

Nor-Cal News Views

Northern California Horseshoe Pitchers Association website address is: <http://www.NCHPA.com> Visit the NHPA site at: horseshoepitching.com **Check the website for updates and possible rainouts or call your contact!**

Secretary/Treasurer

Welcome to the 2010 season. As your Secretary-Treasurer I just want to let you know the dues have started to roll in, it would be great if they came in bigger numbers, but since people are still in hibernation I am glad to see them get started. Welcome to the list of brand new members we have signed up so far this year. Yes, we have some even before the pitching season has gotten on a roll. It's encouraging to see this occur and we all hope this continues throughout the year. I look forward to seeing which of these new members, will end up to be the 2010 Rookie of the Year! It should be fun to watch Tom Latino looking over his shoulder, holding onto his 2009 crown. *Gail Sluys*

Blair Rowley, Fortuna
Elena Chavez, San Jose
Stephen Chapes, San Jose
Mike Anderson, San Jose
Doug Steed, San Jose
Alex Garcia, Tri-Valley
Lawrence Kelley, Tri-Valley
Tony Merino, Stockton
Gisella Monk, Stockton
Jose DeLion, Stockton
Isabel DeLion, Stockton
Tom Cardinalli, Shingle Springs
Art Flores, Madera
Erica Foster, Yolo
Were-Long, Carmen, Yolo
H.C. Cotner, Tuolumne
Jan Moore, Tuolumne
Don Grugget, Sonoma County
Gino Rinaldi, Half Moon Bay
Bob Short, Half Moon Bay
Richard Stacey, Tulare
Sal Delgado, Tulare
Jeff Herrick, Tulare
Luis Moreno, Tulare

NATIONWIDE EFFORT

Those of you who read the NHPA magazine "Newslines" and or the NHPA Forum understand that there is a National effort underway to establish a communication network that is second to none. The effort is headed by NHPA 4th Vice President Jerry LaBrosse. The primary functions of this group will be to pass on to all members, as expeditiously as possible, promotion efforts that have worked to gain your club new members, any new rule changes, or actions by the NHPA that might affect you, or any other news deemed worthy of communicating.

What this group hopes to do is establish a publicity chairperson in each charter to act as a contact point. Is there any one of you who would like to become that person? Do you have the communication skills to converse with the charter membership and toss promotion ideas back and forth? Perhaps iron out a program that will benefit the NCHPA and could be implemented by any of our clubs?

Even though our charter began collecting the emails of all members prior to the beginning of this group it has proved to become a very worthwhile effort. Most of our members have email so a communication network could be established to include all those members. If we use the same criteria that Jerry uses then the email list is safe from prying eyes and unwanted solicitation.

******* This publication available online at nchpa.com two days after the due dates for articles. *******

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***The NHPA Hall of Fame is now open
in Wentzville, MO. Be sure to stop by
on your way to the World
Tournament in Cedar Rapids IA. on
July 26 - August 7, 2010. We still
need your financial support ...please
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3rd VP

Hello Everyone Well, the season is under way. We have had a few rainouts so far this year and hopefully the rain we soon stop, so we can get back into the rhythm of pitching those shoes. But, please do check the web page for any cancellations or date changes. Or call the contact person of the club your wishing to attend to make sure their tournament is still on. Also make sure you check the codes carefully so your aware of what kind of tournament you're attending. New member packets have been sent out, I send them out as soon as I get the information sent to me from our Secretary. To date I have sent out 22 new member packets and so far have only had one returned to me. I will see that it gets hand delivered to the club where that person joined when I attend their tournament. Welcome new members and we look forward to seeing you at several tournaments this year. Let's have a Great Year. *Linda Hoelscher*

4th VP

Tulare is close to Southern, and in Jan. thru March there is usually good weather to pitch shoes at the new 10 clay courts at Stevenson Ranch run by Steve Meyer. My family and I attended their last tournament.

The club is called the Dead Ringers Society, and Steve is doing things a bit different there and it looks to be working great. Mostly they have tournaments on Sundays about once a month + or -. As opposed to most places these days, he runs the juniors and new pitchers *first* -- and with *shorter* games. The goal here is to get them thru the fun quickly (and get the 2nd round started sooner), not leave the rookies hanging around all day, thereby giving them a negative impression and then never to be seen again.

He has the experienced players keep score and mentor the new players along the way, which seems to really make a positive impact on their overall experience. The courts are laid out beautifully and the view is second-to-none. There are plenty of hotels, restaurants and shopping right there in Stevenson Ranch. Steve has made it a priority to grow the sport and thereby encourages his new players to stick around and watch "the big show" when the better players take to the pits. The horseshoe gods have smiled onto those new pits, clearing the skies just in time for each tourney so far and they've been getting nice sized crowds, with the number of *junior* pitchers and *new* adult members

jumping each time. The last tourney had 9 Jr's in one class and 1 more high % jr. mixed with all the high % 30 ft. pitchers. The 40 ft. pitches have their own class -- thereby allowing 3 Tournament Champions that day. Everybody seemed to have a great time, as their local Starbucks Coffee provides it free for each tournament, and they have a local restaurant set them up with lunch. As the weather gets better, expect more good things from the Dead Ringers Society.

