

# **S& Distant**

A publication of the Officials Committee of the Pacific Association USA Track & Field Dick Connors, 2065 Kings Lane, San Mateo, CA 94402... **2** (415) 341-6781 12 March 2013 T&D 03.10.2013 Awards and ReCert Edition



#### AWARDS AND RECOGNITIONS

		OFFICIALS	

2007	Horace Crow
2008	Lori Maynard
	George Kleeman
2009	Dick Connors
2010	Bob Podkaminer

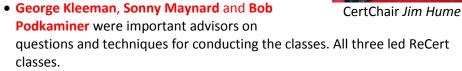
2(	010	Bob Podkaminer	
	The Dick Barbou	r	
M	Meritorious Service Award		
	1985	Hank Patton	
	1986		
		Roxanne Anderson	
	1987	Dan Dotta	
		Del Dotta	
	1988	Harry Young	
		Henry "Hank" Weston	
	1989	Ed Parker	
		Harmon Brown	
	1990	Horace Crow	
	1991	(No award)	
	1992	Dick Connors	
	1993	George Kleeman	
	1994	Tom Moore	
	1995	Charlie Sheppard	
	1996	Norm Morrison	
	1997	(no award)	
	1998	John Luppes	
	1999	Richard Zulaica	
	2000	Jim Hume	
		Jim Wynn	
	2001	Bob Shor	
		Rick Milam	
	2002	Bob Rauch	
	2003	Lori Maynard	
		Sonny Maynard	
	2004		
	2005	Phil Watkins	
	2006	Bill Edgar	
	2007	Ed Hicks	
	2008		
	2009		
	2010		
	2011		
	2012	•	
		Margaret Sheehan	

#### The Certification Chair's and Training Chair's Reports

Each Olympiad, every official must be ReCertified for all certifications die with the Olympic flame at the Chair end of the Olympic Games.

If you will allow me a light detour, did you realize that the current Olympiad, the XXX<sup>th</sup> of the Modern Era, runs from 2012 to 2015...which means that the Olympic Games are at the end of the first year of the Olympiad. Thanks to **Bruce Colman** and Margaret Sheehan for that important bit of trivia.

No ReCertification can be accomplished by a single person.



• Jon Price, Elizabeth Price, John Bowen and Deri Bowen took control and ran two ReCert and training clinics in the Reno area. A number of officials took advantage of their offerings to combine ReCertification with vacation time.

- Dennis Boyle, Chuck Sheley, Bruce Makinson and Mark Youmans took the folks around Chico. Redding and the North Country under their wings and ran a successful training Clinic in Chico, while John Murray and Pat Randall handled the ReCerts.
- Lloyd Stephenson and Rick Berman did yeoman duty getting the LDR folks ReCertified and new ones trained.
- Becky Klein, Art Klein, Jon Price and Elizabeth Price guided the Race Walk judges/officials through their ReCertification.
- Rick Anderson hosted a clinic at American River College for a full range of ReCert and Training clinics.
- At U. C. Berkeley, Jon and Beth Price and Irene Herman hosted an Umpiring clinic while George Kleeman ran an Implement Inspection ReCert and training clinic. (continued on page 9)



**Training Chair** Shirley Connors

THE HORACE CROW	USATF National Award Certificate
Special Recognition Award — Field	2012
1995Sonny Maynard	John Busto (Starter)
1996Rich Zulaica	Ed Gordon (Vertical Jumps)
	Peter Guerrini (Competition Secretary and
1997(no award)	FinishLynx operator)
1998 Bill Edgar	John Pretto (Throws and Vertical Jumps)
1999Joan M. Wilson	Karen Williams (Clerk)
2000 Phil Watkins	Stephanie Bolden (Clerk)
2001 Dr. Leon Glover, Jr.	2011
2002 Bruce Colman	Mike Aro (Throws)
2003 Dick Petruzzi	Dino Certa (Starter)
2004Teddy Hayes	Bruce Makinson (Horizontal Jumps/Starter)
2005Shirley Connors	Elizabeth Price (Race Walk Judge/Lap Counting)
Margaret Sheehan	Jon Price (Race Walk Judge/Lap Counting)
2006John Murray	John Wise (Starter)
2007 Bill Hawkes	2010
	Robert Benoy (Horizontal Jumps)
2008John Shirey	Steve Green (Throws)
2009Jim Waldron	Dick Cochran (Throws)
2010Pat Randall	John (J. R.) Heberle (Jumps, Starter and
2011Leon Wimbley	Electronic Measurement)
2012John Lilygren	Ann Gerhardt (Race Walk and Jumps)
THE GEORGE NEWLON	Leroy Milam (Clerk and Starter)
Special Recognition Award — Track	2009
	Sean Laughlin (FinishLynx Operator)
1995Bob Mason	John Lilygren (Vertical Jumps)
1996Ben Morjig	Baird Lloyd (LDR and Horizontal Jumps)
1997(no award)	Leon Wimbley (Horizontal Jumps and
1998Jerry Colman	electronic measurement)
1999 Bobby Hughey	Mark Youmans (Horizontal Jumps and
2000 Dan Davidson	Throws)
2001John Coie	2008
2002 Gerry Collet	Katherine Berman (LDR)
2003 Dick Iwamiya	Richard Berman (LDR) Derwent "Deri" Bowen (Throws)
2004Rick Urband	Anthony Camargo (Competition Secretary)
2005Joe Harper	Sue Murray (Throws)
2006Richard Cabral	Ted Waldo (Jumps and Throws)
2007Colin Campbell	2007
2008Jeannie White	Irene Herman (LDR, Umpire)
	Jeanne Sanders (Horizontal Jumps)
2009Rory Osborne	Mike Sands (Vertical Jumps)
2010Tiffany Banks	Robert Thompson
2011Phil Leake	Mark Winitz (LDR)
2012Dennis Boyle	2006
The Lori Maynard	Andy Anderson (Starter)
Special Recognition Award	Dennis Boyle (Vertical Jumps)
2009 Art and Becky Klein	Charles Des Jardins (LDR, Field Referee)
2010 Deanna and Jon Vochatzer	Joe Keever (Throws)
2011 Keith Conning	Jon Siegel (Vertical Jumps)
2012Dave Shrock	

