

## Revised Bylaws on the Ballot

### *Five-Month Project Up For Final Vote by VOMPC Membership*

VOMPC Articles, Bylaws and Code of Conduct, revised and updated, go on the ballot for membership approval this fall with the Board of Directors' unanimous endorsement.

At the beginning of the year, a blue-ribbon committee appointed by the board, including Chairman **Byron Mayo, John Bouldt, Jacques Mathieu, Mal Misuraca** and **Frank Pipal**, took on the job of correcting several errors, eliminating ambiguities, strengthening procedures and reorganizing the club's Articles, Bylaws and Code for greater clarity.

After some five months of effort, the committee presented its work to the Board in June. Minor corrections were made at the request of the Directors. At its July meeting, the Board of Directors approved the final document by a unanimous vote.

It's now up to the general membership. Each member has received a copy of the final document. A proposal to approve the committee's work will be up for a "yes" or "no" vote in the fall election. Results will be made known at the club's annual meeting (see page 7).

### Sunday, Sept. 22nd CLUB CHAMPIONSHIP

Former club president and club sponsor **Jacques Mathieu** of **MaTerre, International** will return to put on the **VOMPC Club Championship**. (Note: last year, Mathieu turned his annual donation into a matching grant for the victims of the 9/11 catastrophes. Event-goers responded in kind and \$1,200 was sent to the New York firefighters fund.)

All members are encouraged to take part in this proud tradition, whether joining the competition, or by having lunch and supporting the club.

The format is **Select Mixed Triples**. If you don't have a team, come early to be matched up with whomever is available. **Sign up closes at 10AM.**

Tournament entry fee is \$10. Lunch is \$12. (Half price for kids.) Reservations are required.

Call the hotline by **TUESDAY, Sept. 17th** to make your reservations.

### Sunday, Oct. 27th PICNIC & PANACHÉ

*Who is this guy, anyway?*

Every month, or so it seems, the VOMPC's favorite secret admirer, **Franklin "Mad Dog" Earl** (see page 2), shows up at the courts like a phantom. The strapping gourmet puts on a great meal, pleases the crowd—then vanishes into thin air!

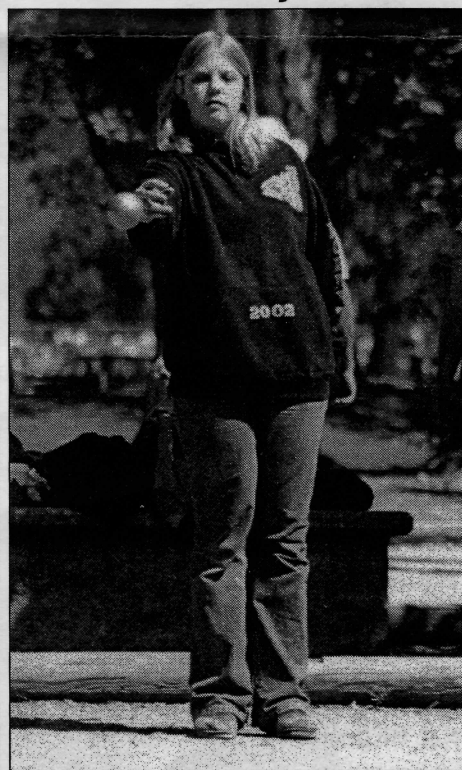
Well, it's *Oktoberfest*, and he'll be at again for the annual **Season Finale Picnic and Panaché**. A robust menu will accompany the tournament:

**Garden Vegetable Salad**  
**Choucroute Garnie**  
**Fresh Baguette**  
**Glass of Draft Beer or Wine**  
**Dessert**

Tournament fee: \$7. Lunch is \$13. (1/2 price for kids.) Reservations are required. **Sign up closes at 10AM.**

Call the hotline by **THURSDAY, Oct. 24th** to make your reservations.

