

FRESNO PÉTANQUE CLUB

Member • Federation Pétanque USA (FPUSA)



NOVEMBER BOULES NEWSLETTER

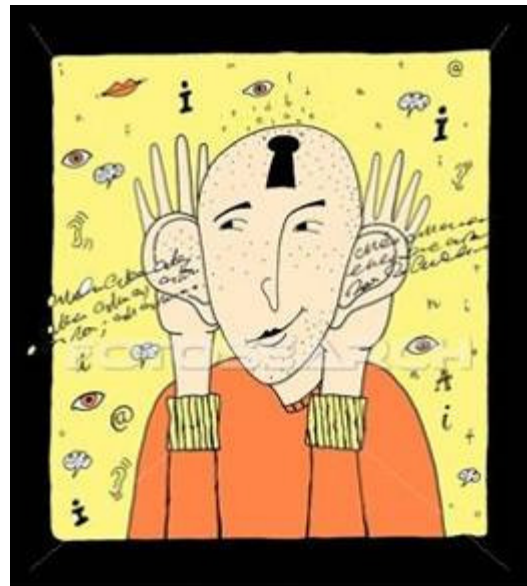


Happy Holidays!

The holiday season is here again and the year end draws nigh. It seems the winter solstice comes round earlier and earlier with each passing year. Time goes by so quickly, but this time of year reminds us of the things that are most important: family, friends, and traditions.

In spite of the current economic conditions, our lives have been enriched this year. We have laughed, loved, played, and made new friends. As we grow to know each other better we are beneficiaries of the stories of each other. We learn how we arrived in the Central Valley, whether it was last year or generations ago. We learn how our families provided for us and created rituals that influence who we are today.

Try to continue this habit of listening deeply to those around. Hear the stories of your loved ones and friends, while you can. Their stories are your history and heritage. A delightful way to listen deeply to those around you is by joining in the National Day of Listening (<http://www.nationaldayoflistening.org/>). It's easy. Just write a few questions you have been meaning to ask one of your relatives. Then find a voice recorder (it could be your mobile phone's recorder- it has one) and interview that relative. A few months from now you will be glad you did this simple little act of reaching out and listening.



Listen Up



Listen to this, Fresno Pétanque Club will have 3 days of boulegames immediately after Thanksgiving Day. We are calling it a “Thanksbouling” marathon. Games will be on Friday, 11:30 a.m. at Cary Park; Saturday, noon, at the Lapp’s house in Sanger (675 N. Rio Vista); Sunday, 10 a.m., back at Cary Park.

The Joyce and Jimmie Excellent Road Trip

by Joyce Simpson, FPC Member



Joyce

A few weeks ago, Jimmie and I took a trip to southern California for some R&R, but not before checking out what pétanque opportunities were available in the San Diego area. Using the Internet, we found two places where pétanque was played. Then we trusted our new GPS system to guide us there. We found both pétanque terrains easily. It was a piece of cake.

On Wednesday we drove to the North Clairemont Community Center in San Diego and found a few boulistes who graciously invited us to play a few games. Even though Jimmie and I are relatively new at the game, we held our own against the old French pros. There was Robert Etchelecou (president of the San Diego Pétanque Club), Albert Pireno, Andre Gervais and Salim Jalambo and Roger.



San Diego Boulistes and Jimmie

We also saw Michel again whom we had met at the Furlan tournament.



La Jolla Boulistes (Joyce/Jimmie on right)

will carry everywhere is “HAVE BOULES WILL TRAVEL!” What a great way to meet new people. Vive la pétanque!

That following Saturday we met up with another group of boulistes at the La Jolla United Methodist Church. We played with San Diego boulistes Charles, Philippe, Patrick, Kerry and Jacques. What a great group of people. We had a wonderful time. Pétanque just has a way of bringing people together. That’s what I love about this game.

From now on the new motto that Jimmie and I

Training Oenophiles

The second weekend of every November, the Madera Wine Trail Association of twelve wineries has a two day holiday wine tasting. This tasting event is heavily marketed in Fresno and around California. The event attracts thousands of oenophiles to each winery. FPC members were at Quady winery (<http://www.quadywinery.com/>) during this wine tasting event. They had over a thousand people drop by their winery to sample the vino, and FPC was there to train 350 of these oenophiles in the sublime art of playing boules. This community outreach was an amazing success for FPC. Fifty one potential new boulistes signed up for more information on FPC and pétanque.



Wonder Valley Resort and Boules



One Tuesday evening this past October, Stan Oken, Chairman of the Board at Wonder Valley Resort and President of the Fresno Convention and Visitors Bureau dropped by Cary Park for a game of boules. His wife, Dorothy came too. After a short boules lesson they were into the game.

A few days later, Tim and Terry spent a morning at Wonder Valley (<http://www.wondervalley.com/>) discussing with Stan, Dorothy and senior management the benefit of integrating pétanque into the Resort's program activities. The entire group ended up the meeting by playing boules under a row of Plane trees.