#### PACIFIC ASSOCIATION AWARD RECIPIENTS bold face = certified official HALL OF FAME AWARD 2007..... George Kleeman Lori Maynard **Sonny Maynard Horace Crow Tom Moore** Dr. Harmon Brown 2008..... Ed Miller **Richard Connors** 2009..... Robert 'Pod' Podkaminer 2011..... Don Bailes SERVICE AWARD 2003..... George Kleeman **Charlie Sheppard** 2004..... Ron Daniels John Mansoor 2005..... JoAnne Camargo Irene Herman 2006..... Cynci Calvin Robert 'Bob' Shor 2007..... Tyler Abbott; Robert 'Pod' Podkaminer 2008..... Mark Winitzc **Maura Kent** 2011..... Jack Leydig Joy Upshaw Lee Webb TOM MOORE AWARD 2002..... **Tom Moore**; 2003..... Dr. Harmon Brown **Herb Rodabaugh** 2005..... Robert Bowman 2009..... Robert 'Bob' Rush 2011.....Sean Laughlin COACH'S LEGACY AWARD 2009..... James "Jim" Hunt

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2010..... Bud Winter

Jim Santos

#### 2012 Pacific Association Official's Committee Awards

Due to our emphasis on ReCertifying officials and Certifying those who desire to become officials, this issue of *Turns & Distances* is later than might be desire. This issue is called "The Awards and ReCert Edition" and expresses our appreciation of the officials within the Pacific Association.

**Dick Barbour** was a long time horizontal jumps official (long jump and triple jump) within the Pacific Association. He was also the first treasurer of the Pacific Association's Board of Athletics when track and field split away from the A.A.U. The Pacific Association officials' Dick Barbour Meritorious Service Award is given to officials who have contributed to the overall health and success of the Pacific Association.

The **2012 Dick Barbour Meritorious Service Award** was the first award presented by the Officials Committee under first The Athletics Congress and then under USA Track & Field. The 2012 award was co-presented to **Margaret Sheehan** and **Shirley Connors** by Awards Chair **Leon Glover**.



Dick Barbour, Menlo College, Circa 1932



Margaret Sheehan

Margaret has spent most of her officiating time with the vertical jumps, as a combined event official, as a coordinator, and as a referee. Her primary base of work has been at U.C. Berkeley.

Margaret was first certified in 1990 added the 2012 DICK BARBOUR MERITORIOUS SERVICE AWARD to her 2005 HORACE CROW SPECIAL RECOGNITION AWARD — FIELD for her work as a leader and horizontal jump official.



Shirley Connors

Shirley added the 2012 DICK BARBOUR MERITORIOUS SERVICE AWARD to her 2005 HORACE CROW SPECIAL RECOGNITION AWARD — FIELD for her work as a leader and horizontal jump official. Within the Pacific Association, Shirley has been the chair of the Training Sub-Committee as well as a teacher.



John Lilygren

Horace Crow was a vertical jumps official who specialized in the pole vault, and had a national reputation. In addition to the Pacific Association award, there are two national committee awards in Horace's name. The Pacific Association Officials' 2012 Horace Crow Special Recognition Award - Field is presented to officials who have shown an outstanding expertise and leadership in their selected field event(s). The 2012 award was presented to John Lilygren, Master Level Vertical Jumps official who is most often seen running the pole vault. John has worked events from the Olympic Trials to high school and Youth Athletics.



