



From My Court to Yours

By Jim Bainter, MOHPA President

This issue begins the new year with a new column and a new president. The goals of my column will be to provide a summary of what's been happening within the MOHPA since the last newsletter and to identify issues that may have an effect on the activities of the MOHPA or on you, the individual pitchers. I will try to keep subject matter light, but like our business meetings, sometimes we have to conduct serious discussions.

Hall of Fame

One happening within the MOHPA is that Missouri has an opportunity to become the home of the NHPA Hall of Fame if it moves from Joelton, Tennessee. There are other candidate locations, and myriad decisions that must be made before serious negotiations can be concluded. Please see the article in this issue by Joe Faron, our own NHPF representative.

2005 State Tournament

I have been able to finalize the early preparations for our 2005 state tournament in Jefferson City. The Parks and Recreation personnel are already planning the necessary updates to their 12 outdoor courts and making plans for the reconfiguration of the ice arena floor for the 20 indoor courts. I understand they may be contacting Festus to get the clay they need. Two clay samples from the local area were unsuitable. A new club is forming in Jeff City that will use the outdoor courts. They have a tournament scheduled for April 30, which will give everyone a chance to check the courts out before September, and provide an incentive for the Parks people to get the job completed.

The Ramada Inn has been selected as our host hotel. They had the most suitable rooms for our business meeting and awards banquet. Their facilities are being upgraded throughout the next year and should provide a great venue for our formal activities. I encourage all of you to use the host hotel for your accommodations throughout the tournament. This is our way of showing appreciation for the planning and support of our various MOHPA

activities. The Ramada intends to house the pitchers in the main building (87 rooms), which may give us the opportunity to organize some impromptu activities during the weekend. Ladders, anyone? I am sure you can find cheaper hotel accommodations in the immediate area, but none of them could support our meeting and awards banquet. Reservations for our "SHOE" rate will be accepted to the end of August. Please support our host hotel.

For those planning on camping and RV parking, Binder Lake Park is located west of Jeff City, with 12 sites available (phone: 573-636-0665). Also, located 17 miles east of Jeff City, near the confluence of the Osage and Missouri Rivers is the Mari Osa Delta Campground (phone: 573-455-2452).

Tournament Format Changes

At our September 2004 meeting it was voted to move the Doubles to the same June weekend of our Club/Team Benefit in Strafford on a one year trial basis. As a result, we will be reshuffling the Singles schedule from past events. This reshuffle could allow us to handle more Singles entries and reduce the hectic pace of the non-pitching activities. Pitcher participation has been down in recent years — even more than the decline in our MOHPA membership. Let's try to make this tournament the biggest and best we have had in several years. Since this tournament will be centrally located within Missouri, with easy access from most parts of the state, I would like the active tournament pitchers to encourage all their competitors to take part in our state tournament. The proposed schedule and format changes are part of a significant agenda to be acted upon during our spring meeting. I will recap those changes in the next issue.

Shoe Biz


As many of you know, our newsletter is both a major source of pride and the major expense within our charter. It is the only publication that keeps the pitchers informed of statewide activities and provides an important, cohesive bond between us as one of the largest charters in the U.S. One recent change I have implemented is to make the latest issue of Shoe Biz available for downloading on the MOHPA web site. The New Melle club web site has made it available for viewing and download-

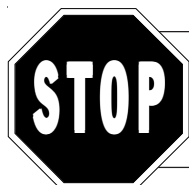
See *From My Court to Yours*, continued on page 4

Shoe Biz Deadlines

The magic number is "9":

January 9
May 9
October 9





**Don't throw me away!
Keep me for future reference.
I am full of useful information.**

Missouri State Officers

President: Jim Bainter
31870 Sunset Road, Gravois Mills, 65037
573-372-3650, cell 816-918-6789
E-mail: jlbainter@charter.net

Vice President: Roy Evans
1709 Seven Pines Drive, St. Louis, 63146
314-878-3845
E-mail: revans@evanspe.com

Secretary/Treasurer: Vicki Winston
10326 Highway D, LaMonte, 65337
660-563-3536
E-mail: secmohpa@iland.net

Statistician: Stan Griggs
5629 Sterling, Raytown, 64133
816-313-1814
E-mail: moshoe@midwestembroidery.net

Zone 1 Director: Charles Killgore
904 South Birch, Plattsburg, 64477
816-930-3353
E-mail: chask@centurytel.net

Zone 2 Director: Rich Altis
232 New Ballwin Rd., Ballwin, 63021
636-394-3640
E-mail: richaltis@juno.com

Zone 3 Director: Bob Bastel
1028 Oak Point Dr., Gravois Mills, 65037
573-374-8243
E-mail: lkhouse@usmo.com

Zone 4 Director: Danny Williams
HCR 64 Box 817 Glen Allen, 63751
573-238-0047
E-mail: nipdpeg@prodigy.net

Regional Director: Elwyn Cooper
6920 NW 78th St., Kansas City, 64152
816-741-0043
E-mail: ivdead@hotmail.com

Hall of Fame Chairman: Bob Diekamp
222 Deer Hollow Ct., O'Fallon, 63366
636-240-6260
Email: b.diekamp@worldnet.att.net

Historian: Earl Winston
10326 Highway D, LaMonte, 65337
660-563-3536

Publicity Director: Pam Henderson
1202 Redwood Dr., Independence, 64056
816-257-1853
E-mail: waynepam@juno.com

Junior Co-Director: Melody Williams
HCR 64 Box 817, Glen Allen, 63751
573-238-0047
E-mail: nipdpeg@prodigy.net

Junior Co-Director: Ron Hughes
18808 E. 25th St., Independence, 64057
816-795-1509
E-mail: pitchinman@aol.com

Newsletter Editor: Jeanette Claas
39 Ayrshire Dr., St. Charles, 63303
636-447-3039
E-mail: dclaas@juno.com



A Touch of Claas

by Jeanette Claas

Promoting horseshoes in 2005 should be our goal. A funny thing happened at school the other day. Our principal has placed a sign in the front of each of the secretaries desk stating that their son/daughter is being assisted & educated, in my case, by Mrs. Claas. (That's a scary thought, isn't it). It also shows a picture of me as a 6th grader. (That's even scarier!) The principal adds that Mrs. Claas is also a horseshoe enthusiast! (Well, that's true enough.) That has brought about a few smiles and comments from the general public as they take a glance at this elderly lady sitting behind the desk. Our police officer changed the screen saver on my computer to read "I would rather be pitching horseshoes" which has also caught the eye of some of our students and general public. As I was sitting behind my desk at school the other day a delivery man with his packages approached my desk. After reading the horseshoe comments, he inquired about horseshoes. He told me he had helped to install some horseshoe pits at the Exotic Animal Paradise Park several years ago. He had planned to come to watch but the rain kept him away. We all recall this event, don't we? He was working for a company in Springfield that worked on the horseshoe courts but since then moved away. He is now living in O'Fallon and yes, he used to pitch horseshoes! He handed me his business card and I quickly invited him to come to NMHC and pitch with us. What a small world we live in. Another new member? I hope so!

A new year and a new beginning for each of us as we welcome in our new president, Jim Bainter, and new vice-president, Roy Evans. Throw away those old calendars and mark your new ones with all the events that the MOHPA has planned for you! Just take a look at the new jam-packed 2005 Tournament Schedule that Coop has compiled for you to pitch in. Will you be the 2005 player of the year? Get those needed tournaments

in early so you will qualify for the World and State Tournaments.

There are enough entry blanks in this issue to keep anyone busy just filling out the forms. There's the MOHPA Team Tournament form (June), the MOHPA State Doubles Tournament form (June), the New Members Application form, and a Hall of Fame Nomination form (now)!

What's this? A caravan of horseshoe pitchers traveling from Massachusetts all the way to Bakersfield, California, for the 2005 World Horseshoe Tournament. C'mon, Missouri, let's jump on the bandwagon and display your "Show-Me" talents on the courts on California soil. Make your hotel & RV accommodations early and plan that vacation now! Check the website for Bakersfield for this info. Look for your WT form in your next NEWSLINE magazine or contact Vicki Winston.

News flash! Could it be possible that the National Horseshoe Pitchers Hall of Fame may be moving to Missouri? Read about Dave Loucks' visit to MO! This will be the last issue to remind you of the prestigious Six Pac Tournament that comes to New Melle at the end of April. Make plans now to see exciting world competition at its finest. Did you know MO claims the fame of having the tallest woman in the world? Read all about her in Wake Up to Missouri. Get acquainted with our new president as you read about his exciting lifetime in the military and his plans for Missouri horseshoes. Read about a guy from the Sunflower State who stood tall on Missouri horseshoe courts. Did you guess the couple in Who's Who in Horseshoes in the last issue? Guess who this next couple might be—they're in their 60's now and have known each other all but 5 years of their lives.

September seems a long way off but our new president, Jim Bainter, is getting things all lined up for our state tournament to be held in Jeff City this year. For all you artists out there, this is your chance to design a T-shirt to wear at State this year — get those creative juices flowing.

See **Touch of Claas**, continued on page 4

New Members for 2005

by Vicki Winston

We welcome the following pitchers who have joined the NHPA for the first time during the 2005 membership year. This list includes all applications received from 10/01/04 through 1/08/05. We're glad to have you a part of the MOHPA.

Name	City	Club
Gregory Balmer	Festus	Festus
Richard Bandy	Union	New Melle
Jack Barry	St. Paul	New Melle
Theresa Barry	St. Paul	New Melle
Rick Bendure	Kansas City	Liberty
Randall Boley	Laclede	Chillicothe
Frank Bourbon	Crystal City	Festus
Steve Diersen	Troy	New Melle
David Dvorak	Hillsboro	Festus
Robert Foreman	Stockton	Stockton
James K. Govero	Ste. Genevieve	Mineral Area
Dorie Greco	Warrenton	New Melle
Scott Griggs	Springfield	
Charles Hakenewerth	O'Fallon	New Melle
Kenneth Hardy	Troy	New Melle
Dave Helderle	O'Fallon	New Melle
Bill Helmer	Pleasant Hill	
John Helmer	Pleasant Hill	
Jim Henry	O'Fallon	New Melle
Ray Herman	Raymore	
Tom House	Imperial	Festus
Matt Jackson	Liberty	Liberty
Larry Lalk	Hillsboro	Festus
Willis McCree	Lake Sherwood	New Melle
Joshua Mundy	Sheldon	
Allan Muscott	St. Peters	New Melle
Ralph Orf	Wentzville	New Melle
Rose Orf	Wentzville	New Melle
Dennis Peters	Union	New Melle
Ron Phinney	Wentzville	New Melle
Dennis Potter	O'Fallon	New Melle
Jeff Schneider	Wentzville	New Melle
Andrew Schrag	Warrensburg	
Bill Schwendeman	O'Fallon	New Melle
Bobby Schwent	Ste. Genevieve	Festus
Duane Sellers	Walker	
Pat Simpson	Wentzville	New Melle
Jeff Sportsman	Wentzville	New Melle
Gary L. Strohm	Springfield	
Paul C. Tschee	Hazelwood	
Elaine Twehous	Holts Summit	New Melle
Matt Vogel	Foristell	New Melle
Bryan Wake	Caulfield	Caulfield
Joseph Welker	Seymour	
Terry White	Festus	Festus
Bob Williams	Troy	New Melle
Douglas Yates	Chillicothe	Chillicothe

What's That Rule?

by Rich Altis



Probably the most common rule infraction other than stepping on or over the foul line, failing to remove a foul shoe from the pit, chatting with a pitcher while they are trying to pitch, moving the shoes before determining the score, or standing in the wrong place while your opponent pitches, is the dreaded "Stepping on the Scoring Area of the Pit."

This infraction of the rules is referred to in Rule 4, Section A, and Rule 6, Section H, Foul Shoe (d).

The part of this rule that most don't understand is "the scoring area." The scoring area is that part of the pit that your shoes could occupy if they were inside a circle around the stake. The size of the circle around the stake is found by adding six inches, (which is the distance a shoe must be within to count as a point) to the diagonal measurement of the shoe, (generally nine inches). That gives you a circle that extends fifteen inches from the outside of the stake all the way around the stake. That would make the diameter of the circle thirty-one inches, which is also the minimum width a pit may be.

RULE 4 – PIT PREPARATION AND MAINTENANCE

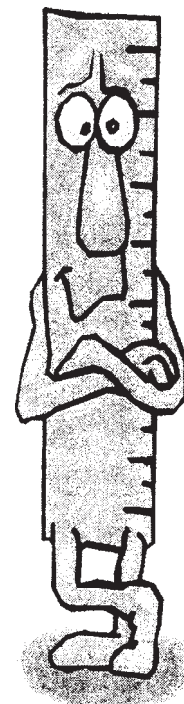
Section A. During a game, a contestant shall not step on, mash, or otherwise repair any of the substance in the scoring area of the pit without the consent of the opponent or a tournament official. Repair needed because of a measured shoe or a shoe which was "buried" shall be SECTION A. During a game, a contestant shall not step on, mash, or otherwise repair any of the handled using the same guidelines.

NOTE: Pits composed of sand or dirt often "hollow out" after a few innings. A blanket statement by the tournament director (made before competition begins) shall allow the leveling of these courts as needed without constant consent between the contestants.

RULE 6 – PLAY OF THE GAME AND VALUE OF THE SHOE

SECTION H. FOUL SHOE

(d) One shoe when a contestant has illegally stepped on the scoring area of the playing surface. When this violation occurs, the contestant shall pitch only one shoe in the next inning. The second shoe shall be carried to the other end. (Rule 4, Section A).





This & That

by Vicki Winston

The holidays are over and I'm wishing they weren't so close together. One of them should be in June or July. Anyway, now that we are in the New Year, how many of you have yet to renew your

NHPA card? You will find a membership application in this SHOE BIZ, or you can print one from our Web site. It is not the tournament director's job to collect your dues, although many are willing to do that in order to allow procrastinators to play in their event. If you are only a warm weather pitcher and pay your dues at your spring and summer league, that is fine, except some of our leagues are a little slow in reporting. Due to a change in the way we mail SHOE BIZ, I am going to need 2005 membership dues reported by around May 9th to make sure our members receive the June issue of SHOE BIZ, which will contain the entry forms for our State Championship Singles and the Mo. State Fair Open Tournaments. I hope everyone will give me their cooperation in this matter. This is a good time to praise all of our pitchers who have already taken care of their memberships for 2005. As of Jan. 8, 2005, I have signed up 429 adults and 13 junior pitchers. I appreciate getting some work done during the fall and winter months.

You should find two tournament entry forms in this issue for events that will be held the first weekend in June at the courts in Strafford, MO. Each tournament has different entry requirements, so read the entry information carefully. On a trial basis, as granted by a vote of the members at the business meeting last September, our annual State Championship Mixed Doubles Tournament has been moved to Sunday, June 5, 2005, and will not be held on Labor Day weekend when we hold the State Championship Singles event. On Saturday, June 4, 2005, we will hold the 2nd Annual MOHPA Open/Club-Team Championship Benefit. The possibility exists for many of you to compete in two sanctioned events in the same location during the same weekend. Entries are limited and on a first-come basis. Entrants must have their 2005 dues paid by the time their entries are submitted, so make sure that everyone in the team event is a 2005 member before sending a team entry. I'll be looking forward to receiving your entries in the weeks ahead. Looking ahead, scorekeepers are always needed for the doubles tournament. It pays \$4.00 per game, so I hope we will have lots of volunteers on June 5th.

Some years ago, the Independence Horseshoe Club made Earl

and me honorary members of their club. They always invite us to their fall banquet and last fall we were finally able to attend. It was nice to visit with folks we hadn't seen for awhile and we also enjoyed the delicious meal. The IHC has some great cooks.

I have the 2005 Certificate of Insurance provided by the company that carries the NHPA liability policy. If anyone needs a copy to show a parks department or some city officials, just let me know and I will get one in the mail to you.

