



PalatinePicklers.com

palatinepicklers@gmail.com

JULY, 2021 NEWSLETTER

WANT TO JOIN US IN PICKLEBALL PARADISE?

Figured I'd better start with this for a couple reasons. First, I've asked several Picklers if they were thinking of going with us in December of 2022, only to get, "What are you talking about?" That tells me they didn't get beyond the first story or two and a quick scan of the newsletter looking for a photo of themselves. So here it is in the first story. Visit <http://www.alfrescotravel.com/2022-jammin-in-jamaica-pickleball.html>



We'll be here from December 10th through the 17th of 2022. There's pickleball at your level every morning and myriad "inclusions" for your enjoyment the rest of the day. It's all inclusive, and there's no tipping. Rates are for two people in your room, and start at \$3650 for the week. UPDATE – Spots are sold out, but you can get on the waiting list by emailing cindy@alfrescotravel.com.

We have 18 Palatine Picklers going ... Bextels (Stana & Don), Buesings (Jenny & Bill), Buran (Ann), Cohens (Anneliese & Stu), DeFreeuw (Marsha), Farnsworths (Chris & Clay), Kramers (Diana & Tom), Nagys (Melanie & Joe), Shatwells (Kathy & Bear), and Weisbarts (Lynne & Howard). We'll enjoy eight restaurants, pools, bars, etc. You can reserve your room, with a \$400 deposit that is refundable through October, 2022.

Once you do have your reservation confirmed, please let me know so we have a current list of Paradise Picklers. **UPDATE: NONE OF THE LOWER-PRICED ROOMS ARE LEFT, BUT YOU MAY STILL GET A \$\$\$ ONE.**



Bill



Artie



Debbie



Beth



Brian



James



Cora

SCHEDULE YOUR AFTERNOON PICKLEBALL

Mike Bryskier is our Afternoon Scheduler. Email him at kyddshop@comcast.net to let him know you're interested in playing certain afternoons. No skill level required. Just a desire to enjoy this sport.

IF YOU'RE 45-75, YOU JUST MAY MAKE IT

The eight Picklers whose age is closest to 60 will compete at Canlan in Barrington at 9:00 on Tuesday, July 20th. You'll pay an (estimated) \$8 fee at the front desk and partner with seven ladies before heading to your optional lunch at Onion Pub down the block. Last time I ran this tournament contestants had to be within 4 years of 60, and I had more than a dozen who didn't make the cut. So far only five ladies have applied. If you're fully vaccinated and within 15 years of 60, email me at aokbarry@yahoo.com. We need to get back to almost normal. These "Close to 60" tournaments should be a good, fun, no-stress start. Make it so.

SAME DEAL WITH THE GUYS

I'll certainly be at Canlan to run these tournaments, but, at 75, it seems I may be playing in the Men's "Close to 60" tournament on Thursday, July 22nd at 9:00 in the Canlan Sportsplex. Our eight closest to having been born 7/22/1961 will compete in this first men's tournament since March of 2020. Then we head down the block for a beer and lunch. It starts with your emailing me at aokbarry@yahoo.com. As Nike says, "Just do it."

SKINNY SINGLES

What is skinny singles? It's a singles game to 15, change sides at 8. It's just that your court is half the width of a full court. You need to protect only 10' of width. It sharpens your skills at aiming, positioning yourself, dinking, lobbing, and anticipating. I'm staging a 2-month long, round robin tournament. I'll soon send all the participants' email addresses to all entered. It is up to each Pickler to contact another and set up a time and place to play. Then play two games to 15, win by 1 and decide which of you will email me (aokbarry@yahoo.com) the results. At the end of August, I'll see who has earned the most points, regardless of wins or games played. This is the 5th year for a long-lasting, skinny singles tournament. It's been a lot of fun.

NOT SO SKINNY SINGLES

If you like singles, but want the challenge of covering the whole 20' wide court, email our Singles Coordinator Mark Schroeder (Mark816@comcast.net). He's scheduling play for Sunday afternoons.



