



SHOES NEWS

VOLUME 40 ISSUE #4

APRIL 2015

Shoes News is the official Publication of the Washington State Horseshoe Pitching Association

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Commentary: *Jerry Clark*

Spring is Mother Natures way of waking up, getting out of bed, stretching, and throwing some water on her face. It can start being a busy time of the year. I looked at my back yard from the deck recently to access the damage of neglect, and it wasn't a pretty sight. The college basketball championship, better known to us as March Madness is winding down to the final, while we all anxiously await to see what the Mariners will look like this year. The Winetrouts are over for 2015, and we couldn't have asked for any better weather for the six tournaments. The turnout was pretty good as well. Congratulations to the 50th Winetrout award winners, and a sincere thank you to our pitchers that made the trip over from east of the mountains to join in the competition.

While going to a medical appointment in Anacortes recently, I decided to take a few back roads. It was sunny and warm and just as I suspected, the daffodils and tulips in the Skagit Valley are well ahead of schedule this year. It won't be long before we will gather our equipment and head off to the Tulip Open in Burlington on April 11th. It is there, that we will start accumulating TPOY points as well as switch over to cancellation scoring. The Columbia

(Continued on page 4)

The 50th Winetrout Awards



The 50th Winetrout season ended with great weather for pitching and a great turnout of 39 pitchers, including Barry Chapelle and Bob Murray from Oregon. Barry said he was probably the only one in attendance who had actually pitched against Winnie Winetrout.

A luscious pot luck was enjoyed by all and the day culminated with a lively bidding auction lead by Jon Turnbull and his handsome assistant, Dennis Tutewiler. What a team!

After the tables were cleared and all the treasures were claimed, the Jr's to the World Fund grew by \$840.75 and additional donations of \$170.50 were given for a total of \$1,011.25.

THANK YOU to the generosity of this great group of horseshoe pitchers.

2015 Results

Mens Champion:	Don Davis
Womens Champion:	Cindy Clausen
Elders Champion:	Russ Phillips
Most Improved 2.83%:	Wes Chase
Traveling Trophy:	Stan Speers
Jr. Participation Plaque:	Karla Lewis
Auction Proceeds Jr. Fund:	\$1,011.25

Honorable Mention Class Champions for the Series:

Class B: Gene Kuiken; Class C: Nick Nicholson;
 Class D: Mac Huson; Class E: Ross Scott.



2014 WSHPA STATE CHAMPIONS

Mens: **Matt Fuller** Womens: **Bonnie Lewis**
 Elders: **Russ Phillips**
 Jr Boys: **Kyler Magnus** Cadet: **Patrick McCarthy**
 Jr Girls: **Megan Stonehocker**

Doubles Champions 2014
Glen Heistand Gene Kuiken



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Advertisements:

One Tenth Page \$40; One Sixth Page \$60; Quarter Page \$80

If Shoes News does not have an ad from your community or your club, the charge for promoting your tournament will be \$10. You can collect smaller amounts from a number of businesses to make up a "composite ad" for your area.

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Subscription to Shoes News: \$20.00 per year. Mail your subscription to Rhonda Davis, 16010 SE 322nd St Auburn WA 98092 (253) 735-0213.

Every Tournament Starts with...

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DON'S MESSAGE

Hello,

Tomorrow morning is Winetrout # 6. It will be the first one I am going to miss. We will leave Jon Turnbull in your trusted hands to run the junior auction. He will do great.

We had very good weather and good turnouts for the 50th Winetrout series this year. Having the clubhouse back was a blessing. We will set up something later in the year to help out the Everett Club around the horseshoe pits. This volunteer opportunity will help pay the Everett Parks Department for the use of the clubhouse.

Thank you Jerry Conklin for bringing your computer. Thank you Phyl Quist for helping out at the computer and all the other multitude of jobs you do and do well ! Thank you Carol Sperber, Margaret Byfield and Carol Turnbull for helping out at the head table and making sure the score sheets were correct.