The new edition of the NHPA (blue) By-laws book is now available. Anyone needing a copy of the By-laws, or copies of the NHPA playing rules, please let me know. I will try to get copies distributed to each of our locations where sanctioned events are held when I have some free time. While I'm on the subject of rules, the proposed rewrite of NHPA Playing Rules is now available on the NHPA Web site and is printed in full in the Jan/Feb 2005 issue of the NHPA Newline magazine. This rewrite will be voted on at the NHPA Convention in Bakersfield, CA, in July.

Speaking of Bakersfield, you may want to be a part of the World Tournament Caravan that will be headed up by Leo and Debby Michaud. It will leave Taunton, MA, on July 8 or 9, traveling southwest about 350 - 400 miles per day. The proposed route shows it coming through St. Louis on the way to Oklahoma City, where they will join up with Homer Cain and other caravaners heading west. A barbeque is planned on July 12th in Oklahoma City. Upon reaching Bakersfield, the caravan will have an escorted parade through downtown Bakersfield onto the fairgrounds, where campsites will be assigned. Watch the NHPA Web site's message board and future issues of Newline for more details or changes. An official World Tournament Caravan flag is being designed that will be available for purchase to display on your vehicle as you travel.

Our new MOHPA President, Jim Bainter, hit the ground running and he hasn't stopped since. He is working hard for you and I hope you will give him your help and support. We have a president who may actually travel more miles this year on horseshoe-related activities and business than Mike Gillespie travels attending tournaments—and that is a lot!

Until next time, I leave you with this thought—"When your ship comes in ... make sure you are willing to unload it."

Condensed Financial Report

Balance on Hand 11/01/04 (new fiscal year)	7,420.59
Receipts	5,915.04
Expense	- 5,904.46
Balance on Hand 10/08/04	7,431.17

From My Court to Yours, from page 1

ing. This action has the potential to reduce our publication and mailing costs if you, the MOHPA members, make use of the service. I realize not all members have Internet service and others may prefer to have a hard copy mailed to their home. Comments?

Finally, I would like to hear your opinions on the content of Shoe Biz. Please take the time to tell us what you like and/or dislike about it. Better yet, send us an article for publication. The Shoe Biz staff wants your participation. Email, US Mail or personal contact is okay.

"That's it from the Pits."

Touch of Claas, from page 2

And remember to be sure and send any articles or interesting news that you have learned about to your Shoe Biz editor.

This exciting newsletter has been brought to you by the enthusiasm of Jim Bainter, Roy Evans, Vicki Winston, Stan Griggs, Rich Altis, Donna Bastel, Elwyn Cooper, Joe Faron, Bob Diekamp, Bea Feldewerth, Pam Henderson, Bob Reining, Gregg Craven, Larry Volo, Martin Orf, Melody Williams and Yours Truly.

Until next issue, I wishoe a great 2005 year! May your salary, your housing subsidy, the contents of your house, and all your shares increase in value; and may your blood pressure, weight, house loan, tax, and cholesterol all decrease!

Roy's Ramblings

by Roy Evans, MOHPA Vice President

After celebrating a great holiday and putting aside the thoughts on the worst disaster in our time, I want to thank everyone for the support upon being elected Vice President for the MOHPA. I am looking forward to working with our new President, Jim Bainter. The Missouri horseshoe pitchers have an exciting year ahead of them with the State Double's and Team Tournament being held in June at the Exotic Animal Park in Springfield, and the Missouri State Tournament being held in Jefferson City.

Background on myself: I was raised with family get-togethers where there was always a game of horseshoes. I received my first pair when I was a teen. I moved to Missouri from Michigan in 1970 and pitched in a non-sanction league before moving up to be a NHPA member. I am serious on the courts but not so serious off. I started a machine shop 45 years ago and managed it into a thriving business. I am retired but go into the office and do com-

puter programming for the business and also for the New Melle Horseshoe Club for which I am the Vice President and statistician for two leagues.

Club news: The last Shoe Biz newsletter is published on the MOHPA and the New Melle web site. This has many good results, that is, getting the important information out faster, if you have lost your copy now you can find it on the web, can share the Shoe Biz with other states at no cost, promoting horseshoes. This newsletter will also be on the web.

Further news: Before being elected an officer, I did not know who was responsible for setting up the state tournament banquet. I do now! It is the Vice President. I, for one, have always enjoyed the meal, camaraderie, award presentation and especially the entertainment. I have heard (not directly) that the last banquet was just right but too long. I have some ideas to improve on what I think is a great format. If you have some input, please let me know.

Until next time: A shoe in the hand is better than two in a box!

Dave Loucks Visits Missouri

by Joe Faron & Jeanette Claas

At the September New Melle Horseshoe Club meeting, Joe Faron stood up and made an important announcement that left those members present very surprised and excited.

In July 2001, the National Horseshoe Pitchers Association Hall of Fame found its home at the Jack Freeman Courts in Joelton, TN. Since the unexpected death of Dr. Jack Freeman over a year ago, the situation has come about that the National Horseshoe Pitchers Foundation is in the process of finding a new location for the Hall of Fame.

Dave Loucks, president of the National Horseshoe Pitchers Foundation, and former 18-year president of the NHPA, is corresponding with the other NHPF committee members with discussions of a possible new location. Those committee members are: Dave Loucks (CA), Mary Bastian (TN), Dick Hansen (WI), Joe Faron (MO), Ward Lutz (MN), Paul Stewart (NC), and Barry Chapelle (OR). They are looking for an area that is centrally located in the United States where there is a lot of horseshoe pitching activity. It is their goal to construct a building to house the Hall of Fame and an indoor courts facility such as that in Joelton. They also know they would like to have an active horseshoe club to occupy it and take charge. At the NMHC meeting a committee was selected to help make immediate pending decisions: Joe Faron, Bob Diekamp, Roy Evans, Rich Altis, Larry Volo, and Stan Bailey. They would look into the area for possible sites.

For his "first-time ever" visit to Missouri, Dave arrived at Lambert Airport on a warm November 16 evening. Joe and Roy Evans picked him up and drove to the Evans's home for some good down-home cookin'. The last time they shared a meal together was in Joelton, TN, at a bar & grill where the cook had just walked out, leaving the oncoming meal much to be desired. Recalling that meal, Suzanne knew whatever she fixed would be better than that last memorable meal together.

On Wednesday morning, MOHPA president Jim Bainter, joined Dave, Joe, and Roy to meet with the St. Charles County Parks Department and Joe Ortwerth, County Executive, to dis-

cuss the possibility of a facility to be built on the site of the Quail Ridge Park in Wentzville. The Park is located at the intersection of Interstate 70 and Interstate 64 (Highway 40-61).

After a long day of meetings and discussion they arrived at the NMHC, where the courts were in full activity with the Wednesday Night's Men League play. The night before, Walter Ray Williams had been in town for a bowling tournament and enjoyed using the courts for a little practice session. Other NMHC members were present and anxiously waiting to hear what had taken place that day. Martin Orf, president of NMHC, introduced Dave and Jim to the group of 100 horseshoe members present. With their full attention, Dave informed the horseshoe pitchers, "I am very impressed with what I saw today and meeting with the Parks Department. It will take them a while to make tentative plans, so meanwhile we have other sites to look into, but the central United States is what we prefer. The ideal scenario would be to have an active horseshoe club to oversee and operate the new facility."

On Thursday, Dave and Joe drove to Springfield, MO, to meet with Ron Armitage, owner of the Exotic Animal Paradise Park. Mr. Armitage is also interested in having the Hall of Fame built on his grounds. After a lengthy discussion, they got down to "monkey business." Bringing out a newborn chimpanzee from the animal park, Ron took pictures of Joe and Dave holding the little

See **Dave Loucks**, continued on page 24

The logo for the National Horseshoe Pitchers Foundation (NHPF) features the letters "NHPF" in a bold, sans-serif font. A stylized horseshoe is positioned below the letters, with its ends extending to the left and right, partially under the 'N' and 'F' respectively.

National Horseshoe Pitchers Foundation

Building for the future while preserving
the past and showcasing the present.

Contributions should be mailed to:
P.O. Box 1628
Penn Valley, CA 95946



Last Shoe



JoNell Westhues

April 30, 1941 - January 10, 2005

JoNell Westhues, 63, of St. Charles, passed away on January 10, 2005, after a 2½ year battle with ovarian cancer. This past summer, her husband, Dennis, was diagnosed with lung cancer. Just as they enjoyed their life together, they also shared their illness, worrying about each other until the end.

JoNell pitched horseshoes with the First Capitol Ladies Horseshoe League in St. Charles in 1999, 2000, and 2001. JoNell's husband and two sons encouraged her to pitch, but JoNell never conquered the game of horseshoes. In fact, she found the game to be very frustrating, stating many times, "I hate this game." But she played because she enjoyed the company and camaraderie with her close friends. During her illness, JoNell could be seen sitting on the sidelines cheering her teammates on.

JoNell and Dennis married in 1962 and were blessed with four children. A devoted mother she enjoyed attending and participating in all their events as they grew up. After her children married, she was delighted with each of her eight grandchildren. JoNell was a registered nurse and worked at the St. Charles Medical Clinic for 22 years. After she retired from nursing, JoNell helped keep books for her son's business, Westhues Construction.

Within the last six months, the Westhues sold their home in St. Charles and purchased a condo in O'Fallon. They enjoyed many weekends at their lakehouse on the Lake of the Ozarks with family members and friends.

JoNell was a devout church member of St. Cletus Catholic Church. She was also a member of the Knights of Columbus Auxiliary. In the last several years, she relied on her faith as she attended to the needs of her parents as they struggled through old age and finally death. JoNell was always caring for someone.

JoNell is survived by her husband, Dennis; two sons, Dan and Darin; two daughters, Denise and Debi; eight grandchildren; and her sister Kay Schroeder of OK. JoNell will be sadly missed by her family and by the many friends she made throughout her lifetime. JoNell's unique laughter, sense of humor, spirit, and friendship will always be remembered. The ladies of the First Capitol Horseshoe League bid our dear friend a fond farewell until we meet again.

Our Sympathies

Missouri horseshoe pitchers send their sincerest sympathy to **Junior Hemsath** whose wife, **Joan**, passed away on November 7. Joan had suffered with lung cancer for several years. Although Joan never pitched horseshoes she was seen many times keeping score for her husband's team. She was a wonderful person. She will be sadly missed by all who knew her. Our sympathy is also extended to Joan's sister, Carol Driller, who is a member of the First Capitol Ladies Horseshoe League.

The MOHPA members extend their sympathy to **Reba Kenley**, two year member of Independence Horseshoe Club, who lost her

husband, **Ron**, on December 22. Our condolences are being sent to you.

Our condolences are sent to: **Carol Howard** of NMHC, whose brother died suddenly due to a heart attack during the Thanksgiving holiday. **Rose Diekamp's** oldest sister also passed away suddenly suffering from a massive stroke in November. **Cal Jaeger's** brother died shortly after the Christmas holiday. **Ron Wilmes** of NMHC, whose sister also passed away after Christmas. Our thoughts are with each of you during your bereavement.

Our sincere sympathy is sent to **John Simms**, NMHC member, whose dear wife, **Rosalie**, passed away on Jan. 14 after a long illness. Rosalie traveled to Nashville with the New Melle bunch several times. She was well liked by all.

Get Well Wishes

NMHC had several members undergoing surgery recently. Our best "get well" wishes are being sent to **Norb Stoverink** who had back surgery on Nov. 3; to **Ron Phinney** for pancreas problems; and to **Mary Beeson** on December 7. Also, **Stan Bailey** had neck and shoulder surgery before the holidays. Word was just received that **Charlie Smith** had open heart surgery on January 4 and his wife reports that he is doing well. We hope to see them all on the courts after they mend.

Our thoughts and prayers were sent to **Connie Grady**, wife of horseshoe pitcher **Randy**, who underwent bilateral surgery on Nov. 4th. An e-mail was received from Randy stating, "I would like to thank all the MOHPA members that sent cards and phone calls during Connie's illness. She is doing great in both health and spirit. The test results came back very encouraging and we expect a speedy recovery." It looks like Randy will soon be dragging her around to many more horseshoe tournaments in the future.

Get well wishes are being sent to **Ron Craven** of the Liberty Horseshoe Club. Ron is 88 years old and has been in the hospital this past month with lung, heart and kidney problems and is now on dialysis. We hope Ron continues to improve each day.

Russell Box, of Independence Horseshoe Club, has had some health problems and surgery, but is doing good now. Keep up the good work.

Larry Langewisch, of NMHC, has had surgery on three of his four limbs in recent months: carpal tunnel surgery on both hands and surgery on a broken bone in his foot. He looked like he was sent to Iraq and back. He either had an arm in a sling or a cast on his foot but he kept right on a pitchin'.

Ralph Richardson, of the Peculiar Horseshoe Club, had to have surgery on both of his little toes in December. Toe-maine poisoning? Ralph had some difficulty with circulation but he is home now and reported he is doing better. We wish Ralph the best and hope he will be ready to pitch some horseshoes soon.

And of all people, the least likely candidate to have a heart attack, **Rich Altis** surprised us all. While raking leaves he experienced chest pains and his wife, **Ann**, drove him to the hospital where they inserted a stent. His doctors have told him to 'take it

easy' for several months. Little Richard is now going through rehab and says he is feeling fine. He always did think raking leaves, just like snow shoveling, should be left to the women!

NMHC member, **Francis Griesbauer**, was taken to the hospital for an irregular heartbeat and put on medication. Francis is getting everybody's attention at NHMC with his extremely good pitching.

Word was received that **Ron Hassler** of Jefferson City recently had back surgery on a herniated disc on Dec. 14. He is doing well but had to give up his spot in the Superbowl Tournament.

An e-mail from the Stewlie Club says that Stewlie #267 Pretty Lady, alias **Joan Elmore**, of TN, underwent surgery in November. The surgery was a complete success and she is recuperating for a period of six weeks. Joan carries the highest woman's average in the world. We will be looking for you back on the courts again!

Thank You Notes

From **Ginny Weiss**: "To all of you who were kind enough to send me cards, call me on the phone, and visit me in the hospital, not to mention all those healing prayers, thank you from the bottom of my heart! After that painful weekend in Springfield, I'm happy to say that I'm all better and ready to pitch some good shoes! God's blessings to everyone in the new year!"

From **Larry Volo**: "To all the horseshoe pitchers who have shown their kindness and concern for me while I am at home recuperating with their cards and telephone calls. All your thoughts and prayers are very much appreciated."

A note of thanks to **Joe Faron** from **Bob Long**: "When I left horseshoe pitching in the summer of 1988 while employed with the UPRR with a back injury that ended my RR career and also horseshoe pitching, I thought the world had come to an end. At my last MO State business meeting in 1987 at Independence, the meeting was conducted at night time on the bleacher seats without a microphone, so the person closest to Wayne and Vicki got their attention if they had something to address and the rest of the members in attendance were literally in the dark. After your transfer to President from Vice-Pres, I noticed things were a-changing'. You have moved the MOHPA out from behind the barn. As a fellow classmate of Jim Bainter, I know he will be a willing and trying President, but you have set a hard act to follow for him and anyone else that will come along. You have, with your business-like manners, set an example. I personally thank you for a job well done. Hope to see you on the courts again, pitching those shoes."

Another note of thanks to **Joe Faron** from **Phyllis Quist**, of Washington state. "I just finished reading two-plus full pages of your bio — I'm impressed! Just wanted to pass along congrats on your fruitful years as President of the MOHPA. I know you have been the backbone of the organization for years. Take time to sit back, relax and enjoy. I only served four years as President and I enjoyed holding the gavel but I find life is good on this side of the gavel also. It was my privilege to have been associated with you. Hope to see you down the road."

The Saga Continues...

