



PalatinePicklers.com

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MARCH, 2021 NEWSLETTER

PLAN FOR PICKLEBALL PARADISE

Last month I introduced a Costa Rico pickleball vacation. That prompted John Pihl to introduce me to a Jamaica Pickleball Adventure he thought I may like even more. He was so right. His friends Mike and Cindy Watty run this one. This December's trip is sold out, but mark your calendars for December 10-17, 2022.

Plan to get excited. Then click on the link below or copy it to your address bar.

<http://www.alfrescotravel.com/2022-jammin-in-jamaica-pickleball.html>

You will arrange your own flights, but not much more. This is for two people. I didn't say "two players," as non-players are welcome to enjoy this week too. The fee covers unsurpassed luxury at Sandals South Coast Resort in Whitehouse, Jamaica, transportation from/to the Montego Bay airport, travel to/from courts, all tournament costs, professional clinics, unlimited food and drink at all eight restaurants and six bars, free Wi-Fi, and parties. Your pickleball options are plentiful and geared to your skill level. Check out the schedule of events. All rooms are beachfront with a king-sized bed. The price for **the two of you** starts at \$3650 for a French Beachfront Deluxe. If you have loftier taste, there are 17 more highly priced accommodations.



Enjoy unlimited land & water sports and scuba diving, 3 pools, 4 whirlpools, 6 full-service bars, & 2-mile beach. Tips and gratuities are prohibited at Sandals resorts.



When you express your interest, Cindy will email you what you need to register. Meanwhile, if you want to join Kathy and me for this awesome, partially pickleball adventure, please let me know (aokbarry@yahoo.com) so we know how many Picklers will be going. Again, you do not need to be a player to enjoy this vacation. Several participants each year go just for all the amazing amenities and beauty.

PICKLERS' PICS ARE IN SHORT SUPPLY THIS MONTH

If you are playing anywhere, please take photos of our Picklers in action...close-up photos. Send them to me at aokbarry@yahoo.com. Meanwhile, I'll share the few pics I have of Picklers in November and December who are masked and those I've been sent from Neal's warehouse action.



Carol



Janet



Linda



Neal

LATE BREAKING JAMAICA NEWS

Mike Watty just let me know that they've had some cancelations for THIS December 13-20. If you can't wait 21 months to experience pickleball paradise, let me know (again, I'm at aokbarry@yahoo.com). I'll let Mike and Cindy know of your interest. If spots haven't been filled, I'll have you complete the registration form.

MEET PICKLER MARSHA MILLER

Marsha is a coal miner's daughter originally from Mt Carmel, PA. Her dad dropped out of school in 5th grade to go to work. He came from a family of 13. Two-thirds of them, including his dad, died of the Spanish Flu. They were so poor that they sold cans of blueberries beside the road. Her mom's family had 11 children. Her dad died in the mines. Her mom passed away when she was 16. She'd wanted to quit school, but her brothers encouraged her to finish. Marsha's mom was a gem. She worked 7 days a week as a seamstress during the week and a pizza waitress weekends, until Marsha graduated from Penn State. Once she retired she volunteered for Meals on Wheels and drove friends to church. When she passed at 80, her friends sang Polish songs as the casket was lowered. Marsha's dad passed at 95 with black lung disease in 2012.

Having come from that background, Marsha appreciates life and family so much. She's 70 years young. She was born in Shamokin, PA but left the state in 1972 after college and never looked back. Her first teaching job was in FL for two years. Then it was on to Okinawa, Japan for the Department of Defense. That's where she met her hubby Rick at a teacher-welcoming party. She asked him to dance (she loves dancing). Years later she learned he was actually talking to another girl, but seeing him in his "greenie" (Top Gun flight suit), she had to go for it. He was an Air Force Academy grad who flew C-130s out of Vietnam, Taiwan, Thailand, and Okinawa. She and Rick have been married 45 years. Not bad for knowing each other only 28 days before tying the knot.



In 2017 Marsha and Rick took in Machu Pichu, Peru, Ecuador, and Galapagos.

Rick was restationed to Dyess AFB in Abilene, TX. He expected to make the Air Force his career, but things changed, and he went to work for United Air Lines. Furloughed during the energy crisis, he trained to be a certified financial planner which he still does. So, over 38 years, he's had only two jobs.

Marsha has lived in Florida, Okinawa, Alabama, Texas, and Illinois. She's taught every grade K-12 in public schools. After two Masters degrees, she got her doctoral from Loyola/Chicago in 2001. During and after public school teaching, she taught graduate school for 13 years at three universities and wrote a ground and online graduate class.



