#### Awards and Recognitions

#### The Dick Barbour

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wiernorious servic	e Awara
1985	
1986	George Newlon
	Roxanne Anderson
1987	Dan Dotta
	Del Dotta
1988	Harry Young
	Henry "Hank" Weston
1989	
	Harmon Brown
1990	Horace Crow
1991	(No award)
1992	Dick Connors
1993	George Kleeman
1994	Tom Moore
1995	Charlie Sheppard
1996	Norm Morrison
1997 (no award	
1998	John Luppes
1999	
2000	Jim Hume
	Jim Wynn
2001	Bob Shor
	Rick Milam
2002	
2003	Lori Maynard
	Sonny Maynard
2004	Gail Wetzork
2005	Phil Watkins
2006	Bill Edgar
2007	Ed Hicks
2008	Dick Iwamiya
2009	

#### The George Newlon

#### Special Recognition Award — Track

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1995	. Bob Mason
1996	. Ben Morjig
1997	. (no award)
1998	. Jerry Colman
1999	. Bobby Hughey
2000	. Dan Davidson
2001	. John Coie
2002	
2003	. Dick Iwamiya
2004	. Rick Urband
2005	
2006	. Richard Cabral
2007	. Colin Campbell
2008	. Jeannie White
2009	. Rory Osborne

#### The Horace Crow

cognition Award — Field
Sonny Maynard
Rich Zulaica
(no award)
Bill Edgar
Joan M. Wilson
Phil Watkins
Dr. Leon Glover, Jr.
Bruce Colman
Dick Petruzzi
Teddy Hayes
Shirley Connors
Margaret Sheehan
John Murray
Bill Hawkes
John Shirey
Jim Waldron

#### The Lori Maynard

эресіні Кесо	gniiion Awara
2009	Art and Rocky

..... Art and Becky Klein



# Turns & Distances

#### **Pacific Association Officials Committee**

% Dick Connors, 2065 Kings Lane, San Mateo, CA 94402

# Comments from John...by John Murray

On August 30, I assumed the duties as Chair of the Officials Committee of the Pacific Association, and want to take this opportunity to thank the members of that Committee for entrusting me with that position. It is a distinct honor to represent the talented and devoted officials of this Association. I also wish to express my gratitude, and I am sure that I speak for all of the Officials, for the extraordinary service rendered by my predecessor, **Bruce Colman**. This organization thrived during his leadership, and I will be hard pressed to attain his achievements.

During my remarks at the Annual Meeting, I called upon all of the members of our Committee to strive this year to do one thing more on behalf of our Association. The opportunities to do just that begin very soon as Officials' Training Clinics commence in December at venues throughout the geographical area of the Pacific Association. In the last issue of Turns & Distances, you received a complete list of the clinics that will be available, and you should note that a number of the event specific classes are being conducted at venues where an All Comers



John Murray Chair PA/USATF **Officials** 

Meet is scheduled for the same day. This will enable those attending the clinic to receive classroom instruction followed by the opportunity to utilize those skills during track meet conditions, while under the tutelage of experienced officials. I urge every official to take a moment right now to review the list and enroll in clinics as directed on Active.com. As I suggested during the Annual Meeting, opt for one additional clinic this year, choosing an area of expertise outside of your normal comfort zone. Expanding our collective knowledge of the rules of track and field can only serve to better the sport.

As we are approaching the outdoor season, all of us should begin receiving requests from coaches and meet managers to officiate at the events that are scheduled this Spring. Enclosed in this issue of Turns & Distances you will find a copy of the calendar of track and field meets within the Pacific Association. This is a list of the meets we know of now. Please check our website, Pausatf.org, for additions and updates to the calendar. This calendar lists competitions in our area that need officials, providing the dates and a person to contact to receive information regarding the event. Again, I urge all of you to take the time as soon as possible to review the upcoming track meets and provide a commitment to those meets where you can help out. And

when you have your calendar complete, look it over again and see if you can't find one more meet where you could lend a hand.

Looking ahead, our Association will be hosting the **USATF Masters Championships** and **Junior Olympics** next summer at Sacramento State University. The Masters Competition will be held from July 22 to July 25, 2010, with the Junior Olympics following immediately from July 27 through August 1, 2010. These events provide a unique opportunity to all officials to participate in two USATF Championship events at a single venue over a short period of time. I strongly recommend that every official, and especially newer officials who are at the Association Level, consider applying to work at one or both of these meets. We anticipate the need for many officials in order to effectively conduct these events, thus affording many newer officials the opportunity to experience a National Championship while working with veteran officials from across the country. For those officials who aspire to working future national championship events, these meets provide the ability to add two championships to the resume that can be submitted for future selection to national events, while receiving evaluations from veteran officials that can also facilitate selection to those future events. I hope that all of our officials will consider officiating at these Championships and complete the application that is available at our Pausatf.org website, returning it to us as soon as possible. All applications must be postmarked by March 1, 2010, so one cannot afford to delay.

Finally, given the depth of talent among our officials, I am certain that many of you have ideas for improvement of our Association and I would welcome your suggestions, comments or even complaints. I can always be reached at <a href="mailto:chairjm@aol.com">chairjm@aol.com</a>. I am looking forward to working together with you for the betterment of our Association.

# Conversations with the Elders: A Visit with Gail Wetzork...by Bruce Colman

**Gail Wetzork**, an Emeritus official since March of 2006, greeted his interviewer at the door of the Alameda townhouse condominium that he shares with wife **Maryann**.

Gail conducted us to the upstairs office from which he runs GAW Insurance Associates and talked for an



Gail Wetzork

hour about his career as an official in Pacific Association, and before that The Athletics Congress and AAU. The office, packed with business machinery (computer, copier, printer, desk, phones, power cords, manuals) is festooned with i.d. badges and venue passes from decades'-worth of track meets.

It was actually the insurance business that got Gail into officiating. The head of Travel Smith, a client agency, was also president of a loose group called Cal Track and Field Officials.

"I had some background as a competitive athlete," Gail says, and got talking to this fellow about track and field. The client asked "did I want to become an official? So I started there."

Cal needed officials in the field events, so they sent Gail to the javelin runway. "What I knew about javelin you could put on your thumbnail," he

says, "so I studied the event" and was mentored by "most of the guys, many of them no longer with us, including the Dotta brothers. At one time or another I worked every event--the pole vault included--and enjoyed it too. I think it's appropriate to get that experience."

"Competitive athlete?" we asked.