I am working w/ the 4-H kids horseshoe project now from Tulare County in hopes that some will sign up for the All Jr. tourney (April 25, 2010). The 4-H Camp for July 2010 (one week long) is working on adding more horseshoes into their events this year. Hope to see ya on the courts soon.

Robert Cocagne

5th VP

Happy New Year to all, I like the rain and I know we need it, but I hope it slows down some so we can start pitching again.

It's been a slow winter, but I do have some bad news to report. Since to beginning of the new year some of our members have passed on. In Jan. Mel Roberts, Turlock Club, Feb. Audrey Winters' husband Ken, Jay Bush, Gold Country Club, and Mark Rilea's father, March Ken Schulze Sonoma County Club. (see obit. in this issue) passed away one day before his 94th birthday. Our condolences to all the families. Heard that Rayetta Warlick broke her leg, hope you heal up soon!

Hope to see everyone on the courts soon! Later,
Richard Robbins

Statistician's Report

Well so far this year we had one tournament in February cancelled, three tournaments in March cancelled, two of which are rescheduled for March 20th and 21st. Sacramento had two tournaments on the 13th and 14th but I do not have the results yet. Hopefully the weather will clear up and we can get more tournaments in.

Twenty-one NCHPA members pitched in five tournaments in Arizona and Southern California so far this year. In these 8 tournaments, our members made 2,276 ringers and pitched 6,410 shoes. This made for an overall ringer percentage of 35.51%. David Loucks had the highest tournament average of 64.00%. The results posted for that tournament did

not show the high percentage games. Everyone who pitches in other states should let me know if they pitch an 80% or above game.

The Marvin Sanders Open Tournament at Tulare on February 28th had 32 pitchers. Of those, 22 were NCHPA members, 9 SCHPA members and one pitcher from Oregon. Congratulations to Bob Midkiff who pitched the high percentage game of 71.88% and the high Tournament of 65.18%. Verdan Zelmar won first place in the second group with a 34.82% average and a high game of 53.13%. Gilbert Gallegos won first place in the third group with a 33.48% average and a high game of 59.38%. Eddie Curtsinger of the SCHPA won first place in the fourth group with a 26.34% average and a high game of 34.38%. Total ringers in this tournament were 1991 and total shoes pitched were 7176 for an overall average of 27.75%

Several people have called me and asked why they pitched 224 shoes in this tournament. There were 8 people in each group and 40 shoes would make the tournament too long. Thirty-two shoe games shortened the time and allowed the games to end on the same end of the court they started on. **Lee Roy Lassiter**

CALIFORNIA Pitching History

Southern California has made horseshoe pitching one of its favorite sports ever since it has been a popular tourist resort. For years the game was played with no uniform rules.

A Tourist Club was organized in 1900 at Long Beach, with a membership of some 600, composed of members from 25 states and Canada. Mr. W. S. Montgomery, an attorney, was the leader. The interest in horseshoe pitching was kept alive by clubs in some 15 or 20 different places among which were Los Angeles, Santa Barbara, Redlands, Long Beach, Glendale Pasadena, Pomona, etc. Very hotly contested games were played for a number of years between Long Beach, Pomona, Pasadena and Redlands. From these games there was developed a number of very good pitchers.

The best score on record at that time was made by A. Bruce an 18-year-old boy of Glendale, and Denny Wilkinson of Long Beach, who each pitched 50 ringers in a series of five 21-point games. No record was kept of the number of shoes pitched.

Through the efforts of Geo. E. Krinbill, secretary of the Long Beach Tourist Club, the Golden State Association of Horseshoe Pitchers was organized on June 12, 1920, with W. A. Hoyt, Long Beach, president; Geo. E. Krinbill Long Beach, secretary; H. L. Smith, Pasadena, assistant secretary, and T. Holman, of Klendale, treasurer. Until this organization, the game had never been played by standard rules.

The game has continued to become more popular

until at present there are a large number of clubs in the state, some of the more prominent of which are located at the following places: Covina, J. R. Beecker secretary, 592 N. 5th St.; Santa Monica, C. H. Prior Secy., 1055 21st St. : Long Beach, Geo. H. Cleaver, 2409 E. 5th St.; Los Angeles, South Park, Geo. Bauder, Secy., 51st and Towne Ave.; Los Angeles, Exposition Park, H. C. Cammert, 602 W. 40th Place; Glendale, C. F. Godfrey, Secy., 325 N. Orange St.; Pomona, Thos. Awrey, Secy., 520 E. 3rd St.; Whittier E. V. Ware, Secy., Route 1; Riverside, F. W. Knox, Secy., K08 Walnut St.; Huntington Park, O. Gersuld, 6317 Seville Ave.; Haynes, Standard Oil Club, F. H. Gilbert, Secy., Box 107.

