



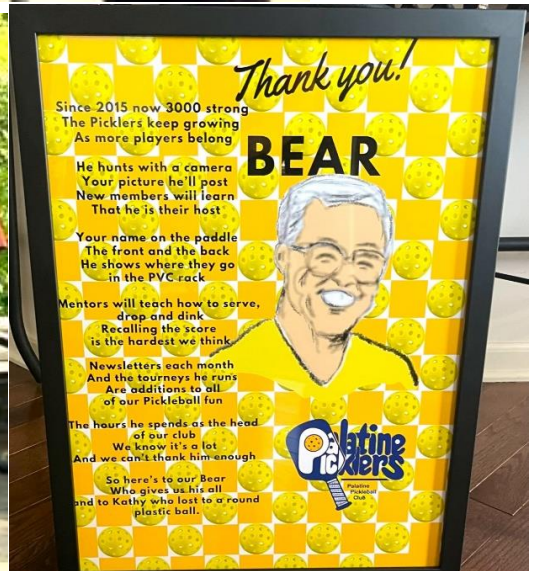
PalatinePicklers.com

palatinepicklers@gmail.com

OCTOBER, 2023 NEWSLETTER

SEPTEMBER WAS BEAR TIME

Happy October, Picklers. As a few of you know, I try to make the "NEWSLETTER" header appropriate for the month. This month we have orange and black for Halloween and pink for breast cancer, both of which are important to me. That said, I'm going to realize that the most newsworthy event of the last month was the September 2nd picnic that was to honor me.



I've appreciated "Thanks for all you do" emails. This honor raised the bar big time. I want to thank so many. So..

Fred said, "Let's have a picnic. 9/2 it shall be.
 It's for those on our text thread. I hope they'll be free."
 "You should bring your own lunch and a pass-around plate."
 OK, sounds good, fun with friends is always so great.
 Being with happy Picklers has long been my fun fate.
 Kathy makes some special treats but can't on this date.
 Her post-surgery healing has not been OK.
 Could she attend the picnic? It's a "No" this day.
 So I grabbed Costco cookies and a Subway sub.
 And headed to the picnic with this as my grub.
 The venue was beautiful. Everyone said Hi.
 Then a strange thing happened. I couldn't figure why.
 A Pickler said, "Congrats," and I replied "For what?"
 His then saying "You'll see" felt like a punch in my gut.
 Began thinking I may be in for a surprise.
 That could be pretty darn scary I did surmise.
 Then two more shook my hand and said, "You deserve this."
 Think I was too nervous to like this "should-be" bliss.
 Then Freddy, that awesome Emcee, said, "Gather round."
 And "Yea, Bear" accolades did suddenly abound.
 I couldn't stop smiling. Started loving it all.
 Fred gave me a gift which would end up on our wall.
 It was a poster with caricature and rhyme.
 Pat's poem highlighted what I'd done with my time.
 A good-sized poster with pickeballs of yellow
 And drawing of me being one happy fellow.
 And there was that logo I hand drew at the start.
 It all actually drew on those strings in my heart.
 For the last eight point five years, while still in my
 prime.

When I wasn't on courts, it was SO laptop time.
 Then Fred said there was a gift for Kathy, my
 bride,
 for sharing her hubby with the club with some
 pride.

It was a certificate for Capital Grille.
 For meal after meal, we could love eating our fill.
 The obscene amount was way beyond my belief.
 Knowing we'd share it with Fred and Pat gave
 relief.

I thought it was great and it was finally done.
 Then Jay jumped on the wall and shared
 even more fun.

He'd
 been on the Park Board for a whole bunch of
 years.



Fred

He shared pickleball growth for which I deserved cheers.