Dennis Boyle

George Newlon was a "track" official in the days when that meant stop watches and finish judges at the finish line. George served as the Officials' Chair and was very supportive of Youth Athletics in its early days. In the days of Fully Automatic Timing and computers, there are fewer purely "track" chores available for officials. The 2012 George Newlon Special Recognition Award - Track was presented to Dennis Boyle, a Master Level Vertical Jumps official who developed our Mentor Program, has organized training and ReCertification clinics in the Redding/Chico area and who has chaired several committees for the Officials Chair.







Good food at Serra (Thanks to Coach Marheineke) and students pay attention at Serra and in Santa Cruz.

Lori Maynard track and field athletic talents were in the race walk. The **Special Recognition** necessarily every year, but is when an official has leadership in the of Athletics in the Association. The



Lori Maynard in Action

was an active official whose best displayed Lori Maynard Award is not presented presented shown great development **Pacific** 

2012 Lori

Maynard Special Recognition Award was presented to Dave Shrock for his leadership in developing and organizing coaches training clinics at the local and national level and for his leadership within the Pacific Association. Dave is currently serving as the Vice-President of the Pacific Association's Board of Athletics and was a long time head coach at Modesto Junior College where he was instrumental in helping organize the Modesto Relays.



Dave Shrock

#### **National Award Certificates**

Each year, each association is entitled to award National Certificate Awards which recognize the good work of officials within the association. The number of awards is based on 5% of the total number of National Level, Master Level and Emeritus officials with each association. For the last Olympiad, the strength of our association gave us six certificates a year. The 2012 National Certificates were awarded to those pictured below.



John Busto



Ed Gordon



Peter Guerrini



John Pretto



Karen Williams



Stephanie Bolden

#### **Pacific Association Award Certificates**

Pacific Association's Award Certificates are given to our younger officials, in terms of length of service and experience, in recognition of their development as officials. The 2012 Awards were presented to the officials whose pictures appear below.



Sharon Baker



Roger Beeman



Crow



Chuck Foss



Susan Mears



Ed Murray

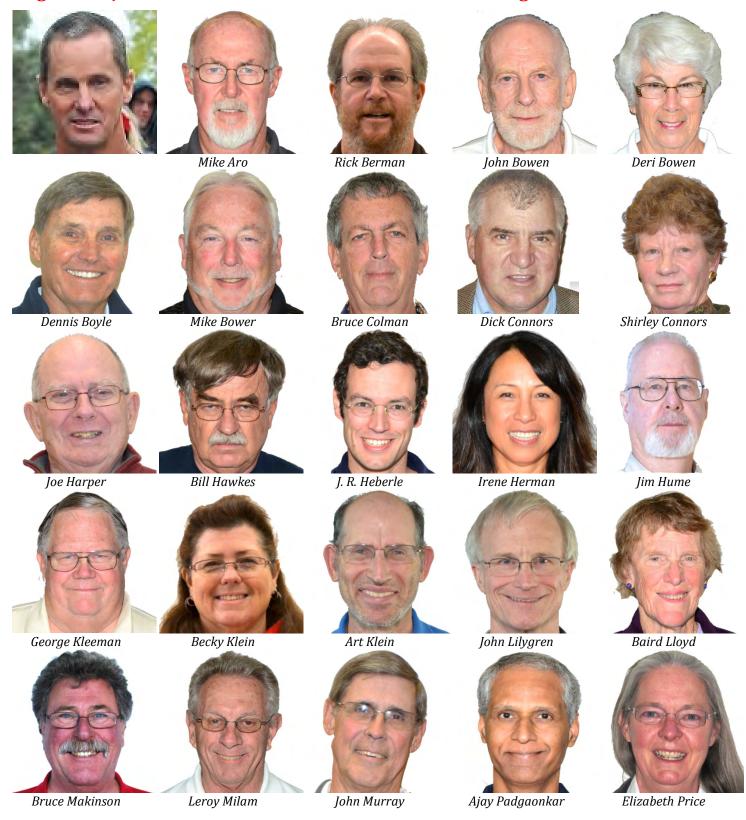


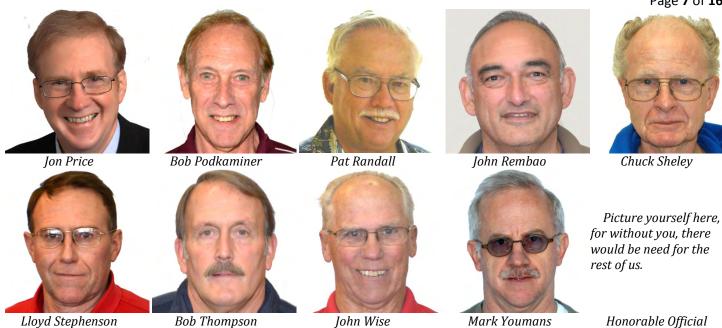
Elsbeth Padia



Jim Springer

## Sing Hallelujah In Honor Of Our Recertification And Training Heroes





#### More Awards for the Pacific Association



National Officials Chair Len Krsak presented **George Kleeman** with a **Chairman's Award** for George's past service as the Chair of the Official's Rules Committee. George was termed out of office this year, but is looking for new fields to conquer.