Gail ran middle distances at UC Berkeley—half mile to the two mile—under Brutus Hamilton.

"I came to Cal in 1949," Gail said, then went into the Army during the Korean War, "for one year, nine months, fifteen days and thirteen hours." He graduated from Cal in 1955.

"Brutus Hamilton was wonderful with a stopwatch," Gail says, but the real coach was Al Regan. "He was something else."

"One thing Brutus did that I did admire was he brought back a training regimen called *fart lek*. That's Swedish for 'speed play.' You'd do a distance and you'd vary your speed consistently up to ten miles, ideally over hilly country.

"One of the difficulties in those days was we didn't run all year around unless you ran cross-country. Which was a shame. We didn't do weight training, which is a glaring mistake. We should have been doing it all the time. If you run 10 K, you use your arms and shoulders a great deal and you have to be strong."

One running story Gail recalled for us involved the Modesto Relays.

"I ran anchor for Cal in the two-mile relay against Mal Whitfield. Now, Mal was the world-record holder in the 880. He says to me, if we're far enough ahead, let's cross the line holding hands.

"Well, I ran the best time of my life and he was so far ahead you couldn't see me.

"Then years later at the national convention, at the Hall of Fame dinner, I went over to introduce myself and he said, yeah, I remember running against each other in Modesto.

"I really admired what he did for other people."

Gail chaired the PA officials committee in 1992-3. He's proud of the work he did in office.

"Our executive committee consisted of Dick Connors, Joan Wilson, John Luppes and Myron Goodwin. Myron wrote our first Operating Policies—far from perfect, but....I asked George [Kleeman] to head up our education program and he's done a wonderful job. We started a very loose ethics program, essentially saying 'if you promise to do an event, do it, don't bug out at the last minute."

"One of our early problems was that other associations didn't want to bring in officials from other associations. We broke that down when they had the World Masters meet in Eugene. John Luppes, Don Wilson, I, Rich Zulaica, George and Myron went up to work that. And Jerry Jenson was thrilled to have us and coined the name 'The California Connection.' We had a wonderful time and the guys did a great job and got the reputation as one of the best javelin groups and we got invited all over the country."

Gail went on to work the Los Angeles and Atlanta Olympics and the 1990 Goodwill Games in Seattle as well as NCAA and national-open championships; and he served as head field official at Cal from the mid-1990s up until going emeritus.

We asked about Gail's life off the track. He has served on many commissions in the Alameda community over the past three decades, including the Chamber of Commerce (he is a past president), and the library board.

"Our biggest challenge is development of the Alameda Point Naval Air Station," he says. Alameda still doesn't own the land, 16 years after the Navy base was decommissioned. "The Navy is dragging its feet," he says.

Other interests?

Gail is an avid amateur photographer, and very interested in jazz. He is a member of Jazz Heritage Society and his desk faces the famous photo Great Day in Harlem. There are racks and racks of CDs along one wall. The interviewer was compelled to borrow a Ken Burns recording of Lester Young, for a project of his own.

Favorite musician? Guitarist Terence Brewer.

Best track and field performance he's seen? Michael Johnson breaking the 200 meter record at the Atlanta Olympics in 1996. At Atlanta, Gail also got to stand and talk with **Alberto Juantorena** for a few minutes. This is the Cuban who is still the only runner to win both 400 and 800-meter Olympic golds.

"I loved to watch him run. He was something else."

Other great memories?

Gail mentioned coaching at Holy Names High School in Montclair.

#### **Credits for this issue:**

**Editor: Dick Connors** Publisher: Jim Hume

Writing: Bruce Colman, Dick Connors, Baird Lloyd, Jon and Beth Price, John Murray, John Lilygren, Jim Hume and Jerry Colman

Photography: Jim Hume, Mark **Foyer** 

Copy reading: Bruce Colman Mailing: Dick Connors.

Master track and field schedule:

**Bill Hawkes** 

"I had Debra Pryor, discus-shot, she came from a single-parent family. Her father passed away.

"She went to the state meet twice. The first year she freaked out. The second year she won or came in second in both, and got a scholarship to Arizona State. She came back and joined the Berkeley Fire Department and wound up being fire chief in Berkeley.

"It's exciting to build those kinds of relationships. I did Catholic Youth Organization and to be involved with a kid who goes on and becomes a world class athlete—that's the most exciting thing in my life, except marrying my wife."

#### **Heard at the Track**

- News Flash: Relays to Resume! Greg Miller, meet director for the California Invitational Relays announced in Sacramento on Friday, November 14<sup>th</sup> that the renewal of the Relays (the old Modesto Relays) will take place on Saturday, May 29<sup>th</sup> at Hornet Stadium on the campus of Sacramento State University. Save Mart Stores will be the primary sponsor.
- Lost and Found...someone left a straw officials hat at the Senior Games last July. If it's yours, claim it by contacting Bruce Colman at 415 710 5264.
- Board Appointments: Margaret Sheehan, Shirley
  Connors and Bruce Colman have accepted positions on
  the Board of Athletics as President Irene Herman's atlarge appointees. Ms. Herman has charged them with
  responsibility "to look after the interest of the entire association."

Descriptions of the January and February clinics for officials are now posted on line at <a href="http://pausatf.org/data/officials/off2010clinics.html">http://pausatf.org/data/officials/off2010clinics.html</a>, including links to Active.com for registering and for ordering rule books. Did you forget to register?

• Harry Marra moves north: the former head coach at San Francisco State and former VISA decathlon team coach, has joined the coaching staff at the University of Oregon. Coach Marra will be working primarily with combined event athletes on the Ducks team, including defending NCAA champion and world-championships team member Ashton Eaton. Coach Marra has been living in Atascadero.

