

NEWSLETTER



FROM THE PRESIDENT

John Bouldt

May/June 1993

Greetings to All,

APRIL TOURNEY - A HUGE SUCCESS

I am happy to inform the membership of the successful benefit luncheon and tournament sponsored by our club on Sunday, April 25th. According to our treasurer, Mike Norton, VOMPC donated \$743.15 for the French Department of Sonoma Valley High School. I was approached by a number of the attendees, complimenting us on the luncheon as well as the tournament direction. Folks, it was very impressive to watch a group of volunteers put their hearts into a selfless effort. Because of newsletter space constraint, I cannot quantify all the individual efforts. However, I've made a point to personally thank each of you. The "worker bees:" Annick Bouldt (cuisiniere extraordinaire), Mike Norton (chief abalone pounder, assistant cuisiniere, directeur de tournament, reluctant arbitrator, and all-around nice guy), Jake Martin (sous-chief abalone pounder, announcer, and program coordinator), Phil Leveau (directeur du sport), Garrick Clayton (assistant abalone pounder and coloman-at-large), Susan Norton, Barbara Stieper and several dedicated students from French IV at SVHS who collectively worked their "butts off" to make it happen with style. I'm truly proud of you all!

COURT IMPROVEMENTS - A POSSIBILITY

Next order of business is to approach the city for approval of requested improvements to our facilities (e.g. BBQ pits, picnic tables, benches, additional shade trees and water fountains). Pierre Joske has completed the court plan to present to our City Council via Parks & Recreation Commission. Hopefully, we'll be given permission to proceed. Once again, Pierre has done an excellent job in designing the court upgrades. We're very lucky to have his talents available to us. Merci beaucoup Pierre!

A MAJOR TOURNAMENT FOR SONOMA?

In further news, Michel Diago of Pan American Cellular, headquartered right here in Sonoma, has extended a generous offer to sponsor a major "national" tournament. We have begun preliminary discussion with him and FPUSA president, Robert Morrison. If this project comes to fruition, Sonoma and VOMPC could be host to one of the richest ever petanque contests in North America. More details will follow.

UPCOMING EVENTS

The next two months will provide the opportunity to prepare (i.e. "train") for the 5th Annual Grand Concourse de Petanque.

May 23rd "Mixed Couples" Tournament

June 27th "Newcomers" Tournament

July 11th "Grand Concourse de Petanque"

This year's Grand Concourse also marks the 5th anniversary of our relationship with Ravenswood Winery, whom we graciously thank for their continuing sponsorship of our Bastille Day event and for their support during other events.

Well, it seems like the momentum continues to grow for our Club. Many thanks to Tom Noonan for his recent Sonoma I-T article describing the game of petanque and discussing the growth of our club. I extend to all a request for constructive ideas for further improvements...let's hear from you! See you on the court!

LOST: 2 Petanque Boules borrowed during April 25th tournament. Serial #590 Call Annick Bouldt 938-8395

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

- VOMPC Membership Roster
- 1993 FPUSA Membership Card (or 1993 sticker for renewing members) Please note: if you have lost your FPUSA membership card, contact Mike Norton by 5/31/93
- Registration form for our NEW SUMMER LEAGUE open to all VOMPC members Note: You must sign up no later than 5/31/93

FUTURE TOURNAMENTS:

May 23rd "Mixed Couples" Tournaments - Select your own male-female team. Sign-up begins @ 11:30am.

Entry fee \$3 per person. Bring your own lunch & beverages. Cash prizes.

June 27th "Newcomer's" Tournament - Random triplet team. Each team will have one newcomer/novice.

Sign-up begins @ 11:00am. Entry fee: FREE for 1st time players, \$4 if you bring a 1st timer,

Otherwise \$5 per person. Prizes & beverages supplied by Uncle Patty's Restaurant.

Optional dinner @ Uncle Patty's following tournament. Call Garrick for reservations 996-4684

A "LEAGUE OF OUR OWN"

Now is the time to sign-up for our new VOMPC Summer League. This should be a great opportunity to play petanque, meet club members and enjoy a little "friendly competition" in a "more or less" organized fashion.

League play will allow for each individual to play tete-a-tete (head-to-head) with all other individuals who sign up for the league. More details will follow once you have signed up, but here are the "basics."

Entry fee: \$10 per person

Schedule: Each player will play every other player (at least once) at self-arranged times throughout the summer.

Times: Matches can be played at any mutually convenient time, but it is hoped that league play will facilitate court utilization during weekday evenings as well as weekends.

Matches: Each match will consist of a "best 2 out of 3" contest, with games played to 13 points. Each player will use 3 boules.

Results: Results of each match will be submitted in writing (forms provided) to League Director (Mike Norton). Standings will be maintained and updated at least twice monthly.

Prizes: There will be trophies for 1st, 2nd and 3rd places as well as a perpetual trophy established for VOMPC League Champion and Playoff Tournament Champion.

At the end of the Summer League, there will be a "Playoff Tournament" for all league participants at the conclusion of league play (probably in October). There will be a \$5 entry fee for the playoffs and seedings will be determined by final league standings. For the playoffs there will be "A" and "B" bracketing (i.e. top half of league players in "A" bracket and lower half in "B" bracket). Prizes (probably monetary) will be awarded to first three places in each bracket. If you have further questions, please call Mike Norton (938-9128 - evenings).

YOU MUST SIGN-UP NO LATER THAN MAY 31st TO BE ELIGIBLE FOR THE VOMPC SUMMER LEAGUE. PLEASE COMPLETE AND RETURN THE FORM BELOW TO:

MIKE NORTON 48 AUREO CT. SONOMA, CA 95476 (OR CALL 938-9128).

LET'S GET EVERYONE INVOLVED - RESPOND TODAY!!!

Name: _____ Phone # Day: _____ Evening: _____

Estimated Skill Level (1=absolute novice to 10=expert): _____ Best Days/Times to Play: _____

RETURN THIS SLIP WITH CHECK FOR \$10 MADE PAYABLE TO VOMPC, NO LATER THAN MAY 31st TO MIKE NORTON @ ABOVE ADDRESS OR CALL 938-9128