



The Yellow Jacket

Newport Harbor Lawn Bowling Club

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Chuck Muser
Editor

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President's Message



September was a busy month for tournaments and parties. NHLBC teams participated in several different tournaments during the month and among other accomplishments, captured 1st place during the Waterbury Tournament in Laguna Woods. Congratulations to **Ed Quo, Jan Hargraves, Dee McSparran, Jerry Grady, Ted Farfaglia** and **Shep Sheppard** for a job well done. Details about this and other tournaments that Newport participated in can be found on the following pages.

During September, NHLBC also hosted four private events. A special thanks to **Sally Cadwallader, Ibby Gerner, Halina Groothuis, Jan and Tom Hargraves, Darleyn Hillard, Patty and Dale Lucas, Dee McSparran, David Price, Carol and Dick Smith** and **Joyce Smith**, all of whom helped out this month with these important revenue producing events.

Also, club members **Rosa Gandara** and **Tony Baer** hosted 70 bowlers, friends and family members during their wedding shower celebration on a lovely Sunday afternoon in mid September. Good food, drinks, games and bowling were all part of the day's activities. Again, congratulations to **Tony and Rosa** who will be getting married on October 17.

NHLBC will be well represented during the week-long U.S. National Championships taking place in Long Beach beginning next Sunday, October 4. Opening ceremonies and a free reception will take place on that day, beginning at noon. All members and guests are invited to attend. See the outside bulletin board for more details.

October 2009

The annual MAP International Tournament will again take place at our club as well as the Laguna Beach Club beginning the week of Sunday, October 11. This year, there will be nine countries from Europe, Asia and North America competing in this week long, singles and pair's event. All members and guests are invited to view the competition anytime during the week, as well as meet the international players during our annual "Oktoberfest Beer and Brat BBQ" beginning at 4:00 PM on Sunday, October 11. If you think you will be attending this \$10 per person BBQ, please sign up on the outside bulletin board at the club. There will also be a free dinner and celebration for all players, members and guests at the conclusion of play on Saturday, October 17. For more information, look at www.maptournament.com.

Finally, everyone is once again invited to attend my 4th Birthday Party at the club on Sunday, October 27. The fun will begin at 1 PM and will feature great food, lots of drinks and bowling with some wonderful people. Please RSVP to either JohnHalina@aol.com or 949-230-1957. **Happy Halloween!**
John Groothuis

For The Record

In the September edition of the Yellow Jacket, in the article about the President's Cup Triples it was noted that the President's Cup Singles tournament has been scheduled for November 3rd. The tournament is scheduled for Sunday, November 15th. We regret the error. We also strongly urge bowlers to sign up for this exciting event. This is a chance to get some tournament experience and to see just how well you stack up against fellow club bowlers.

The Sporting Scene

As was noted in The President's Message, last month had a busy tournament schedule for Newport Harbor bowlers. Most notable was the triumph of **Dee McSparran** in the Professional Bowls Association event in Santa Cruz in the week of 9-5 through 9-9. This tournament is staged to select the United States participants in the World Bowls Tour held in the United Kingdom in 2010.

Dee won the right to represent the U.S. in the World Indoor Bowls Championship to be held in England in January. Dee is the first woman to win this qualifier event, a mixed affair featuring some of the best women and men bowlers in the U.S. This illustrates one of the edifying attributes of our sport, that women and men can compete on an equal footing.

In other competitions in the week long tournament **Ivan Hyland** was runner up in the event to choose our representative for the Scottish International Open, set for November, 2010, and the team of **Charlie Herbert** and **Ed Quo** were runners up in competition to select the team for the World Indoor Bowls Pairs Championship to be bowled in January. The runners up act as backups in case the person selected cannot make the trip.

Dee was also invited to bowl in the Mixed Pairs championship and the Women's Match play singles at the World Bowls Championships. This month long tournament will be held at a facility called Potters, in England. For those interested here's their website: <http://www.pottersholidays.com/Sport-and-Leisure/Bowls>. Check it out, it's quite a place.

In other news, at the annual Coast League Roundup, an event held at the Long Beach LBC every year to celebrate the end of the Coast League, sev-

eral NHLBC bowlers were money winners in the blind draw triples event. **Linda Jahraus, Glenna Weber, Shep Sheppard, Ray Norris, Patty Lucas** and **Dale Lucas** were on place winning teams in the two game event. Others were **Jan Hargraves, Tom Hargraves, Dee McSparran** and **Ted Farfaglia**.

