



# SHOES NEWS

VOLUME 39 ISSUE #5

MAY 2014

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

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### Commentary: *Jerry Clark*

Spring weather in the Skagit Valley reminds me of that box of chocolates Forest Gump used to tell us about, "you never know what your going to get". What we got for the Tulip Open was sunshine that was mostly out, but occasionally played peek-a-boo behind some puffy white clouds. As our state's 'official' horseshoe pitching season began, forty- five pitchers including two from our neighbors to the north, came together at the well manicured courts of the Skagit Valley Horseshoe Club in Burlington.

Before the day's activities began, president Don Davis presented Cindy Clausen with the plaque she earned as the Wine-trout Women's Champion for 2014. Great job Cindy!

Tournament director, Jon Turnbull put together six mixed classes that were very competitive and kept statisticians, Margaret Byfield & Carol Turnbull busy all day. A big congratulations to Tournament Champion **Elyse Brunelle** of British Columbia. The other class champions were:

- |                 |         |
|-----------------|---------|
| Paul Quam,      | Class B |
| Gene Kuiken,    | Class C |
| Darrel Jones,   | Class D |
| Jean Covington, | Class E |
| Ron Heutink,    | Class F |

(Continued on page 4)

## Postcards from the Tulip Open



Skagit Riverside Park, Burlington



Bob Sperber & Linda Pransky



Bob Pederson & Gene Kuiken



Don Davis



Jon Turnbull & Bonnie Lewis



Stan Speers



Monty McLaughlin



Margaret Byfield & Carol Turnbull



Don Ebey, Dennis Tufewiter, Mark Bell, Archie Silcox



### 2013 WSHPA STATE CHAMPIONS

- Mens: **Matt Fuller**    Womens: **Phyl Quist**  
 Elders: **Russ Phillips**  
 Jr Boys: **Kyler Magnus Jr.**    Girls: **Karla Lewis**  
**Doubles Champions 2013**  
**Larry Getts    Sid Gire**



### NATIONAL HORSESHOE PITCHERS FOUNDATION

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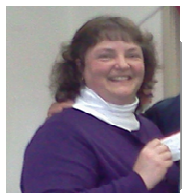
If Shoes News does not have an ad from your community or your club, the charge for promoting your tournament will be \$10. You can collect smaller amounts from a number of businesses to make up a "composite ad" for your area.

**Editor:** Jerry Clark **Email:** editor@wshpashoesnews.com  
1992 Elger Bay Rd. #544 Camano Island. WA 98282 (425) 293-3438

**Subscription to Shoes News:** \$20.00 per year. Mail your subscription to Rhonda Davis, 16010 SE 322<sup>nd</sup> St Auburn WA 98092 (253) 735-0213.

### 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."*



**WSHPA website:** <http://www.wshpa.com>

**Web:** Rhonda Davis

[monstertrkdoug@aol.com](mailto: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](http://graywolfdesign.com)



Well it has happened ! We are in full swing now. We just finished up the Tulip open and wow did they have the place looking good- maybe one of the nicest venues in horseshoes. Thank you to Jon and Carol Turnbull for all the hard work of setting it up and running the tournament. I know it was a late night for them. Also I was thinking of how close we were to having 60 pitchers. We may not be growing as much as we would like but with clubs making you feel so welcome and the place so great looking, there is hope!

I got a phone call last week and it seems that Bill Graham Jr. will be out of retirement, at least for the Bend tournament. I am planning on going to that tournament in Bend just to see him and Gary Opper. It is amazing how many friends I have made just pitching horseshoes. The bad thing is I will be missing the Sunnyside and Yakima tournaments. So I wanted to say I am not boycotting, just visiting old friends.