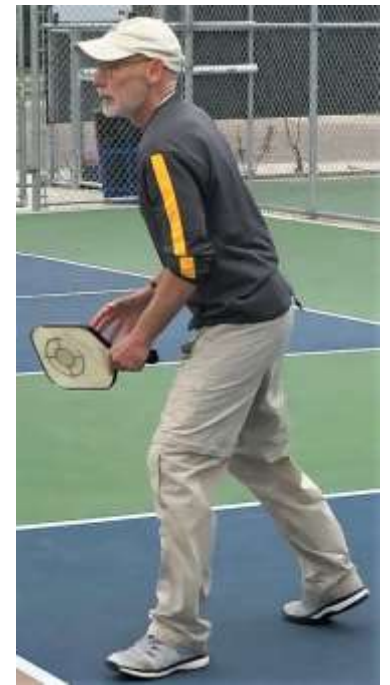
Steve



Stana



Joe



John

PICKLERS' PLAY TIMES

HAMILTON ... EVERY morning 7:30-noon ... Sunday 1:00 p.m. ... Wednesday 6:00 p.m. (south cage) ... only for Mentorees (even those yet to be invited to their 1st Wednesday) Thursday 3:00 p.m.

SYCAMORE ... With the exception of Wednesday morning, open play is available 8:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m.

LOCUST ... Open play every day 8-8 **HARPER COLLEGE** ... I'm replacing times with "Play has been cancelled."



Patty



Kaylee



Jim



Linda



Marti



Karen



Lorne



Kim



Mary



Neal



Mike



Max



Kathy



Joan

PICKLER OF THE MONTH ... NEAL HARRIS

Neal has been around from the very beginning of this club back in 2015. He served on my 6-month start-up Board of Directors. He has volunteered as a Mentor throughout the five years of the program. During the worst times of the pandemic, he procured use of an empty warehouse, had Picklers help put down lines, and supplied three nets so we could enjoy masked pickleball in an environment that wasn't exactly indoors or outdoors ... inside, but with no heat or washrooms. He scheduled ten Picklers for each session there and didn't charge anything.



Last year he and Mary had a pickleball court installed on their property. He invited us to have our "Wrong Hand" Tournament there, and he's had several Picklers over to escape crowds at Hamilton. Earlier this year he achieved his Coaching Certification and has been conducting lessons for individuals and small groups at his court. The feedback has been excellent. If interested email him at Neal@picklecoach.com.

He is also the first to the aid of a Pickler who's fallen or suffered an injury. At Hamilton he is always happy to be paired with a beginner so he can offer gentle advice and encouragement. This honor is long overdue, but it's my pleasure to feature Neal Harris as our Pickler of the Month.



Nez



Paul



Pat



Patty

IT'S MEDALIST SEASON

Let's begin with all the Picklers who earned medals at Dink Bang Sideout's Des Plaines tournament at Chippewa Park. I apologize for one photo. No one thought to have the medalist platform facing the sun to facilitate the taking of photos. Most medalists took pics on their own that were more conducive for sharing.



Mike Saam & Charlie May
4.0 50+ ... Gold



Janeen Noto & Ghouse Khaja
3.5 19-49 ... Gold



Lisa Cech & Connie Kus ... 3.5 ... Bronze

NO PHOTOS OF THE FOLLOWING MEDALISTS Trevor Weisbart & Matt Bentson took Bronze in 4.5 19+
Scott Stubig & Bernie Smudo took Silver in 4.0 Jim & Lisa Musgrave took Bronze in 3.5 50" mixed
FYI ... As always, non-Palatine Picklers are shown in italics.

SPACE-FILLER ... If you earn a medal in ANY tournament, PLEASE email me (aokbarry@yahoo.com) with the details (tournament, division, partner, medal) and a photo.



Kerry Kelly & Gary Patel
3.0 ... Gold



Greg Kus & Linda Cherney
3.0 19+ ... Silver



Terri Bobek & Sam Patel
3.0 19+ ... Bronze

OTHER TOURNAMENT SUCCESSES



Jonny Storm & Karel Kedles Jr
Great Lakes Regional ... 5.0 35+
Silver



Dale Zwack & Jonny Storm
Middle States Regional ... 4.5 35+
Gold



Tom Willis & Susan Cole
Middle States Regional ... 3.5 70+
Gold



Gary & Sam Patel ... Warrenville ... 3.0 ... Gold



Kerry Kelly & Gary Patel ... Warrenville
3.0 Bronze



Barb



Alex



Anne



Barb



Bear



Ann



Ann



Bob



Daniel



Frank



Dave



Dennis

NEVER FORGET TO GET YOUR DISCOUNTS

5% OFF anything sold on PickleballCentral.com, when you use the code **CRPALATINEPB**.

10-20% OFF Paddletek paddles from Chuck at 847-877-7770 or grtfuldad@aol.com.