Following is the data about the eight state tournaments that have been held:

1921- Glendale, November 25 and 26, at H. S. Athletic Field. There were 52 entries in three divisions. W. R. Bradfield, Long Beach, won the state championship.

1922- Long Beach, Sept. 28 to 30. There were 66 entries in six events. G. J. Milligan won the championship; Bradfield and Galloway, Long Beach, were the team winners.

1923- Santa Monica, H. S. Athletic Field; 80 entries, 9 events. Robert Nunn, Oxnard, won the championship; team winners, Porter and Anstey, of Glendale.

1924- Pasadena Central Park, August 27 to 29. 100 entries, 9 events. Robert Nunn, Oxnard, champion; team winners, Bradfield and Galloway, Long Beach.

1925- San Diego, Army and Navy Y. M. C. A Field, August 26 to 28. Largest number of entries yet; figures not available. Robert Nunn, Oxnard, champion; team winners, Porter and Anstey, Glendale.

1926- Los Angeles, Goodyear Rubber Co. Park. Large entry list. Dean Brown, Riverside, champion. Team winners, Hansen and Olsen, Fresno.

1927- Pomona. Sept. 21 to 23 Los Angeles County Fair. Large entry list, 9 events. S. L. Hiatt champion; team winners, Lyle Brown and Foster, Pomona.

1928- Huntington Park club Grounds, Sept. 26 to 28. Large entry list; 9 events. Dean Brown, champion; team winners, Walker and Claypool, South Park Club, Los Angeles.

Each succeeding meet has been better than the preceding one from the standpoint of horseshoe pitching. These tournaments have popularized the sport greatly by having different events. At the 1928 meet there were nine events, no person being allowed to enter more than one. Entry fee of 50 cents was charged each entrant.

Event 1 had 12 prizes, totaling \$152-\$20 and a \$40 French plate mirror and a championship gold medal going to the winner. 150 shoes were pitched for the elimination, the 32 men making the highest number of points competed for championship in Class A.

Event 2-The 12 men making the next highest number of points competed in Class B for \$84, divided into nine prizes, with three other merchandise prizes. 50-point games were played.

Event 3 was for teams confined to one team from each club belonging to the State Association. \$68 in prizes and silver medals, and state banner for one year to winners.

Event 4-For men of 45 and under 60 years of age;

each pitching 150 shoes. Points win. \$39 in five prizes.

Event 5-For men 60 and under 75 years of age. 100 shoes, points win. \$26 in five prizes.

Event 6-100 shoes points win; for men who have never made over 25 ringers in five 21-point games. \$18 in five cash prizes. Pair of shoes for sixth prize.

Event 7-"Boys" 75 years old and up ; each man plays every other one 21- point game. \$23 in four cash prizes, and box of cigars for fifth prize.

Event 8-Youths 13 years and under. \$10 in four cash prizes. Each plays every other one 30-point game.

Event 9-Consolation for those eliminated in events one and two. Each pitch 50 shoes. Points win. Eight merchandise prizes.

The present officers of the California Horseshoe Pitchers Association are: President, W. H. Smith, 858 10th St., Santa Monica; Vice President, W. R. Bradfield, 1570 Elm Ave., Long Beach; Secretary-Treasurer, Glen B. Porter, 344 Salem St, Glendale.

Geo. E. Krinbill, who had held the office of secretary in the State Association since it was organized and largely through whose energy and efforts the organization has been built up, and the interest in the tournaments has been sustained and increased, passed away in November. Mr. Glen Porter Glendale, takes his place.

The Olympic games are to be held in California in 1932, and the State Association is planning on entertaining the same year, if not before, the National Tournament. **February 1, 1929 by D.D. Cottrell**

CLUB NEWS

Indian Valley

It is unfortunate, but, Indian Valley has only sad news to report for this issue. Indian Valley has lost two of their older members. They may not have pitched for a while but one, Joe Garcia, was one of our original members in 1981. He was involved in an auto accident and did not survive. Joe was 87 years old. Our other member we lost pitched with us many years, John Rilea, had been a member for many years and was a very hard worker. When the club had work to do John was always the first one there. John was 90 years old. I have posted both of their pictures on my site of all the members we have lost since I have been pitching. **Richard McCutcheon**

Sonoma County

Yes, we know this first paragraph is redundant, but how often does one of our friends turn 100 years old?

As you can see on the schedule on March 27 is our first tournament. It's named for our first time Sonoma County Champion Sue Lichau. What you should do is come to our first tournament so you will be able to drive right to our beautiful, full walk-way, regulation courts when you come on April 24 to celebrate the elder statesman of horseshoe pitching **GEORGE GREEOTT'S 100TH BIRTHDAY.**

Resident historian and newspaper columnist, Gay LeBaron, will stop by to say a few words about George.