See you on the courts.
Don

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WSHPA website:

<http://www.wshpa.com>

Web: Rhonda Davis

monstertrkdoug@aol.com

Email Rhonda with your ideas for the Web Page

Put horseshoes on subject line

You can see and download the WSHPA schedule, rules and bylaws, a WSHPA entry form, read Shoes News and see lots of other information on the website. The website is growing.

Webmaster: graywolfdesign.com

WSHPA News

Shoes News thanks those who contribute articles, pictures, emails, and other items. Your comments, criticism, and input is always welcome. This page is for you to share your thoughts, and concerns of our horseshoe pitching family. . Lets hear from you.

UPDATE FROM MARY & DON EBHEY:

On Saturday, 3/7 Mary was faced with the difficult decision to amputate her leg which was completed on Monday, 3/9 and a graft put in her left shoulder to her groin to be sure that plenty of blood would flow to her left leg. The doctors were happy about their work and said she will do great. Thanks for all your support during this hard time. She will now go to a rehab center. I believe we will be at Washington Care Center again because they treated her well and they know her problems.

Hugs, Mary & Don

Please keep Mary & Don continually in your thoughts and prayers in the coming months during this rehab time. You may reach the Ebeys at the following address:

**Washington Care Center
2821 South Walden Room 255
Seattle, WA 98144
Phone: 206-428-2934**

Editor

*Be on time! When we are late,
we become a "thief" of other
peoples time.*



Thoughts and Prayers

In Memory of Melvin C Benham 1925-2015



We say goodbye to another one of our horseshoe family. Mel Benham of the Bellingham Club passed away on February 9, 2015.

Mel was 90 years young. He was the 2007 Elder State Champion. Mel's memorial service was a loving tribute by stories from his family. Even his 3 year old great granddaughter came forward to say she loved him. Very moving and special. The service was concluded by a full military burial.

We will miss him.

Phyl

Update on Jerry Clark:

I had a major surgery on March 5th and spent the next week at Skagit Valley hospital recovering. I was released on March 12th and continued healing at home. I am going to be having further chemo in the coming months, but hope to be back on the courts soon, if not to pitch, at least to see all of you again. Your cards and prayers have been a real encouragement to me and I am deeply moved by all your love and care.

Thank you to my horse shoe family!

See you soon, Jerry



Please let Shoes News know if you are going to the World Horseshoe Tournament in Topeka, Kansas this July 13-25

FELLOW PITCHERS:

If you know of any illness, injury, passing or any news-worthy item of a current or former member of the WSHPA family, please let your editor know in a timely manner so we can get the information into Shoes News promptly. Thank you.

Spokane Horseshoe Pitchers Association



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(Continued from page 1)

Basin Open, Odessa Spring Fling, and the Kitchen Memorial will also take place in the month of April, so we're off and running for 2015.

A big thank you is in order to a few of our members for contributing articles to this month's issue of Shoes News. We love to get input from you, our readers at all times. I know many of you have thoughts or opinions that you may want to share with our membership. Let me take this opportunity to encourage you. Don't worry about getting all the words or spelling just right, we'll make sure that whatever you send us will look good on paper.

I know many of the pitching clubs in our state are just now getting ready for the new year. Your clubs may be having meetings to talk over details about your tournaments, or elect new club officers for 2015. If any of the information on your club advertisements change, please let Shoes News know so we keep your information as current as we can.

I don't know how many of you noticed the results in Winetrout #4, but the A class was split into 30' and 40'. Forty footers, Matt Fuller and Don Davis put on quite a show, pitching 75% and 71.43% respectively. Great job Matt and Don!

Finally, congratulations to Robbin Quinn, who is the new editor of the OHPA News Letter, **Ringer Review**. His first newsletter went out on February 16th and looks real good!