Marsha taught scuba to kids in a Palatine Park pool. This young man's dad took underwater videos of them.

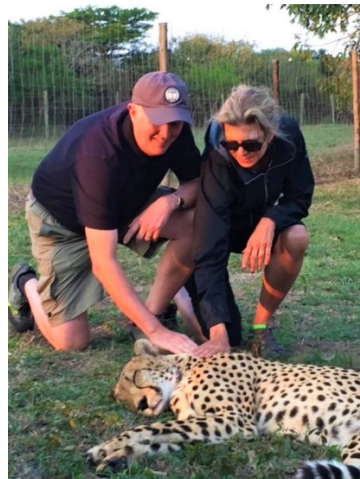
Marsha's daughter Jessica, a TN veterinarian's two daughters, Lily 7 and Clara 5, love gymnastics.

Marsha grew up watching Sea Hunt with Lloyd Bridges, but where could a PA girl start such a hobby? Finally, many years after leaving PA, she passed the levels of Open Water, Advanced, and Rescue and became a Divemaster about eight years ago. Along with her mentor who trained her, she trained people of all levels year round, at Palatine, Arlington Heights, and South Barrington Park Districts, and Harper College, as well as privately.

Her/their bucket list is filled with future travels. Among their most inspirational trips have been to Grand Canyon where they did a 110-mile, 8-day rafting trip that included 5 level 10 rapids. Also up there was Machu Pichu where she did a lot of research studying the demographics of who did the climbing (very strenuous with the altitude factor). Then South Africa was amazing, and Bora Bora was great, with the most beautiful water for diving since the Great Barrier Reef in the '90s. In 2019 she dove Fiji and then on to New Zealand, both North and South islands.

Rick and Marsha made a new friend in South Africa in 2015. Yeah, you spotted him?

Then Marsha is shown with their son Ricky.



Marsha started pickleball three years ago, after tearing her knee meniscus playing tennis. She's since had her own stem cells inserted in both knees. She enjoys the Palatine Picklers, because everyone is so friendly and non-judgmental, and Bear is a heck of an organizer and communicator.

She's studying to be an Adaptive Dive Buddy, Pilates, and Personal Trainer. She wants to thank everyone for their patience and support.



Barry



Olga



Brian



Tom

WE HAVE A 3RD DISCOUNT FOR PICKLERS

You all know about the 5% discount on anything at PickleballCentral.com, when you use the code CRPalatinePB. And you remember the 10-20% discount from Chuck (gtrfuldad@aol.com or 847-877-7770) on Paddletek paddles. Now, thanks to our own Jonny Storm, we can add a 20% discount on Engage paddles and clothes, by using the code 20jon at engagepickleball.com. Thanks, Guys.

PERSONAL CHALLENGE TO WALKERS, JOGGERS, RUNNERS

Again, I urge you to send me (aokbarry@yahoo.com) pics of whatever you're doing other than pickleball ... your bio profiles and pics ... and your random thoughts or ideas of what we can do to keep newsletters interesting. Due to the lack of response to these, I'll have to share personal stuff. So let's try this. Here's my best walking day, excluding the 20-mile a day stuff from breast cancer walks. I'd like to publish pics of your phone or Fitbit showing 15,000 or more steps. Let's see who's getting steps?



I really hope this eye-roller prompts you to write your bio profile and send it to me (where/when born, schooling, family stuff, education, bucket list done and undone, honors/recognitions, etc.) or pics of activities.

INDOOR PLAY AT FALCON & BIRCHWOOD

You must call a day in advance to reserve a spot ... 24 players at Falcon & 12 players at Birchwood. Falcon's number is 847-202-5111. Birchwood's is 847-991-1960. You'll pay when you arrive a few minutes before your playing time. At the end of your allotted time, leave immediately. You must properly wear a mask, whenever in a Park District facility. Six players will be assigned a specific court and must remain on or beside that court the entire time. You must bring your own ball and touch only that one. Playing sessions are as follows:

Falcon ... Monday, Wednesday, Friday ... 1st Session Noon – 2:00 ... 2nd Session 2:30 – 4:30

Birchwood ... Tuesday & Thursday ... 1st Session 11:30 – 1:30 ... 2nd Session 1:45 - 3:45

PPD VOLUNTEER RECOGNITION VIDEO

Last month you read how, due to the pandemic, the 2020 Volunteers of the Year from Palatine's clubs and organizations would be recognized via a video rather than at the traditional luncheon. Our Palatine Picklers VolY for last year is Dennis Bourgoin. The video is only 5 minutes 37 seconds long. A few Picklers appear in our segment. Check it out at <https://www.palatineparks.org/rccms/voty2020/>

Dennis wasn't the only Palatine Pickler honored. Our Sarah Webber was the Palatine Dance Volunteer of the Year. Congrats to both Dennis and Sarah. You're appreciated.



