



# Pétanque Times

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## Barsocchini, Rizzo, Stiepers

### *Three New Directors Elected to the Board For Two-year Terms*

**A**t the annual meeting and election on October 28, Frank Barsocchini, David Rizzo and Barbara Stiepers were elected to the VOMPC board of directors for two-year terms, 1996-97.

David Ogaz, Kim Field and Bruce Frigard, who were also nominated for seats on the board, are marked as favorites for the future.

*A record-high, seventy percent of the membership cast ballots in this election.. It was all coordinated by Frank Pipal, Pierre Joske and Mike Norton.*

The election climaxed a boisterous evening of feasting, awards, tributes and toasts at Zino's Ristorante, with special homage paid to the three retiring board members, Pierre Joske, Mike Norton and Byron Mayo.

Barbara Stiepers, David Rizzo and Frank Barsocchini will take their seats on the VOMPC board of directors at the upcoming November 14 meeting.

### *New Officers to be Named*

High on the agenda for the new board at their November meeting will be selection of officers for 1996, including president, vice-president, treasurer, secretary and director of sports. To be announced soon.

### **1996 BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

Frank Barsocchini—Chuck Fleming—  
Steve Katz—J. Mathieu—Frank Pipal—  
David Rizzo—Barbara Stiepers

### **Enthusiastic Crowd at Final 1995 Tournament**

**O**ktoberfest was a full day of pétanque for 68 enthusiasts at our final tournament of the year. It was a select doubles competition with 34 teams entered. Play continued into the night.

Two teams in the finals, Patrick Vaslet and Mike Ragot vs. Raymond Nielsen and Jean Krauer, squeezed out a 6-6 tie in the dark before calling it quits.

Peter Mathis and Bill Carter from the VOMPC took third. The consolante went to Gerard Canabou and Jean Leveau. J. Mathieu coordinated the entire affair.

*The popular hit of the day was the Oktoberfest luncheon, provided and served by the Chambolle-Musigny Committee of Sonoma. Hard-working Annick Bouldt and Susan Norton shoveled out a surprising 103 plates full of sausages, sauerkraut, salad and strudel—and the beer to go with it.*

Sideline skill contests, coordinated by Tom Noonan, added to the festival flavor. Byron Mayo won the prize money for pointing, while Tom Noonan, Gerard Canabou and Raymond Nielsen split the shooting prize three ways, as night rolled in.

**ELECTION  
SPECIAL!**

## ***Women Lead 12 Teams In Harvest Tournament***

**T**welve of the 14 teams in our Harvest Tournament were headed-up by female captains. And the women set a fast pace throughout this September 24th random mixed-triplets event.

When it was over, the team of Maryse Joske, Byron Mayo and Maurice Ebollito walked away winners. They beat out a strong, second-place trio: Yvonne Renstrom, Peter Mathis and Vladimir Zaroudny.

Dolly Ebollito, Armand Squitieri and Tom Bricca won third place on the ladder.

Over in the consolante, a team led by seven-year-old Montana Mathieu came out on top. Montana was aided and abetted by cheering teammates Chuck Fleming and Gerard Martin.

This year's Harvest Tournament coincided with Sonoma's popular Vintage Festival. Many out-of-town visitors came by to watch the afternoon competition.

## **New Folder Tells About Pétanque and VOMPC**

**A** new folder that tells the story of pétanque and a brief history of our club has just been published. A copy is included with this issue of the newsletter. Claude Berthoud and Peter Mathis star on the cover in a happy-go-lucky photo by Tom Noonan. Byron Mayo designed the piece and wrote the copy.

It's the kind of folder long-needed to answer inquiries from both new members and non-members alike. It was published at no cost to the club.

## ***Still Growing 'n Growing***

VOMPC 1995 total membership is now up to 99. Another record high for the No. 1 club in the USA. Let's all give a warm welcome to our five newest members: Terry Boden, Dolly and Maurice Ebolitto, John Krauer and Tom Tetard.

## ***From the president...***

**T**his has been a remarkable year for our VOMPC. We sponsored seven highly-successful tournaments, April through October. We hosted the 1995 FPUSA National Triplets Qualification Championship over Memorial Day weekend. We organized both a singles and doubles Summer League for the first time. We continued to upgrade our Valley of the Moon pétanque courts. We kept everybody informed with on-time, bi-monthly flyers and newsletters. We played a lot of pétanque. We had some great times together. And somewhere along the line, our club became the largest in the U.S.A.

This month, my term ends as president of the club and I retire from the board of directors. In doing so, I extend my heartfelt thanks to all of you for your support—and to my six colleagues on the board, who helped to make this such a memorable year: J. Mathieu, Mike Norton, Steve Katz, Pierre Joske, Chuck Fleming, Frank Pipal. It was a concerted team effort. Together, we did our best to make this a year in which you would thoroughly enjoy your membership in the club and your involvement with pétanque ..