- Castro Valley retiree is devoted to sport of track and field, <u>Oakland Tribune</u> staff writer Eric Kurhi has written a very nice feature article about **Leroy Milam** and his exploits on the track in the past ten years. Leroy recounts to the author several tales about working the 2009 Senior Games at Stanford as a starter and his busy spring schedule working meets in the greater Bay Area. It appeared October 24.
- A Gift from the Senior Games, The Pacific Association Officials Committee has received a donation from the 2009 National Senior Games at Stanford. Thank you Senior Games.
- In Pacific Association news, certified official **Maria Castillo** has been named Vice Chair of PA's Youth Committee; husband **Dolton Simmons** is now the Youth Officials Chair.
- Shift of Responsibilities. Your editor has been given the job of rule book coordinator for the Pacific Association Officials. Dick Connors will carry the books on the clinic circuit during January. Please contact him regarding your needs for literature at: <a href="mailto:Richard.Connors@att.net">Richard.Connors@att.net</a> . [Hume's note: You may order these books online when you sign up for a clinic. Full details are included in your clinic edition of *Turns & Distances*.]
- New beginning: The association would like to extend its congratulations to Rory Osborne on his marriage to Melanie Truan. We understand that the wedding was a small affair on the beach. Rory reports that the hat he was wearing was one he got from a track meet he worked. This was the best use for the hat.
- New beginning: The association would like to extend its congratulations to Mike Sands on his marriage to Jane Robinson in Fair Oaks on Saturday, October 10, 2009. We understand that the wedding was a small affair with just relatives and then a reception with a few friends later in the afternoon.
- **Jon Siegel writes:** I would like to thank all the officials who expressed concern for my health through cards and calls this past fall. Everything has turned out ok and I am looking forward to seeing and working with you all on the track this coming spring.

[Berlin hosted the IAAF World T&F championship meet last August. A number of Pacific Association officials were present, and these were their observations...]

# Reflections on the Laser At World Games...by John Murray

I have been watching the TV version of the throwing venues in Berlin, and find the distribution of labor to be worthy of comment.

The addition of a second laser mirror was suggested and/or implemented at both the 2008 Olympic Trials and the 2009 USATF Nationals in Eugene. At the Trials, it was suggested for all of the long throws, and implemented by both the hammer and discus. I resisted for the javelin, since our crew was already short one field marker since we had to place a flats judge outside of the sector. I contended that two field markers with nothing heavier than a screwdriver could react more quickly, than would two field markers, both with mirror posts that would compromise their agility. It was agreed by the powers that controlled in Eugene that I could recruit one additional official to man the second mirror, and we then conducted the events with two field markers and two mirror operators.

This year at the Nationals, it was again suggested that long throws employ two mirrors, and, at least discus agreed. I never got out to the hammer venue to observe, but suspect that they used two mirrors as well. I again resisted, and we conducted all javelin events with a single mirror, that was positioned in the center of the venue to move either way as the mark was obtained by the left and right sector marking officials. It should be noted that the primary markers in the discus venue were carrying mirror posts, and there did not appear to be any other field markers. On at least two occasions, a mirror toting field official was struck by a discus while trying to rush to a mark. A consequence of reduced agility??

While the placement of two officials with laser mirrors on the sector lines evidently works well in the shot venue, where marks are easily found, and the distance between sector lines at the point of impact is relatively short, I do not believe that such placement is effective in long throws. Especially in the discus where the point of impact often leaves no mark in the grass, I believe it is imperative that the field markers be placed within the sector in order to triangulate a mark whenever possible, and be unimpeded by mirror posts as they hurry to the point of impact. I also observed that the non-marking sector official in the shot would retrieve the implement and place it into the return channel. Again, this works in the narrow shot venue, but, in the much wider long throw venue, the non marking official would need to scurry all the way across the venue (for a landing close to the sector line) and scurry all the way back to either return the implement or return to his station on the sector line. Maybe that's why they have young officials in Berlin - the older chaps are worn out. Evidently they do not use volunteer retrievers.

The little toy implement return carts were also employed at the Trials in Eugene, but with limited success. The carts proved unable to carry the weight of the hammers, and broke down with some regularity while transporting the discus implements. I refused to even attempt transportation of javelins, foreseeing tip-overs and breakdowns slowing the event. In talking with spectators, the consensus was that the carts were cute, but not appropriate for a national competition. The idea behind the carts was to minimize the number of persons in the venue, but by the time they had the remote operators for each cart, and the persons necessary to load and unload the carts (and those necessary to retrieve carts and implements after breakdowns), more persons were added to the venue than with efficient retrievers. Perhaps the German ingenuity has perfected the cart, but it will be interesting to hear all of your opinions. JM

# Closing ceremony thoughts...from Bruce Colman

Something I haven't heard anyone mention re: the worlds was the closing ceremonies...not relevant to the conduct of the meet, of course, but after the competition, last night, dignitaries filed onto the field; we heard a speech or two; a flag was lowered; Korean dancers performed, and THEN, this is what I loved, they brought out all the volunteers, officials, and remaining athletes, thousands of people, to parade around the track, which of course immediately broke down, so there were people everywhere on the floor of the stadium taking each others' pictures, high fiving each other, leading cheers, hugging, jumping up and down...the guy who controlled the famous implement-retrieval cart had it doing tricks on the track (he wore a leg splint of some

sort)....I wrote to **Doug Logan** a couple days later and asked if we couldn't have something like that at American championships, great way for the volunteers to get thanked.

# A view of the World T&F Championship Meet by someone who is not an official...by Mark Foyer (San Francisco Bay Area journalist)



Mark Foyer at the (his) hall of honor VIP

I wept a bit as I left the Olympiastadion in Berlin after the final day of the competition of the World Track and Field Championships. The stadium, host site of the 1936 Summer Olympics and two World Cup Tournaments, including the 2006 title game, provided a magnificent backdrop to perhaps the best such meet since I have started attending them in 2001. Arguable, this meet was as good as the 1991 meet in Tokyo. It was one of the best times of my life.

Berlin is a remarkable city, easy to walk around. The subway system is perfect. One train can take you right to the Brandenburg Gate. Another train takes you to a block away from Checkpoint Charlie. The train I took to the Olympiastadion let me out about 500 meters away from the stadium. It was also a 500-meter walk from the station at the Alexanderplatz to my hotel.

Of course, the athlete of the meet is Usain Bolt. Everyone is still talking about him. As great as Bolt is, his personality is better. The night after winning the 200, setting a record in the process, he was to get his gold medal. Instead of waiting in the call room, he went to the stadium, but the 100-meter start. Someone saw him, and asked for an autograph. One led to another which led to another. Within a few moments, he was signing programs, bolts and anything else. A girl took off her shirt and threw it to Bolt to sign. He did. A camera caught him signing. He turned to the camera, giving the expression of how hard the work was.

The crowd was the most enthusiastic crowd I have ever been around. Being in Germany, the locals were very loud when a German was preparing to a field event. But when anyone did anything of significance, the crowd was very appreciative. The crowd was also very loud. Most of the nights, the stadium was close to capacity.

