

# Shoes News

Volume 37 Issue #6

**June 2012** 

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

Presidents Message Your Page Tournament Results NHPA Rules change Membership Form

Page 2 Page 3

Page 7,8 Page 6

Page 9

#### Commentary: Jim Link,

or some Oregon folks, the name Betsy Porter will ring a bell. She is now Betsy Barnhart, and is pitching horseshoes again, this time in the WSHPA. She contacted me a few months ago, having found on the internet that there was a club in Goldendale. When she mentioned that she had pitched in Bend OR, a bell rang for me. I remembered that I had been at a tournament in Bend several years ago and there was a "Barefoot Betsy" pitching horseshoes. That was hard to forget, given that more than once I've dropped a horseshoe on my foot. That hurts, even with shoes on. Betsy is now teaching school in Wishram, a historic little town on the Columbia River not too far from Goldendale and is a member of the WSHPA. Welcome to our "horseshoe family" Betsy.

I'm going to have to keep better track of what's going on in Horseshoes. I looked at the WA schedule, found no tournaments on the Memorial Day weekend and totally missed the tournaments in Oregon City...fun tournaments that I usually make it to if I can. From Prez' Don's remarks on page two, there were some fun games going on, and the Oregon folks always put on great tournaments there. I'll start by making sure that I post

(Continued on page 4)

#### **2011 WSHPA State Champions**

Men Matt Fuller Women Bonnie Lewis

Elder Russ Phillips

Jr Boy **Truman Hopper**Jr. Girl **Deanna Boyle** 

Doubles Champions 2011

Lee Zalesny Jerry Conklin







#### NATIONAL HORSESHOE PITCHERS FOUNDATION

Building for the future while preserving the past and showcasing the present.

Contributions should be mailed to: P.O. Box 1628 Penn Valley, CA 95946

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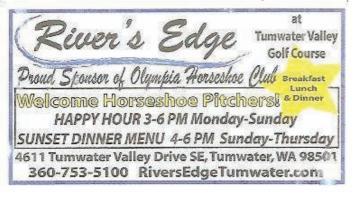
If Shoes News does not have an ad from your community or your club, the charge for promoting your tournament will be \$10. Keep in mind that you can collect smaller amounts from a number of business to make up a "composite ad" for your area.

**Editor**: **Jim Link**, 1987 Glenwood Hwy, Goldendale WA 98620. (509) 250-1035, Email...jhlink2@gorge.net.

Associate Editor, Interviews Paul Tutewiler 14414 72nd. St. E Sumner WA 98390 Email pacltut2@msn.com Tel (253) 863-3322 Folding, Collating, Stamps, Labels Betty Link Subscription to Shoes News \$20.00 per year. Call, email, or write to Editor for your subscription.

Every Tournament Starts with...
"I pledge allegiance to the flag, of the United
States of America and to the republic for
which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all."







Hi all. Here it is, time for more words of wisdom. I think the most important words I have is only play Russ if you have a strong self confidence. I played him three times this last weekend. First game, I didn't score much. The next

game got skunked and the last game I got 3 points. Man... he doesn't give out a lot of chances. On the same note. I was in Oregon for the Oregon City tournament and WOW did I see a ton of ringers! We had 1 guy pitching in the 90's, 2 more pitching in the 70's and Matt was pitching just under 70 and me trying to keep my eyes from swelling shut from the beating. The pocket around the stake was about 6 inches deep and the size of a horseshoe. I won 1 game and I had to pitch 77.5 to win that. What fun!!!! Also, got to see some great old time Oregon pitchers, Ben Weidrick, Bernie Martell, just to name a few. Just to let everyone know the Oregon City tournament was almost canceled, but Barry Chapelle took it over. When it was all said and done, 48 pitchers showed up. It was one of the biggest tournaments in Oregon, other than their state tournament. There may be hope for us yet.

Next I would like to say thank you to all the tournament directors. It is a thankless job trying to make everyone happy. So remember when you go to a tournament, thank them for putting in the time to make the games a fair as possible.

The senior games are coming around again in Seattle this year and it is a good way to work on the game and maybe win a medal. Contact Bob Hassan at (931) 210-9796 for more information.

I will see you on the courts.

Ole and Lars were looking at a Sears Catalog and admiring the models. Ole says to Lars, "Haff yew seen da beautiful girls in dis catalog?"