Pacific Association President **Irene Herman** shows off the second Silver Award which the Pacific Association has won in consecutive years

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Jim Hume

At the 2012 USATF Convention in Daytona Beach, Jim Hume received from the National Officials Committee of USATF the James Gray Award for Leadership at the Officials Committee's Hall of Fame Banquet. The award is presented "To An Individual Who Has Given A Lifetime In Leading, Mentoring And Motivating Others In The Various Venues Of Track & Field." Along with being the Pacific Association's current Certification Chair, Jim has taught and helped organized training classes for officials at the local and the national level. With help, he has organized ReCert classes for three Olympiads now.

Early in the development of computer use for track and field meets, Jim became a proponent of the advantages computers offered. He is usually found behind a computer working as the Competition Secretary, the person who produces the field/flight sheets for use on the track and takes their information and enters and produces the results.



It was a good year for Shirley
Connors as her work as a leader
and field event (Horizontal Jumps)
official was recognized by both the
Pacific Association and the
National Officials committee for
her work as a leader and
horizontal jump official.
Nationally, Shirley has spent the
past several years on the National
Training Committee and organized
clinics for officials at both the
national convention and on off
days at national meets.

At the 2012 USATF Convention in Daytona Beach, the National Officials Committee of USATF presented Shirley Connors with their Horace Crow Award for an outstanding field event official. Fortunately, husband Dick and two of her three sons (Marc on her left and Skip on their right) were there to help celebrate.

## The Certification Chair's and Training Chair's Reports (Continued)

- Joe Harper ran a starters training clinic at U.C Davis and Leroy Milam and John Wise ran a clinic at Los Gatos and offered young starters practical experience during the All Comer meets.
- At Serra, Mike Bower, Bruce Colman, Dick Connors, Shirley Connors, Bill Hawkes, J.R. Heberle, Irene Herman, John Lilygren, Leroy Milam, Ajay Padgaonkar and Bob Thompson trained the folks in the T&F Intro and Fundamentals classes.
- At Santa Cruz High School John Rembao hosted while Mike Aro, Mike Bower, Dick Connors, Shirley Connors, and Jim Hume ran a T&F Intro class for the folks who will get tossed into the crucible on April 13<sup>th</sup> as Santa Cruz High hosts an invitational. (Continued on page 3)
- Deri Bowen (ARC) and Baird Lloyd (Serra) kept the registrations flowing

At the 2012 USATF Convention in Daytona Beach, National Certification Chair **Jimmy Stuart** reported that the last Olympiad showed the following numbers of certified USATF officials

5141 1872 1270	Apprentice Association National Master Emeritus	And if you have not yet received your new official's badge, it might be because folks are busy printing one
9010		of the other 6, 7 or 8,000 badaes.

## **Within the Pacific Association**, the current numbers look like this:

For Olympiad XXIX	At the Start of Olympiad XXX
<b>40</b> Apprentice	<b>92</b> Apprentice
<b>169</b> Association	<b>110</b> Association
46National Level	33National Level
58Master Level	62Master Level
<u>20</u> Emeritus	<b>20</b> Emeritus
333Total	317Total
	65LDR Officials
	13RW Officials

**However**, all is not well as these officials are facing DeCertification. None have indicated their future plans:

- 16 Apprentice Level officials who were certified in 2011, have not yet purchased their 2013 USATF membership.
- **30** officials have their 2013 USATF membership, but have not ReCertified, nor suggested what their plans are.

**18** officials have their ReCertification pending as, for a variety of reasons, they have not yet ReCertified. ReCertification is expected

#### **American River Cross Country Tops!**



Fresno, Saturday, November 17<sup>th</sup>, 2012, Community College Cross Country Championships, **American River's Men's Cross Country** team won the state title for the second consecutive year.

Kneeling left to right: Steven White, Will Melton, Jake Huston, Will Reyes, Matt Airola; standing: Asst Coach Alex Mansoor, Derek Woodard, Luis Luna, Head Coach Rick Anderson

ARC (American River College) completed a two year sweep of their conference, Northern California Championship and State.

#### Deanza's Women Win NorCal



Crystal Springs Cross Country Course, San Mateo, November 10<sup>th</sup>, 2012...DeAnza's women won the NorCal Cross Country Championship with:

Kneeling Left to Right: Kiera Fincannon, Yarletea Barajas, Dominique Guinnane, Oddessy Tapia; Standing, Assistant Coach Angie Sandoval, Katie Castro, Ainslee Hampel, Alexandra Torres, Martha Gutkuoch, Kendra

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Higgins and Head Coach Nick Mattis. Announcer Bob Rush is in the background making the presentation.

#### Missing from the Track

Sharon Jean (Lederhouse) Baker Born February 8,

1944 in Youngstown, NY; passed away February 12, 2013 at the age of 69, peacefully at home, surrounded by her family. Sharon leaves behind her husband of 44 years, Alan, a retired US Air Force veteran; son Bryan and his wife Jennifer; her grandson Colby; her brother William



Sharon Jean Baker

Lederhouse of Hilton, NY and many nieces and nephews.

