



PalatinePicklers.com

palatinepicklers@gmail.com

MARCH, 2023 NEWSLETTER

ANOTHER PICKLERS MILESTONE

Just a few days shy of eight years after I welcomed our first members, I had the privilege of welcoming a new member, for the 3,000th time. **Carina Lopez** and her boyfriend Andy Dominguez were playing singles at Hamilton. I went over, introduced myself, and invited them to play doubles with the rest of us. I explained how the paddle troughs worked and walked back to fellow Picklers awaiting a court. A minute later, Carina and Andy came around the corner and paddled up. I asked if they'd like to join the PPC. They would. I had Carina sign up, and, with impeccable handwriting, she signed up Andy. I said I'd have to see about possible overnight new members online, but I think we should get a pic of my welcoming you. Another newbie Tiffany was kind enough to take this photo of **our 3,000th member** and me. Despite her poor taste in clothing, Carina proved to be a really fun person and a good pickler too.



MORE PALATINE PICKLERS AT PLAY



Carina's Andy



Ann



Geoff



Debbie

WHIPPERSNAPPERS ALL BROUGHT THEIR 'A' GAMES

Going into the Valentines Day intramural match, the Whippersnappers and Wise Ones were tied, each having won ten matches. It was suggested that this was a day for “young love,” because our “youngsters” truly loved humbling their elders on this day. They won 19 of 28 games. All eight Whippersnappers had a winning record, and three went 6-1. I hope a number of older 3.4 and 3.5 level Picklers sign up for our upcoming matches. These are on 2/28, 3/14, 3/28, 4/11, and 4/25. Intramurals will be year-round, but this is as far as I want you to look. So email me the Tuesday mornings you THINK you'd be available to play at Canlan Sportsplex in Lake Barrington at 8:45 a.m. If your availability changes, email me again to have me take you off that week's Expect To Be Available list. As always, I'm at aokbarry@yahoo.com. (REPLY is not my email address. Thank you.)

Intramural play rosters 16 Picklers for each match (each match has a different lineup). Bear puts the eight men and eight ladies in order, according to their age. The youngest four of each gender comprise the Whippersnappers for that match. The older four make up the Wise Ones team. Some matches some of our “middle-agers” will play for one team and the other team the next match they play. Rostered Picklers are chosen primarily by how frequently and how recently they have participated.

Following a match those whose schedule permits head to lunch a mile away. This can be from seven to twelve of the that day's Intramuralists. These lunches extend the fun and give us all a chance to know each other better. I created intramurals to give our lower intermediate (3.0 – 3.5) a chance to have seven, good games with and against Picklers of compatible abilities. That is always the most fun. If you question if you're either too skilled or not yet to this level, ask ... ask me or find anyone on your courts who would give you a clue.

(ALMOST) ANNUAL PPD VOLUNTEER RECOGNITION LUNCHEON

Except for COVID years, the Palatine Park District hosts a luncheon for volunteers chosen by their clubs or organizations. Each group also submits the volunteer resume of one member to be honored as that group's Volunteer of the Year. For 2022 that was Robin Dubin, our Mentoree Scheduler. In 2021 it was Marv Zwass, long time Mentor. Marv did have his photo taken last year and received his plaque then. However, those VolY recipients who didn't get honored at what would have been their luncheons were announced and photographed as a group this year.



. Robin with her plaque Sue Gould, Pres & Mike Clark Ex Dir 2021's recognized Volunteers – Marv in front



Members of the Palatine Park Distgrice 's Honor Roll. Bear front center ... and on the Wall of Fame plaque



Standing: Bob Goldstein, Robert Belevicz, Susie & Marv Zwass, Robin & Bruce Dubin Seated: Carol Hawes, John Stepal, Kathy & Bear Shatwell. To clarify, spouses of VotY Reipients are invited to the luncheons.



We were invited up for a better photo of our group, Sadly, Robert had to leave before this was taken.