Lars replies, "Ya, dey are very beautiful. And look at da price!" Ole says, with wide eyes, "Wow, dey aren't verra expensive. At dis price, I'm buying vun."

Lars smiles and pats him on the back. "Good idea! Order vun and if she's as beautiful as She is in da catalog, I vill get vun too."

Three weeks later, Lars asks his friend, "Did yew ever receive da girl yew ordered from dat Sears catalog?"

Ole replies"No, but it shouldn't be long now. Her clothes arrived yesterday!"



#### 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.

#### **NEW & RETURNING MEMBERS**

Lane Zimbelman Tanyaa Zimbelman Marie Michael **Leland Shinn** David Barbieri **Craig Spaniel Betsy Barnhart** 

#### ASSOCIATE MEMBERS

Carol Magnus Gail Fuller Lorraine Koistenan **Evelyn Morris Beth McKay Kara Morris** Millie Ytgard Nell Ryder **Evelyn Underwood** Natalie Clark **Sharon McLaughlin** Svlvia Kuiken Marie Michael Lauren Cavenaugh Rebecca Coulson **Audrey Criss Gail Fuller** Sharon Alexander Rhonda Davis **Betty Barnett** Susan Clark Lou Jean Getts Patti Goodwin **Donna Hansen Shirley Heistand** Francis Herridge **Mary Jones Margaret Leaf** Dick Lee JoAnn Lovgren **Kara Morris Evelyn Morris Beverly Pack Nell Ryder Clydene Tutewiler** Pam Tutewiler **Kathleen Zumbuhl** Elecia Zalesny **Audrey Criss Irene Hoerner** Kathleen Zumbuhl

WELCOME TO OUR ASSOCIATION!!!!!

#### SHOES NEWS SUBSCRIBERS

Jack & Ruth Moore **Henry Knauft** Dick Lee **Arlene Bache** Loren Cavanaugh **Flovd Davis** 

Joel, Dave Barnes THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT!!!!! The NHPA has a small trailer for sale. It was purchased in 1998, but has been used very little. Dick Hansen has been using it to haul the office equipment and supplies to the world tournament. Perhaps many of you have seen this trailer parked near the NHPA offices at past world tournaments.

It is a 5' X 10" enclosed trailer. It has a side door. and swing open dual rear doors. The NHPA logo is on each side. The skin base color is white.

The trailer is currently in Mpls. MN. We would like to see some charter, or individual associated with the NHPA, continue using this trailer and spreading the NHPA logo around.

If we sell this trailer on the open market, it will go for \$500 to \$800. We are willing to sell it to a horseshoe person or charter for less, just make an offer. It would be your responsibility to physically take delivery of this trailer.

If you are interested in this good deal, please contact me at Jlabro6186@aol.com thanks, and many ringers to you all Jerry

**Earl Hertlein** who has been suffering from a shoulder injury says: "There's something worse than losing a game of horseshoes...Not being able to play".

## Nothing sucks more than that moment during an argument when you realize you're wrong.



Home of the Tulip Open, Strawberry Open, and the John Byfield Memorial

#### **Tournaments**

Call for info: Pres: John Turnbull—360-826-5520 Vice Pres: Ross Scott-360-336-3828 Treas: Margaret Byfield—360-424-3642 Sec/Stats: Debi McRae—360-826-6118

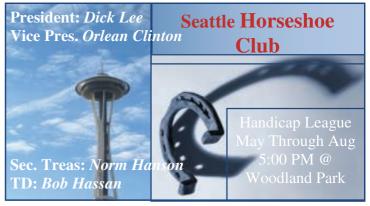
**Game Related Sales** Order your horseshoes and Game Related Sales items from:

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jhlink2@gorge.net 1987 Glenwood Hwy Goldendale WA 98620 Jon Turnbull 360 826 5520

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Page 4 Shoes News

(Continued from page 1)

the Oregon tournaments in Shoes News.

Just noticed that on the NHPA website that there are 1230 entrants into the World Tournament in Knoxville as of 5/22...and in Crossville TN, 70 miles from Knoxville there is an opportunity for World Tournament pitchers to pitch in a local tournament while attending World. See Page 6 for information about that tournament.

