

Nor-Cal News Views

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

Presidents Message

Happy Holidays to All! Another new year is upon us and the Officers are hard at work preparing for all of our upcoming events. The State Tournament will be held in Bakersfield this year at the Bakersfield Horseshoe Club. The application should be on line very soon. I've heard some rumors that the Quartzsite tournament is a go. I don't have the available dates. I'll check on that and as soon as we find out we will email the info out to the membership. The Valley of the Sun tournament is going to be held February 4th to the 7th in Mesa, AZ. Deadline for entry is January 21st, 2010. The application is available on the NHPA website. I had a hard time finding it so here is a link <http://www.horseshoepitching.com/events/pdf/2010VOT.pdf> Mitch and I will not be attending this year so if you need horseshoes get in touch with me before you head out. Happy and safe traveling to all of you snowbirds!

We held our annual meeting on November 7th and had a great turnout. More than we have had in several years. There were over 40 people that attended. We even had to send Bill Paddock out to get some more sandwiches! It was very nice to see all of you in attendance and getting involved with your organization. However, Half Moon Bay, Indian Valley, Tuolumne, and Shingle Springs were not represented. We hope to see representatives from those clubs attend next year's annual meeting. I just want to give you a few of the highlights from the meeting. This was a by-law year and there were no changes submitted. I guess everyone is happy with our current system of by-laws. Remember, by-laws are voted on every 2 years. The **color** of the plates for 2010's **1st and 2nd place will be Royal Blue**. So, when you order, remember to ask for that color! Gail went over the proper way to write a check for us. There was an issue with a check down in SoCal and we wanted to make sure the same thing didn't happen to us here in Norcal. Thank you Gail. The officers are working on a master membership list that will include email addresses. All of you, that we have an email address for, have been contacted. If you have not been contacted, and you have an email address, please email Sharon Paddock at sbpaddock1024@gmail.com with your

current information. There was much discussion about having a 2nd team tournament during the year. However, no club volunteered to take it on. The Yolo Club will be handling the Norcal and Team next year. We had 3 positions up for election this year. Linda Hoelscher, Sharon Paddock, and Gail Sluys all ran unopposed and were all re-elected unanimously. This had to be the shortest meeting I have attended in the nearly 10 years I've been an officer. Thanks to all of the attendees! We'll see ya on the courts.....

The Stockli Family would like to take this opportunity to wish you all a very safe and Happy Holiday Season! Merry Christmas and Happy New year! **Kimmy Stockli**

Secretary/Treasurer

Is everyone ready for the 2010 pitching season? The new pitching season will be here before you know it, once Christmas is over, time starts out seeming to crawl then suddenly the new season is starting. Those of you going to Arizona for the winter remember to get your dues to your club secretary so I can get your cards out to you quickly. If necessary ask your secretary to have me mail the card directly to you, it can save a step in the mail, as you are getting ready to leave town. Thank you to all the club secretaries for their hard work getting their memberships in to me, and the cards out to the pitchers.

I hope your Christmas was Merry and bright with many happy memories to hold near, and that the New Year will find you safe, healthy, and happy. See you in the spring!
Gail Sluys

1st VP, Rules & By-Laws

Wishing you Happy Holidays and Good Health.
Thanks again to all those that helped us with the Carnival and the Nor-Cal set-up and cleanup.
We really appreciate your time and effort. (P-3)

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The deadlines for submitting articles are: Mar.15, June 15, Sept. 15, & Dec. 15.

Talk to your local Business's about an ad. (All ad's to be Black & White). Business Card size is \$25.00 per year. ¼ page size is \$60.00 per year. Send your check(s) & ad(s) to Gail Sluys, NCHPA News & Views, 1721 San Ramon Wy., Santa Rosa, CA. 95409. Make check(s) payable to NCHPA. Need information; call Casey at (707)538-3128 (707)477-8893 or e-mail at kcslus@sbcglobal.net

Support the NHPA

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 1 and September 1---Mail contributions and inquiries to: NHPF, P.O. Box 1628, Penn Valley, CA. 95946

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 help?

KIMMY'S NCHPA HORSESHOE SHOP

NHPA Sanctioned Horseshoes

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kimmymhorseshoes@sbcglobal.net and/or <http://www.kimmynchnpashoeshop.com>

Please call me for any of your equipment needs, or just order on-line with secure Pay Pal.

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We are already working on the dinner for Nor-Cal in 2010, we are hoping to have a Country BBQ. April Long and friends are working on the prices and menu, they will get back to us on the details.

We are going to try and have a fun "Tournament" on Friday night before the Nor-Cal tournament. Should be lots of fun, hope you will attend? If you have any other ideas for the Northern Friday night "fun night " please let me know about them.

This coming year is the year for By-law changes, with the costs of running the Northern Charter growing, perhaps its time to raise the Northern dues? We pay \$10.00 now, something to ponder over the winter.

Hope you are enjoying the beautiful weather, no snow yet! Perhaps we'll have a White Christmas. See you in the spring. Respectfully, *Sharon Paddock*

2nd VP, Supplies & HoF

Everyone, Yolo is in good shape as far as each storm blows through, we have to go out and maintain and pick up limbs and mow every 3 weeks or so. We also have a new member. Her name is Erica Foster, she came to us through the NHPA website information email. Her name was sent to Casey who in turn forwarded to me. She is very anxious to pitch. She says she is just a beginner, so hopefully we can help her along with scoring and everything else that comes with being a newcomer. She has not qualified yet, maybe in March she will be ready she says. If anyone wants an annual parking pass for Yolo, please call Carmen Long our new secretary @ 916-813-2918. You can mail your license plate number to Carmen B. Werle-Long 2424 Edna St. Sacramento, Cal. 95822. If you have any questions pertaining to Yolo, call Carmen or myself, thank you and I hope everyone has a safe and happy holiday this year. God Bless. See you all on the courts.