Like the Energizer Bunny, the Shoe-Me Girls of Missouri just keep on going, and going, and going. Congratulations to **Tami Knobbe** who took a leave of absence from the first half season of the Jack

& Jill Winter League at NMHC to have her third daughter, **Molly Ann Knobbe**. Molly weighed in at 9 lbs., 1 oz., and was born on the 16th of December. Besides being born on ShoeBiz editor's birthday, this special baby also made her debut on TV! The nurses' at St. John's Hospital were on strike during Molly's birth, and Mom was interviewed to see how the strike had affected her birth. Teammate **Jill Knobbe** is Molly's favorite aunt and teammate **Kathleen Ann Goetges** was the baby's namesake. Her two older sisters, **Madelynn** and **Morgan**, and **Papa Cary** are the proudest of all. Another new Snitchie in Training.

And at the same hospital, during the same strike, several stories down lay another horseshoe pitcher, **Larry Volo**. Larry had undergone knee surgery and feeling lots of pain. All the pretty nurses were out in the cold standing by a warm fire with their picket signs, and there he was stuck with some male attendants brought in by another hospital. All he wanted was a warm blanket. Meeting Larry's needs with some quick thinking, the male attendant put the blanket in the microwave to warm it for him. In no time the blanket caught on fire, smoke filled the hospital, and you could hear Larry yelling for miles. 911 was soon called, the hospital evacuated and Larry soon cooled down. Seriously, during the surgery they found a torn ligament behind the knee, making the surgery that much more complicated, and with a longer time to heal. Larry will be laid up for at least six weeks undergoing therapy from the Chinese torture lady who comes to his house daily. Larry spent his 80th birthday on New Year's Day, dreaming of the time that he can be back on the courts. "I thought the Cardinal's training session was hard, but it's nothing compared to this." Happy 80th, Larry and many, many more!

Congratulations to **John** and **Stephanie Vandeven**, members of the Backyard Horseshoe Club, on the birth of their 3rd son, **Von Stephen Vandeven**. His brothers, **Victor** and **Vincent**, think he is *great!*

Uh, oh! **Joe Faron** just recently celebrated his 70th birthday in the sunny state of Florida on January 13. My, how time flies when we're having fun. Not only has horseshoes been a big part of his life, but another sport also claims him. Joe recently found out that he is being inducted into the St. Louis County Baseball Hall of Fame for his contribution to the sport. Congratulations, Joe!

Another big milestone birthday for NMHC member **Ray Nadler** who celebrated his 80th birthday on November 28th. Ray is not only a veteran of horseshoes but a veteran from WWII. We are so proud of this gentleman who is so respected by his peers. But you better watch out when you're in competition, he knows how to get those ringers. Eighty ringers for you on your 80th birthday, Ray!

A note from **Pam Henderson**: "Hello, I just want to say I am so honored to pitch with you ladies. You ladies are so tough and you are getting tougher. Just keep up the good pitching and all the work it takes to be good. I've heard it said, 'Practice makes perfect.' I don't practice that much. I think pitching against someone in your percentage class is the best practice. If you don't think you scare me, well, you are wrong. You all worry me! You also make me feel so good. You are my idols and heroes. I have learned so much from you and how wonderful you are to make me feel like I'm wonderful. I wish you all the best in 2005 and may the best girl win this year. I just can't say enough about how great you all are. See you on the courts, Pam Henderson, your State Champion."

California, Here We Come!

2005 World Horseshoe Tournament • Bakersfield, California, July 18–30

by Jeanette Claas

With the support and backing of the Bakersfield Convention and Visitors Bureau, the Southern California Horseshoe Pitchers Association will be host to the 2005 World Tournament.

Bakersfield is “America’s Big City Neighborhood.” When most people think of Bakersfield, they usually think of agriculture, oil, and the old West. However, the face of Bakersfield has been changing. Not only does Bakersfield have that homespun hospitality, it is ever emerging into a leader of industry and a center for arts and entertainment. Located just 110 miles north of Los Angeles, Bakersfield sits in the south San Joaquin Valley. Bakersfield’s close proximity to everything makes it a wonderful, and cost effective, hub for your California vacation.

Some of you may think it is a long way to come (exactly 1,850 miles from St. Charles) but if you have ever considered taking a vacation to California, what better time than to do it in 2005. Bakersfield offers something for everyone. From the old west to dynamic new architecture, historic animal fossils to exotic dining, country music to hip hop, giant antique shops to indoor megamalls, Bakersfield has something for you. Bakersfield is within a half day or less driving distance to Sea World, San Diego Zoo, San Diego Wild Animal Park, Lego Land, Disneyland, Knotts Berry Farm, Magic Mountain, Las Vegas, the Pacific Ocean, Yosemite and the Sequoia national forest. There is something to do for everyone no matter what you enjoy. There is also a regional airport in Bakersfield that runs shuttle service to Los Angeles. Bakersfield is also the home of Buck Owens, Merle Haggard, and Dwight Yoakum. If you would like to find out more about the Bakersfield area you can go to www.bakersfieldcvb.org. Please take a moment and visit their website. Pass this information on to your fellow horseshoe players.

The tournament will be held at the Kern County Fairgrounds in Bakersfield. The venue will have two air-conditioned buildings that will house a total of 48 courts and a third building that will house all other NHPA staff and functions. There are about 200 RV sites with hook-ups right on the fairgrounds. There are plenty of concession stands, and 26 outdoor practice courts are within 3 miles of the fairgrounds. Hotels are in abundance in all price ranges.

My fellow Missourians of the great Show-Me state, I ask you: How does sunny California appeal to you now that we are in the midst of another cold Missouri winter? **Just show me the pits!** Whether you arrive by car, caravan, bus, train, or plane to this exciting town, you will be tucking away many horseshoe memories as you meet new friends and become reacquainted with old ones on the courts. If you have never attended a World Tournament, you don’t know what you are missing and now is the time to find out. If you are just thinking about or contemplating the idea, talk with someone who has attended and they will fill you in. Last year, the Bransons made their

first trip and they will be the first to tell you what a great experience it was! Won’t you join us this year? The deadline for tournament entry is the middle of May. **Don’t forget!** If there is not an entry form in this issue, you may get one from the January-February *Newsline* magazine. See pitching and competition at its best. It is the most fair and even percentage wise tournament in the world! Make plans now to attend!

NHPA Sponsored Flag Contest

In you haven’t been following the message board on the NHPA Web site, plans are in the works to form a caravan to the World Tournament in Bakersfield. Leo Michaud, from Massachusetts, is going to serve as the wagonmaster. He has already made a drive to the west coast to plot out the course. It will go through Oklahoma, since Homer Cain is the one who thought up the idea, and he and some others will want to join in at that point. Watch the NHPA message board and *Newsline* magazine for further developments concerning the caravan if you are interested in participating.



The NHPA sponsored a contest for the best design of a horseshoe pitching car flag. Every member had the opportunity to have his/her design become the official flag waved from the automobiles of horseshoe pitchers all across the county! The flags will be used on all vehicles participating in the 2005 Caravan to Bakersfield – developed to promote the NHPA from coast to coast. Be sure to read your January *Newsline* for detailed information on this project.

The flags will be offered for sale through NHPA Game Related Items. Designs were to be submitted to NHPA 2nd Vice President, Casey Sluys, no later than January 1, 2005. The design had to fit an 11” high × 14” wide area and met the following criteria: 1. Easily identifiable as horseshoe pitching; 2. Easily read – even at 55 m.p.h.; 3. Eye catching; 4. NHPA website address must be included (horseshoepitching.com).

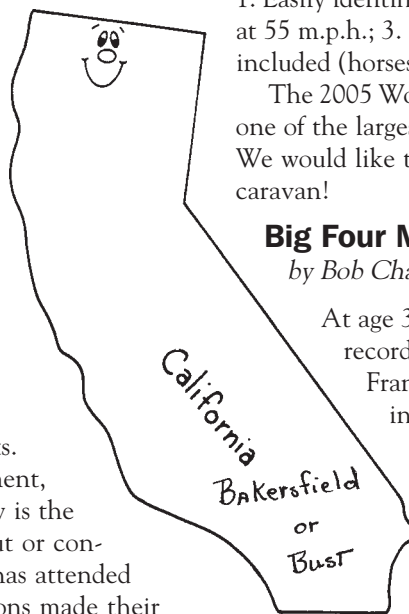
The 2005 World Tournament Caravan has the potential to be one of the largest promotional events the NHPA has ever seen. We would like to invite members from your state to join in the caravan!

Big Four May Meet at Bakersfield

by Bob Champion – Colorado’s Double Ringer

At age 34, Ohio’s Alan Francis has compiled a fantastic record at World Horseshoe tournaments. Since 1995, Francis has won eight of his ten World titles, finishing second twice.

Horseshoe pitching recognition started when Francis won five junior titles in Missouri while adding four more at the World before moving to the adult men’s division. It certainly was a great start for his future accomplishments.



Like most World champions, Alan has outstanding men's state records. He captured ten titles in Missouri, losing only one game in those ten years. (That would be to Kenny Pogue – the first game that he pitched in the Men's Division.) After moving to Ohio, Francis has won eight state titles, only losing to Ohio's Jim Walters in 2001.

Competing in the men's division for 17 years, Francis has won ten titles beginning with his 1989 conquest at Spearfish, South Dakota, at age 19. Ted Allen, the only other ten-tournament winner won his first World title at age 24. As is the case with most juniors advancing to the "big time," the first two years become a learning process. In the first two years of competition, 21 of his 55 games were losses.

Since 2000, only four pitchers have reached the 80% overall figure. Francis has hit the 80%-plus level in all five years. Brian Simmons from Rhode Island, World Champion in 2000 and 2002, hit 80% in the three years he has competed at the World. He has missed the last two World tournaments.

Joe McCrink from New Jersey, who has won 15 state titles, has pitched only in the last two years and has reached the magic figure both times. Jim Walters has been in the top ten the last five years and has one 80%-plus outing.

Brian Simmons has had foot surgery for a pinched nerve and is not sure whether he will compete at Bakersfield this year, but the other three members of the "fearless foursome" — Francis, Walters, and McCrink — plan to attend. However, Simmons has not lost his touch. In September, he captured his seventh New England title with a whopping 88.3 ringer percentage. He has won 12 state titles in three states plus two junior championships.

The stage is set for Bakersfield 2005 and the horseshoe-pitching kingdom is ready for the quartet to sing a bushel of ringers. "Ringers are our business, and we know how it's done."



Announcing: A Second Facelift

by Stan Griggs, Statistician

The MOHPA web page (<http://www.mohpa.us>) has had a second facelift. This is now the third look we have had since going online back in 1998. There are new links and updated links now available. If you are not getting the new look, you may need to hit your refresh button. Things to check out include links to information about association officers, profile articles from past Shoebiz newsletters, the 2005 schedule, 2004 minutes, job descriptions for officers, and 2005 state tournament information. You can also download the latest edition of ShoeBiz.

I hope you all enjoy the new look and new links. And you all thought I was just laying around since the state tournament.



Earl's Pearls

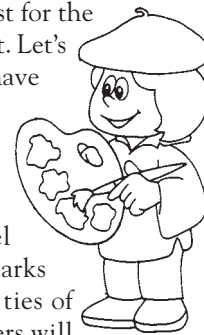
A murderer is condemned to death. He has to choose between three rooms. The first is full of raging fires, the second is full of assassins with loaded guns, and the third is full of lions that haven't eaten in three years. Which room is safest? See page 13.

Design a T-Shirt Contest

by Donna Bastel

As you all probably know by now, the 2005 State Tournament will be held in Jefferson City, the state capitol of the Show-Me State. How would you like to design a T-shirt for that State Tournament? We have many talented and artistic horseshoe pitchers in our great state and now it's your chance to display your artistic ability.

We are going to have a shirt design contest for the shirts to be sold at the 2005 State Tournament. Let's get some real competition going. I know you have the best design floating around somewhere in your head right now as you are reading this! Get your creative juices flowing. Get started now on your design.



All entries must be sent to Donna Bastel and received by February 25, 2005. Postmarks or email date stamps will be used to break ties of duplicate or very similar designs. The officers will vote on the best T-shirt design at their Winter meeting on March 5.

The person with the winning design will receive a free Singles entry in the 2005 State Tournament and a free shirt. If you have any questions, contact Donna Bastel:

1028 Oak Point Drive
Gravois Mills, MO 65037
Home: 573-374-8243
Work: 573-374-8878
Email: lkhouse@usmo.com

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This Guy I Know

by Wayne & Pam Henderson

There's this very T-AL-L guy who has stood out on the horseshoes courts for more than 30 years. He is an excellent horseshoe pitcher who also just happens to be a very nice guy. I remember one of these nice times when he was pitching horseshoes at a Heart of America Horseshoe Tournament in Kansas City. He was exceptionally nice to Sharon Taylor. They were nearing the end of their game and this guy had her down 38 to nothing. He let up a bit, so she could at least score. **Now, that's what I call a really nice guy.** After the game was over, he remarked he would never let up again on any game, because, you see, Sharon won that game.

This Kansas horseshoe pitcher was born on August 12, 1929. Everyone in Missouri calls him Junior. He was one of 7 children who grew up on a farm. He helped raise tobacco and drove trucks to haul various things for people. He enjoyed all sports in his younger days, especially basketball, where his height gave him a certain advantage. Growing to the height of 6' 7", it was no wonder he would be the leading scorer on the Platte-City High School basketball team, beating all the teams in their division. (I told you he was TALL.)

At age 18, this guy went to work at Gould National Battery and then Uncle Sam drafted him in 1951. That same year, he married Agatha Lorene Lentz on November 3. After serving a hitch in the U.S. Army, he came home and went back to work as an electrician at the Gould National Battery in Leavenworth, KS. He retired from this company at the age of 59, after being employed there more than 41 years. This guy and his wife had three children, Kenneth, Philip, and Sandra.

He has a great love for music. For 21 years, he also worked bartending and playing music in a country rock band on many nights and weekends. Playing the guitar and singing, the band played country & western, pop, and went wild on the "rock and roll" scene, playing a lot of Elvis tunes. He and his wife can really cut a rug on the dance floor. All eyes were always on this guy and Agatha.

Sports have played a big part in his family's life. He loved all competitive sports. He excelled in bowling, good enough to be in the 200-average league. He coached his boys in baseball. Now this guy is watching his grandchildren play sports.

By the age of 44, this guy developed a back problem and looked for a sport to exercise his back. He was introduced to horseshoes in 1972. He took up horseshoe pitching and became very competitive. Through horseshoes, he met Buzz Dickson, Gene Fleek,

Bill Chester, and Pappy Cavener and formed a horseshoe club in Leavenworth. They hosted many tournaments at Hawthorne Park over the years, as well as traveling to many tournaments in Atchison, Lawrence, Topeka, and Bonner Springs, KS. He also pitched in many tournaments in Missouri: Liberty, Kansas City, St. Joseph, Independence, and Mound City. He pitched in the Platte County Fair once.

In his younger days, he would travel around and go to lots of tournaments, winning some and losing some. "I went to the world tournament in 1978. It's kind of like having a little vacation along with doing the sport you like," says this guy. He has won so many awards, plaques, patches, and trophies that they are too numerous to count. His highest season was 56%. His greatest achievement was winning the 1990 B Class Kansas State championship in Topeka.

As the ghosts of aging began affecting him, his strength began to decline, so he started wearing gloves to get a better grip on the shoe. When his back went sour, he tied a small hook on the bottom of his cane, so he could pick up his shoes without having to bend over. Now this guy pitches with a cane and pick up stick; the cane and pick up stick are one. The Leavenworth native grips

a cane with his right hand and pitches shoes with his left hand. "I'm kind of down to my last hobby, and this is good exercise," this guy remarked several years ago. "I have had a couple of kinds of cancers and back problems and leg problems. I don't know how I do it. I just gut it out, I guess."

One day after a tournament, this guy was leaning on the back of his car, legs stretched out and really leaning forward, making us think he was sick or something possibly was wrong. It had been a very hot day, so we thought he might have been overheated, but no, this guy was stretching the calves of his legs so he wouldn't get cramps in them. He told us it really works and now we do it,

too, and he is right. Good lesson from this guy.