Amy



Satish



Paul



Pauline



Silver



Mike



Marcia



Bill



April



Bill



Bob

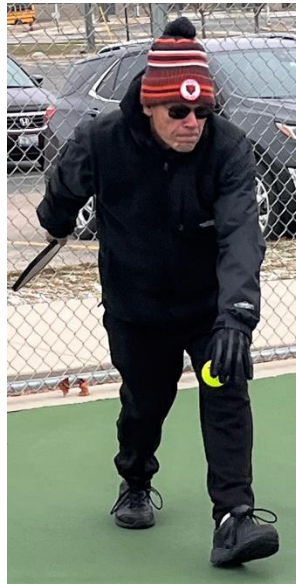
GOT REPLACEMENT PARTS? Then sign up for the 2nd Bionic Bodies Tournament. It's Thursday, March 2nd at 9:00 in the Canlan Sportsplex. Just email me at aokbarry@yahoo.com to register.



Carina



Clay



Frank



Gail



George



Chris



Gene



JoAnne



Karen



Karen



Lee Ann



Karin

LET'S HONOR OUR MEDALISTS



Joyce Pihl & Chris Johnson
Kokopelli Klassic
4.0 65+ - Bronze



Gary McMillan & Masato Suzuki
Tucson Olympic Festival
3.5 50+ - Gold



Deanna Carstens & Jan Dworsky
Palm Desert Sr Games
3.5 70-74 - Bronze

LAKE ZURICH MY DENSITY MATTERS TOURNAMENT



Vic Gulati – Silver, Advanced



Daniel Koste – Bronze, Advanced



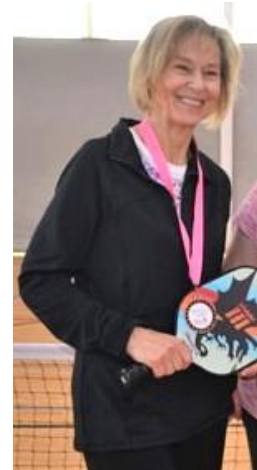
Ari Cohen – Gold, Intermediate Court 3



Dee Dee Belovicz – Gold
Intermediate Court 2



Ann Santacruz – Silver
Beginners



Paula Kuebler – Bronze
Beginners



Bo



Brian



Chris



Heather



Jay



James



John



Kathy



Kathy



Johnny



Joan

PICKLER OF THE MONTH ... ALEXA KRAFT



Alexa has been a Palatine Pickler only seven months. However, she's made a name for herself. She was a strong contributor to our Scarecrow-building efforts in September. Once Jaime left for Mexico, Alexa took over the role of coordinating Hamilton play via email threads. Even now, after getting sidelined for months by an on-court hamstring injury, she still who will be playing at Hamilton at what time. On a particularly cold and blustery morning, she added incentives for Picklers to show up, by bringing coffee and donuts. When healthy she plays almost every day and is a fun partner for all levels of Pickler. We wish Alexa a speedy recovery and look forward to her return to our courts.



Brian



Chris (by Clay)



Jim (by Clay)



Don (by Clay)



Glenn



Lauri



John



John

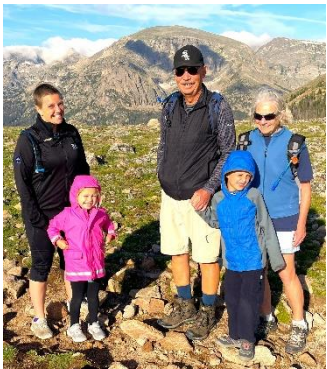
MEET PICKLER BILL MYERS

Bill was born in Moline, IL in 1953 and lived his ebture youth in Rock Island, another of the Quad Cities. In high school he played tennis. Rock Island High was a downstate powerhouse that won 60 or 70 consecutive dual matches. Having played #3 doubles, he's not looking for too much credit here. At state, RIHS wasn't able to match the best suburban schools, but it was fun to try. Bill also played the trombone in the band.

