

WISCONSIN HORSESHOES

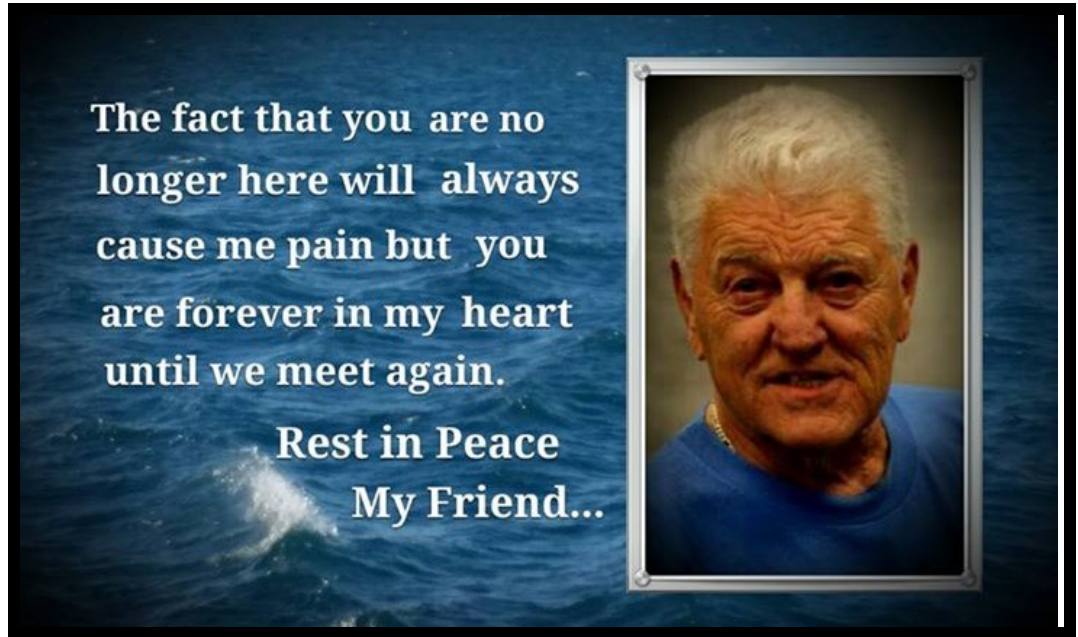


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One of a Kind!

Tom Steinke

Jim was one of a kind. He was always thinking about horseshoes... how can we get more members? how can we get more people to play tournaments? And how do we get more entries in the state tournament? If I was going to Beloit to play shoes and didn't have any one to go with me I would call Jim and we would go down together. The last time was in August and we talked horseshoes all the way down and back. Jim was telling me that he thought the state meetings needed more people at them. He said you get a subject that can go either way in people's minds and you'll get more than one person talking about it. Jim looked forward to the meetings and always had an opinion. He would be seen with a notebook full of ideas to bring up for discussion.

Jim was depressed that he could not play horseshoes any more because of his health, although he could still be spotted this past summer oxygen in hand trying to throw a couple of horseshoes. He was glad that he was still able to bowl and play dart ball. Jim played dart ball at Washington Park for many years. He was a better than average player. Jim got me into the league six years ago, so I was lucky enough to spend a lot of time with him. Jim was excited about the new season because he said he had a new style. To tell you the truth though, I didn't see the difference. This may be hard to believe. but Jim forgot to come the first day of league. He called me on Friday and said he got his days mixed up. The next Thursday I called him when I was on the way. It worked fine. but Jim said "don't call me I will be there." So after that I would call and leave it ring one time and then hang up. When I saw him he laughed and said "I know that was you calling." He was a lot of fun.

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Our Sincere THANKS to Kari David for the picture of Jim Haupt and message on the cover page.

