

# Nor-Cal News & Views

Northern California Horseshoe Pitchers Association website address is: <http://www.NCHPA.com> Visit the NHPA site at: [horseshoepitching.com](http://horseshoepitching.com)

## Presidents Message:

I would like to start by thanking the SoCal Charter for doing such a great job with the State Tournament this year! From my view, as a member, I didn't see any problems. We had plenty of water, the majority of the groups ran on time, and we had cooler weather. We only had one casualty of the heat this year, and that was Tony Latino. He had to be transported to the local hospital and ended up having a heart procedure. He is expected to have a full recovery and will be back on the courts within a couple of weeks. GET WELL!! We miss you Tony.

The Norcal membership did very well this year. Rick Bermingham has won the Men's Championship division once again. What's that, 5-peat! Great job Rick. Rick Eddy, Ruban Duran, John Barney, Isabel Deleon, Tom Webb, and Joe Sciarra all won their groups. Don Keis had a great playoff game with Bob Midkiff to take the Elder Championship Group. What a great game! The Juniors and Cadets showed up also, with Baylee Cocagne taking 2<sup>nd</sup> in the Girls Championship Group, Toni Rinaldi, Elaina Chavez, and Bernardo Navarro III, taking 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup>, and 3<sup>rd</sup>, respectively, in the Cadets Championship Group. Great job Tony! It is his first year and he's already a pro. In the Junior Boys Group, our own Trevor Showen, Pete Perez Jr., Joe Rinaldi, and Baze Rice came in 1<sup>st</sup> thru 4<sup>th</sup>. Congrats Trevor, and congratulations to all of our Junior and Cadet pitchers this year. You made Northern California proud!!

## Elections:

This year we will be holding elections for 2<sup>nd</sup> VP, 4<sup>th</sup> VP, and 5<sup>th</sup> VP, as well as President. I have only had one person, Harlan Rippetoe, contact us regarding the Presidents position. If anyone is interested in holding one of these positions, please contact me either in writing, via e-mail or snail mail ASAP.

## Kimmy Stockli for President

YES! I am running for President again. I can't tell you how much I have enjoyed helping our organization in this position. Yes, it is a lot of hard work. Constant e-mails (*I think I spend more time on the computer*

*handling e-mail for the Northern, than processing my orders for the shop*), running the Northern Tournaments, attending the World Tournament, delegate meeting for the past 7 years, and trying to make everything run smooth in the background. That last one, I think, is the most difficult. We've had some problems over the past couple of years, with the Yolo Club in particular. That is a work in progress. We've pretty much settled the tax issue. However, they are still working on the lease. I would like to see at least a 5-10 year lease for the Yolo Horseshoe Club. As President, I would like to continue to help with this process as much as possible.

I mentioned running the Northern Tournaments. Does anyone, other than the Northern Officers, really know how much work goes in to holding one of these events? We start preparing months ahead of time via e-mail, phone, and meetings. Most of us show up days prior to prepare the facility. And, we stay a day after to clean up. Preparation is one of our hardest jobs that we do. This includes schedules, trophies, taking in applications, and monies, raffles (which I have been in charge of for many years, and we have always profited), stats, and dinners. The President, along with the other officers, is responsible for making sure that all of these things are taken care of. I have been an officer of the Northern for more than 10 years and President for nearly 5 years, and I have enjoyed helping with all of these responsibilities, and I wish to continue doing this as your President.

I believe that someone that is going to be President of the NCHPA should, at a minimum, have held a position as an NCHPA Officer. They should know how the organization is run internally in detail. What is the Sec/Treas responsible for? How does the Hall of Fame committee work? How do you set up the yearly schedule? How do you change a by-law or standing rule? How about paper supplies and social secretary? As an officer of the Northern, I have either held or helped with all of these jobs. It's like a baseball game. You can't come in cold, and then expect to play your best.

Please tell your club delegates to vote for Kimmy!

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*This is your voice to all members! Please submit any article that you feel the members would find interesting Send it via email if possible. Pictures are difficult to print unless they are received via email. I'm working on a scanner as we speak.*

## 2nd Vice President & YOLO:

Well, this year is almost over. Congratulations to the winners at the State tournament! It was about 100 degrees on Sat. and low 90's on Sun., very good for Bakersfield. A heads up for the Yolo Club and the schedule for next year, there will be NO tournaments in the month of June and the first 15 days of July because of the bugs. (*noseeums, yeah I know, Google it*). We will have tournaments in Mar, April, Aug. and Sept., so please come to Yolo when we will be bug free!!!! The bugs come in the months of June and July so we are safe. Next year's parking passes will cost \$3 a year, this \$3 will cover all of Yolo's tournaments and the Sac at Yolo tournaments plus the Team, Nor-Cal and State tournaments. If you already have a pass we have kept you license and information for next year so you will not have to submit it to Carmen Long or to me. Just pay \$3 for the calendar year. Thanks. **Rick Bermingham**

## 3rd Vice President:

Hello, as the year comes to the end, I want to thank our members for their support over this past year. I have enjoyed visiting with many of you at the various tournaments and I look forward to continuing the friendships for many years to come. I am looking forward to our Nor Cal and dinner I hope everyone will enjoy both events.

I'm still waiting for more Teams to sign up for the team event. The deadline date on the entry form was Sept. 29<sup>th</sup>. But, on the 2010 schedule the deadline date is Oct. 6<sup>th</sup>. As I write this I only have three teams signed up so far. Please get your teams together and send their entry and money in. We would like to have at least 16 teams. But, we would LOVE to have even more. The more we have the better the pay out and the fun.