Driving only 70 miles to attend a major tournament, while at a major tournament is almost laughable in terms of how we think about distances in the West. One could pitch in both of those tournaments and then drive over to the Hall of Fame in MO and still not put on as many miles as those of us living in Eastern WA do to attend the Winetrouts. "Ya gotta love it" seems to be the 'right' answer, but for those of us who are "hooked on horseshoes", we don't understand why everyone wouldn't want to do that.

Hard to believe that this is the sixth out of only ten Shoes News printed each year...Gotta get to some more tournaments.



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

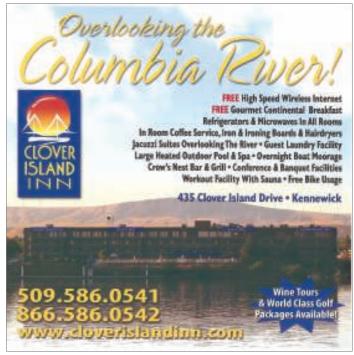
You can see and download the WSHPA schedule, rules and bylaws, a WSHPA entry form, read Shoes News and see lots of other information on the website. The website is growing.

Webmaster: graywolfdesign.com





Tournament pitcher of the year Top Ten 5Points/Tour 5 Points/win 3 Points/Tie 1 Points/Loss	Tulip Open	Columbia basin open	Odessa Spring Fling	Schooner Open	Snipes Mt. Open	Monosmith Open	Norm Hansen Open	Total
Orlean Clinton	16	27		31	27	24	28	153
Gerald Stangland	24	35		26	36	24		145
Don Davis	41	14		18	23	28	19	143
Paul Quam	37	18		15	28	16	23	137
Lee Zalesney		26	27		31	40		124
Jim Link	24	19	28			37		108
Les Myers		22	23		27	36		108
Dave Goodwin		31	11		24	41		107
Edward Ludwig	20			31	24	32		107
Charlie Tapper	12	19		10	15	28	19	103





Shoes News Page 5

#### Rules reminder from NHPA. Distribution: Everybody

We are asking all charters to include this reminder in your charter newsletters. In fact, anything you see on the CC email network that you deem worthy to include in your newsletters would be appreciated. Hello to All

Since the 2012 pitching season is just getting underway, we felt that this would be a great time to send out useful information regarding sanctioned tournaments. The NHPA has a duty to make sure that all NHPA Charters are conducting sanctioned events in accordance with NHPA Rules and Bylaws. This duty is to be carried out and monitored by the Charter Regional Directors, and violations may be enforced via NHPA sanctions.

The rule we want to discuss today is Rule # 11:

#### Section D – Seeding Contestants

Contestants shall be seeded into Tournament Classes based on their current NatStats ringer percentage at the time of the entry deadline. An exception could be the top seeding of a defending champion (not required) when his/her current NatStats ringer percentage isn't the highest percentage within the Championship group. All NatStats average ringer percentages shall be based on the three (3) highest NHPA sanctioned events pitched in the preceding twelve (12) months, or among the last ten (10) sanctioned events pitched during the same period, whichever occurs first. The NatStats average ringer percentage is calculated by dividing the total number of ringers by the total number of shoes pitched for those three (3) events. If a Sanctioned League ringer average is one of the three (3) highest NHPA sanctioned events, that Sanctioned League ringer average shall be converted to an average that is based on four hundred (400) shoes.

This rule is very clear in the way contestants are to be seeded into tournament Classes. We have received reports that some Tournament Directors are using other methods to seed contestants, and if so, those practices cannot continue. If any member has a concern or question regarding the method by which tournament entrants are to be seeded, please contact Dan Sanders, NHPA Rules Committee Chairman at <a href="mailto:dsanderling@yahoo.com">dsanderling@yahoo.com</a>

Jerry LaBrosse NHPA 4th VP

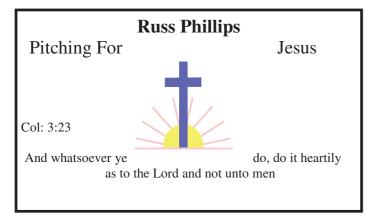
#### Hall of Fame 30' Invitational @ Quail Ridge - Wentzville, Missouri