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Submissions deadline for our next issue is

January 15

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TOURNAMENTS BY MONTH 2016

Month/ Date	Tournament Title	entry fee	Sanction Number	Deadline	Contact
01 Jan	New Years Day		non-sanctioned		Earl Paulson
09/10 Jan	001 Tourney	\$20	28-16-001	Dec 31	Earl Paulson
23/24 Jan	Rumble in Deansville	\$18	28-16-002	Jan 16	Rudy Van Fleet
06/07 Feb	Valentine	\$20	28-16-003	Jan 26	Earl Paulson
	Deanville/Beloit Challenge		28-16-004		
20 Feb	Bring a Junior Doubles	\$10	28-16-005	Feb 10	Earl Paulson
05 Mar	Bring a Pal Doubles	\$10	non-sanctioned	Feb 23	Earl Paulson
12/13 Mar	Klash W Kerry	\$18	28-16-006	Mar 05	Rudy Van Fleet
19-20 Mar	Red Ferguson Classic	\$20	28-16-007	Mar 09	Earl Paulson
09/10 Apr	Spring Fling	\$20	28-16-008	Mar 31	Earl Paulson
16 Apr	Spring Meeting	Free	Lake Delton Sportsmen's Club		

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Annual WHPA Christmas Party / Beloit Awards Celebration

December 12, 2015 Cocktails 4:00 - 5:00 Meal 5:00



President Glenn Bogenschneider

When I decided earlier this year not to run for another term, I knew it would be hard to write this last Presidents' Message, and it has been. There have been so many good memories, and, unfortunately, a few bad. One of these is the sudden passing of Jim Haupt "Mr. Everything" of horseshoe pitching and the WHPA. This issue of the Newsletter is being dedicated to Jim. You can read all about his accomplishments during the past 35 years. Rest in Peace, good friend.

There are so many of you, the membership, who have given me your support, Thanks! The WHPA board and committee chairs were always willing to listen to the "old man" and his ideas, Thanks! Ken Heinritz, State & National Chaplain, I have attended your church services here in Wisconsin and all over the US and have been inspired each and every time, Thanks! Tom Steinke, past President, for being a good resource and trophy purchaser, Thanks. All the Tournament Directors, a labor of love, without you there would be no WHPA, Thanks! And last, but not least, Jane Smith, 1st VP. She has her pulse on everything happening on the State & National level. She has done all the State jobs, and many on the National level, and done them well. She is our "little energy bunny", Thanks.

Congratulations to our new President, Gary Volz, and new 2nd VP. Kevin Brekke. I know they will continue the professional tradition that is expected of them by the WHPA membership.

In closing, you can be certain that my love for horseshoe pitching and the WHPA has NEVER BEEN GREATER! Be proud to be a horseshoe pitcher, and tell your friends, relatives, and neighbors about our great sport. As I have said many times in this message, do the three "P"'s: PITCH, PROMOTE, & PARTICIPATE. Merry Christmas, and, and may you and yours have a safe, healthy, and Happy New Year!



Behind the Mask

With NHPA Chaplain Ken Heinritz

“Haupt” with clear annunciation “not Hopped like a bunny”, his gravelly voice would sound. Wisconsin lost what most would consider the face of Wisconsin Horseshoe Pitching over the past 30 years . . . Jim Haupt . . . an icon, a legend. Here is a man that started the sport later in life (his 50’s) but has certainly left his mark. His face, his voice & certainly his personality left an impression wherever he went. Traveling to tournaments in every corner of the state, big or small was Jim’s thing. Reaching attendance at 30 tournaments a year was not out of the ordinary for this Milwaukee native. He loved the sport! He loved the competition! He loved the people! Participating, watching as a fan, or running the whole show, he did it all. And not a bad pitcher either, reaching levels of 55% year-end average. In fact he enjoyed talking about the time he beat Alan Francis down at Team World when Alan through a 65% game. Stories of horseshoe pitching greats like Casey Jones, Don Titcomb or Walter Ray Williams Jr. were enjoyable to hear from Jim’s perspective. He livened up his surroundings wherever he went. Think of the State meetings . . . kind of hard to follow one who spoke with such authority. The memories we have of Jim will live on & a smile on your face will surely follow as this man was truly unique. Thank you Jim that you chose this sport as your hobby!! And thank you for being you! On behalf of all who knew you, it really was nice knowing you.

“I thank my God upon every remembrance of you.” Phil. 1:3



One of the many articles Jim wrote for the WHNL. This is from the 2007 March/April issue.



