

Nor-Cal News & Views

Northern California Horseshoe Pitchers Association website address is: <http://www.NCHPA.com>.

President

Thank you to all of the tournament directors, club presidents, volunteers and scorekeepers who put in amazing efforts so that we could play horseshoes. Thank you to the spouses of our players, Maddie Barney, Gloria Begay, Mona DelSantina, Al Hoelscher, April and Esther Latino, Julie McGowan, Lorena Tournour and so many more who gladly gave of their time. In addition, a warm welcome back to Gaie Shoman who is Florida's loss.

Congratulations to Rick Bermingham and Lois Edwards who were elected into the hall fame. Not only are Rick and Lois great pitchers, they are quality people who are a joy to be around.

The San Francisco Club held a tournament late in the season and every court was full. The club members put on a wonderful tournament. Thank you to Peter, Gino and company for the warm welcome to San Francisco.

I am always humbled at how many outstanding pitchers we have in our organization and I hope you are able to pitch against some of them or at least watch some of these masters of our organization play. Tom Webb of Fortuna, Ken Woolery of Sonoma, Javier Franco of Madera, and Foa Remelong of Half Moon Bay are just a few of the incredible pitchers in the NCHPA.

I would also like to mention a special thanks to George Davis and Scott Henne of the Stockton Club for all of the preparations they have been making for the 2013 State Tournament.

Our NCHPA tournament was held in Vallejo – a big thanks to Ben, Kimmy, Cherie, Joe and Danny for another great tournament. The Vallejo Club consistently goes out of their way to make sure that a good time is had by all and that the courts are well prepared. In addition, thank you to Tulare's Sheila Gardner and Michelle White of Indian Valley and all of those who traveled to Vallejo. **Catherine Kauffman**

Secretary/Treasurer

Overall our 2012 season was a success. Some tournaments were rained out, rescheduled, then rained

out, rescheduled then cancelled, but it was still a good year.

On a personal note:

As most of you know I have served as your Secretary/Treasurer for many years. During that time I have taken pride in being available to help clubs and individuals in any way needed. Three years ago something happened, whatever it was has never gone away. Therefore, I am offering a public apology to Sharon Paddock and Linda Hoelscher. Whatever I did, or you feel I did to you, I am sorry. I hope you will accept my apology and we can all move on. Having people tell me some of the things being said about me at tournaments and on Facebook is detrimental, not only to you and me, but also to our organization. I'm not asking for friendship, I'm asking for peace. If you have something you want to discuss please speak directly to me so we can put an end to this public squabble. Thank You. **Gail Sluys**

Outgoing President

The 2012 horseshoe pitching season is over. Overall it has been a pretty good year. The holiday season is here and it's time for all of us to share quality time with our families.

I recently received word of the death of Mr. Don Titcomb. Mr. Titcomb, was a legend in the horseshoe pitching community. World Champion, pitcher, and organizer for our sport. Mr. Titcomb, was a long time resident of California who moved to the state of Idaho several years ago. My sincere condolence to his family. I know he will be missed by all who knew him.

Also a salute to all of our Northern Calif. pitchers who have departed us during the last year. Our prayers go out to their family members.

The Stockton Horseshoe Club presented a successful bid to host the 2013 California State Championship Horseshoe Tournament. Club President, George Davis and his crews are working hard to get the courts ready for the Labor Day event. It will be nice to have the tournament back on Northern California soil.

I had a great time at the Sacramento Club's annual Christmas Party over the past weekend. As usual Glenn & Judette Rippetoe, make the event a real fun time. Maddie Barney's, peanut butter cookies are to die
Continued P-3

Do you have a weatherproof barn that you could store the NCHPA Hall of Fame material in? We really need a 15'X20" area that we could use indefinitely.

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The deadlines for submitting articles are: **Mar. 15th, June 15th, Sept. 15th Dec. 15th** Mail to Casey Sluys, or Cathy Kauffman

Articles and/or comments appearing in this newsletter are the sole responsibility of the article's author and do not necessarily reflect the opinions or beliefs of the NCHPA's Executive Council, the Newsletter editor or individual members of the Executive Council.

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Need information; call Casey at (707) 477-8893 or e-mail at kcslus@sbcglobal.net

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Support the NHPF

The only horseshoe pitching related Charity needs your tax-deductible donations to support many programs of the sport; including the Hall of Fame and Grants to install new or upgrade existing courts. Deadlines for Grant Applications: March 1st and September 1st. Mail contributions and inquiries to: NHPF, P.O. Box 1628, Penn Valley, CA. 95946. We need your financial support....please help?

<http://www.nhpf.info/index.html>

The NHPA Hall of Fame is now open in Wentzville, MO. It's located right off of I-70 a major East/West Interstate, We still need your financial support ...please help.

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I cannot give you the formula for success, but I can give you the formula for failure--which is: Try to please everybody. **Herbert Bayard Swope**

for. Thank you Sacramento Club for the invite.

Congratulations to the newly (Nor-Cal) elected President, Cathy Kauffman. I know Cathy will do a great job. Also elected (Vice Presidents) Rick Birmingham, Robert Cocagne and Scott Henne.

As all of you know, I have stepped down from the Nor-Cal Presidency in order that Sharon and I have more time to do some traveling. I have enjoyed the past two years. I have met and worked with some outstanding people. I sincerely appreciate all of the support that the membership has given me.

A special thanks to my Executive Council Officers who deserve most of the credit for any success that I may have had. **Harlen Rippetoe**

1st VP

It's been a pleasure working with everyone this past season. Personally I'm looking forward to the 2013 season already. I sincerely hope that everyone will work together in the 2013 season for the betterment of horseshoes. **Joe Summers**

2nd VP

Congratulations to Lois Edwards on the 2012 NCHPA Hall of Fame award. A well deserved achievement for her as she has done a lot for the Feather River club over the years. She is one of the nicest persons I know, always positive, she is fun to pitch with, even though she likes to chatter while during our pitching, we still have a good time, win or lose.

