



From My Court To Yours

by Jim Bainter, MOHPA President

Hello everyone. It's Springtime—I think! I'm not sure I got rid of the "IceMan" title this winter since the only trip I had scheduled to St Louis was cancelled due to ice and snow. But, that's another story.

With the indoor environment behind most of us, the green grass of the outdoor courts has begun to beckon. Leagues are forming, tournaments have already begun, and preparations are being made to organize teams for the coming MOHPA Club/Team Benefit hosted by the Quail Ridge Horseshoe Club on May 31. By the time this issue of the Biz hits the street, the club/team benefit will be in the history books. I hope your club wasn't left out. Last time I checked, the tournament was filling up fast.

Unfortunately, soaring gasoline prices are probably going to impact tournament play throughout the state this summer. It will certainly limit state participation in the World Tournament, which is about 1,000 miles to the east in York, PA. If you have friends or local pitchers who may be pitching in the same tournament or pitching at the same time during World, it might be a good idea to think about car-pooling. It would save you big bucks and still allow you to participate.

New Facilities

Clinton has six new courts, which were recently sanctioned. Finishing work is still ongoing due to the heavy rains and wind we have experienced. They had their inaugural tournament (non-sanctioned) recently and have high hopes they soon will be able to get a league started. Marshfield is still working on completing their 22 courts. Fourteen are poured and nine have the pegs set. They can't complete the courts until they have had a chance to dry out. Their first tournament, a benefit, has already been cancelled due to weather. The next tournament, in mid May, may also be delayed due to the heavy rains and the club's ability to work the courts.

On the down side, I have heard the outdoor courts at the Crane city park have been washed out due to flooding earlier in the year. They may not be reestablished. I always hate to lose a pitching facility, but at least we seem to be gaining more than we are losing.

Medical Exemptions

This is the time of year when many of our more-experienced pitchers start noticing the aches, pains, and maladies that impact their ability

to pitch from 40 feet. There are established procedures within the NHPA and MOHPA to address and evaluate short-term and long-term health issues. The affected pitcher needs to contact the MOHPA Secretary/Treasurer, Vicki Winston, to request the necessary paperwork. It is important to note that a pitcher cannot move up to 30 feet and pitch in a sanctioned event until the MOHPA evaluation has been approved and Vicki has sent a new sanction card authorizing him to pitch at less than 40 feet. League and Tournament Directors must familiarize themselves with the procedures to ensure the process is handled properly. Club officers must also ensure that Directors are cognizant of these exemption rules and their notification responsibilities as a Director.

Spring Officer Meeting

The MOHPA Officer meeting is scheduled for Friday evening, May 30. If you have any subjects you would like to see on the agenda, please let me know. It's your association and I want to make sure we are addressing those issues for which you have a concern.

Electronic Shoe Biz

In the last Shoe Biz, I asked for pitchers to let me know if they would like to download the Biz from the MOHPA web site in lieu of receiving a mailed copy. I made this request to help reduce our mailing costs and to give pitchers the opportunity to receive the Biz before it even goes to the publisher. To date, I have received fewer than a dozen requests. I'm unsure if pitchers just haven't notified me or if it may be a bad idea. I plan to raise the issue one more time during the General Membership meeting in September. Until then, the Biz is available electronically but we will still mail copies to all pitchers. Remember, we are saving trees as well as stamps.

Hall of Fame (HOF) Nominations

Just a quick reminder—nominations for this year's HOF selection committee are due soon. We have many pitchers who have made a significant contribution to our association and to the preservation of our sport. Take some time and give recognition to someone you know who may deserve such an honor.

Also, I'm looking for a few dedicated volunteers to serve on the HOF committee. It won't take a lot of your time during the year, but you would be doing the association a great service by helping us select deserving individuals for the HOF.

From My Court to Yours, continued on page 3

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A Touch of Claas

by Jeanette Claas

After a long, cold and snowy winter, spring has finally arrived in Missouri. There's nothing as beautiful as the first warm days of spring when you can walk out into your backyard, breathe in the fresh outdoor air and throw some good old practice shoes.

I pitched in the perfect horseshoe tournament today. Only two people in my class (age group). As we shook hands, she says, "You win. I have never pitched shoes in my life." We went through the motions. I got the gold, she got the silver. It was a great tournament.

Congratulations, Missourians! We did it! Read what Dave Loucks reports in his NHPF column in this issue of Shoe Biz. Also, our state is #1 in the sales of bricks. Vicki tells me that as of May 8, we have 679 adults and 83 juniors in our membership and more will be coming, as some of the summer leagues members have not been recorded yet. Missouri has purchased a total of 146 bricks to date, so we have about 500 members who have not purchased bricks. Think about it.

QRHC was host to the Six Pac Tournament in May and reports that it was the most exciting tournament ever held by their club. Sue Snyder of KY pitched a perfect game in the new facility. Horseshoe pitchers from out of state were so impressed and proud of the new facility. Missouri is so fortunate. Details of the Six Pac tournament will be found in this newsletter.

If you have made plans to go to the World Tournament, in spite of high gas prices, a special invitation is being sent to the Missouri Stewlies for a Burly Bar-B-Q. Good luck to all those Missourians going to York, PA.

If you can take the heat in August, the Missouri State Fair Tournament is a must on your tournament schedule for the summer. The QRHC is busy making preparations for the 2008 MO State Tournament to be held for the first time

at the new facility. We would like to have a record-breaking attendance for the tournament, so talk it up and make plans now to spend Labor Day weekend at the Quail Ridge Park. There is a class for everyone to pitch in. If you are a newcomer, don't be shy. Jump right in and see what a State Tournament is all about. Entry forms, requirements, and information can be found in this issue.

Read the interesting story of why Al Gwinn and Lee Crabtree went back to school. Our profile is about a retired ex-Marine Sergeant who discovered horseshoes late in life and brought a whole new meaning into his life and to many others in south-western Missouri.

Our junior spotlight shines upon an exceptional teenager who loves pitching horseshoes. See which Missouri junior horseshoe pitcher just received her 3rd consecutive NHPA scholarship. Keep up the good work.

You will discover how the dog became labeled as "Man's Best Friend" during a famous lawsuit in Missouri.

Rumor has it that there is some gathering of horseshoe pitchers in Bunker, MO. Bud Conway has three indoor courts and some good Friday night fish fries. Our MOHPA president has kept busy this winter with leagues and tournaments being held monthly in his new indoor facility. If you ever get a chance to get away, travel to a horseshoe event that you have never been to. It will be well worth your while.

This Spring issue of Shoe Biz has been brought to you by horseshoe enthusiasts: Jim Bainter, Vicki Winston, Elwyn Cooper, Al Gwinn, Jim Haupt (WI), Dave Loucks (CA), Donna Bastel, Andy Foulds, Gregg Craven, Stan Griggs, Rich Altis, Ginny Weiss, Pat Gricks, Terry Bowman, and Yours Truly. Until next issue I wishoe a good tax return. It used to be only death and taxes were inevitable. Now, of course, there's shipping and handling too.

Shoe Biz Deadlines

The magic number is "9":
February 9
May 9
October 9



Visit MOHPA on the Internet:
www.mohpa.us



This & That

by Vicki Winston

As I begin this column, we are looking forward for what appears to be a successful Team MOHPA Benefit Tournament, which will be held May 31 at the new NHPA/NHPF Hall of Fame and Court Complex at Quail Ridge Park in Wentzville. There are some new teams this year and all of the clubs are looking to beat the Lake of the Ozarks Club, which is the defending champion. Some outdoor summer leagues are also trying to get underway. So far this has been a rough year for outdoor court complexes. I'm told that the courts at Crane suffered extensive damage from several floods. The new court locations around the state are having a hard time getting completed because of constant rain. Up to this point, 2008 just hasn't been very kind to a lot of places. I'm hoping that the weather will improve real soon. **League Directors**, If you haven't yet sent a copy of the roster of your summer leagues to me, you should do that as soon as possible.

Have you renewed your NHPA and MOHPA membership for 2008? If not, it still isn't too late. Adults are \$20 and juniors are \$5. You still have time for lots of pitching between now and the end of the year. For those who do not plan to renew, we are sorry to see you go and hope you will come back sometime. This will be your last issue of Shoe Biz.

The Missouri State Fair Entry Form can be found in this newsletter. This year you will be mailing your entry to me, but Donna Bastel is in charge of the tournament, which is to be held at the Missouri State Fairgrounds in Sedalia. Contact her if you have any questions. If you are also entering the Missouri State Tournament, you can mail all of your entry forms in the same envelope and you may write one check for the total amount of all of your entries. Just make sure you observe the entry deadline.

The Missouri State Championship Tournament Doubles

From My Court to Yours, from page 1

MOHPA Memberships

It's time for my soapbox speech again. With the formation of new leagues and new pitching facilities, it is imperative we all begin looking for new members to fill the courts. The MOHPA has ranked second in adult and junior memberships for several years. We can't seem to regain our title of the largest charter in the US. Let's all make it a point to ask at least one person (adult or junior) to come out and try the sport. This could be our year.

Minnesota, the recurring and reigning largest charter does a great job each year to maintain and grow their membership. Although they have a different league environment for pitching then we do in Missouri, we do have a 700,000 edge in population from which to draw our pitchers. We also have one of the best indoor/outdoor facilities in the country—the NHPA HOF & Museum at Quail Ridge. I have established a great relationship with the Minnesota President, Rick Wright. We have made this membership race into a friendly competition and, ultimately, the NHPA will be the winner.

I need your help. Let's work together this year in a concentrated effort to regain the title of "Largest Charter." That's it from the Pits.

and Singles Entry Forms can also be found in this newsletter. We are looking forward to holding this event at the new NHPA/NHPF Hall of Fame and Court Complex at Quail Ridge Park in Wentzville. We will be using a combination of 32 indoor and outdoor courts. All are to be permanent courts. If you are sending multiple entries from one household, I ask that you please photocopy the blank form and fill out a separate form for each entry. That is necessary for the way my work is organized. **Please note:** We are trying something new this year. The Doubles Entry Fee **does include** scorekeeping fees. The Singles Entry **does not** include scorekeeping fees. This is an experiment; we want to try to see if it will help speed up the doubles play. **Before filling out your state tournament entry, please read the Requirements page carefully. If you still have questions, feel free to contact me.** I hope there will be a good turnout this year in spite of the high cost of travel.

The Annual State Tournament Awards Banquet will be held at the Holiday Inn—Wentzville on Saturday evening, August 30. It will be a buffet dinner and tickets will be \$18.00 each for adults and \$10.95 for children ages 4 through 10. Children 11 and older will have to pay the full price. Jim tells me this is the best he could do for the kids as of this writing. Banquet ticket order forms will be included when the state tournament schedule mailing goes out, but if you want to pay for your banquet tickets when you send in your state tournament entry, you may do that. Just don't forget later that you've already paid.

Postage is going up in a few days. Due to a new law that congress passed last year, it is likely that postage rates will increase every May from now on. The postal service will be allowed to do that without all of the hearings, etc., that have been needed in the past. "Forever" stamps are looking better all the time. We won't know until after the mailing of this Shoe Biz how much of a rate increase there will be for our newsletter.

As of this writing, I'm not sure yet that Earl will be pitching shoes this summer. If he doesn't, we'll still try to make it to a few places to say howdy. It's been a long winter and we've missed you. Until next time, I leave you with this thought: **If it's such a small world, why does it cost so much to run it?**

Condensed Financial Report

Total Funds on Hand 11/01/07	\$15,146.63
Receipts	12,619.49
Expenses	<u>- 12,184.98</u>
Total Funds on Hand 5/08/08	\$15,581.14

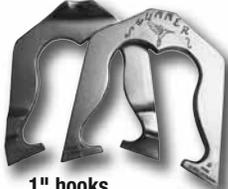


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Last Shoe



Maurice George Hines

November 17, 1929–March 30, 2008

Maurice Hines, 78, of Stockton, passed away at his home on Sunday morning, March 30, from complications of lung cancer. He was born in Tuthill, South Dakota.

He spent his early years on the family farm, then moved to Gordon, Nebraska. The family moved to Hawthorne, California, where his parents and oldest brother worked at the defense shipyards during World War II. The family later moved to Winslow, Arkansas; Bull Shoals, and then Lamar.

Maurice enlisted in the U. S. Army Air Corps on Nov. 14, 1948. During the course of his career, his assignments included Lackland AFB, Texas; Keesler AFB, Mississippi, Kadena AFB, Okinawa; McClellan AFB, CA; Kelly AFB, Texas; McCoy AFB, FL; Hickam AFB, Hawaii; and Patrick AFB, FL. He was a B-29 tail gunner and a flight engineer on C-124, XC99, RC-121, and RC-135 aircraft, logging more than 21,000 flying hours. He retired from active duty on July 31, 1971, after honorably serving his county for 22 years, seven months, and 10 days.

Maurice settled in Stockton after his military career. During his retirement years, Maurice did whatever he wanted to do. One year he raised 1,000 seedling trees, another year he owned a miniature golf park. Maurice discovered he liked to pitch horseshoes. He became a member of the Stockton Horseshoe Club and the MOHPA in 2000, and helped to build the courts in the park with Wayne Barber and other members. He encouraged his son, Dan, and two grandchildren to pitch horseshoes. In July 2007, the Hines family traveled to Ardmore, OK, where Maurice took pride in watching his son and grandchildren, Tyler and Katie, pitch at the World Tournament. Besides horseshoe pitching, Maurice was an avid hunter and fisherman.

Maurice was buried at the Missouri State Veterans Cemetery in Springfield with military honors. He is survived by his wife, Donna; three children, Denise, Samuel, and Daniel; and four grandsons and two granddaughters. At his funeral, his grandchildren paid tribute to their grandfather:

“My Grandpa was the most fun and stubborn man I have ever had the pleasure of being around. He would tell me the funniest stories. He took me hunting and fishing when I was younger. I really just like hearing him talk and talking with him. He helped me through some tough times. I loved him with all my heart. He was my favorite person.” *Tylor Hines, age 13.*

“Grandpa was loving, kind, sweet, funny, nice, giving, cheerful, and smart. I remembered when his birthday came and he could not be around real candles—the smoke was not good for him, so we had to use a fake candle. Then there was another time when my Grandpa

told me to keep throwing horseshoes. Grandpa was always there for me.” *Katie Hines, age 9*

Grandchildren feel the loss of their grandparents in more ways than we realize. Maurice Hines will be sadly missed by the horseshoe pitchers of the Stockton Horseshoe Club and by horseshoe pitchers in the MOHPA. Our condolences are sent to his family during this difficult time.

Gene Towne

October 15, 1926–January 23, 2008

Gene A. Towne, 81, of Blue Springs, passed away Saturday, January 5, 2008, at his home unexpectedly, but peacefully. Gene suffered from myasthenia gravis and COPD, both diseases damaging his heart.

Gene was born in Perry, Iowa, graduated from high school in Huron, South Dakota, and moved to Kansas City to attend the Kansas City Art Institute. Although he had an artistic background, Gene followed his love for the sport of archery and became owner/operator of KC Archery. He retired in 1993, but continued to participate competitively in archery tournaments. His passions were archery, horseshoes, and fishing.

Gene began pitching horseshoes in his early teens as a pastime with his friends and on family reunions and picnics. Gene had been a member of the NHPA for a total of 19 years, although not consecutively. He pitched in the Independence League for a few years and then dropped out. Gene enjoyed the pitching competition and was going to join the Independence league this year but found out he just didn't have the strength. He had collected a few trophies and awards from league, state, and State Fair Tournaments. He had his own court in his backyard and did a lot of practicing. One year, he designed the Independence Club's logo for their shirts.

A few years ago, Gene's wife, Betty, had a temp job working for the county Soil & Water Department. While there, she met Ron Highley of Peculiar, who worked in the same area. It just happened that Gene's mother's maiden name was Highley. Ron belonged to the Peculiar Club and Gene had three of their awards that were made by Ron. Small world.

Missouri horseshoe pitchers send their sympathy to his family. He will be missed on the horseshoe courts. Gene was preceded in death by his son, Tim Towne. He is survived by his wife of 58 years, Betty; two daughters, Kelo and Judy; a son, David; four grandchildren; and five great-grandchildren.

Our Sympathies

- Francis and Norman Ennis, whose mother passed away in January.
- Both Goldizen, of Pony Express Club, who lost two sisters suddenly in January and March.

- Ken Sykora, QRHC, whose wife, Betty, passed away on Feb. 23, 2008.
- Bob and Jim Renfro, whose brother Clinton passed away in January.
- Rich Merli, QRHC, whose mother passed away on May 2.

Get Well Wishes

- Laura Johnson, Liberty Horseshoe Club, was injured in a car accident on April 11 and underwent surgery for a broken hip and ankles.
- Val Eikel, of Mexico, suffered a heart attack on April 13. He had 2 stents and a pacemaker installed.
- Esther Kingsolver, of Caulfield, suffered a stroke in February.
- Ray Nadler, QRHC, had knee replacement surgery on February 14.
- Dave Feldewerth, QRHC, had hernia surgery on Feb. 25.
- Jim Howard, QRHC, had a partial knee replacement on April 21.
- Angie Higginbotham, of Diamond, hospitalized with pneumonia and a staph infection.
- George Ivancic, of QRHC, suffering with health problems while he was in Florida this winter.
- Gidget Rahe, QRHC, suffering with back pain.
- To all other MOHPA members who are ill and in pain, our thoughts are with you.

Congratulations

- Clarence Eggert, of QRHC, who just turned 80 years old on April 19, 2008.
- Nick DiRaimo, of Liberty Horseshoe Club, who will be receiving an award from the PBA, for being named Senior Bowler of the Year 2008. Nick bowled a perfect game of 300 last July.

Thank You!

