



## SEPTEMBER BOULES NEWSLETTER



*"THE VOLUNTEER EDITION"*

### Planning for Success

**BUILD IT:** Any building requires a blueprint. Once you have thought out the blueprint, you then implement the design and build it. Using a building metaphor to describe the planning our club members have been engaged in over the past month is the best way to explain FPC's plans for success in 2010.

**MEMBER LED:** During the past thirty days, we have been methodically developing a blueprint that will guide our club in 2010. The development of that design has required convening a tournament planning committee, a calendar of events committee, a holiday party committee, a France 2010 tour committee, and a more dynamic Facebook page.

**MANY THANKS:** Merci beaucoup to the members who are serving on these important planning committees. If you have not yet become involved in helping us plan events, then do so soon. The success of our club ultimately depends on YOU and your involvement throughout the year.

**DYNAMIC CLUB:** The result of all these planning activities over the past two months is a dynamic program for FPC in 2010. **Take a look at what has been accomplished and what is planned...**



**Greg**

**TOURNAMENT COMMITTEE:** Next year, we will increase our involvement in tournament play by being active in ten tournaments. Members on the tournament planning committee are Jimmie, Greg, Janice, Tim, Nicholas and Paul. The committee decided to have five local tournaments and five road tournaments. The tentative tournament schedule can be browsed at this link, <http://www.fresnopetanque.com/2010TournamentSchedule.pdf>.

In managing five home tournaments, we need a skilled point person who will be responsible for working with each tournament planning committee. Most clubs have a Sports or Events Director. FPC now does too. Club President Tim Channell asked Greg Lapp to serve as the Club's Sports Director. For a description of the Sports Director responsibilities, click this link, <http://www.fresnopetanque.com/SportsDirectorOverview.pdf>.

**CALENDAR OF EVENTS COMMITTEE:** FPC is an active Fresno organization with



**Janice**

many activities planned throughout the year. Under the leadership of Janice Bissonnette, Events Committee Chair, members Deb, Dianne, George, Janice, Joyce, Larry, Norman, Paul, Sandi, Terry, and Tim recently met to develop a 2010 calendar of events. Our calendar is still in a draft form, and members are needed to take responsibility for planning some events. Click the following link to review the draft calendar of events and tournaments that are planned, <http://www.fresnopetanque.com/CalendarofEvents.pdf>. If you see an event or tournament with no contact name, a member or two is needed to organize the event. It would be very much appreciated if you would volunteer your time to help with one or more of these events. Once coordinators are in place for each event, a final version of the 2010 Calendar of Events will be distributed. Contact

Janice ([janice@jpbusadv.com](mailto:janice@jpbusadv.com)) to volunteer for any of our club events. Remember, this is *your* club and *your* help is needed! Volunteers are the lifeline of our club. Please get involved. Merci!

**WINTER PARTY PLANNING COMMITTEE:** The 2009 holiday season is quickly



**Chriss and Sally, Co-Chairs**

approaching. The winter party planning committee is composed of members, Chriss and Sally (Co-Chairs), Amy, Becky, Holly, Norman, Sandi, Sandy, Terry and Tim. Thanks to each of you for all the hard work you are putting into planning our December 5 winter party called “FETE HIVERNALE de Pétanque.” Download the Fete announcement here, <http://www.fresnopetanque.com/WinterHolidayParty.pdf>

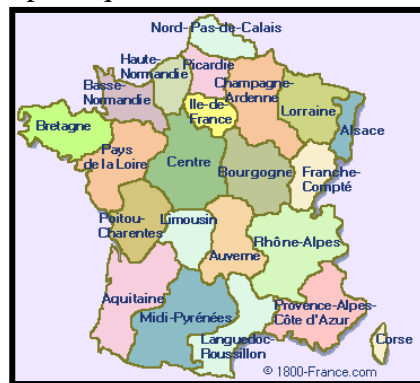
Our party will be held at member Bob Boro’s house (666 E. Home). We will have an abundance of entertainment: multiple musicians, a Hmong dance troupe, theatrical skits, and perhaps a singer or two. As you can tell, this is a fun party in the making. You won’t want to miss it! Please bring a dish or two and a favorite beverage to share with others. FPC will provide the holiday champagne. Santé! **RSVP now** to Chriss Dickmann ([cdickman\\_cmt@yahoo.com](mailto:cdickman_cmt@yahoo.com), 924-8964) or Sally Eatherly ([saea8@sbcglobal.net](mailto:saea8@sbcglobal.net), 435-5023).



