



Pétanque Times

Vol. 7, No. 5

Valley of the Moon Pétanque Club

September-October 1999

Dining at the Barracks!

Election Will Decide Three Board Seats

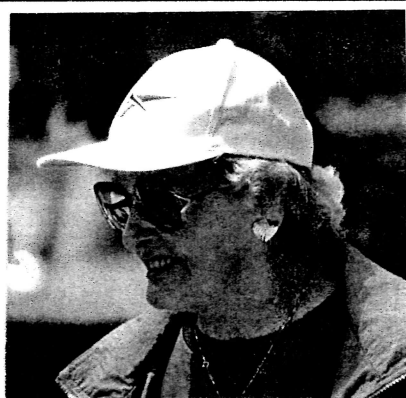
Saturday, October 23

Three out of seven seats on the Valley of the Moon Pétanque Club board of directors will be decided upon in the club's annual election. Results will be announced during the annual dinner meeting, October 23.

The two-year terms of Peter Mathis, Mike Norton and Jeanne Markson expire at the end of the year. All three have announced they will be retiring from the board.

The VOMPC 1999 election committee (Steve Sterbentz, Jeanne Markson and Ed Porto) is now hard at work considering board nominees.

Steve, Jeanne and Ed emphasize that they welcome any nominee submissions by current members of the Valley of the Moon Pétanque Club.



Jeanne Markson arranged for the club to get exclusive use of the historic conference room at the Vallejo barracks for our annual dinner.

VOMPC 1999 Championship

Sunday, September 19

This is our hard-knuckles *select triples* tournament of the year—Sept. 19—the Valley of the Moon Pétanque Club Championship.

The cash prizes run high. Get your team together now and be ready to compete.

Steve Sterbentz will be in charge. Register by 10 a.m. And for this one, you bring your own lunch.

Grand Setting for VOMPC Annual Dinner

Saturday, October 23

The club's 1999 annual meeting and dinner will again be held in General Vallejo's conference room at the historic Vallejo Barracks, Saturday, October 23.

The grand evening begins at six-thirty p.m. with an opening reception including Hors D'Oeuvres.

A beautiful *Wild Thyme* dinner will be served starting at seven p.m. (See menu on newsletter insert, enclosed.)

Cost for the evening is \$35 per person. That includes tax, tip, premium Sonoma Valley wines, the full reception—plus your entry in a surprise raffle.

Reservations are essential for this festive affair. You'll get your annual ballot and reservation form early in October. Come and enjoy the last VOMPC annual dinner of the 20th century!

Healthy Rise in 1999 Club Membership

New Total Tops 100

Membership in our Valley of the Moon Pétanque Club now totals 106—the result of a strong mid-summer jump in new member applications.

A warm welcome goes out to these eighteen new members who have joined since our last report:

Stephen Bessone
Ted Buckland
Randy Ellis
Arthur Fichtenburg
Glory Glover
Jack & Sasha Minter
Byron & Jenni Nichol
Dennis & Kathrin Parsons
John & Karen Perlis
Robert Pierre
Karen Semerau
Armand Squitieri
Peter Strindberg
Lynn Woodward

More than ever, the game of pétanque is becoming an inveterate part of life in the Sonoma Valley.

News from Marin

Bart Zachofsky resigned last month as president of La Pétanque Marinière. Bart continues as an active member, however. And he continues as an avid player and member of our Valley of the Moon Pétanque Club.

Bob Bosko, Tino Lofaro Win the Grand Concoors

Bob Bosko returned to Idaho a big winner. One day before heading north with Jane after a lengthy Sonoma vacation, Bob entered the club's annual Grand Concoors de Pétanque tournament.

In scorching, 100-degree weather, Bob pointed like a champion. And it all came down to a final match, Bob Bosko and Tino Lofaro against Peter Mathis and Dave Riffo.

It attracted a good crowd.

Showing no mercy, Bob and Tino raced through the final, taking it 13-4.

Third place that day went to Antonio Lofaro, Pam Stephens and Dave Ogaz.

Edmond Ghione and new VOMPC member Randy Ellis won the *Consolante* in a close 13-11 match with Louis Toulon and Steve Sterbentz.

Forty-four players entered the event. Fifty-five people enjoyed the Ravenswood Bastille Day luncheon, hot weather be damned.

