

Volume 16 #2

Apr., May, June, 2013

Nor-Cal News & Views

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

President

My thoughts and prayers go to Judy Zelmar for the loss of her husband Verdan. For those of you who did not have the pleasure of meeting Verdan, he was a member of NCHPA for over fifty years. His contributions were many and he will be missed. Rest in peace Verdan. I know that our membership hopes that Harvey Kooy and Reb Billingsley have speedy recoveries. May you all be in good health.

Plans are underway for the State Tournament which will be held in Stockton. Volunteer judges and scorekeepers will be needed along with support in many ways. Thank you to the Stockton Club under the leadership of George Davis and Scott Henne for their assistance reaching out to the community and assisting with other details. Northern California has amazing competitive pitchers in every category and we hope that you will make attending the State tournament a priority.

Northern California is being blessed with some incredible weather which I hope you are taking advantage of to pitch and just get outdoors.

Robert Cocagne resigned his position as fourth vice-president. I wish Robert all the best and thank him for his previous service to the NCHPA. I hope to announce our new 4th vice-president soon.

Our officers, Rick Bermingham, John Barney, Scott Henne, Gail Sluys, and Joe Summers are here to help this organization, please don't hesitate to ask for their assistance and know that you are always welcome to "pitch in". Please don't forget to get your information to Wayne George, our statistician. Wayne can't post information if he does not receive it. And if you are in need of shoes or gear, contact Kimmy Stockli. She will take the time to make sure you find the right equipment. *Cathy Kauffman*

Secretary/Treasurer

Memberships are slow coming in so far this year probably because we haven't held any tournaments yet, but I expect to get real busy this month getting cards out. Just a reminder on the cards, the Cadets age was changed at last years NHPA

meeting, any boy or girl that will be 12 for the full year 2013 qualifies to pitch from the 20 ft foul line even if they were pitching from the 30' foul line in the past they can re-qualify and move up. If you have a junior (boy or girl) who qualifies to move up as a Cadet, please let me know so their records can be changed.

The Stockton Club is working hard to get ready to host the 2013 State tournament, we can feel the excitement. The Comfort Inn has agreed to be our host Motel with a room rate of \$59.99 and includes breakfast. They are holding 40 rooms both Friday and Saturday nights and 15 on Sunday. The reservations must be made **BEFORE AUGUST 15TH** to be guaranteed this price. The location is 2654 W. March Lane and phone number is 209-478-4300. Other motels in the same area are from \$62.00 to \$159.00 per night. Please be sure to make your reservations early to get the rate. If anyone wants to volunteer to help with this tournament it will be very appreciated by both the Stockton club and your board of officers. See you soon. *Gail Sluys*

1st VP

Welcome back to the new season of Horseshoes. Vallejo held its first tournament of 2013. We filled all 20 courts with participants. The weather was delightful.

Many thanks to all that attended and helped out. The day was a perfect example of team work and unity. Help came from other clubs in the stat room, set up and clean up.

We had several new pitchers and visitors from Hawaii. These new faces were welcomed and helped by all.

Looking forward to seeing all of you at the Stockton, Tri Valley and Sonoma tournaments this month. Hoping the attendance and teamwork continues. If I can help in any way please call me. *Joe Summers*

2nd VP

The Sacramento Horseshoe tournaments in June 22, 23 are canceled because of a very large soccer tournament and the park. They need all the parking spaces there at Granite park. We still have 3 tournaments on the schedule for Sacramento. Whoever is going to the World tournament in St. George, Utah good luck. Also, hope to see a lot of you pitchers at the state tournament in Stockton this year. not too far for most of you. A good central location with a nice park and maybe a slight breeze in Sept. Labor day weekend. See you on the courts this year. *Rick Bermingham*

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.

Horseshoe Pitching NEWSLINE Official Publication of the National Horseshoe Pitchers Association

Subscription rate for 1, 2 or 3 years is \$12, \$22, or \$30 respectively.

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NCHPA NEWS & VIEWS is published quarterly, and distributed by the most economical methods. That includes email, website and USPS, as per the Standard Operating Procedures (SOP's) of the NCHPA.

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

kclus@sbcglobal.net

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.