Pat

*I've served baseball and hockey, just to "pay my dues."
 This honor topped all and now tops October's news.
 I wish I could be adequate in my thank you.
 But know my words of gratitude will be too few.
 I'll borrowed from Sally Fields and thought, "You like me."
 That took a moment or two for that to strike me.
 It really means so much more than I could say here.
 I just don't have the words. I would need a new gear.
 So trust me in my loving this humbling event.
 You all are the best. You're an ongoing present.
 I've loved helping hundreds of Picklers get a start
 in what becomes a lifestyle and enters their heart.
 I'll keep taking those photos and staging events,
 as long as your love of pickleball it cements.
 Of this picnic party, quite a few caught the drift
 They gave very generously to Kathy's gift.
 Dozens of our Picklers came to share in the fun.
 Dozens more who couldn't come have told me, "Well done."
 Your appreciation is humbling. That's for sure.
 My whole-hearted thank you will forever endure.
 -Bear*

FALCON & BIRCHWOOD OPENING FOR PICKLEBALL

Monday, October 2nd will be the opening of both Falcon (behind the huge Toyota dealership on 12 with few cars and Birchwood (on Illinois half way between Quentin on the W and Plum Grove on the E). Falcon will go from 8:30 to 12:30. Birchwood will go from 11:30 to 4:00. Both are \$5 per day. Falcon's 6 court often get busy. Birchwood may have 8 or 28. For each gym get your name on the very top of your paddle. Paddle racks in each gym are handle into the rack.

HALLOWEEN COSTUME PICKLEBALL TOURNAMENT

It's time to add our annual Halloween Costume Tournament & Judging to your calendar. As are all my tournaments, this will be in the Canlan Sportsplex in Lake Barrington. It will start at 8:45 a.m. on Thursday, October 26th. With the exception of a mask or face covering, you must wear your entire costume through the round robin tournament. Of course, afterwards, if your schedule allows, we'll head to lunch a mile away. If this tournament fits your schedule, email me at aokbarry@yahoo.com. I usually limit this one to the first twelve to email me so don't think too long and hard.

IT'S WALKER RECOGNITION TIME

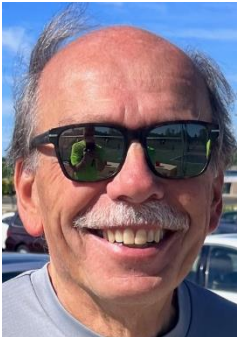
SUPER STEPPERS (20K+ in a day)

36,920 steps



Sue Freiburger

30,113
Steps



Ben Farb

29,512 steps



Dan Salbego

28,579
Steps



Lois Farb

23,050 steps



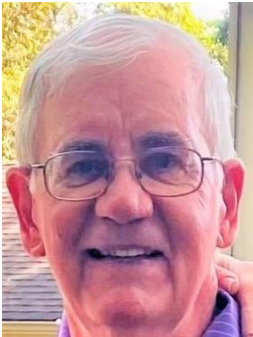
Bear Shatwell

22,200 steps



Gary Thompson

21,139
Steps



Bob McGowan

WORTHY WALKERS (15k+ in a day)



19,359 Steps

Lois Farb



17,739 steps

Bear Shatwell

17,111



Marcia Cohen



16,809 steps

Dan Salbego



16,512 steps

Jesse Cohen



16,027 steps

Gary Thompson

15,057 steps

Bob McGowan

Bobbie Campbell

CHECK YOUR PHONE (LITTLE RED HEART) & JOIN US HERE

Many of you don't realize it, but your phone may be tracking your daily steps. If you have a little, red heart icon, that's where you'll find your daily steps. If you get 15K or more, just take a screen shot and email it to me at aokbarry@yahoo.com. We'd like to honor you in this section. *The Walkers*

15,938 Steps

section is courtesy of Mary Werling



CHRIS IS ORGANIZING A BREAKFAST FOR NEAL

Hi Picklers,

I'm not sure if you're aware that our mentor/instructor, Neal Harris, is moving to GA this spring.



Several of us Picklers are "snowbirds" and, by the time we return, Neal will have moved. So we would like to get together to wish Neal well, and thank him for the many years of mentoring instruction, and friendship.