20% OFF anything at engage.com, with the code **20jon**.

15% OFF balls at corepickleballusa.com, when you use the code **bkirscht15**



Julie



Mary Anne



Kenny



Mary



Maggie



Marilyn



Mike



Laura

MEMORY & OUR EXPONENTIAL GROWTH NOT COMPATIBLE

I really do apologize for asking Picklers, sometimes more than once, who they are or if I know them. One wondered if I remembered him. He signed up at Harper two years ago. Sorry. Since I signed him, I've signed 600 new Picklers. Another couple who signed up last month seemed surprised I wasn't sure I knew them. Sorry. I just checked. That was 184 newbies ago, and I'm well into senility. Sorry. Oh, yeah, I already apologized. See what I mean? I may exchange 6-8 emails with a newbie. He/she is shocked to find I don't remember. Thing is I exchange emails with 2-3 dozen Picklers a day. I mean all the sincerity I express, but I just don't remember most of what I've said to whom. Did I say, "Sorry" yet?

PHOTOS IN NEWSLETTERS

Sort of same excuse. At any given moment, I have photos from last month, this month, and next month open. I'm often surprised to find Soandso has no pic in the upcoming newsletter folder. If you saw me take your pic, and you're not in the next newsletter, one of two things happened. Either I remember having taken it and thought I had it in the right month's folder or, as happens too often, what was to be your photo turned out to be a nice photo of a green and tan court floor. My shutter sticks, in case I haven't mentioned that in the last couple pages. Feel free to tell me that I didn't get you in the last newsletter so I can be sure to get you in the next one.

STILL NEED A STABLE OF 3.0 – 3.5 PICKLERS

I have not put the proverbial cart before the horse. Until I have at least 20 who want to compete with another club, I won't look for that other club. If lower intermediate travel competition takes place again this year, it will be at Canlan Sportsplex on Tuesday mornings. I do not ever have a "set" team. I get everyone who is qualified and wants to play into some competitions. I've been fielding Picklers teams of just 4 men and 4 ladies, but the two-club opposition wasn't capable of fielding teams without my filling their 2 of each gender roster. If I have a team, I'll look for an opponent. Let me know if you'd like to represent the Palatine Picklers in these fun, pre-lunch/beer competitions. I'm at aokbarry@yahoo.com. If you don't know your level, I'll be happy to tell you you're just right, too weak, or too strong.



Jaime



Jenny



Jim



Jeff



Jim



Marc



Katy



Josh



Lisa



MJ



Julie



Joan



Carol



Elke



Fred



Dawn



Frank



Elie



Nm

MEET PICKLER DON BEXTEL

Don was the one who, at Senior Volleyball, asked why I wasn't at pickleball. Of course, I asked the question we've all heard dozens of times. He said, since I was into tennis, table tennis, racketball, squash, badminton, etc., I should be in this sport that combines all of them. Thanks, Don. I went to Falcon, borrowed a paddle from Dana who explained the rules, played, ordered a paddle, and a year later started this club...all because of Don.

Don is a Palatinian who has been married to Stana for 47 years. old Tim in Carol Stream and 42 WY. They have six grandkids from Hazel, Hanna, Haley and Charlotte. ago shows Jnathan, Stana,

Don retired from banking and pickleball. Before that Don grew and MacMurray College, Mexico State, while earning BAs in ended up an Army Spec 5 at the White Sands Missile Range, with Top Secret clearance. He worked on the Apollo 9-10-11 tracking there. He also did film and involved in secret weapons and classified work on nuclear, and chemical team.

AS for hobbies, Don likes skiing, fishing, especially Feed My Starving Children, 10 years of weekly to Pacific Gardens Mission, and 10 years of the area through Kiwanis of Palatine.

As for bucket list items completed, he and Stana to Paris, up the Seine to Normandy, Omaha Beach (took sand where brother-in-law landed on D-Day), trips to England, Downtown Abbey, wedding in Ireland, visit to ancestral home in Scotland.

Still on that list are trips to Poland, Scandanavia, and in two years Iceland, Isreal, Jordan, and Holy Land.



He's enjoyed meeting Pickers in Arizona and on cruise ships, and loves our luncheons and new friendships in our club.

Before the pandemic, Don enjoyed going to Great Lakes Naval Base to visit with, and help, vets from WWII, Vietnam, and Persian Gulf action.

