club successfully completed its fifteenth year as an NHPA sanctioned club, with pitching at the New York State Fairgrounds. The working nucleus which was responsible for the success of the 1994 World Tournament remains pretty much intact. This group continues to be the guiding force, which helps the Pioneers to be one of the best run clubs in the state.

Our eight week Spring league with classes "A" through "H" ended with the following winners: Glenn Brown, Katie Frazee, Jeannie Hill, Marge Phillips, Bob Volles, John Lockhurst, Fred House and Gordon LaLonde. Our eight week Summer league with classes "A" through "F" was dominated by the following class winners: Lance Hinman, Lou Valentino, Dave Rode, Lorraine Valentino, Mark Valentino, and Chuck Pickard. Harry Dunbar, saving his best for last, took first place in Class "A" in the Fall league, with Class "B" through "F" being won by Art Dantuono, Bob Volles, Jim Lindsay, Mark Valentino and Sally Drago. High Point Average for all leagues went to Bob Wilsch, who also took High Ringer Games. High Games Over Average went to Charlie Mertens, Bob Kraus, and Lefty Luckhurst. Most Improved honors went to Mark Valentino, Moose Dibbern and Rich Whitney. Rookies for the leagues went to Bob Tallini, Moose Dibbern and Lester Yager. Winners of the High-Low Doubles were Bob Wilsch and Russ Sorenson.

The Pioneers also hold two Memorial Club tournaments each year. One in honor of Hall of Famer Tony Sauro and the other honoring Cully Mertens. These events were won by Glenn Brown and Allen Russell.

(continued on page 30)

29 Rule Change Proposals

by Casey Sluys

The following rule change proposals will be brought before the delegates seated in convention at Kitchener, Ontario, Canada this year. The object of printing them in *Newsline* is for members to read and voice your opinion on them. The proper method of voting on these proposals would be for the President of your club to call a meeting and discuss and vote upon each proposal. The answers would equal the Club vote, which would be handed over to the Charter, who would tally each Club's vote, then the delegates to the convention would be instructed by the Charter to vote as their Clubs have voted. From past experience I know this does not happen in all Charters. I would like to see the members of Charters take the initiative and force the clubs to vote. This should not be an organization of *us and them*, it needs to be *us*, we are all members of the NHPA and your vote does matter.

1. Rule 1, section A, 2b: Add at the end of the paragraph the following sentence, *"In addition to the front foul line, the outside width of the 6' pitchers box shall be defined by a permanent line."*

Reason: starting with your foot touching the line is okay, but if the foot is completely outside the line, it is a foul.

2. Rule 1, section A3: Change to read, *"The stake is the target at which the shoe is pitched. Each stake shall be centered between the platforms with a minimum of 21 inches from the stake to the front and back of the pit. (Normally the stakes are 40 feet apart at the pitching platform level.) Stakes shall be 1 inch diameter and may be made of hot or cold rolled steel, mild iron, soft metal, or synthetic material. Each stake shall be 15 inches above the pit level and they shall have a 12 degree lean toward each other."*

Reason: It is commonly held that the stakes should be some distance closer together in a situation like our World Tournament, due to the raised pit area while standing on the concrete, etc. Measuring the 40 feet at standing level would accomplish this and still comply with the 40' rule.

We should add hot rolled steel, if you talk to those who know, hot can be softer and cold can be softer depending on the specifications of the produce.

There is no reason to have the 1 inch difference in the height of the stake. When people are building courts they need to know which it is—14 or 15?

The so-called 3 inch lean toward each other creates a different lean if the stake is 14 inches versus 15 inches. 12 degrees makes all stakes lean the same regardless of how tall they are.

3. Rule 1, section A4: Change to read, *"Clay, sand, dirt, and synthetic compositions are all legal substances to put in the pit. The minimum depth of the substance shall be 4 inches. A 6 inch depth is recommended."*

Reason: The current rule recommends an 8 inch depth, this is too deep. Our official drawing calls for 6 inches as almost all courts have been built in the past. 8 inches of clay allows too much distance from the top of the wooden block or bucket to the top of the clay.

4. Rule 1, section A, 7a: Change to read, *"Every pit should have a backboard. It should be 1 foot high, extend the width of the pit, be attached to the inside bottom of the chain link fence, and should be a color that will provide a contrasting background for the stake."*

Reason: If courts have a chain link fence as recommended by 7b, the need for backboards as described in the current 7a is nil. All that is needed is a 12 inch board fastened to the bottom of the chain link fence. This 2"x 12" board painted a contrasting color can run the full length of the fence. It is out of the way there and safer also.

5. Rule 1, section A 7b: Protective barrier—"All court complexes shall be surrounded by a protective barrier. The barrier should be at least 8 feet behind the stake. A chain link type fence at least 6 feet high is recommended."

Reason: All new indoor facilities are already doing this because 4 feet is not enough. Outdoors we have many instances of shoes bouncing over the 4 foot fence and hitting spectators, etc.

6. Rule 1, section A8: Foul lines, add another sentence. *"If the pit is less than six feet long, a foul line must be painted to run parallel with the inside of the pitching platform, and extending to the 37 foot foul line."*

Reason: Some pitchers do not think it is a foul to step on the cement between the 37 foot foul line and the pit with their pivot foot when delivering their shoe.

7. Rule 1, section A9 Imaginary stakes. After the first sentence insert the following sentence. *"If the courts only have a walkway the width of the pitching platforms, the imaginary stake may be painted on the inside edge of the walkway."*

Reason: Courts that have grass between the walkways need a stripe or a dot painted on the cement.

8. Rule 1, section A 7c: Temporary or raised courts, add to first paragraph *"The foul lines should be adjusted 1 inch forward for every 1 inch of height on raised pits."*

9. Rule 1, section A 7c: *"The regulations for temporary and/or raised courts are the same as for permanent ground level courts with the exception that for a raised court, the top of the pit shall be no more than 4 inches above the level of the pitching platforms. In addition, the 4 inch pit substance requirement is mandatory."*

Reason: The only reason 7 inches is in this rule was to comply with courts we used at the world. This change will put us in line with the courts now being used at the world.

10. Add to Rule 2 section A: *"No part of a shoe, lying on a flat, level surface, may exceed one inch in height."*

Reason: As per agreement of the Rules Committee meeting in Gillette in 1996.

11. Rule 2, section A: Add the sentences, *"All horseshoes used by a pitcher may be randomly checked to verify they are legal shoes for weight, measurement and altered shoes. This checking will be done by a judge or other tournament official."*

12. Rule 4, section A: Remove the words, *"but a contestant may have someone else do the preparation"* and replace with *"except for a physically impaired player."*

Reason: It is a distraction to have non-pitchers wandering off and on the courts, often paying no attention to a game in progress next to them. If a player is fit enough to pitch horseshoes he/she should be fit enough to turn their own pit.

13. Rule 6, section B1 Ringer: Change to read: *"A ringer*

is a shoe which comes to rest such that the combination of the shoe and a straightedge across its points encircle the stake. A straight-edge touching both points of the shoe must not rock because of the position of the stake for the shoe to be declared a ringer. A ringer has a value of three points."

Reason: To eliminate the need to use a feeler gage, dollar bill, or some other piece of shim to determine if there is clearance between the stake and the straightedge, it will most likely eliminate a lot of judging calls and speed up the decision of other calls.

14. Rule 6, section B1: Change the word "heel" in the second sentence to "points."

Reason: The diagram on page 11 shows a heel caulk and a point, but not a heel.

15. Rule 6, section B2: Add to the first line after the word ringer.. "and has not been declared a foul shoe by any definition of section H." **Reason:** rewrite of section B3, (see next proposal)

16. Rule 6 section B3: Change title and wording of section to "Scoring Area"-The scoring area shall be defined as a 15 inch radius from the stake. While a pitched shoe coming to rest further than 6 inches from the stake has no scoring value, it could land at an angle whereby its closest point is 6 inches and its furthest point is 15 inches, thus lying in the scoring area."

Reason: Scoring area needs to be defined and a player may not step anywhere in the area where a shoe in count could land.

17. Rule 6, section D1: Change entirely to read, "The Pitcher-During the address prior to delivery, a pitcher's foot can rest upon, but not completely outside, the lines designating the sides of the pitching platform. During the delivery, at least one foot must be in contact with the pitching platform and no contact either on or over the designated foul line is allowed until after the shoe is released. Penalty is a foul shoe. An exception to this is that a contestant may stand behind (but not to the side of) the full distance platform." **Reason:** To better define where a player may stand in relation to the designated sides of the platform.

18. Rule 6, section E1: before its scoring value is determined. "Contestants are encouraged to carry measuring devices and make their own decisions. If the contestants cannot agree on a decision a judge shall be called. The judge shall make the necessary measurement(s) and determine the scoring of the shoe(s)." **Reason:** It clarifies the flow and encourages the players to measure before calling a judge.

19. Rule 6, section D1: In the first sentence after the second comma, eliminate the words..."in contact with..." and replace with "...completely inside." **Reason:** As the rule now reads, you can hang your foot over into the pit, and still be "in contact with" the pitching platform. This will clear it up.

20. Rule 6, section E5: Change the first line to read, "It is legal for a contestant to carry and use a hook or shoe pick-up device that does not exceed 18 inches in total length or have a hook longer than 2 inches."

Reason: More and more people are getting hit (with some face and eye injuries reported) with the longer pick-up tools. We need to impose limits before an eye is lost.

21. Rule 6, section H, line 4: Change "scoring radius" of the stake to "scoring area."

Rule 6, section H2, line 3: Change "scoring radius" of the stake to "scoring area."

Reason: To be consistent in calling the 15 inches around the stake the scoring area.

22. Rule 6, section H1a: Add after...the foul line "before the shoe is released."

Reason: helps clarify a fact that is already in practice.

23. Rule 8, section A1b: Add #4 "An optional method for scoring shoes in count is to allow all shoes within 6 inches of the stake to be of equal value (as in count all scoring) and thereby, as with ringers, close shoes may be cancelled. Single points are earned when one opponent does not have a close shoe which is able to cancel the other opponent's shoe in count." **Reason:** As close shoes (non ringers) are of equal value in count-all scoring, the same principle can apply in cancellation scoring. As ringers cancel opponents' ringers, so can close shoes cancel opponents' close shoes in count. Single points may still be earned and scored however, this scoring option will allow for a speedier game and avoid many nuisance moments of measuring shoes in count that appear to be an equal distance from the stake.

24. Rule 8, section A2: Calling the Score. Change the following calls: "One ringer each with no score " to, "two dead no score" ; "one ringer each, one point" to, "two dead, one point" ; "three ringers three" to, "two dead three points."

