

# WISCONSIN HORSESHOES

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## RALPH MAYLAHN (1919-2007)

Lifelong horseshoe pitcher, golfer, table tennis champion, and car enthusiast **Ralph Maylahn** passed away on December 10, 2007 at the age of 88.

Ralph started pitching horseshoes as a youngster, winning a junior championship in Milwaukee, WI where he lived on the Northwest side. He would pack a lunch and ride his bike to Washington Park, where he had the occasion to pitch (*continued on p.4*)

*Photo: From the city newspaper, dated August 15, 1938. Ralph was called "Milwaukee's best horseshoe pitcher." When this photo was taken, Ralph was 19 years old and considered Milwaukee's best horseshoe pitcher. He had just won his third of five consecutive titles in the city's annual tournament. This photo is currently displayed at the WHPA Hall of Fame in Beloit.*

## WHPA CHRISTMAS PARTY, JAN 5, 2008

The indoor courts of Beloit were set up as a green-carpeted dining hall. Wherever did they get enough tables and chairs for 95 horseshoe pitchers and their friends? Beloit Club President **Mouse Beckius** introduced notoriety: Dick and Paulette Hansen, Lorraine and Terry Sternberg, Ken and Kathy Jaeger, Tom Steinke, Randy and Marge Rein, Pam and Chris Aiken, and Jim Haupt.

Others who came a far piece for the affair included Ray and Karen Groskinsky, Marv Bennett and wife, Ed Hack and Marcy and a gang of pitchers from Illinois.

Because of the popularity of the Beloit club with all its party animals,

this celebration and 95 diners is a far cry from what it started out to be years ago.

The club hires a caterer that does a fine job providing an all-you-can-consume table. Combine that with the price of Beloit beer, at a buck, and we have the makings for a gala time.

At one point we arose to sing, "God Bless America" with Hickory Road, the band that played at the party. Some took it a the swan song and started home, but the band kept playing, on and on. They were the last ones to pack up. We speculated, was that the second or third time we were listening to "San Antonia Rose?" 🎵



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## FROM THE PRESIDENT - by Tom Steinke



Happy New Year to everyone and I hope you had a very nice Christmas. Now it is time to plan for horseshoe tournaments. There are a lot of people playing, but there's always room for more at Arena, Deansville and Beloit. Remember, the deadline for State Doubles is soon, so pick

a partner and get entered.


This year, when you're pitching your first shoes, take a look down and see if you are fouling. Most tournaments don't have judges watching and most players are worried about hard feelings, so they don't say anything. We have a couple people who foul by an inch or two. There's one who never fouls on the first shoe, but a lot on the second shoe. A foul is a foul. Be careful.

Another thing about tournament pitching, keep the game moving along. When you're done with your game, and the next game is ready to start, please don't go sit down and have a long break. Grab something quick and get back to the game. It is inconsiderate to have people standing and waiting for you.

As you probably know by now, **Ralph Maylahn** has passed away. He was a great pitcher from a young age to old. Always changing his grip to improve his game, always willing to help someone with their game.

Early in the 1990's, I asked him to take a look at my daughter Pam's game and see if he could tell her what was wrong. He said sure, and helped for awhile. That year, Pam won the Junior State championship.

Some people, when they first met Ralph, thought he was a little abrasive, and they might have been right. But I don't think that he was trying to be abrasive, he was just

saying it the way saw it, being honest. If he wasn't convinced about something or flat-out disagreed with you, he would tell you. He would always be honest, and in my opinion there's nothing wrong with that. Ralph's death was hard to take, and he will be missed. 



**Ralph Maylahn at  
2006 Team World**

## RALPH MAYLAHN (CONTINUED)

with his mentor **Ed Schimek** and other greats, including **Casey Jones** and **Harvey Elmerston**. Beginning at age 15, he won the Class A Milwaukee title five successive years.

He was affectionately called the "Bull of the Woods" by World Tournament author **Gary Kline**. The year was 1972 when he won the Wisconsin state title and then went on to the World Tournament in Greenville, Ohio. His 69.4% was overshadowed by others, such as **Elmer Hohl**, **Art Tyson**, and a few others, all pitching over 70%, eight in excess of 80%. Ralph always said pitchers were more dedicated then.



**Tony Scrima, Ralph Maylahn,  
Lorraine Sternberg and Jim Haupt at  
1986 Team World at the Pitchin' Palace**

Horseshoes was not Ralph's only passion. While in the service during WWII, he became the table tennis champ of the Middle East. Golf became another obsession, using clubs he professionally fashioned for himself.

He served as President of the WHPA until the members would not accept his favorite, point games. **Bill Glass** was his likely opponent for a time. Ralph liked to talk about the time the lights went out at Neenah, and then lost to Glass after the delay.

Even after the advent of the WHPA in 1967, the Wisconsin State Fair continued to conduct their version of the "State Championships." Ralph won against Glass one of those years and professed to have two State Titles.