- A special thanks to **Mr. Henry Stealy**, who so kindly donated \$400 to the NHPF. Mr. Stealy lives on the grounds at Quail Ridge Park and donated land to the St. Charles County Parks Department where our new Hall of Fame facility is located.
- Another special thanks to "**Anonymous in Missouri**," who donated \$500 to the NHPF. We are very grateful for your generosity.
- A special thanks to **Joe Faron** for his craftsmanship in making the Quail Ridge Horseshoe sign that hangs in the lobby of the new Hall of Fame building. Joe also made and donated the mantle clock for the Six Pac Tournament raffle.
- For the second time, **Randy Grady** made and donated a beautiful trophy for the Six Pac Tournament. It's on display at the QRHC. Thank you, Randy!
- **Andy Foulds** has a "new look." Andy donated his ponytail to the Locks of Love organization this past January. Andy's ponytail will be made into new locks for a cancer victim.

New Member List

Compiled by Vicki Winston



Welcome to the following who have joined the NHPA and MOHPA for the very first time from Feb. 2, 2008, through May 5, 2008.

Name	City	Club
David Blankenship	Gravois Mills	Lake Ozark
Jon Brewster	Archie	Lions Park
Joseph H. Carson	Springfield	Doling Park
Kevin D. Chambers	Jefferson City	Capitol City
Bobby H. Clement	Rogersville	Doling Park
Roger Clement	Springfield	Doling Park
Leslie Crust	Harrisonville	Lions Park
Scott Dean	Springfield	Doling Park
LaDon Dial	Lee's Summit	Independence
Sylvia Ennis	St. Clair	Quail Ridge
Benard Ervin Jr.	St. Louis	Quail Ridge
Hearl V. Gann Sr.	Springfield	Doling Park
Jim Hlaca	Kansas City	Independence
Becky Jackson	Raytown	Liberty
Ron Jackson	Raytown	Liberty
Eddie H. Johnson	St. Louis	Quail Ridge
Cameron Jones	Leopold	Backyard
Matthew Jordan	Kansas City	Independence
Emily Kueck	Concordia	
Leroy Leabo	Belton	Lions Park
Paul Lipske	Gravois Mills	Lake Ozark
Ron Lust	Independence	Independence
Russell McCown	Licking	Mineral Area
Virgle McCown	Bucyrus	Mineral Area
Henry L. Morris	Jefferson City	
Steve Olson	Imperial	
Paul Pratt	Raytown	Independence
John G. Price	Springfield	Doling Park
Tim Seibold	Raymore	Liberty
J. R. Smith	Springfield	
Bud Stehlin	Camdenton	Lake Ozark
Carl Whitby	Independence	Independence
Kevin Williams	Independence	Independence
Skylar Bryant Williams	Caulfield	Caulfield
Norman Willis	Springfield	
Homer Winsea	Springfield	Doling Park
Dave York	Raymore	Lions Park
Carl Yundt	Springfield	Doling Park



**Don't throw me away!
Keep me for future reference.
I am full of useful information.**

2008 Missouri State Horseshoe Tournament Information

August 29–September 1 • Wentzville, MO

by Jeanette Claas

Welcome to Wentzville, “Cross Roads of the Nation!” Home of the NHPF/NHPA Horseshoe Pitchers Hall of Fame and Museum—Where Champions are Crowned and Legacies are Honored! The 83rd Annual Missouri State Horseshoe Tournament will be held for the first time at the beautiful Quail Ridge Park in St. Charles County from August 29 to September 1.

The tournament site will be held at one of St. Charles County's most beautiful parks, which includes 250 acres of rolling prairie, wooded hillsides, and rich bottomland near Peruque Creek. This diverse terrain provides a wonderful backdrop to enjoy the great outdoors. Park amenities include an indoor lodge, group and individual picnic shelters, playgrounds, paved and single-track natural surface walking/bicycle trails, a three-acre lake, an 18-hole disc golf course, a small fishing pond, and an off-leash dog area.

The 2008 Missouri State Horseshoe Tournament will be hosted by the Quail Ridge Horseshoe Club, formerly the New Melle Horseshoe Club, and directed by the MOHPA officers. NMHC was host to the MO State Tournament in 1990, 91, 92, 94, 96 and 2000, so they are well experienced in organizing a large event. In 1990, when the tournament was held for the first time on the eastern side of the state, there was much excitement.

The tremendous support for the State Tournament raised \$20,000 and brought in close to 400 entries, the largest total for a Missouri State horseshoe competition. The QRHC is looking forward with anticipation to equaling that number of entries this year. We are encouraging all horseshoe pitchers in Missouri to start gearing up and making plans to attend this exciting event.

The Doubles State Tournament will be held on Friday, Aug. 29, beginning at 10:00 a.m. Make plans to attend the MOHPA business meeting after the completion of the Doubles Tournament on Friday evening at the Quail Ridge facility.

The Singles competition will begin on Saturday, Aug. 30, and will conclude on Monday, Sept. 1. The Awards Banquet will be held on Saturday evening, Aug. 30, at the Holiday Inn–Wentzville. Many awards and recognition will be given at this time.

The QRHC offers 16 indoor courts, fully air-conditioned so that the climate stays 70 degrees all year round. The QRHC is in the process of completing 16 outdoor courts. If necessary, we will use portable courts to accommodate more classes.

If you place 1st, 2nd, or 3rd in your division, you will be the lucky recipient of a beautiful Missouri plaque made personally by MOHPA member Carl Gricks of Diamond, MO.

Missouri State Tournament T-Shirts will be available. The T-shirt ladies will be on site to print your name on the back if you wish to wear it during the tournament.

There will be sign-up sheets for you to volunteer to be score-

keepers, judges, and concession stand workers. Scorekeepers will be paid \$2 per game for single competition and \$4 for the doubles competition.

Be sure to bring your club's banner to be put on display during the tournament. We have plenty of seating inside but you may wish to bring lawn chairs for outdoor comfort.

We must remind everyone that the facility is a smoke-free environment. Smoking is allowed outside. Food and beverages will be available on site and we ask for your support. All food will be sold at reasonable prices.

Our host hotel is the Holiday Inn–Wentzville, located at 900 Corporate Parkway, Wentzville; phone 636-327-7001. Room rates are \$59.95. Be sure and tell them you are a part of the horseshoe event. The hotel is located approximately five minutes from the courts. From the hotel, follow Corporate Parkway to the end as it turns into Callahan Road. Stay on Callahan Road, crossing Hwy 40/61, and then make an immediate right-hand turn onto Quail Ridge Parkway. Make a left into the park and follow the signs.

In this issue you will find an order form for advertising in the state program book. If you know of anyone who wishes to place an ad, please have them to fill it out and mail to Andy Foulds. The deadline date for ads is August 1. For further questions, contact Andy at 636-583-6446.

The Entry Form and the State entry requirements are in this issue. Be sure and read it through. Remember you must have three sanctioned events to participate in the State Tournament. Entries must be received by August 1, 2008. Starting times will be sent to you and posted on our web site as soon as Vicki and Stan are able to get a tournament lineup. Send your entry forms to Miss Vicki as early as possible.

Directions

- **From I-70, going west:** From I-70, exit onto Highway 40/61 South (Exit 210A) At the first traffic light, turn right on Callahan Road and make an immediate right onto Quail Ridge Parkway. The park entrance is approximately $\frac{3}{4}$ mile on the left at the end of the drive.
- **From I-70, going east:** From I-70, take exit 210A. Follow road to Hwy 40/61 (south) towards St. Louis, taking the Chesterfield Exit. Go approximately $\frac{1}{8}$ mile to stoplight at Callahan Road. Turn right, go a few feet and make sharp right-hand turn onto Quail Ridge Parkway. Follow signs.
- **From Highway 40/61:** Traveling north on Hwy 40/61, turn left at the Callahan Road Signal (last traffic light before I-70). Make an immediate right onto Quail Ridge Parkway. The park entrance is approximately $\frac{3}{4}$ mile on the left at the end of the drive.

RV Camping in St. Charles County

- **Cherokee Park:** Full hookups, fishing, etc., \$25 per day. Call 636-978-2147. Located on Highway 79, approx 20 miles from QRHC site.

2008 State Tournament Info, continued on next page



What's That Rule

by Rich Altis

Medical Exemption

"I have not reached the age of seventy years old and I don't feel that I am physically able to pitch horseshoes. My health is failing. If I could move to the short distance maybe I could pitch for a little longer. How do I get a medical exemption?"



Rule 1—Pitching Divisions

Section E

- 2. Physically Challenged Men:** Physically challenged, male pitchers less than seventy (70) years old may be given permission, by their governing Charter, to move onto the extended platforms in the *Elders Division* and observe the twenty-seven-foot (27') foul lines. The prior completion and approval of a Medical Exemption Form (available from Charter Secretaries) is required. At the World Tournament and at State Championship Tournaments, they shall compete in the Elders Division.

Once the medical form has been completed by the doctor and returned to the Charter Secretary it is then sent to the Charter officers. They try to determine to the best of their ability if the information received warrants granting a medical waiver. There are several sources of information that help the officers come to a good decision. Among those are past pitching history and personal knowledge of the person. Missouri has eight officers and it takes six yes votes to grant the waiver.

If the pitcher feels that the Officers did not understand the severity of the problem, he should resubmit the request again and explain what he thinks the officers missed.

These waivers when granted are not necessarily permanent. NHPA requires periodic review of Medical Exemptions. If medical condition and/or performance improve over an extended period, the medical exemption may be rescinded.

2008 State Tournament Info, from previous page

- **Cuivre River State Park:** See website (www.mostateparks.com/cuivre.htm) for more info. Reservations 636-528-7247. Located in Troy, MO, approximately 15 miles from QRHC.
- **Klondike Park:** Primitive camp sites and camper cabins (www.stccparks.org). Call 636-949-7535. Located approximately 20 miles from QRHC.
- **Sundermeier RV Park:** Premier RV Park. Call 800-929-0832 or email reservations@sundermeierrvpark.com. Located 19 miles from QRHC.
- **National Equestrian Center:** Gravel lots, full hookups, \$30 day. Reservations 636-561-0008. Located in Lake St. Louis, approximately 7 miles from QRHC.

For further information, contact any of the MOHPA officers. Their phone numbers are listed on the inside cover of Shoe Biz.

We hope that you make every effort to participate in this event. Each state tournament is unique and always filled with good fun and competition. A place where old friends greet, and new friends meet.

Shoe Biz Boosters

by Vicki Winston

If you would like to receive Shoe Biz via first class mail, please send a donation of \$10 or more to the MOHPA in care of our secretary, Vicki Winston, 10326 Hwy D, LaMonte, MO 65337. A Shoe Biz Boosters donation entitles you to a listing and first class mailing for three issues. Expiration dates are listed below. Some folks continue to send multiple donations, but no listings have been extended past June 2009. Thank you all for your support of our newsletter!



Listing expires after June 2008 Issue		Listing Expires after Feb. 2009 Issue	
George Chichura	\$20	Wayne Barber	\$20
Elwyn Cooper	\$20	Wes Brakensiek	
Edward Griffith		Jim Claxton	
Pat Heathman	\$40	Ernie Ellermann Jr.	
Dan Hobbs		Dave/Bea Feldewerth	\$20
Bobbie G. Jones	\$20	Roy Flatt	\$40
Frank Miles	\$40	Carlyle Gricks Jr.	\$20
John Simms	\$20	Ken Grossman	
Mike Watkins	\$20	Kelly Kasper	\$20
Ginny Weiss	\$20	Charles/Rita Killgore	\$20
Earl/Vicki Winston	\$20	Jon McKnight	\$20
		Owen Moore	\$25
		Fred Smith	\$30
		Ken Sykora	
		Jerry Weller	\$20
Listing Expires after Nov. 2008 Issue		Listing Expires after June 2009 Issue	
Gary Ball	\$20	Lee/Beverly Crabtree	\$20
Val Eikel			
Rodney Mallinckrodt	\$20		
Wesley Reed	\$20		
Bob Reininger			
Bob Renfro	\$40		
John Setzer	\$20		

Good Luck Legend: Prongs Up Horseshoe

by Bob Champion, Double Ringer Editor

Saint Dunstan was an English blacksmith of the Middle Ages. One day the devil came to him and presented the hoof for shoeing. Recognizing his diabolical customer, however, the blacksmith seized the hoof in a powerful grip.

The devil cried out for mercy. But Saint Dunstan refused to let go until the devil promised to never enter a house, a barn, or an area on which a horseshoe was hung prongs up. The devil had no choice except to agree. Thus the mystic power of the horseshoe became the popular legend.

Tradition dictates that the horseshoe be hung or used prongs up. If use prongs down, the luck will run out.

Horseshoe pitchers, beware! The devil you say!

Profile: Carl Gricks

by Jeanette Claas

Tucked away in the southwestern area of Missouri is the small town of Diamond, population 807. Making his home there for the past 40 years lives a retired ex-Marine sergeant and his wife, whose love and enthusiasm for horseshoes brought a whole new dimension into their lives and into the lives of other horseshoe pitchers.

Carlyle E Gricks, Jr., was born on July 27, 1930, in Oil City, Pennsylvania. His grandmother lived next door to a pretty little girl, Pat Hartle. He met her at the age of five and their friendship continued over the years.

In 1947, at the age of 17, Carl joined the Marine Corps and was based in Quantico, VA. After a long courtship of weekends, Carl and Pat were married in April, 1951. Three months later, he was sent to Korea. Pat was getting her first taste of military life. Carl spent 22 months of active duty in the Korean War. He was a helicopter crew chief and gunner. His job was flying troops into enemy territory and evacuating the wounded.

In 1952, six weeks after their first child was born, Pat received a telegram from Uncle Sam saying that Carl was missing in action. The news was devastating to Pat, and she sat waiting with her newborn son for more news. Carl's helicopter had crashed on the top of a mountain in Manchuria. He and two officers were lying in enemy territory until they were rescued three days later. As they were being rescued, they were fired upon by the enemy.

On another mission, Carl was awarded the Navy Commendation Medal for saving the lives of a Marine major and a Marine captain who were trapped in the cockpit of a wrecked

helicopter. Carl pulled them to safety before the copter went up in flames.

In 1956, Carl was active in the Bikini Atomic Tests in the Pacific Islands and several other conflicts. His final tour of duty in 1967 was fourteen months in Vietnam. Carl recalls, "Vietnam was probably the most beautiful country I have ever seen," but the missions he flew were anything but.

He flew 147 of the most dangerous types and his helicopter was shot down three times. Miraculously, Carl was never injured during these maneuvers.

During these years, Pat and her young family of three adjusted to military life, moving from Pennsylvania to El Toro, CA; then Norfolk, VA; Memphis, TN; and New River, NC. Carl wanted to carry on the family tradition by naming their son after his father and himself. Pat didn't like the name, but agreed to do so if Carl could come up with a nickname for Carlyle E. Gricks, III. "We'll call him Lucky," said Carl, "Because he's lucky to have a Mom like you." Two daughters came along, Cindy in 1955 and Vicki in 1957. Pat recalls, "Carl was gone more than he was home and I learned early on to face every trial and triumph as it came." Losing a baby at home, facing death at the young age of 25 and surviving, Pat grew into a strong young woman. But their biggest trial was yet to come.

After 20 years of active duty, Carl retired from the Marines at the age of 37. Throughout his years of service, Carl received eight Air Medals during combat missions and five Good Conduct Medals, indicative of an outstanding record of service to his country.

A friend of Carl's told him to come to Missouri to look at some land where he thought the Gricks family would enjoy making their new home. So they said good-bye to the Marine Corps and hello to Missouri! They purchased 80 acres of prairie land, where they tried their hand at raising cows; quite an experience for city slickers and an ex-moo-rine. Carl went to work for Vickers, a plant in Diamond, for five years. The next 12 years he spent in construction building houses. And then a "handful of iron" entered into their lives. Pat says, "We were enjoying traveling to other countries and seeing all the sites across the USA, but then Carl started pitching horseshoes and that all stopped. Now we travel to horseshoe tournaments!"

While Carl was in the Marines, he became a volleyball champion and also played some horseshoes. It was during 1997 that MOHPA member Bob Outt introduced Carl to organized horseshoes. Carl liked the game and began pitching in some small non-sanctioned tournaments. He quickly joined the MOHPA and built a court in his backyard, where he and his son and friends would pitch together. Carl and Pat traveled to Wichita to pitch in the wintertime. It was in Ottawa, KS, that he won his first sanctioned tournament. Entering with a 22%,



Missouri Engineers...

Bubba and Junior (Ozark mechanical engineers) were standing at the base of a flagpole, looking up. A woman walked by and asked what they were doing.

"We're supposed to find the height of the flagpole," said Bubba, "But we don't have a ladder."

The woman took a wrench from her purse, loosened a few bolts, and laid the pole down. Then she took a tape measure from her pocket, took a measurement, and announced, "Eighteen feet, six inches," and walked away.

Junior shook his head and laughed. "Ain't that just like a woman! We ask for the height and she gives us the length!"

Bubba and Junior are currently doing government work supervising the reconstruction of those New Orleans levees.

he took first place in his class with a 28% average. Horseshoe fever bit him hard.

Carl felt the need for a place to pitch during the winter months. A man of action—at the age of 70—he and Pat went to work on it. A friend's turkey house had collapsed from a recent ice storm. The farmer didn't want to rebuild so Carl tore it down and used the trusses for his building. "It took him a month (by himself) in turkey poo up to his knees to complete this project," says his wife, who cleaned up the mess. Carl first poured the 40' by 70' foundation using a hand concrete mixer. Carl and Pat framed the walls and set the trusses 20 feet high. To heat the facility, Carl built a furnace out of concrete blocks on the outside of the building and then ran ducts directly into the building. Pat splits all the wood used to heat the facility. She also paints the interior walls each October before indoor season begins. Carl has painted a picture of the NHPA male and female horseshoe pitchers on the front of the blue metal building.