PALATINE PICKLERS MEDALED



Erica McNeal & Kristine Oliva ... Naples Winter Classic ... 5.0 ... Bronze



Eric Landwehr & Masato Suzuki
Tucson Classic ... 3.5 60+ ... Silver



Masato Suzuki & John Mollenkamp
Wickenburg, AZ ... 3.5 70+ ... Gold

Italics indicates non-members of PPC



Jonny Storm & Neil Meiratta ... NW Indiana
All Valley Tournament ... 5.0 19+ ... Gold



Chuck Feinstein & Jerry Huo
NW Indiana All Valley
Tournament ... 5.0 19+
Bronze



Adam & Kristine Oliva
were part of 1st annual
Championship Cup at Ft Myers
Racquet Club

SHE ASKED ME TO SHARE ... GOOD STUFF & GREAT PRICE

Hi ... My name is Stacie and I run the pickleball-dedicated website, www.thePickler.com.

I am reaching out to you because we have a ton of **FREE** pickleball content that I think your club/community members and pickleball friends will really benefit from. The free content ranges from blogs to videos to e-books. For instance:

• FREE Blogs & Videos

- [10 Pickleball Rule Changes to Learn for 2021](#) - Including a complete video on the new drop serve
 - LINK: <https://thepickler.com/blogs/pickleball-blog/2021-pickleball-rule-changes>
- [7 Pro Tips for a Killer Pickleball Serve](#)
 - LINK: <https://thepickler.com/blogs/pickleball-blog/pickleball-serving-tips>
- [3 Pickleball Grips Explained](#)
 - LINK: <https://thepickler.com/blogs/pickleball-blog/pickleball-grips>
- [Pickleball Serving Rules - Master the Start of Every Pickleball Rally](#)
 - LINK: <https://thepickler.com/blogs/pickleball-blog/pickleball-serving-rules>
- Plus more than 100 other FREE blogs, which grows every week!

• FREE E-Books

- [The Pickleball Dictionary](#)
 - LINK: <https://thepickler.com/products/pickleball-dictionary>
- [The Pickleball Mental Edge](#)
 - LINK: <https://thepickler.com/products/pickleball-mental-edge>

Again, these resources are entirely FREE, and we have found that pickleball players have gained great value and knowledge from them. We hope you and your members do, too!

Please share these links to these free resources on your website and/or directly with your club/community members and pickleball friends.

Please also let us know if you have any ideas for blogs or other resources that you and your members/friends would find valuable.

Thanks very much and have a great day,

Stacie Townsend
 Founder
 stacie@thepickler

MEET PICKLER ROBIN DUBIN

Hi, Fellow Picklers. My name is Robin Dubin. If you recognize my name, that's because I helped out Bear last summer with scheduling Mentorees for sessions. I'm 65 years young, retired, and have been married to Bruce for 38 years. We have one daughter, Rachel, who lives in the Tampa Bay area. Bruce and I are planning to join her in Florida within the next year or two.



I grew up on the south shore of Long Island. It is a great place to live – 10 minutes from the ocean, with easy access to NY City. Our mother was a beach lover so I spent the bulk of my time during summers at the beach and in the water. I started college in NY, but, after two years, was tired of school and ready for adventure. Two friends and I bought a beater station wagon, loaded it to the roof with our worldly possessions, and took off to find our California dream. (We listened to a lot of Beach Boys 😊). We spent a month driving west, camping or visiting friends and family who put us up for a night or two. It was a fantastic adventure and one that I'm so glad I did, despite my parents

go. One friend and I stayed in California, working any job we support ourselves. Yep, McDonalds was one of my jobs. We status so we could attend college at the very economical, rate. I ended up graduating from San Francisco State. After a Lake Tahoe, I drove back to the east coast to Boston where I Bruce. I've lived in six states, but I've been in Buffalo Grove since

I kind of fell into my career as a software quality assurance brought me to IL. I spent 12 years with DeVry Education Group quality assurance team from scratch. Leading that team was the career. We had a great group of people, and, despite tons of with working in Information Technology, we managed to have a

Bruce has owned a rare coin/collectibles business in Barrington have an Ebay store on which we sell coins, currency, and all It keeps us busy.



telling me not to could get to wanted residency California resident summer spent in eventually met 1996.

analyst. That's what where I built a high point of my stress that goes lot of fun.

since 1996. We also sorts of collectibles.