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Sedro Woolley WA 98284

001-15-005 / WINETROUT V 03/14/2015

Class A Mixed	W/L	T %	HG%
Russ Phillips	6/0	74.58	80.00
Don Davis	5/1	63.33	72.50
Barry Chapelle	4/2	60.00	67.50
Glen Heistand	3/3	59.17	72.50
Edward Ludwig	2/4	37.08	50.00
Stan Speers	1/5	45.83	52.50
Jerry Conklin	0/6	46.67	60.00

Class B Mixed	W/L	T %	HG%
Harry Dawson	5/1	47.92	55.00
John Bruhn	4.5/1.5	50.83	62.50
Gerald Stangland	4/2	39.58	60.00
Cindy Clausen	4/2	32.50	42.50
Monty McLaughlin	1.5/4.5	24.17	42.50
Jon Turnbull	1/5	27.08	35.00
Orlean Clinton	1/5	22.08	47.50

Class C Mixed	W/L	T%	HG%
Ron Smith	6.5/1.5	38.00	47.50
Nick Nicholson	5.5/2.5	34.00	47.50
Bob Sperber	4.5/2.5	33.93	50.00
Paul Burckhard	3.5/3.5	29.64	35.00
Dennis Tutewiler	3/4	30.00	42.50
Mark Bell	3/4	27.86	40.00
Vic Magnus	2/5	20.71	27.50
Eddie Ludwig Jr	1/6	24.64	45.00

Class D Mixed	W/L	T %	HG%
Mac Huson	7/0	28.93	37.50
Charlie Tapper	5.5/1.5	22.14	30.00
Ross Scott	5.5/1.5	17.14	22.50
Sharon McLaughlin	4/3	15.71	22.50
Wes Chase	2/5	15.00	25.00
Chris Poe	2/5	10.00	7.50
Jim Quist	2/5	8.57	12.50
Eddie Hills	0/7	8.21	12.50

001-15-006 / WINETROUT VI 03/28/2015

Junior A	W/L	T %	HG%
Karla Lewis	0/6	4.58	7.50

001-15-006 / WINETROUT VI 03/28/2015

Class A Mixed	W/L	T %	HG%
Matt Fuller	7/0	70.71	77.50
Barry Chapelle	6/1	59.64	72.50
Bob Murray	3.5/3.5	52.14	65.00
Jerry Conklin	3/4	44.64	47.50
Paul Tutewiler	3/4	43.57	52.50
Stan Speers	3/4	41.79	52.50
Harry Dawson	2/5	43.93	55.00
Edward Ludwig	0.5/6.5	41.07	55.00

Class B Mixed	W/L	T %	HG%
Monty McLaughlin	5.5/1.5	38.21	47.50
Brad Zumbuhl	4.5/2.5	41.79	57.50
Gene Kuiken	3/4	38.57	47.50
Cindy Clausen	3/4	37.86	55.00
Bonnie Lewis	3/4	37.14	47.50
Gerald Stangland	3/4	37.14	40.00
Jon Turnbull	3/4	36.79	47.50
Orlean Clinton	3/4	26.79	45.00

Class C Mixed	W/L	T%	HG%
Nick Nicholson	7/0	44.64	55.00
Ron Smith	4/3	41.43	52.50
Bob Sperber	4/3	39.64	52.50
Dennis Tutewiler	3.5/3.5	29.64	35.00
Mark Bell	3/4	36.43	57.50
Rex Tauscher	2.5/4.5	35.00	47.50
Bill Martino	2/5	31.07	35.00
Paul Burckhard	2/5	25.71	50.00

Class D Mixed	W/L	T %	HG%
Ron Heutink	6.5/0.5	33.21	40.00
Charlie Tapper	4.5/2.5	30.71	37.50
Rick Bidwell	4/3	27.14	40.00
Vic Magnus	3/4	22.14	32.50
Mac Huson	3/4	22.14	27.50
Jean Covington	3/4	21.07	27.50
Don Ebey	2/5	22.50	42.50
Eddie Ludwig Jr	2/5	21.07	27.50

Class E Mixed	W/L	T %	HG%
Ross Scott	5/1	26.67	37.50
Terry Hanson	4.5/1.5	20.00	27.50
Wes Chase	4/2	19.58	27.50
Jim Quist	4/2	15.00	17.50
Sharon McLaughlin	2.5/3.5	15.42	27.50
Eddie Hills	1/5	9.58	15.00

**PLATE & PLAQUE AWARD
PROCEDURE FOR WASH. STATE**




As we have quite a few new pitchers and there is always some question as to how plates are determined, the following is the outline in our ByLaws:

Number of Players in a Class	Plates Awarded
3 or 4	1 st place
5 or 6	1 st 2 nd
7 or 8	1 st 2 nd 3 rd
9 or 10	1 st 2 nd 3 rd 4 th
11 or 12	1 st 2 nd 3 rd 4 th 5 th

After an individual player has won his/her first five (5) plates, a plaque, shaped in the outline of Washington State, will be presented to that individual. When a player has been awarded sufficient plates to fill the plaque (thirteen (13) additional plates) a second plaque will be available for a cost of \$25.00 as will be any additional plaques earned thereafter. All plates and plaques are awarded at the State Tournament each year. If you are unable to attend, plates & plaques will be given to the Club presidents for distribution. I will not be mailing any awards anymore as the cost has become prohibitive.


Phyl Quist – Awards Administrator



Odessa Horseshoe Club

Loren Totuszek - President
Dave Goodwin WSHPA Representative
& Tournament Director
1.509.639.2547 - 1.509.431.7239

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When springtime comes a “courting”,
 And your fingers start to itch,
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 And practice up your pitch.

Your blood will start to tingle,
 When you hear the metal ring,
 When you start to toss on dou-
 bles,
 You will want to dance and sing.

If you should not be up to par,
 It does not pay to bitch,
 Just make yourself relax a bit,
 And steady down, then pitch!

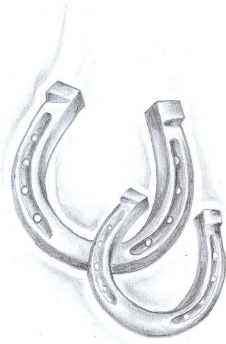
If you don’t keep in practice,
 You won’t stay up to scratch,
 Then sure as you are a sports-
 man,
 Some day you will meet your match!

Pitching won’t make your fortune,
 But may win your local fame,
 What matters if you win or lose,
 If you just enjoy the game?

The friends you meet, the fun you have,
 Will make it all worthwhile.
 You can be a humble winner
 Or a loser who can smile.

There are pitchers of all ages,
 All sizes, and all sorts.
 But ninety nine percent of them,
 Are really darn good sports.

George L Clark and Doreen Sfessee are Canadian Horse-
 shoe friends of Les and Marie Myers.



Horseshoes and Friends

A horseshoe is a symbol of good luck, as we all know.
 But luck will go just so far, when the horseshoes you
 throw.

You have to take your time, concentrate and throw it just
 right.
 When you do this, the result is a ringer, a very pretty sight.

The tournaments are more than just pitching from end to
 end.




The 747 was half way across the Atlantic
 when the captain got on the loud
 speaker. “Attention, passengers. We
 have lost one of our engines, but we can
 certainly reach London with the three we
 have left. Unfortunately, we will arrive an hour late as a result.”

An hour later the captain made another announcement: “Sorry,
 but we lost another engine. Still, we can travel on two. I’m afraid
 we will now arrive two hours late.”

Shortly thereafter, the passengers heard the captain’s voice again,
 “Guess what, folks. We just lost our third engine, but please be
 assured we can fly with only one. We will now arrive in London
 three hours late.”

At this point, one passenger became furious. “For Pete sake” he
 shouted. “If we lose another engine, we’ll be up here all night!”



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WSHPA Horseshoe Flashbacks

By Darrel Koistinen

Hurricane Ridge Open 1985

A Bremerton man set a state record by tossing 22 straight ringers in one game in the Hurricane Ridge Open horseshoe tournament over the weekend. The event was sponsored by the Olympic Horseshoe Club.

Peter Clark, the current state champ, and third in the world last year, clanged the shoe around the pole 22 straight times in one of his games— but lost the tournament when he fell in the final to Herb Criss, also of Bremerton. Criss won eight straight in the A Class, with 78 percent ringers, while Clark was 7-1 with 71 percent ringers.

In the B Class, Terry Collins of Port Angeles was the winner, with eight straight victories and 41 percent ringers. Hal Landry of Port Angeles took the C Class with a 7-1 mark and 34 percent ringers. Ted Bostwick of Sequim finished second at 6-2 and 36 percent ringers.