Next they needed a "Johnny-on-the-Spot." Carl built it and Pat decorated it. It is by far the cleanest, prettiest, and classiest outhouse in all of Ozark land! Angels galore adorn this small necessity. When tournaments are held there, Pat "empties" the contents at different intervals to assure everyone that cleanliness is upmost in her mind.

Then came their biggest heartbreak. Their dear son, Lucky, became ill with colon cancer and was no longer able to help them or pitch with Carl. He passed away at the age of 47 on July 5, 2001. They named their new building the "Lucky Gricks Memorial Arena," where his spirit lives on.

The horseshoe facility is located approximately 150 feet from their home. This tiny lady is up at 5:30 a.m. during tournament times, sweeping the carpet, washing down the tables and preparing food for the hungry horseshoe pitchers. Two-day tournaments are held monthly in the wintertime to accommodate the six classes of horseshoe pitchers. Many trips are made back and forth to the house; a speed ramp might be in order for Pat.

Carl is quite a craftsman, handy with all kinds of tools. He designs and makes most of the trophies to award the class champions. He also made 138 trophies for the 2007 State Tournament. If you earned one of these hand-made Missouri plaques, you are one of the proud recipients. Carl has agreed to make the Missouri plaques for the 2008 State Tournament as well. Just wondering, if the World Tournament was held in Missouri, do you suppose Carl would...?

Since the arena was built in 2000, the Grickses have held 54 tournaments. There is open play for horseshoe pitchers on Mondays and Thursdays. In 2001, Carl formed the Tri-State Horseshoe Club with 15 members, bringing horseshoe pitchers together from the neighboring states of Oklahoma and Kansas. The club has since doubled in membership. Carl has

spent many hours helping the new and old to improve their pitching skills. In 2001, the MOHPA presented Carl and Pat with an award for forming the Tri-State Horseshoe Club and for the erection of the horseshoe facility. The Grickses are especially proud of the Tri-State Club, whose members purchased a memorial brick for the NHPA Hall of Fame Brick Walkway in their name to thank them for their hard work and dedication in promoting the sport of horseshoe pitching and in memory of their son, Lucky.

During the last ten years of pitching horseshoes, Carl developed his skills and just kept getting better. He has attended and pitched in eight World Tournaments since 1998. Of these, he has placed in the top 8 six times. At his first WT, Carl placed first in Class C and brought home a trophy from Ainsworth, NE. At Pocatello, ID, in 2004, he placed 3rd in Class D and brought home another WT trophy. In Ardmore, OK, at the 2007 WT, Carl placed 4th in Class C competition. He loves the competition at the WT, and states, "The WT is the most 'fairest' tournament you will ever pitch in. The percentages are so close that it is possible for any of the pitchers to win, no matter where they are seeded."

Carl has done well at the state level, pitching in every State Tournament since 2000. In 2000, he won the Senior Class A Title with a 7-0 record, pitching 41.66%. In 2002, pitching in the Elders 30' Championship Class, Carl placed 5th with a 57.5% average. In 2004, Carl won the Elders 30' Class A Title with a 5-0 record and a 50% average. In

2005, he placed 5th in the Elders Championship Class with a 50% average. In 2006, Carl placed 4th in the Elders 30' Championship Class, pitching 38.1%. Finally, Carl had his proudest and most exciting moment in horseshoes at the 2007 State Tournament, held in Independence. Carl entered the tournament at 57.18% and seeded in 8th place. He tied for first place with 6 wins and one loss. There was a playoff game between Carl and Ray Plute. Carl won the playoff game by pitching a 66.1%. With a tournament average of 62.75%, Carl captured the 30 Foot Mens Championship Title—a tournament he will always remember.

In 2002, Carl and partner Tim Henderson placed 3rd in the Doubles State Championship Class. Pitching in the Doubles State Tournament in 2004, he won first place in the Championship Division with his partner Dan Hobbs. In 2005, Carl and Elwyn Cooper placed 2nd in the Doubles Championship Division.

Carl moved to 30 feet in 2000 after his 70th birthday. In the 30 Feet Mens Division in MO, Carl Ranks as follows:

- All-Time Victory Leaders, 1989-2007: 7th, 18 Wins, 34 Games, Percentage 56.37%
- All-Time Leaders in Won-Lost Pct., 2001-2007: 8th, W/L 18-16, 52.94%

Profile: Carl Gricks, continued on page 22



Who's Who in Horseshoes?

by Jeanette Claas



Did you recognize the pretty lass in the February issue of Shoe Biz? Once you hear the name, you will clearly recognize the face. She seemed to get prettier as the years went by. As a senior in 1974, Ginny was elected by her peers and found her way into the homecoming court at her high school. In the year 2000, she began the new millennium in a different court setting that added a new dimension into her life.

Ginny Netzeband was born and raised in North St. Louis County. She was the youngest of five children. As a second grader at St. Jacobi Lutheran Elementary, she met Jill Knobbe, who would become her lifelong friend. As the two young girls grew up, they played softball together in Koury League, church leagues, grade school, and high school. Jill was the pitcher, Ginny the catcher.

Ginny inherited her athletic ability from her father, Roy Netzeband. He would be inducted into the St. Louis Amateur Sports Hall of Fame for his baseball skills. Ginny's older brother, Jack, would soon follow in his Dad's footsteps.

Ginny met her husband, Michael Weiss (like in ice) at a gas station where they were both employed. They married in 1977 and would become parents to two handsome sons, Mick (now 28) and Bryan (27).

Carrying on this family tradition, Mick played baseball during his 4 years of college. Bryan's talents landed him a spot on the River Rascals baseball team in St. Charles County. Bryan was also the first high school athlete to be recognized and honored by the St. Charles Sports Amateur for his athletic abilities in 1999.

In 1990, at the age of 35, Ginny looked as though she was pregnant and contacted her doctor. It was discovered she had an ovarian tumor the size of a volleyball. Luckily, the tumor was contained inside the ovary, but chemotherapy was suggested as a precaution. Ginny lost all her hair in the process. Of the experience, Ginny says, "I had three Weiss men to live for and never once thought I wouldn't be totally healed."

Jill Knobbe asked Ginny to pitch on the already established "Shoe Me Girls" horseshoe team and began pitching with the First Capitol Women's League in 2000. Ginny had never picked up a horseshoe until that time. "With the help of some fine folks like Jeanette Claas, Rich Altis, Joe Faron, Darryl Gettinger, and Joe

Buskirk helping us and getting us excited about pitching, not only in league, but in tournaments too, I continued to improve and love every minute of it," Ginny exclaims. The girls also pitched in New Melle and are now pitching at the Quail Ridge Horseshoe Court. A male friend recently joined them. May I announce that Mel Gibson is pitching horseshoes with this wild and crazy team.

Ginny has reached her first goal of averaging 50%. She has attended every MO State Tournament since 2001. Her most memorable moment in her short horseshoe career was the Saturday morning of the 2004 MO State Tournament held in Springfield. She woke up during the night feeling sick and had horrible abdominal pain. She waited until Jill woke up and sent her to the drugstore, trying all kinds of remedies to get her over this spell. Ginny was unable to pitch, stayed at the motel, and told Jill to go ahead. Ginny also insisted that Jill go on to the banquet that evening and that she would be all right. The next morning Jill drove home in record time and headed straight for the hospital. Ginny had emergency surgery to remove 12 inches of her colon after they discovered it had twisted due to some scar tissue from her hysterectomy a few years back.

Ginny proclaims that "Rose Diekamp is my idol and Jeanette Claas is my inspiration. Both girls were always willing to give me words of encouragement and advice. Rose always said to keep it simple. I just try my best to implement her style."

With ten wins and no losses, Ginny was the star player on the First Capitol Women's Team that pitched in the first NHPA tournament held at QRHC in October 2007. With an average of 50%, pitching a high game of 73%, Ginny brought her teammates, Jeanette Claas and Mary Beeson, into 1st place. They lost the championship game to the Liberty Horseshoe Club team, but Ginny had much to be proud of.

Today, Ginny is a true competitor on the courts. "I don't do any one thing well, but I seem to have a knack at this game. I'd have to say I look forward to the competition, but I also enjoy the people. It's a great group of genuinely nice folks. And I 'think' they like my hugs, especially Floyd Beeson!"

When not on the horseshoe courts, Ginny is the Eligibility/Privacy Officer for the Hotel Employee Restaurant Employees, Local 74 Benefits Office. On Sunday afternoons, you will find her at Magpie's, working as a server.

In her short career, she has mastered the game and brought new excitement onto the courts. Missouri horseshoe pitchers salute this enthusiastic little lass, whose determination on the courts we all admire. Ginny, may you reach all the way to the top!



**Missouri State
Horseshoe Tournament**
Quail Ridge Park • Wentzville, MO
August 29–September 1



Earl's Pearls

What common English word is 9 letters long and each time you remove a letter it remains a word, from 9 letters all the way down to a single letter?

For the answer, see page 12.

Congratulations, Ray Nadler!

by Jeanette Claas

The 25th Annual Awards Banquet of the St. Charles County Amateur Sports Hall of Fame was held on March 15, 2008, at the American Legion Hall in St. Charles, MO. The Board of Directors honored seven men whose outstanding records in baseball, softball, bowling, dartball, and horseshoes earned them a place not only in the Hall of Fame, but also in the hearts and memories of the fans of St. Charles County.

Ray Nadler, a St. Charles resident and member of the Quail Ridge Horseshoe Club, stood tall and proud as he accepted this honor. Ray, who is 83 and had a knee replacement four weeks ago, walked to center stage without a cane, and spoke of the game of horseshoes, promoting and telling the packed audience how his life was filled with the recreation of horseshoes.

Ray Nadler had only been a backyard horseshoe pitcher until 1983 when he began pitching with the VFW #3 Team in the St. Charles–Warren County Horseshoe Traveling League. In 1986, Ray became a member of organized horseshoe pitching with the National Horseshoe Pitchers Association and the Missouri Horseshoe Pitchers Association. He received his 20-year patch in 2006.

He began pitching horseshoes with the New Melle Horseshoe Club when they formed in 1990, making him a charter member. He was team captain on the Wednesday Night Men's League for 15 years and later joined the Monday Night Jack & Jill League. His team, the Good Ole' Boys, were League Champions in 1997.

Ray began entering numerous local horseshoe tournaments. His trophies prove that he has been class champion at least eleven times. Ray developed his skills to be of 40-50% average and has received his 60% Award.

Ray entered his first Missouri State Horseshoe Tournament in 1990, winning 2nd place in Class LL. In 1991, he won 1st place in Class LL. When Ray turned 70 years old, he moved into the Elders 30 foot Division. Entering the MO State Tournament in 1996, he won the Class B championship. That same year he won 2nd place in Class C in the State Doubles Tournament. And then, in the 2002 MO State Tournament, Ray placed 3rd in Class A.

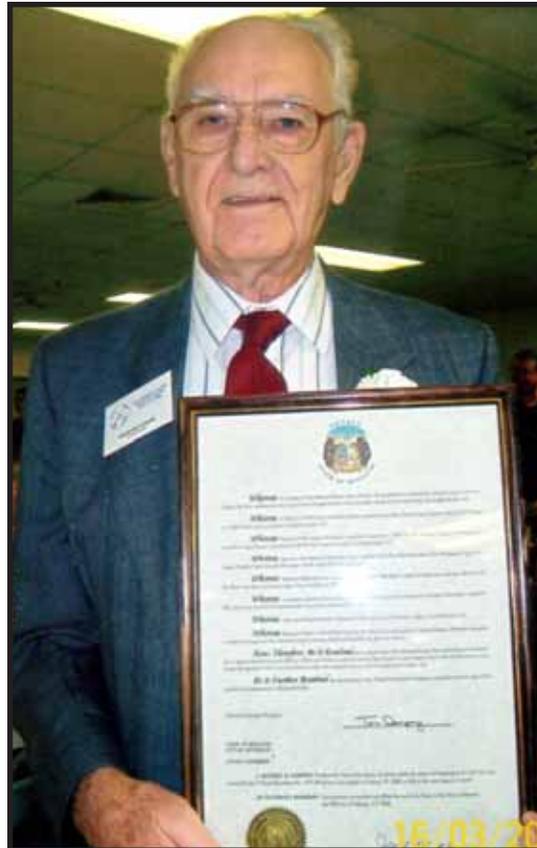
He was voted by his peers for the Sportsmanship Award in 1996 and 1998. Ray is a gentleman both on and off the courts as his many friends can attest.

Ray has been an active member of New Melle Horseshoe Club. When not pitching shoes, Ray can be found keeping score and judging whenever needed. He has helped to clean and maintain the courts many, many times. When the new National Horseshoe Pitchers Hall of Fame was under construction in Wentzville, Ray, at 82 years, was there to help out whenever needed.

After World War II, Ray Nadler enjoyed playing softball and baseball with teams from Augusta. The softball team consisted of veterans of the war. During his service in World War II, Ray was chosen to serve as an honor guard to General MacArthur during the occupation of Japan. To qualify for an honor guard position, a member must have an outstanding physique, be a person of high intelligence with exceptional moral standards and perfect service records. And this is the example that Ray has served throughout his lifetime. He has served his country and his

community and has been a great asset to the sport of horseshoes.

Ray, the state of Missouri, the County of St. Charles, and members of the Quail Ridge Horseshoe Club congratulate you and thank you for your years of service and dedication to the sport of horseshoes.



Yes, I wish to support the National Horseshoe Pitchers Foundation.

Name _____

Address _____

City, State, ZIP _____

Enclosed is my contribution in the amount of \$ _____

I pledge \$ _____

Please provide full address so that a note of acknowledgment can be sent.

Send to:

NHPE, P. O. Box 1628, Penn Valley, CA 95946

2007 MOHPA State Champions



Men	Stan Griggs
Women	Rose Diekamp
Elders (30 ft.)	Carl Gricks
Seniors	Mickey Gillette
Junior Boys	Michael Bowman
Junior Girls	Tori Vandeven
Cadets	Nathan Evers
Doubles	Rich Altis and Earl Winston

Horseshoes Go To School!

by Al Gwinn

Eric Neff, a teacher at the Blue Springs Freshman Center in Blue Springs, called me last October and asked for some information on horseshoes. He found my name on the internet under the MOHPA website.

We talked about horseshoes and he asked if I would be interested in coming to the school to speak to his Physical Education classes about horseshoes. Eric remembered playing horseshoes when he was a Boy Scout at Scout camp. He thought it would be interesting for his gym classes to learn more about horseshoes. His plan was to buy ten pairs of horseshoes and stakes. I told him I would be happy to come and talk with the classes. The more we talked together about this event, the more excited Eric became.

When Eric received his horseshoes and stakes, we set the date for October 24. I really didn't want to go by myself so I called my friend Lee Crabtree to go with me. Lee is a member of the Independence and Liberty Horseshoe Clubs. We made plans as to how to present our horseshoe program and decided that we would make a day out of it.

Mr. Neff had four classes and Mr. Corter had three classes. There were 35 to 40 boys in each class—wow! Mr. Neff's first-hour class began at 7:15 a.m. Did you realize that it is still dark outside in October at 7:15 a.m.? We trotted on down to the football field, flipped the lights on, and staked out ten courts. Mr. Neff had all the courts marked off at 30 feet, so all we had to do was drive the stakes into the ground.

The first-hour class reported to the football field and Mr. Neff introduced us to the boys. The first thing we did was to thank them for this opportunity and say we hoped that they would learn something about horseshoe pitching. I gave them a rundown of the history of horseshoes and how the NHPA organization came about. We then explained about league and tournament play and how to keep score in count all and cancellation. We showed them the different ways to hold the shoes, but most of all stressed the importance of balance, concentration, stand, and follow-through.

After a demonstration, the boys went to the courts, choosing partners with four to a court. They pitched horseshoes for about 30 minutes. Some even kept up on their own scoring, which wasn't much. We would walk up and down the sides to help anyone that was having a problem or had a question. It was a little dangerous but the boys really seemed to enjoy it.

Each hour we went through the same routine again and again.

Each time the boys responded well and enjoyed the horseshoe lessons that they were being taught. Our highlight was stopping to have lunch with the coaches in the school cafeteria! We went back to the field and continued our horseshoes lessons, finishing up at 2:00 p.m. What a thrilling and exciting day it was!

We only had one mishap and, believe it or not, we didn't lose one shoe. The mishap came when Lee was carrying the empty boxes to the dumpster. There was one step going to the dumpster. You guessed it—Lee did not see the step and fell head first on the sidewalk. He had a few scratches and his finger also hit the concrete, causing it to swell up a bit. Needless to say, Lee had to miss a few bowling nights after that.

Overall, we came to the conclusion that it was a successful event. During the last class of the day, some teachers and coaches came down and pitched some shoes. It was most gratifying when, after each class, the boys would thank us for coming, making us feel good and making it all worth while. We left some material with the coaches about horseshoes to pass out to anyone who would like additional information. We were invited to come back next spring when there will be new classes with new students. We told them we would also like to work with the girls' gym classes.

Mr. Neff's plan is to apply for a grant to set up horseshoe courts on the school grounds. Wouldn't that be great? Maybe down the road, another school would do the same. We hope that this experience might help or encourage others to try this. We don't have to wait until we are asked.

Happy Hearts Tournament

by Andy Foulds

There were 64 pitchers in the eight-class round-robin tournament that was held on Saturday, February 8, at Quail Ridge Horseshoe Club.

In Class A, Rich Altis had the high tournament average of 63.81% and Sam Carter had the high game average of 73.80%.

Class Champions were: Class A, Sam Carter 63.35%; Class B, Ginny Weiss 57.66%; Class C, Jim Spidle Jr. 46.66%; Class D, Bill Bouyea 35.76%; Class E, Doug Bowen 28.78%; Class F, Megan Riley 32.23%; Class G, Robert Reininger 33.62%; and Class H, Mark Moreland 25.0%.

