



Shoes News

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APRIL 2016

Shoes News is the official Publication of the Washington State Horseshoe Pitching Association

PRESIDENTS MESSAGE.....PAGE 2
 YOUR PAGEPAGE 3
 EXECUTIVE BOARD MINUTESPAGE 5
 HENRY KNAUFTPAGE 7

Commentary: Jerry Clark

Can you believe, the 2016 Winetrout series is over. But, what a series of tournaments it was. By any measure, this year's tournaments would have to be considered a big success. We averaged between 35 and 40 pitchers each tournament. We had pitchers from Oregon join us, as well as a consistent core group from eastern Washington making the trip to Everett as well. Add to that, some new pitchers from Enumclaw and a few from the Skagit Valley, and then the Winetrout regulars every year and it all added up to some very faithful and consistent classes all six tournaments. I honestly feel those who attend at least some of the Winetrouts get a leg up on those who don't pick up their horseshoes until April at the Tulip Open, or maybe even later. All our award winners are listed on the right. Congratulations to all those who won as well as those who competed hard.

In this months Shoes News you will see an ad on page three for the BC International/Highwayman Open that is going to be held in Abbotsford, BC on May 21st and 22nd this year. Over the years the WSHPA and the British Columbia Horseshoe Association have visited each others courts many times, and shared each others hospitality

(Continued on page 4)

2016 Winetrouts Huge Success



Another Winetrout season has come to a close. Do we know how to pick weekends or what? – the weather co-operated at every one and #6 was especially awesome. The park was full of kids playing and families enjoying the sunshine and of course our pitchers drew lots of spectators.

Champions were crowned: Women's Champion Sharon McLaughlin, Elder Champion Russ Phillips and our Men's Champion Don Davis. The traveling trophy was won by Monty McLaughlin and the most improved % trophy went to Herb Milbourn with a 9.27% increase. A job well done by all.

A great buffet was enjoyed by all and we presented Carol Sperber with an Easter Lily plant to say thanks for her many years of secretary service – and then came the auction. So many items to bid on and bid we did. It was a great time and lots of laughter flowed. The generosity of our folks is really awesome. The final tally of funds raised for the Junior World Fund was \$1,031. – the most our auctions have ever brought in. A huge thanks to all who participated and made this day such a special success.

2016 Results

Mens Champion:	Don Davis
Womens Champion:	Sharon McLaughlin
Elders Champion:	Russ Phillips
Most Improved 9.27%:	Herb Milbourn
Traveling Trophy:	Monty McLaughlin
Auction Proceeds Jr. Fund:	\$1,031.00

WASHINGTON STATE HORSESHOE PITCHERS

MENS: MATT FULLER
 ELDERS: RAY POWELL
 CADET: MICALAH RENSHAW



WOMENS: KAITI REEVES
 JR BOYS: J.T. MCCARTHY
 JR GIRLS: MEGAN STONEHOCKER

DOUBLES CHAMPIONS 2015 RAY POWELL AND MONTY MCLAUGHLIN





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*Message from
Dennis*



Here we are in March already.

The months just keep going by. We will be starting club tournaments here real shortly. The warm ups are over. We have a great horseshoe family in our state.

Congrats to all the pitchers that have been to the Wine-trouts. Our hearts and prayers go out to the ones that haven't been so well.

Hope to see all you pitchers on the courts.

The Prez

SHOES NEWS is published monthly except November and December. It is distributed via 1st Class Mail to all subscribers. **Copy deadline, 15th of each month.**

Advertisements:

One Tenth Page \$40; One Sixth Page \$60; Quarter Page \$80

If Shoes News does not have an ad from your community or your club, the charge for promoting your tournament will be \$10. You can collect smaller amounts from a number of businesses to make up a "composite ad" for your area.

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Comic J Scott Horman said he'd been trying to get in shape doing 20 sit-ups each morning. "That may not sound like a lot, but you can only hit that snooze alarm so many times."



WSHPA website:
<http://www.wshpa.com>
Web: Rhonda Davis
monstertrkdoug@aol.com
Email Rhonda with your ideas for the Web Page
Put horseshoes on subject line

You can see and download the WSHPA schedule, rules and bylaws, a WSHPA entry form, read Shoes News and see lots of other information on the website. The website is growing.