Also for everyone that is following the road to Worlds in Spokane, Phyllis and Jim are going to Spokane on May 12 for a couple of days to meet with the folks at the Visitors and Convention Bureau to get ready for the bid for worlds. Let's all keep a positive attitude and hope this brings the world championships to Washington!!!!!! I have a little thing going with Alan. If you remember I asked if he could see himself coming to Washington to pitch. He said "No". I guess this would give him a reason! It is hard to keep each person informed about my health, so I will try to write a little bit at the end of each monthly prez column to keep you up to date. My rectal cancer is stage 3. I began radiation and chemo on the 21<sup>st</sup>. This part of treatment will be 5 days a week for 6 weeks. This is so they can try to shrink the tumor prior to surgery. Thank you for all your kind words and prayers. I am blessed to be a part of such a wonderful horseshoe family.

Well that is it for now.

See you on the courts, Don



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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.



**Cindy Clausen**  
*Winetrout Women's*  
**Champion**  
**2014**



## Thoughts and Prayers

**Update on Mary Ebey:** Hi, Well Mary is still in rehab. She is learning to walk again. Today she has to go to the hospital to have a blood transfusion. Her red cells are low so when she stands up her blood pressure goes down too far, but she will get through this. She is determined to go home. Thanks for caring. Don

Lets all keep Mary and Don in our thoughts and prayers - it has been a very long ordeal and is nowhere near over, but it is on the up swing and that is great news. Vic Magnus

## International Grandparents Fund Drawing



One drawing will be held on June 21st at the Strawberry Open, and the next drawing will be held the following day at the John Byfield Memorial, June 22nd both in Burlington. You must be present to win!!

Please let your friendly Shoes News editor know if you are planning to attend the 2014 World Tournament in Hamburg/Buffalo. I would like to get a list of the Washington State pitchers that are entered. Contact me at [editor@wshpashoesnews.com](mailto:editor@wshpashoesnews.com)



Lying on his deathbed, the rich, miserly old man calls to his long-suffering wife. "I want to take all my money with me," so promise me you'll put it in the casket."

After the man dies his widow attends the memorial service with her best friend. Just before the undertaker closes the coffin, she places a small metal box inside.

Her friend looks at her in horror. "Surely," she says, "you didn't put the money in there."

"I did promise him I would," the widow answers. "So I got it all together, deposited every penny in my account, and wrote him a check. If he can cash it, he can spend it."

### ATTENTION ALL WORLD TOURNAMENT CAMPERS:

Reservations for on-site camping start May 1 st 2014! The fair-grounds have dump stations, rest rooms and showers available for use.

To get all necessary information for camping, please click this link! <http://www.horseshoepitching.com/buffalo/RVRulesandRegs.pdf> Erie County Agricultural Society (ECAS) will be providing full hook-ups including sewer to accommodate as many RV's as possible and will have 120V 30 amps and 22V 50 amps electric. It will be the campers responsibility to supply their own electrical cords, hoses, "Y"s or any items needed for the hook-up. Rate for a full hook-up is \$35.00, just electric & water \$30.00 or electric & tents \$25.00.

If you have any questions, or want to make camping reservations, please call Paul Thomas after May 1st (716) 434-1154.



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(continues from page 1)

It was exciting to see such a big turnout at the Tulip Open. I kept looking around at various times throughout the day at all the activity going on, and I thought to myself, "this is how horseshoe tournaments are supposed to look". Years ago when it wasn't uncommon to have fifty, sixty, or even more pitchers at some of these events. it must have been a sight to behold. I'm sure in those days, pitching a morning and afternoon session was the norm, not an exception as it is today.

I was talking to Jon Turnbull a couple of days after the tournament, and we were discussing all the things that have to be considered by tournament directors as they set up these events. You do your very best to make it fair, competitive, and enjoyable for everyone, and then there are things out of your control, like the weather, or pitchers wanting to sign up after the deadline, or cancel out the morning of the event. Tournament directors need to be nimble and flexible when it's possible, but also firm and unmovable at other times. It's a real juggling act that most of us would have a hard time pulling off, so let's give our tournament directors all the support and cooperation we can, they have a lot of responsibility and we need to lighten their load as much as we can.

