



PalatinePicklers.com

palatinepicklers@gmail.com

NOVEMBER, 2023 NEWSLETTER

INDOOR & OUTDOOR PICKLEBALL

Hamilton and Locust will remain open with nets up all winter long, but when snow-covered, the courts will be locked. Sycamore is being rebuilt as it was, rather than with four pickleball courts.

Falcon will be open for play throughout November on Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays, from 8:30 to 12:30, with the exception of being closed Wednesday the 22nd and Friday the 24th.

Birchwood will be open all month on Tuesday and Thursday from 11:30 to 3:00 and Monday and Wednesday from 11:30 to 4:00, except for being closed from the 21st through the 23rd.

Community Center on Wood Street now has six, indoor pickleball courts. Throughout November the courts will be open Monday evenings from 5:30 to 8:30, replacing Harper and Thursday mornings, except for Thanksgiving, from 6:00 a.m. to Noon.

NEAL'S BREAKFAST 3rd LARGEST SOCIAL EVENTS

Fifty Palatine Picklers enjoyed the (early) Good Bye breakfast at Jelly Cafe for Neal Harris.

Though he won't actually be moving to Georgia until next spring, some of our Snowbirds wanted to be included so Chris Dineen and Carol Schmelzer did the homework and laid the groundwork for what proved to be a perfect venue and event. This breakfast surpassed the pre-pandemic, Christmas lunch at the former Dream Place for attendance. It trails the two earlier lunches at Lamplighter Inn which were staged by our Social Committee.





Clay & Chris



Greg



Dennis



Kathy, Bear, Neal



Dee Dee, Brian, Kathy, John, Scott, Linda



Don, Carol, Greg, Linda, Pat



Tom, Jim, John



Fred, John, Jane, Chris (standing)



Keith, Mary, Janice, Brian



Laura, Gary, Jaime, Debbie, Tom, Howard, Carolyn, Kathy



Ben, Lois, Lisa, Janet, Silver, Colleen, Pat



Chris, Linda, Connie, Marv, Nancy, Kathy, Bear

Two of our Picklers wrote poems for the occasion. Chris Dineen had each framed and gave them to Neal. As the Breakfast Emcee, Bear read these to the group.

NEAL by Pat Morgan



From the studying you did in China,
Meditation in India too,
You bring your calming presence
To all who have known you.

Come sometime in the spring,
We'll lose you on the courts,
And the encouragement you bring
To players of all sorts.

From newbies to the 4 ohs,
Many Picklers you have taught.
Your knowledge of the game.
You shared with all who sought.

"You don't need to slam, you say.
"The dink should be your mission.
Let me just remind you -
Keep you feet out of the kitchen."

We'll miss the games we shared,
No matter what the score,
And wish that you were there
So we could play one more.

But the winds of time now fill
the sail of your life,
And like that old sweet song,
You've got Georgia on your mind.

GOODBYE TO NEAL HARRIS by Bear Shatwell

He's a big pickleball deal, our Neal Harris.
If he were a wheel, they would call him "Ferris."

When I seek volunteers, Neal raises his hand.
No half-hearted effort; his is always grand.

Hundreds of Picklers have called him their Mentor.
With a challenged student, he's an inventor.

He thinks outside the box, to create new ways
to get his student good at making those plays.

He doesn't flaunt it – Neal's a Reiki Master.
Several times he's stopped apparent disaster.

He's kept them playing, when they thought they were done.
Neal made them feel better, to give them more fun.

He's a joy to watch, when he's on the courts.
He moves like a gazelle and never aborts.

He's 2-0-2-3's Volunteer of the Year.
He may be down south, while we cheer him from here.

So enough of this blah blah blah poem spiel.
On "THREE" let's send him off with a "Thank you, Neal."

ONE TWO THREE ...