Webmaster: graywolfdesign.com



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WSHPA News

Shoes News thanks those who contribute articles, pictures, emails, and other items. Your comments, criticism, and input is always welcome. This page is for you to share your thoughts, and concerns of our horseshoe pitching family. . Lets hear from you.

In Memory of Stephen John Ratkowski



Stephen passed away February 4, 2016 in Ritzville, WA his home is Odessa, WA. Stephen was born on December 26, 1931 in Lyndhurst, New Jersey. In September 1952 he joined the US Army and served in the Korean Conflict before being honorably discharged as a Corporal in August of 1954.

Stephen married Kathy on August 12, 1989 in Everett, WA and moved to Odessa in 1993 where they made their home until his death. Stephen work many different jobs over the years and loved helping people in Odessa fixing and repair different things for people. Stephen was a lifetime member of the Odessa V.F.W, 15 year president of the Prime Timers Sr. Club and the Odessa Horseshoe Club. He enjoyed camping, golfing, playing cards, working with his hands and loved to tinker and build things and helped many people with handyman projects.

Stephen is survived by his wife Kathy at the home, four children Matthew Ratkowski, Patricia (Daniel) Langford, Scott Ratkowski and Catherine (Nathan) Brown. Four step children Amber (David) McKague, Russall Pietz, Rebecca (Robert) Jensen and Donna (Josh) Faulkner. He also has 15 grandchildren and seven great grandchildren and numerous nieces and nephews. He is preceded in death by his parents, one son Rusty Ratkowski and 12 brothers and sisters.

No services will be held as per his request. Inurnment will be held at a later date at the WA State Veterans Cemetery, Medical Lake, WA... In Lieu of flowers family suggest memorials be made to the Prime Time Sr. club or the Odessa V.F.W.

I just received word from **Larry Getts'** wife - Larry is in ICU in an induced coma. Tuesday evening (3/22) Larry had an accident while riding his bike (may have been a heart attack). When he fell off the bike, he hit his head very hard. He was without a pulse when the ambulance picked him up to take him to the hospital.

Please include Larry and his family in your prayers.
Vic Magnus



Thoughts and Prayers

Update on Margaret Byfield...

Margaret is home now. Doing better. She was having trouble breathing and her lungs had filled with fluid. Hopefully they have it all under control again. She needs to be on oxygen most of the time and she doesn't always like that!

Greetings from Dave & Patti Goodwin

First of all, we want to let you all know how much we miss our horseshoe family. We spent a lot of years at the courts and they were always enjoyable. Dave misses pitching but following his accident in 2014, he doesn't have the stamina anymore and the vertigo he experienced really threw him off balance which he never regained. Some of you 80+ years guys do well, unfortunately he isn't. You guys go get 'em! We will show up occasionally!

On a sad note, we lost two of our Odessa pitchers the first of February. Al Wiest that owned the home by the pits in Odessa, passed away February 2. He had only been ill for a month. He was 96. He will be greatly missed, as will Steve Ratkowski who passed about the same time.

Don, Jerry, Paul, Archie and all others who are ill and meeting challenges, you are in our thoughts and prayers. We love y'all like family! And heartfelt sympathy to those of you who have lost loved ones.

Excellent job on the Shoes News Jerry! We read every printed word!! Hoping all your shoes are ringers!

Ed: Thanks Dave & Patti for the kind words and the update. We don't get that many updates from Odessa and we're happy whenever we do. We'll miss you on the courts, Dave.



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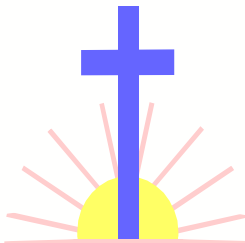
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Pitching For Jesus



Col: 3:23

*And whatsoever ye do, do it heartily
as to the Lord and not unto men*

continued from page 1

many times. Last year a large number of Canadians came down to join in the fun at the Bellingham International in August. Let's respond in kind by having a good number of our pitchers going the short distance over the northern border to pitch in the BC International Highwayman Open in Appotsford.

Hollis Morris called me the other day to tell me that one of Shoes News great sponsors, the Clover Island Inn in Kenne-
wick had renewed their sponsorship for 2016. That was great news! My fellow pitchers, we in the WSHPA are blessed to have some very loyal sponsors to the Shoes News. Let's keep this great partnership going by supporting them often.