Bill earned a BS and a MS, while working, in Electrical Engineering from the University of Illinois in '75 and '77. In 1975 he worked on radar systems for Northrop Aircraft in Hawthorne, CA. In 1977 he moved to New Jersey to work for Bell Laboratories as a member of the technical Staff working on microwave radio. He found it ironic that, despite being a mountain guy, he'd lived within two miles of both Pacific and Atlantic Oceans.

From 1980 to 2011 Bill worked for AT&T in Chicago. He started as Manager of Radio Route Engineering and ended up as Director of Financial Analysis.

He saw Debbie's resume months before meeting her. She was a Radio Engineer (very rare for a lady back then) for Wisconsin Tel and transferred to AT&T. When he finally met her, he realized she was not only skilled but quite cute too. For months she reported to Bill remotely from outside Milwaukee. By the time she moved to Palatine, he was no longer her boss. That made it OK for him to date her. Their first date had them eating at Brandt's Little Café and going to see "Gremlins." They married in Long Grove in 1985 and had their recetion at the Barn of Barrington which, sadly, closed in 2009.



Kids? Megan was born in 1986 and is a VP of Product Development at Medline, living in Libertyville. She and Paul have two kids – Carson soon to be 7 and Adelyn who just turned 5. Eric was born in 1988 and now lives in Sacramento. He's a pharmacist specializing in infectious diseases, in the Adventist Hospoital System. He married Brittany last summer. Megan and grandkids joined Bill and Debbie in Rocky Mt Park.

Though Bill lived in Countryside Apartments in Paltine, straight from NJ, he ad Debbie bought ahouse in Buffalo Grove where they've stayed. Bill took the train for 31 years, and he doesn't miss that at all.-

Being a good guy, for the last 12 years, **Bill has volunteered** to do taxes for seniors through the AARP Tax-Aid Service. He plays four Scoresheet Fantasy Baseball leagues and serves a Commissioner in two. He and Deb do lots of puzzles and enjoy Jeopardy. At U of I Bill won both intramural tennis (mixed doubles) and backgammon.

Pickleball? Debbie got them into Thursday evening play at Ivy Hill School in BG, in the fall of 2012. No guidance, until Palatine Pickler Sue Cameron showed up to teach them the game. She had them play in Wheeling where their games grew. Then they migrted to Fabrinni in Hoffman which offered the only dedicated, outdoor courts in the area.



What do you like about the Palatine Pickleball Club? Bear's leadership. Bill loves reading the newsletters and looking at all the photos, even though he recognizes fewer and fewer Picklers, since rarely playing in town now. He loves that the Palatine Picklers are not at all cliquish which is a problem in other towns.

Bucket list items checked off? Visiting all 50 states ... hiking the Crypt Lake Trail in Canada's Waterton Lake National Park. He'd read a National Geographic article about it as a boy and longed to do it. Apart from his father, Warren Buffet and Alex Trebek were Bill's role models. Buffett getw credit for investing skills and his risk management. He exhibits plenty of emotional intelligence and leads by using the Golden Rule. Trebeck showed intelligence, humility, and a dedication to his craft. Bill admired how he handled the months following his cancer diagnosis.

Other checked off items include wathcing the Grand Geyser erupt in Yellowstone, going to the Rose Bowl (got to see daughter marchin the parade for U of I), goint to the Final Four (son's Butler came close to upsetting Duke in the final), going to Winter Olympics (he and Deb went to Vancouver in 2010), seeing the Fjords in Norway (though they both liked Iceland better), and winning each of his four fantasy baseball leagues.



Bill has some items he's **yet to check off**, including a White Sox World series game, visit his 15th/final Canadian provinces

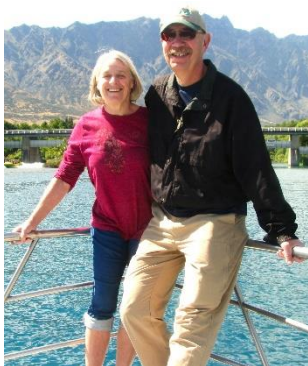


(Newfoundland), go on an African safari, and see Koalas and Kangaroos in the wild in Australia. Above left Bill meets a troll in Norway. At right he and Debbie sword fighting where The Hobbit was filmed.