Chris Dineen



Pat Morgan

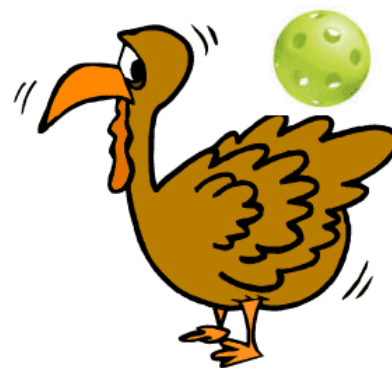
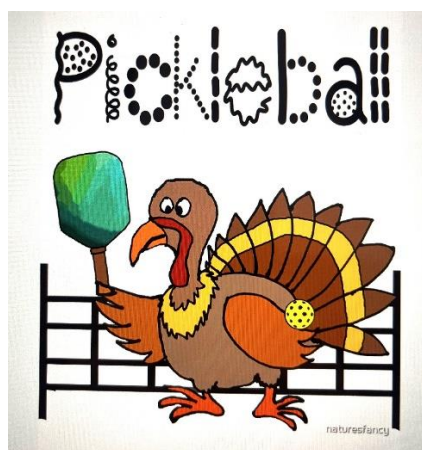


Bear Shatwell

APOLOGY FOR OCTOBER NEWSLETTER

I'm pretty proficient at accidentally touching one thing or another on my keyboard that results in unwanted, or in this case, REALLY unwanted changes. Usually, with some experimentation and time, I can fix it. This time when I was almost at the end of a perfectly formatted newsletter, a tornado hit it. I fixed a few things, but I didn't have time to fix more. I HAD to get it to MailMaster Greg so he could get it out on the first. Picklers had only until the 4th to reserve a spot at the Goodbye Breakfast for Neal Harris.

At the conclusion of THIS newsletter, I'll give you the Super Steppers section and the Medalists section, as they should have appeared in October. More subtle errors I'll let slide. That includes my poem's having one or two word lines and Fred (on left) and Pat (on right) not having names under their photos. Neal's second photo which was to be on the right side of his breakfast copy fell down into the intramurals section. And the original side by side Halloween images don't justify being put back where they belong. These oopses didn't inhibit understanding so won't be repaired.



YOU MAY BE ELIGIBLE FOR INTRAMURALS

This year-round competition is beyond fun for participants. It's for any Palatine Pickler who is of intermediate (3.0 to 3.5 level). There's no commitment beyond being available when you say you will be. You don't need a partner ... you'll partner once with each of your seven teammates. Not sure if you're appropriate? Email me. If I know you're above or below our desired range, I'll not be shy about letting you know. If you're close, I'd love to give you at least one chance to enjoy this incredibly fun event ... and the great lunch discussions that follow.

These intramural competitions take place in the Canlan Sportsplex in Lake Barrington. Take 14 through Barrington. Once past Hart Road light with the Wickstrom dealerships, your next light is Pepper Road. Turn right and go to the stop sign. You'll notice on your right a building just slightly smaller than the Pentagon. That's Canlan. Pay their \$10 fee at the lobby desk, walk down the hall and through the first gym. Turn left to enter our gym. Easy peasy.

Email me at aokbarry@yahoo.com with the dates 10/17 10/31 11/7 11/21 12/5 & 12/19 for the rest of 2023 that you think you'd be available to participate. AND include your MMDDYY date of birth so I don't have to look it up. I'll put you on those Expect To Be Available lists. Then check your email on the previous Sunday afternoons, to see if you're invited that week to participate. These pit the younger half of participants against the more senior half. You will partner with each of your seven teammates for one game.

In the December newsletter, I'll introduce the next few months' dates. They'll always be every other Tuesday morning.



MENTORING MOVES INDOORS

Yes, the indoor season offers far fewer opportunities for participation, but they'll be good ones. Every other Tuesday morning in the Canlan Sportsplex in Lake Barrington, we'll conduct two, 90-

minute mentoring sessions. Just as we've had on summer Wednesdays, we'll have a session from 9:00 to 10:30 and another from 10:30 to Noon. Our first session will be November 21st. The final two dates of the 2023 season will be 12/5 and 12/19. The early 2024 sessions will be introduced in the December newsletter. Meanwhile, email me at aokbarry@yahoo.com if you can participate in any of the 2023 sessions. Invitations will be sent in Sunday afternoons.

LET'S REVIEW "STRIKES"

Though strikes were created for the annoyances of Mentorees, they were borrowed to apply to intramural competitions and tournaments also. Strikes are the result of disrespect of our volunteer's time. For Mentorees a strike can be earned in three ways: 1) Not responding to an invitation (sent to only Picklers who have told me they Expect To Be Available). 2) Replying that he/she cannot attend after all (11th hour emergencies excused). 3) Emailing our Mentoree Scheduler Kathy ANYTHING other than, "I'll be there" or something similar to accept the invitation. ANYTHING about mentoring, other than accepting an invitation HAS to come to me at aokbarry@yahoo.com. Emailing Kathy anything else requires her to forward it to me. We are volunteers who invest a lot of time to give you good experiences. Wasting our time is SO not appreciated. We don't forgive a first strike, but we will give you a second chance. If you earn a second strike, you are out of mentoring or intramurals for the indoor/outdoor season.