I would like to thank the 50-plus volunteers (scorekeepers, computer, concession, clean-up crew, etc.) it took to run the tournament smoothly. Unfortunately, Jan was unable to be at the tournament because she was in Arizona attending her sister's memorial. She would like to thank all who expressed their sympathy. Also, thanks to Stan Bailey and Darryl VanHooser for donating their scorekeeping money back to the club.

Special thanks to our sponsors, Howard Drywall (Jim & Carol Howard), Shortstop Convenience Store (Greg Faron), The Wood Icing Co., LLC (Rose & John Wilde), Holiday Inn Wentzville, and Union Towing (Mark Pisane).

P.S. Also thanks to my opening crew, who got the tournament started without me since my alarm clock was in Arizona.



Answer to "Earl's Pearls"

The English word is "startling"
Take away the L and you have **starting**
Take away the T and you have **staring**
Take away the A and you have **string**
Take away the R and you have **sting**
Take away the T and you have **sing**
Take away the g and you have **sin**
Take away the S and you have **in**
Take away the N and you have **I**

From page 10.

Visit MOHPA on the Internet:

www.mohpa.us

Our Junior Spotlight Shines on Ryan Spry

by Jeanette Claas

In the small town of Warsaw, with a population of less than 2,000, we can find one of Missouri's talented juniors. Warsaw is located in southwestern Missouri. Ryan Spry lives on a farm with his mother and step-father, Mr. and Mrs. Switzner. On weekends, he stays with his dad's family. He has four sisters, Hannah, 16; Niki, 14; Haley, 11; and Brooke, 4; as well as a 9-year-old brother, Hunter. Ryan's family has lots of animals on their farm, including some horses and a mule. He has two dogs, Red and Daisy Mae,



plus a cat he calls "Stinker." Ryan is an avid hunter and likes living in Warsaw because of the hunting opportunities.

Fifteen-year-old Ryan Spry is a busy young man. He has just completed his freshman year at Warsaw High School. Academically, Ryan is an honor student, hitting the books to make good grades. His favorite subject is physical education and Coach Burke, who nicknamed Ryan "Dawg," is his favorite coach. He also has two other teachers that he likes very well—a married couple, Mr. and Mrs.

Spunaugle. One teaches geography and the other teaches geometry. Ryan would like to be a PE teacher when he grows up or a sports personal trainer. He is an all-around athlete who plays football, basketball, and baseball during the school year. When summer arrives, Ryan pitches horseshoes and takes it quite seriously.

Ryan was about 11 or 12 years old when his dad, MOHPA member Jeff Spry, began teaching him how to throw a shoe. Ryan took a liking to it and began going to some local tournaments in Deepwater, Calhoun, Marshall, Clinton, and Laurie to gain some experience. He definitely developed his skills and now averages a proud 41.63%, making him No. 3 in the Junior Boys Division.

Playing against older people can be a little intimidating at times but Ryan steps up to the challenge. His best moment in horseshoes was at the 2007 Missouri State Fair Horseshoe Tournament in Sedalia, where he won 1st place in Class G. He pitches a flip, and he enjoys throwing the Snyder Easy Flip Shoe. He enters all the tournaments during the summer that he can. His goal is to win the Junior Boys Championship Title.

Ryan is certainly on the right path. He's doing well in school, he has already thought about his future, and he keeps on improving on the horseshoe courts. Missouri is certainly proud of this impressive young man who seems to have it altogether. Keep up the good work, Ryan, and may all your dreams come true!

Youth Profile Information

Please print and return to Melody Williams, HCR 64, Box 817, Glen Allen, MO 63751 or you can email her at nipdpeg@prodigy.net.

Here are some things that we would like to know about you:

1. Name and Parents' Names:
2. Age & date of birth:
3. Hometown and what you like most about it:
4. Name of school and grade attending; favorite class or teacher:
5. Hobbies:
6. Brothers/sisters: How many and their names/ages
7. What do you want to be when you grow up?
8. Do you have pets?
9. Do you participate in any other sports?
10. Number of tournaments you have entered. Any wins?
11. What is your horseshoe average?
12. Who encouraged you and got you started in horseshoes?
13. What horseshoe pitcher do you admire the most and why?
14. What do you want to accomplish in horseshoes?
15. How would you encourage other Youth to start pitching horseshoes?
16. Send a school picture of yourself.
17. Any other comments that you might want to add that would be of interest.

NHPF News, Views & Donations

by Dave Loucks

It's April 1st as I write this and probably 6-7 weeks later as you read it. The first quarter of 2008 has been a relatively slow and uneventful one for the National Horseshoe Pitchers Foundation, at least in comparison to the previous two years. All the construction and excitement of the new Hall of Fame building project is behind us as the Wentzville facility is now open and well into its first year of operation.

The 15th annual Six Pac Invitational Tournament played May 3-4 is now history but 2008 was the first time it was held in the new Quail Ridge Park horseshoe-pitching complex in Wentzville. The NHPA has plans for other events at this new facility and hopes to add more in coming years. The next major event will be the Missouri State Championships over Labor Day weekend, followed by the National Sanctioned League Team Tournament scheduled for October 4-5 and the reintroduction of the Jack Freeman Team Tournament on November 15-16. In the spring of 2009, a National Walking Doubles Tournament will be held March 7-9.

The Quail Ridge Horseshoe Club continues to settle in as the caretaker of the Hall of Fame facility. It is a big undertaking for the club but the members have enthusiastically taken to the task and the NHPF is very happy with their dedication and support. Of course, other Missouri members outside the club have pitched in as well and it shows when one just looks at the Commemorative Brick plaza and the list of the top 15 contributing states, dollar wise. Missouri people have purchased 146 bricks as of this writing and taken over the number one position in total dollars sent to the NHPF. Congratulations, Missouri.

The engraved Commemorative Brick sales program got underway in the summer of 2006. In the first 18 months, 694 bricks were sold, an average of better than 38 per month. In the last four months, the total number of bricks ordered is just 44, and average of 11 per month. That is a very disappointing drop-off. Three states have yet to order their first brick. Another eighteen states have ordered just 1-5 bricks each. Come on folks, this is your Hall of Fame, your opportunity to show your support for the sport we love to play. Don't think that because the facility is now built that your financial support is no longer needed. We now

have a million-dollar asset and a sport that needs your contributions to maintain, grow, and prosper.

The NHPF is a registered charitable organization and your contributions are tax-deductible to the extent allowed by the IRS and your tax filing. Contributions to the NHPF can be in the form of a check, cash, stocks, and real estate, either now or later as a beneficiary of any of the former upon your death. Remember, we have a beautiful commemorative brick plaza with more than 3000 bricks still available for engraving. There are two different size bricks available for \$100 or \$200. Order forms were previously sent to all NHPA members but if you have used or misplaced yours, you can print out another by logging on to the NHPA website and clicking the NHPF link. Contributions of \$25.00 or more will be acknowledged by letter, while brick orders will only be mentioned in future editions of this magazine and on the NHPF link of the NHPA website. Mail all contributions and brick orders to the NHPF, P.O. Box 1628, Penn Valley, CA 95946.

During the months of February and March, the NHPF received and deposited \$5146 in contributions and brick orders.

Be a Team Player—Buy a Commemorative Brick

What a great way to support this NHPA Hall of Fame building project. Buy a commemorative brick to remember or honor someone special, a loved one, a friend, club or business. An engraved brick is the perfect way to let someone special know how much you care. Honor your parents, spouse, children, grandchildren, club or organization. Remember a special date, a birthday, graduation or anniversary. An engraved brick is a gift that can last forever.

Your engraved commemorative brick will be laid in the Jack Freeman Memorial Plaza just outside the front entrance to the Hall of Fame building. There will be a large special horseshoe shaped bench on which to sit and enjoy some of the park vista while perusing the engraved bricks in the plaza.

A brochure and order form is on the NHPF Website. Go to the NHPA Website and click on the link for the NHPF. The bricks are ordered through Dave Loucks at PO Box 1628, Penn Valley, CA 95946.

Brick Specifics:

Two brick sizes are available. The vast majority will be 4" x 8". A limited number will be 8" x 8". The smaller brick can have up to three engraved lines. Each line can have up to 13 characters including blanks and punctuation. All letters are in CAPS. Cost: \$100 per brick, 3 bricks for \$250.

The larger 8" x 8" brick can have up to six lines of engraving, 13 characters per line. Quantities of this size will be very limited. First ordered, first served. Cost: \$200 per brick.

Purchasing Bricks from Missouri as of 10/1/07 are:

Nile Abbott	Floyd & Mary Beeson
Rich Altis	C H Berg (In Memory)
Kent/Sharon Armstrong	Charlie Bextermueller
(M A Bachman)	Ed Brakensiek
Jim Bainter	Wes Brakensiek
Bob & Ellen Beaver	Mel Bruemmer
Stanley Becchetti	Larry Brown



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National Horseshoe Pitchers Foundation

Lloyd & Joan Buchheit	Jerry Griggs (In Memory)	Josh Mundy	Roger Schnur
Lloyd Buchheit (In Memory)	C W Gutshall	NMHC – Harvey Wobbe	Fox Schneider
Gary & Rose Buehler	Ken Hardy	Daniel Olson	Armin & Beulah Schneider
Burly (In Memory) #13–#239	Harris Arena	Ozark Horseshoe Club	Jim Schnur (In Memory)
Clyde Carter (In Memory)	Don & Fern Harris	Martin Orf	John Setzer
George Chichura	Marian & Letha Harris (3)	Ralph Orf	Shoe Me Girls
Chillicothe Horseshoe Club	Heart of America Club	(Don Ostmann)	John Simms
Don & Jeanette Claas	Tim & Wendy Henderson	Ray Owens (In Memory)	Tricia Simon
Elwyn Cooper	Wayne & Pam Henderson	Mary Alice Owens	St. Charles Amateur Sports
W A Courtwright	Ray Herman	Doug Peoples	Hall of Fame
Ron Craven	Wilbur Hodgson (In Memory)	(Ed Peters)	(Gary Strohm)
Bob & Ree Cutright	Higginsville Horseshoe Club	Harold Petticord	Ann Strus
DeKalb Horseshoe Club	(In Memory)	Mark Pisane	Oden Sullivan
(J Own/H. Petticord)	Jim & Carol Howard	Kenny Pogue	Paul & Sharon Taylor
Bob & Rose Diekamp	Ralph & Janet Hummel	James Premer	W Trautwein/K Armstrong (In
Nick & Angie DiRaimo	Hummer Horseshoes–	Don & Gidget Rahe	Memory)
Leroy & Francis Dominique	Springfield	The Red Eyes	Larry & Alice Volo
Jesse Dowell	Independence Horseshoe	David & Nancy Redhage	R V Wagner Inc.
Harold & Louise Duke	Club	Gary & Joyce Rehm	Janet Weber (In Memory)
Mary Duke	George Ivancic	Bob & Arlene Reininger	Jerry Weller
Tom Ebers	Cal Jaeger	Mary Reinwald	Ginny Weiss
Johnny Egeland	Ronnie & Joann Jones	Bob Renfro	Bruce Winston (In Memory)
Clarence Eggert	Charlie Killgore	Floyd Roberts	Earl & Vicki Winston
Val Eikel	Bob Kingsolver	Ashleigh Robison	Joe Wolf
Bob & Joann Eisenbeis	Jill Knobbe	Tony Rohe	Obie Wolfe
Don & Mary Ann Ell	Jan Kreienkamp	Lyle Samuelson	Jess Yount
Roy & Suzanne Evans	Lake of Ozarks Horseshoe Club		
Fern Evans (In Memory)	Liberty Horseshoe Club		
Lyle Evans (In Memory)	Lions Park Horseshoe Club		
Joe & Alice Faron	W. Hodgson, Founder		
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Dave & Bea Feldewerth (2)	Rodney Mallinckrodt		
First Capitol Ladies League	Loree Meier		
Roy Flatt (6)	Ronny Mincks		
Larry & Joyce Francis	The Misfits		
Russ & Elizabeth Furner	Missouri Stewlies		
Larry Gilchrist	MOHPA		
Michael Gillespie	Bob Molitor (In Memory)		
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15th Annual Six Pac Invitational

Wentzville, Missouri • May 3-4, 2008

by Jeanette Claas

There's no business like "shoe business" and for the 32 horseshoe pitchers who traveled across the U.S. for the 15th Annual Six Pac Invitational, "shoe business" was definitely on their mind as they considered the possibility of winning the prize money and championship title of the tournament.

It's springtime in Missouri, a favorite season for many. Springtime brings nature's beautiful colors and it also brings many horseshoe pitchers to Missouri for the exciting and prestigious Six Pac tournament. It would be a "first" for Missouri as it was the first time the tournament would be held in the new NHPF/NHPA facility at Quail Ridge Park. It would be the "first" opportunity for most of the pitchers and guests to be visiting the very impressive Hall of Fame building. It would be the "first" time for the Quail Ridge Horseshoe Club to put on their biggest "shoe" of all. After months of preparations, the QRHC members were ready to make this tournament the best so far, and that they did.

The event was made possible by Missourian Harvey Wobbe of Six Pac Horseshoes and co-sponsor Holiday Inn-Wentzville. Harvey takes great pride in being financially able to support this tournament and we are so thankful for him. We thank the co-sponsors for their generosity and contributions and hope that the horseshoe pitchers reciprocate by using the hotel facilities and purchasing Six Pac Horseshoes.

It was wonderful to see the out-of-state pitchers as they milled about the impressive Jack Freeman Memorial Brick Plaza looking for their very own brick. If you haven't bought one yet, it's never too late to be a part of this program. Be proud to be a supporter of horseshoes. Special guests at this tournament were NHPA President Paul Stewart (NC), NHPF President Dave Loucks (CA), NHPA Secretary/Treasurer Dick Hanson (WI), and Bob Dunn (MN), whose large collection of horseshoes were donated to the Hall of Fame. It was also good to see QRHC member Cal Jaeger riding around in his new hot rod!

It was a cool, cloudy overcast spring day as the horseshoe pitchers began warming up in the climate-controlled 16 indoor courts. Tournament Director Joe Faron welcomed the

pitchers and thanked each for coming in spite of the high cost of gasoline (\$3.59 in MO). Joe was pleasantly surprised as Harvey Wobbe presented him a plaque for being Tournament Director of the Six Pac for the past 15 years. Tournament Director Bob Diekamp made the impressive introductions of the 32 contestants. Harvey Wobbe presented each pitcher with a souvenir medallion and group pictures were taken. Amy Francis's beautiful voice filled the rafters as she sang the Star-Spangled Banner. It was now "Shoe Time."

There was a **Story** to be told as we watched **Howe** these highly skilled horseshoe pitchers displayed their amazing talents on the courts. Included in this group was a Mother-Son, a Husband-Wife, identical twin sisters, four World Champions, an awesome and inspiring wheelchair pitcher, and even a **Beagle** was out in the **Fields** making her first appearance in the Six Pac 30 footers. Of all the bad luck, a late cancellation was made by #6 seeded Stan Griggs of Missouri due to his house being burglarized just two days before the tournament. However, Dennis Griesbaum of IL was willing to fill his shoes. The spectators were traumatized as they watched ringer after ringer pound the stake.

At the end of Saturday's competition, the following pitchers were undefeated: Alan Francis (OH), Jim Walters (OH), Joan Elmore (TN), Sue Snyder (KY), Marlene Ray (TN), and Bobby Fields (TN).

The Quail Ridge Horseshoe Club members displayed their culinary talents in the kitchen as 92 people gathered to eat a delicious home-cooked dinner. While the pitchers were throwing ringers on inside the courts, Larry and Elaine Langewisch were throwing on the Bar-B-Q pork steaks and chicken on the grill outside. M-M-M-Good!

On a sunny Sunday morning, the horseshoe pitchers were back on the courts with high hopes for more victories on this final day of play. At the end of the competition, with a record of 15-0 and a tournament average of 88.80%, Alan Francis (OH), claimed his 11th Championship Title of the Six Pac Tournament. His high game was 93.75%. The most points scored against Francis were 17 points by pitcher Joseph Smith of Iowa. Alan Francis was awarded \$1200 and a trophy for his accomplishments. The runner up was Jim Walters, also from Ohio. His only loss was to Alan Francis and he had a tournament average of 74.49% with a high game of 89.47%. Jim also had the biggest increase in ringer percentage, from 73.22% to 78.49%. Jim Walters received a second-place trophy and a check for \$1,000.

The exciting 30 Footers Tournament was expanded this year to 16 pitchers due to the availability of more courts and financial support. With an undefeated record of 15-0 and a tournament average of 85.28%, 2006-07 Women's World Champion Joan Elmore (TN) claimed the Championship Title. Her high game was 92.85%. Joan was presented a check for \$600 and a

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first-place trophy. Former six-time World Champion Sue Snyder of KY won second place with only one loss and a tournament average of 84.70%. Sue holds the honor of pitching the first perfect game of 100% in the new facility. She had a very impressive tournament, pitching four games of 90% or better. For her second-place finish, Sue was awarded a trophy and prize money of \$500. Adelene Foster had the biggest increase from 71.31% to 72.40%.

During the two-day tournament of the 40 footers, 12,716 shoes were pitched, of which 8,302 ringers were recorded. The average ringer percentage was 65.28%. In the 30 foot competition, 13,828 shoes were pitched, of which 9,822 ringers were recorded. The average ringer percentage was 71.02%.