NEW: NAME, FAX, & EMAIL

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Talk to your local Business's about an ad. (All ads to be Black & White). Business Card size is \$25 each per year; ¼ page size is \$100 per year. Send your check to Gail Sluys, NCHPA News & Views, 1721 San Ramon Wy. Santa Rosa, CA. 95409. Make check payable to **NCHPA**. You can email the advertisement to the editor directly.

Need information; call Casey at (707) 477-8893 or e-mail at

kclus@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.

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Be sure to sign up for horseshoe pitching when you register for these games. Fri, 6/7/13

2013 CALIFORNIA STATE HORSESHOE PITCHING CHAMPIONSHIPS



Awards Sponsorship Form
Northern California
Horseshoe Pitcher's Association



The Northern California Horseshoe Pitchers Association (NCHPA) will host the 2013 California State Horseshoe Pitching Championships tournament in Stockton, CA Louis Park 3121 Monte Diablo Ave Stockton; over the Labor Day weekend August 31st thru September 1st 2013. Please consider sponsoring an award for this prestigious event! Both plaques and cash are awarded to the winners of 20-30 groups of players from throughout the state. This tournament establishes California State Champions for both men and women of all ages plus boys and girls under 19 years old. If you wish to sponsor a first or second place plaque award, each plaque costs about \$50. If we receive your plaque sponsorship by August 20th, the award plaque will reflect your support, and if you have a specific group you wish to sponsor please let us know, we will do our best to accommodate your request based on first come – first served.

Sponsor's Name (business, club, or person): _____

Sponsor's Address: _____

Sponsor's phone and/or E-mail: _____

Donation Amount: \$50.00 (make check payable to **NCHPA**)

Please send this completed form with your check to the NCHPA awards coordinator:

Cathy Kauffman, 6046 Revolution Ln. Citrus Heights, CA 95621
E-mail catdkauffman@gmail.com

3rd VP

It seems to be a long winter; but it's time to start pitching again! Time to start saving for that trip to Utah for the world tournament. I don't have much to say at this time, except to you club officers: It's time to check your club supplies for score sheet and round robin cards (if you still use them.)

The prices are still the same; \$40.00 per 500 for score sheets, and \$7.00 per 100 for the round robin cards. I'm looking forward to meeting with all of you this season. Good pitching,

John Barney.

5th VP

Wow newsletter time already, that went fast. Next thing you know it will be time for the state tournament. First off I want to give a big thanks to Joe and Rick for delivering a truckload of clay to the Stockton club We now have new back boards and working lights thanks to the City of Stockton. Everything is coming together nicely. Looks like the weather is on our side this year for the start of the season. So with that we will see all of you soon. *Scott Henne.*

2013 World "Warm Up" Tournament

Dixie Center (world tournament courts), Saturday July 20th 10:00 AM
NHPA Sanctioned Event # 09-13-019, Tournament Director: Rob Hagman **Entry fee: \$25** 100% payback less scorekeeping expenses
Sign up on site, registration 8:00 AM to 9:30 AM, Limited to the first 96 entries. Effort will be made to split the 30/40 pitching distances
Some classes may be mixed pitching distances. Current Natstats will be used for seeding. 6 person classes, NO handicap, 40 shoe games
Electronic scorekeeping will be used. **Scorekeeping class will be held during registration.** Scorekeepers will be paid \$10 per shift by us.

Here's Something About John Sylvester

John was born in Whitesville, Louisiana on June 22, 1929. He spent his youth doing the normal things like playing ball, running with the guys and OH YEAH, catching and skinning 5 foot Alligators on the Bijou.

In 1948 he decided to join the ARMY so off he went. During his ARMY duty he was given the opportunity to attend an Advanced Engineering Training Program with the Air Force. After the program ended in 1956 and after four years in the ARMY and four years in the Air Force he decided to take his Discharge and head to California. During those years he'd been to almost every Military Base in the United States and the Pacific. He speaks French fluently and hoped to get to France but he was never sent to Europe.

Upon his arrival in California he went to work for the Louisiana Pacific Lumber Company. He also started to pitch horseshoes in the Bar Leagues. During his time at the Mill he learned the lumber business and became a wood grader. After 33 years with Louisiana Pacific he retired as Shipping Superintendent. While he was working there he also met the likes of Willy Bradford, and another character, Richard McCutcheon. We'll get to them later.

John was playing in the Bar Leagues when his good friend Willy said to him. "John, you're a pretty good pitcher. Why don't you join the Nationals?" He told Willy he didn't even

know such a thing existed. So in 1970, Willy signed him up, he was a member of the NHPA.