The 2011 schedule dates were due to me by the clubs on Sept. 3<sup>rd</sup>. I sent out letters, forms and a 2011 calendar to each club in July. As of this date I'm still waiting for a few more clubs to get those 2011 tournament dates to me and I will be starting to work on the schedule shortly and will be contacting any of you if I have a problem. I do hope that this years schedule goes more smoothly than last years. This is not always an easy task but, I do my best to accommodate your clubs and your needs. **Linda Hoelscher**

## 4<sup>th</sup> Vice President:

**Life is not measured by the number of breaths we take, but by the moments that take our breath away.** I would like to thank all the adults that supported and made it happen for Jrs and Cadets at the CA State Tourney 2010. There was 8 Jr. Boys, 6 Jr. Girls and 5 Cadets (*California will be adding a Cadet perpetual trophy starting with 2010 and I hope there will be a separate cadet boy's and girls by 2012*). Jr. Boys Champ Marcus Santillana w/ 51.98%, 2<sup>nd</sup> Rusty Muncy w/ 56.45%, Jr. Boys "B" Class Trevor Showen w/

15.55%, 2<sup>nd</sup> Pete Perez Jr. w/ 20.27%, Jr. Girls Champ Sara Williams w/ 14.40%, 2<sup>nd</sup> Baylee Cocagne w/ 13.00% and Jr. Cadet Champ Tony Rinaldi w/ 14.28%, 2<sup>nd</sup>. Elena Chavez w/ 13.82%.

The State Championships results can be found at [http://www.horseshoepitching.com/tournaresults/tourna\\_messages/4921.html](http://www.horseshoepitching.com/tournaresults/tourna_messages/4921.html) posted by **Dale Hughes**.

Tulare County has had a 4-H Horseshoe Pitching project for the last couple years and gotten many clubs in Tulare County involved which has helped the Tulare Horseshoe Club build up 15 Jrs to date for the year 2010. I am going to the next level (*California State w/ my 4-H Horseshoe Pitching Project for Jrs*) because I have found some other 4-H clubs that are interested besides Tulare County. **Now I just need the support from an adult horseshoe pitcher in your area (club)** that would be willing to become a 4-H volunteer and help (*teach the kids*) get this project going in your area (*if there is interest near your club*) "Please". Just need to have three meetings at about one hour a meeting each year or two meetings and let them pitch in a tourney that will put Jrs in one group and or a NHPA all jr. tourney open so the 4-H kids can get credit towards there yearbook. You can contact me directly at (559) 687-9720 or email [cocagne@aol.com](mailto:cocagne@aol.com) for any information.

**Robert Cocagne**

## 5<sup>th</sup> Vice President:

Hi everyone, our season is winding down and I hope everyone is still enjoying pitching (*and not bitching*), plus all the good camaraderie that goes with this group. The unfortunate news I have to report this quarter is in June Thor Jensen, long time member of Tri-Valley club passed away. In July Lou Galli had open-heart surgery (*getting better every day*). In August Tom Latino had calf muscle problems (*hurry back to pitching Tom*) In September Chet Rasmussen, Kimmy Stockli's grandma, and Lee Stram passed. Tony Latino ended up in the hospital during the state tourney (*home now*). Colter Rice, Onan's son had a naval infection and the Rice family plus Steve Bookout had to pull out of the state tourney and head home. Steve Chavez went into the hospital after the State Tourney and is being operated on (*abdomen*) at this time (*good luck Steve*). Tino Faustino is in hospital with severe head injuries (*we are praying for him, four guys that did the damage got caught*) Joan Bryan is having back trouble (*good luck Joan*). Enough already.

Our condolences and prayers go out to all and their families. Don't forget Nor-Cal Friday Nite fun pitching by the Paddock's-- always a goood time.

SYS- (*See Ya Soon*) **Richard Robbins**

## Candidacy: Harlan Rippetoe

In the past several weeks since announcing my candidacy for the Nor-Cal presidency I have made a point to get input from the various horseshoe pitchers while attending local tournaments.

I have been asked by several people what I would like to accomplish in the next two years if I should be elected. There are a couple of things that I would like to see take place in Nor-Cal.

1. I think that we need to establish better communication and report between the Nor-Cal elected body and the local clubs. I would like to see as many as possible of the Nor-Cal officers attend tournaments throughout the charter at the same time so that local players can share ideas with their elected representatives. I know most of the officers are at the state and Nor-Cal tournaments, but they are really busy during those events and it's hard to talk to the pitchers. I know horseshoe pitchers have great ideas for improvement, but I am not sure they get our full attention.
2. I would like to see some changes in the scorekeepers pay. I know some have strong feelings about raising the scorekeeper payment, but in order to attract new scorekeepers we need to at least open a dialog throughout the Nor-Cal charter.
3. I recently attended a night tournament in Tulare. Vice President, **Robert Cocagne**, has come up with a good thing, by holding a few night tournaments. There were twenty-five pitchers present, and it was sure a lot cooler in the evening hours. Several of the pitchers informed me that they worked on the weekends and had trouble getting to scheduled tournaments. I believe that **Mr. Cocagne** has a great idea, and if possible Madera Club may follow suit. That is the kind of thinking outside the schedule, that helps attract those pitchers, who otherwise might not join. Good job Tulare Club.
4. I recently returned from the Western States Police and fire Games held in Reno, Nevada. The weather was warm and the altitude was a bother. I was able to win bronze medal in the single division and a silver medal in the doubles division. It was nice to see **Joe Stone** from the Sacramento Club back in the games. Joe won the Gold medal in the Short Distance Division. Good job **Joe**! Of note to any law enforcement or firemen within our Nor-Cal membership, the Western States Police and Fire Games will be changing their name and moving to San Diego in 2012. San Diego is beautiful city and it's ideal for horseshoe pitching. Not too hot and the Balboa horseshoe courts are great. I forget the new name but they will be open to all state law enforcement and firemen. We could use some more horseshoe pitchers.