Reason: 1. the word dead is easier to understand, 2. for the sake of consistency, 4 dead is a legitimate call.

25. Rule 6, section H: Delete the last sentence and add, "Shoes already in the pit that have been disturbed by a foul shoe are not to be moved, unless they were knocked into foul territory and are returned to the scoring area." **Reason:** It is possible for a pitched shoe to knock a foul shoe back to the scoring area or perhaps around the stake.

26. Rule 12, section A: Tournament play in the last sentence omit the word "other."

Reason: We play every contestant in the group not every other.

27. Rule 12, section C: Add "For all NHPA sanctioned tournament play, a minimum of 200 shoes is required for an average to be submitted to the NatStat center."

Reason: The only place in the NHPA rules where there is a requirement for shoes pitched is in the By-Laws and concerns sanctioned league play. This would give us a required number of shoes pitched before it could be reported to NatStats.

28. Rule 13, section B: Judges, add "See judging guide-lines.)" **Reason:** We have them, let's use them.

29. Horseshoe Court layout on back: Delete "the note about the fence" and replace with: "stake placement may also be done in a 5 gal. bucket of cement. Wrap rubber hose around portion of stake that is cement for elasticity."

Reason: It is a viable option to put the stake in cement. Eliminate fence portion because it's already in the rules. See 1-7-b.



New Melle Pitchers Take Trophy to Missouri

by Mary Bastian

Vowing not to leave the traveling trophy in Tennessee two years in a row, forty-nine pitchers from New Melle, Missouri, arrived at the Jack Freeman Courts around 4:30 p.m. on Friday, March 7, 1997 and began practicing for the second annual New Melle-Music City Tournament.

The format of the tournament was changed this year in order to have more participation in the match-up of pitchers from New Melle and Music City. Jack Freeman, Tournament Director, scheduled three flights of six six-person classes, two flights pitching on Saturday, March 8, and one flight on Sunday morning. Match-ups were made by a committee and the names of those who scored points were highlighted and total wins were posted after each flight.

Twenty-two pitchers (eleven each from New Melle and Music City) were designated match-ups in the first flight. At the end of the first

flight the score was Music City 29, New Melle 27. At the end of the second flight sixteen pitchers from Music City had added 40 points to their 29; New Melle's sixteen pitchers picked up 40.5 points. Now the score was Music City 69-New Melle 67.5. Joe Faron walked the sidelines with the trophy in hand saying if Missouri didn't win the pitchers would be walking back to Missouri. Watering and covering the courts for the night, the New Melle group left to do Nashville Saturday night. They visited the Opryland Hotel, the Grand Ole Opry, the Wildhorse Saloon and other night spots.

The Sunday morning pitchers came in ready to do battle. Jack Freeman donned a "Where in the Hell is New Melle?" t-shirt and held the trophy aloft. The battle was on. At the end of the third round it was announced that Music City was still ahead. You could feel the tension as the final two rounds were played.

After a catered lunch of barbecue,

white beans, slaw, Mexican cornbread and banana pudding, the crowd watched as Joe Faron and Jack Freeman, each with a hand on the trophy in the center of the courts, began a tug-of-war as they tried to wrest the trophy from each other. The group fell silent as results of the morning rounds were announced.

Music City had picked up 27 points for a final total of 96. Deeper silence, then came the announcement New Melle had 35.5 points to add to their 67.5 for a grand total of 103 and possession of the trophy. Shouts of elation erupted from the Missouri group as Jack solemnly handed the trophy to Joe Faron. Final tally: New Melle 103- Music City 96.

After picture taking and closing remarks by Joe Faron and Jack Freeman and with the inviting aroma of Mexican cornbread still in the air, the New Melle pitchers, with full stomachs and the trophy, boarded the Mid America bus for the long, but joyous ride home.

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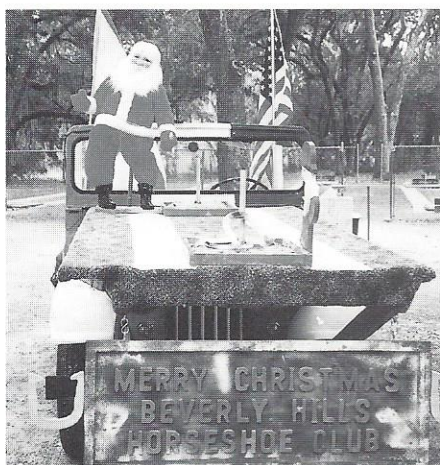
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Here & There

Dave Loucks reports happenings around the NHPA



Beverly Hills, FL Club In Parade

Members of the Beverly Hills, Florida, H.C. took part in the December 21, 1996 city Christmas parade. Club President, Jerry Randall, painted a jeep red, white and blue, and with help from Gene Rock, made a float of Santa pitching horseshoes. Eileen Fox painted the letters for the NHPA signs which were on both sides of the vehicle. Edwin Fox handled publicity while Howard and Polly Tyo, Joyce Coles, Carl Nixon and Ruth Wassong gave their time and support to various other needs.

Prescott, Arizona Pitch-A-Thon

The Central Arizona Horseshoe Club of Prescott held a Pitch-A-Thon November 2, 1996 which raised \$550 to help defray the cost of construction of new courts at Pioneer Park. Club members were given a pledge sheet to gather sponsors for the 50 shoe program. Sponsors were asked to pledge a minimum of 10 cents per

ringer made or a flat donation of their choice. Some pitchers garnered as many as 25 sponsors for this event.



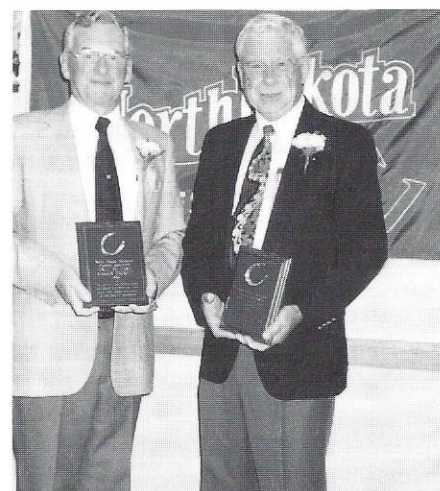
Attica, Ohio Member Instructs Students

Keith Lepard of Attica, Oh, opened his backyard horseshoe court to give instruction to the summer '96 High School P.E. classes of the Seneca East school. Four adults, each with a different turn, gave instruction with the flip, 3/4, 1-1/4 and 1-3/4.



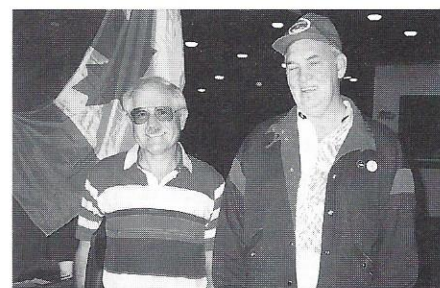
New Hampshire Champions

Keene, NH, was the site of play and crowning of the 1996 State Champions. Photos supplied by Tom Blake show (Top L-R) Senior Champion Larry Croteau; Women's Champion Debbi Alexander and Men's Champion Steve Squires Jr. The bottom photo shows junior champions Eric Cannon and Kortne Leonard.



ND Hall of Fame Inductees

At the 1996 annual Hall of Fame Banquet, the North Dakota HPA inducted Marv Hackett of Minot and Len Hofmann of Bismarck. Both have been pitching more than 20 years. In addition to holding office in their local clubs, Marv is a past president of the NDHPA and is presently an NHPA Assistant Regional Director. Len is a past secretary of the NDHPA and the current Class "A" Men's State Champion.



Junior Opponents of Years Long Ago

In 1951 and 52, Dave Loucks and Stan Hilton competed against each other in Murray, Utah for the Junior Boys World Title. It was 44 years before they met again at the 1996 World in Gillette. Stan was not entered, but dropped in for a visit when a chance encounter at the Kitchener booth brought these two old youngsters face to face again.

Here & There

continued from page 25

\$15,000 Donated for New Courts

Lee Palmer at age 89 is one of the oldest active members in the NHPA. He has been pitching horseshoes for more than 75 years. For years, he has been a driving force in the Highlands County Horseshoe Club which plays on 12 courts at the Max Long Recreational complex in Sebring, FL.

The city decided to move the courts to make way for a new soccer field which is part of a five year development plan. The courts weren't going to be lost but Lee wanted to see an 18 court complex built so larger tournaments could be held that would attract pitchers nationwide. Lee reached an arrangement with city authorities whereby he donated \$15,000 and the city will come up with the remaining \$10,000 estimated for materials and in-kind labor. The new facility will be called the Lee Palmer Horseshoe Courts.

Oregon HPA Honors Centenarian

In February, 1997, the Oregon HPA honored Elsie Baldwin who reached 100 years of age in January. Elsie was presented a framed Honor Roll certificate with an Oregon plaque honoring her for organizing, promoting and pitching horseshoes. Other gifts were given and a news interview conducted.

Oregon records do not mention ladies until 1930, but NHPA writings by D.D. Cottrell in 1929 mention a women's horseshoe club in Portland, Oregon whose President was Mrs. Frances Chandler. When shown a 1928 photo of 17 ladies posing with hookless horseshoes, Elsie Baldwin picked out Mrs. Chandler. That seems to indicate Elsie was pitching before Oregon records which show her winning the State Championship in 1936-1940 and 1945. Her last tournament in Oregon was in 1947, fifty years ago. The OHPA has discovered some very valuable history for their museum.

Special Events Calendar

JUNE 1997

21-22 Oregon Money Open—Hermiston, OR. \$2000+ added purse along with return of entry fees less expenses. Preregister by evening of June 19. Entry fees \$25 for Class A, 30' & 40'. All other classes \$20.00. Send fee with NatStat average and NHPA card # to Rick Rebman, Rt. 5, Box 5257, Hermiston, OR 97838. 541-567-8560.

21-22 Dakota Sioux Casino 3rd Annual Tournament—Watertown, SD. \$1000 added purse plus 80% payback of all entry fees. Free buffet and free \$10 gaming coins and Blackjack play. Preregister by June 14. Send \$25 entry and NatStat average to Clifford Ziehl, Mitchell, SD 57301-1462. 605-996-7986.

21-23 Eastern National—Kuchcinski Family Park, Erie, PA. Approx. \$3,000 prize fund, entries determine. Preregister by June 1st. Entry fee \$25. Send with class and perctnage to: Aileen Drayer, 1317 W. 20th St., Erie, PA 16502. 814-454-4642.

28-29 Valley of the Rogue—Rogue River, OR. \$1,000 added purse, 2 day round-robin for all. Entrants must check in prior to 7:30 a.m. Friday the 27th. Entry fee \$35.00, all players. Preregister by 10 p.m., June 24th. Entries with fee and NatStat average to Charles Anderson, 107 Ash Drive, Rogue River, OR 97537. 541-582-1456.

