



## **PROMOTER**

Everett Warters was first introduced to the game of horseshoes in 1976 by NYS Hall of Famer, Ernie Graham. Everett pitched in a league that year and became one of the original members of the Pine Grove Horseshoe Club established in 1977. Everett became a member of the NYSHPA that same year.

From 1981-1992, Everett served as one of the Pine Grove Horseshoe Club's Board of Directors. During this time, he was active in assisting the President of the club with preparing the courts for local tournaments and the State Singles Championships held by the club in 1982, 1984, and 1988. He also served as tournament director several times during this office term.

Between 1978 – 1984, Everett was involved with promoting the game of horseshoes to juniors. He was one of the parents at the courts every Tuesday night while the juniors pitched helping them to learn the game. When tournament time came, there were occasions, where he would pitch on Saturday, drive home and turnaround early Sunday morning and drive 4-5 of the juniors to the tournament.

In 1989, Everett took over the Thursday Night Walking League after the founder of the league, Ernie Graham, passed away. Everett renamed the league after Ernie and it is now known as the Ernie Graham Memorial League. Everett continues to run this league and continues to promote new pitchers. Some of the pitchers he has encouraged to pitch, are Bob Berninger and Bob Best who are current NYSHPA members and promoters of the game. Everett is always offering some of the books and videos he has on horseshoes to newcomers to help them with their technique and to expand their knowledge of the game.

In 1993, Everett was elected President of the Pine Grove Horseshoe Club and continues to hold that office. While serving as President, the club has continued to host local tournaments, as well as the State Singles Championships in 1993, 1995, 1997, 2000 and the State Doubles Championships in 2000.

For the past several years, in an effort to spark interest in the game and to expand the NYSHPA membership, Everett has submitted articles to our local newspaper advertising for new pitchers to join leagues or on the tournaments being hosted by the club. These articles welcome individuals to just come and watch with the hopes they will be interested in becoming a part of it. Several times, whether its at work, bowling, a football game, whatever the occasion, Everett strikes up conversation with individuals and he's sure to mention the game of horseshoes to let individuals know its an organized sport and an enjoyable one at that.

There are many instances were Everett has volunteered the use of the club's courts or scoreboards for other tournaments. Everett is always one of the guys you see keeping score at local tournaments or helping the host club with keeping the courts in condition. You may also see him with a camera in his hand taking snap shots of pitchers for one of his several scrapbooks on horseshoes or to send along to the pitcher for their scrapbook.

Several times, Everett has traveled to tournaments he is not pitching in just to watch and in his words "to give support and help keep score".

In 1992, 1994, 1997 and 2002, he traveled to the World Championships only participating in one but keeping score and supporting the game for all of them. He is always looking for the schedule to see who in New York is pitching so he can go watch them play and if he didn't get a chance to watch, you will find him checking out the stats as soon as they are available.

Pine Grove Horseshoe Club has been quoted by many as a "beautiful place" to pitch horseshoes. Several have said "I really like coming to your courts, when's your next tournament, I don't want to miss pitching at your place". These comments come in part because of Everett's dedication to promote the game by spending every Tuesday night heading up a work detail crew and spending any spare time he has during the summer maintaining the courts as though it was his home. Just ask his wife where he is during the summer. Her comment will be "his second home".

Everett's other interests are bowling for the past 47 years, gardening and his grandchildren. He has a career high of a 290 game and a series of 680.

As the members of the NYSHPA and the Pine Grove Horseshoe Club, we hope you see Everett Warters as your next NYS Hall of Fame member due to his dedication, interest and promotion of the game over the last 26 years.