### Olivia & Shannon Win Big in Wine Country Classic

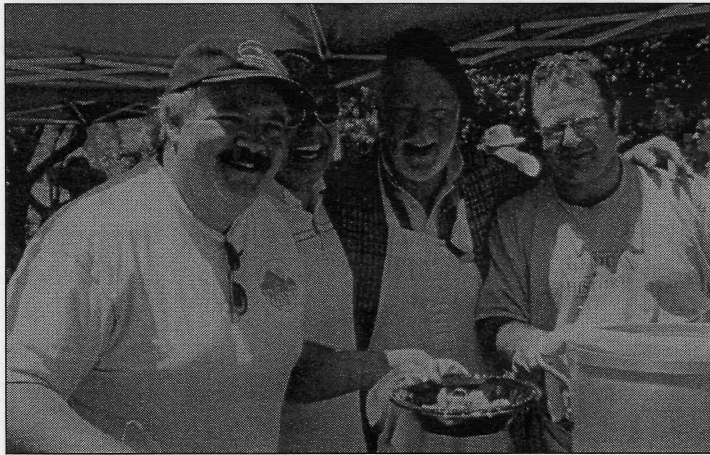


**CHAMPION!** With expert partnering by Shannon Bowman, Olivia Sammons won her first tournament ever—the Wine Country Classic Women's Division. It was a great summer for our junior players. See pages 2 and 4 for details.

**VOMPC HOTLINE: 258-3450**

# Bouillabaisse Pleases Crowd on Bastille Day

## Ravenswood Sponsors, Chef Marco Cooks, Hallie Cohen Wins!



**TEAM MEECH:** Marco Ilaria, Ricky Bagel, Franklin Earl, Luis Velez.



**WINNERS:** Bill Albright, Hallie Cohen, Tom Noonan.

Photo by Dave Ogaz



Jean-Michel Poulnot (center) and Albert Woodbury (right) headed up the Santa Rosa delegation.



Tino Lofaro, Lorraine Cline and David Westerbeke won the consolante.

Photo by Dave Ogaz

(July 14) Twenty-two triplete teams competed in the sixteenth annual Bastille Day **Grand Concours de Pétanque**. As

usual, **Ravenswood Winery** sponsored the event with a generous donation of fine wines for prize bundles and for all to enjoy with their lunch.

And, oh, what a lunch it was! The trusty trio of **Chef Marco Ilaria, Franklin "Butch" Earl** and **Luis Velez** prepared, cooked and served up a beautiful bouillabaisse luncheon for ninety happy clubbers and their guests. Also "on the line" helping out was Luis' Mom, **Theresa Velez, Ricky Bagel, Debby Poulnot, Tom Noonan** and **Frank Pipal**.

As far as the competition goes, it was very balanced. Many newcomers were in the field and the games moved along at a slow, deliberate pace. But it was a tough cut, with only eight teams advancing to the playoff and fourteen going to the Consolante.

Tough cut or not, ten-year old Hallie Cohen's team carried the day! Tom Noonan did the shooting and Bill Albright of the Lamorinda Club shored up the middle as, the trio won a narrow victory in the final match over John Bouldt, David Render of Mill Valley and first time player Kathy Dodson of Napa. Gerard Canabou and Shannon and Brendan Cohen finished third.

The Consolante was taken by Tino Lofaro, Lorraine Cline and David Westerbeke. They pulled out a come-from-behind victory over Bart Zachofsky, Al Mujic and Danielle Gusella. Ed Porto, Caitlin Woodbury and Deanne Carr mopped up for third place.

A big thanks also goes to Tourney Director **Dave Ogaz** and **Lisa Vaughan** who assisted with registration.

