

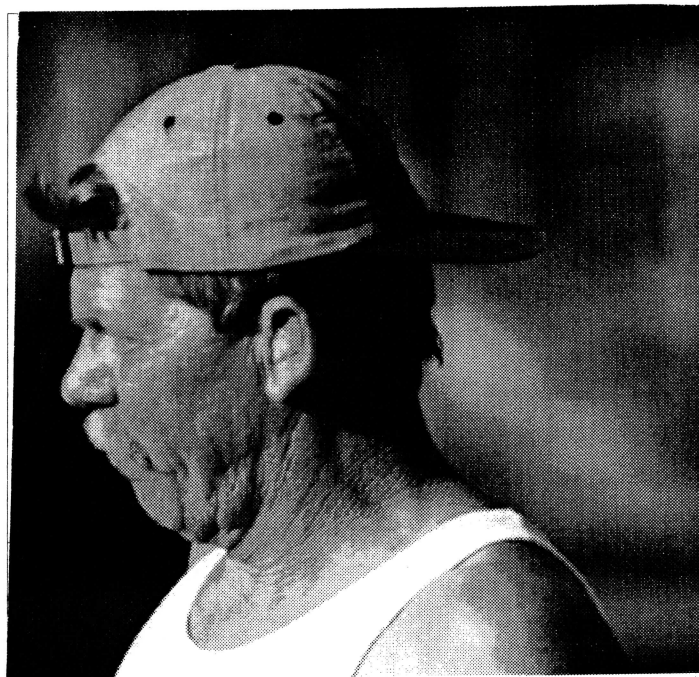


Pétanque Times

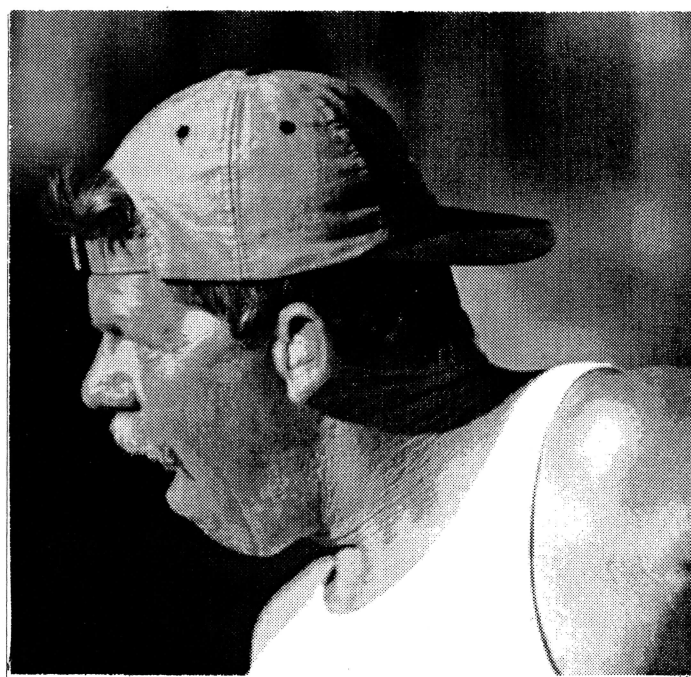
Vol. 3. No. 4

July-Aug. 1996

Close-up of a shooter in action



Before . . .



. . . and After

Two rare photos of Chuck Fleming, ace pétanque player, missing a hard-thrown "cabaille" shot. On the left, concentration before shooting. On the right, consternation after missing. (Photos by Bruce Frigard)

Grand Concours Set for Bastille Day Sunday, July 14

Sponsored by Ravenswood Winery

The eighth annual *Grand Concours de Pétanque* and Bastille Day feast, sponsored by our friends at Ravenswood Winery, is all set for Sunday, July 14. Coordinators Chuck Fleming and Barbara Stieper have been working hard to make this "the club's premiere event of the year."

The full day includes a big random triplets tournament and our annual French feast, along with fine Ravenswood wines.

The menu includes barbecued chicken, penne pasta salad with pine nuts, Farmers' Market tomatoes with basil and balsamic vinegar, French bread, beer, fruits and cheeses, (blue, fontinella and brie) and a glass of wine—all for only \$12 per person.

Reservations for the luncheon must be made by Tuesday, July 9. Call (707) 939-9925. Or, fax 939-9924. Or, write VOMPC, PO Box 410, Sonoma, CA 95476.

Tournament registration is 8:30-9:30 a.m. Entry fee is \$5 per person. Play starts at 10 a.m. Luncheon to be served after the *barrage*.

The *Grand Concours de Pétanque* perpetual trophy goes to the tournament winner. In addition, cash prizes go to first, second and third place winners and to the first place winner in the *Consolante*.