In 1990, at long last, Ralph Maylahn was inducted into the WHPA Hall of Fame. He eventually pitched in all divisions. A master of the 1 and 3/4 turn at 40 feet, he went on to pitch the 1 and 1/4, (continued on p.5)

**RALPH MAYLAHN (CONTINUED)**

the 3/4 and the flip from 30 feet. He did well whatever the turn and quite possibly may have pitched more lifetime ringers than any other Wisconsin pitcher.

Funeral services were semi-private. He was interred near to Eau Claire, WI. Many friends were dismayed that information was

lacking so that they were unable to attend.

Ralph will be missed by the WHPA, the Beloit Club Old Timer's League and many other pitchers who attend tournaments throughout the Midwest.

He is survived by his wife, Helen and son, Andrew. ♪

**2008 STATE TOURNAMENT UPDATE**

- by Tournament Director Randy Rein

The City of Mosinee will allow on-site camping for self-contained units on the blacktop parking lot of the Mosinee Recreation Center. This is approximately 200' from the horseshoe courts. The cost will be \$10 per night on a first-come, first-serve basis. Checks should be made payable to Little Bull Falls Horseshoe Club. Contact Randy Rein at 715-693-1199 for questions on the camping at the courts.

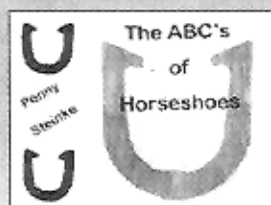
The **Mosinee Lions Club** has expressed an interest in providing a Pancake Breakfast on Saturday and Sunday of the tournament. The **Mosinee Action Group** has also expressed an interest in perhaps doing the food stand for the tournament. We are working on finalizing the details with both organizations. Also, a local restaurant asked about having a cheese curd stand.

**Leroy Butler** from the Green Bay Packers has expressed an interest in possibly attending our State Tournament. I spoke with him and he said likes horseshoes! However, nothing is etched in stone yet. We are waiting to hear back from his booking agent.

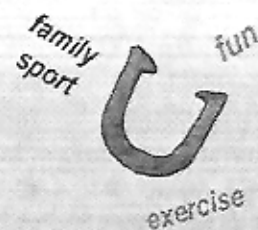
Our next report will include the names of the local motels and prices so you can begin to book your motel accommodations. ♪

**THIS JUST IN!**

The Windy Hill club, formerly Does & Arrows club, is now officially known as the **Little Bull Falls Horseshoe Club**

**The ABC's of Horseshoes**

By  
**Penny Steinke**



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**REMEMBERING RALPH**

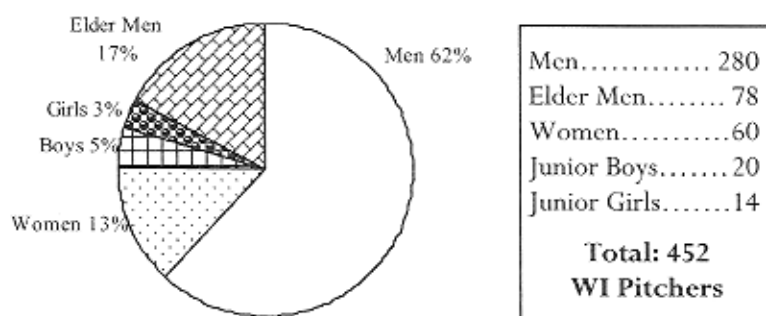
**Ralph Maylahn** may have pitched the most ringers of any Wisconsin horseshoe pitcher, but another title he could have earned, but never actually received was "King of Unsolicited Advice." A person had to know when to take Ralph's words with a grain of salt. As many can attest, sometimes you needed a whole shaker's worth.

Enjoy this small sampling of classic *Ralph* comments:

- Regarding a pitcher's style change: "Why do you swing that shoe up in the air like that? It looks like a cow swinging its udder."
- "Why do you wear such thick socks?"
- To WHPA President Tom Steinke in the early 1990's: "I've been watching you quite awhile now, Tom. You're not going to be a horseshoe pitcher."
- "I know where I can get it cheaper."
- "I think I'll try something different." (Ralph pitched at the championship level with the flip, 3/4 turn, 1-1/4 turn, and 1-3/4 turn)
- "How come you grew a mustache?"
- "You're crazy." ♪

## YEAR-END AVERAGES REPORT — AT A GLANCE

### NUMBER OF WISCONSIN PITCHERS WITH A NATSTATS AVERAGE



WI's Average Ringer % (Sum of All Averages, divided by 452) .. 26.34 %  
 Change in WI's Average Ringer % from 2006 ..... -1.63%  
 Median Ringer % (the middle % of All WI Averages) .....25.19%

### TOP 20 AVERAGES IN WISCONSIN

1. Gert Wilczick	W 80.36%	11. Vince Jakel	3 57.93%
2. Penny Steinke	W 70.53%	12. Lorraine Sternberg	W 57.75%
3. Mark Mauthe	70.11%	13. Pam Aiken	W 57.52%
4. Nathan Heinritz	B 68.30%	14. Roger Comero	57.41%
5. Randy Rein	67.39%	15. John Molling	56.02%
6. John Udelhofen	63.91%	16. Clayton Gage	3 55.96%
7. Jim Larson	60.57%	17. Paul Wilson	3 55.46%
8. Jack Algiers	3 60.49%	18. Edie McKinney	W 55.22%
9. Gene Mason	3 59.84%	19. Ivan Ruzic	3 55.00%
10. Ken Heinritz	57.98%	20. Dan Bloom	54.58%