Meanwhile, there were the American athletes. Despite some short falls with the 4 x 100 relays, the team did well. There were some great surprises. The United States has at least one finalist in 31 of the 38 events where preliminary rounds were held. I got to talk with most of the athletes following their participation in their various. These are people who represented themselves and the team with honor.

Speaking of honor, the highlight of the two weeks in Berlin had nothing to do with the meet, the city with its history, the crowds or the subway system. Walking from the entrance toward the main media centre, I had to partially circle the stadium, passing a VIP box. I got a kick out of walking past the Foyer Hall of Honour VIP Box everyday. In a stadium made famous by the great Jesse Owens, there's a VIP Box named after me. As great as Bolt was there, there is no Bolt Hall of Honour VIP Box.

## Berlin 2009 and more...by Jerry Colman

I had promised myself, and Mary, a sabbatical once my term as President of The Pacific Association ended in June after The California HS Championships in Clovis and USATF Championships in Eugene. This was modified when we decided to go to Berlin in August for The



Jerry and Mary Colman standing outside the wall of the original Berlin stadium.

IAAF World Championships and do a little sightseeing after. We decided to go with Track and Field News Tour for the meet and then make our way afterwards on our own. This proved to be an excellent choice, as Ed

Fox and Janet Vitu had all things arranged for us – housing, city tours (bus and boat), and the competition tickets.

We used some of our numerous mileage credits and flew first class: United going and Lufthansa returning. We arrived in Berlin Wednesday Aug 13 in the morning after leaving Sacramento 6am Tuesday Aug 12. Yes, a long haul, but first class made it much easier. We were met at the Berlin airport by a familiar face: Tom Jordan, who was working with the T&FN Tour. We arrived at The Berlin Hilton, which was centrally located by the UBahn (subway) to most of the city. Our competition ticket was good for travel on all public transportation within Berlin.

A reception got us introduced to the staff, and we saw many familiar faces amongst the tour members. The tour on the nice Mercedes bus was three hours and gave us a good look at what we might want to see on our own.

The meet had two sessions each day. Morning session was usually from 10am – noon+/-, and the evening session was 6pm – 9-9:30+/-. The morning sessions were usually preliminaries which we opted, in some cases, to use for sightseeing within the town. The UBahn stop was about 50 meters from our hotel door and the ride



Watch closely at meets this year to see if one of our intrepid reporters brought back a copy of this easy transportation around the track.

was about 25 minutes to the stop at the stadium. A 3 minute walk and you were inside the stadium. Going to the competition was easy since people arrived at varying times. Not so upon leaving at night. Imagine 25-50 thousand persons trying to catch the UBahn home at the same time. Crowded is an understatement!

The meet was a great competition. The crowd was a super informed mass and applauded marks for their excellence. The crowd was primarily German, but the noise for excellent marks held no country lines. Yes, it was a little louder when one of the German athletes garnered a good mark. We were able to say, "Yes we were there," when anyone mentions the 9.58 and 19.19 by "The Lightning Bolt", but there was also the 255-9 in the hammer by Anita Wiodarczyk from Poland for three world records. Some of the PA faces that watched this great spectacle with us were tour members **Bob Jarvis** (GWI announcer), **Keith Conning, Tom Jensen, Bill Hawkes**, **Rory Osborne, Bruce Colman** and **Margaret Sheehan** (were not with the tour, but were there) and I am sure that I missed some. As stated to me by a member that had attended many WC's and Olympic Games, "This was the best tour yet."

We had a nice luncheon on the next to last day of competition which was attended by some of the US athletes. **Sieg Lindstrom** and **Jon** 

**Hendershott** [of *Track & Field News*] shared some insights with us and we enjoyed some good conversation.

It was nice that my only responsibility was to watch, and enjoy some of the best competition I have been privileged to see in the 40+ years of coaching, administrating, and officiating on the national and international level. Official glitches are there, even at the international level. The Women's 10k was the obvious, but there were others that went unnoticed by most. Some were officials over doing their assigned tasks.

All things must end and on Monday morning Mary and I were on Czech Air bound for Prague for a five day look see. We walked, visited museums, ate, drank, walked, visited museums for most of the five days. The history of this city is unbelievable. For a place that has been under foreign rule for centuries, The Czech Republic has rebounded as a vibrant place that I urge you not to bypass if you ever end up in that neck of the woods.

Saturday morning we headed to Frankfurt, once again on Czech Air, and arrived one hour later. We were staying at The Airport Sheraton on the recommendations of Bob Podkaminer. This made it easy as the train station was connected on the reverse side. A city tour to get our bearings. We noticed a large 'happening' along the river and discovered that it was The Museum Festival. It looked like fun and we decided to go the next day.

Sunday we took the UBahn to that part of town and joined the crowd. People from one bridge to the next, crafts, music, dancing, eat and drink. I know that this was the day of the annual officials meeting in Davis and the inauguration of John Murray to the chair, so in reverence, I hosted not one, but two biers to you all. Davis is nice, but Frankfurt at a festival is better. The Germans do know how to party!

Monday morning we were taken to Lufthansa First Class Lounge, driven to the plane and enjoyed the best 12 hours of flying I have ever had. Back home to Sacramento and reality.

# Rory Osborne was At The World T&F Championship Meet...by Rory Osborne

Along with several other Pacific Association track & field officials, I attended the recent World Championships in Berlin. It was an exciting nine days, very little of which was shown on American national television – something we recorded and watched upon return. Here are a few reflections, in no particular order, the last of which are pertinent to fellow officials. Others who also were there might want to supplement or correct some of these.

#### The Meet

- We had wonderful weather with the exception of one evening when it rained moderately delaying events for an hour or so. It could hardly have been better.
- The stadium was wonderful, both for its history as well as the venue itself. After arriving via local mass transit, of which there were two options, the stadium itself had relatively easy ingress and egress, food lines rarely had much of a wait, and restrooms (at least in our area) were never at capacity with the long lines often seen at other stadiums.
- As always, the myriad international spectators made for great festivities before, during, and after the events. The stadium was, of course, mostly filled with German fans who would cheer the

slightest of efforts by any German athlete – no matter what place in the standing or chance of placing that athlete had. This made for great excitement and it was often the case we would find ourselves cheering along with the German fores for folks we know very little



Photo by Rory Osborne

In spite of his trip to Berlin, Rory Osborne found time to get married. Melanie Truan and Rory had a beach wedding.

the German fans for folks we knew very little about. All great fun and a wonderful addition to the electricity of events – again, something not seen on American TV.