Intramurals is about the same, even though there's only one of me involved. If you ask to be put on an Expect To Be Available list for a given date, you ARE expected to be available. If you turn down an invitation on Sunday to play on a Tuesday you were to be available, you earn a strike. Obviously, if a conflict arises, email me at aokbarry@yahoo.com to take you off that ETBA list. Trying to replace you the day before a match is not fun. Doctor appointments, out of town guests, meetings, being on vacation, etc. are not 11th hour emergencies. They are strikes. A second strike excludes you for the duration of the year, as does being a no-show.

Are we punishing a lack of common courtesy? Absolutely. You cannot know how much time and effort goes into trying to enhance your involvement in the Palatine Pickleball Club. Please respect that.

USE YOUR PICKLERS' 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 engagepickleball.com, with the code 20jon.

25% OFF anything from Gammasports.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

UNSHORT LADIES TOURNAMENT

We've loved our Untall Ladies tournaments for several years. Now it's time to let our Unshort Ladies have the fun. If you've risen to at least 5'7", email me at aokbarry@yahoo.com to register

for this first ever tournament at Canlan Sportsplex at 9:00 a.m. Thursday, November 30th. As always, lunch follows, for those whose schedule allows.



OUTDOOR MENTORING WILL END

Let's make it a smooth transition, from outdoor to indoor. Let's have our last Hamilton Thursday 3-5 session be 11/16, and the last Saturday 3-5 session be 11/18. As you should know, our indoor season at Canlan begins 11/21...and that is by invitation. So email me at aokbarry@yahoo.com, if you'd like to be considered for participation in one of the morning sessions. The first is from 9:00 to 10:30, and the second runs from 10:30 to noon.

ANNUAL UGLY HOLIDAY SWEATER TOURNAMENT

Mark your calendar for Thursday, December 14th. That will be our annual Holiday Tournament. You'll want to wear your ugliest holiday attire, as judging will precede actual play. This will take place, of course, at the Canlan Sportsplex in Lake Barrington at 9:00 a.m. I'll take the first eight or twelve to register so email me at aokbarry@yahoo.com to get into this fun event. Yes, of course, we will go to lunch at Kelsey Road House afterward. Players will pay Canlan's \$10 fee at the lobby desk upon arrival.



IT'S BEEN MONTHS SINCE WE "MET" A PICKLER

I'm not chasing/begging any more. Please email me your willingness to be profiled. You've enjoyed meeting 50 of us. How 'bout you? I'm at aokbarry@yahoo.com. I'll prompt you.

WINNERS AT OUR ANNUAL HALLOWEEN EVENT

Twelve fun-loving Picklers competed twice on October 26th. First we had the judging of the costumes. Each Pickler was given a pencil and a clipboard with a ballot. Then each described his/her attire and was given a rating from 1 to 5 by each competitor. Ann Buras and her Pebbles Flintstone costume took first. Dee Dee Belovicz as the Operation game took second. Herr Clay Farnsworth in his lederhosen tied with Bear Shatwell as Top Gun's Maverick for third.



Ann



Bear



Brian



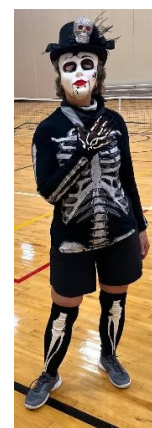
Chris



Clay



Dee Dee



Jane



Laura



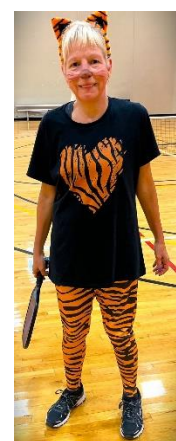
Pam



Patti



Robert



Stephanie

THEN WE HAD OUR ROUND ROBIN TOURNAMENT

Of a potential 88 points, Brian Knight got 86 for first place. Patti Pinski took second with 78. Jane Krauser captured 3rd with 69.



