# **JUNE 2007**

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# PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

# WHERE HAVE ALL THE PITCHERS GONE ??!!!

WELL I WOULD LIKE TO THINK THEY ARE ATTENDING A TOURNAMENT ON THE WEEKEND AND PARTICIPATING IN LEAGUE PLAY DURING THE WEEK.

lowa is no different than other states and horseshoe pitching is no different than a lot of other recreational organizations. There are increasing activities that individuals are engaged in that require making choices as to what they will do with their recreational time. In the last 14 years the NHPA membership has declined by 200 members a year, from a high of 14,844 in 1991 to 12,076 in 2006. Iowa has went from a high of 455 in 1991 to 265 in 2006. Recently I sent out 91 letters to individuals who were members in 2003 to 2005 and were not members in 2006. Nineteen were returned as not living at that address. Hopefully the others will resume pitching horseshoes. The IHHPA needs your HELP! Buy that son or daughter, grandson, granddaughter a membership and introduce them to a sport that they can

join with you in enjoying. Talk to that friend at work, or a neighbor and ask them to try something that they can enjoy. On a positive note we continue to have new members joining us. With age we naturally will lose some horseshoe pitchers. That's going to happen to all of us at some point in time. When that happens to me I will still want to be a member and support the Association that provided me with years of enjoyment. Others have expressed to me that the IHHPA is in their Will, expressing their thankfulness for the sport. I plan to be in that number.

#### JUNIOR CADETS!!

Now here is something that could very well be the answer for that young family with Boys/Girls age nine years and younger. This age division is now recognized and pitching at the World Tournaments. They pitch from the 20-foot line. The Mom-and-Dad Pitcher can bring them along and the whole family can enjoy pitching.

Continued next page

President's Message (cont'd)

# HALL OF FAME TRAILER

Gerald Weeks brought the IHHPA Hall of Fame Trailer to the Indianola Tournament. Harold Garner, Hall of Fame Supervisor, thought it would be good to have signage on the trailer identifying it with professional style lettering. Everyone was impressed with how it looked. Harold has paid for this (\$300) and with donations he will be reimbursed. If you would like to make a donation for this and other improvements, Harold's address is 1097 250<sup>th</sup> St. Melrose, 1A 52569

#### WORLD TOURNAMENT 2009

The Cedar Rapids CVB provided the full page ad in this month's *Newsline*. We are determined to do everything possible to "WIN THE BID IN ARDMORE!!!

- LeRoy Law

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# **UPCOMING EVENTS:**

June 2 (Sat) Dubuque Open, Flora Park, Reg. by 9:30/play 10:00 - Mike Fishnick 563/556-2811 or Vern McGrath 563/583-7817

June 3 (Sun) Council Bluffs Summer Sunset, Sunset Park - Reg. by 12:30 / play 1:00 - Jan Flemming 712/483-2029

June 9 (Sat) Charles City, Park on Clark Street Reg. by 9:30/play 10:00 - Russ Martin 319/278-4090

June 9 (Sat) Cedar Rapids Open, Ellis Park, Reg. by 9:30 /play at 10:00 - Ronnie Burgess 319/390-3979

June 10 (Sun) Mt. Pleasant Open, East Pine Lake Park Reg. by 9:30/play at 10:00—Vern Kollasch 319/377-7020

June 16 (Sat) Russell Open, Reg. by 9:30/play at 10:00 Harold & Lois Garner 641/897-3174

June 17 (Sun) Stuart - see next page for details

June 23 (Sat) Iowa City Open, City Park, Reg. by 9:30/play at 10:00 — Leo Buell 319/338-8256 or Ron Swarzendruber 319/354-2382

**June 30 (Sat) Clinton Open,** Reg. by 9:30 /play at 10:00 Danny Borchers 563/843-3488

July 1 (Sun) Council Bluffs Council Bluffs Sunset Classic, Sunset Park - Reg. by 12:30 / play 1:00 - Jan Flemming 712/483-2029