At this writing, the Odessa Spring Fling (I love the name of this tournament) and the Kitchen Memorial, are still up ahead on April 26th. Tournament directors, Dave Goodwin and Bonnie Lewis always put on great events, and I know this year will be no exception. It's been less than a year since Cy and Amy Kitchens passing and with the thoughts and memories of them still fresh in our minds, I'm sure there will be lots of Cy Kitchen stories and remembrances shared at this event. With the moving of the Columbia Basin Open to May 18th and the cancellation of the Sagebrush Open in Hermiston, there has been a hole in our schedule. I'm going to try hard to get the results of the April 26th tournaments in this issue if possible.

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Columbia Basin  
Horseshoe Club



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---	--



An attorney I worked with at a personal-injury law firm deeply resented the term ambulance chaser. "It's not right to call us that," he told me. "Besides, we usually get there before the ambulances do."

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## Some Written and Unwritten Rules Of Horseshoe Pitching



**Personal "etiquette" by contestants, judges, scorekeepers and spectators is not always established by "Rules". A few "unwritten" practices have helped standardize nearly all well conducted horseshoe tournaments...**

Here are a few of the generally accepted "unwritten" rules of etiquette in horseshoe pitching (Some may include or refer to NHPA Official Rules):

- ◆ Without loss in competitive spirit, all participants shall maintain a friendly, civil attitude with one another, officials, scorekeepers and spectators, all of whom are expected to reciprocate in like manner. Boasting, fault finding, whining and complaining only serve to lessen respect for individuals and for the sport.
- ◆ Opponents should shake hands prior to and following play of every game, to wish one another good luck and to thank one another for the opportunity to compete.
- ◆ Play should start on time for each game and continue in timely fashion with no delays, excepting for conditions beyond control of participants. Individuals who practice tactical disruptions which slow the pace may be subject to strict discipline by tournament officials. Pitchers are asked to stay on or near their assigned courts throughout tournament play to be available for play. They should report any necessary temporary absence to the judge covering their courts.
- ◆ Contestants should never visit with **anyone** when an opponent is in position to pitch. Equal respect should also be shown throughout the game because any sound or motion by contestants during the course of a game may be disruptive to an opponent's concentration.
- ◆ Competitors may speak with one another between innings as they choose but such conversations or actions shall not be distracting to pitchers on other courts.
- ◆ Scorekeepers are part of the court conditions and must officially record all scoring calls. They are to stay focused on play, without visiting with contestants or spectators. They may question contestants on scoring problems provided they do not interrupt a pitcher preparing to pitch. They may announce the current score when asked by the contestants. They should avoid shifting and moving their body or scoreboards when contestants are pitching to avoid unnecessary distraction. They must certainly remain in their chair instead of walking with contestants or moving around on the court during a game.
- ◆ Judges have a need to move or "walk the fence" to observe play on courts assigned to them. Judges must respond to requests for judgment calls and in so doing, they must not cause disruption by their own actions. Crossing courts inside the fence on which contestants are in the act of pitching is both distracting and unsafe.
- ◆ Spectators have responsibilities too. For the most part, horseshoe games are played with very little spectator or contestant "chatter". Both jeering and humorous comments as well as conversations between spectators and contestants on the court has no place in a well conducted tournament. Contestants should be allowed to play each pitch free of distraction. Polite applause is a well received acknowledgement of good play if made between innings and is encouraged by most tournament directors. Overly enthusiastic crowd noises should be held in check.