Who is this guy that stands so tall in stature, you ask? Well, he's Guy Tinder from Leavenworth, Kansas. The *Lawrence Times* newspaper has featured many articles on him. Now 75, he has had to give the sport up, finding that he misses this game that is still "in his blood." Today, when the weather is warm, he can often be found sitting on a bank fishing for a little crappie, and no longer on the horseshoe courts. But Guy Tinder has many horseshoe moments to remember as he waits for the fish to bite. He's the kind of guy that really loved to pitch horseshoes. We love you, Guy!

Missouri horseshoe pitchers salute this Kansas horseshoe pitcher who crossed the Missouri River many times to compete in horseshoe events in Missouri, showing off his talent and skill on the Missouri mud. 'Show Me' a humorous and cheerful guy from the Sunflower State and we'll show you Guy Tinder who has served as an inspiration to all.



 **check this out!**

MOHPA has a new address: www.mohpa.us



Wake Up to Missouri

by Jeanette Claas

Question

Ninety-two cold Missouri winters have passed now since six strong pallbearers carried the cypress casket from the Harmony Grove Baptist Church and lowered it into the church's cemetery soil. As many as 900 relatives, friends, and curious onlookers attended the funeral of Missouri's Giantess.

When Ella Ewing was born March 9, 1872, she appeared to be a normal, healthy child in every way. But unbeknownst to anyone, a tumor was growing on her pituitary gland. By the age of seven, Ella began to grow "faster than the corn" in northeastern Missouri. By the time she was 10, she was 6' 9" tall. Ella would reach her full growth at the age of 22 with a record-setting 8' 4"!

Her parents were hardworking farm people with a small income. At the age of 18, she began making public appearances. The manager of a Chicago museum convinced the family that Miss Ella could make profitable appearances where she would be respectfully treated. Her parents at first refused offers of shows and circuses, but finally agreed to let her appear at \$250 a week plus expenses. She appeared with both the Buffalo Bill's Wild West Show and the P.T. Barnum Circus. Being a feature attraction, she greeted the curious who paid 10 cents to look, a quarter to shake her hand. Being very self-conscious about the size of her feet, a curtain was drawn in front so they would not be exposed to the public. Her feet grew to be a size 22, measuring 16 inches long and 9 inches across the widest part. She found happiness with the circus people, who didn't find her so strange or different. With the money she earned, Miss Ella helped her parents move from their small cabin in the woods to a large home with high ceilings and 9-foot doorways. The house has since burned down.

Miss Ella became ill while on tour and returned home. She died January 10, 1913, at the age of 40. The Embalming Burial Case Company of Burlington, Iowa, was said to have put its entire force to work all night and half the next day to make her casket, designed with a fancy octagon end and covered with white plush. The casket was so long that the seat in the horse-drawn hearse had to be removed to allow the rear doors to close. The funeral cost \$284.80, while the average funeral cost at that time was \$50.00.

In 1969, the Missouri Dept. of Conservation named a 15-acre lake near Gorin the Ella Ewing Lake. The gentle giantess from Missouri is remembered not just for her great size but also for a kind heart and towering spirit.

If you live in northeastern Missouri then you have heard of Ella Ewing. The story of Miss Ella has been largely forgotten except among the people whose roots are buried deep in this piece of rural America. The best place to recall her life is at the Downing House Museum in Memphis, a small town close by. Memphis is at the junction of Highways 15 and 136 in Scotland County.

Not too far from here is a coal-mining town which has 53 recorded mines. The discovery of coal during the late 19th century caused the population to peak at 5,000. The depression, miner's strikes, and the decline in the demand for coal each had an effect on the town's economy. The last train pulled out in 1950 and Billy Creek Coal Mine, the last deep-shaft mine in the state, closed

in 1966. Today the town no longer has mines working around the clock or hears the whistle of the trains, but each year over the Memorial Day Weekend the community goes back to the Coal Miner Days, three days filled with festivities that preserve the area's rich heritage. Can you name this coal-mining town located seven miles west of Kirksville?

Answer

The town of **Novinger** is very unique, as it is the only town in the world with that name. John C. Novinger was a landowner who granted right-of-way to the Quincy, Missouri & Pacific Railroad. During the Coal Minor Days Festival, a prize is given to whoever has the tallest horseweed, corn stalk, or soybean. Also included is a horseshoe tournament. This year, the 17th Annual Horseshoe Pitchers Tourney was directed by John Airale, the only pitcher in the town to hold a sanctioned NHPA membership card.

John Airale grew up in Novinger and has pitched horseshoes throughout his lifetime. After high school, John hit the beaches in Normandy during World War II. His job selection located him in the Boston area, where he became a NHPA member in 1976, pitching in tournaments all over New England until his work schedule took too much of his time and forced him to drop his membership. After retirement, John moved back to his hometown and renewed his membership in 1994 with dreams of starting a horseshoe club in Novinger. He started the Novinger Coal Miners Horseshoe Club in 1997 with eight members, but the league folded in 1998. The club is still in existence, and each year John tries to get something going but interest in league play is slim. His last MOHPA pitching appearance was at the MO State Fair where he won the "J" Class championship. The same year he won 2nd place at the MO State Tournament in Class "C". Along with his partner, John Egeland, he placed 2nd in the Doubles Tournament in "D" Class. His enthusiasm for the sport of horseshoes has increased instead of waned with the passage of time.

See **Wake Up to Missouri**, continued on page 13



This picture was taken in the apple orchards of Normandy, France, near the Omaha Beach head. For a bit of R&R after the D-Day invasion (1944), John Airale is pitching the shoe as his buddy, Tony Sardini, waits his turn amid the sounds of war not too far distant. Missouri horseshoe pitchers salute this veteran for serving his country during wartime. And by the way, John, we know who won the war, but did you win the game?

Horseshoe Pitching Locations in Missouri

As known on October 27, 2004

(For information, contact the following)



Backyard Horseshoe Club (Glen Allen)

Indoor
Danny & Melody Williams
HCR 64, Box 817
Glen Allen, MO 63751
573-238-0047
Email: nipdpeg@prodigy.net

Ballwin Horseshoe Club

Rich Altis
232 New Ballwin Road
Ballwin, MO 63021
636-394-3640
Email: richaltis@juno.com

Capitol City Horseshoe Club (Jefferson City)

Steve Bruemmer
48 Marcus Drive
St. Peters, MO 63376
636-541-3232
Email: s.bruemmer@worldnet.att.net

Caulfield Community Center

Robert and Esther Kingsolver
11508 County Road 7630
Caulfield, MO 65626
417-284-3042

Chillicothe Horseshoe Club

Donald Plowman
1712 Clay St.
Chillicothe, MO 64601
660-646-0174
Email: djplow@greenhills.net

Crane Creek Ringers Club

Bill or Judy Waisner
37445 State Hwy 413
Crane, MO 65633
417-723-0081
Email: Joebillorjudy@wmconnect.com

De Kalb County Horseshoe Club (Maysville)

Joe Owen
2614 S. W. Water Street
Maysville, MO 64469
816-449-2692

Festus Horseshoe Club (Crystal City)

Indoor & Outdoor
Eddie Valle
1626 Scenic Drive
Festus, MO 63028
636-933-3528

First Capitol Women's League (St. Charles)

Sally Montgomery
2745 Penbrooke Lane
St. Charles MO 63301
636-947-1391

Golden Triangle Club (St. Charles)

Jim & Carol Howard
119 David Drive
St. Charles, MO 63304
636-441-7679
Email: horseshoejc@aol.com

Heart of America Club (Kansas City)

Kent Armstrong
4011 N.E. 52nd Terr.
Kansas City MO 64119
816-453-4052
Email: armstrongkent@juno.com

Heartland Indoor Horseshoe Assn. (Don Harris Arena, Liberty)

Indoor
Gregg Craven
1474 Hemlock
Liberty, MO 64068
816-781-4132
Email: GreggandA@juno.com

Higginsville City Park

Glen Elmore
200 W. 16th
Higginsville MO 64037
660-584-3395

Hudson Hall Clippers (Crane)

Indoor
Frank & Ruth Hudson
Rt. #1, Box 139
Crane, MO 65633
(417-723-5429)

Independence Horseshoe Club

Al Gwinn
916 South Logan
Independence MO 64050
816-461-1746
Email: gwinnad916@yahoo.com

Lake of the Ozarks Club (Laurie)

Bob & Donna Bastel
1028 Oak Point Drive
Gravois Mills, MO 65037
573-374-8243
Email: lkhouse@usmo.com

Liberty Horseshoe Club

Nile Abbott
P.O. Box 12024
Parkville, MO 64152
816-741-4188
Email: naabbott@kc.rr.com

Lions Park Horseshoe Club (Peculiar)

Danny Branson
7505 E. 197th Street
Belton, MO 64012
816-331-0939
Email: Branson3ringers3@aol.com

Mineral Area Club (Park Hills)

Indoor
Boxie Schrum
1331 Perry Dr.
Bismarck MO 63624
573-734-2658

Mountain View (3 Ringers Court)

Dan Hobbs
1230 County Rd. 3030
Mountain View, MO 65548
417-934-6741

NEMO Horseshoe Club (Kirksville)

Gary Coy
1606 S. Downing Street
Kirksville MO 63501
660-665-2402

New Melle Horseshoe Club

Indoor
Martin Orf
4706 Highway P
Wentzville, MO 63385
636-332-3310
Email: morf@mail.win.org

Novinger Coal Miners Horseshoe Club

John Airale
P. O. Box 176
Novinger, MO 63559
660-488-5341

Pitchers Paradise Club of Stafford (Exotic Animal Paradise Courts)

Travis Arthur
270 S. Meadowlark
Fair Grove, MO 65648
417-759-2526
Email: arthurfodge@wmconnect.com

**Pony Express Horseshoe Club
(St. Joseph)**

Dean Jameson
3311 Messanie
St. Joseph, MO 64501
816-232-5577

Ray County Horseshoe Club (Richmond)

Toby Carmichael
503 Cunningham
Richmond, MO 64085
816-776-5221

**Saline County Horseshoe Club
(Marshall)**

Tom Ebers
C/o 162. W. Court
Marshall, MO 65340
660-886-5520 (Business)
Email: tebers@kc.rr.com

**Shelbina Library Park Horseshoe
Club**

Russell Ebbing
105 Wind Mill Circle
Shelbina, MO 63468
573-588-2244
Email: russelle@dstream.net

Stockton Horseshoe Club

Marion and Letha Harris
8021 E. Hwy K
Stockton, MO 65785
417-876-4104

Tri-County Horseshoe Club (Tipton)

Cheri Dix
801 Barry Drive
Tipton, MO 65081
660-433-2092
E-mail: 6pack@iland.net

Tri-State Horseshoe Club (Diamond)

Indoor
Carlyle E. Gricks Jr.
18765 Beech Rd.
Diamond, MO 64840
417-325-4456

**Happy 80th
Birthday
Ray Nadler**

Nov. 28, 2004

Birthdays are good for you — the more
you have, the longer you live.


Wake Up to Missouri, from page 11

There is a club for horseshoe pitchers in northeastern Missouri called the Northeastern Missouri Organization (NEMO) that was organized in 1995. John and his brother, Marion, are charter members. Gary Coy, MOHPA member of Kirksville, was president and John, vice-president, when the NEMO first began. Another MOHPA member in the northeastern area is Ron Attebery of Ewing.

Novinger also hosts the Labor Day Homecoming Festival, which culminates with a horseshoe tournament that is directed by John, complete with trophies for the top finishers in three or four classes. About 25-30 horseshoe pitchers from the area attend these tournaments. John and Marion mostly pitch locally now in nearby towns of Kirksville and Green Castle, and tournaments held in Shelbina. "Over the years, I've had about 125 different players in my tournaments," John reflects. I usually get more players to my tourneys than the NEMO Club."

If you are ever in the northeastern part of Missouri and would like to witness small town pageantry, you would be most welcome to participate in the horseshoe tournament. The eight courts that John built in 1997 are located at Route O at the west end of the business district. The sleepy town of Novinger with a population of 550 "rises and shines" for at least two days a year during these events.

Missouri certainly recognizes John Airale, 81 years young, for his enthusiasm and love of horseshoes. We now know there are plenty of horseshoe pitchers in the area surrounding Novinger. The Missouri Horseshoe Pitchers Association would like to invite all the horseshoe pitchers in the northeastern area to become acquainted with an organization that takes horseshoe pitching competition from small town pitching to local, state and national levels! We would love to include you in our membership!

 **Answer to "Earl's Pearls"**
The third. Lions that haven't eaten in three years would already be dead! (From page 9.)

Happy 85th Birthday, Larry!

Congratulations to NMHC member Larry Gilchrist, who recently celebrated his 85th birthday with his fellow horseshoe pitchers on December 3, 2004. Larry is a lifelong resident of Missouri. He and his beautiful wife, Shirley, have five children. Larry served in the Marines for 3 1/2 years during WW II. To keep his children in milk, Larry found work at Pevely Dairy for his occupation. Larry started pitching horseshoes at the age of 13 with the St. Louis Playground Association during the mid 1930s. In 1978, he pitched with the Warren-St. Charles County Horseshoe League. He built four courts at Lake Sherwood in 1981 and captained it until 1989. He joined the NMHC and the MOHPA/NHPA in 1989, is a charter member on the Wednesday Night's Men's League where he continues to participate. In 2002, he joined the summer league at Washington, MO, on the Happy-Go-Lucky Team. Larry has enjoyed traveling to Nashville and Liberty for tournament competition. If he can't pitch, you will see him keeping score. Larry is a horseshoe enthusiast whose wholesome spirit is an inspiration to all.





Capitol City Horseshoe Club

by Steve Bruemmer

WANTED! Volunteers and pitchers to help jump start the new Capitol Horseshoe Pitching Club in Jefferson City, MO!

The new year has quickly come upon us and now is the time for new beginnings. The Capitol Horseshoe Pitching Club is working with the Jefferson City Parks and Recreation Department in getting the horseshoe pits updated and ready for the 2005 season. League play will begin in late spring with single league play on Thursday evenings and double league play to be held on Sunday evenings. Sanctioned tournaments will be held throughout the year. The first tournament will be held Saturday, April 30th.

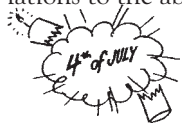
Volunteers are needed to help get this new club up and running. Contact Steve Bruemmer at 636-541-3232 or email him at s.bruemmer@worldnet.att.net. Look forward to having a large turnout to help support this up and coming club. See you in 2005! Note the corrected e-mail address.

Liberty Horseshoe Club

by Gregg Craven

We just finished our two Fall leagues: Tuesday League Champions are: Denise Bloss, Robert Johnson, Roy Flatt and Jeff Stanton. Wednesday Morning Champions are: Clark Armstrong (KS), Ray Canchola, Nick DiRaimo and Tammy Stanton. Most Improved were Kent Armstrong (22.5 points) and Alex Roberts. High Averages were Nick DiRaimo – 109.3 and 111.5 points. High Games: Nick DiRaimo – 131 and 120 points. High Over Average (points) Bob Bloss 27.22 and Audra Craven. High Ringer Game Patches went to: Lee Crabtree 60%, Kent Armstrong 50%, Ray Bendure 40%, Larry Bailey 30%, Michael Beem, Rick Bendure, Alex Roberts, Don Roberts, and Joe Owen 20%, Matt Jackson 10%. The 2004 Sportmanship Awards went to Angela DiRaimo, Nick DiRaimo and Nile Abbott. Rookies of the Year were Frank Martin, Ken McAllister and Daryl Parker. We will start our winter league in January in the Don Harris Arena as will the Heart of America and Independence Clubs. Thanks from all of us, Don!

We have just received the sanctioned Leagues National Top 10 awards for Liberty Pitchers. They are: Girl's Division – Laryssa Stanton, 7th High Game 42%, 7th High Ringer Over Average 18.56 and 10th High Ringer Average. 30 Foot Men's Division – Nick DiRaimo – 6th High Game 132, 6th High Average 64.74%, 6th High Game 84%. Women's Division – Audra Craven, 6th High Game 76% and Mary Vogel – 9th High Average 111.5, 6th High Ringer Average 66.88%, 5th High Ringer Game 78%. Congratulations to the above horseshoe pitchers and continued success!