For the finale, a pitch-off game between the two champions, Alan Francis and Joan Elmore, was played as the spectators watched the exhibition. It was another "first" in horseshoe history as two current World Champions competed together. The game consisted of 114 shoes with 35 four-deads. Francis pitched a 91.2%, with 104 ringers. The score was Francis 42, Elmore 28. It is hard to imagine that you can lose a horseshoe game when you throw 99 ringers with an 86.8% average, but that is what Joan Elmore did. During the Six Pac Tournament, Joan pitched 958 shoes, including 817 ringers. Alan threw 688 shoes, with 611 ringers. Two great people, two very talented horseshoe pitchers. A plaque donated by Harvey Wobbe was presented to the QRHC and will be kept at the facility for future Six Pac championship games. Thank you, Alan and Joan, for this remarkable game. It was a demonstration of accuracy and a lesson to be learned.

Back in 1993, Joe Faron came up with the idea and ran with his dream. It has developed into one of the finest tournaments held anywhere in the U.S.; a tournament that all competitors look forward to attending. It took a "village" to make this tournament a success. These people need to be recognized and thanked for their dedication to the QRHC: Tournament Di-

rectors Joe Faron, Tim Henderson, Gary Buehler, Bob & Rose Diekamp; Co-Sponsors Harvey Wobbe & Holiday Inn-Wentzville; Kitchen Directors Theresa Barry and Joann Wall and all the concession stand workers; Rose Diekamp organized the meal and to all QRHC members who donated dishes for the best meal ever eaten; Julia Jaeger and all her scorekeepers; Rich Altis, the Statsman; Judges Sam Carter, Bob Cutright, and Tom Ebers; Jim Riley's hard-working clean up crew; Roy & Suzanne Evans, Souvenir Sales; Poster Boy Larry Volo and Poster Girl J-Net Claas; Joe Faron's donation of the mantle clock (won by Mr. Davis of TN); to all those who supported the QRHC with their donations for the dinner and for the 50/50 drawings and Six Pac Horseshoes donated by Harvey Wobbe; to all horseshoe pitchers who traveled the distance to participate and watch this spectacular "shoe."

On a last, but interesting note, Joe Faron's interview on radio station KWRE promoting the Six Pac Horseshoe event was aired on the Friday before the tournament. Two minutes after airtime, Joe was contacted by a person who was driving in his car and listening to the program. Yes, he was interested in pitching horseshoe, wants to get involved in the sport, and wanted Joe to send him more information! This is what "shoe business" is all about, folks!

The following are the official results of the 40 Footers at the 2008 Six Pac Invitational Tournament:

	W	L	Score	Ringers	Shoes	R%	Prize
1. Alan Francis, OH	15	0	616	611	688	88.80%	\$1200
2. Jim Walters, OH	14	1	585	562	716	78.49%	\$1000
3. Shannon Foster, TN	10	5	540	691	966	71.53%	\$ 600
4. Walter Ray Williams, CA	9	6	479	494	740	66.75%	\$ 400
5. Charlie Webb, IL	9	6	522	515	796	64.69%	\$ 300
6. Gale Green, VT	8	7	523	589	848	69.45%	\$ 200
7. M.O. Turner, MO	8	7	505	570	864	65.97%	\$ 175
8. Paul LaCrosse, CO	8	7	511	550	838	65.63%	\$ 125
9. Joseph Smith, IA	8	7	465	537	820	65.48%	
10. Elbert Shifflett, MD	7	8	425	510	810	62.96%	
11. Chan Herrell, MD	7	8	472	532	858	62.00%	
12. Mark Seibold, IN	4	11	419	465	798	58.27%	
13. Dennis Griesbaum, IL	4	11	326	389	692	56.21%	
14. Rick Howe, RI	3	12	430	513	852	60.21%	
15. Raymond Bedard, MA	3	12	355	395	728	54.25%	
16. Mark Mouthe, WI	3	12	339	379	702	53.98%	

The following are the official results of the 30 Footers at the 2008 Six Pac Invitational Tournament

	W	L	Score	Ringers	Shoes	R%	Prize
1. Joan Elmore, TN	15	0	615	817	958	85.28%	\$ 600
2. Sue Snyder, KY	14	1	592	576	680	84.70%	\$ 500
3. Marlene Ray, TN	12	3	573	771	960	80.31%	\$ 300
4. Bobby Fields, TN	11	4	548	770	984	78.25%	\$ 200
5. Gert Wilcziek, WI	9	6	521	662	896	73.88%	\$ 150
6. Adelene Foster, TN	9	6	487	643	888	72.40%	\$ 100
7. D W Story, TN	9	6	500	640	884	72.39%	\$ 87
8. Robert Zumbahlen, FL	8	7	498	606	874	69.33%	\$ 63
9. Maxine Griffith, TN	7	8	474	656	936	70.08%	
10. Amy Francis, OH	7	8	434	558	840	66.42%	
11. Brenda Tawney, WV	5	10	454	614	878	69.93%	
12. Ervin Starwalt, IL	4	11	430	549	834	65.82%	
13. Dennis Reid, IL	4	11	448	518	830	62.40%	
14. Nick DiRaimo, MO	3	12	392	525	836	62.79%	
15. John Rutherford, TX	2	13	315	484	806	60.04%	
16. Terry Beagle, MI	1	14	283	433	744	58.19%	

Pitching Delivery Tip

by Jim Haupt, Wisconsin

Some horseshoe pitchers, while concentrating on the stake, mistakenly pitch at the stake instead of lofting the shoe.

Comparing the delivery to the study of ballistics, we know that the projectile from a gun or a bow will travel further if the barrel or arrow is elevated. So, too, with our projectile, the horseshoe.

We see too many pitchers, especially short-distance pitchers, with a low shoe going more or less directly at the stake. Those are sometimes called "grass-cutters."

An improvement would be to imagine the stake is surrounded in a bucket. Watch a champion pitcher. Many will lift the shoe high enough to land in the bucket.

Put your shoe in the bucket and you will score more points. Some shoes will actually hit the stake. Now develop the turn or flip to hit the stake with the inside of the shoe. We call that a ringer!

Independence Horseshoe Club

by Al Gwinn

Pitching all winter makes the coming of spring a lot easier and not so far away. We are soooooo ready for spring. The leagues are now getting underway, along with the many tournaments. It looks like another busy and exciting year.

We have some new officers this year: John Jeffers is the new president, Dave Thompson is our league director, and Don Estes is our stats person. The rest of the officers remain the same: Rick Gwinn is vice-president and tournament director, Ray Phelps is our secretary/treasurer, Brian Bilyeu is the refreshment chairman, and Don and Jeff Swihart are the groundskeepers.

Independence league results are as follows: 1st Place, Jessie Seehaas and Boy Young; 2nd Place, Roy Flatt and Samantha Christine; 3rd Place, Lee Miller Jr. and Raymond Boulay; 4th Place, Ray Phelps and Jeff Swihart; 5th Place, Stan Griggs and David Pena.

Play-off results: Championship Class: 1st Place, Terry Kampe; 2nd Place, Lee Miller Jr; 3rd Place, Johnna Bales. Class A: 1st Place, Brian Bilyeu; 2nd Place, Dennis Bales; 3rd Place, Jeff Swihart. Grand Champion: Terry Kampe.

We are looking forward to seeing you on the courts and wishing you good pitching and good health!



courts, we need twice the amount of scorekeepers during tournament play. We now have a kitchen that requires a full crew during league nights and tournaments. Although we are proud and thrilled to be pitching in such fantastic quarters, it has been a tough year of planning, working, and organizing events.

Since the facility has opened in October, we have held 14 tournaments. We will be hosting the MOHPA Team Benefit on May 31 and the MO State Tournament August 31 to September 1. We will also be hosting two NHPA tournaments in late Fall. We are in the process of completing 16 outdoor courts. We wish to thank Charlie Killgore for making another trip to Kentucky to fill these outdoor courts.

Our next big project is to get out and sell ads for the State Tournament program booklet. We have a new vice-president, Larry Langewisch. The building is open four days a week to the general public and we have had lots of visitors. Visitors are amazed when they see the facility. We have lots of overhead expense and we need everyone's support to keep the Hall of Fame facility going.

The members of QRHC can hold their heads high, as they successfully hosted the Six Pac Invitational Tournament. The members came together and pulled off the best tournament they ever held. Thanks to all who supported and participated in this event. Only a few days later, we hosted the St. Charles County Golden Games.

We have completed our two winter leagues. Here are the awards based on ringers: High Average Award, Richard Altis (58.74%); High Game Award, Richard Altis (25 Ringers/26 Shoes); High Game Over Average Award, Rich Altis (9.72 Ringers); Most Improved Award, Norbert Stoverink (9.11 Ringers); Rookie of the Year, Vernon Griesbauer; Sportsmanship Award, Dave Molitor.

The League Champions were Team #7, Ralph's Team: Ralph Hummel, Dan Wilmes, Scott Wade, Ralph Orf, Ralph Pieper, and Norbert Stoverink. Patches awarded: Rich Altis (90%); Bob Griesbauer, Ron Wilmes, George Christ (60%); Vernon Griesbauer, William Wade (50%); Joe Gaulden, Kevin Maher, Gary Patton (40%).

Here are the awards based on points for the Monday night Jack & Jill League: High Average Award, Rich Altis (53 points) and Rose Diekamp (56.21 points); High Game Award, Rich Altis (68 points) and Rose Diekamp (70 points); High Game Over Average Award, Don Claas (22.12 points) and Ree Cutright (21.5 points); Most Improved Award, Don Claas (7.52 points) and Rene Benton (12.89 points); Rookie of the Year, Rene Benton; Sportsmanship Award, Wilma Merli.

The League Champions were Team #9, Desperados: Mary Beeson, George Ivancic, Ann Strus, and Rick Strus.

We started our summer league on April 16, with 55 horseshoe pitchers using 8 full courts. If you are in the area and wish to stop and visit, our hours are from noon to 5:00 p.m. on Sundays, Mondays, Wednesdays, and Saturdays. Stay cool this summer in our air-conditioned building.



First Capital Women's League

by Ginny Weiss

Greetings Horseshoe Pitchers! There's not much to report yet. We've just pitched one Thursday Night so far! It was a lovely evening and it was good to see all the gals.

We have seven teams this season: Shoe Me Girls (my team!), Suntrup Automotive, The Clinkers, K of C Pits, Simon Crane, River City Concrete, and Tubby's Pub & Grub.

The new pitchers this year are Darlene Bilyk (Clinkers), Kelly Honerkamp, Rita Olenorff, M'Liss Pagano, Pam Montgomery, Denise Loewenstein, Janice Beerman (Simon Crane), Pam Gettinger (Shoe Me Girls), Vera Thro is back, and Opal Montgomery (Tubby's).

As always, the Knights at the St. Charles K of C, wait on us hand and foot. It's **fabulous!** We all like to get there early and eat a yummy burger or chicken wings, just a few of the tasty items on the menu. We look forward to the days ahead and hope for clear skies and cool breezes and **no rain** on Thursday evenings.

Quail Ridge Horseshoe Club

by Jeanette Claas

The Quails and Quaillettes of the QRHC are still settling into their new nest. The QRHC is carrying a full plate. The hugeness of the facility requires more responsibility. Therefore, we need more time and more volunteers to come forth. With more

Liberty Horseshoe Club

by Gregg Craven

It's a repeat! We are very proud to announce that Alyssa Leger has won an NHPA Junior Scholarship Award for the 3rd consecutive year. That makes \$500 college money when she finishes high school (and she is young enough to try for more). Way to go, Alyssa! Laura Johnson was involved in a serious car accident and suffered a broken hip and two broken ankles. She is recovering at home but has a lot of healing left. She will be encouraging Keith and Savanna from the sidelines as she heals. Be thinking of her. Congratulations to two other pitchers! Mary Vogel pitched a 90% fifty-shoe league game and Roy Flatt got pretty close shortly after with an 84%. Mary's game is higher than any game ever pitched before in our leagues (that is 20 years). They will both be pretty high on the National Top 10 also.

We plan to have our one-week junior league again this year, starting 9:00 a.m. on June 30 to July 4. We hope all can come back this year and bring a friend. We just finished our two winter leagues. Monday Morning Blahs Champions were Danny Wetzel and rookie Norm Green (37-23). Tuesday night Champions were Mike Grissom, Robert Johnson, Al Salmon, and Gregg Craven (71½ - 48½). Most Improved were Norm Green (14.6 points) and Laura Johnson (11.9 points). High Averages were Tom Ebers (106.4) and Nick DiRaimo (109.4). High games were Mary Vogel (138) and Roy Flatt (129). A 90% patch went to Mary Vogel and an 80% patch to Roy Flatt. Denise Bloss, Perry Mann, and Lawrence Loney got their 60% patches, while Mike Grissom and John Anderson earned their 40% patches. High over average games were Mary Vogel, with 38 points over average, and Perry Mann, with 40.88 over average. When you read this, our three summer leagues will be under way—two in the Don Harris Arena. Thanks Don!

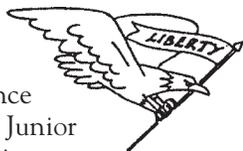
Lake of the Ozarks Horseshoe Club

Donna's doodles...

Whew! Thank goodness winter is finally over and spring is finally showing its beautiful face. As I write this, the Bradford Pears are in full bloom and it won't be long before the Dogwood trees will be strutting their stuff.

We have had an extremely busy winter. As you probably know by now, we opened our winter headquarters in Sunrise Beach with four indoor courts. We just finished up five leagues. And the winners are: Monday Night Singles, Doug Peoples (with a record of 31.5/10.5); Tuesday Afternoon Singles, Roena Branson (25/17); Tuesday Night Singles, Darrin Gregory (29/13); Wednesday Afternoon Singles, Dan Couch (27/15); and Wednesday Night Doubles, Roena Branson and Dan Laxton (39.5/16.5). Congratulations to you all!

We started something new at our tournaments this winter that went over well. It gave the pitchers something else to work for and helped our club to pay its heating bill. For \$3.00, each pitcher in a class could enter a drawing for a free turkey or ham. They got one ticket just for entering and then re-



ceived an additional ticket for each double they threw. At the end of the class, we drew a name and that person got next Sunday's dinner to take home.

We also put together some cooking teams for each of our tournaments. We had some of the most mouth-watering food and desserts you ever ate and it was all donated. We would like to give all of the ladies and a few husbands a big thank you!

We were busy little beavers in early April, working to get our outdoor courts up to snuff. We had 14 volunteers ready and willing to dig up and replace stakes, rake up leaves, spread gravel, and sow grass seed. The weather was cold and windy, but we got the job done before the rains came once again.

On April 19 and 20, we held our first end-of-league tournament and the winner was Rich Reina, one of our rookie players this winter. Congratulations, Rich!

We started our summer season the first week of May and our first outdoor tournament, the Spring Fling, was held on May 10. If you have reviewed the tournament schedule in the Shoe Biz, you will see that we moved our early July tournament, the Summer Splash, up to June 28 due to the World Tournament coming so early this year.

We have also recruited some new MOHPA members. We signed up four new pitchers that pitched in our winter leagues. We have reinstated another member who took a year off, and we have six new members, so far, who started pitching in our summer leagues. Hope the rest of you are having the same luck. If so, we might finally surpass Minnesota, which currently has the most charter members.

As always, until we see you again, many ringers to you all!

Tri-State Horseshoe Club

by Pat Gricks

Howdy-ho, neighbors! That would have been Angie Higginbotham's greeting to all. Angie has been very ill, suffering from pneumonia and a staph infection, and was in the hospital for the past three weeks. She is slowly but surely recuperating at home now. We all send our love and prayers that she will be up and pitching soon, and also writing her column.

We finished our winter pitching season of tournaments with a bang! We had the pleasure of having some new pitchers in our March Tournament. We enjoyed having the Bastels, Bransons, Claases, and Bainters at our courts and hope they all come visit us again.

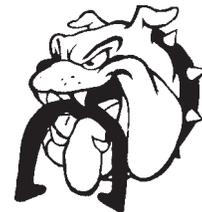
Carl Gricks is on the mend and expects to be in action soon. If you haven't been to Diamond, come try us out. We wish all the players who pitched in our tournaments this winter good luck in their summer events. We enjoyed having you all.

Peculiar Horseshoe Club

by Terry Bowman

Hello to everyone in the horseshoe world! We would like to extend a welcome to all the old members in the Peculiar league

Horseshoe Club News, continued on page 22





Wake Up to Missouri

by Jeanette Claas

County Commissioners platted this small centrally located Missouri town in 1836.

According to local tradition, the future town site was known as Warren's Corner, named for early settler Martin Warren. The commissioners changed the name to Warrensburg in 1836. The town began growing, first as a major crossroads trading center, but then really booming after the 1864 arrival of the Pacific Railroad, despite several Civil War skirmishes and occupation of the courthouse by both sides.

You will find the city of Warrensburg at the intersection of Highways 13 and 50. As of the 2000 census, the city had a total population of 16,340. It is the county seat of Johnson County. The city features a small business district that includes a series of dining establishments and clubs.

Warrensburg is close to the site of a horrific Missouri Pacific train wreck that occurred in 1904. An eastbound passenger train collided head-on with a westbound freight, killing 30 people. The passenger train was packed with people en route to St. Louis for the 1904 World's Fair.

It is also the home to Central Missouri State University, founded in 1871, where many students from this part of the state attend and their future livelihoods are decided. One college student, Mallory Bratton, a freshman at CMSU, says the most popular store in Warrensburg is Wal-Mart! The college kids hang out on Pine Street, where all the local pubs can be found. Mallory likes the "small-town feeling" because it is so different from what she was used to in St. Charles. A famous children's book author, Dean Hughes, got his first job teaching English at the University in 1972. In the early 1980s,



Ray Plute pitches in his backyard, 1966.

Hughes chose Warrensburg and the University as the setting for his first successful series of children's books, the "Nutty Nutshell" series.