- A downside was continued prevalence of smoking in the stands. We were sitting with a few hundred Americans and Canadians who were part of the Track & Field News tour. No one in that group smoked (of course many were former track athletes). However, near to us, other European fans were smoking on a regular basis to the consternation of the rest of us.
- Of course, the anticipation of Bolt's races, and the races themselves, were electrifying to the crowd and a couple of the obvious high points of the meet. There were numerous other exciting competitions as well: athletes who were not ranked who ended up placing in the medals; athletes coming from behind, sometimes on final efforts, to win medals or to set national/personal bests. The wonderful part was to be able to follow some of these athletes from a variety of countries in their efforts to do

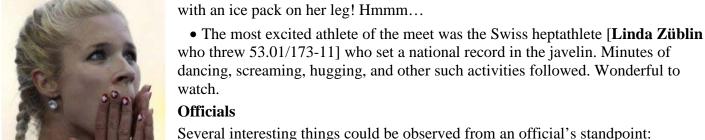


American Pole Vaulter Chelsea Johnson

their best. Top athletes like **Steve Hooker** [of Australia] winning with only two jumps in the pole vault while injured; **Chelsea Johnson** [US bronze medal pole-vaulter] medaling when the favored world record holder, **Elena Isinbaeva** of Russia, missed her last jump and no heighted; **Ritz [Dathan Ritzenhein** in

[10,000m/6<sup>th</sup> in 27:22.28] setting an American record even though he did not medal; some athlete and/or team winning a bronze medal and being more excited than the gold medal winner; Bernard Lagat [5,000m/2<sup>nd</sup> in 13:17.33] we thought he didn't have it, then he did, then he didn't. How exciting was that? These things were happening over and over and we left the stadium every night saying, "Yet another great day of track & field."

• A world record was set in the women's hammer [Anita Wlodarczyk of Poland 77.96/255-9 in the 2<sup>nd</sup> round] and, as she danced excitedly across the track toward her coach, she jumped into the air, came



Swiss Heptathlete Linda Züblin

down, and twisted her ankle. She then had to skip all but the last throw (a shank)

Most field events had definitively fewer officials than would ordinarily be seen at a similar event here in the States. For example, the discus had two officials in the field and two watching the ring. Of course, everything was laser measured. The two officials in the field each carried a measuring device and always stood out of the sector to the side until the implement was on its way. Whichever of the two was closer would place the measuring device and the other would remove the discus

to the side for the remote control model car to return it to the throwing area. This was also true for the hammer and the javelin – the only exception being the javelin having a third official who stood on the same side as the remote control car, always outside the sector, and judged the landing integrity of the implement.

- The long jump had two officials at the board and another responsible for bringing new plasticine boards when needed. (The plasticine itself appeared to us in the stands to not be completely horizontal in the same plane as the board, but rather angled up slightly from the board itself.).
- Incidentally, the same head judge flagged the ring for the discus, the shot, and the hammer every time.
- The pole vault had automatic standards. Thus, there was no official on either side to reset the bar each time. They would lower and raise the standards after placing the cross bar. The height itself was measured by laser. Standard movement forward and backward was posted electronically from the two officials who also were electronically operating the jump results, leader board, and the call up.
- All officials wore the same white shirt with an occasional armband to distinguish the head of an event or some other specialty.
- Only two officials judged the ring throws one on either side. The back side was not covered.
- Apparently javelin picking, if done at all, was done on the practice field before entering the stadium. Only actual practice throws were taken on the field.
- Hammer throwers were allowed to spin on the field with their hammers outside the ring as warm-up (without throwing) prior to actual practice throws. Made us Marshal types very nervous!
- Athletes were allowed to cross the track at any time to talk with their coach (or whomever). This included times while races were being conducted. During the long jump, which was to the outside of the lanes and in front of the stands, the jumpers were allowed to walk or warm-up in any outer lanes even during multilap races. This was true of other athletes as well, such as the pole vault. In essence, no lanes were restricted to athletes unless they were actually lanes being used at that time. No particularly egregious incidents appeared to occur – though one time a 400meter hurdler warming up was obstructed by another athlete coming back across the track to the pole vault.

- There were a set number of photographers allowed on the field at any one time. I learned that these were the folks with high connections and/or were attached to major magazines. They had access to the field every day and at all times. Additionally, there were over 300 other affiliated photographers who were initially forced to take their pictures from whatever empty seats or openings they could find in the stands. This apparently engendered some protests leading to many of these non field photographers gaining access, from the second day forward, to the area between the soccer moat and the track itself an area separated by moveable temporary wooden fence sections that contained advertisements. After another couple of days, five or so of these photographers would be allowed onto the actual event field at a time, always escorted, and then taken back after a predetermined amount of time to be replaced by another set of five.
- Two individuals with armbands appeared to monitor all photographers in the field area at all times. This included herding them and/or the winning athletes for post event pictures. There were very few restrictions placed upon the photographers. For example, in the hammer and discus, photographers were allowed to lie down with their cameras at the rear of the ring pressed right to the net itself. I waited for that one stray throw fortunately, in vain. On the sector lines, photographers were generally kept together as a group, but were often quite close to all throwing types including hammer. Sometimes this would be as close as 15-20 meters something which would have made movement away from a stray instrument highly problematic. Additionally, they were allowed to kneel, sit, and lie down. Occasionally, and I think inadvertently, they were on the sector line itself. In the pole vault, they were allowed to lie next to the standards and take pictures directly up. At no time did it appear that any official called into question any of the photographers and, in fact, there were no incidents to speak of that I observed thankfully.
- There were never any other events occurring on the field itself when throws were occurring and the long/triple jump area was significantly out of play.
- There was at least one incident in which it appeared repairs were made on the field to a hammer chain without it being remeasured/assessed.
- Early in the meet, the women's 10K only had one cone placed for the cut-in. All but one of the women who were cutting in did so prior to the cone. Flags were raised. Apparently, following review, the race was allowed to stand presumably because in such a long race not enough advantage was gained. Some estimated it was as much as a 7 meter advantage. Following this, all races involving a cut-in had innumerable cones running all the way from the middle of the first turn to the cut-in point!
- There were several flagged hurdle incidents early in the meet. Some question apparently arose due to a paucity of officials observing proper hurdling (e.g., trailing leg) particularly on the turns. Following this, there were multiple officials on every turn sometimes 10-15.
- Winning race athletes, other than medal winners in the finals, were immediately herded back past the media interviewers and towards the mix area by multiple volunteers who exited from behind the temporary wooden fence, formed a line across the track, and stopped them from proceeding further.
- The head official for the throws would stand at the entrance to the cage with her red flag and not allow athletes to enter until called.
- The horizontal jump pits were sometimes watered with large garden watering cans! Seemed to work just fine and was entertaining. And, dang, they had some good rakers for those events. Some very smooth looking pits from some very hard working guys. They always sat together off to the side of the pit. As part of his duties, the person placing the laser marker in the pit would quickly sweep around the edges of the pit after he was finished with the marking and as the rakers were completing their task. Of course, this meant that a bit of time was taken between each jump until the rakers had completed the task to their satisfaction. Since few events were going on at one time in order to highlight them and officials did not appear to be under scrutiny for being on a timer, the time taken did not create a problem.
- In the men's 1500, an African runner went down within the first 100 feet of the start. There was no recall. He got up and hobbled to the side eventually hobbling off of the track.