I am sorry Gary and I did not produce a DVD video of the State T. like I said back a few newsletters ago. Gary told me that he wanted multiple cameras to take different shots of everyone; we did not have enough time because both of us were pitching. Although, he had his sister come out and make a 10 min. video of the men's top group with some music, Dead or Alive by Bon Jovi. It will be on you tube. You can go to you tube web site horseshoe pitching. All 11 of the men's top group are in it. He did an excellent job producing it. If someone wants a copy, let me know, I will give you a copy in DVD form. *Rick Bermingham 2nd VP, NCHPA Hall of Fame Chairman, President of Yolo Club*

3rd VP, Schedule/New Members

Well, I'm Happy to report that the 2010 Schedule is finished on my part and is on it's way to print. Casey is including the inside pages of the schedule in this issue of

the news and views. The complete copy of the schedule will be sent to all club contacts of each club to distribute them to your members when I get them back from the printer. I'm hoping to have them out in the mail early in January. Until then Happy Holidays to all. *Linda Hoelscher*

4th VP, Junior Promotion

For 2009 we introduced horseshoe pitching to 4-H members for a project at 4-H camp as part of their program. The Tulare 4-H Club helped me at the Kids Festival with a Pitch and Win booth. There was a reverse drawing that raised money and we got sponsors from Kiwanis and the Exeter City Rec. Dept. for the NHPA sanctioned All Jr. Tourney held at Exeter, CA.

I am talking w/ the Boy Scouts of America to add a merit badge (alternative badge that can be used to help a boy achieve the Eagle Scout award) called Horseshoe Pitching. The BSA would like us to help w/ an event in April of 2010 in Fresno, CA. Diane, Baylee & I worked w/ the Boys & Girls Club of Tulare for a few weeks on Wednesdays.

I talked to Officers at the world tourney to see if a DVD for Jrs and or a short history of NHPA could be made available for a promotion tool. Having discussed this with Tina Hawkins the NHPA Publicity/Promotion Director and Steve Meyer from Southern CA, they said they would be working on a Jrs DVD at the world tournament in 2010. Now I am working w/ the City of Tulare Rec. & Parks Dept. to sponsor the NHPA sanctioned ALL JR. tournament to be held in Tulare for 2010 in hopes that they will let us send flyers to all the public schools. In April of 2010 there will be a doubles team fund-raiser for the ALL JR. tournament held in Tulare (refer to flyer on NCHPA web site please)

PLEASE FEEL FREE TO EMAIL ME YOUR IDEAS TO HELP PROMOTE JUNIOR HORSESHOE PITCHING. THANKS TO EVERYONE THAT HELPED IN 2009. *Robert Cocagne*

2009 Mens State Champion Video

The NHPA needs more videos like this! If we had one of some Juniors pitching it could become a great recruiting tool. Gary Smith from Yolo Club produced it. Gary's brother in law Matt Tofft and his sister Debbie filmed it.

http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=l_dZelMEzZo

Or type in *horseshoe pitching* in the search bar of you tube and scroll down to the 2009 California State Championships.

5th VP, Social

Hi all, our 09 season is over. Please try to remember that horseshoe pitching is a game and should be fun. (that's why we began playing right?)

Some more of our family had hospital stays. In Aug. Buddy Huffman, in Oct. Donna Eisma and Larry (next year) Pacheco a new knee. In Dec. Terry Farrell, John Sylvester and Dud Setters (neck surgery). Well wishes to all!

Some of our great people went to heaven to pitch horseshoes, in Nov. Ralph Carter and Bill Milligan. They will be missed.

Happy Holidays to everyone, have a great off season. Let's make 2010 one of the best ever! **Richard Robbins**

Statistician's Report

The following information covers all of the tournaments held in the NCHPA in the year 2009 from our first tournament at Tulare on February 28th to our last tournament at Half Moon Bay on December 6th. Some of the information will not agree with the stats that determined the winners of the awards at the Nor Cal Tournament. These results are strictly for the year of 2009.

Two new members of the Half Moon Bay Club and one new member of the Tri-Valley Club pitched their first tournaments at Half Moon Bay. This brought our total number of members to 440. Of the total 440 members, 335 (76.14%) pitched in at least one tournament. That left 105 members (23.86%) who did not pitch in any tournaments. 47 Members (14.03%) pitched in only one tournament; 37 (11.04%) pitched in only two tournaments; 26 (7.76%) pitched in only three tournaments. 225 (67.16%) of the 335 members pitched in 4 or more tournaments.

Our members were divided as follows; 132 (39.40%) were 30 foot pitchers. 203 (60.60%) were 40 foot pitchers. As Statistician for the NCHPA, I have access to a wealth of information. At the annual meeting, I was approached by one of our members and asked to include the following information. I have been asked about this information by several members at various times. It is not my intention to start another rift between 30 and 40 foot pitchers. I am simply reporting the facts as they exist. I spent a lot of time compiling this information and I hope everyone will accept it as reported. Please keep in mind that the

difference in the number of 1st, 2nd and 3rd place wins is because some of these wins were made by non NCHPA pitchers. All of this information covers only NCHPA members.