**Gloria and Estelle, Co-Chairs**

**FPC’S 2010 FRANCE TOUR COMMITTEE:** Our club is planning a pilgrimage to pétanque’s Motherland, France, in September 2010. While this two week holiday will be in the Provence region of France we will also visit Nimes, our club’s city of choice as Fresno’s sister city. Already there are over 20

members involved in planning this trip. The travel group has months of planning still ahead. So, join us now. For more information on the detail of this tour, contact our committee Co-Chairs, Gloria Floyd and Estelle Boro at [gopetanquefresno@gmail.com](mailto:gopetanquefresno@gmail.com). **Click here** for a FPC France Flyer.



**France: Full of Surprises**

Take a look, [http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=xxBggJioQKc&feature=player\\_profilepage#](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=xxBggJioQKc&feature=player_profilepage#).

**FPC FACEBOOK:** This past February, Tim created an FPC Facebook page to extend our Club's outreach and marketing efforts into the larger Fresno community. After the page was created, he got very involved in other club efforts and did not have much time to spend on promoting our Facebook presence. Now, in steps Kristy Page.



**Kristy**

Kristy, that maven of pop culture, especially related to Fresno, volunteered to serve as the coordinator of our Facebook page. Kristy has a creative eye and an expansive network of contacts around Fresno. She will be able to make our page look more contemporary, generate lots of traffic and friends, and generally give us a greater presence on the web.

If you would like to know more or just want to be a friend on our Facebook web page, click this link <http://www.facebook.com/business/dashboard/#/pages/FPC-FRESNO-PETANQUE-CLUB/160588513049>

## September Is Tournament Season

**EMIL FURLAN MEMORIAL TOURNAMENT:** This is the largest boules competition in California, maybe in the U.S. It is held annually, north of Sacramento in Knight's Landing. This tournament attracts boulistes from across California and a few other states. It has been known to attract international boulistes too. Over all, the number of boulistes in the Furlan Tournament this year was 104. FPC had the largest delegation with 24 members competing. It was great getting to socialize and play with the California family of pétanquers.



**Joyce and Jimmie** were our coordinators for this out-of-town tournament. They did a great job encouraging members to register for the tournament. They also helped us create a welcoming display tent ensuring everyone knew where to find the Fresnans. Joyce and Jimmie have already agreed to be our Furlan Tournament Coordinators in 2010.

As far as the competition went, well, let's just say we need more practice. After all was said and done, the only winners FPC had in the winner's circle was an interesting tie for fourth place consolate between Arnaud, Deb and Greg and George, Richard, and Terry. The tournament manager flipped a coin and lady luck awarded Greg, Deb and Arnaud with the win.



**Tournament in a Walnut Orchard**

Plan on representing FPC in the 2010 Furlan Tournament. For more information, contact Joyce or Jimmie at [joyce.simpson@gmail.com](mailto:joyce.simpson@gmail.com).

## SECOND ANNUAL “FRESNO FIRST” TOURNAMENT



by Karen Petryna

FPC’s Second Annual “Fresno First” Panache Tournament, organized by Carl Motschieder, Paul Yang, Karen Petryna, Greg Lapp, and Linda Motschieder, was held on Sunday, September 13, 2009. The tournament was a great success.

*Measure Twice, Chalk Once:* Special thanks to Gordon Morse and Ed Loughmiller for preparing the ten pistes that were utilized by the 40 club members that participated in the doublette tournament.

### Karen

*Let’s Eat:* Good food is a big part of any pétanque tournament. Thanks go to Joyce Simpson and Terry Bond for organizing all the food, drinks and service for tournament players and observers. Joyce and Terry were assisted by an outstanding crew made up of Jimmie Simpson, Cathey Farinelli, Donna Hudson, Carole Jensen, Kristy Page, Holly Owen, Gloria Floyd, Rosana Rimper, and Sandi Richerson-Watson. Thanks to Patrick Bourrel for providing the wonderful pastries from his bakery, La Boulangerie, in Fig Garden Village.

*The Art of Pétanque:* During lunch we enjoyed the musical stylings of member Dean Lloyd and his band (Bill and Linda). It was a great addition to our tournament. Thanks Dean and company.

*Rubbing It Out:* For those times during the tournament when we got a little stressed, massage therapy was available. Thanks to FPC member Chriss Dickman for providing the massage therapy throughout the tournament. Chriss took donations for the massages and earned \$69 for our Club.