5. I have tried to recruit some of the players from my horseshoe league, and when I tell them I need a check for \$27.00 & \$5.00 club dues, I get a pause. Times are hard for some of our unemployed young people and the entry fee is a problem for some. I think we need to start a dialog to see if we can lower that fee. I'm sure some of you have ideas; I would like to hear them.

These are just a few of my thoughts. I know the NHPA is our guide and we follow their lead. Some things start at the bottom and work up and just saying we can't do that because, is not the answer. I'm not trying to change the system, I just trying to ask the questions. Please call me (559) 662-1994 or E-Mail me at ripnsharon@aol.com if you have any comments

Change is good for any organization and I would sincerely appreciate your vote as president for the next 2 years. Please ask your club delegates to vote for me?. See you on the courts. **Harlen A. Rippetoe**

### Friendship:

*"The time our family spent at the California State Championships was the highlight of our summer. We felt like we were part of one big, happy, extended family. It was such a thrill to see Tony become State Champ in his first trip to the tourney, but it was made all the more special because we were surrounded by our friends from the Half Moon Bay Horseshoe Club who have embraced our family and who have supported our children as they have learned to pitch and compete. Yes, horseshoe pitching is a competitive sport that takes practice and determination, but what makes it so special to my husband and me is the equal importance placed on family and friendship."* **Wendy Rinaldi**

### AM vs. PM:

Having been relegated to pitching in the afternoon groups for many years, it was a joy for me to finally make the "morning groups". It was a reflection of many hours of practice and an increased percentage. Although that was a few years ago, nowadays we see very few PM groups due to such a small attendance at tournaments. I've been to clubs where, if there is an afternoon group, THEY the local club will sit out and volunteer to pitch in the PM or not pitch at all. This is done to accommodate the out-of-town visitors to your club. What do you think of an idea like that? Wouldn't it be much more gracious to operate this type of tournament? It really sucks for some of the lower percentage pitchers to have to pitch in the PM. Generally these are new pitchers and you stand a good chance of losing them if the NCHPA doesn't change the way it runs tournaments. If there are PM groups, pitch them at the first opportunity you have! Be nice to the out-of-town people and they will come back to your club. Otherwise you will lose more and more attendees, and quite possible members.

## Editorial:

This issue and the 2011 issue will be sent via email wherever possible. In order to receive your copy it will be imperative that you have a correct email on file with the Sec/Treas of the NCHPA. If you change it please let me know so I can update my files. Those that do not have an email on file will receive their copy via USPS. It may also be viewed on the NCHPA website within days of the posted deadline. Just see [www.nchpa.com](http://www.nchpa.com) then click NEWS and simply click on the volume you'd like to read. We figure we are able to save about \$250.00 an issue in printing and postage this way. The time has come to do more and more things electronically. **Thank you, the editorial staff.**

Yeah I know you read the word staff and wondered how many people are assisting in this newsletter? A few issues ago I asked for a possible backup and Cathy Kauffman of the Sacramento Club has offered to assist in the compilation of the News and Views. Please welcome Cathy and send her articles if you'd like? Her email is [catd.kauffman@gmail.com](mailto:catd.kauffman@gmail.com)

## Regional Director:

There is also a person that has expressed interest in becoming an Assistant Regional Director. Upon approval of the NCHPA officers that person will be named, I hope. There will be some court inspection going on in 2011 as all complexes need to be checked again and new sanctioned certificates issued.

Each court complex must meet the required specifications in its entirety. It is not possible to sanction 14 out of 16 courts, unless you did completely away with the courts that are troublesome. Yes, I understand fully that all court complexes built prior to 1/1/07 were "grandfathered" in, but that will have been four years ago and tree roots can cause significant upheaval to pitching platforms, stakes get bent, foul lines wear off, fences get holes in them, backboards begin to rot, etc etc. Just a few things to keep in mind as we begin 2011. Hope you all have a good Holiday Season and may the best man or woman win the election for president! **Casey Sluys**

## Statistician's Report:

The World and State Championships are behind us. The NCHPA had 10 members pitch in the World Tournament. Kimmy Stockli won 1<sup>st</sup> place in the Women's C class and Sharon Paddock won 2<sup>nd</sup> place in the Women's D class. They both were seeded in the Women's Championship Division and came in at 15<sup>th</sup> and 17<sup>th</sup> place. Joe Sciarra came in 2<sup>nd</sup> place in the Elders J-2 Division. Bill Paddock finished in 3<sup>rd</sup> place in the Sr. Men's H class

The NCHPA had a very good showing at the State Tournament in Bakersfield. We had 70 members pitching in the tournament. We had 11 first place winners including the Men's, Women's, Elders and Cadets Championships. We had 7 second place wins and 8 third place wins. There were 5 Cadets in the Championship class and the NCHPA won the top 4 places. There were only 4 boys in the Junior Boy B Class and they were all from the NCHPA. Another interesting fact was that there were 12 men in the Men's D class and it was won by the only NCHPA member in the group John Barney. The NCHPA members pitched 27,467 shoes and made 8,288 ringers for an overall average of 30.17% in the tournament. Considering that there were twenty separate classes and we won 1<sup>st</sup> place in 11 of them, I guess we did very well.