Of the 460 first place winners, 207 (45%) were 30 foot pitchers; 253 (55%) were 40 foot pitchers. Of the 430 second place winners, 182 (42.33%) were 30 foot pitchers ; 248 (57.67%) were 40 foot pitchers. Of the 420 third place winners, 183 (43.57%) were 30 foot pitchers ; 237 (56.43%) were 40 foot pitchers. Our members pitched 9,208 matches (games). Of these matches, 3,954 (42.94%) were won by 30 foot pitchers; 5254 (57.06%) were won by 40 foot pitchers. These are the facts. No attempt was made to make one group look better than the other. Records of every tournament we held this year were used to compile this information. I have hard copies of every tournament and the computer records to prove the accuracy of this information.

The following information may be of interest to you. I have listed the top five members in each of the categories. Most match (game) wins; Thomas J. Latino = 164, Kimmy Stockli = 159, Elaine Butcher = 158, John Sylvester = 158 and Richard Robbins = 135. Most tournaments pitched this year; Thomas J. Latino = 54, John Sylvester = 48, Richard Robbins = 43, Mel Long Jr. = 39, Kimmy Stockli = 36. Most first place wins; Kimmy Stockli = 15, Elaine Butcher = 13, Alan Trusty = 13, Bernard Merchen = 9, Thomas J. Latino = 9.

In 2009 we held a total of 130 tournaments. Total attendance at the 130 tournaments was 3,095. Total ringers were 243,927. Total shoes pitched were 816,061. In addition 84 of our members pitched in 35 tournaments outside the NCHPA area. They made 9,463 ringers and pitched 26,146 shoes in those tournaments.

One last bit of information. 7 members had high games of 80% to 85%; 14 members had high games of 70% to 79%; 31 members had high games of 60% to 69%; 52 members had high games of 50% to 59%; and 63 members had high games of 40% to 49%. Hope to see everyone on the courts next year. **Lee Roy Lassiter**

CODES FOR 2010 TOURNAMENTS

- | | | |
|---------------------------------|--------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| 1. See Flyer/Newsletter/Website | 8. All Groups Handicapped | 15. 2-Day Tournament |
| 2. \$\$\$ Money Tournament | 9. 9:00 a.m. Sign-in Deadline | 16. Benefit Tournament |
| 3. RV/ Car Day Use Fee Yolo | 10. 5:30 p.m. Sign-in Deadline | 17. Free Food/Donations OK |
| 4. \$12.00 Entry Fee | 11. 30' Mix & 40' Separate | 18. Free Food-Pitchers Only |
| 5. \$15.00 Entry Fee | 12. Doubles | 19. Food For Sale |
| 6. Count-All | 13. Random Draw | 20. Drinks For Sale |
| 7. No Handicapping | 14. Reverse Start | |

EVERY PITCHER MUST PAY THE SCORE KEEPER 50 CENTS PER GAME

FEBRUARY

1. Sat. 2/27 Ty Holscher Open 18Tulare
 2. Sun.2/28 Marvin Sanders Open.....Tulare

MARCH

3. Sat. 3/6 Willard Ashley MemorialWillows
 4. Sat. 3/6 20th Annual Tuolumne Co.....Tuolumne
 5. Sun. 3/7 Mark Verdun Open.....Willows
 6. Sat. 3/13 Granite Park 11.....Sacramento
 7.Sun. 3/14 Camellia City Open.....Sacramento
 8. Sat. 3/20 Jim Wallace Open.....Vallejo
 9. Sat. 3/27 R.C Drafting Open 18..... Tulare
 10. Sat. 3/27 The Garzas & Hernandez OpenStockton
 11. Sat. 3/27 Sue Lichau OpenSonoma County
 12. Sun. 3/28 Tulare Jr. Fundraiser 1,2,12Tulare
 13. Sun. 3/28 Martin & Galli OpenStockton

APRIL

14. Sat. 4/3 Bunny Pitch Open.....Tri-Valley
 15. Sat. 4/3 Tuolumne Park & Rec.Tuolumne

4/4 EASTER

16. Sat. 4/10 Joe Stone's Day 3,11Sac.@ Yolo
 17. Sat. 4/10 John Ortega & Ken Weir 19,20Turlock
 18. Sat. 4/10 San Jose Open 17.....San Jose
 19. Sun. 4/11 Remembrance Day 3..... Sac. @ Yolo
 20. Sun. 4/11 Leon Moore Open 17.....San Jose
 21. Sat. 4/17 Bud Grisaffi OpenWillows
 22. Sat. 4/17 Joe Summers OpenVallejo
 23. Sat. 4/17 Bran StarbuckUkiah
 24. Sun.4/18 Dot Colling OpenUkiah
 25. Sun.4/18 Loretta Grisaffi Open Willows
 26. Sat.4/24 Greeott 100th B-Day Sonoma County
 27. Sat. 4/24 Tulare Memorial 18..... Tulare
 28. Sun.4/25 Chavarria & Marino Open.....Stockton
 29. Sun.4/25 All Junior Tournament Open 1,8.....Tulare

MAY

30. Sat. 5/1 Bill Faler & Ed Cortez Open.....Tri-Valley
 31. Sun. 5/2 Saunders Family Open.....Tri-Valley
 32. Thu.5/6 Pat McGowan 10.....Half Moon Bay
 33. Sat. 5/8 Morris Miller Memorial.....Willows
 34. Sat. 5/8 Half Moon Bay MemorialHalf Moon Bay

5/9 MOTHER'S DAY

35. Sun.5/9 Edwina Leonardo OpenWillows
Fri. 5/15 World Tournament sign-in deadline
 36. Sat. 5/15 Ukiah Members Memorial Ukiah