Son Eric has hooked Bill on County's annual release on Eric and Bill are also hooked on movies and TV shows are all of he Rings."Game of Thrones,"



craft beers, especially barrel-aged stouts. Bourbon Black Friday is like Christmas coming early to Bill. playing the video game "Elden Ring." Bill's favorite fantasy – "Wizard of Oz," "Field of Dreams." "Lord etc.



New Zealand boat ride



In geothermic area in Iceland



John



Jim



Lisa



Joan



Larry



Jesse



John



John



Corinna



Dean



Jim



Dave



Dee Dee



Gil



Jeff



Ann



Cindy



Dan



Gary



Gloria



Eric



Howard

THIS WALKERS' HONOR ROLL

We hope many more of you will send proof of your 15k and/or 20k step days to aokbarry@yahoo.com.

SUPER STEPPERS (20,000 or more steps in one day)



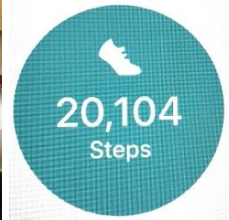
24,259 steps

Bear Shatwell



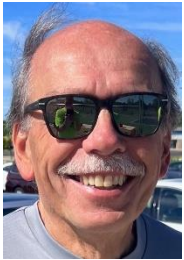
23,202 Steps

Ben Farb



Clay Farnsworth

WORTHY WALKERS (15,000 or more steps in one day)



19,426 Steps

Ben Farb



19,180 steps

Kathy Ford



18,534 steps

Bear Shatwell



18,400 steps

Steve Manis



Lois Farb



Clay Farnsworth



Anne Stein



16,303 steps

Mardy Manis

BACK TO PICKLING PICKLERS



Brian



John



Laura



John



Michael



Mary Anne



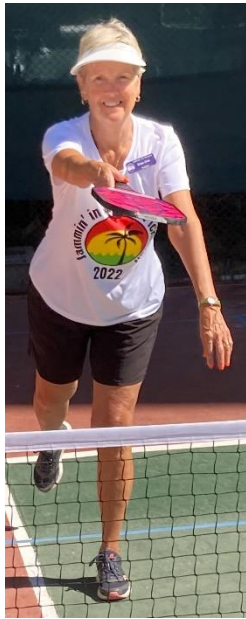
Maia



Karen



Terry



Stana (by Clay)



Steve



Vic



Steve



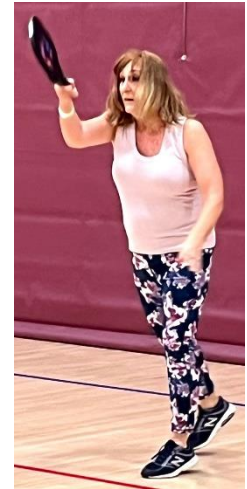
Ron



Scott



Sandy



Sally



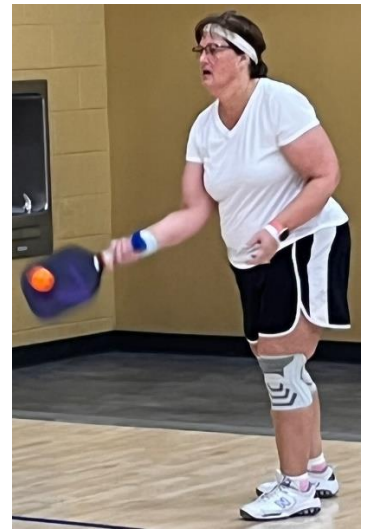
Rich



Mary



Jim



Jenny



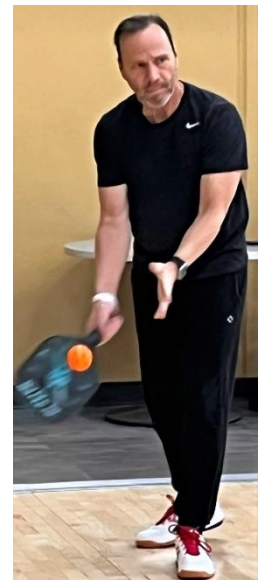
Debbie



Pat



Mary



Voltan



Sabine



Carole



Chris

DISCOUNTS FOR PALATINE PICKLERS

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.



