



[PalatinePicklers.com](http://PalatinePicklers.com)

## MARCH, 2017 NEWSLETTER

### WHEN IS THE FINAL FALCON FRENZIE?

The Falcon days have gotten, shall we say, a bit busy. Our last Falcon day is Friday, May 26<sup>th</sup>. Does that mean we'll all be coming until then? No, you're free to see if anyone else is at Sycamore at 9:00. If not, it's less than two miles to Falcon. As a reminder, you do not have to use all your 10-pass mornings at Falcon this season. They NEVER expire. Mark your calendar, or just remember that Falcon is open until May's final Friday.

### PICKLER PICS APLENTY



Aluana



Bob



Sharon



Marianne



Pat

### BIRCHWOOD DAYS END END OF MAY

If you haven't experienced Birchwood gym, you should ... unless you consider yourself above a low intermediate. That's been the haven for newbies and developing players. This great gym, with zero glare and green balls, is the perfect, low stress place to hone your skills. We play here Wednesdays from 1:00 to 3:00 and on Thursdays from 11:00 to 3:00. Our last Wednesday is May 31, but our final Thursday DAY is a bit earlier... May 25<sup>th</sup>. If you've yet to play here, it's just \$3 per day, regardless of your residency. You can even play in the evening. (See story on page 8.)



Marcia



Rose



Mike



Pat



Miles



Sally

## FINALLY ... A WICKING PPC T-SHIRT

Bear will be wearing our first wicking Tshirt most days at Falcon and Birchwood. It will be a new color ... Electric Blue. Many of you Picklers have been waiting for this “wicking shirt.” Bear won’t mind your touches and questions. Yes, it will be available in multiple, different (than our traditional and V-neck) colors. In traditional or v-neck, they’re only a couple bucks more than our traditional Ts. Ask Bear to see the colors available.

## FALCON FOR A FIVER?

Starting this month, individual Monday and Friday drop-in fees are available for \$5.00 a day. Wednesday is expected to remain \$3.00 ... the same for the Birchwood times (Wednesday 1-3, Thursday 11-3, & Friday 6-8 p.m.).

Next fall Falcon’s Monday and Friday sessions will go to \$5.00/day for everyone, with or without a multi-pass.



Don



Jose



Joe



Lisa



Linda



Suren

## SIGN UP NOW FOR SUMMER SKINNY SINGLES LADDER

What’s “Skinny Singles?” It’s a game to 15, win by 2, played on just half the court ... in other words a 10’ by 44’ court. It’s great for developing all aspects of the game, including court position, dinks, lobs, accuracy, etc. You can challenge a player who is either one or two rungs above you and play at your convenience. Let me now now you want in. It doesn’t matter if you’ll be gone half the summer. If you don’t play within a week of a challenge, you simply forfeit and drop one rung. It’s not a big deal. Starting rungs will be randomly by Ralph Cook, last fall’s winner, if he’s around. If not, the second (I’m the first) to sign up will draw the names. The ladder will be announced, after May 26<sup>th</sup>, the final Falcon day. You can e-mail me through the website [PalatinePicklers.com](http://PalatinePicklers.com).



Kevin (a.k.a. Swiffer)



Laurie



Hollis



Debbie



John



John



Dick

## PICKLERS MEDAL IN WHEELING

Sixteen members of the PPC came home from Dana's April 2<sup>nd</sup> tournament in Wheeling. Scott Stubig & Mark Vrtacnik, playing 3.5, brought home our sole gold. Silvers were earned by Franklin Lim & partner Leon at 4.0 ... Franklin again and partner Gwen at 4.0 ... April Volpe & Elke Jacobsen at 4.0 ... Bob Huber & Rich Jaffe at 3.5 ... Debbie & Rob Paneral at 3.5 ... and Don Bextel & Bear Shatwell at 3.0. Bronze medals were earned by Patty Eagleton & Gail Rohlfing at 4.0 ... Linda Gariano & Brigitte Latal at 3.5 ... and Mary Brinkman & Bear Shatwell at 3.0. Congratulations to all, and that includes Dana and Chuck for running a wonderful tournament.



