



Pétanque Times

Vol. 7, No. 6

Valley of the Moon Pétanque Club

November-December 1999

VOMPC Y2K READY

New Millenium Board In Place For Year 2000

Y2K Officers Elected

Bring on the Year 2000. We are ready. At the club's annual meeting, October 23, three new directors were elected to the board: Richard Bagel, Randy Ellis and former officer and director Frank Pipal.

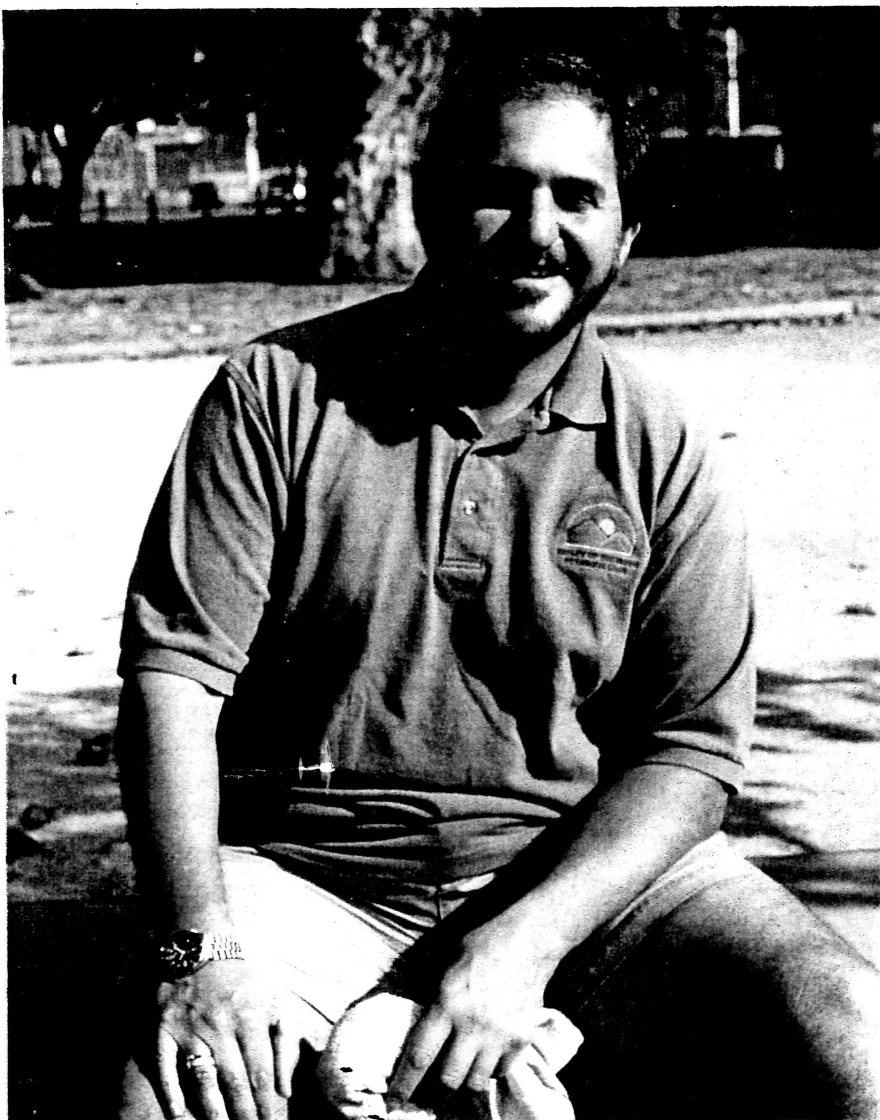
Then, at its November 2nd meeting, the full board elected club officers for the year 2000.

Here is the Y2K slate:

Ed Porto, president
Frank Pipal, vice-president
Randy Ellis, secretary
Rob Zitzewitz, treasurer
Richard Bagel, director
David Ogaz, director
Steve Sterbentz, director

Retiring from the board, outgoing 1999 President Peter Mathis, Vice President Mike Norton and Secretary Jeanne Markson received a warm vote of thanks from old and new directors.

NEW VOMPC PRESIDENT ED PORTO



Former Vice President Ed Porto has been elected by the board to lead the Valley of the Moon Pétanque Club into the new millenium. Year 2000 planning is underway.



THE UMPIRE'S CORNER ...

Q. The other team pointed and put their first boule next to the cochonnet. My partner shot and missed all three times. His boules went out of bounds. I stepped into the circle and shot. I hit the other team's boule out of bounds, along with my own. So the cochonnet was still in play with no boules on the court.

Who goes next?

Since I technically had not beaten their point, I thought that I should play next. The other team said, no, they go next?

What do you say?