The future can be equally exciting. Sincere congratulations to the three new directors who will help to make it happen.

—Byron Mayo



## **Wheelchair Access—Now**

Thanks to Yves Casabonne, our VOMPC pétanque courts are now wheelchair accessible. Yves did the job with a sturdy hinge on a cut log divider. Lifting the log is like lifting a gate. It opens the way to the courts for the disabled. And it works.

## ***Two USA Teams Finish In the Pack at Brussels World Championships***

**F**rench teams swept both 1st and 2nd place at the September *Championnat du Monde de Pétanque* in Brussels, Belgium. Team Morocco-1, world champions in 1992, came in third. This was the same Morocco team, however, that lost to USA Team-2 in earlier group play, 13-8.

In the end, USA Team-2, with Christian Triay and Patrick Fraigoun from LA and Thuan Nyugen from San Diego, finished 25th in the 66 team field.

USA Team-1, with John Krauer, Andrew Loi and Raymond Nielsen, made it into the *Coupes des Nations* consolante, where they fought their way to the quarter-finals. In the the overall *Championnat du Monde*, they came in 41st.

It was in Sonoma, May 27-28, that Krauer, Loi and Nielsen captured the 1995 *Champonnet du Monde Qualification-West*, which established them as one of the two USA teams headed for Brussels.

*"Wait 'till next year!"*

## **Junior Memberships OK'd**

By a resounding margin, VOMPC members in the annual election approved a proposal which establishes a non-voting junior membership category for youngsters under 16, with annual dues at half the rate of adult members. Junior members must be sponsored, however, by a senior member in good standing.

## ***Picnic Table Installed***

A new 8-ft. redwood picnic table was set in place at the courts recently by Frank Barsocchini and Yves Casabonne. The sturdy addition is the skilled handiwork of Frank Barsocchini, with the VOMPC covering the cost of materials. Excellent job, Frank. And very much appreciated.

## **Louis Toulon Running For FPUSA Presidency**

**L**ouis Toulon, long-time member of VOMPC and president of *La Pétanque Marinier*, has decided to run for the presidency of the national Federation of Pétanque/USA.

Announcing his candidacy at our VOMPC annual dinner meeting, Louis told the applauding crowd that if elected, he would name VOMPC's Mike Norton as FPUSA vice-president.

Both Louis and Mike are current members of the FPUSA board of directors. Louis is vice-president. Mike is west coast counselor.

Louis also announced that Barton Zachofsky of *La Pétanque Marinier* and a new member of VOMPC, will run for one of three Northern Calif. counselor positions.

Louis' decision highlights the growing importance of our region in Federation of Pétanque/USA affairs. California, alone, now represents some 75 percent of the federation's total membership.

### ***The Umpire's Box...***

**Q.** During our last tournament, I saw a player smooth out a rough spot on the court before tossing his boule. Isn't that illegal?

**A.** It all depends.

During a round, a player who is about to play *can* fill in the hole made by the last boule thrown. *But that's all.* Once the cochonnet is thrown, it's illegal to flatten or move anything else on the terrain. For the first offense—a warning. For the second offense—disqualification of the boule about to be thrown.

# SUMMER LEAGUE WINNERS

SINGLES		"L" Division	
		Percent	Matches W—L
1st	Byron Mayo	.750	6—2
2nd	Louis Toulon	.625	5—3
3rd	Frank Pipal	.625	5—3
4th	Tom Noonan	.625	5—3

  

SINGLES		"Ch" Division	
		Percent	Matches W—L
1st	Peter Mathis	.857	6—1
2nd	John Bouldt	.857	6—1
3rd	J. Mathieu	.714	5—2
4th	Mike Norton	.571	4—3

  

Post-season Playoff Tournament			
Final match: Mike Norton vs. Louis Toulon			
Winner: Mike Norton (13-12)			

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DOUBLES		Blue Division	
		Percent	Matches W—L
1st	Bill Carter Susan Blue	.900	9—1
2nd	Tom Noonan Judy Mendel	.600	6—4
3rd	Tom Bricca Monique Bricca	.500	5—5

  

DOUBLES		Black Division	
		Percent	Matches W—L
1st	Louis Toulon Byron Mayo	1.000	5—0
2nd	Frank Pipal Sal Troia	.800	4—1
3rd	Peter Mathis Claude Berthoud	.666	3—2

  

Post-season Championship Match			
Carter and Blue vs. Toulon and Mayo			
Winner: Louis Toulon and Byron Mayo (13-7, 13-6)			

**YEAR END TAX DEDUCTION?** Our Valley of the Moon Pétanque Club is now a California non-profit corporation. So any contributions are not only appreciated, they're tax-deductible!

Valley of the Moon Pétanque Club  
PO Box 863, Sonoma, CA 95476

