



Pétanque Times

Vol. 1 No. 5

September-October 1994

RANDOM TRIPLETS TOURNAMENT SET FOR SEPT. 25th

We're celebrating the start of autumn here in our Sonoma Valley with an easy-going, random triplets tournament on Sunday, September 25th. **Myron Reece** is the coordinator. Registration from 10-11 a.m. Starting time 11:30 a.m. Special prizes for winners. Entry fee: \$5 per person. Bring your lunch for the picnic break and relax. At our Valley of the Moon petanque courts.

NOMINATIONS ANNOUNCED FOR OCT. 22nd BOARD ELECTIONS

A slate of six nominees to fill four upcoming two-year vacancies on our VOMPC board of directors was announced this week by the nomination/elections committee. Incumbents **John Bouldt** and **J. Mathieu**, plus **Chuck Fleming**, **Steve Katz**, **Frank Pipal** and **Sal Troia** have all agreed to serve, if elected.

Nominating committee members **Pierre Joske**, **Byron Mayo** and **Frank Pipal** were appointed by President **Mike Norton** in August. In making their announcement, Pierre, Byron and Frank emphasized that additional nominations to the board for 1995-96 can be made in writing by any VOMPC member up until Thursday, September 22. Simply write "Nominations," VOMPC, Box 863, Sonoma, CA 95476. All current members are eligible to vote in the annual election -- either in advance by mail, or in person at the annual meeting, October 22.

The full election calendar looks like this:

Deadline for nominations	Sept. 22
Ballots to be mailed out to members	Sept. 29
Mail-in ballots to be returned by	Oct. 13
Board election, at annual meeting	Oct. 22

VOMPC ANNUAL MEETING AND DINNER PLANNED FOR OCT. 22nd.

Our annual meeting will be combined with a very special dinner this year on Saturday evening, October 22. More details will follow soon. Meanwhile, circle the date on your calendar and plan to attend. It'll be an enjoyable evening with some good surprises -- all leading into our annual Harvest Tournament the next day. At the brief business meeting prior to the dinner, we will elect four directors to the board for new, two-year terms. We'll review the year. Look ahead. And get your thinking on the club, up and down the line.

OCTOBER 23rd CONFIRMED FOR ANNUAL HARVEST TOURNAMENT

Our annual Harvest Tournament on October 23rd will be a select doubles competition, with a "turkey shoot" and other trimmings on the side. **Tom Noonan** will coordinate this festive affair. More on this later.

MARIN 80-YEAR-OLD AND BUDDIES WIN VOMPC CHAMPIONSHIP

A record 78 players on 26 teams turned out for the second annual Valley of the Moon Petanque Club championship tournament on Sunday, August 28. **Armand Squitieri**, the grand old man of petanque, celebrated his 80th birthday that day by teaming up with two old friends to win top honors of the day. Armand and teammates **Girard Cannabeau** and **Leon Mardirossian** captured first place in the long, ladder playoff. Their names now go on the club's perpetual championship trophy.

It wasn't an easy win for the three Marinites, however. They faced another strong and determined trio, the veterans **Jean Krauer**, **Jean Leveau** and **Stanis Balok**, who eventually had to settle for second place. The final score of the game was 13-10.

Frank Barsocchini, **Jon Des Pois** and **Tom Bricca** from our own VOMPC took the third place honors, in what was a full day of top-flight petanque and celebration and competition and friendly pickup games that extended on until nightfall. Sponsored by **MaTerre Systems, Int'l.** and coordinated by **J. Mathieu**, 'twas a glorious day to remember.

CLAUDE BERTHOUD SETS NEW RECORD FOR TOURNAMENT BYES

The genial bear, **Claude Berthoud**, set some kind of new record at our August 28th championship, when his team -- for the third consecutive tournament -- drew a bye in the initial round of the qualifying "barrage." Then, to stretch his record even further, Claude's team drew another bye at the start of the afternoon playoffs. Asked to comment on his remarkable string of consecutive "no-play" starts, Claude looked up from his boules and growled, "...win or lose, I come here to play petanque."

MATERRE SYSTEMS, INT'L. DONATES DRAMATIC NEW BENCHES TO VOMPC

The four, handsome 7-ft. benches now in place at our Valley of the Moon petanque courts were designed, built and installed by **MaTerre Systems, Int'l.**, sponsor of the club's August 28th championship tournament. One of the leading-edge, environmental building techniques developed by **MaTerre Systems** uses excavated earth or quarry fines mixed with concrete. The massive 2,300-lb. benches are notable examples of this innovative approach. They were molded from a mix of local quarry fine from Nuns Canyon, plus concrete and a small amount of sand.

Installation was a tough, all-day Saturday job for **J. Mathieu**, his crew and equipment, with some strong help from **Chuck Fleming** -- integrated with the work of Sports Director **Pierre Joske** and helpers who were grooming the surrounding playing field for the next day's events. On Sunday, at the start of the tournament, President **Mike Norton** presided at a special unveiling ceremony during which he expressed the club's deep appreciation to Mathieu and **MaTerre Systems** for their generous support.