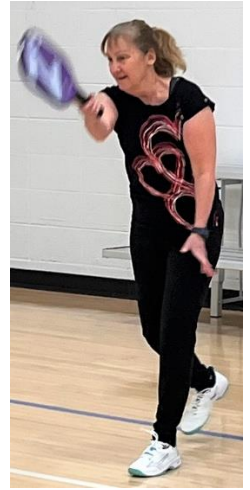
Lori



Lucia



Scott



Sharon



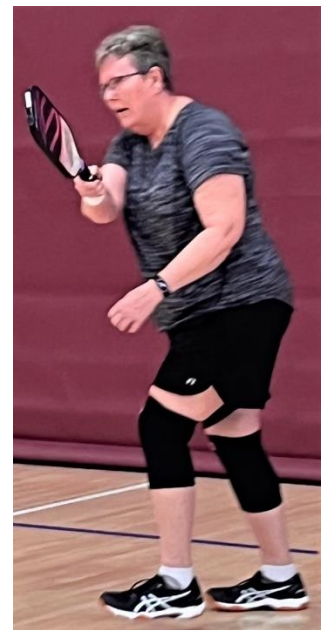
Daniel



Lori



Bear



Carol

OUTDOOR MENTORING TO BEGIN IN MAY

Our summer mentoring program starts Wednesday, May 3rd. As was indoor mentoring and recent previous years, participating is by invitation. There will be two sessions each Wednesday morning. The first starts at 9:00 (please arrive at 8:45) and ends at 10:30. The second starts at 10:30 and ends at Noon. We have Expect To Be Available (ETBA) lists for each week. Email me at aokbarry@yahoo.com with the weeks you think you would be available to participate. The season will go through Wednesday, November 8th.

Now the kicker. If you say you expect to be available for any week, we EXPECT you to be available. If something comes up to keep you from being available you MUST email me (address above) to take you off that week's ETBA list. If you receive an invitation to play and you either don't reply or say you can't participate after all, you earn your first "strike." If you earn a 2nd, you're out of mentoring until we move indoors in November. If you accept and are a no-show, you don't get a 2nd strike. You're out for the season. Of course, emergencies happen and won't earn strikes. Robin, our Mentoree Scheduler, and I invest way too much volunteer time scheduling mentorees to tolerate the disrespect of having us schedule you per your wishes and having to scramble to fill the spot that should have been yours. Free mentoring is a gift. Please respect it.

We also have a Thursday walk-on (no invitation needed) session on Thursday afternoon at Hamilton at 3:00. This will start May 4th. We've had from 8 to 34 show up for these sessions, but we make do. We do not "own" the courts so other players may occupy some courts. In the past Mentors have stuck with their original courts. This year we'll rotate Mentors so participants can experience different viewpoints.

Then there will be our Saturday 3:00-5:00 session, for all who cannot attend either the Wednesday or Thursday sessions, due to work, babysitting, golf, etc. If you can attend either Wednesday or Thursday sessions, you are not eligible to participate on Saturday.