4-6 Greenville Ringer Classic—Greenville, OH. Ladies Championship July 4th. Men's Championship July 5 & 6. Contact Joel P. Loy, Secretary, Darke County Horseshoe Club, 628 Southbrooke Dr., Greenville, OH 45331. Phone 937-548-4320.

12-13 Affiliated Horseshoe Pitchers—MCPARC, Worthington, WV. Entry fees plus \$1000 added. Full distance classes and mixed short distance classes. Preregister by July 2nd. Adults \$10, Juniors \$5, payable to Affiliated Horseshoe Pitchers MCPARC, 508 Ohio Ave., Fairmont, Marion County, WV 26554-4155. 304-366-7986

14-27 World Tournament—Kitchener, Ontario, Canada. Preregister by May 1st, \$50 adults, \$10 juniors. Must use official NHPA entry form in this magazine or available from your Charter secretary.

AUGUST 1997

1-17 Ohio State Fair—At the Whetstone Horseshoe Club, Columbus, OH. Clay courts. Purse \$6,000, mixed play except for 30' and 40' finals. Preregister by July 3. Fee \$25. Limited to first 144 entries. For info. and registration forms, contact Ohio State Fair at 614-644-4040 or Don Sanders, Tournament Director, 6687 Merwin Rd., Columbus, OH 43235. 614-761-3357 (eves only).

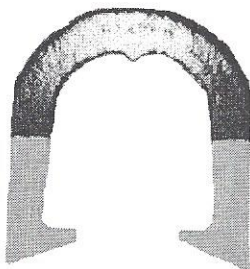
NOVEMBER 1997

1-2 Music City Team Tournament—Joelton, TN. 3-person teams limited to 24 teams. Mixed event, no jrs. Players must have NatStat avg. showing at least 3 NHPA-sanctioned tournaments in 12 months prior to 9/1/97. Total combined % of 3 team members shall not exceed 215. Entry fee of \$90 per team must be received by Sept. 15th. Tournament Director not responsible for loss of income or expenses incurred in anticipation but not one of 24 teams selected. For info contact Mary Bastian, 3730 Old Charlotte Pike, Franklin, TN 37069-4791, 615-794-5620. Fax 615-591-0833.

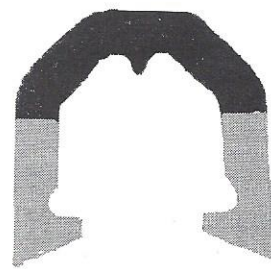
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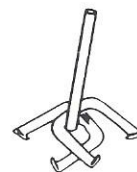
M&M SPECIAL





Bob Champion's

Charter Chatter



Like that fellow on the AT&T commercial—"We're making progress." During the last survey in 1988, 36 states indicated they had a Hall of Fame on paper, and only 13 indicated they had a room or building to display their memorabilia. I hope those figures will increase after I have heard from all the state secretaries in the most recent personal letter request sent to every state secretary.

In the last month I have heard from over 10 secretaries or their charter representatives, and some of the information received has been used in this issue of Charter Chatter.

In Colorado the CHPA has a 40-foot mobile home donated to the association in 1989 and it has been adequate to house our memorabilia. It seems that somewhere in every state there is a similar building that could be acquired for their Hall of Fame.

ALABAMA

Organized horseshoe pitching in the state began in 1963 in Selma, and since that time there have been only five men's state champions. Ottie (Here Comes the Judge) Reno was the first champion, and held that title 15 times before Bob Stowe reigned for three years from 1978 through 1980.

James Johnson won a single title in 1981, before Walker Shaneyfelt and Jack Henderson took over for the next 15 years. Shaneyfelt won nine crowns, 1983 through 1987, then came back in 1989 to win three more. Henderson took the 1988 title, then came back to be the champion from 1992 through 1996. Reno, Shaneyfelt, Stowe and Henderson are all Hall of Fame inductees.

The current women's champion is Debbie Tidwell, who has held the title since 1987, plus 1984. Wesley Lowry has won five boys' titles in the last six years, Tonya Lynn is the girls' champion. Fred Betterton is the Elder title-holder, with Johnnie Millican, O.A. Lindsey and Ed Short sharing three-year titles since 1985.

ARIZONA

Percentages are not available, but a pitcher known only as Mr. Pulliam won the first Men's Class A championship in 1926. James O. Lecky racked up 22 straight titles, then Stanley DeLeary nailed eight in a row before Arthur Kamman visited the courts to win 18 titles through 1979. Sandwiched in between these long strings of victories were single year championships to Clifford Thompson, A "Mr." Vogel and a J. Dawsey.

Frank Farley is the present day champion winning titles in 1995 and 1996. Nathan Williams held the crown from 1989 through 1994 and Gary Minnick held the top spot from 1982-1988, except in 1981 and 1985 when Joe Walker and Floyd Voyce finished first.

Ruthie Barrett has won the ladies' title the past three years. Other winners and their number of titles have been Carol Larkins (2), Teresa Lievrouw (6), Judy Free (1), Virginia Chalbert (2), Betty Bryant (1) and Dolly Shanley (1), Richard Lowrey is the Elders' champion for 1996.

CALIFORNIA

Horseshoe libraries display much that is edifying and interesting to pitchers who visit them. However, once in awhile a sportswriter gets carried away with inanity and dullness in expression when making fun of the horseshoe pitching sport.

When looking through old-date newspapers in the Don Titcomb Library in San Jose, Stu Snyder noticed the following sports page report in the *San Jose Mercury Herald*, August 21, 1923. "Joseph Strojanovich of San Jose, hurled the EQUINE FOOTWEAR for second place while W.B. Danhart, also of this city, manipulated the IRON SANDALS for third place." Well, well, and the sport survives!

The Sonoma County Horseshoe Club in Santa Rosa will extend their courts by four. Located in Doyle Park, supervisors will give more ground to the club and help finance the activity. The newspaper, *Press Democrat*, has agreed to give some coverage of horseshoe activity this season. Junior activity has greatly increased, and an adult has been appointed to guide them.

The Sonoma County Championship in 1996 was won by junior Dale Loranger, by outpitching his adult challengers with 63.57%. This is his second year of pitching. He is a contender to watch.

CANADA

Ontario is gearing up for the 1997 World Tournament and it seems they are pulling out all the stops to make this event one to remember. As hosts of the tournament they say they plan to hand each contestant a bag containing items of interest from Canada. They are asking each province provide their Provincial Pin, together with anything else they can come up with.

Their newsletter *Horseshoe Ontario* has announced that the courts used at the World would be available for sale at \$170 per set if prepaid by May 1, 1997. They feel that the courts are the finest built anywhere...completely portable, clay filled, plastic lined, removable stake assembly and removable backstop.

The Kitchener-Waterloo Khaki Club visited the Wingham Sportsman Club, playing ten games to 30 points. 16 players from the Khaki Club and 12 players from the host club competed with Khaki coming out on top 30 games to 20.

The top five in ringer percentages are headed by Sandy Janssens with 81.78. Stanley Leis is second with 76.30, followed by Adam Ellis 73.76, Steve Hohl 72.55, and Frank Weaver, Sr. 68.40.

COLORADO

Don Schneck from Denver and Lakewood's Arch Wood captured the 6th Annual State Doubles, closing one game in front of Paul LaCrosse and Ken McKenzie. 72 pitchers competed in the 2-day event.

In 1983, Duane and Margaret Tarket established the highest husband-wife ringer percentage total, competing in

(continued next page)

CHARTER CHATTER

the same state tournament with a 117.1% total. Margaret, who won five straight women's titles from 1983-1987, had a 63.6% while Duane closed with 53.5.

Englewood's Virginia Sandoval has nailed 6 Singles titles, one in 1988 and then 5 in a row from 1990-1994.

Horseshoe pitching Ted Allen, winner of 10 World titles, also won 10 state championships, most of them in his early pitching days, 1922 through 1931. During his heyday at the World, Ted did not compete in State since he was out earning a living with demonstrations at sports events and wild west shows in Madison Square Garden and many other arenas. Had he chosen to "come home" in his high percentage years, he possibly would have added at least another "10".

Colorado's modern legend, Paul LaCrosse, has won 13 championships and is still going strong.

FLORIDA

Lee Palmer of Sebring, who has pitched horseshoes competitively for over 75 years, and for years a driving force in the Highlands County Horseshoe Club, is giving the city \$15,000 toward the construction of a new horseshoe facility at the Max Long Recreation Complex. As he approaches his 90th birthday, Palmer said he might as well spend some personal funds "that are just earning interest" on a lifelong sport he wants to share with others.

The pits Palmer and fellow club members want to see built would have 18 courts, enough to attract tournament play from across Florida. City officials state that the remaining \$10,000 needed in materials and labor would come from donations and the state. You guessed it: the new facility will be called the Lee Palmer Horseshoe Courts...and rightly so.

Harold "Hal" Porter, who died in 1977, has been elected into the state Hall of Fame. He was a sportswriter for the *Bradenton Herald*, and his weekly column which appeared for about 10 years, commencing in 1964, was widely read. His column, which at that time was the only known regular weekly horseshoe pitching column in the U.S. covered local, state and national events. He coined such phrases as "stake charmers," "iron tamers" and "ringer swingers." His news column contributed significantly to the growth of the sport on the west coast of Florida.

GEORGIA

Volume 1, Issue 1 of the new state newsletter, *The GA Ringer*, was received and in the President's Message by Howard Lubben we find the following paragraph:

"We have escaped a bullet from the NHPA concerning the shortfall and we should all be thankful to Jim Haley for his step to cover the \$10,000. Now, we shall do what we can to repay his generosity. To date, members have sent in contributions totaling \$3,765. Thanks to those who responded."

Georgia publicity director Al Sandham has responded to the request for state champions in all championship classes. This report may be published in a future *Newsline*.

In the meantime, the top pitcher in the Sandham family (excuse me, Al) is wife Iris, who was awarded St. Joseph Hospital's most valuable senior player. The program is coordinated through the hospital's orthopedics department and awards Georgia's male and female senior ath-

letes over age 55. Iris pitches 150 shoes each day and has been the state women's champion six times and is the only woman in the State Hall of Fame.

INDIANA

The state has 49 sanctioned tournaments scheduled for 1997, according to RD Jim Schilling. New locations are Anderson, Connersville, Hanover, Douts and Vernon.

For the first time, three doubles tournaments are on the schedule. These will be held in Terre Haute at Collett Park under the direction of Terry Sears, Sr., IHPA vice president.