Mark & Scott



Franklin & Leon



Franklin & Gwen



April & Elke



Bob & Rich



Debbie & Rob



Don & Bear



Gail & Patty



Linda & Brigitte



Mary & Bear

## “DO YOU BELIEVE IN MIRACLES? ... YES!”

I'm sure many, if not most, of you recognize this famous quote that was broadcast to the world in 1990. It was Al Michaels' call at the end of the USA-USSR hockey game, as Herb Brooks's Olympic collection of misfits and unknowns defeated the most dominant hockey team on Earth. This quote came to mind instantly, when I learned what happened in a 5.0 men's game in the Rockford tournament on Saturday, April 8<sup>th</sup>. To advance to the finals, our own Chuck Feinstein and his partner Craig Schaper defeated, Pickleball Superstar Dave Weinbach and his partner Bill Ritchie. Chuck and Bill went on to take silver. I understand Chuck WILL be selling autographs this week at Falcon.



## MORE COLORS FOR V-NECK PPC T-SHIRTS

Sorry that I can't pull off a color chart from a vendor page, and I don't want to add their full page to this newsletter. Therefore, if you ladies are interested in new colors for our normal, non-wicking shirts, just ask me. I'll have that page with the color samples on my clipboard.



Dana



Anita



Lou



Lynne



Satish



Snaps

## TRAVEL TEAMS COMPLETING GREAT SEASON

We put about 60 players on travel courts and won more than we lost, but had fun every match. Hope you try it next fall. All travel matches are played at the Canlan Sportsplex in Lake Barrington. That's only 15-20 minutes from Falcon. There are two leagues ... lower intermediate and upper intermediate. In the lower division (D2), we field teams of four men and four ladies and compete with one team ... Barrington (combined clubs of Lake Barrington Shores and Canlan players). In the D1 league, each match is against three clubs, Hoffman Estates, DuPage, and the combined clubs of Libertyville and Park Ridge. We strive to give everyone a chance to experience travel play. If you don't know where you'd fit, just ask Bear. Representing your Palatine Picklers and playing for a team is a lot of fun and, really it's low stress. We're all in it for the fun of competing. So please answer the next "cattle call" for travel players.



Sue



Stan



Scott



Lynn



Sue



Fran



Ilene



Linda



Sandy



Mary



Mark



Dana



Cathy



David



Cindy



Cathy



Bob



Brian



Bob



Anita



Judy



Elke



Karin



Clark



Janice



Bob



Dave



Sue



Terry



Darrell



David



Dave

## SEVERAL WERE SURPRISED

Maybe my newsletters have gotten so long that Picklers don't read them. Half a dozen times since the March newsletter went out I've shocked fellow Picklers by mentioning something about our website. They had no idea we had one. It's been featured in newsletters, and its address is just under the logo at the head of recent newsletters. For those of you who have yet to visit it, it's [PalatinePicklers.com](http://PalatinePicklers.com). Check it out.

## REVISIT NEWSLETTERS

There are several reasons that have prompted Picklers to want to refer back to a past newsletter. Many keep them on their computers. If you're not one of them but find yourself wishing you could go look up the times of Birchwood play ... or the color options for PPC shirts ... or the name of someone with whom you'd just played, you have two options. You can review all PPC newsletters at [PalatinePicklers.com](http://PalatinePicklers.com). You can also ask for the Palatine Pickleball Club binder kept at the front desk at Falcon. It also has all our newsletters.

## THANKS TO JIM AGAIN

Jim Blair didn't even break our little cash reserve. He's the Pickler who bought (reimbursed BY PPC) and attached the plastic extensions to the Sycamore fences last year, to keep balls on the courts. Those fell victim to the elements. This spring he procured and installed stronger, and more aesthetic, plastic fence bottoms. They worked perfectly, but must have caught the attention of the Palatine Park District. We now have even more appropriate ball control, due to their efforts. Thanks, PPD, and thanks, Jim.



Joan



Larry



Scott



Laura



Steve

## OUR SUMMER, OUTDOOR SCHEDULE

Last summer we sat more than played. To provide more, and more appropriate court time, I've devised this schedule. It starts once Falcon is done ... Saturday, May 27<sup>th</sup>. Meanwhile, I suggest Sycamore at 9:00, each nice Mon, Wed, and Fri. The overwhelming suggestion, from my inquiry about your summer desires, was "level" play. That was my goal in with this schedule. Starting at the end of May, if you embrace it, we should have good play with minimal waiting time.