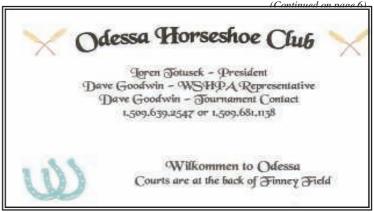
CLASS A:	W-L	RINGERS	SHOES	8
1. Marlene Ray (TN)	14-3	801	1020	78.5%
2. Herschel Walters (IN)	13-4	694	938	74.0%
3. Joan Elmore (TN)	12-4	797	1010	78.9%
4. Russ Phillips (WA)	12-4	704	924	76.2%
5. Sue Snyder (IN)	11-4	660	868	76.0%
6. Barry Chapelle (OR)	11-4	601	820	73.3%
7. Bobby Fields (TN)	10-5	585	796	73.5%
8. Paul McGee (MD)	10-5	593	832	71.3%
9. Gregg Craven (MO)	7-8	632	892	70.9%
10. Lachelle Cook (MO)	5-10	490	802	61.1%
11. Terry Beagle (MI)	4-11	477	780	61.2%
12. Bob Vandivier (IL)	4-11	405	680	59.6%
13. Charles Short (FL)	3-12	462	758	61.0%
14. D.W. Story (TN)	3-12	468	782	59.9%
15. Amy Francis (OH)	3-12	367	666	55.1%
16. Audra Craven (MO)	1-14	362	708	51.1%
I .				

Before our sport took on an organized concept, horseshoe pitching was most often referred to as Barnyard Golf. Horseshoe pitching may have been thought to be more active in the rural areas as the shoes off the horse were actually used before the standard or official shoes was developed. But horseshoe pitching was active in the cities also, but the slang nickname stuck, and stuck for the first two decades of the sport.

By 1919, the sport had become widespread and considerable promotion efforts were being made to develop leagues and state associations. World Tournaments were being held each year. In fact, for most of the 1920's there was a winter World Tournament held in Florida and a summer World tournament held in a northern city. The NHPA had formed in 1921 and certainly the name Barnyard Golf didn't project the im-

age the national leaders would prefer. But the newspaper media commonly used the nickname when covering tournament .Not always, but com-





Page 6 Shoes News

# Crossville Horseshoe Club Presents 5th Volunteer State Open



World Tournament Pitchers welcome (only 70 miles from the Knoxville Convention Center) Entry fee; \$30 Entry deadline: July 27, 2012 Click on Banner for Entry Form/more information Hi Jim, I live about 70 miles west of Knoxville in Crossville, TN. On Sunday, 5 Aug, our club is holding the 5th Volunteer State Open Horseshoe tournament at our facility in Crossville. We have 30 courts there-clay with 12 of them in a Pavilion. This is the Sunday between the 2 weeks of the World Tournament. So your folks who pitch in the World may be interested in pitching in our

sanctioned tournament. There is an ad for this at the NHPA website. The first year I ran this tournament, I had 320 folks pitch in it - Allen Francis and Sue Snyder won that year.

(Continued from page 5)

monly. This was a period in time when horseshoe pitching had considerable coverage in the newspaper sport pages. Every newspaper across the country, whether a major paper or the home town local newspaper, covered horseshoe pitching events, leagues or tournaments, right along with baseball and all other sports of the day.

The name Barnyard Golf can be traced back to the originator, a sports writer from Akron - Harry 'Doc' Kerr. Kerr was

SUCCESSFUL FARMING

a well-known sports writer, whose career extended into the late 1950's with the same Akron Newspaper.

The Barnyard Golf nickname phased out in the mid-1930s but a recent reminder just popped up on the E-bay auction, as a 1925 tournament trophy was up for sale. The engraving was "1925 Tucson Barnyard Golf Championship." information

from Horseshoe Pitching facts and folklore by Bob Dunn.