Independence Horseshoe Club

by Pam Henderson

Our President is still Al Gwinn. Our new Vice President is Rick Gwinn. Our new Secretary/Treasurer is Wesley Cline. League Director is Neal Straughn. Refreshment Chairperson is Loree Meier. Our Statistician is Terry Kampe. We voted to go to one

night only in league play. Haven't decided on which night yet. That will be decided in the spring.

Our tournament dates are Memorial Tournament on Feb. 19. Our Open Tournament dates are May 14 and Sept. 17. Call our new Tournament Director Rick Gwinn 816-373-3719.

Our thoughts and prayers go out to the Clifford Pierce family. They had a rough year and to end it all with their home burning down. They escaped with just what they had on. Thankful for that. Thanks to all who has helped them out.

We wish Ron Craven a big "get well." See you on the courts in Independence.

Peculiar Horseshoe Club

by Roena Branson

Happy New Year to everyone! Out with the old and in with the new. I hope everyone has a healthy and happy new 2005 year.

When we had our year-end banquet dinner and awards in October, Terry Bishop resigned his duties after being our president for 10 years. Terry had decided it was time to take some time off as president but he will still be active in our league and tournaments. Thank you, "Tubby", for all you have done as president of our league. As of October, Danny Branson will now hold the position as president and Ralph Richardson will be our new vice president. If you have any questions, concerns, or comments for Danny or Ralph please feel free to contact them at any time.

Another note in the Shoe Biz tournament schedule the number for Glenn Bowman 816-430-5456 is an invalid number. Please call 816-293-5856 if you would like to pitch in the Peculiar tournaments. If for any reason you are schedule for one of our tournaments and have a last minute cancellation or may be late please call Danny's cell phone @816-668-3095.

Since my husband, Danny, had his back surgery in September he has decided to take a year off from pitching but he will be around to help in keeping score and other duties. He felt he needed to make sure his back was healed really well. He has gone back to work (would rather be retired) but he is improving each and everyday and we are so thankful. Things are almost back to normal in the Branson household.

Just want to put out a reminder that our league starts on Thursday, April 15 at 7:00pm. So league members write this on your calendar.

Well, I heard from a little bird during one of our tournaments last year that our scoreboards were really hard to handle and the pitchers couldn't see their scores because the boards had to be leaned up against the fence and I must say I have to agree. So keeping this in mind, Danny and I have revamped our scoreboards and I must say you will all be surprised at what we have done to improve them. They look great. By the way the little bird is a singing canary (C.P. from Florida). Thank you for giving us the idea.

As usual Ron Highley is working on the plaques for 2005. Some are completed and 90 more to go. Ron said look for a change again in the design. Come see what he comes up with. Until next time, get ready for a ringer of a new year.



Missouri Horseshoe Club News

Backyard Horseshoe Club

by Melody Williams

Winter has finally arrived at the BYHC! The wood stoves are in full operation! We have some really nice new lights up in the building! Now we have no excuse for not hitting the peg! Isn't that what we are supposed to be hitting?



A special Thank You goes out to our fellow Kentucky horseshoe pitcher and friend, Bob Piper, for installing our lights and maintaining them for us! What would we do without volunteer helpers in our clubs?

Another special Thank You goes out to the pitchers from NMHC who participated with us in our competition against their own club on Dec. 4. We hope they didn't mind "crossing over and helping the rivals." For the first time since the competition against NMHC and BYHC started, the Backyard Club claimed the title! We were very surprised and excited about the victory! BYHC 43 wins, NMHC 33 wins. Thanks to all who helped in this victory.

BYHC has a good start in the near future for PeeWee pitchers! Word has it also that Danny and Melody are going to be grandparents again early June and mid June. Both daughters are expecting! They already have a 4 year old granddaughter who is already starting to pitch shoes! Watch out horseshoe pitchers!

BYHC has several sanctioned tournaments scheduled throughout the winter. Just call us to reserve a space for you in the tournament. We have a few loyal horseshoe pitchers who have been known to come and pitch with us on open tournaments on Saturday nights and spend the night in the club so they don't have to drive back on Sunday for the sanctioned tournaments! Come on over! Bring your cots, sleeping bags, etc. We have a lot of fun!

Just a friendly reminder to all horseshoe pitchers in the BYHC area and beyond. Your 2005 dues are due **now**! You will not be allowed to participate in any sanctioned event without paying the 2005 dues and having a current MOHPA card. This is being strongly enforced by the NHPA to us (MOHPA) so please follow the rules! Remember: No pay, No play! Have a great 2005 and keep pitching those shoes!



Lake of the Ozarks Horseshoe Club

by Donna Bastel

As I write this on January 6th, the Lake of the Ozarks is up in our yard and our horseshoe pits and gazebo are in the water. Never before have we seen the water this high at this time of year. This is a minor problem compared to the Tsunami damage. Our prayers go out to all those people who lost their family members and homes in this disaster.

On a brighter note, our Club has a few things to crow about this year. First, as you all know, one of our members, Jim Bainter, was voted in as MOHPA President. Jim's enthusiasm for the sport of horseshoes and his organizational skills will be a huge asset to the MOHPA. Congratulations, Jim!

We also have two members who won Sanctioned Club and League Top Ten awards. Doug Peoples, a 30 foot pitcher, took 5th in High Ringer over Average. He pitched an 80% game, which was 31.96% over his average. Roger Sinclair, a 40 foot pitcher, also took 5th in High Ringer Over Average with a 55% game, which was 31.67% over his average. Congratulations to you both!!!

Not much pitching going on in our neck of the woods right now. We are planning to take a team to NMHC's Team Tournament in February. Hope to seem some of you there!

YEAH: Youth Excited About Horseshoes

by Melody Williams/Ron Hughes

Hello from the Youth Directors! We hope all of our Youth and their families had a great Christmas and a Happy New Year!

We have been doing some research on a few questions that some of our Youth and their parents have been asking us that we didn't have answers for. We had answers for them but were not really sure if they were the correct answers or not! So, we now have an answer to one of the questions in this newsletter and will answer other questions in future issues. A special thanks goes out to NMHC member, Rich Altis, for his help in researching this matter for us. This question was answered by Bonnie Siebold, NHPA 4th Vice President. Here is the question: **"When must a junior pitcher change to an adult status?" The answer is: "The change from Junior status to Adult pitcher is in effect as of**

January, the calendar year that he/she turns 19 years old." In other words, if you reach the age of 19 at anytime during that calendar year you will be pitching as an adult as of January of that year. A Junior pitcher must be 18 the entire year to pitch as a Junior. We hope this clears up any questions that anyone has regarding this. This rule would also apply for the Pee Wee pitchers reaching the age of 9, but we as of yet haven't received an official reply to this issue from the NHPA.

If at any time you have questions, comments or concerns for us regarding any Youth horseshoe issues, or if you would like one of us to come and give a presentation to your Youth group, school, etc. just let us know! Ron Hughes covers the NEMO and Melody Williams covers the SEMO area.

Keep pitchin' those shoes! Practice makes perfect (so we have been told!) Do yourself and a Youth a favor! Get them involved in horseshoes and keep them off the streets and out of trouble! (Well, most of the time horseshoe pitchers stay out of trouble!) Have a great year in 2005!



Profile: Jim Bainter

by Jeanette Claas

When Jim Bainter was elected to be Missouri's Horseshoe Pitchers Association president, I knew very little about him except for the fact that he was willing and able to take on a leadership job that would require much of his time and energy. That quality alone speaks highly of any person. Since Jim is fairly new in the "horseshoe circuit," I thought it may be of interest for the horseshoe pitchers of Missouri to get acquainted with their new president, and Jim obligingly agreed to be interviewed.

Jim's life began in Missouri and after traveling around the world for 35 years, he returned to his roots in 1998 to once again make Missouri his home. Jim was born and raised in Liberal, MO, a small farming community of about 850 located in southwest Missouri, 10 miles west of Lamar. As a young boy, Jim loved baseball until his high school years when basketball became his favorite sport. Jim graduated from Liberal high school in 1960 (with Bob Long, current Elders Champion) and attended MO School of Mines and Metallurgy (now U of MO-Rolla) majoring in Mechanical Engineering. In 1963, he joined the Air Force (AF) after qualifying for their Aviation Cadet program, which would train him as a navigator and grant him a commission as a 2nd Lieutenant a year later.

His first assignment after 15 months of training was to Albuquerque, NM. It was a special, one-of-a-kind unit responsible for nuclear test readiness. They flew the AF cargo version of the Boeing 707 airliner. Working with government labs such as Sandia, Los Alamos, and Lawrence, they were involved in several aerial scientific research projects. In addition to collecting data from underground nuclear test programs, tracking solar eclipses, measuring cosmic ray concentrations and the earth's magnetic fields, photographing and analyzing the Northern Lights phenomena was part of their varying routine. The downside was that they had to spend around six weeks a year in Hawaii and other weeks traveling throughout the world!

In July 1969, Jim was directed to attend F-4 training near Apple Valley, CA. The F-4 was a two-place, multimission fighter aircraft used extensively in Vietnam; it is now obsolete. Jim would spend 2½ years as an instructor before going to Thailand in October 1971. During his time in CA, he met his wife, Elaine, from Stanwood, IA, who was a lieutenant stationed in San Antonio, TX. Three days after they married, they found out Jim was going to Southeast Asia. Six weeks later, he was on his way to Thailand — a short honeymoon! About 18 months later, they were back together again in Apple Valley, CA, where they spent the next two years before he went to the Air Force's Command and Staff College. And yes, he knew Roy Rogers — nice guy. He lived just

a few blocks away and they bowled in the same league. It was one of his few encounters with a national celebrity!

After Staff College, Jim was assigned to Austin, TX, as a staff officer responsible for aircrew flight and survival equipment and training for bases west of the Mississippi River. A little over two years later, Elaine got out of the AF and they were off to the Philippines for two years. He was back in the F-4, his last flying assignment and another staff position. From the Philippines they traveled to Wright-Patterson Air Force Base in Dayton, OH. This organization was responsible for the development of new or improved aircrew flight and survival equipment. Two years later he was selected to fill a new position in the Pentagon created to manage the Air Forces aircrew life support and survival training and oversee the research and development programs for aircrew equipment at Wright Patterson. In July 1984, after 11 assignments in two countries and six states, he retired from the Air Force as a lieutenant colonel with 21-plus years of service.

With the AF now behind him, he went to work for a contractor at the NASA Space Flight Center in Houston, TX. Two years later he started work for an aerospace supplier of restraint systems (shoulder harnesses and lap belts) for military and civilian aircraft. After working for this California company for almost 12 years in marketing and program management — moving from Houston to Atlanta and then Yorba Linda, CA — Elaine and Jim opted to get out of the rat race. They moved to their present home at the Lake of the Ozarks to be closer to their families in east-central Iowa and the Kansas City area. Until January 2004, Jim worked for a small family-owned aerospace business on Long Island, NY, on a part-time basis, doing much the same as he had done for the last 30 years — working with aircrew safety equipment.

After moving back to MO, Jim started bowling again and met several people from the local area. One evening

at the bowling alley, Doug Peoples approached him about pitching horseshoes with the Laurie club. He became a member of the MOHPA/NHPA and joined the Laurie Club in May 02 when their Doubles' League started. Jim did not bowl locally until Fall 01. Dick Byersdorfer, a horseshoe pitcher who started at the same time Jim did, called Jim looking for a bowler, or he may not have started pitching when he did. During his first year of pitching, Jim had the same reluctance most beginning pitchers have, an "I'm not good enough to play in a tournament" mentality. The second year he pitched in 10 tournaments and two leagues. "I found out I really enjoyed tournament pitching and meeting the great people in the sport. The next year I helped Donna Bastel with her local tournaments and became director for one of the three tournaments hosted by the Lake of the Ozarks Horseshoe Club. I took an active interest in club activities, and in turn, the MOHPA," Jim relates. In 2003, Jim was elected MOHPA Vice



President and when Joe Faron resigned as MOHPA president, Jim was elected to fill that position.

Jim's first exposure to serious horseshoes came when he attended the World Tournament in Stone Mountain, GA, as a spectator. It was only 15 miles away from where he lived in the Atlanta area. Jim was so impressed by what he saw, he went back home and built a court in his back yard. "With no one in the neighborhood to practice with and a travel schedule that left little time to pursue a horseshoe club and organized activity, I eventually put my interest in horseshoes on the back burner. I still have the shoes from the set my wife bought for me in Atlanta but have moved on to a professional shoe. The problem is I don't seem to pitch them any better! I've been to the last two World Tournaments — an event I guarantee you will enjoy if you haven't had the experience. It should be on everyone's 'to do' list."

Being a "rookie" on the courts, Jim has found out he can learn a lot about pitching by just watching the good ones, listening to their conversations, and asking a few questions. "Rich Altis has had the most influence on my pitching since I throw a flip shoe and that's how he started out. I have spent more time on the courts with him coaching me than anyone else." Supporting a Missouri product, Jim throws the Six Pac shoes and is still working on a style suitable to him.

There are no children — by choice. They have four cats — all strays who have adopted them, three since arriving at the Lake.

Besides horseshoe pitching, Jim boats and fishes a little and enjoys an occasional round of golf during the year. Elaine doesn't pitch, yet! Jim is teaching her to keep score and she will be spending more time around the courts. "Elaine still thinks quilting is more important right now," quips Jim. All of what used to be his spare time is now being taken up with MOHPA activity. He sees it as an opportunity to give back to the sport that has become so important to him. Jim and his wife both look forward to an exciting term as our new president. And we, as the horseshoe pitchers of Missouri, certainly intend to give him our full support.

I think you will agree that Jim has certainly lived an interesting and exciting life. His military background will make him a good leader for Missouri horseshoe pitchers. His years of travel experience has taught him much. We are certainly happy that Jim came back to the Show-Me State for his retirement years. More so, we are most thankful that Doug Peoples resparked Jim's interest in horseshoes by inviting Jim to a game of horseshoes. By all accounts, I would say, Jim is definitely hooked on horseshoes! Missouri is very lucky and fortunate that a man of Jim's ability decided to run for president. He started working the day he got elected. He has what it takes to become a good leader and a good horseshoe pitcher — determination. His best line, "I may never pitch in a championship class, but I will never stop trying." With the determination of a weed, Jim may just wind up there one day. We'll see.

Who's Who in Horseshoes?

by Jeanette Claas



The photo you saw in November's *Shoe Biz* was taken the day after he graduated from high school on May 22, 1948. Leroy and Fran Dominique dated for three years while attending high school and couldn't wait to tie the knot. They didn't have money to pay the preacher so their best man did!

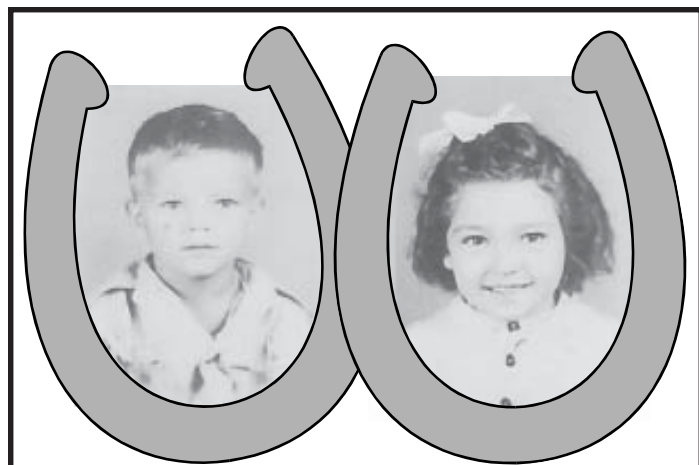
Leroy and Fran have been life-long residents of Livingston County. Leroy joined the National Guard while he was a junior in high school (1947) and continued serving with the guard until he retired in 1991 as first sergeant. He was a shop foreman at Ford Garage in Chillicothe, where he worked in the same building for 41 years. Fran worked the first year of their marriage and then soon the "boys" started arriving on the scene. They became the parents of four sons, Gary, Joe, Steve, and Scott. All have pitched horseshoes, but Steve is the only son presently pitching. Their grandson, Rusty, and his wife, Julie, of Holts Summit, also are MOHPA members and enjoy competition play. Today the Dominiques keep busy with the company of eight grandchildren and seven great-grandchildren.