There was a good turnout at the Glenn and Shirley Jamieson Tournament on the 12<sup>th</sup> of September. There were 49 members pitching in seven groups. Two groups pitched in the afternoon. A very nice ceremony celebrating the life of Glenn Jamieson preceded the tournament. Because of the late start of the tournament, it was well past 6:00 P. when the second group of pitchers finished. It was a long day, but I think everyone enjoyed the tournament. The 49 members pitched 12,096 shoes and made 3,897 ringers for an overall average of 32.22% for the tournament. This was the largest turnout for a tournament in the NCHPA area this year.

So far this year we have held 105 tournaments in Northern California. In those tournaments, 2,332 pitchers pitched 551,343 shoes and made 162,194 ringers for an overall average of 29.42%.

Including the 80 members that pitched in the World and State tournaments, we have had 136 members pitch in tournaments outside the NCHPA area so far this year. In the 23 tournaments they pitched in, they pitched 48,067 shoes and made 15,203 ringers for an overall average of 31.63%. Our members are representing us very well in the non-NCHPA tournaments.

Please keep in mind that I no longer receive information from NATSTATS when an NCHPA member pitches in tournaments outside the NCHPA area. So if you pitch in another State you need to get the information to me. If the club where you are pitching is using a computer to tally their stats, you should ask if they will give you a printout of the tournament finals. You would not want to miss out on getting credit for an 80% game. If you cannot get a printout, you should save your copy of the score sheets and send me a copy of them. The SCHPA is very good about posting all their results and I always check them for NCHPA members. Some states never post any results. The only way I can keep accurate records, is if I get the results of every tournament you pitch in. **Lee Roy Lassiter**

# CLUBS:

## Half Moon Bay:

**It was Tony Rinaldi who won the tournament in Half Moon Bay not Joe Rinaldi (his older brother) as reported. Joe won in Reno at a 2-day tournament both days!**

## Bay Area Senior Games...

Half Moon Bay will be the host of the horseshoe pitching segment of the Bay Area Senior Games scheduled for April 2 & 3, 2011 at their courts on Wavecrest Rd in Half Moon Bay. Registration will be done online at [www.bayareaseniorgames.org](http://www.bayareaseniorgames.org) or check with Bill Terry or Charlie Hall as they are the sports commissioners.

## Madera:

The Big Valley Horseshoe Club is continuing to grow. Two new members joined during the month of August. Roger Montanez, and Gerald Garcia both from Madera qualified in time to participate in the Richard "Pinky" Cattaneo Memorial Tournament held last Saturday. Richard Cattaneo was a charter member and co-founder of the Madera Horseshoe Club. Richard passed away in March 2009. A presentation of a memorial plaque was presented to members of Pinky's family and biscuits and gravy was served to all of those in attendance.

A surprise inspection of the Madera courts was conducted by Casey Sluys (Regional Director) and except for some minor striping of the foul lines the courts passed the inspection. Casey followed up with a letter to the Madera Parks and Community Services out lining the proper marking of the foul lines and will grant permanent sanctioning of the courts upon completion of the striping. The Madera Club will have the two additional tournaments, one in September and one in October. **Harlen Rippetoe**

## Sonoma County:

My friend, mentor, and our club president Casey, asked if I would take the time to write a small article for the northern newsletter as a contribution from our club. "What for and what about?" I asked, since Casey is very eloquent in his own right. His reply was vague, so I felt it was up to me to take the reins. I hope you enjoy the reading as much as I did the writing.

I was introduced to competitive horseshoes in 1989 when I saw an article in our local paper declaring a horseshoe tournament would be held this Saturday at Doyle Park. I jumped at the opportunity to go and was

immediately confronted by Casey, the ultimate promoter of the game. Shortly thereafter I was a qualified pitcher, a member of the NCHPA, Sonoma Club.

That first year was one of learning the ropes, with Casey as my guide. We went to many tournaments, including Ukiah, San Francisco, San Jose and Vallejo, to name a few. I was introduced to many pitchers and began to make my mark, (as it was).

Those first few years I became more entrenched in the game and my wife and I would take our summer trips with the camper, always revolving around a horseshoe game. We would spend 7-10 days on the road. Fortuna, Rogue River City, Indian Valley, Reno. All destination areas that we thoroughly enjoyed. These were fun times. My health was good, my game was good, and my wife was good! Let the good times roll!

The game, if you will, is not just the game. It includes so much more, the most important of which is the people you come in contact with. Friends along the way, some just a competitor, some a friendly hello and a handshake, and some a true attachment to. Because of the nature of the game we experience a few of our acquaintances pass on, not to be forgotten but surely missed. On a happier note however, we meet new and exciting people. We see people that have left the game for various reasons, re-emerge and become part of the family again. We can be overjoyed to watch a junior or new player excel and become devotees of the game. I think that's what this game is all about...the people.

