



CHESTER ALBERTSON

PROMOTION 1988

Promotion Category

July 30, 1988
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NEW YORK STATE HORSESHOE PITCHERS HALL OF FAME RECOMMENDATION

We, the Mid-Hudson Horseshoe Pitchers Association, of Newburgh, New York, take great pleasure in recommending Chester (Chet) Albertson for consideration for induction into the New York State Horseshoe Pitchers Hall of Fame.

Chet started pitching horseshoes at the age of 14, in the year 1926. Between 1926 and 1928, Chet pitched all spring, summer, and fall, either with friends, local leagues and tournaments. Then in 1929 Chet's true ability started to surface as he won his first tournament (Class A) at the Ulster County Fair and placed 2nd (Class A) in the Syracuse State Fair.

In 1931, Chet again won the Ulster County Fair Tournament, and later that year went on to win the Syracuse State Fair Tournament which at that time was considered as the New York State Tournament.

Between 1931 and 1937, Chet played with the Spring Lake Club in Kingston, New York. During this time, Chet was crucial in organizing a Hudson Valley Traveling League which included teams from Kingston, Poughkeepsie, Peekskill, Montrose, Chester and White Plains. Along with this, Chet and the Spring Lake Club were invited to put on horseshoe pitching exhibitions in such places as Glasco, Waterloo, Pinebush, Walden, and Walkhill State Prison which inspired some individuals to organize and start their own leagues.

During Chet's service with the U.S. Armed Forces in 1944, he was asked by the athletic director of the U.S. Naval Training Center in Dearborn, Michigan, to organize and run a horseshoe program which was used as a morale booster until the troops were sent out.

After an Honorable Discharge in 1946, he returned home and started to work at IBM in Poughkeepsie, New York which Chet again was the main driving force in organizing and running a horseshoe program at the IBM Country Club. By 1949 and thru 1955, Chet played 3 nights a week at the country club with very good participation and eventually organized home and away games with the IBM Country Club in Endicott, New York.

When Chet retired from IBM in the late 1970's, he and his wife spent their winters in St. Cloud, Florida, where he organized, promoted and ran many tournaments. At this time, Chet is in Florida playing, organizing, and promoting the relaxing game of horseshoes.

In 1984, the Mid-Hudson Horseshoe Pitchers Assn. was founded, and Chet became one of the few members. He was a key person in the progress of the association and the building of the pitching complex. In that same year, Chet was responsible for the return of the Dutchess County Fair Horseshoe Tournament which was non-existent for 50 years. When the tournament became too much for one person to handle (1986), Chet turned over the tournament to our association, but still plays an important role in the organization of the tournament as shown by the increasing number of players which compete.

To the present, Chet has been one of the most active members of our association. He has spent many hours helping the novice or beginning players improve their game, promotion of the game within our association, organization of leagues and tournaments, and actual construction of the future home of our association. At the wonderful age of 75 he has not held back in his playing (carries a 52% ringer average), promotion, organizing or whatever had to be done. We need not ask, he was always there.

Below is a list of places Chet has played and promoted the wonderful game of horseshoes :

Ulster County, N.Y.

Marlboro
Milton
Highland
Kingston
Ellenville
Walkhill

Orange County, N.Y.

Walden
Pinebush
Newburgh
Chester
Middletown
Middlehope

Dutchess County, N.Y.

Poughkeepsie
Pawling
Rhinebeck
Wappingers Falls
New Hamburg

Westchester County, N.Y.

White Plains
New Rochelle

Putnam County, N.Y.

Peekskill
Montrose

Bronx County, N.Y.

Fort George
New York City

Misc. New York State

Syracuse
Floyd
Endicott
Tallmans
Alexandria Bay
Lake George
Johnson City
Glasco

Florida State

St. Cloud
Titusville
Orlando
Winter Haven
Apopka
Tampa
Sebring
Plantleity

Misc Out of State

Dearborn, Mich.
Lee Davis Home, NJ
New Brunswick, NJ
Stanford, Conn.
&
Guantanamo Bay
(Cuba)

Chet has been a National and Florida State Member for 8 years, and a New York State Member for 5 years.

From all of the above in what Chester (Chet) Albertson has done for the sport of horseshoes, we are very proud to recommend him for induction into the New York State Horseshoe Pitchers Hall of Fame. We just wish there were a lot more individuals like him.

Thank You.

Sincerely,

Fave Thorn

Mid-Hudson Horseshoe Pitchers Assn.

P.S. Attached are some items from Chet's scrapbook that you may find interesting.