WHY MEN AREN'T ALLOWED TO TAKE PHONE MESSAGES Thanks to Vic Magnus for this informative piece





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18 SOUTH WASHINGTON STREET - KENNEWICK 509-586-1974 MAJOR CREDIT CARDS ACCEPTED Shoes News Page 7

01-12-009 Odessa	a Spring Fli	ng 4/28/20	12	01-12-011 Snipes	Mt. Open	5/5/2	2012	01-12-012 Monosn	nith Open	5/6/20	112
Class A 30'	W/L	T%	HG%	Class A Mixed	W/L	T%	HG%	Class A Mixed	W/L	T %	HG%
Russ Phillips	5/1	82.33	90.00	Lee Zalesny	5/1	61.38	73.33	Lee Zalesny	7/0	68.86	75.00
Lee Zalesny	4/2	65.46	80.00	Les Myers	4/2	57.43	71.43	Les Myers	6/1	67.63	85.00
Les Myers	3/3	62.33	78.00	Don Davis	3/3	58.03	86.36	Carol Sperber	5/2	63.21	73.68
Dave Goodwin	0/6	34.54	52.00	Stan Speers	0/6	39.41	44.23	Don Davis	4/3	61.92	66.67
Class B Mixed	W/L	T %	HG%	Class B Mixed	W/L	T %	HG%	Gerald Stangland	3/4	50.00	58.62
John McCarthy	5/2	33.44	40.00					Stan Speers	2/5	43.12	48.08
Jim Link	4/3	35.31	40.00	Ron Smith	6.5/0.5	50.63	60.42	Paul Quam	1/6	47.14	50.00
Kaiti Reeves	2/4	32.67	42.00	Gerald Stangland	6/1	49.67	60.71	Art Sperber	0/7	53.33	61.67
Jeannette McCarthy	2/4	21.33	34.00	Paul Quam	4/3 3/4	42.51	47.62	Class B Mixed	W/L	T %	HG%
*				Dave Goodwin Edward Ludwig	3/4	37.43 34.71	46.00 48.00	Dave Goodwin	7/1	43.68	54.35
Class C Mixed	W/L	T %	HG%	Jerry Conklin	2/5	32.37	43.75	Jim Link	6/2	61.20	52.50
Cindy Reeves	4/2	27.78	36.00	John McCarthy	2/5	26.85	41.67	Edward Ludwig	5/2	46.50	50.00
Hans Rasmussen	3/3	17.41	22.00	Monty McLaughlin	1.5/5.5	35.90	47.50	Phyllis Quist	3/4	36.99	69.23
Ron Heutink	2/3	22.00	28.00		•			Orlean Clinton	3/4	30.59	52.00
Harold Boyer	1/4 1/4	23.60	40.00	Class C Mixed	W/L	T %	HG%	Monty McLaughlin	2/5	38.85	50.00
Michael Watcher		20.00	26.00	Sid Gire	5.5/0.5	41.42	55.88	Jerry Conklin	2/5	35.71	54.76
Class D Mixed	W/L	T %	HG%	Orlean Clinton	4/2	29.86	50.00	John McCarthy	1/6	28.30	42.00
Loren Totusek	4/1	17.27	30.00	Phyllis Quist	3.5/2.5	34.89	50.00		U CONTRACTOR OF THE CONTRACTOR		
Richard Fahlenkamp	3/2	15.45	22.00	John McCarthy III	3/3	23.63	26.09	Class C Mixed	W/L	T %	HG%
Chris Poe	1/3	8.00	14.00	Jeanette McCarthy	2.5/3.5	23.85	40.00	Robbie Tyrell	6/1	33.84	47.37
Howard Boyer	0/4	4.50	14.00	Larry Getts	1.5/4.5	25.17	38.00	Harold Boyer	5/2	31.95	40.48
Junior A	W/L	T %	HG%	Charlie Tapper	1/5	20.16	28.57	Debi McRae	4.5/2.5	32.06	38.00
Michael McCarthy	3/1	24.00	30.00	Class D Mixed	W/L	T %	HG%	Jeanette McCarthy	4/3	31.85	45.24
Cadet	W/L	T %	HG%	Rob Tyrrell	5/0	33.77	46.67	Charlie Tapper	4/3	23.37	32.00
Patrick McCarthy	5/0	40.00	44.00	Debi McRae	3/2	31.20	40.00	Larry Getts	2/5	28.31	38.00
04 40 040 <b>Cab</b> a		- A /OO/OO	40	Jay Stumpf	3/2	28.69	34.09	Ron McLaughlin	1.5/5.5	24.10	32.00
01-12-010 Scho				Sharon McLaughlin	3/2	20.00	30.00	John McCarthy III	1/6	23.17	45.45
Class A 30'	W/L	T%	HG%	Bill Buxton	1/4	21.20	28.00	Class C Mixed	W/L	T %	HG%
Art Sperber	5/1	59.50	67.50	Jim Quist	0/5	21.49	26.00	Jay Stumpf	7/1	27.67	40.00
Matt Fuller	4/1	63.39	73.08	Class E Mixed	W/L	T %	HG%	Jim Quist	6/2	18.06	25.00
Stan Speers	3/2	45.13	57.50	Eddie Ludwig Jr.	4/2	17.47	27.27	Eddie Ludwig Jr.	3/4	20.71	30.00
Don Davis	1/5	53.50	62.50	Chris Poe	0/6	2.04	4.00	Bill Buxton	3/4	20.00	30.00
Paul Quam	1/5	45.80	52.50	I A	\A//I	T 0/	LIC0/	Richard Fahlenkamp	2/5	11.79	15.00
Class B Mixed	W/L	T %	HG%	Junior A	W/L	T %	HG%	Sharon McLaughlin	1/6	17.78	35.00
Ed Ludwig	4.5/0.5	41.87	54.17	Devyn Stumpf	5/1	16.78	27.08	Chris Poe	1/6	3.93	10.00
Gerald Stangland	4/1	50.93	61.11	Mario Guterirez	3/3	4.67	8.00	Juniors A	W/L	T %	HG%
Brad Zumbuhl	3/2	45.49	56.00					Devyn Stumpf	6/1	24.64	30.00
Glen Heistand	2.5/2.5	37.34	45.16					Devyii Stuilipi	0/1	Z4.0 <del>4</del>	30.00
Gene Kuiken		34.19	48.15								
Class C Mixed	W/L	T %	HG%	Filling Shoes New						oking f	or fille
Orlean Clinton	5/1	30.17	37.50								
Duane Nault	4/2	43.53	57.50								
Rex Tauscher	3/2	33.33	50.00	editor of that publication, struggles with the same issue of finding meaningful content as							
Jean Covington	3/2	27.42	38.24					same issue of findir			

