



## PalatinePicklers.com

[palatinepicklers@gmail.com](mailto:palatinepicklers@gmail.com)

## MAY, 2022 NEWSLETTER

### REMAINING INDOOR PLAY

**FALCON** ... You can play pickleball here every Monday, Wednesday, and Friday, from 9:00 to 1:00 for \$5. Last day is Friday, May 27<sup>th</sup>.

**BIRCHWOOD** ... This requires paying closer attention. Mondays Noon to 2:30. Tuesdays Noon to 3:00. Wednesdays Noon to 2:30. Thursdays Noon to 3:00. Last day is May 26<sup>th</sup>.

**HARPER** ... Mondays through May 16<sup>th</sup> from 6:00 p.m. to 9:00. Limited to the first 50 to arrive. Starting on May 23<sup>rd</sup>, the regulars will move their Monday evening play outdoors at Hamilton still 6:00 to 9:00.

### INTRAMURAL PLAY BEGINS

After a two-year absence, we have matches for our lower intermediate Picklers. Every other week starting Tuesday, May 10<sup>th</sup>, from 9:00 to Noon at Canlan in Lake Barrington, two Picklers teams in the 3.0 to 3.5 range will compete. I'll assign you to the **Wise Ones** or the **Whippersnappers**, based on your age. Your team will have 4 men and 4 ladies. Rosters will change each match. You'll play seven games, one with each of your teammates. I need more men and women to join us. I'll send those who signs up the dates for the first three months. Just tell me the dates you **THINK** will work. On Sunday before a match, I'll email all I've selected to play that week. Just confirm you're still available or I'll replace you. Send your interest **and date of birth** to me at [aokbarry@yahoo.com](mailto:aokbarry@yahoo.com). I'm working long and hard to get fun things back onto our schedule, but it's often like banging my head against a wall. Please help me out here. At least 1500 of you are appropriate for this competition. If I can't get at least another dozen onto the roster, I may have to cancel the whole thing. Of course, you have to be vaccinated to participate, but masks are optional.



Mike



Z



Pat



Tom



Ryan

# EMBRACE OUR 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](mailto:grtfuldad@aol.com).

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

**25% OFF** anything from Gammasports.com, with the code **ba\_soderborg25**



Dawn



Debbie



Neal



Laurie



Mark



Ron



Sarah



Satish



Tom



Paul



Silver



Tom



Bill

## TIME TO SIGN UP FOR SUMMER MENTORING

**WEDNESDAY** ... Our primary day will remain unchanged from last year. It is at Sycamore Park and will have two sessions. The first will be from 9:00 to 10:00, and the second from 10:15 to 11:15. You will spend 20 minutes on each Mentor's court. 24 Mentorees will be invited on Monday, 12 for each session. You'll have until 10:00 a.m. Tuesday to accept your invitation. Masks will be optional. We will have the "2 strike" policy, as we did this year at Canlan. A strike is an action that disrespects the time and effort of Mentors, Scheduler, or me. A strike is earned in three ways...not answering your invitation...turning down your invitation (last minute emergencies excluded)...or being a no-show. You're allowed one strike for the summer. If you get a second, your Wednesday mentoring is over. Here are the dates of our Wednesday mentoring sessions: 5/4 5/11 5/18 5/25 6/1 6/8 6/15 6/22 6/29 7/6 7/13 7/20 7/27 8/3 8/10 8/17 8/24 8/31 9/7 9/14 9/21 9/28 10/5 10/12 You must email me at [aokbarryh@yahoo.com](mailto:aokbarryh@yahoo.com) with each of the dates you think you'll be able. You can send all the dates or just the first few for now and more later. If you absolutely have to have either the first or second session let me know. Otherwise, you'll be assigned as our Scheduler Robin chooses. I will maintain 24, "Expect to be available" lists (one for each date). If you sign up for a week and later find you have a conflict, PLEASE email me to remove your name from that week's ETBA list. You can do this any time through the Saturday before the session. I will send Robin the 24 names on Monday so then it's too late to avoid earning a strike. If you do not get an invitation for two or three weeks, don't think we forgot you. Last year we served 137 Mentorees over the summer, and we can serve only 24 each Wednesday.

**THURSDAY** ... We'll start on May 5<sup>th</sup> at Hamilton on Smith at 3:00. No reservations or invitations. Just walk-on with your paddle. (I have loaners.) If turnout is too heavy, we'll go to the invitation protocol.