We'll meet Friday, October 6th for breakfast at 9:30 a.m. at Jelly Café on the Southeast corner of Quentin & Dundee Roads. Please bring a card to the breakfast and write a meaningful note to Neal. We'll have a drop box for cards. Recall a funny situation, or how patient he was with instruction, or any thoughts or wishes you'd like to relay to Neal. I'm sure he'd enjoy it. If you'd like to include a gift card, that would be great too, but it's not required. We'd all like you to hear from you in person too. Bear, our Emcee, will call for anyone to stand up and share what you'd like.

Please spread the word to other Picklers. This is NOT a gathering for only "snowbirds." I need a definite RSVP by **October 4th** so I can inform the Jelly Café how many will be attending. If you haven't RSVP'd to me already, my email address is: chrisdineen@comcast.net That deadline is pending so please email me today.

If you can't attend but would like to include a card for Neal, please give it to Bear or me prior to Oct. 6th. We're usually at Hamilton, and Bear is at all mentoring sessions. If you have questions, please let us know.

All my best,

Chris Dineen ... chrisdineen@comcast.net

INTRAMURAL MATCHES NEED YOU

Half of you who play at Hamilton would really enjoy playing in even one intramural match. There is no commitment beyond being available to accept an invitation to play, if you email me you'll be available on any given date. A quarter of you are a bit advanced for this intermediate league, and a quarter of you are not quite ready for a 3.0-3.5 league. That leaves dozens of you appropriate. We play every other Tuesday morning (8:45 to 11:45). Depending on how your age compares to the others rostered, you will be assigned to either the Whippersnappers or Wise Ones. Each team has four men and four ladies. You'll partner with each of your seven teammates for one game. Right now the Whippersnappers have a slight lead in the series, 19-16.

I really like to give everyone a chance to experience this fun so I sometimes stretch the ability limits for a match or two. I'll let you know if I think you're a bit too far out of our 3.0 to 3.5 range. Try me.

Aside from the on-court fun, those of us whose schedule allows (always at least half) drive a mile away to have lunch at Kesley Road House.

OK ... It's too late for 10/3, but here are the rest of the dates for 2023: 10/17 10/31 11/14 11/28 & 12/12.

Email me at aokbarry@yahoo.com to get on an Expect To Be Available list or three.





OK, MENTOREES ... YOUR TURN

WEDNESDAY MORNING SESSIONS ... These are by invitation only. Email me at aokbarry@yahoo.com with the Wednesdays you think you'll be available. We have two sessions (9:00 to 10:30 and 10:30 to Noon). These sessions go through the end of October. I'll put you on those Expect To Be Available lists. Then just check your email on the Monday afternoons before those Wednesdays, to see if you're invited that week. You have until 10:00 a.m. to accept your invitation. If you don't respond or if you turn down your invitation, you earn a "strike." Two strikes and you're out of mentoring for the rest of 2023. If a conflict arises, you have until Noon Saturday before that Wednesday to email me to take you off that ETBA list.

HOW 'BOUT THURSDAY ... Thursday from 3:00 (show up early) to 5:00 at Hamilton, we offer walk-on (no invitation) mentoring. I have plenty of loaner paddles for newbies. Just bring your water and show up. You'll be glad you did. We're going to work you. You are required to have fun and learn something.

AND SATURDAY ... Also at Hamilton. Also 3:00-5:00. Also have loaner paddles. These sessions are intended for all who cannot attend either the Wednesday or Thursday sessions, due to work, babysitting, golf, etc. However, if you're pretty new to the sport, come join us.

HOW LONG WILL THURSDAY AND SATURDAY SESSIONS BE HELD? That's easy ... Until snow covers Hamilton.

SUMMER MENTOREE TOURNAMENT

As I write this, I have room for two more Mentorees in this Tuesday, November 7th morning tournament at Canlan Sportsplex in Lake Barrington. It's a round robin so you'll partner with a bunch of 2023 Mentorees. First come first served. It's open to all Picklers who participated in at least a couple summer mentoring sessions. Email me at aokbarry@yahoo.com. You'll play all morning and then, if your schedule allows, you'll join us for lunch a mile away. Your Mentors will serve as Refs. They'll do NO mentoring, but they will call EVERY fault, even those we haven't yet taught you so you'll still learn some new stuff the hard way.