Sue Ramey of Mount Vernon won Class D with an 8-0 record and 31 percent ringers. Arbie Medley of Port Angeles was second at 5-3 and 17.5 percent ringers. Helen Erkenback of Port Angeles finished fourth.

Burning Calories

How many calories does a pitcher burn, and how far does he/she walk in a tournament?

John Reedy strapped on a pedometer in Winetrou VI in 1999 and found that he walked 9,489 steps for 4.75 miles, which resulted in 435 calories burned

Shoes News, April, 1999

1997 KUPER DOUBLES RESULTS

The Tacoma Horseshoe Club held the Kuper Doubles on Sat. April 5th. We had 22 entries and the winners are:

- | | |
|-------------|------------------------------------|
| First Place | Hershel Simpson and Glen Titchenal |
| Second | Ted Bostwick and Bob Cargo |
| Third | Jean Smith and Hollis Morris |
| Fourth | Larry Lowitz and Jean Simpson |
| Fifth | Frank Woods and Burt Gravelle |
| Sixth | Earl Kuper and Orlean Clinton |
| Seventh | Joe Hardie and Cy Kitchen |
| Eighth | Dan Leary and Dennis Hardie |
| Ninth | Bob Jewett and Joe Mullins |
| Tenth | Les Spilseth and Bernie Brooks |
| Eleventh | Art Hart and Ken Kuper |

It was a lovely Spring day, and a good time was had by all.

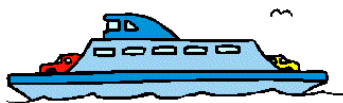


A juggler, driving to his next performance, is stopped by the police. “What are those machetes doing in your car?” asks the cop. “I juggle them in my act.”

“Oh, yeah?” says the doubtful cop. “Let’s see you do it.” The juggler gets out and starts tossing and catching the knives. Another man driving by slows down to watch.

“Wow,” says the passer-by. “I’m glad I quit drinking. Look at the sobriety test they’re giving now”

Kitsap County Horseshoes



Port Orchard—Tuesdays 6PM
(360-876-1055)
Silverdale—Fairgrounds
Thursdays 2PM
(360)-692-9315)



President: *Orlean Clinton*
Vice Pres. *Chris Moore*

Sec. Treas: *Jon Martin*
TD: *Bob Hassan*

Seattle Horseshoe Club



Handicap League
May Through Aug
5:00 PM Tuesdays
Woodland Park



Pitching Horseshoes...It's Not Easy!

I wonder if the following scenario sounds familiar to any of you. Let's say your ringer percentage is about 35%. You enter a tournament and end up pitching about 29%. The next week you practice like crazy and enter another tournament and end up with another 29% or maybe even worse, at which time in frustration you say "that's it! I'm going back to the way I used to pitch".

Just as the seasons change, we horseshoe pitchers are sometimes changing as well, particularly if we're working hard at improving our games. Like a few of you, I've been tinkering with my delivery, foot work, etc., in hopes of getting a few more percentage points into my average. After my first year of pitching in tournaments (2010) I made a vow to myself, that I would work hard enough at the game that when each pitching season came to an end, I would end up with a higher ringer percentage than the previous year. So far, I have been able to do that, although the last three years have only been incremental improvement. As I put the results of our tournaments into Shoes News each month, I see that many of you have improved throughout the year as well. Like me, you may not be totally satisfied with your progress, but if your average is going north, no matter how fast, keep working at it.