July 4 (Wed) West Des Moines Holiday Classic Reg. by 9:30 /play at 10:00 – LeRoy Law 515/2242000 Cell: 515/681-1937

July 4 (Wed) Earlham Freedom Fest (non-sanctioned)
Play Doubles at 12:30 / Singles at 2:30 - John Ridgely
515/834-2855

July 7 (Sat) Marshalltown Al Burgess Memorial Moose Lodge Reg. by 9:30/play at 10:00 Bob McKee 641/753-7311; Cell 641/485-8801 or ringerbob@marshallnet.com



#### **CALL FOR NOMINATIONS**

It is time to solicit nominations for our Association's Hall Of Fame and Frank Jackson Awards.

The Hall Of Fame Award is for individuals who have demonstrated major or long-term service to our Association. Members inducted into this select group consider this to be a great honor, and many continue to promote the sport of horseshoes

The Frank Jackson Award is for one individual who has done the most for the advancement of horseshoe pitching in lowa the past year.

If you know individuals that fit these criteria, please send information to me. Include in your nomination their name, how long they have been actively involved with horseshoes, their specific accomplishments and things you feel that make these horseshoe pitchers special. These nominations do not need to be lengthy. In fact, we appreciate nominations that are concise and to the point.

The committee needs your help identifying these individuals so their efforts may be properly recognized. Thanks in advance.

The deadline for these nominations is June 20, 2007.

Send to: Hall of Fame Committee Doug Anderson 3266 S. River Way Stratford, IA 50249

Or email to: dougnsue@globalccs.net

championship victory came in 1988 when the event was held at the Ellis Park Courts in Cedar Rapids.

During those same years, Red also competed in many of the World Tournaments held at various sites across the country. Gary Kline's 'History of the World Tournament' states that 1962 was his rookie year in World tournament competition. That year the tournament was held in Greenville Ohio. where Red pitched a very respectable 77.5% ringer average and most notably, defeated legendary world champion Ted Allen, who at that time had already captured the World Tournament title, a long standing record, 10 times. He earned 8th place that year with his 23-12 record. Little did he know that from those 23 rookie year victories, he would eventually pitch himself to 15th on the all time World Tournament victory list compiling a total of 375 wins.

From 1962 until 1992 Red competed in a total of 24 World Tournaments, 19 in the Men's Championship Class, 2 in the Men's Intermediate Championship class and 3 in the Championship Class. Over the course of those 19 WT Men's Championship class appearances, he compiled a 78.3% ringer average. He averaged over 80% in five of those World Tournaments; 83.9% in 1964; 80.9% in 1965; 83.6% in 1972; 82.09% in 1976; and 83.21% in 1977. In his two years of Intermediate World competition, 1985 and 1986, He was the Men's Intermediate World Champion averaging over 71% both years. His last three World Tournament appearances were in the Senior Division where he finished in 2<sup>nd</sup> place in the Championship class, averaging 69.3% in 1987 and 67.68% in 1989 and 3<sup>rd</sup> place in the Championship class in 1992 averaging 67.73%.

1977 was the year Red was poised to win the World Tournament; he was leading the event. carding only 2 losses with only one round to go. During that tournament, Red fired three games over 90%, hitting 90.3% against John Passmore; 91.2% against Larry Griffin and 94.8% versus Jesse Gonzales. In the final round, Red squared off with the ever tough, Mark Seibold. Seibold, on a roll of 9 straight games over 80%, strung it to 10 firing 86.2% to steal the outright victory from Red. That loss dropped him to a 23-3 tie with Elmer Hohl who had narrowly slipped by Carl Steinfelt in their very close and pivotal game, propelled by his streak of 35 out of 36 ringers. So the 1977 WT title was to be decided by a best of three games. Elmer had previously won WT titles in 1972 and 1973 in playoffs, so he was favored to do so again. However, Red had bested Elmer in their last three

meetings so it was really anybodies game. Both of the playoff games lasted over 100 shoes. Red pitched two very consistent 79.8% games but narrowly lost to Elmer who captured the championship propelled by his games of 82.5% and 83.7%. Since Elmer hailed from Canada, Red has often been referred to as the 1977 United States Champion.