Patti, Brian, Jane

IT'S WALKER RECOGNITION TIME

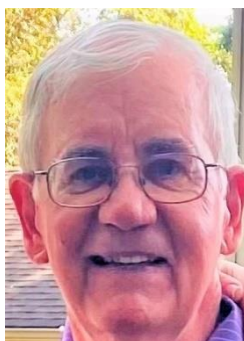
SUPER STEPPERS (20K+ in a day)

✓ 26,103



Dan Salbego

23,427
Steps



Bob McGowan

22,135 steps



Scot Shatwell

CHECK YOUR PHONE'S LITTLE RED HEART & JOIN US HERE

If you don't know it, 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. You too can be featured in this walker-honoring section.

WORTHY WALKERS (15K+ in a day)

18,625 steps



Bear Shatwell

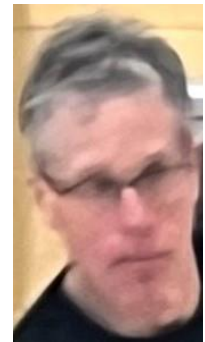
17,278

Steps



Annette Grabowski

✓ 15,098



Dan Salbego

NOW A LOOK AT HOW THESE OCTOBER PAGES SHOULD HAVE APPEARED

Due to the October newsletter's 11th hour implosion, several sections got screwed up. The two which weren't close enough to reality have been repaired and appear below. They are the October Medalists and the Super Steppers and Worthy Walkers. Sorry for the confusion.

OCTOBER NEWSLETTER MEDALISTS REFORMATTED



Chuck Feinstein & Bill Muno
Masters Pro - Silver



Kyle Selinko & Chuck Feinstein
Chicago Open – 5.0 35+ -Silver



Mike Saam & Bob Swanson
6-Co Sr Games – 60+ - Gold



Michelle Chow & Mike Saam
Chicago Open – 4.0 50+ - Bronze



Stephanie Douglas
AH Sr Center Tourney – Beginner – Silver

OCTOBER NEWSLETTER'S WALKERS IN PROPER FORMAT

LAST MONTH'S 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 step



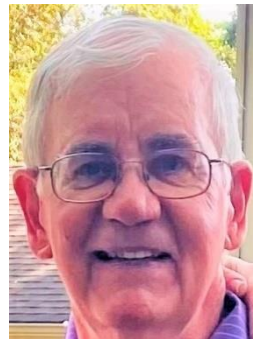
Bear Shatwell

22,200



Gary Thompson

21,139 Steps



LAST MONTH'S WORTHY WALKERS (15k+ in a day)

19,359 Steps



Lois Farb

17,739 step



Bear Shatwell

17,111



Marcia Cohen

16,809 steps



Dan Salbego

16,512 steps

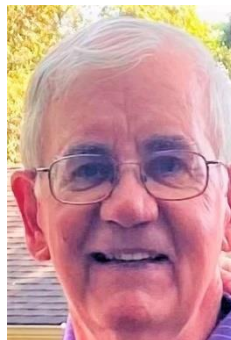


Jesse Cohen

16,027 steps



Gary Thompson

15,938
Steps

Bob McGowan

15,057 steps



Bobbie Campbell

***AND NOW BACK TO OURS REGULARLY SCHEDULED (NOVEMBER)
NEWSLETTER***

THANKS FOR THE THANKS

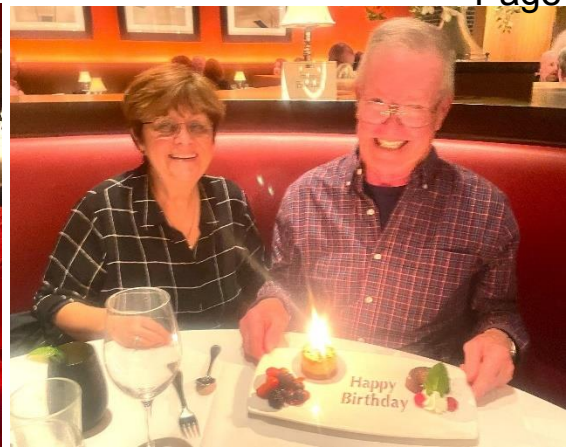
Dozens of Palatine Picklers contributed to the awesome gift presented to me at the surprise, Septeber picnic to honor me. At the picnic I was presented with an amazing piece that hangs in our media room (see below). And, though she was post-surgery and not in attendance, I was given a gift to Kathy for sharing me with the Palatine Picklers. This was two gift certificates totalling a massive amount for the Capital Grille in Schaumburg. In the "thank you" poem I wrote and included in the October newsletter, I mentioned we would use it to take the two Picklers largely responsible for the surprise picnic and their ladies to an awesome dinner.