### Odessa Horseshoe Club

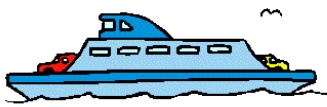


Loren Totusek - President  
 Dave Goodwin WSHPA Representative  
 & Tournament Director  
 1.509.639.2547 - 1.509.431.7239



Willkommen to Odessa  
 Courts are at back of Finney Field

## Kitsap County Horseshoes



Spring and Summer Leagues 6PM	
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**001-14-007 TULIP OPEN 04/12/14**

Class A Mixed	W/L	T %	HG%
Elyse Brunelle	5/1	53.79	70.37
Eiam Tricky	5/1	52.78	64.81
Art Sperber	4/2	49.67	71.43
Carol Sperber	3/3	49.66	59.09
Don Davis	2/4	54.87	71.88
Gerald Stangland	1/5	41.72	47.73
Stan Speers	1/5	38.80	45.83

Class B Mixed	W/L	T %	HG%
Paul Quam	6/2	41.04	57.89
Monty McLaughlin	6/3	39.61	50.00
Jerry Clark	5/3	34.60	43.10
Paul Tutewiler	3/4	39.43	54.55
Robert Pederson	3/4	39.30	53.70
Edward Ludwig	3/4	37.98	56.67
Gaylord Lund	2/5	37.65	47.37
Ron Smith	2/5	32.35	65.79

Class C Mixed	W/L	T%	HG%
Gene Kuiken	6/2	32.89	39.66
Phyllis Quist	5/3	36.29	50.00
Gary Sherman	4/3	36.07	48.21
Bonnie Lewis	4/3	32.62	41.30
Bob Sperber	4/3	30.91	38.64
Larry Barr	4/3	30.71	35.19
Jon Turnbull	2/5	32.91	42.50
Brock Vogel	0/7	25.15	39.29

Class D Mixed	W/L	T %	HG%
Darrel Jones	7/0	34.29	42.50
Dennis Tutewiler	5/2	28.57	42.50
Cindy Clausen	3/4	31.07	42.50
Archie Silcox	3/4	26.79	35.00
Nick Nicholson	3/4	26.43	40.00
Mark Bell	3/4	25.00	37.50
Don Ebey	2/5	23.93	30.00
Eddie Ludwig Jr.	2/5	18.93	32.50

Class E Mixed	W/L	T %	HG%
Jean Covington	5.5/1.5	26.07	40.00
Terry Hanson	4.4/2.5	18.21	40.00
Mac Huson	4/3	19.29	32.50
Ross Scott	3.5/3.5	18.93	27.50
Sharon McLaughlin	3/4	20.71	35.00
Charlie Tapper	3/4	20.00	40.00
Gaetan Benoit	2.5/4.5	18.57	27.50
Jim Quist	2/5	13.57	25.00

Class F Mixed	W/L	T %	HG%
Ron Heutink	5/0	17.60	22.00
Eddie Hills	3/2	13.60	18.00
Linda Pransky	3/2	10.80	14.00
Darrel Koistinen	2/3	8.80	16.00
Hans Rasmussen	2/3	8.40	16.00

Junior Class	W/L	T %	HG%
Karla Lewis	0/5	6.80	10.00



**001-14-010 KITCHEN MEMORIAL 04/26/2014**

Class A Mixed	W/L	T%	HG%
Dick Thompson	4/1	60.42	73.53
Don Davis	3.5/1.5	57.14	72.00
Gerald Stangland	2.5/2.5	46.88	52.38
Glen Heistand	2/3	47.20	60.00
Robert Pederson	2/3	36.79	38.10
Stan Speers	1/4	33.64	42.00

Class B Mixed	W/L	T %	HG%
Ron McLaughlin	5/0	40.76	44.00
Gene Kuiken	4/1	42.16	50.00
Marv Herridge	3/2	30.34	45.83
Gary Sherman	2/3	37.50	42.86
Brad Zumbuhl	1/4	23.85	32.00
Larry Barr	0/5	26.11	32.00

Class C Mixed	W/L	T %	HG%
Rex Tauscher	4/1	32.11	42.86
Jim Link	3.5/1.5	26.07	34.78
Archie Silcox	3/2	25.69	37.50
Duane Nault	2.5/2.5	27.92	40.48
Barry Gentle	1/4	23.60	30.00
Jean Covington	1/4	12.73	19.05