A Special Investigative Report

ARE YOU READY FOR THE HOME? - by Jim Haupt

Your agent has gone to great lengths spending 40 days and 40 nights in a licensed nursing home, an epitome of self-sacrifice, solely to do this investigative reporting. One never knows when the next big step will be through the door of a nursing home, so here's a short tutorial, courtesy of yours truly.

Better start now learning to get along with women your age and older. The population at the home is predominately white-haired ladies. Learn how to play Rummy, since the girls are avid card players.

Another good tip is to pack your old horseshoe tournament shirts so you can impress all the ladies with your erstwhile athleticism. Although don't be surprised when they ask where that town is, the one named after you, and in your state. One day in therapy they asked me, "Just where is Haupt, Wisconsin?"

Little known facts can be garnered from the staff or principals of the home, like this observation:

eventually, with your permission, you will be entertained by an ombudsman sent by the Department of Aging. Within their booklet, under Patient Rights, you will find the following words: *Married couples or consenting adults may share a room.* The key word is "consenting." Next, the task is to get the word out, as not all residents are aware of this perk. One suggestion would be to post a sign in a prominent location with words similar to: **LADIES 18 TO 95, ARE YOU CONSENTING?** Then explain proposition: "Able-bodied man now conducting interviews in room 101," or whatever. It should be said, you are on your own here, a virgin cruise or you might say, in uncharted waters.

Days run into each other, and mostly are all alike. Breakfast at 8:00 AM, dinner at noon, and the evening meal at 5:00 PM. Physical or occupational therapy time varies, but activities are scheduled all day. They do things like exercises (arm stretches),

bible study, word games, cards, sing-a-longs (not bad but you have to know the words to the old songs), and bingo, the favorite, is played three times a week! Some times they have coffee klatches without the coffee—not a prime activity for the men. Lady's nails is another diversion, and yes they have men's nails too, but not as often.

Would you believe the home sponsors a happy hour? Sure as summer follows spring, every Friday about 3:30 PM, the main dining room becomes a saloon. Old ladies and old men quaffing beverages. Wine, beer, whiskey, mixed drinks and soda is the order of the day. Your agent tested the brandy, just to verify the age of the grape...yep it's the real thing.

So Elders, sharpen up that expert shuffling and deal for the Rummy game in case you're headed for the HOME.



Sandy and I were shocked and saddened to hear of Jim's passing. He was a true "icon" of the sport of horseshoe pitching, on both the State and National level. During the past 35 years he has served as an officer, tournament director, promoter, pitcher, and newsletter contributor. Rest in Peace, dear friend, you will be sadly missed by your horseshoe family." Glenn Bogenschneider, WHPA President

Continued from Page 1

I met Jim in the mid 1980's. I got to know him better down at the Pitching Palace. Jim met Tony Scrima down there and they became very good friends. They traveled together to horseshoe tournaments for many, many years. When Arena opened up, they started going up there all the time. I would go at times along with Bob Traber. We would talk about everything. It was always a good day.

Jim thought a lot of my daughters. Pam who he played horseshoes with down at the Legend and Penny, which he liked to watch pitch with her long stride. I knew Jim for more than thirty years. It meant a lot to me and I was very lucky to have gotten to know him so well.

Jim passed on Saturday, October 31st, 2015. I had called him shortly after his son Joe had gotten there. Joe told me that Jim got up and made a cup of coffee and then went to change his cloths. He took his oxygen off to do this and must have gotten short of air. He reached for the oxygen, but didn't make it. That's where he died. Joe said it was just before he got there because the coffee was still warm. A little later, I talked with his son John. He told me that Jim was having more and more times where he was straining for air. Jim was a tough guy. He didn't want anyone to know he was sick and he got a little mad when I put an update about his surgery for his horseshoe friends to know.