**SATURDAY** ... These 3:00 sessions at Hamilton begin May 7<sup>th</sup> and are exclusively for those Picklers who would like mentoring but are unable to attend either the Wednesday or Thursday sessions. No reservations required for these sessions, at least until the group has grown too large. I'm expecting to limit this to the three, south courts, as there may be other players or families wanting to play on the north courts.



Carol



Dan



Fred



Connie (pic by Anne S)

## WATCH WHEN WHERE AND HOW YOU RUN

We've seen twisted ankles, sprained wrists, back aches, and now a fractured elbow, as a result of falling while chasing a pickleball. Please stay in control, if you run. If courts are even a little damp, do not run at full speed.

## UPPER INTERMEDIATE TRAVEL TEAM UPDATE

By the time you read this, our 3.5 – 4.0 Picklers will have had another match. However, I'll be out of state and off laptop too long for me to get those results in this newsletter. What you see here is from the April 7<sup>th</sup> match. The four clubs compete every other week. Each team rosters six men and six women. The Captains seed them from 1 to 3 for gender pairs and from 1 to 6 for mixed matches. The four teams have remained basically the same for the last six years.

In the April 7<sup>th</sup> match Hoffman Estates came out on top, winning 83% of their games. DuPage came in second with a 58% winning percentage. Palatine came in 3<sup>rd</sup> with 36%. Libertyville ended fourth with 22%. Of the 12 games played, Palatine had only three pairs with a winning percentage. Captain Bob Bregenzer and Shelly Rubin won an amazing 79% of their games. Madelon Queenan and Jeff Degner won 58% of theirs. Donna Beechick and John Kirchner were victorious in 51% of their games.

Through seven of the season's nine matches, DuPage is on top, having won 66% of their games. Hoffman Estates in next with a winning percentage of 58%. Palatine is third, with 45% of their games having been won. Liberty is fourth, having won 31% of their games.

We wish our Picklers good luck through the last two competitions of the season. There will be a season wrap-up in the June newsletter.



Carolyn



Barb



Chris



Chris



Jenny



Janice



Jim



Janet

# WINNING WALKERS

It's hard to believe a club of more than 2350 members has only about a dozen who walk enough to qualify for Worthy Walker (15,000 steps in a day) or Super Stepper (more than 20,000 steps in a day) status. Most of you have phones that do track your steps. Just click on the big, red heart on a white rectangle icon. Email me your screen shot of your best Worthy and/or Super day. I'm at [aokbarry@yahoo.com](mailto:aokbarry@yahoo.com).

## SUPER STEPPERS ...



## WORTHY WALKERS ...



Bear Shatwell

Scot Shatwell

Bob McGowan

Kathy Ford

Carol Frenda



## NEW WEBSITE IS WORKING WONDERS

It's been a couple months since Webmaster John Pihl launched our new and improved website. It's still PalatinePicklers.com, but viewership has skyrocketed and it's grown our membership big time. Check it out



Clay



Debbie



Dan



Greg



Hayden



James



Hank m m



Howard



Dan



Graciela



Larry

# MONTHLY MEDALISTS

We're not quite into the popular, tournament season, but we do have a couple medalists. Again, any results from the last half of May will appear in the June newsletter.



Jonny Storm & Dale Zwack ... Eola Tennis Academy Cash Tourney...2<sup>nd</sup>



Ray Jenkins ... Selkirk Pictona Open...60+ Singles ... Silver



Lynne Weisbart & Jay Feinberg ... Hopen Open, Bonita Springs, FL ...60+ 3.0 ... Bronze



Ann



Anne



George



Denny



Gene



Jesse



Kathy



Jim



Jim



Joan



Kathy



Karin



Katy



Juli



Kim





Kenny



Kurt



Laura



Laura



Lori



Lesla



Mike



Marcia



Lucky



Melody



Mary



Mary

# MEET PICKLER PAM SAMMONS

57 year old Pam Sammons has enjoyed a rare adventure with her husband Mike. But let’s start at the beginning. She was born in Ottawa, Illinois. Her dad was the town baby doctor, and her mom was the town’s music teacher. Everyone knew her. She earned a BS in psychology and a minor in education at Illinois Wesleyan. Then she got a Masters in Education at Roosevelt University.

Pam has been married to Mike for 30 Palatinian, as are 3 of his siblings. Pam engaged to be married in September and

Pam taught K-4 for ten years in Park American Loop with Mike. We’ll get to years. In their 40’ Mainship, they cruised a circumnavigation of the eastern U.S. and Atlantic Intracoastal Waterway, the New the Great Lakes, the inland rivers, and the into Canada, but, due to COVID blessed with two winters of playing the FL Keys. Marathon is their favorite long side trip to the Bahamas.