This is the first article I have written about myself, as I don't like to toot my own horn, so to speak. While being voted into the Hall of Fame this year, in my opinion, the highest award in the NCHPA. The Hall of Fame was, for me, a blessing and a dream come true in 2012. At the dinner and awards in November, after receiving my induction I was too emotional to thank the people involved in helping me along in my pitching career so far. Especially my mother for taking me to tournaments since I was 15, and my wife Cherie for her loving support. This opportunity gives me a chance to thank the following people for offering me advice on improving my accuracy in pitching ringers going all the way back to 1983, when I qualified at 27%. Walter Ray Williams, Alan Francis, Gale Green, Brian Simmons, John Sylvester, Monte Latino, Emmit Schroeder, Mike Martinez, Pete Manitone, Don Titcomb, Andy Loobey, Ken Barnes, Don Swank, Dean Setters, Casey and Gail Sluys, Sharon Paddock, Tony Latino, who reminds me so much of Monte, is so positive and well liked by so many people, Othel Rippetoe, Ken Woolery, Kimmy Stockli, John Barney, Joe Stone, Gary Smith., and Glenn Rippetoe pitching over at his house for years. He has been like a father to me. I thank you folks again for the advice when I needed it.

I would not have won 6 state titles in a row if it wasn't for Jay Smith This man helping me with my game the past 5 years, all year long in Gary Smiths backyard. Jay will

give you his opinion whether you like it or not. That is what I like about him. So, if he saw something or other perhaps a flaw in my pitching or my delivery, trust me he would let me know. When I wanted an honest opinion, I got it. Since coming back in 2004 knocking on Glenn Rippetoe's door asking him if I could qualify and if he needed another member was great to be back pitching horseshoes again doing what I loved to do. Being drug free now for over 10 years has changed my life in so many ways I have a bunch of support from you Northern pitchers and made many friends as well. Thank you again and God bless. **Rick Bermingham**

3rd VP

Here we are; waiting for good weather and next year's pitching schedule. 2012 was a fairly good year for tournaments and travel. Maddie and I managed to visit twenty four tournaments. Our best trip was to the World Tournament in Tennessee. We made the trip with my two grandkids, and did a lot of touring with them, and we also had Travis Sluys with us when we spent two days at Dollywood Theme park and Water park. We all had a great time.

I'm looking forward to the Worlds tournament this coming year in St. George Utah, its close enough that most of our California pitchers can make the trip. So mark your calendars and make plans to go. Also there are a couple of tournaments I'm looking forward to visit this coming year: Black Oaks Casino Tournament in Tuolumne this June. And the Bear River Money Tournament in Fortuna this August; Bill and Sharon put a lot of work into this one and from all the reports, its lot of fun.

Again this year I was invited to the Bill Virgins annual Turkey shoot. This is a fun backyard tournament make up of friends and family. He supplied plenty of hot links and drinks; and fun was had by everyone. I even won a turkey.

Now is a good time for you club president's to check on your club supplies, it's best to order your score sheets and round robin cards now. (If you still use them) Be aware, it's hard to get supplies the week of your meet. Score sheet are still \$40 per 500, and R.R. Cards are \$12 per 100. Give me a call or e-mail to make your order. **John Barney**

5th VP

Hello my name is Scott Henne I'm your new 5th VP. It's going to be a pleasure to serve you in the upcoming year.

It's hard to believe 2013 already, the past year sure went by fast. This upcoming year is going to present us with some challenges. The first one being our memberships, we could all use some new members. We might be able to do this in a couple of ways, one being, some info booths or tables at tournaments. I know we, the

Stockton Club, are going to have one at the state tournament. One other way is through leagues. Madera seems to be doing very well with theirs. Even though it is a non-sanctioned league it encourages people to pitch horseshoe and eventually draws them in to the NHPA.

That brings us to challenge #2. The State Tournament is in Stockton this year. How cool. It has been in Stockton quite a few years back. I think with a little bit of work we could have a state finals that everyone would be excited to come back to in a couple of years.

Well thanks again and hope to see you all real soon. **The Zooo, Scott Henne**

Statisticians Report:

2012 NCHPA Horseshoe Pitching Award Results are:

- Adult Player of The Year = Wayne George
- Junior Player of The Year = Travis Sluys
- Cadet Player of The Year = Bernardo Navarro III
- Rookie of The Year = Scott Henne
- Most Improved pitcher = Manuel Mix
- Top Dog Award = Wayne George
- Scorekeeper of The Year = Elsie Latino

80% Games and over for 2012:

Kimmy Stockli	03-12-106	85.00 %
Sharon Paddock	03-12-076	83.33%
Kimmy Stockli	03-12-076	83.33%
Tom Webb	03-12-128	82.50%
Alan Trusty (State)	04-12-116	81.82%
Kimmy Stockli	03-12-071	80.77%
Kimmy Stockli	03-12-078	80.00%
Kimmy Stockli	03-12-100	80.00%
Kimmy Stockli	03-12-110	80.00%
Rick Bermingham	03-12-033	80.00%
Ed Cortez	03-12-079	80.00%
Ed Cortez	03-12-124	80.00%

Terry Farrell	03-12-106	80.00%
David Loucks	03-12-036	80.00%
David Loucks	03-12-110	80.00%
Tom Webb	03-12-110	80.00%
Tom Webb	03-12-110	80.00%
Tom Webb	03-12-110	80.00%
Ken Woolery	03-12-135	80.00%

I want to thank all of the Tournament Directors for doing a job well done.

Pitch-On, Wayne George WayneNatStat@hotmail.com
 1122 N. Gem St. Tulare CA 93274: (805) 540-0842

In the Nov/Dec issue of Newline magazine all of the CA State results showed the wrong average for the winners. By mistake the high game was put in instead of the average. A correction has been sent in.

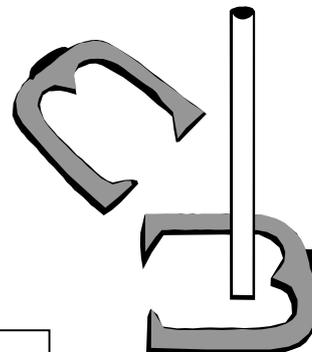
With the inclusion of the complete 2013 pitching schedule in this issue the NCHPA will be printing a limited number of schedules. It can be found online at; www.nchpa.com and in this issue. Please take the insert out and use it as the official 2013 pitching schedule.