As the season draws to its conclusion and all those who excelled are rewarded with their championships, it's not unusual for the majority of us to reflect on the season past and contemplate some changes in our game.

I will be thinking and hashing over many things- should I shorten my stride? Should I change to a different shoe? Lengthen my back swing? Pitch a higher loft? Move back or up a few feet? I will try them all with the hope of maybe standing on that center podium as next season comes to a close.

Best of luck to you all and thanx for being a member of a very special group of people who play this wonderful game called HORSESHOES! **Greg Ellisen**

## San Jose:

I have been putting together a Recipe Book as a fundraiser for the San Jose Horseshoe Club and hope that you have some of your favorite family recipes that you would like to share.

I will have over 300 recipes in all to make this project a big success. It will be really nice to have your name and recipes in the book. Some of you have already participated and I really appreciate it. Please send them if you can in all categories. I would also appreciate it if you would tell your club members about it and I hope

that as many as possible will send their recipes. I always love seeing the names and making the recipes of those that were in the clubs at the same time that I was and I that you will too! You can email your recipes to [nancyandhugh@gmail.com](mailto:nancyandhugh@gmail.com). If you don't have email, you can mail them to Nancy Ann Cloutier, 1551 Walters Avenue, Campbell CA 95008. The deadline for sending them to me is October 20<sup>th</sup>, 2010. Thank you so much for your support. Sincerely, **Nancy Ann Cloutier**,

## Vallejo:

Many pitchers are always asking about our club members and especially Jim Wallace when they come to Vallejo. When I talked to Jim he said that he felt like his get up and go, got up and left. Jim went in for a complete check-up and we will publish the results in the next edition.

Cherrie Sherrard and Lucille Lignon have been volunteers at Track and Field Events, but they both expect to be pitching soon. Dean Mathews has re-joined and says that this will be the year he makes his mark. Our Best wishes go to Joe Summers and Mary Hueur. Two good people that will make one great couple. Our best always maybe Mary can get him promoted.

Special thanks to Steve McGrath who mastered the computer program and running the stats for us, a real lifesaver.

Comfort and blessings to the Tri-Valley Club on the loss of Bill Brown and Glenn Jamieson. Remember life is short, be good to one another. **Ben Yost**

## Sacramento:

Wait a minute! Where did summer go? Some people are still waiting for their tomatoes to ripen. Congratulations to all that showed their best and reaped their rewards pitching in the 2010 California State Tournament.

We want to thank all the pitchers who came from the far reaches of Ukiah and Tulare and all other directions to give us our biggest attended event of 47 pitchers on Sat. Aug. 28. There were 3 groups pitching at 40' and 4 groups pitching at 30.' Thanks to all the scorekeepers, runners and to Gail Sluys whose expertise kept the stats moving smoothly. Let's do it again next year!

Sunday, Aug. 29, 24 pitchers 'played in the clay'. Tony Latino won the Tournament Champion patch. Gail Kane won the 2<sup>nd</sup> group with a 7-0 count. Rick Haas took the patch in the 3<sup>rd</sup> group also with a 7-0 count.

Don't hang those shoes up yet! Nor-Cal is right around the corner. Have fun! **Joan Bryan**

## Stockton:

Hello from cool Stockton this summer, we have been having really cool weather since summer started and last week we finally had three-digit weather, we got to 100,

101. 103 & 108 in the Valley and it still didn't feel hot like it normally does.

Our guys did pretty good pitching in other Clubs during our off season before our next tournament on Oct. 16/17, 2010. Our October 17, 2010 Tournament is the last Tournament of 2010, unless you want to drive up to Willows (10/23-24) or down to Madera (10/23). We are closer than they are so come to Stockton for the last tournament of 2010.

Sad to say our fair city, just like a lot of others are cutting expenditures where ever they can and our City Parks & Recreation got hit last year. First thing, they changed the name to Community Services and divided the work duties into two parts, Community Services and Corporation yard. They also cut down the work crews, they contracted out the mowing of the Park lawns, they cut down on watering the Park lawns, and since they cut back on the work crews it takes longer to get any work done in the Park. They also just recently moved from a rented building down town into the Stribley Community Center on Sonora Street in Stockton and they don't have to pay rent. Brandt Evans, is still the Recreation Supervisor, the one we deal with concerning the Horseshoe Courts maintenance. I put in three work orders in May 2010 that have to go through the Corporation Yard to get done and not one has started up yet. I have been assured by Community Services the lawn in the Courts area will be maintained by the outside contractor and the lawns will be trimmed and green for our October Tournaments. I'm keeping my fingers crossed. The way I understand it, originally the contract between the City and the Stockton Horseshoe Club called for the City to maintain the courts, cement, fencing, backboards, white lines and the lawn. I'm sure there were other things the City would take care of but paper work, if any, has been lost. The Stockton Horseshoe Club would maintain the Horseshoe Pits, the clay, preparing the clay for pitching in tournaments.

I talked with Brandt Evans if he could come up with the original Contract between the City and the Horseshoe Club and he said if there is one it would take a while. Mean while I have been working with the Community Services Center Park work foreman, which by the way will have to be taken over by another member as soon as I can no longer do the work?

We have been having vandalism in the pits, neighborhood kids steal the clay when it is watered and they throw the clay all over the place. I have made two vandalism reports since I have been working the pits and nothing has been done by the Police department except taking down a report. I will not be cutting and turning the clay and preparing the pits for our October tournaments, I cannot do that kind of work anymore because of my health. Danny Hernandez has agreed to take over the preparation of the pits for our tournaments in October and next year in 2011 as well. I will still do needed maintenance in our courts between tournaments as long as I can. I will still be pitching as long as I can.