Shortly after that meeting, Resort General Manager Neal Roach contacted Tim and asked him to "...send me any information you have on the purchase of [pétanque] equipment and the best way to get started. I look forward to working with you in the near future." FPC will soon be working with Stan and his management team on introducing pétanque to Wonder Valley.

Thanks to Stan and Dorothy for their support of pétanque and the Fresno Pétanque Club. Maybe one day soon there will be a Wonder Valley boules club that meets regularly at the Resort. When that day arrives what should they call their pétanque club? Hmmm, maybe it should be "The Wonderful Pétanque Club." ☺

Chitter Chatter...

- **The Fresno Fire Department is considering building a pétanque piste or two at select fire stations. Picture fire fighters playing pétanque in their down time!**

FPC NEW YEARS DAY PARTY

Mark your calendar now. At noon on January 1, 2009, FPC kicks off its second annual New Year's Day Party/Celebration. This "Potluck" party will be at the Lakewood Clubhouse near Linda and Carl Motschiedler's home.

If you plan on attending the party please put your name on the signup sheet that will be clearly posted on the bulletin board when FPC boules at Cary Park. The clubhouse can accommodate up to eighty-five boulistes. Bring your boules, too. Thanks to FPC's Social Committee for organizing this event (Linda, Joyce, Deborah, Karen and Rebecca). For more information talk with any of the committee members or just email Linda, the committee chair, ptelli@mac.com.

FPC Garage Sale In The Works

Kristy Page started the ball rolling and then she recruited Cathey Farinelli and Joyce Simpson to the cause. This group of FPC boulistes is in the process of organizing a large Fresno Pétanque Club “garage sale” slated for next spring. You will hear more about this in December. For now, take a look in your garage or just look around your house for things to donate. For more information contact Kristy, kristypage@hotmail.com.

NEW MEMBERS THIS MONTH – Fresno Pétanque Club welcomes new club members Paul Antaramian, Sally Eatherly, Ernest Hekimian, Adam Hofman, Hazel Hofman, Robert Hofman, and Harisen Riley.

NEW BOULES JUST KEEP ON COMING



Up to this point in FPC’s history when a new set of boules were christened and initiated it was usually only a handful of boulistes that participated in the ceremony and got to smash up the new boules. That history changed recently when FPC members Peter Woolcock and Karen Petryna christened their new boules.

You may ask “changed how?” Let’s put it this way, when fifty-five boules hit your new boules all at once they get a real workout. That’s right; when Karen and Peter christened their new boules a few weeks ago FPC had over fifty-five boulistes on hand for the ceremony.

So, dear reader, when are you getting your next set of boules? Maybe you should ask Santa to bring you some.

**We have more in common than not.
We all just want to play, and maybe dance.**

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=zlfKdbWwruY>

Web link provide by FPC Member Linda Tolladay.

She says click on High Quality once the page opens

F P C Member Profile



This month's FPC newsletter features club member and official pétanque terrain groundskeeper Gordon Morse.

How did you find out about Fresno Pétanque Club?

One Saturday morning this past January I was working in Cary Park with the Little League Association on team registrations. While we were doing that, I saw some people across the Park playing this unusual game on one of the baseball diamonds. I was curious about it so drove my electric golf cart over and watched. It did not take long before Tim put a boule in one of my hands and said

Gordon At The Wheel

play with us. The rest of the players in the game encouraged me on too, and so I rolled out that first boule. Here we are almost into December and I am still rolling boules.

What brought you to Fresno?

I came to Fresno in October 1959 as a result of a job change. Interesting story, I was working in Yosemite Park as a surveyor. One day the Assistant Park Engineer told all of us to go and sign our quitting papers because his firm in Fresno needed men. That's exactly what we did.

Once in Fresno we surveyed the land north of Herndon to the river bluffs. Nothing was out there except a windmill, a few trees and a turkey ranch. I wondered who would want to live out there.

After doing that a few years I moved on to other jobs.

What is your profession?

I worked for 15 years as a Custodian with the City of Fresno. I retired a few years ago as a Senior Custodian. The areas I took care of were the old City Hall, Memorial Auditorium, Old City Schools office and the Water Tower.

Are there any places in Fresno you consider hidden gems that more people should visit?

Most people just drive through Old Fig Garden. They should walk it one day. It's a very pretty area.

Besides pétanque, what other sports or hobbies get your attention?

As most of you know, I am involved with Cary little league baseball and have been for nineteen years. I enjoy baseball.

What one thing would you like our members to know about you that they don't already know?

I collected stamps for years, but ran out of storage space. My step-daughter and her husband gave me a proof set of coins for Christmas one year and that hooked me. By the way, most of the ladies in the pétanque club know by now that I am a flirt. Nuff said!