At the Johnson County Courthouse, the Goddess of Liberty statue above the entrance holds a silver ball that was originally gold, until free-silver advocates surreptitiously replaced it in 1897. On the courthouse grounds another statue stands. It is the statue of Old Drum, the pooch that prompted the world's most famous speech about a dog, "man's best friend."

Back in 1870, Leonidas Hornsby had been losing sheep to marauding dogs and swore that he would shoot the next dog that came onto his property. The dog, Old Drum, turned out to belong to his brother-in-law, but it made no difference to Hornsby. He had his nephew, Dick Ferguson, shoot the hound. The brother-in-law sued Hornsby in a bitter legal dispute that eventually went all the way to the Missouri Supreme Court. No less than five prominent attorneys took part in the case, but the most famous and winning argument was delivered by future Senator George Graham Vest. His eloquence has caused some to believe that his final summation is the origin of the expression "man's best friend," although there is no evidence he uttered those precise words.

In part, his speech states, "The one absolutely unselfish friend that man can have in this selfish world, the one that never deserts him, and the one that never proves ungrateful or treacherous is his dog.... When the last scene of all comes, and death takes the master in its embrace and his body is laid away in the cold ground, no matter if all other friends pursue their way, there by his graveside will the noble dog be found, his head between his paws, his eyes sad but open in alert watchfulness, faithful and true even to death."

The jury took only a few minutes to decide. Hornsby was ordered to pay his brother-in-law the grand sum of \$50. Ferguson later moved to Oklahoma where he himself was shot and killed. The statue of Old Drum serves as a memorial to the dog and also commemorates one of the greatest courtroom speeches ever delivered. Today many people come by to gaze quietly into Old Drum's eyes; many of them are dog lovers, but most likely half of them are lawyers!

There is a very talented horseshoe pitcher living in Warrensburg. Last year at the MO State Tournament, a fellow pitched in the Elders 30' Class that many people didn't recognize. He was pitching a playoff game with Carlyle Gricks to determine the Elders Championship. And pitching mighty well, he was. A lot of Missouri champions remembered Ray Plute well, but the newer members were asking, "Who is this fellow, Ray Plute?"

Ray was born and raised in Warrensburg and has lived there all his life. He met his wife, Marjorie, in 1956 at a roller rink in Clinton; they married in 1956 and celebrated their 50th golden wedding anniversary in December 2006. They have two sons, Danny and Gary. Today they enjoy six grandchildren and ten great grandchildren.

In 1957, when Ray started working at the Town & Country Shoe factory, he noticed other employees pitching horseshoe during the noon hour. Ray went to the store and purchased himself a pair. It wasn't long before he had the men pitching not only at noontime but before starting work each morning.

Ray talked with the Park Department about installing six courts at Grover Park. Wherever he lived, pegs were driven into the ground for practice and entertainment purposes. Today he has two courts, one indoor and one outdoor.

It wasn't until the mid 1960's that Ray started pitching in tournaments in other towns. The first year he pitched in the Sedalia State Fair tournament, he entered in a low class and won a ribbon. The next year he qualified for B Class and won it. Progressing along, he found himself in A Class the following year. Ray held several tournaments each year in Warrensburg. Some of the people who came to pitch were Charlie Killgore, Elwyn Cooper, Fred Smith, Don Harris, and Earl & Vicki Winston.

In the 1970s, Ray went to work at the Plaza Bowl. In the winter he bowled, and the summer he pitched horseshoes. He developed into a skillful bowler, with an average of 210-220, and bowled some 700 and 800 game series. Ray was later inducted into the St. Louis Bowling Hall of Fame in 1992.

His sons, Danny and Gary, joined him in both sports; each talented like their Dad. Gary, an excellent bowler, rolled a perfect 300 game and was also a good horseshoe pitcher. Danny was a four-time Missouri Junior State Champion in the years 1969, 70, 72, and 73. Ray and his sons pitched in lots of tournaments, including Higginsville, Marshall, Mound City, Sedalia, and other surrounding towns. When the boys grew up, they both joined the U.S. Army. Danny made the military his career for 22 years. His Mom says he was the first one to arrive in Iraq during Desert Storm and the last one to return home, bringing with him the Bronze Star for valor, bravery, heroism, and ground combat. Danny and his family make their home in Clarksville, TN, where he has a lawn and tree-cutting service. Gary and his family live in Concordia and have a cleaning business serving the surrounding areas. Like his Dad, Gary still has horseshoe courts in his back yard and when the family gathers for holidays and reunions, the horseshoe courts are the center of their recreation.

In 1968, Ray won the MO State "B" Class championship. From 1969-1979, Ray was on top of his game, making appearances in the Men's Championship Class for 10 years, averaging in the mid 60 percents. In 1979, finished 6th, with a 70% tournament average. Ray was Missouri State Men's Runner-up in 1975. He ranks #25 in the Men's Division State Tournament all-time victory leaders with an average of 63.89%. From 1969-79, Ray ranked #12 in 11 tournaments that he competed in. All Missouri State Tournaments were held during the Missouri State Fair in Sedalia through 1977.

In 1975, Ray attended his first World Tournament in Indiana and brought home a trophy. The Plutes were staying in the same campground as the Winstons. Vicki remembers it well, as it was the same year that she claimed her ninth Women's

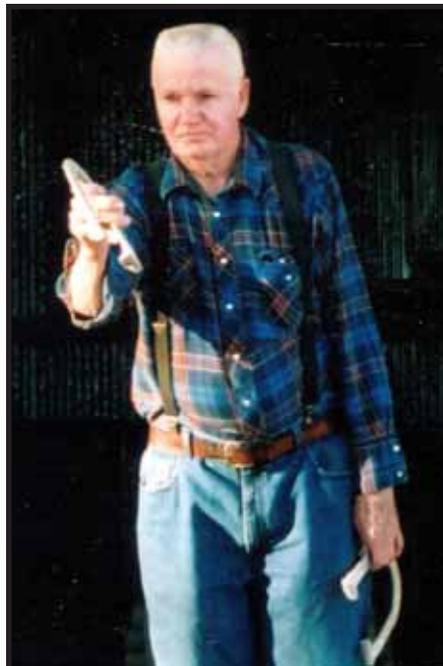


Ray Plute (center) wins 1st place in A Class at a tournament in Grover Park. With him are (from left) Bob Stowe, 2nd place, and Earl Winston, 3rd place.

World Championship Title. In 1976 he went to the WT in Levittown, Pennsylvania, and landed himself a spot in the Men's World Championship Class. He placed in 11th position, but what he remembers the most is a game he will never forget. He played against the world's great Elmer Hohl. The score was Plute 51 (81.6%), and Hohl 33 (73.2%). He also defeated Jim Knisley of Ohio 51-35 and Ralph Maddox of WV 50-46. He finished this tournament with a 23-12 record and averaged a little over 75%.

In 1979, at the age of 43 and at the peak of his game, Ray traded his horseshoes for a little white ball and chased it over the greens for the next 25 years. He still plays golf seven days a week. His athletic abilities on the golf course were the same as on the horseshoe courts and bowling lanes and he won many golf tournaments and achieved more titles and trophies along the way. However, he didn't stop pitching horseshoes completely, as he ran the Johnson County Fair Horseshoe Tournament at the Fairgrounds the last five years.

Ray was a member of the NHPA from 1966 through 1979. In 2004, Ray missed the horseshoe competition and heard about the horseshoe facility in Liberty. He began pitching in Liberty and Independence. He was getting slaughtered, as he was pitching in the top classes and had been away from horseshoes for so long. He didn't win a lot of games but he enjoyed pitching. He was surprised that you could pitch at 30 feet. Back in his heyday, there was no such thing. His energy had run out due to heart problems so Ray moved up to 30 feet in 2006 and regained some power as he began to pick up on his game. Making his appearance at the 2007 State Tournament, he picked up where he left off al-



Ray Plute, February 2008.

Ray Plute, continued on page 23

- All-Time Leaders in Ringer Percent, 2001-2007: 8th, 56.37%
- All-Time Leaders in Games Played, 2001-2007: 8th, 34 Games
- All-Time Leaders in Tournaments, 2001-2007: 7th, 5 Tournaments

A week before going to the 2007 WT in Ardmore, OK, Carl was diagnosed with advanced prostate cancer. It was a blow to this ex-Marine, who had been so healthy all his life. So he did what he had to do, taking all the radiation treatments that pretty much wiped him out. He is regaining his strength and is back to pitching in tournaments again. In February 2008, he pitched a 61.5%, placing 3rd in Class A at his own tournament.

"It has been a wonderful eight years of meeting such great people and making so many wonderful friends at our horseshoe building, and we hope to meet many more in the future," say the hospitable Gricks. He has no regrets in his lifetime and is quick to tell you, "I have my wife to thank for staying by my side, for 57 years through thick and thin." On second thought he added, "I do wish I had started in horseshoes earlier." Today the Grickses enjoy eight grandchildren and 11 great-grandchildren.

These words describe this couple: Pride, Respect, Determination, and Love. Throughout their lives, their adventures, their heartaches, their love for each other, and their love of horseshoes, this couple shared every bit of it together. The Grickses have touched many lives, not only in Missouri but throughout the world. We are proud of what this brave Marine did to protect his fellow men and proud of his dedication to and promotion of horseshoe pitching. The MOHPA was indeed fortunate to find this "gem" in Diamond, Missouri.

Romantic Arithmetic

Sent in by Mary Ann Ell

He was teaching her arithmetic,
Said it was his mission.
He kissed her once,
He kissed her twice
And said, "Now, that's addition!"

And so he added smack on smack
In silent satisfaction.
She sweetly gave him kisses back
And he said, "Now, that's subtraction!"

Then he kissed her as she kissed him
With naught an explanation.
Then both together smiled and said,
"Hurrah for multiplication!"

Her dad appeared upon the scene
And made a quick decision.
He kicked the lad three blocks away,
And said, "That was long division!"

and also to all the new members who have just started this year. We have six new players—Jon Brewster is a new Jr. player and the adults are Carl Brown, Leslie Crust, Leroy Leabo, Tim Seibold, and Dave York. Welcome! We are glad to have you in our club.

Well, for those of you who haven't heard, Erika and Michael Myler are going to be parents in November. I guess that means Glenn and I are going to be grandparents. We are all very happy.

Now then, there are new babies in the horseshoe family in Peculiar. Ron and Victoria Highley have a second grandson; their oldest daughter, Jamie, is the proud mother. Also, Clint Sloan's daughter had a baby girl just this week. Congratulations to everyone.

Dawn Bishop says everyone told them to move to the country because it was so relaxing. But now they have a garden, 12 chickens, four ducks, two dogs, three cats, and a rabbit on the way. Where is the relaxation?

Jim Kinney Jr. is going to the Team World Tournament on May 15. We hope his team does well and they have a great time. Jim Kinney Sr. has moved up to 30 feet and Chip Sloan has moved back to 40 feet. We wish both good luck at their new distances.

Our April tournament had a very good turnout and fun was had by everyone. Corissa Bishop won her first Tournament at the Peculiar tournament this year. Congratulations to you, Corissa.

This year, before our first tournament, we had a team of workers making a lot of renovations to our pits. I would like to thank them and acknowledge them individually: Terry Bishop, Clint Sloan, Chip Sloan, Terry Highley, Ron Highley, Ralph Richardson, and Lawrence Loney. We really appreciate the hard work they all did on the new back boards and that Terry Bishop did on our new score board holders. You all did a very nice job and everything looks very good. Thanks again.

We have a few people going to the World Tournament in York, Pennsylvania, in July. We wish all of them good luck and a safe trip. Until next time, have a wonderful summer.



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Vicki Winston
10326 Hwy D
LaMonte, MO 65337

most 30 years ago, pitching with the top dogs once again, and became state runner-up in the 30' Championship Class. This extraordinarily talented man in all sports still has it. Ray and Margie, who used to pitch a little, enjoy the nice, friendly people they meet at all the tournaments.

Ray had a serious heart attack in 2005, which curtailed his athletic activities somewhat. Most recently, in February of this year, Ray was hospitalized with heart issues once again and doctors inserted a stent to make living a little easier. Ray can relate to "Old Drum," having several pet dogs during his lifetime. When his first dog, "Bear," died, he was soon replaced with another, whom Ray named "Little Bear." Ray enjoyed "man's best friend" as they rode around in the golf cart together.

Ray is quite proud of his hometown, Warrensburg, and never, ever once thought about leaving it. He is also proud of his sons and proud of all his accomplishments throughout his lifetime. At the age of 72, Missouri horseshoe pitchers welcome Ray, a tough competitor on the courts, back into the horseshoe scene, slinging those ringers like he used too so many years ago.

Attention Missouri Stewlies!

Hey, Stewlies! It's been a long time since we've had any Stewlie communication. Rest assured—this is **good news!**

Homer Cain of Oklahoma (a non-Stewlie); his wife, Ginger (also a non); and their daughter, Tina Hawkins, Stewlie # 361—Tina Roo (That's me!)—would like to host all the Stewlies at the first-ever "Burly-Q" at the 2008 World Tournament in York, PA.

A prime head of homegrown Oklahoma Hereford beef is being fattened just for this occasion! We are planning to serve B-B-Q sandwiches and some sides and fixin's, along with a beverage (likely ice tea). If you would like to help with the incidentals (chips, desserts, etc.), please contact me at tinahawk@msn.com.

The wonderful folks at York have arranged for a pavilion on the grounds of the Expo Center for our feast on Wednesday, July 9, in the evening. A more definite time will be announced after the pitching schedule has been arranged.

Homer and Ginger never became Stewlies, but they had the utmost respect for Burly and what he did for all of us.

The invitation is extended to all Stewlies and non-Stewlies as well, but be sure to bring your Stewlie badges—you will be served **first!** Once the Stewlies have food, all others can join the line.

Please plan to attend this Stewlie gathering. Perhaps it can be the beginning of an annual affair! Looking forward to seeing all of you in York!

—Tina Roo, Stewlie # 361

West vs. East Challenge in Liberty

by Gregg Craven and J-Net Claas

The West vs. The East Challenge was held at Liberty in the Don Harris Arena on April 12–13. Thirteen pitchers from the Quail Ridge Horseshoe Club traveled the miles to meet the challenge. Gregg Craven was the Tournament Director and Martin Orf was the organizer for the QRHC. For the second year in a row, Roy Evans forgot to bring the traveling trophy with him. In fact, the Liberty horseshoe pitchers considered this to be a good omen; the last time this happened, the West won the tournament. Roy says "Turning 70 years old in January has not affected me in any way."

It was so cold on this early spring weekend that snowflakes were flying and bitter cold winds blowing, feeling more like the Arctic Circle than Kansas City. Once inside the Arena, the QRHC members were greeted warmly by the Kansas City area horseshoe pitchers.

Before tournament play, Director Gregg Craven announced that Laura Johnson had been in a serious car accident the day before the tournament and would not be able to pitch until she mended. Our thoughts and prayers were sent to Laura for a speedy recovery.

Three sessions of horseshoes during this handicapped tournament were pitched on Saturday and Sunday. After the first session, we suspected that First Claas (a.k.a. Don) was going to lead the East to victory again. The very first game he pitched was a 70% game and he followed with a 63% during the first five games, shocking the entire arena like an earthquake. He and John Simms were the leaders, but it was a real team effort. Martin Orf had a terrific tournament average of 55.5%. Of their 13 players, nine were .500 or better over the three-session tournament. About the only bright spots for the West were Joann Jones, who pitched her first 70% game, and junior horseshoe pitcher Alex Roberts, who averaged 52.5% for the tournament. Elizabeth Furner of the West team pitched the high tournament average of 64.2%. There was a tie in Class AA on Sunday between Elizabeth and Don Claas. Don had lost his first game to Elizabeth, giving each one four wins and one loss. Don pulled the very close game out to win his third title for the tournament. He is seriously thinking about moving to Liberty. The final tally was East 90, West 60.

The horseshoe pitchers from the East especially enjoyed Audra's homemade chili and delicious strawberry pie. In fact, Audra gave us the recipe so we can try it out at the Quail Ridge Horseshoe Club. No matter who wins, the fellowship between the two clubs is most important. The friendly competition and calling "Four Dead on Court Whatever" just adds to the excitement. Join us the next time the West vs. the East comes to your area!