Many of you have been wondering about my health, let me give you a little update on where I am at right now. On my last CT scan, they found bladder cancer had spread to my lungs, but the cancer nodules were very very small. They did a lung biopsy to confirm that they were cancer, and that came out positive. Up until this point all my treatment has been done at Smokey Point or Skagit Cancer Care Center in Mt. Vernon. Susan and I met with my oncologist and he suggested that I have a meeting with a doctor from the Seattle Cancer Care Alliance. He is a doctor that has programs that are for a limited amount of patients for a certain period of time, but the patient must be at a certain level of health and meet certain criteria to be eligible for the program. One of those criteria is that the nodules in the lungs have to be a certain size, if they are not then you have to wait until they grow, or go on to a different program. I recently had another CT Scan and am going to be visiting with my doctor to go over the results. We will check and see if the nodules have grown to the minimum size. If we go ahead with this program, I will be traveling to Seattle from Camano Island, I hope no more than once a week, for treatments. That will be pretty tiring for me, as I will be spending most of the day there and then a long ride home, about 100 miles round trip. The type of chemo that this program calls for is more pinpointed to the problem cells so it should be a little easier to take, at least that's what I'm hoping. What we are hoping is that the treatment will stop or slow way down the cell growth, and buy myself more time. I listen to all they tell me, but I know I have two mighty weapons they don't know about, they are the Great Physician and my team of prayer warriors. When God is your heavenly Father there are no limits on what is possible, and things can change in the blink of a eye. That alone fills me with great hope. I will walk by faith, not by sight, and my final prognosis is what my Lord says it is.

Two ministers died and went to heaven. St. Peter greeted them and said, "Your condos aren't ready yet. Until they're finished, you can return to earth as anything you want."

"Fine," said the first minister. "I've always wanted to be an eagle soaring over the Grand Canyon."

"And I'd like to be a real cool stud," said the second.

Poof! Their wishes were granted.

When the condos were finished St. Peter asked an assistant to bring back the two ministers. "How will I find them?" the man said.

"One is soaring over the Grand Canyon," St. Peter replied. "The other may be tough to locate. He's somewhere in Detroit—on a snow tire.



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Executive Board Meeting Minutes—September 12, 2016—Everett, Forest Park

BOARD MEETING IN SEPT. 2015. The minutes were approved as read. Carol is stepping down after 15 years of faithful service. We all appreciate her dedication through the years.

Rhonda Davis gave the Treasurer's report. The checking account balance is \$2,612.24, the Savings Accounts total \$15,132.06 and the CD's total \$64,055.83. \$1,000 was paid out for scholarships that had been applied for and approved. Rhonda also reported that our membership numbers are going down. The Treasurer's report was approved.

REPORTS:

Jr. Promo: Bonnie Lewis was not present but had reported that there were 3 Junior's that had attended the World Tournament and 6 Junior's had played in the 2015 State Tournament.

Hall of Fame: Margaret Byfield, chairperson, was not present. Dennis reminded everyone that write-ups needed to be submitted by May 1st. Jim Quist is the newest member of the committee.

Promo: Jon Turnbull reminded everyone that they should be carrying horseshoe business cards to hand out. The Mt Vernon Street Fair is the end of April and the Skagit Club will again have a booth set up.

Statistician: Jerry Conklin said all was well.

Regional Director: Vic Magnus asked how many were reading the Newline magazine on line. Only about 4 people raised their hands. Most did not like it. Many do not have computers.

Vic will be doing court sanctioning checks again this year. Only Spokane has 2 full courts that are fully NHPA sanctioned. All the rest are conditional sanctions. Vic also suggested that our new pitchers need to be informed as to proper safety issues when pitching.

Shoes News: Jerry Clark, Editor, was absent. All were in agreement as to the fantastic job Jerry is doing on publishing our paper. Rhonda said the printer was recently cleaned and the report was that our printer is in good shape.

There was no old business.

New business: Rhonda asked that everyone check the info on the web site and let her know of any changes or corrections. She also reminded the clubs to get their ads paid for. Another reminder was that if you are moving from 40 to 30 feet to be sure and notify Rhonda and Jerry Conklin after re-qualifying. Rhonda also reported that our CD's are earning very little interest at Washington Federal Bank. She felt that credit unions pay more. She was told to check into the BECU as to rates and fees.