A. You should have played next. It's simple. When no boules are left in play on the court, the last team to play plays again.

(Do you have a pétanque question? Write to The Umpire, PO Box 863, Sonoma, CA 95476. All answers are certified by our FPUSA Umpire Pierre Joske.)

Canabou, Biscay, Pierre Take 1999 VOMPC Championship

Close 13-11 Win in Select Triplette Final

The final game for first place in the club's 1999 championship tourney, August 19, was an exciting back and forth affair that lasted into the evening.

As twilight descended, Gerard Canabou, Jacques Biscay and Robert Pierre slowly eked out a 13-11 win over Patrick Vaslet, John Bouldt and Mike Rago. The winners split a \$120 cash prize, and each took home an engraved VOMPC magnum of fine Ravenswood wine.

In the Consolante, it was a Fanny! David Riffo, son Clint and Tom Noonan wiped out Ken Stieper, David Ogaz and Renalto Sottile, 13-0.

Peter Mathis and Steve Sterbentz ran the lengthy tourney with few problems.

For a recap of cash prize winners, see adjacent column.

Championship

- 1st Gerard Canabou
Jacques Biscay
Robert Pierre
- 2nd Patrick Vaslet
John Bouldt
Mike Rago
- 3rd Antonio Lafaro
Raymond Nielsen
Albert Lucas

Consolante

- 1st David Riffo
Clint Riffo
Tom Noonan
- 2nd Ken Stieper
David Ogaz
Renato Sottile
- 3rd Claude Berthoud
Byron Mayo
Bill Miller

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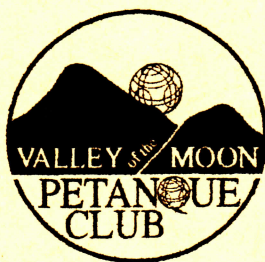
1999 Officers and Directors:

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

Assessment for Improvements

At the October board meeting, VOMPC directors voted unanimously to add a five-dollar assessment on club membership dues for the Year 2000.

The assessment will help cover cost of the new tool shed and a sparkling new drinking fountain to be installed near the barbecue.

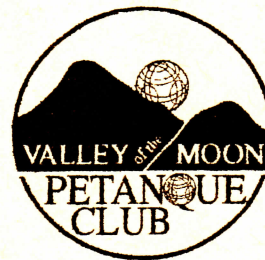


1999 SCHEDULE

Sunday March 28	Spring Season Opener	<i>Tête à Tête</i> (Singles)
Sunday April 25	Member-Guest Tournament	Select Doubles, or Select Triples
Saturday May 1	Potluck Picnic & Club Gathering	
Sunday May 23	Wine Country Classic	Select Doubles
Sunday June 27	Emperor Norton Handicap Tournament & Picnic	Triples
Sunday July 11	Grand Concours de Pétanque & Bastille Day Picnic	Random Triples
Sunday August 22	MaTerre Club Picnic	Panaché
Sunday Sept. 26	VOMPC Club Championship	Select Triples
Sunday Oct. 24	Fin de Siècle Tournament	Select Doubles

Note: At all 1999 VOMPC tournaments, registration will close at 10 a.m.
Valley of the Moon Pétanque Club 258-3450

RENEW NOW!



Your 1999 membership dues for the
Valley of the Moon Petanque Club
are payable now.

Please send your check to
VOMPC
PO Box 863,
Sonoma, CA 95476

Many thanks

Individual adult membership: (For adults 16 and over)	\$20
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Individual <i>junior</i> membership: (For juniors up to 16 years of age)	10
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Family membership (Including all children in the family up to 16 years of age)	30
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1999 Doubles Title Goes To Marin Team

B. Zachofsky-L. Toulon Win Summer League

Bart Zachofsky and Louis Toulon, two of our VOMPC members from Marin, roared through the playoffs and then captured the 1999 Summer League Doubles championship title by taking two straight from Bill Carter and Ed Porto, 13-2, 13-9.

In one semi-final match, Tom Bricca and Bruce Frigard also fell to the Zachofsky-Toulon juggernaut.

In the other anguishing, semi-final match, the pace was slower. It took two-and-a-half grueling hours for Bill Carter and Ed Porto to edge out a determined Jacques Mathieu and Chuck Fleming, 11-13, 13-12, 13-9.

Eight teams made it into this year's Summer League Doubles playoffs: Porto-Carter, Mathieu-Fleming, Zachofsky-Toulon, Mathis-Stieper, Pipal-Lofaro, Bricca-Frigard and two wild card entries, Miller-Boden and Canabou-Canabou.

In regular season divisional play, Bart Zachofsky and Louis Toulon took the Left Bank Title, while Jacques Mathieu and Chuck Fleming won the Right Bank Title.

Bill Carter coordinated the 1999 Summer League Doubles season, start to finish.