Class D Mixed	W/L	T %	HG%
Al Barcus	5/1	26.71	34.09
Cyrus Darling	4/2	27.08	44.74
Charlie Tapper	3/2	20.08	26.00
George Reynolds	2/3	16.53	20.83
Terry Hanson	1/4	15.22	19.57

Junior A	W/L	T %	HG%
Megan Stonehocker	1/4	11.38	18.00

**NOTE: Odessa Spring Fling tournament results were not received at press time.**

*One of the most dramatic developments in manufacturing during the last decade is robotics. Robots put in endless hours, function in difficult environments, never seem to run down, cost very little to maintain, and do it all without praise, personal attention, or stroking. Actually, robots are nothing new. They used to be called "MOTHERS".*

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**Russ Phillips**

Pitching For Jesus

Col: 3:23

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

**FEATURED CLUB:**  
**Yakima Horseshoe Club**  
**Elks Memorial Park**  
**Yakima, WA**

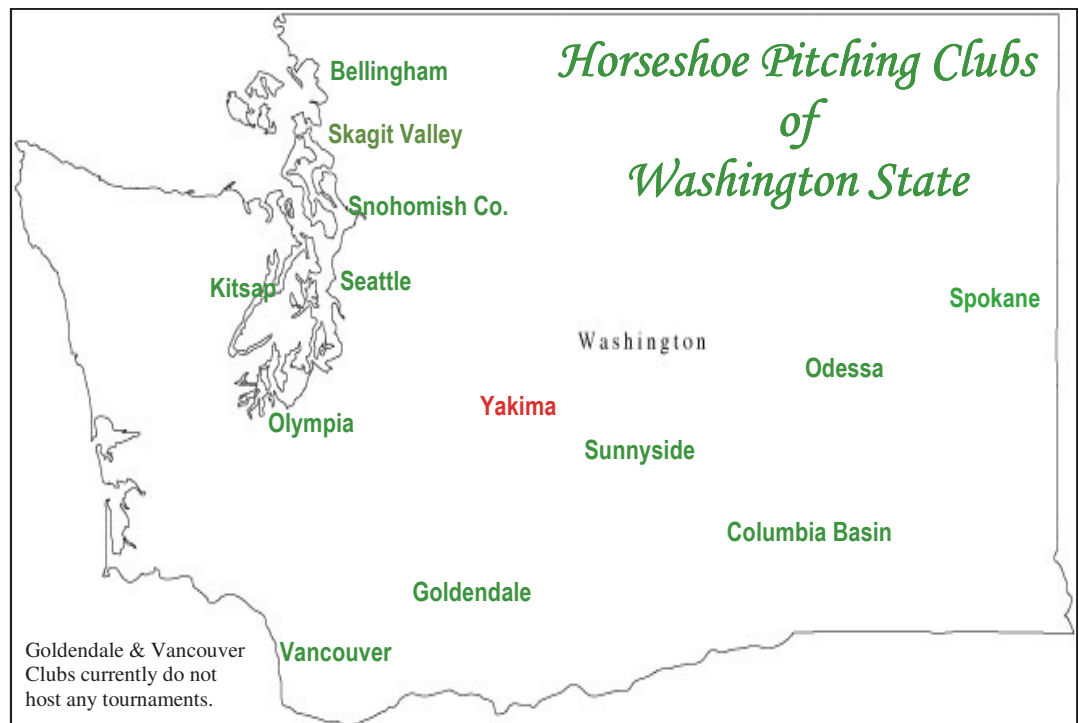
**Club President:** Jerry Conklin  
**Vice President:** Ray Powell

**Tournament Director:**  
**Lee Zalesny, (509) 966-3316**

**Club Tournaments:**  
**May 4: Monasmith Open**  
**Aug 9&10: Carvo Open**

**These tournaments will also  
 take place at Elks Park:**  
**May 3: Schilperoort Mem.**  
**Sept 12: NW Warmup**  
**Lee Zalesny (509) 966-3316**

**Sept 13&14: Pac. NW Open**  
**Phyl Quist, (360) 384-4544**



I CAN DREAM



... CAN'T I?