Leroy and Fran would pitch horseshoes at family reunions. Before any club was formed in the town where they lived, a group of horseshoe pitchers would get together to pitch at Clay Street Park. Later, in 1977, a meeting was held to organize the Chillicothe Horseshoe Club, but the pitching didn't get started until the following spring of 1978. She has been secretary of this league for 23 years and Leroy has served as Vice President many years. In 2003, they also joined the Retired League that plays in the wintertime at

Liberty on Mondays. Over the years, they have pitched in tournaments held at Maysville, Marshall, Liberty, Peculiar, St. Joe, and other small towns, collecting many trophies along the way. They have pitched in the MO State Fair Tournaments for many years.

They have attended eleven MO State Tournaments and have been to nine World Tournaments. Leroy placed 2nd in Syracuse, NY, losing to Roy Evans. Leroy recorded a high game of 80% at Liberty in the Don Harris Arena and his high average has been

See *Who's Who*, continued on page 18



These two cute little kids met when they were only starting to go to kindergarten!

Who are we?

Find out in the next *Shoe Biz*!

Shoe Biz Boosters

by Vicki Winston

Would you like faster delivery of SHOE BIZ? Persons contributing \$10 or more towards defraying the cost of our newsletter are receiving SHOE BIZ via first class mail for three issues. The date the first class mail and listing will cease appears above the listing. Make your check payable to the MOHPA and send it to our secretary, Vicki Winston, 10326 Hwy D, LaMonte, MO 65337. Thanks for your donation!

Expires after February 2005 Issue		Expires after June 2005 Issue		Expires after November 2005 Issue			
Bob/Donna Bastel	\$20	Rich Altis	\$20	Wes Brakensiek		Bob Renfro	\$20
Danny/Roena Branson	\$20	Wayne Barber	\$20	Jim Claxton		John Setzer	\$20
Elwyn Cooper		George Chichura	\$20	Roy/Suzanne Evans	\$20	Ken Sykora	
Val Eikel		Lee/Beverly Crabtree	\$20	Joe/Alice Faron	\$20	Jerry Weller	
Dave/Bea Feldewerth	\$20	Wayne/Pam Henderson	\$20	John/Betty Fite		Earl/Vicki Winston	\$20
Edward Griffith	\$20	Jim/Carol Howard	\$20	Ken Grossman		Expires after February 2006 Issue	
Dan Hobbs		Bob Long	\$20	Donald Isaacson		Gary Ball	\$40
Charles/Rita Killgore	\$20	Rodney Mallinckrodt	\$20	Larry Kerns	\$20	Ernie Ellermann	
Frank Miles	\$40	Bob Reininger	\$20	Jon McKnight	\$15	Carlyle Gricks Jr.	\$20
Ann Strus	\$16	Bud Ward	\$20	David Molitor		Wesley Reed	\$20
Mike Watkins	\$20			David Redhage		Fred Smith	\$20

Who's Who, from page 17

46%. Although born with a slight handicap, it never kept Fran from doing anything in her lifetime, not even horseshoes. Fran has won her share of tournaments, a tough competitor on the courts who managed to pitch near 40%. Fran won 2nd place in Class L in Greenville, OH. She pitched her high game of 56% at Shelbina. They have both been MOHPA members since 1977.

They remember the first State Tournament that they attended in the early 80s. It was held in Springfield in back of an auto repair shop on Campbell Street. A local businessman had about four of the establishments in Springfield and put a pavilion up behind one of them. There were 12 nice courts under that roof where sanctioned league was played. At one time they had more than 100 pitchers in the club. But the pavilion was torn down when the businessman ran into financial difficulty. The Dominiques drove their pickup camper and stayed at a nephew's house nearby. They were nervous with anticipation of playing in their first state tournament and didn't know quite what to expect. They never won anything, but gained experience for the future state tournaments ahead of them.

Besides pitching horseshoes, traveling around in their fifth-wheel camper, and playing cards, they are also active members of the Masonic Lodge and the Elk's Lodge. Today, in their mid seventies and married for almost 57 years, you can still see them pitching on the courts in competition. I doubt if horseshoes have kept them together, but it certainly has had an affect on their lives, bringing them many good times and memories shared together. "We have found horseshoes to be fun and good exercise. Over the years we have enjoyed traveling to many tournaments and meeting people all over the United States."

Missouri is proud to have this horseshoe couple among us, reminding us that the family that plays together, stays together. Together, they share the sport. Thank you, Leroy and Fran, for setting a fine example of togetherness, and for your time and dedication to the sport of horseshoes.

No Nursing Home for Me!

With the average per-day cost for a nursing home reaching \$188.00, there is a better way when we get old and feeble. I have ascertained that I can get a nice room at the Holiday Inn for around \$65.00, which leaves \$123.00 a day for food, beer, room service, laundry, gratuities, and special TV movies.

They have a swimming pool, a workout room, a lounge, washer, dryer, etc. Most have free toothpaste and razors, and all have free shampoo and soap.

Super 8 is somewhat more economical and they have a free breakfast, though you have to walk next door for lunch and dinner. There may be a bit of a wait to get that first floor room but that's okay; it takes months to get into a decent nursing home.

There is the Senior bus, the Handicap bus (if you fake a decent limp), a Church bus or van, cabs, and even a regular bus. For a change of lunch, take the Airport bus and eat at one of the fast food cafés there.

The Inn has security, and if someone sees you drop over, they will call an ambulance. And should you break a hip, the American way is to sue. What more can you ask for? As a bonus, they all have AARP and other Senior discounts. So:

When I reach the Golden age, help me keep my grin, just check me into the nearest Holiday Inn!

2004 MOHPA State Champions



Men	Stan Griggs
Women	Pam Henderson
Elders	Bob Long
Seniors	Bob Outt
Junior Boys	Tyler Elfrink
Junior Girls	Laryssa Stanton
Doubles	Carlyle Gricks and Dan Hobbs

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30 Foot Mixed
Invitational
New Melle Horseshoe Club
April 30, 2005

Sponsored by:
Six Pac Horseshoes,
Harvey Webbe

West vs. East Challenge @ Liberty

November 13-14, 2004

by Jeanette Claas

"Better throw in a winter jacket" the Evans' stated as they pulled into our driveway. The chill in the air was a sure sign another Missouri winter was coming upon us as we traveled west on I-70 for the 3rd West Versus East Challenge at the Don Harris Arena on Nov. 13-14.

With the celebration of Veteran's Day fresh on my mind, I suggested we stop in Higginsville to visit the Confederate Memorial State Historic Site commemorating the more than 40,000 Missouri soldiers who fought for the southern cause. After visiting the cemetery and the century-old chapel we drove back through the historic town of Higginsville stopping at the Fairgrounds Park to take a peak at the eight horseshoe courts located on the grounds. In the air we could hear the magic of the horseshoe activity that had taken place on these courts throughout the years. We honked as we passed Smitty's home.

'Twas the deer season and one of the reasons why the East was slack of horseshoe pitchers. Those from NMHC representing the East were Larry Gilchrist, Bob Reininger, Jim/Carol Howard, Roy/Suzanne Evans, Don/Jeanette Claas and Joann Jones of Sheldon. The West was loaded with 41 pitchers eagerly anticipating the return of the traveling trophy. The East had won it in the past and the West was hungry for it. Roy Evans carried the trophy to Liberty with very little hope that the East would retain it.

The round-robin handicap tournament consisted of three sessions for the two-day event. Twenty players per session were held on the ten courts. Nile Abbott led the National Anthem on Saturday morning and the pitching commenced with the first session of play. The modern computerized scoreboards enabled the horseshoe pitchers to continuously see their score, percentage and shoes pitched throughout the game. We wish to thank Don Harris again for this wonderful indoor facility that we all enjoy so much.

Points were earned by the position the pitchers attained by wins and losses at the end of each game. The East lucked out having two champions after the morning session of play gaining a total of 22 points to the West side of 4 points. The morning champions were Class "C" Jeanette Claas (47%) and Class "D" Don Claas (41.2%) of St. Charles, each with 5 wins and no losses.

A quick lunch of Audra's tangy chili and Sam's delicious pies and we were ready for the afternoon session to begin. Tournament Director, Gregg Craven soon had the 2nd session off and pitching. This time the West would claim two champions: Class "A" Audra Craven of Liberty with a 58.50% and Class "B" Lee Miller with a 40.50%, each with 5 wins and no losses. Lee Miller of Belton pitched 13.38 above his entry ringer percentage. At the end of the afternoon session the West gained ground but the East was still ahead 35 ½ to 26 ½ points.

The East bunch (along with Jim and Elaine Bainter) went to the East side for a little fun and a good meal at O'Charleys. It was back to the Day's Inn for a good night's rest. It was dark as we arose for the final day of pitching. The arena soon warmed up as the pitchers began warming up for the third act beginning at 9:00AM. Jim Kinney of Drexel, gloriously sang the National

Anthem before the competition began. There were plenty of ringers being tossed about especially on Court 5 where Jeanette Claas and Roy Flatt were battling out a terrific game of shoes. "Four Dead on Court Five!" was heard quite often throughout the arena. Echoes of other "4-Deads" on other courts would soon follow. Now the stage was set as the final curtain came down. The East side gained two more champions in the final session: Class AA - Jeanette Claas (49%) and Class B - Don Claas (44.0%) each with 5 wins and no losses! Tournament Director Gregg Craven would announce the final results - It was curtains for the West side. The East won with 53 points and the West 42 points.

When Roy Evans, organizer on the East side, called to see how many sessions the Class's would want to pitch in the tournament, Jeanette told him, "Since we were short so many players, just put us down for all 3 sessions!" Whatever was I thinking of??? I can barely walk after one tournament, let alone three!!! I could feel a Monday morning sick day coming on. It was definitely Don Claas's tournament pitching 15 games and not losing any. His wife, Jeanette was right behind him with 14 wins and 1 loss. The one loss was to Bob Bloss with a score of 28-27! Jim Howard quipped, "It was a Claas Act!"

The East side wishes to thank Gregg Craven and members of the Liberty Horseshoe Club for their hospitality. It was so much fun competing and renewing friendships once more. We are already looking forward to the next challenge when the West will be returning to NMHC in the spring of 2005. "Pitching on these courts was wonderful," claimed Don Claas. "We definitely will be back, possibly next weekend!"

Turkey Trot Tournament

November 20, 2004

by Bea Feldewerth

Tournament Directors Dave and Bea Feldewerth report they had a great tournament and a big part of it was because all the horseshoe pitchers arrived early enabling the statistician to get the info into the computer and all classes started on time by 9:00AM. The tournament consisted of six classes that included 48 pitchers. A total of 13,104 shoes were pitched and 4,496 ringers recorded, making the average ringer percent 34.31%.

In Class A Steve Johnson, Mary Beeson and Judy Geisler tied for first place. Steve won the pitch off game against Judy and then played Mary for 1st place. Steve won that game declaring him the Tournament Champion with 7 wins 2 losses and a tournament average of 57.6%. Mary Beeson placed 2nd with a tournament average of 60.7%, her best tournament ever. She also earned the highest game recorded for the day of 80.76%.

Other Class Champions were: Class B - Bob Eisenbeis, Class C - Clarence Eggert, Class D - Martin Orf, Class E - John Simms and Class F: Rick Maassen. Trophies from Martin Trophy were presented to 1st, 2nd & 3rd place finishes.

A BIG THANKS to all our faithful scorekeepers who helped make the tournament run so smoothly. A special thanks to the people that cleaned the horseshoe courts in preparation for the tournament: Rich Altis, Bob Reininger, Angie Novel, John Wilde, Ray Nadler, Floyd & Mary Beeson. Thanks to all the people that helped us out in any way to make the Turkey Trot Tournament so successful.

New Melle Horseshoe Club vs. the Backyard Horseshoe Club

December 4, 2004

By Martin and Ursula Orf

New Melle Horseshoe Club hosted the Third Annual Horseshoe Tournament with the Backyard Horseshoe Club of Glen Allen. NMHC had won the previous clashes, but this year the results were different. The Backyard Club brought 12 pitchers to New Melle and NMHC graciously gave them 4 pitchers to fill the 8 courts: Frank Miles, John Setzer, Mary Duke and Roger Schnur. Evidently the wrong pitchers were given to the Backyard Club, because these 4 pitchers helped to produce a convincing 43 to 33 victory by the Backyard Club.

Rose Diekamp had the high ringer percentage of the day at 56.9%. Judy Geisler had the high game with 18 ringers. Forty four pitchers participated in the tournament, pitching 8320 shoes, with 2415 ringers for an overall average of 29%, which is an impressive average for that many pitchers.

Next year NMHC will travel to Glen Allen to try to retrieve the traveling plaque, which looked pretty darn good on New Melle's wall. The day wasn't a complete loss for New Melle. One of the BYHC members must have known we were going to have a cold winter. They left their sweater coat behind to help some of our less fortunate keep their pitching arms warm. Maybe it was meant for two of New Melle pitchers who lost every game. Their names will remain anonymous. (You can find them on MO's web site page!)

Jingle Bell Rock

December 11, 2004

by Bob Reiningger

The Jingle Bell Rock tournament got off to a good start as all the pitchers arrived on time and the tournament started right on time at 9:00am. The afternoon classes began just after 1:00pm. For a little Christmas atmosphere, Bea Feldewerth put up the Christmas tree and Bob Reiningger put up the decorations.

The Tournament Champion was Rose Diekamp 67.22%. Steve Johnson pitched the high game of the day 77.50%. Other class champions were: Class B – Donald Rahe 45.33%, Class C – Bob Diekamp 40.0%, Class D – Armin Schneider 32.75%, Class E – Roy Evans 24.13%, and Class F – Mike Burger 17.15%. In Class B Andy Foulds pitched his highest tournament average of 49.37%. In Class D Ernie Brakensiek pitched the high game of 53.84% in his class, although he finished in last place.

Our statistician, Rich Altis, reports there were no mistakes in scorekeeping. Our thanks to the scorekeepers and to Rich Altis. And thanks to the clean up crew: Dave & Bea Feldewerth, Joe Buskirk, Micky Gillette and his friend Dorie, Ray Nadler and Angie Novel. Tournament Directors wish to thank all who helped make the Jingle Bell Rock a successful tournament.

The NHPA Internet Website is
www.horseshoepitching.com
Click on the US map to get to Missouri's page

4th Annual Holly Marie Memorial

by Stan Griggs

Another eighteen angels have earned their wings and were presented for the top three places in each class at the 4th Annual Holly Marie Memorial Mixed Open @ Don Harris Arena in Liberty, MO on November 6, 2004. The angel count is now at 72, look to see if you can find them on the courts at your next tournament.

This is a 100% proceed generated tournament, all proceeds were donated to Catholic Charities in memory of Holly Marie Griggs.

The entry donations were \$390, with many additional contributions made from outside of the tournament. Joan Griggs (Stan's mother from Florida), Dave and Marcie Pierce (Stephanie's Mother and step-father) from Kansas, Paul and Sharon Taylor and all profit from concessions. Making a total for this year's tournament - \$569.25. The tote board is now at \$1,994.25.

Class A was a very tight and competitive class, the high tournament percentage of 66.79% was by Charles Killgore and he finished in 8th place with one win, go figure on that one. There was less than 5% difference from the high average to the low average in the class, and all were over 60%!