NORTHERN CALIFORNIA HORSESHOE PITCHERS ASSOCIATION

2013

Tournament Schedule

WEBSITE: www.nchpa.com



NCHPA Officers for 2013

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kimmymhorseshoes@sbcglobal.net

SEND ALL Tournament Statistics to: Wayne George 1122 N Gem St. Tulare, CA 93274
Cell Phone: (805) 540-0842 waynenatstat@hotmail.com wayne.george@yahoo.com

**** *All tournament fees to Gail Sluys 707-538-3128*****

NHPA Regional Director, NHPA Charter Communication Liaison, NCHPA Newsletter Editor, NCHPA Webmaster Liaison; Casey Sluys 707-477-8893 or kcslus@sbcglobal.net

NHPA website <http://www.horseshoepitching.com>

Support the NHPF

CODES FOR 2013 TOURNAMENTS

- | | | |
|---------------------------------|--------------------------------|----------------------------|
| 1. See Flyer/Newsletter/Website | 9. 9:00 a.m. sign-in deadline | 17. 2-day tournament |
| 2. \$\$\$ Money Tournament | 10. 5:30 p.m. sign-in deadline | 18. Limit 24 pitchers |
| 3. \$12.00 Entry Fee | 11. 6:30 p.m. sign-in deadline | 19. Benefit tournament |
| 4. \$15.00 Entry Fee | 12. 30' Mix & 40' Separate | 20. Free food donations OK |
| 5. \$30.00 Entry Fee | 13. Doubles | 21. Free food-pitchers |
| 6. Count-All | 14. 5 person double RR | 22. Food for sale |
| 7. No Handicapping | 15. Walking Doubles | 23. Drinks for sale |
| 8. All Groups Handicapped | 16. Pre-register | |

EVERY PITCHER MUST PAY THE SCORE KEEPER 50 CENTS PER GAME

FEBRUARY

1. Sat. 2/23 Kevin & Danny Kyle Wlkg Dbls 16.....Exeter

MARCH

2. Sat. 3/16 Cherrie Sherrard.....Vallejo
 3. Sat. 3/23 Jose & Isabel DeLeon.....Stockton
 4. Sat. 3/23 Sat. Shootout 16.....Exeter
 5. Sun. 3/24 Carlin & Paula Serra.....Stockton
 6. Sat. 3/30 Faler/Robbins.....Tri-Valley
 7. Sat. 3/30 Mike Robinson 12.....Willows
Sun. 3/31 EASTER
 8. Sun. 3/31 Cortez/Cowles.....Tri-Valley
 9. Sun. 3/31 Mark Verdun.....Willows

APRIL

10. Sat. 4/6 Mel Roberts Memorial.....Turlock
 11. Sun. 4/7 George Greeott 103 B-Day.....Sonoma County
 12. Sat. 4/13 Hugh Cloutier Memorial 20.....San Jose
 13. Sat. 4/13 TCHPC Memorial 20.....Tuolumne
 14. Sun. 4/14 Mike Anderson 20.....San Jose
 15. Sat. 4/20 Haagen-Dazs 8,11,16,18,20.....Tulare
 16. Sat. 4/20 Mike Hayes.....Ukiah
 17. Sat. 4/20 Boyd Abbott.....Sacramento
 18. Sun. 4/21 Cherie Bermingham.....Sacramento
 19. Sun. 4/21 Vance Ricks.....Ukiah
 20. Sat. 4/27 Bud Grisaffi Memorial.....Willows
 21. Sat. 4/27 Stockton Park & Rec.....Stockton
 22. Sun. 4/28 Loretta Grisaffi.....Willows
 23. Sun. 4/28 Bob & Grace Birge.....Stockton

MAY

24. Thu. 5/2 Pat McGowan 10.....Half Moon Bay
 25. Fri. 5/3 Gillespie Ag Service 8,11,16,18.....Tulare
 26. Sat. 5/4 John Ortega 4.....Turlock
 27. Sat. 5/4 Central Valley Classic 12, 16.....Exeter
 28. Sun. 5/5 Reed Beaman Pit Master.....Sonoma County
 29. Sat. 5/11 Chet Carter Memorial.....Half Moon Bay
Sun. 5/12 Mothers Day
 30. Sat. 5/18 Donovan Automotive.....Madera
 31. Sat. 5/18 Tex Ronning 20.....San Jose
 32. Sat. 5/18 Gary Dillon.....Feather River
 33. Sat. 5/18 Ukiah Members.....Ukiah
 34. Sat. 5/18 Doug Mindt.....Sacramento
 35. Sun. 5/19 Paul Ward 20.....San Jose
 36. Sun. 5/19 Carl Newsom.....Feather River
 37. Sun. 5/19 Robert Harrall.....Ukiah
 38. Sun. 5/19 Matt Smith.....Sacramento
 39. Tue. 5/21 Jim Sample.....Half Moon Bay
 40. Tue. 5/21 Glenn O'Brien 10.....Half Moon Bay

41. Sat. 5/25 Brown, Jamieson Memorial.....Tri-Valley
 42. Sat. 5/25 Shasta/Willows Memorial.....Willows
 43. Sat. 5/25 Joe & Millie Schultz 2, 4.....Stockton
 44. Sun. 5/26 Henningers/Saunders.....Tri-Valley
 45. Sun. 5/26 Daryl Adams.....Willows
 46. Sun. 5/26 Stockton Memorial.....Stockton