I started playing pickleball early last year, after attending a beginners' workshop at Sky Fitness and joining the Palatine Picklers in February. I was just starting to get going, when COVID shut everything down. I played throughout the summer and loved being part of the mentoree group. I felt I was finally gaining some skills when boom... Down I went. I fell and fractured my wrist in October, while being evaluated for a pickleball league. That was the end of pickleball for the year. One step forward and two back. My wrist is healed, and I'm close to returning to the courts, if just to hit the ball around a little and see if I can overcome FOFD (Fear Of Falling Down). To me the best things about the Palatine Picklers are the mentoring, how friendly the members are, and how people will play with you no matter your skill level.



Other than pickleball I started taking golf lessons last summer. I played a few par 3 courses. I don't think I'll be a golf superstar, but I hope to play well enough that I can join a foursome now and again and not embarrass myself. The first photo below was taken in Los Cabos.



I am also an amateur bird watcher, avid reader, and jigsaw puzzler. I've always been a big concert person, mostly rock, but also other types of music. One of my favorite summer activities is to go to Ravinia to hang out on the lawn with some good food and wine, to listen to great music under the stars. Lately, I've been a volunteer at the Northern Illinois Food Bank where I distribute food at various outdoor pop-up pantries.

The motto that has always swerved me well is, "Do the right thing."

FALCON PHOTO



Thanks, Clay for sharing this action shot of Don, Frank, Steve, and Gary. While I do appreciate it and love sharing it, I'm really hoping for the kind of close-up shots I've been taking and sharing for the past six years. We want to see features of our Picklers. For anyone playing at Falcon, Birchwood, or Neal's warehouse, when not on the court, why not become a soon-to-be published photographer? Send your shots to me at aokbarry@yahoo.com. I'll crop and edit those I want to share with our members. Thanks.

HAPPY ST. PATRICK'S DAY

PANDEMIC ACTIVITIES OF PALATINE PICKLERS



Debbie Myers (orange) and Sue Cameron (plaid mask) and two friends play canasta on Debbie and Bill's porch each week, aided by a propane heater.



Lynn Perkins tried snowshoeing on the golf course. Lois and Ben Farb enjoy wintering in St George, Utah.

Because the three photos above represent the entirety of what you sent me this month, I'm eliminating the "during the pandemic" restriction. Please send me (aokbarry@yahoo.com) photos of you doing anything any time, any year. We'll start by sharing some pics that enhance Jeff Degner's profile that appeared in the December newsletter. You'll recall that his primary, non-pickleball activity is with Healing the Children. He flies to countries which do not have the medical/surgical abilities, to bring back children for surgery at Good Shepherd Hospital in Barrington. The fourth photo with Marcie is at King David's Tomb.



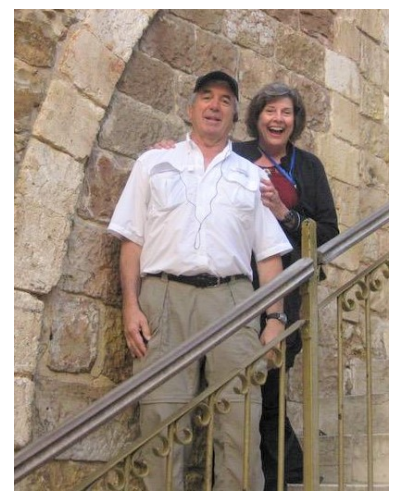
Ecuador



Good Shepherd



Nicaragua



Jerusalem

CHRIS FARNSWORTH – PICKLER OF THE MONTH



Some people are just plain really whole lot of those in the Palatine but it's any who

loves anyone, never rolls her eyes, never gives close call, always

She's also been perpetually masked for months. I mentored her and Clay all when they first started playing. Chris potential instantly. She (and Clay) has

always been playing more than seven times a week ever since. I've frequently

had questions about who's who or who showed up recently at Falcon. She's always anxious to help me out.