HERE'S A GOOD STORY ABOUT GEORGE!

George Greott of Windsor turns 100

April 30, 2010.

Here is a recent glimpse of this remarkable man.

Do you know about George's 2010 tree? In the heavy January storms a huge oak fell behind his barn. Lucky it fell away from the barn! The tree went across a path near the lake and fell into a couple of other big trees, kind of hanging up in their branches. George at first thought he would have to hire a man with a crane to come in to tackle taking down that tree. The tree was that big!

When the weather cleared George went out and trimmed away some of the branches he could reach. That was several days' activity. The tree's big skeleton was revealed. Soon a neighbor came over and sawed the trunk getting it onto the ground. The tree was in a terraced area and not the easiest place for footing. By the second time I saw it George had removed almost all the leafy parts of the tree.

George's immediate concern was a couple of big branches that were still hanging up high in the other trees. He estimated that he could make a very long steel hook and attach that to a chain which he could use to pull a big branch down if he hooked the chain to his four wheeled golf cart. I cautioned about safety of such a plan. Could tell he was determined to do it. Suggested he at least have someone on the premises in case he didn't jump out of the way fast enough. He didn't answer. But later that afternoon he proudly phoned to tell that he had accomplished his objective. No problem.

His chain saw friend came for another session of reducing trunks to fire place lengths. George filed the saw chain so it would be sharp. Meanwhile **George had used his handsaw to reduce all the limbs of 3 and 4-inch diameter to firewood lengths.** There were two huge piles of those limbs. He considers using the hand saw to be "good exercise."

Still there were lots of logs that needed to be split. A neighbor has a splitter. But the terraced terrain would not accommodate a splitter. So George rolled those logs to the tailgate of his utility vehicle and carted them maybe 75 feet to a flat area where they can be split and stacked. In a matter of about three weeks of beaver like activity George conquered that tree including raking and cleaning up the debris. He loved every minute of his accomplishment all the more so because he will be one hundred years old on April 30, 2010 **Written by Cathy Landis**

We encourage everyone to visit Santa Rosa for a horseshoe tournament this year in 2010. We'd like to encourage all of you to attend the Chavarría & Marino

Open in Stockton on the 25th of April. The Stockton club was gracious enough to cancel their Sat. Tournament that was against the Greeott Open. Thank You Stockton!
Casey Sluys

Yolo

The Yolo club is doing fine. There is no need for a work party. Jay Smith and I are doing bits and pieces each week to maintain the place. Also, Andy Loobey the president of the Gold Country Club donated a \$200.00 trailer to the Yolo club for hauling limbs, leaves and clay or whatever else we need it for. It will be very handy to pull with the riding lawn mower that Bill Harris donated a few years back as well. Thanks guys, we are very thankful!! See you all on the courts.

Also, one last thing, if you want an annual parking pass, please call Carmen Long @ 916-813-2918 and she will give you the details on getting a pass. The County of Yolo is charging \$6.00 to park and \$20.00 over night parking. If you come to Yolo often, give Carmen Long your license plate number and send her \$1.00 per calendar year. We will give out these passes when you arrive at Yolo in person for your tournament. The \$1.00 is for an associate member fee annually. Call Carmen and she will give you an address to send your information to. **Rick Bermingham**

Stockton

Last year our first tournament in March had 45 pitchers, weather co-operated and hopefully all had a good time. We are again looking forward to a similar turn out at our first tournament of the year Saturday, March 27. I know there are lots of you out there that are anxious to get going for the New Year.

This year we have changed our money tournament to a Saturday. This tournament honors Joe & Millie Schultz. Millie is still very active in our club and plans on being at that tournament. In fact she is almost always there on Saturdays checking in the pitchers and later keeping score. So if you old timers and new comers want to meet and talk to a real horseshoe enthusiast come to the tournament at the Stockton Club on Saturday, May 22. The club has voted to increase the amount we will contribute to the price money and hopefully we can pay down to 4th place.

Also, for those of you who like to take home some nice raffle prizes our gift table is looking better at each tournament.

As soon as weather permits I am sure Peter will be working the pits and getting them ready for the action. He always works 2 pits in getting ready for the weekly practice every Tuesday at 5:00 PM. In doing this he has managed to get a few new members interested who have joined our club.

I want to take this opportunity to thank all of you who have supported our club and have helped to revive it by attending our tournaments. It is truly appreciated by all our members. **Nadine Martin**, President, Stockton Horseshoe Club.

San Jose

Just wanted to inform you of the addition of 3 new members to the San Jose Golden Eagles Horseshoe Club:

Elena Chavez (our second Jr. player!) Steve Chaps and Mike Anderson

Also, we have a new 3rd Vice President, Charlie Kerr our Pitt Groundsmen.