Sharon went to high school at Lewiston-Porter High School in Lewiston, New York. She received her Bachelors Degree at the State University of New York at Geneseo and her Master's Degree at the University of Buffalo. Sharon taught math at Bella Vista High School from 1972 until she retired in 2001 and then went on to teach math at Sacramento State from 2001 to 2012. Sharon was deeply involved in middle school thru college level track meets, running a computerized finish line at the meets for the last 15 years.

(Jim Hume remembers how Sharon helped pave his way through his first meets as Competition Secretary as he learned to love the power of a computerized paper flow. She was a good teacher.)

(From the publisher:) Sharon loved working the finish line with all the electronic toys we now use to determine the winners and places of races. She was very active in Youth Athletics meets and worked at American River College and Sacramento City College. When no one else could figure out the operation of FinishLnx, Sharon could. A wonderful person and a dedicated track and field official who will missed by all at the track.



### Vacaville High Honored PA Official Steve Green As Teacher Of The Year

The staff at Vacaville High School has honored PA official Steve Green as Teacher of the Year for 2012. Coach Green has been at Vacaville High since 1979, teaching English and serving as Freshman Dean. "I do intervention," he told Turns and Distances, "get 'em motivated." For the past 20 years, he has coached throws



Steve Green

for Vacaville High's track and field team and for longer than that has coached the offensive line and linebackers in football. He is particularly known at the school for his yearly recitation of Martin Luther King, Jr.'s "I have a dream" speech, which he delivers "to do justice for a great American, to honor him, to get the message across to everyone."

#### Cal Poly SLO Has A New Coach

Jenni Ashcroft has joined the Cal Poly staff. A former vaulter for the University of Nevada, Ashcroft, 32, was an assistant cross-country coach the past two seasons at Oregon, where she also mentored middle distance runners on the track. She coached vaulter Melissa Gergel to the 2011 NCAA championship.

Ashcroft worked closely with Jordan Hasay, a Pac-12 cross country champion and multi-time indoor national track champion.

Ashcroft will coach pole vaulters, high jumpers and multi events at Cal Poly, replacing former assistant Jack Hoyt, who left this summer to become associate head coach at UCLA. Hoyt is also the personal coach of former Mustangs standout and two-time Olympian, Sharon Day.

Hoyt was a contender for the Cal Poly track and field director job when Mark Conover was eventually named to replace Terry Crawford in 2009. Hoyt had designs on being a head coach and due to his success with Day and others, it was not a surprise Hoyt was able to move up the food chain.

Conover said Ashcroft also got a hearty recommendation from Ducks multi-event coach **Harry Marra**, the personal coach of Olympic decathlon champion Ashton Eaton, a former Atascadero resident and a former San Francisco State head coach.

It was Marra who first told Ashcroft about the opening at Cal Poly.

#### Stanford Has A New Coaching Staff

stanford, Calif. -- Chris Miltenberg has been named Stanford's Franklin P. Johnson Director of Track & Field and head cross-country coach.

Miltenberg comes from Georgetown where he was the associate head coach for track and field and the head women's cross-country coach.

**Michelle Eisenreich:** Starts her first season on the Farm as an associate head coach of throws. Eisenreich came from Brown University where she was the Director of Track and Field/Cross Country for the Bears.

**Michael Eskind:** Eskind comes to Stanford to coach the jumps, pole vault, and multi-events. Joining the Cardinal from the University of Virginia, he served in the same role for four seasons as a Cavalier coach.

**Jody Stewart:** Coming from Georgetown, Stewart coached a pair of sprinters to the U.S. Olympic Trials and was responsible for a resurgence in Hoya sprinting.

John Oliver: Oliver joins the Cardinal as a track and field assistant, working primarily with the men's distance runners. Besides coaching, Oliver assists with other aspects of the program, such as recruiting and equipment needs. Oliver came from Syracuse, where he was assistant for three seasons while serving in much the same capacity. He also was the director of operations for the Orange for two seasons.

#### Heard at the Track

Dick Connors writes:

Your publisher has been released!!! On Tuesday, February 26<sup>th</sup> I was released from doctors care for the next three months. My track season has been saved!!! Thank the good Lord! Although the patient is not totally cured, the horizon is bright and the schedule of track meets looks good. It has been a long and sometimes difficult eight months since my major abdominal surgery for the "Big C", but I am ready to get back to the track. Radiation and chemotherapy are over, the sun is shining, it's the first of March, time for track meets to begin.

I'd like to express my sincere thanks to all my track and field friends for their caring cards, calls, visits, e-mails, prayers and pats on the back as I have dealt with this horrible disease. I feel I have wiped it with help of excellent medical care and advice and the almighty looking over my shoulder.