### © VOMPC 2002

**Pétanque Times** is a bimonthly newsletter of the Valley of the Moon Pétanque Club, PO Box 863, Sonoma CA 95476

Ed Porto, Editor/Publisher

Photographs (this issue): Ed Porto, Dave Ogaz

### VOMPC 2002 Board of Directors

Frank Pipal, President

Mal Misuraca, Vice President

Barbara Hall, Secretary

Tom Noonan, Treasurer

Director of Sport, Dave Ogaz

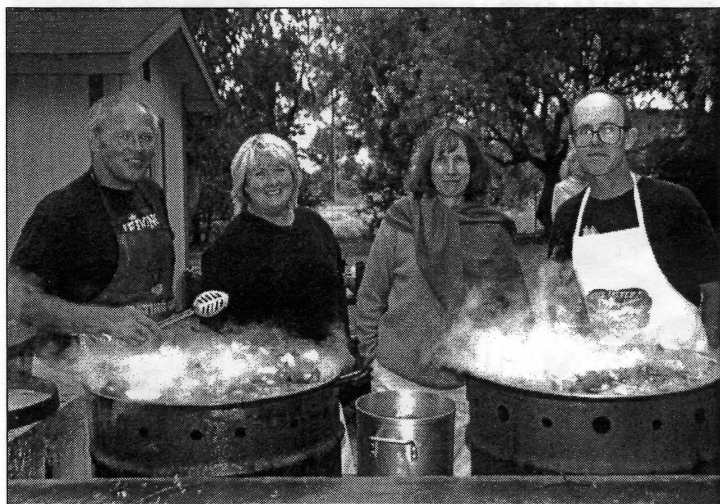
Directors at Large: Renato Sottile, Bart Zachofsky

For more info, visit: [www.sonomapetanque.com](http://www.sonomapetanque.com)



# A Midsummer Night's Dream: Paella & Pétanque!

## *Pipal and Noonan Do it Again—Valencian Style!*



**The Crew:** (l to r) Tom Noonan, Teri Sirico, Suella Pipal and Frank Pipal made it all happen with lots of T.L.C.

(Aug. 3) The second running of **Paella & Pétanque** was held on an unseasonably cool evening, but the rank and file was not deterred from showing up and celebrating in style. As flamenco music waivered on the stereo, the tag team of **Frank Pipal** and **Tom Noonan**, fired up the oversized pans with an incredible array of ingredients.

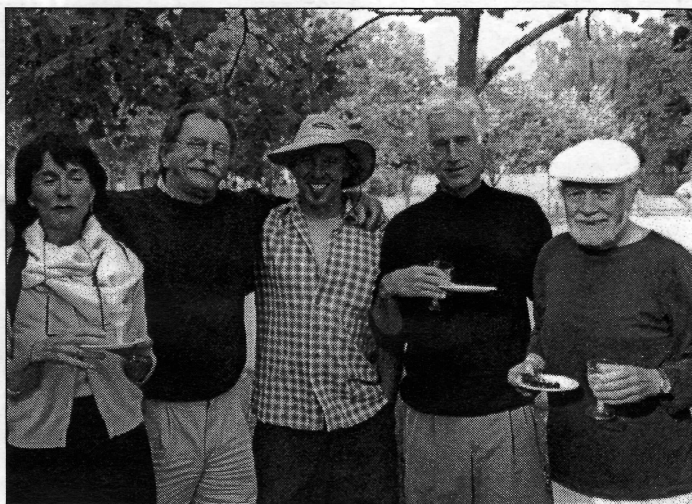
Their creations were brought to perfection while club members and their guests nibbled on authentic *tapas*, sipped ice-cold cava (generously donated by **Gloria Ferrer Cellars**) and played friendly games of pétanque.

When everyone sat down to the feast, it became clear that this special evening picnic has become a signature event for summer with the VOMPC. The happy diners raised their glasses of *sangria* to toast and applaud the cooks and their crew.

As the sun went down, tiki torches were fired up for a bit of atmosphere. Some of them found their way onto the courts, providing enough light for a last game before everyone called it a night.

Kicking in big time for the cause was **Teri Sirico**, who put together an impressive assortment of *postres*, and **Sue Pipal**, visiting from the East Coast, who helped with the week-long preparations and served all guests with delight. Madame Secretary, **Barbara Hall**, took care of the sign-in.

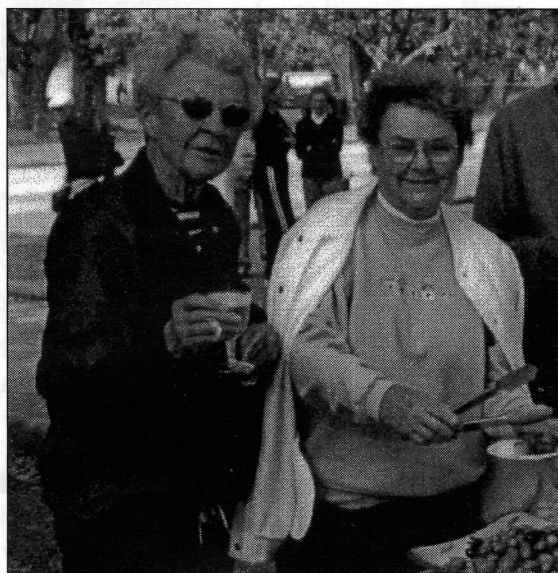
*Thank you all!*



Evaleen Byington, Steve Sterbentz, Hans Kurz, John Byington and Byon Mayo partook of the pre-meal festivities.