Class A

1 st – Mary Vogel	66.4%***
2 nd – Pam Henderson	65.7%****
3 rd – David Kincaid (KS)	63.2%
4 th – Stang Griggs	66.4%
5 th – Nick DiRaimo	64.6%
6 th – Don Harris	64.3%
7 th – Bob Booe (KS)	62.1%
8 th – Charles Killgore	66.8%

Class B

1 st – Roy Flatt	49.6%****
2 nd – Kelly Kasper	47.9%*
3 rd – Chip Sloan	42.1%**

Class C

1 st – Sharon Armstrong	44.8%***
2 nd – Michael Gillespie	40.8%***
3 rd – Carl Phillips (KS)	34.4%*

Class D

1 st – Dean Jameson	34.6%**
2 nd – Phil Ronczkowski	34.6%*
3 rd – Clifford Pierce (KS)	33.3%**

Class E

1 st – Lee Miller Jr.	31.4%*
2 nd – Grant Kueck	34.6%*
3 rd – Angela DiRaimo	28.6%***

Class F

1 st – Sharon Bazzell	19.2%*
2 nd – Robert Johnson	5.8%*
3 rd – Tammy Griggs (GA)	24.6%*

Class F had two special pitchers: Tammy Griggs flew in from Atlanta, Georgia, to pitch in her first tournament in over 23 years and Tyler Griggs pitched in his first tournament ever.

* - Angels won

Missouri Tournament Results

September–December, 2004

Ray Cavin Memorial @ St. Joe

9/25/04 Dirs: Ron/Peggy Campbell

Class A: Pam Henderson	5-0	67.3%
Class B: Eugene Newkirk	4-1	47.5%
Class C: Wayne Dusenbery	5-1	35.9%
Class D: Robbie Barnes	5-1	31.7%
Class E: Fred Smith	5-2	23.1%
Class F: Dennis Walker	5-0	25.9%
Class G: George Goldizen	6-0	8.4%

Crane Fall Open 9/25-26/04

Dirs: Bill & Judy Wasiner

Class A: Melvin Bray	5-1	68.3%
Class B: Dan Hobbs	7-1	49.1%
Class C: Dewayne Moody	7-0	44.8%
Class D: Morris	5-0	29.5%
Class E: June Thompson	4-1	30.0%
Class F: Donna McDaniel	5-0	17.0%

Stockton Walnut Open 10/2/04

Dir: Wayne Barber

Class A 30 Foot:		
Melvin Bray	7-0	66.7%
Class A 40 Foot:		
Dan Hobbs	5-0	53.5%
Class B: Paul Parnell	7-0	39.0%
Class C: Mike Watkins	5-2	31.6%
Class D: Chris Slates	6-1	28.8%
Class E: Marshel Keith	5-0	15.0%

Hall of Fame Ring Benefit @ New Melle

10/2/04 Doubles Dir: Stan Bailey

Class A:		
Don Mercier	6-1	59.5%
Frank Miles	6-1	59.3%
Class B:		
Clarence Eggert	5-2	37.8%
Stan Bailey	5-2	26.7%
Class C:		
Armin Schneider	6-1	30.7%
David Schneider	6-1	16.7%

James Belt Memorial @ Caulfield

10/9/04 Dir: Robert Kingsolver

Class A:		
1 st : Dan Hobbs	5-0	55.2%
2 nd : Wayne Barber	4-1	51.0%
Class B:		
1 st : Chris Slates	5-0	31.8%
2 nd : Douglas Tripp	4-1	18.7%

Frostbite Open @ Don Harris 10/16/04

Director: Elwyn Cooper

Class A: Charles Killgore	7-0	68.4%
Class B: Michael Bowman	6-1	54.7%
Class C: Carl Phillips	5-2	42.3%
Class D: P. Ronczkowski	6-1	32.9%
Class E: Tim Garvey	6-1	34.2%
Class F: Brady Craven	0-7	19.6%

Park Hills Fall Open 10/16/04

Director: Boxie Schrum

Class A:		
1 st : Jerry Dumstorff	4-1	61.5%
2 nd : Don Mercier	3-2	59.5%
Class B:		
1 st : Frank Rohlfing	5-1	30.6%
2 nd : Glenn Govero	3-3	35.6%

Mountain View October Open 10/23/04

Director: Dan Hobbs

Class A: Dan Hobbs	7-1	44.5%
Class B: Jesse Dowell	3-5	24.3%
Class C: Letha Harris	7-0	35.4%

Fall Team Mixed Open @ New Melle

10/23/04 Dirs: Jim & Carol Howard

1 st Place Team:		
Capt. Bob Diekamp	13 wins	
Jill Knobbe	7-2	47.01%
Francis Griesbauer	6-2	62.98%
Mary Ann Ell	5-1	33.33%
Rose Diekamp	4-4	61.06%
Bob Diekamp	3-2	33.08%
Ginny Weiss	1-2	20.51%
2 nd Place Team		
Capt Jim Riley	12 wins	
3 rd Place Team		
Capt Jeanette Claas	12 wins	
4 th Place Team		
Capt K. Knobloch	12 wins	
5 th Place Team		
Capt Dan Williams	12 wins	
6 th Place Team		
Capt Ray Nadler	11.5 wins	
7 th Place Team		
Capt JoAnn Wall	9 wins	
8 th Place Team		
Capt Rich Altis	9 wins	
9 th Place Team		
Capt Mary Beeson	7 wins	
10 th Place Team		
Capt John Sims	6.5 wins	
11 th Place Team		
Capt P. Gettinger	6 wins	

Halloween Open @ Don Harris Arena 10/30/04 Dir: Terry Kampe

Class A: Nick DiRaimo	6-1	67.5%
Class B: Eugene Newkirk	5-2	48.2%
Class C: Gregg Craven	6-1	39.2%
Class D: Howard Lane	6-1	29.6%
Class E: Terry Kampe	5-0	20.5%
Class F: Floyd Roberts	5-0	11.6%

4th Holly Marie Memorial @ Harris Arena 11/6/04 – Dirs: Stan & Stephanie Griggs

Class A: Mary Vogel	5-2	66.4%
Class B: Roy Flatt	7-0	49.6%
Class C: Sharon Armstrong	4-1	44.8%
Class D: Dean Jameson	6-1	34.6%
Class E: Lee Miller Jr	6-1	31.4%
Class F: Sharon Bazzell	6-1	19.2%

Nov. Tri-State Open @ Diamond

11/6-7/04 Director: Carlyle Gricks Jr.

Class A: Melvin Bray	5-1	66.5%
Class B: Bob Outt	5-1	48.1%
Class C: Bobbie Jones	5-1	38.2%
Class D: John Fite	6-1	32.1%
Class E: Larry McAlister	7-0	27.5%
Class F: Terri Mills	7-0	22.1%

West vs. East Fall Open @ Harris Arena 11/13-14/04

Dirs: Gregg Craven/Roy Evans

Class A: Audra Craven	5-0	58.5%
Class AA: Jeanette Claas	5-0	49.2%
Class B: Lee Miller Jr	5-0	40.5%
Class BB: Don Claas	5-0	41.2%
Class C: Jeanette Claas	5-0	47.0%
Class D: Don Claas	4 ½	36.5%

Turkey Trot Open @ New Melle 11/20

Directors: Dave and Bea Feldewerth

Class A: Steve Johnson	7-2	57.6%
Class B: Bob Eisenbeis	7-0	48.4%
Class C: Clarence Eggert	7-0	39.3%
Class D: Martin Orf	7-0	45.4%
Class E: John Sims	5-2	36.8%
Class F: Rick Maassen	6-1	25.8%

Hudson Hall After Turkey Day @ Crane 11/27-28/04 Director: Frank Hudson

Class A: Wayne Barber	4-2	45.7%
Class B: Duwayne Blevins	7-1	46.1%
Class C: Michael Gillespie	5-2	38.9%
Class D: Letha Harris	4-1	36.4%
Class E: Terry McDonald	7-0	27.9%
Class F: Markus Blevins	5-1	22.1%

**Here Comes Santa Claus Open @ Harris
12/4/04 Director: Brady Craven**

Class A: Pam Henderson	3-2	67.2%
Class B: Audra Craven	5-0	58.8%
Class C: H Pettiecord	5-0	49.6%
Class D: Sam Vogel	5-0	51.2%
Class E: P Ronczkowski	4-1	38.0%
Class F: Dean Jameson	5-0	41.2%
Class G: Ray Bendure	4-1	29.2%
Class H: Sharon Bazzell	4-1	18.4%
Class I: Alex Roberts	4-1	14.0%

**New Melle vs. Backyard@ New Melle
12/04/04 Dirs: Martin & Ursula Orf**

Backyard wins with 43 wins and 4 ties

Backyard Club:

1. Terrie Rose	10-0	26.5%
2. Sara Lee	10-0	20.4%
3. Cori Stoverink	6 ½	32.8%
4. Robert Piper	6-4	26.5%
5. Frank Miles	6 ½	48.1%

New Melle Club:

1. Rick Maason	5-5	14.2%
2. Mike Burger	5-5	21.5%
3. Angie Novel	4 ½	33.9%
4. Donald Rahe	4-1	37.7%
5. Ralph Orf	4-1	32.3%

**Jingle Bell Rock Open @ New Melle
12/11/04**

Dirs: Larry Volo/Bob Reininger

Class A: Rose Diekamp	7-0	67.8%
Class B: Donald Rahe	6-1	47.8%
Class C: Bob Diekamp	6-1	53.3%
Class D: Armin Schneider	5-2	35.9%
Class E: Roy Evans	6-1	30.9%
Class F: Mike Burger	5-2	22.6%

**December Tri-State Open @ Diamond
12/11-12/04 Dir: Carlyle Gricks Jr.**

Class A: Bob Long	7-1	61.0%
Class B: Jim Higginbotham	6-1	48.3%
Class C: Gary Ball	5-0	29.0%
Class D: Rick Jordan	6-1	25.0%
Class E: Russell Gillis	7-0	20.8%
Class F: Harley Tucker	6-1	20.0%

**Santa Is Here Open @ Don Harris Arena
12/18/04 Director: Terry Kampe**

Class A: Gene Newkirk	5-0	51.2%
Class B: Harless Kampe	4-1	50.0%
Class C: Lee Miller	5-0	31.9%
Class D: Charaa Page	5-0	36.0%
Class E: George Chichura	4-1	16.8%
Class F: Wesley Reed	4-1	12.8%

**Jerry Griggs Memorial @ The Villages, FL
December 18, 2004**

Class A: Warren Woolsey #16-1	72.4%
Class A: Mark Siebold #2	5-2 75.4%
Class A: Stan Griggs #7	2-5 61.6%
Class B: Lee Post	5-0 63.2%
Class B: Paul Taylor #6	1-4 46.8%
Class G: Rita Mortenson	3 ½ 33.6%
Class G: Tammy Griggs	3-2 24.8%
Class H: Carl Greer	6-1 27.7%
Class H: Fred Smith #5	2-5 22.0%
Class H: Scott Griggs #7	2-5 5.3%
Speotators: Joan Griggs, Stacy Griggs(OK)	

**Hudson Hall Pre Christmas Open
@ Crane 12/18-19/04**

Director: Frank Hudson

Class A: Bob Renfro	4-1	44.5%
Class B: Kenny Starnes	4-1	35.6%
Class C: Tim Warden	4-1	19.7%
Class D: Markus Blevins	5-2	17.3%

For Your Information

- If it isn't moving, a frog can't see it. If the frog can't see it, he won't eat it!
- Domino Pizza sells a reindeer sausage pizza...but only in Iceland!

Guess What? We Call it Horseshoe Pitching

By Bob Champion (Colorado Double Ringer)

Men and women of all ages and sizes converge on a little acre of iron stobs stuck down in mud with tiny cement sidewalks and they lob iron horseshoes back and forth, back and forth, back and forth for 2 to 3 hours. They interrupt their walking every 20 minutes or so to lob with someone else but they don't talk except to an accountant sitting near by who won't talk back ... that is probably 'cause they paid the accountant to be quiet just before they commenced to lobbing. They seem intent on lobbing iron 'shoes to get close or touch the stob and they get real joyous when a 'shoes goes around the stob like a ring. They speak about "shooting," "dead" and shout in anger at the accountant nearly every time they pick up the 'shoes they threw away. You can tell it isn't a test to see how far they can throw them 'shoes, or how high, or how long they can keep it up ... it appears they throw them away and pick 'em up and throw them away again and again until the accountant has had enuf and makes 'em stop.

Some throw their 'shoes by grabbing it by the right leg while others grab it by the left leg. Some spin their 'shoes real fast, round and round, some spin 'em slow and a bunch of them flip-flop 'em ... so there don't appear to be any rules on anything except that they always gotta throw from the same spot they started from on the first throw. Old geezers, all women and every kid starts throwing 10 ft. closer than men who start next to a stob and aim at hitting another stob 40 ft. away. People are walking back and forth, paying no attention or keeping up with other people next to them throwing at other stobs. Sometimes they get mixed up and call a "judge" to figger out which 'shoe is which.

The mud gets hot and they splash water on it to cool it down after each fight. Then, they figure out the water made it too messy for the 'shoes and they use a shovel to cover up the mess with drier mud. Seems they all make the same stupid mistake when they change to a different pair of stobs.

The accountants make out a report card and takes it to the head

Dave Loucks, from page 5

monkey. A trip to Springfield wouldn't be complete without a stop at the "granddaddy of all outdoor sports stores," the Bass Pro Shop's Outdoor World. Joe and Dave had lunch at Hemingways, a unique restaurant with its own 30,000-gallon saltwater aquarium.

Dave's first impression to the Show-Me State was a good one. "Over the years, I have met and made many good horseshoe friends among the MOHPA membership. During my visit, I had the opportunity to meet others and see first-hand what makes Missouri such a terrific state for horseshoe pitching. The desire of the NMHC members to bring the National Hall of Fame to their area and the offer to maintain the site was extremely encouraging. Needless to say, I was very impressed with their enthusiasm for our sport."

After Dave's return trip home to California, he will prepare a report with the information he obtained while in Missouri from the two sites that he visited.

The New Melle Horseshoe Club would be very fortunate, indeed, to be the lucky recipients if and when it all takes place. A new facility in this area could open up all kinds of possibilities for horseshoe pitching at the local, state, and national levels.

accountant who had collected money from everyone that came to throw 'shoes. After 2 or 3 hours of strenuous exercise, the accountants declare they won't work any more and everyone waits for the head accountant to give the money back. But apparently good behavior pays off, 'cause the head accountant only pays back about half the people who paid in the first place.

The people shake hands before fighting and when they finish fighting ... but they never shake hands with the accountant or the "judge." The accountants keep the tips people bribe them with and don't share none with "judges" or their boss, the head accountant. You can figure the head accountant kept the money from some that didn't get paid back, but how the "judge" gets any money is hard to figure.

Everyone has a tiny suitcase or sturdy bag that they use to carry 2 to 4 'shoes, a file, a measuring stick and some other things like lipstick, suntan oil, band aids, etc. And lots of people with bad backs have a 'hook' to pick up 'shoes without paining their back. Spectators sit there like tennis fans, turning their heads from side to side. Happiness is like tennis fans, turning their heads from side to side. Happiness is bliss ... and these people lobbing horseshoes seem to be full of bliss before and after a day's workout lobbing 'shoes. They do this thing about every weekend and sometimes on evenings during the week. They seem to be a healthy lot so the exercise must do them real good ... guess they have good reason to be full of bliss.