John was already a pretty good Horseshoe Pitcher when he joined the organization. He still only knew Willy though. That changed quickly when two of the top pitchers in the game, Emmett Schroeder and Monte Latino met him and took him under their wings. The three remained friends till the end. John and Emmett traveled together to more tournaments than most of us have ever played in.

And John will tell you that after Monte quit pitching he would still go to the tournaments to watch. He says proudly, "I was the first person Monte would come to see when he got there".

Well that was the beginning of his 41 years pitching horseshoes and he ain't done yet.

Over the years our friend has collected a few trophies, and awards along the way.

During that time he did sneak out of California a couple of times.

He came in Second at the Nevada State Tournament twice.

He won the Nevada Balloon Race Tournament in 2007 and 2008.

And in 1991 he won the Nevada State Doubles Tournament.

He and Richard McCutcheon were the Nevada Doubles Champions. The two remain close friends.

Back to California.

Well the Ol' Boy lives in Palermo. He's got a nice place with lots of land. He enjoys his dog Blade who's smarter than most people. He's got a garden that would make the produce department jealous. And he's got olive and nut trees, walnuts and pecans galore. Sounds like a lot of work, and it is, but at 83 he can still outwork most young folks. One other spot at his place is pretty special too, the kitchen, cause man this guy can cook. He should have opened a restaurant. Really, no kidding.

He's been Feather River and Willows Club President.

Attended 5 World Tournaments; Pleasanton CA, Bakersfield CA, Enswathe NE, Pocatello ID, and Gillette WY.

Five times Senior State Champion, 003,2004,2005,2006 and 2008, with three second place finishes along the way.

Seven time Pitcher of the Year, from 2001 to 2007.

In 2004 he became the newest member to be inducted into the NCHPA Hall of Fame.

In 2006 he was the State Men's Class Champion. He had to beat Rick Bermingham to get that.

In 2009 he picked up a couple more trophies; The Top Gun Award and a special award for throwing an 80% game at age 80. He threw that game at Mel Long, I think Mel only said, "one lousy point" a couple of times.

John's highest percentage game so far happened in Greenville. He threw an 87.5% at Gus Martin. Who's next, and by how much?

To top off his collection there are 11 complete NCHPA plaques on his wall. That's 231 first and second, place finishes.

He's almost done with plaque #12. It's still sitting on the table.

There are so many trophies and awards at his place that you couldn't possibly list them all. Many of his accomplishments have probably been missed here. And if we listed anymore it would probably just embarrass him.

Most all of us know and care a great deal about Mr. Sylvester, but if you don't know him, or haven't met him and would like to meet a great horseshoe pitcher, and a great man, stop by and

introduce yourself to him, you'll be glad you did. *Thomas Latino*

At Stockton

ENTRY FORM

At Stockton

2013 California State Horseshoe Pitching Championships

Sponsor: Northern California Horseshoe Pitchers Association –NCHPA

Please Print Clearly or Type

Name: _____ Phone: _____ NHPA # _____

Address: _____ City _____ Zip Code _____

E-Mail: _____ Birthdate: _____ Club: _____ Charter: N or S

CIRCLE YOUR DIVISION (1 only)

OPEN MEN (40FT)	SENIOR MEN (40')	ELDERS/MED EXEMPT MEN short distance (30')	OPEN WOMEN
	SENIOR WOMEN	JR BOY	JR. GIRL
			JR CADETS (20FT)

-----cut here-----Mail top half only-----cut here-----Mail top half only-----cut here-----

Keep this section for future reference – California State Championships, Stockton Aug 31-Sept 1 2013

◇ **State Champions** will be declared in the divisions described below. ◇

OPEN: Men (40ft.) shall enter “OPEN MEN” /Women shall enter “OPEN WOMEN” divisions. Pitchers eligible as Seniors may also choose to pitch in the “OPEN” division. ELDERS short distance (30’) cannot.

SENIORS: Pitchers 60 years of age and over (EXCEPT ELDERS) may participate in either the “OPEN” or “SENIOR” divisions, but not both. Senior Men/Senior Women Division entrants may be moved to open divisions if the number of entries and/or the % spread does not allow for competitive groups.

ELDERS: Any male 70 years and older or physically impaired person of any age who have an established short distance (30’) average may enter the ELDER short distance (30’) division.