*And the Winners Are:* By Vang won first place and received an engraved trophy, a patch, and \$150. Second and third place engraved medals and \$100 and \$75 went to Carl Motschieder and Peter Woolcock, respectively. Fue Vang took fourth place and \$50, and Vang Moua took fifth place and \$25. Paul Yang also received a crying towel/boule wiper in compensation for picking up last place by earning the fewest number of points from all four of his lost matches.

*Playing By the Book:* Special thanks go to Mary Jane Campbell-Mann and John Harris for serving as umpires during our tournament.

Lastly, thanks to everyone who brought tables, chairs, and shade structures for the event. We had a great time and look forward to next year’s 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual “Fresno First” Tournament.

*“When we  
are connected*

*to others,  
we become*

*better  
people.”*

*-John Kennedy*

FPC

## FPUSA SOUTHWEST REGIONAL DOUBLETTE AND TRIPLETTE



**John**

By John Harris, Member, Oakhurst Pétanque Club.  
Associate member, Fresno Pétanque Club.

The FPUSA Southwest Regional doublette and triplete tournaments were held at the Oakhurst Pétanque Club on September 26 & 27. The weather did not cooperate with our plans for a cool tournament. It was hot, very hot during the tournament. The sweltering heat pounded players from Fresno, Oakhurst, Los Angeles, Atascadero, and Hollister. Thirty players on Saturday and thirty nine players on Sunday had their physical endurance and mental focus pushed to the limits by the unseasonably high temperatures during this two-day event.

The doublette tournament on Saturday ran without a hitch, Sunday's competition had its share of difficulties, including the breakdown of Wilbert's powered wheelchair, and consolante final games finished under the fading light of depleted flashlights. But what Sunday lacked in smooth sailing, it more than made up for in great sportsmanship, and determined efforts.



**FPUSA Southwest Regional Triplette Players**

Wilbert, for example, was undaunted by the loss of his power wheelchair, and determined to still compete; even if that meant sitting in regular chairs and receiving regular assistance in order to move around the terrain. Fortunately, a replacement wheeled chair was procured. The efforts and determination paid off, as the team of Polly Starkey, George Lewis, and Wilbert Rimper finished first place in Sunday's consolante!

The concours finals were also the perfect setup, between the #1 and #2 seeded teams, both of which were undefeated at that point in the tournament. Only one of them would remain that way! When it was all over, the Oakhurst team of John Harris, Tish Harris, and Colleen Coffman defeated Fresno's team of Vang Moua, By Vang, and Kaye Sanz with a score of 13-9.

What a tournament! All players had a fun time and we look forward to meeting up again next year in this venerable FPUSA tournament.

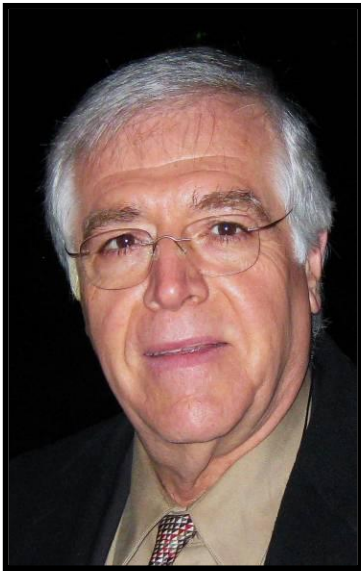
## FPC Upcoming Events

**Saturday, November 7: FPC's Annual Member's Meeting.** 2484 W San Bruno (Janice & Paul Bissonnette's house). This "Once a Year" business meeting, board of directors election and party is a potluck event. Bring a dish or two of food and your favorite beverage. For more information contact Tim, 352-4142 or Terry, 352-4129. See event flier at <http://www.fresnopetanque.com/AnnualMeeting.pdf>.

**Saturday, December 5: FPC's Winter Party, "FETE HIVERNALE de Pétanque."** 666 E. Home. This is a potluck event. Please bring a dish or two and your favorite beverage to share with others. RSVP to Chriss, 924-8964 or Sally, 435-5023. Flyer, <http://www.fresnopetanque.com/WinterHolidayParty.pdf>.

**Friday, January 1: 2nd annual "Boules and Bubbly" New Year's Day Party.** We play pétanque first and then party later. Another FPC potluck party. For more information contact Janice, 447-8610 or Deb, 787-2321. Party details will be e-mailed soon.

## F P C Member Profile



**Dapper:** \ 'da-pər\ *noun*, the look of George Bedrossian. See also *savoir faire*.

George is always well dressed and in possession of a wily wit. He enjoys our community of boulers so much, and strongly contends that all of us boulistes have built the most unique organization that currently exists in Fresno. That's a tall order, for sure, but George is a believer. He has an interesting life story too. George is FPC's member profile this month.