JUNE

47. Sat. 6/1 Rueben Hernandez.....Turlock
 48. Sat. 6/1 NHPF Benefit 4, 9.....Sonoma County
 49. Sat. 6/1 Bill Harris Memorial.....Forebay Park
 50. Sun. 6/2 Travis Sluys 1, ??,\$\$. Sonoma County
 51. Sun. 6/2 Bill Harris Memorial 12.....Forebay Park
 52. Thu. 6/6 Charlie Hall 10.....Half Moon Bay
----Fri. 6/7 Senior Games 50 yrs +.....Sonoma County
 53. Sat. 6/8 Indian Valley Memorial 12.....Indian Valley
 54. Sat. 6/8 Diana & Jim Saunders 20.....San Jose
 55. Sat. 6/8 Wanted Dead or Alive 16.....Exeter
 56. Sun. 6/9 Harry Begay 12.....Indian Valley
 57. Sun. 6/9 Larry Ryan 20.....San Jose
 58. Sat. 6/15 McGrath Family.....Vallejo
 59. Sat. 6/15 Will Facey 3.....Ukiah

Sun. 6/16 FATHER'S DAY

60. Sun. 6/16 Bernie Merchen 3.....Ukiah
 61. Tue. 6/18 Ebbel & H.....Half Moon Bay
 62. Tue. 6/18 Dale Koistinen 10.....Half Moon Bay
 63. Fri. 6/21 D&E Yamaha 8, 11, 16, 18.....Tulare
 64. Sat. 6/22 Fortuna 1.....Fortuna
 65. Sat. 6/22 12TH Black Oak Casino 1, 2, 8, 16, 17, 20.Tuolumne
 66. Sat. 6/22 Stephens.....Sacramento
 67. Sun. 6/23 Fortuna 2.....Fortuna
 68. Sun. 6/23 12TH Black Oak Casino 1, 2, 8, 16, 17, 20.Tuolumne
 69. Sun. 6/23 Jessica Lichau.....Sacramento
 70. Sat. 6/29 Peter Zepponi.....San Francisco
 71. Sat. 6/29 Miles Frazier.....Gold Country
 72. Sun. 6/30 Gold Country.....Gold Country
 73. Sun. 6/30 Santa Rosa.....Sonoma County

JULY

74. Sat. 7/6 Scorekeepers Appreciation Day.....Feather River
 75. Sat. 7/6 Bill Terry.....Half Moon Bay
 76. Sun. 7/7 Linda Jesse.....Feather River
 77. Sun. 7/7 Keith & Foa Remillong 14.....Half Moon Bay
 78. Fri. 7/12 Haagen-Dazs 8, 11, 16, 18,.....Tulare
 79. Sat. 7/13 Cool Country.....Fortuna
 80. Sat. 7/13 Kimmy & Mitch Stockli.....Vallejo
 81. Sat. 7/13 Bill Lawson Memorial 20.....Turlock
 82. Sun. 7/14 Vern Brightman Memorial.....Fortuna
 83. Sat. 7/20 Gold Digger Days 12.....Indian Valley

- 84. Sat. 7/20 Rachele & Steve Chavez 20.....San Jose
- 85. Sun. 7/21 Gold Digger Days 12.....Indian Valley
- 86. Sun. 7/21 Dick McCall 20.....San Jose
- World Tournament July 22-Aug 3 St. George, Utah**
- Sat. 7/27 **OPEN WEEKEND** during World Tour,
- Sun. 7/28 **OPEN WEEKEND** during World Tour

AUGUST

Mon. 8/1 State Championship sign-in deadline

- Sat. 8/3 **OPEN WEEKEND** during World Tour.
- Sun. 8/4 **OPEN WEEKEND** during World Tour
- 87. Sat. 8/10 Hot August Ringer Nights 11.....Stockton
- 88. Sat. 8/10 Pat Murtha.....Vallejo
- 89. Sat. 8/10 Tuolumne Park and Recreation 20.....Tuolumne
- 90. Sun. 8/11 Tony Marino State Warmup.....Stockton
- 91. Sat. 8/17 Forebay Park.....Forebay Park
- 92. Sat. 8/17 Bear River \$\$ Tourn 1, 2, 5, 9, 16, 17.....Fortuna
- 93. Sat. 8/17 Joe Sciarra.....Half Moon Bay
- 94. Sat. 8/17 Carol Casados 4.....Turlock
- 95. Sun. 8/18 Bear River \$\$ Tourn 1, 2, 5, 9, 16, 17.....Fortuna
- 96. Sun. 8/18 Bill & Kay Webbe 15.....Half Moon Bay
- 97. Fri. 8/23 Gillespie Ag Service 8, 11, 16, 18.....Tulare
- 98. Sat. 8/24 Pro T's.....Madera
- 99. Sat. 8/24 Sue Lichau.....Sonoma County
- 100.Sat. 8/24 Lee Oliver 2, 4.....Feather River
- 101. Sun. 8/25 Lippincot/Spencer Memorial.....Feather River
- 102. Sat. 8/31 CALIF STATE CHMPSHPS 1 Stockton**

SEPTEMBER

- 102. Sun 9/1 CALIF STATE CHMPSHPS 1Stockton**
- Wed. 9/07 NorCal Championships sign-in deadline**
- 103. Sat. 9/7 Collin Penicie.....Ukiah
- 104. Sat. 9/7 Ben RamirezTurlock
- 105. Sun. 9/8 Tom Burns Jr.....Ukiah
- 106. Sat .9/14 Tri-Valley Remembrance.....Tri-Valley

- 107. Sat. 9/14 Walt Stafford.....Sacramento
- 108. Sat. 9/14 Pitchers Memorial.....Fortuna
- 109. Sun. 9/15 Major/Kane.....Tri-Valley
- 110. Sun. 9/15 Bill HowellSacramento
- 111. Sun. 9/15 Tino, Tim & Cecil.....Fortuna
- 112. Sat. 9/21 10th Annual Mother Lode 1,2,8,16,17,20...Tuolumne
- 113. Sat. 9/21 Donovan Automotive.....Madera
- 114. Sun. 9/22 10th Annual Mother Lode 1,2,8,16,17,20...Tuolumne
- 115. Sat. 9/28 Walt & Elaine Butcher.....Willows
- 116. Sat. 9/28 Whine Country.....Sonoma County
- 117. Sun. 9/29 Edwina Leonardo.....Willows