Caitlin Woodbury and Eunice Rodriguez enjoyed the *sangria*.

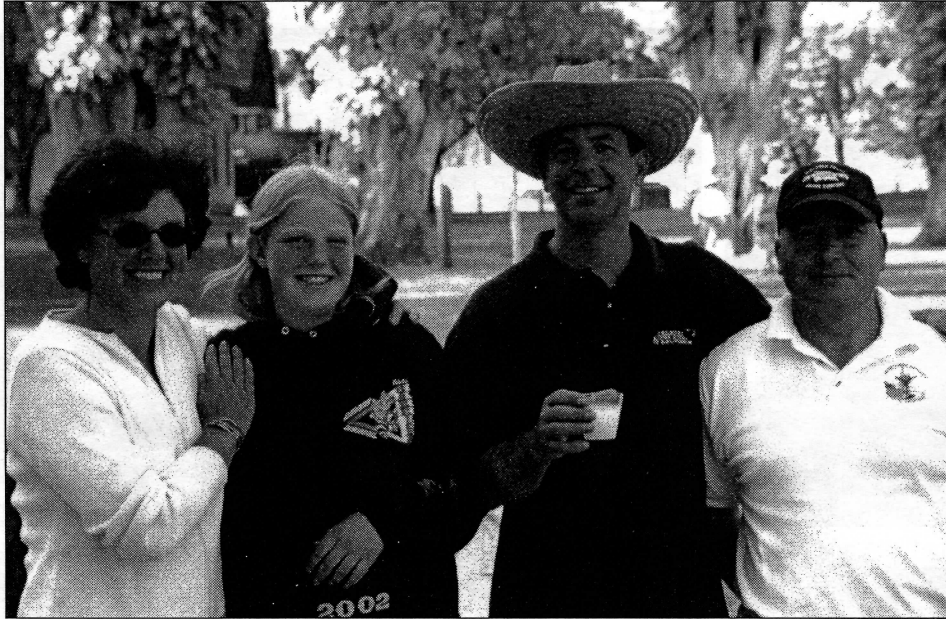


Edith Nasworthy and Diane Juen had a grand old time with their VOMPC friends.

# IMPROMPTU PAIRS TAKE CLASSIC

## Wolfie, Hallie, Lino Win Kids' Tourney

*Lofaro/Mathis, O.Sammons/Bowman Outlast the Field*



**Winners:** (l to r) Shannon Bowman, Olivia Sammons, Peter Mathis and Antonio Lofaro.

(Aug. 25) In an event in which most players craft their teams with an eye toward finishing in the money, four people who showed up and formed partnerships on the spot took home the gold at the eighth annual **Wine Country Classic**.

Twenty teams competed in the open division with eight teams advancing to the playoff. In the end it was a 'family affaire' pitting Tino Lofaro and Patrick Vaslet vs. Antonio Lofaro and Peter Mathis. After some tough early rounds, Antonio and Peter took a mid-round lead 8-4 and appeared in control. But Tino and Patrick, looking to take their first Wine Country title in this, their third successive trip to the final match, came to the brink of victory with a 12-9 lead.

Fortune was, however, on the side of their opponents. In the final round after a brilliant point by Antonio, and some good placement coverage by Patrick, Mr. Mathis took "the shot heard 'round the courts," nailing his own teammate's boule dead on, knocking it into the cochonnet and

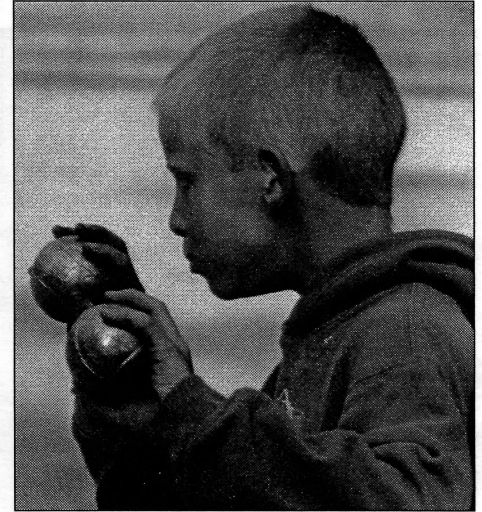
sending *le petit* out of bounds. Four balls in hand gave the cliff-hanger to Peter and Antonio!