### **How did you find out about Fresno Pétanque Club?**

It's a long story. It started with Jim Cardella, who was the President of L'Alliance Française de Fresno. Jim knew that I had lived in Paris for many years and suggested that I get some information on the Fresno Pétanque Club.

**George Bedrossian** A few weeks later, my brother Jean Pierre and I were having lunch at La Boulangerie and during a conversation with Patrick Bourrel, the owner of La Boulangerie, he mentioned that he played pétanque at Cary Park and encouraged us to go play with FPC.

We still did not remember to go out to Cary Park and as life goes we just stopped thinking about boules for awhile. Then during L'Alliance Française's event, La Chandeleur, this past January, Tim Channell addressed the gathering of Francophiles and told us all about pétanque in Fresno. I finally got to talk with Tim that evening and during our conversation he asked me for my e-mail address. Well, you know Tim and his e-mails! He e-mailed me information about FPC and it finally propelled me to go out to Cary Park. Here I am almost ten months later still bouling each week with FPC. I even have my own boules now.

### **What brought you to Fresno?**

I was living in Beirut, Lebanon, and had decided that I was going to move to America. I had family in Beaumont, Texas and that was where I moved in 1978. Fate had other plans for me though.

Before I left Lebanon, one of my Lebanese neighbors asked me to deliver a letter to her son when I arrived in America. He lived in Fresno. When I first arrived in Texas, I had no idea how the U.S. postal system worked. If I had, I might not be in Fresno today.

Since I did not understand the postal system, I called my Lebanese neighbor's son in Fresno and told him I would personally deliver the letter to him. I had a great deal of respect for my neighbor in Beirut, and it was an honor for me to deliver this message to her son.

When I arrived in Fresno, I discovered that there was a vibrant Armenian community here. After getting to know this community I decided to put down roots and call Fresno home. This is a great town. Here I am over thirty years later.

**What is your profession?**

I am a businessman. I have owned and operated a commercial sign company since I arrived in Fresno. I am retired now, but still own *Signs and Banners* at 812 N. Blackstone.

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

I have tasted wine across California. We have many good wines in this state. People discount Fresno wines as not being as good as Napa or Paso wines, but I take exception to that opinion. Fresno has a number of small wineries that make great wine. I got to see several of these wineries this past March, when I volunteered to help FPC train locals how to play pétanque during the Fresno wine trail event. After touring around these local wineries and getting to see them up close and taste their wines, I realized that one great hidden gem in Fresno is our area wineries.

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

I have been interested in art my entire life. As a child, while living in Lebanon, I learned to engrave Arabesque designs in wax blocks. This eventually led me to take up calligraphy. From this background, I developed an interest in creating intaglio icons. Today, this is still an art hobby that is close to my heart, but I am starting to sense that pétanque is taking a larger role in my life.

**NEW FPC MEMBERS – Fresno Pétanque Club welcomes new members  
Mary Graves, Heather Mayes, Alison Gaede, Lee Milgrom,  
Roger and Cameron Gentry, and Jan Heady**

## Supporting Our Fresno Community



### **Rich's**

302 O Street  
East of Downtown Fresno  
Near Old Armenia Town  
Open 12-6 p.m., M-F

Judy and her mother stopped in at Rich's to buy two cases of cinnamon rolls [\$8 per case, 100 rolls in a case]. A young Judy said unabashedly "Honey, we are going to

sell these sweet rolls at the Kerman football game this weekend for \$2 apiece. We do this for every home game. The kids just love ‘em.” Do the math and you will understand why restaurants, caterers, small grocery stores and local football moms stop by Rich’s almost every day to buy bread and dessert products in bulk.

A few blocks east of downtown Fresno, in an old industrial park at 302 O Street, you will find Rich’s Frozen Bakery and Dessert Outlet. Rich’s, while not a locally owned company, employs 170 Fresnans who make cinnamon rolls, whole grain French bread dough (24 loaves, \$16), Homestyle Biscuits (case of 216, \$18), tiramisu, tortes, and cake, to name just a few products.

You might be surprised to learn that some of the high end caterers in north Fresno buy their breads and desserts at Rich’s. If you have been at a catered event this year, more than likely you have eaten Rich’s products.