Horseshoe pitchers everywhere, who are serious about the future of the game, and what they can do to promote it, have had a number of very good ideas throughout the years. I think one of the things that has hindered the popularity of the game is that it is not very spectator friendly. Think about it, the pitching courts are usually in rows, close together, which eliminates any seating or spectating from the sides of the court, and out of respect to the pitchers, there are never any onlookers or distractions allowed at the ends of the court. The game simply can't be viewed very well from a distance, so the only people seeing very much, are the competitors.

It seems to me, for the game to really "catch on" with the general public, it will have to be witnessed in person, or on television. That, I think is the way that we will be able to perk the interest of the viewing public and give them a true appreciation of the talent and skill required of the participants. They will also witness how challenging it is to score points in a game of competitive horseshoes between two outstanding pitchers.

All this being said, picture in your minds eye the following: there are so many cable sports networks on the air today, all going 24 hours a day, seven days a week, which makes for a lot of air time to fill, much of which they currently fill with re-runs. Suppose one of them offered the NHPA to put up the money to sponsor either an exhibition, or the men's and women's World Tournament Championship class competitions. Imagine the top pitchers in our sport going head to head with a gallery of spectators lining both sides of the court, watching along with a national television audience. Imagine the cameras catching every angle of the competition, even the flight of the shoes in slow motion, all the way to the stake. Imagine the body language, and the pressure packed facial expressions, all caught on camera. The telecast could be interspersed with world class pitchers giving tips and demonstrations on how to pitch as well as teaching the viewers the rules and etiquette of the game. The prize money could be very substantial and dispersed among all the competitors.

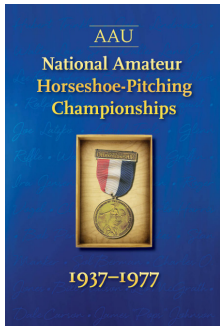
Like all sports, horseshoe pitching has it's stars and superstars and with the added pressures of the crowd and the spotlight, who knows, they may even miss a few more ringers, which would only add to the drama.

The exposure that something like this would bring to our game could be tremendous, and I'm sure the ripple effect would be felt all the way down to our local clubs. Television certainly has impacted other so called "minor" sporting and non sporting events such as bowling, gymnastics, curling, hunting, even chess matches. Of course, the key to the whole idea, is how television executives would envision horseshoe pitching, and how well it would translate to our television screens. Would it be compelling enough to draw and entertain a viewing audience? If the answer to those questions is yes, horseshoe pitching could be in for a whole new rebirth of popularity such has not been seen in the game for decades.

**Somebody wake me up...how long was I asleep?**

*Jerry Clark*

# AAU National Amateur Horseshoe-Pitching Championships 1937-1977



*“Bob Dunn is an amazing researcher and writer. He brings the history of horseshoe pitching to the forefront in a manner that holds your interest. I always look forward to Bob’s books and articles; he is captivating and so knowledgeable on the historical record of our great sport.”*

—Jerry D. Smith, author of *The Official N.H.P.A. History of the World Tournament - Volume 2 - 1981-2011* and *The Legendary Don Titcomb - His Life, His Game, His Way*

*“This book covers an interesting phase in the sport of horseshoe pitching, which has gone unnoticed and nearly forgotten in many quarters. This is a marvelous research project by Bob Dunn.”*

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## Synopsis

In this thoroughly researched book, National Horseshoe Pitching Association Historian Bob Dunn documents the fascinating forty-year history of the Amateur Athletic Union’s involvement with horseshoe pitching. Fans of the sport will enjoy learning about the great stories behind the program and its champions.

