

## PalatinePicklers.com

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## MAY, 2018 NEWSLETTER

## ENDS \& BEGINNINGS

FALCON ENDS ... The final dinks and slams on the Falcon floor this spring will be made on Friday, May $25^{\text {th }}$.
BIRCHWOOD ENDINGS ... The last chirps from Tuesday Early Birds will be heard on May 29 ${ }^{\text {th }}$. The Thursday Noon-3:00 crowd will conclude their play on May 31 ${ }^{\text {st }}$.

BIRCHWOOD BEGINNINGS ... Starting on Tuesday, June $5^{\text {th }}$ and Thursday, June $7^{\text {th }}$, we'll enjoy 6:30-8:30 p.m. play in the Birchwood gym for just $\$ 4$. Other than an off day on July $3^{\text {rd }}$, the Tuesday and Thursday evening sessions will last through August $23^{\text {rd }}$.


## PLENTY OF PICKLERS PLAY IN PARADISE

The Palatine Pickleball Club was certainly well represented in Naples, FL the last week of April at the U.S. Pickleball Open. Three dozen Picklers were on site to experience this extravaganza one way or another.

Bear Shatwell, Bill Myers, Bob Mihel, Carl Massa (volunteer too), Chuck Feinstein, Dana Joseph, Don Froehling, Ellen Massa (volunteer), Gail Rohlfing, Greg Woodsum, Holly Goldsmith, Howard Weisbart, Jose Sosa, Kim Corrado, Larry Goldsmith, Laurie Jones, Linda Mihel, Lynn Weisbart, Madonna Stoioff (volunteer), Melody Woodsum (Ref too), Norbert Kuhns, Patty Eagleton, Peggy Whitlow, Rick Johnson, Sol Shatz, Stan Jones, Sue Cameron, Sue Johnson, Sue Shatz, Susan Daughtery, Susie Layton, Terry Layton, Thea Froehling, Tim Mottl, and Trevor Weisbart.


The end of April I was Naples bound. The U.S. Open was there to be found.
The largest tournament ever on Earth celebrated the third year since its birth. Forty-seven states sent picklers to play. From seventeen countries they made their way. The volunteers numbered three hundred more. Our medals were few but fun was galore. Greg and Peggy silver medals did earn. Chuck twice and Jose took bronze we did learn. We were awed by Weinbach, Tyson, and Kyle and many a pro with "Wow" skill and style.
Around the post shots were a common site. Through legs and behind back also worked right.
But though elite were a site to behold, lesser play gave stories long to be told.
Thousands of players in hundreds of games meant each 30 seconds we heard new names.
"Come get your match clipboard and meet your foes. You may have a ref. That's just how it goes."
Win or lose wasn't the only big deal. Just being a part of this thing was a good feel.
For me this was a big bucket list thing. I won not a match but felt like a king.
For picklers this is like Disneyland plus, though some parking lots required a bus.
The Championship Court was way beyond cool. It's nine officials enforced every rule.
The live music was fun, the food good too. Vendors aplenty gave us more to do. In one pro game 57 shots dinked, before a kill shot you'd miss if you blinked.
The one thing that stood out throughout the week was how nice all were to whom I did speak.
The bottom line is you just have to come to this huge event that's "great" and then some.


11-yr old wins 5.045 \& under ladies match


## YOU CAN STILL CATCH SOME OF THE ACTION

The Pro finals will be televised on CBS Sports Network as follows:
Men's Doubles ... Friday, May $25^{\text {th }} \ldots$ 6:00 p.m. CST
Women's Doubles ... Friday, May $25^{\text {th }}$... 7:00 p.m. CST
Mixed Doubles ... Friday, June $1^{\text {st }} . .$. 7:00 p.m. CST

## STILL TIME TO REGISTER FOR 5/21 LUNCH *

The Palatine Pickleball Club will be enjoying lunch at Lamplighter Inn, 60 N Bothwell, Palatine, on Monday, May $21^{\text {st }}$ at 1:00 p.m. So far more than 40 have signed up. The fee for a preset menu, including tax and tip, is \$14. This can be paid in advance to Bob Sitarz. To join us, let your intention be known. Just email us at palatinepicklers@gmail.com. There will even be awards and raffles. The Social Committee of Linda Cherney, Bob Sitarz, and Greg Kuhs, with help from Larry Woolheim has done a fantastic job preparing for a truly fun afternoon. * RSVP's for lunch \& payments (cash only) are due by or before Friday, May 11th.