Des Pois Departing For Grass Valley

Jon and Patrice and Bo Des Pois are moving to Grass Valley this month. We'll miss them all. As a former director and a big man always willing to help out, Jon Des Pois has been a bulwark for the club.

He plays a mean game of pétanque, too. Remember the Summer League season of 1996? In a wild semi-final match that was fun to watch, Jon upset Peter Mathis, undefeated Red Division Champion, 13-4, 1-13, 13-11.

Des Pois' departure is our loss and the Grass Valley Pétanque Club's gain.

Our warmest best wishes go with Jon and Patrice and little Bo.

"The Morning After"

Last Tournament Of the Century

The morning after a big night of revelry at our annual dinner at the Barracks, the *official* Valley of the Moon Pétanque Club season winds down with the club's last tournament of the 20th century. *Fin de Siècle*.

This will be a solid, select doubles tournament. 10 a.m. deadline for registration. That's Sunday, October 24.

While this completes the tournament schedule for 1999, playing pétanque at the court goes on year round.



Valley of the Moon Pétanque Club Annual Dinner
Saturday evening, October 23
General's Conference Room Vallejo Barracks

Reception at 6:30 p.m. Dinner at 7 p.m.

MENU

Charcuterie Plate

Sonoma Breads

Choice of dinner entrée

Braised Fillet of Salmon with Chardonnay Shallot Sauce

Roast Fillet of Beef with Wild Mushroom Cabernet Sauce

Mashed Potatoes with Garlic Chives

Fresh Seasonal Vegetables

French Cheese Platter

Classic Chocolate Mousse

Coffee

Premium Sonoma Valley Wines

Summer League Swings into Fall

Summer League Moving Ahead After Stumbling at the Start

Final Playoff Saturday, Oct. 16

A bundle of unforeseen problems slowed down the start of Summer League Singles this year. It wasn't until the end of July things really got going.

The competition is in full swing now, however, and the action continues through October 8. Then comes a playoff week leading into the grand championship match on Saturday, October 16.

According to Ed Porto, who is coordinating the Summer-Fall Singles league, the eighteen entrants were split into two divisions, the *Reds* and the *Blues*.

Here are the standings as of August 22:

THE REDS DIVISION

	W/L	%
Antonio Lofaro	4-0	1.000
Jacques Mathieu	2-0	1.000
Steve Sterbentz	1-1	.500
David Rizzo	1-2	.333
David Ogaz	0-1	
Byron Mayo	0-4	
Gerard Canabou	0-0	
Jon Folker	0-0	
Peter Mathis	0-0	

THE BLUES DIVISION

	W/L	%
Chuck Fleming	2-0	1.000
Frank Pipal	2-0	1.000
Bill Miller	1-0	1.000
P.J. Mallette	4-1	.800
Ed Porto	2-2	.500
Mike Norton	1-2	.333
Bill Carter	0-0	
Peter Wellington	0-2	
Rob Zitzewitz	0-5	

Regular Season Ends Sept. 23 for Summer League Doubles

Playoff Date Not Yet Announced

Bill Carter, coordinating the Summer League Doubles, split the twelve teams into two divisions, *Left* and *Right*.

The regular season for Doubles ends September 23, with a championship playoff date still to be announced.

Here are the standings as of August 13:

LEFT DIVISION

	W/L	%
Bart Zachofsky/ Louis Toulon	3-1	.750
Gerard Canabou/ Marguerite Canabou	3-1	.750
Mike Norton/ P.J. Mallette	4-2	.666
Tom Bricca/ Bruce Frigard	2-2	.500
Ed Porto/ Bill Carter	2-2	.500
Steve Sterbentz/ Peter Wellington	2-4	.333

RIGHT DIVISION

	W/L	%
Frank Pipal/ Antonio Lofaro	3-1	.750
Peter Mathis/ Ken Stieper	3-1	.750
Jacques Mathieu/ Chuck Fleming	1-3	.250
Byron Mayo/ Claude Berthoud	1-5	.166
Bill Miller/ Terry Boden	0-4	
Renato Sottile/ David Ogaz	0-0	



THE UMPIRE'S CORNER ...