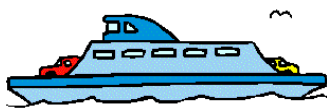
Vic reported that we are on Face Book. His granddaughter, Deanna, has set it up. There has been very little activity.

There was no additional new business. The meeting was adjourned at 8:50 a.m.

Respectfully submitted – Phyllis Quist

Oregon 2016 Tournament Schedule

April 23	Phoenix Open, Phoenix	Alan Ringo,	541-779-6867
April 24	Rogue Valley Open, Phoenix	Alan Ringo	541-779-6867
April 30	Eugene Warm Up, Eugene	Jerry Gorton	541-688-7520
May 7	Mt Hood Open, Gresham	Barry Chapelle	503-775-7876
May 7	Maag/Hoffman Open, Grants Pass	Alan Ringo	541-779-6867
May 14	Bill/Donna Graham Open, Bend	Dave King	541-390-8892
May 15	Juniper Open, Ben	Dave King	541-390-8892
May 21	NHPF Benefit Open, Eugene	Jerry Gorton	541-688-7520
May 22	Skinner Butte Open, Eugene	Jerry Gorton	541-688-7520
May 28	Elmer/Neta Otnes Open, Oregon City	David Brown	503-634-2525

Kitsap County Horseshoes

Port Orchard—Tuesdays 6PM
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001-16-005 / WINETROUT V / 03/12/2016			
Class A Mixed	W/L	T %	HG%
Russ Phillips	7/0	75.36	87.50
Don Davis	5.5/1.5	62.50	75.00
Jerry Conklin	5/2	50.00	57.50
Lyle Soma	3.5/3.5	51.79	62.50
John Bruhn	2.5/4.5	47.14	62.50
Edward Ludwig	2.5/4.5	40.00	50.00
Bernie Martell	2/5	49.64	60.00
Stan Speers	0/7	37.14	55.00

Class B Mixed	W/L	T %	HG%
Marv Herridge	5/1	38.33	42.50
Cindy Clausen	4.5/1.5	44.17	57.50
Nick Nicholson	4.5/1.5	38.75	50.00
Monty McLaughlin	3.5/2.5	35.42	45.00
Bob Sperber	2/4	31.67	35.00
Gerald Stangland	1.5/4.5	33.75	47.50
Jon Turnbull	0/6	30.00	37.50

Class C Mixed	W/L	T%	HG%
Mark Bell	5.5/0.5	35.83	40.00
Larry Barr	4/2	31.25	32.50
Ron Burt	3/3	31.25	40.00
Rick Bidwell	3/3	28.33	35.00
Bill Martino	3/3	27.08	30.00
Al Barcus	2/4	22.92	32.50
Dennis Tutewiler	0.5/5.5	20.83	30.00

Class D Mixed	W/L	T %	HG%
Charlie Tapper	6/0	27.08	32.50
David Brown	5/1	32.08	45.00
Vic Magnus	3/3	31.25	40.00
Mac Huson	2.5/3.5	20.83	30.00
Ross Scott	2/4	23.33	30.00
Wes Chase	1.5/4.5	19.17	30.00
Eddie Ludwig Jr	1/5	15.00	25.00

Class E Mixed	W/L	T %	HG%
Justin Bryant	5/1	20.27	30.00
Jim Quist	4/2	21.62	30.00
Herb Milbourne	3/2	21.50	27.50
John Adams	2/3	17.00	32.50
Sharon McLaughlin	1/4	17.00	22.50
Chris Poe	1/4	8.50	15.00

001-16-006 / WINETROUT VI / 03/26/2016			
Class A Mixed	W/L	T %	HG%
Russ Phillips	7/0	78.21	92.50
Cindy Clausen	5.5/1.5	52.86	62.50
Don Davis	5/2	65.36	75.00
Jerry Conklin	4/3	47.50	55.00
John Bruhn	3.5/3.5	46.07	57.50
Stan Speers	1/6	42.86	55.00
Monty McLaughlin	1/6	35.36	52.50
Jon Turnbull	1/6	34.29	47.50