The most notable achievement in Red's long pitching career would have to be his Guinness Book of World Records 'Greatest Horseshoe Game Ever' which he pitched against Ray Martin in the 1965 World Tournament held in Keene New Hampshire. The two met for that marathon match in the 18<sup>th</sup> round of that tournament and they still hold a number of records from that game. (See 'Greatest Game Ever' link on the website for the score sheets from that game).

Longest game – (50 points) – 194 shoes Total ringers – 349 Most Double ringers – 157 Most Canceled Ringers – 316 Most "Four Deads" – 63

Red also holds the following individual records from that game as well.

Most Ringers, winner – 175

Most Double ringers – 80

The two combined 349 ringers of 388 shoes pitched for an average of 89.95% for their marathon game which would have been another record. However, Paul Focht and Marvin Craig narrowly eclipsed that game in the same 1965 World tournament when they combined 237 ringers of 260 shoes for an average of 91.15% in their own marathon game to capture that record.

Red also owns or shares several WT single game records in the senior division from his three appearances in that class. In the single game category – both players combined:

Total combined ringers in a 40 point game – 126 shared with Ray Hill

Most Double ringers in a 40 point game - 53 shared with Ray Hill

Most "Four Deads" in a 40 point game - 18 shared with Ray Hill

Consecutive Four Deads -6 (Red pitched in two of the five senior division games that currently share this record).

He is also listed in the single game individual records from 1989 Senior WT as having the most ringers, as the loser in a 40 point game, with 62; and most double ringers, as the loser in a 40 point game with 26.

In other NHPA records Red's name appears 15<sup>th</sup> on the all-time World Tournament victory totals with 375 wins. He is also 13<sup>th</sup> on the list of pitchers with games over 90% in World Tournament competition with 19 games at or above that mark. Three of which are included in the list of Men's highest ringer percent games in World Tournament. In 1964 versus Floyd Fowler, Red rang the stake 67 of 70 times for 95.71%. Also that year versus Marvin Craig, 93 of 98 found the stake for 94.90%. Then in 1965 he defeated Jim Johnson firing 40 of 42 for 95.24%.

Red was a participant in six of the games listed on the NHPA list of Longest World Tournament games. That places him fourth on the list of pitchers with the most, behind Ted Allen who pitched in 11, Ray Martin who had 9 and Carl Steinfeldt with 8.

His 78.3% ringer average, for the 19 Men's division world tournaments he participated in, ranks him 16<sup>th</sup> on the NHPA all time overall average list for 4 tournaments or more. Below are listed his WT placing and ringer percentages:

1962 8th Place 77.98%	1977 2 <sup>nd</sup> Place 83.21%
1963 5th Place 75.22%	1978 5 <sup>th</sup> Place 76.2%
1964 3 <sup>rd</sup> Place 84.03%	1979 26 <sup>th</sup> Place 74.33%
1965 13 <sup>th</sup> Place 80.90%	1981 23rd Place 71.27%
1967 18th Place 74.88%	1982 11th Place 74.17%
1968 19th Place 79.28%	1983 14 <sup>th</sup> Place 71.64%
1970 7th Place 76.47%	1984 Div 5 1st 73.14%
	1985 1st Place 71.48%
1972 6th Place 83.6%	Intermediate class.
	1986 1st Place 71.06%
1973 7th Place 78.92%	Intermediate class.
*	1987 2 <sup>nd</sup> Place 69.30%
1974 6 <sup>th</sup> Place 79.14%	Senior class
	1989 2 <sup>nd</sup> Place 67.68%
1975 7th Place 79.16%	Senior class
<i>7</i> -	1992 3rd Place 67.73%
1976 5th Place 82.09%	Senior class