The NHPA Internet Website is

www.horseshoepitching.com

Click on the US map to get to Missouri's page

Missouri Tournament Results

February–April 2008

Happy Hearts @ Quail Ridge 2/9/08

Dir's: Jan Kreienkamp/Andy Foulds

Class A: Sam Carter	6-1	63.4%
Class B: Ginny Weiss	7-0	57.7%
Class C: Jim Spidle, IL	7-0	46.7%
Class D: Bill Bouyea	7-0	35.8%
Class E: Doug Bowen	6-1	28.8%
Class F: Megan Riley	7-0	32.2%
Class G: Bob Reininger	6-1	33.6%
Class H: Mark Moreland	6-1	25.0%

Peg In My Heart @ The Pits 2/9–10/08

Director: Jim Bainter

Class A: Roena Branson	6-1	59.3%
Class B: Ken Grossman	6-1	34.4%
Class C: Marvin Flatt	6-1	27.9%
Class D: Chad Flatt	7-0	23.8%

February Open @ Lucky Gricks Arena

2/9–10/08 Director: Carlyle Gricks

Class A: Letha Harris	5-0	59.5%
Class B: Bob Renfro	5-0	47.0%
Class C: Bobbie Jones	5-0	45.0%
Class D: Al Mundy	7-1	32.3%
Class E: Dale Parnell	5-0	35.0%
Class F: Harley Tucker	7-0	18.8%

Cupid Open @ Glen Allen 2/10/08

Dir's: Danny & Melody Williams

Class A: Cori Stoverink	5-1	48.3%
Class B: Melody Williams	5-0	30.0%
Class C: James Hillis	5-0	19.5%

Independence Memorial @ Harris Arena

2/16/08 Dir's: Wayne & Pam Henderson

Class A: M.O. Turner	4-1	70.0%
Class B: Lorin Mills, NE	4-1	58.5%
Class C: Nile Abbott	4-1	57.5%
Class D: Denise Bloss	5-0	47.5%
Class E: Terry Kampe	4-1	39.0%
Class F: Ray Canchola	4-1	34.5%
Class G: Michael Gillespie	4-1	26.5%
Class H: Dick Byersdorfer	5-0	25.0%
Class I: Joe Barry	5-0	14.5%

Chilly Day Open @ Park Hill 2/16/08

Director: Rick McEntire

Class A: Sam Carter	5-1	63.3%
Class B: Frank Rohlfling	5-0	55.5%
Class C: Dan Peterson	5-0	36.5%
Class D: Michael Brewer	5-0	18.0%

Spring Team Handicap Open @ Quail Ridge

2/23/08 Dir's: Jim & Carol Howard

1st Place Team: 18 Wins

Margie Furlong	7-0	8.8%
Alma Gantney	7-2	28.2%
May Beilsmith	6-2	18.3%
Jen Ostmann	6-2	15.4%
Debbie Steinhoff	5-5	31.9%
Mary Ann Dames	5-5	25.8%

February Open @ Hudson Hall

2/22–24/08 Director: Frank Hudson

Class A: Letha Harris	5-0	62.5%
Class B: Jim Kinney Jr.	5-0	42.0%
Class C: D. Jennings, AR	7-0	35.0%
Class D: Douglas Tripp	7-0	17.9%
Class E: Jeff Lowery	6-0	22.1%

Birthday Open @ Glen Allen 2/24/08

Directors: Danny & Melody Williams

Class A:

1 st Place: Martin Williams	7-0	57.4%
2 nd Place: John Vandeven	5-2	36.8%
3 rd Place: Mike Massa	5-2	34.8%
4 th Place: Danny Williams	4-3	51.5%

Hall of Fame Benefit @ Quail Ridge

3/1/08 Director: Stan Bailey

Class A: Sue Snyder, KY	7-0	81.6%
Class B: Bob Crabtree	5-2	50.0%
Class C: Pam Gettinger	6-1	37.9%
Class D: John Simms	6-1	30.4%
Class E: Owen Moore	7-0	30.6%
Class F: Robert Riley	5-2	26.5%
Class G: Mark Pisane	6-1	21.9%
Class H: Natalie Altis	6-0	19.3%

Robin Red Breast Open @ Harris Arena

3/1/08 Dir's: Brady & Nan Craven

Class A: Nick DiRaimo	6-1	64.6%
Class B: Roy Flatt	6-1	55.4%
Class C: Brian Looper, KS	6-1	47.9%
Class D: Bob Bloss	6-1	33.2%
Class E: Brady Craven	6-1	20.0%
Class F: Harold Turley	7-0	22.1%

March Open @ Lucky Gricks Arena

3/1–2/08 Director: Carlyle Gricks Jr.

Class A: Jim Renfro	6-1	59.6%
Class B: Bob Renfro	7-0	48.8%
Class C: Bobbie Jones	8-1	45.0%
Class D: Al Mundy	6-2	35.0%
Class E: Dale Parnell	7-0	30.0%
Class F: Lena McDonald	6-1	17.5%

March Winds Open @ Park Hills 3/8/08

Director: Rick McEntire

Class A:

1 st : Rick McEntire	5-0	66.7%
2 nd : Dennis Griesbaum	4-1	60.5%

Class B:

1 st : Ed Pashia	5-1	57.5%
2 nd : Frank Rohlfling	5-2	46.6%

Daylight Savings Open @ The Pits

3/8–9/08 Director: Jim Bainter

Class A: Roena Branson	6-1	60.7%
Class B: Jesse Dowell	5-2	35.4%
Class C: Ken Grossman	5-2	33.2%
Class D: Leroy Dooley	7-0	25.7%
Class E: Darrin Gregory	6-1	13.2%

WWW Mixed Open @ Glen Allen 3/9/08

Dir's: Danny & Melody Williams

Class A:

1 st Place: Cori Stoverink	7-0	46.1%
2 nd Place: C. Schreckenber	6-1	43.6%

Class B:

1 st Place: James Hillis	7-0	25.0%
2 nd Place: Mike Davault	5-2	31.3%

Shamrock Fling @ Quail Ridge 3/15/08

Directors: Don & Gidget Rahe

Class A: Sue Snyder	7-0	85.2%
Class B: Jim Spidle	7-0	64.5%
Class C: George Christ	6-1	40.1%
Class D: Stan Bailey	5-2	33.9%
Class E: Steven Spidle	6-1	30.0%
Class F: Mark Moreland	5-2	26.5%
Class G: Allen Stark	6-1	21.6%
Class H: Louise Duke	6-0	23.4%

Juniors Only Tourn @ Harris Arena

3/22/08 Director: Rick Gwinn

Class A: Alex Roberts	5-1	37.5%
Class B: Taylor Mathis	4-2	3.3%
Class C: Megan McLeod	5-1	9.2%
Class D: Jordan Duberry	5-1	3.3%

Cancer Action Benefit @ Harris Arena

3/29/08 Director: Elwyn Cooper

Class A: M.O. Turner	6-1	68.3%
Class B: Al Gwinn	5-1	53.8%
Class C: Denise Bloss	5-1	48.8%
Class D: Dee McIntire	5-0	39.5%
Class E: Terry Kampe	5-0	41.5%
Class F: Sharon Armstrong	5-0	43.0%
Class G: Michael Gillespie	5-0	32.5%
Class H: Don Roberts	4-1	23.5%
Class I: Laura Johnson	5-0	29.5%
Class J: George Chichura	5-0	26.0%
Class K: Gina Baker	5-0	21.0%
Class L: George Goldizen	5-0	9.0%
Class M: Jeff Zogg	5-0	15.5%

Spring Fling @ Glen Allen 3/29/08

Director: Danny/Melody Williams

Class A:

1 st : Cori Stoverink	7-0	55.0%
2 nd : James Hillis	6-1	34.6%

March Madness @ Jeff City 3/29/08

Director: Steve Bruemmer

Class A: Roy Flatt	4-2	45.4%
Class B: Oscar Reeves	4-2	23.5%
Class C: John E Smith	4-1	18.0%
Class D: Tom Lehmann	7-1	15.4%

Spring Is Coming @ Hudson Hall

3/29–30/08 Director: Frank Hudson

Class A: Letha Harris	7-1	58.6%
Class B: Jesse Dowell	4-1	33.5%
Class C: Al Mundy	5-0	32.5%
Class D: Tim Warden	4-2	15.0%
Class E: R. Bohannon	6-2	17.2%

**April Showers Open @ Glen Allen
4/6-08 Dirs: Danny & Melody Williams**

Class A:		
1 st : Cork Stoverink	5-0	50.0%
2 nd : Martin Williams	4-1	60.0%
Class B:		
1 st : Joe Keller	5-2	17.9%
2 nd : Wesley Stoverink	4-3	15.6%

**April Open @ Lucky Gricks Arena
4/5-6/08 Director: Carlyle Gricks Jr.**

Class A: Letha Harris	5-0	61.5%
Class B: Al Mundy	5-1	43.3%
Class C: Rusty Bass	4-1	32.0%
Class D: Rusty Bass	6-2	34.2%
Class E: Michael Gillespie	6-1	32.1%
Class F: Joshua Mundy	5-0	24.5%

**West vs. East Handicap @Harris Arena
4/12-13/08 Director: Gregg Craven**

East defeats West 90-60		
Class A: 1-Don Claas	5-0	49.5%
Class A: 2-Martin Orf	5-0	55.5%
Class B: 1-John Simms	5-0	34.0%
Class B: 2-Joann Jones	3-2	42.0%
Class C: 1-Don Claas	5-0	63.0%
Class C: 2-Denise Bloss	3-2	48.0%
Class AA: 1-Don Claas	5-1	52.5%
Class AA: 2-Elizabeth Furner	4-2	64.2%
Class BB: 1-Alex Roberts	5-0	52.5%
Class BB: 2-Natalie Altis	4-1	23.0%
Class CC: 1-John Simms	5-0	36.0%
Class CC: 2-George Chichura	3-2	24.0%

**Tax Day Open @ Glen Allen 4/12/08
Directors: Danny & Melody Williams**

Class A:		
1 st : Cori Stoverink	7-0	62.4%
2 nd : Carol Schreckenber	5-2	38.1%
3 rd : V. Schreckenber	5-2	31.0%

Bluebird Open @ The Pits 4/12-13/08

Director: Jim Bainter		
Class A: Dan Couch	6-5	50.4%
Class B: Ken Grossman	6-1	42.1%
Class C: Dennis Benson	5-2	30.0%
Class D: Harry Rother	5-2	26.8%
Class E: Melissa Wolfe	6-1	20.8%

April Showers @ Park Hills 4/19/08

Director: Rick McEntire		
Class A: Randy Grady	6-1	70.8%
Class B: Bob Crabtree	7-0	54.2%
Class C: Ken Pogue	7-0	52.7%
Class D: Russell McCown	7-0	22.0%

**Members Only League Tourn @ The Pits
4/19-20/08 Director: Jim Bainter**

Class Championship:		
1 st : Richard Reina	3-0	13.3%
2 nd : Carl Folsom	2-1	25.0%
3 rd : Dany Branson	1-2	26.7%
4 th : Lile Harper	0-3	35.8%
Class A: Lile Harper	6-5	54.6%
Class B: Danny Branson	7-0	29.6%
Class C: Carl Folsom	7-0	27.9%
Class D: Richard Reina	6-1	17.1%

**April Warm-Up Open @ Hudson Hall
4/19-20/08 Director: Frank Hudson**

Class A: Raymond Bowling	5-1	49.6%
Class B: Larry McAlister	5-0	43.0%
Class C: Shirley Jones	7-0	30.0%
Class D: Jim Larkin	5-0	29.0%
Class E: Don Johanning	5-1	12.9%

Peculiar Spring Open 4/20/08

Director: Glenn Bowman		
Class A: Michael Bowman	5-0	63.5%
Class B: Wayne Dusenberry	5-0	54.5%
Class C: Alex Roberts	4-1	38.7%
Class D: Larry Brown	4-1	34.0%
Class E: Perry Mann	5-0	31.9%
Class F: Ron Higley	5-0	23.2%
Class G: Rich Hardt	5-0	23.1%
Class H: John E Smith	5-0	18.1%
Class I: Joe Barry	4-1	12.5%
Class J: John H Smith	5-0	15.0%
Class K: Corissa Bishop	4-1	6.9%

April Showers @ Quail Ridge 4/26/08

Dirs: J. Buskirk, K Nennering, R Maassen		
Class A: Jim Spidle	8-1	64.9%
Class B: Don Claas	6-1	50.0%
Class C: Bill Bouyea	6-1	43.4%
Class D: Steve Spidle	7-0	32.9%
Class E: Ernie Ellermann	6-1	25.7%
Class F: David Redhage	6-1	25.7%

State Tournament Stats—Men's Division

Compiled by Stan Griggs

"Tale of Two Days": The Top 5 and How They Got There

Day 1

1st Place			2nd Place			3rd Place			4th Place			5th Place							
Sam Carter			Stan Griggs			M.O. Turner			Rich Altis			Steve Johnson							
W	22	34	64.71%	W	22	36	61.11%	W	20	38	52.63%	W	26	44	59.09%	L	21	54	38.89%
W	32	46	69.57%	W	23	38	60.53%	L	24	50	48.00%	L	22	50	44.00%	W	24	44	54.55%
W	17	28	60.71%	W	24	46	52.17%	W	24	36	66.67%	W	31	46	67.39%	W	30	48	62.50%
W	23	36	63.89%	W	21	28	75.00%	W	28	48	58.33%	W	27	48	56.25%	W	32	56	57.14%
W	27	36	75.00%	W	48	66	72.73%	W	29	50	58.00%	W	30	50	60.00%	W	21	32	65.63%
W	23	34	67.65%	W	37	52	71.15%	W	32	58	55.17%	W	23	48	47.92%	L	37	62	59.68%
6~0	144	214	67.29%	6~0	175	266	65.79%	5~1	157	280	56.07%	5~1	159	286	55.59%	4~2	165	296	55.74%

Day 2

1st Place			2nd Place			3rd Place			4th Place			5th Place							
Stan Griggs			Rich Altis			Sam Carter			Steve Johnson			M.O. Turner							
W	56	78	71.79%	L	54	78	69.23%	W	24	44	54.55%	W	39	56	69.64%	L	31	56	55.36%
W	45	62	72.58%	W	32	50	64.00%	L	41	62	66.13%	W	28	44	63.64%	L	23	50	46.00%
W	33	40	82.50%	W	35	52	67.31%	L	29	52	55.77%	L	21	40	52.50%	W	46	64	71.88%
W	28	36	77.78%	W	31	42	73.81%	W	40	52	76.92%	L	23	42	54.76%	L	31	52	59.62%
W	34	46	73.91%	W	25	34	73.53%	W	31	54	57.41%	L	28	54	51.85%	L	28	46	60.87%
5~0	196	262	74.81%	4~1	177	256	69.14%	3~2	165	264	62.50%	2~3	139	236	58.90%	1~4	159	268	59.33%

Finals

1st Place			2nd Place			3rd Place			4th Place			5th Place							
Stan Griggs			Sam Carter			Rich Altis			M.O. Turner			Steve Johnson							
11~0	371	528	70.27%	9~2	309	478	64.64%	9~2	336	542	61.99%	6~5	316	548	57.66%	6~5	304	532	57.14%

4 Year State Title Run

2004	320	500	64.00%	11	0
2005	358	596	60.07%	10	1
2006	380	538	70.63%	10	1
2007	371	528	70.27%	11	0
	1429	2162	66.10%	42	2

* Loss game #11 to Rich Altis 34-41 (Snapped 21 game winning streak)
* Loss game #4 to Charles Killgore 38-44
(Current 18 game winning streak)

Deadeye EZ Grips
Ted Allens
Alan Francis
Alan Francis

MOHPA 2008 Tournament Schedule

24 May to 31 December • Visit our web page @ www.mohpa.us

Date	Sanc. Number	Tournament Name & Location	Contact	E-mail or Cell Number
05-24	19-08-046	Mayflower Marathon* @ Quail Ridge	Gettinger 314-429-4427	
05-24	19-08-060	The Memorial Mixed Open @ Jefferson City	Bruemmer 636-541-3232	s.bruemmer@att.net
05-31	19-08-047	MOHPA Club/Team Benefit* @ Quail Ridge	Bastel 573-374-8243	lkhouse@usmo.com
06-01	19-08-048	June Bug* @ Quail Ridge	Hummel 636-978-6117	
06-07	19-08-075	Peculiar Summer Mixed Open	Bowman 816-293-5856	glennbowmans@wmconnect.com
06-14	19-08-017	Wilbur Hodgson Memorial* @ Liberty (in & out)	Craven 816-781-7581 %	brcraven2@kc.rr.com
06-21	19-08-033	June Bug Stomp* @ Glen Allen 1:00 PM	Williams 573-238-0047	nipdpeg2@Yahoo.com
06-21	19-08-049	Summer Heat* @ Quail Ridge	Volo 314-434-4075	
06-21	19-08-072	Summer Kick Off* @ Marshfield	Keith 417-859-2781	mfkeith@centurytel.net
06-21	19-08-084	June Heat* @ Park Hills	McEntire 573-431-6107	330-2766
06-22	19-08-061	Father's Day Mixed Open @ Jefferson City	Bruemmer 636-541-3232	s.bruemmer@att.net
06-28	19-08-055	Summer Splash Mixed Open @ Laurie	Bainter 573-372-3650	jbainter@charter.net
06-28	19-08-094	Caulfield Summer Mixed Open	/// Cancel Tournament ///	
06-28	19-08-102	Ray Cavin Memorial* @ St. Joseph	Campbell 816-238-7312	
07-05	19-08-099	Mountain View Summer Mixed Open	Hobbs 417-934-6741	
07-07/19	PA sanc	World Tournament @ York, PA	Hansen 262-835-9108	nhcpa.sec.treas@worldnet.att.net
07-12	19-08-085	July Firecracker* @ Park Hills	McEntire 573-431-6107	330-2766
07-19	19-08-034	Late Firecracker Tourney* @ Glen Allen 1:00 PM	Williams 573-238-0047	nipdpeg2@Yahoo.com
07-26	19-08-062	Jefferson City Mixed Open	Bruemmer 636-541-3232	s.bruemmer@att.net
07-28/30	19-08-104	Cole Co. Fair Mixed Open Singles @ Jeff. City	Bruemmer 636-541-3232	s.bruemmer@att.net
07-31/8-2	19-08-105	Cole Co. Fair Mixed Open Doubles @ Jeff. City	Bruemmer 636-541-3232	s.bruemmer@att.net
08-02	19-08-095	Caulfield Hot Flash Mixed Open	/// Cancel Tournament ///	
08-09	19-08-063	Sizzlin' Summer Mixed Open @ Jefferson City	Bruemmer 636-541-3232	s.bruemmer@att.net
08-09	19-08-050	Warm Up for State //tourney reinstated//	Gettinger 314-429-4427	
08-15,16,17	19-08-056	MO State Fair Mixed Open @ Sedalia	D Bastel 573-374-8243	dbastel@charterinternet.com
08-23	19-08-091	Independence Fall Classic Mixed Open	Gwinn 816-796-0213	fgwinn@comcast.net
08-29	19-08-077	State Championship Doubles (adult) @ Quail Ridge	Winston 660-563-3536	horshuvicki@socket.net
08-30/09-01	19-08-078	State Championship Singles @ Quail Ridge	Winston 660-563-3536	horshuvicki@socket.net
09-06	19-08-076	Peculiar Fall Mixed Open	Bowman 816-293-5856	glennbowmans@wmconnect.com
09-07	19-08-106	Jefferson City Mixed Open Doubles	Bruemmer 636-541-3232	s.bruemmer@att.net
09-20	19-08-018	Kansas City Open* @ Don Harris Arena	McIntire 816-452-0254	dmcintire@kc.rr.com
09-20	19-08-035	End of Summer Tourney* @ Glen Allen 1:00 PM	Williams 573-238-0047	nipdpeg2@Yahoo.com
09-20	N/S	Hoot N Hollerin @ Gainesville	Kingsolver 417-284-3042	
09-20,21	19-08-057	Hillbilly Fair Mixed Open @ Laurie	DBastel 573-374-8243	dbastel@charterinternet.com
09-27	19-08-073	Harvest Days* @ Marshfield	Keith 417-859-2781	mfkeith@centurytel.net
09-27,28	19-08-064	4th Annual Big Money Mixed Open @ Jefferson City	Bruemmer 636-541-3232	s.bruemmer@att.net
10-04	19-08-019	Don Harris Open* @ Don Harris Arena	Craven 816-781-4132 %	gregg_audra@sbcglobal.net
10-11	19-08-096	Caulfield Fall Mixed Open	/// Cancel Tournament ///	
10-11,12	19-08-086	Frosted Pumpkin* @ The Pits in Sunrise Beach	Bainter 573-372-3650	jbainter@charter.net
10-18	19-08-065	Octoberfest Mixed Open @ Jefferson City	Bruemmer 636-541-3232	s.bruemmer@att.net
10-18	19-08-020	Frostbite Open* @ Don Harris Arena	Cooper 816-741-0043 %	ivdead@hotmail.com
10-25	19-08-051	Fall Team* (Handicap) @ Quail Ridge	Howard 636-441-7679	horseshoejc@sbcglobal.net
10-25	19-08-100	Mountain View Fall Mixed Open	Hobbs 417-934-6741	
11-01	19-08-021	8th Holly Marie Memorial* @ Don Harris Arena	Griggs 816-313-1814 %	moshoe@kcnet.com
11-01,02	19-08-005	Nov. Mixed Open @ Lucky Gricks Arena; Diamond	Gricks 417-325-4456	
11-08,09	19-08-087	Turkey Stakes* @ The Pits in Sunrise Beach	Bainter 573-372-3650	jbainter@charter.net
11-15	19-08-022	Snow Bird Fly Away* @ Don Harris Arena	Craven 816-781-4132 %	gregg_audra@sbcglobal.net
11-22	19-08-052	Turkey Trot* @ Quail Ridge	Feldewerth 636-978-1292	
11-22,23	19-08-069	Before Turkey Day* @ Hudson Hall (Crane)	Hudson 417-723-5429	417-840-5434
12-06	19-08-023	Here Comes Santa Claus* @ Don Harris Arena	Killgore 816-930-3353 %	chask@centurytel.net
12-06	19-08-053	Jingle Bell Rock* @ Quail Ridge	Volo 314-434-4075	
12-06,07	19-08-006	Dec. Mixed Open @ Lucky Gricks Arena; Diamond	Gricks 417-325-4456	
12-13,14	19-08-088	Snowball Open* @ The Pits in Sunrise Beach	Bainter 573-372-3650	jbainter@charter.net
12-20,22	19-08-070	Christmas is Coming* @ Hudson Hall (Crane)	Hudson 417-723-5429	417-840-5434