Over the next couple years, Don and Stana expect to do a lot of cruising visiting a ton of countries ... Norway, Sweeden, Switzerland, Denmark, Russa (St Petersburg), Iceland, Austria, Germany, Spain, Amsterdam, and Egypt. Meanwhile, they've already been to the FL Keys this year and will attend a Vermont wedding in August and visit Oregon and Hawaii too. They have already reserved their room for the December, 2022 Pickleball vacation in Jamaica. (opening article of this newsletter)

Don loves our luncheons, meeting new Palatine Picklers, playing in Arizona and finding they know us there, playing on cruise ships, and finding picklers to be the friendliest participants of any sport he's encountered.



around for 77 years. He's been They have two kids aged 39 year year old Jonathan in Jackson Hole, 4 to 11 years old ... Harper, Helen, Photo on left is from a few years Timothy, and Don.

business development to pursue up in Skokie, went to Niles East HS University of Wisconsin, and New psychology and sociology. Then he



sound work, the biological,

volunteering, delivering food helping children in

have enjoyed trips



Don



Fred



Gary



Gretchen



Greg



Greg



Heather



Rick



Rick



Ron



Rob



Rudy



Ryan



Shelly



Phil



Ron



Robin



Jeff



Joan



Julie



Joyce



Mike



Sam



Sally



Sandy



Sandy



Satish



Sarah



Mike

MEET PICKLER MARY KNIGHT

Mary is 61 years old. She was born in Libertyville, has three siblings, with only one younger. She grew up in Mendelein and graduated from Carmel Catholic High School in 1978. Four years later she graduated from Marquette with a BS in Medical Technology, with a minor in chemistry.

She met Brian, her hubby of 37 years, on her Marquette, rec volleyball team her sophomore year. Though they shared a few classes, they didn't start dating until after graduation. They now "enjoy" a mixed marriage ... he's from Wisconsin and is a Packers fan, while she has the good sense to be a Bears fan. They have three kids, aged 35, 32, and 28. And three grandkids, from 8 to 13 years old. To the disappointment of their kids, they've not been pet parents. In the photo below you see Brian, Megan, Kelly, Michelle, and Maryl

Mary worked part-Community Medical Hematology Lab. 3:00 p.m. to 11:30 there 14 years. She Dad Brian was, at home. In 2001 day shift, working She says Med Techs medical workers. running test on



time at Northwest Hospital, as a Technologist in the She started working p.m. and stayed loved what a great handling everything she moved to the 6:30 to 3:00 p.m. are the hidden They stay in the lag blood and body

fluids to help clinicians diagnose medical conditions ... and to follow treatments for the hospital patients. Mary loves science and Med Techs are involved in science every day. (Bill Nye is her hero.) Common tests are blood counts, to check for anemia, infection and leukemia. Coagulation tests are run for those on blood

thinner such as Coumadin. Spinal fluids are checked for meningitis. Urine samples are analyzed for a variety of medical conditions.

The best part of her job was when the cancer patients who had blood tests for weeks would get to go home.

Mary "hung up her lab coat" and retired in 2019, after 32 years.

As for pickleball, at the urging of a friend, she came to Falcon in the spring of 2016. Dana and Chuck welcomed me, and Bear came over right away to sign me up for the Palatine Pickleball Club. No surprise there. Everyone was so welcoming and helpful. Being used to tennis, I often missed the ball. Since she was still working, she was amazed at how often everyone else seemed to play. It didn't take long for her to get hooked. Mary loves making new, pickleball friends, and she finds pickleball just the right amount on the courts, enjoying the great games, and laughing a lot.

Mary's hobbies include gardenint, knitting, reading, crafting/painting, golfing, Bible study, biking, and camping in Door County every summer, hiking, musicals at the Marriott, and watching college basketball.



... Jimmy Butler, Marquette and NBA star. Ireland, Paris, Italy, England, Yosemite, canyoneering.

Has she met any celebrities? Yes

Bucket list check offs: Going to Grand Canyon, Zion and livng

Bucket list items on the horizon: Baniff, and more National Parks, them.

As for voluntering Mary did lots, volleyball coach for Junior High. group at the library.



Trips to Alaska, Glacider National Park, whenever she and Brian can schedule

when the kids were in school. She was Currently, she knits for charity, through a

when the kids were in school. She was Currently, she knits for charity, through a

when the kids were in school. She was Currently, she knits for charity, through a

For a motivational phrase, she chose, "Count your blessings."