• Medical response was often slow in arriving. Medical personnel were kept off of the field and did not always appear to be aware of the need for their services. For example, one female distance runner completely collapsed, apparently unconscious, on the third turn. It was quite some time before help arrived. Eventually, two individuals simply picked her up off the track, limply, and shuffled her off without any actual care occurring. They eventually disappeared behind the large curtain at the end of the track.

Well, those are just a few possibly relevant thoughts. Others who were there probably have much more to add. It was an exceptional meet and venue, and once again underscored the excitement for us track and field folks in the love of our sport

# **Missing From the Track:**

Ed Parker, Bay Area track and field coach who helped mold Olympians, dies at 78 (with contributions from Glenn Reeves of the San Mateo Times...10/29/09)

**Ed Parker**, a teacher and coach at Mills High for 30 years and an influential figure in the development of American women's track and field, died Thursday at the age of 78 in Gold River. Female athletes coached by Parker were on every United States Olympic Team from 1960-1988.

Parker graduated from Burlingame High in 1947 and San Francisco State in 1951. Ed served in Korea with the army. Upon his return he started teaching and coaching track and field with the San Mateo County Girls Athletic Association in 1959. In 1960 Ed discovered **Pat Daniels**, a Capuchino High junior, and introduced her to track. Six months later, Daniels made the U.S. Olympic Team in the 800 meters. It was the first of three

Olympics that Daniels, now Pat Connolly, would take part in.

Coach Ed Parker

While at Mills, Parker started the Millbrae Lions Track Club. That was where he coached future Olympians Marilyn King, Lucia Vaamonde and Cathy Ann Sulenski.

The last Olympian Parker coached was Leslie Maxie, who set a junior world record in the 400 hurdles in 1984 and competed for the U.S. in the 1988 Olympic The refurbished track facility at Mills was dedicated to Ed in October of 2009.

"He was a great coach and an infinitely patient man," said Maxie, who now works in public relations for NASCAR. "More than anything he was a good person. He cared about people."

Parker is survived by his wife, **Barbara**, daughter **Sharon Parker Garcia**, son **Aaron Parker**, and four grandchildren.

[Turns and Distances adds: Ed Parker was an official and he was the meet director when the Millbrae Lions Track Club hosted many of the largest track meets in the Pacific Association during the 70's. Ed was the meet director for both Pacific Association women's and youth championships and the association and regional Junior Olympic championship meets. The meets began at Mills High (Sean Laughlin remembers competing in one of those meets) and expanded to the track facility at Cal State Hayward...now called Cal State Eastbay. In those days, Bob Escobar encouraged qualifying meets from Crescent City to Salinas, Rich Wheeler organized the entries (remember this was in the days before computers), Ed Parker gathered the officials and readied the facility and Jim Hume got his start dealing with heats/flights and results. The San Mateo Times was one of the sponsors and printed both the entry form and full results. It is wonderful what one can do with an electronic IBM typewriter.--JCDH]

**Cordner Nelson** (91) one of the founding editors and partner of *Track and Field News* passed away in September. T&FN was started by Cordner and his brother Bert in 1948. A tribute is published in the January issue of T&FN.

**Pegi Kealoha** (1950 – 1990) ... from Rick Milam...I am very sorry to inform you my good friend of many years Pegi Kealoha past away September 30, at home... fellow coaches and officials remember Pegi from the numerous Stanford Meets and the Winter and Summer All Comer Meets at Los Gatos and the F/S and CCS Top 8 Classic...she was one tough cookie working the gate or helping as a Clerk.

Pegi was Pegi....let me explain...several years ago **Keith Conning** writer (Conning Towers), reporter, announcer of the track and field worldwide showed his passes to get into one of the Top 8 meets and Pegi

would not let him in...she said only cash or check made out to LGAA will get you in. Pegi's statement was something like, "I was instructed not to let anyone in with a pass." I think Keith said something like, "I am here to watch and interview the best track and field athletes in the Central Coast Section for a statewide publication." Pegi's reply was, "No pass, no entrance!" you know the answer like Paul Harvey. Keith reached for his wallet and paid his admission with cash. Keith then proceeded to find me and explained what happened at the gate. I told him Pegi was only doing her job as instructed. Yes, I did pay Keith back his money for admission. Just this fall, I officiated at the Stanford Cross Country Invitational and spoke to Keith Conning briefly prior to the start of the fourteen races. When I came home Pegi asked, "How did it go?" I said, "Fine...and I saw an old friend, Keith Conning." Pegi's reply was, "I hope he got in o.k. with his passes." Most of you have not seen Pegi during the past couple of years because she has been in and out of the hospital with health



Peggi Kealoha

problems and a knee replacement....Pegi's wishes were to be buried at the family plot in Franklin, Idaho...arrangements have been made.

# **Tim Bruder** passed away suddenly the night of November 28...from Bruce Colman

While not himself a certified official, Bruder, track and field/cross country coach at Alhambra High School since 1987, had served as meet director for the North Coast Section cross-country championships 15 out of the last 18 years, and was a good friend to the officials who worked the yearly Martinez Relays.

**Coach Bruder** also ran Alhambra High's auto-shop program, where, according to Cal coach Ed Miller, a long-time friend, Bruder "saved many kids."

He spent his last day on this earth at the CIF state cross-country championships. He had suffered in recent years from the effects of diabetes. He was just 54.