JUNIOR: “JUNIOR BOY” and “JUNIOR GIRL” divisions will be formed for pitchers who are 18 for the entire year 2013. “CADETS” are junior pitchers who are 12 years of age for the entire year 2013.

⇒ Eligibility requires **Adults MUST** have pitched in **three (3)** California sanctioned tournaments-**Junior and Cadet** pitchers require **one (1)** after **August 1, 2012**.

⇒ Pitching averages will come from NATSTATS as of **August 1, 2013**.

⇒ Entry **Deadline** is **August 1, 2013** (Late entrants will be used on a standby basis, and will pay an additional fee of \$10.00).

⇒ **ADULT ENTRY FEE \$25.00/JUNIORS FREE. No refunds after August 8, 2013.**

◇ ◇ ◇

At Stockton

31st August 1st September 2013

At Stockton

Louis Park, 3121 Monte Diablo Ave, Stockton, California

Mail top of Entry Form and check to:

Gail Sluys (707) 538-3128

Make checks payable to **NCHPA**

1721 San Ramon Way

Santa Rosa CA 95409

Don't forget to sponsor a trophy for the State Championships.

Statisticians Report

I am looking forward to another year as the NCHPA Statistician. I need your help for me to have another successful year. Here is what I need from you: Please provide me the results of your tournaments as soon as possible. Information that needs to be sent to me is Name, number, and date of the Tournament, players names, NHPA number, shoes pitched, ringers, wins, losses, placed position and very important each players Hi Game of that tournament. One of my jobs is to keep track of pitchers that earn awards. You may want to get credit for it because you may be the next Pitcher of The Year (2012 Wayne George). Earning awards is quite an accomplishment and anyone who does so should get credit for it. I am listing the potential Top 10 pitchers as of September 3, 2012 to March 15, 2013 and they are:

Name:	Tournaments	Match	Wins	1 st Place	2 nd Place	Hi Game
Richard Robbins	16	57	3	3		46.70 %
Travis Sluys	11	36	2	1		63.30%
Tony Latino	10	37	2	2		53.30%
Daryl Adams	9	21	2	0		53.30 %
Fritz Oberst	8	31	1	2		35.00%
Cathy Kauffman	8	28	0	0		37.50 %
Scott Henne	8	15	2	0		37.50%
Wayne George	8	26	0	1		47.50 %
Terry Farrell	8	13	0	3		70.00%
John Barney	8	20	0	1		76.00 %

It is the clubs responsibility to get the results to me, please be sure that I get the complete results as soon as possible.

If you feel that your tournaments have not been recorded please let me know so I can research and get them included and accurate. Wayne George

From Debby Michaud, Raffle Committee Chairperson

WORLD TOURNAMENT EXPERIENCE RAFFLE – 2013

Hello to ALL!

Because the World Tournament Experience Raffle has been

+++++

The following is information from Debby Michaud, NHPA 5th VP. Debby oversees the SHOE CHECK at the World Tournament, and has some good tips for everyone.

The first thing you will do, officially, when you are at the World Tournament is to check in and to have your horseshoes checked. This process happens when you are most nervous and/or most excited so it is good to PLAN AHEAD for this! Before you leave home, put your NHPA card in your horseshoe bag or box (laminating it is a good idea!) because you need to have it with you to show us – we need to confirm that you are an NHPA member. Your horseshoes will be checked for weight and measurements. Along with your horseshoes, be prepared by having your measuring tools and your file with you, and make sure that, if you have a hook, it is within the NHPA specs (36" long maximum with a hook no longer than 2") as it will also be checked prior to your pitching. Other things that will be checked are your pitching shirt with your name and state clearly printed or embroidered on the back of it and the shoes on your feet, so wear those shoes (no open toes) and that shirt to check in. Carefully read the front page of the World Tournament schedule and check your pitching times and days, SEVERAL times so that you know the Class that you are pitching in – be sure of this! There is nothing worse than seeing a

such a success for the last two years, we are going to do it again! Tickets are ready and the poster is ready as well. The winners for this raffle will receive their prizes to help them compete in the 2014 World Horseshoe Pitching Championships in Buffalo, NY. The prizes will be drawn on October 5th, 2013, at the Quail Ridge H.C. in the Hall of Fame building in Wentzville, MO. They will be drawn the first day of the National League Team tournament.