On the women's side, drama was in shorter supply as junior player Olivia Sammons and the savvy Shannon Bowman took control of their final match early and never let go. Hard shooting Narin Garrett and the visiting Martha Lewis played well but went down, 13-7.

Barbara Hall and Holly Sammons finished third. Karen Semerau and Elizabeth Lamond won the women's consolante.

PJ Mallette and Alec Stone finished third in the open. In the open consolante, Jean Krauer and Jacques Avedissian of Menlo Park finished with an impressive 13-7 win in the final over Michel Saga and Pierre Smets. John Bouldt and Hans Kurz took third place.

The tournament was run without a hitch by **Dave Ogaz** and **Barbara Hall**, with **Holly Sammons** helping with signup. *Thank you all!*



**Wolfie Kurz** prepares himself for the shot.

(Aug. 18) Turnout was light but the annual **Kids' Day Tournament & Picnic** (with a special children's menu) was a ton for a small group of junior pétanque players.

Under the direction of **Renato Sottile** and **Tom Bricca** (with assistance from **Elizabeth Lamond**), the event was free to all participants. Four teams competed in the program and it was Wolfie Kurz, Hallie Cohen (*again?!* ) and Lino Sottile who finished on top o' the heap.

The final game shaped up to be as exciting to watch as any game played by veteran petanquers. The second generation team (Hallie—daughter of Shannon Bowman, Wolfie—son of Hans Kurz, and Lino—son of Renato Sottile), came from behind to finish off with a close 13-11 victory. The audience was enthralled to see pointing and shooting that would be the envy of many older boulists.

A set of boules (donated by **Bruce Frigard** of **Moon Valley Boules**), was awarded to each member of the winning team. And Plaza merchants donated gifts to all the participants.

*—Event info provided by Barbara Hall*



# SPECIAL SUMMER LEAGUES REPORT

## Summer Singles Mathis and Mallette Are Division Winners

With "Super Boule Saturday" set for September 7th, eight players are charging into the singles league playoffs with their eyes on the prize.

Top seeds are PJ Mallette and Peter Mathis, who wound up on top of their respective divisions. Also in the chase are Ed Porto, Frank Pipal, Bill Carter, Karen Semerau and *wildcards* Holly and Patrick Sammons.

Winner of the playoffs will be presented the perpetual trophy on October 19th at the Annual Meeting. PJ Mallette is the current holder, having won for the past two years.

### FINAL REGULAR SEASON STANDINGS

Les Escargots		
	Matches	Games
<b>PJ Mallette</b>	6-1	13-4
<b>Ed Porto</b>	6-1	12-4
<b>Frank Pipal</b>	5-2	10-6
Byron Mayo	4-3	9-8
Barbara Hall	3-4	8-10
<b>Holly Sammons†</b>	2-5	6-10
Erin McTaggart	1-6	6-12
Hans Kurz	1-6	3-12
Les Grenouilles		
<b>Peter Mathis</b>	5-1	10-2
<b>Bill Carter</b>	4-2	9-6
<b>Karen Semerau*</b>	3-3	7-6
Jacques Mathieu	3-3	7-2
<b>Patrick Sammons†</b>	2-4	6-10
Mike Norton	1-5	4-11
Lisa Vaughan	1-5	3-11

**Boldface** indicates playoff entry

† wildcard playoff entry (drawn at random)

\* tiebreaker; all matches completed

## Thursday Doubles Fleming/Sterbentz Grand Champions!

On the butt end of a three-way tie for first place at the end of the regular season and with one of them suffering from a broken foot, long-time league reveller Chuck Fleming and a gimpy but determined Steve Sterbentz left no doubt about who was the best team playing on Thursday nights this past summer.

After blowing a 12-1 lead in the semifinal, the pair came back for a 15-12 win over Frank Pipal and Hans Kurz. But the final match was never in question—a methodical 15-5 drubbing of Mike Norton and Pierre Joske who had earned their way there by virtue of a 15-13 squeaker over Teri Sirico and Tom Noonan in the other semi.