THE UMPIRE'S CORNER

Q. At the Menlo Park nationals, an umpire was called over to measure a very close point. One player then claimed that the umpire moved a boule during the measuring. The umpire said he did not and awarded the point as he saw it. His decision met with a vigorous protest. How should such a controversy be settled?

A. The umpire's decision is final. Period.

You see, the umpire first estimates which team holds the point. Then, he proceeds with measuring. Even if a boule or the cochonnet is then moved accidentally by the umpire, he simply puts it back in its place. And he proceeds with the measuring. His decision is final.

To help avoid the kind of controversy you describe, players in an important match should mark the position of the close boules and the cochonnet prior to the measuring.

(If you have a question about pétanque you'd like to submit, write to The Umpire, PO Box 863, Sonoma, CA 95476. All answers are certified by our FPUSA Umpire Pierre Joske.)

Lively Event Welcomes Newcomers

A massive traffic jam at Sears Point race track plus a jam-packed Cinco de Mayo celebration in Sonoma plaza may have held down the crowd size at this year's Newcomers Tournament.

However, twenty-seven players signed up, with a newcomer slotted on all of the nine random triplet teams. It was a lively, good-natured event, coordinated by Chuck Fleming.

Bill Carter, Byron Mayo and Pierre Mallette was the hot team of the day. They won first prize, defeating the number two team, Mike Norton, Bruce Frigard and Paul Berzins, 13-4.

P.J. Mallette, Garrick Clayton and John Dutil captured third place.

The Consolante prize went to Tom Bricca, George Pipal and Antonette Mall in a razor-thin 13-12 win over Rod Zitzowitz, Armand Squitieri and John Field.

Pierre Mallette, P.J.'s dad, was the newcomer on the winning team. As a result, he was awarded a complimentary membership in the Valley of the Moon Pétanque club along with his share of the cash prize, plus a set of boules graciously donated by club members Maurice and Dolly Ebollito.



148 Words on Bastille Day

by Camille Paglia

July 14, the national holiday of France, is the day that commemorates the beginning of the French Revolution, the most violent chapter in the birth of modern democracy.

It marks the day in 1789 when a crowd of a thousand citizens, mostly workman, stormed the Bastille, a secretive state prison that was the ultimate symbol of government tyranny.

The Bastille was built in 1370 as a fortress to control entry into Paris. It had eight round towers and blank walls a hundred feet high.

When the mob attacked, the Bastille housed just seven prisoners—four forgers, one noble, and two lunatics. Within hours, the citizens, raked by gunfire, forced their way in. The governor of the Bastille, a marquis, was dragged out, beaten, and stabbed to death. His head was hacked off and carried on a pike through the streets. The next day, the demolition of the Bastille began, stone by stone.

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News from Tom Tetard:

Tom Tetard, First Mate on an APL freighter now in the China Seas, sends greetings to all of his many VOMPC friends.

On a postcard received by Bob Bosko, Tom writes, "We went to Dutch Harbor, Alaska, then cut over to Kamchatka and down the coast in a heavy fog. Tomorrow, we dock in Yokohama. After Japan, it's Korea, Taiwan, Hong Kong."

Membership Now up to 90

During the past 60 days, eight new members joined the Valley of the Moon Pétanque club, bringing our 1996 total up to **90**.

Let's give a warm welcome to Kay and Roger Heigel, Pierre Mallette, Zino Mezoui, Charlotte Noonan, Dexter Tracy, and Mary Anne and Nicholas Weeks

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VOMPC Officers and Directors:

J. Mathieu, president—Barbara Stieper, vice-president—Frank Pipal, treasurer—David Rizzo, secretary—Chuck Fleming, director of sports—Frank Barsocchini, director—Steve Katz, director

VOMPC Team Triumph In June Select Triplets Event

Locals Defeat Strong Visiting Team In Finals

The home town boys, Mike Norton, John Bouldt and Ken Stieper, racked up a big victory when they won our June 23rd VOMPC select triplets tournament. The event pulled some of the best pétanque players in the entire Bay Area to Sonoma.

