



information acquired from the MHPA newsletters and other sources

DEAN SCHMITZ

Mount Clemens, MI

inducted 2017

Dean M. Schmitz, BS, M.Ed

National Institute of Technology Certificate in Applied Electronics Technology

MSU Extension Master Gardener

Dean Schmitz was born in Nevis, Minnesota, April 17, 1940. He has an older brother, Gary and younger brother, Floyd. Both parents are deceased. He enjoyed backyard pitching with his dad and brothers during his early years.



The Mississippi headwaters are nearby and as a youngster walked across the Mississippi many times, as has his children.

He attended Nevis schools and graduated from Park Rapids High School. He earned a Bachelor of Science Degree from Moorhead State College in Moorhead, Minnesota and a Master of Education Degree from Wayne State University in Detroit. Also received a National Institute of Technology Certificate in Applied Electronics and is an MSU Extension Master Gardener.

He is married to Diane and they have a son, Todd and a daughter, Ann. They are blessed with six grandchildren.

He started his teaching career in Detroit and retired after teaching 29 years at Mount Clemens High School.

After retirement he got involved in pitching horseshoes at a Mount Clemens Pub. He joined another bar league and was secretary of the Riverside Horseshoe Club for five years.

In 1998 he joined the St. Clair Shores Horseshoe Club. He pitched in his first World Tournament in Greenville, Ohio in 1999 and won his division.

With the encouragement of mentors Claude Shannahan, Ted Kowalski, Elbert Hawkins and Paul Wishon created the Mount Clemens Indoor Horseshoe Pitching Club which lasted three years.

He has been involved with the St. Clair Shores Club and the MHPA since 1998 to the present.

Dean Schmitz and Horseshoe Pitching Accomplishments:

- Editor, MHPA "The Ringer Report" (present)
- Sanctioned League/Tournament Director, St. Clair Shores Horseshoe Club (present)
- SCSHC Guide Book Founder and Compiler (present)

- O-3 Class World Champion 1999, Greenville, Ohio
- WSHPA Most Improved Men's Division (1999)
- Past Secretary, Riverside Bar & Grill Horseshoe Pitchers League
- Founder and Director, Mount Clemens Indoor Horseshoe Pitchers Club (1999-2003)
- NHPA Achievement Award, 2001, Hibbing, Minnesota
- Past Member, 299 North Sports Bar Horseshoe Pitchers League (1996-97)
- 1st place, Class D, 2014 MHPA State Doubles Championships
- 1st place, Class E, 2015 MHPA State Doubles Championships
- 1st place, Class E, 2011 MHPA State Championships
- 1st place Class D, Seniors State Tournament, Michigan 2008
- 2nd place Men's Class E, State Championships, Michigan 2008
- 2nd Vice-President, Wolverine State Horseshoe Pitchers Association
- Publicity Chair, Wolverine State Horseshoe Pitchers Association
- Past Member, Knights of Columbus Horseshoe Pitchers League
- Past Secretary, Southeastern Michigan Horseshoe Club
- Joined SCSHC in 1998 after the club had 9 active members the previous year
- Volunteered to become Sec./Treas./Manager of SCSHC in 1998
- Started publicity campaign to attract membership to the SCSHC
- Created Horseshoe Pitching Guide Book for SCSHC/Indoor Club
- Designed logos for SCSHC and Indoor Clubs
- Built first score boards for SCSHC and indoor club
- Created Website for SCSHC
- Had WSHPA publicity brochures printed, pro bone, by a Printing Co.
- Typed "How to Pitch Horseshoes," which was placed on NHPA website
- Created Excel programs for singles and doubles leagues
- Organized construction of SCSHC shed
- Organized Mount Clemens Indoor Horseshoe Pitching Club
- Created "Clinic" material used for Indoor Club and adopted by the NHPA
- Raised \$500 contribution to both the SEMHC and NHPF
- Indoor club and SCSHC are members of the \$500 Club (\$500 donations to the National Horseshoe Pitchers Foundation in Wentzville, MO)
- Created the Ted Kowalski Award
- Established sanctioned league for Indoor and SCSHC
- After Indoor club disbursed Tuesday night doubles leagues created at SCSHC
- Three evenings of pitching on the SCSHC courts with yearly contributions to the SCS Recreation Department, NHPF and NHPA
- Organized "The Woody Cup Challenge" with Mike Ardelean of Lake Orion and Larry Woods
- Raised money and organized construction of the SCSHC pavilion
- Organized Thursday night Sanctioned Tournament
- Organized SCSHC Autumn Sanctioned League
- Personal Member of the \$500 Club (\$500 donations to the NHPF)
- Instigated a \$1500 NHPF grant to help fund new lighting for SCSHC courts