### PITCHERS WHO PLAYED THE MOST TOURNAMENTS

John Garvan..... 29	Jeff Gustafson..... 15	John Brugger..... 12
Kevin Brekke..... 23	Ed Hack..... 15	Joe Ellinger..... 12
Tom Steinke..... 23	John Molling..... 15	Galen Kozel..... 12
Mark Mauthe..... 21	Julian Tijerina..... 15	Ron Lingard..... 12
Bruce McLinn..... 19	Dave Volz..... 15	Ann Murray..... 12
Rowen Swick..... 19	Norm Beckius..... 14	Steve Wiegert..... 12
Kerry Morris..... 18	Jimmy Paulson..... 14	Ed Boncbright..... 11
Randy Rein..... 18	Penny Steinke..... 14	Ken Frame..... 11
Gene Satterstrom .. 18	Ed Wheeler..... 14	John Gregorich..... 11
Jerry Kochman..... 17	Paul Wilson..... 14	Ray Groskinsky..... 11
Earl Paulson..... 17	Jim Haupt..... 13	Al Huizenga..... 11
Russ Burns..... 16	John Meyer..... 13	Milt Larsen..... 11
Tom Endler..... 16	Dave Ninnemann... 13	Leroy Meyer..... 11
Jayne Fehr..... 16	Ivan Ruzic..... 13	Gert Wilczick..... 11
Bernard Carley..... 15	Tony Scrima..... 13	

### NATIONAL STATISTICS

- Total # of pitchers tracked in NATSTATS .....11,383
- Percentage of total # of pitchers represented by WI..... 3.97%
- Increase in the # of USA pitchers from 2006 to 2007..... 44
- Increase in the # of WI pitchers from 2006 to 2007..... 28

(WI represents 63.6% of the net increase in NHPA membership in 2007)

### How Wisconsin Measures Up:

	WI	USA
Men	62%	65%
Women	13%	15%
Elder Men	17%	14%
Juniors (all)	8%	6%

### WISCONSIN PITCHERS ON NATIONAL CHARTS

#### USA Men's Top 100

#16	Mark Mauthe	70.11
#28	Randy Rein	67.39
#65	John Udehofen	63.91
#96	Jim Larson	60.57

#### USA Women's Top 100

#5	Gert Wilczick	80.36
#20	Penny Steinke	70.53
#79	Lorraine Sternberg	57.75
#81	Pam Aiken	57.52
#100	Edie McKinney	55.22

#### USA Elder Men's Top 50

(no pitchers from WI on this list)

#### USA Junior Boy's Top 50

#6	Nathan Heinritz	68.30
#18	Ryan Hyatt	53.85

#### USA Junior Girl's Top 25

#8	Aleena Cook	35.66
#20	Cola Hickthier	24.50

Check out NATSTATS Online  
[www.horseshoepitching.com](http://www.horseshoepitching.com)