OCTOBER

- 118. Sat. 10/5 NCHPA Championships 1, 2,17.....Vallejo**
- ~~~ Sun.10/6 NCHPA Championships cont.....Vallejo**
- 119. Sat. 10/12 Wind Down.....Fortuna
- 120. Sat. 10/12 Chris Koubek.....Stockton
- 121. Sun. 10/13 Hang "EM" UpFortuna
- 122. Sun.10/13 D.Garza, Hernandez, R. GarzaStockton
- 123. Sat. 10/19 Golden Gate ClassicSan Francisco
- 124. Sat. 10/19 Pro T's.....Madera
- 125. Sat. 10/19 Fritz OberstWillows
- 126. Sun.10/20 Al & Linda Hoelscher.....Willows
- 127. **Sat. 10/27 Club Team Championship 17.....Willows**
- 128. **Sun. 10-28 Club Team Championship 17.....Willows**

NOVEMBER

- 129. Sat. 11/16 Turkey Shoot 1.....Tri-Valley
- 130. Sun. 11/17 PPF partners-pitch-for-fun 1, 19.....Tri-Valley
- Rain dates for above are: 11/23-24
- 131. Sat. 11/30 Terry FarrellHalf Moon Bay

DECEMBER

- 132. Sun. 12/1 Rick Della Santina 15Half Moon Bay
- Rain Dates for above are 12/7 & 12/8**

IMPORTANT DATES

- March 10 Daylight savings time begins
- July 22- Aug 3 World Horseshoe Pitching Championships St. George, Utah
- Sept. 3- 4 California State Champs @ Stockton
- Oct. 5-6 NCHPA Championships @ Vallejo
- Oct. 27-28 Club Team Championship @ Willows
- Nov. 9 Annual Meeting Florin Rebekah Lodge
- Nov. 3 Daylight Savings Time Ends

MINIMUM PAYOUT IN ALL GROUPS IS DOUBLE THE ENTRY FEE TO 1ST PLACE AND AN AMOUNT EQUAL TO THE ENTRY FEE TO 2ND PLACE. THIS IS IN ADDITION TO PLAQUES, PATCHES, AND/OR EVENT PLATES.

*******PLEASE READ*******

The following will apply to all NCHPA scheduled tournaments NOT HAVING CODE NUMBERS:

- 1-NHPA/NCHPA sanctioned tournaments are **open** to all pitchers from the U.S. and Canada with valid membership cards, except those so noted and excluding the NCHPA Championships and CA State Tournament.
- 2-These tournaments shall be mixed-distance competition, unless otherwise noted.
- 3-These tournaments are subject to handicapping if there is a 15% or greater spread in a group.
- 4-The tournament director has the decision to handicap, it is **not guaranteed**.
- 5-These tournaments have a 9:30 A.M. entry deadline and a standard entry fee of \$10.00, unless otherwise noted. (Code #1) This information should be available approximately 30 days prior to the tournament date. Also, check with either your club or the tournament host club contact person for more details.
- 6-The executive board must approve any changes or rescheduling of dates once the schedule is printed. Please notify Gail Sluys or another officer so the changes can be approved and the information relayed to all clubs in a timely manner.
- 7-THE WORD OPEN HAS BEEN ELIMINATED FROM ALL LISTED TOURNAMENTS AS ALL NCHPA TOURNAMENTS ARE IN FACT THAT. See note #1
- 8-COURT LOCATIONS can be found on the Internet by clicking on 'CLUBS' at www.nchpa.com

<u>Club Name</u>	<u># of courts</u>	<u>Location of Courts</u>	<u>Contact Information</u>
Exeter	4	Exeter City Park	Amy Carter PO box 237, Exeter, CA 93221 559-592-5262 or acarter@exetercityhall.com
Feather River	12	Williams St. Palermo- RV's OK	Audrey Winters 730 Meyers Ln., Paradise, CA 95969 530-877-3680 or audwinters@att.net
Forebay Park	10	Forebay Rd. Pollock Pines- RV's OK \$	Rick Eddy 5477 Russell Hollow Rd. Pilot Hill, CA 95664 530-823-8658 or reddy2ctsp@aol.com
Fortuna	9	Rohner Park Fortuna- RV's OK	Sharon Paddock 1024 Tim Mullen Rd., Kneeland, CA 95549 707-443-1913 or sbpaddock1024@gmail.com
Gold Country	12	Pioneer Park Nevada City	Andy Loobey 13755 River Rock Rd. Penn Vly. CA 95949 530-432-9136 or mloobey@att.net and Bella Vista Oaks, 4 courts, Penn Valley
Half Moon Bay	16	Wavecrest Rd. Half Moon Bay	Glen O'Brien 620 Magnolia St. Half Moon Bay, CA 94019 650-726-5065 or glenhmb@aol.com
Indian Valley	18	Greenville Campground Greenville RV's OK \$	Gene Washoe PO Box 81 Greenville, CA 95947 530-284-7718 or richard55@frontier.net
Madera	12	Rotary Park Hiway 99 & Cleveland	Harlen Rippetoe 18865 Shore Dr. Madera, CA 93636 559-662-1994 or ripnsharon@aol.com
Sacramento	8	Granite Park Sacramento	Rick Bermingham 1450 Kingswood Dr. Apt 522 Roseville, CA 95678 916-271-4784 rickbermingham@yahoo.com
San Jose	21	Columbus Park Taylor & Spring Sts.	Leon Moore 13465 Hammons Ave. Saratoga, CA 95070 408-867-5135 or mooreleonv@sbcglobal.net
San Francisco	16	Golden Gate Park NW corner E. Conservatory Dr	Peter Zeponi 211 Bella Vista Wy. San Francisco CA 94127 415-334-2868 or peter@sfhorseshoepitching.com
Shingle Springs	15	Community Center Shingle Springs RV's OK	Dave Cardinali PO Box 312 Mt. Aukum, CA 95656 530-620-1111 or dcard62@yahoo.com
Sonoma County	16	1700 Hoen Ave, Doyle Park Santa Rosa	Casey Sluys 1721 San Ramon Wy. Santa Rosa, CA 95409 707-477-8893 or kcslus@sbcglobal.net
Stockton	19	Louis Park Stockton	Peter Chaverria 21 E. Jackson St. Stockton, CA 95206 (209) 465-9150 or petcor@sbcglobal.net
Tri-Valley	16	Alameda Co. Fairgrounds Pleasanton RV'S OK \$	Ray Szczepanski 2011 Rainier Dr. Martinez, CA 94553 925-822-5629 or raymonszcz@aol.com
Tulare	10	Centennial Park Tulare	Robert Cocagne 23532 Rd. 140 Tulare, CA 93274 559-303-5585 or cocagne@aol.com
Tuolumne	14	Tuolumne Park & Rec. Area Tuolumne RV's OK	Del Stockstill PO Box 1623 Tuolumne, CA 95379 209-962-5132 or stockstilldarlene@yahoo.com
Turlock	10	Crane Park Turlock	Mike Jones 1025 W. Springer Dr. Turlock CA 95382 209-652-2001 bones52768@yahoo.com
Ukiah Valley	11	Fairgrounds Ukiah RV's OK \$	Lorena Tournour PO Box 113 Calpella, CA 95418 707-485-7894 or latournour@gmail.com
Vallejo	20	City Park Alabama & Sacramento St.	Ben Yost 8 Evergreen Ct. Vallejo, CA 94591 707-643-0663 or bejaminoyost@comcast.net
Shasta/Willows	14	City Park W. Laurel & S. Marshall RV's OK	Linda Hoelscher 24334 Hoag Rd. Corning, CA 96021 530-824-1392 or linal74@aol.com

Horseshoe master devoted life to championing game, including here in the Valley

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Don Titcomb, seen here in 2005, taught beginning horseshoes for the Meridian Department of Parks and Recreation. Top of Form

Don Titcomb, three-time world champion, taught presidents, talk-show hosts and regular folk how to toss a good shoe

By KATY MOELLER kmoeller@idahostatesman.com

It's a sound that Mary Lyn Titcomb never thought she'd miss: the clang of horseshoes hitting metal stakes. That rang through her childhood — and for decades after. "All these years it drove me crazy," said Mary Lyn, a 56-year-old Boise resident who moved in with her father six months ago to help care for him.