PALATINE PICKLERS' DISCOUNTS ON GOOD STUFF

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 engagepickleball.com, with the code 20jon.

25% OFF anything from Gammaspports.com, with the code ba_soderborg25

\$99 Paddles for \$75 Only one style – See or contact neal@picklecoach.com.

\$10 OFF Vatic Pro paddles ... https://vaticpro.com?sca_ref=3606076.ir5retg8qU Use code CHICAGO

CONGRATULATE OUR PICKLER MEDALISTS



Selinko & Chuck Feinstein
– Masters Pro – Silver

Chuck Feinstein & Bill Muno
Michelle Chow & Mike Saam
Chicago Open – 5.0 35+ - Silver

Kyle
Chicago Open
Chicago Open – 4.0 50+ - Bronze



Mike Saad & Bob Swanson

County Sr Games

60+ - Gold

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Stephanie Douglas

Arlington Heights Sr Center Tournament

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Beginners - Silver



INDOOR MENTORING DATES

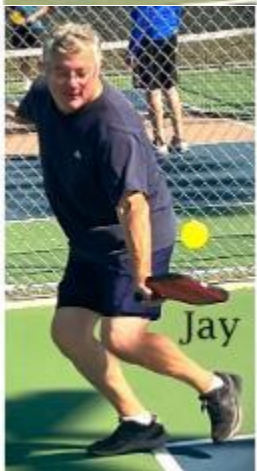
Once again our indoor mentoring will take place in the Canlan Sportsplex in Lake Barrington. We will be alternating Tuesday mornings with our intramural program. Our Mentoree Tournament will be on November 7th. The following Tuesday will be intramurals. So Tuesday, November 21st will see our first indoor mentoring sessions. As was the case throughout summer Wednesdays, we will have two sessions .. 9:00 to 10:30 and 10:30 to Noon. Interested 2nd session students are welcome to join us for lunch a mile away.

The three dates in 2023 will be 11/21, 12/5, and 12/19. Email me at aokbarry@yahoo.com to let me know if any/all those mornings could work for you. If you **HAVE TO** be assigned to either the early or late session, let me know that too. Then check your email Sunday afternoons for an invitation.

As was the case throughout the outdoor season, you'll earn a strike for (A) not answering an invitation by 10:00 a.m. Monday morning, (B) replying that you can't come after all (excluding last minute emergency), or (C) emailing our Mentoree Scheduler Kathy ANYTHING about mentoring other than "I'll be there." Everything else should come to me ... aokbarry@yahoo.com.

PICKLERS A PLENTY







JoAnne



John



John



John



John



John



Judy



Karen



Karin



Kathy



Kathy



Keith



Kenny



Kurt



Larry



Larry



Laura



Lisa



Lynne



Marcie





Thanks to Jonny Storm for tiis layout of the playing Picklers

SYCAMORE STILL A MYSTERY

The Palatine Park District notified me that Sycamore would be closed for two weeks for resurfacing, starting August 25th. Work didn't start for another 10 days to two weeks. I've been driving by every few days. Days go by with no change. Here are photos from yesterday. Still no guarantee that the new and improved Sycamore will have four pickleball courts as anticipated. However, I'm encouraged that there is that giant hole around one of the tennis courts poles, as if they need to pull it out. It may not be done before the end of the "Sycamore" mentoring season, but four courts would be worth the wait for spring.



DEMO PADDLES

Several Picklers have taken advantage of my having three, expensive paddles that are available to try out for a game. Before spending big bucks on one of the two Joolas or the Selkirk I have for you to try, see if you like it.