## YEAR-END AVERAGES REPORT — MENS DIVISION

Mark Mauthe..... 70.11	John Brophy ..... 37.84	Joe Peterson ..... 30.61	Jim Emery ..... 24.85
Randy Rein ..... 67.39	Rich Peterson..... 37.28	Ron Yttri ..... 30.37	Duane Grossen ..... 24.64
John Udelhofen.... 63.91	John Crook ..... 36.69	Marv Bennett ..... 30.00	Ken Davison ..... 24.61
Jim Larson ..... 60.57	Ken Amble..... 36.66	Pete Kumlien ..... 29.87	Bob Mikrut ..... 24.52
Ken Heinritz ..... 57.98	Ralph Marthaler.... 36.57	Jerry Schroeder .... 29.50	Daniel Larson ..... 24.50
Roger Comero..... 57.41	Dave Klipstein..... 36.56	David Paul..... 29.37	Dan Schulz ..... 24.50
John Molling ..... 56.02	Terry Sternberg.... 36.47	Chuck Radl..... 29.24	Mike Zahn ..... 24.32
Dan Bloom ..... 54.58	Galen Kozel..... 36.42	Carl Schliem ..... 29.24	Glen Grorud ..... 24.25
Jeff Gustafson ..... 54.24	Layne Olson ..... 36.32	Robin McDonough 29.18	Ed Bonebright ..... 24.21
Tom Endler ..... 53.49	Norm Beckius ..... 35.86	Bob Johnson ..... 28.92	Mel Cook..... 24.07
Mike Cone..... 49.00	Jeff Gabriel..... 35.84	Tom Kotnik..... 28.92	Ron Willms ..... 24.00
Bernard Carley.... 48.62	Dean Chaffee ..... 35.67	Rick Weller ..... 28.69	Jim Ganther ..... 23.75
Kerry Morris..... 48.13	Leo Richter ..... 35.41	Ron Berg ..... 28.58	Jeff Michels..... 23.70
Mitch Vyhanek.... 48.11	Russ Heinritz ..... 35.13	George Moraza ..... 28.57	Ken Schoessow ..... 23.70
John Koepp..... 47.53	Ed Hack ..... 35.00	Dan Nalepinski ..... 28.47	Gene Satterstrom .. 23.58
Dale Bauer..... 47.00	Mike Struebing..... 35.00	Kevin Brekke ..... 28.33	Mark Anderson.... 23.39
Ken Jaeger Sr ..... 46.58	Al Huizenga..... 34.94	Gary Volz ..... 28.33	Stan Fredrickson .. 23.25
Kurt Jochimsen .... 46.54	Greg Hchling ..... 34.87	Harry Nelson ..... 28.26	Ryan Heidtke ..... 23.25
John Meyer..... 46.36	T. Wipperfurth .... 34.86	Greg Highstrom.... 28.14	Larry Danielson .... 23.13
Jeff Mauthe ..... 45.89	John Garvan ..... 34.49	Randy Heinritz ..... 27.50	Ron Wiese ..... 22.85
Ken Frame..... 45.47	Gary Wegner ..... 34.39	Terry Schaetzka .... 27.43	Ed Mell ..... 22.63
Steve Wiegert..... 44.64	Les Karpel..... 34.28	Jayme Fehr ..... 27.22	Jim Rick ..... 22.59
Joe Ellinger..... 44.44	Dave Wietrzak ..... 34.09	Jim Zelinski ..... 27.10	Dwayne Hein ..... 22.50
Steve Mielke ..... 44.25	Dennis Capener .... 33.68	Bernie Sopinski .... 27.07	Richard Conrad .... 22.45
Ray Groskinsky .... 44.22	James Bilderback... 33.50	Michael E Hruby ... 26.88	Duane Balsiger..... 22.40
Doug Bakkum..... 44.11	Dan Williams..... 33.39	Steve Rick ..... 26.87	Ted Rohde ..... 22.08
G. Bogenschneider 43.97	Mike Rousseau ..... 33.33	Gary Coppenger ... 26.80	Allen Johnson..... 21.57
Tony Scrima..... 43.24	Roger Peterson..... 33.11	Art Collien ..... 26.60	Dave Birch..... 21.52
Bob Kallstrom ..... 43.17	Martin Papesh ..... 33.00	John Bentz..... 26.59	Rick Borgwardt.... 21.36
Dave Schorbahn ... 42.87	Dean Hove ..... 32.91	Jack Ellinger ..... 26.56	Jim Poquette ..... 21.33
Dick Hanold..... 41.70	Augie Potter ..... 32.85	John Secord ..... 26.54	Wally Nelson ..... 20.60
Dave Volz..... 41.60	Mike Lange ..... 32.29	Devon Schoening .. 26.50	John Brandt ..... 20.58
Cliff Erickson ..... 41.54	Tom Rosenthal.... 32.19	Mitch Littlegeorge . 26.47	Dale Gierach ..... 20.50
Mark Stevens..... 41.31	Larry Barber ..... 32.18	Ryan Heidtke ..... 26.42	Steve Stewart ..... 20.50
Dave Balsiger..... 41.29	Al Rude..... 32.14	Bill Nehls ..... 26.40	Tom Bird ..... 20.44
Rowen Swick ..... 41.29	David Hansen..... 32.00	Jason Goldsmith.... 26.22	Guy Fleming ..... 20.00
Bruce McLinn..... 41.22	Don Goldsmith..... 31.44	Jim O'Loughlin .... 26.21	Scott Linhart ..... 20.00
Dennis Ambuchl... 41.03	John Bauer ..... 31.39	Chris Gage ..... 26.00	Paul Wiese ..... 19.88
Paul Karuncos..... 40.74	Dave Forseth ..... 31.37	George Eckstrom .. 25.80	John Gordon ..... 19.86
Julian Tijerina .... 39.74	Don Wagner..... 31.37	Tom Steinke ..... 25.76	Dave Semingson.... 19.61
Jerry Niemuth ..... 39.72	Harvey Bilz..... 31.34	Juan Gonzales..... 25.60	Phil Haas ..... 19.48
Gerald Weikert.... 39.42	Mike Paulson ..... 31.00	Keith Stanke ..... 25.58	Mark Nord ..... 19.46
Jim Heim ..... 39.06	Dick Hansen ..... 30.98	Tom Dudenhoffer . 25.45	Trent Bratland ..... 19.37
Steve Deegan..... 38.75	Ed Wheeler ..... 30.88	Chad Amble..... 25.00	Dan Holding ..... 19.34
Ken Schumann ..... 38.58	Joel Ramsdell..... 30.76	Ray Mallo ..... 25.00	Don Wozniak..... 19.20
Chet Hermansen .. 38.57	John Mills ..... 30.65	Craig Novinski .... 25.00	Jerry Schmitt..... 19.16
Jim Tollefson..... 38.33	Jan Fisher..... 30.63	Matt Ramsdell ..... 24.92	Art Collien ..... 18.92