Jim's visitation took place near his home where he lived with his wife and raised their four sons. Jim had

a lot of family and horseshoe friends that came out to celebrate his life. Many of his brothers looked exactly like Jim and had the same mannerisms as Jim. It was like I was seeing Jim again when I looked at his family. Several people got up to share stories about Jim's life. Jim's family talked a lot about Jim's fishing trips to Canada. It wasn't until Ken Heinritz got up to speak that any mention was made about horseshoes. Some of Jim's plaques and patches were on display though for visitors to see. Ken gave a nice talk about his time with Jim and how important he was for horseshoes. It was also shared that Jim had an article published in a local book about the Whitefish Bay area. The visitation concluded with some of Jim's old boy scouts leading everyone in song "Day is Done."

Horseshoe friends were invited to join the family at a local pub to celebrate and share stories about Jim. They had some delicious Irish appetizers for us. One interesting activity that Jim's family did was sing a German song together. They had a German poster and the leader would point to the different pictures. The singing went on for several minutes and after the song, Jim's sister came over and said it was a family tradition that Jim used to lead everyone in.

Not long before he passed away, Jim thanked me for being his best friend and he also thanked Tony for being his best friend. He will surely be missed in our horseshoe family. He was so great for the sport of horseshoes. Rest in peace.

By- Law Change Norm Mauthe

Article VI (Ties) State Tournament Sec. 3B

"If more than two are tied, a stepladder playoff will be used. Playoff games will be the same number of points or shoes as the games in class competition."

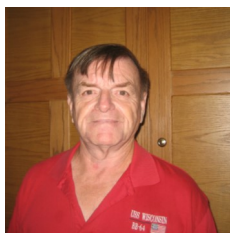
Change to:

- a. If more than two are tied, a stepladder playoff will be used.
- b. In all championship classes the playoff games for two-way ties will be the same number of points as the games in class play. Three-way ties or more will be 30 point games.
- c. In regular classes, including six-player classes, the playoff games for two-way ties will be 40 shoe games. Playoff games for three-way ties will be 30 shoe games and if more than three are tied the games will be 20 shoe games.
- d. The executive board will retain the right to re-adjust if necessary.

Norm Mauthe

Reason: As is, the current playoff system has the potential to extend or delay the State Tournament for an unreasonable amount of time. This change would help to complete the playoffs in a timelier manner.

John Meyer Regional Director



2016 patches are in and have been separated for each club. Thanks to everyone for getting me your tournament and patch requirements in to make this happen. If you are going to the spring meeting in April I will be giving them out there, with the exception of Deansville, Beloit and Eau Claire that have tournaments prior to the meeting. Yours will be either sent by mail or hand carried to your place prior to the beginning of 2016. If your not planning on attending the spring meeting please contact me so I can get them in the mail to you. For those that haven't yet sent me you tournament information, please send it so I can get a complete and accurate tournament schedule out. This next coming year there, so far, has been one new tournament added to the schedule. Deansville will have a doubles tournament in November. Details are yet to be worked out, but this should be fun. As you know this past year was court re-sanctioning. 17 locations, Beloit has two, were sanctioned. If anyone needs to have theirs done, please contact me. You cannot have a sanctioned tournament or league on unsanctioned courts. Lets have a fun and safe 2016 season.

Deansville Singles

Rudy Van Fleet

Class A

John Meyer	57
Leo Richter	53.5
Jason Villwok	37.5

Class B

Bill Dahmen	36.5
Gary Volz	26.5
Rudy Van Fleet	29.5

Class C

Rick Ferguson	30
Mile Stabenaw	29
Gary Schulz	30

Class D

Greg Bergles	21.5
Chuck Wagner	18
Dobie Gutweiler	13.5

Juniors' Scholarship Report

Sonia Cook

Thank You! Thank You! Thank You! To the membership for your support of the Jr program. I have talked with many parents at World and "with a little bragging" have to admit that WI has a top notch program. We must remain responsible and award only trophies or scholarships – No money to our valuable junior pitchers.

To date, we have donations from Mason Bisch for placing in Club Team and State Doubles for a total of \$30; Beloit Club donation of \$50; and the Growing with Juniors Raffle 2015 donated \$721.49.

Many years ago, Tony Scrima built a "trophy box" to collect donations for this fund. For many years it traveled to tournaments; lately is has been resting at the Beloit Horseshoe club. Please donate when you are there. If you would like to see the trophy box travel, let me know. We can give it a try again.

