



Albert "Zeke" Montroy

Promoter

It is with great pleasure that we the undersigned nominate Albert "Zeke" Montroy for election into the New York State Horseshoe Pitchers Hall of Fame. We have known Zeke for many years and he has been involved in one way or another since the 1950's.

He pitched in different leagues throughout this time and in 1985 Zeke and other pitchers started a summer league in Ogdensburg N.Y. on the banks of the beautiful St. Lawrence River. They started with just 2 pits. Later they went to 6 pits and lights with the help from the city of Ogdensburg and Niagara Mohawk.

In 2004 the city of Ogdensburg decided they needed the land where the horseshoe courts were to build a new visitors center. It was then in 2005 that Zeke went to the city about building new horseshoe pits. The city agreed to pour the concrete for the pit's and walkways if he would work with them. They constructed 5 new pits not far from the old sight. National Grid was contacted about poles and wiring the lights which were furnished by the Lions Club.

There are now 80 pitchers playing every week for 21 weeks. Zeke was also an officer of this league for 21 years.

He also helped organize a winter league with 2 portable pits in the Odd Fellows hall. All this time they were looking to expand to a larger facility. In 1992 they moved to an old 2nd floor basketball court in Heuvelton N.Y. 4 portable courts were built and clay added. 48 pitchers plus spares pitch every Thursday night from November until April. Zeke has been an officer of this league for 15 years.

He helped form a system that makes each team basically equal. There are 8 six man teams in this league. Each team draws a pitcher from the top 8 ringer averages and then each team draws one from the next highest percentages. This continues until each team has 6 players.

He has a pit in his backyard with clay and walkways where he qualifies players for a ringer average to pitch in the winter league.

He has been instrumental in helping players get involved in this sport of Horseshoe Pitching. He built scoreboards with magnetic devices and was involved with building new portable courts, obtaining material and labor for the stakes.

Zeke joined the NYSHPA in 1996, pitching his first tournament in Waddington N.Y. He has pitched in every state tournament since then, along with many other tournaments in the state.

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He is a 5 time State Tournament Class Champion. 7 other times he has been a class champion in other tournaments. He became a member of the Elders division in 2006. In 2009 he finished 2nd in the Elders Championship Class averaging 59%.

It is with these accomplishments that we feel Albert Montroy should be a member of the Hall of Fame.