Often, when they arrived in a port, they provisions and head to the local pickleball business in Wood Dale, and they worked throughout the Loop, even before working remotely was a thing.

Pam volunteers at St. Alphonsus Liguori Church with the SPRED group (Special Religious Education) and Camp One Step oncology camp for children in the summers up in Wisconsin. The camp is near Pam and Mike’s summer home, along the shores of Lake Geneva in Fontana, WI.



years. One of six siblings, he’s a lifelong and Mike have two kids, Samantha 28 who is son Tyler, 26. Both live and work in Chicago.

Ridge. She left in 2019 to do the Great that, but it had been a dream of theirs for 12 from 9/19/2019 to 8/23/2021. The “Loop” is part of Canada. The route includes the York State Canals, including the Erie Canal, Gulf of Mexico. The route typically takes you restrictions, that was closed. So they were pickleball on taped off basketball courts in Key. They were also able to take a month-

would get their bikes down and grab courts. Pam and Mike own a manufacturing business in Wood Dale, and they worked throughout the Loop, even before working remotely was a thing.



Family send off



Blue waters



Rough seas



Visiting Peoria customer



Pam & Mike married 30 years



“Couple Captains”



Working through locks

About the Loop. 16 months living on the boat, traveling roughly 6,500 miles, including the Bahamas. They went through more than 100 locks. This would have been an 11-12 month trip in pre-COVID days. They had to store their boat in Jacksonville for 9 months, when the pandemic hit. They spent a month in Fort Myers in 2019 and three months in Marathon, FL in both 2020 and 2021. They usually cruised 30-80 miles per day, with an average speed of 11-12 knots. However, they did have several 100+ mile days, when weather allowed. When it didn't they'd stay in a marina or anchor off shore. Sometimes they'd spend 2-3 days in a location that offered a lot to do.



Beautiful day to visit Miss Liberty



Once the Loop is completed, you become a Gold Looper

They navigated the entire length of the Erie Canal into Lake Erie to Lake St Claire, Lake Huron, and on to Lake Michigan.

Pam's favorite saying is, "Be the energy you want to attract, and respond calmly and confidently." She feels this serves us well on the pickleball court.

Feel free to ask Pam about the Loop. It's one of two favorite subjects. You're sure to talk about the other too.



Stan



Pat



Mike



Mary



Neal



Frank



Sandy



Bob



Chris



Nancy



Jim



Carole



John



Gene



Gary

## A MEMORABLE MENTOREE MEGA HIT

On Tuesday, April 19<sup>th</sup> the first 16 Mentorees to sign up, met at Canlan to compete for the title of Indoor Mentoree Champion of 2022. There were also four Mentors there, but we weren't there to encourage or instruct. We were there to find faults. We were the referees. This may be the last time you see our Mentorees in masks.



. Karen, Carole, Roger, Kim, Z, Sarah, Vikki, Mike, Barb, Brandon, Kathy, Pat, Linda, Jane, Ann, and Laura

They played 15 games, partnering with each competitor once and playing against each twice. Games were to 6 points. Each participant's score was recorded on a big scoreboard. There was a potential of 90 points. Every few games Mike would add each player's scores and enter the current total in a corner of the window of the last game played. This would let everyone know where they stood. Going into the final game, Pam was ahead of Sarah by a single point. Sarah had already earned her final 6, as Pam was playing in the final game of the day and was off to a good lead. However, She and her partner lost 6-5. That gave us our first ever tie for the Championship in a Mentoree Tournament Below you see Mike working on keeping the total scores updated ... and our top three finalists, Pam Sammons and Sarah Ivy tying for first, and Kathy Ford finishing third.





Maggie



John



Scott



Laura



Brian



Jeff



Arnie



Jim



Carolyn



Steve



Marv

## MARRIED COUPLES\* TOURNAMENT

This will be another first for us. It will be on Tuesday, June 7<sup>th</sup> at Canlan Sportsplex in Lake Barrington. I'm looking to have two tournaments with eight couples in each. Rate yourselves and sign up as either "beginner to Low Intermediate" or "Intermediate and Above." Each couple will play seven games to 13 points. Everyone's score will be recorded on a scoreboard. You will play against each of your opposing pairs. I must stress again that these tournaments I run are for the fun. No one takes them seriously. Be outclassed, and no one cares. Be impressive, and you'll be appreciated. If you have a spouse who plays pickleball, sign up.