Linda



Carol



Steve

GREATPICKLEBALLSTUFF.COM

Palatine Pickler Deanna Carstens (see medalists) and a snowbird friend from near Palm Springs have created a ton of designs that can be put on shirts or most anything else. Check out their work. There are a lot of themes I'd not seen before. We always like to support our members' efforts



Doris



Josh



Jim



Debbie



Mark



Julie

PLEASE UNSUBSCRIBE

In the last week I have spoken with at least a dozen Palatine Picklers who were totally unaware of intramurals or the Bionic Bodies Tournament or the Park District app or Monday nights at Harper or that we now have caps or several other things that have been covered in multiple newsletters. THESE INDIVIDUALS REALLY REALLY NEED TO UNSUBSCRIBE and make room for those Picklers who do read the newsletters. We are running out of room in what MailChimp will allow us to send, without GIGANTIC monthly fees. If you unsubscribe, you can still get the newsletters. Just go to PalatinePicklers.com and read them in the library there. To unsubscribe, just click on the link that's at the bottom of the email that links you to this newsletter.

I do get emails from a lot of Picklers who do enjoy going though each newsletter, love reading of our fun tournaments, seeing Picklers' success in more serious tournaments, seeing all the photos of their peers most of whom they've never met, being kept to speed on things going on in Palatine's pickleball community, etc.

But the myriad of Picklers who never open the newsletter or glance at the first page and discard it or just search for their own photo would be doing us all a favor by just unsubscribing.

INDOOR MENTOREES' SEASON-END TOURNAMENT

All who participated in mentoring at Canlan this fall are eligible to participate in the annual season-end tournament. YOU ARE GOOD ENOUGH. No matter how poorly you think you're playing, it doesn't matter. This is a round robin tournament. You'll play with all the Mentorees in your random division. That means you CANNOT impact the outcome. The top three players will likely finish in the top three. You'll have been bad with each of them so just have fun. It's not that serious. And you can go to lunch a mile away with your peers after the play ends.

The Fall Indoor Mentoree Tournament will be Tuesday, May 2nd, starting at 9:00 (get there by 8:45) at Canlan. This will be your final indoor mentoring activity, as outdoor mentoring starts the next day. To register email me at aokbarry@yahoo.com. Please sign your email, as I definitely do now recognizes everyone's email address.

OUTDOOR MENTORING SESSIONS BEGIN IN MAY

Our Wednesday morning sessions at Sycamore Park will work as they have the last few years. They are by invitation only. Our first sessions will be May 3rd. We will serve 12 Mentorees from 9:00 to 10:30 and 12 more from 10:30 to Noon. To register email me at aokbarry@yahoo.com with the dates (a few in advance or the whole summer through early November) you THINK you'd be available to participate. Then on each Monday afternoon before one of your desired Wednesdays, check your email for an invitation.

Here's where it gets serious. If you ask me to put you on a given Expect To Be Available list, we expect you to actually be available and anxious to accept an invitation. If something comes up to conflict with one of your dates, EMAIL ME to take you off that list. Do so before Saturday preceding that date. If you do not respond to an invitation by 10:00 a.m. Monday, Robin, our Mentoree Scheduler, will have to waste her time finding a replacement for you. Not cool. In fact that is so not cool that it earns you a "strike." If you do respond but say you aren't available after all, that earns you a strike also. If you earn a 2nd strike any time, you are banned from mentoring for the rest of the summer. If you accept an invitation and are a no show, you don't get a wnd strike. You're banned for the summer. Of course, last minute emergencies are the exception and go unpunished. Mentorees have tried in the past to claim out of town company or a doctors appointment were emergencies. While we enjoy their humor, we're not that gullible.

THURSDAY MENTORING ... We offer walk-on (no reservation or invitation necessary) mentoring at Hamilton (Smith across from Sundling Jr High) from 3:00 to 5:00 each Thursday, weather permitting.

SATURDAY MENTORING ... For only Picklers who cannot attend either Wednesday or Thursday sessions due to work, babysitting, golf, etc., we have a 3:00 to 5:00 session at Hamilton each Thursday, also weather permitting.