THIS MONTH'S NEWBIES (well, at least those who have come to our courts)



ADAM



ANGELO



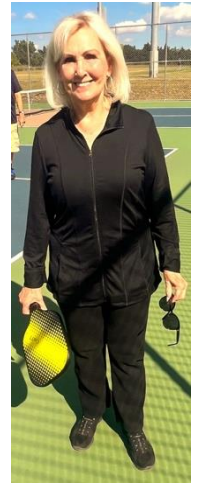
BARBARA



BOB



BRIAN



CHRISTINE



CINDY



DELORES



ELLEN



FRANK



GERD



JILL



JONATHON



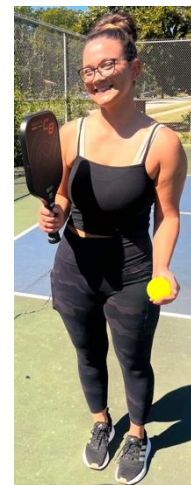
JUNE



KAREN D.



KAREN T.



KATHYRN



KATHY



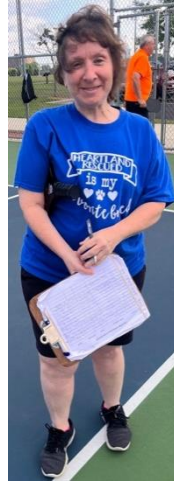
KEN



KNOX



LISA



MARCI



MARCIE



MARISA



MARLENE



MARY ELLEN



MARY G.



MARY M.



NANCY



ROBERT



SHARON



SHEILA



SHILPA



STACI



STACY



SUSAN A.



SUSAN P.



TONY



UMESHKUMAR

SHIRTS & CAPS

If you haven't purchased Palatine Pickler shirts, you've surely seen some of the almost 800 that are being worn on courts and around the suburbs. They are incredibly affordable. To buy your first or tenth, go to PalatinePicklers.com (on your computer, not phone) and click on SHIRTS. Find the style/s, color/s, and size you want. Then scroll down to the bottom and place your order.

For caps check out the 3.5 dozen colors and let Carol Hawes know what you'd like. They are only \$16. Carol is at CarolHawes@comcast.net.

YOU'VE SEEN OUR SUPER & WORTHY WALKERS - NOW OUR BEST

Here are the seven Palatine Picklers who have managed to trek 30,000 steps in one day.



Brandon 42,951



Sue 36,920



Jonny 34,102



Dan 31,215



. Dave 31,108



Bear 30,276



Kathy 30,221



Ben 30,113

VILLAGE OF PALATINE WANTS YOUR IDEAS

The Village of Palatine has begun the process of updating its Comprehensive Plan in order to set community goals and guide the Village into the future. The updated Comprehensive Plan will help the Village to capitalize on its existing assets, such as its traditional downtown core, beautiful neighborhoods, quality schools, proximity to transit, and community services. It will also consider planning strategies for sustainable growth, Village-wide beautification, diversification of its employment base, and the addition of new recreational and open space amenities.

The plan will be informed by community feedback, so visit the [website](#) to share your opinions and [take the survey](#). Get involved and help us create the building blocks for a vibrant future!

Learn more at PalatineComprehensivePlan.com. Maybe expressing how pickleball is growing and being an active and social benefit to so many residents could influence our future. Of course, other suggestions are also welcome.

OCTOBER WRAP-UP

I apologize if the formatting of this newsletter is not as desired. For the third time in 8.5 years, it went nuts on me, and being cyberstupid I couldn't get it entirely back. Maybe it is OK. I don't know. I just have to get it to our MailMaster Greg to get out a.s.a.p, due to the time urgency on Neal's breakfast.

Anyway, it was quite a month. I was overwhelmed by the picnic to honor my contribution to our pickleball life. Sorry for the length of my thank you poem. That's just I. If it can be said in two sentences, I feel it can be said with more clarity in three paragraphs.

We sailed by 3500 members this month. We negotiated year-round continuation of intramurals at Canlan and the indoor mentoring too. That was a HUGE relief. I'm grateful to Mary Werling for now even assuming editing of the photos for walkers and Newbies. I'm thankful for Jonny Storm's doing the layout for the edited action pics. Thanks to Linda O'Connor for taking me totally out of the shirt loop, apart from writing a check. Thanks to Carol Hawes for her cap coordination, And, of course to Greg Kuhn for mailing these and John Pihl for maintaining our website.

Pickle on, Palatine. You ARE the best.

Bear

PicklersPrez

aokbarry@yahoo.com