In the Consolante final, Peter Wellington and Ed Porto took out Ricky Bagel and Erin McTaggart.

***Editor's note:** This was the first "fixed night" league for the club and came off well for those who prefer a one-game, show-up-and-play format.*

### FINAL REGULAR SEASON STANDINGS

Tom Noonan/Teri Sirico*	5-2
Frank Pipal/Hans Kurz*	5-2
Steve Sterbentz/Chuck Fleming*	5-2
Mike Norton/Pierre Joske	4-3
John Krauer/Joss Krauer†	3-4
John Bouldt/Louis Toulon	3-4
Ed Porto/Peter Wellington	2-5
Erin McTaggart/Ricky Bagel	1-6

\* 1st tie-breaker: head-to-head competition

2nd tie-breaker: head-to-head points scored (25,18,15 respectively)

† tiebreaker: head-to-head competition

## 2outta3 Doubles Competitors Close In on the Playoffs

Two mixed doubles teams, PJ Mallette/Barbara Hall and Peter Mathis/Holly Sammons, will qualify for the playoffs this month in the annual Summer Doubles League. Also in contention for a playoff berth (as of press time) were Tino Lofaro/Gerard Canabou and Bill Carter/Jacques Mathieu.

Competition was good all season long, as most matches went to the third and decisive game. The top three teams plus a *wildcard* will compete in a single elimination playoff, culminating with the final match on September 14th.

Winners of the playoff will be crowned Grand Champions at the Annual Club Dinner on October 19th.

### LATE-SEASON STANDINGS

Peter Mathis/Holly Sammons*	6-1
PJ Mallette/Barbara Hall	6-1
Gerard Canabou/Tino Lofaro	5-2
Bill Carter/Jacques Mathieu	4-3
Frank Pipal/Byron Mayo	3-4
Bill Miller/Chuck Fleming	3-5
Steve Sterbentz/Peter Wellington	2-4
Bart Zachofsky/Karen Semerau	2-6
Hans Kurz/Wolfgang Kurz	0-7

\* tiebreaker: head-to-head competition

## THANKS!

Leagues are made possible by club volunteers who step up and organized them for all to enjoy. This past summer, our leagues were handled by **Peter Wellington** (singles), **Peter Mathis** (doubles) and **Frank Pipal & Ed Porto** (Thursday night doubles).

## Saturday Clinics Draw Eager Boulers

The VOMPC monthly **Saturday Clinics program** got off to a good start in July and August as **Tom Noonan** and **Peter Mathis** hosted the first two sessions. Club members enjoyed technique and strategy tips offered by these fine gents and practiced on their own to improve their game.

Next up is **Frank Pipal** who will be our guest coach on September 14th.

Clinics run from 11am until about 12:30pm. Participants are encouraged to bring a lunch and picnic with their coaches and friends.

For more information, contact club secretary and program coordinator, **Barbara Hall**.

### "Bob-a-loo, Where Are You?"

Unfortunately, the answer to that question appears to be Coeur d'Alene, Idaho.

*Unfortunate for us, that is.*

Clubbers were pleased to visit with **Bob and Jane Bosko** during their annual summer visit to Sonoma. We all look forward to the next time their travels will take them back to us.

*Au revoir, beaux amis!*

## Willits Challenge Set for Sat. Nov. 2nd at Preston

**Lou Preston** of **Preston Vineyards** is once again hosting this annual reunion of the VOMPC and the Willits Boules Club.

But don't let the event name fool you. It's a kick-back day in the beautiful Dry Creek Valley.

Please contact club president **Frank Pipal** for more details.

## The Umpire's Corner . . .



**Q.** The opening toss of the cochonnet by my opponent looked long to me. I figured that I'd walk it off after he threw his first boule. But his first boule knocked the cochonnet out even further.

I called it long.

He said, "Too bad, Mister. Once my boule moved that cochonnet, it became a legal play—even at twelve meters."

*Tell me, Ump, was he correct?*

He was, indeed. **Unless the position of the cochonnet was marked**, the distance became legal the moment your opponent's boule moved the cochonnet.

As he said, "even at 12 meters!"