On Wednesday, October 25th, the six of us enjoyed drinks and my stereo at our home, and then headed to this awesome restaurant. Though we've dined at Capital Grille downtown, neither Kathy nor I had enjoyed the Schaumburg ambiance. We had an amazing evening, thanks to so many of you. I was truly pleased that it seemed all the steaks ordered were rare. No expensive cow died in vain. Since it is almost my birthday, I got to enjoy a special dessert too.

Fred (Glenn) Fredrickson was the primary force behind organizing the picnic. Pat Morgan is the author of the poem on the poster. A special thanks to Alexa Kraft for help contacting Picklers. I learned of this only at our dinner.



from lower left, Jane, Linda, Kathy, Bear, Fred, Pat



The conclusion of a great evening

A bonus to the evening was that Kathy and I became friends with Fred & Jane and Pat & Linda. Knowing Fred and Pat, that wasn't a surprise for me, but to Kathy they were all strangers so this was a particularly great bonus.

PICKLERS AT PLAY



Anna



Barb



Barb



Bill



Brad



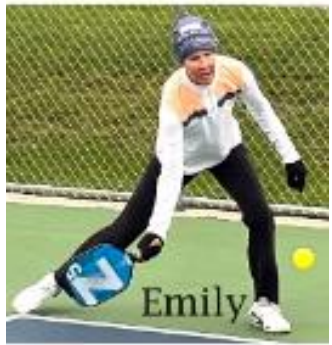
Ann



Anna



Brian







Joanne



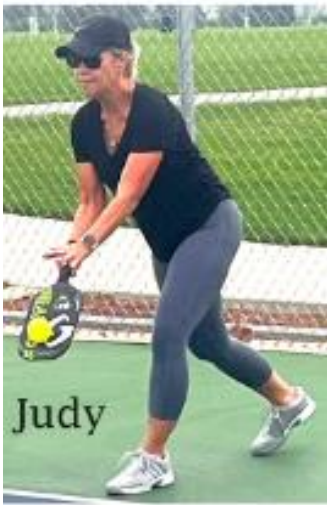
Joanne



John



Jon



Judy



June



Kari



Kathy



Keith



Kevin



Linda



Linda



Lisa



Marcia



Marie



Marlene



Mary Ellen



Mary Jo



Mary



Mary



Maureen



Megan



Michael



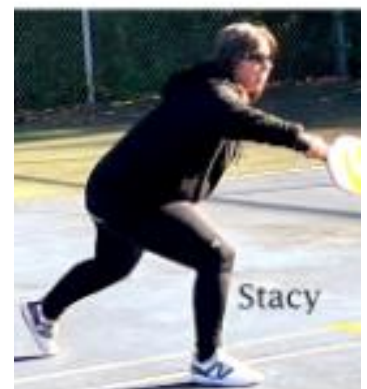
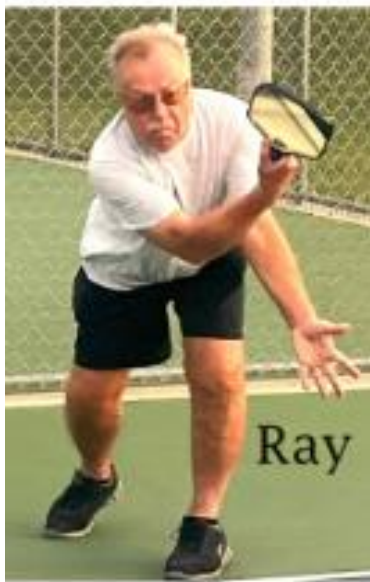
Mike



Mike



Nancy





THIS MONTH'S MEDALISTS

Not all Picklers send me their pics and info right away. Sometimes I find medalists by searching pickleballtournaments or seeing something on Facebook. There is one pic below from almost four months ago. No problem. Whenever I get the info, I'm happy to share the celebration.

Still, we'd all really like it if, whenever you earn a medal, you send me the tournament, division, partner's name, and medal color, along with a photo or two. Send that to aokbarry@yahoo.com.