From 1953 through 1988 two former World Champions held most of the state titles. Curt Day from Frankfort won his first title in 1953 and won 17 through 1974.

Mark Seibold from Huntington first won in 1973 and added seven more through 1985. Chatter does not have records to list any more, but my feeling is that Mark has added many more since then. A quick call to mom and pop Seibold upped the figure to 13, including the last four.

Karl Van Sant, Cayuga, won in 1986, 1988 and 1990. Dale Henry was the winner in 1991 and Chad Hyatt nailed the 1992 crown.

IDAHO

The State's "High Five" percentages for 1996 are headed by Bill Rust from Lewiston with 57.71%. Second spot is held by Idaho Falls' Clyde Marquez 55.47, flowed by Gary Kollman, Nampa 53.46; Jim Taylor, Caldwell 52.07; and David Spears, Boise 50.86.

The ladies' champion for 1996 is Linda Van Gorder of Boise. The junior champion is Eric Stephens from Coeur d'Alene.

In the 1996 State Men's Championship class, four men tied for first place after the 11-game round robin. The play-off was based on percentage-low to high. Nick Piva from Challis defeated Kollman, 42-38; Rust nailed Piva, 40-9 and then defeated Spears, 40-20 to take the title. Spears had the high game 73.52 in the tournament.

The 1996 high five for the 30-foot pitchers is headed by Clarence Webb's 69.27%. Second in line is Don Moser 65.34, Linda Van Gorder 62.17, Bill Brown 61.52 and Howard Homme 60.40.

The Director of the Year is Don Heidt of the Silver Valley Club.

IOWA

Six Iowa State Champions have also been World Champions, starting with five of them in the years before 1934. Frank Jackson won his seventh title in 1926 and it was a long time before Kevin Cone from Alta, Iowa added his name to the list. Kevin won the World in 1992. Other State and World Champions have included Frank Lundin, Putt Mossman and Guy Zimmerman.

Putt won the state four times, Zimmerman three and Lundin two. The dean of State Champions has been Glen Henton from Maquoketa, who nailed the coveted crown 17 times through 1988. Cone won the title from 1989 through 1992 and in 1995.

Congratulations to Cassandra Lepley, editor of the IHPA newsletter. Just a little note to her. I have been editor of the *Double Ringer* here in Colorado, and still have my

CHARTER CHATTER

photo on the back page. Cassandra managed to grace the front page of her publications, and a good one, too. After all, she's prettier than I am.

KANSAS

It's not true that Kansas has gone to Potts, but when you review the record in Class A State Tournament competition the name of Merlin Potts jumps out from the sheet.

Twenty-three times Merlin has captured the top title in Kansas, starting in 1964 and continuing through 1994. During the time between 1964 and 1988, Potts lost only four championships. In the years before the Potts reign, Marines Tamboer won nine times, and added two more with wins in 1965 and 1980. Roland Kraft added nine crowns and Alvin Gandy of Topeka nailed four.

The top ladies' pitcher in the state, Mary Ann Peninger, had a perfect 5-0 record and 71.5 ringer percentage to win the annual St. Valentine championship. Tom Swain won Class A (44.17) and Jerry Holt nailed the A2 title with a 7-0 record and 68.93%. Nick Edgington went 5-0 and 4.17 to win the junior crown.

KENTUCKY

The State Association kicked off the 1997 season with an open tournament at Jack Freeman Courts in Joelton, Tennessee in February. Kentucky's reigning Champion Charlie Meredith won Class A closing with a 73.84 ringer percentage. Other class winners were Al Morris 56.8; Michael Bryan 49.3; Joe Daniel 44.8; Gwen Sharp 36.4 and Jeff Holloway 24.2. State officials thanked Freeman and Mary Bastian for their help and use of the excellent facility.

In state tournament competition Meredith has won 4 titles, 1990, 1992, 1995 and 1996. Winners have been spread around with Bill Henn winning 5 in a row from 1971-1975 plus an early win in 1969 and the last one in 1984.

Ron Powell and Jack Fahey each won 5 and Jim Johnson added 4. The only World champion to win the state title was Don Titcomb from California who won in 1994.

LOUISIANA

The annual Harahan Awards Banquet was held January 25 at the VFW Hall, with special awards presented to several individuals and teams. The winning teams in each of the state's Spring, Summer and Fall leagues were presented purple jackets with the HHPA logo.

The Rookie of the Year award was won by Ofney Ellis. Sports Persons of the Year were presented to Cheryl McLeod and Jonny Bye, and Pat Strain received the President's Award.

The LA 70 Ringers Club title went to Al Dodson, who was undefeated with many of the matches going to the wire, including a one-point victory over defending champion Bob Scully, on the final shoe of the match.

At the club banquet on Super Sunday, Dodson was honored as the club's Outstanding Player of the Year as he claimed a State title in Class E, the Doubles for Dollars title with partner Mark Rogers, first place in the Summer Shootout in Harahan and the Shrimp and Petroleum Tournament in addition to the Club Championship.

Dean Marks was awarded the Most Improved Player award, raising his ringer percentage 12 points.

MICHIGAN

Noticed in the latest *Ringer Report* that editor Paula Summerlin devoted a full page on the official NHPA score calling language and how to check a scoresheet. Great job. You know by now every horseshoe pitcher should be using these official terms in calling their scores.

Official averages as of January 31, 1997 for the state has Dean LeClair slightly ahead of Doug Bailey, 65.70 to 65.41. Jim Wiltse is in third place with 63.53 followed by Larry Kemp 61.70 and Bob Williams, Jr. 60.53

Anne French has recorded the highest percentage of all pitchers with a 71.97 to top the women's group. The top 5 women also included Kathy Yaworski 65.52, Judy Curtiss 63.48, Judy Dennis 58.85 and Becky Perryman 58.45.

Claude Shannahan tops the Elders with 68.30, followed by Kent Rundell 65.08, Bob White 64.84, Rudy Beracy 59.0 and Robert Dove 54.61. Frank Quillen leads the juniors with 53.31. Also in the top five are Jim Urie 51.76, Daniel Tanner 44.88, Diane Gore 41.06, and Collin Gibbs 25.47. Hope to see most of these top flingers in Canada come July.

MINNESOTA

The January-February newsletter *Ringer Digest* features Bob Dunn on the front page and begins the story with these choice words: "No one in the modern era of our sport has done more to promote horseshoes in Minnesota than Bob Dunn. His impact is shown in the fact that he is a member of the state horseshoe pitching Hall of Fame.

Bob didn't start pitching horseshoes until 1980, joined the Brooklyn Park Horseshoe Club in 1981, has held numerous offices, organized tournaments and on the state level has been Junior Promotion Director and has been West Metro Vice President for the past 10 years.

On the national level Dunn served the NHPA on a special project promoting the NHPA Sanctioned League Program in 1988. He received an NHPA Achievement Award in 1990, was appointed National Junior Promotion Director in 1990 and in 1995 was appointed NHPA Promotion Director. Also in 1995, he was awarded the NHPA Special Recognition/Presidential Award which recognizes contributions to the game through activities of extraordinary longevity.

He is a gifted writer and three years ago he researched and completed putting together an extensive book confirming the state's championships from 1990 to 1994.

MISSOURI

Larry Lagnewisch! He's our man! If he can't do it, nobody can! Although Larry is a good horseshoe pitcher, his "Behind the Scene" contributions in the organizational, statistical and maintenance areas have made him a name in Missouri horseshoe circles.

Born and raised on a farm in Chesterfield, he was a fine athlete at Maplewood Richmond High School. Entering the Army in 1957, serving with the special forces, now known as the Green Berets, he spent two years in Germany on maneuvers playing friendly war games. He once captured a tank driven by Elvis Presley. Elvis autographed his jacket, but Larry has misplaced it through the years. He thinks one of his wives ran off with it.

(continued next page)

CHARTER CHATTER

Larry began his lifelong career in construction in Chesterfield after his return from service. He has done everything to help the New Melle Club, a list too long to fill the space here.

His most recent interest is rotweilers and he has been showing these dogs the past 4 years. A bumper sticker on his pick-up reads: "The keys to the truck are on the seat next to my rotweiler." You know what? His truck has never been stolen.

NEW JERSEY

From the New Jersey newsletter *Jersey's Jargon* comes this bit of information. ALL PITCHERS TAKE NOTE—Could one of these refer to YOU?

Asked, "what mannerism(s) of your opponent drives you crazy?"

The NUMBER ONE GRIPE was TALKING. Then, rattling change in his pocket, filing their horseshoes, one who roams around, when they wiggle, taking too long to pitch, when they don't take their proper position on the pitching platform, spitting, they always win, and even showing up.

In January the Hunterdon County Horseshoe Pitchers Club held its Awards Dinner for the 1996 pitching season. In addition to the excellent dinner and prestigious awards, the evening included some wacky games.

When asked "What player would you like to beat the most?" Responses were: Joe McCrink (2), Wayne Harrison (2), Bill McIntyre (2), Jim Reed (2), Andy Waisempacher, Bob Hall, Art Tyson, Chooby Soriero, George Patrick, everybody and anybody.

In response to "what type of shoe do you throw" the tally was: six 1-1/4, 1 double flip, 1 flip, six 1-3/4, one 3/4, and one 2-3/4. Pitchers' ages ranged from 10-74, with average age in the mid-fifties.

Club membership ranged from 1-22 years with a 15 year average. Players owned from two to 20 pair of shoes, with 7-pair average. Four used Allens, 3 each for Ohio Pros and Imperials and Deadeyes 2. Also included were Cal Flip, VIP and Elmer Hohls.

NEW YORK

They say that names make news. Well, here is a lot of them. Congratulations to the following pitchers who received NHPA longevity patches in 1996. John Ruston (30), Fred Bailey, John Bagardus, Vic Davis, Dick Pike and Lance Hinman (20) and 10-year patches to the following: Sam Barbuto, Dominic Barnello, Larry Benkelman, Ron Howerman, Al Buckland, Glenn Chamberlain, Roger Chase, Art Dantuono, Tom Dawson, John Elmis, Joe Frenza, James and Marian Gee, Robert Gorman, Glenn Grossman, Dave Harnden, Stan Hayes, Francis Howard, Dick Kenny, Walt Lewis, John Loughery, Carl Mayer, David McCann, John Mayer, John Merrill, Charlie Merins, Dave Nipper, Park Rauch, Charlie Ridall, Jim Robertson, Tom Roush, Gerald Sears, Richard Sposato, James Spunaugle, Carol Streit, Francis Troxel, Lorraine and Louis Valentino, Mike Vanelli, Joe Viger, Randy Vincent, Walt Virkler, Larry Vitaris, Lee Waldron, Norm Wehrung, Lyle Wiedrick, Harry and Margaret Wilkinson, Fred Wright and Matt Zera.