On September 25th the annual Southwest Division 5 Star events were held, the Women's at Newport Harbor, and the Men's at Laguna Beach. This year Newport Women were able to garner only a fourth place in the tournament. The team was composed of **Maryna Hyland, Jan Hargraves, Eva Lee, Anne Nunes** and **Dee McSparran**. Newport men were able to do a bit better, winning second. That team was made up of **Michael Siddall, Charlie Herbert, Ed Quo, Mert Isaacman,** and **Joe Regan**.

The 5-Star competition is interesting. There are four games, one of rinks (four players), one of triples, one of pairs, and one of singles. While the rinks are being bowled, the fifth team player competes in the singles. Then, there are games of pairs and triples bowled simultaneously. Makes for an interesting day of bowling.

Finally, to round out the month, the Waterbury tournament, held at Laguna Woods LBC, was won by a Newport team of **Ed Quo, Jan Hargraves, Dee McSparran, Jerry Grady, Ted Farfaglia** and **Shep Sheppard**.

Malaysia and the Biennial Asia Pacific Games

By Dr. Robert Vickster

[Editor's Note: This event took place in August but this story was not available until after the September issue had gone to press]

Malaysia is a very interesting country filled with exotic sights, hot and humid weather and for these two weeks in August - many of the top bowls players in the world! I'll only comment on the men's side since that's where I witnessed much of the action. The event started with the fours and singles. The fours of **Tony Baer, Bob Schneider, Loren Dion** and **Bill Brault** did fairly well, especially given their difficult section, and were actually quite unlucky to not reach the Quarter finals. They were just a win away.

In the singles, **Michael Siddall** was blazing the trail to the Quarters amidst an equally difficult section and would get Team USA off to the healthy start they all deserved. Three of the four

most top-ranked players globally were in this section. He lost a tough battle in game one against the Australian champ, but battled back nicely versus emerging India for a victory and would stun the entire bowls complex on the 2nd night in a battle that he and his opponent will likely never forget! Here's Bill Brault's view of it:

"I just witnessed the most amazing singles match I've ever seen. Ali Forsyth (New Zealand) was on fire and despite excellent play by Michael, Ali raced out to a 15-5 lead. As Ali cooled, Michael raised the level of his play to incredible heights and pulled to within 15-12. A two and three by Ali and it was 20-12. It wasn't looking good. But Michael just kept coming and before you knew it the score was 20-20. Michael was taking the mat during the entire comeback and continued on the final end. Ali's second bowl was a side-toucher and rested on the jack. After a narrow miss, Michael wrested out the shot bowl with his final wood to hold game. Ali drove and hit the shot, moved the jack but Michael had the catcher...GAME OVER!!!! Absolutely brilliant"

Other victories by Michael in singles included those over Thailand, Macau and Singapore amidst a loss to Ratish Lal of Fiji. This would post a 5-2 record and a healthy place in the quarter finals. What's the reward, a showdown with the world's #1 singles player and Malaysia's own Safuan Said. Michael was ready, with the raucous support of Team USA in the stands, but Saf's arsenal was quickly realized as Michael found himself deep in a hole of 1-12 down. Like turning a page though, Michael locked in and turned it up a couple of notches, took control of the match over the next 8 ends and in fact held a healthy 3 shots with a score of 14-17. Safuan would play a stunning bowl with his last to convert it to one for him. Brutal, 14-18 instead 17-17. With some continued great play, Michael marched on to get to 19-20 playing the final end. A shot was on to put the white in the sand to hold two, but Michael's bowl got caught on a slight back-up on the swinging hand and the game was lost, valiant but to no avail.

The pairs team of **Baer** and **Brault** were set into a very difficult section of some of bowls superpower countries. They battled away but did not make the quarter finals. Meanwhile the triples team of **Bob Schneider, Loren Dion** and **Michael Siddall** had a tough start, beginning 1-2 versus the young Philippines,

Canada and Japan, but hung tough. They had a great strategic breakthrough in game 4 and put it right into action (versus the opponent's straight-lined bowls on the slower greens.) They went on to beat a tough and emerging Thailand trio as well as Hong Kong (with Danny Ho - Ian's brother) the next morning, who were atop the leader board. A final healthy win against Singapore would secure the #3 spot in the quarter-final. Note: The boys tried hard to secure the #2 spot as they knew it would yield an easier quarter-final opponent in Fiji versus New Zealand, but to no avail.