One of the things that make success in this game so rewarding, is the fact that horseshoes is a very difficult game to excel at. There are these pesky things known as plateaus, that keep baiting us into throwing everything we have learned about horseshoes into the scrap heap and start all over again. When I hear stories from my fellow pitchers who have done that, most regret making major changes to their pitching deliveries. Usually all that is required is to fine tune, or make only subtle changes to what you are currently doing. If we have to make major adjustments, they usually have to be made between our ears. Quoting one of my favorite sports philosophers, Yogi Berra once said, "half this game is 90% mental". I've always felt that raising your ringer percentage even three or four percentage points usually only involves tweaks, not major overhauls. If it is true what they say about deciding on the grip you are going to use, and practicing that all the time until your muscle memory is set, I would think, by changing, we risk sabotaging our own games. I understand fully, that there are these freaks of nature that can pitch more than one way with equal success, but for every one of those, the rest of us are only guaranteeing equal failure. Using a baseball analogy, let's assume 58% of all the hitters are right handed, and 38% are left handed. That leaves about 4% that are switch hitters. Now out of that 4% I would venture a guess that 3% of them are decidedly better from either the right or the left side. That leaves about 1% that are equally good from both sides. That's probably how many horseshoe pitchers are top level pitchers using multiple grips. Mind you, none of this is scientific, just one persons observation, but my point is, I don't think very many of us can master our craft by doing it in various ways. Sure, we may have a good day using a one and a quarter grip, or we may have a good day using a one and three quarter grip, but this game is all about consistency, not what we do on a good day, but what we do on most days.

I would love to sit down over a cup of coffee with a few of our states great pitchers, and find out how they got started in the game. How they handled the set backs and plateaus, etc. the first few years they were pitching. That would be a fun conversation, who knows, maybe it'll happen.

Jerry Clark



An excited woman called her husband at work.

"I won the lottery!" she exclaimed. "Pack your clothes!"

"Great!" he replied. "Summer or winter clothes?"

"All of them—I want you out of the house by six!"



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When: Saturday, May 9th 2:00-7:00pm
 Where: Hillcrest Lodge 1717 S.13th St. Mount Vernon, Washington
 RSVP: Karen West email runin4tand@yahoo.com (360) 941-4067 by April 30th

Saturday, May 9th 2-7 pm
 Hillcrest Lodge
 717 S 13th St
 Mount Vernon

RSVP Karen West
 360-941-4067
 runin4tand@yahoo.com
 by April 30th

The children of Margaret invite you to join us in this celebration that will include a buffet style dinner at 4:00 and a live band for entertainment proceeding. Your gift to her is your presence.

Tulip Open

Date: April 11th
Entry Deadline: Thursday, April 9th, 9PM
Check in Time: 8:30 AM
Starting Time: 9:00 AM
Entry Fee: \$17.00
Where: Skagit Riverside Park

Directions: Turn off I-5 at George Hopper Road. Go east to second traffic light, turn left at Pease turn right. After crossing railroad tracks, turn right. You will see courts on the left.

Contact: Jon Turnbull / 360-826-5520

Refreshment will be available.

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Russ Phillips

Pitching For **Jesus**

Col: 3:23

And whatsoever ye do, do it heartily as to the Lord and not unto men

2015 TOURNAMENT SCHEDULE

- APRIL 11 TULIP OPEN, SKAGIT RIVERSIDE PARK, BURLINGTON...Jon Turnbull / 360-826-5520**
- APRIL 18 COLUMBIA BASIN OP, EASTGATE PK,KENNEWICK...Monty McLaughlin / 509-627-5019**
- APRIL 25 ODESSA SPRING FLING, FINNEY FIELD, ODESSA.....Dave Goodwin / 509-639-2547**
- APRIL 25 KITCHEN MEMORIAL, SO KITSAP CNTY PK, PT ORCHARD.....Bonnie Lewis / 360-876-1055**
- MAY 2 SKIP MEMORIAL, ELKS PARK, YAKIMA.....Lee Zalesny / 509-966-3316**
- MAY 3 MONASMITH OPEN, ELKS PARK, YAKIMA.....Lee Zalesny / 509-966-3316**

2015 OHPA TOURNAMENT SCHEDULE:

- | | | |
|-----------------|---|------------------------------------|
| April 18 | Phoenix Open, Phoenix | Alan Ringo / 541-779-6867 |
| April 19 | Rogue Valley Open, Phoenix | Alan Ringo / 541-779-6867 |
| April 25 | Eugene Warmup, Eugene, UNSC Open to the public | Jerry Gorton / 541-688-7520 |
| May 2 | Bill/Donna Graham, Bend | Dave King / 541-390-8892 |
| May 3 | High Desert, Bend | Dave King / 541-390-8892 |

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