- Las Positas Junior College in Livermore has added men's and women's track and field to its athletic program and will compete starting the Spring of 2013. The College will inaugurate its new facilities on campus this Spring.
- **DeAnza Junior College** in Cupertino will stage its first home track meet in over five years at the newly renovated facilities on campus.



A partial view of DeAnza' new facility.

- San Jose State is to add women's track and field to the athletic program in the Spring of 2013 and in the fall the men will join the women on the cross country trails.
- Federal Income Tax Considerations for USATF
   Officials: Rob Shornstein, an attorney in the
   Colorado Association, has written a two-page guide
   for officials on how to take the proper tax

- deductions. It is on the USATF officials' web site at <a href="http://www.usatf.org/groups/officials/files/resources/other/Federal-Tax-Considerations-for-Track-Officials-Sep2009.pdf">http://www.usatf.org/groups/officials/files/resources/other/Federal-Tax-Considerations-for-Track-Officials-Sep2009.pdf</a>
- Long time Chico State track and field and cross country Coach Kirk Freitas retired from the university at the end of November. Freitas had coached the Wildcats for 33 years. Kirk will be succeeded as Men's coach by current Women's coach Oliver Hanf on an interim basis.
- Ann Detmer, assistant distance coach at the
   University of California for the past three years, has
   left the Cal program for the University of Kentucky
   where she will pursue an MBA program.. Replacing
   Ann on the Berkeley staff will be Shayla Houlihan.
   Ms. Houlihan competed in the USA Olympic Trials at
   Eugene as a steeplechaser. Shayla competed for the
   University of Northern Iowa and Utah as a collegian.
- New Cal Coordinators: Alan Kolling and Joy Upshaw have accepted appointment as officials coordinators for the 2013 collegiate season at Cal. Alan is heavily involved with the USATF men's track and field committee and has served as a team manager for international competitions. Very senior officials will remember Alan as a certified official in the early-to-mid-1980s. He is a two-time recipient of the USATF President's Award. Alan may be contacted at akolling@me.com. Joy Upshaw, local youth coach and world-class masters competitor, had primary responsibility for Cal's three All-Comers meets (January 16 and February 2 and 16) and will assist Alan for the collegiate meets. Coach Upshaw may be contacted at coachjoyupshaw@gmail.com.
- Jennifer Oliver's Sportshopes foundation has been raising money by staffing a concession booth at Oakland Raiders home games—more than \$10,000 at the September 10 San Diego Chargers game alone. Ms. Oliver's group helps high school and community college student-athletes move forward to four-year colleges. Services are provided to student-athletes free of charge. Ms. Oliver would particularly like to hear from coaches! For info, to learn how to support Sportshopes and for a copy of a Jennifer's newsletter visit:

http://www.sportshopes.org . Keep up the good work Jennifer.

- PA/USATF LDR OFFICIALS (and Track Officials who have interest in working LDR events), should contact Mark Winitz, the LDR official's coordinator. Tel: (650) 948-0618 (office); Cell: (650) 799-3319 or atwww.pausatf.org
- Lee Webb, Head Coach at Logan High in Fremont, has been named as a coach for the IAAF Youth World Championship, 10-14 July in the Ukraine. Youth athletes are those who have not had their 18<sup>th</sup> birthday by December 31<sup>st</sup> the year of competition.



Lee Webb

We all know Lee as a very successful high school coach, but I'll bet few of you know that he played football in college, was drafted by the Seattle Seahawks in 1982, was an All-American Decathlete in 1978 and 1979, was an Olympic Trials Qualifier in

1984 (decathlon) and 1988 (Javelin), and won the National Masters Decathlon in 1988 in age group 30-39?

- The 2013 CCAA state meet will be held at Cal State Stanislaus (in Turlock), May 2-4, with an officials meeting on the Wednesday evening, May 1. Dave Soeth is coordinating officials; those wishing to work this meet should request an application from him at <a href="mailto:david.soeth@gmail.com">david.soeth@gmail.com</a>. Dave advises that room and board will be provided for the entire meet.
- The 2013 Western States International Invitational Masters Meet is looking for officials

Phil Leake <u>pgal1@sbcglobal.net</u> will be serving as head official and will be coordinating assignments for the June 21<sup>st</sup> through 23<sup>rd</sup> meet at UC Davis. There will be plenty of good food. The meet is offering a \$35 per night stipend for those officials needing hotel accommodations.

A PDF version of the 2013 USATF T&F Rules Book
 has been uploaded to the website and can be found
 <a href="http://www.usatf.org/About/Competition-Rules.aspx">http://www.usatf.org/About/Competition-Rules.aspx</a>. The printed version is expected the first week of March.



At the Annual Meeting, **Sonny Maynard's** "How would you rule?" drove people to the rule book.

• Jeanette Allred-Powless, the women's coach at



Local Roseville athletes Brother and Sister, **Neilson** and **Shayna Powless**, finish the 2012 XTERRA World Championships by winning first and second respectively.