(continued on p.8)

**MEN'S (CONTINUED)**

Don Tritz .....	18.80	Andy Benaszkeski ...	12.02
Bryan Hove .....	18.76	Dusty Duerr .....	11.83
Scott Muhlenbeck ..	18.31	Jerry Michels .....	11.75
Roger Olson .....	18.26	Ron Truman .....	11.64
Bill Christianson ...	17.91	Don Peroutka .....	11.30
Gary Hyatt .....	17.87	Dave Carpenter ....	11.25
Steven Grisius .....	17.85	Curt Novinski .....	10.90
Gary Johnson .....	17.75	Charlie Eberspacher	10.67
Steve Kulow .....	17.60	Scott Ramin .....	10.50
Jason Maki .....	17.50	David Palmersheim	10.41
Dale Shamberg .....	17.37	Kent Price .....	10.37
Dennis Kieser .....	17.32	Wayne Wisnefski ..	10.00
Dave Wilson .....	17.17	Michael Franzen .....	9.61
Jim Uhlenhake .....	17.14	Randy Ganther .....	9.28
T.J. Scheff .....	17.11	Ryan Hauge .....	9.25
Dale Harpold .....	17.08	Steven Schwartz .....	9.25
Jim Haupt .....	16.75	Chris Valentine .....	8.80
Paul Papenfuss .....	16.75	Tom McTavish .....	8.75
Joe Migliceri .....	16.25	Wayne Franzen .....	8.58
Ron Ramquist .....	16.21	Scott Stuhr .....	8.52
Mike Keagle .....	16.20	Joel Levandowski ...	8.50
Bob Polley .....	16.19	Mark Gagnon .....	7.88
Paul Wilcox .....	16.11	Bob Budzien .....	7.85
Rodney Johnson ...	16.05	Mort Papenfuss .....	7.76
David Tellier .....	16.00	Tim Root .....	7.50
Ron Jaeger .....	15.91	Frank Craig .....	7.04
Jerry Kochman .....	15.64	Mike Cruice .....	6.98
Jim Harder .....	15.09	Marv Laidig .....	6.88
Rob Struebing .....	15.00	Steve Glimm .....	6.77
Steve Wallin .....	14.87	Jay Ganther .....	6.60
Paul Valentine .....	14.35	Frank Tilleson .....	6.50
Gary Hestekin .....	14.26	Darin Smith .....	6.25
Frank Espinoza .....	14.24	Scott Davison .....	6.00
John Amble .....	14.10	Steve Mengelt .....	5.91
Ted Caron .....	14.07	Steve Guetzke .....	5.83
Joe Falkenberg .....	14.00	Jerry Costello .....	5.75
Dale Zastrow .....	14.00	James Baker .....	5.05
Tom Peterson .....	13.92	Mike Chamberlain ..	4.50
Steve Hentges .....	13.60	Dennis Johnson .....	4.25
Jim Sherman .....	13.58	Chris Kildahl .....	4.16
Rod Ganther .....	13.56	Steve Stevens .....	4.00
Marty Weidner .....	13.14	Odie Garcia .....	3.50
Mike McDonald .....	12.85	Daniel Koshute .....	3.50
Jimmy Paulson .....	12.80	Josh Baranowski .....	3.00
Joe Bieser .....	12.50	Lance Peters .....	2.50
Randy Benaszkeski ..	12.28		
Larry Eide .....	12.20		