YET AGAIN ... LET'S EXPLAIN INTRAMURALS

This program gives "lower intermediate" (3.0 to 3.5 level) Picklers a chance to occasionally be part of a team and play against other men and women of somewhat similar ability. For every other Tuesday morning, I invite 16 Picklers to participate at Canlan Sportsplex in Lake Barrington at 8:45 a.m. For each match I arrange those I've rostered by date of birth. The youngest four men and four women comprise the Whippersnappers team for that match, while the oldest four of each gender make up the Wise Ones. Everyone will play one game

partnered with each of his/her seven teammates. You'll play three gender games and four mixed games. It's a lot of non-serious fun. This Tuesday the Wise Ones took an 11-10 lead in the series which will go year-round. There is no limit to how many of you can apply for intramural play. I try to balance the playing dates. Yes, it is possible for a Pickler to play for the Whippersnappers one match and the Wise Ones the next. It all depends on the group selected to play for that match.

Matches start after a 9:00 a.m. explanation of rules, scoreboard, etc. Matches normally about 11:45. Then those whose schedule allows head to the Kelsey Road House a mile away for a fun lunch with Pikler peers.

To participate please email me (aokbarry@yahoo.com) with the dates you THINK you'd be available to play if invited. Currently scheduled Tuesday mornings are 3/14, 3/28, 4/11, 4/25, 5/9, and 5/23. I'll add another couple months in an upcoming newsletter. If you have me add you to an Expect To Be Available list, I TOTALLY expect you to be available, if invited. If your schedule develops a conflict, email me to take you off that week's ETBA list. "Strikes" are explained earlier in this newsletter. Just please do not waste my time and tolerance by having me invite you to a date you can't attend, despite what you'd told me. Thanks.

TIME TO WELCOME THE NEWBIES I'VE ACTUALLY MET THIS LAST MONTH



Abby



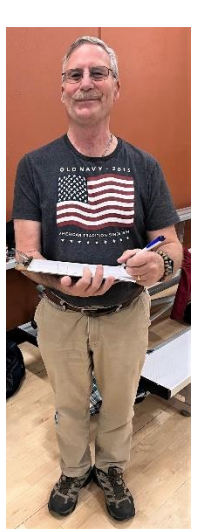
Andy



Barb



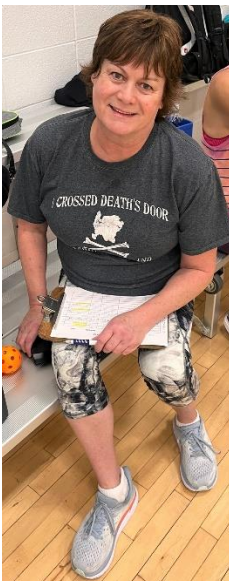
Carina



Charlie



Cynthia



Diana



Don



Jane



Joette



John



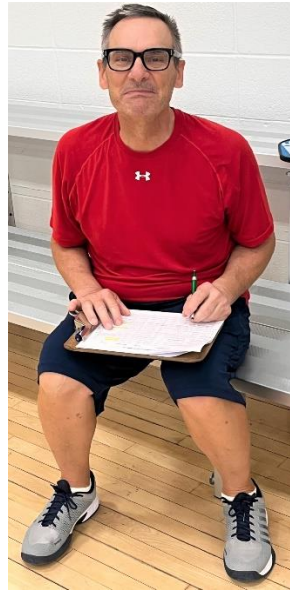
Judy



Kelsey



Kevin



Larry



Lauri



Mike



Nancy



Pam



Rich



Robyn



Ron



Shiela



Stephanie



Tiffany

FEED MY STARVING CHILDREN

A few years ago the Palatine Picklers spent an afternoon in Schaumburg working for Feed My Starving Children. Pickler Marilyn Darby coordinated this for us. Now she lives in Wisconsin. I'd really like us to participate again this year, but I don't have the time to coordinate it. If you're willing to step up for this worthy charity and your awesome club, please email me at aokbarry@yahoo.com. We'd need an afternoon time, as so many of us play pickleball in the mornings. Last time we had about a dozen of us participate. I suspect we'd have 18-24 interested this time. You set the time. I'll recruit the participants. You give them the details and let FMSC know what we have. Let's do this. I hope to have details next month.