We would just like to invite everyone to come out to our club. Some of the best courts in the NCHPA!

Please change the name on the following tournaments in your schedule. An email change for Cloutiers, nancyandhugh@gmail.com

April 11, 2010 Tournament will be the Nancy & Hugh Cloutier Tournament.

June 5, 2010 Tournament will be the Leon Moore Tournament. Thanks, **Steve Chavez**

Vallejo

Vern Gosney, NHPA Life Member, NCHPA Hall of Fame Member and long time member of the Vallejo Horseshoe Club was honored by Pipefitters Local 342Union.

Pipefitters Union Local 342, Vern's local Union for over 60 years, has unanimously decided to re-name the auditorium that is used for meetings The Vern Gosney Auditorium. An appropriate plaque and Vern's picture will be affixed to the hall signifying this honor and a similar plaque will be awarded to Vern.

Vern was on the executive board for over 45 years and was a driving force in Local 342 having a health benefit plan as well as a thriving pension plan. Even in retirement Vern still serves on the board of trustees. This honor was bestowed on Vern for his dedicated ability as a pipefitter, manager and as the senior general foreman. Vern's motto, "Take care of your men and your men will take care of you". It looks like they took care of him, well done Vern! **Ben Yost**

Tri-Valley

During the winter we had several members taking trips. The usual snowbirds are relaxing in the warmer weather. Hurry home Marlene and Lucy and Fred and Marge. During the month of Feb. Richard along with the Della Santana's and Richard's son Rich spent two weeks in Florida attending many races at the Daytona. They also witnessed the lift off of the space shuttle. Lee and CB Henninger are on a cruise they left on January 5th and won't return until April 21st. They departed from Dover and are cruising around the world. What stories they will have upon their return. Must be nice huh? Recently Al, Richard and I paid a visit to Bill and Jean Brown and this time the guys were able to move some chairs for them. Linda took them her homemade chicken noodles hoping to fatten them up.

Tri-Valley is losing one of our oldest and dearest active members who will be moving. Farewell Dear Marthe Dunn. We want to wish you all the best as you move to San Diego to be closer to your daughter, grandkids and great grandkids. We will miss you. Please keep in touch.

Our first Tournament of the season will be April 3rd we hope many will join us. We will be having our work party and our potluck and meeting on March 30th. So Tri-Valley members come out and help to get everything ready for our opener. *Linda Hoelscher*

Gold Country

Hard to believe it's a new year and already the middle of March. Where does the time go? Dave and I have been in Arizona since mid-December supposedly enjoying the warm, sunny weather. It hasn't been all bad as we've enjoyed lots of sunny days but the temps have been below normal, the wind that sometimes feels like hurricane force and way above average rainfall. Dave has pitched in a few tournaments and done fairly well, winning the tournament champion patch in two of them. Met up with Fritz Oberst at a Lake Havasu tournament (sand courts) that was run by Andy Anderson of Seaside. Good to see familiar faces. Made a trip to Oro Valley (outside Tucson) to visit Karl and Rosemary Dalla Rosa who moved there last spring from Nevada City. They are loving it and Karl has joined the Tucson Club. Managed to get in a tournament in Tucson and who should we run into? None other than Sam Godbouldt, formerly of the Sacramento & Feather River clubs. He has moved there and has taken over maintenance of the courts. He planned on removing all the clay from the courts and 'work' it into prime pitching condition. (It was pretty bad). He is also working on a promotion to earn money to finance his own, and maybe others, trip to Cedar Rapids this summer. The Tucson members appreciate having him

around. Sam says hello to all his friends and hopes to make it to a few NCHPA tournaments this summer.

As you all know, not much happens during the winter months but we try and stay in touch with at least club members. We missed the annual Christmas gift exchange party hosted by Sam and LeRoy Whittle every year. We were sorry to miss this year especially since Bill & Ruth Padgett were able to attend. Sam started this tradition about 7 years ago with funny gifts and a lot of stealing back and forth. (there is a name for this but can't recall what) It has now evolved into thoughtful gifts and everyone wants to keep the gift they open. All in attendance compensate by eating more and the party ends with everyone fat and sassy, toting a great gift as they head for home. Tom & Shirley Munoz left home for AZ right after Christmas. They spent New Year's with Shirley's sister in Surprise and then traveled to Quartzsite a few days early for the tournament on Jan. 10th. Tom says that might have been a mistake and to put it nicely "I must have had a bad day". They then spent the next several weeks between Palm Springs and Wilderness, arriving back home in late February. Keith & Maureen Harris have been ill with different ailments including bronchitis, asthma, colds & coughs. It turned out that whichever one felt better would drive the other to the doctor. Keith is still wearing a walking boot because of a very slow healing foot problem. We keep hoping that it will be healed enough to let him pitch this season. Andy Loobey is on the mend and he and Rick (Birmingham) have been working on his courts, hoping to have them in pitching shape real soon. Maggie keeps busy taking care of Andy and her horse, Princess. Lee & Corky Stram keep busy with various projects. John and Susan Behrbaum are staying under my radar. The ladies of the club have continued their monthly luncheons – without me! (how could they?) Maggie Loobey hosted in January at her home and they went to a Newcastle restaurant in February. Maddie Barney hosted the March luncheon on the 12th at her and John's home in Lincoln. That's about it for club news. Dave and I will be home the end of March, looking forward to some nice pitching weather.