## TWO MORE LADY PICKLERS NEEDED

Our first gender-specific tournament will take place at Canlan Sportsplex in Lake Barrington on Thursday, May $10^{\text {th }}$. It's limited to eight Lady Picklers of at least 50 years of age. As I write this, we have six participants. The tournament will find you playing one game with each of your seven competitors, starting at 9:30 a.m. The \$8 fee is paid at the Canlan desk in the lobby. Total points scored, in games to 13 will determine the Queen of this event. Let me know, if you'd like to play in this fun event.

$1^{\text {st }}$ MENTORING SESSION MID-MONTH
The popular, free mentoring sessions begin at Sycamore Park at 10:30 on Wednesday, May $16^{\text {th }}$. Just come.

## DINK FOR HOPE TOURNAMENT MEDALISTS

Dana \& Chuck outdid themselves on this, two-day, Wheeling tournament. The final Saturday match ended at 2:00 a.m. Sunday morning. Really! Here are the Palatine Picklers who distinguished themselves.



Partner Doug McKirahan \& Kathy McWhorter Silver 3.5


John Kirschner \& Donna Beechick Bronze 3.5


Fun-filled lunches follow most of our travel competitions.
This one was after a Palatine Barrington match at Canlan Sportsplex last week.

## AND BACK ON OUR COURTS



## REVISITING SPRING/SUMMER SYCAMORE SCHEDULE

| MONDAY | TUESDAY | WEDNESDAY | THURSDAY | FRIDAY | SATURDAY | SUNDAY |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 8:30-Noon | $4: 00-6: 30$ | $8: 30-10: 30$ | Noon-3:00 | $8: 30-N o o n$ | Noon-3:00 | 4:00-6:30 |

10:30-Noon<br>Mentoring Session<br>(beginning May $16^{\text {th }}$ )

On ANY nice day, there's a good chance that Picklers will assemble at Sycamore by 9:00. The more formal schedule above just assures that we have priority over tennis players at these times. Be sure to bring your chair, sunscreen, and water bottle.

## PLAN TO LIKE PPD's PICKLEBALL PLAN

A number of Palatine Picklers attended the Palatine Park District's Open House to view all the intended improvements to the Hamilton Reservoir off Smith Street, between Northwest Highway and Dundee Road. We were unanimously impressed and excited with the proposed pickleball venue. It features six, dedicated pickleball courts with lights and ample parking nearby. There already exists a building housing rest rooms. We learned that ground-breaking for the courts and lot are set for this fall, and we could be playinn these new courts in about a year.


MEDALISTS IN OTHER TOURNAMENTS


Dennis Girardi and Jim Latal captured 3.5 Silver at the West Chicago Spring Fling.

With partner KaSandra Marie Gehrke, Chuck Feinstein grabbed 5.0 Silver at the Rockford Spring Swing.



Our 3rd summer skinny singles ladder will start a bit differently. We'll start in alpha order of first names. Anyone can challenge anyone else for the first three weeks. This will eliminate all the early blowouts. Challenges are whenever/wherever you want. Sign up by emailing me. If you'd like to run this, email me.



Joanne


Sue


Steve


Ann

## TRAVEL TEAMS PREVAIL

The Palatine Picklers participated in three inter-club competitions, from 2017 fall to this spring. We dominated in the 4-club, upper-intermediate, Thursday league. We won, in closer competition, against Midtown Club, and we will end up tied with Barrington in the two-club competition at what was to be "lower intermediate" competition but escalated to Thursday level competition. If you'd like to play "travel" team level competition, answer the fall "cattle calls" for interested Picklers. I'm not going to spend the time to make it exact, but roughly 100 Picklers have participated in travel competition. It's great to play for your club.

## SEE YOU ON THE COURTS

That's it for this month ... WAY more pics (129) than I'd anticipated. Maybe next month we'll have just a couple dozen. Who knows? ... Maybe l'll spend the time with Kathy that she deserves ... or maybe not. Stay tuned.

Bear
PicklersPrez