37. Sat. 5/15 Crane Park Open 19,20.....Turlock

38. Sun.5/16 Robert Harrall Open Ukiah
 39. Sat. 5/22 Joe & Millie Schultz Open 2,5,6.....Stockton
 40. Sat. 5/22 Gold Country Open.....Gold Country
 41. Sat. 5/22 John Silva OpenMadera
 42. Sun. 5/23 K-106.3 FriendshipSonoma County
 43. Sun 5/23 " Thanks Behrbaums "Gold Country
 44. Sun 5/23 Birge, Monk OpenStockton
 45. Tue. 5/25 Jim Sample OpenHalf Moon Bay
 46. Tue. 5/25 Glen O'Brien Open 10.....Half Moon Bay
 47. Sat. 5/29 Bill & Bergie OpenTri-Valley
 48. Sat. 5/29 Vern & Marlys WestphalFeather River
 49. Sun.5/30 Tri-Valley MemorialTri-Valley
 50. Sun.5/30 Bud Temple & Janet ParkerFeather River

JUNE

51. Thu. 6/3 Charlie Hall Open 10.....Half Moon Bay
 52. Sat. 6/5 Nancy & Hugh Cloutier Open 17.....San Jose
 53. Sat. 6/5 Red Bluff Open 2 Willows
 54. Sun. 6/6 Bobbie & Bill Parker Open 17..... San Jose
 55. Sun. 6/6 Russ Hodge OpenWillows
 56. Sat. 6/12 Gordon Hilpert Memorial 11..... Indian Valley
 57. Sat. 6/12 McGrath Family OpenVallejo
 58. Sat. 6/12 Will Facey OpenUkiah
 59. Sat. 6/12 Jones Family 17.....Turlock
 60. Sun. 6/13 Memorial for NCHPA 11..... Indian Valley
 61. Sun. 6/13 Bernie Merchen OpenUkiah
 62. Tue. 6/15 Joe Sciarra OpenHalf Moon Bay
 63. Tue. 6/15 Dale Koistinen Open 10.....Half Moon Bay
 64. Sat. 6/19 Sluys FamilySonoma County
 65. Sat. 6/19 Bill Harris Memorial Forebay Park
 66. Sat. 6/19 All Junior Tournament Open 1,8.....Tulare

6/20 FATHER'S DAY

67. Sun 6/20 Forebay Park Open Forebay Park
 68. Sat. 6/26 Bernice Reynolds Open.....Fortuna
 69. Sat. 6/26 Gary & Jay Smith Open 3.....Yolo
 70. Sat. 6/26 Black Oak Casino 1,2,17Tuolumne
 71. Sun. 6/27 Don & Wendell Stephens Open 3Yolo
 72. Sun. 6/27 Henry Clark OpenFortuna

JULY

73. Sat. 7/3 Reb Billingsley OpenFeather River
 74. Sun.7/4 Lee Oliver Open Feather River
 75. Sat. 7/10 Barbara Persson/ Ben Ramirez 19,20.....Turlock
 76. Sun. 7/11Glen Conner OpenVallejo
 77. Sat. 7/17 Bill Terry Open 11..... Half Moon Bay

- 78. Sat. 7/17 Verdán Zelmar Open 3Yolo
 - 79. Sat. 7/17 Golddigger Days 11.....Indian Valley
 - 80. Sun. 7/18 Keith & Foa Remillong 5 pers. Dbl RR.....Half Moon Bay
 - 81. Sun. 7/18 Golddigger Days 11..... Indian Valley
 - 82. Sun. 7/18 Elmer Wilson Tribute 3.....Yolo
 - 83. Sat. 7/24 Scorekeepers AppreciationWillows
 - 84. Sat. 7/24 Rachelle & Steve Chavez 17.....San Jose
 - 85. Sun. 7/25 Walt & Elaine Butcher Open Willows
 - 86. Sun. 7/25 Janet & Don Kies Open 17..... San Jose
 - 87. Sat. 7/31 Chet Carter OpenHalf Moon Bay
- 7/26-8/7 WORLD HORSESHOEPITCHING CHAMPIONSHIPS
Cedar Rapids, Iowa**

AUGUST****

- 88. Sun. 8/1 Bill & Kay Webbe 12 walkingHalf Moon Bay
- Mon. 8/2 State Championship sign-in deadline**
- 89. Sat. 8/7 NCHPA Hall of Fame Open 3Yolo
 - 90. Sun.8/8 Jerry Smith Open 3.....Yolo
 - 91. Sat. 8/14 Scorekeepers Appreciation Day 2,5..Feather River
 - 92. Sat. 8/14 Kim & Mitch Stockli OpenVallejo
 - 93. Sat. 8/14 Nelson/Gadke 17.....Turlock
 - 94. Sun.8/15 Ron & Mary Shaw 17.....Feather River
 - 95. Sat. 8/21 Dick McCall Open 17.....San Jose
 - 96. Sat. 8/21 Forebay OpenForebay Park
 - 97. Sat. 8/21 Richard Cattaneo Memorial OpenMadera
 - 98. Sat. 8/21 Fortuna OpenFortuna
 - 99. Sun.8/22 Forebay Park Open 11..... Forebay Park
 - 100. Sun.8/22 Charlie Kerr Open 17..... San Jose
 - 101. Sun.8/22 Fortuna OpenFortuna
 - 102. Sat. 8/28 Chuck Smith 40/30 3,11.....Sac. @ Yolo
 - 103.Sun. 8/29 Play in the Clay 3Sac. @ Yolo

SEPTEMBER****

9/4-9/5 CALIFORNIA STATE CHAMPIONSHIPS 1

Bakersfield

Wed. 9/08 NorCal Championships sign-in deadline

- 104. Sat. 9/11 Hoelscher Birthday BashTri-Valley

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.