Since this will be the last News & Views Newsletter this year hope everyone has a very Happy New Year in 2011. **Peter Chavarria**

## **Ukiah:**

Hello from Ukiah. The summer weather has been wonderful with comfortably warm days and cool evenings. A few days warmed to above 100 degrees but we endured and the evenings were blessedly cool. Practice at the courts continues no matter the temperature and we are happy to welcome Phillip Tawney and Paul Eller our newest members. Phillip is Bernie Merchen's step-son and Bernie is proud and happy to have him as a fellow club member. Phillip invited his friend, Paul, to join this month so we welcome them both to this wonderful sport and hope that they enjoy it as much as we do.

Our September tournaments should be cool and quiet since the motorcycles are no longer racing at the track next to the pits - fuel costs were too high! So we are hoping for a nice turn out for the last tournaments on our schedule. We drove to Fortuna for their August tournaments with one of our new members, Vance Ricks and, Michele, we enjoyed the weekend and as always the folks at Fortuna were warm and friendly even if the weather wasn't! Although, it was nice to be cold for a while since we came back to the aforementioned 100+ degree weather. The "Scorekeepers Appreciation" tournament at Sonoma was fun; we drove down with my mom and her dog and met up with our daughter for lunch after the tournament. Even though the attendance was low the company was good and the score keepers earned some extra money.

Good job to those of you who traveled and pitched at the World Tournament. And good pitching to those of you who went to the State Tournament in Bakersfield. Hope you all did well. We hope to see some of you at our September tournaments and maybe at the Northern California Championships too.

Blessings to all of those wonderful horseshoe pitchers who have passed, may they rest in peace. And condolences to their families and friends who will miss them. **Lorena Tournour**

## **Feather River:**

It is hard to believe summer is almost over and there are not too many tournaments left. Feather River had another successful tournament weekend in August with not a huge turnout but enough for all to have a good time. Winners on August 14<sup>th</sup>, our money tournament, were: Group 1: Elaine Butcher, Marie Williams and Lois Edwards; Group 2: Lee Oliver, Walt Butcher and Mark Verdun; Group 3: Janet Parker, Audrey Winters and Marshall Merino. August 15 winners were: Group 1: Elaine Butcher and Harold Holbrook from Nevada; Group 2: John Barney and Mark Verdun; Group 3: Fritz

Oberst and Janet Parker. A sincere thank you to Ron and Mary Shaw for putting on a great BBQ.

We have a celebrity in our midst. Janet Parker celebrated her 80th birthday in August by driving laps around the Infineon Raceway in Sonoma. The Sunday, September 11 Chico Enterprise Record had a great write up of the event. What an adventure - way to go Janet!

Hope to see all of you at the Nor-Cal Tournament.  
**Audrey Winters**

## **Turlock:**

We just finished a very successful season. We have 24 members this year. New for the season are Jason Ravelli, Anthony Najera, Lee Guitron and Jr. pitcher Justin Jones. We have been receiving a lot of interest about horseshoes in the Turlock area.

We lost our long time Mel Roberts who was our tournament director for many years. He passed away on 1/18/10.

We also have a new equipment trailer that was donated by Bill Lawson a long time member of the club. With this trailer it makes our tournaments much easier to set up for all of us.

We'll be having one free food tourney in 2011, we'll sell ice cold soft drinks at our tourneys. **Paul Laffoon**

## **Fortuna:**

Blair Rowley, from the Willow Creek area, joined the Fortuna Horseshoe Club this year. Blair pitched in a couple of tournaments at the club and did well for his first time out. He also pitches in non-sanctioned tourneys around Willow Creek. He lives in a very remote section of Humboldt County where Big Foot tracks have been seen. The town of Willow Creek does not have one traffic light or a window to throw it out of. Anyway I got a call from Fritz Obertz, who lives in Weaverville, which is also in the middle of nowhere. The town puts on a big doubles tourney that Blair entered against some stiff competition. He and his partner pulled off a 1<sup>st</sup> place win. Congratulations. Not sure who Blair's partner was, but I don't think it was Bigfoot. **Bill Paddock**

## **Forebay Park:**

Hail balls in August? No way! Well it did that Saturday morning on August 21<sup>st</sup> during our tournament. But it didn't stop us from playing. We had 3 groups. A group 1<sup>st</sup> place went to Tony Latino, 2<sup>nd</sup> place was Walt Stafford. B group 1<sup>st</sup> place went to Rick Eddy, 2<sup>nd</sup> was Don Stephens. Then in C group 1<sup>st</sup> place went to Kim Stovall, 2<sup>nd</sup> was Tom Armstrong. Then on Sunday, no hail but cooler. A group 1<sup>st</sup> went to Sue Lichau, and 2<sup>nd</sup> was Jessica Lichau, Then in B group 1<sup>st</sup> went to Fritz Obertz and 2<sup>nd</sup> was John Demello. Congratulations to Rick Eddy

for winning 1<sup>st</sup> in class C in a play-off at the state. This time in Bakersfield it was only about 102 on Saturday instead of 121 degrees thank God. This upcoming weekend 9/18, is our end of the year playoffs for club and league. Hopefully it won't be snowing. You never know this time of year at 4000 feet. And, there will be 4 of us at Nor-Cal so, see ya there! **Rick Eddy.**

**Tri-Valley:**

I wish to thank everyone who attended our tournaments on Sept. 11<sup>th</sup> & 12<sup>th</sup>. I hope you all had a GREAT time with us and enjoyed the food that was served also. I wish to thank Jean, Richard and Mandy for the cake and ice cream that was served at my birthday bash. A good time was had by all.