What we need now are sellers across the country and for state officers and NHPA Regional Directors to be on board with what we are doing. As before, the tickets will be \$5.00 per ticket or \$20.00 for a packet of five tickets. We encourage charters and clubs to buy packets to use as prizes and we definitely are looking for sellers in all areas of the country. We realize that we may pick up more sellers from the east this year and that will work well. If you are interested in becoming a ticket seller for this worthwhile project, please contact Deb Michaud loonpond@verizon.net

A synopsis:

Grand Prize - 2014 World Tournament Experience package which includes:

- Free entry into the tournament
- One week free hotel (app \$700 value)
- Free local "goodie" package from hosts (???value)
- Merchandise from GRS (\$100 value)
- Customized Tournament shirt (\$50 value)
- Free photo package from Bowdell Photography (\$15 value)
- Free banquet tickets for two (\$60 value)
- Total value over \$1000

2nd, 3rd, 4th, and 5th prizes will be a free entry into the world tournament

Prizes are transferable

Tickets will cost \$5 for one, and \$20 for 5

NHPA will secure the tickets

NHPF will sell tickets at their WT booth

NHPA will also sell tickets at the WT

Tickets will be sold prior to the WT, at tournaments and by USPS

All proceeds will be divided between the NHPA & NHPF after expenses.

WT Entry is at www.horseshoepitching.com or on this wording: [2013 WT Entry Form](#) Click either hyperlink from your copy.

Hard copies of entry form are in Newslines or in the mailed copy of this issue of News and Views.

CLUBS

San Francisco

We are doubling the number of tournaments we are holding in San Francisco this year and look forward seeing you all there at both of them! Sat. June 29, and Sat. Oct. 19. We are in the final steps of obtaining a Community Challenge Grant from the City of San Francisco to use for improvements to the courts. We were awarded the grant three years ago, and after a lot of bureaucratic red tape and hoops we are finally going before the Operations Committee at City Hall April 4th for approval. It has certainly taken a lot of work to get 'free' money, but we're very excited to be moving forward. Hopefully we'll receive the grant money and have some progress completed before our first tournament, but if not you can come to both to see firsthand the before and after.

Thanks to everyone for their support getting our club up and running. We're looking forward to another fun season of horseshoes. *Peter Zepponi*,

Half Moon Bay

It's a good time to get your club announcements into your local newspapers and community TV bulletin boards. I set up a Word document on what I wanted to say about our club. Explaining when our club meets and where our courts are located and the type of tournaments we have. You can save it in word and can use it forever. I Googled all the newspapers in our county and created a mailing list of each newspaper, which I also included into the same word document. All you have to do is copy and paste what ever you need. You can use the mailing list to promote and report results. I will be glad to send to anyone our press release to use as a model. rdellasant@aol.com

From Joe King, **Horseshoe Camp**

This off season, I was finally able to attend The Horseshoe Camp at Rio Vista. Put on by Horace Shuman. I attended some of the workshops and seminars which I would like to share with all our members. Clay Mates, with Sandy and Clay Pitts. A great workshop on how to maintain and

prepare your courts. Eye Exercises, Luke N. Goodman focuses his Seminar on improving our vision and how to stay focused on the stake. One Step Delivery, Lena Little provides a workshop on how to place foot in the exact spot every time. Middle Finger Aiming for Flippers, by Mr. Wright. This was my favorite workshop. I learned how to easily get my arm in the air, reach out properly, and aim at my target. *Rick Della Santina*

Fortuna

Tom Webb had his other Knee surgery a couple days ago. He is home and doing fine. Tom had a spinal and a shot to make him mellow. Tom told me, he was laying there on the table barely awake when he heard the anesthesiologist tell the doctor, this guy is in good shape. If I were the doctor, knowing Tom could hear what was going on, I might have said (yeh but his knee is not so good, I think we should amputate). Ha Ha.

Fortuna club has smoothed the lawn between our horseshoe courts and reseeded the grass. Our courts are getting better a little bit at a time. All the pits are now full of good clay. At our recent club meeting we discussed getting new covers. We had election of officers Henry Clark is president, Bill Paddock-vice president and Sharon Paddock-secretary/treasurer.