Doug McKirahan & Shelly Rubin – 6 Co Sr Games - 70-74 – Silver



Linda Mihel & Jules De Batz – Huntsman World Sr Games - 3.5 70-74 – Silver



Don Temple & Sue Cole – ASSP National - 3.5 75-79 – Gold



Daniel Koste & Ari Cohen
Chicagoland Regional WPT Qualifier
3.5 40+ - Gold



Vera Chan & Daniel Koste
3.5 40+ - Bronze

YOU CAN DEMO BIG BUCK PADDLE OR THREE

Bear usually has with him three, expensive paddles (\$250-280) which are available for you to try for one game, in case you're thinking of investing in one of these. I have two Joola paddles and one Selkirk. I promoted these last month, and already three Picklers have opted to buy one on Pickleballcentral.com. I recommend seeking a sometimes available used paddle. That will save about \$100, and you'd probably not notice the difference.

In the next few months, I expect to add another paddle or two to my demo inventory. I just ask that, when you demo one, use the handle to tap "Nice game," rather than the blade.

NOW THAT IT'S INDOOR SEASON, LET'S REVIEW GLARE COURT POLICY

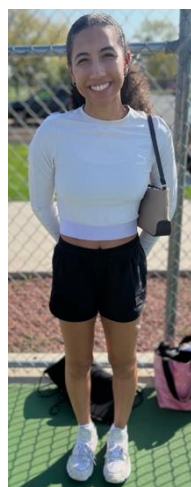
Falcon is a favorite Monday, Wednesday, and Friday venue for Palatine Picklers. Courts are fine, though there is one that requires a unique policy. The Southwest court which is by the lobby doors is known as the "Glare Court." Playing while facing those doors and the rest of the glass there is a definite handicap. For that reason years ago I created the glare court policy.

If you begin your game to 11 there, pairs should change ends when one gets to 6. If playing to 9 and starting on this court, change ends at 5. If you 'migrate' to this court, check your score. Subtract the the higher one from 11, divide the difference by 2, rounding up if necessary. Then switch sides when one pair reaches that score. If playing to 9, same concept.

LATEST NEWBIES



ADAM



ALISHA



ANNA



ARIA



DEBBIE



DONNA



DRAGAN



DUGAH



GREG



HALINA



JACKI



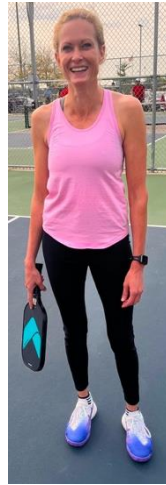
JASON



JERRY



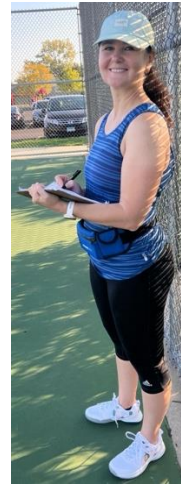
JULIE



KAREN



KEVIN



LANA



LAVANYA



LEEANNE



LIZ



LYNN



MARY



MEGAN



MIKE K.



MIKE M.



MIKHAIL



MONICA



NATALIYA



PATTY



PETER K.



PETER Z.



RANDI



SAMANTHA



SCOTT



SHELLY



SHERYL



STACY



STEPHANIE



STEVE



SUE



TERESA



VANESSA



VENU



VERNON



WE'VE HAD A SENSATIONAL SUMMER & NOW LOOK FORWARD TO A WONDERFUL WINTER

Since May 1st we've welcomed 432 new Palatine Picklers. In that same time frame, we've mentored 133 newer picklers. Thanks to Dennis, Marv, and Neal for mentoring virtually all Wednesday morning sessions. Dennis was always at Hamilton for our Thursday and Saturday sessions and joined by John all summer. Our every other Tuesday intramural program has given 131 Palatine Picklers (70 ladies and 61 men) the fun of competing at roughly their level without more than a couple minutes between games and getting to partner with each of their 7 teammates for one game. You really should email me your availability for 2024, once I put the Winter-Spring dates in the December newsletter.

We've had roughly a dozen, just for fun tournaments and a few social gatherings. Now, along with Falcon and Birchwood, we can enjoy Monday evening and Thursday morning pickleball at the Community Center. I expect we'll celebrate many more medalists during our indoor season.

Thanks for your volunteer efforts, your following our policies, your sportsmanship, your support, and your friendship.

Bear Shatwell
PicklersPrez
aokbarry@yahoo.com