Marquette game with Megan, while Brian watches

2014 cemetery in Ireland on 30th anniversary trip

Mary resting among all the pillows she sewed this year

To fill space, before sharing more of Mary's photos, you should know that she is a regular virtually every morning at Hamilton. She plays well and welcomes every partner she has. It's fun to play with her.



Hat and scarf recently knitted for charity Standing in her fenced-in tomato garden in their yard.



Steve



Sue



Suren



Tom



Teri



Sally



Clark



Dave

SYCAMORE EARLY BIRDS ... PLEASE PLEASE NEIGHBORS

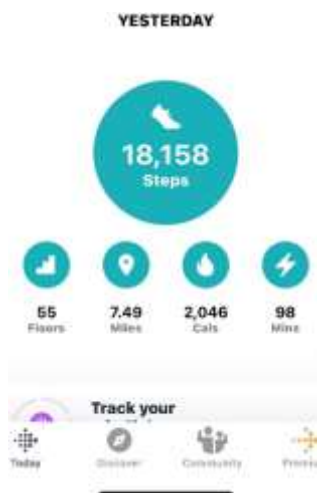
The Palatine Park District has received concerns from those living near the Sycamore courts. The first we may still benefit from a reminder. That is avoid parking within 5' of driveways. There's plenty of open parking along Clark Street just west of the courts.

The second concern I highly doubt applies to anyone in the Palatine Pickleball Club, but I'll mention it, just to be sure. Apparently, there have been players starting to play at truly unneighborly hours. Let's be sure we're not making unavoidable pickleball noises before 8:00 a.m. If you want to play earlier than that, join us at Hamilton. Thanks.

CELEBRATING THIS MONTH'S WALKERS

Reminder that any Pickler who sends proof of having taken 15,000 steps in a day will be recognized as a Worthy Walker, and any who sends proof of 20,000 will be recognized as a Super Stepper. Just email me (aokbarry@yahoo.com) and attach your proof.

WORTHY WALKERS



Ann Stein ... 18,158 steps



Clay Farnsworth ... 17,433 steps



Kathy Schneider ... 16,997 steps



Bear Shatwell ... 16,819 steps

SUPER STEPPERS



Clay Farnsworth ... 22,943 steps Bear Shatwell ... 22,620 steps Kathy Schneider ... 21,131 steps

MAJOR MILESTONE ... MEET OUR 2,000th MEMBER

It happened on Sunday, June 27th at Hamilton. **Justine Mullen** came to learn the game from her recent member dad Tom. She became **the 2,000th Palatine Pickler** I've welcomed to the Palatine Pickleball Club. Several have joined since then, but Justine was the biggie. She's a basketball player who felt really awkward on the pickleball court at first. She quickly learned that we really are welcoming and nurturing. I explained the three hardest things to learn as a beginner ... #1 kitchen, #2 return of serve, and #3 scoring. She understood the first and second, but wrestled with the third. Of course, she caught herself making errors on those first two, as do all of us, occasionally, still. By the end of her day on the courts, she's hooked. Welcome, Justine.



You think our sport is getting popular? It was only 26 months ago that I welcomed our 1,000th member. Of our more than 2,000 members, 571 live within the Palatine Park District. Mornings are getting crowded at Hamilton. Maybe it's time to talk to the Palatine Park District again. Hmmm.



Adam



Bill



Bill



Bob



Chris



C C



Chris



Chris

JUST TO BREAK UP THE MONOTONY ...



Janice and Jaime



Katy and Chris

A GREAT ALTERNATIVE FOR RAINY DAYS

This club is just a block or two north and west of the intersection of Golf/58 and Plum Grove/Meacham. I have a multiple-decade experience there for tennis, racketball, and squash. Good place. If you'd like to be put on a noitivation list for when we'll head over, email me at aokbarry@yahoo.com.

Schaumburg Park District
Open Pickleball
at **Schaumburg Tennis Plus!**
1416 N. Payne Road, Schaumburg

Tuesday 1:30-4:30 p.m.
Wednesday 6-9 p.m.
Friday 9 a.m.-Noon
Saturday 8-11 a.m.
Sunday 1-4 p.m.

Pickleball players have access to only the basketball court. Fitness center and other amenities are not included.

\$3 STP Member • \$5 Non-Member

Schaumburg Park District
Park Partner
AMITA HEALTH
Schaumburg TENNIS PLUS
SPORTS & FITNESS CLUB

For information, call 847-884-0678
or visit parkfun.com.