This time of year, we cannot pitch because of the weather but it is a good time to start thinking about raffle prizes. Sharon and I have been out in the garage working on some. I made a nice looking, traveling trophy for the Fortuna club rivalry with the Shasta/Willows club. We call the competition (The Battle of Buckhorn Summit), this will be held yearly in Weaverville on city courts that Fritz helped build. Getting back to raffle prizes, a couple of our members (Tino Faustino and Cecil Shaw) spend a lot of time gold panning. Several times, Tino has donated a clear jewelry box with gold in it from his mining. Cecil Shaw has a sister that is a professional singer/song writer and Cecil has donated several CD's of her songs to our raffle table. If club members put some thought into a unique gift it not only makes the raffle table something to look forward to but also makes the person doing the donating feel good. *Bill Paddock*

Ukiah

Our beautiful valley is beginning to show the signs of spring and the pitchers are excitedly awaiting their first tournaments. The weather seems to be co-operating with brisk cold mornings and warm comfortable afternoons. We hope all of you are feeling well and looking forward to this season of pitching and gathering. Our first tournaments are in April (21&22) so we hope you are beginning to make plans to attend. We have RV parking just steps away from the courts for \$10 and only a few more steps across the Fairgrounds is a park which

includes: - Pull-thru sites; Full & Partial Hook-ups; Dump Station; Shower & Laundry Facilities - for \$25 with your senior discount. In addition, the Discovery Inn which is only about ½ mile from the courts has some very reasonable rooms which includes a breakfast with waffles! What more could you ask for?

And when you arrive at our courts what will await you is not only a gathering of welcoming friends but some well maintained pits and an array of tasty treats including coffee! How can you resist?

A few of our members are beginning to make plans to travel to various California courts including Sonoma, Willows, Vallejo, Fortuna and any location that offers horseshoe pitching and fun. Some of the more adventurous are looking out of state to Grants Pass, Oregon and for the world tournament to St. George, Utah. 2013 brings a new year, a new pitching season, new hopes for a higher average and new experiences with old friends. Blessings to you all and we hope to see you here in UKIAH during 2013. *Lorena Tournour*

Sonoma County

The following is our schedule of tournaments for 2013:

April 7th George Greeott 103 Birthday Open; many of you have a wooden trinket that George made over the years. Plan to attend this one, George might even make it, at least that's what he told me.

May 5th Reed Beaman, Pit Master Open

June 1st. NHPF Benefit Open 4, 19; the schedule is wrong it should be code 19

June 2nd Travis Sluys Open Mystery Money; you get \$5.00 in an envelope and when you win a game you receive half of your opponents money. If you lose a game you give half your money to the winner. It's a fun format, just when you've won 4 games and you think you're in the money you'll lose one and there goes half your winnings.

June 30th Greg Ellisen Memorial (name change) Over the years many of you won one of Greg's cutting boards or other wooden items he donated.

August 24 Sue Lichau Open. Sue is 2 time club champion.

September 28 Whine Country Open; this one will offer a bottle of wine for 1st and 2nd place in each group. It's also your chance the whine a little.

Our Sonoma County Championship tournament will be held on Sept. 29. This is for club members only. This tournament has been held since 1936, 77 years!

Haven't we had some great pitching weather! Now that the season had begun we'll probably get more rain though. ☺

Congratulations to Travis Sluys who pitched the 5th highest game "over average" in the country during our National Sanctioned League. For that he received a nice

certificate and patch from NHPA Sanctioned League Director Dave Sidles.

Nice pitching last Sat. in Vallejo for Travis and Hayden they were in grp. 2 Travis took 1st with Hayden 2nd. Hayden pitched his highest ever tournament 43.5%.

Casey Sluys

Feather River

Hope everyone has had a good winter. Looks like spring has sprung with all the beautiful blooms on the flowers, shrubs and trees. It's like a new beginning.

It seems like a long time since our last 2012 tournaments and I know everyone is looking forward to the 2013 season. Lois said she is hoping we have good turnouts for our tournaments. She enjoys seeing everyone and is looking forward to that.