To Fred, we made it through our first tournaments with Glenn helping us from above. And you did a great job. For those of you who weren't able to attend The Celebration of Life for Glenn it was a lovely day and lots of special memories were shared. The Tri-Valley Club presented a BEAUTIFUL PLAQUE and dedicated their stat building to be known as GLENN'S STAT ROOM from this day forward.

I was asked to include the following in with this article: Jean Brown wishes to thank our horseshoe friends for their many calls, cards and words of encouragement during Bills illness and passing. Your continuing support is appreciated beyond measure. **Linda Hoelscher**

**Tulare:**

The Tulare Club decided to have some more NHPA Sanctioned Tourneys at the end of the season and see if there was any interest instead of practice on Wed. nights. Figured we take a max. of 20 pitchers (*which we thought we would probably never fill*), w/ 6:30 PM entry deadline and 7:00 PM start time and should have been done by around 9:00 PM. We keep the shoes around 128 (*100 shoe min.*) which made the tourney's legal. Well the tourneys went well because we signed up about 9 new members (*2 were Jr. Cadets*) because of weekday instead of weekend play. We pitched between 21- 23 pitchers per night (*found a way to fit a total of 26 pitches on the courts in one wave*). On the last tourney we had 7 Jrs pitch, which was great for our club. We also picked up tourney sponsors for \$50.00 per tourney to help w/ club costs. The Independent Towing Open Tourney Champion was Zeke Renteria w/ high game of 61.11% and overall of 42.86%. The Acclaim Auto Body Open Tourney Champion was Diane Cocagne w/ high game of 59.38% and overall of 50.78%. The Rose M Quinonez State Farm Ins. Open Tourney Champion was Marco Olea w/ high game of 53.13% and overall of 43.75% and the two Jr. Class Champions was Corey McCarty w/ high game of 15.38% and overall of 10.58% and Cliff Evrett w/ high game of 15.38% and overall of 7.69%. Want to thank all the people that helped as a team and made these events run smoothly.

**Robert Cocagne**

**Nor-Cal Championships Work Party**

There will be a work party held on Thursday, Sept 30<sup>th</sup>, 2010 held at the Yolo Horseshoe Club. We would appreciate folks to come out and help with raking, blowing, detailing the Hall of Fame, cleaning the bathrooms, washing down the tables, and preparing the courts, for our tournament and awards dinner. Drinking water will be supplied by the Yolo Horseshoe Club.

**Annual Meeting:**

**Our annual meeting will be once again held at the Vallejo Community Center at 225 Amador St., November 6th, at 12pm. I've included directions below. We'll be looking forward to seeing all of the delegates there.**

**Directions: From I-80 west, heading to San Francisco. Exit at Georgia St., at the end of the ramp, turn right at the traffic light, Georgia St, turn left, follow Georgia St. until you reach Amador St., traffic light, turn right, the Vallejo Community enter is going to be the first building on the left hand side after turning onto Amador.**

**From I-80 East, Heading to Sacramento: Exit at Georgia St., at the end of the ramp right, at the traffic light, Georgia St., turn right, go over the overpass and stay on Georgia St., until you reach Amador St., traffic light, turn right, the Vallejo Community Center is the first building on the left hand side after turning onto Amador St.**

**If you get lost on the way, you can call my cell at 707-853-9530. Kimmy**

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**There's is a position open, it's called "Charter Communication Liaison." Communications received from Jerry LaBrosse regarding all things pertaining to the NHPA will need to be forwarded to all members. The person volunteering for this position will forward, via email, all correspondence received. Jerry sends out emails about once per month. -Call Kimmy for details.**

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\*\*\*\*Please familiarize yourselves with the proposed changes to our NCHPA By-Laws and instruct your delegates to our annual meeting HOW TO VOTE.\*\*\*\*

**Article III: Membership Section 2:**

**As it reads:** The annual dues for adult members are \$10.00 plus NHPA dues.

**Change to read:** The annual dues for adult members are \$13.00 plus NHPA dues.

**Reason for this change:** Due to the increased costs to the NCHPA from the County of Yolo, "special events fees" and "Possessory Interest taxes", this increase in dues will help provide the additional funds to pay these "new" costs to the NCHPA. *(As of now the NCHPA is paying these fees)* The Yolo Horseshoe Club is, at this time, our largest facility to hold all of the NCHPA tournaments, Team, State, and Northern Championships.

**2. Article VIII: Special Tournaments SECTION 1.**  
NORCAL Championships

**As it reads:** f. Entry in said tournament is restricted solely to NHPA/NCHPA current members who have pitched in a minimum of five (5) NCHPA sanctioned tournaments prior to the eligibility closing date set by the E.C. New NCHPA pitchers joining after August 1<sup>st</sup> need only 3 tournaments.

**Change to read:** f. Entry in said tournament is restricted solely to NHPA/NCHPA current members who have pitched in a minimum of three (3) NCHPA sanctioned tournaments *(Jrs and Cadets entrants need a minimum of one (1) NCHPA sanctioned tournament)* prior to the eligibility closing date set by the E.C. New NCHPA pitchers joining after August 1<sup>st</sup> need only 1 tournament.