March 14 Daylight savings time begins

July 26 – Aug. 7 World Horseshoe

Pitching Championships Cedar Rapids, Iowa

Sept. 4-5 California State Championships

@ Bakersfield

Oct. 2-3 NCHPA Championships @ YOLO

Oct. 9-10 NCHPA Club Team Championships @ Yolo

Nov. 6 Annual Meeting Vallejo 12PM

Nov. 7 Daylight Savings time ends

PLEASE READ>>>>>>

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

- 105. Sat. 9/11 Scorekeepers Appreciation.....Sonoma County
- 106. Sat. 9/11 Placer Horseshoe Open 17,18...Placer @ Shingle Springs
- 107. Sun. 9/12 Glenn & Shirley Jamieson OpenTri-Valley
- 108. Sun. 9/12 Rookie Open Sonoma County
- 109. Sun. 9/12 Shingle Springs Open 17,18.....Shingle Springs
- 110. Sat. 9/18 Marge & Fred Wood OpenTri-Valley
- 111. Sat. 9/18 Gil Tournour Open Ukiah
- 112. Sat. 9/18 Gilbert Gallegos OpenMadera
- 113. Sun.9/19 Dunn & Shepard OpenTri-Valley
- 114. Sun. 9/19 Ukiah Memorial OpenUkiah
- 115. Sat. 9/25 Tino Faustino OpenFortuna
- 116. Sat. 9/25 Latino Memorial 3,11.....Yolo
- 117. Sat. 9/25 7th Annual Mother Lode 1,2,17.....Tuolumne
- 118. Sun. 9/26 Long Memorial 3,11.....Yolo
- 119. Sun. 9/26 Tim Sjoquist OpenFortuna