SOUTH DAKOTA

Can you believe that a horseshoe pitcher from South Dakota won 33 State Class A Championships from 1934 through 1987. Yes, this was the accomplishment of Leigh Dunker from Warner. He started pitching at age 8, and died in 1991 at age 81. He had six 70 plus tournament percentages during the long stretch, with a high of 73.3 in 1975. Through the years his chief competitors were Arnold Christenson from Vermillion who captured four titles and Lloyd Swartwout, Aberdeen, who nailed three crowns. Doug Fasthorse from Rapid City won 3 titles 1990-1992.

Swartwout was inducted into the South Dakota Hall of Fame in 1969, the first year, and Dunker joined him in 1972. World Class pitcher Carlene Donnelly from Rapid City was the most recent inductee into the Hall of Fame in 1996. She has been the women's State Champion the past seven years plus a title in 1988. Carlene will be trying to tie Lois Bolstad's eight titles when the 1997 state tournament rolls around. Lois won her eight titles from 1980 through 1987.

NORTH CAROLINA

Walter King did what every other horseshoe pitcher would like to do—rise quickly from last to first. Probably no other pitcher in America accomplished so much so fast. He is known as Mr. First.

He won the first Carolina AAU Tournament he entered in 1958, the first year he pitched horseshoes. He won the first NCHPA State Tournament conducted in 1959 with an 11-0 record, 10 points higher than anyone else.

He was the first NC pitcher to win the NAAU Tournament in 1963, with a 71.8%. He was the first and only NC pitcher to ever throw 92 ringers out of 100 tosses while qualifying for the Carolina AAU Tournament in 1971. King was the NC pitcher to win the Statesville Autumn Tournament in 1970. He was the first President of the NCHPA elected in 1959.

King was the first NC pitcher to travel extensively outside the state to pitch in tournaments (OH, IL, MD, VA, ??) and was the first and only NC pitcher to beat Ted Allen in an exhibition. He did the same to Harold Reno. And to top all this, he was one of 17 NC pitchers to be elected into the State's Hall of Fame.

OKLAHOMA

Bob Reese from Ada replied to Chatter request for information relative to State Champions and Hall of Fame lists. He reported that Oklahoma does not yet have a building.

In 1996 they came up with a Hall of Fame patch to be awarded to Hall of Fame members or their next of kin. With help from Chuck Arnold and Jerry Holt, Bob was able to present or send a patch to the inductees.

Records from 1920 through 1930 show that the first State Champion was Ralph Spencer. Since that time through 1988, four pitchers have won at least four championships.

Topping the list is Andy Mogus, Bartlesville, who nailed nine titles, five in a row from 1961 through 1965, then double crowns in 1969, 1970, 1972 and 1973. Winning six titles was Loy Ross, Tulsa, with six followed by four each by Charlie Brewer, Yukon, 1976, 1978, 1980 and 1981 plus Ralph Randall, Tulsa in 1942, 1943, 1946 and 1950.

CHARTER CHATTER

OREGON

Twenty-one Oregon horseshoe pitchers have been inducted into the Hall of Fame and four of them were named "Chapelle." The charter members included Cletus, who started the high scoring quartet with several appearances in the World Championship Men's Division.

Although Cletus never won the World title, his name comes up when pitchers discuss the 72 consecutive ringers tossed by Ted Allen in 1955 at Murray, Utah. Cletus was on the short end of that record by "The Legend."

Dad left the World Championships in the hands of daughter Vicki, who nailed 10 championships from 1956 through 1981...and she still amazes many with her continued appearances in the championship division.

Barry never reached the heights as did Vicki, but won the World Class C title in 1973. The fourth member of the quarter was mother Daisy, who did compete in the World, and was one of two mother-daughter pitchers in the 1953 World.

PENNSYLVANIA

Champions in the annual State Tournament for 1996 found Glenn Burris the top man in Class A, 15-0, 68.51; Aileen Drayer, the Women's Champ, 7-0, 66.66; Steven Morris, Juniors, 5-0, 70.98; and Frank Bohun, Elders, 5-0, 82.09.

Other Men winners were: Mervin George (B), Ed Horneman (C), Ray Yoder (D), Chris Sebastian (E), George Becker (F), Ted VanPelt (G), James Grover (H), Homer Page (I), Phil Byers (J), Robert Jones (L) and Larry Stewart (M).

Barb White won the Women's Class B, and Linda Conlin nailed the Class C crown. Renee Rethage was the Junior B winner.

The 1996 Point Challenge winners are as follows: Kurt VonKleist for the Men with 220 points, Emma Stone 83 points, Junior Steven Morris 134 points, and Elder Joe Pagananelli 80 points.

Congratulations to the 1996 Hall of Fame Inductee Kurt VonKleist of Russel, Pennsylvania.

SOUTH CAROLINA

Barbara Taylor and Huberta Stephens were inducted into the 1996 South Carolina Hall of Fame. It was great to see not only the first female member was inducted, but in fact two women were honored this way.

Taylor has been a long-time supporter of horseshoe pitching in the state. In addition to her many accomplishments on the courts, she has directed many tournaments and helped in many other ways. Barbara captured the women's state title in 1990, 1991, 1992, 1994, 1995 and 1996.

Huberta was the Women's Champion in 1974, 1975 and 1976. Huberta and her husband now reside in Gray Court, SC and were both active supporters of horseshoes in the state in the 1970s.

TENNESSEE

Sixteen state pitchers were inducted into the Tennessee Hall of Fame in October of 1988 at a special banquet and ceremony at the Holiday Inn. Marvin Bastian served as Master of Ceremonies and along with his wife, Mary, have

been the backbone of the charter for many years. Marvin was the President of the association.

Inducted as charter members the first year were Jim Adkerson, Bill Arms, James Burns, James Davis, Charles Fortenberry, O.D. Lebow, George Lewis, T.R. Little, Carl Montgomery, J. Miff Nave, Roger Norwood, Ben Raskopf, Dexter Stallings, John Walker, Don Ward and Grady Whalen.

In 1993 four members were added to the Hall of Fame. They were Willis Gront, Walt Pierce, Randal Fruit and Tony Norwood. The next year Lorene Mantooth entered the "Hall" as an honorary member.

Two years later in 1966, Hank Irwin, Van Fox and Marvin Bastian were inducted into the select group.

UTAH

The top money winners for 1996 finds Cleo Wardle at the top with \$340 in winnings. He also had the most game victories with 102. Second in the money list was Glen McAllister \$273.75 followed by Gib Mitchell \$270.68, Doug Liston \$262.00 and Bruce Allred \$237.50.

In the Most Improved department we find Bruce Allred, who upped his percentage 10.66. Second high is Claud Payne with 6.98%, followed by Alma Lowe 6.93, Elsie Bracken 6.90 and L.D. Alldredge 6.15.

Familiar names will be seen in the top five ringer percentages for last year. John Bracken from Nevada had 63.60% followed by Shirley Steffen 60.10, Mont Lewis 57.50, Gary Wood 55.86 and Bud Schardine 53.12. Just off the top five pace were Wardle 51.87, Kent Pendleton 51.46 and J.J. Steffen 51.0. Bracken, Shirley Steffen, Lewis, Schardine and Wardle are 30-foot pitchers. Sure they have high percentages, but pitch in high classes.

High Ringer Percentage for Juniors was pitched by Klerisa Newby with 27.94% with Nathan Fawcett second high with 20.28. Anilee Bunday was the Most Improved Junior with 5.53% over last year's figure.

WISCONSIN

Compiled by WHPA secretary John Secord, it is interesting to note that Wisconsin is another state that prints over-all averages for all their pitchers in their newsletter.

Among the men, Randy Rein, Mosinee, reigns supreme with a 75.11 percentage followed by John Udelhofen, Barneveld, 71.98; Don Kangas, Colgate, 71.86; John Barden, Waunakee, 63.34; and Gus Schram, Ringle 62.07.

Lorraine Sternberg, Richfield has the top Women's percentage and the top in the state with 80.02. Edith McKinney, Luck, is second with 71.62. Jane Smith, Balsam Lake, is third 67.02 followed by Carolyn Stittleburg, Waunakee 61.04 and Pam Steinke, Waukesha 60.78.

Sister Penny Steinke tops the Juniors with 64.70 with Wesley Rein in second position 54.85. In third is Dustin Dahl, Trempealeau, 48.44, followed by Erik Bottlemey, Owen, 43.03 and Carey Richter, Rosholt, with 40.15.

The state is swinging into a state doubles tournament with players averaging over 60%, limited to a teammate whose average is under 60% in the Championship group.

THE HORSESHOE TRADER

Collectors: Here's Your Chance To Expand Your Collection

by Bob Dunn

MARTIN'S FAMOUS HORSE SHOES

Were pitched at the Mid-Winter National Tournament, Lake Worth, Florida,, 1925, and St. Petersburg, 1926, with Success

Martin's Non-Skid Interlocking Horseshoe

The Shoe That Sets the Pace That Marks the Advancement of the Game

Some of the most successful pitchers — masters of the game — testify that the "Martin Shoe" has increased their scores six to eight points per game over their score with any other make of Shoes and you can analyze the improvement over other shoes which have nothing to mention in improving the Shoe.

The points of superiority of Martin's Non-Skid Interlock Horseshoe are many. Some of the outstanding points of superiority are:

- First—They have four calks; this enables them to interlock with each other and prevents skidding.
- Second—The calks are large, well set apart, grip the soil; this prevents bounding.
- Third—The heel calks having more weight, balance the 3½-inch opening permitting the shoe to float without wobbling.
- Fourth—The heel calk has a rounded surface on the underside so that when it lands on another

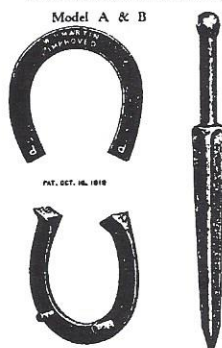
shoe the rounding curve will facilitate its movement nearer the stake.

Fifth—They are made of best manganese 55 carbon steel and will stand the hardest usage.

Sixth—They have rounded edges—anyone can use them without blistering or marring the skin of their fingers.

Seventh—They will not nick or bruise by striking the pin or other shoes.

Eighth—The body of the shoe is shaped so that when it rings the stake it cannot be removed by another shoe, or turned off the stake.



Martin's New Model C & D Shoes

And Mechanical Introductory

Remarks

No. 1—They contain all the National Requirements and many features that a shoe can possess to be beneficial to the pitchers.

No. 2—The C & D shoes are not perfectly round and will not spin around the stake and come off like many shoes do, thereby producing a finger.