Her father, Don Titcomb, practiced daily, developing world-class skill at pitching horseshoes even before his five children were born. Now the courts behind the three-time world champion's Meridian home have fallen silent. The 88-year-old died Dec. 2 from complications following a fall in mid-November. A light-hearted jokester who loved being the center of attention, Titcomb penned this last note while a group of family and friends stood at his bedside in the Intensive Care Unit at St. Luke's Meridian Medical Center: "This is a great crowd I have drawn again," he wrote, eliciting laughter from the room full of people.

LURE OF THE GAME

Titcomb's singular obsession was horseshoes, and he used his winning way with people to lure them into the game. He taught the finer points to hundreds of school groups, community clubs and other interested novices, including President George H.W. Bush. The president invited Titcomb to the White House in 1989 when the horseshoe pits were installed. "My dad got the invitation and threw it in a drawer. He thought it was a joke," said Mary Lyn Titcomb. He later learned it was legitimate, and framed photos in his house show him pitching and posing with President Bush. After the president threw a ringer, he said, "OK, the game's over," Titcomb's daughter recalled.

A Washington Post article about the dedication of the new horseshoe pit said Harry S. Truman was the last "horse-shoe pitching president." Titcomb kept framed an Aug. 8, 1963, letter he received from Truman (writing from Independence, Mo.) in a hallway of his home.

"We had a lot of fun pitching those horseshoes but if I ever hit a ringer it was by accident and not intentional," Truman wrote to Titcomb of the horseshoe pits at the White House. He encouraged Titcomb to go see Admiral Chester W. Nimitz, whom he described as, "the greatest horseshoe pitcher of them all."

MASTER PITCHER ENJOYED TRICKS

Horseshoes is a straight-forward game: Toss a U-shaped piece of steel that weighs no more than 2 pounds, 10 ounces at a 15-inch stake that's 40 feet away (less for women, children, etc.), aiming to encircle the stake with the shoe. Players get points for getting close to the stake, but masters throw a very high percentage of ringers.

Decades-old videos show Titcomb doing all sorts of tricks, throwing ringers even when view of the stake is obscured by a blanket or a friend sitting in front of it. A 1984 article from the Las Vegas Review-Journal described a trick in which Titcomb attached matches to the stake and lit them with the toss of a horseshoe. "If that weren't impressive enough, Titcomb put the fire out with the next shoe," the article said. The demonstration was done at a press conference before a tournament in Las Vegas.

Titcomb's form was phenomenally consistent, the motion for each toss identical to the last. The left-hander threw shoes so they would turn one-and-a-quarter times before hitting the stake.

He set a record in 1958 for pitching 97 ringers out of 100 throws and won the first of his three world championships in 1960 (84.85 percent ringers). In 1962, he appeared on the "Tonight Show." He's in the Horseshoe Hall of Fame. Titcomb didn't let his success go to his head. One of the things that delighted him the most was getting new people into the sport. "He had no acquaintances — only friends," said daughter-in-law Teresa Titcomb, who knew him 33 years. "And many of them loyal, loyal friends." Jerry Smith, a Nampa retiree who worked for the California Department of Correction for 30 years, met the horseshoe-pitching legend in 1987 at a tournament in San Jose. "He lived in a trailer next to the courts," said Smith, then new to the sport but already hooked. He recalled Titcomb's friendly and welcoming way. "He said, 'You're new, and you've got a nice-looking shoe (throwing motion),' Smith said. The pair became close friends later in life when they both ended up in the Treasure Valley. Smith said his best throwing topped out at about 40 percent ringers (average of all pitchers is about 32 percent).

WHY HORSESHOES?

Titcomb was born and raised in San Jose, Calif., where his parents owned a nursery business and a 2-acre farm. He worked on the family farm and played horseshoes on a makeshift court his father, Henry, created with some pipes under a couple of walnut trees. "We had an odds-and-ends assortment of horse and donkey shoes (the real things)," he said in a book about his life that Smith wrote three years ago. His country school, Franklin School, had pits. "The principal, Mr. Egan, used to save horseshoes for me because he knew I liked it," Titcomb said. He took second place in a school contest and continued to play through his first year of high school — when he recalled driving 70 miles round-trip to Santa Cruz to play on the beach. Titcomb dropped out of high school after one year to go to work at a meat-packing plant. About a year later, World War II broke out and he enlisted in the Marine Corps. He served in the Pacific until 1945. He went to San Jose State on the GI Bill, and studied writing — he loved literature and enjoyed writing poetry. But he left after less than four years to manage a bowling alley.

He held many jobs over the years — often two at the same time — and retired in 1989 as a landscaper at the San Jose Unified School District. He and his wife, Mary, raised five children, including Donna Journey of Collier, Calif.; Judy Maxwell, of Reno, Nev.; and Patty Layng, of Oceanside, Calif. His son, Bill, lives in Eagle.

After Titcomb's 1960 championship win, he took a break from national and international competitions. "My family came first, that's why I left horseshoe pitching for 15 years while at the top of my game," he said in the book "The Legendary Don Titcomb: His Life His Game His Way."

He won world championships in the intermediate division (ages 60 to 65) in 1988 and in 1995 (seniors 65 and up).

PROMOTER, TEACHER