Disbursed scholarship to Heather Feavel for \$1500. Liabilities include earned scholarships of 9 @ \$150 and 9 @ \$300 for a total of \$4050.

I plan on running the "Growing With Juniors" raffle again in 2016 and am relying on our awesome membership to donate items for this raffle. From the top prize to the last awarded prize – I am so grateful for your support of this program. It is so fun to watch the excitement of the "winners" no matter what they won.... Now, a few of you have hee-hawed around to purchase tickets stating that "I Never Win" ... and WON! Well, you can never say that again – but who is keeping track? I like to purchase raffle tickets, and won a few times but if you think about \$5 donation to a great promotion – like our Juniors- enough said.

Tickets should be available at the Spring WHPA meeting and until noon on Sunday of Labor Day Weekend to purchase.

Want to stay up to date on horseshoes? Subscribe to the WHPA email bulletin. Simply send a blank email to:
whpa_bulletin-subscribe@yahoo.com
 It's easy and free! Be sure to let your friends and neighbors know!

A Growing Family

Kevin Brekke

I think most horseshoe players will admit, once horseshoe pitching gets into your blood, you will want to pitch whenever you can, and think about it often. Over the years, other things become a priority, family, friends, faith, work, other sports, etc, but the relationships we build in pitching last forever.

For the sport to grow, we need to inject into our sport new members, who have the fire and excitement of the newness of pitching that we all remember. It is a great thing. In the last few months, I have

had the honor of being directly, or indirectly, involved with some new pitchers that were excited about getting sanctioned, and looking for more opportunities to pitch. In Stevens Point, new pitchers Fred and Mona Lisa Lane, Ray Cayer and Brian Hartman are fixing up the courts at Mead Park, and planning on getting the courts sanctioned next year, and

running at least one tournament. Fred, Ray, and Brian even came to the fall meeting to get their sanction card. At the Deansville Club, when I pitched in their last tournament, three new pitchers were in my class, Rick Fergeson and Ed Cary from Portage, and Mike Stabenaw from Pardeeville. All pitched well, and one of them won the class with a 30 percent average, and went undefeated, and one was second at 29 percent, and took second. Not bad for your first sanctioned tournament. I spoke with all three afterwards, and sounds like they will be going to more tournaments. Another pitcher, John Gritzuk, is from Pleasant Prarie. I met John at the State Moose tournament in Beloit this summer. He pitched over 30 percent, and I encouraged him to get sanctioned, and play more, and he took me up on it, and came to the state meeting, and got

his sanction card for the first time. I did not expect him to take a picture of his card, and put it on Facebook. I shared with my friend group, and a lot of players from around the country liked and commented on his page. A very good thing.

One of the ways to get new members is to run a tournament. I am been fortunate in Edgerton that they have 9 courts at the park. Even though it is not sanctioned, it draws both sanctioned and non-sanctioned players. One of the goals of the tournament is to recruit new players. This year I had 15 new pitchers, and two of them are now sanctioned, and also playing sanctioned league in Beloit, John Sweeney and Chuck Wagner. You will probably see them in many tournaments in the coming year, and planning on going to the World in 2016. In six years running the tournament, I have seen it grow from 16 to 48 entrants, which is the maximum number I will handle.

Another way to attract members is to have a club. I have seen clubs come and go, but when a club is there, it is a place new pitchers can come, and join into the great experience of horseshoe pitching. I have moved around in our state over the last 40+ years, and wherever I go, there are horseshoe courts, and more importantly, a horseshoe club not far away. From the Marshfield club, to the Green Bay and Combined Locks clubs, to the Deansville and Beloit clubs, I have been fortunate to be part of the horseshoe family. It is some work and effort, but well worth it.

If you are fortunate to see some of the newer players around, make an effort to get to know them, and welcome them into the family. A family of those of us that love the game, and want to family to grow.



Wisconsin State Team Tournament Results

Jane Smith

Nine horseshoe clubs vied for the traveling trophy, certificate and free entry into the 2016 event. Clubs must have at least five members from their club pitching in the WI State tournament. Each pitcher earns points for their club; the better the finish, the more points. Individuals, who move into the Championship class, earn bonus points for their club. Summit Ridge was the defending Champion for the 2014 tournament. Thank you for participating in this exciting part of the State Horseshoe Tournament.