### Do you have a pétanque question?

Write to The Umpire, P.O. Box 863, Sonoma, CA 95476.

Answers are certified by FPUSA Umpire Pierre Joske

## PJ & Alec Play in the Big One—La Marseillaise!

PJ Mallette and his partner/mentor, LAPC/VOMPC member **Alec Stone**, took another course in their long term pétanque curriculum with a three-week trip to the South of France. The duo played in a number of tournaments, including the world's largest, the annual **Marsellaise**.

In Marseille, they were on one of nearly 3,700 triples teams (*that's no misprint!*) in the single elimination event. Our boys advanced to the third round before losing a heart-breaker to a very tough group.

## Karen & US Team Fair Well at WWC



**TEAM USA:** Marieka Rolland, Beth Krumholz and Karen Semerau.

**Note:** In October 2001, **Karen Semerau** became the first VOMPC player to qualify for an FIPJP world championship. This past July, Karen represented her club and the nation with pride at the **Women's World Championship**.

My heart-felt thanks to all who organized, participated in, and contributed to the fund-raising for my trip to LaTuque, Quebec for the **Women's World Championship**. I wish all who love pétanque could have this life time experience of competing in a world-class event. Please watch for my full write-up in the FPUSA newsletter.

I remembered to heed friend's advice to **HAVE FUN** and not to feel too much pressure during the competition. One of my fondest memories is of the view from the courts looking up and out over the gallery and to all the country's flags hanging inside the coliseum.

You were all with me in these moments. The USA brought home a trophy for third place in the **Coup de Nations!** We have many new friends and souvenirs from around the world—and a burning desire to get right back to the next competition.

—Karen Semerau



## VOMPC Board Notes

07.02.02

The board thanks J.Markson and J.Mathieu for their work as City Liaisons and with help- ing finalize the lease for the courts.

4th of July picnic: Mathieu to coordinate.

Emperor Norton Tournament (Pipal): \$373 was made. The board thanks Mike and Susan Norton for their generosity.

Bylaws Review (B. Mayo): With two changes, including limiting the number of consecutive terms which a president may serve to two, the revised club bylaws are unanimously approved. A Policy and Procedure Committee is recommended. Pipal to chair.

Sinking Fund (Misuraca): proposal to estab- lish a fund (raised without club moneys) to be used for future club members' first entries into FIPJP competitions. Fund raising mecha- nisms TBD. YAY: Misuraca, Hall, Ogaz, Sottile, Zachofsky. NAY: Pipal, Noonan.

B.Carter/J.Mathieu question board's handling of funds in general. Mathieu requests review of past donations. Pipal to provide a report.

Communications (E.Porto): \$254 for July newsletter. (Low-cost) rack card approved.

Tonnellerie Radoux (Pipal): 7/20/02. Board thanks Radoux for their donation to the club. Club hosts to be invited by Pipal.

Shed (Pipal): The shed was re-keyed. New keys are distributed to Board members.

08.06.02

Treasurer's Report: balance is \$6,354.

Annual Dinner (Hall): Oct. 19 at the Barracks. Chef Marco to cook dinner, not to exceed \$30 per person. Unanimously approved.

Bastille Tourney (Ogaz): Board thanks M.Illaria and Ravenswood Winery. 66 players, 93 lunches, net event proceeds: \$577.

Radoux recap (Noonan): event went well. Board thanks Radoux for their donation.

Paella Picnic (Pipal): 45 dinners, net event proceeds: \$262.

Salute to the Arts recap (J.Bouldt): 29 volun- teers participated. Contribution TBD.

Policy and Procedures, regarding earmarked funds (Pipal): Summary of MaTierre's donations and court improvement expenditures since 1994 presented and accepted. Further discus- sion postponed until J.Mathieu is present.

Nomination Committee (Pipal): Pipal, Hall, R.Zitzewitz unanimously approved. Nominations are now open.

## Annual Meeting & Banquet to Be Held on October 19 at the Historic Barracks

Clubbers will come together to reflect on another great year, visit friends and greet the 2003 Board of Directors at the **Annual Meeting and Club Banquet** on Saturday, October 19th.

It's a great evening out at an afford- able price, ending with the traditional 'Nite Court' games. And a great meal is being planned by none other than club member **Chef Marco Ilaria!**

Check your mailbox later this month for details, including the menu, a res- ervation form and your 2003 ballot.