Whether she loves watching 20 movies a week with Clay or just loves his company, she never says, "Enough is enough." She's just a really fun person who's become an accomplished pickler. I'm including one 2019 pic so you can more easily recognize her. Congratulations, Chris, for being recognized as a favorite Pickler.



nice. We have a Pickleball Club, hard to think of would top Chris Farnsworth. She playing with

herself a and is upbeat. many morning, showed almost



WE'RE FAR FROM BEING POST-PANDEMIC

It's awesome that we're seeing half the hospitalizations and infections of early January when the holiday celebrants peaked those numbers. Still, we need to remember that we have half a million deaths due to COVID. We still need to be masking or double masking (the more efficient one goes on first). Even if 2-3 weeks past being double vaccinated, we need to be well-distanced. We absolutely need to avoid being with a group indoors. Indoor dining is allowed, but most experts say, "Don't do it." Support your local restaurants with curbside pickup. Church? Not endorsed by the experts, but absolutely, if singing is allowed, stay clear.

President Biden has said he's cautiously optimistic that we can return to near normal by Christmas. I see a large return to indoor pickleball in early 2022. We can endure this. The more we do the safe things, the sooner our new normal will become a reality. If you haven't gotten your vaccines yet, keep searching the internet to find your earliest, possible vaccination. This is not a rational option. If you're one of those who isn't sure, please go to PalatinePicklers.com and read the article in the January newsletter that addresses every argument falsely claimed that vaccination is a questionable idea. We want 100% of our members vaccinated. We want/need to do our part to end this surreal lifestyle. Thanks.

AS PROMISED ... YOUR MOVIE & COMMERCIAL QUOTES

Ok, I won't give you a shirt for knowing more of these movies than anyone else, but in the April newsletter, I will recognize those who do the best at this quiz. Send me your guesses, promising that your answers were not gotten from the internet. If there are multiple, right answers, only the one I had in mind counts. Next month we'll have a

similar quiz from our movie and song expert Clay Farnsworth. I'm guessing it will be harder than mine. OK, let's start with movie quotes. What's the movie? As always send your answers to me at aokbarry@yahoo.com.

- 01 You've killed us
- 02 I meant turn right here left
- 03 Do you know how easy this is for me
- 04 But I won't. I won't. The hell I won't
- 05 Candy, candy corn, candy canes, & syrup
- 06 My Morse Code is so rusty...
- 07 We allllll stand up
- 08 I'm _____, and I AM the President
- 09 The only winning move is not to play
- 10 There is no terrible way to win. There is only winning.
- 11 I feel the need...the need for speed
- 12 Hee Haw
- 13 Even the bravest people get scared
- 14 You should be kissed, by someone who knows how
- 15 If it bleeds we can kill it
- 16 You can't handle the truth
- 17 and give the wife a little pickle tickle
- 18 Hell, the fall will probably kill you
- 19 Excuse me while I whip this out
- 20 Because I was inverted
- 21 I'll get you, my pretty
- 22 But I shoot with this hand
- 23 Ditto (yeah, many movies, but it's most significant in 1)
- 24 You show me in them commandments where it says a woman can't have 2 husbands
- 25 I'll be 50 and still doin' this sh*t. You're sittin' on a winning lottery ticket,
& you're too much of a pussy to cash it in
- 26 He had a presing engagement
- 27 I was in here yesterday. You wouldn't wait on me.
- 28 Your security isn't worth a damn. Everybody's got a gun.
- 29 Get off my lawn.
- 30 Well I got her number. How do you like them apples?
- 31 Team Daedalus
- 32 Small moves, Ellie. Small moves.
- 33 Pain don't hurt.
- 34 Food fight!
- 35 Now I may be a mean cuss, but I'm the same mean cuss with everybody out there on that football field.
- 36 Badges? We don't need no stinking badges
- 37 I give you the boy. Give me back the man.
- 38 Do you expect me to talk?
- 39 It's not an aircraft, Colonel. It's a flying brick and you've got to use the computer's protocols.
- 40 Well, I'm very happy to have the approval of a five-year old.
- 41 I ate his liver with some fava beans
- 42 It's not Toad. My name is Thao.
- 43 Houston, we've had a problem here.
- 44 Triple Lindy
- 45 Mine is the wood panel Country Squire across the street.
- 46 I know everything that's happening in my hotels

- 47 But if I don't call in a 98-mile an hour fastball, I'm gonna get fired.
- 48 Ease his pain
- 49 You know Fletcher can't swim very well
- 50 I'm having an old friend for dinner

Here's your second challenge. For how many of these classic commercials can you recall the product?