In 1978 Red received the dual honor of being inducted into both the National Horseshoe Pitchers Association Hall of Fame and the Iowa Hawkeye Horseshoe Pitching Association Hall of Fame. Over the span of his horseshoe pitching career, Glen 'Red' Henton, has compiled horseshoe pitching records that may never be matched or beaten. The information listed here attests to the fact that Glen 'Red' Henton is truly one of Iowa's and the world's horseshoe pitching legends.

Compiled and submitted by Pat Simon. February 2007

Mike Hoover

What Cheer

# Indianola Open, Saturday, May 5, 2007

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Class A				
Bob Hardy	North Liberty	1 st	5-0	50.0
Keith Baker	Clive	$2^{nd}$	3-2	43.0
Bob McKee	Marshalltown	$\frac{2}{3}$ rd	3-2	40.5
	,	4 <sup>th</sup>	2-3	40.5
Vern Kollasch	Iowa City	5 <sup>th</sup>	2-3	37.0
LeRoy Law	W.Des Moines	6 <sup>th</sup>		
Doug Anderson	Stratford	6	0-5	33.0
Class B				
Ron Rowley	W.Des Moines	1 st	4-1	36.5
Deb Dalton	Indianola	$2^{nd}$	4-1	35.0
Clair Strohn	Des Moines	3 <sup>rd</sup>	3-2	23.5
Mary Dirks	Fonda	4 <sup>th</sup>	2-3	26.5
Bob Rounds	Perry	5 <sup>th</sup>	2-3	26.5
Darwin Mott	Hartford	6 <sup>th</sup>	0-5	17.5
Class C	_	. 61		
Clyde Raines	Leon	[ st	4-1	21.2
Marian McKee	Marshalltown	2 <sup>nd</sup>	4-1	19.3
Gerald Weeks	Indianola	3 <sup>rd</sup>	3-2	23.7
James Bown	Delta	4 <sup>th</sup>	2-3	22,5
Royal Hedgecock	W.Des Moines	5 <sup>th</sup>	2-3	14.3
Dean Fortune	Des Moines *	* wi	thdrew	
Class B				
Class D Bob Williams	Dag Mainag	1 st	5.0	26.0
	Des Moines	2 <sup>nd</sup>	5-0	
Paul Clark	Marshalltown	3 <sup>rd</sup>	4-1	20.5
Tim Baker	Stuart	A <sup>th</sup>	2-3	16.5
Ron Moon	Indianola	∄ 5 <sup>th</sup> -	2-3	12.0
Harold Barker	W.Des Moines	5'''	1-4	17.5
Rusty Dalton	Indianola	6 <sup>th</sup>	1-4	13.5
Class E				
Veronica Goode	Indianola	1 <sup>st</sup>	4-0	15.6
Mike Goode	Indianola	2 <sup>nd</sup>	3-1	15.0
Don Allyn	Des Moines	$\tilde{3}^{rd}$	2-2	13.1
Rhonda Dalton	Indianola	4 <sup>th</sup>	1-3	8.7
Jesse Dalton	Indianola	5 <sup>th</sup>	0-4	8.1
Jesse Daiton	manoia .	3	0-4	0.1
Class F				
John Ghrist	Des Moines	1 st	3-0	12.5
Rusty Dalton II	Indianola	2 <sup>nd</sup>	1-2	11.6
Mary Jo Barker	W.Des Moines	$3^{rd}$	1-2	8.8
Larry Borchert	Indianola	4 <sup>th</sup>	1-2	8.0
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What Cheer Ope	en, Saturday, M	ay zu.	, 2007	
Class A				
Bob Dugger	What Cheer	1 <sup>st</sup>	4-1	36.0
	Newton	2 <sup>nd</sup>	4-1	31.0
Ed Walsh		3 <sup>rd</sup>	3-2	
Carl Kaiser	Des Moines	3 4 <sup>th</sup>		38.0
Ron Stanerson	Marengo		3-2	34.0
Tom Cranston	Parnell	5 <sup>th</sup>	1-4	25.0
Richard Cranston	Keswick	6 <sup>th</sup>	1-5	16.0
Class B	V.			
James Bown	Delta	] st	5-0	22.0
Matt Bombei	Delta	2 <sup>nd</sup>	4-1	25.0
Walter Martin	Ottumwa	$\overline{3}^{rd}$	3-2	17.0
Paul Clark	Marshalltown	4 <sup>th</sup>	2-3	18.0
Harold Barker	W.Des Moines	5 <sup>th</sup>	1-4	10.0
THE CHILD HAND	11 TOO INTOINGS	ماه	ı T	10.0