In the quarter, Ali and his mates from N.Z. were "on" down the stretch and while the US tried hard amidst a tricky rink, they lost to them. A pity, too, because getting by them meant a guaranteed medal. I was close to the action in the triples games and watched Loren, Bob and Michael playing some wonderful bowls over those seven games. Well, the main mission of the team was to re-qualify the USA for World Bowls 2012 in Australia. That was accomplished handily. I would be remiss if I didn't state that the men's team manager, **Phil Luth**, did a wonderful job over the two weeks amidst some tricky circumstances. He should be commended for his fine work and detail.



During the lull between games one needs something to keep one busy. Newport Harbor LBC Vice President **Tony Baer** builds towers. Here's an example.

Crucible Of War

By Chuck Muser

War is never a pleasant experience. There are those among us who have learned this lesson first hand, some because they went to war, and others because the war came to them. Such was the case with six year old Pauline Munk. We know her today as **Pauline Kozma**. Pauline was living in a small town in what was then Yugoslavia, a place called Krndya. In 1942 the people of Krndya were caught in a bind. They were in a country invaded by the German Wehrmacht which was being fought in that region by the Yugoslav Partisan army led by Joseph Broz Tito. Unfortunately for the residents of Krndya, they found themselves on the wrong side of that battle.

That village was made up overwhelmingly of Germans and their descendants, people who had emigrated from Germany shortly after the country of Yugoslavia was formed from bits of the defeated Austro-Hungarian Empire in 1918. Pauline's great grandparents had come from the Black Forest region of south-eastern Germany, following the lure of essentially free land, offered in a scheme reminiscent of our Homestead laws of the nineteenth century.

In a recent conversation Pauline recounted the dilemma in which the residents, including her family, found themselves. The Partisans said "Get Out," and the German army said "you better go, we can't help you." So, she recalls, they were herded aboard trains made up of cattle cars to begin a ten day odyssey across the countryside, first one way, and then the other. The only food they had was that they scavenged from fields near the railroad tracks. The train only stopped when it was attacked from the air. The "passengers" would scramble out into the surrounding landscape, running for safety, and then gather what food they could as they returned to the cars.

Finally, they ended their enforced wanderings in an area of south-eastern Austria near the city of Graz, not that far from where they started, but in the relative safety of a country then part of the German Reich. Pauline says that there things began to settle down, although it would be another three years before her father could join the family. He had been detained in Yugoslavia and was only released at the end of the war. In the meantime events took an almost fairy-tale turn for our heroine. She lived in a castle.

The people from the trains were parceled out to live with, and work for, landowners in the area. Pauline's family



ended up living in the castle of a member of Austria's aristocracy, the Baroness Maria von Graf. Eventually, the Baroness took Pauline under her wing. She recalls that in the morning the people living in the castle would gather together to get their work assignments and, many times, Pauline would be told to stay. She would be assigned to work with the Baroness, doing various tasks about the place. She remembers long conversations in which she was taught the proper way to act and comport herself. Oft times these lessons included trips to the city of Graz and attendance at the opera. Pauline credits the Baroness, and another aristocrat living there, the Countess Fredericka von Weg, with much of her upbringing in those troubled times.

Eventually, her father was able to acquire two acres of land which they worked for six or seven years. In 1956 they were able to come to America as refugees, settling in Cleveland, Ohio. It was there that she met **Tibor Kozma**. At that point in the conversation she was asked, "And you lived happily ever after?" She laughed. "Well, not really." But, of course, that reaction was no reflection on Tibor. They went on to raise a daughter, Marianne, and Pauline survived multiple brushes with cancer. In 1966, they came to California for a visit and, like so many visitors to the Golden State, decided they liked it. After a while living in the San Francisco Bay area, they moved to Costa Mesa, where they still live.

So, like so many people who have encountered war, Pauline survived, and persevered. And, although she was not unmarked by the experience, she emerged the happy, quick-to-smile, person we meet on the greens today. She counts herself as fortunate and has retained a more that positive view of life. She recalls once being told that it costs just as much to be pleasant as it does to be unpleasant, so why not, she asks, be pleasant? Perhaps the only dark side we see of her is when she's bowling to move an opponent's bowl off the jack, but then, maybe that's not so much a reflection of the experience of war as it is just the competitive juices flowing.