\*Significant others are fine too. If I think you've chosen an inappropriate division, I'll reassign you. Please don't plead, "I'm not good enough." This is a round robin which means you cannot possibly have a negative impact the outcome. If you're terrible, you'll be terrible with every other couple in the tournament. The top three couples will almost certainly finish as the top three, and no one cares about how everyone else fares. It's just fun for all.

So, if you have a spouse or significant other that plays, email me at [aokbarry@yahoo.com](mailto:aokbarry@yahoo.com) that you want to join in on this fun. You'll pay \$8 at the lobby desk. While I encourage masks, this will be my first tournament I don't require them. However, you DO have to be full vaccinated to participate.

This could be a fun tournament for years to come, IF you just sign up for this first one. You DO have an impact on the future. If you don't sign up, this great idea dies a sad death. You'll love it. Time is short so email me NOW. I don't want to lose my \$500 deposit with Canlan. Kidding, but I do need you to sign up NOW. Thanks.

## INTRAMURAL COMPETITIONS STILL NEED YOU

Come on, Picklers. This is to start in a week. It's for lower intermediate Picklers. That means 3.0 to 3.5. Ask me if you don't know if you're eligible. It's almost everyone who plays at Hamilton or Birchwood. It's just a FUN competition between two, made-up teams ... the WISE ONES and the WHIPPERSHAPPERS. Your team assignment will depend on your age. So email me at [aokbarry@yahoo.com](mailto:aokbarry@yahoo.com) with your interest and your MMDDYY date of birth. We all like playing at our approximate level, and that's what this is all about. Our first match will be 9:00 a.m. Tuesday May 10<sup>th</sup> at Canlan in Lake Barrington, Masks are recommended but not required. However, you must be fully vaccinated to participate. This is SUCH a great idea. I'd really hate to deep six it. You will tell me which every other Tuesday you THINK you'd be available. I'll roster four men and four women for both teams for each match. You'll partner with each of your seven teammates once. This level competition HAS BEEN and CAN BE a fantastic experience for all. Please just send me your interest NOW, as we start next week. I'll email everyone our dates, and you tell me which you THINK you could do. I'll ask for your confirmation a couple days before the match. It's that easy. Just do it!



Ann Lawrence (with white paddle) has been in Keystone, CO since January. In addition to making new pickleball friends, she's had time to ski more than one million vertical feet.



Carol



Brian

## HAMILTON WINDSCREENS UPDATE

High winds damaged the windscreens last fall. The Palatine Park District has ordered brand new ones. Once these arrive they will get them up on the north and west sides of the courts as quickly as possible.

## (SOME OF) THIS MONTH'S NEWBIES

I've welcomed a LOT of new Palatine Picklers in April, but abojut half were through our website so I don't have photos of them to share. When I do meet them, I'll get them into the next newsletter's newbie section.



Ann



Brad



Brian o



Carl



Carol

We'll continue the introductions of our newest Palatine Picklers in alphabetical order, after a full page advertisement for what should be a really fun event for ladies who like both pickleball and cruising. Our own Betty Cloud has been working on this for some time now. For every one who registers, Betty will donate \$25 to the Palatine Pickleball Club.





## LADIES TOURNAMENT FOR BEGINNER AND INTERMEDIATE PLAYERS

HAVE YOU EVER THOUGHT ABOUT PLAYING PICKLEBALL  
ON A CRUISE SHIP?



Join us on Royal Caribbean Cruise Line Oasis of the Seas  
<https://www.royalcaribbean.com/cruise-ships/oasis-of-the-seas>

Sunday, January 15-22, 2023

Departs out of Miami to Perfect Day Coco-Cay Bahamas; Cozumel;  
Honduras; Puerto Costa Maya, Mexico and 2 full days at sea.

4 days of open play just for our group with a double elimination  
tournament at the end of the cruise.

Sounds interesting? I've secured 20 cabins with balconies for \$980.90  
double occupancy. Interior cabins are also available for anyone  
interested. A deposit of \$100 per person (\$50 of it is non refundable)  
will secure your cabin and final payment due Oct. 01. Families are  
welcome to share the cabin with you and enjoy the ship and shore  
excursions. Cancellation insurance is also available and encouraged.

Please contact Betty Cloud with Shama Travel at 847-846-6675  
[betty@shamatravel.com](mailto:betty@shamatravel.com). All passengers must have a valid passport  
and currently, must be vaccinated.