**MON** ... Sycamore ... 8:30 – Noon ... Beginners & all Intermediate

... Locust ... 8:30 – Noon ... Upper Intermediate & up

**TUE** ... 9:00 – 11:00 ... Novice & Beginner (with mentoring)

... Sycamore ... 1:00 – 3:00 ... Low to Upper Intermediate Ladies only

**WED** ... Sycamore ... 8:30 – Noon ... Everyone through Upper Intermediate

... Locust ... 9:00 – Noon ... 4.0+ (only by invitation)

... Sycamore ... 3:00 – 6:00 ... Low Intermediate through Upper Intermediate

**THU** ... Sycamore ... 9:00 – 11:00 ... Novice & Beginner

... Sycamore ... 1:00 – 3:00 ... Low Intermediate to Upper Intermediate Men only

... Sycamore ... 4:00 – dark ... Open play

**FRI** ... Sycamore ... 8:30 – Noon ... Everyone up through Mid-Intermediate

... Locust ... 8:30 – Noon ... Upper Intermediate and up

... Locust ... 3:00 – 6:00 ... 4.0+ (only by invitation)

... Birchwood Gym ... 5:00 – 8:00 ... Open play

**SAT** ... Sycamore ... 10:00 – Noon ... Beginner through Upper Intermediate

**SUN** ... Sycamore ... Noon – 2:00 ... Novice & Beginner

... Sycamore ... 3:00 – Dark ... Open play

... Locust ... 3:30 – Dark ... upper half of Sycamore overflow

### SUMMARY

**Novice** ... Tue 9:00 ... Wed 9:00 ... Thu 9:00 ... Thu 4:00 ... Fri 8:30 ... Fri 5:00 ... Sat 10:00 ... Sun Noon ... Sun 3:00

**Beginner** ... Mon 8:30 . Tue 9:00 . Wed 8:30 . Thu 9:00 . Thu 4:00 . Fri 8:30 . Fri 5:00 . Sat 10:00 . Sun Noon . Sun 3:00

**LOW INT** ... Mon 8:30 . Tue 1:00 (Ladies) . Wed 8:30 . Wed 3:00 . Thu 1:00 (Men) . Fri 8:30 . Fri 5:00 . Sat 10:00 . Sun 3:00

**UPPER INT** ... Mon 8:30 .. Tue 1:00 .. Wed 8:30 .. Wed 3:00 .. Thu 1:00 .. Thu 4:00 .. Fri 8:30 .. Fri 5:00 .. Sun 3:00

**4.0+** ... Wed 9:00 ... Fri 3:00 ... and welcome at all Upper Intermediate sessions

**Novice** = newbies to the sport

**Beginner** = not necessarily first year players – all who have yet to advance to a 3.0 (low intermediate) level

**PICKLERS**, with the exception of 4.0+ sessions, are welcome to attend whatever sessions they feel appropriate.

**4.0+** players are scheduled by Elke Jacobsen. Don't just show up. New 4.0+, contact Elke at [ecjacobsen@gmail.com](mailto:ecjacobsen@gmail.com).

## **WOULD YOU BELIEVE EVENING, INDOOR PICKLEBALL ?**

This Friday (April 21st) we have the Birchwood gym from 6:00 to 8:00. This is our first evening, indoor court time, and it's an experiment. Birchwood normally closes at 7:00. The Palatine Park District is extending the courtesy of extending that by one hour THIS WEEK. If we show the Park District we embrace evening play, they're open to letting us expand to a 2<sup>nd</sup> and even 3<sup>rd</sup> evening. I'm sure the turnout for the 8:00 p.m. session will be closely watched. Yes, it's short notice, but try to make this Friday evening fit into your schedule. It will be doing your club a huge favor. It's only \$3.

If you do plan to make it there this Friday, please e-mail me, directly or through the website, of your intention to attend. If I receive enough such e-mails, I may not have to go door-to-door on a begging and kidnapping mission.

Birchwood, for those of you who have yet to play there, is on the south side of Illinois, west of Plum Grove Road and east of Quentin. I'll let you know for sure the time range we will have the gym.

## **CHUCK'S SUMMER LESSONS**

Throughout our indoor season, Chuck Feinstein has helped myriad Picklers with their techniques and skills. For the outdoor season, Chuck is available for afternoon lessons at Buffalo Grove, Wheeling, and Palatine (working around the PPC playing sessions on the previous page. For more information, private and group rates, and reserving the time and court for your lesson/s, call Chuck at 847-877-7770.

## **“NICE DAY” REMINDER**

It may be a slight gamble, but on ANY day that's conducive to outdoor play, get yourself over to Sycamore Park at 3:00. The worst that can happen is you wait until 3:10 and head back home in disbelief. It's too early in the season to assume players will be there, so you can stroll in at 3:15 or 3:30.

Pickle on,

Bear Shatwell

Palatine Picklers Prez