**Shoes News appreciates our** sponsors. When you visit them, tell them that you are A horseshoe pitcher

0/5

W/L

4.5/0.5

4/1

3/2

2.5/2.5

1/4

0/5

28.35

21.50

T %

20.41

25.54

18.00

16.50

11.96

5.10

35.00

27.50

HG%

25.00

50.00

22.50

22.50

20.00

7.50

Marv Herridge

Charlie Tapper

Class C Mixed

Dennis Tutewiler

Eddie Ludwig Jr.

Megan Stonehocker

Gary Fuller

Larry Lewis

Chris Warner

considered for that **President:** job I shudder and **Duane Nault** give thanks that (360) 867-1894 others were selected to fill that position.

of people who were

She meets the chal-

I met Stu Sipma,

NHPA President in the nineties. He was

at the World Tour-

lenges admirably.

Sec. Treas. **Jean Covington** 

VP Club Rep **Dennis Tutewiler** 253 472 0424

Practice—League Yauger Park 1:00 PM Monday Thursday **Tournamet Director** Paul Tutweiler 253-863ti3322on page 8) Page 8 Shoes News

01-12-013 Norm Ha	5/12/2012			
Class A Mixed	W/L	T %	HG%	
Stan Speers	4/2	50.42	65.00	1
Paul Quam	3/3	49.17	62.50	1
Paul Tutewiler	3/3	48.75	60.00	
Don Davis	2/4	65.42	80.00	
Class B Mixed	W/L	T %	HG%	
Vic Magnus	6/1	38.89	53.33	]
Bonnie Lewis	5/2	41.77	52.27	]
Orlean Clinton	4/3	31.97	46.00	]
Gene Kuiken	3/4	37.90	50.00	╛
Phyllis Quist	3/4	35.10	45.45	]
Larry Barr	3/4	32.12	40.00	
Ron McLaughlin	3/4	27.16	50.00	
Jerry Clark	1/6	32.16	42.00	
Class C Mixed	W/L	T %	HG%	
Jon Martin	5/1	34.33	41.67	
Mark Bell	4/2	32.09	39.13	
Dennis Tutewiler	4/2	28.93	36.11	1
David Barbieri	4/2	26.49	32.00	1
Charlie Tapper	2/4	23.08	34.00	1
Norman Hansen	2/4	22.43	36.84	
Mark Young	0/6	19.15	28.00	]
Class D Mixed	W/L	T %	HG%	
Nick Nicholson	6/0	22.50	30.00	1
Chris Warner	3/3	16.25	20.00	1
Larry Lewis	3/3	11.67	30.00	]
Albert Haugen	0/6	4.58	7.50	

(Continued from page 7)

nament in Syracuse New York promoting the World Tournament that he brought to Bismark, North Dakota in year 2000.