# HANDICAPPED COUNT-ALL TOURNAMENT

Sunday June 17<sup>th</sup>, Stuart, Iowa Entry Deadline: June 13th

Pitch 5 games of 30 shoes. Total score of shoes plus handicap wins. \$100.00 FIRST PLACE\*

\$10.00 entry fee, pre-registration required. We will be throwing shoes in sessions starting at 11:00 a.m. People living closest to Stuart will be throwing first. Sessions will run approximately one and one-half hours each. People traveling the farthest will throw later. You will be notified as to which session you will be in. Time permitting there will be a count-all walking doubles tournament after the singles. \$10.00 entry fee and another \$100.00 to the winners.

For further info contact Tim Baker at coonriverdog@aol.com, phone: 515-523-2418 or Gary Reed at garystuart@iowatelecom.net

Pre register and send entry fee to:

Tim Baker 416 N. Fremont St Stuart, Iowa 50250

\* Only members of IHHPA can win full prize amounts, non-members win half. So get those non members signed up!!!!!!!



2007 Iowa State Fair - "SOUNDS LIKE FUN" August 9th - 19th This year's schedule is attached.

### MITCHELLVILLE OPEN LEAGUE

Join Glenn Warden at the courts in City Park in Mitchellville every Thursday evening starting at 6:00. For more information, contact Glenn at 515/865-4679.



# HAPPY BIRTHDAY EARL WINSTON!

Earl Winston will celebrate his 80<sup>th</sup> birthday on June 4<sup>th</sup>. His wife, Vicki, suggested a card shower. Send your birthday greetings to:

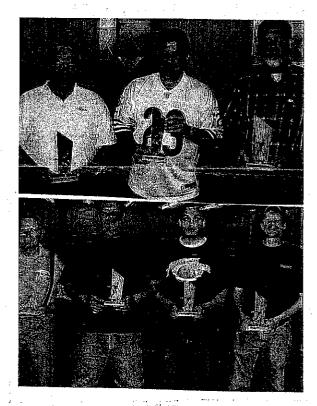
Earl Winston % Carl and Amy Winston 1002 Columbia Street Sweet Springs, MO 65351

#### AMANA HORSESHOES

The first year of Winter horseshoe pitching has been completed, climaxed with a tournament and awards. The competition was exciting with 90% handicap. Each pitcher had to do their best to come out a winner.

<u>Class A</u>: Ron Stanerson, Marengo – 1<sup>st</sup>; John Peterson, Coralville – 2<sup>nd</sup>; Vern Kollasch, Iowa City – 3<sup>rd</sup>.

<u>Class B:</u> Steve Klimes, Amana – 1<sup>st</sup>; Brandon Blackhawk, Cedar Rapids – 2<sup>nd</sup>; Paul Prevett, Marengo – 3<sup>rd</sup>; Ron Swartzendruber, Iowa City – 4<sup>th</sup>.



More than 28 pitchers from ten different towns participated in the activities from November to the end of March. This year was a delightful success. We hope to do it again next year.