American River College, reports that her daughter and son competed exceptionally well at the XTERRA World Championships. The October 28, 2012 competition, held on Maui, saw Shayna Powless placing fourth in the Women's Amateur division. while her brother

Neilson won the Male Amateur competition. Both athletes began their competitive careers in the Pacific Association Youth program.

The XTERRA is the world's premier off-road triathlon, combining a 1.5-kilometer (1-mile) rough water swim, a 30.4-kilometer (18.89-miles) mountain bike and a 9.5-kilometer (5.9 miles) trail run best described as a tropical roller-coaster ride through pineapple fields and forests.

## Conversations with the Elders: Questions for Dan Davidson by Bruce Colman

At track meets, **Dan Davidson** can usually be found at a computer, entering results or timing races for About Timing Associates, the company he runs with Dick Iwamiya and Phil Watkins. But in his years as a certified official, the Sacramento native has done just about every officiating job in the stadium: clerk, implement-inspector, throws and jumps official, starter, volunteer-wrangler, meet director. And he has worked at every kind of track meet we have, from

youth and high school through national championships (both USATF and NCAA) and such international-level events as the World Masters Games in Oregon in 1998 and again in Sacramento in 2011.

Dan and wife Karen have been married for 48 years; they have three children, one of which is deceased, ten grandchildren and two great grandchildren.

Dan talked with Turns and Distances recently, about his life in athletics.

**T&D:** You—and your twin brother, Dennis—have just been inducted into the Hall of Fame at McClatchy High School in Sacramento. Congratulations! Bob Rush has

told us that you were an outstanding high school athlete. What were your events and what years are we talking about?

was, my brother and I went out for football at a junior high school that no longer exists. We transferred to El Camino and that was



Dan Davidson was a runner!

our first exposure to track per se. We were there about a month into the season and I set a freshman mile record, ran a 4:44.3. That record stood until 1974 or '75. That was in '57. And then we transferred back to the junior high and I set another record and my brother set a record for the 1320, then I set one in the 660 in the junior-high all-city meet. Then in 10<sup>th</sup> grade, this was the 1957-58 school year, we went to McClatchy. The track coach the first day of PE, said, who are the Davidson twins? There were five sets of twins in that school. And he said, okay, cross country after school. And we said, what the heck is cross country? That was Scotty Bingham. After our first meet, we moved up to varsity and ran varsity all three years we were there. We were on the championship team every year, in both cross country and track. In '59 and '60, our cross country teams were undefeated. In high school, too, we had the third fastest time in the nation in the distance medley, finished first at the Fresno Relays in '60. It was the fifth fastest all time, 10:36.3.

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Mainly I was a half-miler. At the Woodland Invitational In '68 or '69, might have been earlier, the Golden I ran a 1:56, set a Sacramento County record. And then at the state meet, I finished sixth overall and ran a 1:56 again.

In '68 or '69, might have been earlier, the Golden West came to Sacramento, from the LA area. They asked people to show up. Jack Mauger and Al Bae and some others were on the main board and I

**T&D:** You went on to Sacramento City College, is that right?

**DD**: It was Sacramento Junior College then, and again we were very successful.

I ran a 1:53; we also set a school record in the 4 x 800 and in the distance medley. Then at Sac State I set a school record in the 800, at 1:52.7, that was broken later the same year by one of my teammates. This was in '64. I also set a school record in the 5K of 14:52.6, I think it was, the only time I ran it.

I won championships at every school we went to and I set school records at every school I went to. And everywhere I coached, my teams won championships at one time or another.

**T&D:** Was there much of a family rivalry between you and Dennis?

**DD:** The coaches only had Dennis and me run against each other once, and I beat my brother in 1960--the one loss he had until we went to sections and the state meet. He competed until '61, then he got a girl friend and got married and quit running. He had other things going on.

**T&D:** You and Phil Watkins go way back—sometimes you seem to be joined at the hip. How did you meet?

**DD:** That was at Sacramento Junior College. Phil Watkins had gone there in '53 then went in the service then came back and was on the team with Dennis and me and that's when I first met him. He was a half-miler. Our immediate thought was, what is this old guy doing on the team? Well, he was 27 and we were 19 or 20. I look back now, I wish I were 27, that's so damn young. And the same situation occurred when we went to Sac State, but once he graduated I lost track of him.

I continued to run--I competed until I was 40 then I tore a knee and had to stop running. I got into teaching then coaching, then I started officiating while I was in JC. Dr. Cornelius Oldenburg, one of my teachers, was an AAU official. He convinced me to officiate, and I enjoyed it and stayed with it.

In '68 or '69, might have been earlier, the Golden West came to Sacramento, from the LA area. They asked people to show up. Jack Mauger and Al Baeta, and some others were on the main board and I became the meet director in charge of officials for several years. Phil was one of the first people I contacted. When I had this list I saw his name on it, I thought, I know who he is, then once we reacquainted ourselves, we've been working with each other ever since.