No. 3—They have a Toe Calk that is on the center of the body of the shoe and the shoe striking the stake on the interior of the shoe on the outer edge of the calk will not strike the stake and will not bounce or cut the shoe; and a comb is beveled in the body.

No. 4—The rolling or beveled heel calks have many advantages over any shoe made, because it is roundly when it strikes another shoe and the force of the shoe will wedge itself and take the point.

No. 5—The heel calks being heavy, replace the weight that has been taken out of the body of the shoe for the 3½-inch opening and the weight being enough to perfectly balance the shoe. And the weight will be of great importance to the pitcher to have the shoe point downwards when it lands to the stake.

No. 6—The heel calks on the outer end of shoe are on a bevel or slanting, so that when a calk strikes the stake the force of the shoe will produce a ring. Therefore being straight with body of the shoe, the shoe would rebound backward as many shoes do.

No. 7—Many pitchers grip their shoe by the heel calk, and they will find by pitching Martin's Shoes the rounded calk will be a great advantage in using their shoes for the stake, as the grip can govern your shoe by your forefinger and this is a very scientific grip to use.

PRICE LIST

One pair (two) Shoes, A & B, 2½ lb.	\$2.50	Set of Four Shoes, C & D, 2½ lb., including booklet	\$5.00
One pair C & D, 2½ lb.	2.50	One pair Sand Stakes	3.00
Set of Four Shoes, A & B, 2½ lb., including booklet	5.00	Booklets, dozen	2.00
Weight: A & B, 2½ lb.; C & D, 2½ lb.			

All orders must be accompanied by Certified Check or Money Order

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Write for Warren Horseshoe Folder

The WARREN TOOL & FORGE COMPANY
331 Griswold St. Warren, Ohio

As of this writing, the initial *Horseshoe Trader* article has been in circulation less than two weeks, yet already a few responses have been received. If you haven't been an antique shoe collector, but think collecting would be interesting, register up. It isn't really a case of "the more the merrier," it is a case of having collectors from coast to coast, ample collectors to cover and represent all areas of the country, providing a broad base for trading opportunities.

Hopefully, there will be many questions asked and collectively we can find the answers. For example, I recently found a pair of Guardian shoes in an antique shop. I have no idea where they were made or by whom. Someday, someone will come up with the information. An old ad for Warren shoes was just found in a 1924 wholesale hardware catalog. Does anyone have a pair of Warren shoes?

A couple other early-day ads are also reproduced to wet the collecting appetite. How many have heard of Indiana horseshoes? That ad is from the January 1931 *Horseshoe World*. From a 1927 *Horseshoe World*, is an interesting ad of the Martin Improved shoe, a most unusual shoe with spike-like calks rather than the traditional blade calk. Hopefully someone, somewhere, has a few of these shoes.

Remember, if you wish to be on the *Horseshoe Trader* roster, send your name, address, list of shoes you are looking for and what shoes you have to offer in trade, to: 6417 Georgia Ave., No., Brooklyn Park, MN 55428. A complete roster will be mailed out to each who register.

Drop Forged Steel

Note the new type toe calk. This shoe will give you more Rings

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Here is a Flat Type Quality Shoe at a Low Price

One Pair Shoes	\$1.25
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Indiana Harbor, Indiana

NHPA Hall of Fame Museum of Pitching Shoes

Earl Winston is curator of the NHPA's shoe collection. The collection has been greatly expanded with recent donations and now is an impressive listing of acquired shoes. If you have shoes that do not appear on the list, and you wish to make a donation, contact Earl Winston directly to make arrangements for shipping or bring to the 1997 World Tournament. Because all the shoes have been donated, none of these shoes are eligible for trading purposes, but shipping will be reimbursed.

Shoe

Allen, 1937
Allen, 1940
Allen, 1960
Allith, hookless
Cadillac
Craftsman
C.C. Davis
Detroit Flyer
Diamond, Official
Diamond, Super Ringer
Diamond, Blue Diamond
Double Ringer, dated 1945
Dixon
Giant Grip
Giant Grip, Winner
Gordon, 1935
Gordon, Spin-On
Gordon, 1951
Gordon, 1950
Greott
Haynes, hookless
Imperials, 1960
Lattore, 1930s
Lattore, 1947
Lee
Martin, National
Montgomery Ward
Putt Mossman, 1927
T.J. Octigon, "Official"
Octigon, hookless
Ohio, hookless
Ohio, 1933
Ohio Pro
Ohio, 1939
Red-D-Ringer
Reno
Royal
Six-Pac
Star, stainless
Star, hookless
Steinbreder, hookless
Sure Ringer
USA
Wonder

Donated by

Bob Beisemeier, CO
Russ Ebbing, MO
Vicki Winston, MO
Duane Traversie, SD
John Decker, MI
Steve Wyrill, CA

Ron Frakes, MO

Bob Dunn, MN
Bob Dunn, MN
Howard Peterson
Pitched by Casey Jones, WI
Walter Kuhn, CA
Wally Weiler
Jim Haupt, WI
Ray Gatewood, CA
Dave Loucks, CA

Les Burroughs, CA
Clyde Martz

Jake Hoff
John Brown

Bill Waisner, MO
Stu Snyder, CA

John Brown, OH
Earl Winston
Ernest Winston
Raymond Slocum, OH

Earl Winston

Harvey Wobbe, MO
John Brown, OH
Duane Traversie (on loan)

Earl Winston
Lee Henninger, CA

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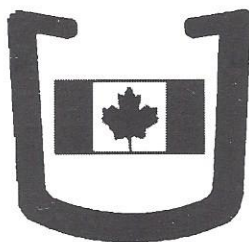
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Return broken shoe only to mfg. along with check, cash, or money order for \$5.00 and we will send you one new shoe of equal weight, postpaid.

No shoes sent on consignment.

HORSESHOE



CANADA

by André Leclerc

The Atlantic provinces

After introducing you to Horseshoe Canada, then Horseshoe Ontario, let me take you back to where, geographically, it all started: the Atlantic Provinces.

This part of Canada is made up of the four provinces caressed by the Atlantic Ocean: Newfoundland, Prince Edward Island, Nova Scotia, and New Brunswick. The first two provinces are islands, while Nova Scotia is connected to New Brunswick and the North American continent by the Isthmus of Chignecto. While the economy of all four provinces is based mostly on natural resources (such as forests, mines, fisheries, and agriculture), tourism is taking on more and more importance. To the sea lover's delight, these provinces offer the scenic Lighthouse Trails, the breathtaking Cabot Trail (on Cape Breton Island, N.S.), the sea-drenched granite ledges and flying spray of Peggy's Cove, N.S., the Bay of Fundy's record high tides (that cause Saint John's World famous Reversing Falls), P.E.I.'s Anne of Green Gables at Cavendish, and the Acadian villages. All of these sites have inspired writers, poets, musicians, and all kinds of artists.

There were also some inspired ringer artists in these provinces. Jack Adams recalls these early "Atlantic" horseshoe activities of the 40s. While in Halifax from 1945 to 1948, Jack took part in the formation of the Hydrostone Horseshoe Club, located at 25 Stairs Place, Halifax. There they had two clay courts between two houses, and for night play, they installed lights on a rope attached to those two houses. Mr. McLeod, then working for the Imperial Tobacco Company, was also involved. Jack won the Maritimes Championships which were staged close to Dartmouth, N.S. (ca. summer of 1946). At that time, while travelling for his company, Jack became aware of the Brighton Horseshoe Club in Charlottetown (P.E.I.), where Earl McCourt was active. On Labour Day weekends, they held matches between the Halifax and Charlottetown clubs. Jack also recalls a horseshoe club in downtown St. John's, Newfoundland, that he visited in 1948. This was the year before Newfoundland became Canada's 10th province, the last one to join Confederation.

(By the way, did you know that one of the oldest streets in North America is Water Street, located in St. John's!)

We lost track of what happened between this short period in the 40s and 1966, when "modern" Atlantic horseshoe activities were revived with the formation of the Saint John (New Brunswick) Horseshoe Club. Its first president was Lou Abbott. Charles Dupuis became president for the next four years and was also the N.B. Horseshoe Players Association's first president in 1971. New Brunswick, with such horseshoe enthusiasts as Dupuis and Moncton's Bob Bellefleur, was the driving force among the Atlantic provinces, and these men conducted the first (modern) Maritime Horseshoe Championship in 1971, in Moncton. The social similarities between the provinces of N.B., N.S., and P.E.I. gave birth, not surprisingly, to the Maritimes Horseshoe Players Association in 1972. This association, similar to the New England one, holds its annual championship on Labour Day weekends.

The N.B. Horseshoe Players Association, recognized by the N.B. Federation of Sports since 1971, and the Nova Scotia Association (founded in 1977), run their own provincial regular tournaments and championships.

Today, there are horseshoe organizations and clubs in N.B. (over 200 members), N.S. (20 clubs and 183 individual members), and P.E.I. (around 15 members).

Among the inspired ringer artists of the Maritimes, the most prominent that comes to mind is Raymond Hebert from Moncton, N.B.; he has held the New Brunswick title 19 times and the Maritimes title 11 times. Hebert recorded the highest ringer percentage average of 66.7% in the 1991 N.B. Championships. From the same province, Travis Mowatt, of Saint John, shot the highest average of the Maritimes Championships, in 1994, with 66.1%. Travis has won both titles three times, and he is one of the rare who beat Ray Hebert at the N.B. Championships since 1975!

continued next page...

Nova Scotia's Barry Slaunwhite is another prominent name in this sport for more than 10 years. He has won 8 of the last 11 N.S. Championships, and at one of them he obtained the record average of 68.5%, in 1987, the highest record ever for a player from the Maritimes. Ken Hatfield from Truro was able to defeat Barry two times and capture the Maritimes title in 1991 and 1995, while Barry won it in 1990.

The current Maritimes Champion is 31-year-old Paul Shinn, of Mt. Stewart, Prince Edward Island. This town is close to Charlottetown, which is nicknamed the "birthplace of Canada," where the Fathers of Confederation met for the first time, in 1864. Ironically, Paul was born and raised in Kitchener, Ontario, but he has lived in P.E.I. since 1991. He played as a junior in the presence of Wellesley's great Elmer Hohl, before he moved to P.E.I.

On the women's side, June Scott, from N.B., holds the women records for both the Maritimes (63.1% in '83) and the New Brunswick (69.1% in '83) Championships. But today, the familiar names are the ones of Dartmouth's Judy Vickers and Saint John's Mary Hansen.