This winter has been brutal for the NCHPA. We have lost some well-loved friends. At this time, on behalf of all Gold Country members, I would like to extend heartfelt sympathy to all the families and friends of those that are now pitching perfect games in a horseshoe heaven! Our thought and prayers are with you.

We hope to see a good many of you at our ONE weekend tournament this year. Please mark your calendars for the weekend of May 22nd & 23rd and plan a trip to Gold Country. *Cathie Loucks*

Madera

There will be a tournament at our Madera Club on May 22, 2010 to honor John Silva. John, as a Madera County Supervisor, was the driving force helping Harlen Rippetoe complete his dream of having a great sanctioned horseshoe facility built in the city of Madera. Mr. Silva was responsible in obtaining \$25,000.00 from the city to begin this project and as we all know Madera now has a wonderful facility and fast growing club.

It would be an honor for Harlen and the Madera Club to have as many NCHPA Officers and pitchers present at the Saturday, May 22nd John Silva Open tournament as can possibly attend. Let's make a real showing at one of the newest clubs in the NCHPA. Unfortunately we have an amateur tournament that day and will be unable to be there *Casey Sluys NHPA Regional Director*

Feather River

Not much news here. We're still waiting for the new pitching season to begin. Do you think this rain will ever stop? I know we need it, but it does get boring after awhile. As I write this it is pouring here in Paradise and I am hesitant to don my poncho and make the quarter mile trip down to the mailbox. Oh well, guess I won't melt!

Kathie Billingsley is recuperating well from her hip replacement in February. Some of you already know that I lost my husband in February. As hard as it is, I felt a sense of freedom for him, since his Alzheimer's was leaving him more and more incapacitated.

As of now we have only ten paid members. I know there are more of you out there who want to join so please send me your dues.

Reb says welcome back everyone to a new season. Hopefully the weather will cooperate for our tournaments. *Audrey Winters*

Tulare

Tulare started the year off w/ the 1st NCHPA tournament Marvin Sanders Open Feb. 28 2010 by draining 2 inches of water (1/2 of the court area in 1 hour) into 2 gopher holes the day before the tourney. Sunday started out with the parks dept. helping cover the trenches and putting the sand back in the pits. There were 32 pitchers from as far as Oregon with 4 divisions of 8 with 1st place in each division receiving \$30.00 and 2nd place \$20.00. Thank you everyone that helped set up, score keep, do the stats, clean up etc. (it made for a smooth tournament).

RobertCocagne

Shasta-Willows

Well we cancelled our tournament's scheduled for the 6th and 7th. We went down to Willows on the 3rd to get ready for the tournaments. The clay was real mushy with water standing in most of the pits. The weather report was calling for rain on Friday, Saturday and possibly on Sunday at that time. I made the decision to cancel the tournaments at that time. Of course Saturday and Sunday turned out to be nice sunny days. Those two tournaments have been rescheduled for the 20th and 21st of March. It looks like we will have good weather that weekend.

I sent an e-mail to all the contact people mentioning a scrapbook about the Shasta horseshoe club. In case you haven't heard about it, the scrapbook has pictures and newspaper articles covering the Shasta Club from its beginning in 1973 to its end. There are a lot of pictures taken at clubs that no longer exist. There are pictures of members who have passed away and members who were much younger than they are now. I will have this scrapbook with me at all of the tournaments I attend this year. Everyone is welcome to look through it and possibly identify some of the people who are not identified in the photos.

Hope everyone has a great year and can attend a lot of tournaments. *Lee Roy Lassiter*

Sacramento

Mar. 13 & 14 Tournaments. After experiencing rain into late Friday evening our GUYS were out blowing water off the pits at 6 A. M. Saturday and we had a GO! Thanks to all the pitchers that ventured from far places both on Saturday and Sunday to support our first weekend of competition.

Sacramento Club gained two new members. Dion Setters, Dud Setter's son, and Jessica Lichau, Sue Lichau, of the Sonoma County Club's, daughter. Jessica earned her first class patch and plate in her first tournament Sunday. Rushing the deadline here so will see you all at Yolo in April. Thanks again and hope everyone had fun! *Joan Bryan*

Half Moon Bay see page 10

Kenneth Karl Schulze, a meticulous record keeper who worked four decades for the U.S. Postal Service, also had a yen for pitching horseshoes and raising thousands of chickens.