Titcomb spent most of his life in California, though he also lived in Florida and Kentucky. His move east made headlines on both coasts. "At my age, I've done everything there is to do within the sport," he told the Orlando Sentinel in a 1991 article about his move to Florida. "During my last years, I want to use my talent and skills to help as many people as possible to learn the sport of pitching horseshoes." In 2005, he moved to Idaho to be near family. His daughter Mary Lyn went to his tournaments, and his son Bill participated in some of them. Their sister Judy promised her father she would continue to play and try to make it to the world tournament. "All he wanted was one of his kids to carry on the legacy," Mary Lyn said.

Titcomb was an active member of the Treasure Valley Horseshoe Club, which organizes practices each week in Boise, Meridian and Nampa (tournaments on Saturday). It's no accident that Meridian's Settlers Park has some of the best horseshoe courts in the country. Titcomb had a hand in that. In January, he suffered a stroke and some paralysis of his left side. The left-hander didn't give up the game; he learned to pitch with his right hand.

A memorial service is planned for 10 a.m. Saturday, Dec. 15, at Holy Trinity Church in Meridian. Titcomb's family plans to engrave his urn with horseshoes, and it will be interred at Oak Hill Memorial Cemetery in San Jose.

CLUBS

Ukiah

As we enjoy the holidays and being with our families and loved ones, we look forward to 2013 and our next horseshoe tournaments. We were disappointed that the December Half Moon Bay tournaments had to be cancelled, maybe we will get to go next year! Our hearts are heavy with the loss of friends this year and with the horrifying news of children being murdered in our schools – I know it is a crazy world we live in but sometimes it is too much to comprehend.

We hope you all had a great holiday and the time spent with your families and loved ones was joyful. We are all fine and have completely recovered from shock at the strong reaction to our benign decision to ask a friend who was an associate member to represent us at the Annual Meeting. None of our other members were willing or able to attend the meeting and knowing how important it is to have representation; we decided to ask a friend to do us a favor. The resulting commotion was not only upsetting but also surprising since it was never our intention to do anything that would jeopardize our club or our association. It was never our intention to make people angry or to create a situation that would or could result in improper voting or decision-making. We love our club, our association and horseshoe pitching and in our eyes, decisions and rules should and could be made in an uncontentious manner. Our association is built on the premise that it's members and officers can amiably discuss the current by-laws and the changing of such. The best interest of our association and its members is to maintain the friendly atmosphere of the courts in our meetings and deliberations. We all have the same goals – the advancement and continuation of our sport and the association that supports it.

As we grow older it is our hope to attract younger pitchers to join our clubs and continue the horseshoe pitching traditions that have sustained us for so many years. With that goal in mind, being positive role models and demonstrating behavior that we would like to see in our new members is productive.

We look forward to 2013 and hope to see many of you at our tournaments in April. If the weather cooperates and we are not rained out we will have some goodies and maybe even some chili beans and cornbread for your gastric enjoyment! Come join us at the Ukiah courts. Ukiah Valley sends blessings to all and wishes for a prosperous and healthy New Year.

-Lorena & Gil Tournour

Sacramento

Congratulations to Rick Bermingham who was elected president of the Sacramento Club and Matt Smith who was elected as vice president. Rick and Matt have already been preparing the courts for our 2013 tournaments. Repairing backboards and adding fresh paint to the foul lines are just a few of the tasks that have been underway.

The Sacramento members would like to thank Glenn Rippetoe for his work as club president. Glenn led the club for many years and was instrumental in member recruitment. His leadership will be missed. Glenn, his wife Judette and brothers have been great supporters of horseshoes giving this organization great support and asking for nothing in return.

Sacramento Club members look forward to hosting tournaments and hope that you will venture to the state Capitol to play horseshoes. Have a blessed holiday season and a wonderful 2013! **Cathy Kauffman**

Indian Valley

Not much going on in the mountains now. Indian Valley completed another great year with their sanctioned league. We had several more new players and most all the new members really enjoyed the league. Our league ended in a tie for first place so rather than play it off we decided to let it end in a tie and give both teams a first place patch. This was because we had new members on both teams and wanted to create more interest by handing out a patch to all of them. We had one new member that got a plaque at the year end meeting for the most improved for the year and also Indian Valley had a female member win her group at the class championships, CONGRATULATIONS TO MICHELLE LEE.

Indian Valley had a few problems with the campground this year as too many were not paying so they posted "No Camping" at all the sites by our courts. I finally made several calls and got them to let us camp by our courts, but as for next year it is up in the air. I was told by the Community Center that they were not going to run the campground next year, that means it is going back to the Forest Service and when the FS had it last they closed it up. That is one of the main reasons Indian Valley didn't look into putting on the class championships as we don't know what's going to happen. **Richard McCutcheon**

Feather River

It was sad to hear of Don Titcomb's passing. He was a great asset to horseshoe pitching and will be missed by all who knew him. Lois remembers him having come to Oroville one time to promote pitching.

Congratulations to Lois Edwards' induction into the Norcal Hall of Fame. She has been pitching for 30 years and has been the mainstay of our club all the years I have been pitching. Also, we are really proud of John Sylvester who has been pitching over 40 years. What a great write-up in the Horseshoe Newline November/December issue by Tom Latino. I learned some things about John I hadn't previously known. We are fortunate to have him in our club.