Sadly, Reb Billingsley has been in the hospital and care facility for over a month and the latest surgery on his heel is not healing and is gangrenous. The Dr. is scheduling surgery to amputate his leg below the knee probably on March 13th. Anyone wanting to send cards can mail them to his home address:

2714 Axevedo Ave., Biggs, CA 95917.

Lee Oliver and I, along with some other pitchers, have continued our Tues. and Thurs. schedule at the Paradise Elks, weather permitting. You might think by now we'd be professionals, which unfortunately has not happened but we keep trying and always enjoy it. See you all soon. *Audrey Winters*

Stockton

The Stockton Club is looking forward to hosting the 2013 State Tournament over Labor Day. The "State" was held in odd years from 1973-1985 at the Stockton Courts: the tournament winners were some of the greatest names in California horseshoe history. We look forward to contributing another chapter to the horseshoe history books.

Scott Henne, last year's NCHPA Rookie of the year, has been putting in many hours to bring the clay and the courts at Louis Park up to championship caliber. Our Pitmaster can work miracles with railroad ties, cold rolled steel, water and a shovel. What a great addition Scott and Coleen "The Black Widow" Henne have been to Norcal Horseshoes.

Rick Bermingham and Joe Summers brought a truck load of new clay to the courts recently. We're very thankful for the time and effort these guys have given to our sport.

The City of Stockton has replaced all of the backboards, and is working to refurbish the court lights. Scott and Danny Hernandez have added new court numbers. There is definitely a rebirth going on in Stockton Horseshoes.

We have had renewed interest in Tuesday evening practices: with enough participation to consider a league.

One recent afternoon we had a Horseshoe Birthday Party for Delia Garza at the courts: including a Birthday Cake, and of course, a lot of ringers by Delia.

Millie Schultz, the living legend, and the First Lady of Stockton Horseshoes is recovering from hand/wrist surgery: and is learning how important one's thumbs really are! Millie is helping to put together some "historic material" to help make the coming State Tournament memorable.

Our club is saddened by the passing of Horseshoe Legend Verdan Zelmar. We enjoyed having Verdan and Judy attend Stockton tournaments. What contributions Verdan made to horseshoe pitching in a 50 year, hall of fame career! Verdan was a horseshoe pitcher and a gentleman.

Please make plans to join us for our 2013 tournaments, including one "under the lights" in August. We look forward to Labor Day when all eyes in the California Horseshoe World will once again turn to Stockton!

George Davis

Indian Valley

The only thing I can think of up here in the snow is that you could mention our female member, Michelle White. I put up a slideshow for her on my site of the class championships last year. Michelle has been thru quite an ordeal in the last few years and now has had a stroke and the last I talked with her she is getting better all the time. I do hope she can come back and pitch again with us again? Her address is Michelle White, PO Box 762 Chester CA 96020 if you'd like to send her a card.

Richard McCutcheon

2013 SCHEDULE CHANGES

The following changes need to be made to your pitching schedule for 2103 please. Name changes on # 57 to Verdan Zelmar Memorial and # 73 is now the Greg Ellisen Memorial. #48 code 9 needs to be 19.

Scratch off numbers 66 and 69 they are cancelled. Change Tuolumne contact to Jan Moore 18330 Wards Ferry Rd, Sp 70, Sonora 95370 (209)532-2928 email, janmoore5215@sbcglobal.net

Change Vallejo Contact to Kimmy Stockli 109 Lamont Ct. Vallejo 94591 (707) 645-8951 Email kimmymhorseshoes@sbcglobal.net

Change Rick's address to 7221 Hedge Ave Sacramento 95829

8 out of 21 that's a mere 38% of the clubs that sent an article in. C'mon I know there's something to write about. That's okay though I filled it anyway. Those of you who faithfully send in your articles we all certainly appreciate that!

Possible New NHPA President

Two people running for the presidency of the NHPA one is Jerry LaBrosse the other is incumbent Stu Sipma. Their candidacy statements are in the latest issue of Newsline. Please familiarize yourselves with them and choose which one your club would like to have. Let Cathy know and she will instruct the NCHPA delegates how to vote.



Verdan Zelmar Dec. 12, 1924 - Jan. 29, 2013
Verdan Zelmar went home to his Lord on Jan. 29, at the age of 88. Verdan is survived by his loving wife, Judy; daughters, Michelle and Colleen; sons, Greg, Russell and Brian, eight grandchildren; three step-grandchildren; two great grandchildren and sisters, Claryce, Lillian and LaVerne.

Be sure you attend his memorial tournament in San Jose on June 9th. This is tournament # 57 and has been changed to The Verdian Zelmar Memorial

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<http://www.horseshoepitching.com>
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Dates are: 7/22-8/3, 2013
Entry in this issue.

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