1 st Eau Claire HC	11 pitchers	7.63 points	1 State Champion	3 State Class Champions
2 nd Marshfield HC	5 pitchers	7.6 points	1 State Class Champion	
3 rd Deansville HC	7 pitchers	6.4 points		
4 th Little Bull Falls HC	9 pitchers	6.33 points	2 State Champions	
5 th Platteville HC	9 pitchers	4.66 points		
6 th Beloit HC	14 pitchers	4.57 points	2 State Class Champions	
7 th Summit Ridge HC	9 pitchers	3.76 points	1 State Champion	
8 th Close Doesn't Count	6 pitchers	3.66 points		
9 th Heinritz Homestead	8 pitchers	3.37 points		

Fond du Lac Horseshoe Club

John Meyer



The Fond du Lac league was formally formed August 28, 1922 after several challenges and matches were completed among city horseshoe pitchers: Guy Domenget, M French, William Sinske, Gustav

Glasow. There are no records of the final victory but this was the beginning of the league. Albert Jenz and Otto Born were the first league champions. Dues were established at \$1.00 and officers elected. Gustav Glasow was elected President in 1923 and held that office until 1950 with the inception of the Fond du Lac County tournament which ran until 1955. There were no open tournaments but competition with Milwaukee, Madison, Oshkosh, Waukesha, Beaver Dam,

and Sheyboygan pitchers was held.

The club moved several times from Wanapla Park (currently Fruth Field) to Taylor Park, and Goodrich HS. In 1979 the club moved to the present site - Fond du Lac County Fairground.

In the early 1970's the club established the Winnebago Open Tournament which ran until 1994. In 2012 the club re-established this tournament. The Fond du Lac site has also hosted the WI State Horseshoe Tournament 4 times ; 1974, 1980, 1991, and 1993.

Currently the club has a singles and doubles league. In the past whose leagues were joined by mixed doubles, womens, and juniors. Membership has varied year to year with a high membership of 132 in the late 1980-1990's to a low of 12 pitchers in 2003. The current membership is 40 members.





WHPA President Elect
Gary Volz

2nd Vice President Elect
Kevin Brekke



The Changing of the Guard **By Kevin Brekke**

I have been going to WHPA meetings for 30 years now, and I have seen growth and decline in membership over the years. We have been blessed in this state with some great leadership during those 30 years as President from Rick Pritzlaff, Dick Hansen, Ken Jaeger, Tom Steinke, to current president Glen Bogenschneider. Our President-elect Gary Volz brings some youth and enthusiasm, and a vision to grow our association. They, along with the other officers and Tournament Directors, and the many clubs around the state help to keep going the game that we all love. The clubs and their officers are so important to keep pitching alive in their corners of the state, a place for new and old pitchers alike to pitch, and develop relationships.... I have collected boxes of newsletters, tournament results, pictures of events, and reviewing them today has brought back good memories and the friendships gained. More on this in another article in the newsletter.

At the fall meeting, absent were many of the notables that have been there over these last thirty or so years. In their place came some new pitchers from Stevens Point, and Pleasant Prairie, who came

to find out about the WHPA, and could not wait to get their first sanctioned card. One individual even posted his sanctioned card on Facebook, and stated he was ready to kick butt. All of these pitchers are playing in the Beloit Tournament the weekend of November 14, 15.

One thing that was done to promote membership this year was when someone received their sanctioned card for the first time, it was asked, who was the person that referred you. Those referrals John Secord, our Secretary/Treasurer kept track of, and at the meeting, he put to the side 58 cards, one for each referral. Eight cards were selected, which pointed to eight names that were then read, some more than once, as some people had more than one referral. Each name read received an envelope, which contained 25.00. What a great idea to promote Horseshoe Pitching in the State. I know the amount, because I fortunate to get one of those eight envelopes. I hope we will do this next year. Who knows, one of those 58 new people might be our next President in a few years.