SUPPORTING OUR FRESNO COMMUNITY



Kliszewski Glass - <http://klissglass.com/>
2205 ½ S. Van Ness, (559) 497-6610

Just north of Santa Fe, New Mexico is a quiet little art town called Tesuque. Three of its claims to fame are glass blowing, a bronze foundry and murals. Perhaps it is an ironic coincidence when you drive southeast of downtown Fresno on Van Ness into the old warehouse district that you are reminded of Tesuque when you reach Chris Sorenson's studio adorned with a gigantic mural, metal works and a little pointing hand sign on the side of the building emblazoned with the words Kliszewski Glass.

If you follow that pointing hand behind the building to the alley you will find a prism of color emanating from the glass blowing studio of Bob and Laurie Kliss.

You have to see this place! You have to see this glass! You have to see the artistry, and it's right here in Fresno! Ironic? Hardly. The artists that create these collector pieces of blown glass are renown across the United States for the quality of their work and creativeness of their art glass. Their creations range in price from \$30 to thousands.

To entice you further, they are having a holiday show and sale on November 29-30 and again on December 5-7. Go see them blow glass. Don't take a jet to Tesuque to buy art glass, just get in your car and drive a few miles down the road to Kliszewski Glass, one of America's great glass blowing studios.



USA PETANQUE SPOTLIGHT - El Paso, Texas Petanque Club



The El Paso Petanque Club may have one of the most beautiful locations for playing petanque in the United States. On a hilltop at the base of the Franklin Mountain range sits a little park called Tom Lea Park. Several years ago a few boulistes gathered and tossed boules in this natural setting. They were often seen eating scones and drinking Champagne. If you look north from the Park you will see beautiful historic homes and the beginning of the Rocky Mountains. If you look South of the Park you peer over downtown El Paso into Mexico.

If you plan to visit El Paso, Texas or just find it on your way as you drive east through Texas, make sure you email John Page Kemp, the affable patriarch of the club, and ask that he organize a gathering of El Paso boulesites so you can play a few games with them. You can reach John at kempsoli@sbcglobal.net.

Take a look at their new webpage also, <http://eppc.110mb.com/index.html>. Word has it that this little pétanque club has a number of sharpshooters.

INTERNATIONAL PÉTANQUE - One World, One Game, One Boule



BELARUS PETANQUE FEDERATION

(<http://translate.google.com/translate?u=http%3A%2F%2Fbelfp.com%2F&hl=ru&ie=UTF-8&sl=ru&tl=en>)

The Belarus Pétanque Federation is traveling further and further from their national boundaries to play boules. Recently they competed in a European tournament in Hungary and performed very well. Markovsky Yuri Yu, the Chairman of the Belarus Federation said "...we were outplayed in Hungary, but we still had a number of wins and did have a great time. Afterward, we distributed souvenirs, badges, scarves and even handed out our national flag." You have to love the spirit of this federation. For more information on Belarus petanque contact Markovsky Yuri Yu at markovskey@tut.by.

The Fresno/Munster, Germany Tour - May 2009

You have heard it discussed for the last several months and now the planning is underway. The Fresno/Munster, Germany Sister City Program, in cooperation with the City of Munster (<http://www.muenster.de/en/>), have invited Fresno Pétanque Club to Munster for two weeks, May 14-28, 2009. Our primary objective in visiting the city is to develop a greater appreciation of our common connection, learn about Munster history and compete in pétanque tournaments. This is going to be a great trip.

We want you to go, too. Start planning right now. The first step is to apply for or renew your U.S. Passport. Start by clicking this link, http://travel.state.gov/passport/passport_1738.html.

The itinerary is still being developed, but FPC could also visit and boules in Berlin, Amsterdam and Beaune (France). The Munster Sister City program and the City of Munster will provide,

at no cost to FPC members, all lodging and all meals during our Munster trip. FPC will travel as one group. We will work with a local travel agent to arrange our flight. If we travel outside Munster to visit and play pétanque in Amsterdam, Berlin and Beaugency, each FPC member will be responsible for their own travel costs between the cities, nightly lodging and food. **The initial estimate for this two-week round trip is approximately \$1,950 per member.** Each member should bring spending money for gifts and incidentals, too. Once the itinerary is finalized we'll have a better idea of the final costs. Stay tuned.

RULES OF BOULES

Article 22 of the International Rules of Pétanque – PLAYING WRONG BOULES



This inevitably will happen. You get distracted while playing a game and end up tossing someone else's boule. What then? Here is what the rules say about this infraction...

“A player who plays a boule other than his own receives a warning. The boule played is nevertheless valid but it must immediately be replaced, after measuring, if necessary. In the event of this infraction of the rules occurring again

Where's my boule? during the game, the player's boule is disqualified and everything it has moved is put back in place.”

PICTURE CREDITS

Special thanks to Jerry Personius, Rebecca Digerness, Joyce Simpson and Lesley Woolcock for providing a number of photographs in this newsletter.



**CIRCLE OF BOULISTES GATHER ONCE AGAIN
TO INITIATE NEW BOULES INTO FPC.**

Membership in the Fresno Pétanque Club is \$30 annually. For more information, contact Terry Bond at BouleFresno@yahoo.com. Visit us online at www.FresnoPetanque.com