Pickle On, Ladies !!



Chris



Debbie



Denise



Gene



Hank



Jim



John



Joyce



Judy



Juli



Kari



Karin



Kathy



Laura



Laurie



Lori



Marcy



Mardy (I hope)

If I misname you ... and there are three I may have in this grouping ... please email me at [aokbarry@yahoo.com](mailto:aokbarry@yahoo.com) and inform me of the error. I think my memory has an expiration of three hours. When I don't get to working with photos until the next day, I'm in over my head. Sorry. I will correct errors of which I'm made aware, in the next newsletter. There are a couple ladies of whom I took a pic in April but don't appear in these pages. If you're one of them, let me know that. I'll send you a couple pics, and you can identify yourself for me. Again, sorry. There are also a couple ladies whose name I did know, but found they aren't members. Have me sign you up.



Mary



Mary Kay



Nathan



Rhonda



Rosemarie



Sally



Sandy



Stan



Therese

## LATEST UPPER INTERMEDIATE TRAVEL TEAM RESULTS

Got the Week 8 results from Captain Bob in time to include after all. Hoffman went 25-11 to win the day. DuPage finished 2<sup>nd</sup> with a record of 20-16. Palatine went 16-20 for 3<sup>rd</sup>, while Libertyville managed 11-25. Through 8 weeks, with one to go in the season, DuPage is in 1<sup>st</sup>, having won 65% of their games. Hoffman is 2<sup>nd</sup> with 59%. Palatine is 3<sup>rd</sup> with 45%, and Libertyville is 4<sup>th</sup> at 31%. The stars for Palatine in Week 8 were Shelly Rubin and Jeff Degner. Both won all 6 of their games. Small pics of Shelly and Jeff appear below.



## 11<sup>th</sup> HOUR MEDALISTS

Addison's Spring Fling Round Robin gave us a couple more Palatine Pickler medalists.



. Daniel Koste – 3.0 – Gold    Daniel – 3.5 - Silver    *Daniel played in his PPC shirt, but changed when it got sweaty. Went home and took a selfie to show he knows his roots.*    Connie Kus – 3.0 – Bronze

## BE THE 1ST ON YOUR BLOCK TO OWN ONE OF THESE

You can get this equipment on the rebound from Neal Harris ([neal@picklecoach.com](mailto:neal@picklecoach.com)). Email him if interested.



This gently-used multi-position Pickleball Rebounder is the most versatile on the market. By adjusting the panel angle, you can practice a variety of game scenarios. Manufactured from an all-steel frame and solid core panel, RTS rebounders are the highest quality rebounders on the market. **This comes fully assembled** and sells for \$689 + S&H (unassembled). Neal is selling this for only \$495, ready to pick up and play. Just email him at the address above.

## CALLING ALL WILLING TO PLAY IN PROSPECT HEIGHTS

The Prospect Heights Park District is considering spending money on pickleball. As I understand it, the more interest there is in playing there, whether or not you live within the park district, the more they may be willing to spend. If you have even the slightest interest in playing in Prospect Heights even occasionally, they would appreciate it if you will complete the survey which can be found at <https://phparks.org/future-planning/>.

Are we getting popular? I've welcomed 62 new Palatine Picklers, since the April newsletter was sent.

Please become an intramuralist, if you're a lower intermediate Pickler. Matches will be fun round robins.

There's also walk-in mentoring at Hamilton at 3:00 on Thursdays. And unretired Picklers wanting mentoring can show up Saturday at 3:00 also at Hamilton.

Please share your life with your peers. Email me. I'll send you prompts for your personal profile. We all love these in our newsletters. You don't have to write it. I will.

Couples, please sign up for the first Couples Tournament.

Stay safe and enjoy your Palatine pickling.

Bear

PicklersPrez

[aokbarry@yahoo.com](mailto:aokbarry@yahoo.com)



### WE'RE NOT DONE WITH COVID – PLEASE STAY & BE SAFE

Yes, hospitalizations and deaths are down, despite cases climbing rapidly. Some of us who are at high risk are still taking the pandemic very seriously. I'll protect their privacy, but this week the wife of a Palatine Pickler died of COVID. If you're one of the few who hasn't gotten vaccinated, please do so. If you're not twice boosted, please make it so. Wearing a mask indoors isn't that big of an imposition. Please do that too, as a favor for those of us who aren't likely to suffer cold-like symptoms for a few days and return to normal. Thank you in advance, should you choose to take these actions.