Lee Oliver and I continue to pitch (weather permitting) at the Paradise Elks every Tuesday and Thursday. There a couple other fellows who join us some days and we were pleased to have Daryl Adams and Mark Verdun pitch with us a couple of times recently and hope they will come again.

Janet Parker is doing well after having had hip replacement she will be joining us at the Elks whenever she feels up to it.

Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year to all. **Audrey Winters**

Fortuna

Got any memorable games? Fond memories of our sport are what makes it enjoyable and brings us back to the sport.

The last Fortuna tourney was a small one, buck-hunting season was taking its toll. The top group consisted of Tom Webb, Sharon and Bill Paddock. I said let's not handicap it, I wanted some kind of excuse. We went a double round and I was pitching Tom, he was having a good game on pace to 80%. I was not doing so well, pitching about 25% and throwing a horrible looking shoe. Since I was pitching 2nd most of the time, on top of Tom's doubles, now and then one of my shoes would send one his shoes flying off the stake. Anyway I knocked off 3 of Tom's ringers and he missed his 80% game by 3 ringers. He was good natured about it but I could just hear him telling his wife (Marilyn) how he could of had another 80% game, if he had not been playing with an amateur. Tom, no need to dwell on the negative, by the way, how about a ride to the next tourney. Ha Ha.

Sharon said she enjoyed the tournament at Nevada City last summer. The top group of 8 pitchers, consisted of all either current or past State and World Champions. In fact most of the pitchers hold numerous State or World titles. Sharon set the tempo early in the games with an 83% game against Jesse Gonzales. Then Kimmy Stockli pitched an 83% game. Jesse pitched three 80% games and ended up winning the tournament. Jesse is arguably the best mens 40 foot flip shoe pitcher the world has ever seen. Others in the group that pitched good games included Walter Ray Williams, Jeff Williams, Nathan Williams, Rick Bermingham, Linda Hoelscher and Dave Loucks. Sharon said the tournament brought back many good memories of past tournaments. A big thank you to Dave and Cathie Loucks for putting on a great tournament.

A few years back, I was at Yolo, playing in the Northern Championships. I was through pitching and just wandering down the line, when I noticed Ken Woolery keeping score and laughing to himself. I asked Ken what was so funny. Ken said one of the pitchers he was keeping score for, was upset that his opponent was foot fouling. The upset pitcher got someone to go get a judge to watch for foot fouling on his court. Sure enough the judge came down unnoticed by the pitchers and was watching for a foul. Upon seeing a foot foul, the judge steps up, stops the game and pulls the shoe of the pitcher who sent for the judge in the first place. To say the least the pitcher was livid and proceeded to tell the judge who the real foot fouler was. Now I know why Ken was laughing so hard, that's a funny story, no matter who you are, well unless you were the guy who sent for the judge.

There's got to be lots of neat stories out there, whether they are on the courts, traveling to a tournament or staying over at a motel. Tell your story to the person in your club that writes articles for the News and Views. The heart and soul of horseshoe pitching, is the great memories.

P.S. Tom Webb is scheduled to have his other knee operated on this winter. Years ago Tom was an avid 40- foot horseshoe pitcher caring an average of 63%. Then when he could not step out on his knee and his percentage started dropping, he quite horseshoes. After about 10 years he had a knee operation and came back into horseshoes as a 30- foot pitcher. Tom climbed back up into the 60% range again but now his other knee is hurting. I was thinking if he went from zero percent to 60% with one knee being repaired, then with this second knee being repaired, he will probably go up another 60% and be pitching about 120% in the year 2013. **Bill Paddock**

Sonoma County

On June 7, 2013 our club will be hosting the horseshoe pitching segment of the Wine Country Senior Games. Everyone over 50 is invited to participate. Entry will be by age categories 50-54; 55-59; 60-64; and 65+ no qualification is necessary. Further details will be forthcoming.

Vandals were working overtime stealing all our number plates. It took a strong pair of pliers or wire cutters to take them off the fence, where they had been for 20 years. Thanks to Dale Haskin we have new wooden numbers that will be put up prior to pitching and taken down afterwards.

With 7-1/2 inches of rain our grass grew a bunch. In fact we 'harvested' 6-30 gallon trashcans of grass off it. Thanks to Travis and Hayden Lee for their efforts in mowing and edging. It cost me a burger and shake at the nearby Carl's Jr., but well worth it. *Don't forget the Greeott 103 B-day, it's early this year on April 7.* **Casey Sluys**

Half Moon Bay

It's time to start preparing for next season. This the perfect time to write all your press releases to promote your tournaments. Since you know the dates of your tournaments, you can save everything in a folder on your computer. This is when you should establish a rapport with all the sports editors of local newspapers in your area (you need to decide the practical mile radius). You might want to contact your community television station and post a message when the season starts for your club. I also have built up a large e-mail list to (remind) promote our tournaments. The best source of e-mail addresses is the NCHPA schedule, of course collect them at all the tournaments you go to. If you want to be on the HMB list e-mail me at RDellasant@aol.com. Good Luck with the new season.

This promises to be a good year, the World tournament very close (Hope to see all of you there), a new doubles tournament at Tri Valley, week day tournaments at HMB, The State returns to Stockton, and the usual good times during our week end tournaments. From the HMB Outlaws, have a GREAT YEAR.

Rick Della Santina

<http://www.nchpa.com>

<http://www.horseshoepitching.com>

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Dates are: 7/22-8/3, 2013

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