*Space is limited, so prepaid reserva- tions are a must. Please don't call the hotline. -See you there!*

## Welcome NEW MEMBERS!

Aaron Britton  
Jennifer Britton  
Deanne Carr  
Colleen Christensen

Gerry Haney  
Toni Mallette  
Elizabeth Marler  
Carl Marler  
Nick Massucco  
Leslie Pederson  
Marvin Pederson

Annie Pivarski  
Liliane Rosenaur  
Andrew Sales

Philip Sales  
Craig Thompson  
Aileen Westerbeke  
David Westerbeke

...and welcome back  
Virginia Hubbell  
Pierre Mallette

## The Founders' Corner

by John Bouldt

The successful resurrection of "**Pétanque on the Plaza**" has inspired me to reflect on the origins of this par- ticipation in **Salute to the Arts**.

Following just two weeks after the our Grand Concours de Pétanque in 1988, **Pat Summers** invited the **Sister Cities** non-profit organization to participate in the Salute Festival. Recall that, at that time, there was no local pétanque club but we managed to convince ap- proximately thirty Sisters Cities mem- bers and local backyard pétanquers to join in to perform various chores, staff an informational booth, and demon- strate the game on the Plaza turf.

Feedback to Pat Summers regarding our exhibition was terrific and we were asked to return for the following year. The club continued participating through 1994.

*In the next segment of "The Founders' Corner," John will recall quest to locate property for the yet-to-be-formed club.*

## NOMINATIONS?

*If you have someone in mind who you believe would make a great board member, please contact nominations committee members **Barbara Hall, Frank Pipal or Rob Zitzewitz** by September 18th.*

## WCQT in Sarasota, FL Oct.12-13

The **FPUSA World Championship Qualification Tournament** is back on the East Coast this year.

For more information, including travel, registration and accommodations, please contact **Barbara Hall or John Krauer**.

# VOMPers Work the Salute, Raise Funds for Club



At our Plaza demonstration booth, Ricky Bagel (left) introduced the game to a group of young tourists from Taiwan.

(July 27-28) Fund raising was never so much fun for the VOMPC as thirty-one club members and friends volunteered to help with the annual **Salute to the Arts Festival** in a variety of tasks both on the Plaza and at Chateau St. Jean Winery.

Club founder **John Bouldt** rekindled his connection with local organizers **Summers-McCann** in order to integrate the VOMPC team into the overall event. The payoff will be realized very soon (once the event accounting is complete). The amount of funds raised for the club will be noted in a future edition of this newsletter.

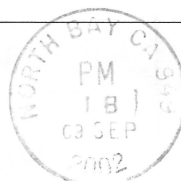
The club also had a demonstration area with the purpose of showing festival-goers the basics of pétanque and to recruit new players.

It was a great effort by all involved. A big thanks goes to everyone for their time and energies.

## 2002 'SALUTE' VOLUNTEERS

Richard Bagel  
Terry Boden  
Bob Bosko  
John & Annick Bouldt  
Chuck Fleming  
Denise Fontana  
Glory Glover  
Barbara Hall  
Marco Ilaria  
Pierre Joske  
Hans Kurz  
Tino Lofaro  
Erin McTaggart  
Bill Miller  
Tom Noonan  
Frank Pipal  
Suella Pipal  
Ed Porto  
Debbie Poulnot  
Holly Sammons  
Karen Semerau  
Teri Sirico  
Bonnie Thomas  
Louis & Jan Toulon  
Luis Velez  
Lynn Woodward  
Bart Zachofsky  
Rob & Judie Zitzewitz

Valley of the Moon  
Pétanque Club  
P.O. Box 863  
Sonoma CA 95476



Byron Mayo  
880 Oak Lane  
Sonoma, CA 95476

**NOTICE:** Fall Leagues signups close on September 16th. Your **Women's League** contact is Lisa Vaughan (916.443.3244, [LisVaughan@aol.com](mailto:LisVaughan@aol.com)). For the **New Member/Veteran League**, Bart Zachofsky is your man (415.381.3270, [bartondesigns@earthlink.net](mailto:bartondesigns@earthlink.net)).

**2002 Membership Ticker: 150**

