



EDITH MCKINNEY--
2004 Hall of Fame Inductee

What an honor to be inducted into the Wisconsin Hall of Fame! In 1980 never having thrown a shoe it was quite an experience to start a new game. I started playing horseshoe when everyone in our area was having so much fun on a Women's Tavern League. I formed a team with my sisters, daughters, nieces, and my mother. Our very talented family did very well playing in the Class A division in a short period of time. Through the years my average has improved to the extent, I play in the championship classes in both State and World competition. It has been fun, but not easy. I have played in the Team-World tournament for 16 years on various Wisconsin teams. I have also participated in the Wisconsin State Tournament since 1987 with most of the years in the Championship Division. The highlight -- winning the State Women's Championship in 1991!

Jane Smith, a friend of mine, asked me to go to the World Tournament in Indiana in 1985. From that humble beginning, I have missed only the California world tournament. While pitching in the World tournaments, I have met and developed many good friends. In the 18 World tournaments, I have pitched in both the Ladies and Senior Championship Divisions. I have also served as a delegate to the National Convention. As a result of playing horseshoes and participating in tournaments, my horseshoe friends feel like family to me.

Not only do I enjoy the pitching but also enjoy the leadership roles I have had on both the local and state levels. I served as President of the Women's League for several years and am the "Go to Person" in our Close Doesn't Count league. When our club co-hosted the State tournaments, my role was to organize the scorekeepers. One award I am especially proud of is the "Scorekeeper of the Year." As a committee member and present chairperson of the Hall of Fame committee, I have had the opportunity to meet and learn about even more great individuals on and off the courts. Other horseshoe experiences I have had include designing and selling tournament shirts; promoting and hosting the World Tournament in Eau Claire; and working for NHPA officers at past World tournaments.

My goal has always been to have fun and enjoy the game in a nice way. Life has so many stresses and hardships that we have to escape to a world where you can play with your friends and try not to hurt anyone in anyway. My thought is it's easy to be a good winner but hard to be a good loser. I have had to practice **BOTH!!**