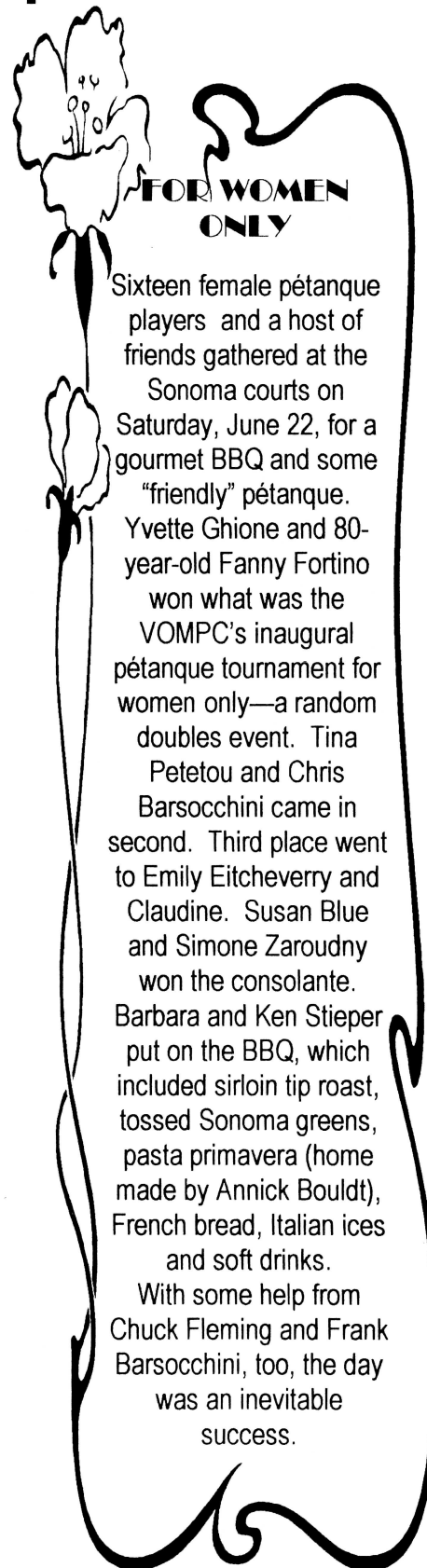
When all the shouting was over, Mike, John and Ken emerged the winners, 13-10, in a final game against the best of the visitors, Patrick Vaslet, Yanni, and Michael Ragi.

Another visiting trio, John Krauer, Jean Eitcheverry and Edmond Ghione, took third place.

Consolante honors went to a team that came together only at the last minute during registration: Chuck Fleming, Emily Eitcheverry and Jon Des Pois.

Thirty-three players took part in this small, high-quality select triplets event. Good pétanque was evident throughout the day among the eleven teams..

Barbara Stieper ran the tournament with the help of Frank Barsocchini, Chuck Fleming, Bill Carter and others.



Sixteen female pétanque players and a host of friends gathered at the Sonoma courts on Saturday, June 22, for a gourmet BBQ and some "friendly" pétanque.

Yvette Ghione and 80-year-old Fanny Fortino won what was the VOMPC's inaugural pétanque tournament for women only—a random doubles event. Tina Petetou and Chris Barsocchini came in second. Third place went to Emily Eitcheverry and Claudine. Susan Blue and Simone Zaroudny won the consolante.

Barbara and Ken Stieper put on the BBQ, which included sirloin tip roast, tossed Sonoma greens, pasta primavera (home made by Annick Bouldt), French bread, Italian ices and soft drinks.

With some help from Chuck Fleming and Frank Barsocchini, too, the day was an inevitable success.

VOMPC CHAMPIONSHIP COMING AUG. 25

*Sponsored by
MaTerre Systems,
Int'l.*

Pick your partners and get ready for the big one. It's coming, Sunday August 25.

Sponsored once again by MaTerre Systems, Int'l, the VOMPC championship is always our biggest VOMPC select triplets tournament of the year.

Registration will open early, 8:30-9:30 a.m. with tournament play scheduled to start at exactly 10 a.m., according to Steve Katz, coordinator for the day.

Entry fee is \$5 per person (\$15 per team). Bring your own lunch for a break after the barrage.

Steve says you can count on a generous cash prize structure this year, along with the coveted Valley of the Moon Pétanque Club championship trophy—a perpetual VOMPC award underwritten by MaTerre Systems, Int'l.

Summer League Underway

Singles, Doubles Keep Courts Busy

In the late afternoons, the action is hot and heavy at the courts nowadays, as Summer League Singles and Summer League Doubles close in on the mid-season check point.

Eighteen members signed up for the 1996 *Summer League Singles*, coordinated by Byron Mayo. These 18 *Tête à Tête* players are divided into two groups, the Red and Blue Divisions.

Singles matches got underway June 1 and run through September 1, with a grand championship playoff to follow.

Over in the 1996 *Summer League Doubles*, coordinated by Steve Katz, two divisions also are underway.

Eleven teams are entered in the Mens Doubles Division and seven teams are entered in the Mixed Doubles Division.

Doubles matches started the second week of June and run through September 20.

LATE NATIONAL NEWS:

Los Angeles... Peter Mathis and Frank Pipal from Sonoma's Valley of the Moon Pétanque Club captured second place in the FPUSA Select Doublet National Championship, hosted June 22,-23 by the Los Angeles Pétanque Club. (*Way to go, Peter, Frank. Congratulations!*)

Valley of the Moon
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