



PAT EATON

Pat Eaton was program director for teenage girls at a YWCA in South Dakota in 1966 when she began pitching horseshoes in her back yard. She moved to Eau Claire in 1969, and in 1974 started pitching in the new twelve member league at Carson Park. She compiled an impressive record as Eau Claire City-County Champion ten of the twelve years, Eau Claire Open champ four times since 1974, Wisconsin State Ladies Champion seven times, and has won other tournaments at Combined Locks, Mountain, Boyceville, and Germantown. She has pitched in four NHPA tournaments, placing third in Class B in 1975. She was a delegate at the NHPA meeting in Ohio.

Pat is the Second Vice President of the Wisconsin State Association. She is Vice President of the Eau Claire Horseshoe Club, so will be President when Eau Claire hosts the World Tournament in 1987. Pat has been chairman or assisted at nearly every Open and City-County tournament held in Eau Claire.

In 1984 Pat received an NHPA award honoring her for having the third highest league average in the nation at 69.24%, and for tying the third high game of 80%. She is the first woman to take the award three consecutive years and was in competition with 660 women across the nation. She is featured in Ottie Reno's book "The American Directory of Horseshoe Pitching."

Pat is an inspiration to beginning and experienced pitchers alike and is always ready to share her knowledge and to help with suggestions, encouragement, and praise. She has promoted horseshoe pitching throughout the area and was instrumental in helping the Eau Claire Women's League reach the membership it now has.

Pat and her husband, Eldon, have been married since October 14, 1950. They have three sons and two grandsons. They reside at 3027 Saturn Avenue in Eau Claire (54703).

We are happy to present the Wisconsin Horseshoe Hall-of-Fame award to Pat Eaton who, through her pitching ability and involvement in the sport of horseshoe pitching, richly deserves the honor.