OCTOBER

- 120. **Sat. 10/2 NCHPA Championships1, 2,3,15,19..... Yolo**
- ~~~ **Sun.10/3 NCHPA Championships cont.....Yolo**
- *Wed. 10/6 NCHPA Club Team Championship sign-in deadline***
- 121. **Sat.10/9 NCHPA Club Team Championships. 1,15,19. Yolo**
- 122. **Sun.10/10 NCHPA Club Team Championships Yolo**
- 123. Sat.10/16 Park & Recreation OpenStockton
- 124. Sat. 10/16 Whine Country OpenSonoma County
- 125. Sun.10/17 Stockton Memorial Stockton
- 126. Sat.10/23 Day, Whipp & Coates MemorialWillows
- 127. Sat.10/23 Duran Brothers OpenMadera
- 128. Sun.10/24 Fritz Oberst OpenWillows

DECEMBER

- 129. Sat. 12/4 Terry Farrell OpenHalf Moon Bay
 - 130. Sun. 12/4 Rick Della Santina 12.....Half Moon Bay
- Rain Dates for above are 12/11 & 12/12**

NHPA/NCHPA sanctioned tournaments are open to all pitchers from the U.S. and Canada with valid membership cards (excluding the NCHPA Championships and CA State Tournament).

These tournaments will be mixed-distance competition.

These tournaments are subject to handicapping if there is a 15% or greater spread in a group.

The tournament director decides group handicapping, it is not guaranteed.

These tournaments have a 9:30 A.M. entry deadline.

These tournaments have a Standard entry fee of \$10.00.

(Code #1) See Flyer, Newsletter and/or Website for further information. The tournament may include several of the tournament codes: it could be a 2-day event, pre-registration required, etc.

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.

The executive board must approve any changes or rescheduling of dates once the schedule is printed. Please notify Linda Hoelscher or another officer so the changes can be approved and the

information relayed to all clubs in a timely manner.

COURT LOCATIONS can be found on the Internet by clicking on 'CLUBS' at www.nchpa.com

Dear Members, **wow**, our first year is done.

April and I would like to take a moment to thank all for welcoming us into the NCHPA family. We just couldn't find a better group of folks anywhere. We've made new friends and re-kindled old one's. We couldn't be happier.

Even though I've spent most of my life, over 45 years, at Parks and Fair Grounds, watching my Dad and attending tournaments, this was my first year as a member and a competitor.

My Mom and Dad (Mildred and Monte) are gone now but as some of you remember, my Dad was one of the original pioneers of this crazy game we do.

I'm nowhere near the player my Dad was, but then, who is?? Someday though I plan to follow in his footsteps, "look out Rick" :-)

April is thrilled to be active and accepted. Due to an accident over 10 years ago, and 5 subsequent surgeries she's lost most of the daily use of her right wrist, what a bummer since she's right handed. We hope the Dr's will find a way to help her one-day. She's unable to pitch or even keep score at this time, but she does what she can to help our club and all the clubs with raffles, running score sheets, making me bake goodies, and to just be a part of it all.

Our Son, Andy, intends to qualify next year, and our daughter, Ryan Marie, attends when she can.

It's funny how often we comment to each other how lucky we are just to be a part of this. We look forward to next year, and many more to come. We've almost been to all the clubs. If we didn't get to yours this year, we'll make it eventually.

So once again, thanks for having us, thanks for your friendship, thanks for everything. Our dog Omaka would also like to say thanks, but she can't talk. **Tom and April Latino**

PS Did I mention I'm the reigning Rookie of the Year? :-)

AWARD WINNERS FOR 2009

NCHPA Player of the Year Award:
Kimmy Stockli

NCHPA Junior Player of the Year Award: **Travis Sluys**

NCHPA Adult Division Rookie of the Year Award: **Thomas J. Latino**

NCHPA Junior Division Rookie of the Year Award: **Ashley Long**

NCHPA Scorekeeper of the Year Award: **Loretta Grisaffi**

NCHPA Top Dog Award for most tournaments attended: **John Sylvester 50 Tournaments**

Presidential Award **Rick Bermingham**

Most Improved Pitcher of the Year Award **Russ Hodge 14.5% Overall Improved Average**

The 2009 NCHPA Hall of Fame Inductee is: Bill Paddock of the Sonoma County Club, Kneeland

"I expect to pass through the world but once. Any good therefore that I can do, or any kindness I can show to any creature, let me do it now. Let me not defer it, for I shall not pass this

way again." Stephen Grellet, French/American religious leader (1773-1855)

CLUB NEWS

Indian Valley

Well, I don't have much to say. I will say that I have set up a challenge for Angel of channel 10 news to challenge Rick. I told Angel that he will even pitch you left handed. Angel had challenged me a few months back and I told him that I would if I had not had surgery on my pitching arm and was told by the Dr. not to pitch yet. I was then setting up for him to pitch Harry Begay, but Angel's boss will not let him travel that far so set it up with Rick. I thought it would be some good publicity for our charter. **Richard McCutcheon**

Stockton

Well hello again fellow/female Horseshoe Pitchers, we at the Stockton Club wish you had a very filling and Happy Thanksgiving.

We are now almost at the end of 2009 and will be going into 2010 getting ready to start our 2010 Horseshoe Tournament year.

We haven't gotten our 2010 schedule as yet and we hope every Club will get the dates of their choice. If not, honor the schedule and make the best of it and go pitch the best Horseshoes in 2010.

Our Clubs condolences to the families of Bill Milligan and Ralph Carter and hope their family's heavy hearts will be healed.

We have been having a little cold spell here in Stockton and it has just been to cold to go to the courts to work or even practice on them.

Everything seems to have slowed down and with the holidays coming no one is thinking of pitching horseshoes or paying 2010 dues.

Haven't heard of any of our members getting the swine flu or even a runny nose and that is good news. Take care and Happy Holidays. **Peter P. Chavarria**

Sonoma County

Our new Sonoma County Champion is Sue Lichau, she beat 3 time champion Charlie Masson in a playoff game.

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.**

Yes, it's true our legend here in Sonoma County, and throughout the charter, has reached a milestone many of us will not make.

Our pitman Reed Beaman insures us that everything will be in tiptop shape. Even though he's taken a few trips to Kansas lately. He's one of 11 children and has numerous brothers still in Kansas that's the reason for his frequent trips.

We will be holding a tournament in conjunction with radio station KZST here in town.

Michael J. works for them we will hold a K106.3 Friendship Open on May 23. The day prior to that we will have a listener open for just his radio station listeners. Our thoughts are that we could gain some local members, similar to the tournament we were involved with at the Russian River Rodeo last June.

Our raffles here in Santa Rosa are second to none. We have beautiful cutting boards handmade by Greg Ellisen, a variety of garden plants which sometimes includes an orchid donated by the Munderlohs, a variety of fine Sonoma County wines, and other unique gifts.