-- Leo Buell

Editors' Note: This month's issue will be sent via email (if we have your e-mail address) as well as by regular mail. Please let us know if e-mail delivery will work for you. We are trying to reduce our postage and photocopying charges.

# Iowa Horseshoe Pitching Legend - Glen 'Red' Henton



Glen 'Red' Henton, one of lowa's, and the world's, most prolific horseshoe pitchers, was born on September 3<sup>rd</sup> 1920. He grew up in the small town of Fulton Iowa, which is located on Hwy 61 just north of Maquoketa. He now resides in Maquoketa and has always referred to it as his home.

When Glen was around 7-10 years old, it was his grandfather who first got he, and his two brothers pitching horseshoes. They would pitch on a court behind the rural grocery his grandfather owned in Fulton. The brothers were all pretty good pitchers and Glen recalls times his brother would be pitching at home along the dirt road, which is now highway 61, and some of the well-to-do folks driving by in their big V-8 cars would stop by and watch. Occasionally, after a display of pitching ringers, they would toss a quarter or fifty cents his way. Glen recalls thinking this could turn out to be pretty lucrative and perhaps he better work on his game.

Later on in 1934, at the age of 14, Glen pitched his first competition at a county tourney held in Maquoketa. It was a 100 shoe pitch event rather than a head to head competition. He recalls that he rang 94 out of 100 shoes and won the event. That was the first victory of his competitive pitching career; however the bulk of it wasn't to begin in earnest until many years later.

In 1938 after graduating high school, Glen met Bernice, the girl who would eventually become his wife. She was just a freshman in high school at the time. Glen was also an accomplished baseball player, and had signed with the Chicago White Sox to play professional baseball for their farm club in Grand Forks North Dakota set to begin that spring.

However, when he reported to play in Grand Forks, he was met with 14" of snow on the field and he decided then not to further pursue a baseball career. In his words he said "man, this is not for me, I don't want to wind up a baseball bum and lose Bernice too...", so he returned home to Maquoketa. In 1942, after her graduation, he married Bernice and shortly thereafter he was inducted in the Army. His Army career took him overseas for 30 months during World War II, serving in India, Burma and China. He recalls doing horseshoe pitching exhibitions several times while overseas. In 1945 he was discharged from the Army and returned to Maguoketa where he worked various jobs around the area before finally landing a job as a rural mail carrier, where he worked for 25 years. Through the years, he and Bernice also played and sang in various musical groups, playing dance jobs all over the country. They lived on a 50 acre farm that they worked, along with tending to a herd of Black Angus cows. Glen and Bernice were the parents of two daughters, Judy and Nancy, so their busy schedule did not leave much time for horseshoe pitching.

Red was a left-handed pitcher who tossed a high arching 1-1/4 turn shoe that seemed to float in the air before dropping neatly around the stake. He competed with Ted Allen horseshoes for much of his pitching career before coming out with his own Henton V-lock and Supreme horseshoes. He was one of those naturals at the game and competed in the top class in all of the tournaments he entered. His exceptional pitching ability coupled with his showmanship would always draw a crowd to watch at tournaments he attended. During those years Iowa was blessed with several of the nation's best pitchers and the high level of competition at tournaments made for some very long, tense and exciting games. After many tournaments he could be found breaking out his guitar and entertaining the crowd with a few songs.

It wasn't until around 1960 that he got involved in competitive horseshoe pitching again. He entered the State Tournament in Des Moines that year, and after having won 9 games, was forced to drop out when Bernice's Dad became ill and they had to return home. The following year, 1961, he returned to the State Championships and won his first State Title defeating Francis Rogers from Cedar Falls for the victory. NHPA records indicate that he won the Iowa State title18 times during his career, surpassing former Iowa greats Dale Dixon and the legendary Frank Jackson who had won the title11 and 9 times respectively. His final Iowa