“He had a good life,” said his son, Herman Schulze of Santa Rosa, who followed his father’s footsteps as a local mail carrier and worked in the family’s chicken houses, which held as many as 10,000 birds.

The elder Schulze, known as Kenny, died of congestive heart failure on Friday at a Santa Rosa assisted living facility, one day before his 94th birthday.

His mind remained sharp until a few weeks ago, and Schulze held onto notes dating back 30 to 40 years, covering matters such as his daily activities, his blood pressure, auto mileage and light bulb changes.

“He kept track of everything,” his son said. “He was a bean counter.”

An avid reader and a math whiz, Schulze could calculate percentages in his head and kept a mental record of his only child’s behavior. “He remembered all my shenanigans,” Herman Schulze said.

But he also was a devoted stepfather, who married Herman Schulze’s mother and adopted him when he was 5. “Just before he died, I told him, ‘Dad, you did a good job. I thank you,’” Herman Schulze said.

Born in Flatrock, Ind., the elder Schulze moved to California with his family in the early 1920s, residing in Orange and Humboldt counties before settling in Santa Rosa. He attended the now-defunct Todd Grammar School at Todd and Stony Point roads and graduated from Santa Rosa High School in 1932 at age 16.

Schulze began pitching horseshoes and raising chickens on his family’s ranch on Millbrae Avenue, and both turned into longtime passions.

Raising chickens “was kind of the love of his life — other than my mom,” Herman Schulze said.

His own flock, at a 36-acre Olivet Road ranch he bought in 1959, grew as large as 10,000 chickens before he quit the poultry business in 1965.

Schulze went to work for the Postal Service at age 18, starting out as a letter carrier and working his way up to director of finance for a North Bay region stretching from Santa Rosa to Willits.

He delivered mail in Santa Rosa’s McDonald Avenue neighborhood where, years later, his son walked the same sidewalks with a mail bag. The elder Schulze retired from the

Postal Service in 1977, after 42 years. His older brother, the late Herbert Schulze, was a Santa Rosa postmaster.

Schulze served in the U.S. Navy during World War II, stationed at Mare Island, and remained in the Navy Reserves until 1951.

After his wife Eula’s death in 1987, Schulze became more engrossed in horseshoes, joining the Sonoma County Horseshoe Pitching Club based at Doyle Park. “He got hooked,” his son said, traveling to tournaments in the Central Valley and the Sierra and competing in national seniors tournaments.

Schulze pitched ringers at rate of about 60 percent, his son said.

He and his wife also were league bowlers at the old Continental Lanes on Mendocino Avenue.

In addition to his son, Schulze is survived by three grandchildren and a niece. He was a member of the Nazarene Church in Santa Rosa.

At his request, no services will be held and burial will be private. Memorial donations may be made to Sutter VNA & Hospice, 1140 Dutton Ave., Santa Rosa, 95401.

A Special Man

There are many accomplishments Ken Schulze attained in his horseshoe life and all of you who knew him know how much he loved and supported horseshoe pitching.

There is one special story I would like to share (Cont. next page) about Ken. When my dad passed away and I came back from his funeral in N.J. Ken and I were talking at the courts and I said, “man it’s hard – now at 49 years old I’m an orphan”. Ken immediately gave me a hug and said, “I’ll be your dad”. From that day on we had a special bond and as many of you know I even called him “dad”.

Ken lived up to his word and often reminded me so much of my dad. At our 1999 Sonoma County Championship tournament he and I were tied for first place and we had to pitch a playoff game. Ken gave me a father/daughter lesson that day: he won the playoff and became the Sonoma County Champion of 1999. Like my real dad he made me proud.

My heart hurts to have him gone – and I will miss him. *Gail Sluys*

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ENJOY LIFE NOW - IT HAS AN EXPIRATION DATE

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Bill Milligan June 5, 1932 — Nov. 13, 2009
Billy Max Milligan, 77, devoted husband to Alma Milligan and father to his three children, passed away Friday, Nov. 13, 2009. He was born June 5, 1932, in Bridgeport, Neb. In 1945, his family moved to Tule Lake, Calif., where he lived until graduating from high school in 1951. Shortly after graduating from high school, he enlisted in the United States Armed services. He served his country in the Navy from July 1951 through 1955. Bill's primary duties were in the boiler room of the ship. During this period he earned service awards from the Chinese, Korean, and the United Nations, along with a good conduct medal. Bill then re-enlisted in the US Naval Reserve from 1955 to 1959. While serving in active duty for the military, Bill went to work for Pacific Telephone Company in Fairfield, then in Lake Tahoe, Nev. While working in Lake Tahoe, Bill met the love of his life, Alma Joan Brown. One year later, on June 1, 1957, they married in Stockton. After the wedding, they moved to Fairfield where they have resided ever since. Bill continued to work for Pacific Telephone Company until he retired in 1994. For years, Bill enjoyed bowling, with his highest game scoring 297. Most recently he was a very active member of his horseshoe pitching club as well as the NHPA (National Horseshoe Pitching Association). He was his grandchildren's

greatest supporter at their sports activities, usually offering to drive and never missing a game. When it came to professional sports, Bill was a fan of the San Francisco 49ers and the Giants.