Our whistle tournament we were going to experiment with never happened. We didn't have enough members show up in October. We ended up handicapping all 3 groups thereby eliminating any chance of a random number of shoes pitched. For the handicap system to function in the computer program you need a set number of shoes.

We hope to see all of you at least once in beautiful Santa Rosa. **Casey Sluys**

Gold Country

HAPPY HOLIDAYS! Some of this is old news cuz I wrote it back in Sept. but missed the deadline so it didn't get into the last News and Views. Really not too much going on up here in the foothills lately although we woke up to a winter wonderland on Pearl Harbor Day! I don't envy the folks in Pollock Pines or Tuolumne as they got a whole lot more snow than we did.

We are trying to figure ways to attract new members and have some ideas that we will try in the spring. We really need to revitalize the club because the members we do have are getting older every day! Andy still isn't pitching although he is doing better and hoping he won't need additional surgery. Keith Harris has foot problems and doesn't know if he'll be able to pitch next year. Lee Stram was unable to pitch this year and won't be pitching next year either. He is back getting chemo treatments and we are all praying that they will work this time. John and Susan Behrbaum want to travel a little more. Sam & LeRoy Whittle and Stacy & Sam Triano still work. Three of our pitching members, John S., Jhon B. and Tom M. live too far away to participate in our weekly club meets so you can see we are

fading fast! I'll let you know if any of our ideas "bear fruit" next year.

We did manage to field 7 pitchers in the "State" with 3 of them doing very well. John Sylvester retained his "umpteenth" title as Senior Men's Champion; John Barney took 2nd in Men's "A" and Tom Munoz came in 2nd in the Elder's Championship Class. Way to go guys and congratulations!! Dave was 5th in his group; Sam & Stacy were both 6th in their groups and LeRoy made lots of friends!

In July, we had a tournament to celebrate John Sylvester's 80th birthday. We had 32 pitchers in 5 groups, which made for an afternoon group but we took a break in between for lunch and birthday cake. I hope everyone had a good time including John, even though he didn't win. Carl Newsom was the TC followed by the winners of groups 2, 3, 4 & 5 who were; Dave Lane, Fritz Oberst, LeeRoy Lassiter and J.C. Miller. The following day we had 26 with Dave as TC, Vern Westphal, Stacy Triano and Mark Verdun winning groups 2, 3 & 4. Congratulations to all the winners and many thanks to all who participated in the tournaments, kept score, sold raffle tickets and helped out wherever needed.

John and Susan Behrbaum made a 5-week trip to Montana and N. Dakota not only to see the countryside but also to place a tombstone on the grave of John's grandfather (I think). This was in a teensie town way up by the Canadian border. Susan said they had a great time. We hear from Karl & Rosemary from time to time. Karl is pitching with the Tucson club and as they have never had scorekeepers at their tournaments, Rosemary is a big hit keeping score for several at once. They say they really like the AZ desert but will be in cold snowy Chicago for the holidays. Keith & Maureen Harris visited them while on vacation in AZ.

Congratulations and kudos to John Sylvester for winning the "TOP DOG" award for pitching in the most tournaments in 2009 – 50 (and he's "80"). Our heartfelt sympathy and our prayers went out to Andy and Maggie Loobey whose 42-year-old son, Danny, passed away very unexpectedly on August 10th. Dealing with their loss and Andy's hip and shoulder problems has made for a very stressful year for them. We are hoping that 2010 will have all our members back in good health.

Sam and LeRoy will be hosting our club Christmas party on Dec. 21st this year. It will be a potluck and gift exchange. Dave and I won't be attending as we will have already left for Arizona and will be spending the holidays in San Antonio with oldest son and his wife. Please note when you receive your 2010 schedules that Gold Country will only have tournaments on 1 weekend in 2010. The dates are **May 22nd and 23rd** and we hope that you'll honor us by attending. Please mark us on your calendars.

Since we won't be seeing any of you until the 2010 season is up and running, the members of Gold Country wish you lots of ringers, good health and much happiness. We will look forward to seeing you on the tournament trail next year. **Cathie Loucks**

Forebay Park

I was going to go up to the pits last week and rake and mow, but now there is 4 feet of snow. So I guess it will

have to wait until spring. FOREBAY PARK CLUB wins NORCAL TEAM CHAMPIONSHIPS at Yolo. Really? Yea, I still can't believe it. Its just amazing what can happen when your team pulls together. On Saturday we were in 3rd place. Then on Sunday our two devoted female players Judy Harris and Kim Stovall went undefeated all day. So congratulations to Rick Eddy, Judy Harris, Bill Lee, and Kim Stovall on their win. I hope to see you all next season at Forebay Park. Come on up for the Bill Harris memorial in June and beat the heat at four thousand feet. **Rick Eddy.**

Feather River

Seasons Greetings to all our NCHPA members. Our club has not had any activities since the last newsletter so I really have nothing to report. I would like to encourage all the Feather River members to please send me their \$32.00 dues by January 31. That will make it easier for both Gail and me to do our part. I would imagine that you will be reminded elsewhere in the Newsletter if you plan to participate in any events in Yolo you will need to send \$1.00 to Carmen Long, 2424 Edna St., Sacramento, CA 95822. (916) 813-2918. Please give her your vehicle license number and this will entitle you to park or camp there with no extra fees.

Reb wants to wish everyone a Merry Christmas and to say that John Sylvester's hernia surgery was successful and he is recovering well.

We look forward to seeing all of you at the 2010 tournaments. **Audrey Winters**

Tri-Valley

Some of our members will be traveling this month Glenn & Shirley are looking forward to their upcoming Cruise. Happy Sailing to them and who ever is traveling with them. Our President Richard is flying to Phoenix on the 15th as Bonnie Jean will be graduating from ASU on the 17th receiving her Masters in Education. Bonnie is a two time Jr. Girl's State Champion of CA. Congratulations to Bonnie and proud Dad Richard. Last week Richard, Al and Linda visited with Bill and Jean Brown and the guys cleaned out their gutters just before the heavy rains came again. Thanks Jean for the yummy lunch you prepared for us. On the 22nd several of us will be meeting for a Holiday Breakfast get together. A good time to visit and enjoy each others company. We want to say Merry Christmas to you all and A Happy New Year. **Linda Hoelscher**

Sacramento

It rained on our Christmas luncheon and some of our members decided to skip it and stay warm and dry but the rest of us enjoyed a very nice lunch and some Holiday Cheer.

Tom Latino, Matt Smith and Dud Setters have worked over some loose stakes at Granite Park so we will be in good shape for our April tournaments.