Friends Missed

Theodore J. "Ted" Larson

Jim Larson's Dad, Theodore J. "Ted" Larson, age 81, passed away on Sunday, Oct. 18, 2015. Ted loved fishing, hunting, playing horseshoes and working as a floor sander for 35 years. He was a great family man and is survived by his wife, children, grandchildren, nieces, nephews and special fishing buddies. Our sincere sympathy to Jim and his family.

Jeanette Heinritz

Matriarch of the Heinritz clan, Jeanette Heinritz passed early August 2015 at age 81. She and late husband, Roger were blessed with ten children including; Russ, Randy (Lisa) and Ken. The most prolific family in Wisconsin horseshoes also produced Bethany, Christina, and Nathan, all Heinritz's. Others of the 55 grandchildren and 19 great-grandchildren include the Lazaris family of Blake, Brooke, Emily, Steve, and Krystal, additionally the Kuchta's Jonathan and Josh. Together with family not mentioned here, they formed a very long receiving line prior to her funeral at St. Dominic's Catholic Church, Brookfield, WI. Surely the family will appreciate our prayers of condolence.



Jim Haupt

A lifelong resident of Whitefish Bay, Jim passed into the Fullness of Eternal Life at the age of 86 while at home with his loyal dog Frank by his side. Jim was the loving husband for over 50 years of the late Joyce

(Nee Clegg) and devoted father to James Jr. (Patti), John (Cheryl), Jeff (Diane), and Joe (Jenee.) Jim was a loving Gamber to his grandchildren Max, Emily, Ian, Luka, Haley, Aidan, and Gabe. He was big brother to Tom, Howard Jr. “Hod”, Julie, Dave and Steve and the late Joanie and Peter. Jim enjoyed the warmth and love of his siblings and cousins in the Baldus and Gelerup families, especially in his later years.

Jim was a retired Operating Engineer having worked for Pieper Electric, Jos. Wittig, Zien, Debelak Bros., Wirth Const., and for his wooden boat company, Lacheim Boat Works. Jim enjoyed horseshoe pitching, boat building, hunting, fishing, bowling, dartball, and his time as the Regional Director of the Wisconsin Horseshoe Pitchers Association and, most no-

tably, as editor of the group’s newsletter. Proudly, he is also a member of the WHPA Hall of Fame. In the 70’s, he was Scoutmaster for Holy Family’s Troop 449 teaching and inspiring many with his love for the outdoors. Jim lived for his trips to Canada to fish, which he made 21 times with friends, brothers, the Holy Family Boy Scouts, and for his last in 2012 with sons and grandsons.

In his final weeks, despite many obstacles, Jim was in the midst of plotting a final trip to The Great White North. “One more trip to Canada” he’d said with his camp menu, his to-do list, and his NW Ontario map on the wall beside his bed. Jim was a bull of a fighter and a survivor, having fought through many injuries and surgeries. He was doggedly determined to live in the house he raised his family in and to overcome any obstacle in his way. Jim keenly knew the love of his family, especially in his last week. He had great hope for his future and he carried that hope with him to the very end of his time with us.

In loving memory of Jim, donations in his name may be made to Holy Family Catholic Church, 4825 N. Wildwood Ave., Whitefish Bay, WI 53217 or the WHPA, Juniors Scholarship Fund, c/o Sonia Cook, D1483 2nd St., Stratford, WI 54484A.

More on Jim Haupt—The Mover and Shaker of the WHPA!

Jane Smith

The following is edited from the 1996 State Tournament Booklet which featured Jim Haupt.

Jim Haupt was inducted into the Wisconsin Hall of Fame in 1996 at the State tournament held in Eau Claire, WI. Jim’s interest in horseshoes was credited to his Dad, Al Brouillette and Tommy Bartlen. Jim began pitching in organized horseshoe events in the early 1980 when he was past the age of 50. Jim discovered horseshoe tournaments in 1982 and has been a pitcher at many events (usually the most events pitched by a WHPA member) until 2014 when he battled several accidents and health challenges which hindered his endurance and stamina.