Article submitted by Jim Wallace

(Editors note) Bill was a member of the Vallejo Club and came to us from a club that Jim Wallace established in Fairfield. Jim established this club after witnessing a Regional Horseshoes Pitching Tournament held on Virginia Street in Reno, NV. Many Fairfield members later joined the NHPA because of Jim's actions.

Bill always had a ready smile for anyone he'd meet a true gentleman.

Hannah Montana Open

On May 2nd we will be traveling to Southern CA for a tournament at Stevenson Ranch called the Hannah Montana Open. That club has 15 Juniors pitching and Steve Meyer invited Travis down to teach the juniors a thing or two about pitching. It should be a fun time and we'll fill you in on the details in the next issue! *Casey*

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Half Moon Bay and Senior Games

I don't have the time to re-construct all that it took to get two qualifiers for Norcal Members to get in and report all the medals earned by CA participants. There were a total of 130 Senior Games participants from all over the US.

A very healthy percentage came from NORCAL Members. Participants were in 5 year increments from 50-54, 55-59 all the way to 90 years young. The 90 Year Old Gold Medalist was our own HMB Member Layton Van Etten.

If someone else has the capability of putting a DVD of the games on a public site we have one available to share, filmed by Keith Remillong, the husband of the Magnum Force Horseshoe Pitcher Foa Remmilong, as shown on the front page of the final Senior Games Daily Newspaper.

Many new friendships were developed as a result. Contestants remarked it was one of the best horseshoe

venues that they had attended. Several came from the World Tournament, to compete in San Jose.

At our December 2009 NCHPA tournaments, we worked with the HMB Chamber of Commerce to offer discounts for all Horseshoe participants at several local Hotel/Motels. Several members came Friday night, stayed Sat & competed individually, and again on Sunday. We had 29 on Saturday. The Sunday tournament, a Walking Doubles event, had 13 teams or 26 that competed.

We, (primarily BT) are busy trying to get all the water and tall grass off of our horseshoe pits, now that Daylight Savings time has kicked in.

It's sunny, but somewhat windy here this week. We will be working closely with Our HMB Chamber to offer discounted Lodging for folks to come and spend the night throughout the season, here on the coast and enjoy HMB & our club's hospitality & good old fashioned FUN. Respectfully submitted; *Charlie Hall*

2010 California State Championships

Sponsor: Southern California Horseshoe Pitchers Association (SCHPA)

Host Club: Bakersfield Shoe Crew

4 - 5 September 2010

Corner of Oak St. and 21st St. Beach Park, Bakersfield, California

Tournament Entry Form

NHPA #: _____ Name: _____ Phone: _____

Address: _____ City: _____ CA ZIP: _____

Birth Date: _____ **E-Mail:** _____

How do you want your pitching schedule sent? Please circle one: E-Mail US Mail

Pitching Divisions: (circle one)

Open Men (40ft), Sr. Men (40ft), Elders or Med Exempt (30ft), Open Women, Sr. Women

Jr. Boys Jr. Girls Cadets (20 ft. 9 & under)

-----MAIL TOP HALF ONLY-----

Adult entrants **MUST** have participated in at least 3 sanctioned California tournaments during the 12 months prior to the below entry deadline date; for junior entrants, it is only one (1) sanctioned California tournament.

For divisions with less than six entries, the tournament committee reserves the right to combine divisions for playing purposes only.

Entrants must wear shirts with their name professionally printed on the back; do not rely on purchased shirts at the tournament because the vendor cannot guarantee timely deliveries.

Entry fee is **\$25.00** for adults and **FREE** for juniors and cadets, no refunds after the below entry deadline date.

Entry deadline **date (or post mark date):** 2 August 2010 (**Late entries require an additional \$10 entry fee and will be used on a standby basis only.**)

Make checks payable to: **SCHPA**

Send entries to: Hal Griswold (949/496-0577 or setibird@yahoo.com)

32612 Balearic Road

Dana Point CA 92629

4 - 5 September 2010

Corner of Oak St. and 21st St. Beach Park, Bakersfield, California

If you must drop out, please immediately **notify** Hal Griswold (949/496-0577 or setibird@yahoo.com).

<http://www.horseshoepitching.com>

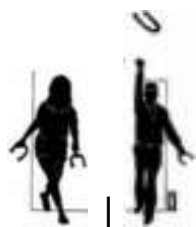
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