## The National Senior Games came to the Pacific Association last summer...by Jim Hume

The National Senior Games came to the Pacific Association with, according to the August 18<sup>th</sup> AARP



Bulletin, 9,700 athletes age 50 and over competing in 18 medal sports, plus four demonstration sports;. Fourteen *thousand* six hundred separate heats, games and matches were held during the two-week games; 1,932 medals were awarded; 85 national swimming records and 50 national track and field records were set. There was one world record: 75-year-old Flo Meiler of Shelburne, Vt., set a world mark for women 75-79 in the pole vault. Meiler vaulted 6 feet 6 inches at Stanford University's Cobb Track on Aug. 5. The top individual medal winner was 93-year-old Donald Pellman of Santa Clara, Calif., who won eight gold medals in track and field events. The economic impact of the games to the Bay Area was estimated at \$35 million.

Since, except for Youth Athletics, we do not hold as many meets using USATF rules as we do meets using college or high school rules, this was a good warm-up for

hosting the 2010 Junior Olympic and Master nationals.

For example, do you know?

1. You are an umpire during the Bantam Girls 4x100 Relay. How many pieces of tape will you allow an athlete to put on the track? What are the limitations on length?

- 2. You are the head of the Midget Girls triple jump. After the event has begun, Suzie Late comes to the event and wants to begin jumping. What is your ruling?
- 3. You are a starter. How many false starts are allowable in the sprint hurdles?
- 4. You are the clerk checking in runners for the 1500. What uniform rules will you enforce?

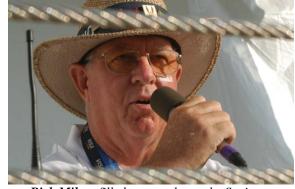
**Rick Milam** was the meet director, **Bill Hawkes** did a magnificent job as officials coordinator and a goodly number of officials showed up to help. The senior athletes were as enthusiastic as any you have officiated, even if their strength, speed and muscle memory were not as sharp as in earlier years. **John Lilygren**, **Baird Lloyd** and **Jon** and **Beth Price** shared their experiences.

# National Senior Games Pole Vault...By John Lilygren

The recent National Senior Games at Stanford made me feel like I was watching a scene out of the movie "Cocoon": Athletes 50+ years of age who have discovered a fountain of youth that



On some days, John enjoyed a half a sandwich for lunch.



**Rick Milam** filled many roles at the Senior Games. Rick even filled in for the announcer when he arrived late.

enables them to run, jump or throw as if they were 1/3 their present age. They may be grayer and a bit slower than athletes we usually officiate for but they are just as passionate. In the Field Events, adjustments were made in the weight of implements and the set-up of the take off boards and crossbars. The vertical jumping events presented officials with unusual challenges, chief among them: How to get the crossbar low enough so the competitors have a chance of clearing it.

**Rick Milam** asked me to officiate the Pole Vault. He told me there would be 2 pits and each pit would have a set of extenders (attachments to the uprights that reduce the height of the crossbar). Normal extenders will lower the bar to 7 feet so I was concerned if that would be low enough for the seniors. When I

looked up the seniors records online I knew we would be in trouble with just the normal extenders. For example, the record in the Men 90 - 94 age group was 1.11 m (3'  $7 \frac{1}{2}$ "). Therefore, I decided to make 2 sets of 4 foot extenders that, combined with the standard 3 foot extenders, would lower the bar to 3 feet. I thought an opening height of 3 feet would satisfy all competitors, but to my surprise even this was not enough! I was asked if we could lower the bar to 2 feet for an 87 year old competitor. This proved to be impossible due to the height

of the pads but we eventually got the bar to 2 feet 5 inches by adding a *third* set of extenders. The next challenge we faced involved her take-off point. Her coach said her take-off step was inside the box, less than 3 feet 6 inches from the zero line. (For reference, elite female athletes usually take off from 10 to 12 feet from the back of the box.) The coach wanted to have the rubber plug put in the box. I refused to allow this as I felt it would not be safe for the athlete to plant the pole without a backstop. I did allow the coach to act as a spotter for safety reasons. After all of that, the competitor ended up missing all 3 attempts and no heighting.

Many age groups had only 1 or 2 entries so we combined several age



Sometimes, instead of a half a sandwich, John enjoyed a salad for lunch.

groups into one competition whenever possible. For example, we combined Women 65 - 69 (6 competitors) with age groups 70 - 74, 75 - 79, 80 - 84, and 85 - 89 that had one competitor each for a total of 10 vaulters. This made it tricky to choose a starting height and a suitable bar progression that would reach the various age group record heights. Also, once a competitor won their age group they could choose the next height of the crossbar, even if it wasn't in the announced progression.

Finally, several athletes had to be excused to compete in another event that was happening at the same time



For desert, John often enjoyed a few warm watermelon pieces and cookies.

as the pole vault. This is not unusual but the combination of events was: pole vault and hammer throw!

Overall, the Senior Games was a good experience for me. We had two age-group World Records (by a 76 year old woman and a 93 year old man!) and several meet records in the Pole Vault. The competitions were conducted fairly and efficiently, and nobody got hurt. Most of the competitors were appreciative and thanked the officials (**Don Bailes**, **Rick Urband**, **Pat Randall**, **J.R. Heberle** and **myself**) for being there.

**The Men's 55-59 High Jump** at the National Senior Games in Palo Alto on Sunday, 9 August 2009 – by **Jon** and **Beth Price** 

The Pacific Association has a knack for training by officiating, so neither Beth nor I was surprised to be assigned to take charge of a couple of flights of finals in the high jump.

We were at the games primarily to judge the race walks on Saturday and Monday, and we felt we had done enough umpiring on the track and officiating of the horizontal jumps over the last couple of years to feel confident to handle those duties. We figured we would help wherever needed the day between the race walks, so expecting to be umpires or help with the horizontal jumps, high jump it was!

Fortunately, we reread the handouts from our officials' clinics, particularly the part that advised that you reread the rule book before your event, and fortunately the traffic from Reno to Palo Alto was slow enough Friday afternoon that we had plenty of time to read everything we had about the high jump. The morning flight of Men's 60-64 went off without a glitch, thanks in large part to extra officials (**Mike Bower, Milt Siegel**, and **Leon Wimbley**), who had lots of experience and plenty of patience in helping us get ready for the competitors and seeing that the event was handled properly). Beth and I were the only officials at our pit in the afternoon, and we had excellent volunteers to move the bar and run the stopwatch.