CONTACTS FOR THE MARITIMES PROVINCES

New Brunswick	George BARTON, Saint John	(506) 658-0514
Nova Scotia	Jack WHITING, Dartmouth	(902) 462-3061
Pr Edward Is.	Francis O'BRIEN, Summerside	(902) 436-8797
MARITIMES	Cecil MITCHELL, Hatchett Lake, NS	(902) 852-3231

1996 Champions

MARITIMES

Mens:	Paul SHINN, P.E.I.	58.3%
Ladies:	Mary HANSEN, N.B.	35.7%
Sr Mens:	Albert CORMIER, N.B.	37.5%

NOVA SCOTIA

Mens:	Ken HATFIELD, Truro	51.7%
Ladies:	Judy VICKERS, Dartmouth	41.9%
Jrs (Boy):	Mark HARRISON, Bridgewater	17.5%
Sr Mens:	Wilfred EDWARDS, Newport St.	28.4%

NEW BRUNSWICK

Mens:	Travis MOWATT, Saint John	63.3%
Ladies:	Mary HANSEN, Saint John	31.1%

George Barton, involved in horseshoe pitching, without interruption, since 1967, won the N.B. Championship in 1973 and 74, but he is especially remembered as a volunteer. His contribution in this regard has earned him the honour of being inducted in the Horseshoe Canada Hall of Fame in 1992! Despite attaining this high honour, George is still active and is bringing the Canadian Championships to New Brunswick for the first time. This event will take place in Saint John, from August 12 to 16, 1997. The only other occasion when the Canadian Championships were held in the Maritimes was in 1989, in Halifax (Nova Scotia). This event was organized by Bob Richey, who, along with Clark Brown and Jack Whiting, were and still are the main horseshoe promoters in Nova Scotia.

Maritimers will certainly attend in a record numbers at the World Tournament in Kitchener! ●

Did you know that...

- ☛ The 1997 World Tournament will be, of course, the greatest horseshoe tournament ever held in Canada. It will be held 30 years after the famous North American Championships held at the CNE (Canadian National Exhibition) in Toronto. That tournament featured the largest contingent of former World Champions like Carl Steinfeldt, Dan Kuchcinski, Elmer Hohl, Harold Reno, Paul Focht, and many more. In that event, Dean McLaughlin lost the decisive playoff to Carl Steinfeldt.
- ☛ Cape Breton Island produced many excellent horseshoe pitchers. Gordon McIsaac, Bernie and Robert Blinkhorn have won championships in the 70's. The year 1996 marked the comeback of Cape Breton pitchers. They travelled 400 miles to take part in the Nova Scotia Championships, and one of them, Duncan MacKenzie, shot the high average (60.2%) and a record high game of 92.5%! (By the way, did you know that Alexander Graham Bell, who built his summer home at Baddeck overlooking Brad d'Or Lake, considered Cape Breton's simple beauty to be unsurpassed anywhere in the world).
- ☛ The French farmers who settled in the Maritimes in the beginning of the 17th century called their land *l'Acadie*. Many of them were forced to leave their land in 1755 (some families were separated), and were transported to New England and other English colonies further south. Some settled in Louisiana where they're known as *Cajuns*, which comes from the corrupted pronunciation of *Acadiens*.
- ☛ Maritimers find their origins among Acadians (French), Scots, English, and Irish, but also among Americans. Those Americans were Loyalists to the British Empire. This is why Saint John (New Brunswick), founded by Americans in 1785, is known as Loyalists City.

NHPA: Now on the Internet

by Paul Stewart

The Software Application Committee appointed at the 1996 NHPA Convention, fulfilled its primary objectives by the end of the calendar year and continued thereafter on secondary objectives.

After reporting committee results to the Executive Council in January, President Loucks asked me to continue pursuing secondary committee objectives, concerning possible NHPA uses of the internet. Utilizing services of several pitchers already having personal web sites on the internet, a revised committee was assembled and numerous internet chat sessions culminated in construction of a dedicated web site for NHPA information and stats.

Expenses incurred have been limited to only a few dollars. Committee participation has been volunteered time and use of computer equipment and software. Many other pitchers found on the internet also joined in some of the Committee chat sessions

and provided useful assistance or comments and quite a few interested "web surfers" who came across our horseshoe pitching chats expressed interest in joining their local horseshoe clubs after we provided the names or means for finding names of club officers.

The NHPA web site (a dedicated "Home Page" accessible to everyone on the internet) has a URL (user resource locator) address:

<http://www.geocities.com/~nhp> a which, when read on a user's "browser" program, displays the site's main menu. The site is under construction with only a few main menu options in service, but users will be able to use the site's most important feature immediately...the complete NHPA NatStats current 3-highest tournament averages of all NHPA pitchers (stats provided by Glenn Jamieson, NatStats).

This is a very large file which takes about 3 to 5 minutes to display on

your PC. Instructions are given in the file for printing portions of the file in the event you wish to have a printout of your charter's pitchers. Another feature of the site will be the anticipated display of the 1997 World Tournament results direct from the tournament location at Kitchener, Ontario, Canada. Volunteers, with help from the Canadian tournament hosts, are establishing an internet connection at the tournament and working from data provided by Glenn Jamieson, will publish reports as they are posted.

Additionally, the tournament internet site will provide visitors with live demonstrations of internet chat sessions with other pitchers and tour many horseshoe pitching web sites from around the U.S. and Canada. The NHPA web site has clickable "links" which immediately allow you to visit other specified web sites of interest to horseshoe pitchers. The committee volunteers invite all horseshoe pitchers to use a friend's or their own PC and internet connection to review the NHPA web site...we guarantee you will be very impressed. Committee volunteers include: Duane Goodrich (KS), Glenn Jamieson (CA), Mike Meyers (SC), Billie Sue Pennington (CA), Craig Regan (TX), Terry Sears (IN), David Sullivan (TX).

News Release *cont. from page 15*

Kenny Fraser will again be the director for the annual Syracuse Open. Ken is a great coach, a man that wears many "horseshoe hats" in our club. We are lucky to have him in our club. Ken was also a top caliber pitcher in his native California and is looking to regain his top form.

We would like to put a special invitation out to Steve Kuchinski and Kevin Hollister for any of our events. Do hope that John Ruston, who, with his wife Ellie is enjoying the winter in Florida, will return to the competitive circles.

Wish everyone a fun-filled pitching season and invite anyone interested in joining our club to contact our league director, Lance Hinman 315-656-3694.

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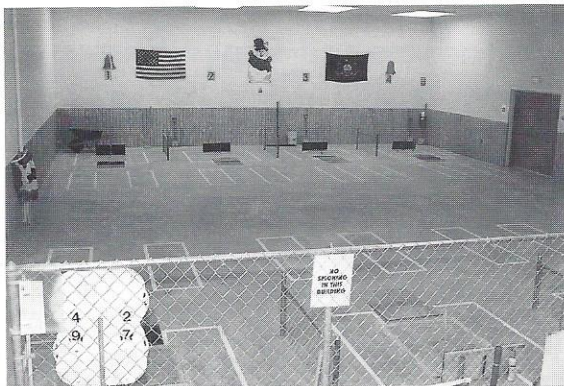
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H.O.P.E.

Horseshoes of Pittsburgh Enterprises

Ten years ago, two Pennsylvania horseshoe pitchers from the Pittsburgh area, Ron Weiss and Gene Swogger, had a dream. After months of driving to Washington, PA to pitch on two indoor courts, their conversation on the drive always turned to "Wish we had our own place with indoor courts." Unlike many who tend to just let dreams float away, these two gentlemen decided to do something about theirs. Here is a brief of their story.

1987 We advertised that on May 27, 1987 there would be a meeting at Foxcroft Elementary School (Chartiers Valley School District) for those interested in pitching indoors. Nine men showed up and became the foundation. They were Harry Clement, George Combs, Roger Jacobs, Don Larkins, John Marsen, Steve Rethage, Gene Swogger, Ron Weiss and Jim Zdrate. Ron Weiss came up with the idea of calling ourselves H.O.P.E. (We HOPE to get indoor courts—our goal, our dream!)

The goal of H.O.P.E. was established. Start a building fund to raise money to purchase land, build our own indoor courts, and possibly build courts in the future.

You could become a charter member by paying \$100.00 by September 26, 1988. Eventually 56 members did this. (Eight years later, 37 of those 56 still belong to H.O.P.E.)

Search for property. After five months of looking at various pieces of land, Christina Swogger saw an advertisement in the Pennysaver for 2.6 acres of land near Settler's Cabin Park.

1988 Fifteen months later (and after many meetings with Collier Township's zoning board) we had the official closing on this piece of land. The date was August 12, 1988.

We hired Attorney Dave Slomski to write our Articles of Incorpora-

tion. We were now a corporation, and had a nine man board of directors to guide us and make decisions on behalf of the members.

1989

A. We had an engineer draw up a topographical map of our property.

B. We received a highway occupancy permit from Penn DOT.

C. We had a contractor grade the property and cut in the driveway.

D. On August 14, 1989, we had our ground breaking ceremony—right where the building presently sits.

1990 July 16, 1990, the driveway was paved and we now had easy access to our property. We were going to construct a Borkholder pole building for \$20,000, but Collier Township would not give us a building permit.

1991 We had 18 months of litigation. We hired a lawyer, took Collier Township to court, and eventually won the right to obtain a building permit. This is where some of our members abandoned us saying, "You'll never get your building; you're wasting your time." I wonder what their thoughts are now.

1992 We decided to build a cement block building instead of a pole building. In August of 1992, we had five borings drilled to test for mine substance.

In October of 1992 we had 21 caissons drilled: 12 inches in circumference, 35 to 45 feet deep, filled with concrete to prevent subsidence. Future meetings of H.O.P.E. were held at the Eagles Club in Mount Washington.

1993 In May of 1993, the members poured the footer, and on May 22, 1993, we paid contractors to lay the cement blocks (40' x 80').

In August of 1993, the members put up the trusses and put on the roof and shingles—Dom Massella and

Duquesnes Light's truck with a "boom" on it.

1994

May: vinyl siding, soffit and fascia, gutters and downspouts were installed by the members. We advertised for plumbing bids, heating bids, parking lot bids, etc.

August: Mrs. Mazur (Jeff's mother) volunteered to lend us \$20,000 at 8% interest, in memory of her late husband, Frank, who loved horseshoes. Now we had the money to do the inside of the building.

September: Water line dug.

October: Concrete floor poured by John Oelschlager (supervisor) and the members. Carpentry work done by the members, supervised by Dave Meckevic and George Babeji.

November: Electrical work done by Joe Change. Insulation in ceiling and walls installed by the members. Propane furnace installed. Fluorescent lights donated by Al Punturi's friend.

1995

February: We now have City water—P.A.W.C. All members contributed another \$100.

May: Drywall put up by the members, then painted. Holes drilled in the concrete floor for backstops and fence. Concrete poured for handicap parking spaces, concrete pad installed for propane tank to sit on, T-111 installed on the walls, and front and rear concrete porches poured.