Missouri 2004

Longevity Patches Earned

10 year

(35 patches)

Eugene Applehans
Paul Becker
Dawn Bishop
Eugene Brown
Rose Buehler
Clifford Collins Sr.
Jeff Darmon
Paula Darmon
Angela DiRaimo
Francis Ennis
Norman Ennis
Suzanne Evans
Bea Feldewerth
Dave Feldewerth
Bob Griesbauer
Edward Griffith
Richard Haller
Margaret Hargrove
Carol Howard
Paul Howard
Steven Johnson
Kevin Knoblauch
Lawrence Loney
Robert Martin
Ursula Orf
Harrold Pettiecord
Robert Rakestraw
Duff Riek

Regi Ward

Eldora Weldon

Jerry Weller

Kathy Wetzel

Melody Williams

Russell Wobbe

20 year

(15 patches)

Ronnie Attebery
Bob Diekamp
Russ Ebbing
Tom Ebers
Bill Garner
Jim Gregory
Bob Head
Dean Jameson
Dannie McDaniel
Bob Renfro
Don Roberts
Charles Rogers
Steve Tompkins
Jim Wilson
Jess Yount

30 year

(2 patches)

Bill Bouyea
Sam Carter

Entry Requirements

2nd Annual MOHPA Open/Team Championship Benefit

Exotic Animal Paradise, Strafford, MO - - June 4, 2005

1. This tournament is a MOHPA fundraiser. All profits realized from this event will stay with the MOHPA.
2. This is an NHPA sanctioned event. All pitchers will be placed according to their NatStats average as of May 11, 2005. New pitchers may use a sanctioned league average of at least 400 shoes (Attach signed letter from League Director) or send a score sheet for 100 shoes pitched consecutively (Attach score sheet witnessed by 2 sanctioned league members).
3. **Entry Information:** All entries must be submitted on an Official Entry Form and must be signed and dated. Send entries to: Vicki Winston, 10326 HWY D, LaMonte, MO 65337. **Make checks payable to: MOHPA.**
 - **Singles:** Open to all current NHPA members, regardless of residence. Adult entry fee: \$15.00. Juniors: Free. Entries must be received by May 4, 2005. Late entries will be put on a standby list. No refunds for cancellations received after May 4, 2005.
 - **Team event:** Open to Missouri residents. Out-of-state pitchers may also enter if they are currently members of a Missouri club. Team entry fee:\$25.00. Have your Team Captain fill out the official team entry form listing all 5 team members. Please submit one check for the \$25.00 team entry and the singles entry fee of \$15.00 per pitcher. Total check amount: \$100.00. Entries must be received by May 4, 2005. No refunds for cancellations received after May 4, 2005. Your club may enter as many 5-person teams as you wish.
 - If you are a Missouri resident and do not currently belong to a club, please contact one of the clubs and let them know you would like to be a part of their team at this event.
4. **Singles portion of tournament:** Will be limited to 128 pitchers. Classes will be scheduled for eight-person round robins where possible. All games will be cancellation scoring. All classes will pitch 40-shoe games (this will allow ample time for team tie breakers, if required). In the case of a tie, each player will pitch an additional 4 shoes. If the score is still tied, an additional 4 shoes must be pitched until the tie is broken. All games are subject to NHPA and MOHPA rules and judges decisions will be **final**.
5. Each singles participant also signed up as a **team** member will accumulate points based on their win/loss record: 1st Place – 8 Points, 2nd Place – 7 Points, 3rd Place – 6 Points, 4th Place – 5 Points, 5th Place – 4 Points, 6th Place – 3 Points, 7th Place – 2 Points and 8th Place – 1 Point. Any Classes with less than 8 pitchers will still start with 8 points for 1st Place.
6. **Any pitchers** not completing their schedule forfeit all prizes unless officially excused.
7. **All pitchers** must wear a shirt with at least their last name lettered neatly on the back.
8. **All pitchers** must pay their scorekeeper \$1.00 prior to the start of each game.
9. **Trophies:** Plaque and patch will be presented to 1st Place only in each singles class.
10. **Notification:** Pitching times will be mailed to all entrants
11. **Team portion of tournament:** Points accumulated by team members during normal singles play will be added together. If there is a tie for 1st Place, the tie-breaker will be as follows: The 5 pitchers on each team will be matched up by ringer %. Each of the paired pitchers on opposing teams will play one game using 90% handicap and **alternate** pitch. The team with the highest points will become the **Missouri Club Team Champions**.
12. **Team Trophies:** One State Club Team Championship plaque will be presented to the 1st Place Club Team at the 2005 MOHPA Awards Banquet to be held in September, 2005. Individual plaques will be presented to each of the five 1st Place Club Team members.

Tentative Schedule: (Subject to change)

Saturday, June 4 @ 9:00 am: Classes I, J, K, L, M, N, O, P
Saturday, June 4 @ 1:30 pm: Classes A, B, C, D, E, F, G, H

For questions, contact:

Zone 1: Charles Killgore (816-930-3353); Zone 2: Rich Altis (636-394-3640);
Zone 3: Bob Bastel (573-374-8243); Zone 4: Danny Williams (573-238-0047)

2005 2nd MOHPA Open Benefit

Exotic Animal Paradise, Strafford, MO • June 4, 2005

Name _____ Address _____

City _____ ZIP _____ Phone (____) _____

NHPA Card # _____ Birth Date _____ Adult _____ Junior _____

E-Mail _____

Check One: Use my official NatStats average I am a new pitcher and am entering under the provisions of rule #2. (required documents enclosed)

Participant Liability Release: In consideration of participating in such activity, I hereby waive, release and forever discharge the Missouri Horseshoe Pitchers Assoc., all officers, agents, employees and servants of the afore-mentioned organization and all fellow participants of this event, for any and all action, causes of actions, damage, loss or injury, which I may suffer as a consequence of participating in a Missouri State Horseshoe Tournament.

Adults: \$15.00

Entries must be received by May 4, 2005

Juniors: Free

Signed: _____ Dated: _____

2005 2nd MOHPA Team Championship Benefit

Exotic Animal Paradise, Strafford, MO • June 4, 2005

Team Name _____ Team Captain _____

1. Name _____ Address _____ City _____

ZIP _____ Phone (____) _____ NHPA Card # _____ Birth Date _____

Adult _____ Junior _____ E-Mail _____

2. Name _____ Address _____ City _____

ZIP _____ Phone (____) _____ NHPA Card # _____ Birth Date _____

Adult _____ Junior _____ E-Mail _____

3. Name _____ Address _____ City _____

ZIP _____ Phone (____) _____ NHPA Card # _____ Birth Date _____

Adult _____ Junior _____ E-Mail _____

4. Name _____ Address _____ City _____

ZIP _____ Phone (____) _____ NHPA Card # _____ Birth Date _____

Adult _____ Junior _____ E-Mail _____

5. Name _____ Address _____ City _____

ZIP _____ Phone (____) _____ NHPA Card # _____ Birth Date _____

Adult _____ Junior _____ E-Mail _____

Participant Liability Release: In consideration of participating in such activity, I hereby waive, release and forever discharge the Missouri Horseshoe Pitchers Assoc., all officers, agents, employees and servants of the afore-mentioned organization and all fellow participants of this event, for any and all action, causes of actions, damage, loss or injury, which I may suffer as a consequence of participating in a Missouri State Horseshoe Tournament.

Signed: _____ Dated: _____

(Team Captain)

Please Attach Required Documents For New Pitchers Under Provisions Of Rule #2

Team: \$25.00

Adults: \$15.00 Each

Juniors: Free

Entries must be received by May 5, 2005

MOHPA Hall of Fame

by Bob Diekamp



Many people have asked how to nominate a person for induction into our State Hall of Fame. Without your support and nominations, there would be no Hall of Fame. Won't you take some time to think of someone who is deserving of this honor and follow the instructions as listed below. You can get a MOHPA nominee form from your club's president or you can request a form through any member of the Hall of Fame Committee. The committee considers three categories of eligibility, which are listed below with items to be considered concerning each category. Get started on it now while it is fresh in your mind. You will make someone very happy and feel especially honored.

Player Category

1. Should have a minimum of 5 years of MOHPA tournament pitching.
2. Include information on any NHPA or MO State pitching records, such as high percentage games, longest consecutive string of ringers, high tournament percentage, etc.
3. List important tournament wins in MO or other states, along with tournament averages, if known.
4. List any State titles with year and their average pitched.
5. List any outstanding World Tournament performances.

Promoter Category

1. List any tournaments organized and where.
2. List any outstanding publicity obtained for our sport.
3. List number of horseshoe clubs the nominee helped to organize and where located.
4. List any Club, State or National office the nominee has held.
5. Give total years the nominee has worked to promote our sport and any other qualifications you think make the nominee worthy of this honor.

Player/Organizer Category

1. Some persons have achieved a degree of excellence in both categories. It becomes difficult to place them in just one.
2. List any information pertinent to your candidate from both of the categories.

Junior boys and girls are usually excluded because of the brief time spent in Junior activity. If that person continues on to an adult pitching career, the junior performances can also be included in their record of achievements.

In the event of a tie with 2 or more with 4 yes votes, there will be another vote on the candidates with the 4 votes. You have to receive 6 yes votes from the 8-committee members to be inducted.

The nominations should be printed or typed and mailed to the Chairman of the Hall of Fame, Bob Diekamp, 222 Deer Hollow Court, O'Fallon, MO. 63366. Bob requests that all nominations be in his hands by June 1.

MOHPA Hall of Fame Committee

Bob Diekamp, Chairman

Val Eikel, Don Harris, Tim Henderson, Tom Ebers, Fred Smith, Sharon Taylor and Ron Hassler

1984 Charter Members

Ezra Beard, Jack Claves, Dan Cook, Billy Crick Sr., Frank Crumm, C.C. Davis, F.L. Ludemann, Tom Meagher, William Pfender, Lawrence Robinson

1985 Inductees Bob Bales John Elkins Jack Erwin Wayne Winston	1986 Inductees Ray Cavin Paul Lattray Alfred Smith	1987 Inductees Earl Winston Vicki Winston	1988 Inductees James Acock Dave Baker	1989 Inductee H.P. Heidel	1990 Inductees Charles Killgore J.A. Bud Larson D.E. "Red" Wommack	1991 Inductees Oscar Bozich Wayne Trautwein
1992 Inductee Louis "Lefty" Steinmann	1993 Inductee Elwyn Cooper Woodrow Shephard	1994 Inductee Charles Picraux	1995 Inductee Don Harris	1996 Inductee Sam Carter	1997 Inductee None	
1998 Inductees Val Eikel Stan Griggs Wayne Henderson Mel Ingram Don Jones Art Schroeder	1999 Inductees Joe Faron Sam Foster Kent Armstrong Alan Francis	2000 Inductee Harvey Wobbe	2003 Inductee Randy Grady	2001 Inductee Carl W. "Cotton" Gutshall	2002 Inductees Jerry Griggs Pam Henderson	
				2004 Inductees Rich Altis Rose Diekamp Tom Ebers		

Missouri Horseshoe Pitchers Association Hall Of Fame

(Evaluation Data)

For use by selection committee of Missouri Horseshoe Pitchers Association
Hall of Fame to determine the applicant's qualification for induction.

(Please print or use typewriter)

Name of Applicant _____ Phone _____

Address _____ City _____ ZIP _____

Date of Birth _____ Date of Death _____

What do you consider your top (most important) achievements in horseshoes?

What recognition have you received for: Playing Ability, Leadership, Administrative, Etc.?

What services, etc., have you rendered or contributed toward the advancement and/or support of horseshoes?

Submitted by _____

Missouri State Championship Mixed Doubles

Sunday, June 5, 2005 • Strafford, MO

- FOR ADULTS ONLY.** Open to current Missouri residents who are 2005 MOHPA and NHPA members. Entries are limited to the first 128 received.
- ENTRY REQUIREMENTS.** Pitchers will be placed using their 3 highest sanctioned events from July 26, 2004 thru May 1, 2005. Any established pitcher, who has changed pitching distance, will be required to have 3 sanctioned averages from his new distance by the entry deadline.
- NEW PITCHERS.** Persons who have been NHPA and MOHPA members for a total of two years or less, and haven't previously participated in a Missouri State Tournament, maybe seeded by one of the following methods if unable to complete three sanctioned events by the entry deadline: (a) Average from sanctioned events which have been completed; (b) A current sanctioned league average of 400 shoes or more (must be verified in writing by the league director); (c) 200 consecutive qualifying shoes (qualifying shoes must be scored by two NHPA members who must sign the scoresheet. The scoresheet must be submitted with the entry form).
- ENTRY INFORMATION. You must use an official entry form. Entry Fee: \$20.00.** Make checks payable to: MOHPA. Mail entries to: Vicki Winston, 10326 Highway D, LaMonte, MO 65337. **ENTRIES MUST BE RECEIVED BY MAY 4, 2005. Late entries will be placed on standby. No refunds for cancellations received after the entry deadline.** If you have questions, call Vicki at 660-563-3536 or E-mail: secmohpa@iland.net.
- ALL PITCHERS** must wear a shirt with at least their last name lettered neatly on the back.
- ALL PITCHERS** must pay their scorekeeper \$1.00 prior to the start of each game.
- ANY PITCHERS** not completing their schedule forfeit all prizes unless officially excused.
- FORMAT.** The Walking Doubles format will be used. You will use your own horseshoes. Partners will be paired by dividing the list of entrants into classes of 16 persons according to their entering averages in descending order. The top 16 will form the Championship Class. The next 16 will form Class A and so on. In each class the #1 average will be paired with the #17 average, #2 with #15, etc.
- PRIZES** – Cash to the top three places in each class. Plaques to the top three places in each class.
- NOTIFICATION** – You will be advised of your class and pitching time by mail.

**Exotic Animal Paradise
welcomes Missouri
Horseshoe Pitchers**



Entry Form

2005 Missouri State Championship Mixed Doubles

Sunday, June 5 • Strafford, MO

Name _____ Address _____
City _____ ZIP _____ Phone (____) _____
NHPA Card # _____ Birth Date _____ E-mail _____

Note: If you are entering under parts (b) or (c) of rule #3, you must enclose the requested documents with this entry form.

PARTICIPANT LIABILITY RELEASE: In consideration of participating in such activity, I hereby waive, release and forever discharge the Mo. Horseshoe Pitchers Assoc., all officers, agents, employees and servants of the afore stated organization, and all fellow participants of this event, for any and all action, causes of actions, damage, loss or injury, which I may suffer as a consequence of participating in a Mo. State Horseshoe Pitching Tournament.

Signed: _____ Date: _____

ADULTS ONLY: \$20.00 – Limited to first 128 entries. MUST BE RECEIVED BY: May 4, 2005

Membership Application

Missouri Horseshoe Pitchers Association National Horseshoe Pitchers Association

The NHPA card is a combined membership in your state and national horseshoe pitching associations. This card entitles you to participate in NHPA sanctioned play throughout the United States and much of Canada, wherever you meet the entry requirements for the event. You must pay your dues through the state charter where you maintain legal residence as determined by voting, tax and/or drivers license laws. Dues are based on the calendar year. New members may pay next years dues after October 1 of the current year and will be eligible to participate in sanctioned events the final 3 months of the current year, as well as all of the next year.

As a member of the Missouri Charter, you will receive *Shoe Biz* three times a year free of charge. This will keep you informed of events within our state. Our statistician will be recording your pitching stats from all sanctioned events and will be forwarding these stats to the NHPA stats headquarters, called NatStats. These stats are updated weekly and can be accessed through either the NHPA or the MOHPA websites. To make all of this possible, your NHPA card will have six digits followed by two decimals. Missouri is region 19, followed by four digits, which are your number. The two decimals represent the calendar year. The decimal and color of the NHPA card change each year. Your number will remain with you as long as you reside in Missouri and continue to maintain your membership. If you ever lose your NHPA card, the charter secretary will issue you a duplicate card free of charge. You need only notify her.

Please fill in all information on the form below that applies to you and mail the application and total amount of dues to the MOHPA Sec/Treas. (address below) Please make checks payable to: MOHPA.

Vicki Winston
MOHPA Sec/Treas.
10326 Highway D
LaMonte, MO 65337
Phone/Fax: (660) 563-3536
E-mail: SecMOHPA@iland.net

Adult Dues	
12.00	national
<u>8.00</u>	state
\$20.00	Total Dues

Juniors and PeeWees	
5.00	national
<u>0.00</u>	state
\$5.00	Total Dues

(Cut along dashed line and return this portion with dues. Make additional copies if more than one form is needed.)

Name: _____ Phone: _____

Street address or PO Box: _____ Date of Birth: _____

City: _____ ZIP: _____ E-mail address _____

If renewing, enter NHPA#: _____ Approx. years in NHPA: _____ New members, mark here: _____

Club affiliation if any: _____

Check one of the following: Adult Junior PeeWee

Check one of the following: Male Female

Check one of the following: 40' Pitcher Less than 40' pitcher

ShoeBiz, 2/05