FLASH ... WE HAVE CAPS AVAILABLE TO PURCHASE

In case you missed it last month, we now have caps bearing our logo available for you to purchase at truly low prices. You can now order Palatine Picklers baseball caps or Boonie hats in a wide variety of colors.

Baseball Caps \$16 Choose your color at <https://www.sportswearcollection.com/p/valucap/vc300a?site=VEYHZXBZHU>

Boonie Hats \$31.50 Review colors at https://www.sportswearcollection.com/p/the_game/gb400?site=VEYHZXBZHU



The logo won't be in a square as shown. Our embroiderer will determine if it will appear in navy or white, depending on the color cap you select. To order your cap go to PicklerCaps@gmail.com. Place your order. You'll be told to whom and where to send your check. As with shirts we need a dozen, before we can order.

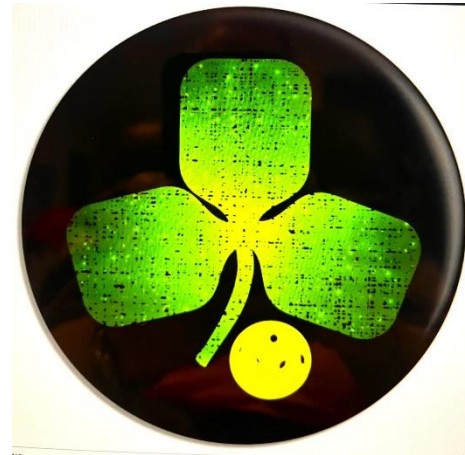
WHILE YOU'RE AT IT ... Order your next Palatine Picklers shirts right on PalatinePicklers.com by clicking on SHIRTS. I'll let you know where to send your check.

LAST CHANCE TO SIGN UP FOR WIDOWS/WIDOWERS

Though there was ample interest, the 4:00 to 7:00 p.m. time on Tuesday 3/21 didn't fit many schedules. If you can make this, let me know at aokbarry@yahoo.com. If we don't get four more, I'll reschedule this event.

TOURNEYS FOR OUR MOST SENIOR PICKLERS

On Thursday, April 13 at 9:00 in the Canlan Sportsplex in Lake Barrington, we'll have round robin tournaments for our 8 Oldest Men and 8 Oldest Ladies. To register email me at aokbarry@yahoo.com with your MMDDYY date of birth. I'll let you know when you're no longer in the oldest eight. As with all Canlan events, optional lunch a mile away follows.



HAPPY ST PATRICK'S DAY, PICKLERS

February was a full month for the Palatine Pickleball Club. We welcomed our 3,000th member. The number now stands at 3027. We celebrated our 8th anniversary as the Palatine Pickleball Club. Our indoor mentoring sessions were expanded to 2.5 hours. We now have Palatine Picklers caps to go along with all our shirts. We enjoyed a red & pink couples Valentines tournament. The Park District honored Robin Dubin as our Volunteer of the Year. Our intramurals continues to be a close competition, with the Wise Ones having just taken an 11-10 match lead over the Wise Ones. We've had Picklers playing outdoors at Hamilton at least 2/3 of the mornings.

Out of curiosity I just looked for the first time ever at how many emails are in my Palatine Picklers folder. There are 52,374. Of course, that goes back eight years. However, it helps to show why I'm not a fan of having to scramble to get replacements for those who have said they could participate in intramurals or mentoring and then, once invited, say they can't.

We're looking forward to our Indoor Mentorees' Tournament on May 2nd and beginning our outdoor mentoring season the next day.

Yes, it's been a busy, albeit short, month. Hope March will be just as fun and productive.

Happy St Patrick's Day and Happy Pickling always. I just now realized I should have put on a green Palatine Picklers shirt for this month's photo. Oops.

Bear Shatwell
PicklerPrez
aokbarry@yahoo.com