Claude Monet
Autumn Effect at Argenteuil

Sharon & Jerry's Excellent Trip

Recently **Sharon** and **Jerry Grady** spent some time in France, including trips to museums featuring the work of Impressionist painters, and a visit to the home of Claude Monet. The gardens of that estate were subjects of many paintings by the master. Of course they also visited many of the tourist sites in France, including the cathedral of Notre Dame in Rouen, one of the major cities in the province of Normandy.

It was the beaches used in the 1944 invasion of Normandy which were the primary reason for their visit to France. To get there from Paris they cruised down the Seine in a riverboat. It was on this cruise that they experienced a meeting with a man who had lived the invasion first hand. Here are **Sharon's** words telling the story.

Once we were on the boat we received a special treat which was totally unexpected. When the cruise manager was telling us about our adventure to the American Cemetery and visit to Omaha and Utah beaches she revealed to us that we had a special passenger on board. We were honored to have aboard a World War II vet who had landed on Utah beach on D-day and this was his

first visit back since that day. What a privilege it was to visit with him at the cemetery and beach. He was a Navy medic and said that the worst thing that he remembered was the young men dying in his arms. Of course on that day he was just a young man himself. He is presently 85 years of age.

The day we visited the beach the weather was extremely windy, chilly and rainy. In fact the wind was so strong that

it was difficult to maintain your balance while attempting to walk on the beach. He stated that this was pretty much the same weather that they had when they landed. It was no wonder with the surf so strong that many of our soldiers never made it to shore. The cemetery puts things in perspective as there are approximately 10,800 servicemen buried there and their average age was 22.

To see the beach and examine the German bunkers that are left over makes one aware of what a difficult day it was for our servicemen. Overall it was a sobering but wonderful experience. We were given a flower to put at the base of a cross in the cemetery and you couldn't help but wonder about the family of that young man.

The aged veteran's name was Bill Thomas and he has worked as a parole officer all of his life. In fact he is still working part time. He says that he hopes that he has made a difference in some young people's lives. I asked him if he had advice for young people today and he stated three things. Get a job, be patriotic and accept responsibility. I think that pretty well sums it up.

The United States Cemetery adjacent to the beaches at Normandy



NHLBC CALANDER FOR OCTOBER 2009

Weekly Club Social Bowling

Mondays	Evening Bowling	6:30 PM
Tuesdays	Afternoon Bowling	1 PM
Thursdays	Afternoon Bowling	5 PM (Bring a Dish)
Saturdays	Morning Bowling	10 AM
Sundays	Afternoon Bowling	3 PM (Bring an Appetizer)

Call (949-640-1022) 30 to 60 minutes before bowling begins. Give your name and number.

Special Events at NHLBC

October 2 - Friday	Board Meeting	9:30 to Noon
October 3 - Saturday	Private Party	4 to 9 PM
October 11 - Sunday	MAP Tournament and BBQ	All Day
October 12 - Monday	MAP Tournament	All Day
October 16 - Friday	MAP Tournament	All Day
October 17 - Saturday	MAP Tournament and Dinner	All Day
October 24 - Saturday	Private Party	2 to 9 PM
October 25 - Sunday	President's Club Party	1 to 7 PM
October 31 - Saturday	Club Halloween Party	2 to 7 PM

Free Private Lessons

(Contact any instructor below for appointment)

Bill Day	949-554-4256	waday1013@gmail.com
Ted Farfaglia	949-223-6033	tednalba@earthlink.net
John Groothuis	949-230-1957	johnhalina@aol.com
Jan Hargraves	949-640-6049	mavericktj@roadrunner.net
Charlie Herbert	949-701-0843	cfh1@aol.com
Chuck Muser	949-857-4742	mactavish@cox.net
Jim White	949-646-0049	thebaron@sbcglobal.net
Dee McSparran	949-218-6298	lynnlaw@cox.net
Tibor Kozma	714-549-3749	tkozma@ca.rr.com
Pauline Kozma	714-549-3749	tkozma@ca.rr.com



Come and watch the international bowlers strut their stuff