We lost the oldest member of the club, Ralph Carter, on Nov. 3, 2009. He was 24 years a member of the Sacramento Club and probably chalked up that many years in Southern California before migrating north. Once, retired from teaching, you could find him pitching with 'the gang' at Tahoe Park or with a

fishing pole in hand up in the high Sierras. He will be missed.

Dud Setters is recuperating from some neck surgery but will be good to go come Spring.

Angel Cardinas, from our local Channel 10, has challenged Rick Bermingham to a pitch off at Granite Park on Thurs., Dec. 17, 2009. It should be a lot of laughs. He probably will be asking Rick for some pointers when it is all over.

We were all missing Gloria Callahan last season and found out that she had to have some work done on a knee but is back practicing so we will be looking for her in the Spring.

The Sacramento Club wishes all a HEARTY, HAPPY and HEALTHY NEW YEAR! **Joan Bryan**

Shasta/Willows

Well, another year is gone. We lost some of our members when we shut down the courts in Redding. However we picked up seven new members this year. Our new members are John Aulabaugh, Ray Garcia, Theresa Hodge, Steven Johnston, Lora Lewis, Paul Schmaljohann and Mark Verdun. Our top pitcher was Elaine Butcher; 33 tournaments, 13 first place wins, 9 second place wins including 2nd place in the State Championships and her high game was 77.50%.

Russ Hodge pitched in 32 tournaments and won the award for most improved in the NCHPA. I have to mention that our oldest pitcher, Bud Grisaffi, pitched in 29 tournaments and had a high game of 52.50%.

We hosted 12 tournaments at Willows this year. Our highest turnout was 43 and the lowest was 22 pitchers. The total attendance at our 12 tournaments was 328. Total ringers at the 12 tournaments were 23,387 and total shoes pitched were 78,812.

Shasta/Willows this year had 2 Junior boys, 4 Elders, 4 Women and 11 Men who were active pitchers. That is 21 of our total of 26 NCHPA members. Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. See you on the courts in 2010. **Lee Roy Lassiter**

Shingle Springs

You could hear them approaching from the North, flight feathers tapered, flaps in full, velocity declaration position, gear down and in forward lock, definitely on final, final into the Shingle Springs Community Center area, holding low across the northern power lines adjacent to, and 30 feet above the horseshoe courts, "Flying V" frontrunners already just clearing the clubhouse with the following "Fan" right on top of the upturned faces of Brothers--- Sorensen, King, Couch and Cardinalli, when suddenly, it was "Bombs Away" with one of the missiles hitting Rich King square in the forehead, proceeding to run down onto his nose and cheeks, what you would christen a "Real, Old Fashioned, Canadian Honker Bullseye."

Now you needn't be subject to Rich's diatribe but--- it was one of his finer moments and he's had a few.

We've got about 40 or so "Honkers" that winter with us here at Shingle, right there alongside us on the "Sportsfield." They come and go most every day, mostly taking off to the south and coming back from the north. They have become

the mascots of the whole community and we all love them to death. Beautiful birds, mostly paired off as they do, and basically domestic.

Jack Couch is a pretty fair "Flat Picker" and he was singing about his earlier life in Texas the other day after pitching. I tried to pickup up on his words the best I could and this is what I recall.

Up tempo and in the key of A, I think-----

Well I met her in a Honky Tonk in Houston.
Prettiest "Rear" that I had ever seen,
I loved to watch her work it out on the dance floor,
Moving in those "501 Blue Jeans."

She said "Jack we're goin to 'Waltz Across Texas"
It sounded like a dream I'd never known,
Well, she danced on every bar out in El Paso,
Hell, I wonder why I'm still in San Antone.

Jack's a clever little devil, yes he is----

When that Placer Club shows up around here for their yearly event, they come with it. Like a damn fine, major league, fastball pitcher---"They Bring It."
Holy Smokes, when Chet Rasmussen and Gloria Callahan pull in the driveway they are way down on the "Overloads." Running separate rigs and they are both running way over the limit. If a "Chipper" would happen to look them over close--- I'm afraid he'd have to take them to the scale.

That Placer Club puts on a nice event here at Shingle. Lots of free food and drinks. Huge raffle.

Chet and Gloria like to talk of their relationship and I love to listen.-----

Gloria got injured or ill sometime ago and Chet was concerned and taking care of her. He finally told her if he was to continue in his efforts she was going to have to move into his house which was right up the street from her's. First she refused, but after some coaxing she finally agreed, but just on a tentative basis until she recovered.

"That was thirty years ago. Hee, Hee, Hee."
That Chet is a crafty little devil too---Yes he is.

John Sylvester with a double groin operation----Wish you a rapid recovery John. Reminds me of the story you always tell when you come to Shingle about the "Old Timer" who used to work with you and McCuetchen up there in Greenville.

"You think times are tough now boys----You should have been around during the 'Compression.' Why, I didn't really know if I was going to make it or not when my wife had to go to the hospital and get her 'Ivorys' overhauled."

John's a clever little rascal too.

It's getting late on Tuesday morning and I can't think of any more lies to tell so I'll sign off for now.

Merry Christmas!!!!!! Somehow I like the ring to that. **Dave Cardinalli**



Tulare Horseshoe Club



- Presents -

Tulare Jr. Fundraiser Tournament Sunday, March 28th, 2010 At Centennial Park (Tulare, CA)

Sign in time 9:30 a.m. - Start Time 10:00 a.m.

PRE-REGISTERED - limited to first 20 paid team entrants (\$50.00 per pitcher or \$100.00 per team) No Juniors please

Eligibility: All adult Pitchers must have played in at least 3 NHPA sanctioned tournaments from Feb. 28, 2009 through Feb 28, 2010.

Tournament Format: 20 teams max. (Each team consisting of two pitchers that shall not exceed a ringer percent of 100), your entering ringer average will be verified March 25, 2010 from the NHPA web site, walking doubles style, 4 qualifying divisions will be determined based on total team ringer average, double round robin, cancellation play, alternate first pitch, ties in games remain a tie, ties in divisions will be broken by total points then by total ringers, all pitchers will be handicapped at 80%, each pitcher will pitch 16 shoes per game, pitchers keep their own score.

Playoffs: 1st place team in each division play for 1st, 2nd, 3rd and 4th. division 1 vs. division 4 & division 2 vs. division 3 with winners playing for 1st/2nd & losers playing for 3rd/4th. Ties in playoff will be broken by the flip of a horseshoe. **Payout:** \$800.00 to overall 1st place team & \$600.00 to overall 2nd place team based on 20 teams. No payout to qualifying division places. If all 20 team entrants are not filled, prize money will be figured on a percentage basis & the tournament format is subject to change.

Awards: Plaques, patches & event plates.

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