"Have boules...will travel."



Back From '99 World Junior Championship

"We lost all six games. But it was fun. I had a good time. Met a lot of people. And the Thai News interviewed me!"

P.J. Mallette, the VOMPC's 14-year-old whiz kid, is back from Thailand, where he played for *Team USA* in the 1999 World Junior Pétanque Championship—*Triplettes*.

P.J. and a 14-year-old boy and two 13-year-old girls from Washington, D.C. were picked by the FPUSA to represent the US. The event took place on the Island of Phuket and attracted top junior players from 24 countries.

For more on this story direct from Thailand, click on: www.askasiaorg/gateway_to_asia/gta_frm8.htm

31 Teams in End of Century Tournament

Bricca-Barsocchini Win Fin de Siècle Doubles

The final game ended in the dark. But that didn't faze teammates Frank Barsocchini and Tom Bricca. They lit up the courts with a sharp shooting display that drew cheers from the crowd as we closed out our last VOMPC tournament of the 20th century on October 24.

Up against a tough, hard-scrabble team, Antonio Lofaro and Albert Lucas, the two ex-VOMPC prexys finished the 1999 tournament season with a 13-8 first place win.

The crowd then adjourned to a south court sideline party where chilled champagne flowed freely and camaraderie reigned into the night.

It was a great tournament, drawing 31 *doublette* teams and a host of spectators. And it was all well coordinated with a smile by Rob Zitzewitz and David Ogaz.

RECAP OF PRIZE WINNERS

Fin de Siècle Finals--

- 1st T. Bricca/ F. Barsocchini
- 2nd A. Lofaro/ A. Lucas
- 3rd G. Martin/ R. Pierre

Consolante--

- 1st F. Pipal/ K. Stieper
- 2nd C. Berthoud/ B. Mayo
- 3rd M. Joske/ P. Joske

Mike Norton Wins 1999 Singles Title

Topples Antonio Lofaro In Finals, Two Straight

He squeezed into the playoffs as a wildcard entry and ended up taking the whole thing.

That's the epic story of 1999 Summer League Singles Champion Mike Norton, who defeated last year's winner Antonio Lofaro in the final singles match, 13-10, 13-8.

Along the way, Mike beat out Jacques Mathieu in an exciting quarter final match, 10-13, 13-0, 13-8. And he took two straight from Frank Pipal in the semi finals, 13-10, 13-4.

On the other side of the ladder, Antonio took two out of three from P.J. Mallette in the quarter finals, 9-13, 13-6, 13-7. And he defeated Bill Carter two straight in the semi finals, 13-7, 13-8.

The final eight who reached the playoffs included J. Mathieu, A. Lofaro, B. Carter, F. Pipal, and wild cards M. Norton, G. Canabou, P.J. Mallette and S. Sterbentz.

Prior to the playoffs, a rocky, regular season ended with Jacques Mathieu winning the Red Division championship title and Bill Carter taking championship honors in the Blue Division.

Ed Porto revamped and coordinated Summer League Singles for 1999.

FUN IN FRISCO

A hardy band of VOMPC players whooped it up at a La Boule D'Or random triplets tourney in San Francisco last month.

In a spirited final, Ed Porto, Bart Zachofsky and Edmund Ghione defeated a plucky Karen Semerau, Bob Something and Jacques Viscay, 13-7.

The traveling VOMPC contingent included Tom Bricca, P.J. Mallette, Tom Noonan, Frank Pipal, Ed Porto, Karen Semerau and Bart Zachofsky.

'99 Membership Hits Record High

Club membership hit 116 this year—the highest total ever for the Valley of the Moon Club.

Let's welcome five recent new members:

**Debra Blodgett
Monique Bricca
Zino Mazoui
Alex Ogaz
Michel Saga.**

And a warm welcome back to **Pamela Stephens.**

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

"It was the best ever!"

Dining Out At The Barracks

For the second year in a row, a sell-out crowd of 54 members and guests filled General Vallejo's rustic conference room at The Barracks for the VOMPC annual dinner, October 23.

Outgoing president Peter Mathis presided over the lively proceedings, which included a special tribute to the club's first president, Pierre Joske, who talked about the club's early days ... a rousing send-off for P.J. Mallette, bound for Thailand ... Summer League awards from Ed Porto for Singles and Bill Carter for Doubles ... and toasts to those volunteers who helped make 1999 such a successful, end of the century year for the VOMPC.

A special thanks went to Dave Rizzo and Luis Velez for wine contributions—and to Jeanne Markson who again handled all of the dinner arrangements, with loads of help from Frank Pipal, Mike and Susan Norton, Rod and Judie Zitzewitz and Ed Porto..

Overheard at the tables—
"It was the best ever."