Stu in the May/Jun issue, reiterates and repeats the same mantra that all of us do who love the game of horseshoes. His words in Newsline "I would like to once again encourage charters to assist in growing their membership", repeats the concern that has been foremost on the minds of everyone who works at promoting this game.

When Stu visited us at the Yakima Tournament, he asked in a personal conversation "what he could do to help the game or horseshoes". My answer was short and simple, "find a national sponsor for horseshoes".

Many of the readers of Shoes News know my 'John Deere' story. Hanging in my living room is a painting by Dave Barnhart, a popular artist. His paintings are of the rural farm culture in the Midwest. The title of the painting is "Pitching For a Double Ringer". In it he depicts a farm family pitching horseshoes in the late evening under the yard lights of the barn and machine shop. In the picture is a late forties John Deere tractor, and a Buick automobile of the same vintage.

That picture speaks to me. It could have been taken on the farm that I grew up on, and it kindled an idea in my head that won't go away. I'm convinced that John Deere is the natural sponsor for horseshoe pitching. The problem we face, is in convincing them that it would be a win-win situation for them and for horseshoes.

There are so many compelling reasons that John Deere should be our sponsor that it's not hard to imagine that if it was brought to the attention of the right person in that organization there would be a John Deere banner hanging on the fence at every tournament in the nation.

Imagine what it would do for horseshoes that if at the World Tournament the winner would take home a purse of \$500,000. In two years there would be horseshoe courts in every town, large and small, in the country. In my vision, you would go into a John Deere dealership and buy your horseshoes and horseshoe related items. While there you might take home a lawn mower or a John Deere Tractor. John Deere would stake a

rightful claim on a community and the culture that they had a big part of creating when horseshoe pitching began in the early part of the last century.

That vision has been in my mind for some time. Seeking to pursue that notion, when I attended the World Tournament in Ardmore OK, I got a promotional letter on the official NHPA letterhead from the then Publicity and Promotions Director Casey Sluys. I included Davenport Iowa, where the John Deere Headquarters is located, on my return route. I had prepared a letter to present to whomever I could make contact with there to promote this idea. In my disillusioned mind I would stride in there and talk at least to a Vice President and pitch my idea.

Arriving there at the palatial grounds that is John Deere's headquarters, full of confidence I strode into that impressive building with my letters in hand and approached a young lady at a desk situated in front of a hallway leading into the interior offices. To my astonishment and disappointment, she was as far as I got. She graciously took my letters, where they ended up I'll never know, but all that came of it was that I did get a reply in the mail telling me that "John Deere wasn't interested in my proposal at this time".

I'm still a believer. I'm convinced that John Deere and horseshoes are a natural match and we could be a mutual benefit to one another. At the World Tournament each year there are pitchers who paint their horseshoes the familiar John Deere Green and Yellow. In Bob Dunn's horseshoe collection there are horseshoes that were made by John Deere in their foundry with their name on them. John Deere's products do the same job that the horses did that wore horseshoes and produced a culture of people who with them, found better and more efficient ways to work the land. John Deere's customers and horseshoe pitchers share the same heritage.

I have written articles for Newsline in the past. Writing this article has produced in me a new purpose driven agenda. I'll offer Paula another piece to fill her newsletter. In it we'll cite the same argument made here, the purpose being to initiate a move by officers of the NHPA to investigate the feasibility of an alliance between John Deere and horseshoes. Surely among the tens of thousands of horseshoe pitchers 'out there' there is someone who is familiar with the avenues used by advertising agencies to forge a relationship between entities like ours. I'm convinced that with a few promotional dollars John Deere could reap a 'new crop' of loyal followers all across America and initiate a program that would invigorate and start a 'new chapter' in our age old sport.