Pickleball, Y'all song

In case you haven't seen/heard this yet, it's a fun look at our sport by new players.

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=MtEWJSc_FJw



Scott



Shanon



Sherry



Russell



Russ



Kip



Lenore



Paula



Bob's shirt



Bob's shirt



Carol's shirt



Fred's shirt



Jeff's shirt



Jim's shirt



John's shirt



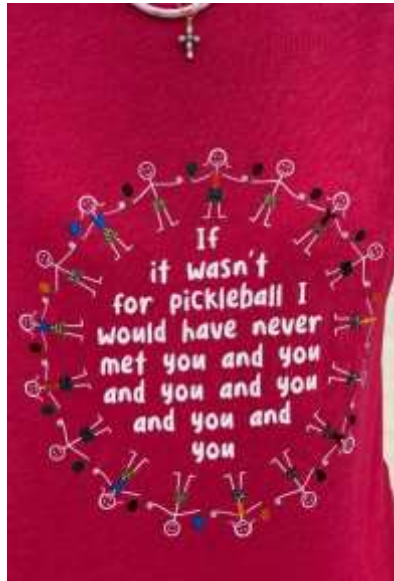
Martina's shirt



Neal's shirt



Sue's shirt



Susie's shirt



(oops) Anne's shirt



Sue



Sue



Sue



Sue



Sue



Tom



Trish



Terry



Patty



Manon



June



Jim



Janet



Gary



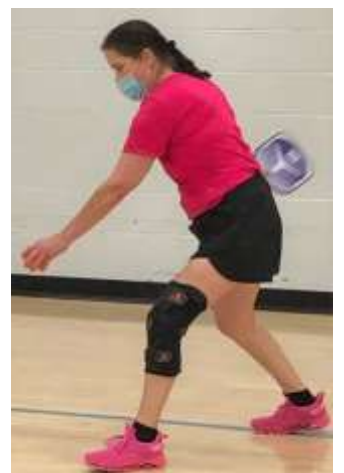
Diane



Diane



Diane



Patty



Al



Jeff



Steve



Donna



Steve



Paul



Craig

PICKLERS' PING PONG PLAYOFF

We haven't been able to have another Picklers' Ping Pong Tournament for a couple years. I'd like to stage another this fall. It WILL be on a weekday, probably in the afternoon. To prepare for that, I need to know how many would like to participate in this round robin event, if the date works out for them. It will again be table tennis rules, including displaying the ball in the palm and tossing it straight up to serve. If you're interested email me at aokbarry@yahoo.com. I'll begin the preparations, once I have an idea of how many may want to compete.



Chris



Dan



Scott



Jenny



Dave



Donna



Arnie



Gary



Terry



Gary



Dora



Denise



Cathy



Jeff



Jeff



Janet



Janice



Bob



Annette



Dawn



Dave



Judy



Noreen



Pat



Brian



Kathy



Jeff



Susie



Hank



Heidi



Bill



Regina



Clay



Carolyn & Darrell



Howard



Jim



Debbie



Bob



Don



Ted

FINALLY ... IT'S NEWBIES INTRO TIME



Amy



Andrea



Anny



Barbara



Beth



Brian



Chris



Chris



Cindy



Dave



Dee Dee



Denise



Dennis



Ella



Ellen



Gary



Hollie



Jenni



Jenny



Jin



Justine



Karen



Lea



Leslie



Linda



Lisa



Maria



Maria



Maureen



Midge



Nick



Pat



Patty



Sandy



Scott



Sean



Silver



Sue



Terri

Just two more newbies



Tom



Tom

WISHING YOU ALL A SAFE AND PICKLERIFFIC FOURTH OF JULY

It's been quite a June. Congratulations to the Palatine Pickleball Club. All we've done and all we are has been very attractive to a lot of enthusiasts. Welcoming our 2,000th member was huge. Having 68 sign up for mentoring is rewarding. I'm coming up on my 10,000th photo in and my 1200th page. Add all the fun tournaments, teams, and leagues and it's no wonder so many of our newbies found us online.

I'll still play every day, but I hope to trim my laptop hours. I'm hoping that will be as easy as trimming excess weight was.

Thanks to all Picklers for embracing, and upholding, all the policies in place for the pandemic.

Happy pickling.

Bear
PicklersPrez
aokbarry@yahoo.com