Class B Mixed	W/L	T %	HG%
Nick Nicholson	6/1	38.57	45.00
Bonnie Lewis	4.5/2.5	38.57	55.00
Gerald Stangland	4/3	35.71	47.50
Bob Sperber	3.5/3.5	32.86	40.00
Marv Herridge	3/4	33.57	40.00
Larry Barr	3/4	32.14	35.00
Mark Bell	2.5/4.5	30.71	40.00
Ron Burt	1.5/5.5	29.29	55.00

Class C Mixed	W/L	T%	HG%
Al Barcus	6/2	36.00	45.00
Vic Magnus	5/3	36.00	52.50
David Brown	4.5/2.5	31.43	50.00
Daryl Hahn	4.5/2.5	27.50	37.50
Dennis Tutewiler	4/3	29.64	35.00
Rick Bidwell	3.5/3.5	28.57	40.00
Jean Covington	1/6	22.86	30.00
Charlie Tapper	0.5/6.5	22.86	35.00

Class D Mixed	W/L	T %	HG%
Ross Scott	5.5/0.5	25.83	30.00
John Adams	4/2	21.25	32.50
Wes Chase	4/2	20.83	37.50
Jim Quist	3.5/2.5	24.17	30.00
Herb Milbourn	3/3	19.58	30.00
Chris Poe	1/5	8.75	12.50
Karla Lewis	0/6	2.50	5.50



Tulip Open in Burlington
April 9th.
at Skagit Riverside Park




Monty McLaughlin—Traveling Trophy



Carol Sperber—In Appreciation of Service




Herb Milbourn—Ringer % over Average



Odessa Horseshoe Club

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Some Thoughts from One of the Greats... Henry Knauft



If someone knowledgeable about the WSHPA and its history were to construct a “Mount Rushmore” to the greatest men’s horseshoe pitchers in our state’s history, there could be some debate about the numbers three and four on the monument, but as to who the first and second persons are there would be no debate. John Monasmith from Yakima won 15 Men’s Singles Championships from 1949—1968. Henry Knauft of Spokane also won 15 Men’s Singles Championships from 1966—1993. John Monasmith passed away on April 30th, 1998 at the age of 81.

Henry Knauft still resides in Spokane, is in his early 90’s, and earlier this year, I decided to write a letter to him asking him to share some thoughts with us about his distinguished career and any other words of wisdom he would like to impart to our generation about the game. After I sent the letter, I thought, oh no, what if I can’t read his writing? My fears were totally unfounded, Henry has outstanding penmanship and his return letter was a joy for me to read.

He shared with me that since his wife passed away, horseshoes have kind of been put on the back burner. He hasn’t stayed in as much contact with the NHPA since the Newline Magazine was taken out of print and put online. He said he doesn’t see much of a change in the future for the game. It has taken a few steps backward, competitively from what it was twenty or more years ago. Here are some of the thoughts Henry shared with us.

Two words that should fit in to your horseshoe pitching game are **dedication** and **desire**. In my early years, I was dedicated to the game, and then got the desire to do better. I knew that after my first state tournament, that 59% wasn’t good enough to win many games in the championship class, so practice I did, but it was a slow climb to get to a 70% average.



I tried changing my pitch in all areas, and tried different horseshoes, finally settling on the Lee Shoe with a one and a quarter turn. Eighty percent was my goal.

This is important, no one can tell you how to pitch. We can only give you advice on what might help. We are all built differently, so what works for one, may not help another.

Your stance, step, back swing, and follow through should be put together in one fluid motion.

In closing his letter, Henry mentioned that he was proud of his 15 State Titles, 10 Northwest Open Titles, and a 3rd and 4th place finish at the World Tournament, but didn’t like to elaborate on them, because that’s past history now.