**ELDER MEN'S (ALL)**

Jack Algiers .....	60.49	Mer Sorensen .....	32.50
Gene Mason .....	59.84	Marv Besaw .....	31.95
Vince Jakel .....	57.93	DeWayne Hazen ...	31.76
Clayton Gage .....	55.96	Rob Rehm .....	31.76
Paul Wilson .....	55.46	Earl Paulson .....	31.52
Ivan Ruzic .....	55.00	Jim Jakel .....	31.13
Ralph Maylahn .....	53.75	Merrill Semingson ..	30.41
Norb Fuhrman .....	53.01	Dick Muhlenbeck ..	27.81
Otis Wesley .....	52.50	Millard Harding ....	27.26
Norm Gage .....	51.71	Dale Griffith .....	26.47
Cal Pitel .....	51.56	Don Kampher .....	25.00
Milt Larsen .....	50.54	Jack Statema .....	23.91
Ron Wilcziek .....	50.54	Babe Reiber .....	23.00
Lloyd Johnson .....	50.20	Loyd Skarda .....	22.38
Ozz Jacobson .....	49.86	Dave Miller .....	21.66
John Gregorich .....	46.00	Rueben Eckhardt ...	21.21
John Dolezel .....	45.00	Dan David .....	20.64
Bill Matey .....	44.59	Len Mauthe .....	20.00
John Brugger .....	43.96	Del Pettis .....	19.75
Dave Ninnemann ..	42.57	Gordy LaChance ...	19.62
Bud Hammer .....	42.47	Rudy Van Fleet .....	19.28
Len Splett .....	41.76	Greg Bergles .....	17.94
Bernie Human .....	39.72	Cliff VanNatta .....	17.75
Ron Miller .....	39.11	Wes Podvin .....	17.17
Ray Lopez .....	38.78	Bill Beschta .....	16.08
Leroy Meyer .....	38.38	Lou Braggio .....	15.87
Jerry Kamps .....	38.24	Al Loose .....	14.50
William Spahn .....	38.15	Bill Klemm .....	11.26
Ron Lingard .....	37.88	Frank Hanold .....	9.23
Vern Wurzel .....	37.64	Roy Schlagenhaft ...	7.00
Bob Gregorich .....	37.56	Jeffrey Jakel .....	4.92
Cliff Troullier .....	37.46		
Harold Laws .....	37.42		
Joe Schultz .....	37.25		
Wally Thorson .....	36.70		
Everett Stewart .....	36.13		
Earl Cummings .....	35.97		
Dennis Hartman .....	35.88		
Nelson Richason ..	35.50		
Harry Zdroik .....	35.23		
Al Johnson .....	34.00		
Russ Burns .....	33.97		
Theodore Padgett ..	33.61		
Roger Heinritz .....	33.05		
Ed Warner .....	33.00		
Kenneth Lovaas .....	32.83		
Willis David .....	32.62		

**JUNIOR GIRLS**

Aleena Cook .....	35.66
Cola Hickethier .....	24.50
Julie Paulson .....	11.62
Julia Larsen .....	6.90
Nicole Feavel .....	6.25
Naomi Williamson ..	6.14
Heather Feavel .....	5.62
Jena Alling .....	4.54
Amanda Kuske .....	4.36
Jessica Golz .....	3.09
Johanna Alling .....	2.90
Mary Ann Aiken .....	2.85
Jenelle Larsen .....	2.73
Christina Heinritz ..	0.55

## A BIT OF TRIVIA...

**Stoney and Cory Stone** claim to have the second-largest collection of horseshoes in the world, owning over 600 pairs!

### Reminder!

The Spring Meeting will be held on March 15th at 1:00pm at the Delton Sportsman's Club.

## JIM HAUPT'S DECEMBER TRAVELS

### DEANSVILLE AND THE SNOW

The first weekend in December was a snowy weekend throughout the state when the Deansville club hosted an early December tournament. Rather than shut down, **Kerry Morris** opted to run with it. Pitchers were canceling right and left, but some made it. The Sunday morning class was cut to a 3-man. You could hardly help but cash with that setup.

Once a year, the Burlington folks make it their weekend and this was it. The weather turned it into a good weekend not to be home. Sure, all are party animals and this was their party. They even brought their own spectators, people just along for the ride. The "B" people could be described as a fun-loving group who make their presence known (trained in Eagle). Yes, they know how to have fun and horseshoes is just one way.

Somehow the Deansville entry fee was published at \$18, but saying they don't really need the money, it will revert to \$15. It's mostly because the heating bill is absorbed by the regular league members.

Thanks guys, keep it warm, we will come. 🍷

(see page 14 for Deansville and Beloit December tournament results)

### BELOIT SNOWFLAKE

Cold but dry weather allowed for easy travel to Beloit the second weekend in December for the Snowflake tournament.

Green carpet throughout the courts stood out in warm welcome on this wintery day. Like the kid says, "Its becutiful, just becutiful."

Through some sort of technical wizardry, the Beloit club presents results on a plasma screen mounted outside the office. No need to hang a hard copy result sheet, its all there, and for every class too. When not displaying the outcome of the ongoing competition, they have it loaded with a picture slide show of people and things happening all year at the Beloit courts. It's really sharp, and an indication of how far horseshoes has come since the dawn of the P.C.

Other things at the old clubhouse remain the same, collegiate basketball dominated the TV screen, card games were in action, and now dominoes. People were eating, drinking, and playing. The courts may accommodate 12 pitchers but the ordinary population of the club-room is a greater number. Other than issuing a few well wishes for the winners, the clubhouse garrison is there for the day, in their element. Some guy from Elgin was saying, "Fifteen, two, four, six, run of three for nine and nobs for ten. I'm out." 🍷

## NEW MEMBERS

The WHPA would like to welcome the following new 2008 NHPA/WHPA members:

Bill Christianson	40	Baraboo
Terry Costello	40	Kenosha
Juan Gonzales	40	Genoa City
Dale Harpold	40	Baraboo
Don Helms	40	Hancock
Gary Humphrey	40	Madison
Scott Linhart	40	Lake Geneva
Martin Papesh	40	New London
Catelynn Varichak	W	Arena

## HAPPY ANNIVERSARY!

The NHPA has formally congratulated the following members for their dedication and support of the sport of horseshoes:

### 10 Years of Membership:

Dale Bauer	Waukegan
Mike Conc	Baraboo
Jeff Gustafson	Lake Geneva
Don Kampfner	Eau Claire
Pete Kumlien	Mukwonago
Jenelle Larsen	Centuria
Mike McDonald	Kanasville
Scott Muhlenbeck	Bristol
Jimmy Paulson	Delavan
Keith Stanke	Biramwood
Dave Wietrzak	Wilmot

### 20 Years of Membership:

Pam Aiken	Oak Creek
Kevin Brekke	Edgerton
Sonia Cook	Stratford
George Eckstrom	Gilman
Chet Hermansen	Madison
Leroy Meyer	Appleton
Dave Schorbahn	Independence
Pat Smith	Jefferson
Paul Wilson	Janesville

Honorees received an official NHPA patch acknowledging their years of membership. 🍷

## DOWN AND BACK WITH JIM HAUPT

**Gene Satterstrom**, affectionately known as "Stutter-step" around the Beloit clubhouse, was right there one Saturday issuing a dissertation on the quality and taste of various popular beers.



### Hat Expert

**Gene Satterstrom** while pitching shoes. First off, he said it should have a mesh back in order to let excess hair escape naturally, especially important for guys with thick hair. Next, choose a visor with a smooth naugahyde-type material to facilitate a wipe-off of dusty fingerprints. Then, the adjustable back strap; if you're going first class, it's leather, plastic on the cheap.

Unfortunately, Gene's is plastic. Color is important, with grey being a good option for those times when the cap may be cast down in disgust over an errant toss. These guidelines are Satterstrom's. He has a thick head of hair. Those with a lesser crop should adjust accordingly.

\*\*\*\*\*

The TV in the Beloit clubroom brought in all the playoff games one Saturday. Everybody was watching.

Catch these words by **Tina Press**: "DOWN IN FRONT!" The ever upbeat **Mouse Beckius** responds, "I'm as low as I can go."

Press was chided for picking on one of our little people.

\*\*\*\*\*

On the subject of venison, **Earl Paulson** was heard to say, "When the other guys started shooting from trees, I quit."

\*\*\*\*\*

The word from California is that vintners in the Napa valley area, who already produce Pinot Bianco, Pino Noir, and Pino Grigio wines, have developed a new grape that acts as an anti-diuretic. It is expected to reduce the number of trips older people have to make to the bathroom at night.

The new wine will be marketed as Pino More.

\*\*\*\*\*

Missouri's lady editor writes that a friend is making a quilt of past editions of World Tournament shirts to display in the Hall of Fame and desperately needs one from Spearfish 1993 and another from the Pocatello event of 1994.

Prospective donors should contact **Jeanette Claas** at [djclaas@sbcglobal.net](mailto:djclaas@sbcglobal.net). ☺

## ON THE MEND

**Bun Carley** was recently diagnosed with colon cancer. After surgery at the end of January, he is officially cancer-free. The doctors recommend that Bun "take it easy" until March. Anyone who knows Bun knows that such a recommendation for him is much easier said than done. We wish him a speedy recovery.

**Clayton Gage** is recovering from knee surgery. Being the "patient" person he is - time is of the essence.

**Norm Gage** is recovering from heart surgery. He has pleasant dreams of pitching 70%.

**Sue Helene's** husband, **Lee**, was in a snowmobile accident New Year's Day. He has had some setbacks and is currently in St. Luke's hospital in Duluth, MN. Prayers work and miracles happen. ☺



## CLUB TEAM TOURNAMENT ON APRIL 26TH

- by T.D. Jim Haupt

Is it too early to make a pitch for the Club Team tournament? We're looking to host 24 teams in Beloit on the last Saturday in April.

One reason this tournament director likes Club Team is that the entry money comes in advance. At \$84/team, it will amount to over \$2000.

Just coming off the 001, we can say the most appreciated action by anyone entering a tournament is to pre-pay and provide an address. We bankrolled the 001 for close to \$1000. Every thing worked out OK, but there was a day when we could not afford to do that. Your check upon entry is much appreciated.

Remember to start thinking about your four players for the Club Team. ☺



## BEHIND THE MASK WITH KEN HEINRITZ

We've all heard that absence makes the heart grow fonder, and apparently this is true in the Heinritz household. There has been a lot of talk regarding a certain tournament coming up at the end of April, namely the very popular Club Team event. One reason for this no doubt is that we did not enter last year, not even one team. We had become accustomed to entering two teams, but last year we could not even field one, as six of the eight Heinritz pitchers had prior commitments to contend with. The misfortune of having missed the 2007 event has caused a new awakening to the opportunity to take part this year.

My dad, Roger, has reminded me several times while in Wisconsin and in Arizona to make sure we all get signed up for Club Team. Only on rare occasions are four of us able to compete as teammates.



Dad relishes the thought of possibly playing with his sons, grandsons or would you believe granddaughters? I, too, must admit the thought of teaming up with other family members makes me a little giddy as well.

What about you? Maybe a life-changing experience is staring you in the face. Whether it's pitching horseshoes or something much more important, I'm telling you, it's not too late. As for entering the Club Team, the Heinritz clan is thankful that the door of opportunity didn't close.