The outlet store has only two regular employees, Sharon and Phil. If you are lucky, Phil will be working the day you arrive. Like a fine tiramisu with many layers, old Phil will tell you sweet Fresno stories that will prance through your head while you eat delicious hot rolls with your Sunday dinner. You have to start slowly when you tune a fine violin. It is the same with Phil. To get him tuned up, just ask him how to make yeast dinner rolls out of frozen hotdog buns. Then ask him about the Fresno caterers who buy from Rich’s. Before you know it, Phil probably will tell you a bit about Italy, the whole story about how Rich’s came to Fresno, and if he is totally in tune on that particular day, you might even hear his thoughts about immigrants, Teamsters and the economy of buying bulk. Listen closely to Phil’s stories and you will realize that Rich’s fills you up with tasty foods and Fresno folklore. It’s worth a visit.



**Let’s Eat Cake**

Drive down to Rich’s and browse the frozen cases. You will need to look closely though, because the entrance to the company store is almost hidden in the front of the massive white industrial building. Look for the American flag. That’s always a good landmark, and it’s where the Rich’s factory store is located. Oh yeah, it’s also where you will find Phil.

Buying food should be as much about personal relationships as it is about the product. Food is an ephemeral thing, and if you are fortunate to experience an employee like Phil, your food might just become transcendental.

It’s time we return to lost traditions that put people first and sales second. You will need cash or a local check if you want to buy any of Rich’s products. Have fun and leave a few rolls for the others.



### **NOW YOU FRES-KNOW.**

**The population of Fresno is very diverse. In 2008, a California Department of Education report stated “...there are over 70 nationalities living in Fresno. Moreover, over 101 languages are spoken daily.”**

# USA Petanque Spotlight



## La Boule New Yorkaise

<http://labouleny.com/features/>

LA BOULE NEW YORKAISE (LBNY) is a pétanque club in New York City. It is a division of New York Pétanque, Inc, a nonprofit company.

Mostly LBNY plays in beautiful Bryant Park and in the “picture-perfect” Washington Square Park. Playing boules in NYC should be one of those things on your bucket list.

During the playing season (April to November), they hold [tournaments](#) monthly,

**NYC boulers in downtown Manhattan** some random “melees”, some “select” and some major Opens—and usually in Bryant Park. Otherwise you can find them just playing in the Park weekends. They give free pétanque lessons every weekday 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. at Bryant Park.

At over one hundred members, LBNY is a varied, eclectic bunch that FPCers would enjoy playing boules with on a regular basis. The next time you are in Manhattan, give their club President, Ernesto Santos, (man standing in the center of the above photo) a telephone call at 917-922-0083 or just e-mail him at [ern@monkeyfish.com](mailto:ern@monkeyfish.com). Information in this column sourced from LBNY’s informative webpage.

# International Pétanque - One World, One Game, One Boule



## NICE, FRANCE

<http://www.nicetourisme.com/GB/index.html>

On Highway A8 and route N7, 800km from Paris, on the southeast coast of France is the Queen of the Riviera, cosmopolitan Nice. Sublime continental flair is observed in the worldly sophistication of residents in this international city. The irony is that Nice is in Provence, but there is nothing provincial about this place. A city of art and culture and after Paris, has the most museums in France. Their #1 sport? You guessed it, pétanque!

**Look closely between the autos and beach.  
See any pistes on the promenade?**

Nice loves boules.

# Rules Of Boules



## Equidistant Boules—Who has the point?

International Rules of Pétanque, Article 28

When the two closest boules to the cochonnet belong to opposing teams and are at an equal distance from it, 3 cases can apply regarding who has the point:

### Pair 19th C. pétanque balls recently auctioned in San Diego, California

teams have boules left to play the team that played the last boule plays again, then the other team, and so on alternately until a boule is holding the point.

1) If neither team has boules to play the round is void and is replayed. When a voided round is replayed, the throw of the cochonnet goes to the team which last put the cochonnet into play. Play of the first boule goes to the team which played first in the voided round.

2) If only one team has boules left to play, it plays them and scores as many points as it has boules closer to the cochonnet than the opponent's nearest boule.

3) If both teams have boules left to play the team that played the last boule plays again, then the other team, and so on alternately until a boule is holding the point.



### FPC FRANCE TOUR PLANNING COMMITTEE BUSY AT WORK

(Heading to Provence, September 2010. Take a look, <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=rOznUN0PA-Q>)

Membership in Fresno Pétanque Club is \$30 annually. Join America's largest, and fastest growing, boules club. Join FPC. For more information contact Terry Bond, 559/352-4129 or [BouleFresno@yahoo.com](mailto:BouleFresno@yahoo.com).

Photography Credits: Thanks to John Harris, Kristy Page, Chriss Dickman, Janice Bissonnette & Karen Petryna.