HENRY KNAUFT’S 1970 WORLD TOURNAMENT				
4TH PLACE FINISH				
SOUTHGATE CITY PARK, SOUTHGATE CA JULY 25-AUG 4				
Opponent	Score	R	SP	%
Simmons	46-50	72	94	76.6
Bestul	52-21	46	60	76.6
Latino	51-17	59	68	86.8
Smith	54-32	75	90	83.3
McFarland	52-19	48	64	75
Pratt	52-20	48	60	80
Henton	51-10	53	62	85.4
Potts	51-35	89	106	83.9
Ostrander	51-23	50	64	78.1
Snyder	50-10	55	64	85.9
Toole	52-37	84	104	80.7
Copeland	53-15	62	72	87.5
Allen	55-30	55	74	68.9
Isais	45-50	66	90	73.3
Maison	52-34	47	66	71.2
Rademacher	50-29	49	66	74.2
Kamman	52-28	70	82	84.5
Gonzales	50-35	83	98	79.6
Paglarini	50-31	57	94	77
Knisley	48-51	80	102	78.4
Kabel	52-38	117	138	84.7
Riffle	51-28	59	72	81.9
Dixon	50-7	38	46	82.6
Kucheinski	51-44	113	132	85.6
Randall	51-12	42	52	80.8
West	47-51	110	136	80.8
Shaver	52-35	67	88	76.1
Stinson	55-11	74	84	88.1
Stout	51-34	72	88	81.8
Hohl	31-50	119	142	83.8
Martz	43-54	83	108	76.8
Schneider	51-32	86	104	82.6
Manker	51-15	66	74	89.2
Walker	44-50	82	106	77.3
Baker	52-32	67	80	83.8
Won 28	Loss 7	2,443	3,010	81.2

Henry, thanks so much for sharing with our Shoes News readers some of your thoughts on the great game of horseshoes from someone who pitched during this “Golden Age” in the history of the game.

DEDICATION, DESIRE, PRACTICE



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New Logo...The votes have been tallied and there is a clear-cut winner!



With 32 percent of the total votes, the winning design for an updated NHPA logo was submitted by Bobby White of Pennsylvania, and meets ALL the requirements outlined in the contest rules. Not only can you tell at a glance that it is "horseshoe pitching," you can also see male and female participation, the association name and the website. This eye-catching design would show well on the back of a jacket or shirt and would need no explanation to those who view it. As explained in the contest and voting announcements, the intention is NOT to replace the existing NHPA logo, but to add a "companion" design that is easily identifiable to be used in promoting the association to the general public. An announcement will be made when the design becomes available to members. Bobby will be the recipient of a \$50 prepaid VISA card for his victory! A sincere thank you goes out to every member who gave their time and effort to create and submit all the contest designs.

After a preacher died and went to heaven, he noticed that a New York cabdriver had been given a higher place than he had. "I don't understand", he complained to St. Peter. "I devoted my entire life to my congregation." "Our policy is to reward results," explained St. Peter. "Now what happened, Reverend whenever you gave a sermon?" The minister admitted that some in the congregation fell asleep. "Exactly," said St. Peter. "And when people rode in this man's taxi, they not only stayed awake, they prayed."




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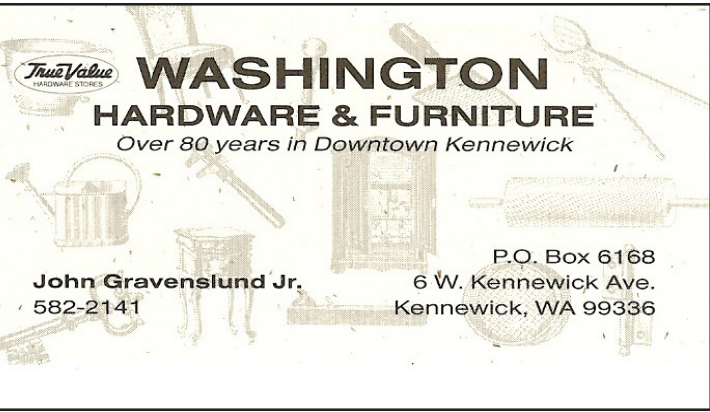
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Rhonda Davis

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Until further notice junior membership dues are paid for by generous donations – please fill out a form, but do not include money for junior memberships

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- APRIL 30 ODESSA SPRING FLING, FINNEY FIELD, ODESSA Ron Heutink / 509-754-5132
- APRIL 30 KITSAP OPEN, S KITSAY CNTY PK, PRT ORCHARD Bonnie Lewis / 360-876-1055
- MAY 7 SKIP MEMORIAL, ELKS PARK, YAKIIMAJerry Conklin / 509-966-3316
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