- 01 You can trust your car ...
- 02 Mmm Mmm Good
- 03 The finest apples in Apple Land
- 04 Where the rubber meets the road
- 05 ____ tastes good like a ____ should
- 06 See the USA
- 07 You're soaking in it
- 08 Have it your way
- 09 Give it to Mikey. He hates everything.
- 10 Oh, I wish I were an ____ ____ ____
- 11 In the valley of the
- 12 The San Francisco treat
- 13 ____ is bringing a mountain to Chicago
- 14 Relief is just a swallow away
- 15 Speedy
- 16 That's my dog Tige. He lives in there too
- 17 As you travel ask us
- 18 Brusha brusha brusha
- 19 Stop squeezing the
- 20 When the value goes up up up and the prices go down down down
- 21 ____ on ____ is like sterling on silver
- 22 Hudson 3-2700
- 23 Where's the beef?
- 24 Like a good neighbor
- 25 Melts in your mouth, not in your hand
- 26 You're in good hands
- 27 Can you hear me now?
- 28 We have the meats
- 29 Snap, crackle, pop
- 30 A little dab will do ya
- 31 Let ____ put you in the driver's seat today
- 32 I will bring a mountain to Chicago
- 33 From the land of sky blue waters
- 34 Good to the last drop
- 35 Breakfast of champions
- 36 When you care enough to send the very best
- 37 Silly Rabbit. ____ are for kids
- 38 Finger-lickin' good
- 39 Helps build strong bodies 12 says
- 40 The cereal shot from guns
- 41 Doughboy
- 42 made by elves
- 43 contented cows

- 44 When it rains it pours
- 45 Everybody doesn't like something, but nobody doesn't like _____
- 46 Put a tiger in your tank
- 47 Dino dinosaur
- 48 Sorry, Charlie
- 49 You'll wonder where the yellow went
- 50 Cross your heart with your _____

ONE EMAIL STOOD OUT

It may be only a fraction of the number of emails from Picklers that I received (and sent), when tournaments, travel teams, and special events were routine. Still, I get at least a dozen a day even during the pandemic. I recently read one from Bob Bregenzer that made me smile. He claims to have seen a limerick hand-written on the gray wall of a police holding cell. Believe that or not, here it is.

***We volley and dink anywhere.
Full speed and devil may care.
But the reason we play
Day after day
Is pickleball president Bear.***

I write my share of poems, usually about individuals, but I think this is the first time I've been the subject of one since Jeff Degner wrote me a much longer poem for my 50th birthday. I felt sharing this would seem as though I'm trying to pat myself on the back. That wasn't my intent. It just seemed really nice of Bob to give me a smile in trying times, and I thought this small newsletter could use some filler, particularly if it has a chance to make you smile too.

COME ON ... SEND ME STUFF

Our newsletters keep shrinking. I have to stretch to find anything to put in them. How 'bout helping me out. Here are things I'd like you to send me

- 1) Your "Up Close and Personal" profile. It's easy. Just answer such questions as these: How old are you? Where were you born? Where have you lived? What schools did you attend, and did you earn degree/s? Spouse? Kids? Grandkids? Military? Career history? Retired? Any honors/recognitions? Of what (other than family) are you most proud? Hobbies? What have you checked off your bucket list? What is still on it? Is there a favorite saying that helps you? You do not need to be a writer. I'm happy to rewrite most of the profiles, some in first person and some in third. Do not think no one would want to read about you. Not true. Be sure to attach a few photos of yourself doing something other than pickleball.
- 2) Photos of one Pickler at a time playing. You don't need to edit them. I'll do that.
- 3) Even without a profile, send me photos of you pursuing interests other than pickleball. Go to PalatinePicklers.com and check out the May and June, 2020 newsletters, if you need inspiration.
- 4) Your answers to the movie and commercial quizzes in this newsletter.
- 5) Your ideas for things you'd like to see in newsletters.

HOW DESPERATE FOR YOUR INPUT AM I ?

This month's newsletter has 15 pages and contains 48 photos. The last time we had under 100 photos was 37 months ago. The last time we had so few pages was 54 months ago. Please help restore the numbers. I have so much time on my hands now that I may go finish the book I began writing in 2005.



Well, Picklers, that's all I have for you this month. With your help I'm sure April's newsletter will inform and entertain you longer.

If you're eligible and haven't gotten your vaccinations yet, keep trying. It may take dozens of tries on dozens of sites, before you get lucky, but it's worth the effort.

I'll look forward to all your emails.

Pickle safely when you're comfortable.

Bear Shatwell

PicklersPrez

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