## About the Author

Bob Dunn has been a member of the National Horseshoe Pitchers Association for thirty years, and was appointed Historian in 2008. He is an active promoter of the sport, which earned him the Stokes Memorial Award in 1998. Bob has written several books on the sport in his home state of Minnesota, including a 300-page handbook for collecting horseshoes, *The Shoe*, now in its third edition. He has written articles for the NHPA publication *Newsline* for the past twenty-four years.

*“As a past AAU National Champion, I am anxiously looking forward to reading Bob’s book, and knowing about the entire history of the AAU horseshoe-pitching program. I know Bob has worked hard on doing the research and the finished book will be enjoyable for all sports enthusiasts to read.”*

—Roger Vogel, a teenage pitching star in the NHPA World Tournaments in the 1950s, National Amateur Horseshoe Pitching Champion in 1976, and Championship Class Pitcher in the Elder Division today

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Bob Dunn, NHPA Historian, has just completed publishing a book about a phase of our sport that very few are aware of - The AAU National Amateur Horseshoe Pitching Championships. It is interesting and well done.

After the publishing costs are recovered the proceeds will go to the NHPF, Bob will not earn a penny on this project.

Please consider purchasing a copy for yourself and additional copies for your clubs to use in tournaments as fundraisers. Let’s support Bob’s efforts here to raise funds for the NHPF.

Please direct all responses to Bob Dunn at:

[bobcharlesdunn@aol.com](mailto:bobcharlesdunn@aol.com) (<mailto:bobcharlesdunn@aol.com>)

## WSHPA Seeking a New State Statistician

After more than 7 years serving as State Statistician, Debi McRae is stepping down. We appreciate her years of service and her involvement at the State level, she will be missed! If you are interested in knowing more about this position, please take a moment to talk to Don or Rhonda.

**SECTION VI:** The duties of the WSHPA Statistician shall be to keep accurate records of all sanctioned tournaments, maintain records of all individual percentages and provide current percentage statistics to Tournament Directors prior to each sanctioned tournament. The Statistician shall remit tournament results in a format compatible for publication to the WSHPA Newsletter Editor. The Statistician shall provide a record of each tournament to the Awards Director for determining plate and plaque winners. The Statistician shall communicate between other State Statisticians concerning traveling pitchers. The Statistician may perform any other duties that may come to his/her attention that may be necessary to promote the best interest of the association.

In addition, the statistician must be present at every state run tournament (Winetrout series, doubles and singles state tournaments) in order to run the tournament on his/her computer and printer using HS Master program.

**If you are interested in the position of State Statistician please contact Don Davis, 253-735-0213**



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**WSHPA / NHPA 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*.

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Date of Birth: \_\_\_\_\_

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**PLEASE SEND COMPLETED FORM ALONG WITH YOUR ANNUAL DUES TO :**

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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**

**Note : If there is more than one adult pitcher in your household, you may subtract \$20 for the duplicate Shoes News subscription. Contact Rhonda if you have any questions.**

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

# UPCOMING TOURNAMENT SCHEDULE

Entry deadline is 9 PM on Thurs. prior to tournament. Check in before 8:30AM day of tournament.

- ◆ **MAY 3 SKIP SCHILPEROORT / YAKIMA** *Contact Lee Zalesny 509-966-3316*
- ◆ **MAY 3 EVENING CALCUTTA (un-s) / YAKIMA** *Contact Jerry Conklin 509-930-8681*
- ◆ **MAY 4 MONASMITH OPEN / YAKIMA** *Contact Lee Zalesny 509-966-3316*
- ◆ **MAY 10 NORM HANSEN OPEN / SEATTLE** *Contact Don Davis 253-735-0213*
- ◆ **MAY 17 TRI-CITY OPEN / KENNEWICK** *Contact Vey Allen 509-588-3351*
- ◆ **MAY 18 COLUMBIA BASIN OPEN / KENNEWICK** *Contact Vey Allen 509-588-3352*

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