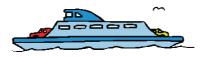


Shoes News Page 9





### **Kitsap County Horseshoes**



Spring and Summer Leagues 6PM
Port Orchard Silverdale
Tuesdays Thursdays
(360)876-1055 (360)692-9315

Auburn, WA 98092

# **Soldendale Horseshoe Pitching**



Home of the "Memorial Day Open" and the NHPF "Harvest Fest"

Wrap up your season at the "Harvest Fest" NHPF Benefit Tournament Breakfast & Lunch included in \$20 entry fee

Rich Fahlenkamp Pres. Jim Link Sec. TD 509 261 1788 509 250 1035

#### NHPA/WSHPA DUES

**Your membership is due on January 1<sup>st</sup> of each year.** This includes your state and national dues, plus tournament liability insurance and the WSHPA newsletter, *Shoes News*. NEWSLINE, the NHPA magazine published bi-monthly, is an extra fee.

Name	Date of Birth:
Spouse's Name (If associate member)	Date of Birth :
Address	zip
Winter Address_	zip
(Which months at winter address?)  Pitching category (check one)- 40' Men Women, 30' Men, Jr.boy, Jr. girl Jr_ Check appropriate boxes- ADULT PITCHER DUES JUNIOR PITCHER DUES WA STATE LIFETIME PITCHER DUES (pitcher over 70 years & WA state member for a minimum of 5 years) ASSOCIATE MEMBER DUES NHPA NEWSLINE (extra) WASHINGTON SHOES NEWS (for non member or associate subscription TOTAL ENCLOSED  Make checks payable to WSHPA. (remember your spouse's associate deplease send completed form along with your ANN WSHPA Treasurer  Email contact: rhonda.d.davia	(18 <sup>th</sup> birthday this year or younger)  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  3.00 (spouse or other non-pitcher)  \$12.00  Note: If there is more than one adult pitcher in your household, you may subtract \$20 for the duplicate Shoes  News subscription. Contact Rhonds if
16010 SE 322 <sup>nd</sup> St	

(Note: Natl dues and insurance \$17, WSHPA dues inc. Shoes News \$30 = Total of \$47. Deduct \$5 if lifetime pitcher.)

Page 10 Shoes News

2012 Washington State Horseshoe Pitching Schedule						
2-Jun	Earl Kettleson Open	Franklin Park	Spokane	Reeves, Kaiti	509/389-7781	
9-Jun	Pat Quinn Memorial	Eastgate Park	Kennewick	Allen, Vey	509/588-3351	
9-Jun	Rehard Open	Franklin Park	Spokane	Reeves, Kaiti	509/389-7781	
23-Jun	Strawberry Open	Skagit Riverside Park	Burlington	McRae, Debi	360/333-3236	
24-Jun	John Byfield Memorial	Skagit Riverside Park	Burlington	McRae, Debi	360/333-3237	
30-Jun	Kitsap Memorial	S. Kitsap Cnty Park	Prt. Orchard	Lewis, Bonnie	360/876-1055	
7-Jul	Ed Walsh Open	Franklin Park	Spokane	Reeves, Kaiti	509/389-7781	
14-Jul	Seattle Open	Woodland Park	Seattle	Hassan. Bob	931/210-9796	
21-Jul	Lakefair Open	Yauger Park	Olympia	Tutewiler, Paul	253/863-3322	
11-Aug	Bob Hansen Memorial	Woodland Park	Seattle	Hassan. Bob	931/210-9796	

#### **Oregon Horseshoe Pitching Association Schedule**

June 2	Phoenix Summer Open #1	Phoenix	Alan Ringo	541-779-6867
June 3	Phoenix Summer Open #2	Phoenix	Alan Ringo	541-779-6867
June 9	Wings of Spring	Corvallis	Jim Postell	541-752-2167
June 10	Rainbows and Mist	Corvallis	Jim Postell	541-752-2167
June 16	Juniper Open 1	Bend	Dave King	541-390-8892
June 17	Juniper Open 2	Bend	Dave King	541-390-8892
June 23	Hermiston Open	Hermiston	Rick Rebman	541-567-8560
June 23-24	Valley of the Rogue/Money	Grants Pass	Alan Ringo	541-779-6867
June 30	Portland Rose Open	Portland	Barry Chapelle	503-775-7876

Shoes News 1987 Glenwood Hwy Goldendale WA 98620