But in your case, it could be reconciling a bad relationship with a child or your spouse or more importantly, reconciling with God.

Through the inspiration of the Holy Spirit, the apostle Peter said,

*"The Lord is not slow about his promise . . . but is forbearing toward you, not wishing that any should perish, but that all should reach repentance."* II Peter 3:9

## THE STORY BEHIND THE STORY: THE ABC'S OF HORSESHOES

- by Penny Steinke



**Penny Steinke  
with future  
pitcher June**

Horseshoes has been a part of my life for over two decades. When I was in grade school, I remember bringing a trophy to school that I had won over the weekend. The teacher put it on her desk. The kids in my class didn't know much, if anything, about horseshoes. This is probably where the first idea about a book began. While in college, I got the idea for this book. I

was inspired by another alphabet book I saw in one of my education classes. I knew this would be the perfect style for a book about horseshoes. I started back then doing research and writing down my thoughts and ideas for a book. Over the years, I would look at my notes, make changes and add ideas. I also would take pictures at horseshoe events.

Last year, while my teaching career was put on hold, I decided it was about time that I finished my book. I worked on it often, writing the words, gathering photographs and information, and making the

marbled paper for each page of the book. It was only last year that I shared this project with my family. I was a bit nervous while they looked at my work. I have gotten very nice feedback so far.

I thought it was important to write this book to educate and promote the sport of horseshoes. I was reminded of the kids in my grade school that had no idea about horseshoes, and how this kind of book would have been helpful way back then. This is a unique book because we don't have a lot of books about horseshoes and I have never seen a children's book about horseshoes. This is the future of our sport, so they need to be educated about it. This could be used in schools and as a reference book in libraries. I tried to include all areas of the sport, giving information and rules. I have had some friends who knew little or nothing about the sport read my book. They really learned a lot and also commented that they didn't realize that horseshoes was such an organized sport. I hope my book will be read by your friends and family and other non-horseshoe pitchers, so that they will learn about the sport and see why we love it so much. Thank you all for your support with this book and hopefully it will promote horseshoe pitching.

See page 5 to order your copy of  
*The ABC's of Horseshoes* by Penny Steinke



## SNOWFLAKE RESULTS

DEC 8-9, 2007 - by Jimmy Paulson

For more from the Beloit HSC, visit  
<http://teamworldhorseshoe.com>

### Class A

Penny Steinke	5-0	70.00
Dennis Reid	4-1	68.80
Mark Mauthe	3-2	58.00

### Class B

Walt Houck	5-0	55.20
Milt Larsen	3-2	58.80
Glenn Wicklund	3-2	48.80

### Class C

Rowen Swick	5-0	42.40
Bruce McLinn	3-2	37.60
Virgil Smith	3-2	37.20

### Class D

LaVere Roesslein	4-1	36.40
Galen Kozel	3.5-1.5	29.60
Ray Lopez	3-2	38.40

### Class E

Augie Potter	5-0	39.20
Mike Rousseau	4-1	31.20
Russ Burns	3-2	25.20

### Class F

Joel Ramsdell	4.5-0.5	31.20
Steve Kampmeier	3-2	30.00
Dan Stieber	3-2	26.40

### Class G

Mike Lange	5-0	33.60
Marvin Zoellick	3-2	28.80
Joe Annoreno	3-2	25.60

### Class H

Don Goldsmith	5-0	38.00
Leslie Stone	3-2	25.20
Tom Steinke	3-2	19.20

### Class I

Allen Johnson	5-1	20.83
Ken Hopp	5-1	19.58
Carl Berggren	3-3	24.58

### Class J

Wayne Goers	5-0	19.20
Steve Nelson	3-2	17.20
Jerry Kochman	3-2	15.60

### Class K

Andy Higgs	5-1	10.42
Julie Paulson	4.5-1.5	9.58
Ron Ramquist	3.5-2.5	16.25

For complete results and photos, go to  
<http://teamworldhorseshoe.com>

## DEANSVILLE OPEN

DEC 1, 2007

- by Rudy Van Fleet

The Deansville Open and Winter Weather Open all arrived at the same time. Some classes were smaller than planned. By the use of pacers, all classes were finalized. The results:

### Class A

Jim Larson	5-0	59.2
John Gregorich	4-1	46.0
Mitch Vyhanek	3-2	51.2

### Class B

Ray Lopez	5-1	34.3
John Garvan	4-2	30.3
Leo Richter	3-3	25.3

### Class C

Mike Lange	4-1	36.4
Ron Lingard	4-1	31.2
Vicki Vyhanek	3-2	29.2

### Class D

Gene Satterstrom	7-0	25.4
Jim Zelinski	6-1	31.9
Sue Lange	4-3	25.4
Tom Steinke	4-3	21.8



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## COMING IN THE NEXT ISSUE:

- Spring Meeting Notes
- York, PA World Tournament Entry Form (entry deadline May 15)
- Your contributions! Send us an article, picture, or letter to the editor. We are always looking for input from our subscribers.

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