WELCOME TWO NEW VOMPC MEMBERS -- FROM WILLITS!

During our championship tournament, two players from Willits joined the club. A warm welcome to **Paul Porter** and **Louis Rohlicek**. This brings our 1994 total membership up to 72.

From the president:

IN THE SHADE OF THE OLD WALNUT TREES...

That was the scene as the "Club Francais de Sacramento" hosted their 10th annual Labor Day weekend petanque tournament at Furlon Ranch in Knight's Landing, north of Sacramento. Petanque clubs from throughout the Bay Area were well represented, including several VOMPC members: **Frank and George Pipal, Roger Poli, John Bouldt, Ken and Barbara Stieper, Pierre and Maryse Joske and Mike Norton.**

Maryse Joske and Barbara Stieper were both on prize-winning teams in the random draw melee event on Saturday. The weekend culminated with a 25-team select tournament on Sunday. A team of **John Krauer** (from Boule D'Or), **Roger Poli** and **Frank Pipal** finished in third place. Remarkably, an all-American team finished in second place for the first time in this tournament's history: VOMPC's own **Ken Stieper, Mike Norton** and **John Bouldt** lost 13-10 in the finals to a team that included two national-tournament-level players, **Gerard Cannabou** and **Maurice Ebbolito.**

Simone and Emile Furlon and the Sacramento club were gracious hosts for the annual tournament dinner Sunday evening. The growth of our club was acknowledged with very positive comments, as was the increasing competitive abilities of American players in a French-dominated sport.

-- Mike Norton

THE WILLITS CLUB SAYS "C'MON UP" FOR OCT. 16th TOURNAMENT

Eldon Moilanen reports that the Willits Boules Club is hosting a select triplets tournament on Sunday, Oct. 16. Any and all VOMPC members are invited. This could be a good warm-up for our own select triplets Harvest Tournament the following weekend, Oct. 23.

'SUMMER LEAGUE' COMES TO A CLOSE THURSDAY NIGHT, SEPT. 22nd

This is it! Coming up is the final week of 'Summer League' action. Where do things stand? **Mike Norton's** remarkable, undefeated record in the BLUE DIVISION is now up to 9-0. Can anybody catch him? Still close behind in second place is **Byron Mayo** at 8-1. Lying in wait to challenge the leaders during the final week is **Louis Toulon**, in third place at 4-1. Over in the RED DIVISION, **Chuck Fleming** has stretched his 1st-place lead to 6-1. **Peter Mathis**, getting ready to make a climactic run for the gold, currently sits in the No. 2 spot at 4-1. And close behind in 3rd place is **Tom Noonan**, at 5-2 and still in the running.

Soon after the Sept. 22nd close, we'll hold a post-season, Grand Championship match between the RED DIVISION and BLUE DIVISION title holders -- to determine who's No. 1. You'll be notified where and when. Meanwhile, hang around the courts the next week or so and you'll see some hot and heavy final matches. For complete current standings, see the back page.

'SUMMER LEAGUE' STANDINGS'

(Based on reports received thru Friday, Sept. 9)

	MATCHES WON	MATCHES LOST	PERCENT W/L	GAMES WON	GAMES LOST
<u>BLUE DIVISION</u>					
Mike Norton	9	0	1.000	18	4
Byron Mayo	8	1	.889	17	5
Louis Toulon	4	1	.800	8	3
John Bouldt	5	3	.625	13	8
Roger Poli	5	3	.625	12	8
Renato Sottile	4	4	.500	9	9
Paul Verdone	4	6	.400	9	13
Myron Reece	2	6	.250	7	12
George Pipal	2	6	.250	4	14
Steve Katz	2	8	.200	8	16
Morris Katz	1	8	.111	4	17

RED DIVISION

Chuck Fleming	6	1	.857	13	4
Peter Mathis	4	1	.800	9	3
Tom Noonan	5	2	.714	10	6
Eldon Moilanen	6	3	.667	13	9
Jon Des Pois	5	3	.625	10	9
Frank Pipal	2	3	.400	5	6
J. Mathieu	1	3	.250	5	7
Yves Casabonne	2	7	.222	7	15
Sal Troia	1	4	.200	5	18
Bruce Frigard	1	6	.143	3	13

CALENDAR

What's Coming Up -- Sept.-Oct.

Thursday	Sept. 22	Deadline for any additional board nominations
Thursday	Sept. 22	Closing date for 'Summer League'
Sunday	Sept. 25	VOMPC Random Triplets Tournament
(Early Oct. -- TBD)		'Summer League' Grand Championship Match
Thursday	Oct. 13	Deadline for return of election ballots
Sunday	Oct. 16	Willits Boules Club, select triplets tournament
Saturday	Oct. 22	Annual Meeting, election and dinner
Sunday	Oct. 23	Annual Harvest Tournament, select doubles