One of our best moments of officiating—he would say the same—was when Michael Carter set the high school record at the Golden West meet with the 12-pound shot at 81-foot-three-plus. We were the head officials on that. We measured it three times, we got the steel tape, the whole bit. Then they had an exhibition shot put, Carter picked up a 16-pounder and went over 65 feet. It was amazing. I've done a lot of officiating where a lot of world records were done and I've been the head timer for many of them—like when Patti Sue Plumer set a high school mile record; I was also fortunate enough to be one of the officials when those four or five ran that 9.2 hundred yards at Sac City, but I think Carter was one of the highlights of my officiating career.

**T&D:** What were your subjects as a teacher?

**DD:** I taught English and Journalism for 22 years. I enjoyed teaching *Romeo and Juliet*. I was on the drama club at Sac State and helped with the scenery. When I was teaching *Romeo and Juliet*, Sac State happened to be playing it, and enough of my students were interested that I took four or five kids and arranged for tickets and when they came back they made the whole thing so much more enjoyable for the other kids in the class, who had said, "I don't understand this stuff."

I enjoyed teaching A Tale of Two Cities. One of my favorite mandatory reading assignments was when we got the kids into To Kill a Mockingbird, that was always interesting the way the kids saw the attitudes of the old South.

One of the things I tried to encourage was teaching the kids how to enjoy reading, you don't just read a story and there's a bunch of words but look behind the scenes and think. And that's why reading to me has always been better than movies or even plays, because you can see the characters develop and you can use your mental capacity, thinking thoughts and using imagination.

Anyway, I was surplused so I ended up teaching at a continuation high school for 8 or 9 years. From there I went to Foothill Junior High and began an innovative high-risk program for junior high kids. It became one of the stellar programs in Sacramento County. I gave numerous seminars about the program and what we did, with the help of the district psychologist. She was great. It was very successful.

**T&D**: Let's go back to your coaching career.

**DD:** Well, I started coaching while I was competing. I was an intern, assistant coach for McClatchy in '62 and I enjoyed doing that because I was doing it with Bingham. The top team in the section was Highlands High School. With my assisting—I don't know how much it helped—we upset Highlands and won the league championship. They went on to win the section, and I eventually ended up coaching there.

Then several years later, I coached at Highlands for nine years, head cross country and assistant track. That was in '66 through '74. And in '74-5 school year, I transferred to Foothill High School and started the girls cross country and track programs at Foothill and was head girls coach for twelve years.

**T&D:** How did **About Timing Associates** come into being?

**DD:** We officiate a lot of meets. I was doing the Accutrak and the late **Bill Edgar** was doing the head finish line. And in 2000, Bill and I started talking and eventually **Phil Watkins** was with us and about that time we met **Dick Iwamiya**, who was getting interested in starting and doing high school sports. So we each ponied up a couple of thousand bucks—which was dear in those days—and we bought some necessary equipment.

Now we have several Lynx cameras, several wireless Algae starters, two generators for electricity when power is unavailable, lots of computers and stuff that goes with them, and two digital clocks so runners and spectators can see the laps and overall times of the athletes in the distance races.

We work about 45 to 50 meets a year in track, with probably 70% being high school. We also do around 25 to 30 cross country meets, most of which are high

school. We were the first in this area--Sean Laughlin was the first in Northern California--to offer timing at the high school level for cross country.

We do a few road runs, too. We use Run Score, a good meet management program for cross country and road runs.

We're at the point where next year or the year after may be our last year as a group per se, because we're all getting older.

**T&D:** Finally—we're asking all the elders this—do you have any good words for (let's say) junior officials, people just getting into this world?

**DD:** I think it takes 7-8-10 years before officials actually become comfortable enough to be able to appreciate what the rules are and to interpret them with a little bit of common sense.

Make sure you know track and field and enjoy it. It's not much fun if you're doing it for prestige. You have to love it. If you're working the long jump and you really don't like the long jump and you'd rather be at the finish line, get over to the finish line, change things, speak out.

Second thing is, whatever your assignment is, do it the best you can. Know your rules, know what rule book is going to apply. Don't guess. And if you're not sure, you have other officials, work with them, that's what they're there for. And always be prepared for anything, because anything can happen.



**Bruce Makinson** led discussions during the clinics in Chico.

#### PRINCIPAL CONTACT INFORMATION YOU MIGHT FIND USEFUL

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Turns & Distances Publisher Dick Connors to submit text or photos and for hot leads or gossip...650-341-6781 or Richard.Connors@att.net

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Dr. Leon Glover, Awards Chair@ lglover@TE.com



Red Cap Timer himself, **Craig Wilson**, can separate the finish of 100 meter sprints with the push of a button.



Red Cap Timing data expert **Bill Corbet** was hard at work at the U. C. Davis All Comer meet.



In early February we picked up 17 new officials from the Santa Cruz area. They are about to go to the track for some practical experience.



ReCert students put their heads into the book!