Q. My first boule was right on the cochonnet. It touched the edge of it. The pointer from the other team then stepped into the circle and did the same damned thing! Both of our boules were touching the cochonnet.

In that situation, who plays the next boule?

A. In a tie situation like that, the team that tossed the last boule must play again. If nothing changes with the next toss, then the other team plays. You keep alternating like that until a change does occur.

If the entire round ends with a tie, the round is dead. You start over. The team that won the previous round then tosses the cochonnet again.

Got a pétanque question?

Write to *The Umpire*, PO Box 863, Sonoma, CA 95476. All answers are certified by our FPUSA Umpire Pierre Joske.



Ed Porto heads up a new VOMPC Improvements Committee to follow through on the approved master plan for further court area development. This standing committee includes Bill Carter, Jacques Mathieu and Steve Sterbentz with Jeanne Markson serving as committee liaison with the City. An equipment storage shed and drinking fountain relocation are priorities. Additional MaTerre rammed earth benches are also in the works.

Carter, Stephens Win Marinière's Commemorative

In a brilliant final match, Pam Stephens and the VOMPC's Bill Carter beat out Gerard and Marguerite Canabou for La Pétanque Marinière's 1999 Northern California Commemorative Cup trophy. Final score, 13-3.

This is an annual, select doubles event, one man and one woman on each team, sponsored by the Marin club.

Congratulations!

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"Pétanque Times" is a bimonthly newsletter of the Valley of the Moon Pétanque Club, PO Box 863, Sonoma, CA 95476. Byron Mayo, editor and publisher.

VOMPC Officers and Directors:

Peter Mathis, president
Ed Porto, vice-president
Michael Norton, treasurer
Jeanne Markson, secretary
David Ogaz, director
Steve Sterbentz, director
Rob Zitzewitz, director

Get ready.
Select Triples, Sunday, Sept. 19.
Annual VOMPC Club Championship

Jeanne Markson To Serve as Club Liaison with City

When Jeanne Markson retires from the VOMPC board at the end of the year, she'll still be working for the club.

At its August meeting, the directors asked Jeanne to take on a job as the board's liaison with the City of Sonoma. And Jeanne agreed to serve in that post.

Former Sonoma mayor and highly respected in civic circles, Jeanne is especially valuable in helping the club deal with local political issues.

Our continuing thanks to Jeanne.

Tonnellerie Radoux Hosts Annual Picnic

The gang at Tonnellerie Radoux hosted more than 100 winery people at the VOMPC courts July 10 with a full day of picnic and petanque.

Several VOMPC members attended the Radoux event, demonstrated the game of petanque to interested new players, and issued invitations to join the VOMPC and participate in one of our scheduled events coming up the remainder of the year.

Our thanks to Tonnellerie Radoux for their enthusiasm and continued support.

Rave Review for MaTerre's Picnic, Pétanque Panaché

Frank Pipal, Larry Craig, Win Tournay's Top Prize

The day was sizzling hot. But it didn't stop forty-eight eager Pétanque lovers who wanted to play *panaché*, Sunday, August 23.

They came, they cavorted, they munched on Mathieu's famous grilled Duck Magret, and they mingled, new and old members together, in a day of good feelings, good fellowship, good fun.

At the end of the day, they stayed on, too. They sat around and watched a great final match that cross-teamed the 1st and 2nd place winners, A and B divisions.

In a hard-fought, point-by-point affair, Frank Pipal and Larry Craig finally prevailed over Patrick Vaslet and Ted Buckland, 13-9.

In the *panache*, 3rd place winners were Tom Noonan in the A Division and Monique Bricca in the B Division.

Jacques Mathieu planned and presided at the luncheon, with help from Montana and Cody Mathieu, Rod Zitzewitz and Chuck Fleming.

Ed Porto and Steve Sterbentz coordinated the tournament with help from Mike Norton and Jeanne Markson. And the grounds were beautifully groomed by Bill Carter, Steve Sterbentz and Jon Felker. Good club teamwork all around.

The entire luncheon was a generous donation from MaTerre International to help raise funds for the club. As a result, all monies collected went into the VOMPC fund for the court improvements now planned. *A very special thanks to Jacques Mathieu.*

The wines, too, were a generous donation from Dave Rizzo and Wellington Winery and Ravenswood Winery.

Valley of the Moon

Pétanque Club

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