**Reason for this change:** Due to the decreased in entries over the past years and also the state and world championship tourneys require the same as proposed change. There are no requirements for how many tourneys a member needs to qualify at team championships.

**3. Article VIII: Special Tournaments Section 1**  
Section 1 NORCAL Championships

**As it reads** c. All entry fees plus added monies shall be paid out in prize money.

**Change to Read:** All entry fees plus added monies shall be paid out in prize money, plus an additional charge of \$5.00 dollars per player added to the entry fee which will be used to pay the "special event" fee charged by Yolo County.

**Reason:** We need to re-coup this money to keep the NCHPA financially sound.

**4. Article VIII: Special Tournaments SECTION 2:**  
Team Tournament

**As it reads:** c. All players must be NCHPA members and be a member or associate member of the club they represent.

**Change to read;** c. Entry in said tournament is restricted solely to NHPA/NCHPA current members who have pitched in a minimum of one (1) NCHPA sanctioned tournament prior to the eligibility closing date set by the E.C. Due to the decrease in entries over the past years and the fact that there is a loop hole that lets you join another club as an associate member and pitch with who you what anyway.

**OR**

**5. Article VIII: Special Tournaments SECTION 2:**  
Team Tournament

**As it reads:** c. All players must be NCHPA members and be a member or associate member of the club they represent.

**Change to read:**

c. Entry in said tournament is restricted solely to NHPA/NCHPA current members of the club they represent who have pitched in a minimum of one (1) NCHPA sanctioned tournament prior to the eligibility closing date set by the E.C.

**Reason for this change:** Reword because reason for tourney is confusing to new pitchers.

Proposed By-Law to be added and numbered:

**6. Article XII NCHPA Year End Awards**

a. Awards are restricted solely to NHPA/NCHPA current members

b. NHPA/NCHPA current members shall be awarded credit/points for all NHPA sanctioned tournaments that are open to all NCHPA pitchers for that season.

c. The E.C. shall determine the awards and other pertinent details prior to the season starting date.

d. The dates for the season, along with information regarding the awards shall be posted on the NCHPA website prior to the season starting date and applied to the membership package.

**Reason for this change:** Information needs to be available for anyone because club officers are not letting members know info and is confusing. An NCHPA member is representing the NCHPA everywhere they pitch and should get credit for supporting any NHPA tourney. There are members that reside closer to other charters and not surrounded by NCHPA clubs.

Standing Rules

**7. Add to and be numbered Standing Rule # 17:**

Any sanctioned tournament that is not open to all Northern California pitchers shall not be allowed to count towards "The Northern California awards"

**President:** Harlan Rippetoe  
Kimmy Stockli

# NCHPA CLUB TEAM CHAMPIONSHIPS

**DATES: October 9<sup>th</sup> & 10<sup>th</sup> 2010**

**LOCATION: Yolo Club**

1. **ENTRY FEE:** \$80.00 per team. This is a **2-day event** and **pre-registration is required**. Entry deadline is Sept. 29th
2. Teams may be mixed, may include juniors (but may not be all juniors), and must have 4 players per team. Each team may register 1 alternate player to be used in case of injury,
3. All players must be NCHPA members and be a member or associate member of the club they represent. **All participants must wear a shirt of the club they represent and have their name neatly on the back.**
4. Day One Tournament play will consist of 7 - 30 shoe, count-all games using an 80% handicap. We will need to have scorekeepers therefore a final decision has not yet been made to pitch all teams at once or in two shifts. Pitching times for Saturday will be 10:00 A.M. & 12:30 P.M – depending on the number of entries a final decision will be made about the pitching schedule when we know how many teams are signed up. The finals will consist of the top 8 teams from the Saturday's rounds carrying over totals and will be played at 9:30A.M. Sunday. Finals will be 7 - 40 shoe, count-all games using an 80% handicap with 20 bonus points for each player win and 40 bonus points for each team that wins 3 or more games in any single round. The 2-day points total including bonus points will determine final standings. All teams should plan to play on Sunday because the first alternate team will replace any team not able to return for the finals.
5. Prize money will be determined by the number of teams entered and will be announced.

**It would be great to have a minimum of 24 teams fielded though at being at Yolo this year affords us the opportunity to host many more. Each day will count as a separate tournament because they are played under different formats. Pitchers are required to pay scorekeepers .50 cents per game each day.**

**Deadline Sept.29<sup>th</sup>.**

**Cut on line below and mail bottom only**

**Deadline Sept 29th**

**Club  
Name** \_\_\_\_\_

**Team Members: 1.** \_\_\_\_\_ **2.** \_\_\_\_\_

**3.** \_\_\_\_\_ **4.** \_\_\_\_\_

**Team Captain** \_\_\_\_\_ **Alternate** \_\_\_\_\_

**Pitching time request** \_\_\_\_\_

**Send check, made payable to NCHPA, in the amount of \$80.00 per team to:  
Linda Hoelscher 27878 Thackeray Ave. Hayward, CA 94544-5651**

**Be sure to mark your pitching time request.**

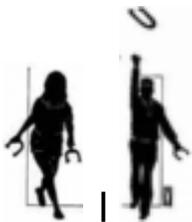
<http://www.nchpa.com>

<http://www.horseshoepitching.com>

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