He held the position of WI Regional Director from 1986 until he resigned and Ed Wheeler, then John Meyer took over. He has held several local club officer positions as President, Vice President and Secretary of various clubs in the Milwaukee area. He was

also the creator of the Club Team, Team-World and WI State Doubles tournaments.

He began the WHNL with Susie Pritzlaff in 1985; worked with Ken Kosky, Pam Aiken and the present staff. Several of Jim’s articles have been published in the NHPA Newsline. His passion was horseshoes and he offered many suggestions to keep our game interesting and progressive.

In 1996, Jim received the NHPA Achievement Award for “outstanding service to the sport of horseshoe pitching.” Jim will always be remembered for his “abundant willingness to play the game, direct tournaments, and write about the experience.”

He will be missed by many horseshoe pitchers but is probably busy directing and pitching in tournaments with his buddies, Ralph Maylahn, Ken Kosky, Tommy Bartlen and others!

Kevin Brekke

With the passing of Jim Haupt, I thought it appropriate to go through all my Wisconsin Newsletters dating back to 1988, and note some important events and dates.

October 1998 – Newsletter beginning – spring of 1986 when Susie Pritzlaff popped to question to Jim Haupt if he thought it would be a good idea, and if he would like to help with a Newsletter for the state. She bought a new typewriter and a book, “How to write effectively”. Susie would be listed as the Editor, and Jim the writer. Susie would hold that position for 12 years, until 1998, when Ken Kosky would take over as publisher, and Jim would write and now be the editor as well. After Ken Kosky passed early in 2007, Pam Aiken and Jane Smith helped out. The last few year, Jimmy and Julie Paulson helped out with the layout and printing of the newsletter. The popular back page was sponsored by the Pitching Palace, and in 1989, by the Watering Hole in Green Bay, then in 1995, the Ringle Single shoe, and game related sales started in 2002 Game related sales were handled by Paul Neumann, then in 1990 by Cliff and Elaine Troullier, then Ken Kosky took over in 1999. Team World started out at the Pitching Palace in 1985, then transferred to Beloit in 1990, and has been there ever since. The state meeting was held at the Wautoma State Bank, then Royalwood Sports Arena in Plover from 1991 to 1997, then at Arena from 1998 until 2003. Since 2004, it has been at the Lake Delton Sportsman club. Presidents during this time were Rick Pritzlaff(1978), Dick Hansen(1987), Ken Jaeger Sr(1995), Tom Steinke(2003), Glenn Bogenschneider (2014), and now president-elect Gary Volz(2016). John Secord has remained the Secretary/Treasurer since 1979. Jane Smith has been the 1st VP. 2nd VP was Curt Bestul, Terry Sternberg(1994), Jimmy Paulson(2010), Ed Wheeler(2014), and now 2nd VP-elect Kevin Brekke for 2016. Hall of Fame Chair was Sue Pritzlaff, then Eddie McKinney, and now Jeff Secord. 3rd VP was Tom Steinke in 1998, then Sonia Cook, who still holds that office. I am sorry I did not note all the Regional Directors of the past 30 years, but Jim Haupt was either The Regional Director, or one of the four, when Wisconsin had one for each of the four regions of the state. When Ed Wheeler took over for a short time, Jim Haupt was right there with

him. Now our Regional Director is John Meyer.

Note: Largest state tournament as reported in the newsletter was Marshfield, 1984. There were 269 entrants. Only classes A and B needed to be sanctioned. That was changed the next year to read all participants needed to be sanctioned.

The first WHPA State tournament was in Combined Locks in 1967. Club started there with one court in 1960, and had 8 courts for state. In 1971 they built as steel roof over the 8 courts, and it is still there today. Jerry and Rose Kamps both came for the visitation and funeral for Jim.

One of my favorite articles – from Nov-Dec 2000 issue –

Can’t Stop Playing

“It’s a crazy sport and so compulsive”, warns Jim Haupt of the Newsletter. Once you get started and find out you have a knack for tossing a little piece of metal at a stake, you just can’t stop. Jim started playing in several leagues and tournaments each weekend. People are the best thing about this game. You see the same people, and become friends. Reprinted from the November issue of Country Magazine. In 1995, Wisconsin had 477 sanctioned players, up 68, and received national award for it.

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