Dan Mehlbrech, Reynaldo Brown and Darrel Holmes

Having started promptly at 1:30 p.m. with 17 athletes, the afternoon was moving along smoothly, although by 3 p.m. the temperature was well above 90 degrees. We didn't need the five-alive system, because many competitors passed the lower heights. Two missed their first heights after their passes, and the two athletes who started at 1.12 meters were quickly eliminated (at 1.22 and 1.32 m). The competition came down to Darrel Holmes (56, from Montana), who entered at 1.42 m, **Dan Mehlbrech** (56, a high-jump coach from South Dakota), who entered at 1.47 m, and, entering at 1.62 m, **Reynaldo Brown** (58, from California, who took fifth in the high jump at the 1968 Olympics in Mexico City then went on to set collegiate records and competed in the 1972 Olympics in Munich).

Here's how the end of the regular competition played out, with the progression in 5 cm increments:

Height (in meters):	1.42	1.47	1.52	1.57	1.62	1.67	1.72	Tie Breakers
Darrel Holmes	O	O	O	O	O	XO	XXX	2-1
Dan Mehlbrech	P	XO	O	XO	O	O	XXX	1-2
Reynaldo Brown	P	P	P	P	XXO	O	XXX	1-2

Nobody made 1.72 m (the National Senior Games record, by the way, was 1.70 m), so we looked to see if there would be a jump off. And jump off there was! Unfortunately, Darrel missed his first attempt at 1.67 m and got third place, according to USATF Rule 181.8(a), so Dan and Rey, with no failures at that height, had first

and second locked up. According to Rule 181.8(b), a jump off was required, because both Dan and Rey had two failures up to and including the height that they had last cleared. Dan had missed at 1.47 and 1.57, and Rey had missed his first two attempts at 1.62.

The jump off was the longest that Rey claimed he had ever seen. It progressed as follows:

Height	1.72	1.69	1.67	1.65	1.63	1.61	1.63	1.65	1.63	1.61
Dan	X	X	X	X	X	O	O	X	X	O
Rey	X	X	X	X	X	O	O	X	X	X

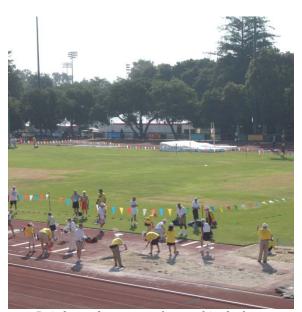
According to Rule 181.8(c), they started the jump off by trying again at missed height (1.72 m). We then lowered the bar to 1.69 m, 2 cm above the height that they had last cleared. We dropped the bar 2 cm four more times, then both athletes cleared the bar at 1.61 and 1.63. Both then failed at 1.65 and 1.63. Nearing exhaustion, only Dan cleared the bar at 1.61 m, with a total of 10 jumps in the jump off. Dan stated that he felt at the beginning of the competition he would be good for seven jumps. In total, he took 20 attempts (and made eight).

**Dan Mehlbrech** was the winner! Both competitors were tired and happy that the competition was over. Rey and repeatedly stated that he would be happy for Dan to win, and Dan had stated that

had repeatedly stated that he would be happy for Dan to win, and Dan had stated that his leg was getting sore, but neither gave up. Thankfully, both Rey and Dan knew the rules about jump offs and confirmed that they were jumping accordingly. Dan not only got the gold medal but also Rey's autograph and handshake, a couple of digital pictures of the top three, and the satisfaction of returning to South Dakota to brag to all the students whom he had coached.

## Baird's bit from the sand box...by Baird Lloyd

I expected working the Senior Games to be rewarding, but I found that it was that and a whole lot more. Two descriptors come to mind immediately as I think back on the days at the shot put and horizontal jumps events: *serious competitors* and *honest effort*. Every one of the people in my events were examples of both, and yet, they had fun doing it and made it fun for us...not the kind of behavior you see usually at the open and collegiate meets. My time began with the 90-94 ladies in the shot put. Most memorable was the lady who came to the ring, one hand on her walker, the other on the shot. Her distance wasn't as long as Adam Nelson can do, but it was great for her. She was just one of three in her age group. My final shot put event was with the 65-69 men, many of whom I had seen the day before in the long jump. This was the group who informed me that my DI training had certainly come in handy keeping them in line.



Baird was the master of control in the long jump/triple jump pit.

I was with women of all age groups throughout their long and triple jump events. Several standouts: the 91 year old, who jumped all six rounds of the



Thank goodness that Dole was a sponsor of the Senior Games. We enjoyed unlimited bananas and fruit cups.

long and the triple jump. Could you do that? The 81 year old who came to the triple jump with her right arm, shoulder to wrist, a massive bruise that she had gotten in the 3 x 3 basketball game the night before. Soon as she finished her jumps she left to play another round. The younger age groups jumped farther, were more intense in their competition, and more anxious for every centimeter of distance. The 55-59s were the standouts. The national record holder of the previous Games in this age group was going head to head with the one who had previously held the record for the younger age group, but was now in this one. The whole event was accompanied by a Games photographer and announcer pair. The lead changed hands nearly every round and was won by the (slightly) older woman on the final jump.

Throughout the competitions, as each person completed

his/her attempt, the others cheered, understanding far better than we, the effort and determination that was required. Many of the older ones were there because they were the only athletes who competed in their state meets in those events. The athletes also made clear their appreciation for our work in keeping the events running smoothly and fairly, even when they weren't too sure about the rules. The spectators in the stands cheered for all the events as they unfolded. The volunteers, especially those who worked the jumps, were an amazing group, helpful, cheerful, and uncomplaining through those hot days and heavy work (everyone who came got a chance to rake). Rick [Milam...meet director], Bill [Hawkes...officials coordinator] and Shirley [Connors...field referee] did heroic work to support us every day. The only disappointment I had was the lack of officials. Those of you who could not or would not participate really missed an enriching experience, one that would have added far more to your quality of life than you could possibly imagine. The men and women who came are models of what we can do as we age if we are willing to push ourselves

beyond the couch and out of our memories of past glories.



Photo by Hume

Bill Hawkes, George Kleeman, Sonny Maynard, Toni Harvey and Jon Siegel Are all smiles for they went to <a href="http://pausatf.org/data/officials/off2010clinics.html">http://pausatf.org/data/officials/off2010clinics.html</a>, decided which clinics to take and then registered for class and ordered their 2010 rule books.

% Dick Connors 2065 Kings Lane, San Mateo, CA 94402



Bill Hawkes did a magnificent job as Officials Coordinator at the Senior Games. You may follow his footsteps if only you will go to the Officials Coordinator 101 clinic at U. C. Davis on Saturday, January 23<sup>rd</sup>.