Issued 5-9-08 by E. Cooper. * Mixed. + Addition. c Change. % If cancelling late call CELL (Craven 816-419-5631 or 816-588-4536).
 N/S Non-Sanc. PA Pennsylvania. NOTE: Sanctioned tournaments are preregister. Enter 7 days in advance (much earlier in the winter).
 NHPA CARD: State & National dues - Adults \$20.00, Juniors \$5.00. Order from Vicki Winston: 10326 Hwy. D, LaMonte, MO 65337.

Attention Tournament Directors

Please check all facts listed pertaining to your tournament (s)
 Immediately report any errors to the Regional Director in order that timely changes can be made

2008 Missouri State Championships

Singles Entry Information

1. Open to current Missouri residents, who are 2007 NHPA and MOHPA members.
2. **Entry Requirements: Adult** pitchers will be placed into the tournament according to their NatStats average as known August 1, 2008. NatStats must show participation in at least 3 sanctioned events. A sanctioned league average of 400 shoes or more is considered an event. Adult males, who have changed pitching distance, need 3 events from their new distance. **Juniors or Cadets** require only one sanctioned event listed in NatStats by August 1, 2008.
3. **New Pitchers:** Persons who have been NHPA and MOHPA members for a total of two years or less, and haven't previously participated in a Missouri State Tournament, may be seeded by one of the following methods if lacking 3 sanctioned events: (a) Average from any sanctioned events that have been completed. (b) A current sanctioned league average of 400 shoes or more (must be verified in writing by the league director). (c) 200 consecutive qualifying shoes (100 for juniors and 50 for cadets). Qualifying shoes must be scored by two NHPA members who must sign the score sheet. The score sheet must be submitted with the entry form.
4. **Entry Information: You must use the official entry form or photocopy thereof. Adult entry fee: \$25.00 (Does not include scorekeeping). Juniors or Cadets: Free.** Make checks payable to: MOHPA. Mail entries to: Vicki Winston, 10326 Highway D, LaMonte, MO 65337. **Entries must be received by August 1, 2008. Late entries will be placed on standby.** Have questions? Call 660-563-3536 or E-mail horshuvicki@socket.net. **No refunds after August 1, 2008.**
5. **Seven Divisions Available (circle only one on the entry form).** **Open Men:** any age adult male 40 ft. pitcher. **Women:** all adult women. **Senior 40':** limited to men age 60 or older who pitch 40 ft. **Mens 30':** Elder men age 70 or older, and men with medical exemptions who pitch less than 40 ft. **Junior Boys:** age 18 or younger for the entire calendar year. **Juniors Girls:** age 18 or younger for the entire calendar year. **Cadets:** youths age 9 or under for the entire calendar year who observe the 20 ft. foul line.
6. **Classes:** Eight person round robins when possible. All games will be cancellation scoring. Length of games as set by the tournament committee. All games are subject to NHPA and MOHPA rules. Judges decisions will be final.
7. **Pitchers** not completing their schedule forfeit all prizes unless officially excused.
8. **All Pitchers** must wear a shirt with at least their last name lettered neatly on the back.
9. **All Pitchers** must pay their scorekeeper \$1.00 prior to the start of each game.
10. **Prize Fund:** \$12.00 of each entry fee plus \$500 from the Quail Ridge Horseshoe Club. Cash prizes will be awarded to the top half of each class.
11. **Trophies:** Furnished by the hosts to the top three places in each class. All juniors and cadets will receive awards. A traveling trophy is awarded to adult division champs and junior boy and girl champs.
12. **Notification** of pitching times will be mailed to all entrants. The lineup will be posted on our website.
13. **Courts:** 16 indoor and 16 outdoor permanent courts.

Doubles Entry Information

1. **For Adults Only** and limited to the first 128 entries received, or a lesser number divisible by 16. Entries not making the cut will be used as vacancies occur. Those not getting to play will have their entry fee refunded. Doubles will be played Friday, Aug. 30, 2008, starting at 10:00 a.m.
2. **Entry Requirements:** Same as for the Singles.
3. **Entry Information: Use the official entry form. Entry fee: \$32.00 (includes scorekeeping).** Make checks payable to: MOHPA. Mail entries to: Vicki Winston, 10326 Hwy D, LaMonte, MO 65337. **Entries must be received by Aug. 1, 2008. Late entries will be placed on standby. No refunds for cancellations after Aug. 1, 2008.**
4. **Shirt Requirements:** Same as Singles.
5. **Format:** Walking Doubles. You pitch your own horseshoes. Partners are paired by dividing the list of entrants into classes of 16 persons by their entering averages. The top 16 form the Championship class, the next 16 Class A, and so on. In each class, #1 will be paired with #16, #2 with #15, and so on.
6. **Prizes:** Cash to the top three places in each class. Plaques to the top three places in each class.
7. **Notification:** You will be advised of your class and pitching time by mail. A tentative lineup will also appear on our Web site. The lineup usually changes whenever substitutions are made.

Singles Entry Form

2008 Missouri State Championships • Aug. 30–Sept. 1 • Wentzville, MO

Name _____ Address _____
City _____ ZIP _____ Phone _____
NHPA Card # _____ Birth Date _____ E-Mail _____

Circle Division Being Entered

Open Men Women Senior 40' Mens 30' (Elders) Junior Boys Junior Girls Cadets

Check here if entering under Entry Requirement #3 for New Pitchers. Enclose required documents if entering under parts (b) or (c).

Participant Liability Release: In consideration of participating in such activity, I hereby waive, release and forever discharge the Mo. Horseshoe Pitchers Assoc., all officers, agents, employees and servants of the afore stated organization, and all fellow participants of this event, for any and all action, causes of actions, damage, loss or injury, which I may suffer as a consequence of participating in a Missouri State Horseshoe Pitching Tournament.

Signed: _____ Date: _____

Adults: \$25 Juniors/Cadets: Free
Entries must be received by August 1, 2008.

Doubles Entry Form

2008 Missouri State Championships • Aug. 29 • Wentzville, MO

Name _____ Address _____
City _____ ZIP _____ Phone _____
NHPA Card # _____ E-Mail _____

Check here if entering under requirements for New Pitchers. Any required documents enclosed for your Singles entry will also be used for the Doubles.

Participant Liability Release: In consideration of participating in such activity, I hereby waive, release and forever discharge the Mo. Horseshoe Pitchers Assoc., all officers, agents, employees and servants of the afore stated organization, and all fellow participants of this event, for any and all action, causes of actions, damage, loss or injury, which I may suffer as a consequence of participating in a Missouri State Horseshoe Pitching Tournament.

Signed: _____ Date: _____

Adults Only: \$32 (This includes scorekeeping fees.)
Limited to first 128 entries.
Entries must be received by August 1, 2008.

2008 Missouri State Fair Mixed Open Tournament

Superintendent: Donna Bastel, Gravois Mills, MO, 573-374-8243

Asst. Superintendent: Jim Bainter, Gravois Mills, MO

Judge: Robert Bastel, Gravois Mills, MO

Amount offered in this department by State Fair: \$950.00

Amount offered by Mo. Horseshoe Pitchers Assn.: \$1,390.00

Total offered in this department: \$2,340.00

Judging Program

Friday, Saturday and Sunday, August 15, 16, 17, 2008

Rules of Play

1. This tournament shall be known as the Missouri State Fair Mixed Open Tournament. Any current NHPA member meeting eligibility requirements may enter, regardless of residence. There are 12 dirt courts available with concrete walkways and pitching platforms. This is a NHPA sanctioned event.
2. Classes will be limited to those shown on the prize list. Entries will be accepted in the order they are received. All entrants will compete together and will be placed according to averages.
3. All pitchers will be placed by their NatStats average as known on July 25, 2008. **New pitchers** may use a sanctioned league average of at least 400 shoes or may send a scoresheet of 100 qualifying shoes. Qualifying shoes must be pitched consecutively and recorded on a scoresheet witnessed and signed by two NHPA members. League averages must be verified in writing by the league director.
4. Entry fee for adults: \$10.00. Juniors: Free, but they must have a membership card. Checks should be made payable to: Missouri Horseshoe Pitchers Assn. (MOHPA) and should be sent to Vickie Winston, 10326 Highway D, LaMonte, MO 65337. **Entries must be received by July 25, 2008.** The tournament committee reserves the right to re-rate qualifying scores. Contestants will be notified of their class and pitching time by mail.
5. This tournament is conducted under the rules of the Missouri Horseshoe Pitchers Association and the NHPA. The judge's decisions will be final. Classes will be scheduled for

8-player round robins where possible. Contestants failing to appear forfeit all prize money.

6. All pitchers must wear shirts with their names lettered on the back and all pitchers must pay scorekeepers \$.50 prior to the start of each game.

Tentative schedule: (subject to change)

Friday, August 15, 9:00 a.m., Classes P, Q, R

Friday, August 15, 1:30 p.m., Classes M, N, O

Saturday, August 16, 9:00 a.m., Classes J, K, L

Saturday, August 16, 1:30 p.m., Classes G, H, I

Sunday, August 17, 9:00 a.m., Classes D, E, F

Sunday, August 17, 1:30 p.m., Classes A, B, C

Plaques and Ribbons

Missouri State Fair: All first-place plaques

Missouri State Fair: Ribbons to all places

Premiums

Class	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1 (A)	\$ 31	26	20	15	12	10	8	8
2 (B)	31	26	20	15	12	10	8	8
3 (C)	31	26	20	15	12	10	8	8
4 (D)	31	26	20	15	12	10	8	8
5 (E)	31	26	20	15	12	10	8	8
6 (F)	31	26	20	15	12	10	8	8
7 (G)	31	26	20	15	12	10	8	8
8 (H)	31	26	20	15	12	10	8	8
9 (I)	31	26	20	15	12	10	8	8
10 (J)	31	26	20	15	12	10	8	8
12 (K)	31	26	20	15	12	10	8	8
12 (L)	31	26	20	15	12	10	8	8
13 (M)	31	26	20	15	12	10	8	8
14 (N)	31	26	20	15	12	10	8	8
15 (O)	31	26	20	15	12	10	8	8
16 (P)	31	26	20	15	12	10	8	8
17 (Q)	31	26	20	15	12	10	8	8
18 (R)	31	26	20	15	12	10	8	8

Note: Juniors will not be awarded cash prizes.

Entry Form

2008 Missouri State Fair Mixed Open • Sedalia, MO • August 15, 16, 17

Name _____ Address _____

City & State _____ ZIP _____ Phone _____

NHPA Card # _____ Date of Birth _____ Adult _____ Junior _____ E-mail _____

Check one: Use my official NatStats average.

I am a new pitcher and am entering under the provisions of Rule #3. Required documents enclosed.

Entries must be received by July 25, 2008

Adults \$10.00 • Juniors are Free

1 Line **\$5.00**

3 Line
**Three Lines
\$15.00**

1/8 Page
**Business Card
\$30.00**

1/4 Page
**One-Quarter Page
\$60.00**

To place an ad,
call or write:
Andy Foulds
3512 Massey Ford Road
Union, MO 63084
636-583-6446
jankandyf@esagelink.com

Deadline: Aug. 2, 2008

Full Page \$200.00
Inside Covers \$500.00
Back Cover \$500.00

1/2 Page
**One-Half Page
\$100.00**

Advertising Contract:
An advertisement, as attached or drawn on the attachment of this agreement, is provided for publication in the Official Program of the 2008 Missouri State NHPA Horseshoe Pitching Tournament as organized by the Quail Ridge Horseshoe Club and scheduled during the Labor Day Weekend.

Name: _____
Company: _____
Address: _____
City: _____ ZIP: _____ Phone: _____

Signed: _____
Payment Enclosed: _____ Receipt Requested: _____

Make checks payable to Quail Ridge Horseshoe Club
Mail to: Andy Foulds, 3512 Massey Ford Road, Union, MO 63084

Membership Application

Missouri Horseshoe Pitchers Association National Horseshoe Pitchers Association

The NHPA card is a combined membership in your state and national horseshoe pitching associations. This card entitles you to participate in NHPA sanctioned play throughout the United States and much of Canada, wherever you meet the entry requirements for the event. You must pay your dues through the state charter where you maintain legal residence as determined by voting, tax and/or drivers license laws. Dues are based on the calendar year. New members may pay next years dues after October 1 of the current year and will be eligible to participate in sanctioned events the final 3 months of the current year, as well as all of the next year.

As a member of the Missouri Charter, you will receive *Shoe Biz* three times a year free of charge. This will keep you informed of events within our state. Our statistician will be recording your pitching stats from all sanctioned events and will be forwarding these stats to the NHPA stats headquarters, called NatStats. These stats are updated weekly and can be accessed through either the NHPA or the MOHPA websites. To make all of this possible, your NHPA card will have six digits followed by two decimals. Missouri is region 19, followed by four digits, which are your number. The two decimals represent the calendar year. The decimal and color of the NHPA card change each year. Your number will remain with you as long as you reside in Missouri and continue to maintain your membership. If you ever lose your NHPA card, the charter secretary will issue you a duplicate card free of charge. You need only notify her.

Please fill in all information on the form below that applies to you and mail the application and total amount of dues to the MOHPA Sec/Treas. (address below) Please make checks payable to: MOHPA.

Vicki Winston	Adult Dues	Juniors and Cadets
MOHPA Sec/Treas.	12.00 national	5.00 national
10326 Highway D	<u>8.00</u> state	<u>0.00</u> state
LaMonte, MO 65337	\$20.00 Total Dues	\$5.00 Total Dues
Phone/Fax: (660) 563-3536		
E-mail: horshuvicki@socket.net		

(Cut along dashed line and return this portion with dues. Make additional copies if more than one form is needed.)

Name: _____ Phone: _____

Street address or PO Box: _____ Date of Birth: _____

City: _____ ZIP: _____ E-mail address _____

If renewing, enter NHPA#: _____ Approx. years in NHPA: _____ New members, mark here: _____

Club affiliation if any: _____

Check one of the following: Adult Junior Cadet

Check one of the following: Male Female

Check one of the following: 40' Pitcher Less than 40' pitcher

COMING EVENTS

**MO State Fair
Horseshoe
Tournament
Sedalia
August 15, 16, 17**

**2008 World
Horseshoe
Tournament
York, PA
July 7-19**

**MO State
Horseshoe
Championships
Aug. 31-Sept. 1
Wentzville**

Mark Your Calendars!

Mrs. Vicki Winston
10326 Highway D
LaMonte, MO 65337



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Support the NHPF