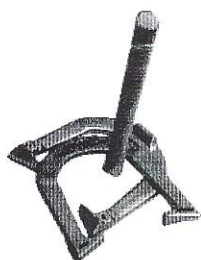
September: We received our occupancy permit from the Dept. of Labor and Industry.

October:

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Eight years and three months after we began, H.O.P.E. had become a reality! Our dream had come true!

Eugene Swogger, H.O.P.E. Secretary



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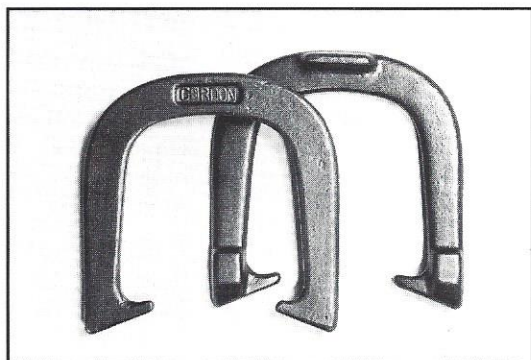
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NHPA Income and Expenditures

February and March, 1997

Income

Membership Dues	\$28,905
<i>Newsline</i> Subscriptions	6,791
<i>Newsline</i> Advertising	992
Misc. Patch Sales and Income	3
Annual Horseshoe Sanction Fees	100
Kitchener 1997 W.T. Payment	3,800
Bank & Affinity Card Interest	1,911

Total Income 42,502

Expenditures

<i>Newsline</i> Printing and Mailing	\$4,743
<i>Newsline</i> Editor Allowance	620
Sanctioned League Junior Scholar Trusts	1,200
1996 W.T. Administrative Expense	50
Regional Directors' Postage, Phone, Supplies	365
Regional Director Allowance	4,590
Equipment Purchases, Rental, Repair	214
NHPA Office Printing and Supplies	270
NHPA Postage	341
NHPA Officers' Phone	637
NHPA Officers' Travel	1,854
Secretary/Treasurer's Allowance	3,100
President's Allowance	930
Publicity and Promotion	404
NatStats Administration	116
Misc. Bank Charges, Refunds and Fees	13

Total Expenses 19,447

From the books of NHPA Secretary/Treasurer Dick Hansen.

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Health Note

by Derald Rasmussen

Last year I announced at one of our Northern California tournaments that I had prostate cancer. The symptoms of prostate cancer are difficulty or frequency in urinating or an enlarged or irregular prostate which a doctor can feel during a rectal exam. The latter is well known as the "Finger Wave."

I had no symptoms whatsoever. My cancer was diagnosed because I requested a PSA test, a blood test which may indicate the presence of prostate cancer. In my case, further testing showed that I did have the "beast." I read

books, went to the internet, and found many fine sources of information to help me decide which treatment I wanted. There are three ways to treat organ confined prostate cancer; radical surgery, radiation, or cryo surgery. I chose cryo surgery which is freezing the cancer in the prostate. I first had three and one-half months of hormones followed by the cryo surgery. Prior to my cryo, my PSA was 19.1 (high, 0-4 is considered acceptable). Three months later it was less than 0.1 (undetectable). One is never out of the woods, but I have high hopes.

Following my announcement at our tournament, five fellows came up to me and told

me they also had PC and we have been comparing notes ever since. Many of the wives also told me they were glad I made the announcement because it brought the thing out in the open and their husbands might be more inclined to talk about it.

I suggested that anyone over age 40 who had PC history in their immediate family or who had any symptoms should see their doctor and have the PSA test. As in all cancer, "early detection" is the key to having a chance of cure.

If you have questions about any of the above, you can contact the National Cancer Information Service 1-800-4-Cancer, PAACT 616-453-1477, American Foundation for Urological Disease 1-800-828-7866.

By computer e-mail: LISTSERV@sjuvm.stjohns.edu leave "subject" blank, in body of message type: Subscribe Prostate, your first and last name.

Web page <http://rattler.cameron.edu/prostate.html> I have dozens of other sources, names of books, etc., should anyone wish to write or phone me.

Derald Rasmussen, Yolo Horseshoe Pitching Club, 1017 San Tomas St., Davis CA 95616, phone 916-758-3432. E-

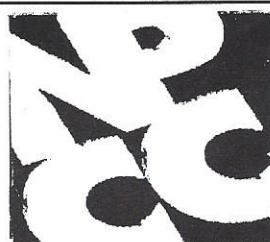
mail: derasmus@wheel.dcn.davis.ca.us

317,000 men will be diagnosed to have prostate cancer and 44,000 will die of it in 1997. We are trying to get the government to increase research spending on prostate cancer diagnosis and treatment.

For 1996, here is the amount of research money spent on the following medical problems:

Aids	\$31,453 per death
Breast Cancer	\$ 8,210 per death
Prostate Cancer	\$ 2,467 per death

Below is a petition the National Cancer Coalition is using to increase governmental awareness of the need for prostate cancer research funding. PC effects both men, women, and families because it is a killer. PC kills by metastasizing to the bones, a very painful and undignified way to go. We are going to get 1,000,000 signers in the next few months and NHPA membership can get a lot of publicity on the internet if we cooperate. The various clubs could make copies for their members to sign.



National Prostate Cancer Coalition

Petition to the
President of the
United States
and
The Members of the
United States Congress

We join with the National Prostate Cancer Coalition and call upon the President of the United States and Members of the United States Congress to commit to eradicating prostate cancer, the leading form of cancer in men by increasing funding for research and making prostate cancer a national priority.

It's time to eradicate prostate cancer. Please sign below:

Name (Print) _____

Signature _____

Street _____

City/State/Zip _____

Add your personal message here: _____

Please check: ☐ I am a survivor ☐ I am a supporter
☐ Send me information about the National Prostate Cancer Coalition.

Please return to: National Prostate Cancer Coalition,
1308 19th St., N.W., Suite 499, Washington DC 20036.

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
Rt. 5, Box 5257
Hermiston, OR 97838
(541) 567-8560 | 15. N. Dakota | Clint Bryson
901 Custer St.
Belle Fourche, SD 57717
(605) 892-2195 | 33. Tennessee | Dexter Stallings
731 Reed Drive
Powell, TN 37849
(423) 947-7865 |
| 2. Oregon | | 16. S. Dakota | | 34. Georgia | Jerome Kennedy
419 Grovania Rd.
Hawkinsville, GA 31036
(912) 987-3759 |
| 3. Idaho | | 17. Nebraska | Pat Wemhoff
255 6th Ave., S.
Columbus, NE 68601
(402) 564-7323 | 35. Florida | Ron Deckard
7302 Brookview Circle
Tampa, FL 33634
(813) 884-2932 |
| 3. Northern California | Gail Sluys
1721 San Ramon Way
Santa Rosa, CA 95409
(707) 538-3128 | 18. Kansas | Duane Goodrich
1244 SW 32nd
Topeka, KS 66611
(913) 266-4745 | 36. Ohio | Earl Vansant
244 Deer Drive
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(216) 285-2552 |
| 4. Southern California | Dave Garbani
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(619) 375-6376 | 19. Missouri | Elwyn Cooper
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Kansas City, MO 64152
(816) 741-0043 | 37. West Virginia | Herb Murray
1303 Clyde Street
Parkersburg, WV 26101
(304) 428-5646 |
| 6. Hawaii | John McCormack
91-941 Kalapu Street
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(808) 689-8033 | 20. Oklahoma | Ronnie Frederick
1015 19th Street
Woodward, OK 73801
(405) 256-2759 | 38. Virginia | Kevin Snelgrove
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Stuarts Draft, VA 24477
(504) 337-4689 |
| 7. Nevada | Don Weaver
2206 Sunnyslope Ave.
Las Vegas, NV 89119
(702) 736-7348 | 21. Arkansas | Jerry Kahle
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501-253-6879 | 39. Pennsylvania | Frank Kallay
24 Tanager Drive
McKees Rocks, PA 15136
(412) 331-2472 |
| 9. Utah | Bud Schardine
354 Brookside Drive
Springville, UT 84663
(801) 489-6351 | 22. Texas | Hazel McCall
4000 Huaco Lane
Waco, TX 76710
(817) 756-0771 | 40. N. Carolina | Rick Bolick Sr.
1882 Union Grove Rd.
Lenoir, NC 28654
(704) 728-8523 |
| 10. Arizona | Cal Cordes
140 S. Pleasant Street
Prescott, AZ 86301
(520) 445-2859 | 23. Minnesota | Len Lipovsky
14741 Guthrie Ave.
Apple Valley, MN 55124
(612) 953-0888 | 41. S. Carolina | Ron Taylor
116 Knox St.
Clover, SC 29710
803-222-3990 |
| 11. Montana | Rich Paul
P.O. Box 1012
Lincoln, MT 59639
(406) 362-4659 | 24. Iowa | C. Leo Buell
1234 Arthur Street
Iowa City, IA 52240
(319) 338-8256 | 42. Maryland | Ray Matlock
202 Wellesley Ct.
Walkersville, MD 21793
(301) 846-3483 |
| 12. Wyoming | Pat Bacus
440 W. 3rd
Lovell, WY 82431
(307) 548-6593 | 25. Mississippi | Bill Calhoun
1307 Clearmont St.
Opelika, AL 36801
(334) 745-2356 | 43. Delaware | Lance Twyman
6320 CR 27
Canton, NY 13617
(315) 386-2404 |
| 13. Colorado | Allen Baptist
Box F
Edwards, CO 81632
(970) 926-3381 | 26. Alabama | Ron Latiolais
12102 Turry Road
Gonzales, LA 70737
(504) 647-4992 | 45. Maine | George St. Pierre
26 Beacon St., Unit 38B
Burlington, MA 01803
(617) 273-4007 |
| 14. New Mexico | Charles Knotts
P.O. Box 361
Logan, NM 88426
(505) 487-2248 | 27. Louisiana | Jim Haupt
5075 N. Elkhart Ave.
Milwaukee, WI 53217
(414) 964-2735 | 46. Vermont | |
| | | 28. Wisconsin | Dave Shreve
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Cahokia, IL 62206
(618) 332-2599 | 47. New Hampshire | |
| | | 29. Illinois | Steve Summerlin
198 O'Doherty
Brighton, MI 48116
(810) 220-4558 | 48. Massachusetts | |
| | | 30. Michigan | Jim Shilling
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Spencerville, IN 46788
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| | | 31. Indiana | R.O. Harris
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(606) 623-4659 | 50. Rhode Island | |
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Steven Boga is the author of several books on sports and the outdoors, including croquet and Badminton. He lives near San Francisco.

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